Adaptation **C**ommittee

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Considering approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 20th meeting, will be invited to consider the summary note on considering approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation and its annex and the outlined next steps, including requesting the secretariat to publish the associated technical paper in a user-friendly format and agreeing on how to reflect the outcome of this work in its 2021 annual report.

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1. Background

1. Article 7 of the Paris Agreement established the global goal on adaptation of "enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate response in the context of the temperature goal"[1] of "[h]olding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels."[2]

2. To assess the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals, Article 14 of the Agreement established the global stocktake, a cyclical mechanism taking place every five years beginning in 2023.[3] In relation to adaptation, the global stocktake will, among other things, review the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation.[4] Beyond shedding light on what Parties have achieved, the outcomes of the global stocktake will inform Parties in "updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, their actions and support in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Paris Agreement, as well as in enhancing international cooperation for climate action."[5]

3. In 2019, the CMA requested the Adaptation Committee (AC) "to consider approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation and to reflect the outcome of this consideration in its 2021 annual report."[6] The AC prepared a technical paper to support this request, which is intended to help inform the discussion within the AC on approaches to assessing the global goal on adaptation. The request will be fulfilled overall once the Adaptation Committee concludes its consideration and reflects the outcomes in its report. Additionally, the technical paper also fulfills an activity in the Adaptation Committee's 2019-2021 flexible workplan. This activity is preparing a "technical paper on useful information and methodologies for assessing progress in enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change," which was initially planned for 2021.

4. Additionally, the Adaptation Committee hosted a webinar on 11 May 2021,[7] during which it presented its technical paper and sought feedback from Parties, observers, academics, and other interested stakeholders. This feedback has been taken into account in the finalization of the technical paper. The input received through Mentimeter, a live polling and audience interaction software used to collect additional ideas and insights during the webinar, is available in the Annex to this note.

2. Unpacking the global goal on adaptation

5. The global goal on adaptation features three core components: enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability to climate change. These three components are grounded in the aim of contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement. The IPCC defines adaptive capacity as "The ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequences."[8] Adaptive capacity relates to both the resources--including natural, financial, institutional, or human—available in a given system for adaptation and the ability of that system to effectively deploy those resources to advance

[1] Article 7, para. 1, of the Paris Agreement.
[2] Article 2, para. 1(a), of the Paris Agreement.
[3] Article 14, para. 2, of the Paris Agreement.
[4] Article 7, para. 14(d), of the Paris Agreement.
[5] Article 14, para. 3, of the Paris Agreement.
[6] Decision 1/CMA.2, para. 14.
[7] https://unfccc.int/event/AC-webinar-GGA
[8] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2018. Annex I: Glossary. *In:* Masson-Delmotte V., Zhai P, Pörtner H-O, et al. (eds.). *Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*. IPCC. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15_AnnexI_Glossary.pdf

adaptation.[9] Related to the concept of adaptive capacity is the concept of resilience, which the IPCC defines as "The capacity of social, economic and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation."[10] According to the IPCC, vulnerability is "The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected" and it "encompasses a variety of concepts and elements including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt."[11]

6. Academics and practitioners have piloted various methods of assessing these three components individually across different contexts. For example, efforts to assess and measure adaptive capacity using various approaches, including assessments of secondary data sources, self-assessments, futures modelling, inductive theory-driven approaches, and psychometric assessments of perceived adaptive capacity.[12] There are also a variety of resilience measurement frameworks with different conceptual entry points that deploy different sets of indicators.[13] Finally, there are a wide range of vulnerability assessment approaches, including hazards approaches, risk management approaches, vulnerability approaches, resilience approaches, ecosystem-based approaches, and expert based approaches, many of which are not mutually exclusive.[14]

3. Key challenges

7. Assessing collective progress towards the global goal requires navigating a series of significant challenges and trade-offs. This includes methodological challenges (e.g. the difficulty of attributing results to interventions, the shifting baselines and uncertainties of climate hazards, and designing a system that can aggregate results across scales and contexts),[15] empirical challenges (e.g. the rarity of adaptation databases), and conceptual challenges (e.g. a lack of agreement on what counts as adaptation)[16]. There are also political challenges, such as navigating divergent views and political sensitives surrounding measurement under the UNFCCC regime.[17]

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[9] Brooks N and Adger WN. 2004. Assessing and Enhancing Adaptive Capacity. *In:* Lim B (ed.). *Adaptation Policy Frameworks for Climate Change: Developing Strategies, Policies and Measures.* Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid: UNDP and Cambridge University Press. pp.165-181. Available at https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/downloads/adaptation_policy_frameworks_for_climate_change_-_developing_strategies_policies_and_measures_0.pdf

[10] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2018. Annex I: Glossary. *In:* Masson-Delmotte V., Zhai P, Pörtner H-O, et al. (eds.). *Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*. IPCC. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15_AnnexI_Glossary.pdf

[11] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. 2018. Annex I: Glossary. *In:* Masson-Delmotte V., Zhai P, Pörtner H-O, et al. (eds.). *Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*. IPCC. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15_AnnexI_Glossary.pdf

[12] Lockwood M, Raymond CM, Oczkowski, et al. 2015. Measuring the dimensions of adaptive capacity: a psychometric approach. *Ecology and Society* 20(1): pp.37.

[13] Schipper ELF, and Langston L. 2015. *A comparative overview of resilience measurement frameworks: analysing indicators and approaches.* London: ODI. pp. 9. Available at https://cdn.odi.org/media/documents/9754.pdf

[14] Least Developed Countries Expert Group. 2012. National Adaptation Plans: Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process. Bonn: UNFCCC. pp.65. Available at https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/application/pdf/naptechguidelines_eng_high__res.pdf

[15] Craft B and Fisher S. 2018. Measuring the adaptation goal in the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement. *Climate Policy.* 18(9): pp.1203-1209.

[16] Tompkins EL, Vincent K, Nicholls RJ, et al. 2018. Documenting the state of adaptation for the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement. WIREs Climate Change. 9(e545).

