



**Subsidiary Body for Scientific and
Technological Advice**

Fifty-seventh session

Sharm el-Sheikh, 6–12 November 2022

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Report of the Adaptation Committee

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

Fifty-seventh session

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Report of the Adaptation Committee

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Summary

This report covers the work of the Adaptation Committee between September 2021 and September 2022. It presents the Committee's main achievements during the reporting period and also contains organizational and procedural information, including on meetings and changes in membership and co-chairing arrangements. The report summarizes the Committee's progress in implementing its flexible workplan for 2022–2024 in the areas of promoting overarching coherence; awareness-raising, outreach and information-sharing; and providing technical support and guidance to the Parties on adaptation planning, implementation and reviewing of progress. It also contains recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement. The addenda to the report contain draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating information in accordance with the possible elements of an adaptation communication (FCCC/SB/2022/5/Add.1) and a technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application (FCCC/SB/2022/5/Add.2).

* This document was scheduled for publication after the standard publication date owing to circumstances beyond the submitter's control.



Abbreviations and acronyms

AC	Adaptation Committee
AF	Adaptation Fund
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
COP	Conference of the Parties
FWG	Facilitative Working Group
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
NAP	national adaptation plan
NAP Global Network	National Adaptation Plan Global Network
NWP	Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity-building
SB	sessions of the subsidiary bodies
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
WIM	Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts

I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. COP 17 decided that the AC shall operate under the authority of, and be accountable to, the COP, which should decide on its policies in line with relevant decisions.¹
2. COP 17 requested the AC to report annually to the COP, through the subsidiary bodies, including on its activities and the performance of its functions, guidance, recommendations and other relevant information arising from its work and, as appropriate, on further action that may be required under the Convention for consideration by the COP.²
3. CMA 1 decided that the AC shall serve the Paris Agreement.³

B. Scope of the report

4. This report contains information on the work of the AC between September 2021 and September 2022 and recommendations for consideration at COP 27 and CMA 4, as well as two addenda containing deliverables mandated by the CMA: the first contains draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating information in accordance with the possible elements of an adaptation communication for consideration by the subsidiary bodies,⁴ and the second contains a technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application for consideration by the SBSTA.⁵
5. This summary of the work of the AC during the reporting period is complemented by a concise outreach product that makes the work tangible and information thereon accessible to a broader audience.⁶

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

6. The SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation are invited to consider the information contained in this report.

II. Highlights

7. During the reporting period, the AC continued to lead on adaptation and supported the Parties in an effective, comprehensive and coherent manner with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support.
8. In the area of **technical support and guidance on adaptation planning and implementation and means of implementation**, the AC prepared a technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs, which seeks to assist Parties by showcasing good practices that follow a five-step process for assessing adaptation needs. In order to help stakeholders understand the diversity of adaptation-related assistance, the AC published a 2022 overview of the landscape of support related to NAPs.⁷ The publication is

¹ Decision 2/CP.17, para. 95.

² Decision 2/CP.17, para. 96.

³ Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 1. Other mandates relating to AC activities towards implementing the adaptation-related provisions of the Paris Agreement are contained in decisions 9/CMA.1, 11/CMA.1, 19/CMA.1 and 1/CMA.2.

⁴ FCCC/SB/2022/5/Add.1.

⁵ FCCC/SB/2022/5/Add.2.

⁶ To be made available at <https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/documents-of-the-adaptation-committee>.

⁷ UNFCCC. 2022. *Navigating the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans*. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/2022_ac_navigating.pdf.

complemented by an interactive online tool,⁸ which can incorporate new programmes and support opportunities more flexibly and therefore respond to countries' information needs in a timelier manner.

9. The AC also played a **key role in advancing implementation of the Paris Agreement**. The AC completed draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating adaptation information in accordance with the list of possible elements of an adaptation communication. It aims to help Parties to enhance the quality and reduce duplication of adaptation information while benefitting from synergies with other planning, implementing and reporting arrangements for adaptation. The AC also contributed to the technical assessment of the first global stocktake by preparing a synthesis report on experiences and opportunities in the areas of adaptation action and support.

10. The AC further enhanced its **awareness-raising and information-sharing** activities with a view to raising the profile of adaptation within and outside the UNFCCC process and promoting its implementation. AC outreach products and information on events such as the SB 56 event entitled "Shaping the future of climate adaptation" are available on the AC web pages and widely disseminated through social media channels.

11. Finally, the AC engaged a large pool of experts and relevant institutions in enhancing its performance and the quality of its work. It initiated a dialogue with other adaptation-related constituted bodies to identify potential areas of coordination, synergy and **collaboration** in order to bolster coherency of work on adaptation under the UNFCCC.

III. Organizational and procedural matters

A. Meetings and events

12. AC 21 was held from 28 to 31 March 2022 and AC 22 from 6 to 9 September 2022. The meetings were held in person with the option of virtual participation, were open to observers and were live-streamed on YouTube.⁹ A series of thematic conference calls was held intersessionally to ensure good progress in AC work.

13. In addition, the AC organized the following webinars and events, details of which are presented later in this report:

- (a) Two side events during COP 26;
- (b) An AC expert meeting on draft supplementary guidance for adaptation communications (22 March 2022);
- (c) An information event on the synthesis reports prepared by adaptation-focused constituted bodies for the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement (3 June 2022);
- (d) The first dialogue with other adaptation-focused constituted bodies during SB 56;
- (e) A live-streamed outreach event during SB 56;
- (f) Three events during NAP Expo 2022.

⁸ Available at <https://unfccc.int/napsupport>.

