

SANTIAGO NETWORK

CO-HOSTED BY  
UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



REPUBLIQUE DU SENEGAL
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi

WORKSHOP FOR LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES – AFRICA by the SANTIAGO NETWORK

Workshop Report

**Saly, Senegal
22-24 July 2025**

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I. Introduction

The Santiago Network was established in 2019 to catalyze technical assistance in developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change with a focus on averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage. Technical assistance is delivered through organizations, bodies, networks and experts (OBNEs) in a demand- and country-driven manner.

Activities to build the capacity of countries to identify their needs and take advantage of the opportunities provided by the Santiago Network are ongoing. In 2023, a number of targeted regional scoping workshops on loss and damage under the Santiago Network were convened to facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges while identifying specific needs with respect to climate-related hazards. Across the workshops, governments and stakeholders identified a diversity of hazards covering different timescales for which support is required.

These workshops were held as follows:

- Latin America and the Caribbean: Santiago, Chile, 3 to 4 April 2023 [[Workshop report](#)]
- Africa: Nairobi, Kenya, 10 to 12 May 2023 [[Workshop report](#)]
- Asia-Pacific: Bangkok, Thailand, 19 to 21 June 2023 [[Workshop report](#)]

Following these workshops, the Advisory Board of the Santiago Network requested the Santiago Network Secretariat to conduct similar workshops for least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). These workshops identify the unique challenges of LDCs and SIDS and explore potential opportunities that the Santiago network can support. The first of these workshops was held in the [Pacific](#) during the Pacific Resilience Week, titled "Managing Climate and Disaster Risk for a Resilient Pacific" held from 23 to 27 September 2024. The second workshop took place in Africa in July 2025. This report provides a summary of the Africa workshop and presents key outcomes.

II. Santiago Network workshop for LDCs and SIDS in Africa

The report from the regional workshop held in Africa in 2023 documents several types of hazards that continue to affect the countries in the region, ranging from extreme events such as floods, cyclones and drought, to slow-onset events such as higher temperatures, sea level rise, salinization and desertification. Countries also signalled the potential for seeking technical assistance under the Santiago Network to support countries' in taking appropriate action.

The workshop for LDCs and SIDS in Africa built on the outcome of the regional Santiago Network workshop, but with a specific focus on the unique challenges and opportunities of LDCs and SIDS. It further introduced Santiago Network operative guidelines and assisted countries and other stakeholders in understanding the

processes for making requests for technical assistance and becoming a Member of the Santiago Network.

Workshop objectives

The objectives of the Santiago Network workshop were to:

- Familiarize and update LDCs and SIDS in Africa about the Santiago Network.
- Enhance understanding on modalities of access to technical assistance through the Santiago Network (including orientation on operative guidelines).
- Facilitate the identification of regional and country contexts, and based on capacity gaps, initiate the drafting of requests for technical assistance.
- Discuss and articulate the next steps for enhancing capacity relevant to loss and damage through technical assistance from the Santiago Network.

The workshop was designed to expand the identification of technical assistance needs that could be supported by the Santiago Network in a demand- and country-driven manner, and to introduce the operative guidelines that outline the process for [requesting technical assistance](#). The workshop also facilitated exchanges about the wider loss and damage landscape, including the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD).

Workshop participants

The workshop involved the participation of more than 60 representatives from 34 countries — 33 LDCs and SIDS in Africa, and Yemen. Participants included a mix of National Liaisons to the Santiago Network Secretariat, UNFCCC National Focal Points, loss and damage contact points and disaster risk reduction focal points. The full list of countries that participated in the workshop can be found in Annex I.



Figure 1: Participants of the LDCs and SIDS workshop in Saly, Senegal

Workshop approach and methodology

The workshop was conducted in the format of an interactive 'write-shop' with a focus on developing demand-driven requests for technical assistance by countries. This hands-on approach was chosen to facilitate deeper engagement with the modalities of the Santiago Network and, in particular, with the template for requesting technical

assistance, included in Annex 2 of the [*Guidelines and procedures for responding to requests for technical assistance*](#). The design and delivery of the write-shop followed the technical assistance journey, guiding participants through the first step in the process — request preparation.



Figure 2: Overview of the technical assistance journey: at the workshop, participants focussed in on the first step — request preparation

The workshop was supported by a group of facilitators from the Santiago Network Secretariat and UNDRR, as a co-host of the Secretariat. The facilitators introduced participants to key elements guiding the drafting of their technical assistance requests. Sessions were organized in a manner to support participants with developing a shared understanding of capacity gaps and challenges, and fully understand the operative model of the Santiago Network and its relevance in addressing their technical assistance needs and means to catalyze it further. A pre-workshop survey helped in preparing for the workshop and tailoring the information to the specific needs of the region. The results of the survey are summarized in Annex II.

The agenda of the workshop featured sessions held in plenary, small group discussions and peer exchanges and dedicated sessions in which the two participants attending from each country collaborated to prepare their draft request.

Plenary sessions included an overview of the global loss and damage landscape (including the role of the Warsaw International Mechanism and the FRLD) and context in Africa, deep dives into the regional and national risk and policy landscape of the respective countries, presentations on the operative model of the Santiago Network, including its operational guidelines, peer exchanges, and question and answer rounds.

The core of the write-shop focussed on understanding the template for requesting technical assistance and the development of draft requests by each country. The facilitator team provided guidance and support throughout the workshop, helping country representatives make significant progress on their draft requests so that, upon

returning to their respective countries, they would be well-positioned to finalize and formally submit them in a timely manner.

As the first workshop organized in this format, it served as an opportunity for rapid learning and accelerated timely and tailored capacity building and support for the workshop participants.

