First meeting of the Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, 15–19 March 2021

Summary of proceedings

25 March 2021

BACKGROUND

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, at its second session(CMA 2), requested the Executive Committee (ExCom) to revise the terms of reference for and launch the expert group on non-economic losses taking into account the broad range of issues covered by the relevant strategic workstreams.¹ At its 12th meeting (October 2020), the ExCom adopted the revised terms of reference and launched the group.

PROCEEDINGS

The Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses (NELs EG) held its first meeting from 15 – 19 March 2021. During the first meeting, the modalities of the work comprised live, face-to-face video meetings and electronic means via M.S. Teams collaboration space on shared documents.

Three live sessions were held on Monday 15 March, Wednesday 17 March and Friday 19 March, each for two hours. The last two sessions included parallel breakout group work.

The meeting was co-facilitated by two members of the ExCom, Mr. Adao Soares Barbosa and Ms. Kajsa Fernström Nåtby. The following members took part in the meeting. The full membership list is available online,² and the members' profiles are contained in Annex I.

Ms. Deissy Martinez BARON	International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (Centro Internacional	
	de AgriculturaTropical	
Ms. Verona	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment	
COLLANTES-LEBALE	of Women	
Mr. Eustace Crispin D'AUVERGNE	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States	
Ms. Kristie EBI	University of Washington	
Mr. Sisira MADURAPPERUMA	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	
Mr. Godwell NHAMO	University of South Africa	
Mr. Sandeep Chamling RAI	World Wide Fund	
Ms. Mechtild RÖSSLER	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	
Mr. Seyni SALACK	West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and	
	Adapted land Use	
Ms. Caroline ZICKGRAF	Hugo Observatory, University of Liège	
Mr. Irfan ULLAH	UNFCCC YOUNGO	
Ms. Amina Laura SCHILD on behalf	f UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Expert Group	
of Mr. Benon YASSIN		
Ms. Shella BIALLAS	UNFCCC Adaptation Committee	
Mr. Estebancio CASTRO-DIAZ	UNFCCC Facilitative Group of the Local Communities and	
	Indigenous Peoples Platform	

¹ Decision 2/CMA.2, para. 25.

² https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/WIMExCom/NELs/membership

Mr. Adao Soares BARBOSA	UNFCCC Executive Committee of the Warsaw International
(Co-Facilitator); Mr. Jerome	Mechanism for Loss and Damage
ILAGAN; Ms. Kajsa Fernström	
NÅTBY (Co-Facilitator); Mr. Valeriy	
SEDYAKIN	

The first **live session**, held on Monday 15 March, provided opportunities for members to 1) introduce relevant work of their organizations and processes from the perspective of the scope of the work of the group as contained in its Terms of Reference; and 2) deepen the understanding of the context in which the group operates under the Warsaw International Mechanism. The session helped in creating a common vision of the group.

The session also comprised brainstorming discussions on how the group could 1) determine and showcase the state of knowledge on NELs and 2) ensure its work is useful from the developing countries perspective.

Members underlined the importance of awareness-raising of the types of NELs and the concept of addressing loss and damage (L&D) in general from the perspectives of different target stakeholders, particularly national governments and policymakers.

In this regard, the group agreed that a stocktaking of existing knowledge on how NELs are being addressed in countries and associated reporting/knowledge-sharing processes was much needed to profile the target audiences and scope their further needs.

The discussion also pointed to the need to identify networks and partnerships that the group could leverage in co-producing knowledge products that could be disseminated through established outreach channels and collaborating to organize capacity-building events and opportunities.

The initial ideas shared during the kick-off session resulted in the identification of three broad elements around which the scope of work as contained in terms of reference was organized. Members continued their work via the collaboration space on the three elements 1) stocktaking of existing knowledge, 2) awareness-raising, outreach and support strategy, and 3) enhancing technical capacity and catalyzing support.

On Wednesday 17 March, a **second live session** was held to further develop possible activities under the three areas of work and start developing implementation approaches to these activities, including possible sequencing of action.

The result of the week's collective work was summarized into a high-level draft rolling Plan of Action (PoA) (see annex II). The **wrap-up session** on Friday 19 March sought further elaboration of implementation approaches, and the group agreed on the following:

- Forward to the ExCom for its endorsement of the high-level plan of action after one week of postmeeting refinement;
- Continue elaborating the implementation approaches to each of the activities. The implementation approaches are internal documentation of detailed steps to be taken sequentially and contain potential partners for different steps to be undertaken or coordinated by lead/co-leads members.

