



11 April 2025

**Twenty-second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for
Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, Bonn, Germany**

13–15 May 2025

Compilation of views on ExCom's knowledge products and technical guides for item 12(b)

I. Introduction

1. ExCom 21 (September 2024) decided to add an agenda item at ExCom 22 to consider lessons learned from the work on technical products to date and how to improve the process for development of technical product.
2. This document is prepared to inform ExCom's consideration of Item 12(b) on Lessons learned on the development of knowledge products and technical guides. The document draws from the following sources:
 - (a) [Summary](#) of views and inputs to the 2024 review of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts;
 - (b) ExCom 20 and 21 (2024);
 - (c) First and second meetings of all expert groups of the ExCom (2022 and 2024, respectively);
 - (d) Meetings of the SOEs, NELs, TFD, TEG-CRM, ASEG, champions meetings, and spin-off meetings held with the co-leads of knowledge products, held from 2021 to 2025.
3. Views are broadly clustered under the following categories: 1) Content and topics, 2) Design / "look" of the finished products, 3) Process of development, 4) Stakeholder engagement, 5) Coherence and collaboration with other expert groups and liaisons, 6) Dissemination and accessibility, and 7) Usefulness and usability.

II. Summary of views

1. CONTENT AND TOPICS

General feedback on the knowledge products already published:

- Show limited and uneven coverage across topics and thematic areas
- Need to minimize redundancies across knowledge products
- Knowledge products should be more practical and focus more on actionable context-specific solutions and fill knowledge gaps
- Knowledge products should focus less on the scientific aspects, technical academic analysis, and generic guidance

What should/could be incorporated in future knowledge products and technical guides:

- Information focusing on loss and damage rather than adaptation, and a common narrative could be developed to differentiate between the two
- Information focusing on solutions for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage to go beyond the classic adaptation solutions
- Strengthened policy angle on loss and damage
- National response systems and programmatic approaches
- Diverse, regionally balanced, and context-specific case studies
- Gender-responsive approaches
- Cultural heritage and vulnerable groups, including children, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities

- Cost information associated with proposed solutions

Future topics suggested:

- Guidelines and methodologies on cost and needs assessments for developing countries
- Specific types of non-economic losses
- Accessing finance for action to address loss and damage
- Comprehensive risk assessment and planning in the context of climate change
- Topics relevant to the evolved landscape for loss and damage support
- Topics relevant to supporting countries and communities in accessing technical assistance

2. DESIGN / "LOOK" OF THE FINISHED PRODUCTS:

Format:

- Need for greater consistency in formatting, style, and structure across all knowledge products, using boxes, tables, quotes, etc.
- Create templates/formats tailored to catch the interest of policymakers
- Executive summary highlighting key findings and actions to facilitate the understanding of the content
- Common and catchy introduction across knowledge products for coherence
- Apply a unified referencing style across knowledge products and clarify citation rules
- Content should be streamlined and kept concise, from 15 pages to a maximum of 50 pages
- Consider having "living documents" that can be updated over time

Visual elements:

- Need for a common, user-friendly design across all knowledge products and for incorporating more visual elements like graphics, substantive figures, illustrations, photos, and animations

3. PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT

Approach for developing future knowledge products:

- Review existing outputs and identify knowledge gaps
- Clearly identify the target audience and purpose of each knowledge product at an early stage
- Set a clear timeline and structured approach that includes the endorsement period
- Clarify and use different approaches and modalities available as needed (e.g. literature review, calls for contribution, consultations, surveys, regional events engagement, in-person writing workshop, peer review, etc.)
- Consider translation costs during the development stage

Coordination tools:

- Organize short and regular meetings focused on specific topics
- Use of shared online tools for planning and coordinating purposes and sharing draft documents

Roles of champions, experts, and other contributors:

- Experts to provide valuable contributions in synthesizing information and identifying actionable, practical approaches to loss and damage
- Clarify in writing the roles and expectations for co-leads and contributors
- Champions to support by aligning on expectations and giving guidance to experts

4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Engagement of loss and damage contact points and national and local stakeholders:

- Utilize Loss and Damage contact points more effectively, including through a system to track the use of outputs
- Engage regional and local experts to address specific knowledge gaps
- Expand methods of engagement with national stakeholders to improve delivery and uptake
- Organize more consultations with target users to get feedback throughout the development process, including before and during drafting, to ensure relevance and usability
- Increase engagement with the loss and damage research and practice communities

Modalities for inputs and feedback:

- Explore joint stakeholder consultations for different products to improve efficiency in obtaining feedback on knowledge products
- More time is needed for stakeholders and the target audience to provide inputs
- Balance the need for input with timeline and practical limitations
- Use online stakeholder consultations more frequently
- Ensure stakeholder consultations are meaningful and ethically sound
- Create channels to gather input from children and youth, using networks with child rights organizations and coalitions

5. COHERENCE AND COLLABORATION WITH OTHER EXPERT GROUPS AND LIAISON

The cooperation between expert groups for synergies:

- Facilitate regular cross-group communication and meetings between the co-leads of different knowledge products
- Need for meetings with other expert groups to discuss cross-cutting issues across all knowledge products
- Utilize shared collaboration tools to share draft documents across expert groups
- When starting the development of the knowledge products, important to consider how the work of an expert group can inform the work of another and build on the expertise across expert groups
- Build on lessons learned from one expert group to inform others for the development of knowledge products

Coherence between knowledge products:

- Make references and linkages between knowledge products
- Share drafts early and across groups for contribution and alignment
- Encourage lateral meetings between co-leads of different knowledge products
- Promote the joint development of knowledge products to leverage overlaps and avoid duplication
- Build synergies across expert groups to ensure different knowledge products are coherent, complementary, and not contradictory

Collaboration with liaison members:

- Share draft product with the ExCom liaison to the Santiago network Advisory Board for inputs on technical resources

6. DISSEMINATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility of knowledge products:

- Regroup all WIM knowledge products on a single, user-friendly, and easily accessible UNFCCC web page
- Conduct an independent bibliometric analysis to assess the reach of knowledge products and inform improved dissemination measures

Dissemination of knowledge products:

- Improve the effectiveness of the distribution of knowledge products to policymakers and practitioners at the national level
- Conduct regional webinars to disseminate products with support from UN agencies and regional organizations
- Enhance the visibility of knowledge products on social media

Outreach materials and activities:

- Produce shorter, more user-friendly versions or explainers for targeted audiences
- Create short videos and visual materials for each knowledge product to improve accessibility for policymakers and practitioners at the national level
- Develop outreach materials targeting students and universities
- Use technical sessions, e-learning, and other modalities to promote real-world application
- Ensure outreach reaches vulnerable countries and communities most affected by loss and damage
- Use external marketing services to promote products
- Consider developing a mobile application to disseminate outputs

7. USEFULNESS AND USABILITY

Usefulness:

- Knowledge products should address the issues and topics identified in the work under the Santiago network and the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage and serve the work of other constituted bodies (e.g. the Adaptation Committee, Least Developed Countries Expert Group, etc.)
- Knowledge products are valuable resource for policymakers
- Clarify the value-add of each product within the broader landscape
- Ensure products are demand-driven, aligned with national and regional needs
- Ensure the content is tailored to the needs of the target audience and local context
- Conduct a survey once the knowledge product has been published, to assess the relevance and usefulness of the knowledge products at the national level

Usability:

- Make content readable and practical for policymakers and practitioners using less technical language
- Guidance on how to integrate the substantive content of the knowledge products into the work of policymakers and practitioners through the creation of user guides of knowledge products
- Translate knowledge products into all official UN languages to facilitate the understanding of the products at the local level