

## 2023 NAP Expo event on closing the data gap in climate change adaptation planning and implementation in collaboration with the private sector

### Concept note

#### 1. Background

1. The Adaptation Committee has over the past years advanced its work and guidance on how the private sector can contribute to Parties' climate change adaptation efforts, including by climate proofing its own assets and operations.
2. This work included:
  - a) In 2017, a mapping of actors was performed, entailing a review of relevant literature<sup>1</sup>, together with an open survey of private sector adaptation action and motivations;<sup>2</sup>
  - b) In 2018, a workshop was conducted on the topic of "Fostering engagement of the agri-food sector in resilience to climate change", in collaboration with the International Trade Centre (ITC) in Geneva, Switzerland;<sup>3</sup>
  - c) In 2019,
    - i) The Adaptation Forum was held in conjunction with the Korea Global Adaptation Week on the topic of "Engagement of the private sector in adaptation planning processes, including NAPs: Challenges and opportunities", sharing the outcomes and facilitating a discussion on challenges and solutions with key stakeholders<sup>4</sup>;
    - ii) A side event "Enhancing the engagement of the private sector in adaptation planning and implementation" took place at COP 25;
  - d) In 2020, the joint NAP Global Network and Adaptation Committee "Toolkit for Engaging the Private Sector in National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)" was published, based on the learnings from the previous work of the Adaptation Committee in this matter.<sup>5</sup> The toolkit was presented in an interactive webinar.<sup>6</sup>
  - e) In 2022, the Adaptation Committee convened an event at the NAP Expo, titled "*Promoting the inclusion of (micro,) small and medium enterprises ((M)SMEs) in national adaptation planning and implementation*".<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>

[https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups\\_committees/adaptation\\_committee/application/pdf/ac12\\_8c\\_ps\\_add1.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/ac12_8c_ps_add1.pdf)

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[https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups\\_committees/adaptation\\_committee/application/pdf/ac12\\_8c\\_ps\\_add2.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/groups_committees/adaptation_committee/application/pdf/ac12_8c_ps_add2.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://unfccc.int/event/adaptation-committee-fostering-engagement-of-the-agri-food-sector-in-resilience-to-climate-change> and [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac15\\_8a\\_ps\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac15_8a_ps_report_final.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://unfccc.int/event/2019-adaptation-forum-by-the-adaptation-committee-engagement-of-the-private-sector-in-adaptation>.

<sup>5</sup> <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/engaging-private-sector-toolkit-V5.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://unfccc.int/event/interactive-webinar-engaging-the-private-sector-in-national-adaptation-plans-nap-a-toolkit-to-guide>.

<sup>7</sup> <https://napexpo.org/2022/sessions/parallel-session-2-2-4-promoting-the-inclusion-of-micro-small-and-medium-enterprises-msmes-in-national-adaptation-planning-and-implementation-ac-itc-nap-global-network/>

3. In its 2022-2024 flexible workplan, the Adaptation Committee decided to “hold an event at the NAP Expo on best practices, lessons learned, challenges and opportunities related to engaging the private sector in NAP formulation and implementation”.<sup>8</sup> At AC21, it was decided to hold the event in 2023 on the topic of “Closing the data gap in climate change adaptation planning and implementation in collaboration with the private sector”.

## **2. Closing the data gap in climate change adaptation planning and implementation in collaboration with the private sector**

### **2.1. Background**

4. Accurate and reliable data is critical for meaningful climate change adaptation action because it helps decision-makers to understand the current and potential impacts of climate change and to design effective adaptation strategies. Without access to reliable data, it is difficult for policymakers to identify the most vulnerable populations, to understand the most pressing risks and hazards, and to allocate resources effectively.

5. Important gaps and challenges remain in all categories of adaptation data, including:

- a) In situ observation systems are still lacking in some regions of the world, most critically in regions where populations are at elevated risks, such as in coastal areas, or where local changes have global impacts, for example the melting of icesheet outlet glaciers and its contribution to sea-level rise;
- b) Modelled data is hardly downscaled to local levels where it is mostly needed;
- c) The interpretation of data is afflicted with major challenges that relate to rather technical issues around the measurements and models, but also to deep uncertainties regarding future drivers of climate change, the response of the atmosphere and the effectiveness of adaptation measures in light of changing norms and values.
- d) Ensuring the quality of data is also becoming increasingly difficult as demands for the timeliness of data supply and its availability at various scales and for ever more specific adaptation situations are on the rise.<sup>9</sup>

6. The private sector can support the public sector in accessing accurate and decision-ready data by leveraging its expertise and resources in data collection and analysis. The private sector can provide the public sector with access to the latest technologies and tools for data collection, storage, and analysis. Additionally, the private sector can help to build and maintain the capacities of the public sector in developing countries by providing training, technical assistance, and resources.

7. The public and private sectors should work closely together to ensure that data collection and analysis is conducted in an ethical and socially responsible manner, with a focus on protecting the privacy and security of the individuals and communities involved.

8. Overall, private sector collaboration can play a critical role in closing the data gap in climate change adaptation planning and implementation, and in building and maintaining capacities in developing countries. Through partnerships and collaborations with the public sector, the private sector can help to ensure that decision-makers have access to the accurate and reliable data they need to design effective adaptation strategies and to protect vulnerable populations from the impacts of climate change.

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<sup>8</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac\\_workplan\\_2022\\_24.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/ac_workplan_2022_24.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AC%20adaptation%20data%20spm.pdf>

### **3. Adaptation Committee event to be held at the 2023 NAP Expo**

#### **3.1. Objective**

9. The objective of the event is to bring together practitioners and policymakers in national adaptation planning and implementation from the public sector and private sectors (such as business associations and trade associations) to:

- a) Scope out the benefits of getting data and data-related services from the private sector and the related pitfalls;
- b) Explore insights why it is of highest importance to include (M)SMEs in national adaptation planning and implementation;
- c) Learn how public actors can engage (M)SME actors in national adaptation planning and implementation.

#### **3.2. Partners and contributors**

- Group on Earth Observations (GEO)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- Private sector actors to be identified

#### **3.3. Proposed agenda and setting**

The following setting is suggested:

- Approx. 50-60 participants;
- The event should be followed (or preceded) by a networking coffee break;
- Virtual participation via MS Teams and broadcast via YouTube live and LinkedIn (if possible);

The following agenda is suggested:

1. Introduction and welcome by a representative of the Adaptation Committee
2. Opening remarks from a representative of the public sector
3. Presentations from panelists on the benefits and pitfalls of collaborating with the private sector for data and data-related services in climate change adaptation planning and implementation, with a focus on developing countries
4. Discussion of key factors for successful collaborations between the public and private sectors
5. Case studies of successful collaborations, highlighting best practices and lessons learned
6. Presentation on the role of frontier technologies in data collection and analysis for climate change adaptation planning and implementation
7. Moderated Q&A session
8. Closing remarks from a representative of the private sector
9. Networking and wrap-up.

### **4. Next steps**

10. The AC will be invited to consider the concept note, provide further guidance as appropriate and request the secretariat to proceed with the organization of the event.

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**Document information**

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<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
01.0	3 March 2023	AC 23 This concept note contains a proposed structure for the event at the 2023 NAP Expo on the private sector engagement for the AC to provide further guidance as appropriate and request the secretariat to proceed with the organization of the event.

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Keywords: Resilience, private sector, national adaptation plans, information needs, meetings.

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