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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 36th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat*

Summary

The 36th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 27 to 30 August 2019. At the meeting, the Group discussed progress on the implementation of its rolling work programme for 2019–2020. The meeting included discussions with the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility and its agencies on their continued provision of support to the least developed countries (LDCs) for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and the implementation of the LDC work programme, which includes the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action. The meeting also included discussions with representatives of other relevant organizations on collaboration in providing support to the LDCs. The Group discussed addressing mandates from the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties.

* This report was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FY	fiscal year
CCAFS	CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GERICS	Climate Service Center Germany
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GWP	Global Water Partnership
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDCs	least developed countries
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
NAP-Ag	Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans programme
NAP-GSP	National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme
NAP-SDG iFrame	integrative framework for national adaptation plans and the Sustainable Development Goals
NDC	nationally determined contribution
NWP	Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
PEG M&E	monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Reduction
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

I. Mandate

1. COP 21 extended the mandate of the LEG under its current terms of reference¹ to cover the period 2016–2020, and mandated the LEG to undertake a number of additional activities.²
2. In addition, CMA 1 mandated the LEG to undertake activities to facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement,³ and COP 24 mandated the LEG to continue to support the implementation of the LDC work programme.⁴
3. Furthermore, COP 22 requested all constituted bodies under the Convention to include in their regular reports information on progress towards integrating a gender perspective in their processes.⁵
4. Accordingly, the LEG is mandated to develop a two-year rolling work programme for consideration by the SBI at its first sessional meeting of each year and to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions.⁶

II. Summary of the 36th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

5. The 36th meeting of the LEG was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 27 to 30 August 2019.
6. The LEG extended invitations to the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, and other relevant organizations to participate in the meeting in order to discuss the provision of support to the LDCs. Representatives of the GCF and the GEF as well as of Development Initiatives, FAO, GIZ, GWP, Southern Voices on Climate Change, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP and WMO took part in the meeting. The LEG invites individual experts to its meetings to mobilize new thinking and explore additional avenues of technical support to the LDCs in line with its work programme. It therefore invited an expert on remote sensing and crop monitoring from the University of Maryland to introduce the GEOGLAM programme with a view to exploring how this programme can assist the LDCs in formulating and implementing NAPs.
7. The LEG took note of the following members who represent the Group in its ongoing collaborative activities with other bodies under the Convention:
 - (a) Hana Hamadalla Mohamed (Sudan) and Nikki Lulham (Canada) in the NAP task force of the AC;
 - (b) Fredrick Manyika (United Republic of Tanzania) and Sonam Lhaden Khandu (Bhutan) in the work of the AC on the technical examination process on adaptation;
 - (c) Idrissa Semde (Burkina Faso) and Adao Soares Barbosa (Timor-Leste) in the task force on displacement of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;
 - (d) Ewin Künzi (Austria) and Ram Prasad Lamsal (Nepal) in the collaboration with the TEC;
 - (e) Kenel Delusca (Haiti) and Michelle Winthrop (Ireland) in the work of the PCCB and the CGE;
 - (f) Benon Yassin (Malawi) and Mery Yaou (Togo) in the work of the NWP.
8. A list of the members of the LEG as at 27 August 2019 is included in annex II.

¹ Decisions 29/CP.7, 7/CP.9, 4/CP.11, 8/CP.13, 6/CP.16, 5/CP.17, 12/CP.18 and 3/CP.20.

² Decision 19/CP.21, paras. 1–3.

³ Decision 11/CMA.1, paras. 5, 13, 35 and 36.

⁴ Decision 16/CP.24, paras. 5–6.

⁵ Decision 21/CP.22, para. 14.

⁶ Decision 6/CP.16, para. 3.

B. Status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Progress by developing countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

9. The LEG took note of the continuing progress by developing countries under the different elements of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Up-to-date statistics (e.g. the number of developing country Parties that have completed each element of the process) will be included in a report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs being prepared for SBI 51.⁷

10. The LEG noted that, as at 27 August 2019, there continue to be 13 developing countries (4 of which are LDCs) that have completed and submitted their NAPs⁸ on NAP Central:⁹ Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Kenya, Saint Lucia, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan and Togo.

2. Progress in relation to support provided

11. The LEG took note of the information supplied by the organizations before its 36th meeting on support provided between March and August 2019 for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, as summarized in paragraphs 12–15 below.

12. Regarding financial support, the table below provides a summary of project proposals on NAPs submitted by developing countries for funding under the GCF support modality for formulation of NAPs under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, which provides up to USD 3 million per country,¹⁰ and the LDCF.

Project proposals for accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund for the formulation of national adaptation plans as at 3 October 2019

<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Number of submitted proposals</i>	<i>Approved proposals or proposals in the approval process</i>	<i>Funds disbursed or in the process of disbursement</i>
GCF	Africa	39 (24)	16 (9)	12 (6)
	Asia and the Pacific	15 (4)	8 (4)	5 (3)
	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	12	5	2
	Latin America and the Caribbean	16 (1)	11 (1)	10 (1)
Total		82 (29)^a	40 (14)^b	29 (10)^c
LDCF	Africa	7	7	4
	Asia and the Pacific	2	2	–
	Latin America and the Caribbean	0	0	–
Total		9^d	9	4^e

Note: Data are based on figures shared by the GCF and GEF secretariats to the LEG and are current as at 3 October 2019. For the GCF, the first figures shown are for all developing countries and those in parentheses indicate the number of LDCs.

^a Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Republic of Moldova (two proposals), Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan,

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2019/INF.15.

⁸ In response to decision 3/CP.20, para. 9, and subsequent iterations.

⁹ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>.

¹⁰ See GCF Board decision B.13/09, para. (e). Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/home>.

Thailand, Tonga, Tunisia (two proposals), Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

^b Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Somalia, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

^c Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

^d Bangladesh, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and South Sudan.

^e Chad, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Senegal.

13. Regarding technical support, annex III provides a summary of the support provided to the LDCs for activities related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs in the period March to September 2019. Detailed information on the support provided by the LEG is contained in chapter III below.

14. The LEG, the NAP technical working group and many bodies and organizations¹¹ conducted sessions at the NAP Expo in April 2019 addressing many issues related to climate change adaptation (see para. 41 below for details).¹²

15. Various organizations continued to develop supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs (see paras. 30 and 31 below for details).

C. Status of implementation of adaptation projects in national adaptation programmes of action and related strategies and plans supported through the Least Developed Countries Fund

16. The LEG took note of the information from the GEF secretariat that nine national projects and two regional projects were approved for funding through the LDCF in June 2019. Support for the projects amounts to USD 100.61 million, and together the projects cover 14 LDCs.¹³ The projects are drawn from national adaptation priorities identified in national adaptation programmes of action. They address climate risks in key sectors and systems such as agriculture; water resources; forestry; fisheries and aquaculture; and rural, urban and coastal livelihoods.