Principal results

At its core, the workshop served as an interactive, hands-on forum to equip country representatives with the knowledge, tools and tailored support needed to draft and advance demand-driven technical assistance requests under the Santiago Network. The following represents a high-level summary of the results (a more detailed account of workshop outcomes is provided in section IV):

- a. Stocktake of experience, capacity challenges and needs in LDCs and SIDS.
- b. Draft requests for technical assistance from the Santiago Network.
- c. A roadmap to support countries in accessing technical assistance to avert, minimize and address loss and damage in a demand- and country-driven manner.

III. Background and regional context

Loss and damage context and risk landscape in Africa

According to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report 2023, specifically [chapter 9 on Africa](#), climate change is projected to reduce economic growth and increase income inequality within and between countries. Exposure and vulnerability to climate change in Africa are context-specific and multi-dimensional with socioeconomic, political, environmental and demographic factors like gender intersecting. In addition, rapid population growth, the increasing rate of urbanisation and 59% of people living in informal settlements, places increased pressure on housing, infrastructure and services, while intensifying vulnerability to climate hazards. 55-62% of the sub-Saharan workforce being employed in rainfed agriculture further augments vulnerability to heat, drought and extreme rainfall.

Among the top climate hazards across Africa are rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns, which adversely affect food production and mortality and contribute to biodiversity loss, while also reducing economic growth and prosperity. Droughts, floods, heat and sea level rise are particularly prevalent, impacting a number of sectors, including productive sectors, such as agriculture, livestock and food production, and intensifying water scarcity, displacement, illness and mortality, as well as disrupting access to services, damaging infrastructure, and impacting settlements.

Outcomes of the regional scoping workshop in Africa

A [regional scoping workshop](#) on loss and damage under the Santiago Network for Africa took place in May 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. It brought together African countries to

identify and synthesize information and insights on their experience in addressing major impacts of climate change, in particular major losses and damages resulting from hydro-meteorological hazards and extremes, and discuss specific needs and gaps for technical assistance at different stages of responding to and addressing the identified losses and damages.

During the workshop a wide range of hazards were discussed with each presenting unique challenges and requiring tailored responses. These hazards include floods, droughts, tropical cyclones, sea level rise, increasing temperatures, desertification, landslides, sandstorms, land and forest degradation, and salinisation.

Among the most pressing needs noted were the need for technical assistance, a need to develop long-term forecasting models for climate impacts, and a need for accessible funding mechanisms to support emergency response. The discussions also highlighted the importance of innovative approaches, such as focus-based mechanisms for disaster response, the utility of integrating insurance solutions for loss and damage, and the need for coordinated responses across different levels of government and sectors to effectively manage and mitigate the impacts of climate change in Africa.

Summary of the pre-workshop questionnaire¹

Key hazards and risks

LDCs and SIDS in Africa face a number of hazards, with meteorological and hydrological hazards being named significantly more frequently than other hazard types. In particular, floods and droughts are the two most reported hazards by those that completed the questionnaire. Other hazards include disease, storm and wind, heavy rain and cyclones, sea level rise and coastal erosion, extreme heat, fire, sand and dust storms and conflicts.

In response to the question of what emerging hazards respondents see in their countries, environmental hazards are expected to increase in relevance. In addition, respondents highlighted an increase in the frequency and intensity of floods, and acknowledged the increased risks posed by sea level rise as well as from heat waves and extreme rainfalls.

Climate	Environment	Agriculture & food security	Risk drivers and symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sea-level rise• Droughts & floods• Extreme heat• Cyclones	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deforestation• Biodiversity loss• Soil degradation• Salinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pests• Livestock disease• Erratic rainfall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rapid urbanisation• Waste mgmt• Pollution• Displacement

Figure 3: Emerging hazards and risks identified in the pre-workshop questionnaire

¹ See Annex III for a more detailed account.

Policy landscape

LDCs and SIDS in Africa already have in place a number of policy instruments that relate to climate-induced loss and damage and support relevant measures and actions. Examples of such policy documents include those on climate change, such as climate change acts and nationally determined contributions, policies on disaster risk reduction, such as disaster risk reduction strategies, contingency plans and drought action plans, and sectoral strategies and plans, including sectoral resilience plans, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and desertification plans. Respondents also highlighted possible funding resources that they are already or could tap into, such as disaster risk reduction financing, the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund and loss and damage specific financing.

With regards to governance and coordination, most often addressing loss and damage involves ministries of environment, national disaster (risk) management offices and national meteorological and hydrological services. While many countries still face challenges with coordination, national platforms were highlighted as one possible avenue.

Challenges and technical assistance needs

LDCs and SIDS in Africa face a number of challenges related to tackling loss and damage in their countries. These include low human and institutional capacities, challenges in accessing climate finance, limited data, weak coordination across institutions, low awareness and infrastructure constraints.

