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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 37th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat


Summary

The 37th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar, from 6 to 8 February 2020. At the meeting, the Group developed its work programme for 2020. The meeting included discussions with representatives of the Green Climate Fund, relevant organizations, regional centres and networks on ongoing collaboration to support the least developed countries on adaptation and the implementation of the least developed countries work programme. The meeting also provided an opportunity for dialogue with officials from the Government of Madagascar and other countries under the Open NAP initiative.

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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
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
LDC	least developed country
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDC work programme	least developed countries work programme
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
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
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
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 Risk Reduction
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIM Executive Committee	Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

I. Mandate

1. COP 21 extended the mandate of the LEG under its current terms of reference¹ to cover 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 into 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 37th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

5. The 37th meeting of the LEG was held in Antananarivo, Madagascar, from 6 to 8 February 2020. The meeting was directly followed by the stocktaking meeting on the work of the LEG, from 10 to 12 February 2020, and a meeting of the LEG with representatives of Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Madagascar and Sao Tome and Principe on 13 February 2020 as part of the Open NAP initiative.
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 Conservation International, FAO, the GCF, GIZ, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, WHO and WMO took part in the meeting.
7. At the meeting, the LEG discussed its work programme for 2020; Open NAPs; strategies and arrangements for the stocktaking meeting of the LEG, the NAP Expo 2020 and the Paris Agreement training for the LDCs; matters relating to access to the GCF; implementation of NAPs; the work of the NAP technical working group; addressing gaps and needs related to NAPs; policy briefs on the NAP-SDG iFrame, linkages between NAPs and SDGs, and regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation; addressing the mandate from SBI 51⁷ to consider ways to increase the accessibility and transparency of the meetings of and information on the LEG; addressing mandates from CMA 1; and the collaboration of the LEG with other constituted bodies, organizations, regional centres and networks. The LEG also discussed matters relating to integrating a gender perspective into its work in response to decision 21/CP.22, paragraph 14. Detailed information on these matters is contained in chapters III and IV below.
8. The LEG re-elected the following officers:
 - (a) Hana Hamadalla Mohamed (Sudan) as Chair;
 - (b) Kenel Delusca (Haiti) as Vice-Chair;
 - (c) Benon Yassin (Malawi) as anglophone Rapporteur;

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.

⁷ FCCC/SBI/2019/20, para. 50.

- (d) Mery Yaou (Togo) as francophone Rapporteur;
- (e) Adao Soares Barbosa (Timor-Leste) as lusophone Rapporteur.
9. The LEG took note of the following members who represent the Group in its ongoing collaborative activities with other bodies under the Convention:
- (a) Nikki Lulham (Canada) and Hana Hamadalla Mohamed (Sudan) in the NAP task force of the AC;
- (b) Sonam Lhaden Khandu (Bhutan) and Fredrick Manyika (United Republic of Tanzania) 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 WIM Executive Committee;
- (d) Erwin 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 under the NWP.
10. A list of the members of the LEG as at 6 February 2020 is provided in annex I.

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

11. The LEG took note of the continuing progress by developing countries on the different elements of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. It noted that, as at 18 March 2020, 18 developing countries (of which 5 are LDCs)⁸ had completed and submitted their NAPs⁹ on NAP Central.¹⁰ It also noted that several countries had developed and submitted sectoral and thematic strategies and other relevant outputs.¹¹

2. Progress by developing countries in implementing policies, projects and programmes identified in their national adaptation plans

12. The LEG noted that the five LDCs that had submitted their NAPs as at 18 March 2020¹² had also prepared and submitted a total of 11 proposals to access funding from the GCF for implementing priority actions identified in their NAPs. The proposals relate to funding to address climate risks in the areas of agriculture, energy, health and water resources. Proposals from Burkina Faso,¹³ Ethiopia¹⁴ and Kiribati¹⁵ have been approved for implementation by the GCF. Further details on all these proposals and their status are provided in table 2.

⁸ Brazil (2016), Burkina Faso (2015), Cameroon (2015), Chile (2017), Colombia (2018), Ethiopia (2019), Fiji (2018), Grenada (2019), Guatemala (2019), Kenya (2017), Kiribati (2020), Saint Lucia (2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (2019), Sri Lanka (2016), State of Palestine (2016), Sudan (2016), Togo (2018) and Uruguay (2019).

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

¹⁰ <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>.

¹¹ https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/NAP_output.aspx.

¹² Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Kiribati, Sudan and Togo.

¹³ Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/africa-hydromet-program-strengthening-climate-resilience-sub-saharan-africa-burkina-faso>.

¹⁴ Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/responding-increasing-risk-drought-building-gender-responsive-resilience-most-vulnerable>.

¹⁵ Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/south-tarawa-water-supply-project>.

3. Progress in relation to support provided

13. The LEG took note of the information supplied by the organizations supporting the LDCs on support provided between September 2019 and February 2020 for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, as summarized in paragraphs 14–17 below.

14. Regarding financial support for the formulation of NAPs, table 1 provides a summary of project proposals submitted by developing countries for funding from the GCF support modality for the formulation of NAPs (under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme), which provides up to USD 3 million per country,¹⁶ and from the LDCF.

Table 1

Status of 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 13 March 2020

<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Number of submitted proposals</i>	<i>Number of proposals approved or in the approval process</i>	<i>Number of projects with funds disbursed</i>
GCF	Africa	39 (27)	24 (17)	14 (7)
	Asia-Pacific	17 (4)	10 (4)	5 (3)
	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	12	9	3
	Latin America and the Caribbean	16 (1)	13 (1)	11 (1)
Total		84 (32)	56 (22)	33 (11)
LDCF	Africa	7	7	4
	Asia-Pacific	2	2	–
	Latin America and the Caribbean	0	0	–
Total		9	9	4

Note: Figures are based on data shared by the GCF and GEF secretariats with the LEG at and immediately after LEG 37. For the GCF, the first figures shown are for all developing countries and those in parentheses indicate the number of LDCs. Funds have not been disbursed for all approved projects. A detailed table with a list of the countries is available at https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/accessing_funding_for_NAPs.aspx.

15. Regarding financial support for the implementation of NAPs, table 2 provides a list of project proposals submitted by the five LDCs referred to in paragraph 12 above to the GCF related to the implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified in their NAPs.

16. Regarding technical support, table 3 provides a summary of the support provided to the LDCs from October 2019 to February 2020 for activities related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Detailed information on the support provided by the LEG is contained in chapters III and IV below.

17. Various organizations continued to develop supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs (see paras. 32–33 below).

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

18. The LEG took note of the information from the GEF secretariat on the approval by the LDCF or the Special Climate Change Fund Council of nine projects, totalling USD 59.95

¹⁶ See GCF Board decision B.13/09, para. (e). Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/boardroom/decisions>.

million in funding.¹⁷ The projects are drawn from or aligned with national adaptation programmes of action. They address climate change risks in the areas of agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture, water resources, terrestrial ecosystems, coastal areas and community livelihoods.

