

World Bank Submission to Decision --/CP.17 on National Adaptation Plans

I. Introduction

1. The World Bank welcomes the decision on NAPs and the objective of the NAP process to: (a) reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, by building adaptive capacity and resilience; and (b) to facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programs and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate. The World Bank appreciates the opportunity to contribute to Parties' important work under decision -X/CP.17 on National Adaptation Plans, and provide information on its activities to support the national adaptation process (para. 35 -/CP.17). This note also summarizes its broader experience through its various program and partnerships that may inform the application of the guidelines for the NAP process for LDCs (para. 7 -/CP.17).
2. The Bank engages with its client countries on climate change through a range of Instruments, including through strategy level engagements (e.g. Country Assistance Strategies (CASs), Country Environmental Analysis (CEAs)), investments (Specific Investment Loans (SILs), Development Policy Operations (DPOs), technical assistance (including capacity building), knowledge products and tools (analytical studies, economic and sector work), and through Partnerships (e.g. GEF, CIF, and other multi-donor trust funds). This submission highlights some adaptation related insights and lessons derived from a large portfolio of projects and programs in client countries, including in LDCs. It is hoped that this submission will be constructive input to Parties' as they commence work on their National Adaptation Plans. The World Bank would be pleased to elaborate further and contribute to this important work as needed.

II. Key Insights from Adaptation Related Experiences

3. **Clients are increasingly reflecting climate challenges and prioritization of climate related investments directly into national strategies.** It is worth noting here that in FY11 100% of new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) or Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) prioritize climate change as compared to 32%, 63%, and 88% in FY07, FY09, and FY10 respectively. Climate vulnerabilities are discussed and an increasing number of countries have climate resilience as a major pillar of these strategies. It is critical however, that climate strategies (including NAPs) are developed and implemented as integral parts of national financial and economic planning processes if they are to have the desired outcome.
4. **Sound analytical, economic and sector work enhances the quality of dialogue and has the potential to inform the development and delivery of investments in support of climate resilient development in countries.** Several flagship reports (e.g. World Development Report 2010, Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change (2010), Economics of Natural Disasters (2010), and Adaptation to a Changing Climate in the Arab Countries (ongoing)) have helped raise the profile of climate impacts in countries. These coupled with

national, or sector level studies (e.g. EACC country level studies, GFDRR studies) have been instrumental in informing the dialogue and delivery of programs in countries.

5. **Access to and management of reliable and quality climate and climate related data, information and synthesis products to support enhanced decision making is a critical pillar of climate resilience.** Countries are increasingly realizing the importance of these elements as a critical investment over the longer term and the need to build corresponding capacities. There is an increasing emergence of information and data portals. The Climate Change Knowledge Portal (<http://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org>) is a central piece of the World Bank's Open Data Initiative for Climate Change, and provides a one-stop shop in the Bank and beyond to : (i) provide access to good quality climate and climate related information and development of synthesis products. This web-based tool has successfully supported risk-assessment and upstream planning by providing rapid access to synthesis material including national climate risk and adaptation profiles and existing national planning documents including National Communications to the UNFCCC, NAPAs, SPCRs, and could potentially support the NAP process.
6. **The Strategic Programs for Climate Resilience (or Investment Plans) that participating countries have produced under the \$ 1 BN multi-donor CIF Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) provide directly relevant lessons for the NAP process.** The CIF principles of engagement resonate with and support the framing of the NAPs decisions which calls for country-driven and participatory approaches which are continuous, progressive and iterative processes, and result in nationally identified priorities. The PPCR program already provides some early lesson that could inform the NAP process (www.climateinvestmentfund.org) in countries, including: (a) strong country leadership is an imperative, but expectations must be realistic; (b) a country's ability to strengthen resilience depends on buy-in at national and sectoral levels; (c) building capacity of finance or planning ministries has enable them to become leader in climate planning and implementation; (d) importance of prioritization, but choosing priorities is difficult; (e) Need to enhance readiness elements, particularly institutional and human capacity and access and use of technical information to develop policies and actions; (f) expanding the private sector's role is crucial yet challenging; (g) importance of including a bankable stream of investments to for early action, learning and results; and (h) importance of predictable financing. (<http://www.climateinvestmentfunds.org/cif/content/ppcr-pilot-country-meeting-june-23-2011>)
7. **The CIF model of having dedicated shared learning and knowledge exchange fora and mechanisms is showing results of building capacity of participating countries, as well as reinforcing their country leadership of the programs on climate resilience.** The Global Support Program, the CIF Partnership Forum, and the Pilot Countries meetings are some of the technical support elements that have created an opportunity for participating countries to enhance and deepen their capacity and knowledge base incrementally, while also sharing and learning from each others' experiences. These may be useful experiences for the NAP process to explore.
8. **It is imperative that the NAP process takes an integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation:** Increasingly Bank strategies and operational

products are placing climate and disaster risk management at the center of strategic policies and development programs to ensure that both climate change and climate variability are fully addressed up front in development context. This will ensure an organic transition from the NAPA processes and will guard against countries further institutionalizing separate processes for DRR and CCA, creating dichotomies and diminishing national capacity. We also welcome the opportunity to continue to engage on this discussion through the loss and damage agenda under UNFCCC.

- 9. Proper attention to the social dimensions of climate variability and change can greatly enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of development efforts and of the NAP process.** Climate change has important social implications. The starting point to understanding vulnerability to climate change is a clear understanding of existing levels of socioeconomic vulnerability and adaptive capacity. High quality social analysis is essential to ensuring effective poverty reduction and adaptation strategies. For example, upstream social and institutional analysis can help the NAP process to better understand the multi-faceted nature of vulnerability; utilize participatory methods to engage people in the development and implementation of climate change strategies that are tailored to their needs, priorities and realities; and promote good governance, transparency and accountability, in order to enhance the efficacy of climate change adaptation actions. The Bank is supporting client countries to address these challenges in a wide variety of contexts, including under the PPCR, the GFDRR, through carbon finance instruments, and via mainstream IDA and IBRD investment and development policy lending in many sectors. This includes innovation in areas not commonly considered as relevant to building climate resilience such as social protection, migration and population resettlement.
- 10. There are increasing efforts in the Bank to ensure synergies between adaptation and mitigation agendas when designing and planning climate actions and evaluating their impact.** These include examples of interventions in the forest sector which help sequester carbon and increase resilience; climate smart agriculture where the focus is on a triple-win: carbon sequestration, food security and climate resilient livelihoods; water efficiency measures in urban municipalities which reduce energy consumption and emissions from water pumping and distribution, and landscape approaches which explore synergies across a matrix of land uses and optimize co-benefits between adaption and mitigation.
- 11. The World Bank stands ready to share its on-the-ground experiences with client countries, knowledge products and tools; and to assist LDCs in the NAP process going forward (para. 23 -/CP.17) as appropriate.**

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