

SNAB/2024/3/07

Concept Note

Santiago Network Workshop for LDCs and SIDS

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The Santiago network was established by Parties to the global climate change treaties in 2019. Its mandate is to catalyse technical assistance for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage, specifically for developing countries, from diverse organizations, bodies, networks and experts (OBNEs).

During its inception stages a series of country engagement exercises were conducted by the UNFCCC secretariat. An early event was the convening of a marketplace event in 2020/2021 which facilitated the sharing of potential technical assistance thematic areas and activities by developing countries, as well as the sharing of expertise available from OBNEs. There were also regional scoping workshops, held as follows:

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

The workshops were convened, inter alia, for countries to identify general areas of support needed for different hazards across different timelines. Across the workshops, governments and stakeholders identified a diversity of hazards for which support is required. The workshop reports provide more information regarding the outcome of the workshop.

Similar workshops for least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) have also been planned. These workshops will be convened to identify the unique challenges of LDCs and SIDS as countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. They will explore potential opportunities that the Santiago network can support.

RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Santiago network workshops focusing on LDCs and SIDS are:

1. Familiarize and update LDCs and SIDS on the Santiago network.
2. Enhance understanding on modalities of access to technical assistance through the Santiago network (including orientation on the operative guidelines)
3. Identifying good practices, capacity gaps and needs in LDCs and SIDS

The workshops will be contextualized to specific regions, if relevant and organized back-to-back with other events to optimize on costs and participation.

Based on the consultations, a roadmap will be developed to map capacity gaps and needs with OBNEs who could provide technical assistance to developing vulnerable countries to avert, minimize and address loss and damage.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The workshops will mainly focus on the governments of participating LDCs and SIDS countries (76 in total), represented by ministries responsible for environment and climate change, disaster risk management, and planning and finance. Where available, loss and damage contact points and Santiago network liaisons will be invited.

Stakeholders, including organizations, bodies, networks and experts, will also participate, besides UN regional coordination mechanisms and coalitions.

The interaction with the participating agencies will create a wide base of partnerships that will remain active beyond the workshops in providing technical assistance to countries through the Santiago network.

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OUTCOME

The workshops will result in a concise report documenting:

- (i) Stocktake of experience, capacity challenges and needs in LDCs and SIDS
- (ii) A roadmap to enhance capacity to avert, minimize and address loss and damage through catalyzing technical assistance.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Opening:

- Introduction to the SN
- Broad overview of progress to operationalize the SN
- Understanding the broader and evolving landscape of loss and damage

SN Orientation:

- Overview of specific elements of SN operationalization
- Presentation of OBNE guidelines
- Presentation of TA guidelines

Country perspectives:

- L&D stocktake – experiences, capacity gaps and needs

Exercise on preparing a technical assistance request:

- Aligning requests with national priorities/needs
- Identifying key stakeholders to engage with
- Drafting a technical assistance request based on country's need, using the approved guidelines

Roadmap:

- General agreement on next steps of countries and partner entities