HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO ADVANCING WORK ON LOSS AND DAMAGE?

The COP, in 2013, established the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage has three key functions in addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change:

- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches.
- Strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders.
- Enhancing action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building.

The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism guides the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism through its workplan. The current five-year rolling workplan is clustered in five strategic workstreams, to enhance cooperation and facilitation in relation to:

- Slow onset events.
- Non-economic losses.
- Comprehensive risk management approaches to address and build long-term resilience of countries, vulnerable populations and communities to loss and damage.
- Human mobility, including migration, displacement and planned relocation.
- Action and support.

What is the role of the scientific community in addressing loss and damage?

- The COP encouraged the Executive Committee ‘to improve access to, and interaction with, relevant scientific and technical panels, bodies and expertise available to the Warsaw International Mechanism, its Executive Committee and substructures over time, including by, inter alia, inviting relevant organizations at all levels and scientific research organizations with expertise in science relevant to loss and damage to ensure that the best available science is highlighted in the work of the Warsaw International Mechanism’ (Decision 4/CP.22, paragraph 4 (c)).

- The COP invited the research community, among others, ‘to strengthen cooperation and collaboration, including through partnerships, with the Executive Committee on topics related to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events’ (Decision 5/CP.23, paragraph 15).

Become part of the slow onset events database.

If your organization is working on slow onset events (i.e. rising temperatures, desertification, loss of biodiversity, land and forest degradation, glacial retreat and related impacts, ocean acidification, sea level rise and salinization), share information about your efforts online.

Share information online.

Launch the RISK TALK – an online platform to answer questions countries and communities have, and share your knowledge with those who most need it!

Join the roster of experts of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage.

At its seventh meeting (March 2018) the Executive Committee developed the terms of reference for three expert groups to support its activities on slow onset events, non-economic losses and comprehensive risk management. The Executive Committee will engage experts registered in the roster to advance work on these areas.

Register online