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Progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

Report by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee

Summary

A meeting of Party experts organized by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee was held in Dhaka from 23 to 25 April 2024, bringing together experts nominated by Parties and representatives of organizations working on national adaptation plans (NAPs) to assess progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This report provides a summary of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, based on the meeting of Party experts, at which participants considered the draft synthesis report prepared by the secretariat on progress towards achieving the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and includes updates on progress in achieving the two objectives of the process; support provided and received for the process; how the guiding principles of the process are being addressed; best practices and lessons learned from the process; and gaps and needs identified.



Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
AF	Adaptation Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LDC	least developed country
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
NAP Global Network	National Adaptation Plan Global Network

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to initiate at its sixtieth session the assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs referred to in paragraph 19 of decision 8/CP.24 and to make recommendations on the matter for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-ninth session. It also requested the LEG, in collaboration with the AC, to organize a meeting of Party experts, at which a synthesis report on progress towards the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, as well as experience, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs, and support provided and received, would be considered with a view to providing a summary of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. The LEG was also requested, in collaboration with the AC and with the support of the secretariat, to prepare a report on the meeting for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sixtieth session in its assessment of progress in the process in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.

B. Scope

2. This report provides a summary of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, based on the meeting of Party experts referred to in paragraph 1 above, at which participants considered the draft synthesis report prepared by the secretariat on progress towards achieving the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and includes updates on progress in achieving the two objectives of the process;² support provided and received for the process; how the guiding principles of the process are being addressed; best practices and lessons learned from the process; and gaps and needs identified.

II. Organization of the meeting of Party experts

A. Proceedings

3. The meeting of Party experts,³ held in Dhaka from 23 to 25 April 2024, was attended by representatives of 49 Parties (42 developing and 7 developed country Parties), five members of the LEG, four members of the AC and 10 representatives of United Nations entities and other international organizations. In total, there were 56 male and 19 female participants.

4. An advisory group comprising members of the AC, Climate Service Center Germany, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Global Water Partnership, the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations, the LEG, the NAP Global Network, the Standing Committee on Finance, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization and the World Meteorological Organization provided inputs to the guiding questions that were used to facilitate the discussions at the meeting (see the annex for the guiding questions).

5. The meeting comprised six sessions. An opening session set out the overall objectives and plan for the meeting, including expected outcomes; provided background information, including on the mandate referred to in paragraph 1 above and on the process of the previous assessment done in 2018;⁴ and presented the draft synthesis report prepared by the secretariat

¹ Decision 3/CP.26, paras. 2 and 3(d-e).

² Decision 5/CP.17, para. 1.

³ See <u>https://unfccc.int/event/nap-assessment-mtg-2024</u>.

⁴ See <u>https://unfccc.int/event/expert-meeting-to-assess-progress-made-in-the-process-to-formulate-and-implement-naps.</u>

on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This was followed by four discussion sessions on:

(a) Progress towards the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, with initial inputs provided by Bangladesh and Kenya to initiate the discussion;

(b) Support provided and received, considering provision of financial and technical support for adaptation; access to financial and technical support by developing countries for adaptation; and science, knowledge and methodologies related to adaptation, with initial inputs from the AF, the GCF, Malawi, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Meteorological Organization;

(c) Consideration of the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, with initial inputs from Eswatini and the Philippines;

(d) Best practices and lessons learned, taking stock of gaps and needs highlighted in previous discussion sessions.

6. The meeting ended with a session to summarize the outcomes of the discussions held.

B. Information considered

7. A draft synthesis report prepared by the secretariat as an input to the meeting was considered by the meeting participants. Additional data and information provided by Parties and organizations during the meeting were incorporated into the final version of the report.⁵

8. As indicated in paragraph 5(a–c) above, a number of Parties and organizations provided inputs, on the basis of the guiding questions, to inform the discussions during the meeting.

III. Progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

9. This chapter summarizes the outcomes of the discussions held during the meeting.

A. Overall progress

10. In terms of overall progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the meeting participants reached the following conclusions:

(a) Given that many NAPs are in the early stages of implementation, and the limited progress in developing methodologies and monitoring, evaluation and learning systems for assessing adaptation outcomes and impacts of projects, it remains difficult to assess whether current interventions are indeed reducing vulnerability and, if so, to what extent;

(b) Although, in general, NAPs are facilitating the integration of adaptation into planning at a variety of levels, including through alignment with international instruments and other development agendas, meeting participants emphasized that institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms are needed at all levels to enable adaptation to be integrated into all sectors and at all levels, with steps taken to raise awareness of the need to integrate adaptation into policies, plans and programmes across all sectors and at all levels;

(c) There are still challenges in accessing resources for the preparation of NAPs under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, under which each country can apply for funding of up to USD 3 million for NAP formulation or other adaptation planning processes, with more than half of existing NAPs having been prepared using resources other than those available under the GCF;

⁵ FCCC/SBI/2024/10.

(d) The GCF has taken steps to expedite access to support for the formulation of NAPs under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme and an additional USD 3 million NAP readiness funding per country is available to support the transition from NAP formulation to implementation for countries that have exhausted their first allocation;⁶

(e) Some participants noted a lack of clarity regarding available support for NAP implementation, which is compounded by the complex and lengthy procedures in place for accessing such support under the GCF;

(f) It is important to explore all sources of funding, including bilateral sources, philanthropic organizations, the private sector and multilateral development banks, for the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

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

1. Objective 1: To reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience

11. Projects addressing specific climate hazards are under way in a number of countries, with efforts being made to target communities particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. One such project in Bangladesh, with funding of USD 50 million, of which USD 43 million provided by the GCF, spanning 2023–2028 is aimed at building climate resilience in coastal communities that are particularly vulnerable to sea level rise, salinity intrusion, coastal flooding, cyclones and storm surges because of their low elevation. By focusing on climate-resilient housing and climate-adaptative livelihoods, the project will help some 300,000 climate-vulnerable individuals, with a particular focus on those in poor and ultra-poor households, including those headed by women, disadvantaged groups and those who are not receiving support from other projects or organizations.

12. Adaptation actions are gradually advancing from the planning to the implementation stage, with countries recognizing the value in involving stakeholders from a range of sectors and at various levels. Kenya's initiative to end drought emergencies, for example, seeks to ensure optimal coordination of investment and activities among local and national government and development partners for its six areas of focus (peace and security, climate-proof infrastructure, human capital, sustainable livelihoods, drought risk management, and institutional development and knowledge management). Two adaptation projects under the initiative focus on ecosystem-based adaptation in Kenya's arid and semi-arid rangelands, with funding provided by the GCF, and on strengthening drought resilience for smallholder farmers and pastoralists, with funding provided by the AF.

13. Since many countries are in the early stages of implementing the adaptation actions identified in their NAPs, and of developing monitoring, evaluation and learning systems, it is difficult to clearly assess the extent to which vulnerability to climate change impacts is being reduced.

2. Objective 2: To facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate

14. Adaptation is being increasingly integrated into policies, programmes and activities, resulting in strengthened adaptation action nationally and internationally. In addition, adaptation actions are gradually being integrated into sectoral, national and local development planning, and in some instances into budgeting processes, through, inter alia:

(a) Regulatory frameworks, laws or mandates facilitating the integration of adaptation into policies, strategies, plans, projects and programmes;

⁶ According to information provided by the GCF secretariat at the 45th meeting of the LEG.

(b) National coordination mechanisms (e.g. high-level ministerial committees or councils, technical committees or NAP units);

(c) Designated focal points appointed in relevant ministries or agencies to facilitate coordination and collaboration in relation to adaptation planning and implementation, including with regard to access to resources at the national, subnational and local level;

(d) Guidelines for integrating adaptation into national, subnational and local development planning processes and strategies;

(e) National climate change funds for mobilizing and providing resources for implementing adaptation actions.

15. Despite the progress observed in integrating adaptation into different sectoral policies, programmes and activities, its integration into planning at different levels of government is progressing at a slower pace and requires further attention.

