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UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Subsidiary Body for Implementation

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Item 15(a) and 15(b) of the provisional agenda

Capacity-building

Capacity-building under the Convention

Capacity-building under the Kyoto Protocol

**Activities to implement the framework for capacity-building
in developing countries under decision 2/CP.7**

Submissions from Parties

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 4/CP.12, invited Parties to submit to the secretariat, annually, information on the activities they have undertaken pursuant to decisions 2/CP.7 and 2/CP.10.
2. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), by decision 29/CMP.1, decided that the framework adopted under decision 2/CP.7 is applicable to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. By decision 6/CMP.2, the CMP invited Parties to submit information on activities they have undertaken pursuant to decision 29/CMP.1, and invited multilateral and bilateral agencies and the private sector to provide reports documenting their support for the implementation of the framework undertaken pursuant to decision 29/CMP.1.
3. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its twenty-eighth session, encouraged Parties to continue to make submissions annually to the secretariat pursuant to decision 4/CP.12, paragraph 1, and decision 6/CMP.2, paragraph 1, in order to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the framework for capacity-building in developing countries (FCCC/SBI/2008/8, para. 74).
4. The secretariat has received one such submission from a Party.¹ In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, the submission is attached and reproduced* in the language in which it was received and without formal editing.

¹ <http://unfccc.int/documentation/submissions_from_parties/items/5902.php>.

* This submission has been electronically imported in order to make it available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the text as submitted.

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Submission from Denmark and the European Commission on behalf of the European Union and its member States

SUBMISSION BY DENMARK AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES

This submission is supported by Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey.

**Subject: Capacity-building under the Convention and under the Kyoto Protocol:
Information on the activities undertaken pursuant to decisions 2/CP.7, 2/CP.10
and 29/CMP.1.**

The EU welcomes the opportunity to further share experiences, exchanging ideas, best practices and lessons learned regarding the implementation of capacity-building.

The EU believes that capacity building is fundamental to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention. Capacity building is cross-cutting by nature and for this reason the EU strongly advocates that support for capacity building needs of developing countries should be an integral part of support arrangements in relevant areas such as adaptation, mitigation, REDD, response measures, technology transfer and market mechanisms. For the EU, the financial support to capacity building shall be provided through different channels encompassing bilateral, regional and multilateral ones, as appropriate.

As shown in the examples included in this submission, the EU and its Member States have a long standing tradition in the field of capacity development for climate change purposes and monitoring the success. We have been supporting a great number of meaningful capacity building actions in developing countries in the past years.

The EU is committed to do more and better in this fundamental area. A pre-requisite for doing so is understanding, and in partnership with the beneficiary countries assessing, the qualitative and quantitative impacts of the interventions it supported in the past. Therefore monitoring and reporting on capacity building interventions is crucial. The EU believes that monitoring and reporting should be done at country level taking into account the local context. National communications and voluntary submissions are the most appropriate channels to communicate and share this important information. Building on existing experiences, capacity building priorities, strategies and actions could then be further improved.

The EU experience: Lessons learnt/trends

Capacity development is at the heart of the EU development assistance, in line with our commitments towards sustainable results as outlined and commonly agreed in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action and the Busan Partnership Agreement. The EU interventions for capacity development - be it in the field of climate change or human rights - follow the same approach as they seek to: be based on local ownership, demand driven processes and respond to expressed needs of partners; secondly, be coordinated with other donors and beneficiary countries, and to provide adequate quality assurance. Several lessons can be drawn from the varied and extensive experiences with monitoring and review of the effectiveness of capacity-building that can be illustrated by some of the concrete examples below:

