

Goal 13

Target number: 13.b

Indicator Number and Name: 13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Agency: UNFCCC in consultation with OECD

Background

Parties to the Paris Agreement recognize the specific needs and special circumstances of developing country Parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, as provided for in the Convention, as referred to in the preamble of the Agreement, with particular mention of small island developing States and Parties most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change throughout the Agreement in Articles relating to adaptation, mitigation, finance, capacity building, transparency, and nationally determined contributions. Decision 1/CP.21 on the adoption of the Paris Agreement makes special reference to the needs of small island developing States in relation to finance and transparency.

Various activities under the UNFCCC process and the Paris Agreement provide support towards raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including through finance, technology and capacity-building including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.

The OECD collects comprehensive data from donors on their official development assistance flows to developing countries.

Overview of activities and reporting:

Capacity building

A synthesis report on activities undertaken to implement the framework for capacity-building in developing countries under the UNFCCC is produced annually by the UNFCCC secretariat, under the COP. The synthesis report summarizes available information on institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building according to the scope of needs and priority areas for capacity-building in developing countries outlined in the framework, including capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer. The information refers to capacity-building activities reported in national reports submitted by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other Parties between January and December each year.

The COP, by its decision 19/CP.18, adopted the common tabular format for “UNFCCC biennial reporting guidelines for developed country Parties” including a table for information on the provision of capacity-building support. Each Party included in Annex II to the Convention shall provide information, to the extent possible, in this table on how it has provided capacity-building support that responds to the existing and emerging capacity-building needs identified by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in the areas of mitigation, adaptation and technology development and transfer.

As part of the Adoption of the Paris Agreement, the COP at its twenty-first session established the Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB) to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in

implementing capacity-building in developing country Parties and further enhancing capacity-building efforts, including with regard to coherence and coordination in capacity-building activities under the Convention (1/CP.21, paragraph 71). The Paris Committee on Capacity-building manages and oversees the 2016–2020 workplan, which encompasses nine capacity-building related activities (1/CP.21, paragraph 73). The COP, by its decision 16/CP.22, invited the PCCB, in managing the 2016–2020 workplan, to take into consideration previous work undertaken on indicators for capacity building. The PCCB will meet for the first time during the Bonn Climate Change Conference, in May 2017. One of the activities included in the 2016–2020 workplan refers to promoting the development and dissemination of tools and methodologies for the implementation of capacity-building.

National adaptation plans

At COP 16 the UNFCCC established a process to enable least developed country Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs), building upon their experience in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action, as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs (decision 1/CP.16, para 15). The initial guidelines for the formulation of NAPs as adopted by the COP are contained in decision 5/CP.17, annex. Non-LDC SIDS may also avail themselves of the process. The COP mandated the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to provide technical guidance and support to the process to formulate and implement NAPs in the LDCs (decision 5/CP.17, para 13). Formulation and implementation of NAPs is funded through the Green Climate Fund (decision 1/CP.21, para 46). Activities to enable NAPs are also funded through the LDCF and the SCCF (decision 12/CP.18). Countries submit their completed NAPs as well as other outputs of the process through NAP Central <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>>.

Adaptation knowledge to action¹: Role of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP)

The adaptation knowledge to action function of the Nairobi Work Programme can contribute to Target 13.b in several ways:

- The NWP contributes to advancing adaptation action through knowledge by providing knowledge support to Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States. Its activities are geared towards integrating the consideration of vulnerable communities in addition to gender issues, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, where appropriate.
- Synthesizing the latest information and capturing knowledge on key adaptation issues addresses various thematic areas that inform adaptation planning and action in countries. Thematic areas include human health, ecosystems and water resources, human settlements, economic diversification and indicators of adaptation and resilience and cross-cutting areas of local, indigenous and traditional knowledge and gender issues. Synthesis work to be undertaken on human settlements and adaptation includes a specific reference to the “unique challenges and scale differences in urban, rural and remote settlements, in particular in small island developing States and least developed countries”.
- Fostering science–policy–practice collaboration to close knowledge gaps. The Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) aims to address knowledge barriers that impede the implementation and scaling up of adaptation action in the context of various sub regions and thematic domains (e.g. different sectors and areas of vulnerabilities). During 2015 and 2016, five sub-regional priority-setting workshops were organized for the following sub regions: Andean, Gulf Cooperation Council, Southern Africa, Hindu Kush Himalayan, Indian Ocean island countries. The following least developed countries have been covered under the LAKI to date: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal and

¹ See more at < <https://unfccc.int/nwp>>.