17. As at 30 September 2019, the total cumulative donor pledges to the LDCF amounted to USD 1.4 billion, and the total paid contributions amounted to USD 1.37 billion (see figure 1).¹⁴ The funding ceiling for each LDC is currently USD 50 million, with a cap of USD 10 million per country for the period 2018–2022 in line with the GEF 2018–2022 Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF and Operational Improvements.

¹¹ AC, CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, Conservation International, Climate Technology Centre and Network, Copernicus, ETH Zurich, FAO, GCF secretariat, GERICs, GIZ, GWP, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Climate Centre, Korea Adaptation Center for Climate Change, Korea Environment Institute, Lakeshore Agroprocessors Enterprise Malawi, LDC Group, NAP Global Network, NAP Global Support Programme, NWP, Porous City Network, Red Stripe, Southern Voices on Adaptation, Thinking Machines, UNDP, UNEP, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, United Nations University, WMO, World Bank Climate Investment Funds and World Resources Institute.

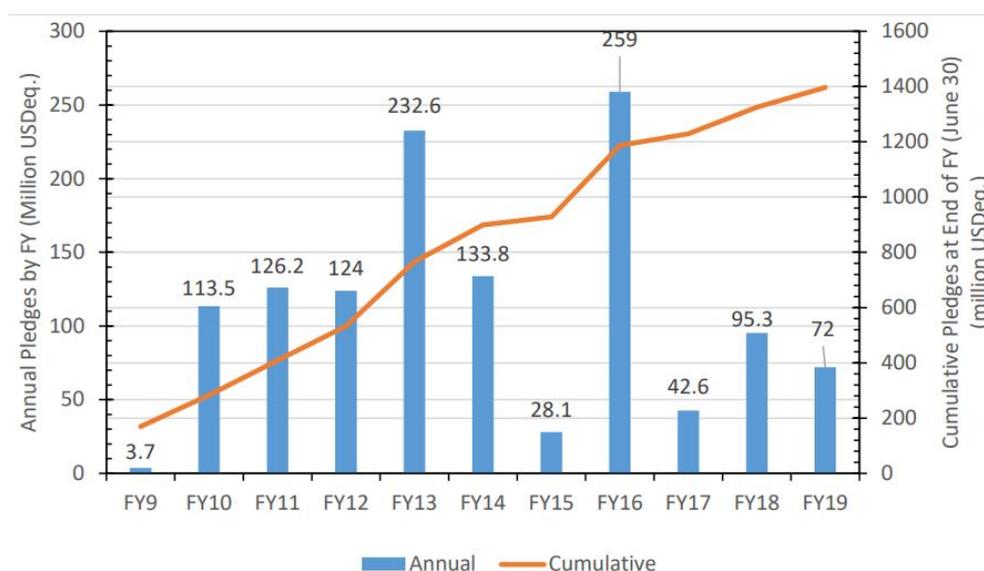
¹² For information on NAP Expo 2019, see <http://napexpo.org/2019>.

¹³ Angola, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu and Zambia.

¹⁴ See GCF Board decision B.13/09, para. (e).

Figure 1

Total annual and cumulative pledges to the Least Developed Countries Fund by fiscal year



Source: GEF document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.26/03. Available at <http://www.thegef.org/council-meetings/ldcfscf-council-meetings-26>.

18. The GEF launched its Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, which has an allocation of USD 5 million from the LDCF and USD 5 million from the SCCF. The programme will support projects promoting:

- (a) Entrepreneurs and local private sector actors, especially in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;
- (b) Multi-stakeholder partnerships, alliances and incubators as catalysers of large-scale financing and market developers;
- (c) Catastrophe and climate risk modelling, climate insurance, and efficient irrigation and drinking water supply systems and technology transfer for weather analytics and monitoring;
- (d) Innovative business models and investment approaches, seed funding and venture capital.

19. The LDCs are eligible to access the LDCF allocation of the GEF's Challenge Program.¹⁵

III. Progress in the implementation of the rolling work programme for 2019–2020

A. Direct country support

1. Open NAPs

20. The LEG took note of the welcoming by SBI 51 of the information provided by the LEG on Open NAPs¹⁶ and the invitation from the SBI to Parties and interested organizations to participate in the Open NAP initiative in order to contribute to the success of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The LEG agreed to further disseminate the policy brief

¹⁵ More information on the programme, including on submission of proposals, is available at <https://www.thegef.org/documents/call-proposals-challenge-program-adaptation-innovation>.

¹⁶ FCCC/SBI/2019/9, para. 61.

on Open NAPs through various channels, including the Climate-L and Environet mailing lists, to facilitate engagement by countries and organizations.

21. The LEG also took note of the progress in implementing the Open NAP initiative for the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.¹⁷ The initiative is helping interested countries to work towards producing their first NAP before the end of 2020, and includes the following activities:

- (a) Analysing the challenges faced by the countries in making progress in formulating their NAPs;
- (b) Mobilizing organizations to join efforts in supporting the countries to make progress;
- (c) Compiling available information to underpin the formulation of the NAPs;
- (d) Conducting an initial training workshop to engage the countries in starting work on their NAPs using an outline of a prototype NAP (see para. 23 and 24 below for details);
- (e) Actively engaging the countries and supporting them, through the NAP technical working group, in developing the content of their NAPs;
- (f) Providing ongoing support, with follow-up events for the Open NAP initiative to be held at COP 25, NAP Expo 2020 and SB 52.

22. The initiative is also engaging relevant organizations to help these countries to successfully access funding from the GCF for the formulation of their NAPs. The LEG agreed to continue to mobilize organizations to engage in the Open NAP initiative and to support countries. It also agreed to explore further initiatives for supporting countries not covered by the existing Open NAP activities.

2. Training on national adaptation plans

23. The LEG reviewed the final agenda and supporting documents for the training workshop on NAPs that took place from 2 to 6 September 2019 in Nairobi, conducted as part of the Open NAP initiative referred to in paragraph 21 above. Following a request to the focal points to take into account gender considerations when identifying experts to participate in the workshop, the LEG noted the registered country nominees for the workshop included 12 women and 39 men. The LEG also noted that five of the eight resource persons for the workshop were women.

24. Together with the organizations that took part in the workshop, the LEG prepared the outline of a prototype NAP¹⁸ that was used at the workshop to guide countries in working towards their own NAP.

3. Publication on national adaptation plans

25. The LEG considered progress in preparing a peer-reviewed publication on NAP outcomes, experiences and lessons learned, including from dealing with climate shocks, as contained in its work programme for 2019–2020. The LEG reviewed a template for country contributions to the publication on NAPs that was developed at NAP Expo 2019 in sessions led by scientists from various universities and research centres. The LEG agreed to include discussion of the following issues in the publication: key vulnerabilities and risks; adaptation actions; capacity needs and gaps in addressing means of implementation; resource mobilization; outcomes of adaptation interventions; and cross-cutting issues such as gender, sociocultural issues and access to finance. It also agreed to expand on the topics to be included in each chapter of the publication. It designated Mr. Delusca and Ms. Lulham, with the

¹⁷ The countries involved in this initiative include the following LDCs that participated in a NAP workshop held from 2 to 6 September 2019, in Nairobi: Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gambia, Haiti, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste and Yemen.