- Ownership is of fundamental importance and capacity building support must be designed, managed and monitored with local partners to ensure they are demand driven and appropriate.
- Capacity building must be seen as cross-cutting and integral part of any climate change project or programme. However, capacity development is a long term iterative process, and should entail a flexible and adaptive approach to ensure changing conditions can be taken into account and emerging challenges addressed.
- Participation of all stakeholders affected by climate change is also essential. For example, in many cases, implementation will be in the hands of local communities or civil society organisations. The role of research institutes and technical support services is also important to ensure appropriate design and implementation of strategies. Capacity building and its monitoring should target these different groups.
- Monitoring, reporting and sharing of experiences and knowledge about capacity building and its impacts, successes and shortcomings, is necessary for enhancing effectiveness of future activities.
- Capacity building success should be seen also beyond the borders of the exact intervention enhancing the capacity.
- Capacity of stakeholders to monitor capacity building activities also needs special attention.
- Indicators related to capacity-building results or activities should be tailor-made to each of the results/activities.
- There is a need to enhance the further development of case specific indicators for capacity building.
- In the monitoring of capacity-building impact-based indicators are important and they should be defined jointly with the partner country.
- Monitoring of capacity-building objectives, results and activities should be carried-out within the framework of the program overall monitoring process;
- Capacity building support and activities should undergo same monitoring scrutiny as "normal" development programmes and should include the monitoring of their (a) relevance, (b) efficiency, (c) development effectiveness, (e) development impact, (f) sustainability, (g) use of country's own institutions and systems, (h) ownership, (i) management for results, (j) mutual accountability, (k) coordination, (l) complementarity, and (m) coherence;

When monitoring the sector support against the overall Performance Assessment Framework (PAF), it will serve as a reference for the monitoring of the program and for the various activities. The capacity building component of the actions will support the qualitative improvement of sector performance monitoring systems.

Concrete examples on capacity-building and its monitoring

Recognizing the role of forest and water resources in climate change adaptation (Finland)

The project (executed by IUCN) provides knowledge, tools (specifically CRiSTAL), and capacity required to reduce vulnerability and enhance adaptive capacity to climate variability and change at local and national levels. The project was initiated as a pilot in Zambia 2007 and broadened out to Mozambique and Tanzania 2008. Mid-term review was made 2010. The key consideration for capacity strengthening was to identify capacity enhancement trainings that will enable the target stakeholders to effectively participate in the project activities that aim on emphasizing the role of forest and water in people's livelihood and ecosystem principles. Going through the CRiSTAL process provided the opportunity for project teams to understand more clearly the links between project activities and climate change vulnerability and adaptation. This vulnerability assessment was also useful in sensitizing project teams, government officials and communities on the necessity of including climate change as an important issue in decision making. Assessing the success in improving key stakeholders' capacity for undertaking vulnerability assessments and implementing adaptation was an important area of the mid-term review. The review found out among other things that there has not been no structural way to monitor or support the trained participants in the acquired skills from the training workshops, in particular the vulnerability assessments. The recommendation was to monitor the broader

learning around the application and relevance of used tools beyond the few project sites. The mid-term review also found out that the capacity building of implementing partners should focus on: knowledge and insight needed for the monitoring of the activities. As well according to the mid-term review there is a need to develop indicators and monitoring protocols and ensure partners have the capacity to carry out the monitoring tasks.

Cambodia Climate Change Alliance - examples of outcome indicators to measure institutional capacity development

(Sweden)

Cambodia Climate Change Alliance (CCCA) is a comprehensive and innovative approach to address climate change and disaster risks in Cambodia through institutional capacity building and improving resilience to climate change impacts. It is a multi-donor initiative funded by EU, Sida, Danida and UNDP. It will be implemented between 2009 and 2014. The Programme is anchored in the government's National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), a mandated Government coordinating and policy support entity for all aspects of climate change. Some important outputs to date are the establishment of the inter-ministerial Climate Change Technical Team (CCTT) providing technical support to the NCCC; a number of line ministries has established specific climate change teams/working groups; CCCA Trust Fund has funded eight pilot projects implemented by six Government bodies and two civil society organizations at both national and provincial level, 2 NCCC members and 12 representatives from 5 Government agencies have participated in UNFCCC negotiations, etc. This has given rise to climate change being promoted as a key national development agenda in Cambodia, evidenced by a large number of climate change related events being organised within Cambodia, high level of engagement from different key ministries such as the Ministry of Economics and Finance. The first MTR (mid-term review) is currently underway. One of the main expected outcomes is improved institutional capacity to coordinate national policy making, capacity development, outreach/advocacy efforts, and to monitor the implementation of national climate change strategy, policy and plans. This will be measured by means of the following outcome indicators: (1) Climate Change Department of the Ministry of Environment as the Secretariat of NCCC is formally established and functional (2) Establishment of full functioning National Inter-ministerial Climate Change Technical Team (CCTT) (3) Number of NCCC member' institutions with CC focal point and (4) Number of Advisers appointed to NCCC. This would offer an opportunity to explore and compare these outcome indicators and underlying outcome indicators with indicators that other programmes are applying for similar institutional capacity development programmes, this with a view to gain better understanding and share knowledge.

