



# Adaptation in the 2015 Agreement

**Cornelia Jäger**  
**DG CLIMA, adaptation**  
**[Cornelia.Jaeger@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Cornelia.Jaeger@ec.europa.eu)**



# Adaptation in the UNFCCC

- *Existing provisions – Convention and the Cancun Adaptation Framework*
- *State of Play of the negotiations towards the 2015 agreement*



# What does the Convention say:

Art 2: "**The ultimate objective** ...stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be **achieved within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change**, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner."

Art 3 (3) "The Parties should **take precautionary measures to anticipate, prevent or minimize the causes of climate change and mitigate its adverse effects**. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, **lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing such measures**, taking into account that policies and measures to deal with climate change should be cost-effective so as to ensure global benefits at the lowest possible cost. To achieve this, such policies and measures should take into account ... and adaptation...."

Art 4 (1) b : **All Parties**, ..., **shall: Formulate, implement, publish and regularly update** national and, where appropriate, regional **programmes containing measures** to ... **facilitate adequate adaptation** to climate change;

Art 4 (1) e: **Cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change**; develop and elaborate appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management, water resources and agriculture, and for the protection and rehabilitation of areas, particularly in Africa, affected by drought and desertification, as well as floods;

Art 4 (4). The **developed country Parties and other developed Parties** included in Annex II **shall also assist** the developing country Parties that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change **in meeting costs of adaptation to those adverse effects**.



# *Current Adaptation Framework*

## Adaptation Committee:

- **Overall advisory body** on adaptation
- main player for more coherence, for raising the profile of adaptation
- Annual Adaptation Forum

## National Adaptation Planning process:

- Supporting LDCs in preparation and implementation of NAPs to address medium and long term impacts of climate change (*e.g. initial and LEG guidelines*)
- Invitation to other developing countries to use modalities and guidelines
- Financial support from LDCF and SCCF



## Loss and damage:

- **Workprogramme on Loss and Damage** to further the understanding (Assessing the risk of L&D; range of approaches to L&D, incl. extreme weather events and slow onset events;
- **Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and damage** (enhancing knowledge of comprehensive risk management, strengthen coordination; enhance action and support)– **Executive Committee** (*2-year workplan*)

## Nairobi Work Programme

- Building knowledge, generating and sharing information on vulnerability, impacts for decision making based on scientific, technical, socio-economic information
- Inform and support adaptation policies and practices



## Capacity Building (CB)

- CB cross-cutting: integration into areas of work (adaptation, mitigation, reporting & GHG inventories, technology transfer, market mechanisms, REDD+, access to finance)
- **Durban Forum**: platform for providing an overview of CB support and corresponding implementation efforts; tool to improve monitoring & review of the effectiveness of CB

## Financing adaptation and L&D

- Adaptation Fund, GCF (adaptation window 50:50:50), (GEF (LDCF, SCCF))
- Bilateral

## Work outside the Convention

UNISDR (post-Hyogo), World Bank, IOM, UNCBD, UNCCD, UNEP, UNDP,  
....



## ***Current state of play - negotiations***

# **Global Goal – global objective of adaptation**

..... to achieve climate resilient sustainable development

## **Qualitative Objective:**

**Further elaborate the Convention's objective**

## **Quantitative Goal:**

**determined by mitigation ambition, temperature scenario, adaptation needs and costs** (*development of methodologies, metrics, indicators*)



# Commitments - contributions

- All Parties need to undertake adaptation action!
- Global public good - "Global responsibility" ?
- **Collective commitments** (e.g. support for adaptation action)
  - > mechanism to secure financial support; MRV of support; find new innovative sources
- **Individual commitments** (e.g. need to plan, prepare und undertake actions)
  - > adaptation contribution (INDC) as individual commitment?





# Institutional Arrangements

Build on and strengthen existing institutions!

- How to anchor them?:  
explicitly; enabling environments; Cancun Adaptation Framework
- Are new institutions needed?  
Registry to match action with support; new regional centres;  
knowledge platforms
- Provision in core agreement or in supporting decisions?
- Comprehensive review of all adaptation relevant institutions in 2017?



# "Loss and damage"

## to the impacts of climate change

Not mentioned as a specific "element" in the Durban decision

- Separate Loss and damage from adaptation discussion?
- Continue to discuss Loss and damage within adaptation e.g. under the Cancun Adaptation Framework?



## Next steps

- *Elaborate further on areas of convergence*
- *Further understanding on global goal/objective*
- *Clarify existing institutional set up*
- *Further the understanding of "global responsibility", "common/collective/universal commitment" versus "individual commitment"*

**Thank you very much for  
your attention!**