19. The GEF launched the first call for proposals under its Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation in 2019. The first round of the Program is funded with USD 5 million from the LDCF and USD 5 million from the Special Climate Change Fund. Nine projects¹⁸ were selected as eligible for funding from the first call. All of the projects are regional or global and expected to benefit related LDCs.

¹⁷ The projects are planned in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu.

¹⁸ See GEF document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.27/Inf.04, paras. 15–23.

Table 2

Status of project proposals for accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for the implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified in national adaptation plans as at 6 February 2020

<i>Country</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Delivery partner</i>	<i>Cost (USD million)</i>	<i>Concept note submission</i>	<i>Approval date/status</i>
Burkina Faso	Africa Hydromet Program: Strengthening climate resilience in Sub-Saharan Africa: Burkina Faso country project	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development; World Bank	22.5	19 Jan. 2017	27 March 2018
	Promoting modern irrigation to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities in Burkina Faso	West African Development Bank	8.4	26 Feb. 2018	Concept note
	Regional Programme: Linking Climate Knowledge to Action for Resilience in the Sahel	WMO	46.5	5 Dec. 2016	Concept note
	Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Niger Basin	African Development Bank	57.8	25 June 2018	28 Nov. 2018
Ethiopia	Responding to the increasing risk of drought: Building gender-responsive resilience of the most vulnerable communities	Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia	26.8	–	6 Nov. 2017
Kiribati	South Tarawa water supply project	Asian Development Bank	28.63	26 Feb. 2018	22 Dec. 2018
Sudan	Impact Forecast-Based Early Warning Systems	UNEP	10.0	25 Nov. 2018	Concept note
	Strengthening Capacity of Rural Primary Health Care Services to Address Adverse Impacts of Climate Change on Health	UNDP	25.7	30 Apr. 2018	Concept note
	Building resilience in the face of climate change within traditional rain-fed agricultural and pastoral systems in Sudan	UNDP	40.0	18 Apr. 2016	Concept note
Togo	West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project for Climate Change Adaptation	World Bank	55.4	18 Jul. 2018	Concept note
	Strengthening the resilience of communities and ecosystems vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in the Mono-TOGO basin	UNDP	16.0	27 Jul. 2019	Concept note

Table 3

Technical support provided to the least developed countries by relevant organizations, regional centres and networks from October 2019 to February 2020 for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Details of support/activities</i>	<i>Countries supported</i>	<i>Provider(s) of support</i>
Accessing funding	Developing proposals for accessing funding from the GCF and the LDCF	Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Somalia and United Republic of Tanzania	UNDP
Technical assistance	Formulating NAPs	Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gambia, Haiti, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste and Yemen	GIZ, NAP-GSP, WHO
	Conducting health vulnerability and adaptation assessments, developing health components of NAPs and country health adaptation profiles	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu	WHO
	Integrating agriculture into NAPs	Gambia, Nepal, Uganda and Zambia	Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans programme
	Ongoing general technical assistance related to NAPs	Afghanistan, Benin, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia	NAP Global Network, NAP-GSP
Guidance tools and other resources	Toolkit for a gender-responsive process to formulate and implement NAPs	All LDCs	LEG, AC, NAP Global Network
	Methodology for risk assessments that takes into account the subnational dimension	All LDCs	UNCDF

Note: Based on information provided to the LEG prior to and at LEG 37 by the organizations supporting the LDCs. Technical support provided by the LEG is covered in chapters III and IV of this document.

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

20. The LEG took note of the following activities that had been successfully completed or initiated under its rolling work programme for 2019–2020 in support of the process to formulate and implement NAPs and in other areas:

(a) Successful conduct of the NAP Expo from 4 to 6 April 2019 in Songdo, Republic of Korea,¹⁹ which brought together 560 participants, of which 45 per cent were women and 55 per cent men;

(b) Development of a toolkit on gender in NAPs with the NAP Global Network and the AC.²⁰ The toolkit was launched in December 2019, and several sessions on how to use the toolkit will be conducted at the 2020 NAP Expo;

(c) Launch of the Open NAP initiative with activities to support 18 LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs,²¹ including a workshop held in September 2019 with representatives from 18 LDCs, the compilation of data and information to help the LDCs advance the formulation of their NAPs, and one-on-one technical discussions with representatives of the francophone LDCs participating in COP 24 and at LEG 37.²² In the latter discussions, countries provided highlights of their progress in formulating their NAPs, noting the need for additional financial resources and technical assistance to advance information collection, conduct necessary consultations and draft their plans;

(d) Engagement of the NAP technical working group in organizing the NAP Expo 2019, the Open NAP support activities referred to in paragraph 20(c) above, the development of supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, the continued development of NAP Central, and the coordination of technical guidance and support for NAPs. The NAP technical working group held meetings at SB 49 and COP 25 to advance the activities;

(e) Initial compilation of gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and of the ongoing activities of the LEG, the AC and relevant organizations related to addressing those gaps and needs, in response to decision 8/CP.24, paragraph 17;²³

(f) Consideration of ways to assist with the implementation of NAPs in response to a request of SBI 47;²⁴

(g) Engagement of the GCF, GEF, relevant organizations, regional centres and networks at the 2019 NAP Expo, LEG meetings and other events;

(h) Ongoing tracking of the progress of NAPs, including the annual publication of the progress of NAPs, and the additional updates provided in the LEG 35 and 36 reports;

(i) Collaboration with the AC in addressing mandates from COP 24 and CMA 1, gaps and needs related to NAPs, gender in NAPs, and organizing related events; development of the workplan of the task force on displacement of the WIM Executive Committee; and collaboration with the NWP in organizing events focusing on vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems during the NAP Expos.²⁵

¹⁹ See <http://napexpo.org/2019>.

²⁰ Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Supplements/NAPGenderToolkit2019.pdf>.

²¹ The countries involved in this initiative are Afghanistan, Burundi, the 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.

²² Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Haiti, and Sao Tome and Principe. Madagascar also took part in the discussions as the host country of LEG 37.

²³ Contained in document FCCC/SBI/2019/16, annex I.

²⁴ See document FCCC/SBI/2019/16, paras. 37–40.

²⁵ Additional details are contained in document FCCC/SBI/2019/16, para. 65.

21. The LEG noted the continued slow progress of some LDCs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs and in the implementation of NAPs. It decided to continue to increase its provision of support by enhancing activities that can help the LDCs that are experiencing greater difficulties in making progress and assist in the implementation of NAPs.

IV. Development of the work programme for 2020

A. Direct country support

1. Open NAPs

22. The LEG took note of the progress in implementing the Open NAP support for the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs (see para. 20(c) above).

23. The LEG also took note of the further upcoming discussions with the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs that will take place at SB 52, and the training workshop on the Paris Agreement for the LDCs referred to in paragraphs 25–26 below to take stock, discuss progress, identify challenges and needs, and explore ways to address those challenges, as appropriate.

24. The LEG agreed to continue to advance efforts to support these countries towards producing their NAPs by the end of 2020 as planned, given that adequate data and information are available from work undertaken by the countries and through the organizations participating in the NAP technical working group.

