

# ECO

## THE LOSS AND DAMAGES ISSUE

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ECO has been published by Non-Governmental Environmental Groups at major international conferences since the Stockholm Environment Conference in 1972. ECO is produced co-operatively by the Climate Action Network at the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn, Germany during the May SB 48 meeting.  
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### Cross-Cutting GST for Climate Ambition

In the GST negotiations, Parties have set themselves the task of better organizing their thoughts as currently captured in the co-facilitators’ informal document. One way of doing this would be through clarity on which issues should be dealt with in separate work streams, and which should be considered cross-cutting and thus should be dealt with under all work streams.

One clear example of this is means of implementation and support (MOI). ECO believes that MOI should **not** be siloed into its own workstream. MOI is issue-specific and therefore, MOI for mitigation must be looked

at in the mitigation workstream, MOI for adaptation in adaptation, MOI for making financial flows consistent with climate resilience and low-GHG development in the financial flows workstream. Clearly, none of these issues can be considered in isolation from the MOI needed to enable them.

Best available science and equity (that’s equity between countries, not just procedural equity and other such things!) are other important cross-cutting issues. Each of the workstream issues has their own specific ways in which equity must be taken into account and it must therefore be present in each of these work streams.

Finally, while ECO thinks a dedicated workstream for Loss and Damage (L&D) could be a good idea to ensure that L&D is taken up by the GST, it may be a better idea to deal with it in a cross cutting manner as well. Indeed, all the elements of Art 2.1 of the Paris Agreement have clear and distinct links to L&D and therefore it could make sense to deal with it in each of the workstreams.

ECO would like Parties to produce a text that reflects this cross-cutting nature of these issues, for example by adding provisions to these issues in all the relevant places for inputs and modalities.

### C the difference?: CGE vs CBIT

ECO, like all of you, wants a strong, robust, and flexible enhanced transparency framework.

One of the elements necessary for building a strong enhanced transparency framework is capacity building and the provision of support for it. A good number of programs, initiatives, and efforts currently exist to support developing country Parties prepare their national reports. As we transition to the enhanced transparency framework, capacity building support is essential to developing countries. Two current programs supporting developing countries in preparing their national reports are the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). Though, they both start with the letter C, they should not be confused!

CBIT was created only a couple of years ago and is now up-and-running. While, CGE has been in existence since 1999 and will expire soon, having been renewed for 2014-2018. As Parties debate renewing CGE, let us consider the form and function for each of them.

Though they both begin with ‘C’, we can’t confuse them.

