

Report: 2nd Global Adaptation Network Forum

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1. Acronyms

AAKNet – Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network

AGEDI – Abu Dhabi Global Environment Data Initiative

APAN – Asia Pacific Adaptation Network

A-PLAT – Asia Pacific Adaptation Information Platform

CAKE – Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange

COP23 – 23rd Conference of the Parties

EPIC-N – Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network

IGES - Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

GAN – Global Adaptation Network

GIZ - Deutsche Gesellschaft Für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

MENA – Middle East and North Africa

M&E – Monitoring and evaluation

NDCs – Nationally Determined Contributions

REGATTA – Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Change Action

SIDS – Small Island Developing States

TEM-A – Technical Examination Meeting on Adaptation

TEP-A – Technical Examination Process on Adaptation

UAE – United Arab Emirates

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

US EPA – United States Environment Protection Agency

WARN-CC – West Asia Regional Network on Climate Change



2. Organisers & Supporters

Organisers:



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE
& ENVIRONMENT



جامعة زايد
ZAYED UNIVERSITY



Supporters:



مبادرة أبوظبي العالمية للبيانات البيئية
Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative



環境省
Ministry of the Environment



UN Climate Resilience Initiative A2R



Global Centre of Excellence on
Climate
Adaptation

3. Executive Summary

On the 20-21st of March 2018, the Global Adaptation Network (GAN) held its 2nd major Forum in collaboration with Zayed University and the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. The Forum addressed the pressing challenges facing climate adaptation, and presented some of the most cutting-edge solutions, bringing together over 120 experts from a multitude of non-profit organisations, government institutions, private companies, and centres of academic expertise. Over the course of two days, the event hosted a variety of learning and sharing sessions in plenary and breakout groups, all with a particular focus on interactive participation and the co-creation of knowledge.

Four main adaptation themes were explored:

- i) Transferring adaptation solutions and technologies developed in the Gulf States to the rest of the world.
- ii) The challenges and progress in developing adaptation metrics and measuring climate risk.
- iii) Building effective mechanisms for sharing adaptation knowledge.
- iv) Reaching those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

In addition, the Forum featured a crosscutting theme based on the role of the private sector in climate adaptation.

The outcomes and perspectives from this Forum will be influencing climate policy on an international scale. The UNFCCC held their Bonn Climate Change meeting in April-May 2018. In preparation, GAN used its 2nd Forum to host vital adaptation discussions, such as the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (see page 11) and the Talanoa Dialogue, both of which provided invaluable input into this meeting in Bonn. The Talanoa Dialogue is an international discourse on climate adaptation and a key UNFCCC process. It was decided that GAN’s Forum would contribute the next chapter of this Dialogue.

What is Talanoa?

Talanoa is a traditional word used in Fiji and across the Pacific to reflect a process of inclusive, participatory and transparent dialogue. The purpose of Talanoa is to share stories, build empathy and to make wise decisions for the collective good. The process of Talanoa involves the sharing of ideas, skills and experience through storytelling.

During the process, participants build trust and advance knowledge through empathy and understanding. Blaming others and making critical observations are inconsistent with building mutual trust and respect, and therefore inconsistent with the Talanoa concept. Talanoa fosters stability and inclusiveness in dialogue by creating a safe space that embraces mutual respect for a platform for decision making for a greater good.



4. The Global Adaptation Network

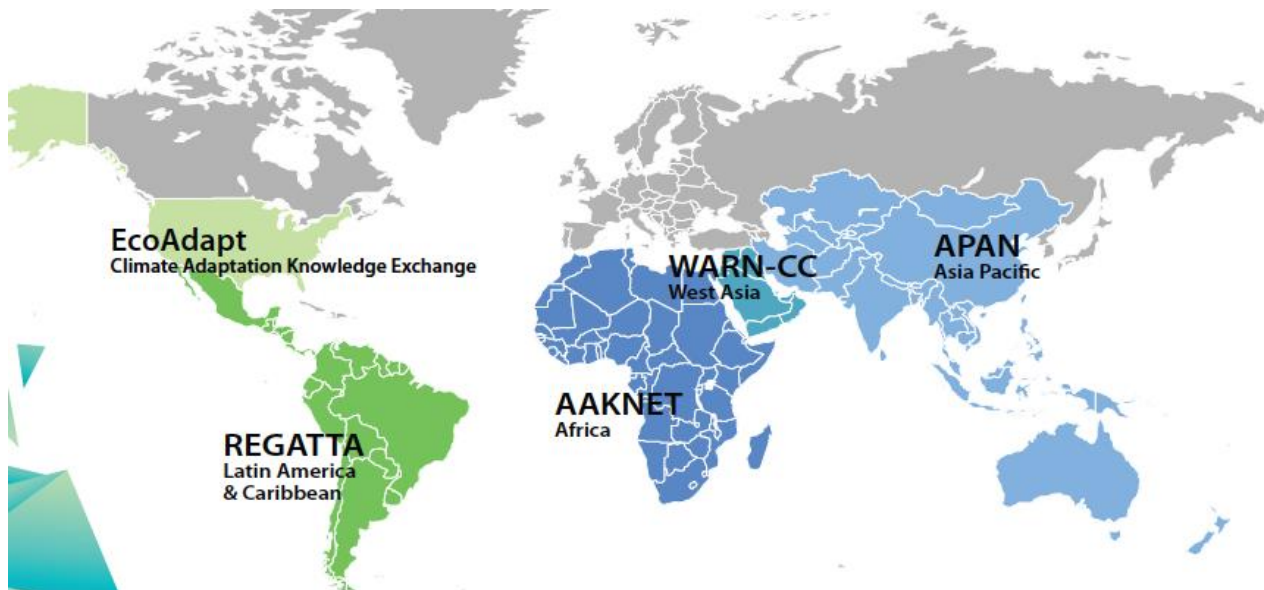
Founded in 2010, the Global Adaptation Network provides a worldwide platform to distribute and exchange climate adaptation knowledge. With a particular emphasis on the value of direct personal exchange, GAN shares critical lessons that inform decision-making, planning and practice. The global platform links regional networks and partners in Asia-Pacific (APAN), Latin America and the Caribbean (REGATTA), Africa (AAKNet), West Asia (WARN-CC) and the United States (US-EPA and EcoAdapt). GAN helps each of these networks to exchange lessons and experience in their own respective regions.

