Modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and other future topics that may arise from this work

The Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) is a landmark decision that was reached at the UN Climate Conference (COP23) in November 2017 on the next steps for agriculture within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The decision officially recognizes the unique role that agriculture can play in tackling climate change while considering the vulnerability of the sector to climate change and approaches to achieve food security.

OVERVIEW

This document provides a summary of the KJWA workshop on topic 2(a). Discussions on agriculture under the UNFCCC had been taking place for some time before the KJWA decision was officially reached in 2017. Discussions date back to 2011 when the COP requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) to consider issues related to agriculture. As part of this work, a series of five workshops was implemented around five themes.

Themes of previous workshops

1. Current state of scientific knowledge on how to enhance the adaptation of agriculture to climate change impacts (November 2013).
2. Development of early warning systems and contingency plans in relation to extreme weather events and its effects (June 2015).
3. Assessment of risk and vulnerability of agricultural systems to different climate change scenarios at regional, national and local levels (June 2015).
4. Identification of adaptation measures, taking into account the diversity of the agricultural systems, indigenous knowledge systems and the differences in scale (May 2016).
5. Identification and assessment of agricultural practices and technologies to enhance productivity in a sustainable manner, food security and resilience (May 2016).

1 This document provides a summary of discussions which took place at the UNFCCC workshop on topic 2(a) in Bonn in December 2018. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO but only aim to facilitate knowledge-sharing and support decision-making in the frame of the KJWA process. All the facts, figures, opinions or statements presented below are issued from the UNFCCC workshop report: https://unfccc.int/event/modalities-for-implementation-of-the-outcomes-of-the-five-in-session-workshops-on-issues-related-to

2 See COP Decision 2/CP.17 paragraph 75
The Koronivia decision was subsequently adopted in 2017 with the aim of deepening this preliminary work and moving discussions on agriculture under the UNFCCC forward by putting more focus on implementation aspects. Outcomes of the five previous workshops were integrated into the Koronivia process as the first topic to be discussed under the new roadmap approved in May 2018.

KEY CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Intensifying the work of the constituted bodies on agriculture

Agriculture is not specifically mentioned in the mandates of the UNFCCC constituted bodies. Therefore, any substantive work on agriculture cannot be implemented unless a specific mandate is given through a COP decision.

Potential entry point for the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Acknowledge that agriculture under the UNFCCC requires specific attention and action from the constituted bodies.

Identifying modalities for implementation

Parties expressed their interest in mapping and characterizing the mandates and activities of the constituted bodies, as a basis to better identify modalities for implementation.

Potential entry point for the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Encourage a COP decision with guidelines for constituted bodies on the particular elements and outcomes to take into consideration in their workplans, based on the mapping of their mandates and activities.

Encouraging information sharing

Online platforms have been put in place by several constituted bodies. Parties and observers should discuss the potential use of that information for agriculture. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been developing a climate and land hub (CL–Hub) to provide tools, knowledge, data and information to its member countries.

Potential entry point for the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Institutionalize the involvement of constituted bodies in the KJWA and increasing collaboration towards enhanced action.

Supporting Parties

Constituted bodies such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), offer several funding opportunities for climate-resilient agriculture, for example the GCF’s Readiness Programme or the Project Preparation Facility (PPF).

Potential entry point for the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture

Promote channels for cooperation between constituted bodies and Parties to enhance support and policy implementation.

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1 More details about the work performed by the UNFCCC and its constituted bodies can be found in the workshop report from pages 6 to 12 (see link in footnote 1 above), or in the synthesis State of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture published by FAO and available at: www.fao.org/3/ca6910en/ca6910en.pdf
2 Decision 4/CP.23 requests the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to jointly address issues related to agriculture, climate change and food security alongside SBSTA

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