[17] Craft B and Fisher S. 2018. Measuring the adaptation goal in the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement. *Climate Policy.* 18(9): pp.1203-1209

8. Moreover, the approach taken must manage various trade-offs between key criteria for assessing adaptation progress, such as between aggregability versus sensitivity to the national context, aggregability versus coherence, or feasibility and aggregability versus the ability to make longitudinal assessments.[18] It must also satisfy the global stocktake's dual mandate of assessing collective progress and informing the update and enhancement of national level actions.[19]

9. Additionally, there are challenges at the national level that will impact the assessment of the global goal on adaptation, including those associated with developing, implementing, and maintaining monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems for adaptation, which help generate information for Parties' reports to the UNFCCC.[20]

4. Approaches for assessing collective progress on adaptation

10. There is emerging literature dealing with the question of how to assess adaptation progress and aggregate or collate these assessments across various scales and dimensions, including in relation to the global goal on adaptation. Some authors identify general avenues for collecting and linking adaptation-related information drawn from different scales. This includes standardized metrics applied consistently at different scales; context-specific metrics that relate to common themes; and informal linkages.[21]

11. Others have proposed specific frameworks of metrics, such as a framework combining metrics that assess risks, global readiness to address risks, and support required and available for adaptation.[22] Risk metrics would include a composite index of economy-wide risk and an assessment of risk for specific sectors; both would be linked to varying temperature scenarios. Metrics assessing global readiness to address risk, by contrast, would examine three different elements, namely, the global state of adaptation planning readiness, the state of sector-based planning, and whether planning is appropriate in light of risks and vulnerability. Finally, support-related metrics would serve to assess the investment required to address risks linked to varying temperature scenarios, domestic adaptation investments made (to recognize the efforts of developing country Parties), and support provided for adaptation.

12. Another approach that appears in the literature is a proximity-to-target approach, which attempts to reconcile the tension between sensitivity to national contexts and the feasibility of a global assessment of progress by using a government's own adaptation targets and goals as benchmarks.[23] This approach can yield purely descriptive assessments of whether a government is meeting its own targets and goals or it can be designed to accommodate more subjective and normative assessments of the sufficiency or appropriateness of a government's goals or the instruments being deployed; this is contingent upon agreement on what constitutes sufficiency or appropriateness or on an ideal model against which such comparisons can be made.

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[18] Berrang-Ford L, Wang FM, Lesnikowski A, et al. 2017. Towards the assessment of adaptation progress at the global level. *In*: A Olhoff, H Neufeldt, P Naswa et al. (eds). *The Adaptation Gap Report: Towards Global Assessment.* Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. pp. 35-48.

[19] Craft B and Fisher S. 2018. Measuring the adaptation goal in the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement. *Climate Policy.* 18(9): pp.1203-1209

[20] Mutimba S, Simiyu SW, Lelekoiten TL, et al. 2019. *sNAPshot: Kenya's Monitoring and Evaluation of Adaptation: Simplified, integrated, multilevel.* International Institute for Sustainable Development. Available at http://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/snapshot-kenyas-monitoring-and-evaluation-of-adaptation-simplified-integrated-multilevel/

[21] Leiter T. 2015. Linking monitoring and evaluation of adaptation to climate change across scales: avenues and practical approaches. New Directions for Evaluation. pp. 121-122.

[22] Ngwadla X and El-Bakri S. 2016. *The Global Goal for Adaptation under the Paris Agreement: Putting ideas into action*. London, UK: Climate and Development Knowledge Network. Available at: https://cdkn.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Global-adaptation-goals-paper.pdf

[23] Berrang-Ford L, Wang FM, Lesnikowski A, et al. 2017. Towards the assessment of adaptation progress at the global level. *In*: A Olhoff, H Neufeldt, P Naswa et al. (eds). *The Adaptation Gap Report: Towards Global Assessment.* Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. pp. 38. Available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/22172/adaptation_gap_2017.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

13. Instead of directly addressing the challenge of how to extract and aggregate information across scales, some authors have suggested that the global stocktake first attempts to arrive at agreement on the outstanding contentious or ambiguous elements of the global goal on adaptation. This subset of literature focuses on steps such as reaching consensus on the objectives of adaptation action, sources of evidence, search methods for tracking adaptation, and how to categorize the adaptation actions,[24] or, more broadly, on agreeing what to track, how to track it, and addressing enduring challenges related to data and other areas.[25]

14. The development and use of adaptation indicators by academics, donors, and governments have proliferated recently. The IPCC has identified at least three uses of metrics for assessing adaptation: 1) determining the need for adaptation, 2) measuring the process of implementing adaptation, and 3) measuring the effectiveness of adaptation.[26] While there are existing indices with metrics that track the three elements of the global goal on adaptation, the lack of agreement on the relative merits of these indices and the validity of the rankings that they generate renders it unlikely that they can play a prominent role, if any, in the global stocktake.[27] There is no consensus on how to systematically assess, measure, express and compare countries' vulnerability to climate change and none of the existing indices has been endorsed by the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC[28] or the CMA.

15. Several researchers[29] note that, in implementing the global stocktake, the international climate change regime can look to other international review mechanisms and borrow relevant processes and/or indicators. In particular, the Paris Agreement's siblings among the post-2015 development agendas, especially the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as other Rio Conventions, are cited as offering a set of indicators already tailored to the global level that potentially can be applied to reveal insights into global progress on adaptation. Potentially relevant indicators under the SDG framework include, for example, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (indicator 13.1.1); the number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy, strategy, or plan which increases their ability to adapt to climate change and foster climate resilience and low emissions development (indicator 13.2.1); and the number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework (indicator 11.b.1).[30] Under the Sendai Framework, examples of indicators relevant to adaptation include direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global GDP (indicator C-1); damage to critical infrastructure attributed to disasters

[24] Tompkins EL, Vincent K, Nicholls RJ, et al. 2018. Documenting the state of adaptation for the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement. WIREs Climate Change. 9(e545).

[25] Olhoff A, Väänänen E, and Dickson B. 2018. Tracking adaptation progress at the global level: Key issues and priorities. *In*: Z Zommers and K Alverson (eds.). *Resilience: The Science of Adaptation to Climate Change*. Amsterdam, Cambridge, and Oxford: Elsevier. pp.51-61.

[26] IPCC. 2014. Adaptation Needs and Options. *In*: *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Part A: Global and Sectoral Aspects. Contribution of Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, pp. 833-868. Available at https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/WGIIAR5-Chap14_FINAL.pdf; (2)

[27] Olhoff A, Väänänen E, and Dickson B. 2018. Tracking adaptation progress at the global level: Key issues and priorities. *In*: Z Zommers and K Alverson (eds.). *Resilience: The Science of Adaptation to Climate Change*. Amsterdam, Cambridge, and Oxford: Elsevier. pp.51-61.

