

Meeting between members of the Adaptation Committee’s National Adaptation Plan Task Force (NAP TF) and representatives from UN agencies, relevant multi- and bilateral organizations and NGOs supporting the NAP process

26–27 September 2014, UN Campus Bonn

Background paper

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1. Introduction

At its 4th meeting, the Adaptation Committee (AC) established, in accordance with its rules of procedure, a task force on national adaptation plans (NAP TF) to further support developing countries seeking to formulate and implement NAPs. The terms of reference of this task force were annexed to the report of the AC to COP 19, which the COP noted with appreciation.¹ The NAP task force is composed of seven members from the AC as well as one representative each from the LEG, TEC, SCF and the GCF Board (the latter is currently represented by a member of the GCF secretariat).

In 2014, the taskforce developed a workplan, taking into account the activities in the AC's workplan and the modalities and activities identified through the AC's work in 2013. This workplan was adopted by the AC in May 2014.²

Activity 2 of the workplan foresees the organization of a two-day meeting between NAP TF members and representatives from UN agencies, relevant multi- and bilateral organizations and NGOs supporting the NAP process, at the margins of AC6. The deliverable of this meeting is the identification of strategic efforts to address gaps and needs encountered by developing countries when undertaking the NAP process. A short background paper was identified to serve as input to the meeting, summarizing outputs from activity 1 of the NAP TF's workplan. Activity 1 includes the regular engagement of Parties, relevant multi- and bilateral organizations and NGOs to (i) take stock of past and ongoing activities in support of national adaptation planning; (ii) define and subsequently discuss progress in the NAP process, including as it relates to support provided and efforts undertaken at national and sub-national levels towards the objectives of the NAP process; (iii) track issues, including gaps, needs, good practices, and obstacles faced by countries, and identify solutions with relevant partners, among others.

The NAP TF, in organizing the meeting, has agreed that this meeting alone will not be able to identify all possible efforts to address gaps and needs encountered by developing countries when undertaking the NAP process, but that it needs to be seen in the context of several activities and events that will jointly contribute towards this deliverable (including, e.g. a previous paper of the AC on financial support for NAPs (AC/2014/10), NAP Expo 2014, an information paper being prepared by the LEG and the AC on experiences, good practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs on the process to formulate and implement NAPs, the subsequent workshop of the AC in collaboration with the LEG on the same subject matter, both mandated by SBI 40, the workshop by the AC on means of implementation to be organized in early 2015, among others). This meeting will therefore focus on support for NAPs and on elements and/or a roadmap towards a strategy on efforts to address gaps and needs encountered by developing countries when undertaking the NAP process, including next steps for the task force.

The background paper will highlight the current scope of support for NAPs.

¹ Decision 16/CP.19 – Work of the Adaptation Committee, paragraph 1(d).

² Available at <http://unfccc.int/6053.php>.

2. Overview of support provided to the NAP process

This section summarizes support that has been provided to the NAP process since COP 17 (2011) which provided guidance on the modalities for NAP support³. It provides information on financial and technical support.

This information is based on information directly communicated to the UNFCCC through submissions and presentations at UNFCCC events including meetings of the constituted bodies. It is noted that a variety of bilateral and multilateral donors and organizations are providing support to countries on adaptation planning and implementation that may contribute towards the objectives and individual steps of the NAP process, and information on such efforts could greatly enrich future summaries on support that is available for adaptation.

Technical support

a) Guidelines

The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) has developed and published technical guidelines for the NAP process, which are available in English, French and Portuguese.⁴ The NAP Task Force of the Adaptation Committee has undertaken an analysis of the guidelines and has concluded that they are also applicable to non-LDC developing countries as they are embarking on their NAP process. It will assist the LEG in distributing the guidelines widely.

