



SECRETARIAT NEWS

AWG-LCA 5

The fifth session of the Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA 5) took place in Bonn, Germany, from 29 March to 8 April 2009. Attended by over 2100 participants, it was the first round of UNFCCC negotiations in 2009. This is a critical year for climate change negotiations, as Parties are expected to reach an agreement on the post 2012 climate regime at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) taking place in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December 2009.

The AWG-LCA was established at COP 13 in Bali, Indonesia to facilitate agreement on a robust post 2012 climate regime. In Bonn, Parties considered the [document](#) prepared to focus the negotiating process on the fulfillment of the Bali Action Plan (BAP) and on the components of the agreed outcome to be adopted by COP 15, describing areas of convergence in the ideas and proposals of Parties, exploring options for dealing with areas of divergence and identifying any gaps that might need to be filled in reaching an agreed outcome.

Three workshops facilitated the work of the AWG-LCA in Bonn:

- Subparagraphs 1 (b) (i)¹ and 1 (b) (ii)² of the BAP;
- Economic and social consequences of response measures (para. 1 (b) (vi) of the BAP); and
- Opportunities and challenges for mitigation in the agriculture sector.

For presentations and reports of the workshops, see: http://unfccc.int/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/lca/items/4725.php.

At its sixth session to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 12 June 2009, the AWG-LCA will consider the negotiating text prepared by the Chair. It was prepared taking into account the proceedings of the AWG-LCA 5 and ideas and proposals contained in the submissions from Parties received up to 5 May 2009. For the negotiating text see:

http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&preref=600005243#beg.

For more information on AWG-LCA see: <http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/4381.php>.

¹ Measurable, reportable and verifiable nationally appropriate mitigation commitments or actions, including quantified emission limitation and reduction objectives, by all developed country Parties, while ensuring the comparability of efforts among them, taking into account differences in their national circumstances.

² Nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing country Parties in the context of sustainable development, supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner.

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In-Session Workshop on 1 (b) (i) and 1 (b) (ii) of the BAP

During AWG-LCA 5, a workshop on 1 (b) (i) and 1 (b) (ii) of the BAP was organized, among others. It was conducted in two parts, each part dealing with one of the subparagraphs and together covering the substance of both subparagraphs in their entirety.

Under 1 (b) (i), the presentation by Parties and the discussions that followed covered a wide range of issues relating to: a) the level of ambition of mitigation action by developed country Parties; b) scope and form of nationally appropriate mitigation commitment or actions by developed country Parties; c) comparability of efforts and national circumstances; and d) measurement, reporting and verification of commitments or actions.

Under 1 (b) (ii), the presentations by Parties and the subsequent discussions covered a wide range of issues

relating to nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) by developing country Parties, including:

- The nature and scope of NAMAs by developing countries in the context of sustainable development and their contribution to enhanced action on mitigation in accordance with their capabilities and national circumstances;
- The scope and functions of a mechanism to recognize NAMAs and facilitate the matching of actions with support; and
- Measurement, reporting and verification of actions and support.

For full report of the workshop, see:

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca5/eng/crp03.pdf>.

AWG-KP 7

The seventh session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 7) was held in Bonn, Germany, from 29 March to 8 April 2009.

Among the main substantive and technical issues under discussion in Bonn were:

- The scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties in aggregate and the contribution of Annex I Parties, individually or jointly, to this scale;
- Emissions trading and the project-based mechanisms and land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF);
- Consideration of information on potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties;
- Other methodological issues including new gases and the 2006 IPCC guidelines.

Two workshops supported the work of AWG-KP 7 in Bonn. A pre-session workshop on issues related to the scale of emission reductions to be achieved by Annex I Parties was held on 27 March 2009. For more information on the workshop see:

http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/4774.php

An in-session workshop on potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties was also held on 30 March 2009. For more information on the workshop, see: http://unfccc.int/meetings/ad_hoc_working_groups/kp/items/4792.php

Two documents have been prepared by the AWG-KP Chair to provide a basis for the group to start serious negotiations at its eighth session to take place in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 12 June 2009. They are:

- [A proposal for amendments to the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to Article 3.9 \(amendments to Annex B\); and](#)
- [A text on other issues outlined in the report on its resumed sixth session.](#)

For further information on AWG-KP see: http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/4577.php

Fifteenth meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group

The fifteenth meeting of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Expert Group (LEG) took place in Cotonou, Benin, from 3 to 5 March 2009.