Forest Resource Assessment in Nepal 2009-2014 including sub-project Improving Research Capacity of Forest Resource Information Technology in Nepal 2010-2012

(Finland)

"Forest Resource Assessment in Nepal" (FRA)(2009-2014) -programme focuses on implementing consistent system for creating and sharing basic data of forest stock, biomass, soil and soil carbon and biodiversity in Nepal. The project activities are grouped into four components: Forest resource assessment, Forest cover mapping, Forest Information System research and development and Project management. The purpose of the project is to improve the provision of adequate forestry data and its processing for national forest policy development and for national level forestry sector decision making. The project supports to collect the baseline information for activities related to climate change, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation (REDD) and pilot the carbon trade under REDD mechanism. Supporting this project there is an capacity-building sub-project "Improving Research Capacity of Forest Resource Information Technology" (IRCFRIT) (2009-2012) which is an Institutional Cooperation project between the following institutions: Finnish Forest Research Institute Finland; Department of Forest Research and Survey (Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation), Nepal, Tribhuvan University's Institute of Forestry, Nepal, Kathmandu Forestry College, Nepal, Forest

Inventory and Planning Institute, Vietnam and Vietnam Forestry University. The objective of the capacity building sub-project is to strengthen the capacity of Nepal and Vietnam to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. This will be achieved by improving the partner agencies' capabilities in data acquisition and analysis. The aim is to elaborate the existing setups including the development of new biometrical tools for forest inventories in partner countries, and to increase the expertise of personnel in the partner agencies. Currently there is an ongoing evaluation of these projects. In the terms of reference for the evaluation there are two specific questions for capacity building: 1) Is the capacity building provided by the project based on the local partner's capacity development strategy? 2) Does the project promote the use of local and regional resources, including South-South cooperation? Additionally the capacity building activities (as well as all other project activities) are evaluated by their (a) relevance, (b) efficiency, (c) development effectiveness, (e) development impact, (f) sustainability, (g) use of country's own institutions and systems, (h) ownership, (i) management for results, (j) mutual accountability, (k) coordination, (l) complementarity, and (m) coherence.

Capacity Development for National Climate Change Focal Point in Vietnam (2007-2010) (Denmark)

Vietnam has many limitations in the adaptive capacity to reduce its vulnerability to climate change, including extreme events. As demonstrated by recent climate experiences, the capacity for managing climate risks, including seasonal forecasting, early warning systems, disaster preparedness, mitigation and relief, needs to be improved for the region as a whole. In most farming systems, adaptation has not been implemented to account for inter-annual or inter-seasonal variations in current climate. The overall objective of the project was to have the International Cooperation Department (ICD) under MONRE to act as National Climate Change Focal Point (NCCFP) that will address key problems arising from the interaction of climate change and sustainable development for a better co-ordination & integration of national climate policies with sustainable development policies. The project's immediate objectives were to develop the capacity of ICD of MONRE as a National Climate Change Focal Point (NCCFP) that collects and provides information to decision makers and concerned ministries on Climate Change adaptation activities that address the current and anticipated adverse effects of climate change, including extreme events in sustainable development programmes. As well as having the NCCFP strengthen its role in cooperation with the international community in eliminating/mitigating threats from climate change to sustainable development.

