

National adaptation in the LDCs: case study on the water sector

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Batu Uprety, Chair

Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)

About the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)

- 1) Established in 2001 by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC
 - To provide technical guidance and support to the LDCs on **National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)**, the LDC work programme under the UNFCCC, and the national adaptation plan (NAP) process;
 - Has served 4 mandates and now in its 5th mandate (2011-2015).

- 2) Membership
 - 10 Members from LDCs (5 Africa, 2 Asia, 2 SIDS, 1 from any LDC);
 - 3 Members from Annex II Parties.

- 3) Supports LDCs through, inter alia,
 - Guidelines, technical papers, publications on NAPAs, etc.;
 - Training workshops, side events, and special events;
 - Regular surveys to LDC focal points, and one-to-one advice;
 - Collaboration with GEF and agencies, and other organizations.



National adaptation in the LDCs – two main processes under the UNFCCC

1. National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) (established in 2001)

- a) **Objective** To identify priority activities that respond to **urgent** and **immediate** needs with regard to adaptation to climate change, and to implement projects that would address those needs.
- b) **Focus** One-off process focusing on urgent and immediate needs, using existing information, without a need for new research/studies; action-oriented, country-driven, presented in a simple and pre-defined format.

=> Around 200 projects under implementation to date

2. National adaptation plans (NAPs) (established in 2010)

- a) **Objectives** (i) To reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and (ii) to facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities.
- b) **Focus** Continuous and iterative process focusing on **medium- and long-term** adaptation needs, identified through comprehensive vulnerability and adaptation assessments, taking a multi-stakeholder approach that is not prescriptive, but flexible and based on country needs.

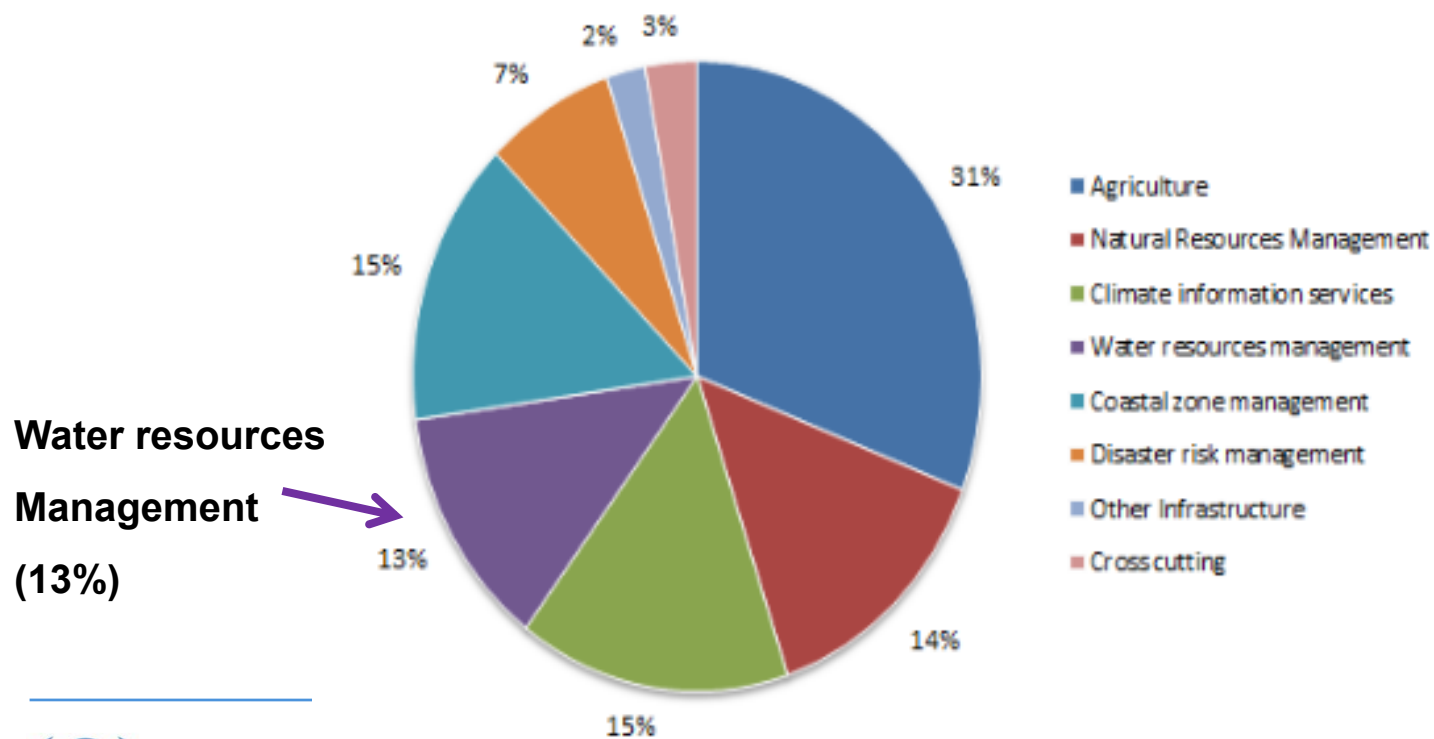
=> Process at initial stages of preparation