Zambia. Regarding small island developing States, Comoros, Maldives, Seychelles and Mauritius also fell under the purview of the LAKI. An additional workshop is planned to take place in 2017.²

- Disseminating knowledge and fostering learning to boost adaptation action at all levels. The Adaptation Knowledge Portal, for example, is an online platform that provides wealth of information and knowledge on adaptation to climate change, such as case studies, tools and knowledge resources in thematic areas. This space also provides access to numerous papers synthesizing information.³

Specifically in relation to indicator 13.b.1, NWP activities aim to reach out to organizations representing indigenous and traditional communities, gender constituencies and youth organizations.⁴

The NWP engages with a growing network of non-Party stakeholders to share their experience and expertise. The NWP has fostered a diverse network of partners. Over 350 international, regional, national and non-governmental organizations, including research institutions, universities and private sector companies have already joined the NWP as partners.⁵ Their role is to contribute to the generation and dissemination of information and knowledge that would inform and support adaptation policies and practices, particularly in least developed countries and small island developing States. These non-Party stakeholders are often pioneers in the field of adaptation at national or local levels, and include many organizations operating in direct support of national governments and institutions.

Addressing residual climate impacts: Work under the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts and its Executive Committee⁶

The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM) is relevant to Target 13.b in the following ways:

- The WIM is the main vehicle under the UNFCCC to address, in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner, potential impacts of climate change not addressed through planned adaptation in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
- One of the key mandated functions of the Mechanism is to enhance action and support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change so as to enable countries to undertake actions related to, among others, assessing the risk of loss and damage; identifying options and designing and implementing country-driven risk management strategies and approaches; involving vulnerable communities and populations.⁷

The Executive Committee of the Mechanism guides the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism.

In this context, the Paris Agreement recognizes the following areas of cooperation and facilitation to enhance understanding, action and support. The areas below help raise the capacity for effective climate change-related action across a continuum of planning as well as contingency planning:

- Early warning systems;
- Emergency preparedness;

² See more at <<https://unfccc.int/nwp>>.

³ See more at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nwp/Pages/Home.aspx>>.

⁴ See more at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbsta/eng/02e.pdf>> on page 6-7 and at <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/sbsta/eng/l22.pdf>>.

⁵ See more at <<http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWP/Pages/Partners.aspx>>.

⁶ See more at <<http://unfccc.int/6056>>.

⁷ See decision 2/CP.19, paragraph 5(c) and decision 3/CP.18, paragraph 6.

- Slow onset events;⁸
- Events that may involve irreversible and permanent loss and damage;
- Comprehensive risk assessment and management;
- Risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions;
- Non-economic losses;
- Resilience of communities, livelihoods and ecosystems.

Modalities through which the Executive Committee facilitates efforts by countries in enhancing these actions include: organization of technical meetings and events; synthesizing information; development of user-friendly knowledge resources, including online products; provision of technical guidance and support through technical expert groups.

Specifically related to Target 13.b.1, the least developed countries and small island developing State groups are each allocated with one dedicated seat each among the 20 membership slots of the Committee. Currently the Committee comprises five members from the least developed countries and four from small island developing States, through whom perspectives of the least developed countries and small island developing States are well-reflected in undertaking the work of the Committee.⁹

The Executive Committee, in implementing its workplan, also takes into account, in a cross-cutting manner, particularly vulnerable developing countries, segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, socioeconomic status, livelihoods, gender, age, indigenous or minority status or disability, and the ecosystems that they depend on.

Gender and climate change

Gender and climate change is a dedicated agenda item under the COP that has generated decisions specifically addressing issues of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, including through activities aimed at increasing the participation and representation of women under the UNFCCC process and by introducing a goal of gender-responsive climate policies and action.¹⁰ The Lima work programme on gender has been in place since November 2014 and has recently been extended to November 2019.¹¹ In addition, there are over 50 decisions and conclusions under the COP and subsidiary bodies that address or refer to the need to specifically support and/or involve women in climate policies and action, including references to support to women in countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change.¹² In the Paris Agreement, Parties confirmed that capacity-building and adaptation actions should be gender-responsive,¹³ while also acknowledging that Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, including gender equality and the empowerment of women.¹⁴

Specifically related to target 13.b, the Lima work programme on gender encourages Parties, relevant observer organizations and the secretariat to assist in training, awareness-raising and capacity-building for women on topics related to gender and climate change, as wells as building skills to effectively participate

⁸ According to decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 25, slow onset events include sea level rise, increasing temperatures, ocean acidification, glacial retreat and related impacts, salinization, land and forest degradation, loss of biodiversity and desertification.