Several organizations are developing supplementary materials to the technical guidelines for the NAP process. These materials are intended to offer in-depth coverage of selected steps by providing approaches, methods and tools, examples and case studies for performing various assessments and developing implementation strategies for specific sectors (e.g. agriculture, water resources, and coastal zones). The current list of supplements that are underway as of 7 August 2014 include:⁵

(a) Mainstreaming Gender in Health Adaptation to Climate Change Programmes by the World Health Organization (WHO);⁶

(b) Supplementary guidelines to support the integration of agriculture into national adaptation plans by the FAO;

(c) Promoting synergies in addressing biodiversity and climate change adaptation issues: linking national adaptation plans and national biodiversity strategies and action plans by the Convention on Biological Diversity;

³ Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 12.

⁴ Available at <http://unfccc.int/7279> and http://unfccc.int/nap/guidelines_main.html.

⁵ LEG 26 Report, FCCC/SBI/2014/13, forthcoming.

⁶ Discussion draft available at http://www.who.int/globalchange/publications/Mainstreaming_Gender_Climate.pdf.

(d) Orientations for aligning National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes to development and budget planning (*NAP Align*) and Stocktaking for National Adaptation Planning (SNAP) by GIZ;⁷

(e) Water Supplement to the Technical Guidelines: Supporting the National Adaptation Plan Process by GWP;⁸

(f) Tool for Integration of Ecosystems into Climate Change Adaptation Planning Processes by CI;

(g) How to Engage with National Adaptation Plans: Guidance for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;⁹

(h) Supporting NAP Development with the PROVIA Guidance: A User Companion developed by the Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA);¹⁰

(i) Joint Principles for Adaptation, National Adaptation Status Report, National Adaptation Policy Assessment Tool and Civil Society Guide to the NAP Technical Guidelines developed by the Southern Voices on Climate Change.¹¹

The organizations, in collaboration with the LEG, are working on an integrating framework that will facilitate the cohesion of these supplements to the NAP technical guidelines, and ultimately assist countries in their assessments under their NAP processes.

b) Other technical support material

Besides the technical guidelines, the LEG is also developing other technical and information papers on specific topics including the following:

- Strengthening gender-related considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the least developed countries, including in NAPAs and NAPs;
- A tool for monitoring and reviewing progress, effectiveness and gaps in the formulation and implementation of NAPs: the PEG M&E tool;
- Information paper on how the national adaptation plan process can be supported in least developed countries.

All papers listed above are forthcoming.

⁷Further information available at <https://gc21.giz.de/ibt/var/app/wp342deP/1443/index.php/knowledge/mainstreaming/tools/>.

⁸Draft available at <http://tinyurl.com/pynkvxw>.

⁹<http://www.climatecentre.org/downloads/File/IFRCGeneva/IFRCNationalAdaptionPlans.pdf>.

¹⁰<http://www.sei-international.org/mediamanager/documents/Publications/Climate/PROVIA-NAP-user-companion-2014.pdf>.

¹¹Available at http://southernvoices.net/images/docs/JointPrinciplesforAdaptation_v1.pdf, <http://southernvoices.net/images/docs/NAStatusReport-template-2.docx>, and <http://www.southernvoices.net/images/docs/SVA-CS-NAP-GuidelinesDraft.pdf>, respectively.

c) Training

The LEG introduced the NAP process during four regional training workshops on adaptation for the LDCs in 2012–2013 (Tuvalu/Pacific; Togo/ Francophone Africa; Rwanda/ Anglophone Africa; Cambodia/ Asia). Subsequently it has developed a comprehensive strategy for training on NAPs as part of its work programme for 2014–2015 and will conduct specific training on NAPs in 2014–2015, starting with the regional training workshop for the Pacific from 3 to 7 November 2014.

The NAP global support programme also provides training on NAPs. More information is provided in the next section.

d) Global support programmes

The COP, through decision 5/CP.17, has invited the United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to consider establishing or enhancing support programmes for the NAP process within their mandates, as appropriate, which could facilitate financial and technical support to the LDC Parties. Through decision 18/CP.19 it has extended this invitation and also invited the establishment of such support programmes for non-LDC developing country Parties.

In response to the first decision, a NAP global support programme (GSP) for the LDCs has been established on 14 June 2013 by UNEP and UNDP, in collaboration with other organizations, including WHO, FAO, IFAD, UNITAR, GEF, UNFCCC, GWP, GIZ, PROVIA, and UNISDR. Funding is provided from the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). The NAP GSP assists LDCs to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into ongoing medium and long-term national planning and budgeting. Twenty-six LDCs have requested support for their NAP process.