The Forum kicked-off with presentations by GAN and its partners, presenting work being undertaken, along with future directions.

GAN's Regional Networks & Partners:



WARN-CC



5. Forum Summary

This report does not attempt to summarize the presentations from every speaker, but rather distil each theme into a set of conclusions and lessons.

First Plenary

The Forum commenced with the Emirati National Anthem in a warm welcome to His Excellency Fahad Al Hammadi, the Director of Climate Change at the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. Al Hammadi made clear the UAE's ambitious renewable energy targets for 2050. During this first plenary, the Vice President of Zayed University, Reyadh Al Mehaideb, stressed the importance of the UAE as a global actor in the sphere of climate adaptation, and he called for more knowledge mobilisation. The Forum was also privileged to host His Excellency Inia Seruiratu, the Fijian Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development. Minister Seruiratu took the opportunity to explain how his country has invested over 50 million US dollars to establish the Fiji green bond, launched back in October 2017. Fiji will use the bond proceeds to finance the achievement of its Nationally Determined Contribution target, which aims for 100% renewable energy and 30% CO² reductions in the energy sector by 2030.

Representing the Ministry of the Environment in Japan, Hiroshi Ono (Deputy Director-General for Global Environmental Affairs) introduced the projects established by the Ministry. He remarked: "Japan has been supporting vulnerable developing countries with climate change impact assessments and adaptation efforts. In addition, Japan aims to completely establish The Asia Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) by 2020 in order to facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement." The AP-PLAT aims to provide scientific data and information to support the various actors to promote the adaptation planning and its implementation at both local and country level.

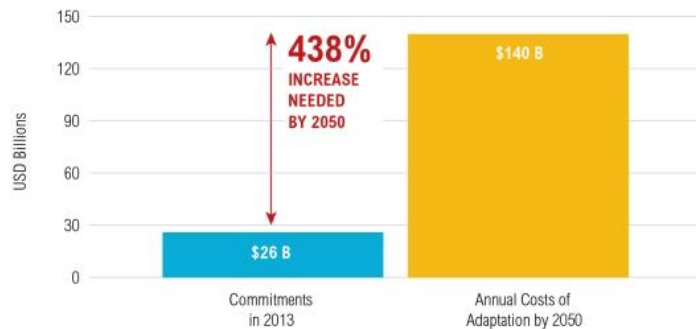


Inia Seruiratu, Fijian Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development

Second Plenary

The 2nd Plenary session was chaired by Barney Dickson, the head of GAN. Pioneering techniques for building climate-resilient crops were presented by Ismahane Elouafi from the International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture. Ismahane’s presentation predominantly focused on sustainable and ‘climate-smart’ agriculture. Thymen Kouwenaar from the newly-formed Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation stressed the need to accelerate adaptation funding. He claimed that under the most conservative estimates adaptation funding would need to increase by at least 438% by 2050, but the true percentage is likely to be significantly higher.

Gap Between Estimated Adaptation Needs and Available Public Finance
(2013-2050, Low Estimate)



Source: UNEP (2014), "The Adaptation Gap Report."
Note: This data represents conservative estimates; a high estimate of commitments in 2013 and a low estimate of annual adaptation needs by 2050, according to UNEP's 2014 "Adaptation Gap Report".

 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

The Mayor of Paynesville (Liberia), Cyvette Gibson, elucidated on the experience of joining the 100 Resilient Cities Program in 2015. Paynesville was one of the 10 African cities selected to benefit from the Initiative. The Regional Coordinator for APAN (GAN’s Asia-Pacific Network), Mozaharul Alam, shed light on the progress they’d made in assisting countries’ to access technology and finance, while John Firth, CEO of Acclimatize, explained the crucial role of the private sector in climate adaptation (read more on page 12).



Barney Dickson, Head of GAN

Theme 1: From the Gulf To The World

This theme examined the specific adaptation challenges facing Gulf States and the solutions and technologies being developed in the region. Many speakers provided additional guidance on the role of the private sector, and how these solutions and technologies can be applied beyond the Gulf.

The first session on this theme unpacked current and projected climate impacts in the Gulf region, drawing on scientific analyses and knowledge initiatives. The AGEDI showed how they are utilising big data synthesis, analytical models, animations and high-resolution maps to track climate change impacts in the region. Novel adaptation projects were demonstrated by Zayed University, including selective breeding to produce genetically resilient coral adapted to harsh environmental conditions. Other speakers explored the impacts of climate change using simulations and predictions of dust storms, and changes in sea level, salinity and temperature. There was recurring unanimity on the imperative of knowledge generation, clear research boundaries, and establishing gaps.



The second session on the Gulf theme was dedicated to adaptation solutions. These included national and sub-national strategies, technologies and actions from UAE, Oman, Jordan and others. The audience were presented with pioneering scientific techniques. The Red Sea Research Centre discussed the “agricultural revolution in UAE”, where hydroponic innovations are helping to build climate resilience. An ambitious roadmap was presented for Oman’s National Strategy for Adaptation over the next 20 years, and Zayed University unveiled their cutting-edge synthetic biology approaches for producing climate-resilient plants.

