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Report on the Asia-Pacific regional workshop on promoting international collaboration to facilitate the preparation, submission and implementation of nationally appropriate mitigation actions

Summary

This report provides a summary of the Asia-Pacific regional workshop on promoting international collaboration to facilitate the preparation, submission and implementation of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), which took place in Singapore from 13 to 15 August 2013. The workshop brought together experts from the Asia-Pacific region, as well as representatives of international organizations, and aimed at facilitating sharing of experiences, lessons learned and best practices in the process of the preparation and implementation of NAMAs. To that end, the participants engaged in in-depth discussions on the context for NAMAs; setting up, or enhancing, the institutional arrangements needed to coordinate the identification, prioritization, development and implementation of NAMAs at the national level; financial engineering, including investment approaches for leveraging financing from different sources; and measurement, reporting and verification of NAMAs. Further bilateral and multilateral agencies present at the workshop provided participants with information on their NAMA support programmes. The last day of the workshop was devoted to a discussion on implementation aspects of the NAMA registry, including submission of information to the platform. Participants were provided with an opportunity to exchange ideas and share initial experiences on the national processes put into place to approve and submit NAMAs to the registry, and to discuss the potential roles of the person/entity that approves the NAMA at the national level (the NAMA approver).

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I. Summary of the proceedings

A. Opening of the workshop

1. The workshop was opened by Mr. Burhan Gafoor, Singapore's Ambassador and Chief Negotiator for Climate Change. He commended the secretariat for providing a platform to facilitate the implementation of an agreed outcome on nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs). He added that decisions made under the Convention bear no meaning if they are not implemented and that these workshops are important in facilitating the implementation of decisions made by Parties.

2. He outlined three points to be considered while facilitating universal participation of developing countries in the UNFCCC process:

(a) How can countries be supported to put forward ambitious pre-2020 pledges as a part of the global effort to address climate change?

(b) The needs and special conditions of developing countries need to be given special attention so that they can be incentivized to take action;

(c) There needs to be collaboration with development partners in order to domestically strengthen the efforts made by developing countries in implementation of their NAMAs. The NAMA registry can assist countries to develop policies around their sustainable development objectives.

3. He also talked about the Singapore Cooperation Programme, which provides capacity-building support to developing countries, particularly Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries. Support has been provided by sharing Singapore's expertise and experiences in implementing mitigation measures. He added that in the Asia-Pacific region there are established regional cooperation institutions and he hoped that those traditional organizations could be utilized to bring a greater exchange of information and capacity-building in the region.

4. Mr. William Kojo Agyemang Bonsu of the secretariat thanked the Government of Singapore for hosting the workshop and for all its support in its organization. He mentioned that the on-going implementation of decisions taken under the Bali Action Plan will help build the momentum and experience necessary as the world strives for an effective 2015 agreement. He commended the countries in the region for their mitigation efforts and added that the secretariat stands ready to assist countries in the region to ensure that they have the requisite capacity to implement their obligations under the Convention.

5. He outlined the following objectives of the workshop:

(a) To facilitate the implementation of the agreed outcome on NAMAs, following the completion of the Bali Action Plan in 2012, by promoting universal participation and engagement of developing country Parties;

(b) To provide technical support to developing countries in the preparation, submission and implementation of NAMAs;

(c) To promote the exchange of best practices and lessons learned in the preparation and implementation of NAMAs by providing a platform to showcase NAMAs and innovative financing options;

(d) To provide a platform for networking by bringing together experts of participating countries and international organizations and donors.

6. He added that to achieve the objectives outlined above, the secretariat had planned the workshop to allow for in-depth discussions among participants on the NAMA concept, their preparation and implementation, and tools for and experiences with setting up national institutional arrangements and for leveraging financing from various sources. In addition, one day was dedicated to discussions on the NAMA registry.

7. Lastly, he highlighted the need to further explore opportunities for South–South cooperation to benefit developing countries in their efforts to address climate change.

B. Context for nationally appropriate mitigation actions

8. Five presentations set the scene for the workshop by providing context for the preparation and implementation of NAMAs.

9. The first presentation by a representative of UNFCCC was on the status of the negotiation on NAMAs. The presentation highlighted the following points:

(a) All NAMAs submitted to the secretariat have now been compiled into one document;¹

(b) To facilitate implementation of the Work Programme on NAMAs under the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, the secretariat will be organizing an in-session workshop and technical briefings in Warsaw, Poland, to facilitate further understanding of the diversity of NAMAs;

(c) There are two channels through which developing countries can engage in the NAMA process; firstly they can engage politically by responding to the open invitation by the Conference of the Parties to submit NAMAs and secondly they can engage technically by submitting to the registry, NAMAs for recognition or NAMAs seeking support for their preparation and/or implementation;

(d) Thirty-five per cent of developing country Parties have engaged in the political process by communicating their intention to implement diverse range of NAMAs;

(e) The registry prototype was released in April 2013² and the fully functional registry, open to the public, is expected to be made available in October 2013.

10. A representative of the Asia Low Emission Development Strategies Partnership gave a presentation on the steps for developing low-emission development strategies (LEDS) and discussed how LEDS could be a foundation for the design and implementation of NAMAs. The following points were highlighted:

(a) LEDS carry the same general meaning as low-carbon development strategies, low-emission climate-resilient development strategies and green growth strategies. While LEDS focus on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, effective LEDS frameworks should work to ensure that climate-resilience and adaptation are fully considered in near and long-term planning;

(b) The process of developing and implementing LEDS is iterative;

(c) Steps for developing LEDS are the same as those for developing NAMAs, and countries could undertake them in parallel;

(d) As the first step, it is important to ensure a proper institutional arrangement and stakeholder consultation as countries determine the actions they envisage to undertake;

¹ FCCC/SBI/2013/INF.12/Rev.2.

