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Matters relating to the least developed countries

The 47th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Report by the secretariat*

Summary

At the 47th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), which took place in Luanda from 18 to 21 February 2025, the LEG discussed progress in implementing its activities for 2024–2025 and developed its work programme for 2025–2026. The meeting included discussions with the Chair of the Least Developed Countries Group on responding to the least developed countries' priorities and needs for support, and with representatives of the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility and its agencies, the Green Climate Fund and relevant organizations on providing support to the least developed countries. This report includes information on the status of formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans in the least developed countries; ongoing activities of the LEG in supporting the least developed countries; technical guidance and support for national adaptation plans; the integration of a gender perspective into the work of the LEG; and the collaboration of the LEG with other UNFCCC constituted bodies and relevant organizations.

* This document was submitted to the conference services for processing after the deadline because the review process took longer than expected.



Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
AF	Adaptation Fund
AR	Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
CIAT	International Center for Tropical Agriculture
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
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
LCIPP	Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform
LDC	least developed country
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
NAP Global Network	National Adaptation Plan Global Network
NDC	nationally determined contribution
NWP	Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
PA-ALIGN tool	Paris Agreement Alignment tool
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
PEG M&E tool	tool for monitoring and evaluating progress, effectiveness and gaps in relation to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
SIDS	small island developing State(s)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
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 26 decided to extend the mandate of the LEG under its current terms of reference.¹ The LEG has been mandated by the COP and the CMA to, inter alia:²

- (a) Support implementation of the least developed countries work programme;
- (b) Provide technical guidance, support and advice to the LDCs in relation to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action, and specific matters such as regional approaches to adaptation planning, and strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in relation to adaptation;
- (c) Provide technical guidance and advice to the LDCs, in collaboration with the GCF secretariat, on accessing funding from the GCF for formulating and implementing NAPs;
- (d) Formulate recommendations on ways to facilitate the mobilization of support for the formulation and implementation of NAPs with a view to addressing the challenges experienced by developing country Parties in accessing funding and support from the GCF for formulating and implementing NAPs and submit the recommendations to the SCF for consideration;
- (e) Update the technical guidelines for the NAP process,³ reflecting the provisions of decision [2/CMA.5](#) on the global goal on adaptation as well as the best available science, including the AR6;
- (f) Undertake activities to facilitate implementation of the Paris Agreement, including preparing synthesis reports in the context of recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing countries and contributing to the development of methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support;
- (g) Enhance its support provided to the LDCs for aligning NAPs and NDCs;
- (h) Engage UNFCCC constituted bodies, the GCF, the GEF and its agencies, regional centres and networks, and a wide range of organizations in implementing the LEG work programme.

2. COP 22 and COP 29 requested all constituted bodies to include in their regular reports information on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into their processes.⁴

3. The LEG is mandated to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions.⁵

II. The 47th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

A. Proceedings

4. LEG 47 was held in Luanda from 18 to 21 February 2025. At the meeting, following a discussion on support provided to the LDCs for formulating and implementing NAPs, the LEG discussed establishing an effective and iterative process to formulate and implement NAPs; updating the technical guidelines for the NAP process; tracking and monitoring progress in formulating and implementing NAPs; engaging and collaborating with the AF,

¹ Decision [15/CP.26](#), para. 1.

² As per decisions [5/CP.7](#), [29/CP.7](#), [7/CP.9](#), [4/CP.10](#), [4/CP.11](#), [8/CP.13](#), [6/CP.16](#), [5/CP.17](#), [12/CP.18](#), [3/CP.20](#), [1/CP.21](#), [19/CP.21](#), [16/CP.24](#), [7/CP.25](#), [15/CP.26](#), [9/CP.27](#), [10/CP.27](#), [11/CMA.1](#), [19/CMA.1](#), [11/CMA.4](#), [2/CMA.5](#) and [15/CP.29](#).

³ LEG. 2012. *National adaptation plans: technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/national-adaptation-plans#NAPguidelines>.

⁴ Decisions [21/CP.22](#), para. 14, and [7/CP.29](#), para. 18.

⁵ Decision [6/CP.16](#), para. 3.

the GCF and the GEF regarding the LDCs' access to funding; supporting the LDCs in effectively and efficiently implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement; conducting global and regional outreach events on NAPs; aligning the activities of the LEG with the pillars of the NAP 3.0 initiative;⁶ collaborating with other bodies and organizations on providing support to the LDCs; and integrating a gender perspective into its work. It also developed its work programme for 2025–2026 (see annex II).

5. The LEG extended an invitation to the Chair of the LDC Group to participate in the meeting and lead a discussion on the LDCs' priorities and needs for support. In addition, the LEG engaged with representatives of the AF, the GEF and its agencies, GCF and relevant organizations to discuss providing support to the LDCs.

6. In accordance with its rules of procedure,⁷ the LEG elected the following officers for 2025:

- (a) Adao Soares Barbosa (Timor-Leste) as Chair;
- (b) Mokoena France (Lesotho) as Vice-Chair;
- (c) Richard Mfumu Lungu (Zambia) as anglophone Rapporteur;
- (d) Méry Yaou (Togo) as francophone Rapporteur.

7. The LEG expressed appreciation to its outgoing members, Laurie Ashley (United States of America), Gersom van der Elst (Kingdom of the Netherlands) and Caoimhe Sweeney (Ireland).

8. The LEG welcomed Orla Kilcullen (Ireland) as a new member from developed country Parties.

9. The following members have been appointed as focal points by the LEG to cover both new and renewed appointments in its ongoing collaborative activities with other UNFCCC constituted bodies:

(a) Dominique Auger (Canada), Adao Soares Barbosa, Mokoena France and Hana Hamadalla Mohamed (Sudan) in the AC NAP task force;

(b) Kenel Delusca (Haiti), Payai Manyok John (South Sudan), Hana Hamadalla Mohamed and Maaïke Willemsen (Kingdom of the Netherlands) in the joint working group of the AC, the LEG and the SCF on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support;

(c) Dominique Auger, Kenel Delusca and Richard Mfumu Lungu in work with the Consultative Group of Experts and the PCCB;

(d) Mokoena France, Payai Manyok John and Jamie Ovia (Tuvalu) in work with the Facilitative Working Group of the LCIPP;

(e) Fredrick Manyika (United Republic of Tanzania), Méry Yaou and Benon Yassin (Malawi) in work under the NWP;

(f) Fredrick Manyika and Idrissa Semde (Burkina Faso) in work with the SCF and providing inputs under the ad hoc work programme on the new collective quantified goal on climate finance;

(g) Buddi Sagar Poudel (Nepal) and Maaïke Willemsen in work with the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network;

(h) Adao Soares Barbosa, Orla Kilcullen and Idrissa Semde in the task force on displacement of the WIM Executive Committee;

(i) Orla Kilcullen, Jamie Ovia and Benon Yassin in the expert group on non-economic losses of the WIM Executive Committee;

⁶ See <https://unfccc.int/NAP-3.0>.

