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Activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, by region, between 2019 and 2023

Report by the secretariat

Summary

Between 2019 and 2023, the secretariat curated and disseminated knowledge with the aim of advancing both transformational and long-term incremental adaptation under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, including at the regional level, through engagement with Parties, partners (over 450), thematic expert groups, UNFCCC constituted bodies and communities of practice. This report contains information on the evidence-based outcomes of the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative, the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme, activities in priority thematic areas and engagement with constituted bodies. Five key outcomes are highlighted: establishment of long-term strategic partnerships for regional adaptation action; increased understanding of shared ecosystems and identification of ways to protect them when taking climate action; development and implementation of approaches and tools for risk assessment, adaptation planning, and monitoring and evaluation; provision of technical support to the least developed countries and small island developing States for formulating and implementing national adaptation plans; and fostering of regional collaboration with programme partners to support constituted bodies in implementing their workplans. Lessons learned, remaining challenges and the way forward in relation the Nairobi work programme are also presented.

Abbreviations and acronyms

COP	Conference of the Parties
GCF	Green Climate Fund
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
LAKI	Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative
LDC	least developed country
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NAP	national adaptation plan
NGO	non-governmental organization
NWP	Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
RCC	regional collaboration centre
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SIDS	small island developing State(s)
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

I. Key messages

1. While the reporting period covers the past five years, from 2019 to 2023, the focus of work under the NWP has been on region-specific activities since 2014, when the first LAKI priority-setting workshop on understanding subregional priority knowledge gaps was held (for the Andean subregion). Mandated activities under the NWP have increasingly been regionally focused and include the scaling up of LAKI in all regions to achieve the objective of the Convention and the goals of the Paris Agreement. The secretariat has documented and shared the impacts of these activities, including through annual reports on progress in implementing activities under the NWP.

2. Between 2019 and 2023, the secretariat engaged with Parties, over 450 NWP partners, thematic expert groups, UNFCCC constituted bodies and communities of practice to enhance action at the regional and transboundary level, through the provision of information and application of knowledge, to achieve transformational adaptation and resilience. The outcomes of and lessons learned under the NWP show that regional partnerships have strengthened, and ways to increase resilience and implement practical, effective and priority adaptation actions in regions are better understood. Specifically, the following five key outcomes of regional activities were delivered under the NWP during the reporting period.

3. **Long-term strategic partnerships for regional action have been established** under the NWP with global, regional and subregional organizations and networks and with RCCs. These strategic partnerships have extended the technical capacity of the secretariat by engaging partners and experts representing different regions, various areas of knowledge and diverse organizations, including Indigenous Peoples organizations. The partnerships have led to a collective understanding and consideration of the need for the scaling up of adaptation action, knowledge-sharing, the co-design of regional actions, and the development of synergies with existing initiatives and processes, particularly outside the UNFCCC process, while avoiding overlaps and ensuring the robustness of work performed. More partnerships could be catalysed and existing partnerships strengthened to improve transboundary cooperation on scaling up adaptation action.

4. **Knowledge of shared ecosystems and ways to protect them when taking action to address climate change has been increased.** The preamble to the Paris Agreement notes the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and the importance for some of the concept of "climate justice" when taking action to address climate change. Work under the NWP in priority thematic areas and the implementation of LAKI in various subregions within shared ecosystems between 2019 and 2023 has supported the delivery of the objective of the Paris Agreement. This work has led to the establishment of groups of experts for regions that share similar ecological and climatic characteristics or a common ecosystem. The focus on ecosystems within these groups has led to the sharing of evidence-based knowledge and the curation of "new" knowledge that is context-specific and tailored to the unique needs of knowledge users and the challenges of different regions and ecosystems. This includes knowledge of ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions.

5. **Approaches and tools have been developed and implemented for risk assessment, adaptation planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.** The secretariat has developed or refined various innovative approaches and tools, such as in the context of LAKI, the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme and priority thematic areas. These approaches offer stepwise, systematic and iterative ways to foster collaboration among partners and to develop, scale up and monitor tailored regional action. These approaches and tools have been replicated in many regions and ecosystems and refined over time taking into consideration lessons learned and challenges. The approaches and tools ensure that work under the NWP remains fit for purpose and aligned with the evolving adaptation and resilience landscape both under and outside the UNFCCC process.

6. **Technical support has been provided to the LDCs and SIDS for formulating and implementing NAPs.** NWP partners and thematic expert groups have collaborated with the

LEG to provide context-specific knowledge and know-how (e.g. on accessing finance) to countries for formulating and implementing NAPs.

7. **Technical expertise has been provided to support region-specific engagement in implementing the workplans of constituted bodies.** The global network of partners under the NWP provides technical expertise to support constituted bodies in implementing their workplans. Under the NWP, relevant partners and thematic expert groups use the technical expertise gained from their experience and practice at the subnational, national and regional level to provide constituted bodies with in-depth technical support in regard to regional, transboundary and shared ecosystems.

II. Introduction

A. Mandate

8. SBSTA 58 requested the secretariat to prepare a concise report on activities, by region, undertaken under the NWP in the last five years for consideration at SBSTA 60, with the aim of closing knowledge gaps that may affect future activities, increasing cooperation and creating synergies at the interregional level and facilitating the scaling up of adaptation action.[1]

B. Scope

9. In addition to the key messages presented in chapter I above, this report contains:

(a) Background information on the NWP and mandates for regional work (see chap. II.C below);

(b) An overview of regional activities under the NWP between 2019 and 2023, organized under LAKI, the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme, priority thematic areas and constituted bodies (see chap. III below);

(c) Information on monitoring, evaluation and learning (see chap. IV below);

(d) A summary of lessons learned and remaining challenges under the NWP (see chap. V below);

(e) Way forward under the NWP (see chap. VI below).

C. Background

10. The NWP, as the UNFCCC knowledge-to-action hub for adaptation and resilience, seeks to advance both transformational and long-term incremental adaptation towards reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience.[2] During the reporting period, the secretariat curated and disseminated knowledge under the NWP towards achieving transformational adaptation and resilience, including at the regional level, through engagement with Parties, NWP partners, thematic expert groups, constituted bodies and communities of practice.

11. The NWP was established at COP 11 as the first stakeholder engagement mechanism under the Convention to assist Parties in:[3]

(a) Improving their understanding and assessment of climate impacts, vulnerability and adaptation;

[1] FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, para. 24(g).
[2] For more information on the NWP, see http://unfccc.int/nwp.
[3] FCCC/SBSTA/2022/4, para. 12.

(b) Making informed decisions related to implementing measures in response to climate change on the basis of sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic information and with due consideration of observed and anticipated climate change and variability.