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

25. The LEG developed details of the training workshop for the LDCs on effectively and efficiently navigating and addressing the many elements of the Paris Agreement. It identified the following indicative issues to be addressed at the workshop:

- (a) Understanding the goals and objectives of the Paris Agreement and how to advance and translate them into national contexts;
- (b) Ways to raise ambition regarding the Paris Agreement and its implementation through national action, including with respect to NDCs, NAPs, long-term strategies and access to support;
- (c) The enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement;
- (d) Preparing, implementing and reporting on the range of instruments to support countries in implementing the Paris Agreement, including NDCs, NAPs, adaptation communications, biennial update reports and biennial transparency reports;
- (e) Linkages between the different instruments under the Paris Agreement as well as between instruments under the Convention;
- (f) Ways to best organize work at the national level and coordinate activities across different workstreams and instruments.

26. The LEG noted that various bodies and organizations are working on the areas referred to in paragraph 25 above, and that some have recently produced materials that would be useful for the training. It agreed to coordinate with relevant bodies and organizations and to draw on their expertise and activities. It also agreed to hold the training in conjunction with an Asia regional NAP Expo referred to in paragraph 41 below.

B. Technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

1. Work of the national adaptation plan technical working group

27. The LEG noted that the NAP technical working group met at COP 25 to discuss technical guidance and support on NAPs, the Open NAP initiative, preparations for the 2020 NAP Expo, essential components of projects and programmes under NAPs, and ways to continue to enhance collaboration in providing technical guidance and support to the LDCs for their formulation and implementation of NAPs. It also noted relevant organizations' strong interest in and commitment to offering resources and technical assistance for the Open NAP initiative.

28. The LEG took note of the recommendations of the NAP technical working group on further collaborative activities, including developing an integrative supplement to link all existing and new supplements, and to support the LDCs in navigating the various supplements; implementing the tool for monitoring and evaluation of progress, effectiveness and gaps; coordinating activities related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs by respective organizations, such as the activities on climate-smart agriculture, led by FAO, and on health led by WHO; discussing ways to collectively compile guidance on comprehensive risk assessment covering the diversity of systems being considered under NAPs; and jointly compiling information on support provided and received by the LDCs in order to identify and address emerging gaps.

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

29. The LEG took note of updates to NAP Central, including the addition of the NAP blogger (in response to a proposal during the last NAP technical working group to collaborate and share experience and lessons learned through a common platform on NAP Central), and the need to increase the visibility of the support and resources of the LEG that are available to the LDCs. The NAP blogger will complement the NAP Central Twitter account and serve as the outreach channel to communicate information, including on resources and activities undertaken by the LEG and the NAP technical working group.

30. The LEG agreed to encourage partner agencies and organizations to help share information on NAP Central on the NAP-related outputs of the countries being supported.

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

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

32. The supplement *Toolkit for A Gender-Responsive Process to Formulate and Implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)*, produced by the LEG, the AC and the NAP Global Network, was published in December 2019.²⁶

33. Supplements on the following are in development or in the final stages thereof:

- (a) Addressing forestry and agroforestry in NAPs (FAO);
- (b) Integrating displacement and human mobility in the process to formulate and implement NAPs (International Organization for Migration);
- (c) Promoting synergy and coherence between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the context of NAPs (UNDRR);

²⁶ NAP Global Network and UNFCCC. 2019. *Toolkit for a gender-responsive process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs): Supplement to the UNFCCC Technical Guidelines for the NAP Process*. A Dazé and C Church (eds.). Winnipeg, Canada: International Institute for Sustainable Development. Available at <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Supplements/NAPGenderToolkit2019.pdf>.

- (d) Nature-based solutions (UNEP);
- (e) A framework for building climate-resilient health systems (WHO).

34. Furthermore, in response to the recommendation from the NAP technical working group that the LDCs should be assisted with applying the supplements in the formulation and implementation of their NAPs, the following activities are being undertaken:

(a) The LEG, together with the AC and the NAP Global Network, will conduct a session during the 2020 NAP Expo on using the gender toolkit referred to in paragraph 32 above;

(b) The UNCDF, in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, is developing a training programme to be launched at the 2020 NAP Expo on implementing the supplement *Financing Local Adaptation to Climate Change: Experiences with Performance-Based Climate Resilience Grants*.²⁷

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

4. Publication on national adaptation plans

36. The LEG continued its consideration of the future publication on NAP outcomes, experience and lessons learned, including from dealing with climate shocks, as contained in its work programme for 2019–2020. The LEG agreed to continue conducting writing workshops with countries during NAP Expos, in collaboration with the organizations engaged in the NAP technical working group, to further advance the drafting of country contributions.

5. Policy briefs and technical papers

37. The LEG noted that the policy briefs on the NAP-SDG iFrame and regional approaches are planned to be completed in 2020. Regarding the linkages between NAPs and NDCs, the LEG agreed to prepare a mapping of existing guidance tools from relevant organizations instead of a policy brief to support the LDCs, as some of the tools had been produced recently and would potentially address the objective of the LEG for this activity.

C. NAP Expos

38. The LEG reviewed the strategy and preparations for the NAP Expo that was planned to be held from 30 March to 3 April 2020 in Gaborone, Botswana (postponed until further notice owing to the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak). The LEG agreed that the theme for the event will be “transformations”. The event will include high-level plenaries, keynote addresses, technical sessions, workshops, demonstrations and exhibitions, and is being organized with the support of the NAP technical working group.

39. The LEG took note of the submissions from various organizations on holding sessions at the NAP Expo as well as the proposals by some organizations to support the participation of developing country representatives in the NAP Expo. The LEG discussed a set of criteria to assess the proposed sessions: the sessions are required to focus on NAPs; align with the guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs; focus on the event theme of “transformations”; promote the sharing and documentation of experience, good practices and lessons learned relating to a many countries; focus on the LDCs to the extent possible; ensure gender balance of the speakers; promote coherence with other themes; and integrate multiple actors from Parties and non-Party stakeholders, including civil society, youth, the private

²⁷ UNCDF. 2019. *Financing local adaptation to climate change: Experience with performance-based climate resilience grants*. New York: UNCDF. Available at <https://www.uncdf.org/financing-local-adaptation-to-climate-change>.

sector, financial institutions, city governments and other subnational authorities, and local communities and indigenous peoples.

40. The LEG added a few specific criteria to enhance some sessions, such as the need for sessions on accessing funding for NAPs to devote attention to the needs of the LDCs. In this regard, the LEG agreed that it would recommend to the GCF secretariat that it conduct sessions focused on writing project proposals. The LEG also agreed to promote sessions that focus on adaptation action and outcomes.

41. The LEG took note of the offer of the Government of the Republic of Korea to host a regional NAP Expo for Asia in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, as part of Korea Global Adaptation Week, from 29 June to 3 July 2020.²⁸

42. The LEG noted the continued value of documenting the rich diversity of information on methods, tools, country experience, good practices, lessons learned, challenges, gaps and needs, and support provided and received made available at the NAP Expos. It agreed to continue to advance the development of the publication on NAP Expo highlights to capture such information.

