



Report on UNFCCC COP21 Side Event : Making the best use of the NAMA Registry



This brief report summarizes the discussion at an UNFCCC COP21 Side Event organized on 2 December 2015 in Paris. The UNFCCC secretariat organized the side event to update Parties and other stakeholders on current operational status of NAMA registry. It also intended to discuss how the registry can be optimized to best fit in the short to medium term and under the post-2020 climate regime. Furthermore, it also featured those donors/supporters that have made available and/or provided support for countries within or outside the registry.

The NAMA registry was developed as a public online platform, as mandated by decisions made at the Conference of Parties (COP) 16 and COP 17, to support developing countries with the preparation and implementation of actions to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. With the help of this platform countries can record domestically supported mitigation actions, mitigation actions seeking international support and the support available for them. The platform also aims to enable the matching of mitigation actions with that available support.

The UNFCCC secretariat, Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO), UNEP DTU Partnership and Global Environment Facility presented at the event to provide information on their support programme for NAMAs and share their experience in relation to the use of the registry.

Enabling technology transfer through CTCN

Mr. Rajiv Garg, the CTCN, provided an overview on CTCN, which is an operative arm of the UNFCCC Technology mechanism. It partners with UNEP, UNIDO and affiliated networks, 11 independent, regional and global consortium partner organizations and international network of 100-plus academic, multilateral, NGO and private sector institutions to support developing countries on design and transfer of climate change technologies.

He also highlighted the feature of technical assistances offered by the CTCN and procedures to access them. CTCN is currently supporting activities in two countries leading to NAMAs formulation. He mentioned “we have joined hand with the UNFCCC secretariat to support the developing countries by offering tailor-made technical assistance in preparation of mitigation actions.” In response to this call, 8 countries have requested CTCN support in multiple focus areas including energy supply, demand side management, renewable energy and smart grids, transport and waste management.

Updates on operation of the NAMA registry

According to the presentation made by UNFCCC secretariat, an unprecedented increase in the number of registry users and their level of participation since its first deployment in 2013 clearly reflects Parties' interest to use the registry as a means of facilitating the design and implementation of mitigation actions. In 2015, the registry saw 17% increment in the users' base while the NAMA entries doubled. Although Latin American and Caribbean States are at front to record NAMAs, African States also experienced fourfold increase in the total number of NAMA submitted for recording. The participation of least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) is noteworthy. It is also noted that majority of NAMA entries recorded are seeking support for implementation.

Mr. Gopal Joshi, UNFCCC, stated "that registry is helping Parties and NAMA practitioners to overcome the common challenges that they faced during NAMA design and implementation by offering authentic information on mitigation actions and support available, and sharing best practices, lesson learned and useful tools."

He further highlighted various activities undertaken by the UNFCCC secretariat with a view to establish collaboration between developing countries and international supporting organizations as well as representatives from the private sector to materialize concrete mitigation actions on the ground.

He highlighted that the registry has a diversified role to play in long run:

- Acting as a submission portal for financial mechanisms under the convention, national and international support agencies;
- Official tracking of concrete climate actions on the ground and associated support needs and implementation of support commitments under the Paris Climate Agreement;
- Reporting implementation status of NAMAs and associated ex-post impacts;
- Showing what works in terms of investment and support;
- Compiling and sharing best practices;

For the future of the Registry, it is recommended that Parties and others who may benefit from the Registry find ways to increase their level of participation in the Registry; take steps to ensure that their entries in the Registry are accurate, complete and up-to-date and continue to provide the secretariat with suggestion for improving the Registry.

GEF's support for NAMAs

Ms. Milena Gonzalez Vasquez, the GEF, said "as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, we have been supporting non-Annex I countries in the development and implementation of NAMAs. Most recently, the GEF Council approved a NAMA project in Uganda to support the development of their integrated waste management and biogas sector."

She further added that "as a regular user of the registry we see the important role of the registry in promoting NAMA in developing countries to receive required support while support agencies can extract information in relation to countries' priorities and mitigation potential and required tailor-made support programmes to be designed for them".

NAMA Assessing sustainable development and transformational change impacts of climate policies and actions

Ms. Karen Holm Olsen, the UNEP DTU, walked the participants through main features of transformational change framework, sustainable development framework and sustainable development tools developed under the NAMA Partnership initiative. The NAMA Partnership aims to enhance collaboration and complementarity of the activities of multilateral, bilateral and other organizations to accelerate support to developing countries in preparation and implementation of their NAMAs.

