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Matters relating to the least developed countries

Synthesis report on the regional training workshops on adaptation for the least developed countries for 2012–2013

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This report provides a synthesis of four regional training workshops on adaptation for the least developed countries (LDCs) for 2012–2013, held in Funafuti, Tuvalu, from 28 September to 3 October 2012, Lomé, Togo, from 18 to 22 March 2013, Kigali, Rwanda from 29 July to 2 August 2013, and Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 20 to 24 August 2013. The workshops were designed to enhance and build the capacity of the LDCs in addressing adaptation through the national adaptation programmes of action, the LDC work programme and the national adaptation plan process. This report includes organizational aspects of the workshops, summary of key topics, key issues from discussions, feedback from the participants and considerations for future training.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) conducted four regional training workshops on adaptation for the least developed countries (LDCs) as part of its work programme for 2012–2013 that was presented to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) at its thirty-sixth session.¹ The workshops were designed to enhance and build the capacity of the LDCs to address adaptation through the national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), the LDC work programme and the national adaptation plan (NAP) process.² They were conducted in collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and its agencies, United Nations organizations, bilateral agencies and regional centres and networks, in accordance with the LEG mandate to engage a wide range of organizations to support the implementation of its work programme.³

2. SBI 37 requested the secretariat to prepare a synthesis report on the regional training workshops, to be made available for consideration by the SBI upon completion of the workshops.⁴

B. Scope of the note

3. This report provides information on the workshops referred to in paragraph 1 above, drawing on the presentations and discussions that took place. It contains a description of the approach for the organization of the workshops, the dates, venues and participants of the workshops, a summary of the key topics, a summary of the issues raised during discussions, feedback from the participants and considerations for future training.

II. Proceedings

A. Organization of the workshops

4. The workshops targeted participants from the following three types of national institutions: (a) the ministry, department or agency in charge of coordinating climate change adaptation issues at the national level; (b) the national planning/finance ministry, department or agency overseeing climate change adaptation projects and programmes; and (c) the organization or agency actively involved in the design and implementation of adaptation activities identified in the NAPA, or in research on adaptation at the national level.

5. The workshops were supported by a set of training materials⁵ covering NAPA implementation and key aspects of the NAP process. They were conducted in English or French, depending on the region, and materials were also made available in Portuguese to

¹ FCCC/SBI/2012/7, annex I.

² Decision 1/CP.16 established a process to enable least developed country Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, hereafter referred to as the NAP process.

³ Decision 6/CP.16, paragraph 5.

⁴ FCCC/SBI/2012/33, paragraph 66.

⁵ Available at <<http://unfccc.int/7042>>.

participants from lusophone countries. They built on the previous LEG training workshops⁶ and addressed issues that have emerged since they were held.

6. The content of the training was organized into the following modules:

- (a) Mechanisms for supporting the LDCs on adaptation under the Convention;
- (b) Implementation strategies under the NAPAs;
- (c) Accessing financial resources for the implementation of NAPAs;
- (d) The NAP process;
- (e) Integrating adaptation into development;
- (f) Tracking progress, monitoring and evaluation in addressing adaptation;
- (g) Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation.

7. The core training materials on the above-mentioned modules were developed by the LEG. Individual countries contributed presentations on their experiences in various aspects of NAPA implementation and on experiences related to the NAP process. Those included institutional arrangements for addressing adaptation, developing implementation strategies for the NAPAs, experiences in mobilizing financial and technical resources for addressing adaptation at the national level, ensuring gender-sensitive approaches in adaptation, exploring synergy with other multilateral environmental agreements at the national level, and laying the groundwork for the NAP process. Organizations taking part in the workshops also contributed additional materials covering practical examples on sector-specific issues and themes. All inputs were aligned to the core modules of the training.

8. Each workshop was held over five days and employed different training modalities, including presentations, interactive discussions, practical sessions and field trips. Each had customized training materials and a programme based on the specific experiences and needs of the countries involved. For that, the LEG collected information from the countries prior to each workshop on their specific needs on the implementation of NAPAs and on the aspects of the NAP process. Further information on the needs of countries was also gathered from organizations engaged in the workshops.