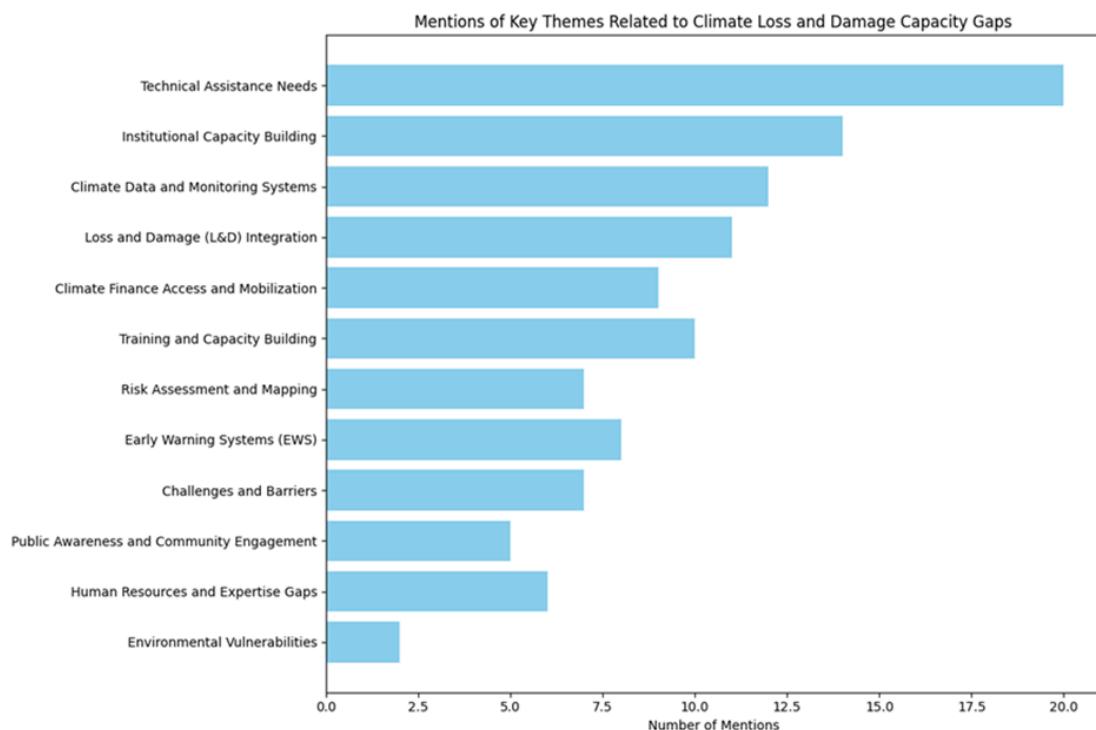


Figure 4: Summary of responses to the question: Which challenges and gaps would benefit from technical assistance?

With regards to specific areas where technical assistance could help to close gaps, respondents identified data and risk assessments, historical disaster data and loss and damage data tracking, early warning systems, loss and damage frameworks, institutional capacities, funding proposal development and technical training as particularly pertinent.

IV. Workshop outcomes

The outcomes of the workshop are summarized against the achievement of the principal results, as detailed below.

a. Stocktake of experience, capacity challenges and needs in LDCs and SIDS

The first day of the write-shop explored in detail the gaps and needs faced by LDCs and SIDS in the region. This was accomplished by building knowledge and understanding of loss and damage in the context of climate change, highlighting key hazards and risks that are expected to increase in frequency and intensity, and recognising the significant impacts these are already having on people, economies and livelihoods.

By focussing on the risk and policy landscape in Africa, with specific examples shared by Comoros, Senegal and Zambia during the workshop, as well as through plenary discussions and small group exercises, participants were enabled to better articulate capacity challenges and needs. This included the identification of emerging risks and challenges that could require targeted technical assistance.

Common themes that emerged and complement the information provided in section III above include:

- As a rapidly developing policy area, the **understanding of loss and damage** remains broad, allowing for identification of a wide range of technical assistance needs at the national level.
- The need for accurate, reliable, timely and disaggregated **data**, including on impacts of loss and damage that help identify measures for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, as well as the capacity to process and analyze the data.
- The lack of capacities to **access financing** for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage and preparing bankable projects.
- How to take action at the national level with benefits directly for **local communities**, including how to accompany local communities in the most effective manner.
- The impacts on **different sectors** and how to support and develop these sectors.
- The need to better understand available **tools** and **policy instruments**, including to enhance harmonization of terminology, concepts, and more.
- The call for **assessments of vulnerability** of the population and of ecosystems that include economic and non-economic loss and damage.

- Exploration of options for **national coordination mechanisms** that enable collaboration and coherence across climate change, disaster risk reduction and loss and damage topics, including governance systems and processes.
- Consideration of means to better understand how populations can increase their resilience in light of **emerging risks and challenges**.

Opportunities for peer learning and exchange were much appreciated by participants as they support building understanding of loss and damage issues, challenges and opportunities and how to address them.

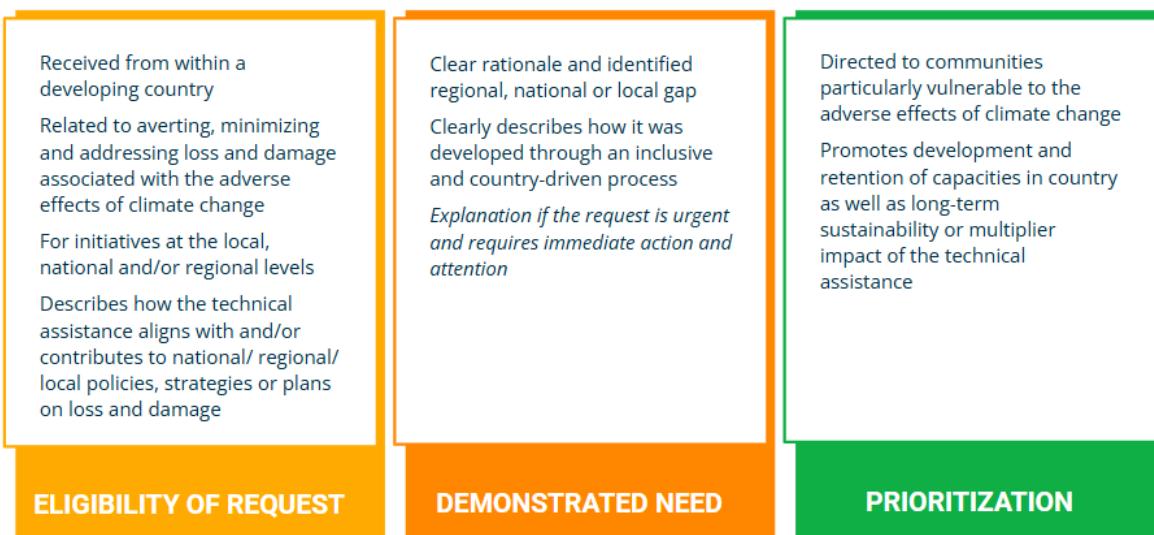
b. Draft requests for technical assistance from the Santiago Network

Participants welcomed this workshop for LDCs and SIDS and suggested that it would be beneficial to continue building capacities on how to access technical assistance in different parts of Africa.