C. Support provided and received

16. Regarding the provision of financial and technical support for adaptation, the following key points were noted:

(a) Developed countries provide NAP-related funding to developing countries through various channels, including the Financial Mechanism operating entities, bilateral programmes, and global and regional programmes and networks;

(b) Support needs to be scaled up for developing countries, especially the LDCs and small island developing States. The LDCs require enhanced support and investment, especially in the form of grants, to achieve their adaptation targets, including in the context of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience⁷ and the LDC 2050 Vision;⁸

(c) The GCF is aiming to achieve a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation allocations in its portfolio, and to ensure that at least 50 per cent of adaptation funding goes to particularly vulnerable countries, including the LDCs, small island developing States and African States. The strategic plan for the GCF for 2024–2027 sets out activities aimed at addressing challenges faced in accessing funding from the GCF for formulating and implementing NAPs. For example, the GCF plans to operationalize new readiness support modalities by September 2024 with a view to improving access to its funding. The GCF has also provided funding for scaling up adaptation actions that were initially implemented with funding from the AF and that demonstrate scalability through a proof of concept or scientific evaluation;

(d) United Nations organizations provide support to developing countries for formulating and implementing NAPs, including through global and regional support programmes and initiatives; by providing technical assistance and serving as agencies, delivery partners and entities for accessing funding from multilateral funds; and by supporting activities of the LEG, including the NAP Expos, training on NAPs, tracking progress of NAPs and the UN4NAPs initiative;

(e) Financial support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs has been mobilized from multiple sources, including international public sources, domestic sources, the private sector and multilateral development banks. Mobilizing climate finance from a diverse range of sources is critical to continued progress in the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Strengthening the associated enabling environments is key in this regard;

(f) It is difficult to measure or assess how much support has been provided specifically for NAPs compared with support for broader adaptation and development activities, with some participants noting generally that much of the support provided for

⁷ See decision 2/CMA.5.

⁸ See <u>https://www.ldc-climate.org/about-us/long-term-initiatives/</u>.

adaptation tends to focus on research, assessments and studies rather than specific interventions.

17. Regarding access to financial and technical support for adaptation by developing countries, the following key points were noted:

(a) As at 31 March 2024, the GCF had approved funding requests submitted by 99 countries under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, established in 2016, with more than 50 per cent of NAPs to date having been prepared with resources other than those under the Programme;

(b) Despite the mandate for the GCF to expedite support for the formulation of NAPs and for the subsequent implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified therein,⁹ it can take between two and four years for proposals to be approved by the GCF, with complex requirements having to be met, including preparatory work and the establishment of institutional arrangements at the national level to facilitate access to funding;

(c) Owing to the lengthy and complex procedure of accessing funding for formulating NAPs under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, some countries have resorted to mobilizing funding from other sources, such as bilateral and domestic sources.

18. In terms of science, knowledge and methodologies related to adaptation, it was noted that:

 (a) Several regional and international platforms provide information on climate change impacts and adaptation, with regional and international support programmes key to enhancing access to expertise, which can accelerate the formulation and implementation of NAPs;

(b) Countries are increasingly using climate data and information from regional and international platforms to undertake risk and vulnerability assessments and develop their climate rationales for NAP funding under the GCF, as well as making efforts to build national capacity to perform climate risk and vulnerability analysis;

(c) Scientific findings on the impacts, vulnerabilities and risks associated with climate change, including those contained in IPCC reports, provide valuable information for decision makers, but need to be conveyed in additional formats, such as summaries and visual aids.

D. Consideration of guiding principles

19. Countries in all regions have made significant progress in implementing the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs,¹⁰ for example by:

(a) Adjusting and updating NAPs to reflect changing national circumstances and the resulting changes in climate impacts and vulnerability and exposure thereto, including on the basis of continuous monitoring, evaluation and learning, which helps to ensure that the process to formulate and implement NAPs is continuous, progressive and iterative;

(b) Systematically and regularly involving actors from different sectors and levels of government in adaptation planning and implementation, including with regard to sharing information, coordinating actions and considering different needs and priorities;

(c) Adopting inclusive, multi-stakeholder approaches to NAP formulation and implementation, for example by holding consultations or focused group discussions with and directly involving vulnerable groups, such as women and youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the private sector, at the national level. The importance was emphasized of institutionalizing participatory processes for conducting stakeholder consultations, formulating NAPs and implementing adaptation actions at the local level and with different stakeholders;

⁹ Decision 1/CP.21, para. 46.

