

Recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties: Institutional arrangements and stakeholder engagement

Draft concept note

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 24th meeting, may wish to consider the information contained in this document and agree on next steps.

1. Background

1. As part of the modalities for recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the Adaptation Committee and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group and in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to prepare synthesis reports every two years starting in 2020. The synthesis reports shall focus on specific adaptation themes and on relevant lessons learned and good practices in developing country Parties.¹
2. The AC, at its twenty-third meeting, agreed to merge and refine the suggested themes “Efforts of developing countries in setting up institutional arrangements to plan and implement adaptation at different levels of government” and “Efforts of developing countries in engaging stakeholders in adaptation planning and implementation” for its third synthesis report which is to be published in 2024.² It requested the thematic working group, established by the AC on this matter, to work intersessionally, with support of the secretariat, to further refine the topic and develop an initial outline to be considered by the AC at AC 24.

2. Objectives of this note

3. The draft concept note for consideration by the AC aims to define the focus, structure, and content scope of the 2024 synthesis report, outlining sources, timelines and intersessional work. It also considers alignment of the focus theme of this and future reports with the wider AC work and priorities.

3. Approach and sources of information

4. The importance of institutional arrangements and the engagement of relevant stakeholders for effective adaptation planning and implementation has long been recognized. Both aspects often reinforce each other. The report will therefore provide an overview of the roles and main benefits of effective institutional arrangements and stakeholder engagement at different levels of government and for the different components along the adaptation cycle. It will also outline recurring challenges in their set-up and maintenance. With the aim of recognizing the range of possible variations in their set-up, owing to their

¹See Decision 11/CMA.1 para 13

² See the summary outcome of agenda item 8(a) of the 23rd meeting of the AC available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-23>.

context-specific nature, the report will feature a series of case studies and conclude with a summary of lessons learned and good practices.

5. The report will draw information from the following main types of sources:
 - a) State of adaptation country profiles summarizing information from national reports and communications, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Communications (NCs), Adaptation communications (AdComms), and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs);
 - b) Technical reports and tools published under the UNFCCC;
 - c) Thematic and project reports published by UN and other international organizations;
 - d) Other relevant thematic reports, guidance tools and scientific articles.

4. Draft outline

6. The following presents a draft outline of the synthesis report:
 - a) Introduction
 - b) Overview of the roles and main benefits of effective institutional arrangements and stakeholder engagement for adaptation planning and implementation
 - at different levels of government
 - for the different components of the adaptation cycle
 - c) Overview of challenges in setting up and maintaining effective institutional arrangements and level of stakeholder engagement
 - d) Case studies
 - at different levels of government, including national, sub-national, sectoral, regional, including examples of South-South collaboration
 - for the different components of the adaptation cycle, including assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and learning
 - on a range of different stakeholders, including beneficiaries, research institutions, NGOs, representatives of different sectors and disciplines, private sector, particularly vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples
 - e) Lessons learned and good practices

5. Alternative option to the proposed theme

7. Given the lack of time at the last AC meeting and the resulting compromise solution that the AC agreed to further refine, the AC may also wish to consider an alternative option for its 2024 synthesis report. With the launching of country profiles on the state of adaptation in the coming months, it could publish a report showcasing noteworthy efforts by developing countries as identified in these profiles.

8. The report could adhere to the structure of the country profile template, reflecting different components of the adaptation cycle and summarize the breadth of efforts of developing countries under each element, or a selection thereof. This could be followed by a presentation of outstanding case studies for each of the selected elements and a summary of lessons learned and good practices.

9. Given the various elements covered by the adaptation profiles, the summaries would necessarily represent a higher-level synthesis. Future synthesis reports could subsequently build on them and again dive deeper into specific adaptation themes cognizant of the AC's and wider adaptation community's future priorities.

6. Next steps

10. The AC may wish to agree on the final theme for its 2024 synthesis report and request the secretariat, under the guidance of the AC working group on this matter, to prepare an annotated outline for intersessional review and a first draft to be presented at AC 25 for consideration by the AC.

Document information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
Draft	09 October 2023	AC 24 The AC is invited to take note of the update contained in this information note and to implement the next steps.

Keywords: Adaptation, Resilience, implementation, developing country Parties.
