

Highlights of the expert meeting on assessment of progress on NAPs



Mandate

- ❑ The COP requested the SBI 48 (April/May 2018) to assess progress made in the process to formulate and implement NAPs, with a view to making recommendations thereon to the COP, as appropriate;
- ❑ It agreed on the following steps:
 - ❖ Submissions from Parties and organizations;
 - ❖ Information from Parties through a questionnaire NAP Central;
 - ❖ Synthesis report by the secretariat (FCCC/SBI/2018/INF.1);
 - ❖ Meeting of Party experts (February 7-9, Sao Tome and Principe);
 - ❖ A report on the meeting for consideration by SBI 48 (FCCC/SBI/2018/8).



Scope of the assessment process (1/2)

- ❑ To assess progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, which are:
 - ❖ To **reduce vulnerability** to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience;
 - ❖ To facilitate the **integration of climate change adaptation**, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.
- ❑ To provide updates on support provided and received;
- ❑ To facilitate exchange of experiences, best practices, lessons learned, gaps and needs.



- ❑ To take into account all the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs:
 - ❖ ... in accordance with the Convention,
 - ❖ ... country-driven approach
 - ❖ ... gender-sensitive approaches
 - ❖ ... participatory and fully transparent approach
 - ❖ ... consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems
 - ❖ ... based on and guided by the best available science, traditional and indigenous knowledge
 - ❖ ... integrating adaptation into relevant social, economic ...
 - ❖ ... supported by comprehensive monitoring and review
 - ❖ ...Etc.



Reflections on overall progress (1/3)

- ❑ Developing countries have made significant and noteworthy progress on the formulation of NAPs, including addressing the guiding principles.
- ❑ Experience with implementation is limited;
- ❑ Developed countries are undertaking adaptation planning processes, including NAPs, evidenced by work done by the EU member states;
- ❑ The process approach to NAPs is deemed to be a good practice, in part because of focus on long-term and iterative planning and capacity-development, etc.;
- ❑ Countries are using the NAP guidelines, and support provided through training workshops, NAP Expos, NAP Central and support programmes, etc.;



Reflections on overall progress (2/3)

- ❑ Funding has been made available under the GCF quite rapidly;
- ❑ Various technical supports have been developed by the constituted bodies and relevant institutions, and are being used. These have contributed significantly to enabling countries to progress on NAPs;
- ❑ Experience from prior adaptation work, such as NAPAs, has provided important lessons learned for formulating NAPs;
- ❑ Adaptation takes place at multiple levels and scales. Effective national processes can enable effective action across levels and sectors. Effective coordination across levels and scales is important for that success;
- ❑ Systems approaches are helpful in effective assessments, actions and monitoring, and in facilitating coherence of adaptation across levels and scales;



- ❑ Adaptation will not solve all development problems but effective adaptation needs to take into account all factors of vulnerability/risk;
- ❑ There are important regional differences and similarities, and consequently many benefits to regional collaboration on both assessing risks and in implementing actions;
- ❑ Tracking the effectiveness of adaptation presents technical issues that will require support. Measures of success are very context specific, and may only be evident in the longer-term;
- ❑ Metrics of success can be developed and applied effectively at the system and national level; however, aggregating them to the international level will require further advancement and testing.



Objective 1: Reducing vulnerability to climate change ...

- Methodologies and guidelines are needed for understanding baselines and being able to assess progress on reducing vulnerability and risk;
- Capacity-development is needed in particular for climate science, and for the analysis of complex issues such as vulnerability and risk assessment;
- Current assessments are insufficiently articulated to indicate which communities, groups and ecosystems are the most vulnerable;
- Deeper and more consistent gender consideration could be possible in the process;



Objective 1: Reducing vulnerability to climate change (cont'd)...

