



Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Fifty-second to fifty-fifth session

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Agenda item 3

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

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

Draft conclusions proposed by the Chair

1. Recalling decision 2/CP.11, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) welcomed the following:

(a) Progress in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP) since SBSTA 50,¹ noting that progress to date has contributed to strengthening the NWP as a knowledge-to-action hub on adaptation and resilience with a role in responding to the knowledge needs of Parties;

(b) The secretariat's efforts to document lessons learned and challenges in implementing the NWP workplans for 2019–2020 and 2020–2021;²

(c) The NWP workplan for 2021–2022, noting that it is consistent with relevant mandates.³

2. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to consider, in implementing activities under the NWP:

(a) Documenting lessons learned and challenges in implementing the NWP workplans and applying the lessons learned to activities carried out under the NWP;

(b) Enhancing engagement of governments and non-Party stakeholders, applying an intergenerational perspective and considering future activities in such a way as to ensure that the NWP continues to be demand driven and respond to adaptation, resilience and knowledge needs of all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS);

(c) Aligning work under the NWP with global, regional and subregional initiatives, drawing on expertise from the network of NWP partner organizations, and actively engaging with regional organizations to make knowledge products accessible to knowledge users in all countries;

(d) Organizing global and regional in-person events, maintaining balance between regions, in combination with virtual events, including on the margins of the NAP Expo, with

¹ See documents FCCC/SBSTA/2020/INF.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.2.

² As footnote 1 above.

³ FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, paras. 15–31, and FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4, paras. 16–23.



a view to engaging relevant knowledge users and NWP partners from all regions, taking into account various challenges, including Internet connectivity, language barriers and different time zones, in developing countries and regions.

3. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat, with a view to better understanding the knowledge and resilience needs of countries, to:

(a) Use existing inputs, such as adaptation communications under the Paris Agreement, national adaptation plans (NAPs), nationally determined contributions, national communications and other adaptation planning processes, as well as inputs from knowledge users and diverse knowledge systems, including local and indigenous knowledge holders, to identify relevant adaptation and resilience knowledge needs and good practices;

(b) Coordinate with national focal points and/or relevant contact points in seeking inputs on priority knowledge gaps in relation to climate change adaptation, to inform work under the NWP;

(c) Obtain as appropriate periodic feedback via surveys and other means from knowledge users in all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, in order to understand the knowledge needs of countries and inform decision-making in this regard and to enhance the usefulness and relevance of NWP knowledge products.

4. The SBSTA invited regional organizations and NWP partner organizations to disseminate NWP knowledge products to all Parties, in collaboration with national Governments, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS and including at the local, subregional and regional level, as appropriate.

5. The SBSTA welcomed the knowledge support provided to constituted bodies under the Convention such as the Adaptation Committee (AC) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) under the NWP in collaboration with NWP thematic expert groups and partner organizations, and noted that this collaboration has improved access to scientific advice and expertise.

6. The SBSTA requested the secretariat, in collaboration with NWP partner organizations, to implement the advice from the AC provided at its 19th meeting.⁴

7. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat, with a view to strengthening the support provided under the NWP to constituted bodies, including in relation to supporting them in addressing knowledge gaps in the context of capacity-building, finance and technology, and enhancing the responsiveness of the NWP to Parties' needs, to:

(a) Consider complementary areas of work to inform work under the NWP;

(b) Strengthen long-term strategic engagement with constituted bodies with a view to enhancing sustainable adaptation action under the NWP;

(c) 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;

(d) Discuss with the constituted bodies knowledge gaps and needs identified by Parties in formulating and implementing their NAPs, and integrate any resulting guidance into the annual NWP workplans;

(e) Collaborate under the Lima work programme on gender on identifying adaptation actions in which gender can be mainstreamed;

(f) Collaborate with the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform on including indigenous expertise in climate change adaptation action;

⁴ Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/271477>.

(g) Continue to contribute to the work of the LEG⁵ by addressing knowledge gaps in order to provide technical guidance and advice to developing countries in the context of formulating and implementing NAPs in collaboration with NWP partner organizations.

8. The SBSTA invited NWP partner organizations to undertake activities to address gaps and needs in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and share the outcomes with the AC and the LEG.

