

UPCOMING EVENT ALERT

WIM ExCom and COP 29 Presidency event at COP 29



Unpacking the loss and damage landscape

The WIM ExCom and the COP 29 Presidency will co-organize an event on 14 November from 13:15 to 14:45 AZT/UTC+4 in Meeting Room 20, Area D, COP 29 Venue in Baku, Azerbaijan. This event will seek to unpack the global support system for Loss and Damage, in particular, the distinct roles of the WIM ExCom and its thematic expert groups, the Santiago network, and the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage, in providing comprehensive support to assist developing countries to effectively respond to loss and damage. The event will enhance understanding of how the WIM ExCom, the Santiago Network and the Fund, are and will offer practical support in responding to loss and damage. The WIM ExCom will launch some of the recent technical guides and knowledge products it has developed and

highlight how they can be applied by national governments, used by organizations providing technical assistance via the Santiago network, and inform support under the Fund. Visit the event webpage for more information.

For more information regarding all the official events at COP 29 and more, visit the COP 29 Overview Schedule and the UNFCCC COP 29 webpage.

WIM EXCOM IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

2nd All expert groups meeting



The 2nd meeting of all thematic expert groups of the WIM ExCom took place from 9 to 10 September in Bonn, Germany, prior to the ExCom 21 meeting. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss needs and opportunities to enhance the collection and management of data and information related to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage for countries to prepare Biennial Transparency Reports. The meeting also allowed experts and the WIM ExCom to discuss ways to enhance collaboration and coherence of work across the groups. It highlighted linkages between, and opportunities for strengthening coherence and consistency of key messages in, the technical guides and knowledge products currently in the pipeline.

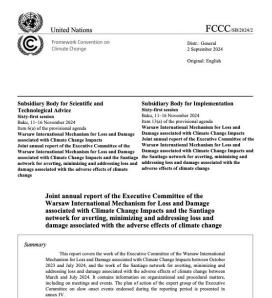
Latest meeting of the WIM ExCom



The 21st meeting of the WIM ExCom, ExCom 21, took place from 11 to 13 September in Bonn, Germany. ExCom 21 adopted a set of decision points and a set of recommendations on the basis of the work undertaken for consideration at SB 61. The recommendations are included in Chapter III of the Joint Annual Report Addendum 1. Following the mandate from CMA 5 requesting the WIM ExCom to prepare voluntary guidelines for enhancing the collection and management of data and information to inform the preparation of the Biennial Transparency Reports, the WIM ExCom adopted the outline of these guidelines and agreed on the process for their preparation, with a view to finalizing the guidelines before COP 30.

The WIM ExCom welcomed three new members, with two representing Non-Annex I Parties (both Asia-Pacific) and one representing Annex I Party. See the WIM ExCom membership page for the current members' details.

Joint Annual Report of the WIM ExCom and the Santiago network



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The 2024 Joint Annual Report of the WIM ExCom and the Santiago network covers the work undertaken by the WIM ExCom between October 2023 and July 2024, and the work of the Santiago network between March 2024 and July 2024. The report is comprised of three parts: the organizational and procedural information, complemented by Addendum 1 summarizing the progress of implementation of the second five-year rolling workplan of the WIM ExCom, including through its thematic expert groups, and Addendum 2, summarizing the progress of the work of the Santiago network.

WIM ExCom collaboration and synergies with other UNFCCC constituted bodies

Contributing to the Santiago network Advisory Board: The WIM ExCom was represented by two members in the second and third meetings of the Advisory Board of the Santiago network.

At the second third meeting, held from 2 to 4 July in Geneva, Switzerland, the Advisory Board approved the guidelines for the designation of organizations, bodies, networks and experts as members of the Santiago network.

At its third meting, held from 4 to 6 September 2024 in Bonn, Germany, the main decision was the adoption of the guidelines and procedures for responding to requests for technical assistance. Further documents finalized and adopted at this meeting include:

- Santiago network results framework;
- Guidelines on managing funding;
- Guidelines on preventing potential and addressing actual and perceived conflicts of interest;
- Rules of procedure of the Advisory Board;
- The revised budget for 2024 and the budget for 2025 based on two scenarios.

The Santiago network has made significant progress in its operationalization in order to enable the flow of technical assistance as soon as possible. Many connections to the work of the WIM ExCom were also discussed, which include outreach and communication, as well as coherence with the other elements of the loss and damage support landscape, such as the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage and the High Level Dialogue.