D. Matters relating to access to the Green Climate Fund

43. The LEG took note of the continued active engagement of the GCF secretariat in the NAP Expos, LEG meetings and other events of the LEG with a view to assisting developing countries in accessing funding from the GCF for the formulation of NAPs. The LEG agreed that it would recommend to the GCF secretariat that it consider organizing writing workshops on developing GCF project proposals and aligning NAP implementation strategies with the GCF strategic framework and country programme during the upcoming NAP Expos in 2020.

44. The LEG also took note of the information, provided by the GCF secretariat at the meeting, on the continued efforts of the GCF to prioritize support to the LDCs. They include continued stronger engagement of the GCF secretariat at NAP Expos; prioritizing engagement of the LDCs through GCF country programme activities; soliciting discussions with LDCs in line with the vision of the LEG of assisting LDCs to formulate their NAPs by the end of 2020; prioritizing the LDCs in project approval processes; continuing to provide updates on GCF support for NAPs to the LEG and the AC; and partnering with the LEG to encourage countries to expedite the process of addressing comments from the GCF secretariat and resubmit funding proposals in a timely manner.

45. Moreover, the LEG took note of further GCF activities to support the LDCs and other developing countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs by promoting the building of capacity of national delivery partners and institutions; promoting technical assistance through regional and national delivery partners in adhering to GCF criteria in project proposals; assisting countries to address gaps in building climate science capacity to support adaptation policies, projects and programmes in partnership with WMO.

E. Implementation of national adaptation plans

46. The LEG continued its consideration of the mandate from the SBI to advise on the implementation of NAPs, building on the challenges identified at LEG 36.²⁹

47. Regarding the challenges related to the lack of specific guidelines on funding the policies, projects and programmes identified in NAPs, the LEG noted that the advice provided during the NAP Expos and other events by the GCF secretariat to developing countries regarding aligning their implementation strategy with the five-year strategic framework for accessing funding from the GCF could help to address this matter. The LEG agreed to continue to work with the GCF secretariat to assist the LDCs in this regard.

²⁸ Dates are subject to change owing to the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak.

²⁹ FCCC/SBI/2019/16, paras. 37–40.

48. Regarding the difficulties experienced by delivery partners and countries in having funding proposals approved in a timely manner under the GCF, the LEG agreed to continue to collect feedback from the LDCs and to make it available to the GCF secretariat.

49. Regarding the limited assistance received by some countries from delivery partners, the LEG agreed to continue to compile information on which countries are in need of assistance and to share that information with the GCF secretariat and relevant organizations.

50. The LEG also agreed to continue to expand the involvement of other providers of support in the NAP Expos and other events in order to improve the flow of information to countries seeking additional support for implementing their NAPs.

51. The LEG further agreed to look beyond access to funding and consider how adaptation is designed and implemented to address key vulnerabilities and priority areas in order to help to ensure the transformation needed to effectively adapt to climate change in the medium and long term. This process will be based on evidence provided by the countries at NAP Expos and training workshops and through surveys.

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

52. The LEG continued its consideration of the initial compilation of gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs.³⁰ The compilation makes a distinction between needs, which are the essential capacities necessary for an effective process to formulate and implement NAPs, and gaps, which indicate the absence or lack of such capacities.

53. The LEG noted the interest of the organizations participating in the meeting in using the table of gaps and needs as a useful basis for providing support to the LDCs on NAPs. The organizations expressed interest in providing additional information on activities related to addressing gaps and needs and agreed that these should be included in future compilations of gaps and needs. The LEG also took note of additional inputs by the participants in its stocktaking meeting and agreed to update the compilation of gaps and needs accordingly.

54. An updated compilation of needs is contained in annex II. A table showing the gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and the activities of the LEG, the AC and relevant organizations related to addressing those gaps and needs will be updated periodically and posted on the UNFCCC website.³¹

55. The LEG agreed to collect information on gaps and needs at the individual country level through surveys and with the support of the NAP technical working group. This could help to highlight areas where support is needed.

G. Addressing the mandate from the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on increasing the accessibility and transparency of the meetings of and information on the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

56. SBI 51 requested the LEG to consider how to increase the accessibility and transparency of its meetings and information on its workplan activities, taking into account the rules of procedure and practices of other constituted bodies, as appropriate, and to include information on how it responded to this mandate in the LEG 37 report for consideration at SBI 52.³²

57. The LEG noted its existing practices to make its work accessible and transparent, in line with its terms of reference, including:

(a) The open invitation to all interested organizations and individuals to actively participate in the NAP technical working group and, in turn, to contribute to activities on

³⁰ FCCC/SBI/2019/16, annex I.

³¹ <https://unfccc.int/node/210550>.

³² FCCC/SBI/2019/20, para. 50.

technical support and guidance, including by designing and conducting training workshops and participating in the NAP Expos, Open NAPs and other relevant support activities;

(b) The participation of invited organizations, regional centres and networks in the meetings of the LEG during open sessions;

(c) The participation of organizations and members of other bodies in special task teams, such as the teams producing the volumes of the publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation;

(d) The sharing of meeting documents with LEG members via email, and, for relevant agenda items, with all other persons attending LEG meetings;

(e) The engagement of the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, other constituted bodies, regional centres and networks in LEG meetings and activities, as mandated by the COP;³³

(f) The engagement of Parties and non-Party stakeholders in designing and organizing events and workshops and producing technical materials;

(g) The publication of the reports on LEG meetings on the UNFCCC website.

58. The LEG considered the practices of the AC, the CGE and the WIM Executive Committee with respect to meeting documents, webcasting, participation of observers in meetings and involvement of additional experts. It agreed to recommend the following practices with a view to further increasing the accessibility and transparency of its meetings and information, taking into account the technical and non-political nature of its work:

(a) Publishing meeting documents on the UNFCCC website at least three weeks prior to each meeting, to the extent possible, unless decided otherwise by the LEG because, for example, the documents are sensitive in nature or are related to work in progress;

(b) Extending an invitation to LDC representatives on relevant boards and committees, such as the GCF Board, to take part in LEG meetings and contribute to the discussions;

(c) Continuing to invite individual experts as resource persons to contribute on particular topics and themes at meetings, as and when necessary; and continuing to engage individual experts in the work of the NAP technical working group and other relevant areas of work of the LEG;

(d) Continuing to openly engage Parties and non-Party stakeholders in specific activities, such as the design and organization of events and workshops and the production of technical materials.

59. The recommendations in paragraph 58 above are additional to the mandated engagement of the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, other constituted bodies, regional centres and networks in LEG meetings and activities.

60. The LEG noted that webcasting its meetings may not be feasible owing to the cost implications and limited internet connectivity in most LDCs. This would be consistent with the practices of other bodies, such as the AC and the WIM Executive Committee, which have stopped webcasting their meetings.

H. Addressing the mandates in decision 11/CMA.1

61. The LEG took note of the discussions between the Chairs of the LEG and the AC on coordinating work on addressing the mandates from CMA 1 that are related to modalities for recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties and methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support.³⁴ Key recommendations include the two bodies sharing with each other draft synthesis reports on specific adaptation

³³ Decision 19/CP.21, paras. 5–7.