12. The COP and the SBSTA have both mandated work under the NWP at the regional level. COP 11 indicated that an expected outcome of the NWP is enhanced capacity at the international, regional, national, sectoral and local level to further identify and understand impacts, vulnerability and adaptation responses and to select and implement practical, effective and high-priority adaptation actions.[4] COP 19 recognized that the effectiveness of the modalities of the NWP should be enhanced.[5] It requested that approaches to engaging and collaborating with NWP partner organizations, adaptation practitioners and experts, including regional centres and networks, be improved to better inform adaptation planning and action at the regional, national and subnational level; and that the relevance and dissemination of knowledge products under the NWP be improved to inform adaptation planning and action at the regional, national and subnational level.[6]

13. The following regional work under the NWP was mandated by the SBSTA:

(a) Enhancing country- and region-specific action by strengthening the implementation of the modalities of the NWP;[7]

(b) Scaling up LAKI in all regions, striving for regional balance, with a view to identifying and closing knowledge gaps in partnership with subregional partners and networks;[8]

(c) Organizing regional events or regional focal point forums in conjunction with relevant regional events to disseminate relevant information to regional and global networks and strengthen the exchange of information among communities of practice, ensuring regional balance, including on the margins of events held by the secretariat, Parties or NWP partner organizations, such as NAP Expos, regional technical expert meetings on adaptation and the Global Adaptation Network Forums, with a view to engaging relevant knowledge users and NWP partners from all regions, taking into account various challenges, including Internet connectivity, language barriers and different time zones;[9]

(d) Engaging relevant NWP partner organizations, including regional centres and networks, in strengthening communities of practice and networks at different levels, as well as in sharing good practices and tools at key meetings and events;[10]

(e) Strengthening the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme and continuing to build partnerships, striving for regional balance, for addressing adaptation knowledge gaps, particularly in developing countries;[11]

(f) Aligning work under the NWP with global, regional and subregional initiatives, drawing on expertise from the network of NWP partner organizations and actively engaging with regional organizations to make knowledge products accessible to knowledge users in all countries;[12]

(g) Preparing a synthesis of knowledge products on activities supporting the work of constituted bodies on knowledge gaps related to, inter alia, capacity-building, finance and technology, as well as activities with a regional focus and related themes.[13]

[4] Decision 2/CP.11, annex, para. 2(a).
[5] Decision 7/CP.19, para. 3.
[6] Decision 17/CP.19, para. 3.
[7] FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, para. 16(a).
[8] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, para. 19, FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, para. 7(a) and FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, para. 24(a).
[9] FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4, para. 18(b), FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, para. 12(d), and FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, para. 7(c).
[10] FCCC/SBSTA/2014/5, para. 18(b).
[11] FCCC/SBSTA/2023/4, para. 24(b).
[12] FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, para. 12(c).
[13] FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, para. 27(a).

14. The following efforts under the NWP enhance country- and region-specific adaptation action, including transboundary adaptation action:

(a) Prioritizing and closing knowledge gaps in subregions, in collaboration with universities and global and regional centres and networks in the context of LAKI;

(b) Curating relevant knowledge in priority thematic areas through long-term collaboration among NWP thematic expert groups, constituted bodies and relevant communities of practice using the knowledge-to-action methodology;

(c) Curating and sharing knowledge relevant to adaptation-related mandates arising from the Paris Agreement, and informing adaptation policies and actions through long-term strategic engagement with constituted bodies, including supporting them in addressing knowledge gaps through the provision of capacity-building, finance and technology;

(d) Supporting developing countries in formulating and implementing NAPs through long-term strategic engagement with the LEG;

(e) Strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of work under the NWP with the aim of enhancing the dissemination of knowledge products to and uptake of these products by knowledge users at the local, subnational and national level.

III. Regional activities undertaken between 2019 and 2023

A. Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative and the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme

15. LAKI is a joint initiative between the secretariat and UNEP through its Global Adaptation Network, an action pledge under the NWP, that aims to enhance adaptation action in subregions by closing priority knowledge gaps in all countries, but particularly in developing countries, including the LDCs, SIDS and African States.[14]

16. The UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme[15] under the NWP was launched at the UNFCCC Climate Dialogues 2020.[16] The Programme is designed to strengthen collaboration between the United Nations and academic and research institutions, especially in the global South. Strengthening the Programme and continuing to build partnerships, while striving for a regional balance in activities under the Programme, will help to address adaptation knowledge gaps, particularly in developing countries.

17. Priority-setting workshops organized under LAKI have been convened in seven subregions since its inception: Andes, Hindu Kush Himalayas, Indian Ocean island countries, North Africa, Pacific SIDS, Southern Africa and West Asia countries. Together, these regions cover 52 countries, including 17 SIDS, 13 African countries and 11 LDCs. As a result of the workshops, 150 priority knowledge gaps for targeted users have been identified.

18. The priority-setting workshops were organized on the basis of a subregion having a common ecosystem with shared ecological and climatic characteristics so as to allow stakeholders to pinpoint synergies and design more efficient, cost-effective adaptation actions.

19. Activities conducted under LAKI, including priority-setting workshops and ensuring action to close priority knowledge gaps, have resulted in long-term strategic partnerships with regional networks and institutions, RCCs, universities, NWP partners and experts for implementing action in various ecosystems; increased knowledge of ways to protect shared ecosystems when taking action to address climate change; and the development and

[14] For more information, see document FCCC/SBSTA/2022/4 (chap. V) and https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/laki.aspx.

[15] For more information, see document FCCC/SBSTA/2022/4 (paras. 27–30) and https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/university-partnerships.aspx.

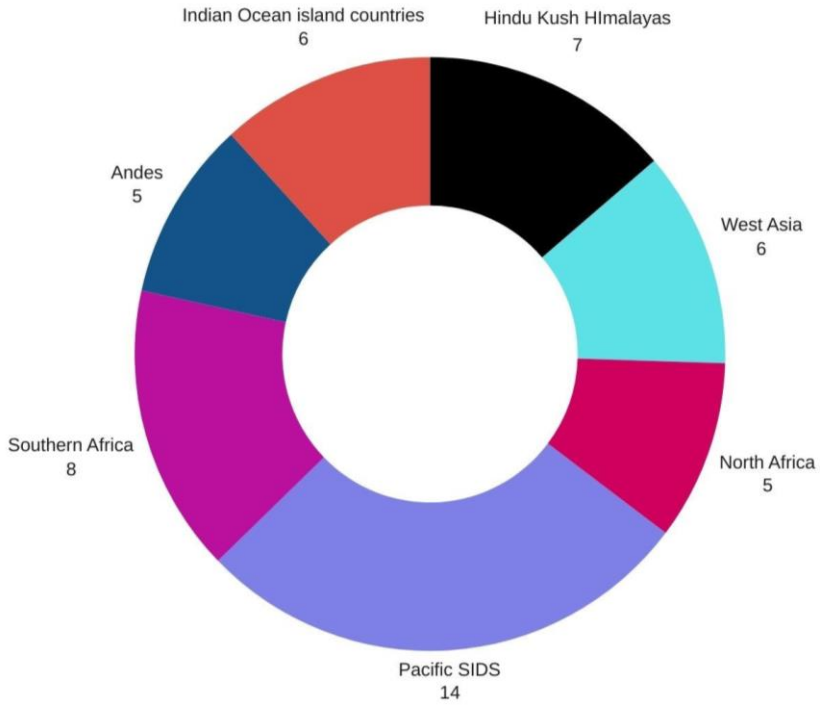
[16] A recording of the launch event is available at https://unfccc.int/event/scaling-up-adaptation-actions-through-partnerships-addressing-knowledge-gaps.

implementation of approaches and tools for risk assessment, adaptation planning, and monitoring and evaluation. Figure 1 shows the coverage of countries included in each subregion under LAKI and the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme.