NEXT STEPS

Following the post-meeting refinement, including language editing, the draft rolling PoA will be finalized and presented to the ExCom for its endorsement in the lead up to its thirteenth meeting (27-30 April 2021).

The group will continue elaborating the implementation approaches to each of the activities/areas, as needed. The implementation of the PoA will begin after the plan's endorsement. The group decided to hold its second meeting in fall 2021 to take stock of the implementation progress.

Further information on the meeting is available on the meeting page <u>First meeting of the Expert Group on Non-economic losses (NELs 1) | UNFCCC</u>.

Annex I: Members' profiles of the NELs EG Annex II: Draft rolling Plan of Action

Member's name, affiliation	Brief introduction
Benon Yassin UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Expert Group	Benon Bibbu Yassin, a member of the LEG since 2012 is a Deputy Director of Environmental Affairs responsible for Environmental Planning, Monitoring and Research in the Malawi Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining. He is attached to the Environment Affairs Department coordinates national environmental planning, budgeting processes and implementation of biodiversity programmes in Malawi. Benon Bibbu Yassin also participates in Reviews for Annex 1 National Inventory Reports, National Communications and Biennial Reports under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto protocol.
Caroline Zickgraf Deputy Director, The Hugo Observatory: Environment, Migration, Politics University of Liège (Belgium)	Caroline is a specialist in human mobility related to climate change, especially the impacts on coastal populations. Her work focuses on a range of migration, displacement, and immobility drivers, dynamics, and impacts. She works primarily in West African countries, but also has field experience in Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean.
NELs expertise area: Human Mobility	A social and political scientist, Caroline locates much of her work on the human impacts of climate change at the science-policy interface. She is a member of the Advisory Group on Climate Change and Human Mobility.
	At present, she is Scientific Coordinator of the HABITABLE project (2020-2024), funded by the European Commission, which looks at current and future scenarios of climate change and human mobility in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia.
Deissy Martinez Baron Regional Program Leader for Latin America at the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) Alliance Bioversity CIAT (Internati onal Center for Tropical Agriculture)	Deissy is the CCAFS Regional Program Leader for Latin America. She is a social science researcher with over eight years of experience on bringing science to support decision-making processes across scales. Her research has focused on climate-smart agriculture, low emissions development and decarbonization pathways, policy-science interface and engagement, sustainable finance, and more recently, on social capital and enabling environments for building scaling pathways for low carbon and climate resilient food systems.
	Deissy has worked in governmental institutions in Colombia performing technical roles supporting decision making on climate change linked to economic outcomes. She is also the Latin America Regional Leader for Climate Action at the Alliance Bioversity CIAT. Deissy holds B.A.s in Economics and International Affairs and MSc in Rural Development. She is also pursuing a PhD on Human Geography at the Copenhagen University.
Espen Ronneberg Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme's	Espen has been involved in practical climate change projects, international negotiations as well as academic work on climate change impacts, primarily on SIDS. He was also involved in the

1/CP.10 discussions, as well as those leading up to the creation of the WIM as well as been engaged in the Nansen Initiative, organizing the Pacific seminar, and have written several articles on adaptation and loss and damage. Currently he oversees developing a Pacific repository of information, studies and data on loss and damage, as well as options for comprehensive climate change risk management options for the Pacific. **Estebancio Castro-Diaz** Estebancio has participated in the work of the Executive Facilitative Group of the Local Committee for several years as a representative of I.P.s Communities and Indigenous of Abya Yala (the Latin America and Caribbean region). His own Kuna Nation, as a small island-based I.P., has direct experience **Peoples Platform** with the critical themes addressed in the Excom and the NELs expert group; He is a current member of the FWG, where he regularly interacts with other indigenous members of the FWG as well as the broader Indigenous Caucus in connection with the work of the UNFCCC. **Eustace Crispin d'Auvergne** Crispin a national of Saint Lucia, previously worked, for many Organization of Eastern years, with the Government of Saint Lucia, in the fields of Caribbean States Fisheries, Natural Resources, Environment and Energy, with his final position being that of Chief Sustainable Development and Environment Officer. For over 15 years, he served as a climate change negotiator for Saint Lucia, mostly as lead technical negotiator. During that time, he negotiated, or facilitated negotiations on, among others, Capacity-Building, Article 6 of the Convention and Response Measures. Currently, he serves on the Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB). Since 2019, Crispin has been the OECS' focal point for the GIZ's Project on Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change which is being implemented in the Caribbean, the Pacific, the Philippines, East Africa and West Africa. During that time, he has engaged in a number of training, policy development, and outreach initiatives, both in the region and in Germany. HMCCC is of particular relevance to the Caribbean due to the frequency and intensity or extreme weather events that have often induced people to leave their islands. It also has implications for the OECS' freedom of movement arrangements. **Godwell Nhamo** His expertise is in Climate Change Governance, Adaptation, Professor, University of South Resilience and Sustainable Development spaces and has Africa initiated a number of climate change adaptation and resilience research projects focusing on southern Africa. Based on his experiences and other work related to disaster risk reduction (DRR) and management in the context of COVID-19 pandemic, he has on regular basis advised the South African Disaster Management Centre Director (and by default, the government) on matters of public interest, including building

