

# The work of the Adaptation Committee on adaptation planning

**Symposium on space-based applications for climate change**

12 to 14 September 2016, Graz, Austria



*Klaus Radunsky, member of the Adaptation Committee*

## What is the Adaptation Committee and what does it do?

The Adaptation Committee is the overall advisory body on adaptation under the Convention, established in 2010.



Considering  
information by  
Parties on  
**monitoring &  
review support**  
provided and  
needed

Providing  
recommendations  
to COP on  
**means to  
incentivize  
implementation**



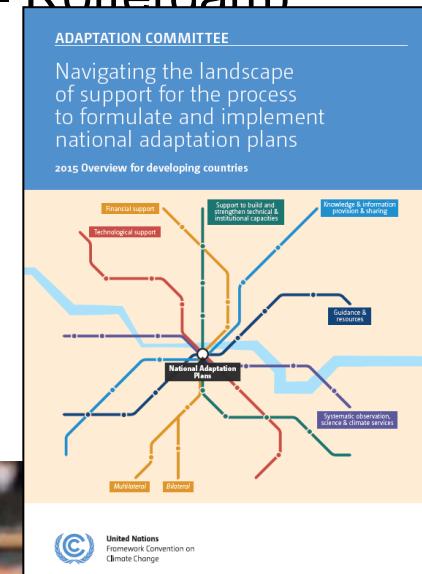
# Sharing information, knowledge, experience & good practices

The Adaptation Committee reaches out to stakeholders at all levels, including through:

## The Adaptation Forum (Warsaw – Panama – Rotterdam)



## Publications



## Video Documentary



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## The adaptation landscape under the UNFCCC



# The adaptation landscape under the UNFCCC

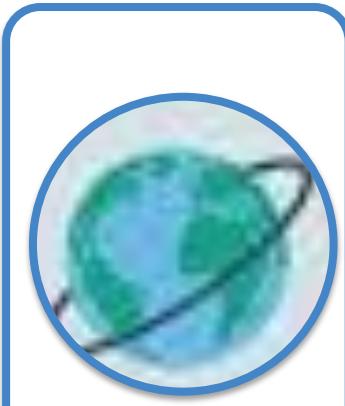
Science, research,  
systematic observation

Knowledge and  
assessment

Planning and  
Implementation

Addressing  
residual risks

Ensuring  
coherence



Research  
dialogue, IPCC  
collaboration,  
review...



Nairobi work  
programme

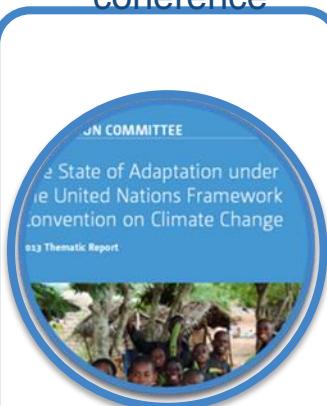


National  
adaptation plans  
(NAPs)