20. From 2019 to 2023, activities focused on addressing adaptation knowledge gaps were undertaken through collaboration between universities and NWP partners that are part of the Programme or between universities and global and regional centres and networks. The collaborative activities resulted in 16 outputs spanning six regions and 1 output for all regions (see the table below). While some of the outputs are specifically targeted towards one country or a set of countries in a given subregion, they may also be applicable to other countries in the same subregion or suitable for scaling up in the subregion.

21. The remainder of this subchapter presents activities carried out in each subregion during the reporting period.

Figure 1
Number of countries in each subregion under the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative and the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme



Outputs in countries and subregions of activities under the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme

Region(s)/subregion(s)/country or countries	*Partner(s)*	*Activity and time frame*
Andes (Paraná Delta, Argentina)	National University of Rosario	Understanding and closing knowledge gaps and needs concerning food security, sustainable land-use planning and implementation, and local tourism, including ecosystem-based adaptation solutions in the context of Argentina's NAP (2021–2022)
Andes (Peru)	Yale University in partnership with IUCN and The Mountain Institute	Measuring ecosystem-based adaptation: six good practices developed for monitoring, evaluation and learning (2019–2020)
Andes (Peru)	Cornell University in Partnership	Implementing land-use planning and risk management strategies (2022)

Region(s)/subregion(s)/country or countries	*Partner(s)*	*Activity and time frame*
Andes (Peru), Hindu Kush Himalayas (Nepal)	Yale University in partnership with IUCN and The Mountain Institute	Advancing knowledge on traditional water resource management and climate change adaptation planning (2020–2021)
Hindu Kush Himalayas	Jawaharlal Nehru University in partnership with RCC Asia and the Pacific and the Global Water Partnership	Addressing the impacts of climate extremes on water quantity and quality in mountainous urban areas (2021–2022)
Hindu Kush Himalayas	University of Michigan in partnership with ICIMOD	Developing a methodological framework for linking climate change to biodiversity and ecosystem services (2021–2022)
Hindu Kush Himalayas	Harvard University (Harvard Kennedy School) in partnership with ICIMOD	Developing solutions to overcome barriers and create an enabling environment where multi-hazard early warning systems can be effectively developed, implemented and scaled up (2019–2020)
Hindu Kush Himalayas (Nepal)	Tribhuvan University in partnership with the Global Water Partnership South Asia and RCC Asia and the Pacific	Analysing the impacts of climate change on water resource availability and use and water quality in mountainous environments, focusing on urban areas, with the goal of disseminating this knowledge to urban, watershed, settlement and energy planners for informed decision-making (2022)
Indian Ocean island countries (Seychelles)	University of Michigan in collaboration with the Government of Seychelles (Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment; National Bureau of Statistics; Department of Risk and Disaster Management)	Evaluating the impacts of sea level rise and storm surges on critical infrastructure (2018–2020)
North Africa (Egypt)	British University of Egypt in partnership with Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, and the Soil, Water and Environment Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of Egypt	Analysing the interconnection between desertification and socioeconomic factors in Egypt’s delta region (2022–2023)
Pacific SIDS	University of Michigan in partnership with the Australia Pacific Climate Partnership and the UNEP Asia Pacific Adaptation Network	Addressing limitations in accessing climate knowledge, including early warning information, for scaling up climate action (2022–2023)
Pacific SIDS	University of Galway (J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics)	Conducting an economic analysis to evaluate the limitations of ecosystem-based adaptation strategies for coastal flood risk management (2022)
Southern Africa (Namibia)	University of Michigan in partnership with the Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and the University of Namibia through the Namibia Water Partnership	Conducting a study to assess the potential for innovation in climate-smart agriculture and capability to implement such solutions in order to strengthen adaptation solutions for agricultural development (2020–2021)
Southern Africa (Botswana)	The Challenge-driven, Accessible, Research-based, Mobile European University in partnership with IWMI Southern Africa	Analysing the sensitivity of agroecological zones in Botswana to historical and future climate change (2022–2023)

Region(s)/subregion(s)/country or countries	*Partner(s)*	*Activity and time frame*
Southern Africa (Zambia), Andes (Peru), Pacific SIDS (Tonga)	Cornell University in partnership with Climate Smart Agriculture NGO	Initiating three projects focused on climate resilience: climate-smart agriculture in Zambia, climate-sensitive land-use planning in Peru and coastal and marine adaptation in Tonga (2022)
All regions	Wageningen University	Conducting a comprehensive review and comparative assessment of relevant monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks for adaptation and resilience (2021–2022)

1. Andes

22. The activities for this subregion cover five countries: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

23. The priority-setting workshop led to an understanding of 13 priority knowledge gaps through use of a rigorous methodology applied by experts.[17]

24. Other activities focused on building strategic partnerships with universities and other entities in the subregion, which helped to improve the understanding of and identify ways to increase the resilience of the mountainous ecosystem of the Andes. For example, the National University of Rosario researched topics related to food security, sustainable land-use planning and implementation, and local tourism, including ecosystem-based adaptation solutions. Yale University developed good practices for monitoring, evaluation and learning for ecosystem-based adaptation. Cornell University studied ways to implement land-use planning and risk management strategies in Andean Peru and climate-sensitive land-use planning in Peru (see the table above).

2. Hindu Kush Himalayas

25. The activities for this subregion cover seven countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar and Nepal, four of which are LDCs.

26. The priority-setting workshop led to an understanding of 16 priority knowledge gaps.[18] In contrast to other subregions, several priority knowledge gaps in the Hindu Kush Himalayan subregion are geographically specific and related to Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and local knowledge systems.

27. The second phase of LAKI in the subregion was initiated in 2022. The activities have focused on increasing understanding of and identifying ways to address the 16 priority knowledge gaps and increasing resilience in the subregion. For example, Jawaharlal Nehru University, in partnership with RCC Asia and the Pacific and the Global Water Partnership, studied the impacts of climate extremes on water quantity and quality in mountainous urban areas. The University of Michigan, also in partnership with ICIMOD, developed a methodological framework for linking climate change to biodiversity and ecosystem services (see the table above for additional examples and further details).