⁷ Contained in the annex to decisions [10/CP.27](#) and [11/CMA.4](#).

(j) Gabriel Kpaka (Sierra Leone), Richard Mfumu Lungu and Méry Yaou in work with the Katowice Committee of Experts on the Impacts of the Implementation of Response Measures.

10. A list of the members of the LEG as at 24 March 2025 is provided in annex I.

B. Status of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans⁸

1. Progress of the least developed countries

11. The LEG noted that, as at 24 March 2025, of the 44 LDCs, 22 had prepared NAPs and submitted them on NAP Central,⁹ 17 were in the process of formulating NAPs¹⁰ and 4 had not yet started formulating NAPs.¹¹ Information on one LDC regarding its NAP was pending¹² and two LDCs were in the process of updating their NAPs.¹³

12. The LEG also noted that, as at 24 March 2025, 21 of the 22 LDCs that had submitted NAPs¹⁴ had had proposals approved by the GCF for implementing priority actions identified therein. The proposals relate to addressing climate risks in the areas of agriculture, energy, health, ecosystems and water resources. Of the 21 countries, 3 had multi-country projects,¹⁵ 1 had single-country projects¹⁶ and 17 had both single- and multi-country projects¹⁷ approved under the GCF.

2. Progress in relation to support provided

13. Table 1 presents the status of proposals for formulating NAPs submitted by developing countries for accessing funding from the GCF (under its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme), which provides up to USD 3 million per country.¹⁸

Table 1

Status of proposals submitted by developing countries for accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund for formulating national adaptation plans, as at 24 March 2025

<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>
Africa	62 (39)	41 (24)	40 (23)
Asia and the Pacific	41 (10)	34 (7)	32 (6)
Eastern Europe	13	11	10
Latin America and the Caribbean	45 (1)	35 (1)	29 (1)
Total	161 (50)	121 (32)	111 (30)

⁸ This subchapter provides a snapshot of the progress of the LDCs in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. For detailed coverage of the progress of all developing countries, see the annual progress reports, available at <https://unfccc.int/node/747>.

⁹ Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kiribati, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia. The NAPs are available at <https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps>.

¹⁰ Comoros, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Tuvalu, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

¹¹ Angola, Djibouti, Solomon Islands and Yemen.

¹² Afghanistan.

¹³ Burkina Faso and Cambodia.

¹⁴ All countries referred to in footnote 9 above except the Central African Republic.

¹⁵ Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.

¹⁶ Haiti.

¹⁷ Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kiribati, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and Zambia.

¹⁸ See GCF Board decision B.13/09, para. (e).

Notes: (1) Figures in parentheses are for the LDCs; (2) a list of the submitting countries is available at https://napcentral.org/accessing_funding_for_NAPs.

14. Regarding technical support, the LEG continues to offer support to the LDCs for formulating and implementing NAPs via the following modalities:

(a) The NAP country dialogues, which provide a platform for the LEG and NAP country teams to discuss progress, challenges and needs for support in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(b) The NAP technical working group and its four subgroups (NAP technical guidelines, NAP implementation support, NAP tracking, and multi-stakeholder forums), which assist the LEG in engaging a wide range of organizations and experts to develop technical guidance and provide support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including developing technical guidelines, reviewing draft NAPs, preparing technical papers, conducting training, identifying ways to address gaps and needs related to formulating and implementing NAPs, and developing tools for monitoring and reviewing progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

(c) The NAP implementation pipeline development initiative, under which the LEG, with the support of delivery partners, assists the LDCs in formulating or updating their NAPs and in identifying project ideas to be developed into concept notes and subsequently proposals for accessing funding from the AF, the GCF or the LDCF for implementing the priority adaptation actions identified in their NAPs;

(d) The Open NAP initiative,¹⁹ under which comprehensive support is offered to the LDCs and other interested countries for formulating their NAPs, and which serves as an open-ended collaborative tool for mobilizing inputs from all interested actors and stakeholders to NAP formulation.

(e) The roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs,²⁰ which is maintained by the LEG to support the formulation and implementation of NAPs;

(f) The NAP data initiative,²¹ which, by reproducing high-quality data and following global trends in open access, data-sharing and use of cutting-edge tools, enables countries to easily integrate data and analysis results into their NAPs and other related outputs;

(g) Global and regional NAP Expos, which facilitate exchange of experience between countries and foster partnerships between countries and organizations, agencies and research entities in support of the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

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

15. The LEG took note of the information provided by the GEF secretariat on the approval by the LDCF–SCCF Council between July and December 2024 of grant funding under the LDCF in the amount of USD 92.05 million for 10 projects²² and three programmes.²³ The 10 projects focus on adaptation action in the areas of agriculture and

¹⁹ See <https://napcentral.org/open-naps>.

²⁰ See <https://napcentral.org/roster-of-experts>.

²¹ For details, see document [FCCC/SBI/2022/18](#), para. 26.

²² Of the 10 projects, 6 are full-sized projects covering the Central African Republic, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen; and 4 are medium-sized projects, comprising 1 in Timor-Leste, 2 in Togo and 1 multi-country and multi trust fund project covering Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

²³ The three approved global programmes comprise one focused on innovation in climate adaptation and resilience-building solutions, currently covering Angola and Madagascar; the FARM+ programme, aimed at promoting sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices by reducing the use of harmful agrochemicals and enhancing soil and water health, in Benin, Costa Rica, Egypt, Gambia,

food security, climate information services, coastal zones, disaster risk management, early warning systems, nature-based solutions, transport, urban areas and water.

III. Ongoing activities and next steps

A. Direct country support

1. Supporting the least developed countries in implementing national adaptation plans

16. The LEG agreed to:

(a) Invite delivery partners of the AF, the GCF and the GEF to support the LDCs in developing project ideas from the climate change adaptation project profile catalogue (version published in January 2025)²⁴ into fully developed proposals for funding;

(b) Conduct in 2025, subject to the availability of resources, three regional workshops for the LDCs aimed at supporting them in developing additional project ideas for accessing funding;

(c) Support the LDCs in developing implementation plans, including financing strategies as part of their NAPs, aimed at leveraging diverse sources and modalities of adaptation funding both under and outside the Financial Mechanism, including innovative sources of finance;

(d) Organize a retreat to be held at NAP Expo 2025 for the LEG, with the participation of relevant finance experts, on financing strategies for implementing NAPs in the LDCs, including innovative financing approaches.

2. Enhancing the provision of direct support to the least developed countries for formulating and updating national adaptation plans

17. The LEG noted that, of the 17 LDCs that were in the process of formulating NAPs as at 24 March 2025,²⁵ 15 had approved GCF NAP readiness projects (see table 2).