¹⁸ A prototype is an early sample or model of the final NAP that contains all the key elements of the final product and would be expanded to produce the final NAP.

support of the secretariat, to lead the preparation and review of the publication on behalf of the LEG.

4. National adaptation plan technical working group

26. The LEG noted that the NAP technical working group held meetings at NAP Expo 2019 and at SB 50 to advance its work in assisting the LEG in providing technical guidance and support for NAPs through guidelines, technical papers, training, addressing gaps and needs in adaptation for the LDCs, the PEG M&E tool, Open NAPs, NAP Expos and NAP Central. The LEG took note of the following highlights from the meetings of the group:

(a) The suggestion to establish more regular and deeper interactions among partners, that is, beyond providing a platform for them to update one another on their individual activities;

(b) The observation of the very slow progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs by the LDCs (compared with developing countries that are not LDCs) using measures of progress such as the number of processes actively in place, the number of NAPs produced and the number of LDCs being assisted in accessing GCF readiness support for the formulation of NAPs;

(c) The agreement to support all interested developing countries in producing a NAP as a stand-alone document and to share it through NAP Central, and to assist these countries in further capturing related outputs and outcomes and including them in NAP Central;

(d) The acknowledgement of the need to shift to more direct country support for facilitating the formulation of NAPs by 2020, where feasible, especially for those LDCs still in the early stages of the process despite making efforts over several years;

(e) The observation of readiness by organizations to engage in the Open NAP initiative, with some pledging to share data, information and resources from their ongoing related activities to support countries in preparing their NAPs;

(f) The welcoming of efforts to improve coherence and collaboration in further developing technical guidance, using the NAP-SDG iFrame as the basis for improving the development and implementation of NAPs;

(g) The identification of further topics for collaboration, including making an economic case for adaptation at the national level, testing risk-based approaches (e.g. the concept of pre-emptive adaptation, contingency arrangements and loss acceptance for risk-based adaptation) and applying best available science at the national level.

27. The following organizations took part in NAP technical working group activities in 2019: African Development Bank, FAO, GERICS, GIZ, GWP, Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee, International Centre for Climate Change and Development, SLYCAN Trust, Stockholm International Water Institute, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP and WMO.

5. Supporting the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans through NAP Central

28. The LEG took note of the ongoing updates on NAP Central and agreed to continue developing and maintaining NAP Central to support the LDCs in the formulation and implementation of NAPs and the LEG itself in its work. The LEG encouraged partner agencies and organizations to promote the sharing on NAP Central of NAP outputs of the countries being supported.

6. Supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans

29. The LEG took note of the continued engagement of organizations in developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

30. The following supplements are in the final stages of development:

- (a) Addressing forestry and agroforestry in NAPs (FAO);
- (b) Promoting synergy and coherence between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the context of NAPs (UNDRR);
- (c) Toolkit for enabling a gender-responsive approach to the process to formulate and implement NAPs (LEG, AC and NAP Global Network).

31. The following supplements are either in development or planned to be developed:

- (a) Integrating displacement and human mobility in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (International Organization for Migration);
- (b) Nature-based solutions (UNEP).

32. The LEG agreed to recommend that the organizations assist the LDCs in applying their respective supplements in the formulation and implementation of their NAPs. It noted the need to develop an integrating supplement that would link all existing and new supplements, and to support the LDCs in navigating the various supplements.

7. Training for the least developed countries in implementing the Paris Agreement

33. The LEG discussed plans for the training for the LDCs in effectively and efficiently navigating and addressing the many elements of the Paris Agreement that was tentatively planned for 2019. It noted that it would be useful to have the training workshop on this matter as soon as possible in order to assist the LDCs in engaging in their responsibilities concerning the Paris Agreement in a timely manner. The LEG agreed to explore collaboration with other bodies and organizations supporting the LDCs in various aspects of the Paris Agreement, including the CGE, the GEF, GIZ, the NDC Partnership and World Resources Institute to conduct this training in early 2020.

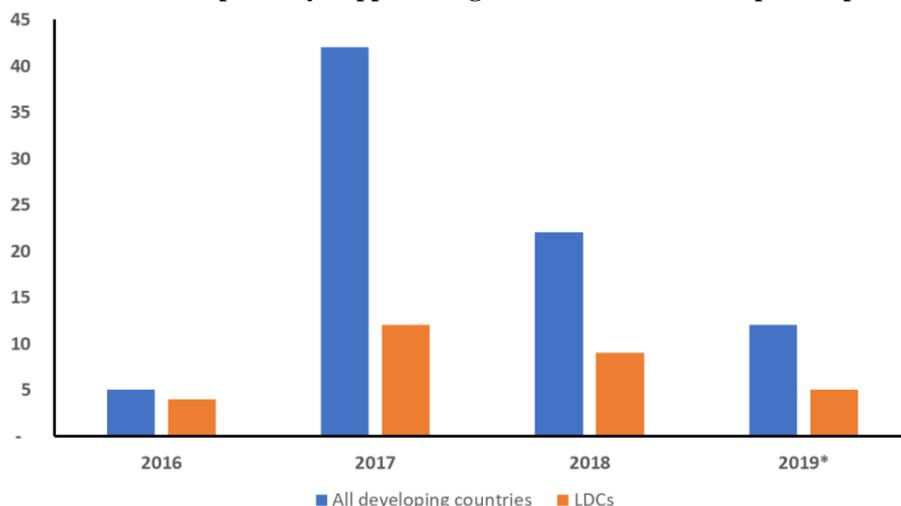
B. Matters relating to access to the Green Climate Fund

34. The LEG took note of the continued active engagement of the GCF secretariat in conducting sessions at the NAP Expos on accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs. It agreed to update the GCF on plans for NAP Expo 2020 and to commence discussions about the GCF sessions at that event.

35. The LEG noted that progress by the LDCs in accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs has improved, although it is still poor considering the amount of time that has passed since the establishment of NAPs and the commencement of the provision of support for them (see figure 2).

Figure 2

Number of developing countries seeking funding under the Green Climate Fund’s Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme for national adaptation plans, 2016–2019



Note: Data are based on information from the GCF secretariat. For 2019 the figures are only up to 3 October.

36. The LEG will continue to communicate with the GCF secretariat regarding the experience of and challenges faced by the LDCs in accessing funding for their NAPs from the GCF.