28. Two virtual meetings have been convened together with relevant partners and institutions in the subregion to discuss progress in closing the priority knowledge gaps and to co-design collaborative actions that address priority knowledge gaps in the subregion.[19]

3. Indian Ocean island countries

29. The activities for this subregion cover six countries: Comoros, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Seychelles and Sri Lanka.

30. The priority-setting workshop, held in partnership with IWMI, resulted in the identification of six priority knowledge gaps for large Indian Ocean island countries

[17] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-South-America.aspx.
[18] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI_HKH.aspx.
[19] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Overview-of-LAKI-Phase-II-for-Hindu-Kush-Himalayas.aspx.

(Madagascar and Sri Lanka) and six for small ones (Comoros, Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles).[20] For the large island countries, improving agricultural resilience to climate change was the main focus. For the small island countries, which are less dependent on agriculture, protecting the integrity of coastal areas was the primary concern.

31. Activities were guided by these priority knowledge gaps, focusing on strengthening the secretariat's engagement with universities and regional institutions to enhance understanding of and identify ways to address the gaps. For example, the University of Michigan evaluated the impacts of sea level rise and storm surges on critical infrastructure (see the table above for more details).

4. North Africa

32. The activities cover five countries: Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.

33. The priority-setting workshop, organized in collaboration with Bibliotheca Alexandrina, resulted in the identification 18 priority knowledge gaps, some focusing on coastal zones.[21] The outcome provided the basis for next phase of activities in the subregion.

34. During the reporting period, under the second phase of LAKI in North Africa and West Asia, the secretariat, together with RCC MENA and South Asia, partnered with the UNEP Regional Office for West Asia and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. These strategic partnerships led to collaboration with other regional and local partners in these subregions.

35. As part of the second phase, a series of three virtual meetings with partners and networks in North Africa and West Asia helped to increase participants' understanding of shared ecosystems (e.g. coastal zones) and areas threatened by desertification and other vulnerabilities, as well as ways to build the resilience of these ecosystems.

5. Pacific small island developing States

36. The activities for this subregion cover 14 SIDS: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, of which three are LDCs.

37. The UNFCCC secretariat, UNEP and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme co-convened a virtual priority-setting workshop for the Pacific SIDS.[22] The workshop helped to enhance understanding of the priority knowledge gaps impeding the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in the Pacific SIDS. During the workshop, the experts focused on how to use existing data and information to bridge certain knowledge gaps, how to facilitate the informed application of knowledge and how to enhance access to information by those implementing actions on the ground. Priority knowledge gaps discussed during the workshop include how to include women, girls and people with disabilities in the design and implementation of adaptation plans and policies; how to enable access by government officers working in climate change, finance and other relevant ministries to climate change adaptation funds; how to integrate ecosystem-based adaptation into programme design; and how to determine the limits to ecosystem-based approaches in the face of future climate change.

38. The priority knowledge gaps for the Pacific SIDS identified from applying the LAKI methodology have guided the development of new and innovative ways of achieving resilience in the Pacific SIDS. A strategic partnership between the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and the UNEP Asia Pacific Adaptation Network has resulted in the establishment of relationships with new partners and the implementation of co-developed activities designed to address these gaps, one of which is a regional event held during Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2023.[23]

[20] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-IOI.aspx.
[21] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-NorthAfrica.aspx.
[22] For more information, as well as the workshop report, see https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Lima-Adaptation-Knowledge-Initiative-(LAKI)-for-the-Pacific-sub-region.aspx.
[23] See https://unfccc.int/news/closing-adaptation-knowledge-gaps-in-asia-pacific.

39. The University of Michigan conducted research on how to address limitations in accessing climate knowledge, including early warning information, to scale up climate action in Pacific island countries (see the table above for more details).[24]

6. Southern Africa

40. The activities for this subregion cover eight countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

41. The priority-setting workshop, held in partnership with SouthSouthNorth, resulted in the identification of 16 priority knowledge gaps, with most focusing on agriculture and food security.[25]

42. Other activities entailed building strategic partnerships with regional and local institutions aimed at improving the understanding of and identifying ways to address the priority knowledge gaps. For example, the University of Michigan assessed the potential for innovation in climate-smart agriculture and capability to implement such solutions in order to strengthen adaptation solutions for agricultural development (see the table above for more examples and further details).

7. West Asia

43. The activities for this subregion cover six countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

44. The priority-setting workshop, organized in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative, resulted in the identification of 10 priority knowledge gaps, including some for marine ecosystems.[26] The outcome laid the groundwork for the next set of activities in the subregion.

45. During the reporting period, under the second phase of LAKI in the North Africa and West Asia, the secretariat together with RCC MENA and South Asia partnered with the UNEP Regional Office for West Asia and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. This led to new strategic partnerships with other regional and local partners in these subregions.

46. As part of the second phase of LAKI, a series of three virtual meetings with partners and networks in North African and West Asia helped to increase participants' understanding of shared ecosystems (e.g. coastal zones) and areas threatened by desertification and other vulnerabilities, as well as ways to build the resilience of these ecosystems. The resulting actions include scaling up studies on mangrove carbon sequestration (which has adaptation co-benefits) in Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

B. Priority thematic areas

47. SBSTA 48 concluded that the NWP thematic areas should focus on 10 emerging issues in relation to climate change.[27] Subsequently, SBSTA 50 requested the secretariat to prioritize the following NWP thematic areas: extreme weather events such as heatwaves, flash floods, sand and dust storms, cyclones and heavy precipitation; drought, water scarcity and land degradation neutrality; forest and grassland; ocean, coastal areas and ecosystems, including mega deltas, coral reefs and mangroves; and agriculture and food security.[28]

48. SBSTA 56 concluded that additional thematic areas under the NWP should focus on mountains, the circular economy or circularity in the context of adaptation action, and

[24] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Stories-from-our-partners.aspx.
[25] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-SouthernAfrica.aspx.
[26] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/LAKI-WestAsia.aspx.
[27] FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4, para. 21.
[28] FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 18.

