Notes

Workshop under the UAE–Belém work programme on indicators

21 - 22 Mar. 2025; 09:00h - 18:00h CEST/UTC+2; Bonn, Germany; Stella Rheni; Adaptation & Loss and Damage; UNFCCC; English

Notes for RINGO Constituency

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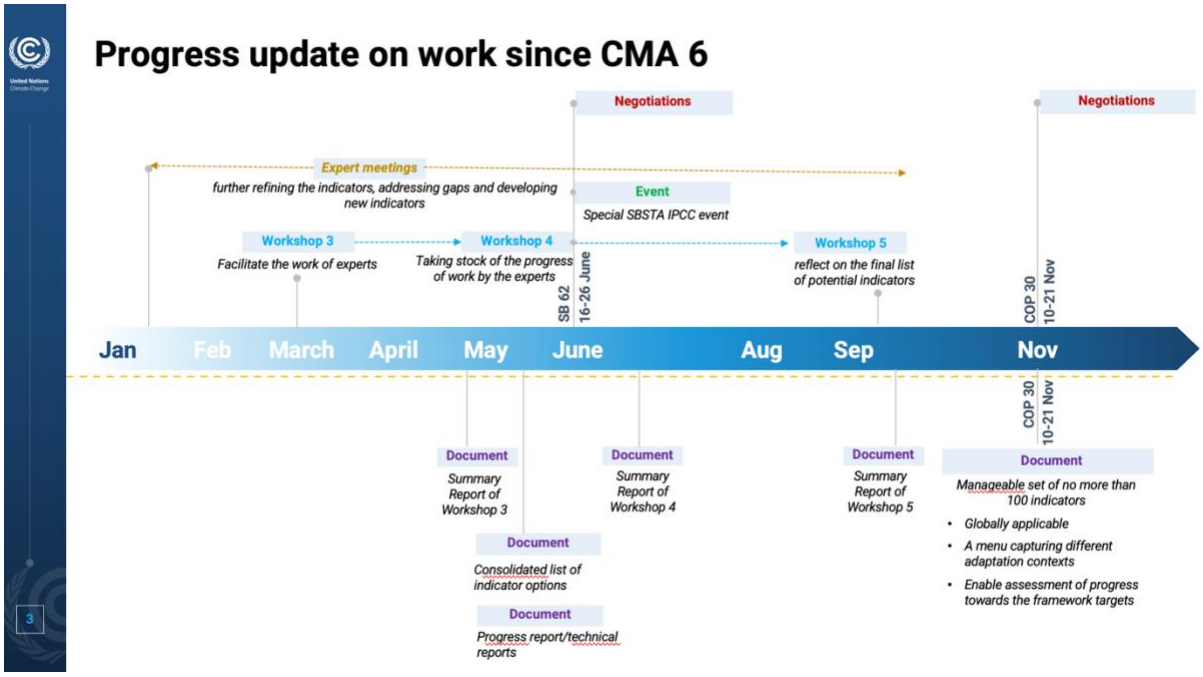
Agenda, including presentations : https://unfccc.int/event/workshop-uae-belem-wp-indicators

Summary:

Timeline was discussed; after this meeting there is 4 more weeks to come with a final report of indicators, 4 weeks before SB.



Each of the seven expert theme group raised the challenge of consolidating the large number (8165) of collected indicators, to a 100 in total.

The current consolidated status of the indicators is as follows:

Relevance to targets (12a.)

Theme (indicators assessed)	Yes	Maybe	No
9a. Water (1046)	418	314	314
9b. Agriculture and Food (1801)	1134		

9c.Health (747)	53		
9d.Ecosystems	~		
9e. Infrastructure	~		
9f. Poverty and Livelihoods	318	50	
9g.Cultural heritage (280)	~		
10 a-d Adaptation Cycle (2837)	1098	243	1496

Relevance to adaptation (12b.)

Theme (indicators assessed)	**Yes**	**Maybe**	**No**
9a. Water (1046)	314	419	313
9b. Agriculture and Food (1801)	1116		
9c.Health (747)	53		
9d.Ecosystems	~		
9e. Infrastructure	~		
9f. Poverty and Livelihoods	~		
9g.Cultural heritage (280)	~		
10 a-d Adaptation Cycle (1787)	586	124	1077

Not all expert theme groups approached the formulation of indicators with reference to the lists and numbers of suggested indicators. Most of the expert theme groups reported the problem to still have consolidated lists of hundreds of relevant indicators.