Least Developed  
Countries Expert  
Group, NAPAs



Warsaw  
Mechanism on  
Loss and  
Damage



Adaptation  
Committee

Stakeholder engagement and regional cooperation

Finance, Technology and Capacity Building



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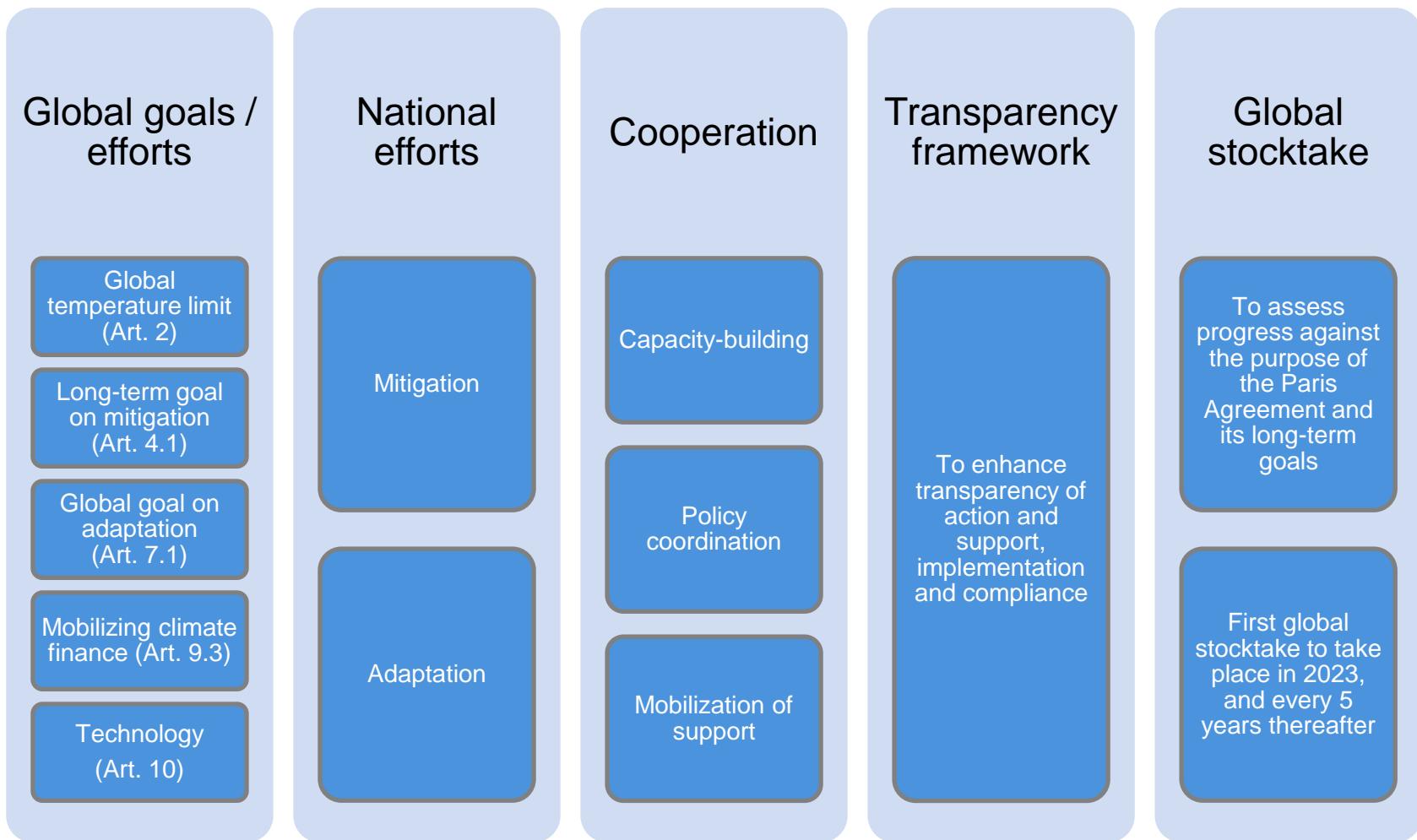
# The Paris Agreement



*“Recognizing the need for an effective and progressive response to the urgent threat of climate change on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge”*



# Central components of the Paris Agreement



# Adaptation under the Agreement (Article 7)

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**Global goal on  
adaptation**

Paragraph 1

**Recognition of  
adaptation efforts of  
developing country  
Parties**

Paragraph 3

**Guiding principles**

Paragraph 5

**Cooperation**

Paragraph 8

**Planning and  
implementation**

Paragraph 9

**Communication**

Paragraph 10

**Support**

Paragraph 13

**Global stocktake**

Paragraph 14



# The operationalizing decision to the Paris Agreement: 1/CP.21

**The AC is requested to:**

- **conduct a technical examination process on adaptation, and**
- **undertake five tasks and provide recommendations for CMA 1**

Review, in 2017, the work of adaptation-related institutional arrangements under the Convention

(AC)

Consider methodologies for assessing adaptation needs

(AC)

Develop modalities to recognize the adaptation efforts of developing country Parties

(AC & LEG)

Develop methodologies on taking the necessary steps to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries

(AC & LEG, in collaboration with SCF and others)

Develop methodologies on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support

(AC & LEG, in collaboration with SCF and others)



## Mandate

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- The Adaptation Committee (AC) was established in 2011 as part of the Cancun Adaptation Framework ([decision 1/CP.16](#))
- The Committee is the overall advisory body to the Conference of the Parties on adaptation and promotes the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner
- At the Paris Climate Change Conference in 2015, Parties re-affirmed and amplified the role of the AC, and:
  - Requested the Committee, along with others, to develop further methodologies and modalities in support of adaptation planning and implementation ([decision 1/CP.21, paras 41, 42, 45](#))
  - Requested the Committee and the LDC Expert Group (LEG) to consider how they can provide more information on accessing funding from the GCF for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) ([decision 4/CP.21, para 10](#))



## AC work related to adaptation planning and support emanating from Paris

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- To consider methodologies for assessing adaptation needs to assist developing countries
- To develop methodologies to facilitate the mobilization of support for adaptation in developing countries in the context of the temperature limit defined in the Paris Agreement
- To develop methodologies to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support



## AC activities in support of the adaptation planning and implementation

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### Workshops and meetings organized by the AC:

- Workshop on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation - September 2013, Nadi, Fiji
- Available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation, needs of local and indigenous communities, and the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation (with the Nairobi work programme) - April 2014, Bonn, Germany
- Workshop on the means of implementation for enhanced adaptation action (focused on climate finance) - March 2015, Bonn, Germany
- Workshop on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs for the process to formulate and implement NAPs (with the LEG) - April 2015, Bonn, Germany
- Expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification – September 2015, Bonn, Germany