⁹ All documents, presentations, YouTube links and summary outcomes for each agenda item are available at <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-21> (for AC 21) and <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-22> (for AC 22).

B. Chairing arrangements and membership¹⁰

14. Mariam Allam (Egypt) and Shella Biallas (United States of America) were elected¹¹ at AC 21 for their first term as Co-Chairs of the AC.

15. AC members are mandated to serve for a term of two years and eligible to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms of office.¹² Karina Barrera (Ecuador), Rita Mishaan (Guatemala), Rosa Morales (Peru), Rhianna Neely (Bahamas), Giuliana Torta (Italy) and Tshering Yangzom (Bhutan) were elected as first-time members at COP 26. Britta Horstmann (Germany) replaced Navina Sanchez, who had resigned. The term of office of one member came to an end and the nomination for this position is still open.¹³ The position is currently held by Vladimir Kattsov (Russian Federation).

16. In welcoming its new members, the AC recalled decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 101, which stipulates that members serve in their personal capacity.

C. Observer engagement

17. The AC promotes active observer participation in its meetings. Observers provide additional experience and expertise that inform the discussions, and their engagement is critical to furthering the work of the AC and achieving its objectives of creating synergies and maintaining coherence of action on adaptation at all levels and by different stakeholder groups. While in-person participation is generally more conducive to observer collaboration, a virtual format provides the opportunity for wider observer participation, as there are no travel-related or space limitations; therefore, observers who cannot attend meetings in person are encouraged to participate virtually.¹⁴

IV. Progress in implementing the workplan of the Adaptation Committee

18. AC 20 agreed on the AC flexible workplan for 2022–2024 with the understanding that the workplan would remain flexible enough to incorporate any relevant outcomes arising from future sessions of the COP and the CMA. COP 26 welcomed the workplan,¹⁵ which is available on the UNFCCC website in detailed and summarized versions.¹⁶

A. Promoting overarching coherence

1. Coherence with other constituted bodies

19. The AC was established as the principal body for promoting implementation of enhanced action on adaptation under the Convention. It collaborates with other constituted bodies and entities under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including the CGE, the Climate Technology Centre and Network, the FWG of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, the GCF, the LEG, NWP partners, the PCCB, the SCF, the TEC, and the WIM Executive Committee and its task forces. The AC routinely invites all adaptation-focused bodies to attend and contribute at its regular meetings.

¹⁰ See <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/members> for a list of AC members.

¹¹ Pursuant to decisions 2/CP.17, para. 108, and 16/CP.19, paras. 6–7.

¹² Decision 2/CP.17, para. 106.

¹³ As per decision 2/CP.17, para. 106(c).

¹⁴ At AC21, 9 observers participated in person and 63 remotely, whereas at AC22, 18 observers participated in person and 42 remotely.

¹⁵ Decision 9/CP.24, para. 1.

¹⁶ <https://unfccc.int/Adaptation-Committee>.

20. In addition to the events mentioned in paragraph 13 above, the AC has engaged during the reporting period with other constituted bodies through groups that meet periodically, namely:

(a) Two meetings of the NAP task force (see para. 57 below);

(b) Three meetings of the joint AC–LEG working group on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support, in collaboration with the SCF (see para. 51 below).

21. The first AC dialogue with other adaptation-related constituted bodies took place on 14 June during SB 56. The dialogue was attended by representatives of the AC, the CGE, the WIM Executive Committee, the LEG, the FWG, the PCCB, the SCF and the TEC. The objectives of the meeting were to initiate a regular exchange on adaptation-related areas of common interest and identify potential areas of coordination, synergy and collaboration in order to bolster the work on adaptation under the UNFCCC. The theme of the first dialogue was support for adaptation (capacity-building, finance and technology), with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to the formulation and implementation of NAPs. A range of potential opportunities for collaboration between the AC and other constituted bodies were identified in the context of this theme. In addition, participants expressed interest in a more regular exchange of information on the activities of the participating constituted bodies. The following examples do not include existing activities of the AC such as joint work undertaken with the LEG:

(a) The 4th Capacity-building Hub at COP 27 could provide a space for a joint event with the **PCCB** on support for NAPs. The newly agreed thematic focus of the PCCB on capacity-building support for adaptation, with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to the formulation and implementation of NAPs, opens up opportunities for joint work with the AC and the LEG;

(b) The **WIM Executive Committee's** expert group on action and support will work with relevant bodies to enhance support (finance, technology and capacity-building) for activities undertaken to avert, minimize and address loss and damage;

(c) The **CGE** will launch a process to prepare guidance materials for reporting on chapter 4 of the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the enhanced transparency framework (information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement), for which the CGE would welcome contributions from the AC;

(d) A possible area of cooperation with the **Technology Mechanism** pertains to how information from technology needs assessments can flow into NAPs. Furthermore, the AC technical paper on technologies for adaptation has a strong focus on innovation and indigenous technologies. Next steps could focus on these two areas, which complement work of the AF and the TEC in the area of innovation and indigenous technologies;

(e) Constituted bodies will be invited to provide input to or collaborate on work of the **SCF** that includes the next biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows; a paper on the definition of climate finance; and the 2022 SCF Forum, which will be the second part of the 2021–2022 Forum on finance for nature-based solutions;

(f) The **FWG** will convene two capacity-building training workshops annually, focusing on building the capacity of Parties, constituted bodies and other relevant stakeholders to engage with indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as building the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities for their participation in the UNFCCC process. Furthermore, the FWG will convene at least two regional or biregional meetings in both 2022 and 2023, facilitating the exchange of experience and good practices and presenting opportunities to strengthen adaptation support by elevating the practices and knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems.