² The public web-based registry will be available at www.unfccc.int/cooperation_support/nama/items/7476.php

(e) Assembling a proper body of data is important for ensuring proper implementation;

(f) Many analytical tools are available for countries to assess their low-emission development opportunities;

(g) Many countries in the Asia-Pacific region have requested support to identify climate finance options, and models and tools for projecting GHG emissions and assessing co-benefits.

11. Participants expressed interest in becoming members of the Asia LEDS Partnership and were also interested in learning more about the impact assessment tools. Participants were also keen to know whether the Partnership would be interested in acting as a matchmaker to facilitate bringing recipient countries and donors together to ensure the implementation of LEDS.

12. Participants were informed that the Partnership will be releasing a publication describing all the technical tools in the near future. With regard to playing the role of matchmaker, the participants were informed that matchmaking is of great interest to the Partnership and its meetings already aim to do so by bringing together representatives of developing countries and donors/international organizations.

13. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) gave a presentation on the good practice guidance (GPG) for the preparation of NAMAs. The GPG is being jointly developed by UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Risoe Centre and the UNFCCC secretariat and is expected to be published in October 2013. Some highlights of the presentation are the following:

(a) The GPG aims to support developing countries through the NAMA development and implementation process by providing guidance and good practices;

(b) The GPG avoids a strict stepwise approach to describing the NAMA elaboration process, as national circumstances vary;

(c) The GPG uses a non-prescriptive modular approach, in which key technical considerations for developing NAMAs are presented;

(d) The GPG describes approaches for NAMAs, including linkages with development priorities and relevant planning processes, such as LEDS, and identifies decision support tools for robust analyses and presents criteria that can be applied to prioritize a country's NAMA list;

(e) The GPG explains measurement, reporting and verification procedures, including societal benefits, and elaborates on quantitative aspects of NAMAs, including baseline setting;

(f) The GPG is based on experience and lessons learned from existing NAMA proposals and other relevant initiatives in developing countries and describes good practices for, inter alia, the implementation framework, institutional structures and addressing barriers;

(g) The GPG will be a living document that can be further enriched over time with developing country best practices and lessons learned.

14. During the question and answer (Q&A) session, participants raised concerns about the funding available for the implementation of NAMAs. It was mentioned that considering the extensive effort it takes to develop and design NAMAs, if there is limited support available for implementation then the effort put into design phase would've been wasted. The participant questioned whether the United Nations system can guarantee support for the implementation of NAMAs. The presenter advised participants to engage

potential donors from the design phase of NAMAs so as to assess their interest in financing the NAMA from the outset. Participants also questioned the mandate for the development of the GPG, in response to which a representative of the secretariat read out the mandate provided by Parties in Doha. Participants also raised the need to have a wide range of experts provide comments on the GPG, to which the presenter mentioned that United Nations agencies, think tanks and 25 countries that are part of UNDP's Low-emission Capacity-building (LECB) programme, and another wider group of countries, have been engaged in reviewing the GPG. Since the document is expected to be a living document, if participants see the need for improvement, comments could be provided to UNDP over time.

1. Country presentations

15. Representatives of Singapore and China gave presentations on the status of the implementation of their mitigation measures.

16. Singapore's NAMA submitted to the secretariat aims to reduce its emissions by 16 per cent below its 'business as usual' scenario by 2020. It is contingent on adoption of an international legally binding agreement. However, Singapore aims to achieve a 7–11 per cent reduction from 'business as usual' emissions in 2020 even in the event that an international legally binding agreement is not adopted. Its pledge is expected to be achieved through the implementation of NAMA in all key sectors, including the following:

(a) Building efficiency regulation: every building has to meet the 'green mark' standard (to cover 80 per cent of buildings by 2030). There are also incentives for building owners;

(b) Transport: increased use of public transport is encouraged. Policies put in place discourage purchase of vehicles and they are labelled with carbon emissions/fuel information.

17. Key lessons learned:

(a) Long-term vision: the leadership needs to set a national direction and vision that resonates with the populace;

(b) A government approach coordinated by a senior member of the government is needed;

(c) Singapore's NAMA submitted to the secretariat is important, as it articulates the national direction that every agency is working towards;

(d) The focus on practical (in the sense that national circumstances are taken into account) and cost-effective measures is important.

18. A representative of China gave a presentation on the status of the implementation of its regional emission trading scheme (ETS). Key points highlighted in the presentation were the following:

(a) China's national intensity target is implemented using a command and control approach. The central government allocates this target to local governments, which in turn allocate it to the provinces;

(b) In the fifth five-year plan, China is moving from a command and control approach to a market-based approach through the use of ETSs;

(c) An ETS will first be piloted and will be nationally adopted after 2016. The point is to first test different designs before adopting a national system;

(d) Beijing published a proposal on the regulatory framework for its pilot ETS. Beijing's pilot scheme will be larger than Australia's ETS;

(e) The volume and complexity of a national ETS would make it the most complicated ETS in the world;

(f) Measuring, reporting and verification: China will publish GHG accounting guidelines. There is a challenge to develop national GHG guidelines based on local guidelines. There are currently no national guidelines;

(g) Lack of measurement, reporting and verification capacity is a major challenge, particularly for conducting third party verification;

(h) How can an ETS be harmonized with existing policies and programmes? This is an important question.

