

Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Approach to developing the first draft rolling plan of action

Background note

INTRODUCTION

As per its terms of reference, the Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses (NELs EG) is tasked to develop a rolling plan of action (PoA) at its first meeting. This background note serves to establish a common information basis among the members of group in view of their first meeting which will take place virtually during the week of **15 March 2021**. This note complements the information package previously shared.

BROAD VISION FOR THE ROLLING PLAN OF ACTION

Non-economic losses refer to a broad range of losses that are not financially quantifiable and commonly traded in markets. They may impact individuals (e.g. loss of life, health or mobility), society (e.g. loss of territory, cultural heritage, indigenous or local knowledge, or societal or cultural identity) or the environment (e.g. loss of biodiversity or ecosystem services).

The activities and products of the NELs EG will assist the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (ExCom) in fulfilling relevant mandates and undertaking activities in its five-year rolling workplan relating to non-economic losses, including but not limited to activities under strategic workstream b concerning enhanced cooperation and facilitation in relation to non-economic losses.

While providing inputs and recommendations to the ExCom in fulfilling relevant mandates on non-economic losses, the NELs EG will strive to produce materials that can be directly used by countries in their efforts in this important area, thus assisting developing countries in efforts to address these impacts, alongside or in addition to the more conventional focus on economic impacts.

The planned activities and products under the PoA should focus on how to enhance data on and knowledge of reducing the risks of and addressing non-economic losses, including how to factor these into the planning and elaboration of measures to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.¹

The group will also make direct inputs and recommendations to the ExCom on these topics, for the ExCom to consider and include in its reporting to Parties at COPs/CMAs.

¹ Five-year rolling workplan of the ExCom, workstream (b) on Non-economic losses, activity 1.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The development of the rolling PoA serves to operationalize the NELs EG's role in assisting the ExCom in fulfilling relevant mandates from Parties relating to averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses.

As part of its responsibility to guide the work of the NELs EG the ExCom will endorse the draft PoA to ensure it is in line with the mandates from the Parties.



For the timely information sharing, the NELs EG, along with all other expert groups of the ExCom, will inform on its progress at the regular meetings of the ExCom, held twice a year, via written updates which can be complemented with an oral summary during the meetings.

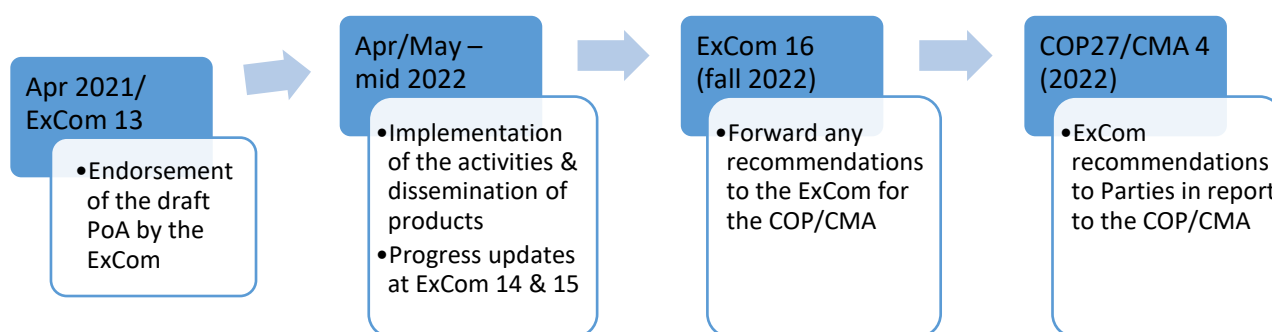
The progress of work of the NELs EG, including relevant recommendations, will be captured in the annual reports of the ExCom to the Parties.

The members of the NEL EG have the opportunity to act as important catalysers of the activities the group will undertake and of the knowledge it will produce, collate or synthesize, within their broader communities.

The group may request the secretariat to facilitate production of draft materials for subsequent consideration and finalization by the group.

