

# Current Policy Considerations

**Task Force on Water and Climate**

**Fifth meeting**

Geneva, 27 April 2012



## Presentation Outline

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- Evolution of water considerations under the UNFCCC
- Current policy considerations in Adaptation
- Nairobi work programme



For all Parties

- **Article 4, para 1(e) of the Convention** commits Parties to “develop and elaborate appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management, water resources and agriculture, and for the protection and rehabilitation of areas, particularly in Africa, affected by drought and desertification, as well as floods”
- **National Communications** to report on the steps undertaken to implement the Convention provide information on vulnerability and assessment, climate change impacts and adaptation measures, including those relating to water.

- For Least Developed Countries (LDCs)
  - **National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)** under the LDC work programme provides a process for LDCs to identify and prioritize actions to respond to their urgent and immediate needs with regard to adaptation to climate change.



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# Current Policy Considerations: *Cancun Adaptation Framework*



## National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

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- Under the ***Cancun Adaptation Framework***, a process established to enable LDCs to formulate and implement NAPs:
  - Will **build upon** their experience in preparing and implementing NAPAs,
  - A means of **identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs**
  - A means of developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs.
- Other developing country Parties are also invited to employ the modalities formulated to support the NAPs in the elaboration of their planning efforts



## National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

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- Outcomes of Durban (COP17)
  - COP 17 adopted **initial guidelines for the formulation of NAPs by LDCs**
  - Modalities: LDC Expert Group to provide technical guidance and support, elaborate technical guidelines based on initial guidelines;
  - Financing: Requests to GEF/LDCF.
  - Numerous activities were mandated to **lay the groundwork** for the design and implementation of NAPs.
  - **The COP** requested the SBI to consider guidance on **policies and programmes** to enable support for the NAP process for LDCs at SBI 36 in May.



## National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

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- Call for Submissions from Parties and organizations
  - On **how they have responded to the invitation to support the NAP process in the LDCs** and, where possible, to consider **establishing support programmes** for the NAP process within their mandates, as appropriate, which could facilitate financial and technical support to LDCs. (by 13 Feb 2012)
  - On their experiences with the **application of the guidelines** for the NAP process for LDCs. (13 Feb next year)



- To promote the implementation of **enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner** under the Convention;
- Following functions, inter alia:
  - a) Providing technical support and guidance to the Parties;
  - b) Sharing of relevant info, knowledge, experience and good practices;
  - c) Promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks;
  - d) Providing information and recommendations, drawing on adaptation good practices, for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions, including finance, technology, CB;
  - e) Considering information communicated by Parties on their M&E of adaptation actions, support provided and received.





- Durban Outcome agreed:
  - On the **composition** of, and modalities and procedures for, the AC;
  - The AC is requested to **engage with, and draw on the expertise of, relevant institutions, organizations, frameworks, networks and centres outside of the Convention**, including those at the intergovernmental, regional, national and, through them, subnational levels;
  - The Committee shall meet at least twice a year, where possible in conjunction with other adaptation-related UNFCCC meetings, while retaining its flexibility to adjust its number of meetings to suit its needs;
  - **Meetings shall be open to attendance by accredited observer organizations**, except where otherwise decided by the AC, with a view to encouraging a balanced representation.



## Adaptation Committee

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- The AC will thus be:
  - A **body of 16 experts** tasked with:
    - Promoting the implementation of adaptation in a **coherent** manner under the Convention;
    - Providing **technical support** and guidance to the Parties.
- Activities it will undertake include the preparation of **periodic overview reports** on the state of adaptation;
- Next steps:
  - Once Party groups and constituencies have nominated their experts, the Committee will convene its inaugural meeting possibly in early July.