- ❑ Approaches to identify key economic sectors and activities that may be at risk must be identified;
- ❑ Clarity and consistency across the IPCC in the use of risk and hazards would be greatly beneficial.
- ❑ Trade-offs are necessary between different adaptation actions and approaches, and between development and ecological protection;
- ❑ The importance of attaining gender targets must be kept in mind, especially the targets and indicators of the SDGs



Objective 2: Facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation into national development planning processes

- ❑ Further clarity and understanding is required for the integration of adaptation into development planning, and for how to integrate international processes – SDGs, Sendai, etc.;
- ❑ There are difficulties with providing rationale for the climate change adaptation additionality in some funding proposals when a country has integrated climate change in development planning;
- ❑ Identifying the most effective entry points for the integration of adaptation in other processes presents challenges;
- ❑ The value and benefits to development of integrating adaptation measures should be highlighted to decision-makers and policymakers.



Support provided and received

- The length and complexity of the processes for accessing support (including changes in templates and criteria);
- The criterion for appraising proposals under the GCF or GEF might sometimes not be consistent with national priorities;
- Disaggregated information on resources is necessary for both the formulation and implementation stages of the process;
- Specific information on sources, amounts and effectiveness of funding is needed to facilitate access to it;
- Capacity is needed for coordination across sectors, scales and sources of support.



Reflections on the assessment

- ❑ The approach for the assessment (*submissions, questionnaire, synthesis report, expert meeting*) was very effective in ensuring comprehensive inputs from the Parties and relevant organizations;
- ❑ Data collection through the online questionnaire on NAP Central provides Parties with the flexibility to provide information on an ongoing basis;
- ❑ Partners participating in the assessment and the analyses leading to it found the pooling of all data in one place useful to facilitate their work;
- ❑ Discussions on methodologies, data and tools revealed a rich array of resources available to facilitate adaptation planning;
- ❑ Using a sample process as a common frame of reference facilitates the mapping of where such tools can be applied by NAP teams.



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

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**ADDITIONAL SLIDES BUT NOT
PRESENTED**





Party Experts at the Sao Tome Meeting



Progress in achieving the objectives: 1



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 1: reducing vulnerability to climate change (1/3)

- ❑ Most developing countries launched their process to formulate and implement NAPs within the past two years, and that it is too early to see evidence of the implementation of policies, projects and programmes emanating from the NAPs or indeed the outcomes of such efforts.
- ❑ It is thus too early to assess whether and the extent to which the process to formulate and implement NAPs is reducing vulnerability to climate change, increasing resilience and/or enhancing adaptive capacity.



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 1: reducing vulnerability to climate change (1/3)

- ❑ Only output-level indicators of progress exist, such as the number of countries that have launched the process to formulate and implement NAPs, road maps and strategies developed, NAP documents produced, and the types and level of support. These indicators provide information about the process but not evidence of how vulnerability is being reduced;
- ❑ It is necessary to have a plan against which to measure and assess progress; baselines are useful in showing change over time;
- ❑ The ability to measure and assess progress in reducing vulnerability is a key aspect of the process to formulate and implement NAPs and it requires further attention as countries move towards implementing the adaptation policies, projects and programmes identified in their NAPs;



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 1: reducing vulnerability to climate change (2/3)

- ❑ Limited experience exists of measuring and assessing the impact of actions aiming to reduce vulnerability as progress to date has primarily been in formulating NAPs rather than implementing actions specified therein;
- ❑ Generic guiding principles for monitoring and evaluation also apply to adaptation in that measures of progress should be simple and easy to communicate, show trends and be based on sound science;
- ❑ Both simple and compound metrics can be used; however, all must be robust and comprehensive and take into account system feedback. For common systems, a suite of metrics can be assembled from which countries can select the most relevant; this would facilitate the aggregation of data across countries;



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 1: reducing vulnerability to climate change (3/3)

- ❑ Needs related to measuring and assessing progress differ among countries;
- ❑ Metrics can be used to increase the understanding of progress in the process to formulate and implement NAPs at the national level. Application of metrics at the regional and global level will require development, testing and consensus;
- ❑ Metrics at the national or international level may be different. Metrics should be based on evidence, reflect a rigorous analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, and be applicable to comprehensive risk management approaches, as appropriate