TIMEFRAME OF THE FIRST ROLLING PLAN OF ACTION

The first rolling plan of action of the NEL EG will be developed for the 2021–2022 implementation timeframe. When elaborating the indicative timeline for its deliverables, the NELs EG should take into account a possible flow as follows:



MODE OF WORK AND STRUCTURE OF THE FIRST MEETING

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the first meeting will be conducted virtually. The following means will be supported by the secretariat:

- A NELs EG mailing list <NELs@lists.unfccc.int>
- Video/teleconferencing via MS Teams
- Collaborative space for document sharing and joint work (MS Teams space)

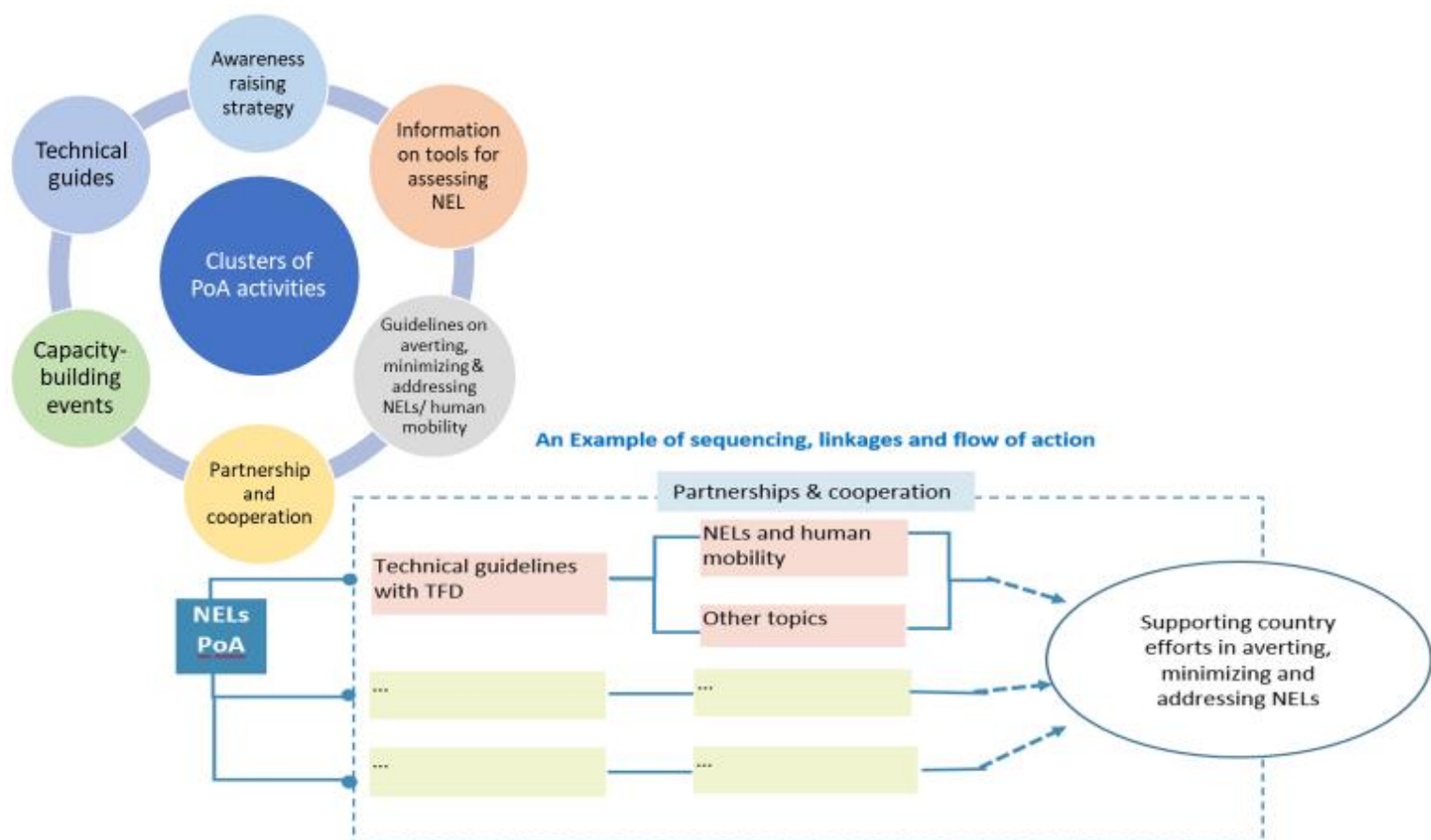
The **structure** of first meeting is planned as follows:

| Phase | Date/time | Objective/activity | Supporting material | Mode |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Preparatory Week 1 & 2 | 2 – 5 March | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of members • Common understanding of the context • A Q&A session hosted by the secretariat, 5 March, noon-13:00 CET | Expert profile Information package Background document | Mailing list and MS Teams space Videoconference via MS Teams |
| | 2–10 March | Provision of input to PoA template. Members to share comments, ideas, proposals and further input material | PoA template | Mailing list and shared document on the MS Teams space |
| Interaction / Meeting Week 3 | 15 March, 13:00 CET | Interactive session / live meeting among members to coordinate the drafting of the PoA | Collation of the inputs to the PoA template | Videoconference via MS Teams |
| | 15–18 March | Drafting of the PoA/ members to collaborate in cluster groups to elaborate respective parts of the PoA | | EG mailing list and MS Teams space |
| | 17 March, TBD | Elaborating the human mobility-related cluster/ Coordination meeting of TFD representatives with NELs EG members focusing on human mobility | TFD PoA | Videoconference via MS Teams |
| | 19 March, exact time TBD | Interactive session to finalize PoA/ next steps | Final versions of input from each cluster by lead & co-leads members | Videoconference via MS Teams |
| Post-meeting Week 4 | 22–26 March | Refinement, language editing of the PoA. Written input/exchange by members on outstanding issues, if required | Final PoA | EG mailing list and MS Teams space |

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

During the preparatory phase, members are invited to consider the draft template for the rolling plan of action (annex 1) and provide views and input on the following:

1. **Procedural aspects** (*please share your input by 5 March 2021*):
 - a. Main areas of contribution. Which cluster(s) will you/your organization be able to develop and implement actions? Which clusters of activities would you plan to lead/co-lead?
 - b. Relevant ongoing or planned activities, events and processes, with which the NELs EG should collaborate/coordinate in implementing its PoA.
2. **Substantive aspects** (*please consider the following when providing input to the rolling PoA by 10 Mar*):
 - a. What are your ideas towards ensuring broadest possible reach of the NELs EG's activities and products in terms of stakeholder involvement, delivery channels and facilitation of regional/national/local follow-up activities and knowledge production?
 - ✓ What contributions are you able to make towards these ideas, given your expertise, experience and professional network?
 - ✓ Where do you see overlaps or **linkages** in operationalizing what is listed under the Scope of work section of the terms of reference, **possible sequencing of activities** (see visual below)/ what are mutually supportive activities that would contribute to the overall effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of the PoA?



Annex: Draft template for the rolling plan of action of the Expert Group on Non-Economic Losses of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Note: see previous page for issues for consideration

| | | | | Implementation approach/modalities | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Scope of work as per ToR | Deliverables | Lead/co-lead | Activities | Indicative timeframe / Sequencing | Potential external collaborators <i>[linkage with cluster D]</i> | Relevant information/material |
| A | Developing an awareness-raising strategy and related knowledge products, outreach material, key messages (on NELs) | | | | | | |
| B | Collecting and synthesizing information on available tools for assessing non-economic losses and disseminating or otherwise making available that information, including via the UNFCCC website | | | | | | |
| C | Developing guidelines, jointly with the TFD, as appropriate, on averting, minimizing and addressing non-economic losses in the context of human mobility | | | | | | |
| D | Fostering existing and/or building new partnerships | | | | | | |

| | | | | Implementation approach/modalities | | | |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Scope of work as per ToR | Deliverables | Lead/co-lead | Activities | Indicative timeframe / Sequencing | Potential external collaborators <i>[linkage with cluster D]</i> | Relevant information/material |
| | and otherwise cooperating with relevant stakeholders engaged in work on non-economic losses | | | | | | |
| E | Inviting partners to coordinate related capacity-building events at the regional and national level to identify capacity needs and support with a view to supporting the efforts of developing countries to assess and address non-economic losses | | | | | | |
| F | Developing technical guides in its respective thematic area, avoiding duplication of work across workstreams | | | | | | |
| G | Developing recommendations to the ExCom for consideration by Parties | | | | | | |