During the meeting, the LEG worked on the Step by Step Guide for National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) implementation jointly with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its three agencies, namely the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank. The LEG also worked on other products expected to be released in June 2009 during the thirtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI), including a technical paper on NAPA, a brochure of frequently asked questions and a new LDC web portal, available at <http://unfccc.int/ldc>.

For the full report of the meeting see:

http://maindb.unfccc.int/library/view_pdf.pl?url=http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sbi/eng/06.pdf.

In addition, regional trainings on NAPA implementation is also expected to start in October 2009. They will be held in either English, French or Portuguese.

NEEDS for Climate Change Project

In the context of the 4th review of the financial mechanism, the SBI at its 28th session, in June 2008, requested the secretariat to assist developing country Parties in providing information on the assessment of financing needs to implement mitigation and adaptation measures. To assist developing countries in generating the information, the secretariat launched the National Environment, Economic and Development Study (NEEDS) for climate change project.

The aim of the project is to assess financing needs required to address mitigation and adaptation measures in selected key sectors and to identify appropriate financial and regulatory instruments to support them. To achieve this objective, participating countries will need to select key sectors for mitigation and adaptation measures based on priorities identified in their second national communications (SNCs) and the country's national development plan(s) to serve as the basis for the financial needs assessments. The project also aims to raise awareness and facilitate informed consensus among government agencies on policy actions required to mobilize finance and investment relating to climate measures.

Ten countries have joined the project to date. Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia and the Philippines have organized inception workshops to launch the project. Different stakeholders at the country level, including bilateral and multilateral agencies took part in the inception workshops. The inception workshops led to refinements of the project strategies and focus, coming up with decisions to establish national trust funds for climate change and the development of national frameworks for financing climate change. The remaining countries, namely, Costa Rica, Lebanon, Maldives, Mali, Nigeria and Pakistan are expected to launch the project in the near future. It is expected that all participating countries will have completed the project by October 2009. A side event is planned at SBI 30 to present the status of implementation of the project and initial lessons

learned. Please see the section on side events for details.

Second comprehensive review of the capacity-building framework

The framework for capacity-building in developing countries, contained in the [Marrakech Accords](#), was designed to serve as a guide for the GEF and other funding bodies providing technical and financial assistance to non-Annex I Parties. The COP decided to review the implementation of the capacity-building framework and its effectiveness every five years. The first comprehensive review was conducted in 2004. The second comprehensive review is currently underway and its findings will be considered at SBI 30 with a view to completing the process at COP 15, in Copenhagen.

The analysis of various information, including surveys and interviews conducted with Parties, and international organizations, confirmed that capacity-building priorities and needs of developing countries identified in the framework remain pertinent. However, despite of the multitude of capacity-building activities being implemented in many developing countries, significant gaps still exist and need to be addressed. In addition, new needs and priorities in the capacity-building area are emerging from the deliberations under the AWG-LCA. These emerging needs have to be assessed and integrated in the framework, as appropriate.

Access to stable and predictable funding remains the key to success and sustainability of capacity-building activities, especially in the longer term. The coordination between bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as international organizations and recipient countries, need to be enhanced further to improve the efficiency of delivery of capacity-building support to developing countries.

For full report of the review, search for document FCCC/SBI/2009/4 closer to SBI 30, at: http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php.

Second round of the Fellowship Programme

The second round of the UNFCCC Fellowship Programme was announced in May 2009. The objective of the programme is to contribute towards building capacity for addressing climate change in non-Annex I Parties, particularly in LDCs and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Mid-career government officials who are nationals of and are working in a developing country, preferably SIDS or LDCs, are eligible to apply for the programme.

The programme aims to develop local professional expertise by:

- Supporting innovative analytical work on climate change in the context of sustainable development;
- Promoting a network of experts who can bring creative and innovative options to bear on questions of climate change; and
- Encouraging the leadership potential of promising young professionals in their fields.

For the second round of the fellowship programme, candidates are encouraged to complete and submit their

applications by 31 July 2009. For more information on the programme and eligibility requirements, see: http://unfccc.int/secretariat/fellowship_programme/items/4429.php.

For further information contact Ms. Laurence Pollier, Programme Officer, Capacity-Building and Outreach Unit, Financial and Technical Support Programme at lpollier@unfccc.int.