22. The AC contributed to many adaptation-related events, including meetings of the LEG, the WIM Executive Committee, the SCF and the Technology Mechanism and events organized under the NWP and the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation.

2. Coherence with work of organizations

23. The AC uses the network of NWP partners to interact with a broad range of organizations. In response to an invitation from the SBSTA,¹⁷ the AC provides advice once a year on the delivery of relevant NWP mandates and opportunities to align efforts, which is communicated to the SBSTA Chair and included in the NWP annual report for consideration by the SBSTA.¹⁸ The AC receives regular oral updates on knowledge and information support provided by NWP partners to support the work of the AC, as well as on the most recent findings from activities under the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative.

24. The letter sent to the SBSTA Chair after AC 21 contained (1) further advice to the NWP and a response to the invitations to the AC to submit views on (2) the performance and effectiveness of the NWP in addressing knowledge needs relevant to implementing the Paris Agreement and (3) to strengthen the long-term strategic engagement of the AC with the NWP. Regarding (1), the AC agreed to invite NWP partners to contribute to activities included in its flexible workplan for 2022–2024 and to address possible synergies and coherence with the NWP Focal Point Forum. Regarding (2), the AC focused on ways in which the NWP had supported constituted bodies in assisting Parties in implementing the Paris Agreement, and on which additional thematic areas should be considered under the NWP. Regarding (3), the AC stated that its overarching work areas would be a good basis for strategic engagement and noted that it would be helpful to form communities of practice among NWP partners, which might support the work of the AC and other constituted bodies in their thematic work.

25. AC22 welcomed the presentation of adaptation-related work under the NWP, took note of the opportunities for collaboration and agreed to follow up on next steps with NWP partners with support from the secretariat.¹⁹

3. Integrating gender considerations

26. The AC agreed to include the objective of incorporating gender as a cross-cutting consideration in all its activities. Accordingly, it enhanced efforts in this regard by integrating a gender perspective into its events, documents and reports and implemented the following activities during the reporting period:

(a) A joint COP 26 event with the LEG and the PCCB. Within the context of the days for constituted bodies at the PCCB Capacity-building Hub, the event brought together the AC, the LEG, the PCCB and other constituted bodies to discuss ways to further strengthen gender sensitivity in adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. The event covered opportunities and challenges in integrating gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation; the experience of the constituted bodies in integrating gender considerations in their workplans; and ways to enhance coordination in gender- and adaptation-related activities;

(b) A follow-up event that took place during the NAP Expo 2022, as further described in the context of the work of the NAP task force (see para 60(b) below).

27. The AC will work together with other constituted bodies and operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to produce a policy brief on progress, good practices and lessons learned in prioritizing and incorporating gender-responsive adaptation action. The brief will be released in late 2022 or early 2023.

28. The AC currently consists of 13 female and 3 male members. Both Co-Chairs are female. Figure 1 shows the number of male and female AC members since its operationalization in 2012.²⁰

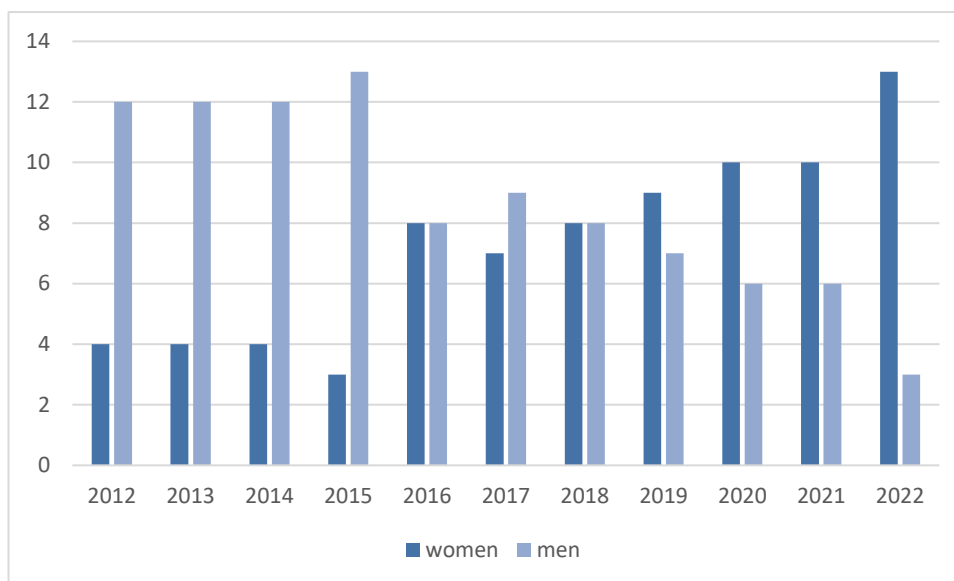
¹⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2018/4, para. 19.

¹⁸ The 2022 letter to the SBSTA Chair is available on the AC 21 web page at <https://unfccc.int/documents/461777> and the 2021/2022 NWP report is contained in document [FCCC/SBSTA/2022/2](https://unfccc.int/documents/302876).

¹⁹ See AC document AC20/INFO/4A-B, available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/302876>.

²⁰ See historic membership charts of all constituted bodies, available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/election-and-membership#eq-3>.

Figure 1
Number of women and men on the Adaptation Committee over time



B. Awareness-raising, outreach and information-sharing

29. AC 20 reviewed the AC communications plan and strategy²¹ and agreed to put a stronger emphasis on its outreach activities, as also reflected in its workplan for 2022–2024. The main communication objectives of the AC remain to promote the implementation of adaptation by increasing the visibility of the work of the AC; increasing the reach and impact of its events and publications; and strengthening existing and building new partnerships with other UNFCCC bodies and external organizations working on adaptation.