C. Implementation of national adaptation plans

37. The LEG continued its consideration of the mandate from the SBI to advise on the implementation of NAPs,¹⁹ which involved consideration of information from NAP Expos, consultations with Parties and engagement with relevant organizations to identify the needs and challenges related to implementing policies, projects and programmes identified in NAPs.

38. The LEG noted that the major challenges regarding implementation of NAPs, through the GCF, are related to the following issues:

(a) The current lack of specific guidelines for the funding of the implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified in the NAPs;²⁰

(b) The difficulties experienced by delivery partners and countries in having funding proposals approved quickly under the GCF owing to the complexity of the process and level of scrutiny in the review of the proposals;

(c) The limited assistance received by some countries from delivery partners in developing proposals for implementing the policies, projects and programmes identified in their NAPs.

39. The LEG noted that these issues would be difficult to overcome through regular workshops and the sessions conducted by the GCF secretariat at the NAP Expos – they require additional attention at appropriate levels. The LEG agreed that the GCF and its delivery partners could address these issues through the direct and continued mentoring and coaching of country teams.

40. Other issues identified in previous reports of the LEG include strong leadership and coordination of adaptation efforts at all levels; institutional and technical capacity for developing bankable proposals and for their execution, monitoring and evaluation; and effective stakeholder engagement. The LEG has integrated various activities in its work programme and mobilized relevant organizations to address some of these issues.

D. NAP Expos

41. The LEG took note of the success of the NAP Expo convened from 8 to 12 April 2019, in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea, in conjunction with the Korea Global Adaptation Week.²¹ The event brought together around 560 participants. Of these, 45 per cent were women and 55 per cent were men. It featured 12 keynote speakers, of which 7 were women and 5 were men. Nearly 30 organizations and programmes contributed to the event by designing, mobilizing speakers for and conducting sessions on specific themes. The event featured a rich set of topics on adaptation, including scale (spatial and temporal); geospatial data for adaptation; digitalization of adaptation assessments; application of big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning to improving the coverage, speed and quality of assessments; transformational adaptation; transboundary climate risk; optimization of adaptation action through pre-emptive, contingent and loss-acceptance approaches; regional assessments; visioning and foresight methods; gender sensitivity in adaptation; and involvement of multiple stakeholders, including youth, the

¹⁹ FCCC/SBI/2017/19, para. 73.

²⁰ Decision 1/CP.21, para. 46. Guidance from the GCF in response to this decision only addresses access to funding for the formulation of NAPs under the GCF support modality for NAPs – under its GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, which provides up to USD 3 million per country.

²¹ <http://napexpo.org/koreaweek>.

private sector and subnational governments. For the first time, the NAP Expo engaged youth in a practical manner, through the launch of the Global Youth Adaptation Dialogue.

42. In addition to keynote presentations and thematic sessions led by different groups, the NAP Expo offered a platform for the following:

- (a) Hands-on support to NAPs on gaining access to the GCF;
- (b) Launch of supplements to the NAP technical guidelines and other related publications on NAPs;
- (c) Recognition of adaptation efforts through presentations of completed NAPs;
- (d) A global youth adaptation dialogue;
- (e) Writing workshops on NAPs;
- (f) Activities to advance the Open NAP initiative;
- (g) In-depth discussion of innovative adaptation solutions and sharing of experience with recent major adverse impacts of climate change.

43. The LEG initiated work on the next NAP Expo, to be held from 30 March to 3 April 2020 in Gaborone, Botswana, following an offer from the Government of Botswana to host the event. As for previous Expos, NAP Expo 2020 will be organized with the support of the NAP technical working group.

E. Technical guidance on strengthening gender considerations in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

44. The LEG discussed progress in the development of the toolkit for a gender-responsive approach to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The toolkit is being developed in partnership with the AC and the NAP Global Network.

45. The toolkit will offer countries options – based on the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs – for pursuing gender-responsive approaches in key areas of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The toolkit also will provide guidance on applying gender considerations in cross-cutting activities, including those related to institutional arrangements, stakeholder engagement, capacity development, finance and information-sharing, of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

46. The toolkit builds upon the mandate for the LEG on gender and its paper *Strengthening Gender Considerations in Adaptation Planning and Implementation in the Least Developed Countries*;²² the work of the NAP Global Network on gender, including its framework for gender-responsive NAP processes;²³ the secretariat's technical paper on integrating gender considerations into climate change related activities under the Convention;²⁴ and other relevant resources from various organizations. The toolkit also draws upon submissions, invited by the AC, from Parties and organizations on how to mainstream gender considerations in national adaptation planning and implementation.

47. The toolkit is planned to be launched at COP 25.

F. Monitoring and assessing progress made in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

48. The LEG discussed its ongoing work to monitor progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the relevant support provided. The LEG noted that the LDCs are facing difficulties in some key areas of the process despite the targeted support that is available to them. It took note of two specific issues:

²² https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/21673_unfccc_leg_gender_low_v5.pdf.

²³ <https://www.iisd.org/library/framework-gender-responsive-national-adaptation-plan-nap-processes>.

²⁴ FCCC/TP/2016/2.

(a) Progress in many LDCs has stalled since initiating the process, as subsequent work requires access to and disbursement of funding from the GCF support modality for formulation of NAPs. As at 3 October 2019, 14 out of 47 LDCs had their proposals approved;

(b) As at August 2019, only 4 of the 47 LDCs had successfully completed and submitted their first NAP since the establishment of the process in 2010. These were all prepared with funding other than from GCF readiness funding.

49. The LEG agreed to consider how best to incorporate the issues referred to in paragraph 48 above in the annual progress report on the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

G. Gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

50. The LEG, in coordination with the AC, continued consideration of the mandate from COP 24²⁵ on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and how to address them, on the basis of the compilation of gaps and needs from the 35th meeting of the LEG.²⁶

51. The LEG structured the compilation into needs – or the expected competencies, skills or services at the national, subnational and sectoral levels in the countries – for the formulation and implementation of NAPs. The LEG then conducted a rapid assessment of whether the gaps associated with the needs are present in all LDCs (as well as developing countries) or in some. The LEG also conducted an analysis of activities in its work programme for 2019–2020 related to addressing gaps and needs. The LEG further invited the organizations that took part in the meeting to provide inputs on their activities related to addressing gaps and needs. The final analysis of the needs, gaps and related activities is in annex I.

52. The LEG noted that the identification of ongoing and planned activities of the LEG, the AC and relevant organizations related to addressing the gaps and needs in the compilation does not imply that those gaps are being fully addressed; additional attention may be required for some.

53. The LEG noted that the analysis of the gaps and needs would inform the development of its future rolling work programmes.