Nairobi Work Programme Updates

The Nairobi Work Programme (NWP) on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change was launched in 2005 to assist all Parties to improve their understanding of the impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and to make informed decision on practical adaptation actions and measures. The NWP is currently in its second phase (June 2008 to December 2010) and has made considerable progress as a hub for sharing knowledge in adaptation. Its recent activities are elaborated below:

Workshop on integrating climate risk management and disaster risk reduction into national planning

Over 110 experts from developed and developing countries, as well as intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), attended the workshop on integrating climate risk management and disaster risk reduction (DRR) into national planning in Havana, Cuba, from 10 to 12 March 2009.

The workshop took stock of existing strategies and practices of, and methods and tools for, integration. It also identified the most viable areas for action in order to facilitate the further integration of climate risk assessment and management, and DRR into national policies and programmes.

Core messages that emerged from all presentations include:

- The synergetic nature and common objectives of DRR and adaptation;
- The need for simple methods and practical tools that can be used by stakeholders;
- The importance of building on existing experience in coping with present-day climate variability and risks;
- The need for enabling environments;
- The need for strong coordination and cooperation at all levels; and
- The need to give attention to actions at community level.

Two problem areas were identified. They are:

- The limited resources, methods and tools available for assessing risk in the context of climate change and the capacity to use these resources; and
- The lack of awareness of the need to integrate risk reduction into planning and policy making.

Overall, the workshop provided a bridge between the fields of adaptation and DRR in facilitating the sharing of knowledge and information on current practices and available tools for integration, and in enhancing learning and cooperation in the two disciplines. For preliminary report of the workshop see:

http://unfccc.int/adaptation/sbsta_agenda_item_adaptation/items/4742.php.

In response to the identified needs and gaps in advancing the integration, a large number of organizations pledged to support/undertake a range of activities. Action Pledges are posted on NWP website at <<http://unfccc.int/3996.php>>.

Technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change

A technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change took place in Cairo, Egypt from 28 to 30 April 2009. The workshop aimed to promote understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience, including the understanding of social aspects. More than 60 experts from developed and developing countries representing governments, IGOs, NGOs and the private sector attended the workshop.

Participants discussed practices, approaches, measures and tools that have been developed and applied to enhance economic resilience to climate change. Focused discussions also took place on the development and dissemination of measures and tools, and on increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on economic sectors vulnerable to climate change, including through economic diversification, both at the community and national levels.

NWP partner organizations highlighted contributions made by their work in fulfilling the objectives of the programme. The International Trade Union Federation and International Labour Organization joined existing 27 partner organizations that have made action pledges to contribute towards objectives of the NWP.

The workshop highlighted four main issues for further development and action:

- The importance of enabling environments to help foster economic resilience through capacity-building for existing and new livelihoods, education, awareness raising, training, institution building, and regional coordination, among others;
- Information and knowledge sharing possibly through the NWP;
- Social aspects, including socially differentiated access to productive resources for economic diversification, cultural resistance to change, gender and the importance of traditional knowledge; and
- Integration of adaptation to climate change into planning across all sectors and levels.

New leaflets on NWP

To strengthen its position and outreach as the world's primary knowledge hub on adaptation, the NWP has developed a series of short leaflets in a number of UN languages for use and distribution by its partners and focal points. They can be found at: <<http://unfccc.int/4628.php>>.

Fifth meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board

The Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) met for the fifth time in Bonn, Germany, from 24 to 27 March 2009 and agreed on *Operational Policies and Guidelines* for Parties to access resources from the Adaptation Fund (AF).

According to the *Operational Policies and Guidelines*, Parties can apply for funding for small-size projects and programmes (proposals requesting up to USD 1 million) or for projects and programmes (proposals requesting over USD 1 million). Proposals can be submitted *either* through a National Implementing Entity (NIE) *or* through selected Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIE). NIE are those legal entities nominated by Parties and recognized by the AFB as meeting its fiduciary standards. MIE are those Multilateral Institutions and Regional Banks that also meet those standards.

The *Operational Policies and Guidelines* will be complemented by a set of fiduciary standards and templates for proposals to be agreed at the next meeting of the AFB taking place from 15 to 17 June, 2009 in Bonn, Germany. The AFB also agreed to establish two committees to support its work, namely: a) finance and ethics committee and b) projects and programmes committee. The committees' specific terms of reference and their budgets will also be considered during the meeting in June.

