

Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication

The Environmental Integrity Group (EIG) recognizes that several submitted INDCs include an adaptation component and supports the statement of the Paris Agreement that adaptation is a global challenge that must be faced at international, regional, national, subnational and local levels.

The EIG then considers that the Adaptation Communications could include the linkages of those dimensions, particularly the ones related with inter-Parties (i.e. South – South cooperation) or regional efforts, that aim to address shared issues (such as water or biodiversity). In referring to regional efforts in Adaptation Communications, parties can illustrate

- a. The procedures for sharing information, experiences and lessons learned that can strengthen their scientific knowledge on climate,
- b. The conceptual frameworks and approaches adopted to develop national adaptation policies, particularly those that include territorial approaches, such as basins or ecosystems based approaches.
- c. The results of the studies concerning regional climate change **detection and attribution**, especially those related to water and food security,
- d. Their progress on ecosystem – based adaptation achievements, including the integration of traditional ecological knowledge, as appropriated.
- e. The methodologies applied to assess vulnerability reductions and increased of resilience in the most vulnerable communities
- f. The strengthening of sub-national, national and regional early warning systems and other climate services for relevant sectors including health and agriculture.
- g. The actions taken to include vulnerable groups, human rights and gender responsiveness in their adaptation strategies.
- h. The evaluation of the actions that include adaptation - mitigation co-benefits, such as conservation and restoration of coastal wetlands and blue carbon sequestration and storage, or even the reduction of emissions of black carbon, or other short lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), that contribute to atmospheric radiative forcing and have negative effects on human and ecosystems health.

EIG also wants to highlight the importance that those efforts do **not create additional burden** for all Parties, but include information on adaptation as part of existing reporting mechanisms under the Convention. For example, Parties can strengthen their National Communications, or include their achievements in the adaptation processes as part of their five – year NDCs. The information could include for example:

- a) Description of the methods or tools applied to **monitor and evaluate** their adaptation actions
- b) Priority action areas,
- c) Plans or programs to achieve their expected goals
- d) Actions taken to improve the effectiveness and durability of the adaptation actions,
- e) The need for financial and technical support, if applicable.

The EIG underlines that Parties are free in choosing the form of their adaptation communications. They can do as a component of or in conjunction with other communications or documents. While some Parties have included an adaptation component in their INDCs, others have submitted separate communications on adaptations. Moreover, several Parties may still submit independent adaptation communications. No guidance exists so far on how this could be done. Therefore, it is important to provide further guidance on how adaptation communication can be submitted, either as a separate communication, in conjunction with or as component of another communication or document. Also, existing communications or documents that include an adaptation component (NAPs, NAPAs, NDCs and etc.) needs to be streamlined to avoid duplication and additional burden for Parties. In order for efficient discussion on the type of adaptation communication, common elements of adaptation communication for global stocktake need to be discussed as well.

The EIG suggests that Parties can reinforce their adaptation communications by including the assessments from the current conditions, and how they have changed or improved regarding their adaptation plans, programs, and actions, taking into consideration particularly the most vulnerable communities and ecosystems, and emphasizing the gaps on knowledge and technical capacities.