

UNFCCC

THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME
THE SECOND PHASE





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 02 AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BROCHURE
- 03 UNDERSTANDING THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**
- 03 WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?
- 05 WHEN AND WHERE: IMPORTANT MILESTONES FOR THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME
- 06 IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE SECOND PHASE
- 07 WHY IS THE PROGRAMME IMPORTANT?
- 08 HOW IS THE PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTED?
 - SUB-THEMES
 - AREAS OF WORK
- 12 WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?
- 13 IMPLEMENTING THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**
- 13 PROGRESS MADE DURING THE FIRST PHASE OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME
- 16 ENGAGEMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS
- 17 ACTIVITIES DURING THE SECOND PHASE

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BROCHURE

This brochure is the third in a series, produced so as to inform Parties, organizations, and those interested in adaptation about the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The programme is an ambitious but realistic plan of activities, mandated by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

It is a 5 year work programme that runs from 2005 to 2010 and is divided into two phases. In June 2008, the first phase was completed, and the second commenced. This was a significant milestone for the programme, and adaptation as a whole. This second phase, with inputs from the first phase, will feed into future work on adaptation, post-COP 15 in Copenhagen.

This brochure is focussed on the second phase, and will serve to illuminate issues surrounding the programme and the second phase, with additional sources of information available on the website. Please refer to www.unfccc.int/3633.php.

UNDERSTANDING THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme is a 5 year programme established in order to assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), to:

- Improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; and
- Make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.

The programme aims to achieve the outcomes listed below:

- Improve capacity at international, regional, national, sectoral and local levels to further identify and understand impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation responses, in order to effectively select and implement practical, efficient and high priority adaptation actions;
- Enhance and improve the level and amount of information and advice to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies on the scientific, technical and socio-economic aspects of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation;
- Enhance the degree of dissemination and utilization of knowledge from practical adaptation activities;
- Enhance cooperation among Parties, relevant organizations, business, civil society and decision makers, in order to advance their ability to manage climate change risks; and
- Enhance the integration of adaptation into sustainable development plans.

The programme aims to accomplish these objectives and outcomes through the implementation of a large number of activities described in this brochure.

WHEN AND WHERE: IMPORTANT MILESTONES FOR THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

- **2004, Buenos Aires, COP 10:** The journey begins. Parties decide to elaborate a 5 year work programme under the SBSTA. *(See FCCC/CP/2004/10/Add.1)*
- **2005, Montreal, COP 11:** The programme is born. Additional deliberations lead to Parties adopting a 5 year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The objective, expected outcomes and scope of work are specified. *(See FCCC/CP/2005/5/Add.1)*
- **2006, Nairobi, SBSTA 25:** The work plan is completed and the first phase begins. A comprehensive plan of activities up to mid-2008 is agreed upon, and the programme is renamed “The Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change”. *(See FCCC/SBSTA/2006/11)*
- **2007, Bali, COP 13:** Progress is monitored. Progress on the plan is discussed and the need to further engage organizations and experts is highlighted. *(See FCCC/SBSTA/2007/16)*
- **2008, Bonn, SBSTA 28:** The first phase is completed and the second phase commences. Parties adopt conclusions on the second phase of the Nairobi work programme, agreeing on activities up to the end of 2010. *(See FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6)*

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE SECOND PHASE

- 2008, Poznan, COP 14:** The Nairobi work programme will be reviewed.
The SBSTA will review and report on the Nairobi work programme to the COP, and relevant recommendations from the first phase are to be forwarded to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI). A Focal Point Forum for Parties and organizations will be held.
- 2009, Bonn, SBSTA 30:** Work on the programme will continue. The programme will be reviewed and new work may be mandated.
- 2009, Copenhagen, COP 15:** Work on the programme will continue.
The programme will be reviewed and new work may be mandated. A Focal Point Forum for Parties and organizations will be held.
- 2010, venue yet to be decided, COP 16:** The second phase, and the Nairobi work programme as a whole, will be completed.
The SBSTA will review and report on the Nairobi work programme to the COP, and recommendations from the implementation of the Nairobi work programme will be forwarded to the SBI. Future work on adaptation will be decided upon by the Parties.

WHY IS THE PROGRAMME IMPORTANT?

The Nairobi work programme is both necessary and important because:

- First and foremost, the Nairobi work programme serves as a platform for the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge, and in so doing, aims to support and catalyze the implementation of adaptation;
- Adaptation to climate change and its adverse effects is a priority for all countries, particularly developing countries;
- Activities relating to impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change that have already been undertaken elsewhere at national, sectoral and local levels need to be recognized and integrated into the work of the Convention;
- Responding to the adverse effects of climate change should be undertaken through coordination and multilateralism, with social and economic development as a concern; and
- Scientific knowledge on impacts, as well as practical experience in responding to adaptation, is increasing all the time and this knowledge needs to be exploited.