30. AC 21 took note of the proposed AC communications plan for 2022–2023, Activities covered by the plan, which is already being implemented, include audience assessments, evaluations, content redevelopment and examining new delivery platforms for outreach and AC products.

31. The AC is in the process of issuing two more publications before the end of 2022. One is the technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs (see chap. IV.C.2 below), and the other is the technical paper on technologies for adaptation (see para. 63 below).

32. One planned addition to AC outreach activities is a flagship publication providing a comprehensive and accessible overview of the state of adaptation and covering adaptation planning, implementation and support without too deep an analysis.

33. All outreach products are available on the AC web pages²² and widely disseminated through social media and UNFCCC newsroom articles.

34. Another successful outreach activity was an interview conducted by the AC Co-Chairs during SB 56 and entitled “Shaping the future of climate adaptation”. The live-streamed event reached a wide audience: it generated over 10,000 total views and 1,300 engagements across YouTube, LinkedIn and Facebook as at 31 August 2022.²³

35. Finally, the AC continued to contribute to the NWP eUpdate²⁴ and published issues 9–12 of the Adaptation Finance Bulletin in collaboration with the AF, the GCF, the GEF, the

²¹ See AC document AC20/INFO/8, available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/304716>.

²² See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/publications-bulletins-adaptation-committee>.

²³ Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mA0mffbkwBM>.

²⁴ See <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/NEW--Nairobi-Work-Programme-eUpdate---June-2020.html?soid=1117347475566&aid=wumBF2k6FBg>.

LEG and the SCF to inform a broad range of stakeholders about recent developments in the international adaptation finance arena.²⁵

36. All AC information products are available on the AC web pages²⁶ and disseminated broadly, including through the secretariat’s newsroom,²⁷ the adaptation knowledge portal and the Adaptation Exchange Twitter²⁸ and Facebook accounts.²⁹ In the coming months all media outlets are slated for improvement of access and retrieval of information and products.

37. COP 26 invited the AC to improve its efforts to measure the outreach of its events and publications by including in its flexible workplan the collection of statistics disaggregated by gender and region on its awareness-raising, outreach and information-sharing efforts, such as events and publications³⁰ (see box 1).

Box 1

Awareness-raising, outreach and information-sharing of the Adaptation Committee during the reporting period

Adaptation Exchange on Facebook

The Adaptation Exchange Facebook page featured a total of 244 posts between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. The posts generated around 142,000 impressions and 4,500 engagements (clicks, shares, likes). The page has 18,700 followers. Total page likes were at 16,600 as at September 2022.

Adaptation Exchange on Twitter

Within the reporting period, the Adaptation Exchange has posted on Twitter over 990 times, generating over 375,000 impressions and 42,200 instances of engagement with the posts. The page has over 75,000 profile visits and 4,130 followers as at late August 2022.

Demographics on social media

Twitter does not provide audience insights as of 2020, but Facebook and Zoho Analytics have generated the following demographic insights on accounts that follow the Adaptation Exchange:

- Top ten countries following the Adaptation Exchange: United States, India, Bangladesh, Germany, Mexico, United Kingdom, Peru, Canada, Philippines and Australia.
- Top three age ranges that follow the Adaptation Exchange: 25–34 (37.1 per cent), followed by 35–44 (31.3 per cent) and 45–54 (14.6 per cent).
- Adaptation Exchange Facebook fans are 54.1 per cent male, 42.8 per cent female and 3.6 per cent unspecified.
- Top ten cities reached by the content of Adaptation Exchange posts: Bonn, Lima, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Addis Ababa, Phnom Penh, Nairobi, Bangkok, Ankara and New Delhi.

Adaptation Committee content on the UNFCCC website

Between September 2021 and end of August 2022, the Adaptation Committee page had 19,612 views, 15,869 of them unique. Both numbers have increased slightly since

²⁵ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/publications-bulletin-adaptation-committee>.

²⁶ <https://unfccc.int/Adaptation-Committee>.

²⁷ See, for example, the articles entitled *New Tool to Navigate Support for National Adaptation Plans* and *Adapting to Climate Change Impacts: Enhancing Efforts Ahead of COP 26*, available at <https://unfccc.int/news>.

²⁸ <https://twitter.com/AdaptXChange>.

²⁹ <https://www.facebook.com/The.Adaptation.Exchange>.

³⁰ Decision 2/CP.26, para. 4.

the previous reporting period. The average time spent on AC pages amounted to 2:09 minutes, similar to the previous year.

Adaptation Finance Bulletin

Issues 9 (October 2021) through 12 (August 2022) were sent to an average of 4,600 subscribers and generated on average a 34 per cent open rate and 2 per cent click rate.

Adaptation Committee newsroom articles

Since AC20, the AC has featured in two newsroom articles:

- “New Tool to Navigate Support for National Adaptation Plans”³¹ (10 August 2022): 869 page views (721 unique); 1:32 minutes spent on average;
- “Adapting to Climate Change Impacts: Enhancing Efforts Ahead of COP26”³² (17 September 2021): 489 page views (434 unique); 3:18 minutes spent on average.

C. Mandates from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

38. The AC has been mandated to undertake a number of activities towards implementing the adaptation-related provisions of the Paris Agreement, in some cases in collaboration with the LEG and other constituted bodies. The AC is considering the mandates in a holistic manner and work is progressing in line with the agreed timelines presented in its report for 2019.³³ The AC keeps Parties and other stakeholders informed about this work on a dedicated web page.³⁴

39. The mandates relating to draft supplementary guidance for adaptation communications and methodologies for assessing adaptation needs required engagement with IPCC Working Group II, and the process of that engagement is summarized in box 2.