9. The SBSTA welcomed the successful organization of the 13th NWP Focal Point Forum, on oceans, coastal areas and ecosystems,⁶ held in collaboration with the NWP expert group on oceans, also welcomed the engagement of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in the Forum, in particular its presentation of the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere,⁷ and further welcomed the successful organization of the 14th Focal Point Forum, on biodiversity and climate change adaptation, held in collaboration with the NWP expert groups on oceans and on biodiversity and adaptation (with a focus on forests and grassland).⁸

10. The SBSTA welcomed the progress of the work of the secretariat, in partnership with NWP thematic expert groups, under the following of the priority NWP thematic areas:⁹

(a) Forests and grassland;

(b) Oceans, coastal areas and ecosystems, including mega deltas, coral reefs and mangroves.

11. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to initiate work in the priority thematic area of drought, water scarcity and land degradation neutrality and to consider all five priority thematic areas in its work under the NWP.

12. The SBSTA welcomed the secretariat's collaboration with NWP thematic expert groups and partner organizations on responding to the knowledge needs of all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, and invited the secretariat to:

(a) Strive to achieve balanced representation of experts from all regions in the thematic expert groups;

(b) Strengthen the role of the thematic expert groups in developing relevant sector-specific guidance to help all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, to identify sources of support, including financial, technological and capacity-building.

13. The SBSTA welcomed the secretariat's continued collaboration with NWP partner organizations on bridging priority knowledge gaps in the context of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative, in particular the implementation of the second phase of the Initiative in the Gulf Cooperation Council¹⁰ and North Africa subregions,¹¹ and also welcomed the organization of the priority-setting workshop for SIDS in the Pacific.¹²

14. The SBSTA further welcomed the launch of the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme,¹³ noted the relevance of the resulting outputs for closing specific knowledge gaps and engaging youth in all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, and invited the secretariat to scale up the Programme with a view to bridging context-specific knowledge gaps in all regions.

⁵ See documents FCCC/SBI/2020/6, annex V, and FCCC/SBI/2020/14, annex III.

⁶ For further details, see <https://unfccc.int/event/13th-focal-point-forum-of-the-nairobi-work-programme-on-the-ocean>.

⁷ IPCC. 2019. *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*. H-O Pörtner, DC Roberts, V Masson-Delmotte, et al. (eds.). Available at <https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/home/>.

⁸ For further details, see <https://unfccc.int/event/FPF14-NWP-biodiversity-adaptation>.

⁹ See document FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 18.

¹⁰ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-WestAsia.aspx>.

¹¹ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-NorthAfrica.aspx>.

¹² See [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Lima-Adaptation-Knowledge-Initiative-\(LAKI\)-for-the-Pacific-sub-region.aspx](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Lima-Adaptation-Knowledge-Initiative-(LAKI)-for-the-Pacific-sub-region.aspx).

¹³ See <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/university-partnerships.aspx>.

15. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to continue to implement actions and mobilize resources to close priority knowledge gaps in all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS,¹⁴ recognizing that the Initiative has only been implemented in seven subregions to date and noting the need to scale it up to other subregions in collaboration with relevant NWP partner organizations and regional, subregional, national and local organizations.

16. The SBSTA recognized the secretariat's efforts to improve the usefulness and relevance of the knowledge products developed under the NWP, and welcomed the report capturing the results of the survey of knowledge users on the accessibility and applicability of the NWP knowledge products,¹⁵ noting that it is based on limited responses from national focal points.

17. The SBSTA invited the secretariat to continue to enhance the accessibility and applicability of NWP knowledge products for all Parties and non-Party stakeholders, including with the active engagement of governments, national focal points and/or relevant contact points, NWP partner organizations and the NWP thematic expert groups, by:

(a) Preparing a synthesis of knowledge products on activities supporting the work of constituted bodies on knowledge gaps related to, inter alia, capacity-building, finance and technology, as well as on activities with a regional focus and on related themes;

(b) Translating relevant knowledge products, including thematic knowledge products, into United Nations languages, as appropriate;

(c) Developing and employing tools to ensure that knowledge products are tailored to the needs of knowledge users and accessible in order to maximize the uptake of adaptation knowledge and increase the usefulness of the products to knowledge users implementing adaptation action;

(d) Measuring the uptake of knowledge products by users, tracking progress and using the results to enhance their accessibility and applicability;

