

GGA WS7, Day 3

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Location: Virtual

Event Concept Note:

<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS7%20Concept%20Note%20FINAL.pdf>

Workshop agenda: <https://unfccc.int/event/7th-workshop-glasgow-sharm-el-sheikh-wp-gga>

Relevant submissions: <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/submissionsstaging/Pages/Home.aspx>
(search Global Goal on Adaptation)

Background: The 7th workshop of the Global Goal on Adaptation covered interfacing the GGA with other processes, including a specific focus on the GST. It also considered a range of matters related to the framework, including the development and use of targets, indicators, and metrics; global adaptation priorities; and modalities for increasing international cooperation in support of the framework. A particular focus was on finding areas of commonality with the aim of identifying landing zones. The workshop took place through a combination of breakout group and plenary discussions.

NB: Due to technological issues throughout the workshop, notes on some sessions are partial or missing. As a result, the notes below are not comprehensive and do not reflect the views expressed by all participants/Parties.

Notes

Plenary

- Opening presentations on international cooperation (Japan, UNEP)
- Followed by discussion on structural elements (using breakout groups)
- NB: presentations to be uploaded on event webpage
- Japan
 - Overview of relevant initiatives undertaken by Japan
 - Asia-Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT):
 - Online knowledge-based platform, also used to deepen collab with stakeholders
 - Gave history of establishment of the platform
 - Latest sci knowledge and supporting tools (maps, graphs, searchable database, e-learning course, adaptation literacy content, etc.); free of charge
 - Core pillars of actions in cooperation with the partners
 - Develop scientific knowledge/information
 - Showcase supportive tools for adaptation
 - Capacity building on adaptation planning and project formulation

- Also includes some face-to-face activities, practical partnerships, and international collaboration on diverse adaptation topics and involving various institutions
- EWS initiatives
 - Ministry of the Environment of Japan's initiative to promote the development of EWS through public-private partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region (announced at COP27)
- Multilateral cooperation (Global Adaptation Network, Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network)
 - Working with UNEP on GAN and APAN adaptation collab networks
 - GAN worldwide; APAN regional
 - GAN: global adaptation knowledge sharing and its accumulation and output to UNFCCC
 - Collab with UNFCCC, LAKE
 - University-city linkage
 - Global Adaptation Podcast
 - Provides online courses
 - APAN: Adaptation knowledge sharing and its accumulation in the Asia-Pacific region
 - APAN Forum
 - APAN Webinar
 - Information sharing
 - 8th Asia-Pacific Climate Adaptation Forum on theme "Resilience for all: enabling transformative implementation" (31 Aug – 1 Sept 2023 in South Korea)
 - Broad list of target participant categories (IGOs, governments, academia, NGOs, professional associations, donors, business, youth, media, etc.)
- UNEP (Head of Global Adaptation Network)
 - "International and regional cooperation to accelerate adaptation to climate change"
 - UNEP has several regional/international cooperations; here, scaling down to focus on concrete examples in conceptualizing international cooperation within Global Goal
 - "International cooperation as critical enabler to achieve ambitious climate change mitigation, adaptation, climate resilient development (*high confidence*) (citing IPCC AR6)
 - Stressing importance of transnational cooperations to help stimulate policy development, technology diffusion, grassroots action
 - Focusing on ecosystems and built environments using case studies
 - UNEP's mid-term strategy takes a multi-pronged approach to addressing climate risks with sectoral partnership and international cooperation as key outcome
 - Important also to triple planetary crisis

