

Progress on adaptation under the UNFCCC process

ITU Eighth Symposium on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change

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“Given the increasing number of extreme events all over the world, adaptation cannot come soon enough – and money spent on adaptation today will be money well invested in our future. Comprehensive adaptation measures will help save lives, livelihoods and, ultimately, prevent increased costs due to damages.”

*Christiana Figueres,
UNFCCC Executive Secretary*

- **Adaptation examples include:**
 - Behavioural change at the individual level
 - Technological and engineering options
 - Risk management and reduction strategies
 - Promotion of adaptive management strategies
 - Development of financial instruments
 - Promotion of ecosystem management practices

Negotiations on adaptation under the UNFCCC

How does the negotiation process work under the UNFCCC?



- COP, SBI, SBSTA, ADP
- Observer involvement including the private sector, side events
- ITU's involvement in the UNFCCC process



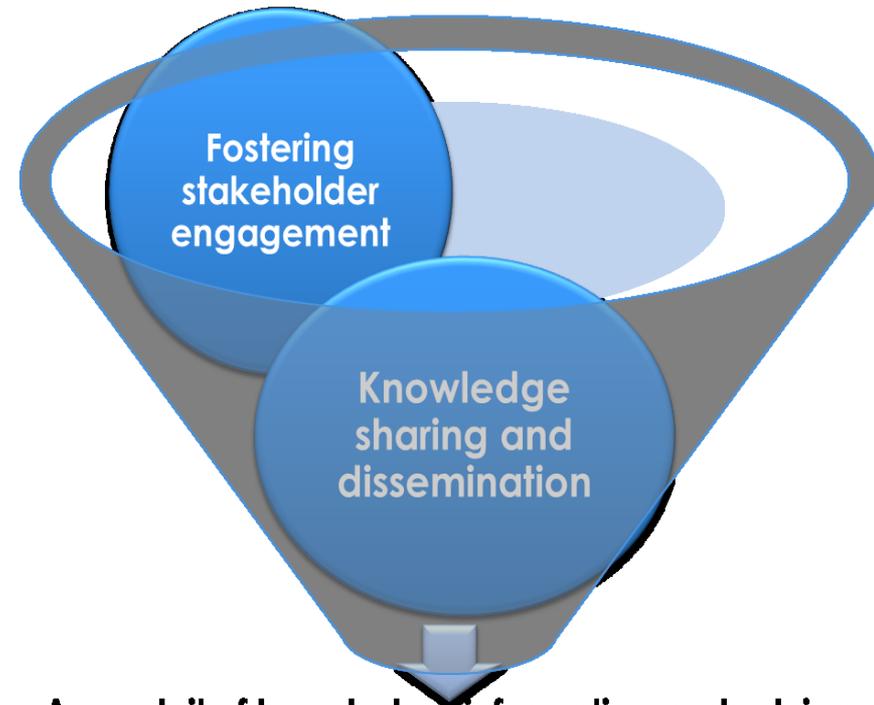
Nairobi work programme (NWP)

- **Introduction to the NWP**
- **What is the Private Sector Initiative?**

“Traditional thinking would have us believe that adaptation is the exclusive ambit of the public sector. This is false on two levels: 1) Business needs to adapt itself, and 2) adaptation holds investment opportunities for the private sector.”

Christiana Figueres

- **Update on negotiations**
- **Action pledges**
- **Opportunities for engagement of the ICT community**



A conduit of knowledge, information and advice on adaptation into the negotiation process and to Parties of the UNFCCC



Nairobi work programme (NWP)

- **Case studies related to ICTs from the NWP**

- Ericsson:

The partnership between Ericsson, the WMO and National Meteorological Services in East Africa demonstrates how Ericsson's core technology mobile communications can enhance access to weather and climate services

- Microsoft: Eye on Earth

Microsoft sees these as demonstration projects of the power of communication technologies for their adoption by businesses and governments. With these projects Microsoft is also looking to ensure that information is accessible, transparent and measureable openly to everyone



National communications

- **Introduction**

- Under the Convention, all Parties should report on the steps they are taking to implement the Convention (Articles 4.1 and 12)
- Common but differentiated responsibilities

- **Example highlighted: USA, RANET Program**

- Radio and Internet for the Communication of Hydro-Meteorological and Climate-related Information for Development
- Delivers forecasts, bulletins, imagery, seasonal assessments, educational and training information and data
- Includes RANET Alert Watcher Short-Message Service notification system



- **Introduction to the national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs)**
 - The NAPAs focus on urgent and immediate needs
 - List of ranked priority adaptation activities and projects, as well as short profiles of each activity or project, designed to facilitate the development of proposals for implementation of the NAPA
 - Both rural and urban issues addressed



Examples of ICT utilisation from NAPAs

Bhutan

Installation of Early Warning Systems on the Pho-chu River Basin.