The AFB agreed on a number of milestones that they intend to achieve in time for COP 15/CMP 5, including:

- Setting the process of monetizing certified emission reductions in motion;
- Finalizing the Operational Guidelines and putting documentation and templates in place to assist Parties in accessing funding from the AF;
- Selecting a host for the AFB and progressing on a host country agreement;
- Inviting Parties to submit to the AFB project and programme proposals; and
- Starting to award grants for projects and programmes.

Mr. Jan Cedergren (Sweden) and Mr. Farrukh Iqbal Khan (Pakistan) were elected Chair and Vice Chair of the AFB respectively.

For more information on the AF, go to <<http://www.adaptation-fund.org/home.html>>.

Expert Meeting on Reference Emission Levels for REDD

An expert meeting on reference emissions levels for reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD) took place in Bonn, Germany, on 23 and 24 March 2009.

Forty-five experts representing Parties, IGOs and NGOs, attended the meeting. Several experts gave presentations on ongoing work relating to approaches and methodologies for establishing reference emission levels.

In-depth discussions covered issues relating to:

- Approaches for establishing reference emission levels and reference levels (e.g. historical approach, projections);
- Applicability of different approaches to different national circumstances;
- Data availability/ sources and data quality; and
- Tools, techniques and methodologies required and available, and their cost-effectiveness.

Participants also identified technical and institutional capacity-building issues and needs, as well as research and development needs to improve data collection and quality.

For more information on the workshop see:

<http://unfccc.int/methods_and_science/lulucf/items/4770.php>.

Progress on Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer

Following the adoption of the Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer at COP 14, in Poznan, Poland, the GEF was requested to report on progress made to COP 16 and to provide interim reports to the SBI at its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions (SBI 30 and SBI 31).

The Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer consists of three funding windows: 1) Technology needs assessments (TNAs); 2) technology transfer pilot projects; and 3) dissemination of technologies and practices.

The first interim report, to be presented at Bonn during SBI 30, in June, focuses on the first two activities of the programme and discusses the long-term implementation of the programme.

Technology transfer has been identified by the GEF Secretariat as a long-term priority objective for the GEF in the climate change focal area, and is featured in the draft GEF-5 strategy.

The working document for GEF 5 replenishment, "Future Strategic Positioning of the GEF" includes preliminary ideas for technology transfer for GEF 5, and is available on the GEF website:

<<http://thegef.org/interior.aspx?id=24216>>.

Elaboration of the strategic programme on technology transfer by the GEF will be carried out with the development of the GEF-5 strategy and with the conclusion of the GEF-5 replenishment in early 2010.

EGTT Meeting

The Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) met on 13 and 14 May 2009, in Bonn, Germany.

The EGTT finalized three reports for consideration by SB 30, among others. They are:

- Report on recommendations on future financing options for enhancing the development, deployment, diffusion and transfer of technologies under the Convention (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sb/eng/inf02.pdf>);
- Report on a strategy paper for the long-term perspective beyond 2012, including sectoral approaches, to facilitate the development, deployment, diffusion and transfer of technologies under the convention (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sb/eng/inf01.pdf>); and

- Report on performance indicators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the technology transfer framework (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sb/eng/inf03.pdf>).

For more information on the meeting, see:

<<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/EGTTMeeting.jsp>>.

Nairobi Framework makes progress, seeks partners, and funding

Substantial progress has been made under the Nairobi Framework, the multi-agency initiative launched by the then United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan at COP12 to support developing countries' participation in the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

Of note is the first ever African Carbon Forum, held in Dakar, Senegal, in September 2008. The forum, organized by the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA), brought together key private and public sector stakeholders involved in the CDM and provided an excellent opportunity to build on the positive momentum of the CDM in Africa. IETA is working on the organization of a second such forum, slated for early 2010.

The Nairobi Framework is a good example of successful inter-agency cooperation. The partner agencies namely UNEP, UNDP, UNFCCC and the World Bank, aim to raise awareness and provide support at the country level, where progress has been significant but still very slow. In the spirit of cooperation, there is a continuous call for other partners to join the Framework.

In the meantime, the partners have presented a new joint programme proposal to scale-up activities to catalyse CDM in Africa. Implementation of the proposal will depend on availability of funding. For more information see:

<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Nairobi_Framework/index.html>.

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Status of second national communications

To date, nine non-Annex I countries have submitted their SNCs to the UNFCCC secretariat. In addition, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Samoa and Paraguay are expected to submit theirs during SBI 30. Based on the last survey conducted by the UNDP and UNEP, 50 countries anticipate to complete the draft of their SNCs in 2009, while 53 are aiming to complete theirs in 2010. The remaining countries plan to complete their SNC between 2011 and 2012.