- UNEP Global Adaptation Network (GAN), supporting knowledge exchange
 - Examples of regional networks promoting South-South cooperation: catalyzed adaptation projects (up to 6) on the ground
- Regional networks promoting South-South cooperation
- Value of partnering with non-traditional actors
 - Example: Faith for Earth Coalition (inspiring, empowering, and engaging with faith-based organizations)
 - Example: investing in capacities of LDC universities (set up with LDC GEF to strengthen capacities of unis by partnering the unis with governments, which help develop pipeline adaptation investment programs – has helped set up, e.g., think tanks working on adaptation through a fee-based model)
 - Example: supporting financing of grassroots EbA, which supports non-traditional partners to access funds directly for adaptation programs from UNEP and IUCN
 - Example: connecting cities with nature via CityAdapt initiative in Latin America (supported by GCF, GEF, Japan), working with 15 cities on NBS (solutions platform)
 - Example: international cooperation on mountains (recalling SROCC: critical need for partnership across mountains, especially those hosting freshwater resources and glaciers)
 - Across 4 regions to support adaptation across different mountains/regions
 - Especially data info monitoring, particularly around glaciers and freshwater, supporting targeted transboundary adaptation projects
 - Example: Andean Mountains Initiative (A@A), especially to provide technical assistance to access and leverage climate finance
- Key lessons and takeaways
 - “International cooperation has ensured **intra and inter-regional risks and opportunities** to be factored in adaptation solutions and coordinate efforts of regions
 - In critical and sensitive ecosystems, **regional cooperation and transboundary governance** in mountain regions has supported multi-scale knowledge networks, data, and monitoring programmes to support long-term adaptation actions on cross-border climate risks
 - A range of **engagement and governance processes, practices and tools** that are applicable across a range of temporal and spatial scales that can support inclusive decision-making for adaptation and risk in different ecosystems
 - Brokering of existing and new knowledge regional partners through the NWP LAKI has helped facilitate application of knowledge and know-how on the ground and collaborate on advancing **closure of adaptation knowledge gaps**

- Innovation, technical and scientific cooperation can be enabled through **South-South, North-South, peer-learning, sub-national partnerships and triangular cooperation** to accelerate implementation of adaptation initiatives”
 - Shares tools, resources, guides, etc.
- Harry
 - How will international cooperation be reflected in the GGA?
 - Possible elements for discussion:
 - Transboundary cooperation
 - Role for international organizations
 - Considerations/modalities to increase international cooperation
- Speaker (?)
 - Noting vision of framework as outlined, he sees SDG 8 relevant here
 - It would be good to have in the reporting framework etc. a vision on jobs: the impacts on jobs and employment that adaptation measures/policies have
 - Impacts on skills, employment demand, etc.
 - Risks such as not being able to cope with new labor/skills demands
 - Maybe we should work to have this perspective reflected
- UN Foundation
 - Stakeholders for GGA framework
 - How can framework provide guidance you may need to help guide efforts?
- Kuwait
 - Japan: Are there any cooperations/projects in Middle East / North Africa?
 - UNEP: How to join university partnership? (noting few in Africa) – and why no partnerships with universities in Middle East?
- Argentina
 - Japan: do you have further ideas re enabling conditions? I understand this is another element for a GGA framework. How can they be further unpacked/operationalized within this framework? Can international cooperation play a role in those enabling conditions?
 - UNEP: what role can international cooperation play in considering the elements already reflected in the past decision for the GGA?
- Japan responses
 - UNF: Yes, framework can provide some guidance on international cooperation, I agree
 - Kuwait: In Japan’s multilateral cooperation under Ministry of Environment, I think we don’t see any partners from Middle East but we would be happy to do so, if you would like to share suggestions
 - Kuwait: In Japan’s bilateral cooperations, under implementing agency, we have international cooperation achievements in Middle East, though I don’t have specific achievements or outcomes – I can reply further if you’d like to know more

