

Significance of the Paris Agreement (PA) under Current Context

Climate Action for Agriculture in Asia :
**Strengthening the role of scientific foresight and CSA in
addressing NDC priorities**

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ARTICLE 2 OBJECTIVE

The ultimate objective of this Convention ... is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, **to ensure that food production is not threatened** and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.



THE PARIS AGREEMENT – Overview

The Paris Agreement aims to implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), signed in 1992 and in force since 1994.

In line with the overarching objective of the UNFCCC to “**stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations** in order to avoid dangerous anthropogenic interference in the climate system,” the Paris Agreement aims to achieve the following:

To hold the increase in the global average temperature to **well below 2 degrees Celsius** above pre-industrial levels, as well as pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to **1.5 degrees Celsius** above pre-industrial levels.

The Parties to the Paris Agreement,

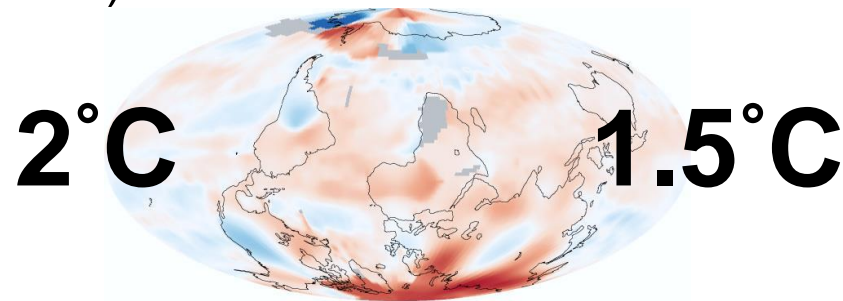
Recognizing the **fundamental priority of safeguarding food security** and ending hunger, and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change,...



Long-Term Goals of the Paris Agreement

➤ Long-term goals:

- Limiting temperature increase to well below 2°C, pursuing 1.5°C (Article 2)
- Aiming to achieve a balance between emissions by sources and removals by sinks of GHG in the second half of the century (Article 4.1)
- Reducing aggregate emissions in 2030 to 40Gt (1/CP.21, paragraph 17)



- All Parties have committed to limiting their aggregate long term emissions to achieve these long-term goals (expressed through NDCs)



Elements of the Paris Agreement to Achieve the Target

- **Forests**: conserve and enhance sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases; reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, result-based payments, “REDD+” (Article 5)
- **Sustainable development mechanism** : Cooperative approaches and ITMOs (Art. 6)
- **Adaptation** : on par with mitigation, unprecedented importance (Art. 7)
- **Loss & Damage** : Standalone concept, no sub-sector any longer, under guidance of CMA (Art. 8)
- **Financial assistance** : Mobilization of climate finance beyond existing efforts, for mitigation and adaptation (Art. 9)
- **Technology Development and Transfer** : Establishment of a Technology Mechanism (Art.10)
- **Capacity building** : formation of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). (Art.11, decision 1/CP.17, para. 71)



NDCs – Nationally Determined Contributions



NDCs

Each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve (Art.4)

- Explains what a country is doing to combat climate change and limit future climate risks.
- Report to each other and the public on how well countries are doing to implement their targets;
- Track progress towards the long-term goal through a robust transparency and accountability
- Revised and resubmitted every five years, with improvements in each five-year cycle.

Over time, the NDCs are supposed to be strengthened to the point where, in combination, they respect the carbon budget of two degrees Celsius.



190/196

countries have submitted their INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions)

161

Parties have submitted their first NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions)

Key features

- Increasing ambitions; no backsliding
- Actions updated every 5 years
- Tracking progress
- Support; not sanctions

Six parties have submitted their

Long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies

(United States, Mexico, Germany, Canada, France and Benin)

→ Embedding NDCs in scenarios that go to 2050 and beyond.



NDC – mitigation and adaptation

- In case of adaptation, agriculture is a **highest priority sector**, others are food security, water resources, ecosystems and forestry
- Agriculture (plus waste management) is highlighted as **priority in mitigation** by many parties.
- More than 85 percent of developing countries refer to **agriculture and/or Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)** in their mitigation contributions.
- Many countries identified the potential for the agricultural sectors to deliver **adaptation-mitigation synergies**, as well as economic, environmental and social **co-benefits**



Next step: NDC implementation

- The Paris Agreement needs to be implemented along with the NDCs
- Countries are currently working on **implementation plans** for their NDCs
- Several implementation organizations support developing countries in preparing the implementation and achievement of the goals set in their respective NDCs.
- Climate change actions identified in NDCs should be **integrated and embedded** into development planning, national strategies and international frameworks
- **Common challenges**: awareness building, integrate climate change into national planning, build capacity to analyse, develop and implement climate policies



COB 23

- **Facilitative Dialogue**
- **Global Climate Action Agenda**



COB 23

- At COP23 Governments are meeting to **advance the implementation** of the Paris Agreement.
- The aim is make progress in all areas so that the **guidelines can be completed by COP24** in Poland in 2018.
- SBSTA 47, agenda item 7: Continuation of consideration of issues relating to agriculture



SBSTA areas of work on agriculture

- a) Development of **early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather** events and its effects such as desertification, drought, floods, landslides, storm surge, soil erosion, and saline water intrusion;
 - b) **Assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems** to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels, including but not limited to pests and diseases;
 - c) **Identification of adaptation measures**, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale as well as possible co-benefits and sharing experiences in research and development and on the ground activities, including socioeconomic, environmental and gender aspects;
 - d) **Identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity** in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience, considering the differences in agro-ecological zones and farming systems, such as different grassland and cropland practices and systems.
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UNFCCC update

Three issues emerged as key expectations of Parties to the outcome of the year-end climate talks under the UNFCCC to be hosted by Fiji in Bonn: .