Some of the countries that submitted their SNCs recently, will be presenting their experiences in preparing SNC at a side event during SBI 30 scheduled for Thursday, 4 June 2009. Please see the section on side event for more information on this and other side events of interest to non-Annex I Parties.

For more information on national communications from non-Annex I Parties, see:
<http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/submitted_natcom/items/653.php>.

UNFCCC Resource Guide for preparing non-Annex I National Communications

A four-module UNFCCC Resource Guide has been developed to assist non-Annex I Parties in the preparation of their national communications. The guide is intended as a supplement to the "User Manual for the Guidelines on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties" and is composed of the following modules:

- The process of national communications from non-Annex I Parties;
- Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change;
- National greenhouse gas inventories; and
- Measures to mitigate climate change.

The resource guide will be available during SB 30 in Bonn, Germany, from the Climate Change Kiosk, located on the ground floor in front of Saal Schumann.

National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory of Mauritius

Mauritius is a Small Island Developing State located in the sub tropical belt in the South Western Indian Ocean, close to Madagascar. The Mauritian Initial National Communications (INC) was submitted in 1999 and included the first completed national inventory of greenhouse gases (GHGs). Before that submission, an outlined inventory was compiled for the year 1990 in the context of the National Climate Change Action Plan.

Mauritius' SNC is currently under preparation. It includes an updated inventory of GHGs with a time series from 1995 to 2006. The Revised 1996 IPCC guidelines has been the core reference, besides the IPCC Good Practice Guidance (GPG) 2000, as well as the GPG 2003 on LULUCF.

Data has been disaggregated for the major sectors contributing to GHG emissions, namely, for energy, industry and transport sectors. This has permitted the use of some higher tiers in compiling the emissions inventory.

Most of the sectors of the GHG inventory have been compiled using the UNFCCC Software, version 1.3.2. It is worth noting that the GHG inventories training of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Non-Annex I Parties (CGE) conducted in 2006 for African countries, has been extremely beneficial in this process.

A report similar to a National Inventory Report (NIR) is also being considered and will include data tables, methodologies and analysis of data.

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NEW RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENTS

ALU Software Programs

The Agriculture and Land Use (ALU) National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Software developed by Colorado State University aims to guide an inventory compiler through the process of estimating emissions and removals related to agricultural and forestry activities. It can be used to estimate GHG emissions and sinks associated with biomass carbon stocks, soil carbon stocks, soil nitrous oxide emissions, rice methane emissions, enteric methane emissions, manure methane and nitrous oxide emissions, as well as emissions from biomass burning. Methods are based on the 1996 IPCC National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Guidelines as further refined in the 2000 IPCC Good Practice Guidance on Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and 2003 IPCC Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF.

Inventory compilers enter land use, livestock and management activity data, assign default or country-specific emission factors, and then the program estimates emissions for each source. Results can be exported into worksheets.

The program has several innovative features:

- It allows compilers to integrate GIS spatial data along with national statistics on agriculture and forestry;
- Accommodates Tier 1 and 2 methods as defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;
- Has explicit quality control and quality assurance protocols;
- Provides a long term archive of data and results in digital format; and
- Generates emission reports that can be included in communications with interested parties.

The program is primarily designed for national inventories, but may be applied at sub-national scales. Thus, it is intended mostly for use by government offices in charge of national greenhouse gas reporting.

For more information on the software see:
<<http://www.nrel.colostate.edu/projects/ghgtool/software.php>>.

UNFCCC emissions data on Google map

The secretariat has collaborated with Google to present GHG emissions data in a visual way using Google maps. On the maps, GHG emissions can be displayed in three "layers": emissions, changes in emissions between the base year and the latest available year (2006 at present), and changes between 1990 and the latest available year.

Information is provided for all sectors and for the major sub-sectors. By gas, the data cover aggregate GHGs, namely carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorocarbons (PFCs). Only data relating to Annex I Parties are provided.

The maps will be available in June on the UNFCCC website at <<http://unfccc.int>> as part of the UNFCCC GHG data interface
<http://unfccc.int/ghg_data/items/3800.php>.

For provisional agendas and annotations please see
<<http://unfccc.int/meetings/sb30/items/4842.php>>.