NAP-GSP and partners are supporting LDCs to advance NAPs through:

- Promoting understanding of NAPs as outlined in UNFCCC/LEG Guidelines;
- Providing technical expertise;
- Offering opportunities for knowledge exchange.

Three regional NAP workshops have been conducted in Thailand/ Asia; Ethiopia/African Anglophone; Ethiopia/African Francophone to facilitate regional exchange and provide technical support.

Individual requests by countries for NAP support are being addressed by organizing individual consultations or country missions that consider specific technical aspects of the NAP process in those countries. Such consultations and missions have been organized with The Gambia, Malawi, Liberia, Lesotho, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Niger.

Overall twenty-three countries are currently being supported directly through the GSP, while regional activities, such as the training workshops, are organized to benefit all LDCs.¹²

In response to decision 18/CP.19, UNDP and UNEP have developed the project "Assisting non-LDC developing countries with country-driven processes to advance national adaptation plans" which has been approved by the LDCF/SCCF council. This project is expected to receive CEO endorsement in 2015 after which concrete activities can be launched.

e) Bilateral support

Bilateral support has been provided to several countries that have launched their NAP process and engaged in initial activities. These include:

- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provides support to various countries on coordination, policy development, technical assistance, and other activities to help advance the NAP process. Supported activities include initiation of the NAP process and preparation of a road map for the NAP process in Tanzania in 2013, and a meeting organized for 11 countries within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to promote national action on the NAP process as well as regional cooperation on coastal adaptation in 2013 and the launching of the NAP process in Jamaica in 2012;¹³
- The European Union and its member countries provide support to the NAP process through different implementing modalities. Support is being provided to Bhutan, Malawi, Moldova and Pacific Small Island States on various projects that are related to, or that would contribute towards, the NAP process. The support provided covers a broad range of interventions, from sector budget support through project approaches to on-demand advisory services, with equally broad variations in terms of funding volume depending on the type of intervention.¹⁴
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has provided technical support towards the NAP process for coordination among relevant stakeholders including line ministries, research institutes and development partners, as well as for policy development and implementation of actions in several developing countries including Indonesia and Vietnam;¹⁵
- The GIZ Climate Finance Readiness Programme includes one component named „Strategic and conceptual advice in advancing and implementing national climate strategies (e.g. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions – NAMAs; and

¹² <<http://www.undp-alm.org/projects/naps-ldcs>>.

¹³ For further information on USA's support to the NAP process please refer to [http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/39_12_130439245641041963-U.S.%20Submission%20on%20National%20Adaptation%20Plans-\(May%2005%202014\).pdf](http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/39_12_130439245641041963-U.S.%20Submission%20on%20National%20Adaptation%20Plans-(May%2005%202014).pdf).

¹⁴ For further information on Japan's support to the NAP process please refer to http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/39_91_130536047864003017-IT-08-26-NAP%20submission.pdf

¹⁵ For further information on Japan's support to the NAP process please refer to http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/39_12_130463728148145350-Japan's_submission_on_NAP_2014_0604.pdf.

National Adaptation Plans – NAPs) and policy packages for ambitious, climate-resilient low-carbon development paths as a basis for funding decisions¹⁶.

f) Multilateral support

Various organizations, including FAO, UNDP, UNEP, IFAD and WHO, have communicated ongoing programmes that would directly contribute towards strengthening the capacity of the LDCs in launching the NAP process. The support ranges from data and information at the sectoral levels to sector specific methods and tools, and includes programmes for strengthening capacity in managing the NAP process and for integrating climate change adaptation into sectoral policies and programmes, as well as into relevant planning processes and strategies.¹⁷

g) NAP events

The LEG has organized two NAP Expos, one in June 2013 to catalyse launching of the NAP process in LDCs, and the second in August 2014 to further promote and mobilize actions and support for NAPs at the national levels. The NAP Expo in 2014 also involved representatives of non-LDC developing countries. Both events provided an opportunity for country representatives to present their progress in NAP – related activities at the country-level and for organizations to share information about available support. They also left ample space for discussions and sharing of experience and lessons from and challenges of the NAP process. More information on both events can be found at the NAP Expo websites.¹⁸