Table 2

Least developed countries in the process of formulating national adaptation plans with Green Climate Fund national adaptation plan readiness support as at 24 March 2025

<i>Country</i>	<i>Approval date of GCF NAP readiness support</i>	<i>GCF accredited entity</i>
Eritrea	25 June 2024	UNEP
Gambia	14 September 2023	UNEP
Guinea ^a	2 March 2020	UNDP
Guinea-Bissau	28 April 2022	UNDP
Lao People's Democratic Republic	24 June 2022	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
	22 November 2022	GGGI
Lesotho	24 June 2020	UNEP
Malawi	20 March 2019	UNEP
Mauritania	9 July 2018	UNEP
Myanmar	15 February 2020	UNEP

Ghana, Mexico, Nepal and Nigeria; and another aimed at accelerating investment in nature-based solutions to enhance climate adaptation in the LDCs.

²⁴ Available at <https://napcentral.org/projectcatalogues>.

²⁵ As footnote 10 above.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Approval date of GCF NAP readiness support</i>	<i>GCF accredited entity</i>
Rwanda ^a	26 January 2020	GGGI
Senegal	29 February 2024	UNDP
Somalia	22 November 2019	UNDP
Tuvalu	18 January 2021	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
Uganda	22 June 2021	UNEP
United Republic of Tanzania	5 August 2021	UNDP

^a The country does not plan to formulate a NAP as part of the GCF NAP readiness project.

18. The LEG agreed on the following actions to be undertaken following LEG 47 aimed at enhancing its provision of support to the LDCs for formulating and submitting their first NAP before the end of 2025:²⁶

(a) Offering direct support, through the Open NAP initiative, the NAP data initiative, NAP country dialogues and the review of draft NAPs modality, to the LDCs that have yet to formulate their first NAP;

(b) Forming a working group comprising representatives of relevant organizations, experts from the roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs and other specialists to support the LDCs in formulating their first NAP;

(c) Encouraging GCF NAP readiness project delivery partners to support the LDCs, upon request, in adjusting the workplans associated with their GCF NAP readiness projects, as needed, to ensure submission of their first NAP before the end of 2025;

(d) Collaborating with the Chair of the LDC Group on raising awareness among the LDCs of the urgent need for NAPs to be submitted before the end of 2025 and on enhancing efforts by the LEG and relevant organizations, through all available modalities, to support the LDCs in formulating their first NAP.

3. Supporting the least developed countries in establishing an effective and iterative process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

19. The LEG agreed to support countries that are updating their NAPs in applying the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process, including through technical sessions at the NAP Expo and the NAP workshops planned for the different regions in 2025.

20. The LEG reviewed its technical paper on the mapping of relevant sources of finance for climate change adaptation for the LDCs²⁷ with the aim of producing a second volume that will compile sources other than those under the Financial Mechanism, including innovative sources in accordance with the first pillar of the NAP 3.0 initiative. The LEG agreed to develop, on the basis of the information compiled from the technical paper, an interactive tool for mapping available finance for adaptation. The LEG also agreed on the importance of disseminating information on available adaptation funding to the LDCs.

4. Roster of experts from the least developed countries

21. The LEG noted that, as at 24 March 2025, there were 45 experts on its roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs. The LEG agreed to continue raising awareness among the LDCs and relevant organizations of the roster and to promote its use in implementing NAP-related activities. It also agreed to engage the experts in relevant activities of the LEG,

²⁶ In decision [1/CMA.5](#), para. 59, CMA 5 called on Parties that have not yet done so to have in place their national adaptation plans, policies and planning processes by 2025.

²⁷ LEG. 2023. *Mapping of relevant sources of finance for climate change adaptation for the least developed countries*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Mapping%20of%20relevant%20sources%20of%20finance_Nov2023.pdf.

including supporting the formulation of NAPs and reviewing draft NAPs, and to encourage their participation in NAP Expos and in workshops organized by the LEG.

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

1. Update of the technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process

22. The LEG discussed its approach to finalizing the update of the technical guidelines for the NAP process and agreed to:

- (a) Continue holding regular online meetings to discuss matters pertaining to the update of the technical guidelines;
- (b) Organize a meeting of experts, to be held from 10 to 12 March 2025, for the purpose of reviewing the draft of the updated technical guidelines;
- (c) Launch the updated technical guidelines;
- (d) Provide capacity-building to the LDCs on effectively applying the updated technical guidelines at regional workshops held in 2025 and technical sessions held at NAP Expo 2025;
- (e) Raise awareness among Parties of the updated technical guidelines before SB 62, including through an event at the Climate Week to be held in May 2025 in Panama City.

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

23. The LEG took note that the following supplements to the technical guidelines for the NAP process are under development:

- (a) Coastal and ocean adaptation: supplementary material and process for implementation of coastal and ocean adaptation in NAPs, by Climate Service Center Germany;
- (b) Child-responsive policies for climate change adaptation and resilience, by the United Nations Children's Fund;
- (c) Transforming urban water systems for climate resilience and security: case studies on decentralized approaches to infrastructure, governance, finance and management, by the University of Pennsylvania.

3. National adaptation plan technical working group and its subgroups

24. The LEG took note of the continued support of the NAP technical working group for the work of the LEG. The LEG noted that the NAP technical guidelines subgroup met in person at COP 29 to discuss the update of the technical guidelines for the NAP process, focusing on developing a common taxonomy for NAPs and the global goal on adaptation and supplements to the technical guidelines.

25. The LEG also took note of the continued support of the NAP technical working group in organizing the NAP Expos and coordinating the provision of technical support to the LDCs.

26. The NAP technical working group reviewed the draft NAP of Somalia and provided technical inputs for consideration by the country.

C. Tracking and monitoring of progress in formulating and implementing national adaptation plans

27. The LEG agreed to form a task force to support the preparation of the 2025 report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, ensuring the participation of a

broad range of actors and stakeholders to reflect the evolving adaptation landscape. The task force will contribute, inter alia, to the content of the different elements of the report, including data and case studies.

D. Collaboration with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund on access to funding

1. Green Climate Fund

28. The LEG took note of the financial and technical assistance provided by the GCF for the preparation of project and programme funding proposals through the PPF using two support modalities: PPF funding and PPF service.²⁸ As at 24 March 2025, 38 of 98 PPF grants amounting to USD 29.69 million of a total of USD 62.67 million, to support the formulation of adaptation projects in the LDCs had been approved.

29. The LEG noted the main challenges faced by the LDCs related to initiating and/or completing the process of accrediting direct access entities and the challenges faced by direct access entities from the LDCs in accessing funding based on the previous data collected through an online survey of the LDCs (via direct access entities, GCF national designated authorities and NAP country teams) conducted between 15 May and 31 July 2024 and the NAP country dialogues.

30. COP 29 requested the LEG, in collaboration with the GCF secretariat, to continue to raise awareness among the LDCs of the accreditation process for direct access entities.²⁹ The LEG, after discussing this request, agreed to (1) encourage the LDCs to take advantage of the support provided by the GCF and its partners for the process of accrediting national direct access entities; (2) continue documenting the experience of direct access entities of the LDCs with the accreditation process and challenges faced by them therein; and (3) encourage regional and international accredited entities to mentor the direct access entities of the LDCs in order to build their capacity to conduct the accreditation process and access funding from the GCF.