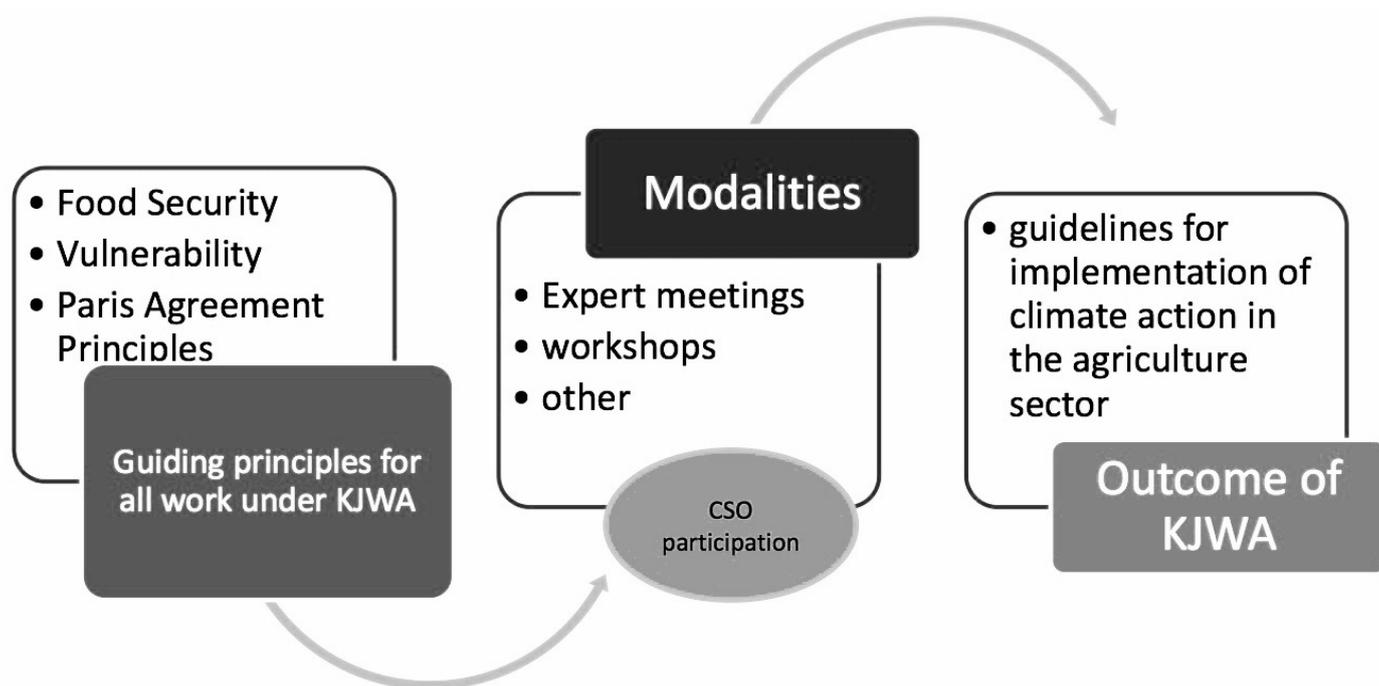
CBIT and CGE fill different roles and ECO believes that they can be complementary. ECO knows that capacity building is necessary to realise the goals of achieving Paris, so in the spirit of being constructive: learn from from the challenges, build on what we know and find an innovative way forward.

	CGE	CBIT
<b>FORM</b>	Consultative Group of Experts that assist developing countries with their reporting efforts under the convention.	Capacity Building Initiative Transparency is a fund focussed on country projects.
<b>FUNCTION</b>	Support the development of National Communications and BURs. This is done through international panels, webinars, trainings, training guides. It enhances South-South cooperation, peer to peer learning, and best practice development.	Facilitate meeting the mandate of the enhanced transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement by strengthening the institutional and technical capacities of developing.

# Koronivia: Seeding Principles and Harvesting Guidelines for Climate Action in Agriculture

Parties have started to develop roadmap and timeframe to take forward Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA). Parties surely need no reminder that climate action under the Paris Agreement will kick off in 2020, and that agriculture will be one of the key components for many countries' NDCs in adaptation and mitigation. To ensure that climate action really meets the goal of feeding people sustainably in a warming world, without undermining the 4 pillars of food security or peoples' rights, ECO proposes that Parties remember to develop guiding principles through parameters. Clear expected outcomes should be defined, to help keep the KJWA process on track with the ultimate goal of informing climate action and NDCs in agriculture.

Parties should now decide on a structure to frame the 3 years of the KJWA. This is how ECO pictures it:



Input to the KJWA process should be the core guiding principles, recognising food security, the vulnerability of agriculture and principles of the Paris Agreement preamble (food security, human rights including the rights of indigenous peoples, gender, ecosystem integrity, intergenerational equity, just transition and public participation). This should be agreed here at SB48, to orient the KJWA workshops and expert meetings.

At the end of the process, ECO hopes that the **outcomes** of the KJWA will include a set of guidelines for climate action in the agriculture sector, including NDCs.



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# Racing Down the Path to 1.5°C Through Ambitious LTS

ECO was pleasantly surprised with yesterday's country announcements on long-term strategies (LTS) during the opening plenary session of the Talanoa Dialogue. AILAC and the EU both clearly marked LTS as solutions for tackling climate change. ECO believes such strategies allow countries to structure what they're going to do to tackle climate and outline how they're going to do it, and so are key tools in helping countries to break the "ambition ceiling".