NEWS FROM PARTNERS

A brief update from National Communications Support Programme

The National Communications Support Programme (NCSP) was initiated in April 2005 to provide technical and policy support to non-Annex I Parties in preparation of their second (or third) national communications. Since its inception, the NCSP has organized seven regional workshops for national communication coordinators and country experts. These workshops have provided an opportunity for exchange of information, knowledge and tools on the three main components of the national communications, i.e. GHG inventories, mitigation analysis, and vulnerability and adaptation (V&A) assessments. Two training workshops were also conducted on V&A assessments, and two others on mitigation analysis, specifically on the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning system (LEAP).

The NCSP has established Knowledge Networks on GHG inventory and V&A assessments and prepared several guidance materials to assist national teams. To date, the documents prepared include: Resource Kit on the National Communications Process³, Guidance on Development of Regional Climate Scenarios for V&A assessments⁴, Guidance on Climate Information for Policy Makers⁵, and Country-level climate profiles for 52 countries⁶. Currently the NCSP is developing a guidance on using the national communications to support climate change integration in national development policy and plans. The draft guidance is expected to be completed by June 2009 and will be circulated to Parties for comments.

Fifty countries are expected to complete draft of their second national communications in 2009, while 53 are aiming to complete them in 2010. The remaining countries plan to complete and submit their national communications in 2011-2012. Thus, NCSP anticipates an intense period of technical backstopping in 2009-2010. As countries complete their studies and draft reports, NCSP looks forward to a continuous collaboration with national teams to support their efforts for timely submission of their national communications to the UNFCCC secretariat.

For more information on NCSP see:
<<http://ncsp.undp.org/>>

UPCOMING EVENTS

SB 30, AWG-LCA 6 and AWG-KP 8

The thirtieth session of the subsidiary bodies (SB 30), 6th session of the AWG-LCA and the 8th session of AWG-KP will take place in Bonn, Germany, from 1 to 12 June 2009.

³ <http://ncsp.undp.org/docs/878.pdf>

⁴ http://ncsp.vanetwork.org/UserFiles/File/PDFs/Resource%20Center/Climate%20Scenarios/NCSP_climate_scenarios_guidance.pdf

⁵ <http://ncsp.undp.org/docs/1005.pdf>

⁶ http://ncsp.undp.org/report_detail.cfm?Projectid=189

SB 30 Side Events	
Event	Timing
The National Economic, Environment and Development Study (NEEDS) for climate change project	Please check the Daily Programme.
LEG/LDC Update on NAPA	Tuesday, 2 June
Findings of the second comprehensive review of the implementation of the capacity-building framework	Tuesday, 2 June
Presentation of non-Annex I second national communications	Thursday, 4 June
For the complete list of side events see: < http://regserver.unfccc.int/seors/reports/events_list.html >.	

UNFCCC Inventory review expert training courses

For effective implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol, a highly transparent system was created to involve international experts to review implementation of commitments by Parties. Experts of the review teams ensure that the implementation of commitments is reviewed in a consistent and reliable manner. Experts not only audit policies and measures, and estimates of GHG emissions, but also gain invaluable experience for their own work, including networking opportunity with international experts working in similar fields.

The growing scope of reviews and demands has created the need for an increased pool of experts, hence the secretariat is currently accepting applications from potential experts. To enroll, potential experts need to be nominated to the roster of experts and fill out the nomination form which must be signed by the national focal point. An inventory background is desirable and a solid command of the English is a must.

As a part of this year's two training courses, a course is planned for August - October. Trainee experts will go through the materials online with an instructor who provides guidance and support during this period. At the end of the instructed course, the trainees will participate in a three-day seminar, scheduled for 14 to 16 October 2009, during which they consolidate their knowledge by going through a complete review exercise using real GHG inventory materials.

For more information see:
<http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/inventory_review_training/items/2763.php>.

Course on remote sensing of fire for national greenhouse gas accounting

A course on remote sensing of fire for national GHG accounting is being organized at the University of Leicester, United Kingdom, on 7 and 8 September 2009.

The course aims to bring together international experts in the field of remote sensing of fire and carbon emissions to provide a training course combining state of the art science with the practicalities of reporting emissions from biomass burning under IPCC guidelines. The course is particularly relevant to government agencies responsible

for preparing national communications to the UNFCCC, specially those involved in the technical process of GHG accounting. Support is available through the United Nations Food and Agriculture Office (FAO) for interested parties from African countries. The workshop combines both lectures and practical experiments.

For more information on the programme and financial support from FAO see:

<http://www.le.ac.uk/geography/pdfs/news_081008_CARBO.pdf>.

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