¹⁰ Decision 5/CP.17, paras. 2–4.

(d) Increasing the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in developing adaptation actions and incorporating local, Indigenous and traditional adaptation solutions into NAPs. For example, Eswatini established a programme aimed at collecting Indigenous and traditional knowledge, particularly on practices related to weather forecasting, to inform the development of its NAP, adaptation policies and programmes, and action for addressing climatic variability;

(e) Considering gender aspects, including by providing adaptation-related training and education for women, ensuring that women are represented in decision-making processes for adaptation, facilitating direct access to funding for women-led adaptation projects and supporting women's entrepreneurial efforts related to adaptation. Some countries have also developed and implemented gender action plans that focus on mainstreaming gender in climate change and adaptation policies and plans.

20. While it was recognized that adaptation action should be based on the best available science, including IPCC findings, many developing countries, especially the LDCs, experience challenges in translating this science into practice, which is compounded by lack of capacity to facilitate understanding of this science by policymakers and its translation into policies and actions.

E. Best practices and lessons learned

21. The following best practices and lessons learned related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs were identified:

(a) A clear mandate for adaptation planning and implementation at the national level outlining the responsibilities of different actors and agencies and highlighting deliverables and timelines is key to ensuring that NAPs are produced and implemented in a timely manner, with executive orders from Heads of State, national climate change policies and acts of law identified as examples of instruments for implementing such mandates;

(b) Integrating adaptation into development planning through a whole-ofgovernment approach (national, subnational and local) facilitates top-down and bottom-up exchanges of climate risk information, strengthens local and regional vulnerability assessments and helps to prioritize adaptation options;

(c) Involving finance and planning ministries and agencies in the process to formulate and implement NAPs is helpful for integrating adaptation into national and subnational development plans, with 'climate proofing' key to facilitating the simultaneous implementation of adaptation and development priorities;

(d) Aligning the process to formulate and implement NAPs with national budgeting processes enables consideration to be given to the allocation of resources for adaptation within national budgets;

(e) Integrating adaptation education into the national curriculum, for example through systematic partnerships with research and academic institutions, helps to build long-term capacity to understand and take action on climate change;

(f) Deploying national experts rather than international consultants to lead NAP formulation increases country ownership of the process and builds the capacity of in-country experts to subsequently implement the adaptation actions identified in NAPs. Moreover, implementing adaptation projects through national implementing entities instead of through external organizations ensures accountability at the national level and continuity of action;

(g) Engaging multi-stakeholder groups, including actors from the private sector, civil society organizations, academia and youth, in the process to formulate and implement NAPs is key to improving availability of and access to climate data and information. Ensuring ongoing stakeholder engagement throughout the process increases awareness of climate change and helps to strengthen adaptive capacity at the national and local level. Early engagement of local stakeholders in assessments of the vulnerability of groups, communities and ecosystems to climate change impacts can also enhance the effectiveness of related adaptation actions;

(h) Identifying or prioritizing adaptation actions on the basis of places, people, sectors or ecosystems that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change ensures that targeted and thus more effective adaptation interventions are undertaken;

(i) By developing project concept notes during NAP formulation, priorities identified in NAPs can start to be implemented without delay;

(j) Developing gender-sensitive plans or strategies prior to NAP formulation enables gender aspects to be considered in a NAP;

(k) National platforms for and databases of adaptation projects create a foundation for data collection, and open data platforms and information-sharing mechanisms can be used by countries without adequate data to generate the data they require for the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Facilitating continuous data collection and assessment and information-sharing among government agencies and other actors implementing adaptation actions builds on the iterative nature of the process;

(l) Scenario-building, analysis, simulations and stress testing can assist countries in effectively preparing for addressing the impacts of climate change.