The project has been monitored during the implementation phase and subsequently reviewed. The following important outcomes have been achieved: Information and knowledge relating to climate change has been disseminated to officials, civil servants of central agencies, local authorities and residents. Within the framework of the project, two large-scale workshops on climate change were held in 2009 in two regions with the participation of representatives from four Central Offices (Office of the Government, Office of the Party Central, Office of the President and Office of the National Assembly) and leaders of provinces in Central and Southern regions. These two conferences were the beginning step of an annual summit on climate change in three regions, which will be held in coming years.

The evaluation of the project found that capacity has been strengthened for staff working in the management sector and for staff involved in formulating policies and laws relating to climate change at central local levels, through training workshops and thematic research activities. The capacity building activities have contributed significantly to the success of Vietnam's delegation at the COP conference on climate change in 2008 and 2009. Positive support for implementation of the national target program to respond to climate change (NTP) has been provided. The project has supported the planning of conferences and consultation workshops to take suggestions for action plans and programs/projects within the NTP. The evaluation found that in general, the capacity and coordination role of the staff of the Department of International Cooperation had been enhanced significantly based on the following indicators: (i) preparation for COP14 and COP15 (ii) joint planning of international conferences and workshops in Vietnam (iii)

development of action plans, programs and projects relating to climate change (iv) participation in negotiation in international conferences on climate change.

Innovative Insurance Products for Climate Change Adaptation (Germany)

The project "Innovative Insurance Products for Climate Change Adaptation" aims to help Ghana to manage the socio-economic costs and risks associated with climate change. It will do so by developing and placing on the market climate-related agricultural insurance schemes for selected value chains. The project will be implemented between 2009 and 2013. Partner institutions are the National Insurance Commission (NIC), the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) and the Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet).

Despite the great interest in innovative insurance schemes, Ghana still has very little experience with this type of scheme. Therefore, the project involves cooperation with regulatory and supervisory bodies, insurance companies and insurance industry associations, as well as consumers - in order to enhance a better understanding of this issue and as such to foster professionalism and to build capacity of the Ghanaian insurance sector.

One component is aiming at advising the partner institutions on how to renew the Ghanaian insurance regulatory framework, how to develop and implement rules concerning index-based insurances and overall, how to integrate innovative information into existing rules, regulations and frameworks. As such the capacity and knowledge of involved stakeholders and institutions will be increased. One further output is that food and income security will improve, alongside credit supply and employment prospects for Ghana's rural population. The project will also help the important value chains to attract foreign direct investment and access international markets. The project will act as an example for knowledge-sharing and capacity-building across Africa and beyond. The knowledge of potential customers about costs, benefits and risks of climate relevant insurance products will be assessed through qualitative surveys before and after training sessions. A scientific study will be undertaken in cooperation with the Microinsurance Innovation Facility of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The study will focus not only on the motives behind the decision on taking out and renewing policies but also on the socio-economic effects of climate relevant insurances. Progress is reported annually and a final review will be undertaken after implementation. Experience gained here will be systematically assembled and distributed to other countries and lessons-learned ideally be applied for similar projects.

PAKLIM - Policy Advice on Climate Change and Environment (Germany)

PAKLIM is an Indonesian - German Cooperation Programme that provides policy advice and as such capacity-building on climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives to national and local government institutions and commerce. It will be implemented between 2009 and 2016. The German government supports its public and private project partners with the implementation of the PAKLIM programme that consists of three components. While two components of the programme consider aspects such as climate change and cities, and energy and industry, the aim of the first component is to improve policy frameworks conditions for the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures.

With respect to adaptation, PAKLIM assists the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and supports the improvement of national policy frameworks conditions for local level adaptation through the establishment of national guidelines. Furthermore programme experts build up institutional capacity by assisting government agencies in developing and improving methods to analyze vulnerability and to decide on adaptation options that are made available to local governments. Concerning mitigation, the programme supports the Indonesian government to develop a collection of climate change strategies towards GHG reduction and sustainable economy. Here, it pays particular attention to refine

and implement these measures as Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and to develop a standardized monitoring system for the Indonesian government that permits the development of a reliable MRV system.

