

Draft advice to the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 25th meeting, will be invited to discuss the information contained in this document, in particular section 4 (Possible areas for further knowledge support by NWP partners) and section 5 (possible next steps).

1. Background

1. This document it aims to provide guidance and recommendations to the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP) partners on potential areas for further knowledge support.
2. One of the five functions of the AC is to promote synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks and sharing relevant information, knowledge, experience and good practices.¹ The NWP, established to facilitate and catalyse the development and dissemination of information and knowledge to inform and support adaptation policies and practices, with a focus on developing countries, has been a useful mechanism to support the AC 's endeavours in this respect.

1.1. Previous mandates and recommendations

3. [SBSTA 46](#),² followed by [decision 17/CP.19](#)³ invited the AC, in accordance with its mandate and functions, to provide recommendations for activities to be undertaken under the NWP. The AC has periodically responded to this open mandate, in particular upon adoption of a new workplan, and/or after significant new mandates had been received by the SBSTA, the COP or the CMA. The most recent advice by the AC was communicated to the Chair of the SBSTA in April 2022 to invite NWP partners' contributions to activities contained in the AC's workplan for the years 2022-2024.⁴ This included contributions by NWP partners in the following areas:
 - a) Contributions to dialogues on progress in closing the capacity gaps identified in accessing adaptation funding, and preparation of action-oriented briefs or case studies to demonstrate how such capacity gaps could be closed;
 - b) Development of a series of technical papers on adaptation policy options for consideration by the AC;
 - c) Follow-up work with other constituted bodies;
 - d) An invitation of case studies on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation;
 - e) Synergy and coherence between the AC's work areas and the NWP's annual Focal Point Forum.

¹ Decision 1/CP.16.

² [FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4](#), para. 19.

³ <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02r01.pdf#page=4>.

⁴ See [Letter to the SBSTA Chair: AC advice to the NWP](#) on the AC 21 webpage: <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-21>.

4. Responding to an invitation by the SBSTA to the AC to strengthen its long-term strategic engagement with the NWP,⁵ the AC agreed that the AC's overarching work areas would be a good basis for strategic engagement, given that these themes feature regularly on the AC's agenda and therefore lend themselves to an ongoing exchange. To allow for a more strategic and long-term engagement, the AC encouraged the formation of communities of practice among NWP partners which might support the work of the AC and other constituted bodies in their thematic work. In the NWP context these could be ongoing groups of practitioners that would be able to share knowledge and expertise and could be responsive to knowledge needs in their field of expertise.

1.2. Modalities of work

5. Under the NWP, the secretariat engages with Parties, over 450 NWP partners (including from academia, implementation agencies, financial institutions, and private entities), thematic expert groups, constituted bodies and communities of practice on matters relating to adaptation and resilience to enhance country and region-specific actions, including transboundary, through the provision and application of knowledge with the objective of achieving transformative adaptation and resilience.⁶

6. Its modalities of work depend on the complexity and duration of the thematic task at hand, ranging from long-term strategic partnerships to targeted contributions by individual experts to events and workshops, technical papers or peer reviews. Overall, the NWP has the following work modalities at its disposition:

- a) The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI): LAKI is a joint initiative between the UNFCCC and UNEP Global Adaptation Network and an action pledge under the NWP. It focuses on actions in closing knowledge gaps in subregions, with a particular focus on developing countries, including LDCs and SIDS.⁷
- b) Thematic expert groups: NWP partners engage in thematic expert groups focusing, for example, on thematic areas such as agriculture and food security, biodiversity, ocean, and others. The expert groups are diverse, multidisciplinary and inclusive, ensuring balanced representation of members in terms of region, gender, and type and role of organization. Members have expertise in, and deep insight into, specific topics under these thematic areas. Following an iterative knowledge-to-action methodology, the secretariat has developed long-term strategic engagement with the thematic expert groups to focus on country- and region-specific actions in these thematic areas.
- c) The UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme: This is a programme that provides an opportunity for graduate university students to work closely with local, national and regional NWP partners, focusing on producing tangible outputs in response to the needs of knowledge users in countries and subregions.⁸
- d) Action pledges: Action pledges solicit commitments that respond to key adaptation knowledge needs and gaps in support of the NWP. Action pledges can be submitted jointly or by individual partners.
- e) Individual experts: Targeted contributions can be sought from individual experts to events and workshops, technical papers or peer reviews.
- f) Adaptation Knowledge Portal (AKP): The AKP serves to share knowledge resources and case studies and to disseminate knowledge products.

⁵ [FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3](#), para. 17(b)

⁶ See <http://unfccc.int/nwp>.

⁷ For more information on LAKI, see <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/laki.aspx>.

⁸ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/university-partnerships.aspx>

2. Recent conclusions from the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

7. In June 2023, [the SBSTA](#)⁹ noted that the work under the NWP should include addressing knowledge gaps identified by Parties in developing adaptation-related policies and processes, and preparing and implementing actions identified in relevant documents, including NAPs, nationally determined contributions, adaptation communications, national communications and biennial transparency reports, as appropriate. The [SBSTA](#) also invited the NWP to enhance country- and region-specific actions by strengthening the implementation of the modalities of the NWP.

8. It recognized the importance of the NWP in relation to brokering and delivering knowledge and expertise to constituted bodies and for processes of relevance under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as the ability to actively respond to the adaptation knowledge gaps identified within those bodies and processes, and welcomed the [NWP progress report](#) which also contains the workplan of the NWP for 2023.