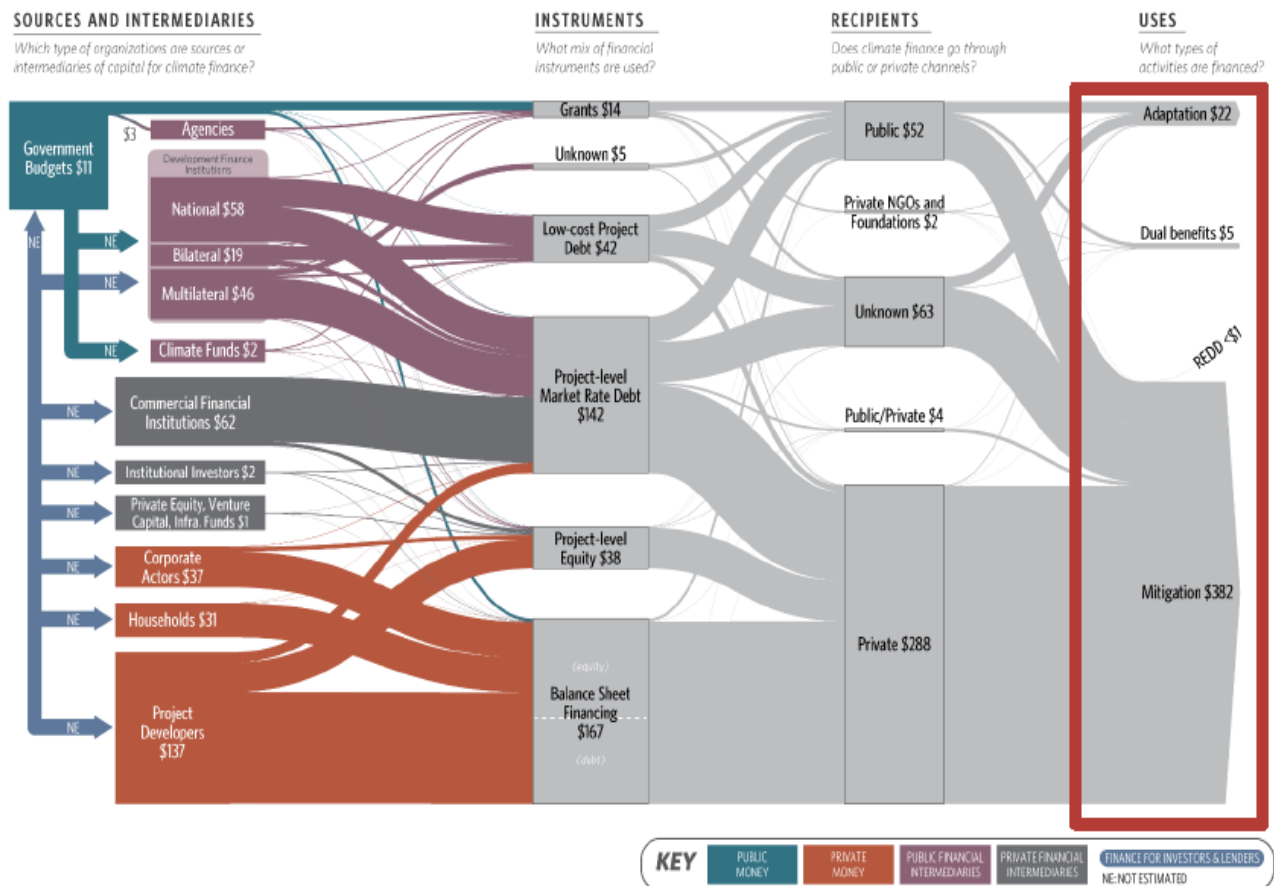
The third and last session on this theme examined the transference of successful solutions from the Gulf states to other regions. Presentations included strategies to improve and rehabilitate soil in the UAE, including the use of halophyte biochar. Al Rawafed Organic Farm described how their technology for improving crop production is now ready for export to other MENA countries.

Theme 2: Adaptation Metrics

The question of how to measure and assess different aspects of adaptation is increasingly important. The private sector - including investors - is striving for a common metric for measuring climate risk. As such, the first session on this theme was largely devoted to this mission, encompassing sophisticated modelling techniques. National, private sector, and urban viewpoints were all incorporated. The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis presented their innovative model for formulating climate risks that incorporated both hazard and resilience into their metric. It was emphasised that probability-based approaches were most appropriate for analysing risks. Other frameworks for designing metrics were proposed by the Multilateral Development Bank.

The second session sought to determine ways to measure adaptation progress. The discussion explored tools and methods at the global, national and project level. The Paris Agreement set an adaptation goal, of which a corollary is to assess progress at the global level. The Climate Policy Initiative presented some revealing data on the landscape of climate finance from 2015/16. Globally, of the 410 billion USD channelled into climate action annually, \$382b was designated for mitigation, and only \$22bn for adaptation.

Landscape of Global Climate Finance 2015/16: – Global climate finance flows along their age cycle in 2015 and 2016. Values are the average over two years of data (in USD billions).



“A robust, ongoing monitoring and evaluation program will be fundamental to understanding the success of our implementation activities, helping to inform targets and guide future decisions”

– Vicki Barmby, Senior Sustainability Officer, City of Melbourne

Theme 3: Adaptation Learning

This theme investigated the various methods for developing, sharing and applying adaptation knowledge. New institutions and models were featured, such as the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation and the UN Climate Resilience Initiative.

Discussions at the Forum explored how scientific knowledge is communicated between countries. Experiences were showcased from Japan, Mongolia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Fiji. In addition, there was a focus on the role of universities in supporting resilience, and the value of direct face-to-face learning exchanges. Jessica Barlow described the highly successful EPIC model, which connects universities and their resources to real-world issues faced by their local cities. These city-university partnerships have been launched across the world, including many countries in the global south, such as Kenya, Zambia, Brazil and Mexico (all within the last year). The Chronicle of Higher Education described EPIC as: “One of higher education’s most successful and comprehensive service learning programs.”



Takeshi Abe, Ministry of the Environment, Japan.

The third session in this theme demonstrated the efficacy of learning networks in enhancing adaptation action, including their relevance for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Jessica Hitt from EcoAdapt, GAN’s regional partner for the United States, presented her ongoing work with the Climate Adaptation Learning Exchange (CAKE). CAKE has become an invaluable model for sharing knowledge on adaptation. It is currently the world’s largest and most used source of climate adaptation case studies and resources, connecting a formidable community of practice.



