

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANNING IN JAMAICA: EXPERIENCE & LESSONS LEARNT

1. THE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANNING

- a) The Genesis in the National Development Plan for Jamaica (Approved in 2008): - One of the key outcomes of this plan is “Hazard Risk Reduction & Adaptation to Climate Change”. The key national strategies to achieve this include:
 - ✚ Developing methods to adapt to climate change
 - ✚ Contribute to the efforts to reduce the global rate of climate change
 - ✚ At the sector level - the strategy proposed by the long term development plan is to develop sector specific strategies & action plan for adaptation and the climate-proofing of national policies and plans.
- b) Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR) – This was prepared with support from the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) through the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) in 2011. The SPCR could be considered to be the first major step in National Adaptation Planning, setting out a national strategy for climate resilience and identifying initial priority projects to be implemented. This strategy was developed after a number of broad based consultations that were held across various regions in the country. The Government endorsed the SPCR which was later submitted and approved by the CIF.
- c) Development of a national climate change policy framework: This policy framework speaks among other things to the development and implementation of sectoral climate change strategy and action plans as key outputs. It was approved as a ‘Green Paper’ in November 2013.
- d) Establishment of a Climate Change Division in the Ministry of Water, Land Environment & Climate Change: Among other things, this Division was mandated to coordinate the development of sector strategies and action plans and the mainstreaming of climate change considerations in development planning processes. (2013)
- e) Development of a Focal Point Network across the Public Sector (2014). Their main roles include:
 - ✚ Conducting preliminary assessment of new and existing sectoral policies plans and programmes to determine the extent to which climate change considerations are included
 - ✚ Reporting on climate change initiatives planned or, are being implemented in their agency and sector.
 - ✚ Assisting in coordinating the NAP process at the sectoral level.

f) Gap

- ✚ Need to put in place a climate change legislation to among other things, underpin the role of the of the Climate Change Division, affirm the role and operationalization of the policy framework.

2. GENERAL APPROACH

- Using a sectoral approach where sectoral climate change adaptation strategy & action plans will be prepared for eleven most vulnerable sectors, and then merged into a national adaptation strategy and action plan.
- These sectors were identified as most vulnerable, based on the findings of the Second National Communication to the UNFCCC and the Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience developed under the PPCR.
- In developing the sectoral adaptation plans every effort is being made to include in the process:
 - ✚ All the key stakeholders from the sector under consideration
 - ✚ All key stakeholders from related or connected sectors
 - ✚ Proper reflection of gender issues

3. ANALYSIS OF CURRENT CLIMATE AND FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIOS

- The GOJ has facilitated the researched and preparation of Jamaica's State of the Environment Report which among other things:
 - ✚ Provide information on how climate has changed over the last century in Jamaica.
 - ✚ Present information on future climate change scenarios and provide information the likely impact on various sectors in the next 15-65 years
- The GOJ has contracted local climate scientists to further downscale climate change model projections to 10 km resolution in order to provide more precise information on expected changes on different sections of the country and on different sectors

4. FINANCING OF NAP PLANNING

- Having identified eleven priority sectors, the key next steps were to identify the funding and technical assistance needed to carry out this exercise.
 - ✚ The CCD in its role as the GOJ agent to identify financing required for climate change initiatives and for the overall coordination of the development of the SSAP, took on the role of negotiating with IDPs
 - ✚ The PPCR t o fund – Water, Human Health, tourism, Human Settlement & Coastal resources sector plans
 - ✚ The USAID – Agriculture, Energy, Transportation, finance, forestry and waste management sector plans
 - ✚ The EU GCCA Regional Project - fisheries sector plan

b) We are currently developing the Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries sector adaptation strategy & action plans, as these sectors were in a greater state of readiness to start.

c) **Lessons Learnt:**

- ✚ The necessary steps should be taken to avoid duplication of efforts by the development partners in the financing and development of components of the NAP process/ sector plans.
- ✚ Establish national guidelines for the key steps in the development of NAP at the sectoral level, to ensure uniformity in the process followed by the various sectors.
- ✚ To avoid undue delays in the development of the adaptation plan, it is important to ensure that development partners responsible for financing different components are prepared to provide financing as and when needed. When development partners for various internal administrative reasons are not able to disburse required funding, this will delay the implementation of the NAP planning process

5. ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY & ACTION PLANS

a) Establish the organisational arrangements for developing the plans

- ✚ Climate Change Division (CCD) took responsibility for securing the required consultants, other technical and financial resources required & also engage the senior executives of the public sector agencies in the process, and then give general oversight to the process and the quality of the outputs.
- ✚ The Focal point and senior executives in their agency are expected to engage all the key stakeholders of the sector in the process;
- ✚ The Lead public sector agency will co-ordinate the development the strategy & action plan with inputs from all key stakeholders for their sector.
- ✚ CCD to support training & capacity development of Focal Point Network and other key stakeholders in NAP process
- ✚ The Lead Public Sector Agency will establish a sectoral Steering Committee to oversee guide the development of the Climate Change Sector Plan & Strategy – this committee will include key stakeholders and interest groups, the CCD and the development partners.

b) **Lesson Learnt**

- ✚ It is critical to ensure that all the stakeholders are clear as to their roles in the development of the adaptation plans; that their capacity to carry them out is adequately developed and that the needed resources are made available.