

## **Australia's panel statement regarding bilateral support for the NAP process**

If there is one key message I can give you it is to talk to the development partners in your countries and regions, early on, when you are developing the NAP process. I'm based in capital, and am better able to support adaptation in LDCs when there is a clear call for adaptation from the recipient partners.

I will quickly go through three examples of our bilateral support, coming out of the FSF period, where Australia gave the majority of climate finance to adaptation.

In our region, we are supporting Tuvalu, Kiribati and the Solomons in developing Joint National Action Plans (JNAPs) on Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction. JNAPs are country driven plans to address priority areas as identified by our partners.

While we offered the support at a regional level, with the help of SPREP, we provided the support directly to the recipient partner.

The JNAPs are similar to the NAP process, rather than duplicate the processes we will look to build upon the JNAPs and support our partners to more comprehensively integrate adaptation at a national level.

We have just agreed on the support for a new JNAP Task Force Secretariat, in Tonga who has the most advanced JNAP, that will provide operational and technical guidance to implement the JNAP.

In that way our bilateral support is to be able to come in at different stages of the adaptation planning process.

We were able to develop the JNAPs after downscaling the climate change science and develop a clear picture of the climate risks. In a sense the ground work had been built, but some partners are at earlier stages and we can directly support them to.

In Timor Leste we've focused on improving data and information to strengthen planning and action on climate change adaptation. This included strengthening the Timor-Leste National Directorate of Meteorology and to establish a Climate Change Database Management System.

While we work more closely with partners in our region, we are still able and interested in supporting partners further afield. The NAPs can be useful country-driven tools to coordinate support coming from different development partners. As a medium sized development partner that allow us to provide support where we are best placed to do so.

Australia is providing \$7 million to the Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF), the government's key funding mechanism for large-scale climate change adaptation projects in support of its Climate Change Action Plan (2008). Through the Fund, Australia is able contribute to engage with the Government on its adaptation planning work.

Returning back to my key message, talk to your partners early on. In the post-fast start finance period, we are trying to better integrate adaptation into our broader support program rather than do standalone. But that can only be done when there is a clear call for adaptation to be part of the development program from the recipient partner, like a call to design a NAP process.