What was missing though, were details on country-progress on developing their LTS, implementing them, and beefing-up the associated shorter-term measures used to achieve them, namely the NDCs. Without this, countries were essentially making "feel-good" announcements that have no merit and provide no certainty on their commitment to de-carbonise.

Fear not though, ECO is happy to share some tips on how to develop and implement a robust LTS and thereby maximise your country's ambition.

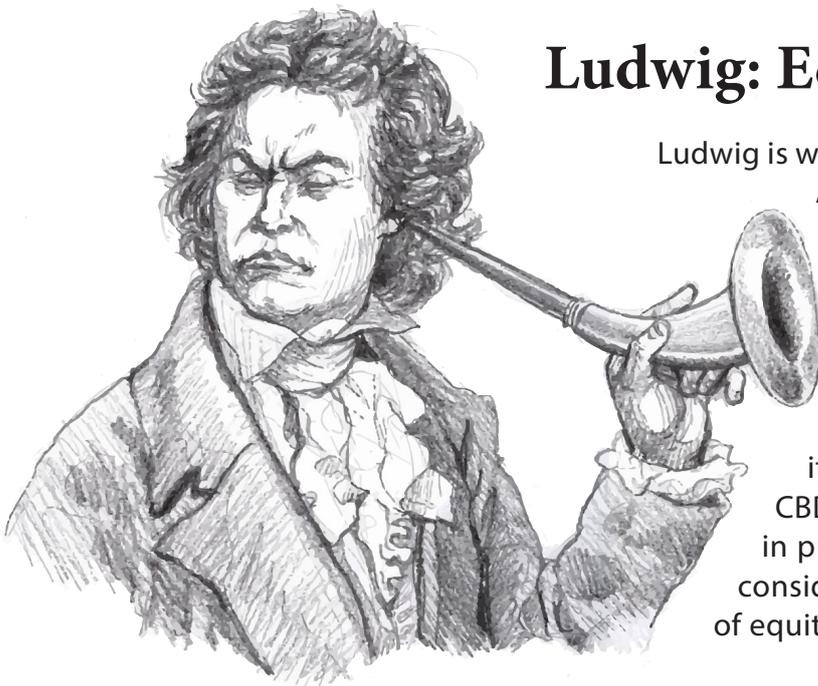
ECO strongly encourages all Parties to develop and implement economy-wide LTS that are consistent with achieving the Paris Agreement goal of 1.5°C and the Sustainable Development Goals. It is imperative that a LTS is ambitious, includes clear timelines for phasing out fossil fuels, is legally binding (to avoid them being dropped by any less ambitious future governments that may come) and is regularly reviewed and revised upwards for compatibility with achieving 1.5°C. All of these

elements can help to provide policy predictability and demonstrate a clear commitment to fulfilling the LTS.

Accordingly, any shorter-term measures, including pre-2020 actions and the NDCs need to be reviewed to check that they're consistent with a country's long-term strategy and then enhanced in order to match the level of ambition in a LTS. To be clear, a LTS shouldn't be developed to match the level of ambition in an NDC, because as we all know, the current batch of NDCs lead us to 3.2°C warming. Instead, an LTS as a tool can help a country to quantify the enhancement needed in its current NDC in order to be aligned with its long-term vision and the Paris Agreement, as well as laying out the many policy options and opportunities to be gained from stepping up climate ambition.

What's more: ECO would like to highlight the wealth of expertise available outside the corridors of governments and ministries that can be provided by progressive business, civil society, employers, investors, trade unions, sub-national, regional and local authorities, faith groups, youth organisations, and a whole host of other relevant stakeholders. ECO strongly supports and believes that this wealth of knowledge needs to be tapped in during the process because a robust strategy that has been developed through a fully participatory process that engages civil society and other stakeholders, is ultimately more likely to succeed if stakeholders feel ownership of the plan from the outset.