H. Addressing the mandates from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in decision 11/CMA.1

54. The LEG continued consideration of the mandates from CMA 1 related to (1) the synthesis reports on specific adaptation themes in the context of the recognition of adaptation efforts of developing country Parties and (2) contributing to the work on further developing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support.²⁷

55. The LEG took note of the discussions on these matters and recommendations thereon of the Chairs of the LEG and the AC to coordinate work on addressing the mandates referred to in paragraph 54 above and the work on gaps and needs referred to in paragraphs 50–53 above. Consequently, both the LEG and the AC agreed on a joint schedule of relevant activities in order to help ensure coherence and complementarity. The LEG agreed to continue coordination with the AC on these matters.

56. The LEG decided to use the annual progress report on the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the publications on experience, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation to address the mandate on preparing the synthesis reports on specific adaptation themes.

²⁵ Decision 8/CP.24, para. 17.

²⁶ FCCC/SBI/2019/5, annex II.

²⁷ Decision 11/CMA.1 paras. 13 and 35.

57. The LEG also agreed to continue consideration of its contribution to further developing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support at its next meeting.

I. Policy brief on linkages between national adaptation plans and nationally determined contributions

58. The LEG is developing a conceptual mapping of the linkages among NAPs, NDCs and adaptation communications as part of its preparation of a policy brief on the subject. The mapping looks into both how NAPs can inform NDCs and adaptation communications and how work on NDCs and adaptation communications can contribute to the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

59. The LEG noted the great potential value in leveraging support across the three instruments, particularly regarding institutional arrangements and capacity development.

60. The LEG will publish the policy brief by the end of December 2019.

J. Stocktaking meeting on the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

61. At COP 21, the COP decided to review, at COP 26, the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG.²⁸ It also decided on the actions and steps necessary for the SBI to initiate the review.²⁹ One of these is to request that the LEG convene before June 2020, with the assistance of the secretariat, a meeting with representatives of Parties and relevant organizations to take stock of the work of the LEG.

62. The LEG discussed the concept note for the stocktaking meeting, which included a possible date and venue for the meeting, design of the meeting and potential meeting participants.

63. The LEG will prepare a background document on the mandates, activities and milestones of the LEG for the period 2015–2020 to inform the stocktaking meeting.

64. The LEG decided to explore holding the stocktaking meeting at the end of February 2020, in conjunction with its 37th meeting, considering the deadline of submissions from Parties of 1 February 2020.

K. Collaboration with other bodies under the Convention

65. The LEG took note of the following collaborative activities it undertook with other bodies and processes under the Convention:

(a) Coordination with the AC on addressing mandates from the CMA in decision 11/CMA.1 and strengthening gender sensitivity in NAPs, and continued engagement in the NAP task force and technical examination process on adaptation of the AC;

(b) Engagement with NWP partner organizations at NAP Expos, on Open NAPs, on developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and on strengthening considerations regarding vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, as well as participation in the NWP focal point forum and other events;

(c) Continued contribution to the work of the task force on displacement of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism, including the development of its two-year workplan. The LEG noted the potential participation of the task force at NAP Expo 2020 and the collaboration on the work on climate risk analysis;

²⁸ Decision 19/CP.21, para. 13.

²⁹ Decision 19/CP.21, para. 14.

(d) Discussion with the CGE regarding coordinating training on assessing vulnerability and other aspects of adaptation;³⁰

(e) Consideration of a request for input from the TEC on developing and enhancing endogenous capacities and technologies;

(f) Contribution to the work of the PCCB on the coherence and coordination of capacity-building activities of constituted bodies and relevant processes under the Convention.

66. The LEG agreed to continue to engage in the collaborative activities referred to in paragraph 65 above, including through active participation by the LEG members referred to in paragraph 7 above.

L. Discussions with relevant organizations

67. The LEG engaged representatives of Development Initiatives, FAO, the GCF, the GEF, GERICS, GIZ, GWP, Southern Voices on Climate Change, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, the University of Maryland and WMO in discussions on a number of issues, including progress in supporting the LDCs to produce NAPs by 2020, matters relating to accessing funding from the GCF and the LDCF, Open NAPs, technical support and training activities for NAPs, supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, NAP-SDG iFrame, NAP Expos, sharing of information to support the tracking of progress on NAPs, NAP Central, LDC gaps and needs related to adaptation, and linkages between NAPs and NDCs. The organizations participating in the meeting provided updates on their support for the LDCs as summarized in annex III.

68. An expert on remote sensing and crop monitoring from the University of Maryland introduced the GEOGLAM programme, with emphasis on the Crop Monitor being implemented under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America.³¹ Remotely sensed data are used to actively forecast crop production at the national level as an aid to policymakers in planning food security interventions.

69. With regard to supporting the LDCs in producing NAPs by 2020, the LEG updated the organizations on the Open NAP initiative that supports countries still in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The importance of identifying the level of success expected to be achieved by countries through their NAPs in order to better focus formulation was noted by the LEG and the organizations. Such consideration could include expected adaptation outcomes, the adaptation measures (policies, projects and programmes) required to achieve those outcomes, access of support for implementing the adaptation measures, the existence of NAP measures to be implemented and the preparatory work leading to the preparation of the NAP. It was also noted that countries would benefit from the wide-ranging expertise of the NAP technical working group in producing good quality NAPs. The LEG invited the organizations to continue advising countries to submit their NAPs and related outputs and outcomes to NAP Central.

70. Regarding access to funding, discussions focused on how all the LDCs could be supported in accessing funding from the GCF and the LDCF, how the production of NAPs could be expedited and what information countries should include in their NAPs to better enable subsequent implementation. The GCF secretariat indicated that it stands ready to continue actively assisting country teams in having their funding proposals approved. It advised that countries could use the USD 3 million funding under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme to develop investment pipelines and concept notes for the implementation of policies, projects and programmes emerging from the NAPs. The GEF indicated that the GEF 2018–2022 Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF and Operational Improvements has introduced several criteria for the approval of projects (previously, projects were approved on a ‘first come, first served’ basis), which will help in aligning projects with countries’ needs.

³⁰ In response to the mandate from the CMA in decision 11/CMA.1, para. 5.

³¹ <https://cropmonitor.org>.

71. Organizations confirmed their commitment to continue supporting the Open NAP initiative, including the component to assist the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs in producing their NAPs by 2020. The organizations assisted the LEG in developing an outline of a prototype NAP. The outline was used at the Open NAP initiative training workshop.

72. The LEG and the organizations shared details on progress in developing and applying supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs (see paras. 30 and 31 above for a list of the supplements under development or planned to be developed). The LEG invited the organizations to assist the LDCs in applying the supplements when formulating their NAPs. The development of an integrating supplement that would link all existing and new supplements and support the LDCs in navigating the different supplements was further agreed to be essential (see para. 32 above). The organizations expressed their readiness to support the LDCs in their capacity needs and in promoting coherence among different frameworks on climate change and related areas. The following topics were proposed for additional supplements:

- (a) Costing of adaptation options;
- (b) The role of frontier technologies (e.g. big data, artificial intelligence and remote sensing) in the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
- (c) Stakeholder engagement, addressing the role of youth, civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities, local communities and indigenous peoples in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (d) Adaptation dividends and benefits;
- (e) Linkages among the supplements and between the supplements and the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

73. The LEG provided an update on plans for NAP Expo 2020, including the plan to launch discussions on the expo under the NAP technical working group in mid-October 2019.