[28] Moehner A. 2018. The evolution of adaptation metrics under the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement. . *In*: L Christiansen, Martinez G, and P Naswa (eds.). *Adaptation metrics: Perspectives on measuring, aggregating and comparing adaptation results*. Copenhagen: UNEP DTU Partnership. pp. 15-28.

[29] E.g. Huang J. 2018. What can the Paris Agreement's global stocktake learn from the Sustainable Development Goals? *Carbon and Climate Law Review* 12(3): pp.218-228; Olhoff A, Väänänen E, and Dickson B. 2018. Tracking adaptation progress at the global level: Key issues and priorities. *In*: Z Zommers and K Alverson (eds.). *Resilience: The Science of Adaptation to Climate Change*. Amsterdam, Cambridge, and Oxford: Elsevier. pp.51-61; Leiter T and Pringle P. 2018. Pitfalls and potential of measuring climate change adaptation through adaptation metrics. *In*: L Christiansen, Martinez G, and P Naswa (eds.). *Adaptation metrics: Perspectives on measuring, aggregating and comparing adaptation results*. Copenhagen: UNEP DTU Partnership. pp.29-48.

[30] For a full list of SDG indicators, see https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202019%20refinement_Eng.pdf

(indicator D-1); and the number of countries that have multi-hazard early warning systems (indicator G-1).[31] Borrowing or tweaking indicators from these other regimes must be approached with caution, however, considering the global stocktake's differences in terms of its focus (i.e. on collective versus individual action) and its time horizon, and because indicators or approaches agreed in the context of other regimes may not necessarily be agreed for use in this case.

5. Reviewing progress at the global, supranational national, and subnational levels

16. Existing global, supranational, national and subnational systems and assessments for tracking adaptation progress may offer insights into how a review of adaptation progress can be done in practice. While the practice of implementing such systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation efforts is still relatively nascent, several countries, organizations, and institutions have already begun piloting such systems. The design of these systems varies considerably, with differing combinations of qualitative analyses and qualitative and quantitative indicators.

17. Under the UNFCCC, there is an existing effort to regularly assess progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. As part of this effort, the LEG with the support of the secretariat produces annual reports providing information on the progress of Parties in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including on support provided and received, as compiled by the LEG as part of its work programme. Further work is underway, with the support of the NAP technical working group, to include new metrics under the PEG M&E Tool to cover the expanded measures being tracked on the progress on NAPs, such as those covering outcomes and impact of adaptation..

18. Furthermore, the 2020 UNEP Adaptation Gap Report, adapted the EU's scoreboard methodology (see below) for a global analysis.[32] It looked at five criteria and 13 corresponding indicators that together assess progress on adaptation planning worldwide based on the NDCs, NAPs, and national communications submitted by Parties to the UNFCCC and produced a similar scoreboard for the global level.

19. At the supranational levels, the EU's scoreboard methodology offers one example of how to assess progress across countries.[33] The scoreboard displays the aggregate status of various indicators across the steps of the EU's adaptation policy cycle; each indicator is scored as either "yes," "no," or "in progress" with an accompanying short narrative explaining the score.

20. At the national level, countries have used or proposed a variety of methods to review their progress on adaptation. One country is assessing progress towards cross-cutting and cross-sectoral desired adaptation outcomes,[34] wherein a "traffic light" scoring approach has been proposed to assess progress for each outcome.[35] Such an approach would score progress by assigning a colour (red, amber, or green) for each outcome based on the extent to which legal frameworks, plans, strategies, policies, programmes, and projects have been informed by risk and vulnerability profiles including climate change-related risks and impacts.

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[31] For a full list of Sendai Framework indicators, see https://www.preventionweb.net/sendai-framework/sendai-framework-monitor/indicators

[32] Moehner A, Navi M, and Tawfig F. 2021. Assessing global progress on adaptation planning. *In:* Adaptation Gap Report 2020. Nairobi: UNEP. Available at http://www.unenvironment.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report-2020.

[33] European Commission. 2018. *Horizontal assessment of the adaptation preparedness country fiches.* Brussels: European Commission. Available at https://ec.europa.eu/clima/sites/clima/files/adaptation/what/docs/horizontal_assessment_en.pdf.

[34] Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa. 2015. *The National Climate Change Response Monitoring and Evaluation System* Framework. Pretoria: Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa. Available at https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/reports/nationalclimatechangeresponse_MESF.pdf

[35] Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa. 2018. *South Africa's 3rd Biennial Update Report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.* Pretoria: Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Final%203rd%20BUR%20of%20South%20Africa%20100.pdf

21. Many countries deploy largely indicator-based frameworks in which many different indicators and scoring methodologies are used according to the national circumstances, adaptation goals and priorities, and available data and capacity of each country. These systems vary widely, with some countries focusing on fewer than 15 indicators[36] and others incorporating over 100.[37] Countries also take different approaches to dealing with issues of low data availability or quality, such as substituting case studies or proxy indicators where direct measurement is not yet possible[38] or initially limiting assessment to those indicators for which data is already available.[39] Another approach is to develop national indices tracking vulnerability and adaptive capacity in key sectors – such as water and agriculture and forestry – to measure the impact of adaptation actions based on nationally relevant indicators.[40] Some countries solicit information using questionnaires and information collection cards that yield both information on basic indicators (e.g. whether a sectoral strategy was elaborated, or funding was secured[41]) as well as descriptive aggregate assessments of progress. Another approach is using informal knowledge-exchange where both informal and formal means of gathering information about adaptation – such as stakeholder dialogues and surveys of municipalities, respectively – are used to track progress and inform future vulnerability and adaptation assessments.[42]

22. National-level approaches to reviewing adaptation progress are not limited to those systems or efforts initiated by national governments. Climate funds may seek to apply approaches that can be deployed in various countries; these approaches must go beyond assessing how much resources have been contributed to adaptation measures in order to shed light on whether adaptation has been mainstreamed, adaptive capacity has been enhanced, resilience has been strengthened, and vulnerability has been reduced. For example, the monitoring and reporting system established by the Climate Investment Fund's Pilot Program for Climate Resilience is a national-level system, applicable to several countries, combines quantitative and qualitative methods and follows a country-driven participatory approach; it includes core and optional indicators and two tracks of data collection and reporting.[43]