HOW IS THE PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTED?

The scope of work under the Nairobi work programme is categorized into 2 thematic areas, each with five action oriented sub-themes.

1. Impacts and vulnerability

- I Promoting the development and dissemination of methodologies and tools for impact and vulnerability assessments, such as rapid assessments and bottom-up approaches, including as they apply to sustainable development;
- II Improving the collection, management, exchange, access to and use of observational data and other relevant information on current and historical climate and its impacts, and promoting improvement of observations, including the monitoring of climate variability;
- III Promoting the development of, access to, and use of information and data on projected climate change;
- IV Promoting understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate change, current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development; and
- V Promoting the availability of information on the socio-economic aspects of climate change and improving the integration of socio-economic information into impact and vulnerability assessments.

2. Adaptation planning, measures and actions

- I Promoting the development and dissemination of methods and tools for assessment and improvement of adaptation planning, measures and actions, and integration with sustainable development;
- II Collecting, analysing and disseminating information on past and current practical adaptation actions and measures, including adaptation projects, short- and long-term adaptation strategies, and local and indigenous knowledge;
- III Promoting research on adaptation options and the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how and practices for adaptation, particularly addressing identified adaptation priorities and building on lessons learned from current adaptation projects and strategies;
- IV Facilitating communication and cooperation among and between Parties and relevant organizations, business, civil society and decision makers, and other stakeholders; and
- V Promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools including for economic diversification aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, especially for relevant categories of countries listed in Article 4, paragraph 8, of the Convention.

Areas of work

The 2 sub-themes are addressed through 9 areas of work, aimed at realizing the implementation of the Nairobi work programme and its objectives. The areas were introduced during the first phase, and considerable progress was made thereon. They will be further implemented and enhanced during the second phase.

| Area of work | Description |
|---|--|
| 1. Methods and tools | Developing and disseminating methodologies and tools for impact and vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning, measures and actions. |
| 2. Data and observations | Improving collection, management, exchange, access to and use of observational data and other relevant information on current and historical climate variability and change. |
| 3. Climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling | Promoting the development of, access to, and use of information and data on projected climate change. |
| 4. Climate related risks and extreme events | Promoting understanding of impacts and vulnerability, emphasizing current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development. |

| Area of work | Description |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 5. Socio-economic information | Improving knowledge of the socio-economic aspects of climate change and promoting the integration of socio-economic information into impact and vulnerability assessments. |
| 6. Adaptation planning and practices | Collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on past and current practical adaptation actions and measures, including projects, short- and long-term strategies, and local and indigenous knowledge. This is done through facilitating communication and cooperation between stakeholders. |
| 7. Research | Promoting research on adaptation practices and options, analyzing opportunities and ways to promote research on adaptive capacities and adaptation practices that increase resilience. |
| 8. Technologies for adaptation | Promoting the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how, and practices for adaptation. |
| 9. Economic diversification | Promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of ways to increase economic resilience and decrease reliance on vulnerable economic sectors. |

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

- **Parties.** The Parties mandated the programme in the context of the SBSTA, and are the most significant actors with regard to directing the implementation of its activities and making progress towards its objectives.
- **Organizations, experts, the private sector, and other stakeholders.** These are important partners in the programme, as the realization of the programme's goals depends on a multi-stakeholder approach. Further engagement of organizations is one of the most important activities of the second phase of the Nairobi work programme.
- **The global community.** The global community is affected both directly and indirectly by the negative impacts of climate change, with the most vulnerable communities being disproportionately affected. These are mainly people living in developing countries, particularly the LDCs, SIDS and African countries, especially those affected by drought, desertification and floods.
- **The UNFCCC secretariat.** The secretariat supports the implementation of the programme, under the guidance of the SBSTA and at the instruction of the COP, and catalyzes action on the work areas.

IMPLEMENTING THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

PROGRESS MADE DURING THE FIRST PHASE

At an informal meeting of representatives from Parties on the outcomes of the activities completed under the Nairobi work programme, held in April 2008 in Bangkok (*see FCCC/SBSTA/2008/5*), Parties and organizations welcomed the approach taken during the first phase towards implementing the programme.