Like in all projects and programs of the German development cooperation, the effectiveness of capacity building measures implemented is monitored by using impact-based indicators defined jointly with the partner country. Achieving the targeted impacts (e.g.: An MRV system for NAMAs is operational or Lessons learned from pilot activities are integrated into national adaptation and mitigation strategies) is regarded as evidence for the effectiveness of the measures. A final review will be undertaken after implementation. Experience gained and lessons-learned - especially regarding institutional capacity-building - will be systematically assembled and distributed and ideally be applied for similar projects.

The Global Climate Change Alliance (EU-European Commission)

In the framework of the Global Climate Change Alliance, country and regional programmes are designed in close cooperation with partner country governments or regional institutions. Most of these programmes focus either on adaptation to climate change or on integration of climate change into country systems (legislation, planning, governance, monitoring mechanisms, etc.) and capacity building is more than often one the key elements of the action. The capacity building activities are usually a part of specific objectives and expected results in a given area, for example vulnerability assessments, design of strategies or support to adaptation for smallholder farmers. For each of the country programmes, a detailed logical framework is developed and indicators for monitoring and follow-up are defined together with the related source of information. There are indicators related to capacity-building results or activities and these are tailor-made to each of the results/activities. Monitoring of CB objectives, results and activities is thus carried-out within the framework of the program overall monitoring process.

Besides monitoring, it is foreseen at the end of each program to carry out an evaluation to assess its impact, effectiveness and efficiency. As Capacity Building is usually a component or a part of the different objectives, results and activities, it is evaluated as one of the elements of the project on the basis of the indicators defined in the logical framework.

These 'project-based' monitoring and evaluation of CB actions have nevertheless the weakness of being scattered in different documents; to get a wider view on CB effectiveness thus requires additional efforts. One of the ways used by the European Commission to address this problem is to implement wider evaluation exercises, allowing a broader perspective on selected strategies or issues. For the year 2012, it is planned to carry out a general evaluation of the GCCA initiative. The terms of reference will include specific references to capacity building and CB results and impacts will feature among the evaluation criteria.

Another way to compile CB related information appears in the GCCA Knowledge Management & Communication Strategy which includes, under the Knowledge Management component, specific CB results. It is for example planned to organise in 2012 a GCCA Global Learning Workshop aiming at exchanging experience, sharing information about achievements and difficulties encountered, and supporting the emergence of lessons learned and best practices. A publication on lessons learned and good practices is also foreseen, building on the workshop and the general evaluation. The final objective is to ensure access to detailed and consolidated evidence and a set of 'good practices' derived from GCCA implementation that can be used to support policy dialogue, build capacities and promote good practice in the response to climate change.

Below are two examples of CB related indicators and monitoring mechanisms taken from GCCA programmes, one regional and one country-based.

Programme on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA-EAC-SADC) region.
(European Commission)

One of the objectives of this regional program aims at implementing climate vulnerability assessments and analysis in the region, both at national and regional level. Specific attention is also devoted to the local dimension, with activities targeting community livelihoods mapping. To achieve this objective, one result and a set of three activities are foreseen. Capacity building is the first of the three activities and is seen as a precondition for allowing beneficiaries to carry out the vulnerability assessments and the integration of climate risks into livelihoods mappings. One specific indicator is foreseen to track the CB activities (workshops) and is complemented by indicators addressing the vulnerability reports as such, final result of the action. Once again, it appears here that CB is closely related to a specific issue (vulnerability assessments) and is monitored within the wider framework of the project monitoring and evaluation system.

Support Project to the Government of Mozambique for the mainstreaming of Climate Change into policies and strategies and to adapt to Climate Change impact
(European Commission)

The overall objective of the project is to support the Government's efforts in tackling the adverse effects of climate change, with a special focus on the most vulnerable communities in the rural areas of the country. Its purpose is to increase the capacity of the Government of Mozambique to adequately mainstream climate change and climate-proofing initiatives into the Government poverty alleviation and development strategies.

The first of the expected results relates to Capacity Building: the institutional capacity and technical expertise of key government institutions, Ministry for the Coordination of the Environmental Action (MICOA) in particular, is strengthened. This is to be achieved through:

- Review of relevant sectoral development strategies;
- Reinforcement of the Ministry leadership and role as focal point in environmental affairs and coordination and monitoring of both government and donors relevant interventions;
- Strengthening of the environment monitoring system

This should contribute to build capacity at the level of government institutions to plan and implement strategies for climate change to support, and implement activities in the most vulnerable areas based on the national climate change strategy. An additional result refers to financial management capacity, which should be strengthened in order for MICOA to fulfil its mandate leading to higher budget allocations and execution for environment and climate change.