Box 2

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group II engagement in Adaptation Committee work between 2019 and 2022

The AC, the IPCC secretariat and Working Group II authors have been interacting regularly over the years through informal meetings, meetings hosted by the SBSTA Chair with representatives of the research and systematic observation community and UNFCCC constituted bodies, and written updates after relevant AC meetings.

With regard to the draft supplementary guidance for adaptation communications and methodologies for assessing adaptation needs, AC and IPCC representatives communicated informally from 2019 to 2021, which facilitated an understanding of IPCC procedural processes and the time constraints under which Working Group II was operating to launch the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report on time.

While the IPCC participated in various webinars held on the adaptation communication guidance, inputs were of a general nature, focusing more on the current work of the IPCC than on substantive inputs to AC products.

After the launch of the contribution of Working Group II to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, several Working Group II authors reviewed the two products developed by the AC. Comments were discussed in a meeting between the reviewers and the Co-Chairs of the AC, and the final drafts of the products were considered and approved at AC 22.

³¹ See <https://unfccc.int/news/new-tool-to-navigate-support-for-national-adaptation-plans>.

³² See <https://unfccc.int/news/adapting-to-climate-change-impacts-enhancing-efforts-ahead-of-cop26>.

³³ FCCC/SB/2019/3.

³⁴ <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/mandates-from-the-conference-of-the-parties-serving-as-the-meeting-of-the-parties-to-the-paris#eq-2>.

Interactions between 2019 and 2022 on the work included:

- Three updates from the secretariat to the IPCC secretariat following sessions of UNFCCC governing bodies;
- Eight letters and official emails between the AC and the IPCC secretariat;
- Two in-person meetings between AC members and IPCC representatives;
- Two conference calls between AC members and IPCC representatives;
- Two AC webinars and expert meetings with IPCC participation;
- One written review by IPCC experts;
- A number of informal calls and emails.

1. Draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating adaptation information in accordance with the possible elements of an adaptation communication

40. CMA 1 requested the AC to develop by June 2022 draft supplementary guidance for voluntary use by Parties in communicating information in accordance with the elements listed in the annex to decision 9/CMA.1, with the engagement of IPCC Working Group II (see box 2) and using relevant existing guidance as a starting point, as appropriate.³⁵

41. The guidance is contained in addendum 1 to this report. It provides an overview of the guidelines for adaptation communications and related arrangements, and suggestions for applying the guidelines and for benefitting from the links between adaptation communications and other adaptation-related reporting arrangements under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. It is intended to help Parties, when preparing adaptation communications and the information referred to in the annex to decision 9/CMA.1, to enhance the quality of and reduce duplication and the workload for preparing the information required, and to benefit from synergies with other planning, implementation and reporting arrangements for adaptation, by guiding them towards the most recent resources.

42. In preparing the supplementary guidance, the AC worked in an inclusive manner, for example by conducting webinars and expert meetings on adaptation communications in June 2021 and March 2022 respectively to gather reflections and experience of multiple stakeholders so as to help refine the guidance. Drafts of the supplementary guidance were considered at AC 15–22, with the final version being approved by AC 22 for consideration at SB 57 in the context of the annual report of the AC.

2. Methodologies for assessing adaptation needs of developing country Parties

43. CMA 1 requested the AC, in collaboration with the LEG, NWP partner organizations, and users and developers of relevant methodologies, including academia and the private sector, to develop by June 2020 and regularly update an inventory of methodologies for assessing adaptation needs of developing country Parties.³⁶ The inventory was made available on the adaptation knowledge portal in 2020 as the first step towards a technical paper due in 2022, and the AC agreed that the inventory should remain open for new entries. In addition, CMA 1 invited Parties and observer organizations to submit views and information on the development and application of such methodologies.^{37, 38}

44. Further, CMA 1 requested the AC, with the engagement of IPCC Working Group II, as appropriate (see box 2), to prepare, drawing on the inventory and submissions referred to in paragraph 43 above, a technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application, as well as on related gaps, good practices, lessons learned and guidelines, for consideration at SBSTA 57 in the context of its consideration of the annual report of the AC.³⁹ The AC prepared the technical paper between AC 19–22, and AC 22 approved it. The paper is contained in addendum 2 to this report.

³⁵ Decision 9/CMA.1, para. 15.

³⁶ Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 15.

³⁷ Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 16.

³⁸ See <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac/adaptation-committee-call-for-submissions-methodologies-for-assessing-adaptation-needs>.

³⁹ Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 17.

45. The technical paper contains selected concepts and definitions, an overview of existing methodologies and experiences, analyses of lessons learned, emerging good practices and gaps, conclusions and recommendations. The paper also presents a five-step process for assessing adaptation needs to assist Parties and others in further consideration of their adaptation needs and to promote additional work on methodologies.

46. Emerging good practices for assessing adaptation needs that could support any methodology to identify adaptation needs related to the stages of the adaptation process include:

- (a) Using participatory approaches;
- (b) Using multiple climate and socioeconomic scenarios;
- (c) Considering both transboundary and domestic or local climate risks, as well as compound and cascading risks;
- (d) Employing an adaptive risk management or pathways approach;
- (e) Considering transformational adaptation options in addition to incremental actions;
- (f) Conducting integrated assessments of capacity, technological and financial needs.