- Argentina: we can consider enabling conditions as elements for the framework, to help scale up adaptation further; we think this element includes MOI and international cooperation
- UNEP response
 - On cooperation in MENA: LDC university program was designed as a request from participating governments in countries where there was a deficit of adaptation initiatives; hopefully it provides a model going forward that can be scaled up in other regions; caveat: dependent upon requests from countries and access to funds
 - UNEP has many initiatives in adaptation area in MENA (gives some examples)
 - Re: international cooperation in global goals: global goals focus on adaptive capacity, and a key enabler is international cooperation
 - Within the framework, thinking could be how adaptive capacity can be strengthened for various approaches, and how they can be practically articulated to enhance/accelerate adaptation
 - Agree with importance of jobs in this work; one of our overarching discussions has been about capturing livelihoods in global goals, which includes decent jobs in the transition as we factor in climate risks
- Russia
 - International cooperation relevant for all stages of adaptation cycle within GGA (gives examples such as exchange of info/data)
 - Ready to cooperate with wide variety of countries, seeking synergy
 - Action strategy can be formulated with relevance for specific countries/regions
 - Consider format of interaction between inter-regional and international orgs
 - Cooperation to ensure access to tech and finance is critical during implementation phase of adaptation measures (barriers must be minimized)
- EU
 - How to enhance international cooperation with GGF framework? EU sees broad variety of actors involved (UN implementation agencies, private sector, NGOs, academia, etc.), and believe they would benefit from streamlined and concrete guidance as identified by framework
 - Adaptation should be mainstreamed into all relevant processes
 - Question: Japan: can you elaborate on role of private sector in EWS and relevance to other elements of international cooperation?
 - Question: UNEP: [missed]
- Kenya
 - We are in a period of operating within Paris Agreement, and to that extent, role of international cooperation has been defined in terms of enhancing action on adaptation
 - Action informed by national impacts, vulnerabilities, and risk assessments
 - Based on your experience, how do you ensure that international cooperation by Parties/UN orgs respect adaptation policies at national level, and correspond with priorities as identified by individual Parties?

- Our experience most of the time is institutions that come to cooperate with us, or reach out for cooperation, also have their own priorities
- Maldives for AOSIS
 - Question regarding transboundary nature of climate change: how do you see this, given Japan is a major donor especially to SIDS, which also partner with UNEP?
 - How does transboundary nature fit into framework discussion and GGA?
- Zambia
 - UNEP: what challenges have you seen especially as related to GGA and envisioning operationalization of GGA?
- UNEP
 - Russia: International cooperation quite useful especially for technology transfer and finance capacity building; these are key aspects to consider as far as adaptation/support/enabling mechanisms to accelerate adaptation (here, international cooperation can help accelerate ambition on adaptation)
 - EU:
 - How to enhance international cooperation in GGA: must consider how cooperation could help greater mobilization of not just financial but also technical support, especially for most vulnerable countries / LDCs
 - Is streamlined guidance necessary for UN agencies? UNSG's ambition for UN agencies is to accelerate adaptation – here, a more coordinated/coherent approach, linked to Sendai and SDG processes, quite important (not sure about streamlining)
 - Kenya: how can cooperation respect national policies? We see growing number of adaptation policies/plans; role here in engaging different partners to be part of coordination mechanism
 - Maldives: examples through SIDS Impact Program
- Japan
 - EWS initiative: we'll see what outcomes will come out soon
 - Private companies engaged to help scale up adaptation, and those companies faced challenges such as regulatory barriers
 - Important to invite more partners (including private companies, national/local governments, international organizations, multilateral financial institutions, etc.)
 - Kenya: provides financial assistance / international cooperations [missed some]
 - Maldives: important question about international cooperation under GGA; how our international cooperation achievements' input to framework is a big issue for Japanese government, must be considered and tackled; one key is to invite more stakeholders to the framework

Lunch break

Breakouts

- Moderator

- Tried to visualize implicit structure we've been talking about this week
- Overarching targets / high level political messages -> targets (grouped under impacts, vulnerability, & risk assessment / planning / implementation / MEL)
- Where do cross-cutting considerations, themes, enabling conditions come in?
- Speaker question:
 - Clarification: Our agreement out of Bonn was to consider these things – whether to include them – what they would look like specifically – not to operate under assumption that we have agreed to include all of these
- Moderator
 - Correct. This is a time to discuss and explore that.