31. The LEG also agreed to invite direct access entities to attend NAP Expos, NAP workshops and LEG side events at sessions of the governing and subsidiary bodies to enhance their engagement in supporting NAP implementation in their respective countries.

32. The LEG noted that, as at 24 March 2025, 13 of the 44 LDCs had a total of 20 direct access entities, of which 10 had not yet accessed funding from the GCF (see table 3). There are also non-LDC direct access entities that have projects approved in the LDCs (see table 4).

Table 3

Direct access entities in the least developed countries accredited by the Green Climate Fund as at 12 March 2025

<i>Country</i>	<i>Direct access entity</i>	<i>Project size accreditation</i>	<i>Number of approved projects</i>
Bangladesh	Infrastructure Development Company	Medium	1
	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation	Medium	3
Benin	National Fund for the Environment	Micro	1
Burkina Faso	Intervention Fund for the Environment	Micro	0
Cambodia	National Committee for Sub-National Democratic Development	Micro	0
Ethiopia	Ministry of Finance of Ethiopia	Medium	2
Mali	National Bank for Agricultural Development	Small	0
Nepal	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre	Small	1
	National Trust for Nature Conservation	Micro	0

²⁸ See <https://www.greenclimate.fund/projects/ppf>.

²⁹ Decision [15/CP.29](#), para. 4.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Direct access entity</i>	<i>Project size accreditation</i>	<i>Number of approved projects</i>
Rwanda	Nepal Investment Mega Bank	Medium	0
	Development Bank of Rwanda	Medium	0
Senegal	Ministry of Environment	Small	3
	Bank Agricole of Senegal	Small	1
	Ecological Monitoring Centre	Micro	2
Togo	Economic Community of West African States Bank for Investment and Development	Medium	0
	West African Development Bank	Medium	6
Uganda	Ministry of Water and Environment	Small	0
United Republic of Tanzania	CRDB Bank	Medium	1
Zambia	Development Bank of Zambia	Medium	0
	Zambia National Commercial Bank	Small	0

Source: GCF open data library, available at <https://data.greenclimate.fund/public>.

Note: Accredited entities may only submit funding proposals for projects up to the size for which they have been accredited; for example, entities accredited for “medium” can submit funding proposals for micro, small and medium-sized projects or programme activities but not for large projects or programme activities (micro = accredited for funding of up to USD 10 million; small = up to USD 50 million; medium = up to USD 250 million; and large = USD 250 million or more).

Table 4

Direct access entities not domiciled in the least developed countries with projects approved by the Green Climate Fund in the least developed countries as at 24 March 2025

<i>Direct access entity</i>	<i>Country(ies) of approved project(s)</i>
Development Bank of Southern Africa	Lesotho
Korea Development Bank	Cambodia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic
Sahara and Sahel Observatory	Angola, Guinea-Bissau

2. Global Environment Facility

33. The LEG noted that, as at 31 December 2024, 60.8 per cent of the expected USD 920 million national programming under the LDCF in the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (2022–2026) had been programmed on the basis of the USD 20 million initial cap per LDC. Of the 44 LDCs, 16 had accessed their full USD 20 million under the LDCF and 15 LDCs had not accessed any funding (see table 5).

34. The LEG agreed to continue raising awareness among the LDCs that have yet to access the available funding under the LDCF of that funding and to engage with the GEF and its agencies in simplifying and streamlining application and approval processes, thereby improving the LDCs’ access to those resources.

Table 5

Access by the least developed countries of their USD 20 million cap under the Least Developed Countries Fund during the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2022–2026) as at 31 December 2024

<i>Fully accessed</i>	<i>Partially accessed</i>	<i>Not accessed at all</i>
Angola	Benin	Afghanistan
Burkina Faso	Central African Republic	Bangladesh
Burundi	Chad	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Cambodia	Guinea	Eritrea

<i>Fully accessed</i>	<i>Partially accessed</i>	<i>Not accessed at all</i>
Comoros	Liberia	Guinea-Bissau
Djibouti	Malawi	Haiti
Ethiopia	Mali	Kiribati
Gambia	Mozambique	Madagascar
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Nepal	Myanmar
Lesotho	Niger	Senegal
Mauritania	Togo	Solomon Islands
Rwanda	United Republic of Tanzania	Sudan
Sierra Leone	Zambia	Timor-Leste
Somalia		Tuvalu
South Sudan		Uganda
Yemen		

3. Adaptation Fund

35. The LEG took note of the information shared by the AF on the ways in which support is provided to the LDCs for implementing their NAPs. The AF supports the LDCs through all its funding window but has especially introduced one for locally led adaptation, for community-driven adaptation projects, and one for innovation funding, for innovative approaches to adaptation to extend access to its resources for non-accredited entities. In addition, the AF has a new window combining innovation and learning, encouraging both the testing of new ideas and the sharing of lessons learned with the aim of enhancing the effectiveness of adaptation interventions.

36. The LEG noted that the AF has approved more than USD 290 million for 43 projects and programmes in the LDCs focused on adaptation benefits for communities particularly vulnerable to climate change. The AF is developing three training manuals as part of its overall effort to improve the capacity of the LDCs and other developing countries to access finance. The manuals will assist countries in navigating the AF project cycle and offer step-by-step guidance on accessing finance through the AF funding windows. The AF is also conducting a study for compiling lessons learned from adaptation interventions in the LDCs with the aim of enhancing their understanding of adaptation strategies and highlighting ways of addressing challenges to effective adaptation.

E. Global and regional outreach events on national adaptation plans

37. The LEG reviewed the preparations for NAP Expo 2025, which was to be held in Lusaka from 8 to 11 April 2025.³⁰ Under the theme “Innovations in the NAP process”, the Expo will focus on how to enhance the NAP process and its support ecosystem such that it supports developing countries in enhancing adaptation ambition and achieving the objectives set out in their NAPs, which will, in turn, lead to delivery of the global goal on adaptation; how to enhance the impact of financial and technical support for developing countries, guided by the pillars of the NAP 3.0 initiative, enabling them to formulate and submit NAPs by the end of 2025 if they have not yet done so; how to ensure that NAPs are effectively positioned to attract financial backing from diverse sources; and how to secure funding for all adaptation priorities.

³⁰ See <https://expo.napcentral.org/2025>. The Expo has been postponed to a date to be determined.

F. Addressing the 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

38. The LEG took note of the progress and next steps in addressing the following mandates from the COP, the CMA and the SBI:

(a) Updating the technical guidelines for the NAP process, reflecting the provisions of decision [2/CMA.5](#) on the global goal on adaptation as well as the best available science, including the AR6, as discussed in paragraph 22 above;

(b) Continuing to provide channels for Parties to provide information on progress on NAPs and summarizing the results in country profiles on NAP Central, the LEG reports and annual progress reports and publications on NAPs.³¹ The LEG will continue to make available the online questionnaire on NAP Central on the process to formulate and implement NAPs and collect information from Parties through NAP country dialogues;

(c) Enhancing the support provided to the LDCs for aligning NAPs and NDCs.³² A policy brief on this topic was published in 2024;³³

(d) Supporting the LDCs in integrating gender considerations into the formulation and implementation of NAPs.³⁴ The LEG is compiling case studies pertaining to the consideration of gender in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, as discussed in paragraph 40 below.

