

# **NAPAs: Seeking Synergies Among Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

**LDC Expert Group Workshop on Capacity  
Building for Preparation of NAPAs**

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# What Do We Mean by Synergies?

- ★ A combined effect that exceeds the sum of individual effects



# The NAPA Rationale for Synergies

- ★ UNFCCC Guidelines call for NAPA preparation to be guided by:
  - A complementary approach, building on existing plans and programmes [like CCD NAPs and CBD NBSAPs]



# Why Seek Synergy?

**Common Objectives:** UNFCCC, CCD and CBD share common focus on:

- ★ Promoting sustainability
- ★ Increasing ecosystem health
- ★ Reducing vulnerability
- ★ Improve living conditions



# Why Seek Synergy?

## Practicality:

- Efficient use of human and financial resources
- Increased opportunity to meet multiple objectives
- Greater and better use of knowledge
- Greater ownership across sectors
- Better environmental management
- Greater opportunities to address Sustainable Development and poverty



# Why Seek Synergy?

## The **Ecological Basis** for Synergy:

- Interconnectedness of systems: hydrologic, carbon, water cycles, energy flows
- Cumulative effects: One intervention can serve many purposes, i.e. water conservation addresses both UNFCCC and CCD
- Can also cause negative impacts on other systems, i.e. loss of water quality



# Why Seek Synergy?

## The **Socio-Economic** Basis for Synergy:

- ★ Take advantage of existing structures:  
i.e. social, economic, bureaucratic,  
civil-society organizations
- ★ Learn from other processes



# Seeking Synergy in the Preparation NAPAs

- ★ Consult other plans including NAP and NBSAP to look for areas of overlap in:
  - Participatory and multidisciplinary approach
  - Ecosystem approach
  - Priority setting





# Conclusion - Benefits



- \* Better Environmental Management
- \* Efficiency
- \* Action oriented and collaborative
- \* Reduced Vulnerability
- \* Enhanced ability to adapt
- \* Improved standard of living