74. The organizations expressed their continued readiness to enhance their sharing of information to support the tracking of progress and to identify and address gaps and needs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

75. The LEG presented the progress in addressing the mandate from the COP on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and invited the organizations to provide inputs on their relevant activities and areas of support. The inputs from the organizations are integrated in the gaps and needs analysis in annex I.

76. The LEG provided an update on the linkages among NAPs, NDCs and the adaptation communications (see paras. 58 and 59 above) and invited inputs from the organizations. It also provided an update on training for the LDCs in implementing the Paris Agreement (see para. 33 above); the organizations pledged to offer their support. GIZ introduced its drafting assistance for adaptation communications, which will also serve as a preliminary input to the mandate from the COP requesting the AC to develop draft supplementary guidance for adaptation communications by 2022. The presence of many overlaps between elements of the adaptation communications and NAPs was noted, as was the usefulness of considering how to harmonize reporting across the instruments.

77. The organizations again emphasized that their participation at LEG meetings is very productive as it allows for deep discussions on ways of cultivating a common vision and offering support to the LDCs.

IV. Priority activities for 2019–2020

78. The LEG took note of the following activities under the 2019–2020 work programme that had been accomplished since its 35th meeting:

- (a) Organizing NAP Expo 2019, including actively engaging with the GCF and other relevant bodies and organizations on conducting sessions aimed at supporting countries in formulating and implementing their NAPs;
- (b) Launching the Open NAP initiative for the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs at the training workshop on NAPs;
- (c) Monitoring the progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (d) Compiling gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs identified through the relevant work of the LEG and the AC, and considering how to address those gaps and needs;
- (e) Initiating work, in coordination with the AC, on addressing mandates from the CMA in decision 11/CMA.1;
- (f) Developing policy briefs on Open NAPs (finalized), NAP-SDG iFrame, and linkages between NAPs and NDCs;
- (g) Developing an outline for a peer-reviewed publication on NAPs;
- (h) Considering ways of assisting with the implementation of NAPs.

79. The following are upcoming priority activities under the 2019–2020 work programme:

- (a) Advancing the Open NAP initiative for the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs through follow-up activities with participants of the training workshop on NAPs held in 2019;
- (b) Finalizing a technical paper on regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation;
- (c) Finalizing the toolkit for enabling a gender-responsive approach in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- (d) Organizing the NAP Expo in 2020;
- (e) Supporting the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG;
- (f) Training for the LDCs, in early 2020, in effectively and efficiently navigating and addressing the many elements of the Paris Agreement;
- (g) Synthesis reports on selected adaptation themes based on the annual progress report on the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the publication on experiences, best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation.

Gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, and ongoing activities of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the Adaptation Committee and relevant organizations related to addressing those gaps and needs

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
Accessing financial and other support	All elements Decisions 12/CP.18, paragraphs 1–8; 18/CP.19, paragraphs 4–5; 1/CP.21 paragraph 46; 4/CP.21, paragraphs 6–10; 6/CP.22, paragraph 6–10; and 11/CMA.1, paragraphs 21–28 Article 4, paragraph 5; and Article 7, paragraph 13	Adequate and effective access to financial support, including from the GCF, as well as other forms of support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs	X		X		Dissemination of information on available financial support and the requirements for access	AC, GCF, GEF, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP Global Network, NAP-GSP, UNCDF, UNDP, UNEP
		Capacity to write proposals for accessing funding under the different windows of the GCF					Guidance on financing the formulation and implementation of NAPs	COP
				X		X	Supporting countries in writing and submitting funding proposals	GCF delivery partners
				X		X	Training in proposal writing to develop human capacity development to prepare GCF concept notes and funding proposals	FAO, GCF, GCF delivery partners, GIZ, NAP-GSP
		X		X	Helping countries to establish the information required to be included in GCF funding proposals	GCF delivery partners, NAP-GSP, UNDP, UNEP, WMO		
		Promotion of funding proposals from multiple stakeholders including those at the subnational and local government levels	X		X	Mechanism to channel climate finance to local government authorities in selected countries	UNCDF	

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
		Ensuring that proposals to the GCF for the formulation of NAPs are aligned with the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and are addressing both the objectives and the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs	X		X		Training on COP guidance for the formulation and implementation of NAPs Promoting the use of the COP guidance to serve as the basis for formulating and implementing NAPs, and to guide how support is provided	LEG LEG, NAP technical working group
		Coordination among providers of support at all levels to ensure their support is coherent, and avoidance of overlaps at the national level so as to match support with national priorities and needs	X		X		Coordinating technical support activities Coordinating financial support activities at the national level	NAP technical working group
		Ensuring that countries' support needs for a long-term process are met through limited, one-off funding designed for projects over a fixed time frame		X		X	Integrating suitable activities in planned and ongoing projects	UNDP
Institutional arrangements and coordination	Element A Decisions 12/CP.18, paragraph 7; and 11/CMA.1, paragraph 30 Article 7, paragraph 7	Establishment or enhancement of institutional arrangements for the process to formulate and implement NAPs in order to foster national leadership and coordination of adaptation efforts at all levels and create a primary interface with regional and international mechanisms		X		X	Technical guidance and advice Facilitating collaboration among national institutions Supporting national thematic working groups Creating linkages with NDCs	GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP Global Network, NAP-GSP, UNDP, UNEP, WMO
		Establishment or enhancement of systems at the national level to facilitate the flow of resources and information across different levels		X		X	Mechanism to channel climate finance to local government authorities in selected countries Supporting inter-institutional committees	NAP Global Network, UNCDF, UNDP

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c	
			LDCs		All developing countries				
			Some	All	Some	All			
Climate scenarios, science and translation to local context	Step B.1 Decision 5/CP.17 Article 7, paragraphs 7 and 9	Capacity to work effectively with climate data and climate change scenarios at the planning stage, including application of the global temperature increase limit of less than 2 °C	X		X		Training on accessing and using climate data and climate change scenarios Training on generating climate change scenarios Support for climate information services and early warning systems projects Capacity development for risk-informed planning	CCAFS, GCF, GEF, GERICS, GIZ, LEG, NAP-GSP, UNDP, WMO	
		Availability and accessibility of climate data and climate change scenarios to underpin effective adaptation assessment, planning and implementation, taking into account specific needs at the national, subnational and sectoral level		X		X	Dissemination of information on where and how to access latest climate data and climate change scenarios Development of new climate change scenarios in selected countries Construction of automatic weather stations	CCAFS, GEF, GERICS, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, UNCDF, UNDP	
		Capacity-building for national, subnational and sector experts on the application of climate change scenarios in climate change adaptation decision-making		X		X	Capacity-building of national experts in selected countries on generating and using climate change scenarios in adaptation through LDCF early warning projects	GEF, UNDP, UNEP	
		Methods and tools for translating climate data and climate change scenarios to the local context		X			X	Making methodologies and tools for adaptation assessments accessible to countries Training on accessing and using climate data and climate change scenarios	AC, CCAFS, FAO, GERICS, GIZ
		Ways to effectively translate long-term vision and planning from the national to the subnational level in order to guide assessments	X			X		Tools and training on integrative/systems approaches, linking national, subnational and sectoral adaptation planning and implementation	AC, GEF, LEG, NAP-GSP, UNCDF, UNDP