³⁴ Decision 11/CMA.1, paras. 13 and 35.

themes and carrying out a joint analysis and synthesis of the submissions³⁵ on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support.

62. The LEG requested the secretariat to proceed with developing the next volume of the publication on best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation, which would serve as a synthesis report on specific adaptation themes. The LEG will provide guidance through its regular teleconferences and email exchanges, including on how to solicit inputs from organizations and observers. The work on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support will be initiated after the submissions thereon have been received, which are expected by the end of April 2020.

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

63. The LEG reviewed the strategy and preparations for the stocktaking meeting on its work for the 2016–2020 mandate, which was held from 10 to 12 February 2020.³⁶ It took note of the relevant submissions that had been made as at 6 February 2020: from Bhutan on behalf of the LDCs, and Croatia and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States.

64. The LEG defined the specific objectives of the stocktaking meeting as to:

- (a) Identify experience, good practices and lessons learned in relation to the work of the LEG;
- (b) Discuss opportunities, challenges and gaps related to the work of the LEG;
- (c) Identify good practices in the delivery of support by the LEG.

65. The LEG used these objectives to design the agenda for the meeting.³⁷ It agreed that the overall outcomes of the meeting should include key messages and conclusions on the work of the LEG under its current mandate, key elements of potential future support and the delivery of support to the LDCs.

66. A report on the stocktaking meeting has been prepared.³⁸

J. Collaboration with other bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement

67. The LEG took note of its active collaboration with other bodies and processes under the Convention, including:

- (a) Coordination with the AC on addressing mandates from decisions 8/CP.24 and 11/CMA.1, strengthening gender sensitivity in NAPs, organizing the NAP Expo 2020 and continuing the engagement of the LEG in the NAP task force and technical examination process on adaptation of the AC. The LEG and the AC have developed a working paper to guide their coordination efforts in relation to these activities;
- (b) Collaboration with the CGE regarding coordinating training on assessing vulnerability and other aspects of adaptation,³⁹ and the invitation to the CGE to contribute to the Paris Agreement training for the LDCs referred to in paragraphs 25–26 above;
- (c) Engagement with NWP partner organizations at NAP Expos, on Open NAPs and on developing supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and

³⁵ See decision 11/CMA.1, para. 36.

³⁶ See <http://napexpo.org/legstocktaking>.

³⁷ See <http://napexpo.org/legstocktaking/agenda>.

³⁸ FCCC/SBI/2020/7.

³⁹ In response to the mandate in decision 11/CMA.1, para. 5.

implementation of NAPs; and participation of the LEG in the NWP Focal Point Forum and other events;

(d) Continued contribution to the work of the WIM Executive Committee task force on displacement, including the development of its two-year workplan and consideration of the integration of appropriate loss and damage activities into the work of the LEG;⁴⁰

(e) Engagement of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform in the NAP Expo 2020 and related activities on the application of local and indigenous knowledge to advance NAPs;

(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.

68. The LEG agreed to continue to engage in the collaborative activities referred to in paragraph 67 above, including through the active participation of the LEG members referred to in paragraph 9 above.

K. Additional potential areas of collaboration

69. The LEG took note of the following programmes and initiatives that are of increasing relevance to the work of the LEG to support the LDCs:

(a) The NDC Partnership, which provides support to some LDCs;

(b) The LDC 2050 Vision and Initiatives, particularly the LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience, and the Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change;

(c) The Climate Technology Centre and Network Incubator Programme to support the LDCs in reaching the mitigation and adaptation targets in their NDCs through technology interventions.

70. The LEG agreed to continue to consider ways to expand collaboration with relevant stakeholders related to these programmes and initiatives.

L. Discussions with relevant organizations

71. The LEG engaged representatives of Conservation International, FAO, the GCF, GIZ, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, WHO and WMO in discussions on a number of issues, including progress in supporting the LDCs in producing NAPs by the end of 2020, addressing gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, matters relating to accessing funding from the GCF, Open NAPs, supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, NAP Expos, sharing information to support the tracking of progress on NAPs, NAP Central and the Paris Agreement training for the LDCs.

72. The organizations provided updates on their support for the LDCs, which are summarized in table 3. They were invited to consider presenting results in terms of outputs and outcomes, as well as progress related to addressing the gaps and needs referred to in paragraph 54 above, as opposed to activities undertaken, in their future updates to the LEG. It was noted that strengthening national-level systems, including national implementing entities, will be key to scaling up adaptation in the LDCs.

73. Regarding gaps and needs, it was suggested that a more detailed disaggregation of gaps by country could be undertaken to identify specific gaps, which would help to better target the support provided to each country. It was also noted that other areas of need could be made more explicit, or added, such as regarding the implementation of NAPs, and the risk and economic appraisal of different adaptation strategies. Other organizations expressed

⁴⁰ As invited in decision 2/CMA.2, para. 19.

interest in providing more information on activities related to addressing gaps and needs. The LEG agreed to consider such inputs when updating lists of gaps and needs.

74. It was noted that many activities continue to be undertaken to assist the LDCs with accessing funding from the GCF for their formulation and implementation of NAPs. It was suggested that further outreach efforts could be undertaken to ensure that all the LDCs are aware of the available support to assist them in accessing funding from the GCF.

75. With regard to Open NAPs, the LEG provided highlights on progress made, including on the support provided to the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. It was noted that a lot of time has passed since the establishment of NAPs in 2010, and that enhanced efforts are needed so that all the LDCs have NAPs in place and start implementing actions through policies, projects and programmes. It was also noted that adequate data and information are available to support every LDC in preparing its first NAP by 2020. The organizations agreed to contribute to the co-production of NAPs to assist countries in achieving this goal. The organizations suggested further ways to continue to enhance technical concepts under Open NAPs, including applying timescales that take into account emerging and future risks rather than using models based on past conditions, and converting climate data and scenarios into information that can be used for policymaking and climate investments.

76. With regard to the supplements to the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, the organizations provided updates on their supplements that were in development or released and on ways to assist the LDCs in using the supplements. Details on these activities are provided in paragraphs 32–34 above. The planned development of an integrative supplement that would link all existing and new supplements and support the LDCs in navigating the different supplements was further emphasized.

77. With regard to the NAP Expos, the LEG provided an update on preparations for the NAP Expo 2020. The organizations provided highlights on proposed sessions to be held at the NAP Expo, some of which had already been submitted to the LEG. The LEG reiterated its invitation to the organizations to support additional participants from the LDCs and other developing countries to attend the NAP Expo.

78. On tracking progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the LEG expressed its appreciation to the organizations for their continued provision of information to the LEG on support activities on NAPs. It was agreed that it would be helpful to ensure that there is sufficient information to assess the effectiveness of the support provided.

79. The LEG introduced the concept note for the Paris Agreement training for the LDCs, emphasizing that the training is meant to draw on the existing expertise and activities of relevant bodies and organizations. The organizations agreed to share with the LEG information on their activities that would help to further develop the training. A working group with all key players will be established to assist in designing the training.