(e) Preparing synthesis reports every two years, starting in 2020, on specific adaptation themes, focusing on relevant lessons learned and good practices in developing country Parties,³⁵ in the context of recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties. The latest synthesis report was published in February 2025.³⁶

G. Consideration of gender

39. The LEG, after considering the mandate referred to in paragraph 2 above, agreed to continue strengthening the integration of a gender perspective into its work programme and activities. Of immediate relevance are the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process, which will include specific consideration of gender-responsiveness.

40. The LEG discussed the case studies pertaining to the consideration of gender in the formulation and implementation of NAPs submitted by relevant organizations³⁷ in response to a call by the LEG and agreed to publish them on NAP Central. The following good practices were identified in the case studies:

(a) Ensuring gender-balanced and meaningful participation at all stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;

³¹ See decisions [5/CP.17](#), paras. 32–36, [4/CP.21](#), para. 12(b), and [8/CP.24](#), para. 23.

³² See decision [10/CP.27](#), para. 12, and document [FCCC/SBI/2023/10](#), para. 85.

³³ LEG. 2024. *Aligning National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions and Adaptation Communications*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/resources/publications/policy-brief-aligning-national-adaptation-plans-nationally-determined-contributions-and-adaptation>.

³⁴ See decisions [10/CP.27](#), para. 13, and document [FCCC/SBI/2023/10](#), para. 74.

³⁵ See decision [11/CMA.1](#), para. 13.

³⁶ LEG. 2025. *Efforts of the least developed countries in accessing funding for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/resources/publications/efforts-of-the-least-developed-countries-in-accessing-funding-for-the-process-to-formulate-and>.

³⁷ A total of 16 case studies were received from the Alliance of Biodiversity International and CIAT, the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Urban Transition Initiative, Climate Solutions International, FAO (3 case studies), the GCF, the NAP Global Network (4 case studies), UNDRR, UNEP and the United Nations Children's Fund (3 case studies).

- (b) Moving beyond just mentioning gender in NAPs to transformative approaches to integrating consideration of gender into adaptation;
- (c) Applying intersectional and context-specific approaches in the process to formulate and implement NAPs to recognize vulnerabilities across gender, ethnicity and socioeconomic factors, while ensuring that adaptation measures are sensitive to local contexts, including conflict zones and Indigenous practices;
- (d) Using gender-disaggregated data and vulnerability assessments to conduct baseline studies, participatory mapping and climate vulnerability analysis to inform adaptation-related decisions, and ensuring that their use is reflected in the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process;
- (e) Providing equitable access to resources and climate finance, particularly for women in developing countries and the LDCs, by ensuring gender-balanced access to adaptation resources (land, seeds, water, finance, training) and prioritizing equitable allocation of adaptation investments;
- (f) Strengthening institutional capacity for gender-responsive adaptation;
- (g) Addressing structural barriers to gender-balanced economic empowerment;
- (h) Integrating traditional and local knowledge into adaptation policies;
- (i) Developing gender-sensitive communication and awareness-raising campaigns;
- (j) Ensuring strong gender accountability in NAP implementation, monitoring and evaluation by developing clear accountability frameworks, tracking progress against gender-responsive indicators, and institutionalizing gender audits and reporting mechanisms;
- (k) Considering the cultural context when addressing structural barriers to gender equality through targeted awareness-raising and education campaigns that promote understanding of gender issues and inequities.

H. Discussions with representatives of the least developed countries

41. The LEG and representatives of the LDCs discussed priorities and needs for support for the LDCs in 2025. The discussions focused on identifying ways to (1) support the LDCs in developing bankable project ideas and concept notes, (2) mitigate the challenges faced by the LDCs in accessing adaptation finance under the GCF and (3) assist the LDCs that have not yet initiated the formulation of their NAPs in doing so as soon as possible and assist those in the process of formulation to progress in order to ensure submission of NAPs before the end of 2025.

42. The LEG and the representatives of the LDCs agreed on the following areas of continued collaboration, with reference to paragraph 41 above:

- (a) In response to item 1, enhancing the provision of support to the LDCs for developing bankable project ideas and concept notes at the NAP workshops in 2025, which will enable further engagement of the LDCs with organizations in securing both financial and technical support;
- (b) In response to item 2, coordinating engagement with the GCF secretariat in fast-tracking access to funding and enhancing the capacity of direct access entities, both existing entities and entities in the process of accreditation, to access funding by encouraging their participation in outreach activities of the LEG, such as NAP Expos and NAP writing workshops;
- (c) In response to item 3, reviewing relevant national strategies or sectoral NAPs to explore the possibility of them being submitted as NAPs.

43. The Chair of the LDC Group presented potential elements of LDC initiatives and programmes that could support the LDCs in NAP implementation, highlighting the

components essential for helping the LDCs to achieve their 2025 priorities and the vision of the LDC Group.³⁸

I. Discussions with representatives of relevant entities and organizations

44. The LEG engaged the representatives of relevant entities and organizations participating in the meeting³⁹ in discussions on assisting the LDCs in accessing funding under the AF, the GCF, the LDCF and other sources for implementing priority actions identified in their NAPs; assisting the LDCs in producing their NAPs by the end of 2025; engaging in ongoing and new activities of the LEG, including the updating of the technical guidelines for the NAP process, the preparation of supplements to those technical guidelines, the organization of NAP Expo 2025 and the preparation of the annual report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs; and the progress in providing assistance to the LDCs for developing ideas into projects for implementing their NAPs.

45. The following information was provided regarding the provision of support for developing the project ideas referred to in paragraph 16 above into project proposals for submission for funding:

(a) CIAT offered to provide technical assistance for climate risk assessments and costing of adaptation priorities, with the specific LDCs to receive such support to be identified at NAP Expo 2025 on the basis of the interest expressed by the countries;

(b) FAO noted that it assisted 11 LDCs⁴⁰ in developing and submitting project proposals to the GCF and the GEF that are directly linked to or informed by the climate change adaptation project profile catalogue (version published in January 2025) in 2024;

(c) UNDP reported that it has identified 23 projects from the climate change adaptation project profile catalogue for which it could serve as an implementing partner and that it has developed an internal tracking system for monitoring progress in the development of the project ideas it is supporting;

(d) UNEP indicated its readiness to assist countries in implementing projects and developing project ideas that align with its expertise.