During the first phase, much engagement with Parties and organizations took place, with over 100 organizations nominating focal points. In addition to this, 18 Organizations provided 55 Action Pledges, and 7 Calls for Action were produced. Action pledges commit the organizations to carry out activities in support of adaptation, and to share the experience and knowledge gained from these pledged activities at SBSTA sessions during the second phase.

Action across the 9 work areas was catalyzed at all levels during the first phase, and the following table highlights these activities:

| Area of work | Description |
|---|---|
| 1. Methods and Tools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from Parties and organizations were received (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.12 and Add.1, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.13</i>), and were compiled into a synthesis report (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/8</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert meeting was held from 4 – 5 March 2008 in Mexico City, Mexico, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2008/3</i>). |
| 2. Data and observations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from the WMO and its member states, as well as other organizations, were received (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.23</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert meeting was held from 6 – 7 March 2008 in Mexico City, Mexico, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2008/3</i>). |
| 3. Climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from organizations were received (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.24 and Add.1</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An in-session workshop was held on 7 June 2008 in Bonn, Germany (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2008/9</i>). |
| 4. Climate-related risks and extreme events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from Parties and organizations were received (see <i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.4 and Add.1 – 2, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.5</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop was held from 18 – 20 June 2007 in Cairo, Egypt, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/7</i>). |
| 5. Socio-economic information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from Parties and organizations were received (see <i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.21 and Add.1, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.22</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert meeting was held from 10 - 12 March 2008 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2008/2</i>). |

| Area of work | Description |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 6. Adaptation planning and practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from Parties and organizations were received (see <i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.10 and Add.1, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.11</i>), and compiled into a synthesis report (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/9</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop was held from 10 – 12 September 2007 in Rome, Italy, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/15</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A synthesis report on the outputs of the work of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) and the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT), relevant to adaptation planning and practices was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/10</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A web-based interface providing information on existing adaptation practices and local coping strategies for adaptation was developed (http://unfccc.int/4363.php). |
| 7. Research | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A synthesis report of ongoing and planned adaptation research, and adaptation research needs, was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/12</i>). |
| 8. Technologies for adaptation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions by Parties and organizations as part of submissions on adaptation planning and practices were received, and a synthesis report on technologies for adaptation identified in the submissions was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/6</i>). |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An expert meeting was held on 5 April 2008 in Bangkok, Thailand, and a report was produced (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2008/4</i>). |
| 9. Economic diversification | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions from Parties and organizations were received (see <i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.15 and Add.1, and FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.16</i>), and were compiled into a synthesis report (<i>FCCC/SBSTA/2007/14</i>). |

The following organizations are involved in the Nairobi work programme*

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • AfDB | • FSM | • LSHTM | • CATIE |
| • Arctic Council Secretariat | • FAO | • Met Office Hadley Centre | • UNESCO |
| • ADB | • FRCGC | • Tyndall Centre | • Tyndall Centre |
| • ADPC | • Fundacion Bariloche | • ORA | • UNESCO IOC |
| • AASSREC | • DKKV | • MRI | • UNESCO WHC |
| • BCAS | • GCISC | • MCII | • UNESCO IHE |
| • CARE | • START | • NIES | • UNCTAD |
| • CCCCC | • GCOS | • Nature Conservancy | • UNCCD |
| • CARICOM | • GEF | • NEST | • UNDP |
| • CAFOD | • GFMC | • NSU | • ESCAP |
| • UNAM | • GLIMS | • OECD | • UNECA |
| • CICERO | • RIOCC | • OAPEC | • UNEP |
| • CIESIN | • IGES | • OURANOS | • UNEP/ |
| • CRED | • ISET | • Oxfam International | • GRID-Arendal |
| • CIFOR | • IDS | • OUCE | • UNU |
| • CITET | • INRH | • PIFS | • UNISDR |
| • CATHALAC | • IADB | • PAHO | • UNU ESD |
| • CIWEM | • IPCC | • Pew Center | • UNU EHS |
| • Christian Aid | • ICOLD | • PIK | • Wetlands International |
| • CSIRO | • ICES | • POVINAA | • WB |
| • Commonwealth Secretariat | • IEA | • Practical Action | • IUCN |
| • CEFI | • IFAD | • ProAct Network | • WFP |
| • CI | • ICRISAT | • ProVention Consortium | • WHO |
| • CBD | • IIASA | • RIDES | • WHO Regional Office for Europe |
| • Ecologic | • IIED | • Rockefeller Foundation | • WHO EMRO |
| • ECLAC | • IISD | • OSS | • WHO WPRO |
| • ENDA | • ITC SECAP | • SPREP | • WMO |
| • IH Cantabria | • ILO | • SEI | • UNWTO |
| • ETC Foundation | • IRI | • SDPI | • WRI |
| • JRC | • ITUC | • SustainUS | • WWF |
| • EEA | • IWMI | • TERI | • Pelangi |
| | • LEAD | | |
| | • LI BIRD | | |

*as of 22/10/2008

ACTIVITIES DURING THE SECOND PHASE

At SBSTA 28, Parties agreed on a clear set of activities for the second phase of the Nairobi work programme, with a particular emphasis on activities dealing with economic diversification and adaptation planning and practices, as well as an emphasis on education, training and public awareness, and the promotion of regional centres.

