

Submission to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement (APA)  
by CARE International, CIEL, Franciscans International, ATD Fourth World, International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), the Rainforest Foundation Norway and WEDO

## Further guidance in relation to adaptation communication - (APA agenda item 4)

### Scope of the Adaptation Communications

Article 7.5 of the Paris Agreement emphasizes that: *adaptation action should follow a country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate.*

The parties recognized in the Paris Agreement that these principles are key to effective adaptation action and to policy coherence with regards to existing commitments under other international processes and frameworks. Therefore information related to the promotion of these principles and obligations must be included in the adaptation communication. Inclusion of such information in the Adaptation Communications will also enable the exchange of good practices and the identification of potential areas for progress or challenges where international support and capacity building are particularly relevant. The APA must develop on the basis of article 7.5 a non-exhaustive set of issues that must be addressed in the national communications.

### Preparation processes for the Adaptation Communications

Additionally, the Adaptation Communications should be prepared with the effective participation of civil society. To ensure that the communications address well the situation of all groups, this participation should include women and men, as well as indigenous peoples, local communities, youth, migrants, people with disabilities and other groups in vulnerable situations or in extreme poverty. Parties should also be requested to include information related to these participatory preparation processes. A workshop should be organized in 2017 to collect good practices and lessons learned on these issues during the preparation of NAPAs and NAPs, e.g. as part of the Technical Examination Process on Adaptation, and/or the Adaptation Committee's workplan.

### Guidelines related to the Adaptation Communications

In order to assist countries with the preparation of these documents, the parties must mandate a constituted body to prepare comprehensive technical guidelines regarding the adaptation communications – building on synergies with other reporting obligations in order to avoid duplication. The section of these guidelines dedicated to the principles highlighted in article 7.5 and to participatory nature of the preparation process for the Communications must be drafted in cooperation with relevant intergovernmental and observer organisations in order to benefit from all technical expertise available.

### Output

Information communicated by parties in relation to these principles should be aggregated by the UNFCCC secretariat on a periodic basis in order to provide a report of good practices and challenges with regards to the implementation of article 7.5. This report should inform initiatives related to capacity building, support provided by the financial mechanisms, as well as the work of the bodies established under the UNFCCC to support countries in adaptation matters.