To aid the thinking of participants and address some practical questions from implementation, the National Liaison from Vanuatu was invited to provide an account of their experience in accessing technical assistance through the Santiago Network and how this is supporting their national priorities on loss and damage action. In their presentation, Vanuatu shared their experience with making a request for technical assistance highlighting the following reflections: (i) they commended the responsiveness of the Secretariat in helping them translate their high-level goals into a concrete, tailored technical assistance plan.; (ii) the government had played a role in specifying particular criteria that were important to their particular context, including south-south cooperation, human rights based approaches, inclusion of traditional knowledge, etc.; (iii) the call for proposals process generated an increase in OBNEs from the region becoming Members in order to respond to Vanuatu's request; (iv) the Secretariat applied an open and transparent process to the selection of the consortium of Members, including local organisations.

This opportunity to share experiences from a country already benefitting from technical assistance, as well as the peer-learning and exchange on common challenges between participants, was considered one of the most useful parts of the workshop.

While working through the technical assistance request template section by section, participants found it easy to use overall. Using the guiding questions provided in the template as well as through additional clarification sought from the facilitators, participants gained a better understanding of the level of detail required for completing their request. By applying a write-shop format, participants were able to work through the template in a step-wise manner, reflecting on the criteria governing eligibility as well as the types of technical assistance that can be requested.



Santiago network Secretariat will ensure the consideration of the **inclusive, balanced and equitable nature of the technical assistance** catalyzed across all regions

Figure 5: Criteria governing the consideration of requests for technical assistance as per the Guidelines and procedures for responding to requests for technical assistance

While the draft request is a first step in accessing technical assistance, many participants highlighted that further clarity is needed with regards to the country-driven process and means of coordination, including relevant stakeholder consultations, at national level. This is particularly important to ensure alignment with national priorities. The National Liaison to the Santiago Network Secretariat, and in their absence the UNFCCC National Focal Point, can play important roles in this regard.

As a result of the write-shop, and upon request by the participants for tailored feedback, more than two thirds of the participating countries shared their draft requests with the Secretariat, who reviewed them and provided concrete suggestions on how to strengthen and refine the request towards finalisation and formal submission (see Annex III for a summary of key questions raised).

c. A roadmap to support countries in accessing technical assistance to avert, minimize and address loss and damage in a demand- and country-driven manner

The in-depth engagement with participants on the request preparation has also served as an opportunity for rapid learning for the Secretariat, including the observation of trends, common challenges and needs for additional support moving forward. These are summarised in Figure 7 below. In particular, participants highlighted the need for further support and clarification on the role of National Liaisons to the Santiago Network Secretariat, as well as building a strong relationship between the Secretariat and the proponent of technical assistance.



Figure 7: Summary of observations from engaging with developing countries in the preparation of their requests for technical assistance

At the end of the 3-day workshop, the following steps were agreed with the participants to advance their draft requests:

1. *By the end of the workshop:*
 - a. Participants can share their draft requests with the Santiago Network Secretariat by email.
2. *After the workshop:*
 - a. Participants to further refine their requests and carry out any needed consultations and coordination with relevant national authorities and stakeholders to validate the information.
 - b. Complete gaps in the template by gathering missing information.
 - c. Seek guidance and support from the Secretariat as required.
 - d. Seek internal clearance for the formal submission of the request.
 - e. Formally submit the request for technical assistance to the Santiago Network Secretariat either by email or through the Santiago Network Portal.

While the focus of the workshop was on step 1 of the technical assistance journey (see Figure 2), it was recognised that it will be important to also provide guidance on the process after request submission. As each request is different and tailored approaches have proven most effective, these will be clarified on a bilateral basis, while the Secretariat may also consider organising labs on specific aspects of the technical assistance process.

V. Lessons learned and conclusion

A key element of technical assistance catalyzed through the Santiago Network is to enable access to and assist in preparing requests for technical assistance that recognize the significant constraints faced by LDCs and SIDS. The regional workshop for LDCs and SIDS was designed to enhance awareness of the Network and its modalities, identify shared capacity gaps and kickstart a process to systematically address them through technical assistance.

Based on the learnings from the regional workshops conducted in 2023 as well as the [Santiago Network workshop for LDCs and SIDS in the Pacific](#) in 2024, and building on feedback received through engagements with developing countries on how they are navigating the process of preparing requests for technical assistance, it was found that structuring the workshop as an interactive write-shop was of greatest benefit to participants. This was demonstrated by the active engagement of participants during the Africa workshop and the number of draft requests shared with the Secretariat, several of which are now being turned into formal requests.

Highlights include:

- The hands-on approach enabled participants to better understand the modality deployed by the Santiago Network and how to access technical assistance.
- Participants recognized that the process and the template for requesting technical assistance are relatively simple, allowing for the delivery of technical assistance activities to close gaps and respond to needs of developing countries in a timely manner.
- Participants further showed appreciation for the expertise and experience that Members of the Santiago Network have to offer.

The outcomes of this workshop and engagements will inform the development and distribution of knowledge products to enhance knowledge on loss and damage and the value-addition of the Santiago Network. It will likewise inform the operational engagement of the Santiago Network with countries and relevant stakeholders ensuring the achievement of its functions. Going forward, the Secretariat remains available to provide necessary preparation support for technical assistance requests.

Annex I - List of participating countries

Country	LDC	SIDS
Angola	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Benin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burkina Faso	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central African Republic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comoros	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Democratic Republic of the Congo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Djibouti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ethiopia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gambia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guinea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guinea-Bissau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesotho	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Liberia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Madagascar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Malawi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mali	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mauritania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mauritius	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mozambique	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Niger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rwanda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sao Tome and Principe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senegal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seychelles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sierra Leone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Somalia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Sudan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sudan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Togo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uganda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
United Republic of Tanzania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Zambia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yemen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Annex II - Country survey summary

Questionnaire

Santiago network workshop for LDCs and SIDS in Africa, 22-24 July 2025, Senegal

To enhance the understanding of and provide support in preparing requests for technical assistance from the Santiago network in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), a capacity building and outreach workshop is being organized. The workshop will be hosted by the government of Senegal in Saly (near Dakar) from 22-24 July 2025, and organized by the Santiago network Secretariat, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), a co-host of the Secretariat.