Engaging with the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE): The WIM ExCom engaged with the CGE on the margins of SB 60 and at the 2nd All expert groups meeting, to learn from the CGE about its work developing a handbook for the Enhanced Transparency Framework, the CGE Training Material on Reporting Information Related to Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation, which includes a chapter on loss and damage, and other CGE activities that may be relevant to informing the preparation of the voluntary guidelines. At the 2nd All expert groups meeting, representatives of the CGE highlighted the importance of including hands-on exercises and peer-to-peer exchanges in training workshops and the effectiveness of short videos and animations in supplementing dense guidelines and handbooks.

UPDATES ON THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THEMATIC EXPERT GROUPS

Expert Group on Slow Onset Events (SOEs)



Draft technical guide on sea level rise (Activity 1 of the SOEs Expert Group Plan of Action) has been prepared

The SOEs Expert Group has developed a draft of the technical guide on sea level rise. The guide discusses the risks and impacts of observed and projected rising sea levels on communities and the environment, and features a range of approaches from case studies, including protective measures such as coastal armouring, flood barriers, and elevating structures, alongside nature-based solutions such as ecosystem restoration, as well as accommodation strategies and managed retreat for at-risk communities.

Technical guide on desertification (Activity 2 of the SOEs Expert Group Plan of

Action) in progress

The SOEs Expert Group produced the second draft of the technical guide on desertification in September which considers regional contexts, trends in desertification over time, the severity of compound and cascading risks and the impacts of desertification on current and future livelihoods, integrated systems approaches and anticipatory policy that take into account the short- to long-term time scales of potential losses and damages.

Updates on the last meeting of the SOEs Expert Group

The 16th meeting of the SOEs Expert Group (SOE 16) took place on 17 October. The meeting focused on the status of the development of the technical guide on sea level rise. The group discussed the idea of organising an outreach event to disseminate the work of the SOEs expert group on sea level rise. WIM ExCom members also shared information on the planned event at COP 29.

Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses (NELs)



Technical paper on non-economic losses (Activity 1 of the NELs Expert Group Plan of Action) endorsed

The technical paper on non-economic losses developed by the NELs Expert Group was endorsed by the WIM ExCom in October 2024 and is envisaged to be published in November. The paper enhances the understanding of non-economic losses linked with biodiversity and ecosystem services, territory and habitability, and cultural heritage, as well as their overlapping and cascading impacts within socio-ecological systems, and how these can be addressed. Examples on actions taken to respond to such losses were selected from case studies and other literature. The paper undertook an extensive peer-review from members from other thematic expert groups and external experts.

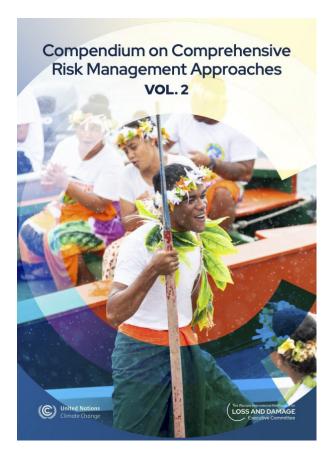
Expert consultation held to inform the development of a technical guide on averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses in the context of human mobility (Activity 7 of the NELs Expert Group Plan of Action and Activity 4 of the TFD Plan of Action)

An expert consultation was held on 9 September in Bonn, Germany, to inform the development of the technical guide on averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses in the context of human mobility. It was organised by members of the Task Force on Displacement (representatives from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Labour Organization (ILO)) and the Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses (representatives from Hugo Observatory for the Environment, Migration and Politics at the University of Liège and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)) who are coleading the development of the technical guide. Members of the WIM ExCom's other thematic expert groups informed the content of the guide with insights and key findings from the knowledge products being developed by their groups to ensure coherent messaging.

Updates on the last meeting of the Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses

The 7th meeting of the NELs Expert Group took place on 5 November. The meeting focused on the status of the publication of the paper on non-economic losses. WIM ExCom members also shared information on the planned event at COP 29.

Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management (TEG-CRM)



Compendium on Comprehensive Risk Management Approaches volume 2 (Activity 5 of the TEG-CRM 2nd Plan of Action) finalized

The second volume of the Compendium on Comprehensive Risk Management Approaches has been finalized by TEG-CRM and is envisaged to be published in November. It sets out possible interventions for anticipating and responding to risks associated with key representative types of losses and damages, referred to as "loss and damage signatures" in the compendium, covering, inter alia, food insecurity due to drought; the impacts of heatwaves on human health; infrastructure damage due to floods; and the impacts of sea level rise on coastal socioecological systems. It showcases how countries can apply comprehensive risk management approaches to anticipate and respond to loss and damage from climate change impacts. The compendium has been informed by over 100 case studies submitted to the WIM ExCom under its workstreams on comprehensive risk management and non-economic losses, as well as submissions made to the Transitional Committee in 2023.

Tracking losses and damages: generating evidence of impact of the climate emergency (Activity 10 of the TEG-CRM 2nd Plan of Action) in progress

UNDRR, in collaboration with UNDP and WMO, is developing a new tracking system for hazardous events and losses and damages, which will build on the existing disaster loss accounting system, www.besInventar.net. As part of this process, governments and experts have been co-creating the new disaster, loss and hazardous event monitoring system, including through several technical expert forums and workshops. The 2024 BonnTechnical Forum on non-economic losses under the theme "Beyond economic losses: towards a holistic approach on tracking losses and damage" took place on 22 and 23 October. As a curtain-raiser to the forum, a webinar was convened on approaches to understanding and categorizing non-economic losses, exploring typologies, value expressions, and identifying gaps.

More info on the tracking system for hazardous events and disaster losses and damages is available at https://www.undrr.org/disaster-losses-and-damages-tracking-system

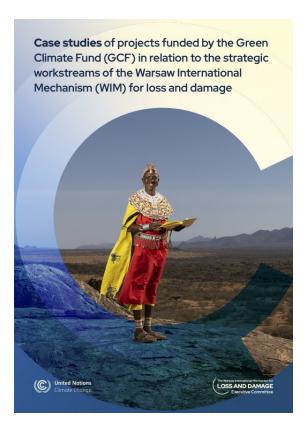
Task Force on Displacement (TFD)



Technical guide on integrating linkages between human mobility and climate change into national climate change planning processes (Activity 4 of the TFD Plan of Action) endorsed

The technical guide on Integrating Linkages between Human Mobility and Climate Change into National Climate Change Planning Processes developed by the TFD has been endorsed by the WIM ExCom in July 2024 and is envisaged to be published in November. This step-by-step guide provides concise and operational information to different levels of government entities and policy stakeholders, for mainstreaming human mobility considerations into national climate change planning processes, such as the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans. Focusing on social equity and justice, and those who are most vulnerable, this guide provides operational and user-friendly information and tools on a broad range of human mobility dimensions.

Action and Support Expert Group (ASEG)



Paper on case studies of projects funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in relation to the strategic workstreams of the Warsaw International Mechanism (Activity 2 of the ASEG Plan of Action) published

This paper, which was developed by ASEG and published in November, enhances understanding on how developing countries may access funding from the GCF related to the strategic workstreams of the WIM. Selected GCF-approved projects have been mapped to the workstreams of the WIM, to better understand the range of actions funded in related projects, associated with anticipating and responding to loss and damage from the impacts of climate change.

The members of the thematic expert groups of the WIM ExCom wish to share announcements of information on ongoing related work that may contribute to the implementation of the plans of action.

• The online training entitled "Thought leadership course - Synergizing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation", developed by UNDRR and UNSSC, in the context of Activity 3 of the TEG-CRM Plan of Action, is still open. More details here.



• The Finance for Nature virtual innovation webstival entitled "Scaling Innovations in Sustainable Investment" is focusing on nature-based insurance and investment instruments for ecosystem restoration as part of climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The event will explore innovative financial mechanisms, including insurance solutions, biodiversity credits, and ecosystem restoration investments, that leverage nature's value in mitigating climate risks. Participants from financial organizations, risk experts, nature-based solution practitioners, and government representatives will review best practices, discuss sustainable investment and insurance finance principles, and raise awareness of the role of financial systems in promoting nature-based solutions for resilience and disaster risk reduction. More details here.



MAIN LINKS

UNFCCC Loss and Damage webpage WIM webpage WIM ExCom page

Would you like to join our community of experts? Register to the WIM Roster of Expertshere.

Contact: loss-damage@unfccc.int

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