F. Gaps and needs

22. As at 20 May 2024, only 55 developing countries, of which 22 are LDCs and 13 are small island developing States, had submitted a NAP. There is a need for enhanced support, including funding from a variety of sources (public, private, domestic and international), to be provided to developing countries for formulating their NAPs and implementing the policies, projects and programmes identified therein in a timely manner with a view to addressing climate change impacts that are already affecting vulnerable communities.

23. The following needs related to NAP formulation were identified:

(a) Building capacity for national experts to formulate NAPs without relying on international experts (support provided by the delivery agencies of the Financial Mechanism for formulating NAPs is often provided by international experts, with little to no focus on capacity-building for national experts);

(b) Fast tracking the process for providing funding for NAP formulation under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, including by expediting the processing of project proposals thereunder, especially considering the target to have all NAPs, as well as national adaptation policies and planning processes, in place by 2025;¹¹

(c) Providing GCF NAP readiness funding promptly, allowing flexibility in the project timeline regarding the time frame for formulating NAPs and eliminating the need for extensive existing capacity to provide climate data, develop proposals and access resources, given that readiness support is designed in part to build that capacity;

(d) Streamlining and expediting the processing of project proposals for GCF readiness funding with a view to eliminating the complex procedures and requirements, and resulting delays, associated with accessing such funding;

(e) Diversified financial investments, combining public, private, domestic and international resources.

24. The following gap and needs related to the implementation of NAPs were identified:

(a) There is a need to facilitate the prompt implementation of adaptation priorities identified in NAPs once formulated, given the urgency of addressing the adverse effects of climate change already being experienced;

(b) There is a need for the GCF to communicate specific measures for the expedited support of the implementation of policies, projects and programmes identified in NAPs;

¹¹ As per decision 1/CMA.5, para. 59.

(c) There is a need to build capacity for national experts to implement and update their NAPs without reliance on international experts;

(d) There is a need for diversified financial investments, combining public, private, domestic and international resources, for the implementation of NAPs;

(e) There is a need to increase awareness of the financial and technical support available to developing countries for adaptation and how to access it for NAP implementation;

(f) There is a need for a sustainable approach to implementing NAPs, for example implementing the NAP as a single programme rather than focusing on individual projects therein, with a view to enhancing progress in implementing adaptation action;

(g) There is a need to expand transboundary collaboration in relation to regional and global programmatic approaches to implementing NAPs with a view to enhancing participation therein or facilitating development thereof;

(h) There is often insufficient access to innovative adaptation technologies, which is crucial for ensuring effective adaptation action, transferring those technologies, fostering innovation within regions and ultimately managing climate impacts.

25. The following gaps and needs related to the overall process to formulate and implement NAPs were identified:

(a) Institutional coordination of adaptation action at the national and local level remains a challenge, resulting in fragmented adaptation efforts. The need for enhanced coherence and coordination across different agencies and levels of government was therefore highlighted, with adaptation and NAP-related mandates, ongoing dialogues and interinstitutional engagement and capacity-building across all sectors and levels underlined as possible solutions;

(b) There is a need to raise awareness of climate change among actors, including Indigenous Peoples and youth, at the grass-roots and local level and to engage those actors in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, albeit there are often limited resources available for conducting adequate consultations, especially when a broad range of actors are involved. Further technical assistance and capacity-building are needed in the areas of stakeholder engagement and participatory approaches, including to enable the use of different methodologies for engagement and participation;

(c) There is a need for scientific research by the IPCC, for example, into methodologies for assessing the impacts of climate change on and the adaptive capacities of, inter alia, different regions, ecosystems and vulnerable areas;

(d) There is a need to facilitate access to capacity-building support, methodologies and tools for assessing risks arising from climate change, developing indicators for the guiding principles of the NAP process and establishing metrics for assessing progress in adaptation;

(e) There are challenges in identifying and securing funding for different activities related to the NAP process (e.g. capacity-building, assessment, planning, submission of proposals for implementing adaptation priorities, provision of implementation support, and monitoring, evaluation and learning);