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
Risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management	Steps B.2 and B.3 Decision 5/CP.17 and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 5 Article 7, paragraphs 7 and 9	Capacity to frame, analyse and define baselines and assess, manage and monitor climate change risk and vulnerability at relevant levels and scales	X		X		Training on NAPs following integrative/systems approaches Tools on vulnerability and risk assessments including the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report concepts Training on vulnerability and risk assessments for selected countries	GEF, GERICS, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP-GSP, UNCDF
		Specific methodologies and guidelines for enabling understanding of the baseline and the progression of vulnerability and risk, which is an important aspect of measuring and assessing progress in reducing vulnerability		X		X	Tools on integrative/systems approaches, and on vulnerability and risk assessments Methodologies on assessing adaptation needs Methodologies for data analysis and projections for adaptation	AC, FAO, GIZ, LEG, WMO
		Comprehensive risk and vulnerability assessments covering all key sectors and systems at the national, subnational and sectoral level, as well as vulnerability hotspots		X		X	Training on NAPs following integrative/systems approaches Methodologies on assessing adaptation needs Supporting risk and vulnerability assessments in selected systems and countries	AC, FAO, GERICS, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, UNCDF, UNDP
		Institutionalization of risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management at all levels of governance and in key sectors		X		X	Human and institutional capacity development and support to build long-term capacity Training on applying climate data and climate change scenarios in decision-making at all levels	–

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
		Ways to build evidence for adaptation additionality arguments in funding proposals to the GCF	X		X		Tools for monitoring and evaluation and collecting lessons learned in adaptation projects	GIZ, UNCDF
		Technical support in the identification of effective adaptation solutions and actions after the assessment of climate vulnerabilities and risk	X		X		Outreach events to share experience and lessons learned in translating assessment results to adaptation actions Training on appraising and prioritizing adaptation	AC, FAO, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP-GSP, UNDP, UNITAR
		Ways to promote consistency, synergy and coherence among different risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management frameworks	X		X		Technical guidance materials to supplement the NAP technical guidelines	LEG, NAP technical working group
		Ways to improve the quality of assessments over time, for example, through peer-review processes	X	X			Peer-reviewed publication of country case studies on NAPs Review of existing methodologies and tools	GERICS, GIZ
		Identification of areas where participatory approaches can significantly improve risk and vulnerability assessment	X	X			Application of participatory assessment approaches in assessments in selected countries	GERICS, GIZ
Access to and use of technology	Element C Decisions 5/CP.17, paragraph 20; and 11/CMA.1, paragraph 29 Article 10, paragraphs 1–6; and Article 11, paragraph 1	Application of the latest technologies in climate change adaptation planning and implementation (e.g. big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning)	X		X		Promoting case studies on the use of technology in adaptation Promoting technology in adaptation projects	GEF, LEG

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
Monitoring, evaluation and learning	Element D Decision 5/CP.17 and decision 8/CP.24, paragraph 19 Articles 7, 13 and 14	Promotion of technological developments related to climate change adaptation in climate services, agriculture, water systems, health systems, disaster management, banking and other sectors	X		X		Mobilizing support to the LDCs on applying technology in adaptation Promoting experiences, best practices and lessons learned in applying technologies in adaptation	FAO, LEG, NAP technical working group
		Access to information and experience of other countries in applying different adaptation technologies to facilitate the selection, installation and operation of appropriate technologies for local problems		X		X	Platforms for sharing and accessing information on experience of other countries Technical papers on the application of technologies for adaptation	AC, LEG, NAP technical working group
		Systematic monitoring and observation relevant to adaptation planning and implementation, and subsequent monitoring and evaluation of adaptation outcomes and impacts	X			X	Ongoing tracking of progress made in NAPs, challenges, gaps and needs, including links to NDC reporting Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation projects Compilation of methodologies for assessing progress in enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change	AC, FAO, GEF, GCF, LEG, NAP-Ag, UNDP
		Methodologies and guidelines for applying quantitative and qualitative metrics and indicators when analysing and assessing vulnerabilities, hazards and systems, including examples thereof	X			X	Work on developing methodologies for reviewing adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support Methodologies for monitoring and evaluation	AC, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag
		Information on theories of change to assist in achieving the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, which could guide		X		X	Training on NAPs focusing on medium- and long-term outcomes Sharing of existing knowledge on monitoring and evaluation	AC, LEG, NAP-GSP, NAP technical working group

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
		the development of monitoring and evaluation systems						
		Compilation of information to support monitoring, review and evaluation of progress, and identification of effective measures as well as of gaps in addressing adaptation through the process to formulate and implement NAPs	X		X		Work on developing methodologies for reviewing adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support Sharing of existing knowledge, tools and experience in developing monitoring and evaluation systems	AC, LEG, NAP-GSP
		Establishment of linkages to broader national monitoring and evaluation systems related to development	X		X		Development of metrics in coordination with national monitoring and evaluation efforts	AC, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP Global Network, NAP-GSP
Linkage with the development agenda	Steps A.4, B.5, C.1, C.4 and D.4 Decision 5/CP.17 Article 2 and Article 7, paragraph 1	Capacity to effectively address climate change adaptation in the national context within the broader framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs	X		X		Tools, training and case studies on integrative/systems approaches, coherence with the SDGs and other frameworks, and linking national, subnational and sectoral adaptation planning and implementation	FAO, GEF, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP Global Network, NAP-GSP, UNDP, WMO
		Articulation of convincing climate change related rationale for project proposals to the GCF, especially when a country has fully integrated climate change adaptation into development planning		X		X	Sessions at NAP Expos to enhance the understanding of the process of accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation and implementation of NAPs	GCF, WMO
		Achievement of clarity on and understanding of the concept of integrating adaptation into development planning, and of ways to integrate international processes that are relevant to adaptation planning using the appropriate frameworks, such		X		X	Tools, training and case studies on integrative/systems approaches, coherence with the SDGs and other frameworks, and linking national, subnational and sectoral adaptation planning and implementation	FAO, GIZ, LEG, NAP Global Network, NAP technical working group, UNDP