Theme 4: Reaching the most Vulnerable

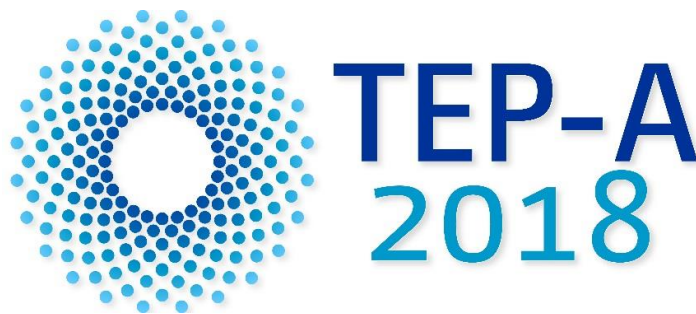
It is widely recognized that adaptation policy and practice must reach those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. However, to date, practice does not live up to this intention. This theme reflected on the risks faced by vulnerable groups and communities, and highlights the actions needed to address those risks more effectively. It also analysed the role of insurance in absorbing climate shocks in vulnerable regions, along with an exploration into the feasibility of establishing an African learning platform for climate risk insurance.

i) Technical Expert Meeting on Adaptation (TEM-A)

The Technical Examination Process on Adaptation (TEP-A) was established at COP21 as part of the adaptation agenda set out in the Paris Agreement. It is taking place during 2016-2020, and its objective is to identify concrete opportunities for strengthening resilience, reducing vulnerability, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions. The process is composed of a series of meetings called TEM-As.

Under GAN's commitment to push for adaptation solutions that reach the most vulnerable, it was decided that a Regional TEM-A would be held at this Forum in Abu Dhabi. In keeping with the theme of addressing those most threatened, the TEM-A focused on adaptation in relation to SIDS, people with disabilities, the impacts of climate-induced migration, and much more (See Annex II for the report on this TEM-A).

The audience were encouraged to participate as much as possible, and the input was diverse and enlightening. Some suggested that decentralisation of adaptation planning was critical for reaching the most vulnerable. Peter King from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies pointed out that litigations are being filed against major fossil fuel companies, and if one can tie any successful cases to compensation pay-outs for the vulnerable, then this could be a missing link. The meeting concluded with a caveat from Barney Dickson, head of GAN, that one should be cautious with phrases like "reaching the vulnerable", for such language can portray the vulnerable simply as the prospective recipients of support, rather than actors who can work to reduce their own vulnerability. The results from this discussion were fed into the UNFCCC Bonn Climate meeting in April-May 2018.



ii) Establishing an African learning platform for climate risk insurance

Convened by both the UN Climate Resilience Initiative and the Africa Adaptation Initiative, two sessions were devoted to discussing the establishment of a learning platform on climate risk insurance in the African continent. The meetings brought together country representatives and other interested stakeholders, offering experiences in implementing such insurance schemes from many countries, such as Malawi, Ghana, Senegal, and more.

The Executive Director of the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative, Soenke Kreft, provided a methodology for assessing 165 NDCs and how well they cover climate risk insurance topics. Overall, 38 countries mention an ambition in their NDCs. It was found that many countries state a desire to develop insurance approaches for specific climate change-related hazards (including 9 African countries). Soenke emphasised the need to capitalise on the strong momentum for climate risk insurance.

“There is a specific need to increase thematic literacy around concepts of climate risk insurance for all stakeholders.”

– Soenke Kreft, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative.

Crosscutting Theme: Role of the Private Sector in Adaptation

The private sector is increasingly recognised as essential for building resilience, yet there is a demand for a better understanding of where, when and how the sector can play a role. The Global Climate Action Agenda, under the UNFCCC, has advocated for more progress on this area. Consequently, GAN has been working to disseminate a more advanced understanding of the private sector’s role in adaptation.

During the second plenary session of the Forum, John Firth, the CEO of the adaptation company Acclimatize, gave a compelling speech about how to engage with businesses in building resilience. In 2013, the *Journal of Environmental Investing* named John as one of the 100 most influential people in the world in environment investing and policy making. In his talk, John explained how the private sector has always excelled in risk management, which is fundamental to adaptation planning. The international climate change community must configure a way to uptake this expertise from the private sector, and utilise business’ aptitude and proficiency in problem-solving.

Theme 1 was highly relevant for the private sector, as many references were made about the need for entrepreneurship to transfer technology from the Gulf region to the rest of the world. The Forum discussions on adaptation metrics were also key in invoking work from the private sector, particularly in relation to issues of attribution and tying specific investments to assessments of progress.

“The climate change community has tended to see adaptation and resilience as a public sector issue... The reality is that the [adaptation] services we consume, and what we need to build resilience, are actually produced by the private sector.”

- John Firth, CEO of Acclimatize

Closing Plenary

The final plenary provided an opportunity to recapitulate on the key lessons learnt from the Forum. Professor Fares Howari from Zayed University commended the discussions on university-city linkages, and reaffirmed the notion that universities and their knowledge-sharing capabilities are central to building capacity. Ekhosuehi Iyahen from African Risk Capacity summarized some of the Forum's key insights into climate risk insurance, and highlighted the opportunities that these schemes offer when it comes to involving the private sector.

A representative from the Islamic Development Bank, Ahmed Al-Qabany, took the opportunity to praise the diversity of attendees at the Forum, highlighting the eclectic mix from private sectors, governments, NGOs, and virtually all continents. Barney Dickson, head of Global Adaptation Network, reminded the audience that these discussions will be feeding into global processes, including the Talanoa Dialogue and the TEP-A.

The Chair of the final plenary, Professor Masa Watanabe from Chuo University, closed the discussion with a warm thank you to Zayed University and the UAE government for co-organizing the Forum.

Field Trip

The Forum finished with a field trip to Masdar City, a planned city project in Abu Dhabi, powered by almost 90,000 solar panels. The city is designed to be a hub for cleantech companies and organisations, including the International Renewable Energy Agency. The participants of the GAN forum were offered a tour around the city.



