Science and Innovation In Support of Climate Action for the Poor and the Vulnerable (SDG1)

4 December, 2019 at 1:15 – 2:45 PM (Room 3)

Lead/Co-leads: World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), the Adaptation Fund (AF), CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP)
Contributing leads: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), International Labour Organization (ILO)

Summary: This side event will discuss the importance of science and innovation, including innovative social protection measures which can go hand in hand to achieve greater resilience, improve adaptation and development outcomes and, ultimately reduce poverty and fulfil human rights through informed action at the country level. In particular, the event will provide concrete examples and lessons learned of how risk-informed actions at country level promote sustainable development and contribute to the eradication of poverty, decent work, and the fulfilments of human rights.

Format: The event will include a moderated panel discussion followed by an interactive dialogue.

The side event will discuss how science and innovation that are tailored towards "leaving no one behind" can support the most vulnerable by lifting them out of poverty and catalyse transformative climate action based on sound science (SDG 1.5).

The event will provide insights into the status, the value and the role science plays in supporting adaptation with a particular focus on climate services for agriculture and food security. As a climate-sensitive sector among the highest priorities for countries seeking to implement the Paris Agreement, the agriculture-food sector presents a clear lens to view the positive impact that climate services can have in terms of reducing food insecurity and strengthening the capacity of vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change impacts. The event will also highlight how innovative social protection can complement such efforts, to ensure income security, minimize risks in the agricultural and forestry sectors and help affected populations to adapt to climate-related challenges (SDG 1.3).

The event will highlight gaps and needs for climate and early warning information in the agriculture-food sector, serving as the basis for directing climate investments in the sector. The event will also highlight examples of how climate services and innovative social protection with a climate component can support Paris Agreement implementation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 on ending poverty, showcasing the recently approved Adaptation Fund project, ENANDES, which will be implemented in Chile, Peru, and Colombia.

Showcasing transformative climate actions implemented on the ground, the event will highlight the importance of a human rights-based approach to climate action through concrete examples that are shaped by and benefit those most affected by climate change.

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Opening Remarks: Elena Manaenkova, Deputy Secretary-General, WMO

Panel discussion on "Science and innovation for achieving SDG 1": **Moderator:** Maxx Dilley, Director, Climate Prediction & Adaptation Branch, WMO

Objectives:
- ✓ Demonstrate examples of climate solutions and action on the ground that support the achievement of SDG1, in particular, SDG 1.5 on building the resilience of the poor and the vulnerable to climate-related extreme events and SDG 1.3 on implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems, including floors.
- ✓ How the UN system will continue to support countries in taking climate action "leaving no one behind", with a focus on the poorest and the vulnerable, including workers in the informal economy and small micro-enterprises, who are disproportionately affected by climate change.

To meet the above objectives, the panel discussion will explore the status, challenges, and opportunities in the following five areas (45 mins):

1. "Last mile" information gap: what is being done to address the "last mile" barrier to ensure that information reaches the intended end-user(s) especially those who are disproportionately affected by climate change, including the poor and the vulnerable, women and youth?
2. Evidence base for climate action: how can climate science catalyse transformational action that increases resilience and reduces poverty?
3. Human rights-based approach to climate action: how can we ensure that climate policies and actions are shaped by and benefit those who are most affected by climate change such as the poor, indigenous peoples, women, children, migrants and workers in the informal economy?
4. Innovative "climate-responsive" social protection: how can social protection address social risks that are exacerbated by climate change and contribute to the achievement of the Paris Agreement?
5. Opportunities for support delivering SDG 1 and the Paris Agreement.

Panellists (5 mins each):
- Mr Gernot Laganda, Chief of WFP Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction Programmes Unit (area 1)
- Mr Zitouni Oulddada, Deputy Director of Climate and Environment Division at FAO (areas 1&2)
- Mr Pa Ousman Jarju, Director of Country Programming Division, GCF (areas 2&5)
- Mr David Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment (area 3, 2/4 might also be addressed)
- Ms Deissy Martinez-Baron, Regional Program Coordinator for CCAFS in Latin America (areas 1&5)
- Mr Jean-Louis Lambeau, Social Protection Specialist, ILO (areas 4&5)
- Ms Saliha Dobardzic, Senior Climate Specialist, AF (area 5 also mentioning 2, 3)

Q&A discussion: 25 mins
Wrap-up on way forward on support to countries: 10 mins

Closing remarks: 5 mins