47. The draft technical paper served as input into the second workshop on the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation on 30 August 2022, in particular regarding how assessing adaptation needs and setting targets contribute to enhancing action for adaptation and support.

3. Modalities for recognizing the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties

48. CMA 1 requested the secretariat, under the guidance of the AC and the LEG and in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to prepare synthesis reports every two years, starting in 2020, on specific adaptation themes, focusing on relevant lessons learned and good practices in developing country Parties,⁴⁰ in the context of recognizing their adaptation efforts. The first synthesis report, on how developing countries are addressing hazards,⁴¹ was finalized at the end of 2020 and issued in early 2021.

49. The second report focuses on efforts of developing countries in assessing and meeting the costs of adaptation and draws on Party submissions to the UNFCCC, reports prepared by other constituted bodies and the secretariat, and reports of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism. The objective of the report is to synthesize relevant lessons, insights and good practices in developing country Parties with respect to assessing the costs of and domestic expenditures for adaptation. A number of recommendations are made that could further overcome the challenges to estimating adaptation costs and assessing domestic expenditures on adaptation, and could increase the level of uptake and robustness. These include:

- (a) Improved guidance and support materials for estimating the costs of adaptation, aimed at increasing method harmonization and comprehensiveness. This could include best practice examples in certain areas such as multi-sector coverage, analytical detail and use of appraisal, prioritization, longer-term analysis and investment plans;
- (b) Provision of more capacity-building and technical assistance support to developing countries for estimating the cost of adaptation and domestic expenditure as well as facilitation of resource mobilization, including from new sources and through new financial instruments;
- (c) Enhanced advice and support to help prioritize adaptation and develop investment plans.

⁴⁰ Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 13.

⁴¹ AC. 2020. *How developing countries are addressing hazards, focusing on relevant lessons learned and good practices*. Bonn: UNFCCC. Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/267818>.

4. Methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support

50. CMA 1 invited the AC and the LEG, in collaboration with the SCF and relevant experts, to contribute to further technical work by continuing to compile existing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support.⁴² The AC and the LEG agreed, in 2021, to continue compiling methodologies, in addition to the small number of methodologies already submitted, for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support and to make all the methodologies easily accessible on the adaptation knowledge portal in order to expand the information base.

51. The two constituted bodies established a joint working group tasked with planning future work on the joint mandate, consisting of the issue leads from the AC and the LEG and invited representatives of the SCF. The working group has already held four meetings to continue compiling methodologies and discussed ways in which the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support could be reviewed as part of the global stocktake. Progress updates from the working group are available on the AC 22 web page.⁴³

5. Further input to the global stocktake

52. CMA 1 invited the relevant constituted bodies and forums and other institutional arrangements under or serving the Paris Agreement and/or the Convention to prepare for the technical assessment of the global stocktake, with the assistance of the secretariat, synthesis reports on the information identified in paragraph 36 of decision 19/CMA.1 in their areas of expertise.⁴⁴ The AC focused its synthesis report on the following areas:

(a) Promoting coherence in adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;

(b) Experiences of countries with adaptation action and support within specific technical areas of adaptation planning and implementation and potential opportunities for enhancing action, support and international cooperation on adaptation;

(c) The contributions of the AC to methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support and approaches to reviewing the overall progress towards the global goal on adaptation.

53. The experiences and opportunities presented in the report are based on findings from the technical work and interactions and collaboration of the AC with Parties and a range of other stakeholders at its meetings, workshops and other events. They do not constitute recommendations from the AC but summarize the information and views shared by Parties, experts and other stakeholders at events held by the AC or identified by the AC in relevant technical documents.

54. The information contained in the report has been coordinated with and complements the information provided in the other adaptation-related synthesis reports, as shown in figure 2. The adaptation-focused constituted bodies held a joint information event to raise awareness of, and explain the approach towards, their respective synthesis reports.

⁴² Decision 11/CMA.1, para. 35.

⁴³ <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-22>.

⁴⁴ Decision 19/CMA.1, para. 24.

Figure 2
Overview of adaptation-related synthesis reports prepared for the first global stocktake



Source: Reproduced as contained in the AC contribution for the technical assessment component of the first global stocktake, available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AC_SR_GST.pdf.

D. Providing technical support and guidance to the Parties

55. The AC continues to provide technical support and guidance to the Parties for adaptation planning and implementation, including means of implementation, at the national and subnational level and for reviewing subnational, national and overall adaptation progress. The focus of this work, undertaken in close collaboration with the LEG with support from

the NAP task force, is on NAPs as the main vehicle for planning and implementing adaptation at the national level.

1. Adaptation planning and implementation

56. In addition to the focus on CMA-mandated activities, AC work on planning and implementation focused on work of its NAP task force; gaps and needs identified in the preparation and implementation of NAPs; technologies for adaptation; and input to the SCF for the preparation of the draft decisions on guidance to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism.

57. The NAP task force is a useful means for the AC to share its work on NAPs with other constituted bodies and to invite input and feedback on its work directly addressing national adaptation planning and implementation.⁴⁵ It comprises representatives of the AC, the AF, the GCF, the GEF, the LEG, the SCF and the TEC. The lead of the NAP task force delivers at each AC meeting an oral or written progress report on collaborative work undertaken by the task force in accordance with its three-year workplan.⁴⁶

58. While most of the NAP task force's work is undertaken through exchange of documents and information by email, members of the Task Force held two virtual meetings during the reporting period, on 24 February and 5 July 2022, for updates and exchange on ongoing and forthcoming tasks. At its first meeting, the NAP task force agreed on its flexible workplan, which was developed in line with the flexible workplan of the AC. Members of the task force recognized that different bodies and organizations use different modalities to support Parties in NAP-related activities, and so it is important to explore possible synergies and overlap. Task force members were invited to identify specific activities that could strengthen the complementarity of the work of the various bodies and thereby develop a synergetic approach to the work of the task force and the AC on adaptation and support.