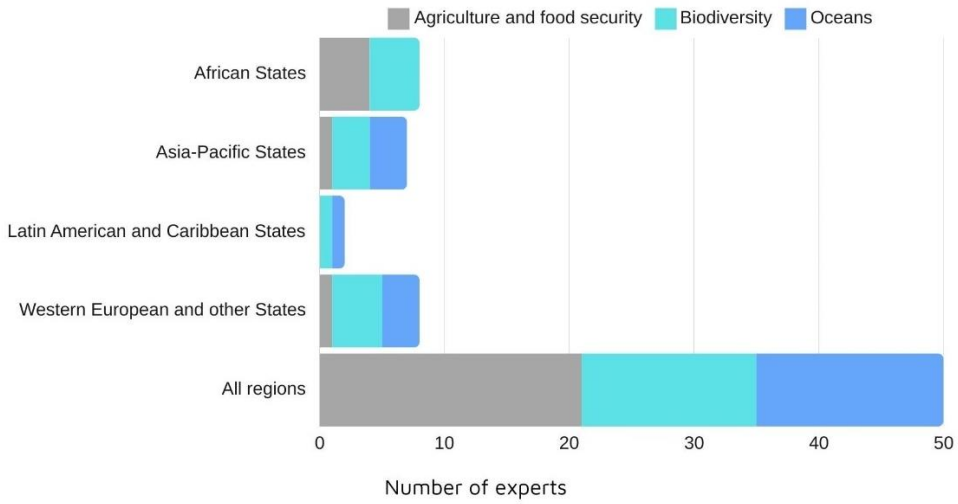
adaptation possibilities in high-latitude areas and the cryosphere.[29] These thematic areas naturally lend themselves to region-specific action in countries with a shared ecosystem.

49. Application of the iterative knowledge-to-action methodology[30] has led to the formation of strategic partnerships with constituted bodies and thematic expert groups and to the monitoring and evaluation of action undertaken by the secretariat in collaboration with thematic expert groups aimed at addressing knowledge gaps across countries and regions. It has also helped to improve understanding of knowledge gaps and to identify opportunities for coordinated action on addressing the gaps across countries and regions. Engagement with thematic expert groups has led to the fostering of synergies with relevant processes and initiatives under and outside the UNFCCC in order to promote coherence of work on enhancing adaptation action through knowledge.

50. Not all activities undertaken in the priority thematic areas are region-specific, but this subchapter provides an overview of the regional representation of the members (institutions) of thematic expert groups, the activities and outputs relevant to regions, and region-specific engagement in annual NWP Focal Point Forums.

51. Thematic expert groups include members representing four United Nations regional groups, while some members represent organizations working in all regions (see figure 2). Geographical diversity has helped to ensure that activities under the NWP are informed by robust experience and expertise and promote rich cross-fertilization of ideas and lessons learned across regions.

Figure 2
Number of experts representing institutions working in priority thematic areas, by United Nations regional group



52. Focal Point Forums are mandated events held under the NWP in conjunction with sessions of the COP.[31] They provide an interactive space for representatives of national Governments, NWP partner organizations and thematic expert groups to share information and exchange views. Focal Point Forums have increasingly focused on a specific ecosystem or thematic area. The Forums are convened at the global level on the margins of the sessions of the COP, and they have been successful in bringing together regional experts and expert organizations, including those working on formulating and implementing NAPs specific to the LDCs and SIDS and facilitating knowledge-sharing and collaboration among Parties, expert groups and NWP partners relevant to a specific ecosystem, thematic area or region.

[29] FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, para. 18.
[30] See document FCCC/SBSTA/2022/4, paras. 18–26.
[31] For objectives and outcomes of the Forums, see https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme-nwp/focal-point-forums.

53. Region-specific engagement and themes of Focal Point Forums are discussed under thematic areas in the remainder of this subchapter.

1. Mountains

54. Mountains, with their rich biological and cultural diversity, play a crucial role in the livelihoods of millions of people. In 2010, almost 10 per cent of the global population – around 671 million people – lived in high mountain regions, a number expected to reach 736–844 million by 2050.[32] With climate change having a significant impact on these regions, access to context-specific knowledge is essential for mountainous countries to implement effective adaptation action.

55. The secretariat began to engage institutions and experts working on mountainous ecosystems prior to the 16th NWP Focal Point Forum, on understanding and closing adaptation knowledge gaps in mountains, high-latitude areas and the cryosphere, held at COP 28.[33] The discussion at the Forum, which engaged several countries located in mountainous regions and global, regional and local institutions and experts from mountainous regions such as the Andes, the Arctic and the Hindu Kush Himalayas, focused on showcasing successful adaptation cases and promoting transboundary cooperation in mountainous regions; developing tailored solutions for mountainous regions, such as adapting global impact indicators to national and local contexts; and co-designing solutions to overcome knowledge barriers by strengthening international, regional and national climate policy frameworks, including for NAPs.

56. The work on mountains will continue in 2024 through the review of the national government and other relevant reports to identify country needs and priorities and the establishment of an expert group on mountains, with the group to focus on action, including at the transboundary level, in mountainous regions.[34]

2. Agriculture and food security

57. The 15th NWP Focal Point Forum, on enhancing transformative adaptation for agriculture and food security,[35] convened Parties, the NWP expert group on agriculture and food security[36] and NWP partners at COP 27 to share knowledge on enhancing country- and region-specific action by highlighting adaptation knowledge and partnerships across all regions. The actions highlighted included examples of the integration of agriculture and food security into national climate change adaptation priorities and actions.

3. Forest and grassland

58. The NWP expert group on biodiversity and climate change[37] worked closely with constituted bodies and representatives of processes under and outside the UNFCCC. As members of this expert group, the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification explored synergies in their respective mandates and collaborative actions for scaling up adaptation.

59. The expert group curated knowledge for a scoping paper on knowledge gaps in integrating forest and grassland biodiversity and ecosystems into adaptation strategies.[38] The paper provides lessons learned regarding integrated approaches to adaptation, including ecosystem-based adaptation and nature-based solutions. The key findings of the paper, which

[32] IPCC. 2022. High mountain areas. *In:* H-O Pörtner, DC Roberts, V Masson-Delmotte, et al. (eds.). *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*. Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press. pp.131–202. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/.

[33] See https://unfccc.int/event/nwp-fpf-mountains-high-latitude.

[34] Details will be available at https://process.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Mountains.aspx.

[35] See https://unfccc.int/event/nwp-15th-fp-forum.

[36] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Agriculture-and-Food-security-expert-group.aspx.

[37] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/Biodiversity.aspx.

[38] UNFCCC. 2021. *A scoping paper on knowledge gaps in integrating forest and grassland biodiversity and ecosystems into adaptation strategies*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/309256.

draws on 16 case studies in different countries and regions, including Asia, South Asia, Africa, West Africa and Latin America, are as follows:

(a) Forest and grassland biomes are home to critical biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services;

(b) Actions to conserve and restore biodiversity and ecosystems are an integral part of adaptation strategies, and countries are already using integrated forest and grassland approaches to adapt to climate change;

(c) Targeted and actionable knowledge can help countries to scale up adaptation strategies that integrate ecosystems and biodiversity, thereby enhancing resilience to climate change impacts.

60. A technical brief prepared by the expert group identifies practical entry points to and lessons learned from case studies on effective coordination and joint implementation of climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation at the national level.[39] The brief explores the interconnections between climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation, and the potential to foster synergies between the process to formulate and implement NAPs under the Convention and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans process under the Convention on Biological Diversity. This technical output is relevant for countries, particularly the LDCs, in all regions.

