

LDC Workshop on National Adaptation Programmes of Action

Fact Sheet

GEF Agencies and their comparative advantages in relation to NAPAs

(a) **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs includes investment projects at the country and multi-country level in Asia as well as the ability to incorporate capacity building and technical assistance into its projects. ADB has strong experience in the fields of energy efficiency, renewable energy, adaptation to climate change and natural resources management, including water and sustainable land management.

(b) **African Development Bank (AfDB)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs lies in its capacity as a regional development bank. The AfDB is, however, in the initial stages of tackling global environmental issues. Its environmental policy has only recently been approved and is in the process of being integrated into operations. The AfDB will focus on establishing a track record for environmental projects related to the GEF focal areas of Climate Change (adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency), Land Degradation (deforestation, desertification) and International Waters (water management and fisheries).

(c) **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs lies in its experience and track record in market creation and transformation, and ensuring sustainability through private sector (including small- and medium-sized enterprises) and municipal environmental infrastructure projects at the country and regional level in the countries of eastern and central Europe and central Asia, especially in the fields of energy efficiency, mainstreaming of biodiversity and water management.

(d) **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs is its technical capacity and experience in fisheries, forestry, agriculture, and natural resources management. The FAO has strong experience in sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, bioenergy, biosafety, sustainable development in production landscapes, and integrated pest and pesticides management. FAO's six priority action areas for climate change adaptation in agriculture, forestry and fisheries are: data and knowledge for impact assessment and adaptation; governance for climate change adaptation; livelihood resilience to climate change; conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity; innovative technologies; improved disaster risk management.

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(e) **Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs includes investment projects at the country and regional level in Latin America and the Caribbean. IDB finances operations related to the following GEF focal areas: Biodiversity (protected areas, marine resources, forestry, biotechnology), Climate Change (including biofuels), International Waters (watershed management), Land Degradation (erosion control), and POPs (pest management).

(f) **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs lies in its work related to land degradation, rural sustainable development, integrated land management, and its role in the implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. IFAD has been working intensively in marginal lands, degraded ecosystems and in post-conflict situations.

(g) **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs lies in its global network of country offices, its experience in integrated policy development, human resources development, institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation. UNDP assists countries in promoting, designing and implementing activities consistent with both the GEF mandate and national sustainable development plans. UNDP also has extensive inter-country programming experience. Regarding adaptation activities the UNDP website says: "UNDP assists countries to develop overarching national adaptation programmes where climate change risks are routinely considered as part of national planning and fiscal policies formulation. Such activities ensure that information about climate-related risks, vulnerability, and options for adaptation are incorporated into planning and decision-making in climate-sensitive sectors (e.g. agriculture, water, health, disaster risk management and coastal development), as well as into existing development plans and poverty reduction efforts (e.g. Poverty Reduction Strategies Papers - PRSPs)".

(h) **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs is related to its being the only United Nations organization with a mandate derived from the General Assembly to coordinate the work of the United Nations in the area of environment and whose core business is the environment. UNEP's comparative strength is in providing the GEF with a range of relevant experience, proof of concept, testing of ideas, and the best available science and knowledge upon which it can base its investments. It also serves as the Secretariat to three of the MEAs (multilateral environment agreements), for which GEF is the/a financial mechanism. UNEP's comparative advantage also includes its ability to serve as a broker in multi-stakeholder consultations.

Regarding adaptation activities, the UNEP website says: "UNEP is helping developing countries to reduce vulnerabilities and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. UNEP will build and strengthen national institutional capacities for vulnerability

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assessment and adaptation planning, and support national efforts to integrate climate change adaptation measures into development planning and ecosystem management practices. The work will be guided by and contribute to the Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation. UNEP will also work to promote sustainable land use management and reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation, bridging adaptation and mitigation”.

(i) **United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**'s comparative advantage for LDCs is that it can involve the industrial sector in GEF projects in the following areas: industrial energy efficiency, renewable energy services, water management, chemicals management (including POP and ODS), and biotechnology. UNIDO also has extensive knowledge of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in developing and transition economy countries.

(j) **The World Bank's** comparative advantage for LDCs is as a leading international financial institution at the global scale in a number of sectors, similar to the comparative advantage of the regional development banks. The World Bank has strong experience in investment lending focusing on institution building, infrastructure development and policy reform across all the focal areas of the GEF.