59. At its second meeting, the NAP task force discussed specific activities that contribute to a synergetic approach, including the following:

(a) Identification of issues and needs related to support for adaptation planning and implementation (finance, technology and capacity-building), in particular for the global stocktake;

(b) AC technical papers that have benefited, or will benefit, from inputs of all relevant bodies and organizations, including on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application, developing countries' efforts in assessing and meeting the adaptation costs, and the update of the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs (see para. 61 below);

(c) Annual meetings with the constituted bodies held by the GCF Board to improve cooperation and share insights on related strategic activities. This has contributed, for example, to the GCF being better prepared to provide inputs into various activities and products of the constituted bodies;

(d) Active participation by constituted body representatives at meetings and events of other adaptation-focused constituted bodies;

(e) The GCF and the GEF increasingly collaborate, as guided by their evolving long-term vision and the aim of scaling up investments and impact, and avoiding duplication of work. The vision includes adaptation elements and has led to various initiatives. There are plans for future joint programming and investment plans, and collaboration with the AF has been enhanced;

(f) The inaugural annual constituted bodies dialogue hosted by the AC at SB 56 (see para. 21 above) helped to initiate consideration of possible areas of collaboration and coherence among the bodies in supporting adaptation planning and implementation.

⁴⁵ The NAP task force was established at AC4 with the aim of further supporting developing countries seeking to formulate and implement NAPs, and its establishment was noted with appreciation in decision 16/CP.19, para. 1.

⁴⁶ The update provided at AC22 is available at <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-22>.

60. The NAP task force contributed to three side events that the AC conducted during NAP Expo 2022, held from 22 to 26 August in Gaborone, Botswana, on the theme of “transformations to adapt”, namely:

(a) An AC event on promoting the inclusion of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in national adaptation planning and implementation, which was held in collaboration with the NAP Global Network and other organizations. Progress since the publication of the *Toolkit for Engaging the Private Sector in National Adaptation Plans*⁴⁷ was discussed at the event;

(b) An event entitled “Opportunities for gender-responsive adaptation planning and action”, which was held jointly with the LEG and the NAP Global Network. After participants were informed of previous findings and tools that were jointly produced, in particular the *Toolkit for Gender-Responsive Process to Formulate and Implement National Adaptation Plans*,⁴⁸ a discussion followed that included further observations as to how gender analysis can help ensure that adaptation actions are implemented in a gender-responsive manner; the role of women as agents of change in adaptation; and the importance of intersectionality in mainstreaming gender;

(c) An event hosted jointly by the AC and the LEG entitled “Matching needs with support in formulating and implementing NAPs”,⁴⁹ which focused on ways that the support available could be provided in a more coherent, strategic and synergized way, and how any remaining gaps and needs could be addressed.

61. The publication *Navigating the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans: 2022 overview* was finalized and exemplifies AC work on enhancing coordinated adaptation action and support. An interactive online tool⁵⁰ complements the publication with information in a form that is easier to navigate and update. It can incorporate new programmes and support opportunities more flexibly and therefore respond to countries’ information needs in a timelier manner. The new tool and publication help stakeholders to understand and navigate the diversity of adaptation-related assistance provided by various entities, networks and other institutional arrangements in the form of finance, capacity-building or technology development and transfer, as well as other types of support, such as sharing of data, information and knowledge. Organizations and other entities are invited to communicate information on any new programmes or support opportunities to the AC so that the online tool is kept up-to-date;

62. Forthcoming activities of the NAP task force include the production of a policy brief on progress, good practices and lessons learned in prioritizing and incorporating gender-responsive adaptation action, as a follow-up from previous work and from the event held during the NAP Expo 2022 (see para. 60(b) above), as well as seeking feedback on the draft technical paper of the AC on the development and application of monitoring and evaluation systems at the national and subnational level (see para. 67 below).

63. In line with its 2019–2021 workplan, the AC agreed to prepare in 2021 a technical paper on the application of technologies for adaptation on a priority topic to be determined. The AC subsequently decided that the title of the paper should be “Priorities and needs: technologies for adaptation in agriculture, water resources and coastal zones; including experiences in stakeholder engagement and regulatory issues pertaining to the development, transfer and uptake of technologies in those sectors”. The AC further agreed to seek inputs

⁴⁷ Crawford A, Church C and Ledwell C. 2020. *Toolkit for Engaging the Private Sector in National Adaptation Plans (NAPs): Supplement to the UNFCCC Technical Guidelines for the NAP Process*. NAP Global Network and UNFCCC. Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada: International Institute for Sustainable Development. Available at <https://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/toolkit-for-engaging-the-private-sector-in-national-adaptation-plans-naps/>.

⁴⁸ NAP Global Network and UNFCCC. 2019. *Toolkit for a Gender-Responsive Process to Formulate and Implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)*. A Dazé and C Church (eds.). Winnipeg, Canada: International Institute for Sustainable Development. Available at <https://napglobalnetwork.org/resource/toolkit-for-gender-responsive-national-adaptation-plans/>.

⁴⁹ See <https://napexpo.org/2022/sessions/plenary-session-5-2-1-matching-needs-with-support-in-formulating-and-implementing-naps-ac-leg>.

⁵⁰ <https://unfccc.int/napsupport>.

and feedback through the NAP task force when preparing a first draft, and the paper also benefited from the usual practice of seeking input and feedback on the draft from interested observer organizations and Parties.