A rendering of the future of Masdar City

6. Media

<u>Headline</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Link</u>
<i>Global Climate Change Adaptation Experts Revise Best Practices</i>	Eye of Riyadh	http://www.eyefriyadh.com/news/details/global-climate-change-adaptation-experts-revise-best-practices
<i>Regional Adaptation Forum Outlines Challenges In Gulf Region, Contributes To Talanoa Dialogue</i>	International Institute for Sustainable Development	http://sdg.iisd.org/news/regional-adaptation-forum-outlines-challenges-in-gulf-region-contributes-to-talanoa-dialogue/
<i>Global Climate Change Adaptation Experts Revise Best Practices</i>	The Gulf Today	http://www.gulftoday.ae/portal/e4a18cda-8551-4f58-8cff-4e7b119278e5.aspx
<i>Climate Champion Reiterates Need To Strengthen Resilience</i>	The Jet Newspaper	http://www.thejetnewspaper.com/2018/03/21/climate-champion-reiterates-need-to-strengthen-resilience/
<i>Climate Change Is Here: Landmark Forum Set To Determine How Humanity Will Adapt</i>	Modern Diplomacy	https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2018/03/14/climate-change-is-here-landmark-forum-set-to-determine-how-humanity-will-adapt/
<i>Climate Change Is Here: Landmark Forum Set To Determine How Humanity Will Adapt</i>	UN Environment	https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/climate-change-here-landmark-forum-set-determine-how-humanity-will
<i>Call For Advancement of Work In Adaptation and Resilience at 2nd Global Adaptation Network Forum</i>	The Adaptation Network	http://www.adaptationnetwork.org.za/2018/04/call-advancement-work-adaptation-resilience-2nd-global-adaptation-network-forum/
<i>High-Level Climate Champion's Speech at the Global Adaptation Network</i>	COP23 News	https://cop23.com.fj/need-strengthen-resilience-people-environment-infrastructure-economies-intensifying-impacts-climate-change-high-level-climate-champions-speech/

7. Annexes

I) Forum Programme

Tuesday 20 March 2018	
09.00-10.00	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Opening Plenary Session</i></p> <p>Chair:</p> <p><i>Mette Wilkie</i> Director, Ecosystems Division, UN Environment</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Prof. Reyadh AlMehaideb</i> Vice President Zayed University</p> <p><i>Fahad Al Hammadi</i> Director of Climate Change and Environment, United Arab Emirates</p> <p><i>Inia Seruiratu,</i> Minister for Agriculture, Rural & Maritime Development, and National Disaster Management, Fiji and High-Level Climate Champion</p> <p><i>Hiroshi Ono</i> Deputy Director-General, Global Environment Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Japan</p>
10.00-11.00	<p>Introduction to the Global Adaptation Network and its regional networks and partners</p> <p>Chair: Essey Daniel, GAN Secretariat/ UN Environment</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barney Dickson, GAN Secretariat/ UN Environment • Elena Pita, Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Change Action in Latin America and the Caribbean (REGATTA) • Abdul-Majeid Haddad, West Asia Regional Network on Climate Change (WARN-CC) • Mozaharul Alam, Asia Pacific Adaption Network (APAN) • Jessica Hitt, EcoAdapt • Anthony Socci, United States Environmental Protection Agency
11.00-11.20	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>

<p>11.20-13.00</p>	<p>Session 1A: Climate impacts and adaptation challenges in the Gulf region</p> <p>This session will unpack current and projected climate impacts in the Gulf region, drawing from modelling and remote sensing. The session will also feature experiences from data and knowledge initiatives in the region.</p> <p>Chair: Zitouni Ould-Dada, FAO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sgouris Sgouridis, Masdar Institute of Science and Technology • Dr. Kosmas Pavlopoulos, Université Paris Sorbonne Abu Dhabi • Bill Dougherty, Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative • Dr. Habes Ghrefat, Department of Geology and Geophysics, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia • Dr. Jasminka Jaksic, Dubai Municipality • Dr. Henrik Stahl, Zayed University 	<p>Session 2A: Adaptation metrics - assessing climate risks</p> <p>This session will examine approaches to assessing climate risks, including modelling. It will consider national, private sector and urban viewpoints to measuring physical climate risk. The proposed framework for climate resilience metrics of the MDB-IFDC working group will also be discussed.</p> <p>Chair: Anne Olhoff, UNEP-DTU</p> <p>Contributors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Firth, Acclimatise • Stefan Hochrainer-Stigler, IIASA • Davinah Milenge-Uwella, African Development Bank • Ahmed Al Qabany, Islamic Development Bank • Stephan Baas, FAO 	<p>Session 3A: Communication and learning exchange on scientific knowledge between countries</p> <p>This session will consider communication and learning exchange on scientific knowledge on climate change adaptation between countries. It will showcase experiences from Japan, Mongolia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Fiji.</p> <p>Chair: Mozaharul Alam, APAN</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takeshi Abe, Ministry of Environment, Japan • Masayoshi Futami, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan • Chuluun Togtokh, Director, Sustainable Development Institute, National University of Mongolia • Sundhiani Pratiwi, Deputy Director for Environmental Pollution and Degradation Control, BAPPENAS • Victor Abainza, Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific • Shin Furuno, Remote Sensing Technology Centre of Japan
<p>13.00-14.00</p>	<p><i>Lunch</i></p>		
<p>14.00-15.30</p>	<p>Session 1B: Adaptation solutions in the Gulf</p> <p>This session turns to the adaptation solutions being developed and implemented in the Gulf. These include national and sub-national strategies, technologies and actions from UAE, Oman, Jordan among others.</p>	<p>4A: Technical Examination Meeting on Adaptation: Reaching the most vulnerable</p> <p>This meeting is a regional contribution to the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation under the UNFCCC Adaptation Committee. It focuses on ensuring that adaptation action reaches the most vulnerable people, communities and ecosystems. It addresses the needs of SIDS, persons with disabilities and vulnerable communities, the role of displacement and targeting vulnerable ecosystems.</p> <p>Facilitator: Koko Warner, UNFCCC</p>	