Breakout group: virtual “room”

- NB: it was difficult to take comprehensive notes while following discussion, as discussion was taking place in part through Miro board changes; my notes were quite partial and therefore I have not included them here, as they would be difficult to follow for those not in the room

Plenary

- Reporting back from virtual group (by Augustin from Paraguay Ministry of Environment)
 - Started with what had been previously discussed on board
 - Then incorporated enabling conditions and MOI – to see how would they be reflected in the framework
 - Two main options proposed:
 - 1) Under targets
 - MOI and enabling conditions cross-cutting under targets
 - 2) Definition of targets and principles that would go under dimensions as enabling conditions to targets (most popular option)
 - Element considered under dimensions, cross-cutting to all elements of dimensions
 - 3) Enabling conditions as guiding principles for targets/dimensions
 - Leaving targets for MOI under dimensions
 - Re general cross-cutting considerations, options:
 - 1) Cross-cutting considerations should be guiding principles as well, to be considered during assessment of targets
 - 2) Way to measure cross-cutting considerations (though not clear if goal or target) – main idea is to have a measurement associated
 - Opinion by some: themes should be country-driven
 - Opinion by some: Important to have targets that can be aggregated at global level to show advances in GGA
 - National, sub-national, regional, sectorial, etc. at all levels have different levels and should be reflected in assessment of themes
 - Complement SDGs in a way as to enhance and help fill gaps
- Report back from 2nd group

- Stuck with 7.1 as ultimate goal, but broken down into four high-level targets, some of which are thematic (getting political messaging around themes people can relate to, that feel real in the world: increased wellbeing, health, reduction in people affected, etc.)
 - Also high-level target specifically about adaptation policy cycle
- Also some targets/indicators that would flow up toward measuring those high-level targets
- MOI would be with sub-targets/indicators
- Further work would include something on purpose and future work
- Japan
 - Framework should not be complicated, but simple
 - [She is describing what appears to be on a chart somewhere, but we can't see it in virtual room]
 - High-level political messages and overarching targets: happy to consider, but haven't decided their position yet
- Argentina
 - Setting purpose, which is in past decision
 - We propose a high-level political target of qualitative nature (not overarching target)
 - Structure: dimensions, themes, cross-cutting (per past discussion)
 - 4 dimensions, with targets (few)
 - Themes covered by indicators (including cross-cutting considerations and MOI)
 - Sources of information used to feed the whole structure of the framework that we hope to establish by the end of the year
- AGN + LDC + Arab Group
 - Ours is not so different, but differently organized
 - Start with purpose
 - MOI + cross-cutting principles
 - Overarching target that speaks to GGA 7.1
 - Dimensional targets
 - Themes (assess based on those themes, then plan based on assessment, implement, and report broadly on them)
 - Next steps (developing indicators, including MOI indicators)
 - Assessment of reports; review; [missed]
- Moderator
 - Thank you all; useful exercise

Break

Plenary

- Breakout group 1
 - Discussed structural elements
 - Conversation in terms of targets, but in a structured approach

- Very much zooming out and looking at how it fits particularly within SB conclusion
- Looked at where views were converging/diverging regarding expectations for COP28
- Talked about purpose/principles
- Cross-cutting, MOI, enabling conditions
- Timeline exercise looking at additional work that would arise from concluding the framework (mapping exercise): suggestions to have work on indicators, different constituted bodies/secretariats, etc.
- Breakout group 2
 - Sharing how they organized various aspects discussed
 - Importance of flexibility in how cross-cutting considerations are addressed
 - Themes differ in terms of applicability in different countries based on circumstances
 - Enabling environment (including drivers, policies, private sector strategies, governance) could also drive MOI
 - Link to GST: GST would help to identify gaps and progress, give direction to MOI
 - Also pointed out: need for simplicity in the diagram (what the framework eventually looks like) – “elegance” valuable
 - Follow-up: refining / further work on framework (e.g., indicators), though no agreement on who/what/etc. that would be; as well as review of framework (which is mentioned in COP27 decision)
 - Possible agenda item to continue discussing work on GGA post-COP28 (new item or merging with existing items); harmonized/linked with GST2 process
- Breakout group 3
 - First proposal
 - 4 different overarching goals or high-level political messages: reduced number of people affected, ecosystem conservation, improved wellbeing (food/water/health), and implementation of adaptation policy cycle
 - Thematic-related targets under high-level goals/targets; then a pool of indicators undergirding that
 - Proposal from AGN/LDC/Arab Group
 - Overarching purpose, and under that, cross-cutting principles (e.g., gender responsiveness) as well as MOI
 - Under that, high-level target
 - Then, dimensions of policy adaptation cycle
 - Element of next steps, including process to develop indicators to be selected based on national circumstances and what’s relevant for reporting
 - Review process of framework itself
 - ABU-AILAC
 - Overarching purpose
 - High-level political message (qualitative, not a target)
 - Select number of carefully selected, simple targets