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
		as the SDGs, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the New Urban Agenda, including through the use of tools, through capacity-building and by recognizing opportunities for close interaction between focal points from the UNFCCC and other relevant entities						
		Identification of effective entry points for the integration of adaptation in development planning	X		X		Tools, training and case studies on integrative/systems approaches, coherence with the SDGs and other frameworks, and linking national, subnational and sectoral adaptation planning and implementation	LEG, NAP Global Network
		Prioritization of adaptation in development, including by communicating the development value and benefits of implementing adaptation measures	X		X		Tools, training and case studies on prioritizing adaptation in development	GIZ, LEG, UNITAR
Active learning from practice	Element D Decisions 12/CP.18, paragraph 9; 3/CP.20, paragraph 9; 6/CP.22, paragraph 12; and 11/CMA.1, paragraph 13 Article 7, paragraph 9	Capacity to apply experience and lessons learned during adaptation planning and implementation to inform future adaptation efforts, including by identifying and promoting best practices	X		X		Syntheses, publications and exchanges on experiences, good practices and lessons learned in adaptation in the developing countries Integrating knowledge-sharing in ongoing adaptation projects	GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP-GSP, UNDP
		Facilitation of true learning beyond the documentation of experiences and lessons learned	X		X		Promoting twinning between countries to strengthen peer-to-peer learning Providing post-training support Providing online and self-paced courses	FAO, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP-GSP, UNDP, UNITAR

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
						Promoting integration of South–South learning activities in adaptation projects		
		Promotion of learning platforms to facilitate the sharing of experiences and learning, especially at the regional level	X		X	NAP Central Organizing regional exchanges between countries	FAO, GIZ, LEG, NAP technical working group	
		Expansion of South–South exchanges to capitalize on experience with similar or common climate shocks	X		X	Organizing regional exchanges between countries Newsletters and policy briefs on experience in adaptation planning and implementation	AC, LEG, NAP-Ag, UNCDF	
Guiding principles	All elements Decision 5/CP.17, paragraphs 2–5 Article 7, paragraph 5	Adequate engagement of multiple stakeholders in managing adaptation planning and implementation at multiple levels and scales, taking into account elements of successful adaptation (guiding principles)	X		X	Tools, training and outreach on multi-stakeholder engagement at all levels (national, subnational and sectoral, as well as regional and international) Mainstreaming stakeholder engagement as a requirement for funding	GCF, GEF, GIZ, LEG, FAO, NAP-Ag, NAP technical working group, UNDP	
		Sufficient analysis of which communities, groups and ecosystems are the most vulnerable		X	X	Tools, case studies and training on identifying vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems and implementing specific measures to address their needs	GIZ, LEG	
		Ways to effectively engage different stakeholders at the national and subnational level, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, city governments and other subnational authorities, the youth, local communities and indigenous peoples	X		X	Tools, case studies and events on engaging different stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, cities and other subnational authorities, the youth, local communities and indigenous peoples	LEG, NAP Global Network, UNCDF	

Area	Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, COP and CMA decisions, and Articles of the Paris Agreement	Needs ^a	Gaps				Support activities to address the gaps ^b	Providers of support addressing the gaps ^c
			LDCs		All developing countries			
			Some	All	Some	All		
		Deeper and more consistent consideration of how the general concept of gender sensitivity is applied to practical actions that lead to a reduction in gender-driven vulnerabilities	X		X		Tools, case studies, outreach events and training on gender sensitivity in the formulation and implementation of NAPs Training on gender-sensitive socioeconomic vulnerability assessments	AC, FAO, GCF, GEF, GIZ, LEG, NAP Global Network, NAP-Ag, UNDP
		Ways to identify and effectively manage trade-offs between different adaptation actions and approaches, and between development and ecological protection	X		X		Tools for managing linkages and trade-offs between different adaptation actions and approaches Tools on linkages between adaptation and mitigation	AC, FAO, GIZ, LEG, NAP-Ag, NAP-GSP, UNDP

^a These represent expected competencies, essential skills or services at the national, subnational and sectoral levels in countries required for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

^b The column only includes information provided to the LEG by the respective bodies and organizations at its 36th meeting or electronically afterwards.

^c The column only includes bodies and organizations that provided information to the LEG at its 36th meeting or electronically afterwards.

^d As contained in the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, available at <http://unfccc.int/7279>.

^e Only decisions that contain mandates related to taking or considering taking action to support developing countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs from the COP or the CMA to one of the following bodies or entities: the AC; the LEG; Parties; United Nations organizations; specialized, bilateral and multilateral agencies; and other relevant organizations.

Annex II**Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group
as at 27 August 2019**

[English only]

Mr. Erwin Künzi	Austria
Ms. Sonam Lhaden Khandu	Bhutan
Mr. Idrissa Semde	Burkina Faso
Ms. Nikki Lulham	Canada
Mr. Kenel Delusca	Haiti
Ms. Michelle Winthrop	Ireland
Mr. Choi Yeeting	Kiribati
Mr. Benon Yassin	Malawi
Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal	Nepal
Ms. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed	Sudan
Mr. Adao Soares Barbosa	Timor-Leste
Ms. Mery Yaou	Togo
Mr. Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania

Annex III

Technical support provided by relevant organizations for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans in the period March–September 2019

[English only]

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Details of support/activities</i>	<i>Countries targeted</i>	<i>Providers of support</i>
Accessing support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Developing proposals for accessing funding from the GCF and/or implementing projects	81 developing countries ^a	FAO, GCF, GEF, GGGI, GWP, UNDP, UNEP ^b
Technical guidance	Developing climate fact sheets	72 developing countries, including 31 LDCs	GERICS
	Conducting climate risk analyses	Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali and United Republic of Tanzania	GIZ
	Supporting mainstreaming water in medium-term development plans	Ghana	GWP
	Conducting regional training workshops (four) on NAPs	Caribbean countries, anglophone African LDCs, Asian LDCs and Pacific LDCs	NAP-GSP
	Conducting a training workshop on implementing the approach for enhancing the climate science basis of the climate rationale of GCF-funded projects and activities	Saint Lucia	WMO in collaboration with GCF
Guidance tools	Development of climate change adaptation indicators for the agriculture sector	Colombia, Guatemala, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay, Viet Nam	NAP-Ag
	Engaging the private sector in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	All	GIZ, NAP Global Network
	Developing training materials for integrating subnational adaptation components in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (upcoming)	All	UNCDF
	Enhancing the climate science basis of the climate rationale of GCF-funded activities (concept note)	All	WMO

Note: Data are based on information shared by the relevant organizations with the LEG.

^a Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Republic of Moldova (two proposals), Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tonga, Tunisia (two proposals), Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

^b Other countries are accessing funding through national accredited entities: Antigua and Barbuda, with its Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment; Colombia, with Action Fund; Dominica, with the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment of Antigua and Barbuda; and Gabon, with Deposits and Consignments Fund. Gabon.