### AC Publications:

- Navigating the landscape of support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs (2015)
- Institutional arrangements for national adaptation planning and implementation (2014)
- The State of Adaptation under the UNFCCC (2013)



# AC workplan for 2016-2018: workstreams on technical support and means of implementation

## Overall objectives :

To provide guidance on ways to enhance support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, in particular related to access, institutional arrangements and enabling environments, including for the NAP process and to enhance the provision of technical support to developing country Parties for adaptation action in a coherent manner

	2016: 1 <sup>st</sup> half	2016: 2 <sup>nd</sup> half	2017	2018
Finance				
	Coordinate with, and provide inputs to, the SCF, the TEC and the CTCN, as well as the financial entities under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, when relevant and as requested	Taking into account relevant ongoing and planned work on technology and capacity building under the Convention, identify next steps, as appropriate, on technology and capacity building		
Technology, CB	Continue to consider further modalities for supporting developing country Parties in their adaptation actions, taking into account ongoing and planned work by other constituted bodies and the SB44 side event			



## AC ongoing work: support to NAPs - establishment of a NAP task force

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- AC 4 (2013): Establishment of a **NAP task force (NAP TF)** – to further support developing countries in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans
- 2014: NAP TF Workplan for 2014-2015
- 2016: NAP TF Workplan for 2016-2018 under elaboration
  - To be finalized on 12 July, on the margins of the NAP Expo
- 2016: Revision of Terms of Reference of NAP TF
  - Composition: 6 AC members and 1 representative of the LEG, the Technology Executive Committee, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility and GCF + active contribution of external experts



## Summary of activities undertaken by the NAP TF thus far

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Leading	Contributing
<p><b>Engaging:</b> Meetings/Workshops, reports/submissions, summary of gaps, needs and lessons learned; recommendations (for AC, COP and others)</p>	<p><b>Providing inputs:</b> Workshop on adaptation finance; work on M&amp;E of NAPs, development of NAP Central (non-LDCs)</p>
<p><b>Organization of meeting:</b> With stakeholders - NAP process; availability of documentation; technical paper</p>	<p><b>Organization of:</b> NAP Expos</p>
<p><b>Providing inputs:</b> publications</p>	<p><b>Participating:</b> LEG Regional training workshops; Technical Advisory Group of the NAP-Global Support Programme for non-LDCs</p>



## Questions for discussion

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Possible contributions of information from space-based platforms:

- What is needed to objectively review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation actions and the support for adaptation in countries?
- What can be done to effectively and efficiently recognize the adaptation efforts that have been undertaken by developing countries?



## Relevant questions that the AC has to address – could space-based platforms contribute to answering them?

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- What methods can be used to review the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation?
  - What information/data or metrics are needed for the review?
  - Which lessons learned, good practices, challenges and barriers have been encountered in the review of the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation?
  - What is the range and scope of adaptation efforts? How do you define and document adaptation efforts? Do you encounter any difficulties in terms of data sourcing or completeness?
  - Could you provide examples or possible modalities of how adaptation efforts could be recognized under the Convention?
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## Examples of relevant information from space-based platforms

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- Historical records miss a fifth of global warming;  
<http://climate.nasa.gov/news/2468/historical-records-miss-a-fifth-of-global-warming/>
  - Fires in north-western Siberia;  
<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88430>
  - Large-scale mangrove dieback "unprecedented" -  
<https://research.jcu.edu.au/tropwater/news-and-events/large-scale-mangrove-dieback-unprecedented>
  - Unabated global mean sea-level rise over the satellite altimeter era -  
<http://palgrave.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v5/n6/full/nclimate2635.html>
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## Possible additional issues for added value of space-based platforms - barriers

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### **Additional issues:**

- Early warning systems
- Support for landscape-based adaptation approach

### **Barriers:**

- Challenge to transform the huge amount of data in meaningful information for decision makers and those that are most vulnerable in a timely manner
- Role of roadmaps at the international/national level to address the above challenge – is Copernicus a way forward?

[http://www.esa.int/Our\\_Activities/Observing\\_the\\_Earth/  
Copernicus](http://www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/Copernicus)

- Or a linkage to the GFCS <http://www.wmo.int/gfcs/>
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## Conclusions

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- Huge potential to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of adaptation by the use of data from space-based platforms;
  - However significant barriers which should be addressed by, e.g.
    - a) Continued out-reach to organizations that could benefit from information provided by space-based platforms
    - b) Share success stories and lessons learned
    - c) Build trust
    - d) Enhance capacity systematically to offer relevant information in a timely manner to the relevant stakeholders
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# THANK YOU

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