- Progress on **pre-2020 commitments**,
- Progress on the **work programme to implement the Paris Agreement (PA)**, and
- Clarity in the design of the **2018 Facilitative Dialogue (FD 2018)**.

FD instrumental to maintain the political momentum of the PA of its long-term goal

Political Priorities Outlined for COP23 by In-Coming Fijian Presidency:

“... Boosting access to climate adaptation finance, renewable energy, clean water and affordable climate risk and disaster insurance **and to promote sustainable agriculture.**”



Facilitative Dialogue 2018 (FD 2018)

Mandate

In accordance with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 20, the Conference of the Parties (COP) decided to **convene a facilitative dialogue among Parties in 2018**

- to take stock of the collective efforts of Parties in relation to **progress towards the long-term goal** referred to in Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Agreement
- and to **inform the preparation of nationally determined contributions** pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 8, of the Agreement.

Global peak of GHGs as soon as possible, balance of emissions and sinks thereafter (2nd half of century)



Facilitative Dialogue 2018 (FD 2018)

Timeline

In Marrakech, COB 22 / COB 23 Presidents mandated to undertake consultations with Parties on the organization of the Facilitative Dialogue in 2018.

Extensive consultations on the Facilitative Dialogue (FD) 2018 were held during the May sessions in 2017.

COP 23 will launch the FD 2018, which will be held throughout 2018.

Next steps

- The invitation to all Parties to submit further input on the organization of the dialogue is still standing;
- A draft skeleton of the dialogue will be made available before the COP;
- A draft design of the dialogue will be made available just before or during the COP.



Initial feedback by Fiji and Morocco on the approach to the FD 2018

- **Talanoa Concept**... share stories, build empathy and to make wise decisions, which are for the collective good.
- The dialogue will be structured across the following central questions:
 - ❖ **Where are we? - Where do we want to go? - How do we get there?**



Online platform will be created to gather all inputs, no limit inputs to the dialogue, written material like blogs, reports and others, videos or any other format

→ important to send clear forward looking signals, one possible channel would be a declaration.



Background

COP 22: Launch of the **Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action**, which is to:

- Provide a basis to maximize **collaboration and cooperation** among stakeholders
- Ensure the **realization of existing commitments**
- Facilitate a **greater number of and more ambitious commitments**

Mission: Mobilize the broadest possible coalition of actors to urgently deliver the immediate mitigation and adaptation actions required to achieve the long-term goals of the PA and enable the achievement of the SDGs.

The WP is also focus on the short-term goal of reaching a successful FD in 2018.



Global Climate Action Champions

Approach: Champions and UNFCCC support unit

Champions' core role: engage for strengthening initiatives and coalitions through **high-level advocacy**, including **communication of success and barriers** faced in implementation

UNFCCC support unit:

- **Convene stakeholders** to enable enhanced cooperation
- **Facilitate connection** with other established UNFCCC processes and bodies
- **Enable transparency** in reporting through NAZCA
- **Support reporting of progress**, in particular through the Summary of Policymakers and the Yearbook of Global Climate Action
- **Provide operational support** to the High-level Champions and the knowledge transfer and continuity of functions to future Champions





Thematic action events or **action days**

- **High-Level Event** on Global Climate Action
- **High-level roundtables** with focus on:
 - **“SDG2: End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture”**: the impact of climate change on fisheries; approaches to water resource management to ensure food security; impacts of soil salinization due to sea-level rise; the resiliency of current cropping systems; management of soil organic carbon; livestock management; and transport and storage efficiency
 - **“SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”**: urban planning for resilience in coastal cities, energy efficiency buildings, decarbonization of urban transport, water and sanitation in the context of climate induced water scarcity and excess (flooding) and salinization



UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs)

- **RCC Bangkok** is a collaboration between the UNFCCC Secretariat and IGES
- The fifth RCC globally, launched in September, 2015
- Hosted by IGES Regional Office in Bangkok, Thailand
- Set up to **spread the benefits of the CDM**, to help **under-represented regions** increase their attractiveness and potential for CDM, by building their capacity and reducing the risk for investors.
- **Broader role since Paris** - supporting development and implementation of countries' NDCs to climate action under that agreement;



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change



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- EXTRA SLIDES



The Paris Agreement – what it means (but doesn't say)

The Paris Agreement is only the **first few steps** on the long road to achieve the limiting of temperature rise below 2 degrees and building low carbon societies.

- Global “**Carbon budget**” will be exhausted in 25 years (at the level of current emissions)
 - Global net **GHG emissions need to fall to zero** by around 2070. Increasing the level of ambition to 1.5 degrees Celsius brings this date forward to 2050 or earlier.
 - Country must **decarbonize fully** over the coming 35 to 55 years
 - In the next decades unprecedented efforts in **policy development and technological innovation** will be needed.
 - A **fundamental transformation** of the world's energy system by 2070, while keeping in mind the 2030 sustainable development agenda (continuous development and poverty eradication)
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