46. Further, the following updates were provided:

(a) FAO reported on its ongoing provision of support to the LDCs for climate change adaptation, noting that it is supporting 16 countries with medium to large-scale GEF and GCF projects related to NAP implementation in 2024–2025.⁴¹ FAO expressed its availability to support Governments in accelerating NAP formulation and finalization, and highlighted its experience and technical expertise in areas such as data collection, vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning for increasing resilience of agrifood systems;

(b) The GCF reported that the new operational modalities for its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, as outlined in the Readiness Strategy 2024–2027,⁴² have been approved by the GCF Board. The GCF secretariat held information sessions and discussions for national designated authorities and other entities focusing on enabling them to navigate its updated processes for accessing support. The GCF highlighted the launch of the GCF Expert Placement Scheme,⁴³ under which national experts are recruited to provide

³⁸ See https://www ldc-climate.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/LDC-2050-Vision-and-Compact_signed.pdf.

³⁹ AF, CIAT, FAO, GCF, GEF, German Agency for International Cooperation, GGGI, NAP Global Network, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and WMO.

⁴⁰ Cambodia, Chad, Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho, Malawi, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste and Togo.

⁴¹ Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Gambia, Guinea, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Nepal, Niger, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo and United Republic of Tanzania.

⁴² Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/readiness-strategy-2024-2027>.

⁴³ See <https://www.greenclimate.fund/readiness/gcf-placements>.

technical support to national designated authorities and other agencies and to assist with readiness planning, programming and project preparation. The GCF also reported on its major structural reforms, including the regionalization of its operations; it now has teams and directors dedicated to specific regions, which enhances country engagement and ensures a ‘cradle-to-grave’ approach to project oversight, from planning to impact assessment;

(c) The GEF provided information on the progress of the LDCs in accessing LDCF resources in the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (2022–2026). It strongly encouraged the LDCs to apply for funding under this modality as the funds will not be carried forward if they remain unused by the end of 2026. The GEF noted that, in line with its enhanced collaboration with other funds, it no longer directly supports NAP formulation; however, the LDCs that have not used all of their USD 20 million from the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund can include technical assistance for NAP development as a component of their proposal for accessing the LDCF. The GEF reported that, in 2024, its regional programming and strategy workshops had participants from 17 LDCs in Africa, 5 LDCs in Asia, 4 LDCs in the Pacific and Haiti and focused on helping countries to translate their adaptation priorities into project concepts;

(d) GGGI reported that it is working with the Government of the Solomon Islands to design a process for developing its NAP;

(e) The NAP Global Network noted that NAP-related support continues to be provided under the Network, especially ‘last mile’ support, that is for finalization of draft NAPs and submission. This support may include funding and organizing validation workshops and expert review of draft NAPs. Requests for technical review of draft NAPs are welcomed; in 2024 the draft NAPs of four LDCs were reviewed.⁴⁴ The NAP Global Network indicated that, at NAP Expo 2025, it will present new knowledge products, including a report on adaptation investment planning. It shared with the LEG a concept note for an adaptation investment matchmaking symposium envisaged to be held on the margins of NAP Expo 2025. The symposium would provide Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe with the opportunity to present their adaptation priorities requiring investment to funding entities active in Southern Africa. Its overarching objective would be to leverage the presence of funding entities at the Expo and to address challenges in financing adaptation, including managing uncertainties related to climate risks, difficulties in measuring return on investment, and limitations in funding availability;

(f) UNDP reported that the proposals submitted for Djibouti, Mozambique and Yemen for NAP formulation under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme are under review. It also reported that Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Somalia and the United Republic of Tanzania are making good progress towards submitting a NAP by the end of 2025. Senegal has developed sectoral adaptation plans and it is likely that a full NAP may be finalized by the end of 2025. Guinea has undertaken preparatory work, but the formulation of a NAP is not envisaged under its GCF readiness project. UNDP is exploring the possibility of supporting Guinea in formulating its NAP under the Climate Promise initiative and in the context of NAP–NDC alignment efforts. Furthermore, UNDP, which is in the process of being reaccredited by the AF, has identified 60 countries that have not used all of their AF allocation and, as such, is exploring opportunities for supporting those countries. In addition, it has been assisting countries in developing project ideas into full proposals under the Adaptation Pipeline Accelerator initiative⁴⁵ and it has extended the Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture programme⁴⁶ to December 2028, continuing to provide support to 12 countries, including 5 LDCs.⁴⁷ Several LDCs have also been supported through the Programme’s Private Sector Engagement Facility;⁴⁸

(g) UNDRR provided insights into how to meet the targets under the global goal on adaptation via implementation of NAPs. It highlighted the intrinsic link between disaster

⁴⁴ Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Lesotho and Mali.

⁴⁵ See <https://pia2022.ndcpartnership.org/title-tbd-accelerating-investment-in-adaptation>.

⁴⁶ See <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/scala>.

⁴⁷ Cambodia, Ethiopia, Nepal, Senegal and Uganda.

⁴⁸ Djibouti, Gambia, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Zambia.

risk reduction and adaptation within the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience. Coherence between disaster risk reduction strategies and NAPs is essential and, in this regard, UNDRR noted that 27 LDCs have disaster risk reduction strategies in place. UNDRR supports the LDCs in aligning the implementation of NAPs and disaster risk reduction strategies through its comprehensive risk management approach, as well as the collection and analysis of data on disaster loss, which can inform the development and monitoring of NAPs and disaster risk reduction strategies;

(h) UNEP reported the status of several LDCs to which it has provided NAP-related assistance. Four of those LDCs are on track to submit their NAP by the end of 2025.⁴⁹ Angola submitted its proposal for accessing funding for formulating its NAP under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme in December 2024 and Comoros resubmitted its proposal in January 2025. Eritrea is in the early stages of NAP development. NAP formulation under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme in the Gambia and Uganda is delayed;

(i) WMO provided an update on its NAP-related initiatives. In 2024 it launched the Climate Services Dashboard,⁵⁰ which facilitates the tracking and assessment of climate service capacities globally, and at COP 29 it launched the *2024 State of Climate Services* report,⁵¹ which provides a review of progress in the provision of climate information for decision-making during 2019–2024 across key sectors, including the expansion of the United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative from 52 countries in 2015 to 108 in 2024. Also in 2024 WMO held a consultative meeting in collaboration with the China Meteorological Administration on the role of climate science information in strengthening the capacity of national meteorological services, particularly in the LDCs and SIDS, to secure access to climate finance; and an online training course was organized for experts from the Haiti National Meteorological and Hydrological Service, held from 11 to 14 February 2025, on ways to improve quality management in climate services and to enhance the validity of weather, climate and hydrological data and information, which are used, among others, in adaptation planning and project proposals. On artificial intelligence, WMO noted its ongoing efforts to enhance the accuracy of early warnings and climate projections using artificial intelligence technologies, and the World Climate Research Programme considers artificial intelligence as part of its many modelling activities.