23. In addition to national systems for reviewing adaptation progress, subnational systems and their results – and approaches taken by networks of subnational jurisdictions in particular – can also offer

[36] E.g. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. 2017. *Cambodia: The national climate change monitoring & evaluation framework*. Eschborn: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Available at https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/13-giz2017-en-factsheet-cambodia.pdf

[37] E.g. Republic of Mozambique National Council for Sustainable Development. 2014. *National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation System (SNMAMC)*. Republic of Mozambique National Council for Sustainable Development. Available at http://www.cgcmc.gov.mz/attachments/article/176/SNMAMC%20English%20Final%20Version%2020150929%20Final.pdf

[38] Schönthaler K and von Andrian-Werburg S. 2015. *Evaluation of the German Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (DAS): Reporting and Closing Indicator Gaps.* Dessau-Roßlau: Umweltbundesamt. Available at https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/sites/default/files/medien/1410/publikationen/neuclimate_change_16_2015_evaluation_of_the_german_strategy_for_adaption_to_climate_change_das.pdf

[39] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 2019. *Strengthening monitoring and evaluation for adaptation planning in the agriculture sectors*. Rome: FAO and UNDP. Available at http://www.fao.org/3/ca5271en/ca5271en.pdf

[40] Plurinational State of Bolivia. 2016. *Intended Nationally Determined Contribution from the Plurinational State of Bolivia.* Available at: https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Bolivia%20(Plurinational%20State%20of)%20First/INDC-Bolivia-english.pdf

[41] Government of Saint Lucia. 2018. *Monitoring and Evaluation Plan of Saint Lucia's National Adaptation Planning Process*. Castries: Saint Lucia Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development. Available at https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Saint%20Lucia%20Monitoring%20and%20Evaluation%20for%20NAP.pdf

[42] Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. 2014. Norway: Learning by doing for measuring progress in adaptation. Eschborn: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Available at https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb_dl=228

[43] Climate Investment Funds. 2018. *PPCR Monitoring and Reporting Toolkit.* Washington: Climate Investment Funds. Available at https://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/sites/cif_enc/files/knowledge-documents/ppcr_mr_toolkit_july_2018.pdf

important insights. Existing monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems from city networks tend to seek balance between context-specificity and aggregability across the network, for example by enabling cities to select among a list of indicators or by delineating both obligatory and optional information.

6. Recurring themes and overarching considerations

24. Several key themes and considerations emerged continuously in the range of literature and existing systems reviewed:

a) **The resources and capacity necessary to pursue each approach and the corresponding burden that will be placed on countries with lower capacity**. These resource-related considerations have given rise to concerted efforts to align new frameworks and systems at the national and other levels with the reporting and review requirements under the UNFCCC. The AC's efforts in this regard—both in providing supplementary guidance for adaptation communications and its consideration of approaches for assessing the global goal on adaptation in the global stocktake—can further advance these efforts to move toward coherence.

b) **The need to maintain flexibility**. Many of the national level systems reviewed had either already adjusted their approach, expressed the intention to do so, or acknowledged that this would likely happen as methodologies, data, and other key factors improve over time.

c) **The value of combining various approaches in order to generate a more holistic picture of adaptation progress**. Such combinations (e.g. of qualitative case studies and quantitative indicators, descriptive and evaluative assessments, standard and optional indicators) can help balance the strengths and weaknesses of the different approaches.

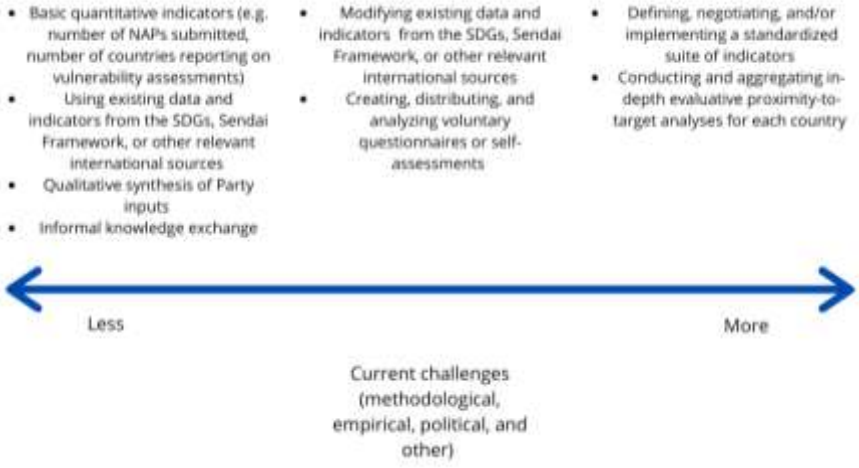
7. Reflections on potential methodologies

25. On the basis of the above considerations, as well as the literature and examples reviewed, it might be useful to outline some initial reflections of potential methodologies that may be incorporated into the assessment of the global goal on adaptation. There are many potential approaches to assessing adaptation progress, and a summary of these general approaches is arranged here in a spectrum from those with less to those with more current challenges (e.g. methodological, empirical, political, etc.) (see Figure 1 below). This is a way to simplify the classification rather than a comprehensive characterisation of potential approaches for the complex task of assessing the global goal on adaptation.

26. Given the methodological, empirical, political, and other challenges tied to the development and use of standardized indicators or indices, this approach arguably falls on the more challenges side of the spectrum. Similarly, if a descriptive and evaluative proximity-to-target approach, like that described by Berrang-Ford et al.[44] is undertaken in a comprehensive manner for each country, this would likely require a great deal of resources. On the other hand, reporting on basic indicators such as the number of NAPs initiated or submitted, using existing indicators or data from international frameworks, producing a qualitative synthesis of Party inputs, or conducting an informal knowledge exchange fall on the side of the spectrum representing fewer challenges. Such efforts would build on common practices (i.e. reporting on the progress of NAPs or synthesizing documents submitted by Parties) or existing initiatives (i.e. tracking progress under other multilateral agreements) that are already in place. In the middle are approaches such as tweaking indicators or data from international frameworks or creating, distributing, and analysing voluntary national-level questionnaires or self-assessment.