61. At the 14th NWP Focal Point Forum, on biodiversity and climate change adaptation, held at COP 26,[40] Party representatives, including UNFCCC national focal points, experts and NWP partners, shared knowledge and learning on innovative and integrated solutions for biodiversity and climate change adaptation to strengthen national planning processes and action on the ground. Experts from African States, Asia-Pacific States, and Latin American and Caribbean States provided insights on integrating biodiversity, including among Indigenous Peoples and local knowledge systems, into national adaptation planning and implementation.

62. The NWP expert groups on oceans and on biodiversity and climate change presented several joint initiatives at the 14th NWP Focal Point Forum that brought together cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary experts to enhance countries' technical and financial capacity for implementing adaptation actions that have multiple benefits for communities and ecosystems in various regions. These initiatives include innovative approaches, such as ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions, to strengthening the resilience of coastal zones and oceans and ways to promote synergy between biodiversity protection and climate change adaptation through NAPs and national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

4. Ocean, coastal areas and related ecosystems

63. While awareness of the role of biodiversity and oceans in enhancing resilience is growing, knowledge gaps related to adapting to the impacts of climate change persist and constitute barriers to the ability of countries to take necessary adaptation action.

64. To address needs identified by Parties, the secretariat established the NWP expert group on oceans,[41] which includes the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the IPCC, and prepared several knowledge products in collaboration with constituted bodies such as the LEG and the TEC. Relevant region-specific knowledge products include:

(a) A scoping paper on closing knowledge gaps and advancing adaptation action for ocean, coastal areas and related ecosystems, including mega deltas, coral reefs and

[39] Terton, A, Qi, J, and Zúñiga, G. 2022. *Promoting synergies between climate change adaptation and biodiversity through the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) processes*. Bonn: Convention on Biological Diversity, German Agency for International Cooperation, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Stockholm Resilience Centre, UNEP and UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/619807.

[40] See https://unfccc.int/event/FPF14-NWP-biodiversity-adaptation.

[41] See https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/NWP-Expert-Group-on-Oceans.aspx.

mangroves, that addresses climate change impacts, including of slow onset events, resilience-building and adaptation.[42] The paper draws on initiatives and actions in several regions, including Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific SIDS;

(b) A policy brief on innovative approaches to strengthening coastal and ocean adaptation, prepared by the NWP expert group on oceans in collaboration with IUCN and the TEC, that summarizes action across many regions and includes recommendations for scaling up innovative approaches in order to achieve multiple benefits for people and nature;[43]

(c) A report prepared by the NWP expert group on oceans in collaboration with the GCF and the LEG that provides insights for developing countries relevant to implementing NAPs to increase resilience to extreme climatic events.[44] This report is targeted at the LDCs and SIDS in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. According to the report, the capacity of the LDCs and SIDS to develop high-quality project proposals must be enhanced to unlock access to funding for nature-based solutions, including ecosystem-based adaptation. The report identifies entry points for enhancing access to the GCF for funding to implement coastal and marine nature-based solutions.

65. At the 13th NWP Focal Point Forum, on the ocean, held at COP 25,[45] an IPCC presentation on the findings in its Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere[46] was followed by a discussion among Parties and NWP partners on knowledge needs and specific actions that national Governments and NWP partners could take to address knowledge gaps in order to build the resilience of ocean, coastal areas and related ecosystems.

5. Ecosystems, rural systems and communities, and indicators of climate adaptation and resilience

66. Vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems risk being excluded from adaptation planning and implementation, which could exacerbate existing vulnerabilities. Appropriate regulatory frameworks and institutional arrangements, as well as targeted programmes and resources, can strengthen the consideration of these groups, communities and ecosystems in adaptation action, as can their inclusion in NAPs.

67. As a supplement to the UNFCCC technical guidelines for the NAP process,[47] the LEG, with inputs from NWP partners, prepared a paper providing guidance regarding the consideration of vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in formulating and implementing NAPs.[48] The supplement is relevant to the LDCs in all regions.

68. An NWP technical session held jointly with the LEG[49] at NAP Expo 2019 enabled Parties and NWP partners to share their experience of and case studies on metrics and

[42] UNFCCC. 2019. *Adaptation of the Ocean, Coastal Areas and Ecosystems: Scoping Paper on Closing Knowledge Gaps and Advancing Action*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/230928.

[43] UNFCCC and IUCN. 2022. *Innovative Approaches for Strengthening Coastal and Ocean Adaptation - Integrating Technology and Nature-based Solutions*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/510426.

[44] UNFCCC. 2021. *Coastal adaptation and nature-based solutions for the implementation of NAPs: Considerations for GCF proposal development*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/documents/278047.

[45] See https://unfccc.int/event/13th-focal-point-forum-of-the-nairobi-work-programme-on-the-ocean.

[46] IPCC. 2019. Glossary. *In:* H-O Pörtner, DC Roberts, V Masson-Delmotte, et al. (eds.). *IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. pp.677–702. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/ .

[47] Available at https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Guidelines/Pages/Technical-guidelines.aspx.

[48] UNFCCC. 2018. *Considerations regarding vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in the context of the national adaptation plans: Least Developed Countries Expert Group*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Considerations%20regarding%20vulnerable.pdf.

[49] See https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme-nwp/workshops-meetings/assessing-progress-in-adaptation-in-vulnerable-groups-communities-and-ecosystems-a-technical-session.

indicators for assessing the progress of the adaptation of vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems. Insights were gleaned into:

(a) Determining whether and how adaptation interventions help vulnerable groups and communities to maintain or improve their adaptive capacity or resilience;

(b) Reducing the vulnerability of groups, communities and ecosystems in the face of climate change;

(c) Facilitating ecosystem restoration and enhancing the capacity of vulnerable ecosystems to provide ecosystem goods and services for local communities;

(d) Helping ecosystems to withstand both current and anticipated climate change impacts and non-climatic stressors.

69. Engagement with the LEG on knowledge relevant to vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems has enhanced understanding of the practical steps countries can take to use indicators and metrics, including regional- and global-level indicators and metrics, to support the assessment of progress of national adaptation efforts.

C. Constituted bodies

70. Collaboration with NWP partners has supported constituted bodies in implementing their workplans in the context of implementing the Paris Agreement. While the workplans were not all specific to a given region, some of the collaboration included region-specific engagement and examples.

1. Collaborating with constituted bodies in response to specific mandates

71. Collaboration with the TEC has focused on developing actions and recommendations for scaling up specific, innovative and integrated approaches in order to achieve multiple benefits for communities and nature (see para. 68(b) above).

72. The Adaptation Committee, the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform and the LEG held a joint event under the NWP at COP 25[50] on integrating Indigenous and local knowledge into adaptation action. The event provided an opportunity for representatives of Indigenous Peoples, constituted bodies and NWP partners, including regional organizations, to share experience and explore collaborative opportunities to bring together diverse knowledge systems and harness the power of integrating them into climate adaptation action in countries and regions.