	<p>Chair: Yousef Nazaal, Zayed University</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tarek Sadek, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia • Carlos Duarte, Red Sea Research Centre • Dr. Muhammed Nasseem, Zayed University • Abdul-Majeid Haddad, UN Environment West Asia • Steve Halls, Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, Oman • Farah Shakhashiro, Garcia Farms 	<p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister Inia Seruiratu, Fiji • Barney Dickson, GAN • Mawanda Shaban, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre • Rebecca Nadin, ODI • Mercy Dube, Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, Malawi • Damdin Dagvadorj, Climate Change & Development Academy of Mongolia 	
15.30-16.00	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>		
16.00-17.30	<p>Session 2B: Adaptation metrics – assessing progress</p> <p>This session explores the tools, frameworks and metrics for assessing adaptation progress at the global, national and project level. In the context of the impetus of the Paris Agreement’s global goal on adaptation for assessing progress at the global level, it will also draw lessons from monitoring and evaluation (M&E).</p> <p>Chair: Zitouni Ould-Dada, FAO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne Olhoff, UNEP-DTU • Dennis Bours, Global Environment Facility • Timo Leiter, GIZ • Edith Ofwona, IDRC 	<p>Session 3B: Role of universities in supporting adaptation</p> <p>The session assesses the role of universities in supporting adaptation action and presents results from existing university-led initiatives.</p> <p>Chair: Anthony Socci, US EPA</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Barlow, San Diego State University and EPIC Network • Edna Odhiambo, Nairobi University and EPIC Africa • Mizan Khan, North South University, Bangladesh and LDC Universities Consortium on Climate Change • Edith Ofwona, IDRC 	<p>Session 4B: Establishing an African learning platform for climate risk insurance</p> <p>Convened by the UN Climate Resilience Initiative and the Africa Adaptation Initiative, this meeting brings together country representatives and other interested stakeholders to discuss the establishment of a learning platform on climate risk insurance for Africa.</p> <p>Facilitator: Elina Väänänen, UN Climate Resilience Initiative A2R</p> <p>Speakers/participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ama Essel, Ghana • Adams Chavula, Malawi • Aliou Ba, Eden Group/Senegal • Soenke Kreft, Executive Director, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative • Ekhosuehi Iyehen, Director for Policy, Africa Risk Capacity

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vicki Barmby, City of Melbourne Federico Mazza, Climate Policy Initiative 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stefan Hochrainer-Stigler, IIASA
<i>Reception</i>			

Wednesday 21 March 2018			
09.00-10.30	Second Plenary		
	<p>Chair: Barney Dickson, UN Environment</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Firth, Acclimatise Cyvette Gibson, President of the Association of Mayors and Local Government Authorities in Liberia Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Director General, International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture Thymen Kouwenaar, Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation Mozaharul Alam, Asia Pacific Adaption Network (APAN) 		
10.30-10.45	<i>Coffee/tea break</i>		
10.45-12.15	<p>Session 1C: From the Gulf to the world</p> <p>The session will examine the application of successful adaptation solutions from the Gulf in other regions. It also looks at adaptation experiences from other regions and their relevance to the Gulf.</p> <p>Chair: Abdul-Majeid Haddad, UN Environment West Asia</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radojevic Biljana, FAO Regional Office for the Near East and North Africa Dr. Ahmed A. Al-Taani, Yarmouk University, Jordan 	<p>Session 3C: Learning networks and initiatives</p> <p>This session considers the role of learning networks and initiatives in enhancing adaptation action, including on National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).</p> <p>Chair: Elena Pita, REGATTA</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satoshi Tanaka, IGES Jessica Hitt, EcoAdapt Peter King, IGES Robert Ondhowe, UN Environment Trevor Thompson, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of Grenada/ NAP Global Network Sadya Ndoko, UNDP 	<p>Session 4B: Establishing an African Learning Platform for Climate Risk Insurance - <u>CONTINUES</u></p> <p>Facilitator: Elina Väänänen, UN Climate Resilience Initiative A2R</p> <p>Speakers/participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ama Essel, Ghana Adams Chavula, Malawi Aliou Ba, Eden Group/ Senegal Soenke Kreft, Executive Director, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative Ekhosuehi Iyahen, Director for Policy, Africa Risk Capacity Stefan Hochrainer-Stigler, IIASA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bhanu Chowdhary, UAE University • Will Le Quesne, CEFAS, UK DEFRA • Mr. Marius Pakker, Al Rawafed • Fatima Al Marzouq, Masdar Institute • Nicolas Jarry, Corinthe Engineering 		
12.15-12.30	<i>Break</i>		
12.30-13.30	Closing plenary		
	<p>Chair: Professor Masataka Watanabe, Chair GAN Steering Committee & Chuo University</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Fares Howari, Zayed University • Ekhosuehi Iyahan, Africa Risk Capacity • Ahmed Al-Qabany, Islamic Development Bank • Abdul-Majeid Haddad, UN Environment West Asia 		
13.30-14.30	<i>Lunch</i>		
14.30-17.00	Fieldtrip to Masdar City		

II) TEM-A Report

Report: The Global Adaptation Network’s Technical Examination Meeting on Adaptation (TEM-A)

Global Adaptation Forum, 20th March
Zayed University, Abu Dhabi

1. **List of Speakers**

Name	Organisation
Chair: Koko Warner	UNFCCC
Damdin Dagvadori	Climate Change & Development Academy of Mongolia
H.E. Inia Seruiratu	Fijian Minister & High-Level Climate Champion
Mawanda Shaban	Red Cross’ Red Crescent Climate Centre
Mercy Dube	Ministry of Land, Housing & Urban Development, Malawi
Barney Dickson	Head of Climate Change Adaptation at UN Environment
Rebecca Nadin	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

2. **Welcome & Introduction**

1. The Chair for this meeting, Koko Warner, began by emphasising that the TEP-A (Technical Examination Process on Adaptation) is particularly interested in how experts connect with on-the-ground practitioners. It is essential to explain the gap between the threats that people face and the resources they have to build solutions.
2. This event was the first regional TEM-A, and it will explore adaptation solutions, especially those that are attainable in the short-term. What are some early wins?
3. The room was host to a tremendous number of experts and scholars, all with diverse perspectives.
4. The meeting will feed into the TEP-A, as well as providing guidance for policymakers. “This discussion can influence climate policy,” said Warner.