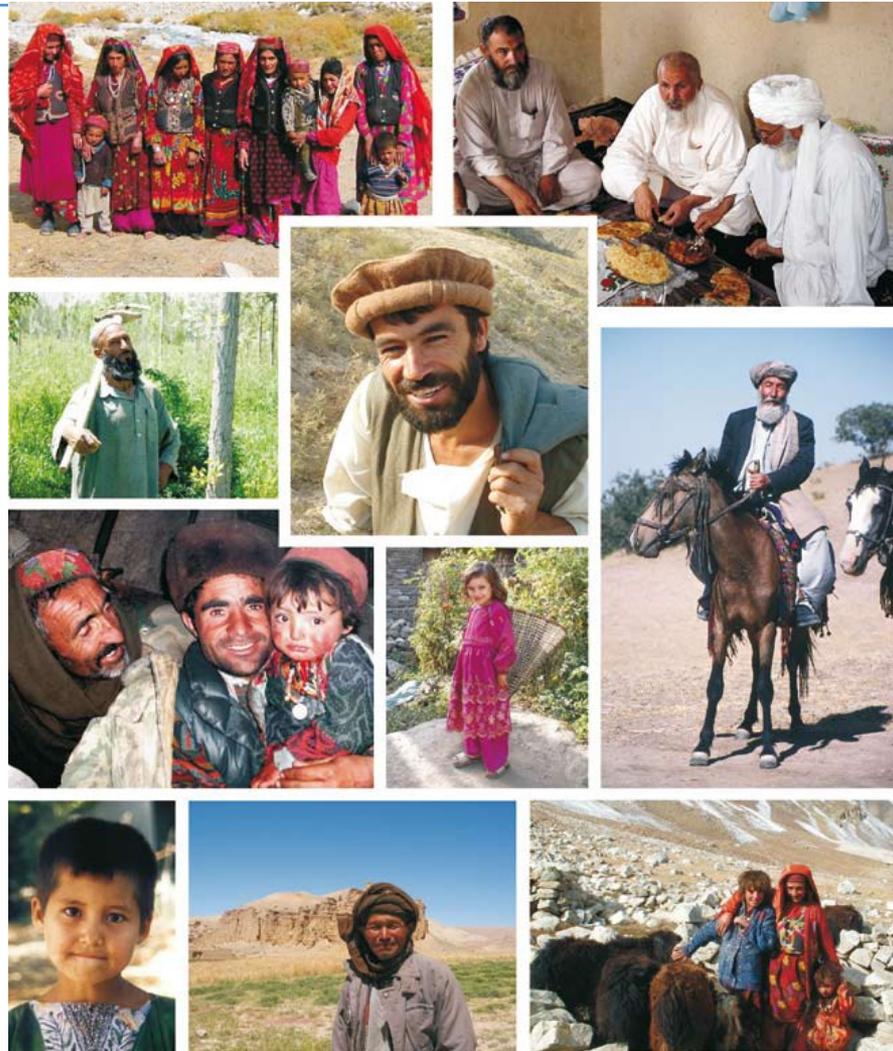
Source: Department of Hydro-Met Services, Bhutan



Examples of ICT utilisation from NAPAs

Afghanistan:

Radio and TV used for education and public awareness on climate change. The country aims to conduct mass media programmes, including through the use of ICTs like radio and TV.



Source: Afghanistan's NAPA



Work programme on loss and damage

- **Introduction to the work programme on loss and damage?**
 - a) A work programme in order to consider approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change
- **Update on negotiations**
 - a) COP19 to establish institutional arrangements, such as an international mechanism to address loss and damage
 - b) Interim activities:
 - Preparation of technical papers: One on non-economic losses and another on gaps in existing institutional arrangements within and outside of the Convention
 - Organization of an expert meeting to consider future needs, including capacity needs associated with possible approaches to address slow onset events



Work programme on loss and damage

- **Opportunities for engagement of the ICT community**
 - a) Strong early warning component
 - b) Potential for ICTs as a means to rapidly communicate about extreme events
- **Case studies from the work programme related to ICTs**

Using mobile phones to share CC information

- a) India
- b) Caribbean



National adaptation plans (NAPs)

- **Introduction to the NAP process?**
 - Medium- and long-term adaptation
 - National level comprehensive planning and implementation
 - NAP guidelines, possibility for embracing appropriate and context specific ICTs including in urban areas e.g. community radio, cell phones, etc.
- **Update on negotiations**
 - Launch of the NAP process, Cancun 2010
 - Initial guidelines adopted and technical guidelines produced
 - Guidance to the GEF adopted
 - Launch at national level through NAP Expo, June 9 2013
- **Opportunities for engagement of the ICT community**



Looking towards the future adaptation regime

Emerging future adaptation regime

- 2015- Major agreement
- 2020- Up-scaled funding- 100 Billion
- Creation of the Green Climate Fund to support mitigation and adaptation
- Higher order of magnitude of support for adaptation action in the future
- Adaptation Committee

- **Role of ICT community in the future adaptation regime?**
- Both challenges and opportunities for the ICT community
- Awareness raising
- Replication
- Stimuli for innovation
- Countries need to effectively integrate ICTs into their NAPs



Thank you

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