2. Supporting developing countries in formulating and implementing national adaptation plans

73. The secretariat has continued to engage NWP partners and thematic expert groups in contributing to the work of the LEG in implementing NAP-related activities and supporting the LDCs.

74. For example, the secretariat mobilizes experts and NWP partners to provide up-to-date information to the LDCs, including by producing supplementary materials to the UNFCCC technical guidelines for the NAP process and technical papers. These materials are on topics such as strengthening the consideration of vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems in adaptation action (see para. 69 above) and accessing financial and other support for developing countries wishing to implement coastal and marine nature-based solutions (see para. 64(c) above).

75. Another example is the support provided by the secretariat to several NWP partners for implementing LEG workplans. Examples of support include engaging with the NAP technical working group, thereby contributing to organizing the NAP Expo, advancing the integrative framework for NAPs and the Sustainable Development Goals, and rolling out the

[50] See https://unfccc.int/topics/local-communities-and-indigenous-peoples-platform/events-meetings-and-workshops/joint-event-on-integrating-indigenous-and-local-knowledge-into-adaptation-action#eq-3.

Open NAPs initiative for the LDCs that are in the early stages of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.[51]

3. Identifying further opportunities for engagement with constituted bodies

76. Information on engagement opportunities, including regional opportunities, is shared regularly with UNFCCC national focal points and NWP partners via the adaptation knowledge portal,[52] the quarterly NWP Bulletin[53] and social media, as well as through targeted outreach to promote participation in events and calls for submissions and inputs.

IV. Monitoring, evaluation and learning

A. Monitoring the uptake and impact of knowledge products

77. Following mandates from the SBSTA,[54] monitoring and evaluation approaches are integrated into work under the NWP with the aim of enhancing and facilitating the dissemination of knowledge products to, and the uptake of these products by, knowledge users at the community, subnational and national level. Monitoring, evaluation and learning is also integrated into the NWP knowledge-to-action methodology.

78. The secretariat has implemented various tools and approaches for soliciting feedback from knowledge users, including UNFCCC national focal points, to help it to understand the relevance of knowledge outputs and how they can be enhanced to inform adaptation action in regions.

79. On the basis of the findings of a survey[55] conducted in 2019–2020 on the accessibility, applicability and clarity of NWP knowledge products, conducted in response to a request of the SBSTA,[56] the secretariat has been continuously developing and integrating solutions to address the gaps and challenges identified by respondents, including by:

(a) Improving the identification and profiling of users in countries and regions to respond better to their knowledge needs;

(b) Examining the relevance of content and determining the best approach to ensuring that knowledge products are responsive to the needs of users in countries and regions;

(c) Developing NWP knowledge products and using diverse tools and modalities to disseminate them to targeted users in countries and regions.

80. Further, the secretariat conducted interviews with knowledge users and NWP partners to solicit feedback and shared it widely with Parties and NWP partners.[57]

B. Disseminating knowledge and fostering learning

81. NWP knowledge products are disseminated via NWP partner networks, UNFCCC national focal points and UNEP through its Global Adaptation Network, and work has been undertaken to enhance the uptake of adaptation knowledge by target users involved in implementing adaptation action in countries and regions.

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[51] See document FCCC/SBI/2020/6, paras. 20 and 67(c).

[52] https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwpstaging/Pages/Home.aspx.

[53] Available at https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/adaptation-newsletters.

[54] FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 17, and FCCC/SBSTA/2021/3, para. 27.

[55] The survey had 84 respondents, including eight UNFCCC national focal points. The survey results are available at https://unfccc.int/documents/274671.

[56] FCCC/SBSTA/2019/2, para. 16.

[57] For example, interviews on the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme are available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zLO53OADzZ4.

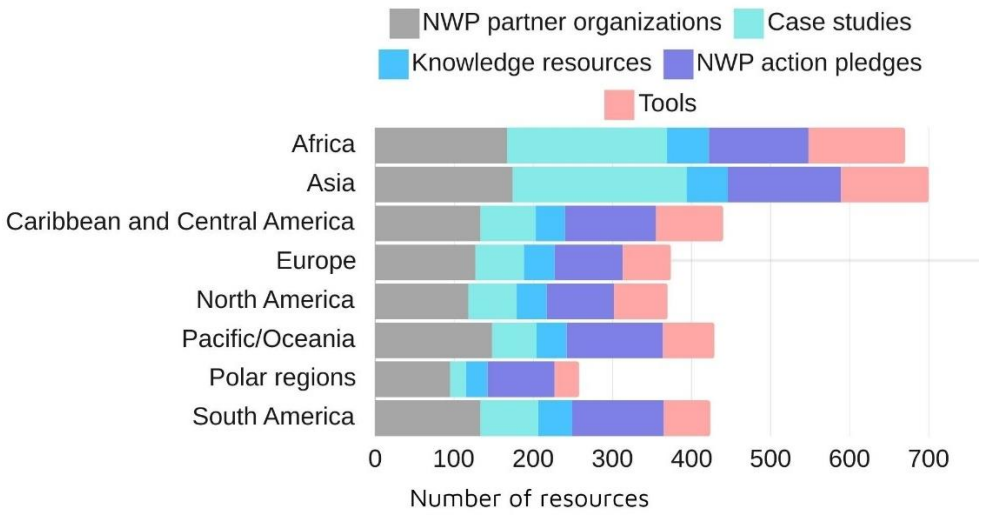
1. Adaptation knowledge portal

82. The aim of the adaptation knowledge portal is to provide knowledge of practice to Parties and communities in an accessible and user-friendly manner to help countries scale up adaptation action. The portal provides information on NWP partners and their adaptation action in countries, as well as on opportunities for NWP partners and experts to engage in work under the NWP, including with constituted bodies.

83. An overview of resources available on the adaptation knowledge portal, by region, is provided in figure 3.

84. Information on regional activities undertaken in the context of LAKI, the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme and priority thematic areas is regularly updated and shared on the adaptation knowledge portal.

Figure 3
Number of resources available on the adaptation knowledge portal, by region, as at February 2024



2. Official documents and knowledge products

85. Activities under the NWP, by region, have been regularly documented in annual progress reports.[58]

86. Region-specific knowledge products prepared under the NWP in collaboration with regional partners and networks, thematic expert groups and constituted bodies are elaborated in chapter III above.

3. Communication tools

87. Outcomes and learning from region-specific work under the NWP, NWP partners and constituted bodies are disseminated through UNFCCC newsroom articles, the NWP Bulletin and the "Adaptation exchange by the NWP" X account (@AdaptXChange).

88. The NWP web pages[59] on the UNFCCC website are regularly updated to include resources and outputs recently developed under the NWP, including by region.

[58] For a list of relevant official documents and knowledge products, see https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/documents-on-the-nairobi-work-programme.
[59] See http://unfccc.int/nwp.