## Work Programme on Loss and Damage

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- Cancun Outcome (COP 16)
  - A work programme in order to consider approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to **extreme weather events and slow onset events**
  - **Three thematic areas:**
    - > **Assessment of risk of Loss and Damage**
    - > **A range of options to address Loss and Damage**
    - > **The role of the Convention in enhancing the implementation**



## Work Programme on Loss and Damage

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- COP 17 (Durban) agreed on 2-year work programme:
  - To **address issues related to the thematic area 1 at the expert meeting** (Tokyo, March 2012);
  - To organize **4 regional workshops, 3 at the regional level and one for SIDS before SBI 37** (December 2012), to address issues related to the thematic area 2;
  - To prepare a **TP on slow onset events**, taking into consideration the outcomes of the regional expert meetings, mentioned above;
  - To conduct a **literature review of existing information and case studies** on the topics in the context of the thematic area 2;
  - To invite Parties and relevant organizations and other stakeholders to **submit views and information, by 17 September 2012**, on the possible elements to be included in the recommendations on loss and damage in accordance with decision 1/CP.16.



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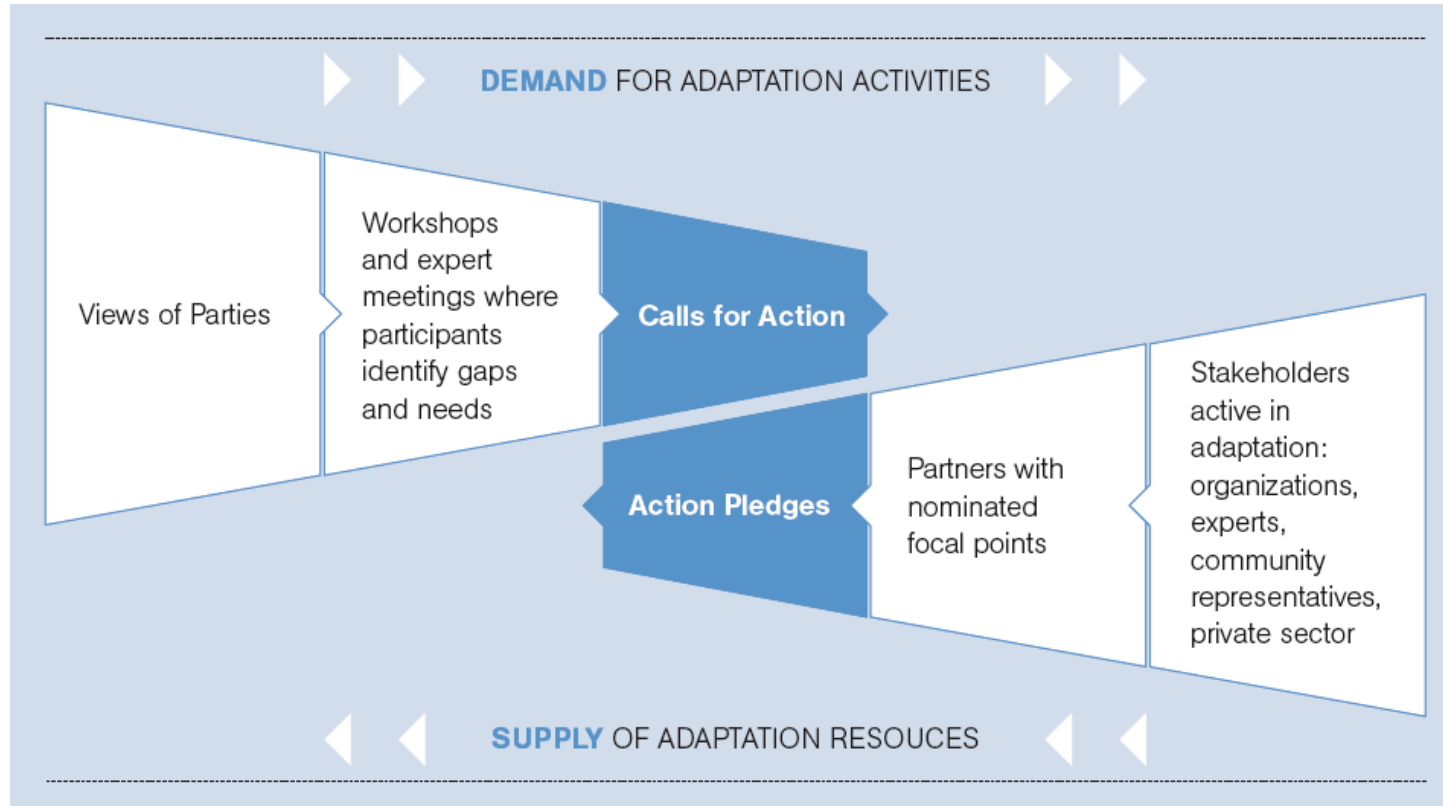
**Current Policy Considerations:**  
*Nairobi work programme*