Funding of adaptation in LDCs: Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)

The Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), established by the COP in 2001, currently serves as the central source of funding for adaptation in LDCs under the Convention. It finances the preparation and implementation of NAPAs and the formulation of NAPs through grants.

LDCF Distribution by Primary Sector



Case study: Adapting water resource management in Comoros to increase capacity to cope with climate change

Expected outcomes:

1. Institutional capacity strengthened to integrate climate change information into water resources management
2. Improved water supply and water quality for selected pilot communities to combat impacts of climate change
3. Increased awareness and knowledge of adaptation good practice for continued process of policy review and development

Financing:

1. LDCF grant: USD 3,850,000
2. Co-financing: USD 5,600,000
3. Total project costs: USD 9,450,000



Key characteristics of the financing arrangements for the project

- **Grant financing** by the LDCF complemented by co-financing from multilateral agency, UNDP and the government
- Linked to development finance through close **coordination** and seeking of **synergy** with the SIDS Integrated Water Resources Management project and WIOLAB² - an on-going International Waters project in the Western Indian Ocean => to strengthen a cross-government, coordinated policy process considering changes needed to water management policy and regulatory and fiscal instruments to manage the effects of climate change (building on existing plans to develop a Sustainable Development Commission and water management policy, supported by UNDP) – thus including resilience in sectoral planning
- Like in all NAPA projects, prominence was given to **community-level input** as an important source of information, recognizing that grassroots communities are the main stakeholders

² Western Indian Ocean Land Based Sources Project



Opportunities and barriers for the mobilization, delivery and access to adaptation finance – lessons from NAPAs

Opportunities:

- Defined country allocations under the LDCF have facilitated access to adaptation finance for LDCs and have created their awareness and capacity around adaptation

Barriers:

- Voluntary nature of the LDCF makes future availability of funding unpredictable – limiting the planning potential
- Both limited national capacities and Fund-related obstacles have so far prevented LDCs to directly access the LDCF

Conclusion:

- Voluntary funds and project-based financing will not meet adaptation planning needs for the medium-and long-term – programmatic approaches and direct access to funding is required to facilitate the integration of adaptation into development planning, retain national capacity and access scaled-up and predictable financial resources



Links for further information

NAPs

- Overview: <<http://unfccc.int/6057>>
- Guidelines: <<http://unfccc.int/7279>>

NAPAs

- <<http://unfccc.int/ldc>>

The LEG

- <<http://unfccc.int/4727>>



To contact the LEG

The Chair

Mr. Batu Krishna UPRETY
E-mail: upretybk@gmail.com

Secretariat

E-mail: leghelp@unfccc.int