(e) Continuing to enhance the adaptation knowledge portal to make it more accessible, user-friendly and relevant, including by drawing on inputs from Parties, national focal points and/or relevant contact points, and NWP partner organizations and updating methods, tools and knowledge resources in the portal, as well as the resources available in the AC inventory of methodologies for assessing adaptation needs in the context of national adaptation planning and implementation.¹⁶

18. The SBSTA recalled its conclusion that it will take stock of the operational and institutional modalities of the NWP at SBSTA 56 (June 2022)¹⁷ and proposed the following questions to guide that stocktake:

(a) Which lessons learned, gaps, opportunities and challenges are associated with the operational and institutional modalities of the NWP in assisting Parties in implementing the Paris Agreement?

(b) How has work under the NWP enhanced adaptation through knowledge, including through:

(i) Engagement and coordination of national and subnational governments and NWP partner organizations in a manner that is demand driven and responsive to the adaptation and resilience needs of all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS?

(ii) Use and integration of diverse knowledge systems, including local and indigenous knowledge?

¹⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, para. 19.

¹⁵ Available at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Final%20NWP%20survey%20report.pdf>.

¹⁶ Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/SearchAsses.aspx>.

¹⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4, para. 28.

(c) How are countries engaging under the NWP and communicating their adaptation knowledge needs and how could their engagement be strengthened?

(d) How has the NWP supported constituted bodies in assisting Parties in implementing the Paris Agreement in line with the outcomes of SBSTA 44 and 50,¹⁸ including in relation to supporting their activities in addressing knowledge gaps related to capacity-building, finance and technology?

(e) How does the secretariat monitor and evaluate work under the NWP, including the dissemination and uptake of knowledge products by national, subnational and community-level knowledge users, and how can this be improved?

(f) Which additional thematic areas should be considered under the NWP, taking into account the different types of vulnerable ecosystem in different geographical regions, including mountainous regions?

19. The SBSTA agreed that, on the basis of the outcomes of the stocktake, ways of strengthening the operational and institutional modalities of the NWP should be identified in order to enhance its performance and effectiveness in addressing the knowledge needs of all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs and SIDS, relevant to implementing the Paris Agreement.

20. The SBSTA also agreed on the following modalities to inform the stocktake:

(a) Inviting Parties, constituted bodies, NWP partner organizations and other relevant organizations to submit views on the performance and effectiveness of the NWP in addressing knowledge needs relevant to implementing the Paris Agreement via the submission portal¹⁹ by 31 March 2022;

(b) Requesting the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the submissions referred to in paragraph 20(a) above for consideration at SBSTA 56;

(c) Also requesting the secretariat to prepare a report summarizing the outcomes of the work under the NWP since SBSTA 48 for consideration at SBSTA 56, containing information on:

(i) Lessons learned and challenges associated with implementing the NWP workplans and an analysis of the related successes, opportunities, gaps and challenges;

(ii) The work of the NWP thematic expert groups;

(iii) Advice from the AC for the NWP provided during its meetings and in the AC annual reports;

(iv) The impact of work under the NWP focused on supporting activities of the constituted bodies;

(v) Feedback, obtained through surveys and other means from knowledge users in countries and regions on the accessibility, clarity and relevance of NWP knowledge products;

(vi) Lessons learned in relation to using digital tools and modalities under the NWP;

(d) Considering the annual progress reports of the NWP since SBSTA 48²⁰ and the results of the survey on NWP knowledge products referred to in paragraph 16 above as additional inputs to the stocktake.

21. The SBSTA further agreed to apply a comprehensive and transparent approach to the stocktake, taking into consideration lessons learned by countries and regions and with the engagement of Parties, NWP partner organizations and non-Party stakeholders to ensure an effective outcome.

¹⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2016/2, para. 13, and FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 22.

¹⁹ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>.

²⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2018/INF.1, FCCC/SBSTA/2019/INF.1, FCCC/SBSTA/2020/INF.1 and FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.2.

22. The SBSTA took note of the estimated budgetary implications of the activities to be undertaken by the secretariat referred to in paragraphs 2, 11, 14, 15, 17 and 20 above.
 23. The SBSTA requested that the actions of the secretariat called for in these conclusions be undertaken subject to the availability of financial resources.
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