9. The [SBSTA](#) also mandated the NWP to:

- Provide relevant knowledge and expertise to constituted bodies upon request to support them in undertaking their work related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including in relation to finance, capacity building and technology transfer at the subnational and national level;
- Consider new linkages with processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, such as the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation and the global stocktake, as appropriate, focusing on the provision of relevant knowledge or inputs to support work under these processes;
- Strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of work under the NWP with the aim of enhancing and facilitating the dissemination of knowledge products to, and uptake of these products by, knowledge users at the community, subnational and national level.

10. The NWP conclusions also contained a request for the secretariat to organize an event on monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for all adaptation actions and support, including transformational adaptation.

11. The [SBSTA](#) further requested the secretariat, with a view to strengthening the support provided under the NWP to constituted bodies, to:

- Consider complementary areas of work to inform work under the NWP;
- Strengthen long-term strategic engagement with constituted bodies with a view to enhancing sustainable adaptation action under the NWP;
- Facilitate regular communication between constituted bodies and partners, including on the needs and mandates of the constituted bodies, in order to help NWP partners to better understand how they can support the work of constituted bodies, showcase joint actions and inform future collaborative actions.

3. Relevant developments from the 5th session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

12. The CMA, by [decision 1/CMA.5](#), (Outcome of the first global stocktake) noted with appreciation the contribution of relevant UNFCCC constituted bodies and institutional arrangements, including the AC, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and the Nairobi work programme, to the efforts of developing country Parties in formulating and implementing national adaptation plans, adaptation communications and nationally determined contributions.

13. By decision [2/CMA.5](#) (Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation), it requested the AC, in collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the LEG, to support the

⁹ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta2023_04E.pdf.

implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience with technical guidance and training materials thereon.

4. Possible areas for further knowledge support by NWP partners

14. Noting the information above, as well as the activities contained in the AC's workplan for the years 2022-2024,¹⁰ this section identifies possible additional areas of work that could benefit from active knowledge support to be provided by NWP partner organizations. The NWP could be instrumental in:

- a) Adaptation monitoring, evaluation and learning: Collaborating with the AC on further work on adaptation monitoring, evaluation and learning, noting the AC's ongoing work on monitoring and evaluation systems at the national and subnational levels; and the NWP's mandate to organize an event on monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for all adaptation actions and support, including transformational adaptation, including through establishing a NWP thematic expert group on this topic as well as drawing on expertise from existing NWP thematic expert groups.
- b) Training in the context of the GGA: Supporting the AC, in collaboration with the CGE and the LEG, in the preparation of training material to support the implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience;
- c) Addressing gaps and needs: Supporting the work of the AC's NAP Taskforce, in particular with regard to its work on gaps and needs identified by the AC and the LEG in the process of formulating and implementing national adaptation plans; and organizing related training for developing country Parties on addressing identified gaps and needs,
- d) Contributing to the UAE – Belém work programme on indicators with technical inputs;
- e) Regional work: Supporting the AC's regional work, drawing on knowledge and experience from the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative, as appropriate, and benefitting from the NWP's UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme and thematic areas, including strengthening regional cooperation among Parties, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and other stakeholders; and curating and sharing knowledge to inform transboundary management and cooperation on global adaptation solutions;
- f) Recognizing efforts: Contributing to the AC's synthesis report "Recognizing adaptation efforts of developing countries – Institutional arrangements and stakeholder engagement";
- g) Information/knowledge sharing:
 - i) Contributing to the AC's Adaptation Action and Finance Bulletin (the establishment is currently under consideration by the AC);
 - ii) Continue supporting the AC by disseminating its technical products as well as facilitating the uptake of the products by knowledge users at the community, subnational and national level through the NWP network of partners as well as UNFCCC Adaptation Knowledge Portal;
- h) General support to the implementation of the AC's workplan:
 - i) Work with universities: Collaborating with the AC on developing concrete project proposals targeted for the UN Climate Change and UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme that help implement the AC's workplan for the years 2025-2027;
 - ii) Communities of practice: Further encouraging the establishment of communities of practice among NWP partner organizations to support the work of the AC and other constituted bodies in their thematic work;
- i) Looking ahead: Continue supporting the AC in implementing its workplan for the years 2025-2027 which is currently being developed.

¹⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/workplan>.

5. Possible next steps

15. The AC, at its 25th meeting will be invited to:
- a) Consider the possible areas for further knowledge support by NWP partners contained in section 4 above;
 - b) Consider barriers to collaboration between the AC and the NWP and modalities for better interaction, such as regular communication between the AC and NWP partners (e.g. in the margins of regular AC meetings or intersessionally), in order to better articulate how they can support the work of constituted bodies, showcase joint actions and inform future collaborative actions;
 - c) Request the secretariat to communicate the advice to the Chair of the SBSTA immediately after AC 25 in order for it to be reflected in the progress report of the NWP to SBSTA 60.

Documentation information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
0.1.0	1 March February 2024	AC 25 The AC is invited to discuss the information contained in this document, in particular section 4 (Possible areas for further knowledge support by NWP partners) and section 5 (possible next steps).

Keywords: Adaptation, Resilience, Nairobi work programme, development communication, Adaptation Committee.