- Indicators corresponding to different dimensions and themes, and could include cross-cutting considerations and MOI (also includes element of sources of info that feed into indicators/targets)
 - [missed next one]
 - Online group proposal from Miro board
 - Purpose
 - Overarching targets
 - Principles
 - Elements of adaptation policy cycle, each with targets associated with them (might include measurement around MOI, or MOI could be considered as a cross-cutting as part of enabling conditions)
 - Themes as a final layer underneath
 - Concerns raised
 - Form should follow function; hard to think about structure when not clear about what will go in each box
 - High-level political signals might be more useful than targets (because of concerns with targets having unintended consequences)
 - Adaptation policy cycles – commonality in many frameworks, though featuring in different ways
- Suriname for G77 and China
 - [missed this]
- Kuwait
 - Expressed thanks
 - Additional comments to add on virtual structure:
 - On guiding principles, we want to add that this is a country-driven process; each country can select theme/target depending on national target
 - No pressure on each party in pursuing dates set on timeline
- Argentina for ABU and AILAC
 - Expressed thanks
 - Adding more details on timing
 - Ad hoc working group at COP28 with clear mandate of developing clear indicators by COP30
 - Additional mandates could include mandates to CGA/AC to support, e.g. with reporting; and mandate to secretariat to elaborate on how countries are communicating/reporting on GGA through adaptation-related docs starting in 2025 (also identification of existing gaps)
 - About advancing and accelerating adaptation, not creating new burdens
 - Especially developing countries might experience some difficulties in applying framework without help
 - We hope during next/final GLASS workshop we can find landing zones and be ready to adapt ambitious GGA framework at COP28
- UK
 - Expressed thanks

- Impressed by openness of countries to listen to each other and take others' views into account and explain thinking
- Breakout group structure helps with this
- We hope this can be used for final workshop in future
- While recognizing much more work to do, focus on areas of commonalities also really helped
- Need to build on what we have (GGA, Paris, etc.) while also making sure what we do is ambitious enough
- This is the time for clarity and coherence; hearing this also from non-party stakeholders, about links to UNFCCC and coherence with processes outside UNFCCC
- EU
 - Expressed thanks
 - Much to build from
- African Group
 - Very focused discussions, especially in terms of targets
 - Looking at further work to do, after COP28 there is need for further work on indicators etc.
 - At next workshop believe will have opportunity to look at structure of framework and at further work to discuss in terms of targets
- Australia
 - Expressed thanks
 - Agree with large number of parties in agreeing that aggregated percentage-based or population-based target is a methodological dead-end and shouldn't be pursued in this framework
 - Better served by pursuing overarching qualitative priorities/statements/targets that can help galvanize us as an international community, specific political drive/momentum
 - MOI as vital for progress
 - A good framework can help us operationalize the GGA and identify where MOI can best be directed through GST process and its findings
- USA
 - Expressed thanks
 - Appreciate opportunity to find areas of convergence
 - Things that are important to us that we'd like to echo:
 - Send strong, clear signal on what's needed to accelerate adaptation action at COP this year (otherwise, missing our last and most near-term chance to do that)
 - Send clear high-level signals, e.g., all parties coming together as UNFCCC and speaking – world listens, allows other resources to flow
 - Country driven, locally-led considerations, parties have discretion in how they adopt and participate, but with standardization to help us move forward together
 - Look to other UN bodies, academia, civil society, etc. to work together