[44] Berrang-Ford L, Wang FM, Lesnikowski A, et al. 2017. Towards the assessment of adaptation progress at the global level. *In*: A Olhoff, H Neufeldt, P Naswa et al. (eds). *The Adaptation Gap Report: Towards Global Assessment.* Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. pp. 38. Available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/22172/adaptation_gap_2017.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

Figure 1. Spectrum of approaches to assessing adaptation progress and magnitude of associated challenges



Source: UNFCCC.

27. This spectrum is, however, unidimensional and does not reflect the limitations or trade-offs associated with the various approaches. For example, while collecting data for basic quantitative indicators such as the number of NAPs submitted or the number of countries reporting on vulnerability assessments is a relatively straightforward exercise, and it can offer insights into how many countries have made progress in understanding their vulnerabilities and planning for adaptation, it cannot in many cases directly reveal the extent to which vulnerability has been reduced, adaptive capacity has been enhanced, or resilience has been strengthened while contributing to sustainable development in the context of the Paris Agreement's temperature goal. Therefore, in addition to considering the range of challenges associated with each approach, it is important to simultaneously examine the extent to which each approach yields a meaningful proxy of progress towards the global goal on adaptation.

28. If it is not burdensome—particularly considering the existing capacity constraints faced by developing countries in particular—a voluntary questionnaire or self-scoring exercise represents one potential avenue for assessing adaptation progress. This can generate an aggregate scoreboard, with the understanding that the same score does not necessarily translate into the same action or result across countries. A starting point for such a questionnaire or self-assessment could be whether there have been demonstrable efforts made to undertake the actions Parties agreed they should or shall pursue in accordance with Article 7 of the Paris Agreement.

29. Looking ahead, the adaptation communications and biennial transparency reports can provide the raw material for a potential proximity-to-target approach that assesses whether Parties have fulfilled, or are on track to fulfilling, the targets and actions they set. This would entail comparing the actions reported in biennial transparency reports against those communicated in previously published adaptation communications.

30. Another potential approach, building on the prevalence of vulnerability and risk assessments in adaptation planning and assessment, could focus on establishing a baseline of climate change-related risks faced by countries and thereby laying a foundation for assessing changes against this baseline over time. Given the challenges with regard to vulnerability indices and rankings, and the roles that risk tolerance and societal values play in assessing risk, these risks would likely be self-assessed and reported by countries. Such risk assessments could be disaggregated according to hazard or sector and temperature scenario/timescale, generating a visual representation of the differing dimensions and levels of risk as perceived by countries across the world.

8. Reflecting the outcome in the AC's 2021 annual report

31. As stated above, the CMA mandate requests the AC to reflect the outcome of its consideration of approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation in its 2021 annual report. To fulfil this request, the AC can choose to proceed in any of the following ways:

a) Offer a factual recounting of its activities related to this mandate (i.e. the technical paper, the webinar, and associated discussions) and general reflections on what insights emerged from those activities (e.g. the difficulty of the task, including challenges and trade-offs; general principles and criteria that should guide the selection of an approach or set of approaches; the variety of potential approaches available; the possibility of improving on the selected approach over time as methodologies and data improve; etc);

b) Offer recommendations to the CMA drawing on the technical paper, webinar, and AC discussions that do not single out any specific approach or set of approaches as the optimal solution. These could include, *inter alia*, highlighting that the CMA may wish to:

   i) Request the secretariat, Subsidiary Body Chairs, and the Co-facilitators of the Technical Dialogue to make use of a "basket of approaches" in the process to assess progress towards the GGA, informed by the AC's technical paper on approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation, and taking into account the challenges, limitations, and advantages of each approach;

   ii) Request the secretariat to include, in its synthesis report on the state of adaptation efforts, experience and priorities (decision 19/CMA.1, para 23(b), an analysis to support the review of overall progress made towards the global goal on adaptation;

   iii) Encourage Parties to submit an adaptation communication as soon as possible, recognizing that adaptation communications will synthesized for the synthesis report referenced in para 97(b) above and contribute to reviewing the overall progress in achieving the global goal on adaptation through the global stocktake (Decision 9/CMA.1, para. 14);

   iv) Encourage Parties to submit their national reports and communications regularly and in a timely manner; to reflect in those reports information that can be conducive to assessing progress towards the global goal on adaptation, including by reporting relatively consistent types of information over time and communicating how they have translated the global goal on adaptation into their respective national contexts;

   v) Encourage Parties to invest in national monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) systems to feed robust and context-specific information into national reports and communications;

   vi) Encourage support providers, civil society, and all other relevant stakeholders to assist countries with making progress towards the global goal on adaptation through assessing impacts, risks, vulnerability, and resilience; planning; implementation; and monitoring and evaluation, including setting up MEL systems and acquiring the necessary quality and quantity of data to conduct required analyses (establish baselines, assess changes over time, make projections etc.), which may facilitate reviewing progress towards the global goal on adaptation going forward.

c) Offer recommendations to the CMA drawing on the technical paper, webinar, and AC discussions that propose a specific approach or set of approaches to follow for reviewing overall progress towards the GGA in the first global stocktake.

32. These options are not mutually exclusive, and the AC may wish to combine two or more approaches when reflecting the outcome of its work in its upcoming annual report. For example, the AC can offer a factual recounting of its activities and general reflections on the insights that emerged while also providing general and/or specific recommendations.

9. Next Steps

33. The technical paper is a first step that aims to help the AC in considering potential approaches to assessing the global goal on adaptation. It sought to stimulate the AC's reflections on what other analysis would be helpful, what information and processes can be prioritized in the short term, and what steps can be taken to work towards progressively more comprehensive and rigorous assessments over time.

34. Going forward, the AC may wish to:

a) Request the secretariat to publish the technical paper as a knowledge product; and
b) Agree on how to reflect the outcome of its consideration of approaches to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation in its 2021 annual report, considering the technical paper, the information presented in section 8 above, and the input drawn from the AC's webinar, including that contained in the Annex to this note.

Annex. Summary of Mentimeter Input from the Adaptation Committee Webinar on the Global Goal on Adaptation

1. Which principles and criteria should guide the consideration of approaches to reviewing overall progress towards the global goal on adaptation? In this context, which approaches are most feasible to be implemented in the short and long terms and why?

