

Promoting overarching coherence

Information note

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 20th meeting, will be invited to take note of the update and discuss further collaborative work on its online MS Teams space, with a view to promoting coherent action on adaptation under the Convention, as appropriate.

It is also invited to consider the invitation from the NWP contained in section 2.3.5. below..

Observers will be invited to send their comments to AC@unfccc.int.

1. Introduction and scope of this note

1. This information note provides a brief overview of collaborative activities with other adaptation-related institutional arrangements under the Convention, including a progress report on knowledge and information support provided by the Nairobi work programme.
2. It also contains a summary of how the AC has engaged with the IPCC Working Group II in its work as mandated by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris agreement (CMA).

2. Summary of progress made

2.1. Collaboration with other adaptation-related institutional arrangements under the Convention

3. Collaboration with other institutional arrangements under the UNFCCC is key to the work of the AC in its function of moving the work on adaptation under the UNFCCC forward in a coherent manner. Several AC members have been nominated to serve as dedicated liaison to facilitate engagement between the AC and other constituted bodies, as follows:

- LEG - Cecilia da Silva, Shella Biallas
- SCF - Navina Sanchez, Mariam Allam, Funanani Muremi, Shella Biallas
- TEC's taskforce on adaptation - Clifford Mahlun, Backups: Julio Cordano, Kazem Kashefi and Mariam Allam
- CTCN Advisory Board - Kazem Kashefi, Alessandra Sgobbi (backup)
- WIM Excom's Task Force on Displacement - Liu Shuo, Backups Shella Biallas and Mariam Allam
- WIM Excom's Task Force on non-economic losses - Shella Biallas, Backups Pilar Bueno, Liu Shuo and Funanani Muremi
- Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform - Pilar Bueno, Cecilia Silva

- Paris Committee on Capacity Building - Kazem Kashefi and Mariam Allam (back-up)
4. Additionally, the AC has nominated a Gender focal point (Julio Cordano) with three backups (Clifford Mahlung, Funanani Muremi and Naeem Ashref Raja. Finally, the following AC members are nominated to work with the LEG once the COVID19 situation allows the organization of the next regular NAP Expo: Cecilia Silva, Julio Cordano, Mariam Allam, Navina Sanchez and Shella Biallas.
 5. The AC habitually issues open invitations to other adaptation-related bodies to attend its regular meetings and cross-participation in meetings of other constituted bodies has become the norm.
 6. Leading up to and following AC 19 the AC Co-Chairs conducted exchanges with the LEG Chair to coordinate work in responding to the CMA mandate of contributing towards the compilation of methodologies on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support, which led to establishment of a joint working group between the AC, LEG and SCF. The first meeting of the joint AC-LEG-SCF joint working group took place on 26 August 2021.
 7. The AC contributed to many adaptation-related events hosted by other constituted bodies, including:
 - a) The thirteenth meeting of the WIM Executive Committee;
 - b) The fifth meeting of the Task Force on Displacement of the WIM Executive Committee;
 - c) The seventeenth and eighteenth meetings of the CTCN Advisory Board;
 - d) Three informal workshops organized by the COP25 presidency and the incoming Presidency of COP 26 on the Global Goal on Adaptation;
 - e) A session organized by the NWP's expert group on Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the context of the EbA knowledge day;
 - f) The fifth meeting of the PCCB;
 - g) Part one of the 2021 workshop under the Koronivia joint work on agriculture;
 - h) The fifth meeting of the FWG LCIPP.

2.2. Adaptation Committee Taskforce on National Adaptation Plans (NAP Taskforce)

8. The NAP Taskforce is a useful means for the AC to share its work on NAPs with other constituted bodies and to invite input and feedback on its work directly addressing national adaptation planning and implementation. It comprises members of the AC, AF, GCF, GEF, LEG, SCF and the TEC and the lead of the NAP task force delivers at each AC meeting an oral or written progress report on collaborative work undertaken by the task force in accordance with its three-year workplan.
9. While most of the NAP Taskforce's work is undertaken by exchanges of documents and information by email, members of the Taskforce met virtually on 30 April 2021 for an update and exchange on current and forthcoming tasks. During this meeting, members of the AC NAP Taskforce noted that Taskforce is a well-established group, set to serve as a bridge between the constituted bodies working on adaptation in order to move forward in an informed and coherent manner in supporting developing countries in their national adaptation planning. It considered and agreed on the following proposals to enhance the use and impact of the NAP taskforce, mindful of the value and aggregate expertise that nominated members from the AC and other six related bodies and institutional arrangements bring to the table:
 - a) Multi-directional communication and information sharing. Members encouraged the use of the group as a multi-directional communication tool that can be used not only by the AC to seek input from other bodies, but for all member bodies to seek feedback in their respective work areas related to adaptation planning. In this sense it could be used as a broader discussion and information space that could develop over time;
 - b) Regular meetings. Members agreed that regular meetings, including virtual ones, are helpful to discuss activities on the workplan (twice per year), with the option of organizing additional smaller meetings focus on specific items;