V. Summary of activities under the work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2020

80. The LEG developed its work programme for 2020, which takes into account new mandates from COP 25; emerging needs for support of the LDCs; and its vision of supporting the LDCs in producing good-quality NAPs by the end of 2020. The work programme is contained in annex III.

81. The work programme contains the following activities to be undertaken in 2020:

- (a) Conducting the stocktaking meeting of the work of the LEG from 10 to 12 February 2020, and guiding the preparation of the related reports by the secretariat;
- (b) Advancing Open NAP support for the LDCs;
- (c) Conducting the global NAP Expo in 2020 and a regional NAP Expo in Asia in conjunction with Korea Global Adaptation Week;
- (d) Conducting the Paris Agreement training workshop for the LDCs;

- (e) Finalizing several policy briefs (on the NAP-SDG iFrame and regional approaches);
- (f) Exchanging information on the experience, challenges, gaps and needs of the LDCs in accessing funding with the secretariats of the GCF, GEF and Adaptation Fund, and bilateral and multilateral agencies;
- (g) Preparing the annual progress report on NAPs;
- (h) Addressing the mandate from SBI 51 for the LEG to consider how to increase the accessibility and transparency of its meetings and information on its workplan activities;
- (i) Addressing the mandates from COP 24 on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and how to address them;
- (j) Addressing mandates from CMA 1 related to modalities for recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties and methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support.

82. The comprehensive work programme showing objectives, modalities, work areas, main activities and outputs, and expected results is contained in annex III. The work programme includes ongoing activities under the existing mandates of the LEG. Additional activities related to addressing mandates from the COP, the CMA and the SBI are contained in annex IV, and information on collaboration with relevant bodies and programmes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement is contained in annex V.

83. The LEG took note of the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak and of the implications on the delivery of its work programme in 2020, such as in the case of the 2020 NAP Expo. It agreed to further discuss such implications at its first teleconference after LEG 37.

Annex I**Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group
as at 6 February 2020**

[English only]

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

Needs related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

[English only]

Area	<i>Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;^a COP and CMA decisions;^b and Articles of the Paris Agreement</i>	Needs ^c
Accessing financial and other support	<p>All elements</p> <p>Decision 12/CP.18, paragraphs 1–8; decision 18/CP.19, paragraphs 4–5; decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 46; decision 4/CP.21, paragraphs 6–10; decision 6/CP.22, paragraphs 6–10; and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraphs 21–28</p> <p>Article 4, paragraph 5; and Article 7, paragraph 13</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Capacity to write proposals for accessing funding under the different windows of the GCF</p> <p>Understanding of the latest requirements for GCF funding proposals</p> <p>Promotion of funding proposals from multiple stakeholders, including those at the subnational and local government level</p> <p>Capacity to ensure that proposals to the GCF for the formulation of NAPs are aligned with the technical guidelines for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and address both the objectives and guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs</p> <p>Coordination among providers of support at all levels to ensure that their support is coherent and avoids overlaps at the national level and that such support is in line with national priorities and needs</p> <p>Systems for 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</p>
Institutional arrangements and coordination	<p>Element A</p> <p>Decision 12/CP.18, paragraph 7; and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 30</p> <p>Article 7, paragraph 7</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Establishment or enhancement of legal frameworks for institutional arrangements and coordination</p> <p>Establishment or enhancement of systems at the national level to facilitate the flow of resources and information across different levels of government (climate-responsive budgeting)</p> <p>Ensuring the existence of stakeholders or focal points within different institutions with clearly defined roles and responsibilities</p> <p>Technical guidance and capacity-building for national working groups for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and the preparation of proposals to access funding from the GCF</p>

<i>Area</i>	<i>Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;^a COP and CMA decisions;^b and Articles of the Paris Agreement</i>	<i>Needs^c</i>
		Institutional arrangements and systems for monitoring and evaluation
Climate scenarios, science and translation to local context	Step B.1	Capacity for national, subnational and sectoral experts to work effectively with climate data and climate change scenarios that facilitate considering long-term climate impacts in decision-making
	Decision 5/CP.17	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
	Article 7, paragraphs 7 and 9	Capacity-building for national, subnational and sectoral experts on the application of climate change scenarios in climate change adaptation decision-making
		Methods and tools for translating climate data and climate change scenarios to the local context
		Ways to effectively translate long-term vision and planning from the national to the subnational level in order to guide assessments
Risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management	Steps B.2 and B.3	Capacity to frame, analyse and define baselines, and assess, manage and monitor climate change risk and vulnerability at relevant levels and scales
	Decision 5/CP.17; and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 5	Specific methodologies and guidelines that facilitate understanding of the baseline and the progression of vulnerability and risk, which is an important aspect of measuring and assessing progress in reducing vulnerability
	Article 7, paragraphs 7 and 9	Comprehensive risk and vulnerability assessments covering all key sectors and systems at the national, subnational and sectoral level as well as vulnerability hotspots
		Institutionalization of risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management at all levels of governance and in key sectors
		Ways to build evidence for adaptation additionality arguments in funding proposals to the GCF
		Technical support to identify effective adaptation solutions and actions after the assessment of climate vulnerabilities and risk
		Ways to promote consistency, synergy and coherence among different risk and vulnerability assessment and risk management frameworks
		Ways to improve the quality of assessments over time, for example through peer-review processes
		Identification of areas where participatory approaches can significantly improve risk and vulnerability assessment

Area	<i>Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;^a COP and CMA decisions;^b and Articles of the Paris Agreement</i>	<i>Needs^c</i>
Implementation strategies	Element C	<p>Technical capacity to develop proposals to access funding from the GCF and other sources</p> <p>Ways to link the implementation strategy for the NAP with the GCF country programme</p> <p>Technical capacity and tools for ranking and prioritizing adaptation options</p>
Access to and use of technology	<p>Element C</p> <p>Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 20; and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 29</p> <p>Article 10, paragraphs 1–6; and Article 11, paragraph 1</p>	<p>Application of the latest technologies in climate change adaptation planning and implementation (e.g. big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning)</p> <p>Promotion of technological developments related to climate change adaptation in climate services, agriculture, water systems, health systems, disaster management, banking and other sectors</p> <p>Mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of available technologies</p> <p>Capacity-building, training and awareness-raising on available technologies within the LDCs</p> <p>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</p> <p>Systems to stay abreast of the latest developments in technical guidance and assistance</p>
Monitoring, evaluation and learning	<p>Element D</p> <p>Decision 5/CP.17; and decision 8/CP.24, paragraph 19</p> <p>Articles 7, 13 and 14</p>	<p>Establishment or enhancement of national monitoring and evaluation systems</p> <p>Establishment of linkages to broader national monitoring and evaluation systems related to development</p> <p>Systematic monitoring and observation relevant to adaptation planning and implementation, and subsequent monitoring and evaluation of adaptation outcomes and impacts</p> <p>Methodologies and guidelines for applying quantitative and qualitative metrics and indicators when analysing and assessing vulnerabilities, hazards and systems, including examples thereof</p> <p>Development of theories of change in relation to climate change adaptation</p> <p>Compilation of information to support monitoring, review and evaluation of progress in addressing adaptation</p> <p>Mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of support received</p>
Linkage with the development agenda	<p>Steps A.4, B.5, C.1, C.4 and D.4</p> <p>Decision 5/CP.17</p> <p>Article 2; and Article 7, paragraph 1</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Articulation of the co-benefits of climate change adaptation proposals to the GCF</p> <p>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</p>