9. The first regional training workshop had a greater focus on NAPAs than on NAPs, mainly due to the developments under the NAPs at the time (e.g. the technical guidelines had not yet been published). Further developments under the NAPs since then, including publication of the technical guidelines by the LEG,⁷ and guidance from the COP on support to the LDCs on NAPs,⁸ enabled the LEG to gradually expand the NAPs component of the training. The last workshop therefore included presentations on the technical guidelines, various steps of the launching of the NAP process and support to the NAP process.

B. Dates, venues and participants of the workshops

1. Workshop for Pacific least developed countries

10. The workshop for Pacific LDCs took place from 28 September to 3 October 2012 in Funafuti, Tuvalu. It was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade, Tourism, Environment and Labour of Tuvalu and was opened by the former Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Mr. Willy Telavi.

⁶ FCCC/SBI/2010/15.

⁷ Available at <<http://unfccc.int/nap>>.

⁸ Contained in decision 12/CP.18.

11. Fourteen participants attended the workshop from five Pacific LDCs. The participants were composed of officers from ministries and departments of environment, finance, planning and foreign affairs.

12. In conducting the workshop, the LEG was assisted by resource persons from the following: the GEF and three of its agencies (the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)), two regional organizations (the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme) and two development agencies (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Australian Agency for International Development).

2. Workshop for francophone least developed countries

13. The workshop for francophone LDCs took place from 18 to 22 March 2013 in Lomé, Togo. It was hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry Resources of Togo and was opened by the Togo Minister of Environment, and Forestry Resources, Ms. Dédé Ahoéfa Ekoue.

14. Fifty-five participants attended the workshop, who came from 16 francophone LDCs and two lusophone LDCs. The workshop also included 10 national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), through support by the CBD secretariat.

15. In conducting the workshop, the LEG was assisted by resource persons from the following: the GEF and three of its agencies (FAO, UNDP and UNEP), the CBD secretariat, GIZ, the AGRHYMET Regional Centre of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad, and the African Climate Policy Centre of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

3. Workshop for anglophone African least developed countries

16. The workshop for anglophone African LDCs took place from 29 July to 2 August October 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda. It was hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources of Rwanda and was opened by the Minister of Natural Resources, Mr. Stanislas Kamanzi.

17. Sixty participants from 13 African anglophone LDCs, two lusophone LDCs and one francophone LDC attended the workshop. The workshop also included seven national focal points of the CBD, through support by the CBD secretariat.

18. In conducting the workshop, the LEG was assisted by resource persons from the following: representatives of the GEF and four of its agencies (the African Development Bank, FAO, UNDP and UNEP) and the Regional Center for Mapping of Resources for Development.

4. Workshop for Asian least developed countries

19. The workshop for Asian LDCs took place from 20 to 24 August 2013 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. It was hosted by the Ministry of Environment of Cambodia and was opened by Mr. Mok Mareth, Senior Minister, Minister of Environment.

20. The workshop was attended by 29 participants from the nine Asian LDCs. They included officers from ministries and departments of environment, finance and economics, agriculture, planning, meteorology and hydrology, disaster management and climate change, forestry, and science and technology. Among the participants were five national focal points of the CBD from the Asian LDCs, supported by the CBD secretariat.

21. In conducting the workshop, the LEG was assisted by resource persons from the following: representatives of the GEF and its agencies (FAO, UNDP and UNEP), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, GIZ, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development and the Southeast Asia START Regional Center.

C. Mobilization of a wide range of organizations

22. Prior to each of the regional training workshops, the LEG engaged a wide range of organizations, including the GEF and its agencies, regional centres and networks, international organizations, and bilateral and multilateral agencies, and individual experts, paying attention to those organizations with specific activities in the regions. The LEG also paid particular attention to addressing considerations of gender and vulnerable communities, and ensured participation of relevant organizations in those areas in each of the workshops.

23. The organizations were invited to provide inputs on their experiences, challenges, gaps and success stories, as well as case studies, that are specific to each of the regions. Most of the organizations engaged in the consultations subsequently attended the respective training workshops and supported the LEG in facilitating discussions on their respective areas and inputs. The organizations also helped to provide suggestions to the LEG on the most important issues to be addressed by the workshops in each of the regions. They also provided information on how interested countries could contact them for support.