64. The technical paper aims to serve as a primer for the topic of adaptation technology in agriculture, water resources and coastal zones in particular, while also shedding light on associated cross-cutting topics and trends. It does so with the understanding that technologies represent one of many components of a comprehensive, effective, and equitable response to the challenge of climate change adaptation.

65. The paper⁵¹ covers adaptation technologies in the three areas in general terms, and describes the critical role of technology transfer in facilitating access to them. The paper further explores innovative technologies for adaptation, including frontier technologies, and how they can accelerate resilience-building activities in the three focus areas and beyond. The paper also examines the implementation of adaptation technologies in these areas and more generally, as well as related good practices, gaps, needs and challenges, drawing on the information communicated by Parties in their NAPs, adaptation communications, technology needs assessments and nationally determined contributions, as well as documents prepared under the UNFCCC Technology and Financial Mechanisms, along with academic and grey literature. AC 22 considered the technical paper and provided guidance on its finalization and issuance as a user-friendly publication.

66. The AC provides input to the SCF for the preparation of the draft guidance for the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on an annual basis. AC 22 agreed on its input for 2022 and submitted it to the SCF.⁵²

2. Reviewing progress

67. Since its establishment, the AC has prioritized work on monitoring and evaluation. The workplan of the AC for 2022–2024 provides for a technical paper featuring case studies on the development and application of monitoring and evaluation systems at the national and subnational levels, including consideration of the value of monitoring and evaluation systems, and existing barriers and opportunities to overcome them. To support the preparation of the paper, the AC invited submissions of case studies and other relevant resources through the network of NWP partners and from the public through the secretariat's adaptation-focused social media channels.

68. The paper explores the current landscape of monitoring and evaluation in climate change adaptation at the national and subnational level, starting with consideration of the range of methodological and conceptual issues at the heart of adaptation monitoring and evaluation. The paper further examines the development and application of monitoring and evaluation systems for adaptation at the national and subnational level respectively, supported by case studies that illustrate the various ways in which different jurisdictions are making progress on such activities in spite of the associated challenges.

69. AC 22 considered the first draft of the paper and requested the secretariat to further work on the draft for finalization and approval at AC 23.

V. Recommendations to the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

70. On the basis of its activities during the reporting period, the AC agreed to forward recommendations for consideration at COP 27, CMA 4, SBI 57 and SBSTA 57.

71. The COP and the CMA may wish to:

⁵¹ Available at <https://unfccc.int/event/AC-22>.

⁵² Available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/558288>.

(a) Welcome the updated report on navigating support for NAPs, including its complementary online tool, prepared by the AC NAP task force, and invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to make use of the information therein;

(b) Take note of the ongoing joint work of the AC with the LEG on the process of formulating and implementing NAPs, including on gaps and needs identified by the AC and the LEG in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and the contribution of the AC to the 2022 NAP Expo;

(c) Invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to draw on the information contained in the AC technical paper on priorities and needs in technologies for adaptation in agriculture, water resources and coastal zones, and also invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to take note of the good practices, gaps and challenges identified therein.

72. The SBSTA may wish to invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to draw on the technical paper on methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application, as well as good practices identified and recommendations presented therein, in further considering their adaptation needs and promoting additional work on methodologies, with a view to assisting developing countries without placing undue burden on them. The SBSTA may wish in particular to take note of the need for the continued development and update of methodologies and tools for assessing adaptation needs and to consider the applicability of these methodologies.

73. The SBSTA and the SBI may wish to welcome the timely preparation of the draft supplementary guidance on adaptation communications and invite Parties to draw on it when preparing their adaptation communications, recognizing that they, among other national adaptation related documents, will serve as input to the assessment of collective progress on adaptation in the global stocktake and contribute to the review of overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation.

74. The COP and the CMA may wish to:

(a) Take note of the AC synthesis report prepared as input to the first global stocktake;

(b) Also take note of progress made by the AC and the LEG, in collaboration with the SCF, in continuing to compile existing methodologies for assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support and to note the relevance of the work in the context of the global stocktake;

(c) Invite Parties and non-Party stakeholders to draw on the information contained in the synthesis report on how developing countries are assessing and meeting the cost of adaptation in the context of recognizing adaptation efforts of developing countries in the global stocktake, and invite Parties to take note of the suggestions to assist developing country Parties in overcoming challenges;

(d) Take note of the contributions of the AC to the ongoing work of the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation and recognize the relevance of AC knowledge products and activities to the work programme;

(e) Welcome the 2022 AC dialogue with other adaptation-related constituted bodies on the theme of support for adaptation (capacity-building, finance and technology), with a focus on addressing gaps and needs related to the formulation and implementation of NAPs and the resulting opportunities for collaboration, including the alignment of the 2023 focus area of the PCCB;

(f) Invite the AC to further enhance collaboration with other adaptation-relevant constituted bodies, taking into account their respective work programmes, with the aim of ensuring complementarity and coherent support to the Parties on adaptation action and support;

(g) Take note of the ongoing support provided by NWP partner organizations for the work of the AC and invite further collaboration, including jointly organized expert webinars and other events relevant to the AC work programme and the NWP;

(h) Take note of the progress made in improving outreach of the AC, including through webinars, enhanced use of social media such as a live-streamed panel discussion during SB 56, and the Adaptation Finance Bulletin;

(i) Encourage further use of virtual and hybrid outreach platforms as a way to improve the dissemination and use of AC knowledge products by organizations and practitioners inside and outside the UNFCCC process.