<i>Area</i>	<i>Related elements and steps of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;^a COP and CMA decisions;^b and Articles of the Paris Agreement</i>	<i>Needs^c</i>
		frameworks, such as the SDGs, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the New Urban Agenda
		Identification of effective entry points for the integration of adaptation into development planning
		Prioritization of adaptation in development, including by communicating the development or economic value and benefits of implementing adaptation measures
Active learning from practice	Element D Decision 12/CP.18, paragraph 9; decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 9; decision 6/CP.22, paragraph 12; and decision 11/CMA.1, paragraph 13 Article 7, paragraph 9	Capacity to apply the experience of and lessons learned during adaptation planning and implementation to future adaptation efforts, including by identifying and promoting best practices Facilitation of true learning beyond the documentation of experience and lessons learned Promotion of learning platforms to facilitate the sharing of experience and learning, especially at the regional level Expansion of South–South exchanges to capitalize on experience with similar or common climate shocks
Guiding principles	All elements Decision 5/CP.17, paragraphs 2–5 Article 7, paragraph 5	Adequate engagement of multiple stakeholders at the national and subnational level, including civil society, the private sector, financial institutions, city governments and other subnational authorities, youth, local communities and indigenous peoples, in managing adaptation planning and implementation, taking into account elements of successful adaptation (guiding principles) Adequate analysis of which communities, groups and ecosystems are the most vulnerable Deeper and more consistent consideration of how the general concept of gender sensitivity can be applied to practical actions that lead to a reduction in gender-driven vulnerabilities Ways to identify and effectively manage trade-offs between different adaptation actions and approaches, and between development and ecological protection

Note: This table updates the information contained in document FCCC/SBI/2019/16, annex I. A detailed table of the gaps related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs as well as of the activities of the LEG, the AC and relevant organizations related to addressing the gaps and needs is available and will be updated periodically at <https://unfccc.int/node/210550>.

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

^b Decisions that contain mandates from the COP or the CMA related to supporting developing countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs and that refer to any of the following bodies or entities: the AC; the LEG; Parties; United Nations organizations; specialized, bilateral and multilateral agencies; and other relevant organizations.

^c The needs represent countries' expected competencies, essential skills or services at the national, subnational or sectoral level required for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

Annex III

Work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2020

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
<i>Direct country support:</i> Continue to provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs for the formulation and implementation of NAPs and other related adaptation efforts under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, through Open NAPs, training and other relevant modalities			
Direct country support: Open NAPs	Helping countries to make progress on adaptation, in particular through the formulation and implementation of their NAPs	Continue to support the LDCs in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, ^a as well as other interested countries, in producing their NAPs through the Open NAP initiative	The LDCs are effectively supported to produce their initial NAPs by the end of 2020 or soon thereafter Open NAPs support the production of high-quality NAPs in participating countries
Direct country support: training	Helping the LDCs to effectively implement and meet the requirements under the Paris Agreement	Conduct training on ways the LDCs can effectively and efficiently navigate and address the many elements of the Paris Agreement (at the Asia regional NAP Expo in June–July 2020)	The LDCs efficiently implement the Paris Agreement
<i>Technical guidance and support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs:</i> Provide technical guidelines and materials; technical guidance and support; and mobilization and collaboration with relevant organizations, regional centres and networks on technical guidance and support for NAPs			
Technical materials	Advancing NAPs through technical materials	Prepare and/or finalize technical materials and policy briefs on the NAP-SDG iFrame and regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation	Enhanced technical support for NAPs
Publications on national adaptation results and efforts	Facilitating the preparation of a publication on NAPs by developing countries	Help countries to publish their results on NAPs in an edited book in order to improve outreach and documentation of key vulnerabilities and climate risks, adaptation efforts, results and outcomes of the activities of countries, and the relevant support activities during the NAP Expos and other LEG events	Enhanced accessibility to information on NAPs, including to support recognition of efforts of the LDCs in the assessment reports prepared by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NAP publication; CMA/COP/SBI support	Enhancing the accessibility of information on adaptation from developing countries and supporting the work of the CMA to	Prepare a fourth volume of the publication on best practices and lessons learned to fulfil the mandate of supporting the work of the CMA to recognize	Information on lessons learned and good practices in addressing adaptation in developing country Parties is

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
	recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties	the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties (decision 11/CMA.1, para. 13)	effectively made available for the global stocktake
NAP technical working group	Enhancing technical guidance on NAPs	Mobilize and collaborate with relevant organizations to enhance and coordinate technical guidance and support on NAPs for the LDCs	Enhanced technical guidance on NAPs is available to countries
NAP technical working group	Enhancing technical guidance on NAPs	Further develop methodologies for achieving coherence between climate change adaptation, the SDGs, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and other relevant frameworks through an integrated supplement to the NAP technical guidelines	Coherent activities relating to adaptation, the SDGs and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 at the country level
NAP technical working group	Enhancing technical guidance on NAPs	Support the LEG in carrying out technical guidance activities and events (such as in relation to Open NAPs, NAP Expos, NAP training and NAP Central)	High-quality support is provided by the LEG, building on the wide expertise of its partners
Direct country support: technical materials	Helping countries to strengthen consideration of gender responsiveness and vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in NAPs	Continue to provide guidance on how guiding principles on adaptation, in particular those related to gender responsiveness and vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, can be considered in NAPs at relevant activities at the NAP Expos and other LEG events in 2020	Enhanced consideration of gender and vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in NAPs
<i>Technical guidance and support for accessing financial and technical support: Provide technical advice to the LDCs; and engage and exchange information with the GCF secretariat, the GEF secretariat, the Adaptation Fund secretariat, bilateral agencies and other relevant organizations</i>			
Technical advice and outreach	Providing technical advice to the LDCs on accessing funding from the GCF, the LDCF and the Adaptation Fund for NAPs and other elements of the LDC work programme	Continue to engage the GCF secretariat, the GEF secretariat and the Adaptation Fund secretariat in LEG meetings, NAP Expos, NAP training and related events to address issues relating to the access of the LDCs to funding, including through training workshops on proposal writing and on ways to link NAPs with the GCF strategic framework and country programme	Increased awareness of and capacity to access funding among the LDCs Improved understanding of how NAPs can be integrated into the GCF country programme
Technical guidance and support	Providing technical guidance and support to the LDCs (and graduating countries) for the LDC work programme	Provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs (and graduating countries) for the implementation of the LDC work programme and report regularly to the SBI	Implementation of the LDC work programme is effectively supported and monitored