19. During the Q&A, the representative of China was asked a question about the main obstacles of the ETS. The answer outlined three levels of obstacles:

(a) Technical: measurement, reporting and verification capacity at the enterprise level is the largest challenge; setting up registries; complexity of developing and implementing the ETS;

(b) Policy: interactions with other policies; non-competitive electricity market;

(c) Legislation: still need to develop the proper legislation for the implementation of the ETS.

C. Institutional arrangements

20. The section on institutional arrangements consisted of country and expert presentations and a group exercise to discuss the institutional arrangements needed to develop and successfully implement NAMAs. The result of the group work was presented to the plenary.

21. A representative of UNDP gave the first presentation of this section, on the institutional building process. The key messages were as follows:

(a) LEDES act as an overarching framework and comprehensive approach for the development of NAMAs. Since this is a comprehensive approach, they are suitable for countries that are already advanced in the climate process and with a good analytical basis;

(b) Most countries have well-established clean development mechanism (CDM) structures that could be applied to coordinate NAMA-related activities;

(c) The biggest barriers for setting up an institutional framework in developing countries are the following:

(i) Lack of institutional capacity for developing NAMAs;

(ii) Low political and stakeholder engagement and lack of awareness;

(iii) Lack of incentive for institutional coordination;

(iv) Inadequate regulatory/policy framework for developing NAMAs;

(d) Proposed solutions for overcoming the barriers listed above are the following:

(i) Raising awareness of NAMAs as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development goals (often adaptation has been seen as the highest priority);

- (ii) Integrating NAMAs into the national action plan on climate change and national/sectoral development plans;
 - (iii) Creating national/provincial/sectoral institutional frameworks for NAMAs: identifying coordination mechanisms;
 - (iv) Enhancing institutional capacities for NAMAs and measurement, reporting and verification design;
 - (v) Learning from CDM experiences: what worked, what did not work and what can be scaled up;
- (e) In setting up an institutional framework for developing NAMAs, the tasks of the NAMA office or lead institutions could be the following:
- (i) Taking overall responsibility for developing NAMAs and for engaging all the relevant stakeholders in that process;
 - (ii) Being accountable for support flowing into the country to design and implement NAMAs;
 - (iii) Ensuring alignment of NAMAs with national development priorities;
 - (iv) Providing technical guidance to NAMA developers and assembling the data needed for policymaking, for example data for baseline development, and centralizing key documentation;
 - (v) Administering the NAMA registry.

22. A representative of the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) gave a presentation on a framework to facilitate evaluation of NAMAs at the national level. The key points raised were the following:

- (a) Mitigation in developing countries is a complex decision-making process with high levels of uncertainty and political sensitivity;
- (b) Assessment of a mitigation action as being ‘nationally appropriate’, at any level of decision-making, would require an evaluation framework. A multi-criteria approach is most relevant for this, as it captures the complexity and multiplicity of perspectives and provides a comprehensive, participatory and qualitative assessment;
- (c) NAMA governance can be centralized or decentralized. Instruments and institutions that work well in one country may not work well in another country with different social norms and institutions.

23. Participants were interested in finding out about other frameworks available for assessing the national appropriateness of NAMAs. They were informed that there are a number of approaches countries are using and that TERI will compile them in a LEDS publication, to be made available soon.

1. Country presentations

24. Representatives of Bhutan, Indonesia and Republic of Korea made presentations on institutional arrangements put into place to facilitate the implementation of their NAMAs.

25. The presentation by the representative of the Republic of Korea highlighted the critical importance of the leadership role at the highest level of the Government to pass any regulations. For example, the President was personally involved and provided the political will for implementing the Republic of Korea’s ETS. The need for active collaboration between key ministries to ensure effective implementation was also highlighted. The presentation by the representative of Bhutan focused on mainstreaming gender into its

climate change action plan. It was mentioned that although Bhutan does not have significant gender inequality issues, the action plan aims to address gender issues, if any. The working groups involved in the development of the action plan will have at least 30 per cent female representation. The representative of Indonesia gave a presentation on the country's transport NAMA, being developed in collaboration with international organizations. The transport sector comprises 23 per cent of Indonesia's GHG emissions and private car usage represents the largest increase in projected emissions in the transport sector in 2020 under the 'business as usual' scenario. Each policy mechanism to be introduced is expected to have three options for implementation, from a basic set of policies to a more ambitious set.

2. Group exercise: institutional arrangements

26. Participants worked in five groups to discuss the institutional arrangements needed to develop and successfully implement NAMAs. The key messages that resulted from the group exercise were the following:

(a) Institutional arrangements:

(i) A strong central coordinating body is important for ensuring effective implementation of climate change efforts and initiatives. Singapore's national climate change secretariat is a good example of an effective institution to coordinate NAMA implementation;

(ii) Strong political leadership is key; an option is to have one ministry take the lead role in coordination work;

(iii) A structured institutional process and technical capacity is needed, as well as a mechanism for financing the operation of the institution(s);

(iv) A comprehensive approach involving the whole Government ensures that implementation rises above a sectoral approach or bias; an inter-ministerial working group is helpful for implementing a sectoral NAMA;

(v) Best practices for a central coordinating body for implementation are needed;

(b) Government and stakeholder engagement:

(i) When developing NAMAs, it is important to make sure that they are embedded in national priorities and focus on co-benefits;

(ii) A wide range of stakeholders representing the private sector, non-governmental organizations, civil society, academia and the scientific community need to be engaged;

(iii) It is valuable to use existing mechanisms for stakeholder engagement rather than design new ones;

(c) Private-sector engagement:

(i) It is critical to strengthen dialogue between government and the private sector;

(ii) Government needs to incentivize private-sector investment in the right direction so that those funds can be channelled towards NAMA implementation;

(iii) The main role of government is to facilitate the transfer of technology;

(iv) Developing countries may use and build upon the existing institutional arrangements for CDM to encourage public-private partnerships, as CDM is designed to engage both the public and private sectors;

- (d) Designing the ideal NAMA institutional structure:
 - (i) A lead coordinating institution should facilitate effective implementation of NAMAs. Some countries already have national a NAMA focal point or designated national focal point;
 - (ii) The lead institution should provide guidance to NAMA developers by issuing guidance documents and ensuring consistency in the methodologies used and avoiding duplication of effort;
 - (iii) The coordinating institution should also ensure maintenance of institutional capacity over time.

