

**Further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement**

**Parties' views regarding further guidance in relation to the adaptation communication, including, inter alia, as a component of nationally determined contributions, referred to in Article 7, paragraphs 10 and 11, of the Paris Agreement**

The Environmental Integrity Group (EIG) is appreciative to the opportunity to submit its views to contribute on the ongoing work for the adaptation communication.

Adaptation actions promote the reduction of vulnerability and minimize the adverse effects of climate change, which are essential for developing country Parties. To reduce the burden of reporting processes, this document should be constructed using the information already present in the National Communication (NC), the National Adaptation Plans (NAPA) and the National Determined Contribution (INDC) (Kato & Ellis, 2016). Already many countries since 2015, have communicated information to the UNFCCC, on their current or planned adaptation responses via their INDCs, from the 190 countries 88.8% included an adaptation component, especially developing countries (WRI, 2017). These adaptation actions present a variety in terms of their scope, aims, content, clarity, timeline, link with existing policies including mitigation actions, and "measurability". The adaptation activities are mainly focusing on water, agriculture and human health.

The contributions from the other two Rio Conventions plans can be used in climate change adaptation actions as they can become drivers that have multiple benefits, such as the combating of desertification and conserving biodiversity, which can catalyze progress in achieving sustainable development (UN, 2007). Therefore part of the information and actions gathered for the either of two Rio conventions, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NB-SAP), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) through the report National Action Plan (NAP), could be included in the adaptation communication. This action could enhance the synergies in adaptation and facilitate the report process for the three conventions, especially through ecosystem based adaptation measures.

It is also very important that the Parties align their commitments for the Sustainable Development Goals (2015; <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>), particularly the ones related to climate action (goal 13), reduction of inequalities (10), and gender equality (5). Regarding Partnerships for the goals (17), in a previous submission, EIG has proposed that regional adaptation plans and programs (that might include several countries), should be supported and enhanced, because the countries may share bioclimatic regions, ecosystems, culture, and physical features such as watersheds.

Through the periodic national adaptation communications a positive cycle of improvement on the actions can be attained and ongoing international support to reach the adaptation goals.

*Mexico approved the General Law of Climate Change (LGCC acronym in Spanish) in 2012, from which two instruments are derived the National Strategy in Climate Change (ENCC acronym in Spanish) and the Special Programme of Climate Change (PECC acronym in Spanish). The ENCC is a guiding instrument for national policy in the medium and long term, as it based on the available information of present and future scenarios and strategic lines of action. The PECC is for the federal government in place to define the specific objectives and actions on mitigation and adaptation can be updated every two years. Also derived from the LGCC the states of Mexico have to elaborate the state plans on climate change and participate in the National System of Climate Change (SINACC acronym in Spanish).*

The territorial **and systemic approach** can improve the coordination between government ministries to solve and prevent climate change impacts. The coordination can happen with ministries at national and regional level according to their capacities and attributions to attain a common objective, through the development of ecosystem and community based adaptation. As a consequence, new implementation policies can be generated. This approach can streamlined processes can increase the effectiveness to attain the goals set in the NDC and other national programmes, especially in the context of adaptation reporting such as in the Mexican, Swiss and Korean cases.

Mitigation strategies should be encouraged to include an adaptation objective, and thus achieve the objective of the Paris Agreement effectively. Good practices of mitigation such as the reduction of black carbon emissions: it reduces a short live climate pollutant that contributes to global warming, and also preserves the health of population and ecosystems. The Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) programme focuses on forests conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. REDD+ has the two benefits, mitigation of greenhouse gases (GHG) as deforestation and forest degradation are responsible for 15% of GHG emissions, and adaptation by promoting the preservation of ecosystem services used by the population.

The adaptation communication can be the bridge between the NDC adaptation measures and the NAPAs (and other equivalent instruments) process to lead to more effective actions on adaptation, and monitor and evaluation practices can be performed for several instruments, not only the NDC.

## References

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WRI, (World Resource Institute). (2017). *CAIT Paris Contributions Map – Explore Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)*. Retrieved from <http://cait.wri.org/indc/>