(f) There are needs (1) for adequate data on downscaled and localized climate scenarios for use in impact, vulnerability and risk assessments and policy development, and (2) for tools for collecting and assimilating national data on climate variables and on socioeconomic risks and vulnerabilities and for designing adaptation actions to address medium- and long-term needs, including those related to capacity-building;

(g) There is a need to integrate monitoring, evaluation and learning systems into the NAP process to enable assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of adaptation actions taken to build resilience against climate change impacts and enable iterative learning and progress in relation to adaptation actions; (h) There are needs to build capacity to (1) perform robust climate data analysis at the national level; (2) collect and interpret climate data and maintain climate weather stations; and (3) improve coordination on adaptation efforts between climate finance entities and hydrometeorological offices;

(i) There is a need to meaningfully engage vulnerable groups in the implementation of adaptation actions.

Annex

Guiding questions for discussions during the meeting of Party experts

Assessment topic	Guiding questions
Achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs	Objective 1: What has been the progress in the achievement of the first objective of the process to formulate and implement NAPs (reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience)?
	 What are examples of building adaptive capacity and resilience? What are examples that show key vulnerabilities are being addressed?
	 What are examples of experience, emerging best practices and lessons learned? What are the challenges, gaps and needs in making progress?
	(Consider relevant sectors/systems addressed in NAPs or the thematic targets of the global goal on adaptation, as appropriate, and different levels/scopes (e.g. national, subnational and sectoral levels; vulnerable communities and groups)
	Objective 2: What has been the progress in the achievement of the second objective of the process to formulate and implement NAPs (facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate)?
	 What are examples of how countries have integrated adaptation into development planning? What are examples of experience, emerging best practices and lessons learned? What are the challenges, gaps and needs in making progress?
	(Consider, inter alia, the following enabling factors: leadership and coordination mechanisms; institutional arrangements; regulatory frameworks; national, sectoral and subnational development plans and strategies containing or aimed at implementing adaptation actions)
Support provided and received	Provision of financial and technical support for adaptation (mandates, guidance, resourcing, etc.)
	 How have mandates for provision of support for adaptation been addressed within the intergovernmental architecture? How adequate and effective has support provided for adaptation through NAPs been for addressing challenges brought on by the adverse effects of climate change? How adequate and effective has technical support for adaptation through NAPs been for addressing technical gaps and needs related to NAPs?
	Access to financial and technical support by developing countries for adaptation
	 How successfully have developing countries accessed financial support provided for adaptation, and NAPs in particular, under the Financial Mechanism and from sources other than UNFCCC funds? How successfully have developing countries accessed technical support (including technology transfer and capacity-building) provided for adaptation and NAPs?
Science, framing knowledge and	How have countries taken advantage of technical guidance and support related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs

Assessment topic	Guiding questions
methodologies for adaptation	under the UNFCCC (e.g. elements of the Cancun Adaptation Framework, NAP-related guidance/supplements)?
	What are examples of projects being scaled up or replicated to build on best practices and lessons learned?
	To what extent have scientific results been used in the NAP process, for example through citations of IPCC and other literature and also development of climate change scenarios and their use in the assessments of the adaptation plan?
	Which innovative scientific concepts have been used in assessments (e.g. use of pathways)?
	What are emerging best practices, key lessons learned and challenges and obstacles, based on experience to date?
Consideration of the guiding principles	What are examples of experience, emerging best practices and lessons learned with regard to the guiding principles (decision 5/CP.17, paras. 2–4) listed below?
	 Continuous process at the national level with iterative updates and outputs; Country-owned, country-driven; Not prescriptive, but flexible and based on country needs; Building on and not duplicating existing adaptation efforts; Participatory and transparent; Enhancing coherence of adaptation and development; Considering vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems; Guided by best available science; Taking traditional and Indigenous knowledge into consideration; Gender-sensitive/gender-responsive.
Experience, best practices and lessons learned, and gaps and needs	What are the challenges, gaps and needs in making progress?
	What are the challenges, gaps and needs in terms of formulating and implementing NAPs?
	What are examples of experience, best practices and lessons learned?