D. Financing and support

27. A representative of the UNEP Risoe Centre gave a presentation on mobilizing investment for the preparation and implementation of NAMAs. The presentation highlighted the following key messages:

- (a) NAMAs should build upon the experiences and strengths of CDM in mobilizing the private sector, creating partnerships, bridging stakeholder agendas and inspiring innovative approaches;
- (b) GHG mitigation is not the overriding driver of NAMAs;
- (c) Standardization, benchmarks and simplification tools are key building blocks for NAMA financing. They will frontload transaction costs, but will enhance access and build scale by reducing the time to market and investment uncertainties;
- (d) Creditable NAMAs will require ‘heavy lifting’ in terms of defining the legal framework and how assets are defined;
- (e) There is an opportunity for countries with advanced climate finance institutions to be intermediaries between international financial organizations and NAMA implementers on the ground;
- (f) There needs to be more thinking outside of the box in terms of climate finance. Much more investment is needed for transformational change;
- (g) The marginal abatement cost is not always the key driver of NAMA selection/implementation;
- (i) The NAMA Academy, a two-week course for NAMA practitioners, has been launched by UNEP Risoe.³

1. Panel discussion on finance

28. The international organizations and donors present at the workshop spoke about their NAMA-related support programmes, as outlined below:

- (a) The Asian Development Bank (ADB):
 - (i) The ADB finance strategy aims to address the climate needs of the countries in the region through three modalities: finance, partnerships and knowledge-sharing;
 - (ii) Seventy-four per cent of current climate finance is private;
 - (iii) ADB has set up a fund with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to leverage public funds;

³ <<http://www.namacademy.org/default.aspx>> .

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- (iv) ADB mitigation initiatives focus on clean energy, sustainable transport, urban development, and land use and forest management;
 - (v) How can climate finance be scaled up is a question that is very important to ADB;
 - (b) The Global Environment Facility (GEF):
 - (i) As an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the Convention, the GEF has dispersed almost USD 12 billion over its existence;
 - (ii) The GEF has so far funded 12 NAMAs and welcomes proposals from countries seeking support for the preparation and/or implementation of NAMAs;
 - (c) UNDP/LECB project:
 - (i) UNDP views the promotion of South–South exchanges of experience important and is working closely with partners to make sure that experiences and lessons can be shared;
 - (ii) Countries need to put into place effective institutional arrangements in order to be ready to access scaled up finance through the Green Climate Fund;
 - (iii) USD 40 million in funding is being dispersed to countries to build capacity for low-emission development;
 - (iv) The main donors for the UNDP/LECB project are the European Union, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and Australia;
 - (d) BMU:
 - (i) Global trends in renewable energy investment show that for the first time in the past 10–15 years there has been a decrease by 12 per cent in investment in renewable energy. However, when this number is disaggregated, investment increased in developing countries, accounting for USD 112 billion invested. Of this, only USD 8 billion was cross-border investment from developed countries and most of the investment originated in developing countries;
 - (ii) Addressing investment barrier is crucial and NAMAs can be used to do so;
 - (iii) The International Climate Initiative of BMU disburses around USD 122 million annually to support climate initiatives in developing countries, including supporting developing countries in designing NAMAs;
 - (iv) There will be a lot of competition for scarce resources; most transformational and ambitious NAMAs will get funding;
 - (e) Asia LEDS Partnership:
 - (i) Is a forum for South–South exchange;
 - (ii) Aims to have countries adopt practices that lead to low-emission development;
 - (iii) In response to demand, has compiled a manual for climate finance;
 - (f) Overseas Environment Cooperation Centre, Japan:
 - (i) Implementing a NAMA capacity-building programme in a number of South-East Asian countries. The project also entails assisting partner countries to get ready to access climate finance;

(ii) Japan's Bilateral Crediting Mechanism will be a mechanism for climate finance;

(g) The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP):

(i) The Asia-Pacific region is facing a huge challenge of energy security and will not be able to sustain the growth pattern unless it changes its growth pattern;

(ii) Not all NAMAs can be funded by international donors;

(iii) NAMAs are not only about mitigation and climate change but about energy security, sustainable development and economic growth. Economic growth has to be resource-efficient and carbon-efficient;

(iv) See the UNESCAP publication *Roadmap for Green Growth*, which includes 140 case studies and policy ideas on moving towards low-emission development;

(h) The Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA):

(i) Provides NAMA-specific training programmes for Asian and African countries;

(ii) Provides loans to local banks to lend to implementers of climate change policies;

(i) UNEP:

(i) Supports a range of NAMA activities, including readiness activities;

(ii) Provides tools and methods for measuring emissions;

(iii) Looking to support NAMAs in Asia, in particular in the building sector.

29. The donor panel presentation was followed by a presentation by the representative of the Cook Islands on its NAMA seeking support, which has been submitted to the NAMA registry. The presentation made the following key points:

(a) The Cook Islands' NAMA aims to source 100 per cent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020;

(b) Energy security is the primary benefit of its renewable energy NAMA;

(c) It is currently seeking finance for capacity-building and technology;

(d) The overall cost of the NAMA will be around USD 220 million.