climate resilience and also building back better thereafter.

Irfan Ullah

UNFCCC Constituency YOUNGO

Mr. Irfan is researcher at United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security UNU (EHS) Bonn Germany. He has a multisectoral experiences spanning from disaster risk reduction, climate risk insurance, climate change adaptation and resilience, community mobilization, youth development, water hygiene and sanitation, food security and livelihoods, and conflict-triggered disasters to an earthquake, flood response and sustainable development.

Kristie Ebi

Ph.D., MPH, Center for Health and the Global Environment, University of Washington Much of Kris's research and practice focuses on understanding sources of vulnerability; estimating current and future health risks of climate change; designing adaptation policies and measures to reduce risks in multi-stressor environments; and estimating the health co-benefits of mitigation policies. All of these topics are directly relevant to discussions of L&D.

In terms of regions, Kris has supported multiple countries in Central America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific in assessing their vulnerabilities and implementing adaptation policies and programs. Much of her current research focuses on the Pacific and Asia.

Mechtild Rössler

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr Mechtild Rössler is an expert in both cultural and natural heritage and the history of planning and was appointed in 2015 as the Director of the World Heritage Centre.

She has a degree in cultural geography from Freiburg University (Germany) and a Ph.D. from the Faculty for Earth Sciences, University of Hamburg (Germany) in 1988. She joined the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) at the Research Centre of the "Cité des Sciences et de L'Industrie" (Paris, France) in 1989 and worked in 1990/91 as a visiting scholar on geography, area research and spatial planning at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, in the Department of Geography. In 1991, she started working at UNESCO (Paris) in the Division for Ecological Sciences and transferred in 1992 to the newly created UNESCO World Heritage Centre. She held different positions including as Programme Specialist for Natural Heritage and cultural landscapes (1993-2001), Chief of Europe and North America (2001-2010), Chief of the Policy and Statutory Meeting Section (2010-2013), Deputy Director (2013-2015) and Director of the Division for Heritage (2015-2018).

Ms Rössler chaired the working group on the World Heritage and Climate Change Policy to be adopted by the World Heritage Committee 2021 and is co-chairing the Scientific Steering Committee for the International Expert Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change with IPCC and ICOMOS. She has published and co-authored 13 books and more than 120 articles.

Sandeep Chamling Rai WWF Singapore

Sandeep Chamling has professional experience in working on climate change adaptation and loss and damage issue nationally

and globally; lead the technical and strategic development of global adaptation program for WWF International climate and energy practice; providing thought leadership, technical and capacity building assistance at the national and international level.

Has worked mostly with developing countries in Asia, Africa,

Has worked mostly with developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America directly working on Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Nature-Based Solution approaches with WWF country programs in Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Madagascar, Kenya, South Africa, Cameron, Uganda, Namibia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Colombia, and Mexico.

Seyni Salack (PhD), Regional Thematic Coordinator – Risks and Vulnerability to Climate Extremes –, WASCAL

Seyni is a senior scientist, coordinating research activities on compound risk and vulnerability to climate extremes. He works at the Competence Centre of the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land use (WASCAL).