- Adaptation policy cycle important
 - How to use existing processes/structures within UN to make sure not creating new work when existing can be used/improved
 - What we produce should guide future GSTs, helping us advance adaptation and reduce maladaptation
- Kenya
 - Expressed thanks
 - Align with Suriname for G77 + China and African Group
 - Heading to COP28, need conversations across rooms, e.g. transparency, to fit this within bigger picture, ensure we don't come up with something not applicable or with overlaps causing issues needing to be addressed
 - Don't limit ourselves; there is always knowledge to tap from
 - Need to interpret GGA in quantitative manner that facilitates tracking progress; it's difficult, but worth engaging for this reason – must be written in a manner that can be tracked – one of the best ways to demonstrate ambition in adaptation, demonstrate to policymakers we have something real and trackable and worth investment (whereas reiterating qualitative will not add much, already in Article 7, not signaling the seriousness we have with this issue)
 - Important to identify areas of convergence to facilitate tracking progress
- AOSIS
 - Aligns with G77+China
 - Expressed thanks
 - Agree further work needed on indicators (post-GLASS work program)
 - Best done by experts, not by negotiators; keen to discuss on what that modality work should look like, especially with 8th workshop upcoming
 - For SIDS, want to examine how transformational adaptation can be further defined and understood; potential for secretariat to undertake further work after GLASS to understand definition, what it means at different spatial scales, how progress in planning/implementing can be assessed
- Sudan/LDCs
 - Align with G77+China
 - Expressed thanks
 - First time we've gotten to go beyond presenting our views, finding commonalities and where we can go forward
 - For LDCs, indicators must be developed by experts in a timely manner that allows for sufficient input into second GST
 - Also need space under SBI/SBSTA to explore gaps/needs under GGA going forward
 - We've heard a lot of useful views/concerns, and we will go back and do work/thinking for workshop 8; hope to continue to work with other parties to come up with a GGA framework that is centered around people, economy, and ecosystems
 - Hope we'll see the same refined thinking from other parties, to find landing zone and find an elegant framework at COP28

- China for LMDCs
 - Expressed thanks
 - Valuable progress under this workshop
 - Framework of GGA should be contributed to implementation of Paris Agreement Article 7.1, especially to contribute to reduce risk of climate change impacts in context of long-term temperature goal set up in Article 2 para 1 of Paris Agreement
 - Also should be in line with different national circumstances/needs/priorities
 - These are important also for future work of GGA itself
 - Should consider how to facilitate sustainable development and poverty eradication
 - Assume action and support should be considered together, meaning for targets and relevant indicators, should include MOI as important condition for implementation of framework of GGA, especially for developing countries
 - Importance of adhering to Paris Agreement to avoid additional burdens
 - Questions remain that are important for GGA, e.g., indicators and timelines for reviewing framework of GGA, as well as potential collaboration with IPCC; need more time for roadmap and determining efficient way forward
 - [lost audio]
- Chair
 - End of content of workshop

Closing

- National Climate Change Director of Ministry of Environment of Argentina closing with SBSTA Chair
- Chair
 - Thanks to Argentina
 - Unfortunately, progress not made in Bonn
 - Glad to hear many of you saying we're now on track, talking to one another, here to get a good and maximum decision on GGA at the end of this year
 - We still have work to do
 - I hope that before next workshop you will continue talking/working with each other
 - Assume not possible you get all the info from these 3 days at one glance; secretariat will produce report of this workshop within next 4 weeks
 - Meeting has been recorded and you can access to look back
 - Next submissions and workshop coming up quickly
 - Hope you continue in the spirit of communicating and working together
- National Climate Change Director of Ministry of Environment of Argentina
 - 3 days of intense work, a lot of work has been done here, and previously
 - Thank you all
 - Adding among other things: keeping in mind upcoming GST
 - Best wishes to all