30. A representative of BMU gave a presentation on the international NAMA facility, which was launched jointly by the Governments of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Germany:

(a) The NAMA facility has released a call for proposals seeking funding, with a deadline of 13 September 2013.

(b) EUR 70 million initial funding is available and EUR 5–15 million is available for implementation of each NAMA;

(c) The Mexico Eco-casa will be the first preselected pilot project to be implemented in Mexico through the NAMA facility;

(d) NAMAs will be chosen based on a number of eligibility criteria, including ambition criteria (transformational change, co-benefits, financial ambition, mitigation potential);

(e) NAMAs will not only be judged on emission reductions but also on sustainable development co-benefits;

(f) There could be some capacity-building elements if needed for financial cooperation.

31. Representatives of UNDP and Cambodia gave a presentation on climate public expenditure and institutional reviews (CPEIRs) and linking them to NAMAs and LEDS. Key points made during the presentation are listed below:

(a) CPEIRs are intended to assess the climate expenditure of a country and use a methodology based on World Bank public expenditure reviews;

(b) They aim to assess how climate change is reflected in national policies, institutions and public expenditure and can be used to link climate change policy priorities with a core national fiscal framework and national development planning;

(c) They can be used to establish a baseline against which future expenditures can be measured and monitored and for measurement, reporting and verification of climate finance;

(d) CPEIRs can become the instrument to measure country effectiveness in implementing specific mitigation action;

(e) Coordination of financing is important and, rather than donor coordination, a national set up is needed to facilitate coordination among donors; national climate funds can be one avenue of ensuring donor coordination;

(f) CPEIRs link climate policy priorities to national budgets in order to ensure that climate is a part of the budget framework, and link the budget to climate so that climate strategies are prioritized and costed.

(g) Both CPEIRs and national climate funds perform significant policy functions for guidance on climate finance.

E. Measurement, reporting and verification

32. The section of measurement, reporting and verification consisted of expert and country presentations and a group exercise. Presentations were given by representatives of the secretariat, the World Resources Institute, the GEF, Indonesia and Viet Nam.

33. The key message in the presentation by the representative of Indonesia was on the tremendous challenge of building robust institutional arrangements for measurement, reporting and verification. The presentation by the representative of Viet Nam outlined the following activities the country is undertaking to prepare for NAMA implementation and measurement, reporting and verification:

(a) Institutional arrangements: a legal foundation for climate change and mitigation activities is in place to create a solid base for the development and implementation of NAMAs;

(b) A national committee on climate change has been established and serves as the Prime Minister's assisting entity for review and suggestions on strategic directions and solutions, and for mobilizing, coordinating and monitoring resources to implement climate change response strategies and programmes, including NAMAs;

(c) Recent climate change related strategies, policies and plans all require integration of climate change into national and sectoral development policy;

(d) GHG mitigation is expected to become a mandatory index in social and economic development in Viet Nam;

(e) Technical readiness includes a strengthened national GHG inventory preparation capacity, with capacity-building support provided by JICA, and on-going NAMA-related activities supported by donors, providing initial results for further development and measurement, reporting and verification of NAMAs in Viet Nam.

34. A representative of the secretariat made a brief presentation on the key concept of standardized baselines.

35. The CDM provides some of the technical basis to perform measurement, reporting and verification of NAMAs. For example, experiences with implementation could help in setting up boundaries, designing sampling procedures and handling uncertainties by using quality assurance/quality control guidelines.

36. A representative of the World Resources Institute gave a presentation on an overview of its GHG protocol policy and action standard. The key messages are outlined below.

37. The purpose of the policy and action standard is to guide users in answering the following questions:

(a) Before implementation: what effect is a given policy or action likely to have on GHG emissions?

(b) During implementation: how to track progress of a policy or action?

(c) After implementation: what effect has a given policy or action had on GHG emissions?

38. The focus is on attributing changes in GHG emissions to specific policies and actions, rather than other factors that affect emissions.

39. The following objectives/benefits of quantifying the GHG effects of NAMAs were outlined:

(a) Informing NAMA selection and design based on a comparison of mitigation potential;

(b) Ensuring that NAMAs are effective in achieving the intended results;

(c) Ensuring that NAMAs are cost-effective and that limited resources are invested efficiently;

(d) Attracting and facilitating financial support for NAMAs based on an assessment of mitigation potential or GHG reductions achieved;

(e) Assessing the contribution of NAMAs towards the GHG reduction goals;

(f) Enabling more consistent and transparent reporting on the GHG effect of NAMAs.

40. With regard to estimating the GHG effects of a policy or an action:

(a) Defining the baseline scenario for each effect and estimating baseline emissions based on the underlying drivers (other policies and actions and non-policy drivers such as gross domestic product and energy prices);

(b) Defining the policy scenario (ex-ante or ex post): estimating emissions in the policy scenario based on what is expected to change as a result of the policy.

(c) Lastly, a representative of the GEF gave a presentation on the results-based approach to mitigation based on its experience with supporting the implementation of NAMAs. It was also mentioned that the GEF has invested over USD 4 billion in climate change in 157 countries since 1991 and over 600 mitigation projects and programmes have been supported.

41. The presentation also outlined a similar approach to the estimation of GHG reductions through policies and measures, namely the following:

- (a) Determine the baseline emissions;
- (b) Calculate emissions from project intervention;
- (c) Ex ante determination of GHG benefits for the project duration and after the project (where appropriate).