Shella Biallas

UNFCCC Adaptation Committee

Shella is currently lead adaptation negotiator for the United States and focuses regionally on climate change in Africa. She has worked overseas in Somalia, focusing on economic development and stability and in Norway where she represented the United States on issues related to the Arctic, climate change, and health. Shella also has relevant background through her previous work at the U.S. Department of the Interior. In her role as a policy analyst there she worked on ways to assess and communicate the importance of hard to value public lands and cultural and historical sites managed by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Native American land. She also led the Department's Arctic working group and contributed U.S. Arctic policy and work under the Arctic Council.

Sisira MadurapperumaAsian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

Sisira is an Environment Economist by profession and currently reading as a research fellow on the theme of Climate Change, Disaster Risks and Development Nexus at the Global Disaster Resilience Centre, School of Applied Sciences, University of Huddersfield, U.K. He has ample experience in the domain of disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development, especially in the thematic fields of risk governance, estimation of economic and non-economic costs of climate change and disaster impacts, post-disaster damage, and loss estimation, resilient recovery, and overall institutional system development including policy, strategy and program formulation.

He has developed and led the implementation of adaption and resilience-building programs in Asia, including Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, Pakistan, Nepal Philippines, and the Pacific countries including PNG, Palau, and African countries including Ethiopia and Nigeria.

Verona Collantes-Lebale

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Verona is a social scientist and economist by training. She currently works at the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), where she serves as the focal point for the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD. In this capacity, she provides technical and substantive support to governments and other stakeholders to enhance understanding of the gender dimensions of climate change, biodiversity, and desertification, land degradation and drought. Verona also worked on migration, including from the perspective of climate change, trade and economics.

She contributes to building knowledge, awareness and understanding through her research and the preparation of publications, submissions, background papers, guides/modules and key messages. She organizes, facilitates and presents at workshops, expert meetings, side events, targeted to, among others, the focal points of the Rio Conventions, bringing in the gender perspectives.

Prior to UN Women, Verona worked with other UN agencies in Geneva, Switzerland. She was a Philippine Foreign Service Officer. Verona completed her Masters in International Law and Economics at the World Trade Institute in Bern, Switzerland.

Adao Soares Barbosa

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Adao Soares Barbosa is a WIM ExCom member from Timor-Leste, representing the LDCs and champion of the NELs Expert Group. He is the UNFCCC National Focal Point and lead negotiator for climate change on behalf the Timor-Leste. He is also loss and damage coordinator for the LDCs in the UNFCCC climate change negotiation process. He is also a member for the Least Developed countries Expert group (LEG) representing Asian LDCs. At home, he is a lecturer for the National University of Timor Leste, especially for the Faculty of Agriculture, Department agronomy. As the UNFCCC Focal Point, he is working with the Secretary of State for Environment, the Government of Timor-Leste.

Jerome Ilagan

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Jerome is a member of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, and a champion of the NELs Expert Group. He currently works as the Chief for Policy Research and Development of the Philippine Climate Change Commission, heads the Secretariat of the Climate Change Commission's National Panel of Technical Experts, and serves as part of the Philippine delegation to the UNFCCC negotiations, especially on matters relating technology, transparency, and finance workstreams, prior to being a member of the WIM ExCom.

At present, he leads the updating of the Philippine National Framework Strategy on Climate Change and the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP) pursuant to law and steers the implementation of the National Climate Risk Management Framework through the whole of government and

	society approaches supporting policy and investment planning decisions on climate change and sustainable development.
Kajsa Fernström Nåtby Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage	Kajsa is co-chair for the NELs expert group and a member of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. She works at the Swedish Ministry of Environment. Amongst other things she works on mainstreaming consideration of youth, gender, and indigenous perspectives in climate action. Kajsa is a part of the E.U. team to the UNFCCC negotiations. She has a BSc in economics from Lund University and MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation from London School of Economics.
Valeriy Sedyakin Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage	Valeriy is WIM ExCom member from Russian Federation. He works at "Institute of Global Climate and Ecology" of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation. At present, Valeriy is Chief economist of the Institute, he has the Academic degree compatible to the doctorate (Candidate of Geographical Science) Section – Ecology, also the master's degree in financial management. He is a part of the Russian Federation delegation to the UNFCCC negotiations.