The first research project of the NAMA Partnership aims to develop the sustainable development framework to evaluate the sustainable development impacts of mitigation actions while the second project will improve the understanding of transformational change impacts. She said “these framework and tools will help the registry users and Parties in identifying, assessing and reporting transformational change and sustainable development benefits of mitigate actions.

Based on the SD framework, the SD tool has been designed to evaluate the SD performance indicators for NAMAs and to evaluate the SD results achieved over the life time of the NAMA. The SD tool is currently applied in 7 NAMAs. The tool uses the following indicators:

- Environmental : air, land, water and natural resources
- Social : jobs, education, health and safety and welfare
- Economic : growth, energy, technology and balance of payment
- Intuitional: capacity building, domestic MRV system, policy and planning and laws and regulation.

With regard to transformational change, guidance has been developed for the use of transformational change indicators and scoring of their potential.

The NAMA sustainable development framework		
Steps	Element	Description
A: Ex-ante Assessment	1. SD criteria and indicators	Identify and describe SD impacts –using the CDM SD taxonomy with one new dimension
	2. Transformational change	Indicators of the processes of change for a paradigm shift to low carbon and sustainable development
	3. Quantification and monetization	Units of measurement to track SD impacts towards SD goals are identified and methods to estimate their monetary value are applied
B: Procedural steps	4. Alignment with SD goals	SD impact analysis and contributions to SD goals at global, national and other relevant levels
	5. Stakeholder participation	Guidelines for stakeholder involvement throughout NAMA design
	6. No-harm safeguards	Compliance with no-harm safeguards to avoid or mitigate negative impacts
C: Ex-post Assessment	7. Monitoring and reporting	Develop a monitoring plan; how are indicators monitored, by whom, how often? Describe quality assurance procedures. Report the monitoring data to relevant stakeholders at regular intervals.
	8. Verification	Independent review of methods and data shall be provided when needed to ensure SD impacts are credible and transparent
	9. Certification	Public, private or civil society players may want to define standards for certification of units of GHG reductions with SD impacts

Mitigation actions in agriculture, forestry and land use sector

Mr. Martial Bernoux, the FAO stated “that Agriculture, forestry and other land use is the largest greenhouse gas emitting sector after the energy sector, hence there is a great potential to develop ambitious mitigation actions addressing emission from this sector”. Agriculture alone contributes 10-12 per cent of global GHG emissions.

Even though, the AFOLU sector has a significant mitigation potential, there is a notable lack of NAMAs that have actually received financing and moved into implementation to realise its vast mitigation potential. Many organizations have prepared excellent tools to support NAMA development but none of them has focused on

AFOLU specific questions. That is why FAO decided to compile a tool to help the agriculture stakeholders overcome knowledge barriers and start NAMA identification and planning.

He added that FAO NAMA tool, which is recorded in the registry as well, provides information e.g. on the type and quantity of technical, human and financial resources needed to develop and implement NAMAs. It also gives advice on how to achieve reductions in net GHG emissions in the AFOLU sector while supporting other sustainable development goals. The tool is now available in three languages: English, Spanish and French. FAO can provide support to its member countries that are interested in planning mitigation actions in AFOLU sector.



Global emission sources (data source : IPCC, 2014a)

Floor discussion

Participants were keen to know the reasons behind less number of NAMAs being developed in AFOLU sector. Mr. Martial replied that exiting knowledge barrier on identification and planning of mitigation actions in this sector could be a main reason.

In response to participant's query why countries need to submit their NAMAs to the registry as well as other donor agencies, it was highlighted that the NAMA registry is not set up to act as tool of fund distribution for the financial mechanism of the convention and other international support agencies. Entities under the financial mechanism and other international support agencies have their own submission and selection procedure, which need to be followed to access their support. The registry simply aims to assist countries on receiving international support for mitigation actions by compiling and sharing information on mitigation actions and associated support needs and support available for them and facilitating to build collaboration with support providers. The information recorded in the registry will help to promote their mitigation actions and establish contact with potential support agencies.

The floor also discussed on the role of NAMAs in future climate agreement, in particular linkage with nationally determined contributions. It is well agreed that nationally determined contributions (NDCs) and NAMAs have the same goal i.e. contribute to reduce global greenhouse emission. NDCs are national climate action plans that provide umbrella framework for mitigation actions while NAMAs could be real concrete actions to achieve those plans.