F. Nationally appropriate mitigation actions approvers' forum

1. Overview of the registry

42. A representative of the secretariat presented an overview of the NAMA registry, including on its status and functions and the roles of various users. The presentation noted the following:

- (a) An interim registry platform was made available in 2012 and the registry went live as a prototype in April 2013;
- (b) The prototype is available to those with access rights, which all Parties are invited to apply for;
- (c) Information from Parties is now being submitted and recorded in the registry;
- (d) The first release of a public web-based registry is planned for October 2013.

43. The presentation was followed by a discussion with workshop participants. The key points and clarifications made by participants in the discussion included the following:

- (a) The NAMA registry is for a specific purpose as requested by the Parties (facilitating matching and recognition of NAMAs). Other NAMA databases exist, however, these are not operated by the UNFCCC;
- (b) The public availability of the information held in the NAMA registry is eagerly anticipated by agencies interested in undertaking analysis of NAMAs seeking support;
- (c) NAMAs that receive support will probably not be entered in the registry for recognition because the intent of the recognition function of the registry is to recognize NAMAs that have been implemented using only domestic resources;
- (d) Use of the registry is not required to receive bilateral support, since its use is voluntary;
- (e) The registry is not the only way that donors can identify NAMAs that they might support. Donors often use existing bilateral channels/relationships to provide climate support, which does not rely on the use of the registry;
- (f) Regarding the balance of entries in the registry, the amount of support available is always likely to be scarcer than the potential uses for it, but the registry can help to increase the chances of a NAMA being funded and can increase the quality of NAMAs;

(g) It is important that countries seeking to implement NAMAs have the capacity required to fill out the NAMA registry templates;

(h) The decision on whether or not a NAMA should be entered in the registry as seeking support for implementation or preparation is a judgement for the proponent of the NAMA to make;

(i) The registry is a useful tool to indicate the direction of developing country thinking on mitigation actions; knowledge of this can be used to guide the provision of support;

(j) It was noted that the registry should be dynamic. There are two outcomes possible from submitting a NAMA seeking support. One outcome is that a donor could see it and initiate a conversation on potential support. The other outcome is that nothing happens. The question is what should happen in this scenario. If parties submit several NAMAs that do not receive support, they could be discouraged from submitting more.

2. Process of creating and editing nationally appropriate mitigation actions

44. The secretariat facilitated a group exercise that gave participants an opportunity to experience creating a NAMA and making decisions on whether to approve a NAMA for entry in the registry. The exercise was followed by a discussion on the exercise.

45. Points made by participants following the group exercise included the following:

(a) The importance of providing clarity about the scope of the mitigation action in NAMA entries. For example, clarifying which emission sources are to be reduced;

(b) The potential lack of clarity that can occur when NAMA entries select more than one choice to describe the type of action (e.g. selecting 'policy' and 'project' to describe the NAMA);

(c) The importance of entries in the registry clearly explaining what the support needs are (e.g. identifying what aspects of the NAMA the support is required for);

(d) It would be useful for those populating templates for NAMAs seeking support to note the types of support not being sought, rather than leaving that field blank.

3. Role of the registry in facilitating mitigation actions and responsibilities and challenges of nationally appropriate mitigation action approvers

46. Ms. Roula El Cheikh gave a presentation on the national arrangements established by Lebanon, which highlighted the following:

(a) The use of the NAMA registry is just one step in a six-step process that leads to NAMA implementation and involves scoping, prioritization and formal authorization of NAMAs;

(b) The national institutional arrangements that Lebanon has established around NAMAs include a national coordinating body, a technical support group and sectoral working groups.

47. A representative of the secretariat gave a presentation focusing on the NAMA approver role within the registry, which reviewed the challenges in undertaking the NAMA approver role that have been identified by participants in previous regional workshops. It also noted that the success of the NAMA registry relies heavily on NAMA approvers, as they are a key gateway for ensuring the quality of the registry content.

48. The representative stressed the importance of developing country Parties ensuring that they have access rights to the registry.

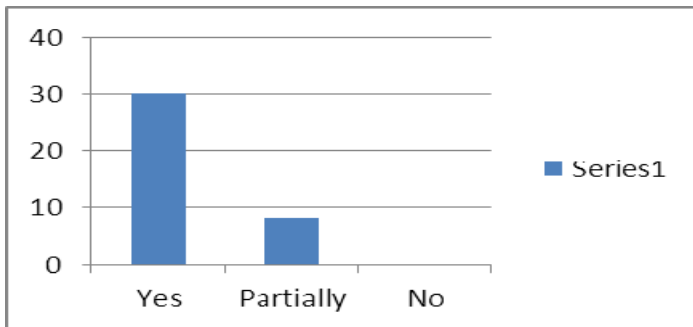
49. Participants discussed the distinction between approving NAMAs for entering in the registry and substantive approval of NAMAs. There was a high level of agreement that the role of NAMA approver within the registry was a functional role concerned with narrow technical considerations over the completeness and accuracy of the actual submission to the registry, which are separate considerations from which NAMAs a country should pursue.

50. Authorization to pursue a NAMA is more likely to be taken by an inter-ministerial panel, a committee or similar, rather than by an individual operating the registry.