- **Objective**
  - **Improve understanding and assessment of** impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; and
  - Make **informed decisions** on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.
- **Durban outcome**
  - requested the SBSTA to reconsider, at its session at SBSTA 38 (May 2013), **work areas** of the NWP with a view to making recommendations to COP 19 (December 2013) on how best to support the objectives of the work programme, and support work of the Cancun Adaptation Framework;
  - The COP **invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit, by 17 September 2012**, their views on potential future areas of work under the NWP for consideration by SBSTA 38.



## Catalyzing actions



- Close to 250 partner organizations



- SBSTA 34 agreed to discuss **the impacts of climate change on water resources and integrated water resource management** under the NWP
- Technical paper on water and climate change impacts and adaptation strategies (for COP16)
- The COP also requested the secretariat to organize, in collaboration with NWP partner organizations and other relevant organizations, 2 **technical workshops** on:
  - **Water** and climate change impacts and adaptation strategies (23-25 July, Mexico)
  - On **ecosystem-based approaches** for adaptation to climate change (To take place before SBSTA 38, early next year)







***Financial mechanisms***  
**under the Convention**



- **Adaptation Fund (under the Kyoto Protocol)**
  - a) The AF was established to finance:
    - **Concrete adaptation projects and programmes;**
    - **In developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.**
  - b) The AF is financed from the share of proceeds on the CDM project activities (**2% of CERs** issued for a CDM project activity) and **other** sources of funding;
  - c) Supervised and managed by the **Adaptation Fund Board (AFB)**.



- **Adaptation Fund under the Kyoto Protocol**

- a) Approved amount: **\$ 103,698,701**

- b) Amount transferred to date: **\$ 17,187,006**

- c) Examples

- Developing Climate Resilient Flood and Flash Flood Management Practices to Protect Vulnerable Communities of Georgia
    - Reduction of Risks and Vulnerability Based on Flooding and Droughts in the Estero Real River Watershed in Nicaragua
    - Reducing Risks and Vulnerabilities from Glacier Lake Outburst Floods in Northern Pakistan
    - Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water Resources in Honduras: Increased Systemic Resilience and Reduced Vulnerability of the Urban Poor



- **Green Climate Fund (GCF) under the Convention**
  - Financial mechanism to assist the developing countries with **adaptation and mitigation**;
  - Cancun agreements: GCF will support **projects, programmes, policies and other activities** in developing country Parties (such as NAMAs, NAPAs, NAPs);
  - Objective to raise **\$100 billion a year by 2020**;
  - **Fast Start Funding** of the GCF was agreed, encompassing \$30 billion for the period 2010-2012.



In Durban:

- a) The COP 17 designated the GCF as an **operating entity** of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention;
- b) Requested the board of the GCF to:
  - Operationalize the Fund in an **expedited manner**;
  - **Balance** the allocation between adaptation and mitigation.
  - Will take into account the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including LDCs, SIDS and Africa



Thank you!  
More more information:  
<<http://unfccc.int/adaptation>>

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Adaptation Programme

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