- c) Seeking further inputs. Members agreed that other constituted bodies could be invited on an ad-hoc basis as needed, for example those that expressed interest to work with the AC on various issues (Facilitative working group (FWG) of the local communities and indigenous peoples platform (LCIPP), the PCCB and the CTCN).

2.3. Progress report on knowledge and information support provided by the Nairobi work programme (NWP)

10. The NWP is the AC's primary access portal to knowledge and information generated by public entities, academic and research institutions, private sector, non-governmental and civil society organizations, regional centres and networks, and United Nations and affiliated organizations.

11. In response to an invitation from SBSTA 48.1,¹ AC 15,² AC 17,³ and AC 19⁴ provided advice on the delivery of NWP mandates that relate to the work programmes of constituted bodies, and on opportunities to align efforts with relevant bodies, workstreams and institutional arrangements. This was then communicated to the Chair of the SBSTA and included in the NWP's annual reports for consideration by the SBSTA. The secretariat provides regular updates to the AC on the work carried out under the NWP, including how it is implementing the advice from the AC.

12. Progress made by the NWP since AC19 is contained in the NWP's annual report of 2021,⁵ supplemented by the short summary report below specifically prepared for the attention of the AC. The NWP also created a specific web page on knowledge support provided to the AC.⁶

2.3.1. Knowledge & information support provided by the Nairobi work programme relevant to AC technical papers:

- a) The NWP is developing a policy brief on climate data and information relevant for formulating and implementing adaptation policies and plans. This will be an addition to the AC's technical paper on Data for adaptation at different spatial and temporal scales;
- b) Its collaboration with the TEC and IUCN (see below) could be relevant for AC's technical paper on priorities and needs for technologies for adaptation in agriculture, water resources and coastal zones;
- c) An AC member (Mariam Allam) engaged at the 7th EbA Knowledge Day and shared information on the AC's previous work on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems⁷ at national and subnational level.⁸

2.3.2. Partnerships and thematic work: forest and grassland ecosystems and biodiversity; oceans, coastal areas and ecosystems; and agriculture and food security:

- a) The NWP and two of its thematic expert groups (biodiversity and oceans) are designing the 14th Focal Point Forum on biodiversity. The invitation and a detailed programme of the focal point forum will be shared with the AC in early October;
- b) A scoping paper on forest and grassland biodiversity and ecosystems has been prepared with technical inputs from the NWP expert group on biodiversity. The paper and summary brief will be finalized in advance of October;

¹ Paragraph 19 of document [FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac19_5b_nwp.pdf).

² See <https://unfccc.int/documents/194841>.

³ See <https://unfccc.int/documents/227674>.

⁴ See <https://unfccc.int/documents/271477>.

⁵ See document [FCCC/SBSTA/2021/INF.2](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac19_5b_nwp.pdf).

⁶ Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme-nwp/supporting-the-constituted-bodies/knowledge-support-provided-to-the-adaptation-committee#eq-1>

⁷ 19 AC meeting guidance to the NWP: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac19_5b_nwp.pdf (para 7 d ii)

⁸ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac19_7b_m_and_e.pdf

- c) A report on enhancing resilience of oceans, coastal areas and ecosystems has been prepared with inputs from the NWP expert group on oceans and will be finalized in September;
- d) Thematic work on agriculture and food security has been initiated. This work will include linkages with the Koronivia joint work on agriculture.

2.3.3. Collaboration with other constituted bodies to close adaptation knowledge gaps and scale up adaptation action:⁹

- a) This includes addressing gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs.
- b) The LEG and GCF secretariat provided inputs in the development of a NAP supplement¹⁰ in collaboration with the NWP expert group on oceans to assist the LEG in implementing and accessing support for NAPs focused on considerations for developing GCF proposals for coastal and marine nature-based solutions.