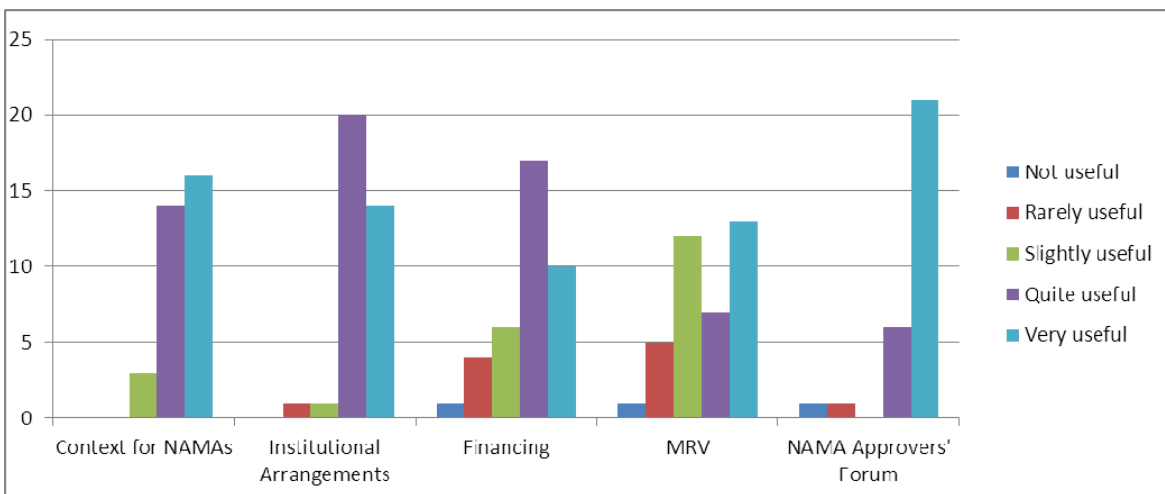
51. It was also noted that as use of the registry is voluntary, Parties may not choose to put NAMAs in the registry but could still have processes in place to scope, prioritize and authorize NAMAs at the national level.

Annex I: Workshop evaluation results

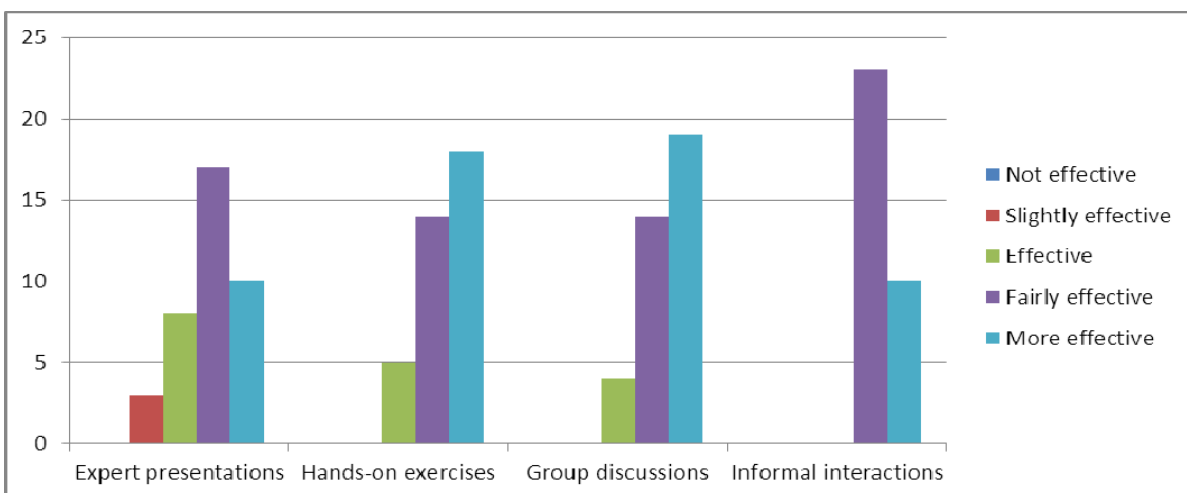
Question 1: Did the workshop meet its objectives and your expectations?



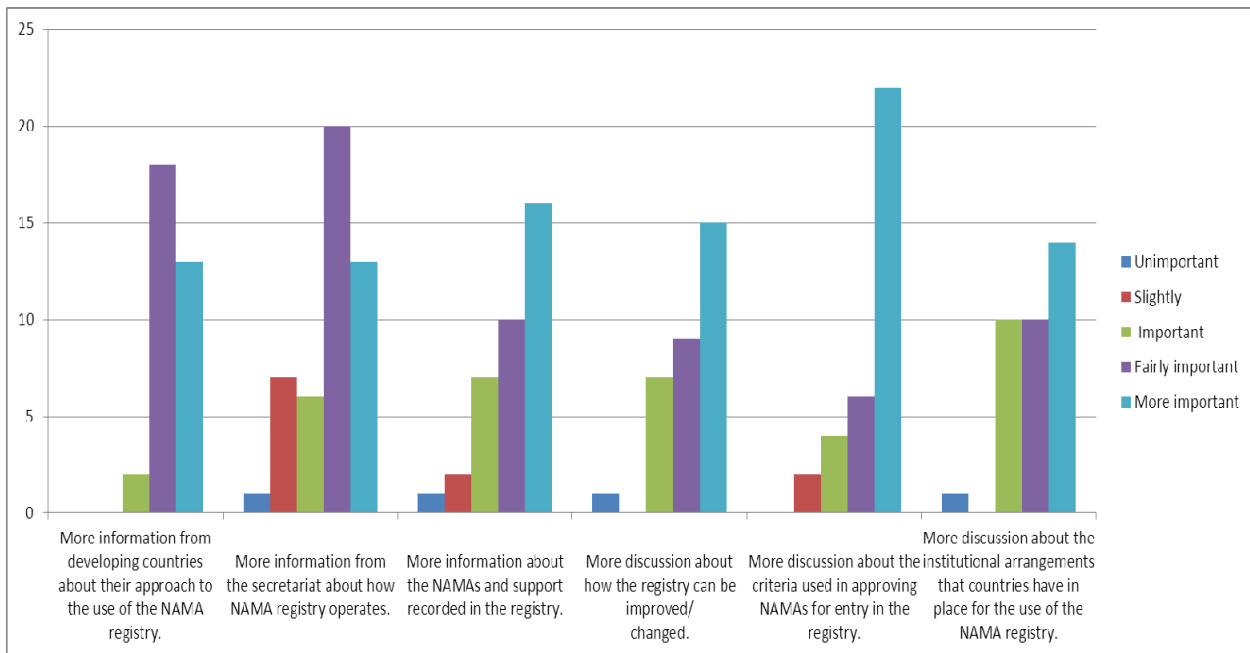
Q2: What part(s) of the workshop did you find most useful?