4. Events

89. The secretariat has convened both in-person and virtual regional events and meetings, in partnership with NWP partners and constituted bodies, including during regional climate weeks and NAP Expos.

90. Furthermore, the secretariat and NWP partners have participated in several UNFCCC and external regional events, including those organized by constituted bodies, to showcase current work and promote opportunities for collaboration on scaling up adaptation action in countries and regions. Some examples include events for the MENA region during MENA Climate Week 2022,[60] an event for the Hindu Kush Himalayas and Pacific islands during Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2023[61] and virtual meetings for LAKI with partners and experts in various regions.[62]

91. The regional events specific to LAKI have laid the groundwork for its future. Participants have provided recommendations such as repositioning adaptation knowledge to address the full spectrum of climate change adaptation and resilience and building long-term strategic partnerships in regions.

C. Tailoring knowledge products

92. To ensure that knowledge products are accessible and tailored to the needs of users in countries and regions, the secretariat has:

(a) Used existing sources of information, such as NAPs and nationally determined contributions, to identify knowledge needs and good practices related to adaptation and resilience to inform work under the NWP;

(b) Solicited inputs on knowledge needs and good practices from Parties (through UNFCCC national focal points) and NWP partners to inform work under the NWP and disseminated the information via the adaptation knowledge portal and other communication channels;

(c) Solicited feedback from Parties, constituted bodies, NWP partners and expert groups, and knowledge users on the relevance of knowledge products and outcomes under the NWP through an informal dialogue[63] and at UNFCCC and external events.

V. Lessons learned and remaining challenges

93. Long-term strategic engagement with constituted bodies, including on matters concerning shared ecosystems, enables a deeper understanding of issues at the regional level. Such engagement supports Parties in designing adaptation interventions at the national and subnational level and co-designing efforts in areas with a shared ecosystem. Action under the NWP has also focused on supporting Parties in accessing finance and scaling up adaptation action in countries and regions. Regular engagement between NWP partners and constituted bodies can help NWP partners to understand the mandates of the constituted bodies and enable NWP partners to share region-specific knowledge and expertise to inform the work of the constituted bodies and assist them in implementing their workplans.

94. LAKI is gaining international recognition and support from NWP partners and Parties, which is a testament to the importance of subregional work in understanding and addressing climate change. The engagement under LAKI of partner organizations operating in countries and subregions (e.g. Global Adaptation Network nodes, regional centres and networks, and

[60] See https://unfccc.int/event/knowledge-gaps-mena.

[61] See https://unfccc.int/news/closing-adaptation-knowledge-gaps-in-asia-pacific.

[62] See https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/nairobi-work-programme-nwp/workshops-meetings-nairobi-work-programme.

[63] An informal event held in October 2021 provided an opportunity for Parties, UNFCCC national focal points and other stakeholders to discuss lessons learned and ways for work under the NWP to address the knowledge needs of different users. See https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-informal-event-on-the-nairobi-work-programme-closing-adaptation-knowledge-gaps-through.

RCCs) has led to collaborative design and delivery of action to close knowledge gaps in subregions. Owing to limitations in the available resources of the secretariat, the focus has been limited to one or two subregions per year. Scaling up LAKI in all regions through dedicated engagement requires a long-term approach and the investment of human and financial resources.

95. NWP partners, including partners in the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme, have identified a lack of financial resources as a barrier to taking action to close knowledge gaps in regions. Exploring both global and region-specific funding opportunities and supporting partners for mobilizing financial resources could expedite the closure of the gaps.

96. Ensuring continuity of contact between experts via networks and building relationships between experts and countries are central to maintaining long-term partnerships of the secretariat with the thematic expert groups. Such actions have been undertaken partly through ongoing coordination of these networks, including via virtual meetings.

97. Systematic approaches are needed to gain an understanding of targeted knowledge users and their needs and to deliver practical knowledge relevant to enhancing adaptation action in regions. Work is ongoing to ensure that knowledge products are useful and accessible to targeted users through the adaptation knowledge portal, virtual and in-person events during regional climate weeks, and NAP Expos. Further efforts and resources are required for translating knowledge products and disseminating them to users.

VI. Way forward

98. The IPCC found that "adaptation planning and implementation has progressed across all sectors and regions, with documented benefits and varying effectiveness. Despite progress, adaptation gaps exist and will continue to grow at current rates of implementation. Hard and soft limits to adaptation have been reached in some ecosystems and regions".[64] Further, the IPCC noted that "as adaptation options often have long implementation times, accelerated implementation of adaptation in this decade is important to close adaptation gaps".[65] To this end, the NWP, through its work at the national, subregional and regional level, could play an important role in closing adaptation knowledge gaps.

99. Mandates will continue to be implemented under the NWP, as the UNFCCC knowledge-to-action hub for adaptation and resilience, with a view to enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, including at the national, regional and subregional level. To achieve this, partnerships will continue to be strengthened at the regional and transboundary level, including through work in priority thematic areas, and there will be a focus on understanding ways to strengthen resilience and implement practical, effective and priority adaptation action in regions.

100. In response to the mandates given by Parties, work will continue to be scaled up under the NWP on region-specific action, including scaling up LAKI in all regions towards achieving the objective of the Convention and the goals of the Paris Agreement.

101. The secretariat will continue refining methodologies and engagement models to ensure that activities under the NWP are in line with the evolving adaptation and resilience landscape both under and outside the UNFCCC process.

102. In accordance with the mandate for new linkages to be established between the NWP and processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, such as the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation and the global stocktake, as

[64] IPCC. 2023. Summary for Policymakers. *In:* Core Writing Team, H Lee, and J Romero (eds.). *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Geneva: IPCC. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/.

[65] IPCC. 2023. *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*. Core Writing Team, H Lee, and J Romero (eds.). Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/.

appropriate, with a focus on the provision of relevant knowledge or inputs to support work under these processes,[66] Work under the NWP could contribute to the attainment of the global goal on adaptation[67] and the global stocktake,[68] and the targets set under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience,[69] established at COP 28. These outcomes at COP 28 recognize that "climate change impacts are transboundary in nature, thereby requiring regional consideration and knowledge-sharing, climate-informed transboundary management and cooperation on global adaptation solutions". In addition, targets have been set under the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience in relation to the dimensions of the iterative adaptation cycle, while recognizing the need to enhance adaptation action and support at all levels and strengthen regional and international cooperation to scale up adaptation action and support among Parties, international organizations and NGOs.

103. The NWP, building on its outcomes and achievements over the years, is uniquely placed to continue supporting adaptation action at the regional and subregional level, especially in areas with shared and/or common ecosystems.

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[66] FCCC/SBSTA/2022/6, para. 16(b)(ii).
[67] Decision 2/CMA.5.
[68] Decision 1/CMA.5.
[69] Decision 2/CMA.5, paras. 9–10.