47. The Chair of the LDC Group, while acknowledging the technical assistance provided to the LDCs for formulating their NAPs to date, stressed that such assistance has not led to transformative progress given that 22 out of 44 LDCs have yet to submit a NAP. Furthermore, the Chair emphasized the need for concrete support that shifts in focus from process-based outputs (e.g. institutional strengthening, capacity building etc.) to NAP implementation. The Chair urged organizations to assist the LDCs that have not yet done so in formulating and submitting their NAPs before the end of 2025, to ensure their support leads to action on the ground and to maximize the LDCs' access to climate finance for ambitious projects.

48. The organizations represented at the meeting provided:

(a) Highlights of the concept notes for the sessions that they plan to organize for the NAP Expo 2025;

(b) An overview of their plans for participating in and strategies for contributing to NAP Expo 2025, also expressing the possibility they would explore ways to support participants from the LDCs in attending the Expo;

⁴⁹ Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi and Mauritania.

⁵⁰ Available at

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiaZTMvNTVhZmZmMy00YTl2LWJkYjktYjA4MjJmMDg5ZTg4IiwidCI6ImVhYTZiZTU0LTQ2ODctNDYjNC05ODI3LWMwNDRiZDhlOGQzYyIsImMiOjI9>

⁵¹ WMO. 2024. *2024 State of Climate Services: Five-Year Progress Report (2019–2024)*. Geneva:

WMO. Available at https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69061/download?file=WMO-1363-2024_en.pdf&type=pdf&navigator=1.

(c) Inputs on the scope, potential data sources and structure for the annual report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, also expressing their interest in being part of the task force supporting the preparation of the report for 2025.

IV. Work programme for 2025–2026

49. The LEG developed its work programme for 2025–2026 (see annex II). The work programme contains the following priority activities for 2025:

(a) Enhancing support, including by catalysing support from relevant organizations, for the LDCs for implementing NAPs as well as, for the LDCs that have not yet done so, for formulating their first NAP before the end of 2025;

(b) Finalizing the update to the technical guidelines for the NAP process to take into account the provisions of decision [2/CMA.5](#) on the global goal on adaptation as well as the best available science, including the AR6, and launching those guidelines;

(c) Updating and expanding the mapping of available finance for adaptation for the LDCs to include sources other than those under the Financial Mechanism;

(d) Organizing NAP Expo 2025;

(e) Conducting workshops to build the capacity of the LDCs to effectively apply the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process and to facilitate the development of project ideas and proposals for accessing funding from the AF, the GCF, the LDCF and other sources for NAP implementation;

(f) Tracking progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs by preparing the annual report thereon.

Annex I

Members of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group as at 24 March 2025

<i>Member</i>	<i>Party</i>
Dominique Auger	Canada
Adao Soares Barbosa	Timor-Leste
Kenel Delusca	Haiti
Mokoena France	Lesotho
Payai Manyok John	South Sudan
Orla Kilcullen	Ireland
Gabriel Kpaka	Sierra Leone
Richard Mfumu Lungu	Zambia
Fredrick Manyika	United Republic of Tanzania
Hana Hamadalla Mohamed	Sudan
Jamie Ovia	Tuvalu
Buddi Sagar Poudel	Nepal
Idrissa Semde	Burkina Faso
Maaïke Willemsen	Kingdom of the Netherlands
Méry Yaou	Togo
Benon Yassin	Malawi

Annex II

Least Developed Countries Expert Group work programme for 2025–2026

<i>Work area</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Expected outputs and outcomes</i>
Enhancing the provision of direct support to the LDCs for formulating and updating NAPs	Continue to offer direct support to the LDCs that are yet to formulate their first NAP to enable submission thereof before the end of 2025, as called for in paragraph 59 of decision 1/CMA.5	All first NAPs submitted on NAP Central by the end of 2025
	Form a working group comprising representatives of relevant organizations, experts from the roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs and other specialists to support the LDCs in gathering information and data essential for formulating their first NAP by 2025	The LDCs supported in gathering data and information for formulating their first NAP
	Support the LDCs that are updating their NAPs in applying the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process	The LDCs supported in updating their NAPs
	Review draft NAPs from the LDCs to make the information presented therein more comprehensive and ensure its alignment with the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process	Draft NAPs reviewed for alignment with the updated NAP technical guidelines
	Support the LDCs in addressing data gaps in the context of NAP formulation through the NAP data initiative and identifying relevant data products on NAP Central	The LDCs supported in addressing data gaps by providing links to data, information, tools and models on NAP Central
Supporting the LDCs in implementing the priority adaptation actions included in NAPs	Update and expand the mapping of available finance for adaptation to include sources other than those under the Financial Mechanism, including innovative sources in accordance with the first pillar of the NAP 3.0 initiative, and disseminate the findings of the mapping widely, including in technical support and training activities	Updated mapping of available finance published Interactive tool for mapping available finance for adaptation made available on NAP Central The LDCs supported in understanding available sources of funding
	Organize a retreat for the LEG, with the participation of relevant finance experts, on financing strategies for implementing NAPs in the LDCs, including innovative financing approaches	Retreat held at NAP Expo 2025
	Support the LDCs in developing implementation plans, including financing strategies as part of their NAP, aimed at leveraging diverse sources and modalities of adaptation funding both under and outside the Financial Mechanism, including innovative sources of finance	The LDCs have implementation plans, including financing strategies, as part of their NAP
	Build the capacity of the LDCs to develop concept notes and proposals for accessing funding from the AF, the GCF, the GEF (LDCF) and other sources, including by conducting regional NAP workshops, taking into account the challenges faced by the Pacific SIDS in participating in regional workshops, and providing direct support to the LDCs for developing concept notes and	Projects for implementing the priority adaptation actions included in LDC NAPs approved for funding The LDCs supported in developing concept notes

<i>Work area</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Expected outputs and outcomes</i>
	proposals	and proposals at regional NAP workshops
	Use the climate change adaptation project profile catalogue available on NAP Central to disseminate the project ideas of the LDCs and facilitate access by the LDCs to support for developing the ideas into full project proposals for submission to funding entities	NAP project catalogue updated regularly on NAP Central and delivery partners of the AF, the GCF and the GEF invited to support the LDCs in developing project ideas from the catalogue into fully developed proposals for funding
Finalizing the update to the technical guidelines for the NAP process and supporting the LDCs in applying them; and supporting organizations in preparing supplementary materials for those guidelines	Update the technical guidelines for the NAP process, reflecting the provisions of decision 2/CMA.5 on the global goal on adaptation as well as the best available science, including the AR6, while ensuring coherence with the draft technical guidelines for implementing NAPs and taking into account the experience of the LDCs with the original technical guidelines for the NAP process and supplementary materials	Expert meeting to review the draft updated guidelines held in March 2025 Guidelines finalized before the end of April 2025 Organizations supported in preparing supplementary materials for the updated guidelines
	Raise awareness among Parties of the updated technical guidelines before SB 62, including through an event at the Climate Week to be held in May 2025 in Panama City	Parties made aware of the updated NAP technical guidelines and the importance of applying them in formulating or updating their NAPs
	Provide capacity-building to the LDCs on effectively applying the updated technical guidelines for the NAP process, including at regional NAP workshops and technical sessions held at NAP Expos	Capacity-building on applying the NAP technical guidelines provided at the three regional NAP workshops to be held in 2025 and at technical sessions held at NAP Expo 2025
	Continue to engage stakeholders, such as organizations, regional centres and networks, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, the private sector and youth, in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including in addressing areas emerging from the targets under the global goal on adaptation	Improvement in the quality of NAPs formulated and updated by the LDCs
Supporting the LDCs in establishing an effective and iterative process to formulate and implement NAPs	Engage organizations in supporting the LDCs in establishing and maintaining effective and iterative national processes that support the ongoing formulation, implementation, review and update of NAPs	An effective and iterative process to formulate and implement NAPs in place in all LDCs
	Facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in formulating and implementing NAPs, including in case studies and outreach materials made available on NAP Central and at events such as the NAP Expo	Best practices and lessons learned shared, outreach materials produced
Continuing to track and monitor progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs as well as identifying and documenting the experience of and challenges faced by the LDCs in the process	Form a task force to support the preparation of the 2025 report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, ensuring the participation of a broad range of actors and stakeholders to reflect the evolving adaptation landscape	Task force established
	Support the assessment of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs by the COP and the CMA by producing annual reports thereon	Report on progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs published annually
	Expand the scope of the PEG M&E tool to include metrics for assessing	Technical note on the expanded PEG M&E tool