The information you provide through this survey, will help us prepare for the workshop as it allows us to better understand your country context, loss and damage priorities and technical assistance needs, your readiness to submit a request for technical assistance and any areas of support that the Santiago network may provide.

For further information, please contact secretariat@santiago-network.org.

Basic information:

- Name (of focal point/submitting officer)
- Ministry/entity/organization of government
- Country
- Email address
- Other contact details

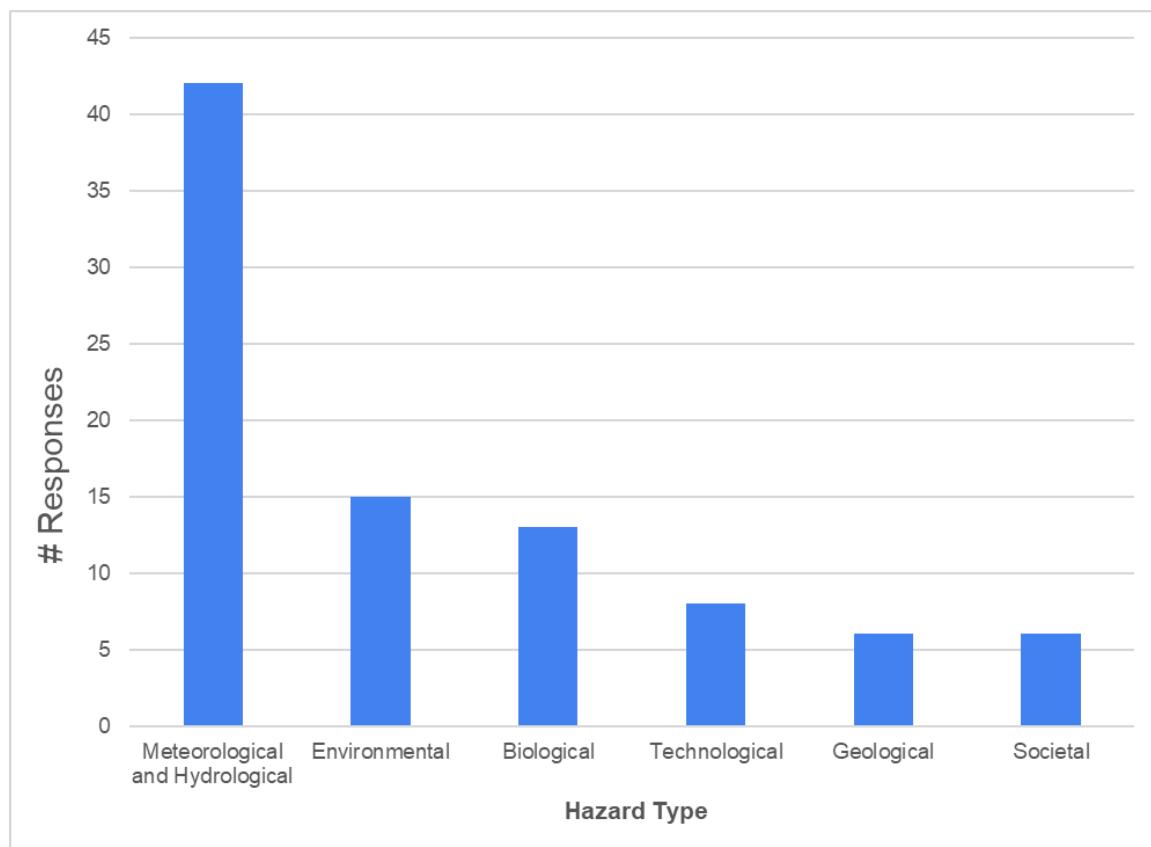
Technical information:

1. Loss and damage landscape
 - a. What are the key hazards present in your country that are causing most loss and damage?
 - b. What are the emerging hazards that have the potential to have impact?
2. Policy and planning landscape
 - a. What are some of the plans, policies, strategies and legislation relating to loss and damage in your country? (E.g., These may include climate change strategies, national adaptation plans, disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies/plans, disaster risk management legislation, biodiversity strategies and action plans, sectoral plans, among others. Please also mention if there are plans/provisions relating to extreme events, slow-onset event, early warning systems, comprehensive risk management, limits to adaptation, etc. [maximum 200 words])
 - b. What are some ongoing or planned activities that are relevant to loss and damage? E.g., development and implementation of projects or programmes, collection and analysis of loss and damage data, loss and damage assessments, etc. [maximum 200 words]

3. Challenges and gaps
 - a. What are the challenges and gaps that prevent, reduce or limit the development and implementation of the plans, policies and programmes referenced in the previous section? [maximum 200 words]
 - b. Which of these challenges and gaps would best benefit from technical assistance? [maximum 200 words]
4. Is there any other information on loss and damage that you wish to share? [maximum 200 words]