ANNEX II DRAFT ROLLING PLAN OF ACTION OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON NON-ECONOMIC LOSSES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE (AS OF 18 MARCH 2021)

Sequence of activities == == == ==>

Areas of work	Reference to the scope	Activities	Deliverables	Indicative timeframe
Stocktaking of existing knowledge	of work as per ToR B) Collecting and synthesizing information on available tools for assessing non-economic losses and disseminating or otherwise making available that information, including via the UNFCCC website Lead/co-leads:	1) Collect, and regularly update, existing information on NELs and store in database (as part of overall database of the WIM, in collaboration with other WIM expert groups) 2) Synthesize information for further use by the expert group and by stakeholders (with possible validation by target groups/stakeholders) 3) Identify gaps in knowledge to inform work of the NELs EG ([with possible validation by target groups/stakeholders/ or through needs assessments as conducted under A3 and E) 4) Disseminate information packages to target groups	Database of existing information Various targeted information packages List of knowledge gaps	
Awareness- raising, outreach and support strategy	A) Developing an awareness-raising strategy and related knowledge products, outreach material, key messages (on NELs) Lead/co-leads:	1) Develop first set of high-level key messages on WIM, L&D, NELs (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups) 2) Profile stakeholders that the NELs EG will target 3) Assess information needs (e.g. through a survey or capacity-building events and in collaboration with other WIM expert groups, where suitable) 4) Develop further set of key messages on NELs tailored to different target groups	Set of high-level key messages for awareness-raising purposes serving all WIM expert groups List of target stakeholders and audiences Summary of information needs by stakeholders and regions 4) Repository of key messages for use in various outreach materials and activities	

Areas of work	Reference to the scope of work as per ToR	Activities	Deliverables	Indicative timeframe
		5) Develop targeted outreach and awareness- raising material tailored to needs of different stakeholders including basic outreach information on the WIM and L&D and key messages on NELs (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups and possibly reviewed by peers and stakeholders) 6) Develop and regularly update a list of dissemination channels (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups, where suitable) 7) Disseminate outreach material through identified channels	5) Outreach material on a) existing information as collected through stocktaking, b) on knowledge products and activities (e.g. CB events) undertaken by the NELs EG 6) List/ website of events and processes to be used for disseminating outreach material	
	D) Fostering existing and/or building new partnerships and otherwise cooperating with relevant stakeholders engaged in work on non-economic losses Lead/co-leads:	Map potential partners engaged in NELs work (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups, where suitable) 2) Prioritize partnerships according to pre-defined criteria and types of engagement	1) List of potential partners with consideration of geographical and thematic distribution 2) Priority list of partners for different types of engagement (e.g. capacity-building events under E, drafting of technical guides under C and F))	
	E) Inviting partners to coordinate related capacity-building events at the regional and national level to identify capacity needs and support with a view to	1) Scope regional/national events (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups, where suitable) 2) Prioritize capacity-building opportunities at regional/national levels (to be organized in partnership or stand-alone)	List of regional/national events Final list of events with dates/partners	
	supporting the efforts of developing countries to assess and address non-economic losses Lead/co-leads:	3) Organize capacity-building events to identify CB needs and support in relation to NELs (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups, where suitable; use as a dissemination channel for the outreach material produced under A)	3) Capacity-building events conducted at different levels, CB needs and support assessed	

Areas of work	Reference to the scope of work as per ToR	Activities	Deliverables	Indicative timeframe
Enhancing technical capacity/ catalysing support	C) Developing guidelines, jointly with the TFD, as appropriate, on averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses in the context of human mobility Lead/co-leads: F) Developing technical guides in its respective thematic area, avoiding duplication of work across workstreams Lead/co-leads:	I) Draft annotated outline of the guidelines (in collaboration with the TFD and based on needs assessments conducted under A and possibly E) 2) Liaise with potential partners to support the drafting of the guidelines (as identified under D) 3) Draft guidelines (in collaboration with the TFD and possibly other partners) 4) Disseminate guidelines in different formats to targeted audiences and through outreach channels (as identified under A) I) Draft annotated outlines of the technical guides (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups and based on needs assessments conducted under A and E) 2) Liaise with potential partners to support the drafting of the technical guides (as identified under D) 3) Draft technical guides (in collaboration with other WIM expert groups and possibly other partners) 4) Disseminate technical guides in different formats to targeted audiences and through outreach channels (as identified under A)	1) Draft outline of guidelines 2) Partnership established 3) Final guidelines 1) Draft outline of guidelines 2) Partnership established 3) Final guides	
G) Developing recommendate ExCom for contractions and the contractions of the contraction	_			