3. **The Adaptation Committee & TEP-A – Damdin Dagvadori**

1. Damdin contributed to this TEM-A by explaining the work undertaken by the Adaptation Committee and how it strives to reach the most vulnerable.
2. The Adaptation Committee is a “Principle body under the Convention and the United Nations” and it provides holistic authoritative advice and guidance on adaptation action and support.
3. The AC enhances coherence and cohesion of adaptation action, as well as operationalising provisions of the Paris Agreement. It spearheads opportunities for strengthening resilience, and increasing the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions, including through the TEP-A.

4. Damdin provided the audience with a background of the TEP-A. He described how it was established at the COP21 in Paris, and how the AC were requested to conduct it. The AC produces outputs for the TEP-A, mostly in the form of papers and summaries for policy makers to fit to High Level Segment at COPs.
5. In 2017, the AC aimed to integrate adaptation with the SDGs and the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

4. Climate-Induced Migration & Its Relevance For Adaptation – Rebecca Nadin

1. Rebecca Nadin from the Overseas Development Institute focused her presentation on migration in relation to adaptation planning. Rebecca has been working with the Chinese government on their national adaptation plans. They've worked on the relocation of around 50,000 people.
2. Rebecca discussed where we are now, where we want to be, and how we might get there.
3. Firstly, adaptation in general needs to be integrated into national socio-economic development plans. Migration should be factored into these plans, both as a response measure but also as an adaptation strategy.
4. People need to be given a choice in the face of severe climate impacts – to stay or to go.
5. Migration has existed for millennia. It's multi-causal, sometimes for economic opportunities or ecological despoliation. "Climate change is complicating this already complex picture."
6. In 2016, ten of the largest disaster events were a result of climate change. Approximately 24 million people were displaced. This aspect of human mobility in relation to slow onset events is not represented sufficiently in the climate change literature.
7. The data shows that this movement is largely internal. This is important information to guide policymakers. The World Bank predicted that 140 million people might move internally within their own borders by 2050.
8. Movement and the ability to adapt are both elements of vulnerability and capacity. This requires forward-thinking adaptation planning that factors in the impacts of migration on the labour market, economy, and resources. Migration as an adaptation strategy demands an understanding of these impacts.
9. These plans can help to determine flows and provide support to migrants and communities operating at both origins and destinations.
10. Rebecca urged that this role of migration in adaptation planning should be fed into the UNFCCC. Adaptation can be seen as a global public good and it must be developed as part of a national socio-economic planning policy, and not something separate.

5. Climate Adaptation For The Disabled – Barney Dickson

1. Barney Dickson from the Global Adaptation Network stood-in for Pradeep Kurukulasuria from UNDP. Barney discussed a specific group of vulnerable people with regards to climate change – those with disabilities.
2. Firstly, Barney welcomed GAN’s collaboration with the Adaptation Committee and the participants of the TEM-A process.
3. The presentation began with a story of how UN Environment became involved with the adaptation objective of addressing people with disabilities: GAN participates in a broader UN Climate Resilience Initiative. It collaborates with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Climate Co-Lab on a crowd-sourced contest. Anyone can submit a proposal to address challenges in early warning systems. The winner of the contest was an effective and simple solution, and the problem it sought to address was the accessibility of climate warnings for the deaf and disabled. The winning proposal came from Dumaguete Effata Association of the Deaf (DEAF), and it aimed to translate early climate warnings into Filipino sign language. The award was an opportunity to attend a leadership meeting with the Climate Resilience Initiative in Bonn COP23. A representative of DEAF, Rommel Lo, came to Bonn and spoke of his idea. In his speech, he noted that among the 10,000-12,000 attendees at the conference, he was one of the only people who was deaf or blind or physically disabled. Around the table were the World Bank, the Government of Germany, the Governments of developing countries and other major players and big investors. Many people in the room realised that Rommel Lo was right – those who worked in adaptation did not have a very good record of thinking about how our actions would meet people with disabilities.
4. Inspired by Lo’s words, work was undertaken to address this issue. It was recognised that 15% of the world’s population experiences some form of disability, but their needs are not reflected in climate action.
5. If we are serious about “leaving no one behind”, then this must be addressed.
6. The geographical focus is likely to be in the Asia-Pacific first, and there are hopes to convene a meeting with experts from disability organisations.
7. As the regional TEM-A and the TEP-A process continues, it is important that those with disabilities are a central concern when thinking about reaching the most vulnerable.

6. Climate Adaptation In Disaster-Prone Regions – H.E. Inia Seruiratu

1. The Chair introduced this section by outlining the Talanoa Dialogue, which includes “a spirit of open discourse.”
2. Minister Seruiratu explained that the TEP-A is an instrument to achieve adaptation goals by 2020.
3. It was emphasised that adaptation is crucial for island states. “It’s about survival,” said Minister Seruiratu. “The best form of adaptation is mitigation.”
4. Inia Seruiratu was a voice for small islands and developing states at the 2016 COP. Fiji and the Pacific islands are the most disaster-prone regions in the world. This raises the importance of integrated planning.
5. Minister Seruiratu described how ecosystem-based solutions are critical for small island states. It was encouraged that we see ourselves as part of one ecosystem, and

that we can only protect ourselves by sustaining each other. As we heard from the Fiji Presidency (COP): “We are all in the same canoe.”

