

Stakeholder engagement workshop on strengthening the capacities for observation and risk assessment in the context of loss and damage

LE 23.12, Langer Eugen Building, Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1, 53113 Bonn, Germany

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Intervention by Mr. Benon Yassin, Least Developed Countries Expert Group Member

Session 6: Entry points for promoting and scaling up comprehensive risk management

The LEG is a constituted body under the Convention that is mandated to provide technical guidance and support on National Adaptation Plans.

The LEG works with the GCF on how formulation and implementation of NAPs is supported; it collaborates with UN organizations, agencies and many diverse actors that support countries on NAPs, and works directly with developing countries, especially the LDCs, providing technical guidance and support on NAPs and other areas of work under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

An interesting recent product of the technical work of the LEG is a tool called the **NAP-SDG integrating framework or in short, the NAP-SDG iFrame**, which works out how to achieve coherence and coordination between SDGs, Sendai and other relevant frameworks in addressing adaptation at the level of specific systems.

The LEG is also supporting developing countries to effectively formulate their NAPs through an initiative called **Open NAPs**. This is an approach to mobilize the broadest set of actors and experts to assist countries produce quality and timely NAPs, beyond the usual single agency that implements funded projects under the GCF or GEF for the formulation of NAPs. Happy to share details of these initiatives in the corridors.

For now, I will focus on the topic for this session.

There are at least three communities of practice that overlap in addressing adverse impacts of CC present in our discussions at this workshop, these are:

1. The **adaptation planning community** working on developing National Adaptation Plans, the NAPs, and the subsequent implementation of the adaptation policies, projects and programmes identified therein;
2. The **disaster community** working on disaster risk management and disaster risk reduction in the context of the Sendai Framework;
3. The **Loss and Damage community** in the context of the UNFCCC/PA working on ways to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, within the framework of the WIM.

The **common threads** through these communities are the technical aspects of climate risks – how to frame risk and assess it, and then respectively act on it:

- **The NAP community works through preemptive adaptation actions designed to reduce vulnerability, build and enhance resilience, and enhance adaptive capacity.** These efforts are designed to **produce adaptation and development benefits**. Risk assessment includes analysis and assessment of the components of risk, individually or collectively, namely climate hazards, exposure and vulnerability (the blades of the IPCC risk propeller). Mainly climate risks, but also consideration of other relevant factors;
- **The Loss and Damage community works in the context of the WIM works at a broader level, looking at the broader climate system and how to avert and minimize climate change risk.**
- **The disaster community works in context of the Sendai Framework and has its own targets etc.**

The common space is the area of Comprehensive Risk Management. How to frame risk and assess it, supported by data collection, and relevant analytical methodologies.

As stated nicely in a recent BMZ publication on CRM, the strategies for CRM include:

- Climate change mitigation;
- Climate change adaptation;
- Disaster risk management;
- Transitional development assistance.

The instruments listed to address CRM are many, and include such things as:

- Climate-resilient agriculture;
- Risk informed planning and investment;
- Climate induced human mobility;
- Preventive reconstruction;
- Expansion of renewables;
- Decarbonization;
- Risk transfer;
- Social protection;
- Sustainable natural resource management;
- Ecosystem-based adaptation;
- Civil protection and early warning systems;
- Capacity building.

From this long list, there are instruments that are clearly specific to adaptation for which the LEG in supporting NAPs can collaborate with the ExComm on CRM, in addressing the capacity gaps that were discussed during this workshop. Potential areas for collaboration could include the following 5:

1. **Raise awareness and provide advice on building technical expertise in developing countries on how to frame and assess climate risk** to support risk management under adaptation in NAPs, Loss and Damage under the WIM, and also with the disaster community under the Sendai Framework. **The LEG is already working with UNDRR in promoting coherence between NAPs and relevant targets under DRR;**
2. **Promote to the COP how such technical capacity-building for climate risk assessments can be supported through current climate finance channels** (mainly the GCF, GEF and other sources of climate finance outside the Convention);
3. **Raise awareness on minimum data to be collected by all countries to support CRM in the three areas covered in this workshop (adaptation in NAPs, Loss and Damage and DRR),** based on experience of countries that have progressed in their monitoring and early warning system efforts; **and why and how such efforts should be supported through existing applicable financing channels;**
4. **Raise awareness to the COP, and other relevant support programmes, on the current spatial and temporal coverage of data monitoring efforts to support CRM (climate data, event histories, etc) in order to highlight where significant gaps in coverage remain** (mainly in the LDCs and SIDs) so provision of support can be enhanced to fill those gaps;
5. **Promote a coherent approach to addressing the continuum of risk between the different communities represented here** from pre-emptive adaptation planning, to contingency measures and to efforts to address losses and damages. This can be done through coordinated and coherent risk assessments, capturing of costs and benefits of adaptation, and the measurement of damages of the adverse impacts of climate change, to support effective decision-making at appropriate levels on how much to invest in adaptation, versus contingency instruments, and how to address losses and damages resulting from the adverse impacts when they happen;

The LEG would like to encourage inclusion of the adaptation and NAP community in further workshops on CRM such as this, to broaden the discourse to cover this third community of practice on risk assessment and management, to complement the good coverage of the Loss and Damage and DRR communities present today.

The LEG stands ready to engage in further dialogue with the ExComm, including through the various ExComm technical expert groups, to support both the international efforts as well as in provision of advice and technical support to country teams.