2.3.4. Upcoming and future activities include:

- a) As part of the part of the TEC's Technology Day events,¹¹ the TEC, IUCN/FEBA and the NWP expert group on oceans are co-organizing a thematic session on innovative approaches to strengthening coastal and ocean adaptation during IUCN World Conservation Congress (September 2021);
- b) Follow up with constituted bodies is underway to review their workplans of adaptation-related areas where further knowledge support could be provided.

2.3.5. Strengthening partnerships to close adaptation knowledge gaps at the subregional level:

- a) Collaborative actions are underway to address priority knowledge gaps in the context of phase II of the LAKI in North Africa and GCC subregions;¹²
- b) Several projects have been undertaken by graduate students to address priority knowledge gaps in the Hindu Kush Himalaya, North Africa and Andean subregions in the context of the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme;¹³
- c) The NWP **would like to invite the AC** to provide proposals/concept notes that can be taken up by graduate students as a part of the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme.

2.3.6. Improving the adaptation knowledge portal to enhance the relevance, accessibility and use of adaptation knowledge:

- a) The secretariat is improving the structure and navigation of several pages of the adaptation knowledge portal and updating knowledge resources. New resources have been added to the portal as a result of targeted outreach with NWP partners and experts.

⁹Dedicated page on NWP support to constituted bodies available at:

<https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme/linkages>

¹⁰ <https://unfccc.int/documents/278047>

¹¹ The concept note on the session is contained in TEC document TEC/2021/22/6, available at:

https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/tn_meetings/e162acf804ef44488ca7ec47baab7dd5/8af6b5f1d90b4b54b3d32786ed7b8e34.pdf

¹² <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-NorthAfrica.aspx> and

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

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

2.4. Engagement with the IPCC Working Group II

13. The CMA requested the AC to engage the IPCC Working Group II, as appropriate, in its work relating to the draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating adaptation information, and in the technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs of developing country Parties.

14. The AC and IPCC Working Group II authors and secretariat have been interacting over the years through informal meetings, meetings hosted by the SBSTA Chair with representatives from the research and systematic observation community and UNFCCC constituted bodies, and through written updates after relevant meetings of the AC.

15. With regard to the two CMA mandates, the AC and IPCC representatives had informative interactions that facilitated an understanding of the IPCC's procedural processes and the time constraints under which the IPCC Working Group II is operating to launch its 6th assessment report on time. At the same time both sides realize the value of an engagement on the two CMA mandates. As a result, so far the AC and IPCC representatives agreed that drafts of the AC's work will be shared for feedback and input while the level of detail in which the IPCC secretariat and Working Group II representatives are able to contribute depends on their time availability.

16. Interactions in 2021 included:

- a) 21 April 2021: The AC Co-Chairs sent a letter to the IPCC which highlighted progress the AC had made in its two mandates with envisioned IPCC engagement, as appropriate, since the AC's last meeting with the IPCC at COP 25. In the letter, the Co-Chairs expressed interest in an informal conference call to discuss how the IPCC could be efficiently yet fruitfully engaged in the further implementation of these two mandates.
- b) 25 June 2021: The AC and the IPCC had a conference call to discuss the two mandates. During the call, AC members stressed the value of having the IPCC present at its upcoming webinar on adaptation communications.
- c) 30 June 2021: The AC hosted a webinar on adaptation communications where the IPCC Working Group II Co-Chair highlighted some of the relevant insights that have emerged from IPCC work, which helped frame the overarching topic of adaptation during the introduction of the webinar.
- d) At AC 20: The AC will be invited to consider sharing the current status of its work on the two mandates for review and inputs, as appropriate.

3. Next steps

17. The AC will be invited to take note of the update and discuss further collaborative work on its online MS Teams space, with a view to promoting coherent action on adaptation under the Convention, as appropriate, including in response to the invitation from the NWP contained in section 2.3.5 above. Observers will be invited to send their comments to AC@unfccc.int.

Document information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
01.0	1 September 2021	AC 20 The AC is invited to take note of the update contained in this information note and to implement the next steps.

Keywords: Nairobi workprogramme, IPCC, institutional arrangements, adaptation to climate change, Resilience.