III. Summary of major topics covered in the training

A. Mechanisms for supporting the least developed countries on adaptation under the Convention

24. The module was aimed at informing the participants about the evolution of available mechanisms under the Convention in order to support the LDCs in addressing adaptation. Those mechanisms included the following: the LDC work programme, established in 2001, containing elements for strengthening the capacity of the LDCs to address the adverse effects of climate change; the NAPAs, established in 2001 as part of the LDC work programme, to enable the LDCs to identify and implement priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs; the NAP process, established in 2010 as a process to enable Parties to formulate and implement NAPs as a means of identifying medium-term and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs; the LEG, established in 2001, whose mandate has progressively been expanded and now covers support to the LDCs on the NAPAs, the LDC work programme and the NAP process; and the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), established in 2001 to support the LDC work programme and now including the NAP process.

B. Implementation strategies under the national adaptation programmes of action

25. The module covered existing and emerging approaches and trends in developing the implementation strategies for the NAPAs, building on the experiences from the regional

training workshops on implementation of NAPAs that were conducted in 2009–2010.⁹ It included such approaches as project-based approaches, programmatic approaches, ecosystem-based approaches, disaster risk reduction approaches, resilience-based approaches, gender-sensitive approaches, integrated water resources management, coastal zones approaches and others. It also looked at issues of synergy at the regional level and among multilateral environment agreements. The module also looked at the possible situations or circumstances under which particular approaches would be most relevant.

C. Accessing financial resources for the implementation of national adaptation programmes of action

26. The module addressed at the processes for accessing financial resources from the LDCF for the implementation of NAPAs. It included aspects of understanding the GEF procedures for accessing funds, formulating funding proposals under the LDCF, developing project identification forms, project preparation grants and the Chief Executive Officer endorsement processes. The module also addressed adaptation costs and co-financing.

27. It further covered at the latest developments in the procedures of the GEF and the LDCF, such as the possibility to pursue multitrust fund projects (i.e. those implementing projects with components of funding from the GEF Trust Fund, the LDCF and the Special Climate Change Fund) and the options for developing regional projects on NAPAs.

28. The module also addressed other possible areas in which funding can be accessed for the implementation of NAPAs, using existing examples from countries in the regions on support through bilateral channels and other means.

D. National adaptation plan process

29. The module was covered at different levels of detail between the first and last workshop. It was aimed at introducing the participants to the NAP process and the guidelines for the NAPs, and at informing the participants about some of the important topics involved in launching the NAP process at the national level. It addressed issues around the following: establishing a long-term NAP process at the national level (mandate, framework/strategy); stocktaking and synthesis of available information on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation; analysis of capacity needs and gaps and possible strategies to address them; data analysis, data management and display of information and visualization in support of the NAP process; and the potential support for the NAP process.

30. Participants expressed the need for further training on the NAP process, to cover detailed steps on how to undertake the formulation and implementation of NAPs at the national levels.

E. Integrating adaptation into development

31. The module was designed to help the participants to understand adaptation in the development context, and to guide them through the practical steps of integrating adaptation into development. It touched on national development processes, frameworks and models that would be relevant in the consideration of adaptation to climate change. It also highlighted typical development goals under different sectors that the actions on adaptation to climate change may seek to protect or contribute towards.

⁹ FCCC/SBI/2010/15, paragraphs 55–81.

32. Practical examples from countries from each of the regions helped to improve the context and understanding of the module.

F. Tracking progress, monitoring and evaluation in addressing adaptation

33. The module informed the participants about the assessment of NAPAs with respect to quality and the need for revision or an update, the experience from which would also benefit similar assessments of relevant documents under the NAP process. It highlighted the need to ensure that the planning and implementation of NAPA documents remains aligned with the actual climate change threats faced by a country, which would subsequently ensure the effectiveness of measures. It also addressed the importance of establishing systematic processes for tracking progress on the implementation of NAPAs and any other national adaptation activities. It demonstrated the relevance of such processes when evaluating the effectiveness of means being undertaken to address climate change.