As regards monitoring, it is interesting to note in this action the close relation to the national system. The overall performance of the sector is monitored against the overall Performance Assessment Framework (PAF), which is being revised by the Ministry of Planning and Development together with MICOA. The PAF will serve as a reference for the monitoring of the program and for the various activities financed by the EC under the proposed action. The capacity building component of the action will support the qualitative improvement of sector performance monitoring systems. Under this component, a PAF will be refined and agreed upon with MICOA during the inception phase of the project. No less than nine indicators for the capacity-building component are defined and include for example "the number of plans and regulations reviewed and updated", "the indicators, targets and monitoring system for key environmental sectors in place" or "regular monitoring carried out". The sources of verification are varied but several are based on the MICOA own documents. These indicators, measuring CB effectiveness are regularly monitored and are to be assessed during the final evaluation.

Climate and Development Knowledge Network (United Kingdom and the Netherlands)

To identify the best opportunities and create practical policies, decision-makers need access to the best available information, research and advice, such as climate impacts data and cost benefit analysis of adaptation approaches. The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) is a five year initiative, supported by the governments of the UK and the Netherlands that is helping 40 developing countries to build their knowledge, capacity and action plans on climate change. CDKN is an alliance of six private and non-governmental organisations working across three continents. With its team of scientists, economists and policy analysts from both developed and developing countries, it offers support to public, private and non-governmental decision-makers to develop new policies, introduce new technologies and mobilise new funding sources. In Rwanda, CDKN supported the Ministry of Natural Resources in a number of ways, including contributing to the funding and logistical support for the development of a Green Growth and Climate Resilience Strategy. The strategy was approved and adopted by the Rwandan Cabinet in October 2011 and launched by the Government of Rwanda at COP17. This new piece of climate change policy allows for direct action on implementing climate compatible development across the Rwandan economy, in a coordinated manner. The year-long process included consultation with over 300 stakeholders, and was overseen by governmental Steering Committee comprising high level representatives from nine ministries.

CDKN's largest project in Asia so far is the Loss and Damage (L&D) in vulnerable countries project, anchored in Bangladesh. It aims to provide science and policy support for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other vulnerable countries. This project has helped empower the Government of Bangladesh, which is now perceived as a leader on loss and damage in international climate negotiations. With this intervention, CDKN has assisted Bangladesh to get ahead of the curve by building its expertise and understanding on the matter.

NECTAR: Strengthening the abilities of African countries in the negotiation of the post-2012 climate regime (France)

The Least Developed Countries of Africa significantly feel the effects of climate change, but are often little influential in the international climate negotiations due to lack of capacity. The project NECTAR (**NE**gociations **C**limat **T**oute l'**A**frique **R**enforcee) aims since 2008 at helping African LDCs to develop national strategies in order to take part in climate negotiations and targeting obstacles in negotiations faced by LDCs (linguistic difficulties due to the use of English, lack of climate policy, lack of coherent techniques and methodologies of negotiation).

- To achieve its objectives, the project is divided into two main parts:
Sector-based studies and analyses to assess the LDCs development priorities in six different sectors: physical planning and building; agriculture; forests; energy; water and sanitation, transport and telecommunications

Workshops for climate negotiators and sectoral experts from all African LDCs aiming at i) group-reflection, discussion and validation of the results of the sector-based analyses, ii) triggering collective thinking on the question of the instruments and mechanisms used by the Kyoto Protocol, iii) preparing the negotiations through planning of negotiation strategies and capacity-building of negotiators.

The ongoing evaluation of the project has ensured that information about the state of negotiations remains up-to-date guaranteeing applicable insight of the LDCs' climate negotiators. The wide diffusion due to high demand for the status papers decrypting the negotiation talks (accessible in French, English and Arab) has enabled valuable feedback as to the usability of status papers. Negotiators attended skill workshops allowing them to acquire both skills of negotiation and relevant contacts, helping LDCs play an important role in the Durban outcome notably by allying with other groupings.