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
Technical advice and outreach	Promoting LEG interaction with the LDCs and other Parties and relevant organizations, and enhancing outreach on the support offered by the LEG	Enhance the visibility of the support of the LEG, including through outreach materials and hosting of pavilions during events organized by the LEG and others, and exchange of information with the LDC Group	Improved awareness of and outreach on LEG support for the LDCs
Technical advice and outreach	Promoting LEG interaction with the LDCs, other Parties and relevant organizations, and enhancing outreach on the support offered by the LEG	Organize LEG side events at SBI 52 and 53 on the work of the LEG in supporting the LDCs with adaptation	Increased outreach on the work of the LEG and the support offered to the LDCs
Technical advice and outreach	Promoting the exchange of information with the United Nations Programme of Action for the LDCs for the Decade 2011–2020	Exchange information with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the provisions and activities supporting the LDCs under the Convention in 2020, in the context of the United Nations Programme of Action for the LDCs for the Decade 2011–2020	Improved awareness of and outreach on the support for the LDCs under the Convention
<i>NAP Expos: Hold NAP Expos to promote exchange of experience and foster partnerships between a wide range of actors and stakeholders in advancing NAPs</i>			
NAP Expos	Advancing NAPs through global NAP Expos	Organize the global NAP Expo in 2020 on the theme of “transformations”, and incorporate various modalities of support into the programme	Greatly enhanced progress on NAPs and adaptation ambition
NAP Expos	Advancing NAPs through regional NAP Expos	Provide technical guidance and support for the organization of the regional NAP Expo in Asia scheduled to take place in June–July 2020, and other regional NAP Expos that may be organized in 2020	Greatly enhanced progress on NAPs and adaptation ambition
<i>NAP Central: Enhance NAP Central as a tool for supporting the formulation and implementation of NAPs, the LDCs and the work of the LEG</i>			
NAP Central	Further developing and enhancing NAP Central	Continue to develop and maintain NAP Central and add functions to support the current work of the LEG and on NAPs	Improved exchange and delivery of information on NAPs

Note: The work programme includes ongoing activities that would continue beyond 2020 subject to the extension of the mandate of the LEG at COP 26.

^a 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.

Annex IV

Work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2020: addressing mandates from the Conference of the Parties, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the SBI assessment of progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Continue to provide channels for Parties to provide information on progress on NAPs (decision 8/CP.24, para. 23) and summarize the results in country profiles on NAP Central; prepare by the time of SBI 53 the progress report on NAPs to support the consideration of NAPs	The SBI is well informed about progress on NAPs and related matters Up-to-date information on progress on NAPs is readily available
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the work of the SBI under Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Convention (LDC matters)	Consider how the needs of the LDCs related to adaptation arising from the Paris Agreement and COP 21 decisions can be addressed, including by identifying which of the needs are being addressed in ongoing and planned activities of the LEG	Summary of gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs and details on the role of the LEG in addressing them is included in the LEG 37 and 38 reports
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the SBI consideration of the implementation of NAPs	Continue to consider ways to assist with the implementation of NAPs and include this information in the LEG 37 and 38 reports	The SBI is effectively supported in its work on NAPs
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the work of the SBI on reviewing the progress, need for continuation and terms of reference of the LEG	Convene a meeting with representatives of Parties and relevant organizations to take stock of the work of the LEG in early 2020 and report to SBI 52	The SBI is effectively supported in its work in supporting the LDCs and the process to formulate and implement NAPs
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the work of the CMA to recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties	Guide the secretariat in preparing a synthesis report on specific adaptation themes for CMA 3, focusing on relevant lessons learned and good practices in developing country Parties, in collaboration with the AC (decision 11/CMA.1, para. 13); see NAP publication activity above	The CMA is effectively supported in its work to recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the work of the CMA on methodologies and the delivery of support to the LDCs	Develop and regularly update an inventory of relevant methodologies suitable for the LDCs for assessing adaptation needs, including needs related to action, finance, capacity-building and technological support in the context of national adaptation planning and implementation (decision 11/CMA.1, para. 15), with support from the NAP technical working group, as a contribution to a broader inventory of methodologies	The CMA is effectively supported in its work on methodologies and the delivery of support to the LDCs
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the development of methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support	Compile information by May 2020, on the basis of submissions from Parties and other relevant actors, on gaps, challenges, opportunities and options associated with methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support	The CMA is effectively supported in its work on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
CMA/COP/SBI support	Supporting the development of methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support	In collaboration with the Standing Committee on Finance and relevant experts, compile existing methodologies, by the time of CMA 3, for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support, in coordination with the compilation efforts of the AC (decision 11/CMA.1, para. 35)	The CMA is effectively supported in its work on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
CMA/COP/SBI support	Reporting on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into the work of the LEG	Include information in the LEG 37 and 38 reports on progress towards integrating a gender perspective	Monitoring of the implementation of the work programme on gender is successfully supported

Annex V

Work programme of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group for 2020: collaboration with other bodies and programmes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement and engagement of organizations, regional centres and networks

[English only]

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
<i>Collaboration with relevant bodies and programmes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement</i>			
Collaboration with relevant bodies under the Convention	Continuing to collaborate with the AC on various activities	Address mandates from the COP and the CMA and collaborate through the NAP technical working group, the AC task force on NAPs and the task force on the technical examination process on adaptation	Outputs are delivered in accordance with the mandates
Collaboration with other bodies	Collaborating with the WIM Executive Committee	A LEG member to participate in the work of the task force on displacement of the WIM Executive Committee, and on comprehensive risk management	Mandates are fulfilled
Collaboration with other bodies	Engaging the NWP partner organizations	Engage NWP partner organizations in implementing relevant activities on NAPs and providing support to the LDCs	The LDCs are effectively supported
Collaboration with other bodies	Collaborating with the CGE	Collaborate with the CGE on the training for assessing vulnerability and other aspects of adaptation in order to ensure consistency and efficiency, and the Paris Agreement training for the LDCs	The mandates are fulfilled and the LDCs are effectively supported
Collaboration with other bodies	Collaborating with the TEC	Contribute to the TEC efforts to help countries to align their work on technology needs assessments and NAPs	The LDCs are effectively supported
Collaboration with other bodies	Collaborating with the PCCB	Continue to engage with the PCCB on ways to enhance its collaboration and cooperation on capacity-building with other constituted bodies and institutions, including on gender	The LDCs are effectively supported

<i>Modality</i>	<i>Work area</i>	<i>Main activities and outputs</i>	<i>Expected results</i>
<i>Engagement and mobilization of organizations, regional centres and networks to enhance support provided to the LDCs</i>			
Mobilizing others	Engaging regional centres and networks and relevant organizations	Continue to engage and mobilize regional centres and networks to nominate LEG focal points	Improved and consistent interaction with regional centres and networks
Mobilizing others	Engaging regional centres and networks and relevant organizations	Continue to mobilize relevant organizations and regional centres and networks to enhance the financial and technical support provided to the LDCs	Expanded support provided to the LDCs
Mobilizing others	Engaging and mobilizing relevant organizations to enhance support provided to the LDCs on adaptation	Continue to engage and mobilize organizations in respect of support programmes for NAPs and support for the LDCs (such as the NAP-GSP, the NAP Global Network and the Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans programme) through the NAP technical working group	Enhanced support provided to the LDCs