In addition to events organized by the LEG, other organizations have organized meetings to introduce and discuss the NAP process with country representatives, supporting organizations and other stakeholders. Regional events include:

- ASEAN-CC Regional Training Workshop on Technical Guidelines and Toolkits for the National Adaptation Plan Preparation (14-16 July 2014 in Pattaya, Thailand), also including participants from non-LDC developing countries;
- South Asia Regional Workshop on lessons learnt in Strategy Implementation on Climate Change Adaptation in the Water Sector (9 to 10 September 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka) (organized by SACEP and GWP).

h) Online support tool

The LEG, in collaboration with the Adaptation Committee, is developing the NAP Central, which will be a universally accessible, web-based central repository and hub for information pertinent to the NAP process.

¹⁶ <https://www.giz.de/expertise/html/11492.html>.

¹⁷ Report of the 25th meeting of the LEG (FCCC/SBI/2014/4).

¹⁸ <http://unfccc.int/8425.php> and <http://unfccc.int/7453.php>.

i) Other technical support

Regional centres and networks play a particularly important role in supporting adaptation planning and implementation. Regional centres and networks serve as an interface between global financial, technological and capacity building support at the regional and national levels; they support data, methods and tools, including research, at the regional levels to support the different stages of adaptation planning and implementation; they coordinate and facilitate coherent adaptation planning and implementation; they enhance regional and national capacity to address adaptation such as through training; and they facilitate the exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned at the regional levels, among other activities. More information on the work of regional centres and networks in the context of the NAP process will be available on NAP Central.

Financial support

a) Financial support by the GEF

The GEF has been requested by the COP to provide financial support to the LDCs for the formulation of NAPs through the LDCF, and to consider how non-LDCs can be supported through the SCCF.¹⁹ The GEF subsequently developed a paper titled „Operationalizing Support to the Preparation of the National Adaptation Plan Process in Response to Guidance from the UNFCCC COP“²⁰ that provides an operational basis for supporting the NAP process in eligible developing countries. The paper provides the scope of the LDCF/SCCF support, and that the GEF will continue to apply the policies presented in the updated operational guidelines for the LDCF and the SCCF (documents GEF/LDCF.SCCF.13/04 and GEF/LDCF.SCCF.13/05, respectively). Both funds, the LDCF and the SCCF, in addition to providing funding for the NAP global support programmes mentioned above²¹, are open for receiving NAP-related project and programme proposals from individual countries. So far, no individual projects/programmes in the context of NAPs have been funded.

b) Financial support by the GCF

According to its Governing Instrument, that has been adopted by the COP in 2011,²² the GCF, once operational, will provide resources for readiness and preparatory activities and technical assistance, such as the preparation or strengthening of NAPs. It will also support developing countries in pursuing project-based and programmatic approaches in accordance with climate change strategies and plans, such as NAPs.

¹⁹ Decision 12/CP.18, paragraphs 1 and 4.

²⁰ See GEF document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.14/06 available at <www.thegef.org/gef/council_document/operationalizing-support-preparation-national-adaptation-plan-process-response-guid>.

²¹ Of which the one for non-LDCs that would be funded through the SCCF is still awaiting GEF CEO endorsement.

²² Decision 3/CP.17, annex.

c) Bilateral financial support

Bilateral financial support is provided through the following facility:

- A bilateral thematic trust fund with an initial contribution of EUR 4,725 million from Germany, the Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF), has been established to support African countries to become more resilient to climate change, and in transitioning to sustainable low carbon growth.²³ The fund is hosted and managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB). A first call for grant proposals was launched in August 2014, and invited technical assistance in the implementation of NAP processes as one of the activities to be funded.

²³ See <<http://www.afdb.org/en/topics-and-sectors/initiatives-partnerships/africa-climate-change-fund/>>.