## Ludwig: Equity is Not a Soup Can



Ludwig is well known to be a lover of modern art, especially of Andy Warhol, who famously said that "art is what you can get away with." Consequently, he was delighted to see that Australia obviously shares this love; they clearly had this quote in mind during the global stocktake informals yesterday. However, equity is **not** whatever you can get away with. In the context of these negotiations, it always means **equity between countries** (think CBDRRC and national circumstances), and thus equity in process. Participation alone is not enough for us to consider the stocktake as being conducted "in the light of equity," as mandated by the Paris Agreement.

## It's the Finance, Stupid

The writing is on the wall - we need finance and (non-insurance) financial instruments to address loss and damage!

The COP has given the ExCom a clear mandate to use the Suva Expert Dialogue (SED) to work on enhancing finance (and other means of support) for vulnerable countries and communities.

Developing countries and experts were unanimous that we must find more money. Vulnerable people are currently facing "exploding risks" they didn't create and are being left to pay for them. This must be reversed.

Various experts and representatives from Parties also noted with concern an excessive attention on insurance at the expense of stronger action on other, often cheaper, fairer and effective instruments. Labelling it a "magic" tool, as one expert from a developed country

called it, did obviously not match the

perception of many in the room.

Developing countries continued to articulate their priorities: finance to be able to scale up instruments (e.g. through a such as a global solidarity fund) such as social protection schemes; relocation funds; reconstruction funds; alternative livelihood programmes; insurance premium subsidies to name few.

To deliver urgently needed resources we will need public contributions by developed country governments as well as the innovative sources of finance that many Parties and experts referred to - like a fair, equitable, polluter pays Climate Damages Tax, to raise the hundreds of billions of dollars necessary.

It is a pity that rich countries yesterday - with the exception of Germany - did not seem to view loss and damage finance as an important enough area to speak out on. Where were you France, Switzerland UK, US, Australia, Canada and others? Does

this mean you listened so carefully in order to now take action on what you heard? Or do you prefer to work against such action when the public is not in the room?

Next step: ExCom8 to agree the scope of the technical paper. ECO trusts it will reflect the issues discussed (namely: finance! How to raise it! How to channel it! Does the GCF have a role? What role for other institutions?). As Sudan, Botswana and others made clear - SED was not enough. We will need a draft of the technical paper ahead of COP24, and further discussions on the shape of the review held there, including open and transparent consultations with civil society and others. More discussions are needed to ensure we are in a good position, with fleshed out options, ahead of the review which is scheduled to conclude at COP25. Hopefully this will result in much stronger action to address loss and damage.

## The "Great 8" for People-Centered Climate Action

While raising ambition has become the buzzword at the UNFCCC talks, ECO would like to encourage Parties to consider a more comprehensive definition of ambition. What if we measured successful climate action not only from a quantitative perspective (e.g. measured in tons of greenhouse gases and Dollars for climate finance?), but also from a qualitative perspective (e.g. how has climate action contributed to respecting, promoting and considering human rights and related principles and obligations)? Effective implementation of the Paris Agreement requires a critical and cross-cutting element: putting people at the center of all climate decision-making and action.

At COP21, Parties committed to apply their respective rights-related obligations to their climate actions. This is monumental as literally all Parties to the UNFCCC are signatories to at least one international convention on human rights. Now that Parties are focusing on developing the Rulebook of the Paris Agreement which will have a long-term and decisive impact on the implementation of the Agreement, ECO would like to encourage them to reflect the full vision agreed on in Paris.

ECO is thrilled to hear that on Wednesday the European Union, supported by a number of other interventions, called for the inclusion of the various rights and associated elements from the Paris Agreement preamble into the set of recommended information for States to provide in their NDCs.

The international community must #StepUp2018 to deliver on the commitment to limit global warming to 1.5C, both by increasing climate ambition and scaling up climate action, but not at the expense of people's rights. This is where the "great 8" come in. No, this is not the latest Marvel production, but the fundamental elements that Parties should be invited to include, in particular in the planning process of their NDCs: **human rights, indigenous peoples' rights, public participation, gender, just transition, food security, ecosystem integrity and the protection of biodiversity, and intergenerational equity.**

ECO calls on Parties to join the movement and demonstrate their support for rights-based and people centered climate action.

Some might call it ambition, but this is about our survival.