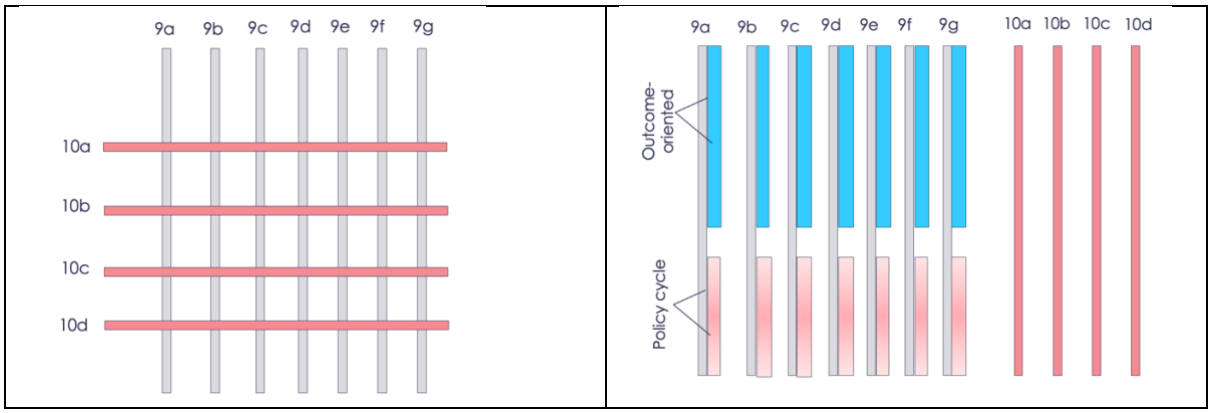
There still is large divergence in approaches to indicators between the different expert groups.

Some parties (e.g. Russia) emphasized that the groups need not to focus on the (number of) suggested indicators and are free to work on own set of indicators.

Challenges addressed were on how to deal with linkages between themes. But also, with issues of causality and attribution to CC (health), indicators above the country level, such as regional ecosystems, transboundary waters, and early warning systems. But no final decisions were made; some of the expert groups suggested to first work out their theme indicators into a consolidated list, and pick up the interlinked indicators after that; no particular timeline or process was suggested.

Throughout the two days' workshop, many parties (and their groupings) were concerned that the Means of Implementation (MOI) (finance, technology and capacity building) should be part of the indicator framework and should be addressed in detail within every theme. Some threatened that the framework would be unacceptable without this. Other parties (a minority) suggested it would be impossible to limit the number of indicators if MOI has to be worked out for every theme.

There was an expert presentation on how to address the targets and interlinkages that presented the two options, matrixed, or siloed:



In general, the parties that stressed the inclusion of MOIs favoured the siloed approach. There were some concerns that this would be at the expense of the total number of outcome-oriented indicators.

Other parties (e.g. Japan) remarked that the MOI are part of the finance agenda items and should not be part of the indicators on GGA. MOI are addressed in other reporting lines, such as the Biannual Transparency Reports (BTRs).

Everyone agreed that the consolidated number of indicators in final report of the expert theme groups (in four weeks' time) can be more than 100, and that the countries will then negotiate which indicators will make it to the final 100.

There was agreement that many of the indicators could rely on existing indicators in the system (SDG, Sendai, WHO, NAPs, NDCs, etcetera) but that the teams should also identify gaps on propose new indicators where necessary. Under the current timeline, it is recommended to take a pragmatic approach. Also, in some cases, scientific developments have opened new approaches to some of the indicators which are currently used.

It was stressed by some parties that data sources should only be based on nationally approved data. Where national capacities should be strengthened. E.g. number of weather stations with regard to DRR, disproportionally distributed between *North* and *South*. Need for long-term capacity building (and MOI) to be included. Some suggested that P2P learning between countries in the *South*, though useful, should be complementary to *North-South* capacity building.

Some parties iterated that capacity building efforts do not automatically lead to increased capacity; this should be addressed in the indicators. Later it was also mentioned as an example that money spent on flood protection does not indicate that flood protection was achieved and/or a good adaptation strategy; it does not automatically lead to progress on the GGA targets.

Any proposed new indicators do not need to be rolled out form the start, but could be developed over time. It can take years of time to startup new indicators, have approval at

the country level and at the UN statistics division. But time is limited with the 2027 stocktaking and 2030 GGA target deadlines. Agreement on making a quick start with scientifically robust existing indicators, and link in relevant new indicators following a scientific robust approach. From a short-term implementation to long-term refinement.

There was discussion on the different kind of indicators to include: input, output, outcome, and process indicators. Also, whether grouping, nesting, consolidation or indexing of different indicators was allowed. One expert specifically mentioned that the final indicators will be quantitative, though might be based on qualitative indicators feeding into this.

In general, there was agreement that nested indicators are useful to allow for regional specificity with regard to a common global assessment. This approach is used in the Sendai framework, where countries can choose from a sub-menu of indicators that only address their specific issues (e.g. GLOFs).

Two specific NGO interventions were made; one on inclusion of gender equality in the different targets, for which the International Institute for Sustainable Development will provide their study to the expert groups. The other was made by CAN, who demanded that ultra-local, local and indigenous communities should be included in the indicators, e.g. by measuring their access to knowledge and their participation through locally led adaptation.

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