34. The module also introduced the importance of monitoring and evaluation, the key steps in undertaking monitoring and evaluation, and the resources required and capacity necessary. It also included practical examples drawn from countries in the regions.

G. Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation

35. The module was aimed at introducing the methodology and tools for the selection of best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation at the national level. It also highlighted some of the best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation through the NAPAs, as captured in the publications of the LEG,¹⁰ to demonstrate the ability of the LDCs to prepare and implement adaptation measures with limited resources. It facilitated exchanges of experiences between countries on various areas of work in addressing adaptation, including on institutional arrangements, coordination, and monitoring and evaluation.

H. Country-specific experiences

36. The participants were engaged in various ways to share their country-specific experiences in undertaking adaptation work at the national level, including the following:

- (a) Inviting the participants to prepare and make presentations on their country experiences on any of the following areas:
 - (i) Institutional arrangements for addressing adaptation;
 - (ii) Developing implementation strategies for the NAPAs;
 - (iii) Experiences in mobilizing financial and technical resources for addressing adaptation at the national level;
 - (iv) Ensuring gender-sensitive approaches in adaptation;
 - (v) Exploring synergy with other multilateral environmental agreements at the national level;
 - (vi) Laying the groundwork for the NAP process;

¹⁰ Available at <<http://unfccc.int/6110>>.

(b) Engaging participants to work in their respective country teams to discuss the most significant experiences at their national levels in addressing adaptation, which they then shared in the workshops;

(c) Conducting practical sessions in which the participants worked in groups, drawing from their own national experiences and circumstances, to discuss the following topics and share their results with the rest of the workshop:

(i) Advantages and disadvantages of different approaches in designing implementation strategies for the NAPAs (e.g. project-based approach, programmatic approach, ecosystem-based approach, resilience approach, risk approach);

(ii) Key issues and challenges related to the consideration of cross-cutting issues in adaptation. The cross-cutting issues included ensuring gender-sensitive approaches in adaptation, giving priority to those communities and systems that are particularly vulnerable and ensuring broad participation and the involvement of stakeholders. The participants discussed those issues in the context of areas such as agriculture and food security, water resources and coastal systems at the national, subnational and local levels;

(iii) Challenges in developing and implementing effective monitoring and evaluation systems at the national level;

(iv) Challenges in mainstreaming climate change adaptation into development;

(v) Considerations for initiating the NAP process at the national level using the technical guidelines. That involved attempting to answer key guiding questions on the steps of the NAP process as contained in the technical guidelines and developing specific workstreams and possible supporting activities for undertaking work under those workstreams.

37. During subsequent discussions, the participants were encouraged to engage with each other as much as possible in order to maximize mutual learning. Those sessions where the participants took charge of sharing their experiences at the national level and discussed among themselves were deemed by participants to be the most interesting in all the workshops. The participants were eager to learn from each other and expressed a desire to see the sharing of experiences going beyond the workshops, with additional forums being held at which such discussions could continue.

I. Field trips

38. Practical field trips allowed the participants to visit adaptation-related sites in the host countries, and where possible, enabled the participants to interact with the relevant teams responsible for adaptation work or projects.

39. For the Pacific LDC workshop, the participants were taken to three project sites. Firstly, the participants were taken to a coastal protection and rehabilitation project in the islet of Funafuti. The second project, on the same islet, was on cultivating salt-tolerant pulaka species. Both projects are subcomponents of Tuvalu's LDCF project on increasing resilience of coastal areas and community settlements to climate change.¹¹ The third site was a mangrove afforestation project in the islet of Funafala. The participants had the opportunity to interact with the project management team for the projects and to understand their experiences. The team also provided highlights of adaptation projects on other islets. They shared their particular experience on how coordinating the projects through local

¹¹ <http://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=3694>.

councils has enabled smooth operation of the projects. The team noted that transportation between the islets was a major challenge in the implementation of their projects.

40. The field trip of the regional workshop for francophone LDCs took the participants to two sites with adaptation-related projects in Togo. The first visit was made to an irrigation system in Mission Tové, which was built for a rice field. Project staff explained to the participants how the system works and an exchange of questions and answers followed in which the beneficiaries of the project took part. Some participants questioned the possibility of replication of that particular irrigation system in their countries given the potential level of investment required. The second visit was made to a coastal erosion project in Aného. The participants looked at the existing measures implemented by the government of Togo in the area to combat coastal erosion. The project serves as a baseline for the second NAPA project of Togo.