Q3: Which activities were most effective?



Q4: What issues are most important to cover in the next NAMA Approver's forum?



Q5: Please list the topics you are interested in for the future workshops

* NAMA Financing, structural adjustment to provide incentive to private sector, capacity-building.
* Financing NAMA (links to different funds like GLF, GEF, etc.)
* More case studies, approved NAMAs to cross reference/w/proposals Capacity building in developing NAMAs.
* Capacity building and technology transfer.
* NAMA's expo.
* Finance and MRV. Support database.
* Best practices w.r.t engaging domestic stakeholders.
* Financing institutional/partner to do presentation on how to get funds from them and what are their priorities so UNFCCC can give a diagram/linkage of NAMAs to the right potential partner.
* MRV success stories Would like to clear about the procedure of NAMA until approval (NAMA cycle). * How to prepare NAMA with sector concern.
* I learned more things about NAMAs. I want from UNFCCC to launch like this work in Afghanistan to increase the capacity building of NEPA staffs such as Mitigation and Adaptation workshops.
* More in-depth discussion from NAMA development to NAMA approval both at national and international level.
* As of day, the practice MRV of NAMA through domestic institutional arrangements is not yet mature, so I understand this time the discussion in this session was more in an experimental way. I hope in future, there will be country cases, or case studies, in addition to theoretical /scheme-based presentations.
* In-depth and more advanced NAMAs to learn lessons learn + challenges.
* How to make strategy for mitigation in country?
* More case studies on specific NAMAs under early-stage implementation and clinics on financing modalities.
* Financing.
* NAMAs opportunities as CD and alternative in the global ETS.
* Carbon emission reduction countries capacity assessment in the framework of NAMAs.
* Int'l supporting NAMAs collaboration in country discussion related to institutional arrangements and financing for NAMAs implementation.
* NAMA registry.
* Several representatives from different entities have presented at this workshop, however it is more likely confused to distinct the function of each entity and its role at the process of climate change.
* More knowledge on creation. The criteria for NAMA and MRV.
* I would like more about financing and donor.
* NAMAs financing mechanisms.
* Linkage between CDM, NAMAs, LEDs.
* Take more about the structure of the establishment of NAMAs projects?
* Show actual studies and projects on how to use clean energy in NAMA?
* How to develop a strategy for MRV and what are the most practical ways to use it?
* How to assess and calculate the co-benefits of NAMA projects?
* What the mechanism that NAMA will follow in project appraisal and acceptance?
* Financing, MRV.

* Preparation of each country in the entry into NAMA registry.
* NAMA Financing with respective mechanism.
* NAMSA registry and implementation. * MRVs on NAMAs.
* Part II. Institutional arrangements. * MRV tools from UNFCCC.
* Developing methodology to determine baseline, performance indicators and MRV tools appropriate for NAMA.

Q6: Are there any other comments, ideas or suggestions you would like to share with us?

* It is important to have a financial mechanism for NAMAs preparation and implementation in order to implement NAMA projects and programmes in an effective manner. For example GCF NAMAs support window.
* Needs more training on NAMAs registry in order to enhance the understanding of individual reps. On NAMAs.
* NAMA preparation, NAMA financing, MRV, Institutional arrangements
* More capacity building on registry.
* Criteria for MRV.
* Please note the above 5 is assessed on my level of experience/knowledge of NAMA. It is not reflective of the importance of all issues.
* Use forms to also continue with improved coordination of donors + development partners. Improve NGO input.
* A little more time for plenary discussions. Time limits given to presenters in advance.
* We appreciate the great work by the secretariat.
* It is confusing in terms of naming. In the workshop, many developing countries took it as national/domestic authorization process of NAMAs themselves to be planned and officially submitted to the UNFCCC.
* The function of the current NAMA approver is ok, but the name could be something different, so that we could avoid confusion.
* I want from UNFCCC to hold like this workshop to share the experts experiences between the Parties and also I want from UNFCCC to launch capacity building workshops in other countries.
* Financing mechanism or funds preference for NAMA projects.
* Given very limited time to exchange views 5 breakout groups are a little too many.
* Financial mechanism in place.
* During the breakout groups, one key constraint faced by most participants was inability to comprehend the exercise because of lack of examples. Hence, many assumptions had to be made during the process. May I suggest that in future discussions sessions, each group is provided a hypothetical example to work with so that the group doesn't spend time on assuming the back group for the exercise.
* Many LDC's have policies, programmes, standard and sessions for mitigation. Measures should be taken to cope them out as NAMAs.
* Include funds like GCF which is strongly linked with implementation of UNFCCC. And have a longer session on financial mechanism for NAMA.
* More information on financial mechanism, technical support and MRV.

* The UNFCCC role as leadership should be move on not only as climate change policy agency.

* Move idea, need all country support to the first one developing country and go step by step.