Results

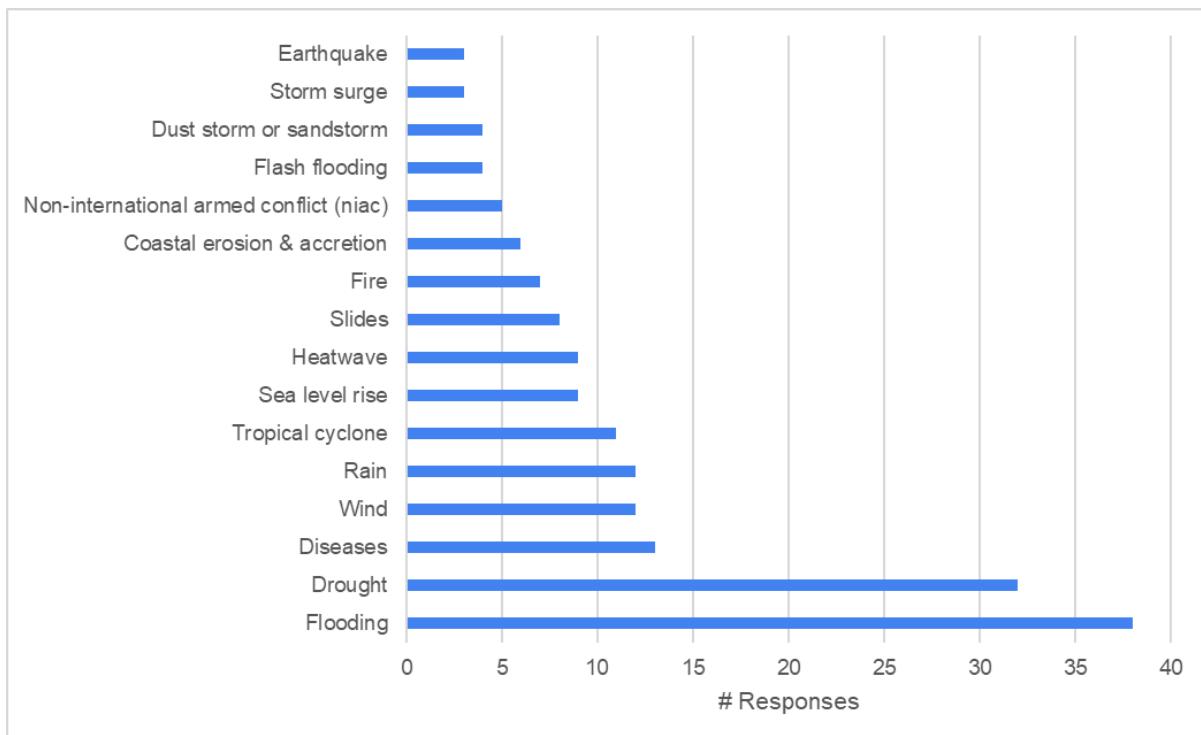
Key hazard types



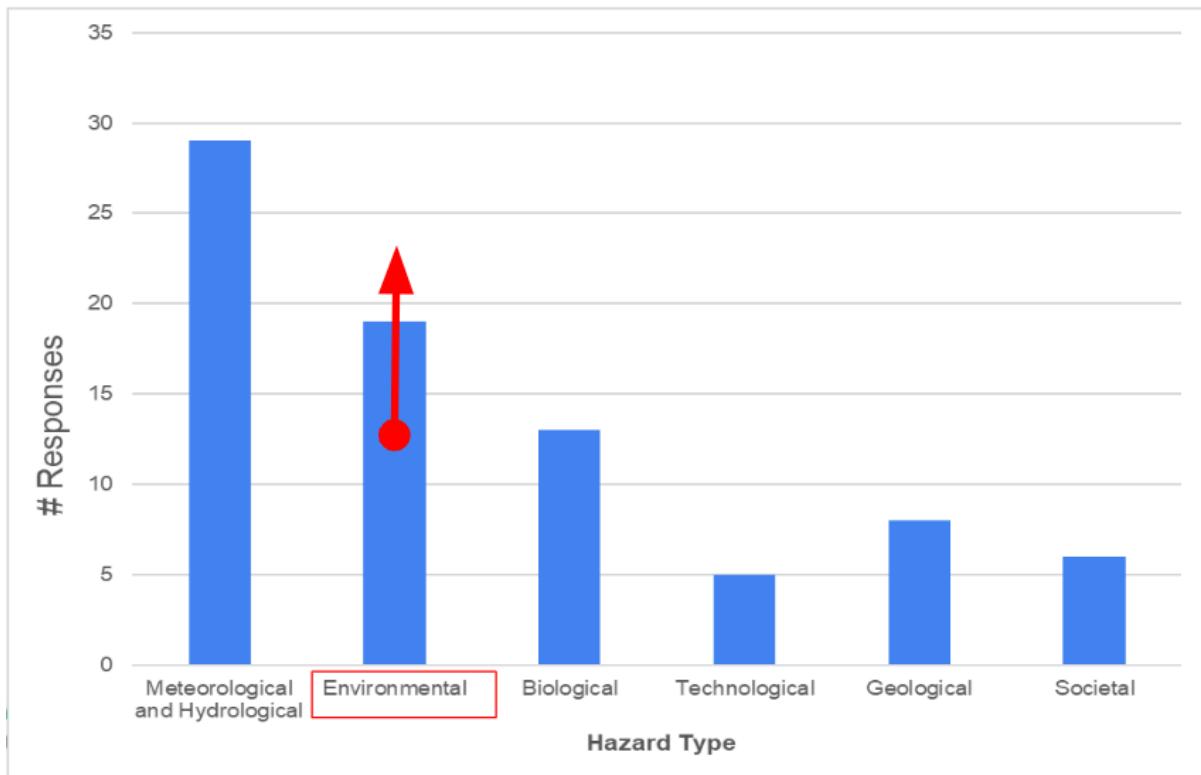
Note: Hazard types as per classification by UNDRR & International Science Council

Key hazards

Top 5 hazards	Secondary hazards
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Floods 2. Droughts 3. Epidemics 4. Storm/wind 5. Heavy rain / Cyclones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sea-level rise / coastal erosion ● Extreme heat ● Fire ● Sand and dust storms ● Conflicts