41. For the African anglophone LDCs, the participants were taken to two adaptation-related project sites in the drought-prone district of Bugesera, in the Eastern Province of Rwanda. The first site was an agroforestry plantation of various species of trees, implemented as part of the Rwanda Africa Adaptation Programme, to serve as livestock feeds, to reduce erosion and to improve soil fertility. The participants were then taken to an automatic weather station installed as part of Rwanda's LDCF project on reducing vulnerability to climate change by establishing early warning and disaster preparedness systems and support for integrated watershed management in flood-prone areas.¹² Live feeds from the stations are anticipated to enable the Rwanda Meteorological Agency to produce better forecasts and to warn the population about extreme weather events and related disasters. The participants were keen to know how the national team in Rwanda will manage and service the early warning system beyond the completion of the project, as that appeared to be one of the key challenges in most countries.

42. The field trip for the Asian LDCs workshop took the participants first to the West Baray water reservoir, which is an irrigation system built in the eleventh century during the Khmer Empire. The system still serves to retain water in the rainy season and to feed irrigation canals during dry periods. Thereafter the participants visited the city of Angkor Wat to witness an ancient hydraulic irrigation system composed of a large reservoir that was designed to ensure optimal storage of water for cultivating rice. The reservoir would collect water, with the help of gravity, during monsoonal periods. The water would then subsequently be used for rice irrigation during dry periods.

J. Inputs from organizations

43. The organizations mentioned in paragraphs 12, 15, 18 and 21 above provided additional training materials and support on various topics of the training, including on cross-cutting issues, covering adaptation in the context of the following topics: agriculture and food security; fisheries and aquaculture; coastal zone management; mobilizing financial resources for adaptation; ecosystem-based adaptation approaches; examples of monitoring and evaluation; examples of mainstreaming adaptation into development; synergies; gender and vulnerable communities; data management and visualization; and possible adaptation support from regional projects and programmes.¹³

44. The organizations also provided information on their existing support to the NAPA and NAP processes, as well as their planned projects and programmes to support the LDCs.

¹² <http://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=3838>.

¹³ Available at <<http://unfccc.int/7042>>.

IV. Summary of issues raised during discussions

45. A summary of the issues discussed during the workshops is presented below.
46. On the implementation of NAPAs, the participants highlighted the following issues:
- (a) Adequate and continuous financial support is required to ensure full implementation of NAPAs in all LDCs;
 - (b) The GEF agencies should strive to communicate more clearly on their internal procedures for disbursing funding from the LDCF. The participants indicated that they do not understand the actual delay in the disbursement of funds for the implementation of projects even after the endorsement of projects by the GEF Chief Executive Officer;
 - (c) GEF agencies need to allow countries to buy equipment, such as vehicles, with LDCF funding in order to facilitate the implementation of projects on the ground, especially in remote areas. They suggested that doing so would also help to ensure the sustainability of projects;
 - (d) The GEF needs to further consider the co-financing concept, and to provide a compilation of examples of co-financing to facilitate the development of projects by countries. Some participants wanted to know whether they could use an already completed project as co-financing;
 - (e) The GEF could make additional efforts to streamline its procedures for accessing funds from the LDCF, paying attention to addressing the issues of limited absorptive capacity of the LDCs but also of the agencies.
47. On the NAP process, participants highlighted the following issues:
- (a) Now that the LDCs have the NAP technical guidelines, and have undergone initial training on the topic, they can embark immediately on their NAP process, if they have not already done so. That can include declaring their steps, and for some may entail, as a first step, putting into place institutional arrangements and setting up clear mandates at the national level for their adaptation planning and implementation, and plans for the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
 - (b) Support for the NAP process needs to be provided as soon as possible in order to ensure the establishment of effective and efficient processes;
 - (c) The LDCs need to be provided with financial support as soon as possible, in order to ensure the success of the NAP process. The amount of funding provided will need to be high enough to ensure continuous and pragmatic support based on country needs and situations. The funding needs to be provided through expedited procedures;
 - (d) The LDCs will continue to rely on the support of the LEG for the implementation of the NAPAs, as well as for the formulation and implementation of NAPs;
 - (e) The country-driven nature of the NAP process is an aspect that is likely to make the process succeed, and the types of outputs that the country will produce during the process will depend on the country's capacity and needs;
 - (f) The LDCs can integrate and synergize their NAP processes with any existing sectoral or thematic adaptation and development efforts in order to ensure a comprehensive and mainstreamed approach to adaptation planning that is fully consistent with national priorities;
 - (g) In the light of the launching of the NAP process, countries were particularly interested to learn from each other on issues such as institutional arrangements, national