⁹ More information on the work of the Executive Committee is available at <<http://unfccc.int/7543>>.

¹⁰ See decisions 36/CP.7, 23/CP.18, 18/CP.20 and 21/CP.22.

¹¹ See decisions 18/CP.20 and 21/CP.22

¹² See informal document GCC/DRC/2015/1

<http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/bonn_jun_2015/application/pdf/gcc_drc_2015_1.pdf>

¹³ Adaptation, Article 7(5) and capacity-building, Article 11(2)

¹⁴ Paris Agreement, preamble.

in UNFCCC meetings, with a particular focus on training and capacity-building for delegates from Parties that are particularly vulnerable to climate change.¹⁵

A gender action plan is under development and may include additional activities that would be relevant to target 13.b.

The local communities and indigenous peoples' platform

In 2015, Parties to the UNFCCC established a platform for local communities and indigenous peoples ([decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 135](#)), in recognition of the need to strengthen the knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change. The platform will support sharing experiences and best practices on mitigation and adaptation, and ultimately lead to increased climate action. The platform allows indigenous peoples and local communities to take a central role in strengthening the knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts to address and respond to climate change. A representative from the indigenous peoples organisations will co-moderate the first open multi-stakeholder dialogue with the Chair of the SBSTA to discuss ways to effectively operationalize the platform.¹⁶ The dialogue took place in May 2017, with negotiations on this item ongoing. Further information is available at unfccc.int/adaptation.

Has work for the development of this indicator begun?

Compilation of relevant data sets is underway. Relevant negotiations to operationalize the Paris Agreement are planned to conclude at the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties (December 2018).¹⁷

This outcome is expected to provide modalities, procedures and guidelines which will define new data and reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement. This will allow for the possible refinement of this indicator in 2020, and serve as a basis to assess progress on this target/indicator.

Up-to-date progress on the implementation of relevant requests to operationalize the Paris Agreement can be found in the UNFCCC Paris Agreement Progress Tracker.¹⁸

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools?

UNFCCC in consultation with OECD.

What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems in the development of the methodology?

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed?

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator? If yes, please describe:

¹⁵ Decision 18/CP.20, paragraphs 6 – 8, decision 21/CP.22, paragraphs 7 – 9.

¹⁶ See more at <http://unfccc.int/adaptation>.

¹⁷ <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cma1/eng/03a01.pdf#page=2>

¹⁸ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/paris-agreement-work-programme>

How do you plan to collect the data?

Data from the under the UNFCCC process will be collected through extracting information from the official reports and documents from Parties and/or mandated activities under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.

The OECD also collects comprehensive data from donors on their official development assistance flows to developing countries. These data are available at project level, and enable the quantification of aid flows that target climate mitigation or adaptation, gender or other objectives. These data may be exploited to provide granular information on the amount of support by donors to each developing country, though further work would be needed to define which projects would qualify.

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here:

Current and on-going (pre and post-2020):

- Nationally determined contributions (every 5 years) <<http://unfccc.int/8766.php>>;
- Adaptation components (as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents, including a national adaptation plan, a nationally determined contribution as referred to in Article 4, paragraph 2, and/or a national communication)
- National Communications (every four years) <<http://unfccc.int/7742.php>>;
- UNFCCC annual progress reports on NAPs;
- Developing country NAP documents <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/national-adaptation-plans.aspx>>.
- Databases that can be found on NAP central, including a database of policies¹⁹
- OECD data on official development assistance projects as described in the previous section, see <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/>.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

- UNFCCC NAP annual progress reports are compiled annually
- NAPs are submitted by developing country Parties once completed, and will be updated periodically;
- Databases on NAP Central are updated on an ongoing basis;
- OECD data are collected and published on an annual basis.

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator? If yes, please briefly describe:

Data presented in the annual progress report is reviewed by the LEG and the secretariat.

If you have any additional comments that you believe would be helpful to IAEG-SDG members in analysing the work plan and methodological development of the indicator, please provide them here:

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¹⁹ <<http://www4.unfccc.int/nap>>

²⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cma1/eng/03a01.pdf#page=2>>

This workplan will be further developed in collaboration with other relevant agencies, as appropriate.

(as of August 2018)