National and local circumstances, needs, priorities

- Based on national circumstances; adjusted to national/local contexts; needs and priorities vary widely across regions; national adaptation priorities (aligned with climate challenges); relative to local priorities; adapted to local needs and priorities; reflect context specificity; context specific nature of adaptation; indicators should be aligned with national circumstances
- Considering common framework but different countries' contexts
- National level assessments that create baselines for adaptation, and that can portray the local and regional adaptations in a coherent manner; We should strive to establish a baseline
- Global goal means globally applied in every context, so locally led adaptation is measured as progress against capacity, resilience building, vulnerability reduction. These can be readily consolidated into national and global reports as trends.
- Country-led/country-driven approach
- Respect for common and differentiated interests

Explicit references to the Paris Agreement/Convention

- Based on agreed principles and the mandate from the Paris Agreement
- Principles of the Convention
- Review should address adaptation action by all Parties and focus on progress made as per Article 7.14(d); Information should be meaningful in terms of the progress on results of adaptation action achieved
- Assessment of progress on adaptation planning and actions, not adaptation results

Inclusivity and accessibility

- Accessibility, realism, feasibility of implementation by all Parties
- Inclusive, participatory, leaving no one behind; making sure all stakeholders are involved, mainly adaptation funds; further inclusion and collaboration with the private sector, also focus on gender mainstreaming; Criteria should focus on social inclusion and how to engage the most vulnerable, including women and children, indigenous peoples, people with disability, people displaced by climate change, etc.;
- Common understanding among all stakeholders
- Approaches that work for all Parties
- Review progress and contributions towards the GGA from ALL countries (developed, developing, least developed); The criteria should focus on all Parties adaptation – developed, developing and middle income countries.

General reflections on approaches

- Flexibility
- Improvement over time
- No additional burdens; no additional burden on local communities
- Favouring approaches that will generate useful insights for accelerating action on the ground (successes, challenges, good and bad practices);

- Facilitates updated NDCs and other national policies on adaptation; Lead to replication and scale up of successful practices;
- Little value of aggregating information at a global level for further informing national and local adaptation action, which is the key imperative
- Qualitative approaches may be more practical;
- Short term approaches should attempt to consolidate qualitatively local level progress with criteria set by people affected; long-term can look at trends
- Differences at the national and regional scales; multi-scale analysis; taking into account the regional dimension

On metrics and indicators

- Combination of metrics
- Possibility to aggregate metrics (across sectors, scales); linking across scales
- Consider how adaptation is being mainstreamed in key sectorial policies
- Specific sectoral indicators
- Based on science; Scientific criteria and indicators such as adaptive capacity indicators and vulnerability indicators
- Indicators of biophysical conditions such as forest cover, area of land under sustainable land use, protected water bodies, including floodplain and watershed protection and management.
- On management side, tracking policy, planning, budget framework
- Progress in reducing vulnerability using established measures of poverty, marginalization. Important that goals and indicators are established through participation of the people affected
- A bottom up approach to identify and define indicators
- Indicators should recognize those in higher state of vulnerability

On adaptation finance

- Adaptation finance should be included; it should guide and not be guided by climate finance; GGA could be measured as a finance gap
- TCFD framework, and guidelines such as GRI/CDSB might also be helpful
- Private sector action is utterly critical – management and disclosure of climate risk is fundamental to firms' profitability and survival so Marrakech Partnership can continue to promote private action while AC/UNFCCC drives Parties' public action.
- Prioritize adaptation measures (including regulation) taken in the public domain and required to be financed/enforced as public goods, e.g. prevention of human morbidity or mortality due to heat stress

On transboundary considerations

- Measuring progress in building resilience in global systems (e.g. global commodity markets)
- Assess the transboundary/systemic effects of NAPs (i.e. their contribution to building – or even reducing – resilience in other countries/in global systems)
- Collate national assessments and contributions, but go beyond this to specify what vulnerability, resilience and adaptive capacity mean at the GLOBAL scale e.g. in context of transboundary and systemic climate risks
- Explicitly acknowledge that "successful" adaptation at the national scale could have negative impacts on neighbours or other countries (e.g. transboundary mal-adaptation). This is directly relevant to overall progress at the global scale.
- Equity and justice; includes elements of environmental justice; addresses adaptation equity throughout different communities in the country; climate adaptation justice

On data and existing information

- All elements of GGA-improved resilience, reduced vulnerability, improved development impacts-should be measured in the context of climate data/parameters
- Data collection and analysis; consistency and comparability; not a "comparison" approach indicator by indicator
- Data availability to enhance clear definition regarding the added value of adaptation efforts, effectiveness.
- Based on existing information; building on existing reporting while updating/mainstreaming it; using/linking to existing indicators such as the SDG indicators; use SDG indicator framework, no need to reinvent the wheel; considering existing frameworks; making sure strong links are made between major other related processes; Reporting on status of species and habitats that will be required under new CBD targets will be highly relevant to adaptation/resilience
- Attainment of SDGs and their targets is pivotal to communities' and societies' adaptive capacity and climate resilience. This cannot be underestimated/understated.

Other considerations

- Reducing vulnerability
- Resilience building
- Not crossing hard and soft limits
- Alignment with IPCC's Technical Guidelines for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation (1994)
- Linkage of adaptation with mitigation
- We should consider transformative global adaptation approaches. Not just a focus on incremental changes.
- The criteria need to recognize that adaptation requires policy and action to address both climate related impacts, and normal ongoing disaster issues in a country including governance, disaster risk reduction, preparedness and comprehensive risk management
- There should be a path to establish and separate loss and damage aspects from adaptation; annual losses from climate disasters
- Includes an ability to note which organizations are responsible for implementing adaptation strategies, e.g. local NGOs, local government, faith-based groups
- Assessment of gaps
- Development of adaptation matrix
- The review of the overall progress made in achieving the GGA that will be made by the GST should not only include developing countries' adaptation efforts, but also aspects such as the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
- Historical responsibility
- Sharing responsibility between the public and private sector
- Considering community vulnerability and livelihood sustainability
- The goal needs to be defined first; The goal needs to be defined into targets
- Take into consideration African special circumstances

2. What challenges and needs should be accounted for when considering approaches to reviewing overall progress towards the global goal on adaptation? How might these challenges be overcome?

