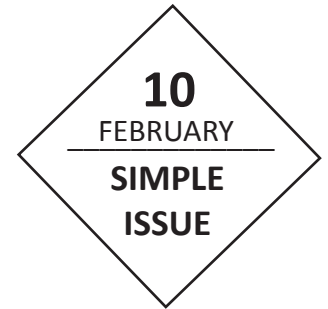


# eco



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## Separating Loss & Damage from Adaptation

ECO was very pleased to hear the excellent interventions from **AOSIS**, **LDCs**, **AILAC** (together with **Mexico** and the **Dominican Republic**), **LMDCs** and **Africa Group** yesterday, emphasising that Loss and Damage needs to be a separate item within the Paris agreement.

As explained by AOSIS, anchoring the Loss and Damage institutional arrangements in the agreement will ensure their durability and flexibility. This will allow for the adjustment of support to vulnerable countries depending upon their levels of ambition in mitigation and adaptation.

Meanwhile, the LDCs reminded Parties that dealing with losses and damages from slow-onset and extreme events is not a luxury—it is a necessity. The LDCs' concrete proposals for **elements of a Paris agreement**, including a compensation regime and a displacement coordination facility, reflect the real circumstances of vulnerable people both now and in the future.

## Workstream 2 is getting fashionable: It's about time

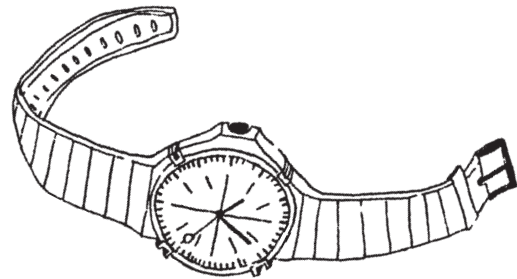
Being in the country of clocks and watchmakers has put ECO in the mood for WS2 negotiations. WS2 is all about being efficient with the little time we have left, to ensure that greenhouse gas emissions peak well before 2020, and to start the transition to a 100% renewable energy world.

Negotiators are in dire need of a device to maximise their remaining time. While Parties have examined a wide range of potential parts, extolling the virtues of each, ECO believes the mechanics of a well-functioning device consist of only three pieces: renewable energy, energy efficiency and fossil fuel subsidy reform.

By narrowing discussion to these specific initiatives, Parties can save debate time and focus on concrete, implementation-orientated conversations with experts. The technical papers of 2014 and the technical expert meetings have identified the potential of these three tools, and we have clear examples

Developed country Parties really should do their remedial reading, and not be afraid to engage constructively on how to incorporate Loss and Damage as a separate and important element of the Paris agreement.

Finance for Loss and Damage is clearly a key issue in the negotiations, and must be separate from adaptation finance. ECO believes that France can make a difference here with its long history of championing innovative financing. We have high hopes that President Hollande will keep up the tradition this year, on the Financial Transaction Tax and beyond.



across the world of Parties taking steps to develop them in meaningful ways.

Let us now look into the detailed work of how to scale up our preferred initiatives—the grease to make our time-maximising device work. Policy makers and those implementing these initiatives must frankly and plainly identify the challenges they face. Those providing support should then indicate how they can shift finance and technology to get the gears moving, while UNFCCC institutions and expert input can further smooth the workings.

ECO will be looking for proposals that build on work already done in 2014, have high mitigation potential, are immediately scalable or replicable, contain strong sustainable development objectives and co-benefits and—most importantly—are implementation-oriented.

## Empty words on a page?

Some time ago, ECO was pleased to see the phrase “environmentally sound technologies” replaced with “economically, socially and environmentally sound technologies” in the context of technology transfer. The thinking was that the consideration of economic and social implications offered two crucial additional factors planners could use to predict the likely success of technology assimilation in a local setting.

It seemed that what would follow would be a process involving various stakeholders to clarify the meaning of these three terms in various local settings and circumstances— evaluate all three—and provide an opportunity to get real buy-in from intended users.

In the economic category, users might want assurance of a sustainable, long-term business model for the adoption and adaptation of technologies, and assurance that the introduction of new technologies would not result in massive economic displacement.

Likewise, in the social category, planners might want to understand the impacts of technology-induced change of social mores and culture on health, participation of women in the work force, and participation of the most vulnerable sectors of a community. In the environmental category, they might want to consider

the risk that the adopted technology could cause unintended harm to complex and critical ecosystem services and biodiversity.

While reading Section H on Technology Transfer in the draft text, ECO noticed there was no hint of language on how these categories would actually improve planning or acceptance of technology on the ground, and it wondered why? Was “economically, socially and environmentally sound technologies” adopted as a literary exercise? Or would this phrase have actual meaning for locals on the receiving end of technology transfers? ECO was delighted to see that others were also concerned, as demonstrated when Pakistan raised this issue in yesterday’s ADP session.

ECO has a suggestion about how a technology review process might work. We believe transferred climate technologies must be reviewed for their potential economic, social and environmental impacts. However, this technology review process should not be burdensome on Parties. While recognising the sovereignty of Parties to review a given technology in a way that responds to their specific needs, we suggest the Technology Executive Committee take on the responsibility of “scanning the horizon” to recommend categories of technologies that might be in particular need of review.

Furthermore, we suggest that the TEC maintain a database with information that Parties may consider while making their choices, thereby reducing their burden.

Finally, the Climate Technology Centre and Network should provide capacity building and full funding to developing countries, so that they can review technologies identified as being “higher-risk”, using their chosen experts. On the other hand, ECO’s view is that public funding should not be made available for the development, transfer and deployment of technologies identified as “high risk” in cases where countries choose not to conduct a review.

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## Not on track

The Structured Expert Dialogue (SED) finished up yesterday. The EU delegate surmised things aptly: “We are not on track.”

With over 19 presentations, the message was loud and clear. We are, unfortunately, on a path that sees warming going well above 2°C. And there were 70 presentations documenting that even 2°C warming is intolerable. We need to limit warming to 1.5°C.

ECO is confident that these findings will be among the prominent results of the SED report coming out on March 20. And ECO hopes that policymakers will recognise the unique value of a dialogue informed by science and act accordingly.

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