

# Linkages between systematic observation and the work of the Adaptation Committee

**Multi Country Support Programme to Strengthen Climate Information Systems in Africa**  
13-14 April 2014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

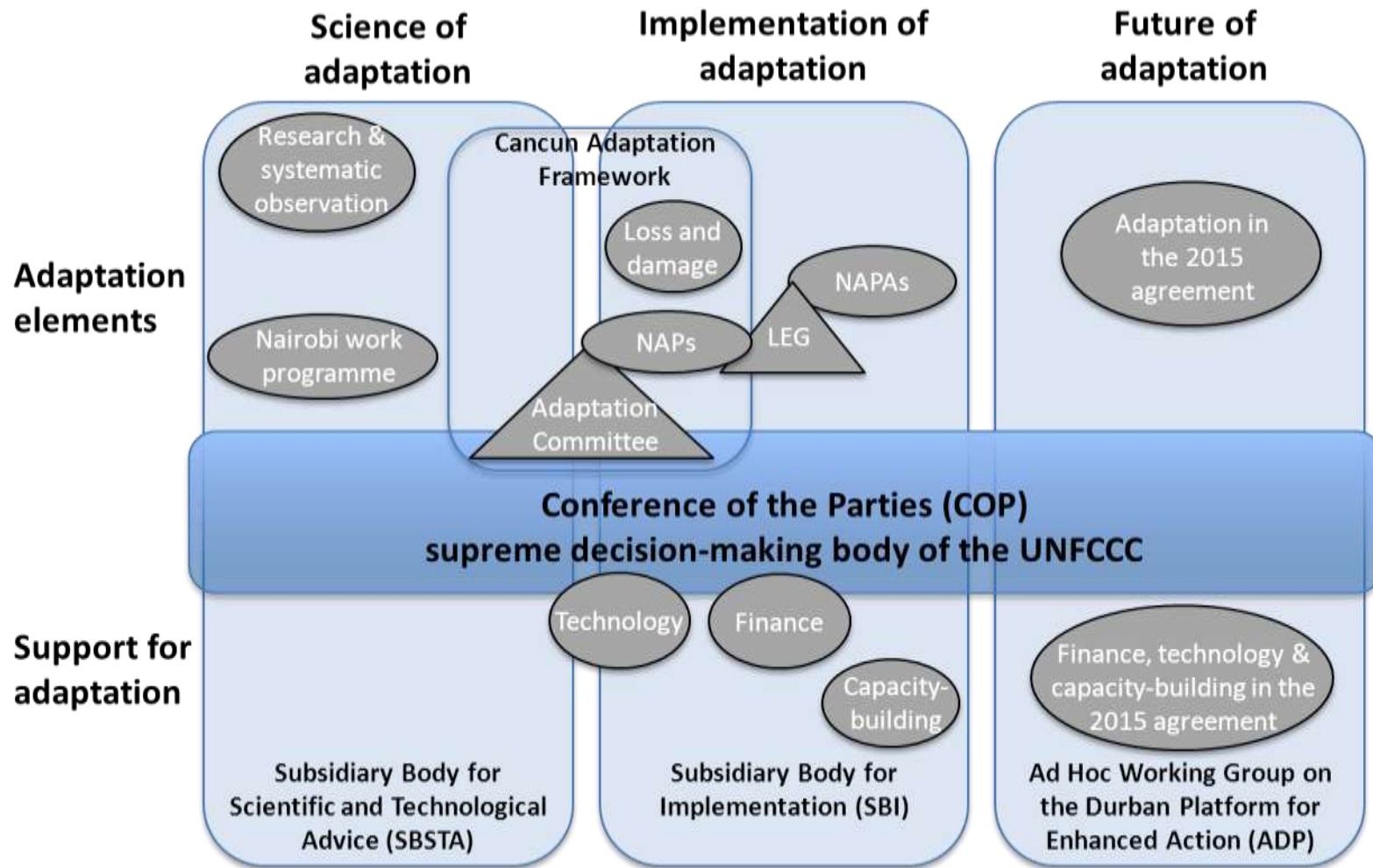
*Presentation by Margaret Mukahanana Sangarwe Member of the Adaptation Committee*



- The Adaptation Committee is which started work in 2012 is the **overall advisory body on adaptation under the Convention**
- Seeks to **raise the profile** of adaptation and to **promote greater coherence in the way that adaptation is addressed**, including through
  1. Providing **technical support and guidance** to the Parties
  2. **Sharing of relevant information**, knowledge, experience and good practices
  3. Promoting synergy and strengthening engagement with **national, regional and international organizations, centres and networks**
  4. Providing information and recommendations for consideration by the COP when providing guidance on **means to incentivize the implementation of adaptation actions**, including finance, technology and capacity-building
  5. Considering information communicated by Parties on their **monitoring and review** of adaptation actions, support provided and received



## Adaptation Committee within the institutional landscape on adaptation under the Convention



- The Adaptation Committee's ambitious **3-year work plan** is organized along three workstreams and includes activities in the areas of:

### Work streams

Technical support and guidance to Parties  
on adaptation action

Technical support and guidance to Parties  
on means of implementation

Awareness-raising, outreach and sharing of  
information

- **Coherence and collaboration** on adaptation-related issues under and outside the Convention
- Strengthening the role of relevant UN agencies, **regional centres and networks and other stakeholders**
- Activities relating to **means of implementation including technology, finance and capacity building**
- **National adaptation planning** for developing and least developed countries
- **Synthesizing and disseminating relevant knowledge** i and information in the form of regular reports and supported by a communications and outreach strategy



## Work on support for developing countries provided by UN agencies and regional centers and networks

- Call for submissions was issued to regional institutions and UN agencies to communicate current support for adaptation in developing countries, including in the area of **systematic observation for climate data collection, archiving, analysis and modelling**
- 2nd round of call for submissions will be sent soon, including to the systematic observation community
- Information paper will be prepared for consideration early next year, together with a list of relevant regional centres and organizations
- **Aim:** strengthening the roles of UN agencies and regional centres and networks working on adaptation and bring coherence to their support.



## Work on using observed climate data to produce information in support of adaptation planning

- Climate data is essential for planning, implementation, review and monitoring of progress on adaptation;
- It is essential for the development and application of climate change scenarios in assessing climate change risks at the national, sectoral and local levels;
- A lot of data already exists in countries, including as part of past or ongoing climate change activities
- Climate information systems should therefore facilitate collection, management, analysis and dissemination of climate data and information in support of adaptation planning and implementation;
- Availability and functioning of human resources, physical infrastructure, funding, technical infrastructure and cost-efficient solutions are therefore the crucial elements of ensuring robust climate data for adaptation;



## Some remaining challenges in supporting adaptation planning

- Huge amounts of data in many developing countries require rescuing and digitizing
- Density of ground monitoring stations remains very low in many parts of Africa especially in rural areas where dependence on weather information for agricultural planning is highest – The potential to use remotely sensed data to address these gaps should be explored
- Climate information is widely used by the adaptation community – need to broaden capacity-building efforts in analyzing climate data to all stakeholders
- Open and free data sharing from GEF-funded projects is limited – pointing to the need for a data sharing policy to ensure data that is collected is deposited in national public data archives for public use.



Any suggestions on how the systematic observations community and the Adaptation Committee could enhance cooperation to help meet the needs of Parties with respect to adaptation are welcome.

More information on the AC is available at  
<[unfccc.int/6053](http://unfccc.int/6053)>

Thank you