Conceptualization/definition of the goal

- Clear definition of these goals in itself; clarity of goal
- One challenge to be taken into account when considering approaches to reviewing progress towards the GGA is the conceptual ambiguity of the GGA and its three core

elements of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability.

- A significant challenge is the need to first establish a clear definition of the Global Goal on Adaptation. In Article 7, the GGA has only been framed but not defined.
- Unclear final goal – what changes are expected
- The goal needs to be unpacked into elements
- The goal must be defined into targets
- Without clear definition of the GGA, it won't be easy to measure progress towards it. The GGA needs to be defined first.
- Lack of common understandings/definitions of vulnerability, adaptive capacity and resilience, to be able to develop suitable indicators

Methodological challenges

- The challenge is to capture the progress on adaptation through a comparable manner across countries and regions. We need a global unified methodology with agreed metrics. The Adaptation Committee, IPCC, and Parties need to address this collectively.
- The results of adaptation action are difficult to measure, as they are by nature complex, context-specific and varied, and because they are linked to the uncertainties of climate change
- Comparability of data
- Technical methods available
- Capturing adaptation dynamics above the national level (i.e. regional transboundary/global systemic). (Proposed solution: Initial efforts to overcome challenge of capturing regional/transboundary/global systemic adaptation dynamics: start by clearly acknowledging the relevance of these scales to the GGA, even if methods/evidence are currently lacking)
- To make sure the respective evaluation policies of existing funds, public evaluation frameworks, and international organizations are feeding into this process
- Not all data is available from all countries, which can limit the scope of assessing common progress. (Proposed solution: these challenges can be partially overcome by using a basket of qualitative/quantitative information coupled with selected indicators).
- Measuring progress beyond technical assistance received from funders.
- The review of the countries current capacity is not enough. A process to create new information could be used to link the existing information.
- The challenge is no single definition of adaptation and no universal indicators of progress. (Proposed solution: These can be overcome by affected people establishing local definitions of resilience, vulnerability and indicators and measuring progress.)
- The need to combine both approaches: bottom-up and top-down
- Aggregating information across scales and sectors
- Assessment of progress not possible to aggregate
- Weighing adaptation in vulnerable communities in the assessment of progress
- Balance between qualitative and quantitative indicators
- Methodologies
- Data standardization
- Limited value of aggregating progress at the global level for informing national and local adaptation action (Proposed solution: Focus efforts on approaches that can help further inform and accelerate adaptation).
- Measuring adaptation progress is meaningless at an aggregate level and only useful at local levels, because only then does it take local vulnerabilities into account

- Context specificity
- Attribution of climate change
- Results of adaptation are relative
- No clear goal, no baseline, no indicators. Big challenges

Empirical challenges

- Currently there is no baseline to measure progress from
- Clarity in baseline against which the progress can be assessed. For this we need clarity in the indicators that can best capture the global goal
- Data availability
- Data availability for decision-making at different geopolitical levels
- Availability of quality local data and verified information
- Availability of knowledge e.g. climate forecasts and country vulnerability (drought or floods, etc.)
- Data gaps (in certain countries, sectors, scales)
- Reliance on certain types of knowledge (metrics, quant indicators)
- Poor evidence on risk reduction by adaptation interventions
- Available information/indicators that respond directly to climate change impact and adaptation (Proposed solution: strengthening stakeholders to start collecting related data)
- Data availability, visibility of the roadmap

Accessibility/capacity challenges

- Access to climate scenarios (to know what to adapt to)
- Financial challenges
- Finance
- Different levels of countries' needs
- Lack of capacity for vulnerability assessment of the various sectors and setting adaptation targets
- Lack of capacity related to adaptation and vulnerability assessment
- Lack of data due to capacity constraints
- Setting up of an MRV for adaptation
- How to sustain assessment processes
- Open local climate risk information that is often available with insurance companies and not accessible to the countries

Inclusivity challenges

- Inclusion of indigenous people and women
- Local needs, local priorities
- Inequity in access to natural capital, financial capital and means of information/communication of women, youth and other disadvantaged groups is a towering challenge to adaptation & 'fixing' this often goes beyond mandate of mere 'climate projects'
- Overcoming some of the biggest barriers to effective adaptation – e.g. women's access to land/tenure – may sit outside the arena of 'climate' and thus not be in obvious need of measurement although important

Political challenges

- The political challenge of identifying or assessing maladaptation in NAPs. What remit to do this? How can maladaptive practices (especially across borders) be considered in progress towards GGA?
- Ownership, political will

Other

- Offering suggestions on how to measure the goal
- Ways to overcome better integration of university courses/student effort into adaptation science and reporting?
- A country's response to climate impacts is more than just climate adaptation. The challenge is how to consider and report on the broader effort undertaken by a country to prepare and respond to disasters
- Adaptive measures require continuous maintenance during their lifecycle to secure the effectiveness of adaptation action in the long term

General ideas on how challenges might be overcome

- Focus on existing information and reports done by others and assume that the ability will improve with subsequent measurement periods
- Including plural methodologies when assessing adaptation progress and success; have a long-term perspective that also accounts for maladaptive outcomes (see IPCC AR6 WGII Ch 17 for this).
- Self-reporting against clear set of criteria through NCs can be a feasible solution
- IPCC will provide best available science
- Scientific information and local knowledge is important
- An approach that allows to generate useful and meaningful information on the global state of adaptation for the global stocktake, taking into account that this is an iterative process
- The process should be planned with sufficient [time?] for the elaboration of a methodology, creation of study cases by region and the eventual creation of a global frame/regional frame
- Systematic approach, consider all the stakeholders
- Provide weighting factors for the following variables: health vulnerabilities, food insecurity, water insecurity, hard to reach communities
- Devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level: Local institutions and communities decide how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented, how progress monitored and success evaluated
- Value inputs from vulnerable communities
- Include local community-based organizations in the process
- Provide accessible tools that can be used by local communities so they may be involved in the assessment process
- Engage with local community-based groups to identify WHAT exactly to measure and HOW to measure, so that the process is relevant to local needs and significant to local efforts underway
- Categorization according to common characteristics
- A common use of prioritized sectors as mitigation. However, those sectors should not replace other important sectors for specific countries
- That the process be iterative and open to change as local needs arise and change
- Sustainable tourism

3. Are there any other approaches, ideas, factors, etc., that the Adaptation Committee should consider as it moves forward in its work on reviewing overall progress towards the global goal on adaptation?