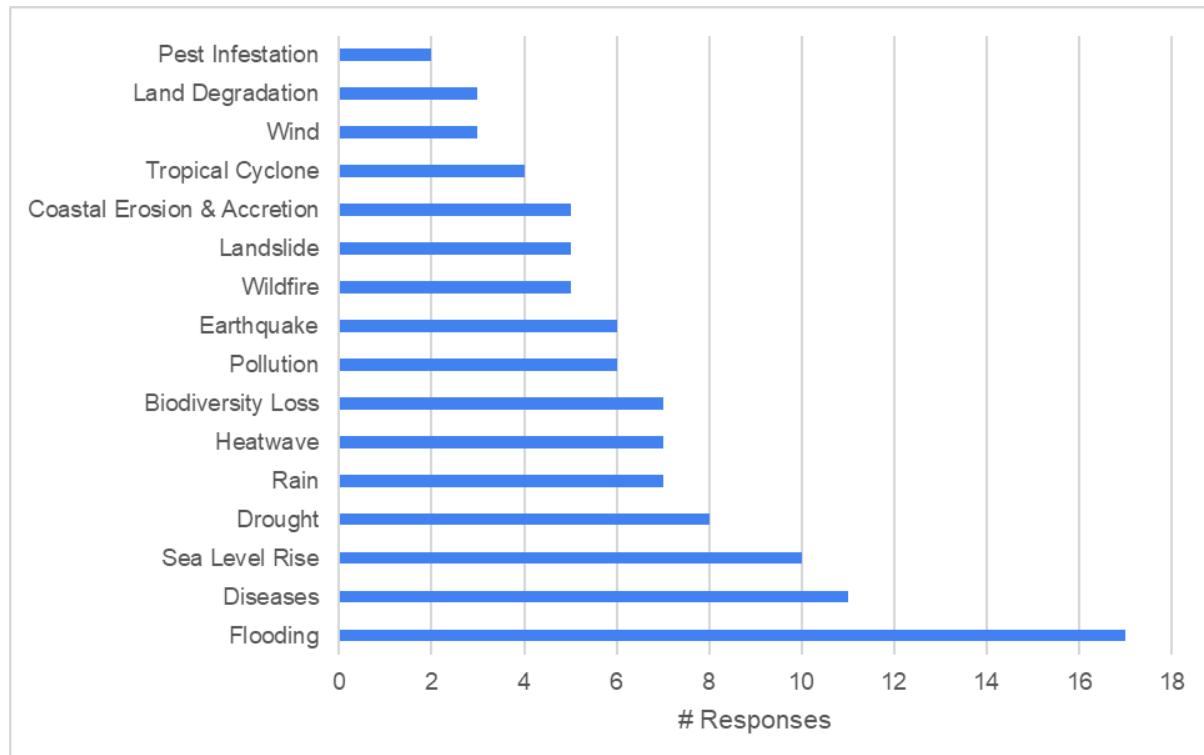
Emerging hazard types



Note: Hazard types as per classification by UNDRR & International Science Council

Emerging hazards and risks

- Increase in frequency and intensity of floods
- Sea level rise being acknowledged
- Heat waves and extreme rainfalls



Climate	Environment	Agriculture & food security	Risk drivers and symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea-level rise • Droughts & floods • Extreme heat • Cyclones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deforestation • Biodiversity loss • Soil degradation • Salinity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pests • Livestock disease • Erratic rainfall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid urbanisation • Waste mgmt • Pollution • Displacement

Key policy categories

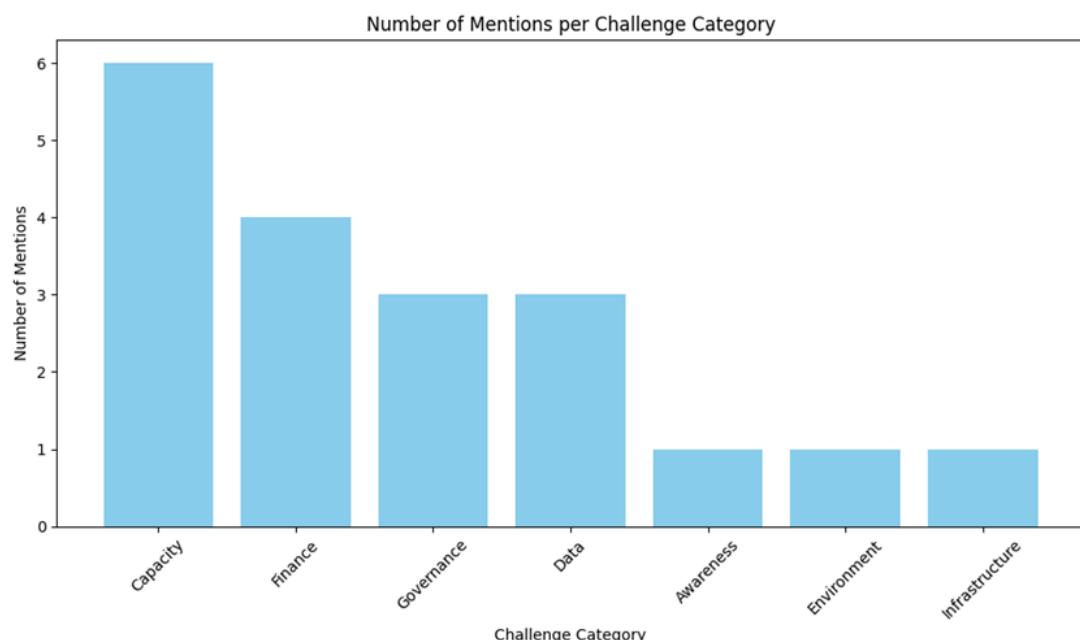
Climate change	Disaster risk reduction	Financing	Sectoral
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Acts • Policies • NDCs • LT-LEDS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRR Acts • DRR strategies & policies • Contingency plans • Drought action plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRR financing • GEF/GCF • L&D fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sectoral resilience plans • NBSAPs • Desertification plans

Institutional mechanisms

- *Implementation*
 - Environmental Protection Agencies and Ministry of Environment
 - National Disaster (Risk) Management Offices
 - National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
- *Coordination*
 - National Platforms