NECTAR will continue to decipher climate negotiations while at the same time focusing on project capacity building allowing LDCs to benefit from the new climate financing schemes following the adoption of the Green Fund in Durban.

Capacity Building Activities in the Iberoamerican region (Spain)

From 2008-2011, Spain has been supporting several capacity building activities within the context of the "Iberoamerican Network of Climate Change Offices (RIOCC)" in different thematic areas related to climate change and in collaboration with several multilateral and regional organizations and institutions (ECLAC, UNDP, UNEP, EIRD, IDB, WB, WMO, CATIE, CIIFEN, FAO, IUCN, CATHALAC, OLADE, UNFCCC, etc) as well as private sector and other regional networks. All these activities are identified by the countries during the Annual Meetings of the network as a priority area of work. The main objective of these thematic workshops is to improve the capabilities of countries for the design and implementation of plans, programs and specific projects and strategies as well as to facilitate the improvement of data and the access to climate finance and funds. The main training workshops singled out as a priority by countries and carried out in the last years are: Integrating Adaptation to climate change in the formulation of Policies & Projects; Programs of Activities of the Clean Development Mechanisms; REDD+ Activities"; Regional climate scenarios and Systematic observation; Adaptation and Impacts of climate change in the coastal areas. Many of these workshops (those related to Adaptation) are also included in the Adaptation Partnership context so that both frameworks (RIOCC and AP) can take advantage of synergies and knowledge.

the monitoring of these activities, ECLAC and Spain are nowadays carrying out a survey among all the workshops participants to evaluate the importance and the impact of the activity regarding questions and factors like:

- **importance of the activity:** improvement in knowledge and understanding of the relevance of climate change in their countries, improvement of their technical capacities, number of strategies implemented to cover the needs on climate change in their countries, support in order to obtain more contacts or partners or to better coordinate with other national stakeholders
- **impact of the activity:** main tools and lessons learnt at the workshop, inclusion or improvement of the relevance of climate change in the national political agenda, review of the existing initiatives or strategies to cope with climate change, increasing or strengthening of new governmental initiatives (strategies plans, programmes, etc.), improvement or creation of coordination bodies with other governmental areas, creation or reinforcement of networks with other countries, strengthening technical capacities to make decisions and improvement of capacities to participate in international negotiations

Water Programme for Environmental Sustainability: Towards adaptation measures to human and climate impact (Italy)

The Water Programme for Environmental Sustainability (WPA I and II) is an UNESCO-IHP programme funded by the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea since 2004. The programme, operating in Serbia, North Africa, Vietnam and China on aquifers vulnerability, is currently in its second conclusive phase. It is centered on the enhancement of integrated groundwater resources management and protection as a remediation to the various climate change effects. It also sets up best practices in response to climate variability and change impacts on water resources. In particular the WPA Project sets up regional training capacities, pilot projects, and technical workshops. It focuses on capacity building, regional coordination and integration, dissemination of best technological practices, as well as good governance practices. As such, the individual activities considered within the project are not isolated activities, but part

of integrated, long-term, multi-sectoral programmes, where each activity complements others within the existing national and regional programmes.

The programme has been monitored during its implementation and according to the assessment of the first phase (WPA I), the major achievement has been the improvement of the community's understanding and awareness of natural and social components of water management protection. The programme has resulted in the strengthening of the people's preparedness to deal with water resources under global change challenges.

WPA included the organization of many workshops as final activity for each component in order to share and spread the research results. A concrete outcome of the increased technical capacity was the release of a large number of publications and scientific reports stemmed from the case studies and pilot projects implemented for each component of the programme. The overall participation was of more than 2000 experts, mainly people responsible of water resources management or belonging to water research public institutions. The training activities enhanced the knowledge base of the hydrological systems in different areas of the world and, in particular, improved groundwater systems management and adaptation measures design. A final evaluation of the whole programme is currently underway since the implementation of the programme is about to be completed.