Specific resources or existing efforts to consider

- Suggestion on methods on globally assessing adaptation feasibility: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-020-02762-x

- Use existing reports such as the UNEP gap report as one way of overcoming some of the challenges, at least for the short term (the AC presentation mentioned a few others). IPCC WGII looks at regions when it does its risk analysis, then aggregate.
- From the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), we have published Adaptation Gap Report. It's the report that gives an overview of global progress on adaptation. Link is here: https://www.unep.org/resources/adaptation-gap-report-2020
- Benefit from successful experiences and methodologies, including IPCC and UNEP's
- 3 international conferences on adaptation metrics since COP22
- Consider use of NCs and NAPs and other relevant reports and documents to track progress on adaptation
- Consider approaches of tracking adaptation progress by climate funds established under the UNFCCC
- Open earth observation data sources
- Possibility to explore the use of Earth Observation Systems and ground data sources, especially those who are free and open access
- Set measures of progress against the principles of locally-led adaptation: https://www.wri.org/initiatives/locally-led-adaptation/principles-locally-led-adaptation
- Look at the work of Climate Planning that help constructing adaptation baselines https://climateplanning.com.au/services/#adaptation

Forthcoming resources to consider

- Within UNEP, we're currently developing a stocktake of UNEP's adaptation normative work and information including climate change adaptation unit's project portfolio and case studies from it
- The work conducted to establish the Global Risk Assessment Framework will be highly relevant https://www.preventionweb.net/disaster-risk/graf

Suggestions for collaboration with or input from other organizations and stakeholders

- Consider requesting a report/inviting donors to contribute a study on the potential for indicators at regional and global level to track progress on adaptation to transboundary climate risk as input to GGA
- Collaboration with UN Statistics, UNdata and the SDG Tracker as well as with national statistical offices
- IPCC has to elaborate a special report in this matter "adaptation metrics"
- IPCC can develop a report on the issues for consideration based on science
- Further include stakeholder groups (through the constituencies)

Other suggestions and inputs

- The technical report issued is very complete and well based. I suggest to clearly establish global goals, a baseline and relative-by-country indicators, mandatory contents in NAPs, NDCs or AdComms
- Establish a baseline
- Not focused only on process (plans, projects, etc.) but also on real impact of adaptation interventions
- Adaptation progress/success definition
- What kinds of responsibilities related to evaluation and learning, that are in practice by existing UN funds and international organizations, would need to better serve the GGA and climate change challenges and tradeoffs ahead
- Wider consideration of the adaptive capacity including good governance indicators such as democracy index, transparency index
- Reporting obligations

- The AC could usefully focus on a basket approach of information sources and indicators, with a focus on existing information and indicators that are suitable for all Parties and that are meaningful with regard to progress made
- Given the challenges, use the flexibility of the GGA to admit that consolidating global or national progress are unachievable and allow for the measures of affected people's participation and satisfaction be the key measure of progress.
- Articulations and links between local, subnational, national and regional levels
- There is a huge need to cross the vues [views?] from various actors working on climate finance mitigation MRV and adaptation
- The key to adaptation progress is the reduction in economic losses (across productive sectors and livelihoods) and physical damages in infrastructure. Another critical aspect is to track biophysical conditions maintenance of ecosystem services.
- Consider the breadth of adaptation, which needs to be mainstreamed into all relevant sectorial policies, not looking only at standalone adaptation projects or policies and plans
- A solution is a clear guidance, a set of indicators against which the countries will be obligated to report on adaptation progress
- Include qualitative measures that allow for capturing nuances of local needs in vulnerable communities
- Keep approach open to local adaptation so it may fit their needs, priorities and capabilities
- There are many key dimensions to strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability that are tied to broader sustainable development and poverty reduction efforts, such as social protection efforts, universal health care, good governance
- Include a way that addresses justice and equity in determining goals and measures of progress
- The AC should focus on guidance on processes that Parties can follow to select their methodologies for the GGA – versus focusing on selecting methodologies themselves (which must be done in country)
- Be aware of cumulative environmental hazards on certain communities and how implementation of adaptation strategies affects the cumulative impact of these hazards
- Progress at COP26 looks like clear way on how Parties/steps for Parties to build their MEL systems, vs. discussions trying to agree on sets of indicators

4. Share your key takeaways, aspects you found surprising, or any other closing reflections on today's event.

Substantive

- Very useful and thought provoking. Many challenges. Like the suggestion for taking an iterative approach.
- Iterative learning is the way forward.
- Some participants in the menti suggest that measuring progress towards GGA is straightforward in some way. It would be good to hear the experience of the majority who responded that they were already engaged in evaluating adaptation progress.
- Lots of push for local leadership
- Have noted very few comments on including job loss and job gain as part of adaptation. We learned from COVID pandemic how sensitive necessary workers are to shifts in environmental conditions and loss of job stability.

Logistical/other

- The gender representation in the discussion was impressive

- The gender representation of the AC is impressive indeed, and looking forward to further work on gender actions by the AC
- This is a challenging task! Wishing you good luck and energy
- More of such webinars are needed to exchange views and resources on such a key element of the PA
- Very good idea to propose both interventions and written inputs with menti.com
- That the clock is ticking and more submissions by Parties are needed to provide input to the GST in order to assess progress towards GGA!

Document information

Version	*Date*	*Description*
01.0	1 September 2021	AC20 This summary note AC20/SUM-INFO/5A has been updated based on input received during AC19 and the AC's webinar on the global goal on adaptation. It outlines potential next steps for the AC to finalize this work and fulfill its CMA mandate.
01.0	8 March 2021	AC19 This summary note AC19/SUM-INFO/6A is for consideration by the AC. Furthermore the AC is invited to agree publishing the annex to this document as a knowledge product.
Revised draft	26 October 2020	AC18 This draft revised document (AC18/TP/5A) was considered by the AC and agreed to prepare a summary annex for consideration at its next meeting.
Revised draft	27 July 2020	Post AC17 Based on the agreed continuation of work, this revised draft technical paper (AC17/TP/6A) was prepared and shared for further consideration.
n/a	20 March 2020	AC17 The AC agreed to continue work in the inter-sessional period on the produced draft technical paper (AC/2020/3).

Keywords: Adaptation assessment, progress, Global stocktake, Resilience, Adaptation Committee