IN THIS ONLINE GUIDE, YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT...

WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE

Executive Committee
Guiding the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism

- Technical arms of the Committee
- Workplan
- Paris mandates
HOW TO NAVIGATE

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COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Excom comprises 20 members, as follows:
- 10 members from Annex I Parties;
- 10 members from non-Annex I Parties, of which:
  - 2 members each from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and Caribbean
  - 1 member from SIDS
  - 1 member from the LDCs
  - 2 additional members from non-Annex I Parties.

The current members of the Excom
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Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

As at May 2018
OVERVIEW

- SLOW ONSET EVENTS
- EXTREME EVENTS

ECONOMIC LOSSES
- INCOME
- PHYSICAL ASSETS

NON-ECONOMIC LOSSES
- INDIVIDUALS
  - LIFE
  - HEALTH
  - HUMAN MOBILITY
- SOCIETY
  - CULTURAL HERITAGE
  - INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE
  - SOCIETAL/ CULTURAL IDENTITY
- ENVIRONMENT
  - BIODIVERSITY
  - ECOSYSTEM SERVICES
Impacts of climate change include slow onset events* and extreme weather events which may both result in loss and damage.

* As referred to in Decision 1/CP.16

** Those presented are examples
**Non-economic losses** can be understood as the remainder of items that are not commonly traded in markets.

**Economic losses** can be understood as the loss of resources, goods and services that are commonly traded in markets.

*Technical paper on non-economic losses, UNFCCC (2012)*
## MILESTONES

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More on the multilateral process milestones on L&D
COP 16 (2010) established a work programme on loss and damage to:

- Consider approaches to address loss and damage, including impacts of extreme weather events and slow onset events in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable; and
- Strengthen international cooperation and expertise in order to understand and reduce loss and damage

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) undertook technical work in the areas of:

- Assessing the risk of loss and damage;
- A range of approaches;
- The role of the Convention.

More on the technical work under the work programme
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ABOUT THE WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE

The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM) is the main vehicle in the UNFCCC process to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner.

FAQs on the Warsaw International Mechanism

Established by the COP at COP19 (2013) in Warsaw, Poland

The WIM will, inter alia:
• Facilitate support of action to address loss and damage;
• Improve coordination;
• Convene meetings;
• Promote the development of, and compile, analyse, synthesize and review information;
• Provide technical guidance and support;
• Make recommendations.

Decision 2/CP.19, paras. 1 and 7
The implementation of the functions of the WIM are guided by the Executive Committee of the Mechanism.

1. Enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches

2. Strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders

3. Enhancing action and support, incl. finance, technology and capacity-building
The Paris Agreement recognizes the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage.

Overarching areas of cooperation and facilitation to enhance understanding, action and support:

- Early warning systems
- Emergency preparedness
- Slow onset events
- Events that may involve irreversible and permanent loss and damage
- Comprehensive risk assessment and management
- Risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions
- Non-economic losses
- Resilience of communities, livelihoods and ecosystems

[Decision 1/CP. 21](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/01p.pdf), Paris Agreement, Art. 8
PARIS MANDATES

COP 21 in Paris requested the Excom to establish:

- A **clearing house for risk transfer** that serves as a repository for information on insurance and risk transfer.

- A **task force** to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement, related to the adverse impacts of climate change.

[Decision 1/CP.21](https://www.unfccc.int/resource/docs/2015/cop21/eng/16-p.pdf), paras. 48 and 49
COP 21 requested the Excom to establish a Clearing House for Risk Transfer in order to facilitate the efforts of Parties to develop and implement comprehensive risk management strategies.

The Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer was launched during the COP 23. The Clearing House serves as repository for information on insurance and risk transfer.

Through RISK TALK, an interactive online community on climate change risk transfer, one can ask specific questions and get tailor-made answers.
COP 21 requested the Excom to establish a task force to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement, related to the adverse impacts of climate change.

The Task Force on Displacement is to complement, draw upon the work of and involve, as appropriate, existing bodies and expert groups under the Convention including the Adaptation Committee and the LDC Expert Group, as well as relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Convention.
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COP 19 (2013) established the **Executive Committee** of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (Excom) in order to guide the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism.

The Excom meets at least twice a year, and reports annually to the COP.
The Excom comprises 20 members, as follows:

- 10 members from Annex I Parties;
- 10 members from non-Annex I Parties, of which:
  - 2 members each from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and Caribbean
  - 1 member from small island developing States
  - 1 member from the least developed countries
  - 2 additional members from non-Annex I Parties

The current members of the Excom
The Excom may establish expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or task-focused ad hoc working groups, to help execute the work of the Excom in guiding the implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism, as appropriate, in an advisory role, and that report to the Excom. 

Decision 2/CP.20, para. 8

Under its five-year rolling workplan, the Excom will establish the following substructures:

- **Technical expert panel/group** to improve the knowledge base on and develop recommendations for approaches for addressing **slow onset events**

- **Expert group** to develop inputs and recommendations to enhance data on and knowledge of reducing the risk of and addressing **non-economic losses**

- **Technical expert group** to enhance knowledge and understanding of **comprehensive risk management approaches**, including issues related to finance, data, technology, regulatory environments and capacity-building
The initial two-year workplan comprises 9 Action Areas (AA), associated activities and expected results.

- **AA1**: Particularly vulnerable developing countries, populations, ecosystems
- **AA2**: Comprehensive risk management approaches
- **AA3**: Slow onset events
- **AA4**: Non-economic losses
- **AA5**: Resilience, recovery & rehabilitation
- **AA6**: Migration, displacement & human mobility
- **AA7**: Financial instruments & tools
- **AA8**: Complement, draw upon the work of and involve other bodies
- **AA9**: Development of a 5-year rolling workplan

COP 20 (2014) approved the initial two-year workplan of the Excom.

*Decision 2/CP.20, para. 1*
COP 22 (2016) approved the framework for the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom as the basis for developing corresponding activities.

The Excom presented associated activities for the first two years at COP 23 (2017).

In addition to the areas of the strategic workstreams above, the Excom considers cross-cutting issues and emerging needs at its regular meetings.

**Decision 3/CP.22**, para. 3
COP 22 review provided further guidance relevant to enhancing and strengthening the WIM, and recommended a process for future review of the Mechanism.

The next review will be held in 2019.

FAQs on the Warsaw International Mechanism

The COP requested the secretariat, as an input to the 2019 review, to prepare a technical paper elaborating the sources of financial support, as provided through the Financial Mechanism (FM) and outside of the FM for addressing loss and damage as described in relevant decisions, as well as modalities for accessing such support.

Decision 4/CP.22, para. 2
COP 22 recommended that the Excom invite interested Parties to establish a Loss and Damage contact point to enhance the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage at the national level.

Decision 4/CP.22, para. 4
Relevant decisions and conclusions
Reports of the Excom to the COP
Synopses series on technical work
Collaboration and outreach