Progress in achieving the objectives: 2



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 2: facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation (1/2)

- ❑ Good progress has been made in integrating adaptation into development planning in various ways:
 - ❖ Establishment of new institutional arrangements such as climate change committees and interministerial technical working groups; national regulatory frameworks, including climate change legislation, that strengthen the mandate of governments for NAPs
 - ❖ Addition of adaptation responsibilities to existing government institutional arrangements;
 - ❖ Consideration of climate change adaptation in government and sectoral development plans and in the establishment of national trust funds for climate change;
 - ❖ Consideration of adaptation in national and local institutional arrangements, expenditure and budgeting processes and other aspects of development planning;



Progress in achieving the objectives of the process

Objective 2: facilitating the integration of climate change adaptation (2/2)

- ❑ Many projects for the formulation of NAPs (under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme) already apply some of the integration practices



Progress in support provided and received



Progress in support provided and received

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- ❑ Technical guidance and other support from the LEG, the AC and other bodies under the Convention on the basis of their respective mandates;

FUNDING

- ❑ Funding from the GCF and the Global Environment Facility on the basis of their respective mandates;

SUPPORT PROGRAMMES

- ❑ Support programmes established following the invitation from the COP to United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- ❑ Financial and technical support provided by multilateral and bilateral agencies and regional centres and networks.



Progress in support provided and received

- ❑ Technical support is provided to developing countries by constituted bodies, support programmes, regional centres and networks, and other sources, and focuses on one or several components of the process to formulate and implement NAPs. A system is in place to document such support in annual progress reports and to identify and communicate emerging gaps and needs
- ❑ Funding from the GCF and the Global Environment Facility on the basis of their respective mandates;
- ❑ Financial support for formulating NAPs comes from the Financial Mechanism, including the Least Developed Countries Fund, and other sources, such as bilateral support agencies;
- ❑ Experience of integration at the national level can be used to inform how the funding mechanisms could more efficiently support the implementation of adaptation.



Progress in support provided and received

- ❑ The operationalization of the GCF was achieved quickly compared with previous multilateral climate change funds. Participants appreciate that initial funding has been made available under the GCF for developing countries to formulate their NAPs and undertake activities related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs in just over a year after the COP request to expedite support;
- ❑ Progress has been made in making resources available for the process to formulate NAPs. However, there has been no progress in making resources available for implementing policies, programmes and projects identified therein;
- ❑ Developing countries have already been using national resources to finance adaptation action, which provides an opportunity to leverage grant-based finance through co-financing arrangements. Such national action is not systematically documented



Considerations of the guiding principles



Considerations of the guiding principles

- ❑ Countries have made good progress in addressing all the guiding principles, and many lessons have been learned;
- ❑ Many countries have engaged civil society and other stakeholders throughout the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- ❑ Some measures have been aimed at strengthening the consideration of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems, including through targeted frameworks, specific budgetary allocation and assessments;
- ❑ Most countries have considered gender as either a principle or a priority area;
- ❑ Parties have endeavoured to use the best available science in formulating their NAPs, especially in assessments, including exploring the best applications of technology.



Lessons learned



On reducing vulnerability to climate change

- ❑ Noted the value of learning from the experience with various climate shocks in furthering the understanding of vulnerability and risk and in helping to identify adaptation actions that would do the most to save lives and livelihoods

On facilitating integration of climate change adaptation

- ❑ ‘Climate proofing’ of existing development policies and projects is a useful first step;
 - ❑ Social protection measures primarily target development-related contexts and therefore also offer opportunities to address the needs of the most vulnerable communities and groups in relation to adaptation to climate change;
 - ❑ High-level participation in decision-making is important to ensure buy-in;
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On support provided and received