6. Natural resources are being exploited, and with this, the erosion of traditional knowledge
7. Technology is extremely important in a narrow-based small economy. The Minister spoke of the need to develop financing instruments, from which local communities can benefit.
8. Developing strong adaptation plans is part of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

7. The Red Crescent Climate Centre – Mawanda Shaban

1. Mawanda Shaban explained that more than 10 years ago, the Red Cross decided to have a climate centre that could support the work of around 190 societies around the world. The objective was to understand how to navigate around issues of climate change and extreme weather events.
2. The Red Cross Climate Centre (RCCC) works through a large volunteer network. It has prioritised local adaptation as part of its work.
3. The ethos of RCCC builds on the spirit of “leaving no one behind”, formulated in the Paris Agreement.
4. Shaban said he wishes to focus his presentation on how climate change affects the most vulnerable. So far, the RCCC has been using two types of assessment:
 - i) Understanding local needs to enable optimal decisions regarding the required tools.
 - ii) Planning how to reduce disaster risk from climate change, particularly in Africa and parts of Asia. RCCC has developed a global guide to develop national adaptation plans.
5. Since 2009, RCCC quadrupled the activities related to resilience. Some of RCCC’s societies in the south Caucasus, Kenya, Nepal, and Malawi have all been engaged in adaptation processes in their countries.
6. Shaban wished to emphasise the value of integrated risk management, and ensuring that adaptation is part of the broader climate agenda: “We’ve tried to link local realities to global policies.”
7. In Uganda, RCCC is contributing to climate disaster impact policy, and is attempting to embrace risk-informed financing. There is a need to strengthen the Early Action portfolio.
8. Other progress includes the Heatwaves Action Planning and climate-related educational interactive tools in school.

8. Finance For Land-Use Planning in Adaptation – Mercy Dube

1. Mercy Dube (from the Malawi Ministry of Land, Housing & Urban Development) spoke about urban planning as an adaptation measure, as well as identifying those who are vulnerable to climate impacts. Dube explored this theme particularly through the view of Malawi.

2. Malawi has strong winds, long dry spells, and flooding. When cities are impacted, lots of people suffer.
3. There must be a focus on the catchment area of rivers, and what happens upstream of cities, as well as the vegetation within the buffers of these riverbanks. If these are protected, then the ecosystem will be more resilient.
4. Human activity, such as development and rock mining, is weakening the riverbanks, which causes floods to spread over a wide distance. There is a lack of enforcement. This is now being compounded by climate change.
5. Therefore, when preparing the land-use plans, it's vital to make sure that, if it's a small river, there is a 15m buffer on each side.
6. The issue arises when, within that same 15m area, the Minister of Agriculture will want to ensure food security for the urban poor. They often permit the growing of vegetable and maize. These are conflicting policies.
7. There needs to be finances attached to the policy plans and enough capacity to enforce it. It is important to involve communities, especially the urban poor and the rural communities.
8. Dube explained that there are ongoing attempts to produce data that enables the poor to make the best decisions.
9. It was emphasised that when work is undertaken in isolation, the innovations do not make an impact. Resources must be pooled together.

9. Question & Answer Session

9a) Question From The Chair

Question 1 (from Chair):

What matters most in terms of closing the gap and tangibly affecting lives? What are the most pressing gaps? What changes need to happen to help people on the frontlines of climate change? If you were to tackle one or two challenges, what would they be?

Rebecca Nadin - ODI

1. Firstly, more cohesion is required between the various conventions within UNFCCC, UNDP, and CBD. There's plentiful expertise, also within international law, transboundary resources etc... "We are still operating in silos too often," said Nadin.
2. Nadin claimed that semi-arid regions are another area that requires more attention. There needs to be a much better understanding (particularly among the private sector) of how to build adaptation in these regions. Semi-arid regions cover 16% of the world but contain 1 billion people.

Mercy Dube – Malawi Ministry of Land Housing & Urban Development

1. Dube insisted that one should stop looking at the affected people as "vulnerable", but instead, vulnerable communities should be empowered with knowledge, tools and skills.
2. Dube said that if vulnerable communities understand their problem, then they will be motivated to act. "We don't solve their problems, they do."

Mawanda Shaban – Red Cross Climate Centre

1. Shaban explained that the biggest issue is striking a balance between micro and macro responses. The question is: To what extent are policies truly responding to the needs of local communities?
2. Secondly, when responding to humanitarian crises, one must not look at disasters as isolated issues but integrated.

Inia Seruiratu – Fijian Minister & High-Level Climate Champion

1. Sustainable development is the end goal, and for this, people need to be empowered. They must be provided with the knowledge and skills.

Damdin Dagvadori - Climate Change & Development Academy of Mongolia

1. Dagvadori explained that in the case of his country, Mongolia, adaptation can be a very local issue. Therefore, local involvement is very important
2. Climate change adaptation issues need to be part of NDCs.

9b) Contributions From The Audience

Mizan Khan – North South University Bangladesh

1. In terms of reaching the most vulnerable, decentralisation of adaptation planning and finance is crucial.
2. Secondly, migration has had a kind of ascent in importance over the last few years, but now there appears to be a backtracking. It has been omitted from a few key agreements recently.

Edith Ofwona – International Development Research Centre

1. Sometimes the risks and impacts are well-known, but there is a dormant capacity.
2. The missing link is how do we translate the knowledge into action. What is it that we require to get communities to the point where they take action?
3. One needs to look at a systems approach, including institutional linkages. At the local level, it's important to look at ownership.
4. There are also technical aspects in terms of the technology that local communities need. How can this be sustained? How can risk be effectively handled? How does one balance insurance with building resilience? These are some of the issues.

Kevin Adams – Stockholm Environment Institute

1. There has been a lot of discussions about why it is essential to empower people.
2. At the same time, it would be useful to avoid individualising risk to a dangerous extent. Local communities can be empowered to take action, but they're not the only ones who are responsible. This is another aspect of recognising what the risks are.

3. The local people have not created the problems, and governments need to bear some of the risks.

Barney Dickson – Head of Climate Change Adaptation at the UN Environment

1. Barney Dickson pointed out that we need to be careful with language. With phrases like “reaching the vulnerable” and ‘leaving no one behind’, we risk creating the impression that the most vulnerable are to be simply the recipients of assistance from others. This ignores the way in which poor and marginalised people can also be active agents in building their own resilience.
2. Unless disabled organisations can provide input towards climate policy, this issue of reaching the most vulnerable may not be addressed.

10. Concluding Remarks

1. This was the first TEM-A, and it was greatly appreciated. Thank you to everyone for contributing and attending.
2. This discussion will be brought to the main subsidiary bodies.