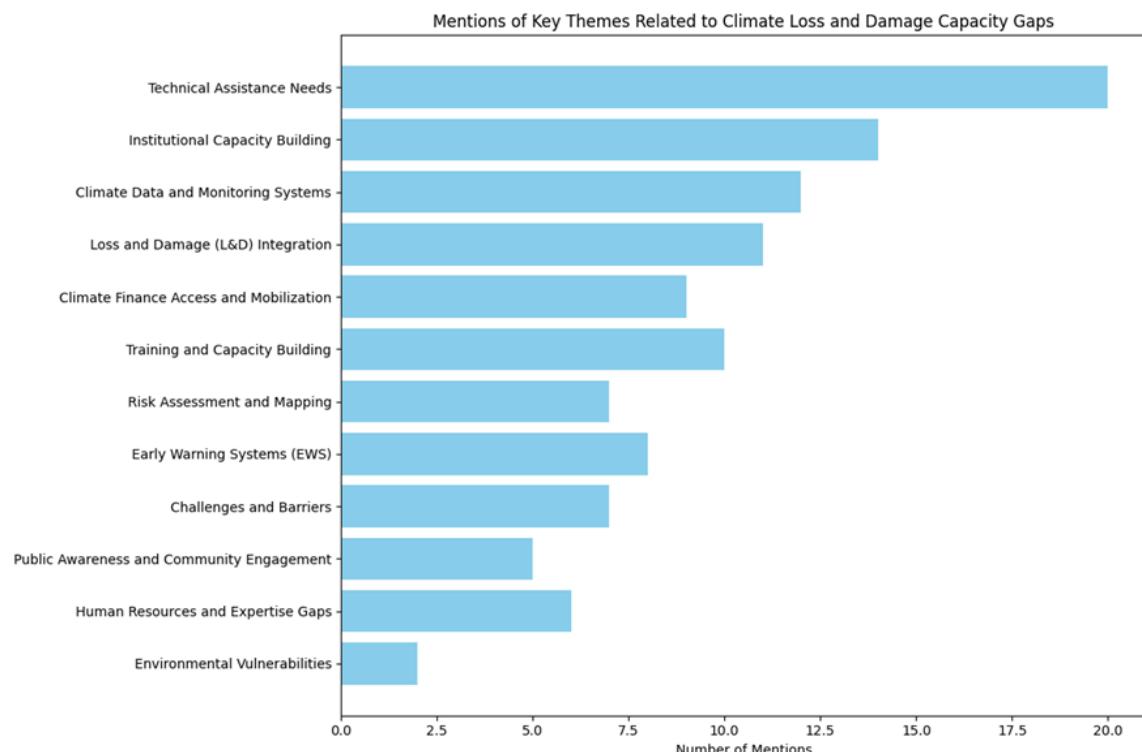
Challenges and gaps

- Low human and institutional capacities
- Challenges in access to climate finance
- Limited data
- Weak coordination across institutions
- Low awareness
- Infrastructure constraints



How can technical assistance help?

- Data and risk assessments
- Historical disaster data / L&D data tracking
- Early warning systems
- L&D frameworks
- Institutional capacities
- Funding proposal development
- Technical trainings



Annex III – Questions raised during the Santiago Network workshop and general observations

Frequently asked questions

What could be the scope of technical assistance? How much can we ask for?

What exactly can the technical assistance do?

What are the steps to make a request? And what help can we get?

What is the timeline for receiving technical assistance?

How often can a country access technical assistance? How many requests can we submit?

How much money can we ask for?

What is the role of the liaisons (also from liaisons themselves)?

Can the technical assistance help us access the FRLD?

General observations on completing the technical assistance request template

The following provides an overview of general observations from reviewing the draft requests shared by workshop participants with the Secretariat. These should be read in conjunction with the eligibility criteria that are the basis for the review of requests as well as the guiding questions provided in the request template.

- *Context and problem statement:* Almost all requests provided a clear rationale, context and problem statement, articulating challenges and barriers that technical assistance could address. However, many draft requests can more clearly link this rationale with the specific request for support.
- *Past and ongoing efforts:* Most drafts identified past and ongoing efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage from the adverse effects of climate change. More information would be beneficial on how the request will complement these and how the proposed technical assistance will build on these activities to prevent duplication of previous efforts.
- *Objective and expected results:* Draft requests could benefit from further refinement and clarity of the expected result of the technical assistance requested. Several requests were drafted as multi-year project proposals outlining a number of large intervention areas outside the scope of technical assistance. Others were very broad in scope and it is recommended to further prioritise outcomes to focus on the most pressing or foundational needs that this initial technical assistance could address. More concretely, it is recommended to narrow the scope of the request to technical assistance and to avoid inclusion of too many individual elements.
- *Urgent response:* Urgent requests relate to technical assistance needed in the immediate term, possibly precipitated by a climate-related disaster. This means that almost all draft requests would not be considered urgent and would therefore be processed in accordance with the standard workflow outlined in the Guidelines and procedures for responding to requests for technical assistance.
- *Country-driven and inclusiveness:* It was observed that the sections on development of the request, and inclusiveness and leaving no one behind were most challenging to articulate. We recommend considering how the findings that emerged from already completed / ongoing consultations (e.g. in the context of NDC or NAP preparation) can inform these sections. It is also recommended to describe how stakeholders will be engaged in the technical assistance.
- *Alignment with national priorities:* Draft requests identified relevant national priorities and policy documents. However, the specific elements of these documents that are relevant to the request have often not been included in the template. It is recommended to highlight the connection between the technical assistance requested and how it can contribute towards specific policy priorities and objectives.
- *Retention of capacity in country:* It was observed that this section of the template is generally underdeveloped. Once there is clarity on the expected results, outcomes and activities, it will be easier to identify stakeholders that will be direct recipients of the technical assistance and how they will sustain the activities once the support concludes.
- *Further information:* It is recommended to include hyperlinks or share attachments of documents referenced in the request.