- ❑ Changes in criteria and procedures for accessing funds affect the proposals already submitted and in progress place undue burden on countries and should be avoided;
- ❑ Each source of support comes with its own procedures and requirements that must be met, which makes accessing support resource-intensive and contributes to making accessing support in general more difficult;
- ❑ Adaptation actions and projects risk respond to funding agency needs (such as in terms of type, scale and coverage) rather than national priorities and approaches;
- ❑ Designating a leader for the process to formulate and implement NAPs is essential to ensuring progress;



On support provided and received

- ❑ A road map and timeline facilitate the execution of the process to formulate and implement NAPs;
- ❑ In some cases, it is more efficient to undertake part of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, such as climate modelling, vulnerability and risk assessment, and knowledge management, at the regional rather than national level.



On the considerations of the guiding principles

- ❑ In multi-stakeholder engagement, detailed stakeholder mapping and targeted awareness campaigns can help to effectively engage all the key stakeholders at the national and local levels;
 - ❑ Regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems:
 - ❖ It will be important to make a distinction between vulnerable communities and groups, and vulnerable ecosystems;
 - ❖ There can be challenges in balancing the needs of vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems with development needs.
 - ❑ On gender considerations:
 - ❖ Explicit institutional and related arrangements defined in mandates for the process to formulate and implement NAPs can facilitate the consideration of gender at all administrative levels
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On the considerations of the guiding principles

- ❑ On gender considerations (cont'd):
 - ❖ Countries can use the information prepared by the LEG on strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs, as well as relevant toolkits;
 - ❖ Specific procedures and guidelines on gender (e.g. with regard to budgeting) can further strengthen the consideration of gender in the process to formulate and implement NAPs.
- ❑ In applying the best available science:
 - ❖ Countries can apply climate change scenarios developed at the regional level to support their assessments
 - ❖ High-resolution scenarios are necessary for countries with complex topography in order to characterize highly variable precipitation patterns



On the considerations of the guiding principles

- ❑ In applying the best available science (cont'd):
 - ❖ Presenting the results of assessments, including under different climate change scenarios, in economic terms (such as potential impact on gross domestic product) facilitates effective communication with decision makers
 - ❖ The visual display of high-resolution scenarios is an effective tool for engaging decision makers;
 - ❖ Considering social and economic factors (e.g. vulnerability) along with climate change data is effective;
 - ❖ Developing new climate change scenarios may not be necessary where there is already a good understanding of projected climate impacts.



Gaps and needs



Support provided and received: accessing the GCF

- ❑ Understanding latest requirements for GCF readiness proposals;
- ❑ Ensuring that readiness proposals are:
 - ❖ Aligned with the COP guidance and NAP guidelines
 - ❖ Address both objectives of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, as well as the guiding principles
- ❑ How to stage activities of the process over time in manageable components in order to accommodate the iterative and flexible nature of the process;
- ❑ How address support needs for a long-term process through limited project-type funding that is one-off and over a fixed timeframe
- ❑ How build/develop capacity of national teams to prepare high-quality proposals that would be accepted by the GCF



Support provided and received: accessing the GCF

- How to align adaptation project approaches and activities with country approaches and priorities in integrating climate change with development;
- How minimize role of external entities and empower country personnel more in the preparation and implementation of projects;
- How to find out the correct reasons for obstacles/delays to disbursement of funds on approved projects;
- How to remove the bias on focus of the NAP project brought on by the implementing partner.



Adaptation planning in developed countries



Adaptation planning in developed countries

- ❑ Developed countries are undertaking adaptation planning processes, including NAPs, evidenced by work done by the EU member states
 - ❖ 25 member states have adopted an adaptation strategy, and three are finalizing theirs;
 - ❖ EU-wide framework for adaptation and a 2013 strategy that promotes national, regional, and local actions, ensures mainstreaming, coordination, coherence, and information sharing
- ❑ National knowledge assessments in Canada to inform adaptation planning
- ❑ Ireland's National Adaptation Framework



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