strategies on adaptation, mainstreaming adaptation into national and subnational plans, and early warning systems;

(h) Some LDCs have strong existing institutional arrangements that can efficiently serve the NAP process;

(i) Countries that managed to maintain their NAPA teams are more likely to have good arrangements to build upon for the NAP process and more sustainable in-country expertise;

(j) There is a need to build national capacity, rather than relying on external consultants, given that the NAP process is a country-owned process;

(k) Countries should be clear on the linkages between the NAPAs and the NAPs.

48. In general, on adaptation approaches, participants felt that:

(a) It is important for the LDCs to understand the different approaches they can take to adaptation, including the ecosystems-based approach, how to integrate gender considerations into adaptation, and how to mainstream adaptation into development planning;

(b) Regional networking to share experiences and learn from each other is a powerful tool for adaptation. They recognized the importance of South–South learning, as well as learning from developed countries that already have NAP-like processes in place.

V. Feedback on the workshops from the participants

A. General feedback

49. At the end of each workshop, the participants filled out an evaluation form. In their responses, the majority of the participants expressed their satisfaction with the overall content and approach of the workshops, the training materials and the different contributions provided.

50. Discussions and engagement of the participants indicated that the level of government coordination and expertise regarding adaptation in the LDCs is increasing. As a result, the training effect of the workshops benefited to a large extent from the experience and knowledge of the participants and their eagerness to exchange with, and learn from, each other.

51. The evaluations highlighted the value of utilizing case studies and practical group work. Many countries emphasized the importance of the workshops in terms of being able to learn from each other. The group work was seen as particularly valuable, as were the field trips, for their practical lessons. The training material was appreciated as a means to frame the theory and provide specific country examples. Participants mentioned the value of simple, concise presentations, to ensure that all levels of expertise and language proficiency could benefit.

52. Participants recommended conducting an even greater number of practical sessions in subsequent workshops, which will look at a variety of country case studies.

53. The provision of training materials in three working languages used in the LDCs (English, French and Portuguese) was highly appreciated.

54. Participants of the Pacific LDC workshop especially noted the need for additional training on NAPs. Despite the fact that their workshop happened prior to the release of the

NAP technical guidelines, and hence available materials on NAPs, most of them have made appreciable progress on the NAPAs and would like to embark on the NAP process.

55. Participants also felt that they benefitted greatly from the sessions on the NAP process since it was the first training of the kind provided by the LEG. Those that were not involved in the UNFCCC negotiation process were able to better understand the process, and the participants were trained in the practical aspects of NAP formulation. They added that such information should be extended further to policymakers.

56. Participants appreciated the opportunity to interact with the GEF and its agencies, and to ask questions regarding funding and the implementation of NAPAs and NAPs.

57. Participants also highlighted the importance of the sessions related to accessing financial and other forms of support for both the NAPA and NAP processes. They suggested adding further practical sessions on how to access funding for the NAP process and overall information on sources of finance for adaptation.

58. The presence of the GEF and its agencies throughout the duration of the workshop, as well as that of other organizations and resource persons from the region, was seen as valuable, as it provided the participants with sufficient opportunity to ask questions and get immediate feedback on issues such as funding and other technical aspects under the respective modules.

59. The regional nature of the workshops created a familiar environment in which the participants felt comfortable with sharing their experiences and lessons learned. Through the workshops, the less experienced participants built their capacity to engage more effectively in national adaptation processes. The more experienced participants enhanced their skills and became more familiar with the NAP process, and the means to launch it.