<i>Work area</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Expected outputs and outcomes</i>
	progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs	produced and used in efforts to assess progress in the NAP process
Continuing to collaborate with the GCF, the GEF (LDCF) and the AF on providing support to the LDCs in accessing funding for formulating and implementing NAPs	Continue to document the experience of and challenges faced by the LDCs and direct access entities in accessing funding from the GCF for adaptation, and include in LEG meeting reports information on the ongoing efforts of the LEG to address capacity gaps and capacity-building needs related to accessing funding for formulating and implementing NAPs	Relevant information included in LEG meeting reports
	Invite GCF direct access entities from the LDCs to NAP Expos, NAP workshops and LEG side events to enhance their engagement in supporting NAP implementation in their respective countries	Enhanced support from direct access entities for implementing NAPs
	Continue to collaborate with the GCF, the GEF (LDCF) and the AF on promoting the integration of NAP priorities into relevant country programming instruments and on expanding the pipeline of projects from the LDCs related to implementing NAPs	Information on actions to support the LDCs in accessing funding and progress in this regard included in LEG meeting reports
	Continue to collaborate with the GCF secretariat on raising awareness among the LDCs of the accreditation process for direct access entities and on supporting the LDCs in developing a plan for completing this process	Awareness-raising activities implemented in collaboration with the GCF secretariat
Conducting global and regional outreach events on NAPs	Organize a global NAP Expo annually and collaborate with organizations on organizing regional NAP Expos, peer learning events and other outreach activities, as necessary	Global NAP Expos held in 2025 and 2026
	Continue to develop NAP Central as a repository for NAPs and NAP-related information and knowledge, including information on the process to formulate and implement NAPs (such as progress in the process, experience of countries with the process, and best practices and lessons learned arising from the process), adaptation solutions and technical guidelines	New and updated information uploaded to NAP Central
	Continue to hold a side event at each session of the SBI to communicate the work of the LEG and facilitate interaction with Parties, in particular the LDCs	Parties and other stakeholders kept up to date on the work of the LEG in supporting the LDCs
Continuing to support the LDCs in effectively and efficiently implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement, as well as other relevant instruments under the United Nations	Continue to develop and maintain the roster of national and regional experts from the LDCs who can support the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and promote use of the roster of experts by organizations supporting the LDCs in the formulation and implementation of NAPs as a way of promoting the use of LDC expertise	Roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs developed and maintained Roster of experts on NAPs from the LDCs used by organizations when providing technical assistance
	Hold regular dialogues with the LDCs at LEG meetings and events to update them on available support and discuss how to effectively align activities they may be developing with those under the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2022–2031	Support that aligns with the Doha Programme of Action provided to the LDCs LDCs well informed about available support

<i>Work area</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Expected outputs and outcomes</i>
Responding to mandates from the COP, the CMA and the SBI related to supporting the LDCs in implementing the Convention and the Paris Agreement	Continue to develop and update training materials for the LDCs on using the PA-ALIGN tool to support implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, in collaboration with other constituted bodies and relevant organizations, and conduct outreach and training on the tool	PA-ALIGN tool updated Outreach and training activities on using the PA-ALIGN tool conducted
	Continue to provide channels for Parties to provide information on support provided for formulating and implementing NAPs, and summarize the information as part of the NAP tracking tool on NAP Central	Relevant information on NAPs shared as part of the NAP tracking tool on NAP Central
	Continue to update information on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, in collaboration with the AC, and consider how the LEG can address the gaps and needs identified as part of its mandates	Updated compilation of gaps and needs Progress in addressing the gaps and needs included in LEG meeting reports Direct support provided to the LDCs for addressing gaps and needs
	Continue to guide the secretariat in preparing a synthesis report on specific adaptation themes, focusing on lessons learned and good practices, in the context of recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing countries	Synthesis report published in December 2026
	Continue to contribute to the development of methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support, including through a joint working group with the AC and the SCF	Progress in the work included in LEG reports
	Assist the LDCs in addressing the adaptation-related provisions of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including the submission and updating of adaptation communications in accordance with decision 9/CMA.1 and the submission of national adaptation plans, policies and planning processes by 2025 and the achievement of progress in implementing them by 2030, as called for in paragraph 59 of decision 1/CMA.5	Technical assistance provided to the LDCs
	Assist the LDCs in aligning NAPs with other relevant instruments under the Convention and the Paris Agreement (including NDCs, adaptation communications, national communications and biennial transparency reports), targets under the global goal on adaptation and efforts to address loss and damage	Technical assistance provided to the LDCs
	Support the LDCs in implementing the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience by providing technical guidance and developing training materials and contribute to implementing the United Arab Emirates–Belém work programme on indicators for measuring progress achieved towards the targets referred to in paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA.5	Coverage of the Framework and work programme in NAP-related training materials and events The LDCs advised on how to best meet the requirements of the iterative adaptation cycle and thematic targets of the global goal on adaptation
	Continue to report on progress towards integrating a gender perspective into the	Relevant information included in LEG meeting

<i>Work area</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Expected outputs and outcomes</i>
	work of the LEG and ensure consideration of the UNFCCC gender action plan in developing the activities of the LEG	reports
Continuing to collaborate with other constituted bodies and organizations outside the Convention in fulfilling joint mandates and undertaking activities of common interest	Collaborate with other constituted bodies and under UNFCCC programmes on activities related to NAPs, the LDC work programme, gender, and responding to mandates from the COP, the CMA and the SBI, including by inviting representatives of those bodies and programmes to participate and engage in the meetings and relevant events of the LEG	Coherence and coordination achieved in the provision of support to the LDCs on NAPs