The secretariat has been mandated by the SBSTA, with input from relevant stakeholders, to undertake numerous activities, including a number of workshops, forums and meetings.

The following outputs have been mandated so far for the second phase:

Reports

Various reports, stemming from the first phase, will be produced and will feed into ongoing discussions and work undertaken during the rest of the programme. These include the following:

- A report on the workshop on climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling, held on 7 June 2008 in Bonn (*FCCC/SBSTA/2008/9*);
- A report on lessons learned in involving experts in the implementation of the Nairobi work programme (*FCCC/SBSTA/2008/10*);
- A summary report on the first phase of the Nairobi work programme (*FCCC/SBSTA/2008/12*); and
- A progress report on activities in the second phase up to SBSTA 29 (*FCCC/SBSTA/2008/INF.5*).

Other reports, stemming from activities during the second phase, will be produced during 2009 and 2010, and will include progress, synthesis and workshop reports.

Technical papers

Two technical papers will be produced in 2008 under the Nairobi work programme:

- A technical paper on physical and socio-economic trends in climate-related risks and extreme events in the context of their implications for sustainable development, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable developing countries (*FCCC/TP/2008/3*); and
- A technical paper on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies, such as those included in the Hyogo Framework for Action, into national policies and programmes (*FCCC/TP/2008/4*).

Additional technical papers will be produced in 2009 and 2010.

Technical workshops

Technical workshops on the following topics will be held in 2009 and 2010:

- Integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes;
- Advancing the integration of various approaches to adaptation planning, including the scaling up of local and community-based adaptation;
- Increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, through economic diversification;
- Promoting the role and collaboration of regional centres and networks undertaking work relevant to climate change; and
- The costs and benefits of adaptation options.

Enhanced engagement

The second phase will see a greater emphasis on community, national and regional activities, including those based on education, training and awareness-raising. In addition, the following forms of engagement will be enhanced throughout the second phase:

- **Calls for Action:**
The preparation of Calls for Action is promoted under the UNFCCC process and among relevant organizations, institutions, experts and communities, based on the consideration of recommendations from workshops and expert meetings. The Calls for Action will continue during the second phase with a view to undertaking recommended activities at international, regional, national and sub-national levels aimed at addressing the gaps and needs identified.
- **Action Pledges:**
All organizations are encouraged to submit Action Pledges to the secretariat and to make available to the SBSTA, via the secretariat, information on the results achieved. Action pledges can respond to Calls for Action, or to any of the objectives, outcomes or activities of the Nairobi work programme.

- **Engaging the private sector:**

The secretariat has begun an initiative to engage the private sector on its work on adaptation, in order to find out about adaptation-related initiatives undertaken by that sector. This initiative seeks to highlight case studies of the work relating to adaptation being carried out by the private sector, and showcase the business opportunities that exist in the area of adaptation planning and implementation.

Regional centres and networks

Regional centres and networks are promoted under the Nairobi work programme, including in the following areas: “methods and tools”, “data and observations”, and “climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling”. In addition, a technical workshop is planned for 2010 on “How regional centres and networks undertaking work relevant to climate change can collaborate”.

The Adaptation Practices Interface

During the first phase of the Nairobi work programme, the Adaptation Practices Interface was mandated in order to provide information and links to work on adaptation practices being carried out by partners of the Nairobi work programme, and other organizations, institutions and entities worldwide. The interface is a dynamic resource, and the second phase will see it evolving and improving as resources are constantly reviewed and updated. It will become a searchable tool for information on adaptation practices worldwide. Stakeholders are encouraged to provide new and updated information to the UNFCCC secretariat.

Dialogues

- Dialogues related to research will take place in the first half of both 2009 and 2010.
- Dialogues between the focal points and Parties will take place in the second half of both 2009 and 2010.

The Nairobi work programme has been supported through financial contributions from the governments of Australia, Austria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. The governments of Egypt, Mexico, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago supported the programme by hosting workshops and informal meetings, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) supported these workshops.*

For more information please see the website: <http://unfccc.int/3633.php>
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