60. Having witnessed implementation projects on the ground, participants from countries, as well as from GEF agencies, suggested issuing a publication that captures success stories in the implementation of NAPA projects.

B. Summary of future training needs

61. Participants suggested that capacity-building through training workshops should be organized on a continuous basis, given the evolving nature of adaptation, and the long-term horizon of the NAP process. In addition to the topics covered in the current training, they suggested that the LEG could include the following topics in future training workshops:

(a) The overall conduct of the NAP process at the national level, including coordination with all levels, and how to interface with regional and international support mechanisms;

(b) Development and implementation of communication strategies and campaigns that target different stakeholders to facilitate awareness and buy-in of the NAP process;

(c) Selected practical components of the formulation of NAPs, including, inter alia, stocktaking of ongoing and past information and initiatives on adaptation, conduct of vulnerability and adaptation assessments, the integration of adaptation into development, linkages between different sectors and levels, stakeholder involvement, consideration of relevant non-climatic drivers of change, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting;

(d) Approaches, processes and options for data collection, analysis, management and visualization in support of the formulation of NAPs, including the use of geographical information systems and remote sensing;

- (e) Access to data, methods and tools for risk, vulnerability and adaptation assessments;
- (f) Key components and values of different adaptation approaches (e.g. resilience-based approaches, climate-proofing approaches, ecosystem-based approaches, risk reduction approaches, risk management approaches, integrated water resources management) and synergies between them;
- (g) Planning towards low-carbon climate-resilient development;
- (h) Financial needs assessments, accessing targeted funding sources such as the Green Climate Fund, and identification of other possible sources of funding for the implementation of NAPs;
- (i) Mobilization and management of multiple sources of support;
- (j) Establishment and strengthening of linkages between the NAP process and other ongoing and future adaptation activities at the national and regional levels, as well as synergies with work under other multilateral environmental agreements;
- (k) Up to date information on ongoing efforts in support of NAP processes (e.g. the global support programme), including on how to access such support;
- (l) Development of implementation strategies for the NAPs;
- (m) Design and implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems for the NAP process and adaptation at multiple levels;
- (n) Capturing and sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned on various stages of the NAP process.

62. Participants suggested that the training could include training of trainers, self-paced learning and e-learning approaches. They suggested that the training could draw from the practical experience of ongoing adaptation activities in the LDCs. They also referred to the need to continue to structure future training around the elements of the NAP process and proposed that the LEG could showcase samples of NAPs during training sessions. Finally, participants were eager to be provided with means that would facilitate the exchange of experiences with each other and with the LEG on a continuing basis.

VI. Issues for possible consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

63. The SBI may wish to consider the following issues that arose from the workshops in providing further guidance on support to the LDCs:

- (a) The discussions and feedback from the participants have pointed to the high value of the training workshops, particularly regarding the opportunity for the participants to share their experiences, learn from each other, establish regional networks and engage directly with the LEG, the GEF and its agencies and other organizations on relevant issues;
- (b) So far, the training has provided only an initial introduction to the NAP process and acquainted the participants with the technical guidelines and potential sources of support. Participants pointed to the need for further and continuous training on various practical aspects of the NAP process considering its complex and long-term nature. Examples of future training needs are provided in chapter V.B above;
- (c) A training approach to meet those needs provided in chapter V.B above could consist of the following:

- (i) A further series of regional training workshops;
 - (ii) Training of trainers;
 - (iii) Revision and elaboration of the training material to also serve as the basis for self-paced learning and e-learning;
 - (iv) Deployment of NAP Central as a means to provide countries with stable access to data, methods, tools, case studies, technical papers and publications, and with an interface for exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned;
 - (v) Partnerships between the LEG and other organizations and efforts to conduct training activities in support of the NAP process;
- (d) Targeted training addressing the conduct of the NAP process at the national level could be provided by the LEG, whereas sector-specific and other detailed aspects and materials could be contributed and/or delivered by partner organizations.
- (e) Participation of the GEF and its agencies as well as other resource persons throughout the entire training workshop would provide the participants with sufficient opportunity to clarify issues regarding funding and other technical aspects.
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