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National adaptation plans¹

Information on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries

Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies

1. The Conference of the Parties, by decision 5/CP.17, invited Parties and relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to submit to the secretariat, by 13 February 2012, information on support to the national adaptation plan process in least developed countries.²

2. The secretariat has received nine such submissions. In accordance with the procedure for miscellaneous documents, the six submissions from Parties³ and the three submissions from intergovernmental organizations⁴ are attached and reproduced* in the language in which they were received and without formal editing.

¹ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraphs 15–18.

² Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 24.

³ Also made available at <<http://unfccc.int/5902>>.

⁴ Also made available at <<http://unfccc.int/3714>>.

* These submissions have been electronically imported in order to make them available on electronic systems, including the World Wide Web. The secretariat has made every effort to ensure the correct reproduction of the texts as submitted.

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Financial arrangements for the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans

Information from Parties and relevant organizations as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies on support to the National Adaptation Plan process in the least developed countries.

Bangladesh while making its submission related to financial arrangements as required under the COP 17 decision on NAP, urges all parties and the Convention that full cognizance must be taken of the sections A (on framework) and Section B.1 on Guidelines and B.2 on modalities for least developed countries as these will determine the financial requirements on a country by country basis. This cannot be a one-size fit all exercise. More specifically it must take into account the following:

1. Medium and long term adaptation needs in view of development priorities as spelt out by each LDC Party formally in their approved adaptation strategies, development plans, programmes and projects as well as supporting activities some of which have been pointed out in Section B.2 of the decision on NAP;
2. The NAP must include detailed outlines of implementation and related capacity-building and institutional plans and programmes. Thus, while making pledges or allocating resources, Parties and other entities must also take into account funds needed by LDCs for implementation of adaptation plans;
3. Furthermore, the adaptation needs should be identifiable as additional works to be funded on a grant basis additionally on top of the normal development activities.
4. There are countries which have progressed somewhat in formulating adaptation strategies which should not be used as pretext for curtailing funds allocation of funds to them. In fact, all LDCs should be allowed a timeframe for presenting their cases for initial funding needs for preparation of NAP which may be amenable to further revision in view of new knowledge and information. The funding for implementation must be additional to the country NAP preparation and allowed to be revised on an iterative basis as indicated in paragraph 2 under Section A of the decision on NAP.

Modalities for Accessing Resources

5. Bangladesh would also like to express the view that in providing resources the allocating Parties should allow *direct access* to the funds allocated and should not attach strings to that modality.

Countries wishing to access resources through multilateral or bilateral agencies may be allowed to do so.

Subject: Support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries

The EU welcomes the decision taken in Durban launching the process to enable least developed country Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans. The EU also welcomes the opportunity to share information on its support to the national adaptation planning process in the least developed countries in response to the COP invitation contained in decision at COP17.

Background

The EU believes that adaptation planning should be strongly country-led and welcomes the emphasis in the Durban decision that such plans should not be prescriptive, nor result in the duplication of efforts undertaken already in countries, but should rather facilitate country-owned, country-driven action. The EU notes that countries, and in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), have already started processes to identify, plan and respond to the risk of climate change. While some of these processes are conceived with a specific climate change focus, they are often already integrated in the context of policies, plans, programmes and strategies in sectors, such as agriculture, water, infrastructure development and energy. EU support to adaptation planning is thus provided in a variety of forms and through a variety of channels, multilateral and bilateral and in the context of different sectoral activities.

EU support to national adaptation planning processes

The EU has been continuously supportive of adaptation planning processes in countries. This ranges from support to enable countries to assess and evaluate the vulnerabilities to climate change, identification of appropriate responses and the integration of climate change concerns into relevant policy areas, to the formulation of NAPAs in LDC. The support targets efforts to build institutional capacities, strengthen data, information and observation systems, strengthen research and development capacities, enhance policy and regulatory frameworks as well as for the implementation of demonstration activities in relevant sectors, vulnerable to climate change. These activities do not necessarily have adaptation planning as their main objective, though have direct and indirect benefits for enhancing the capacity to prepare, plan and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The EU provides technical and financial support bilaterally as well as through multilateral channels, e.g. through contributions to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), the Adaptation Fund, the Least Developed Countries Experts Group (LEG), the Climate Investment Funds and channels in other multilateral processes outside the UNFCCC. Among the other processes and international institutions whose work is relevant to planning for adaptation, and through which the EU provides support are the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Consultative Group of International Agriculture research (CGIAR) network, the Global Fund, the World Health Organization and the World Food Programme. In providing the support, the EU employs a wide range of modalities such as project, programme and budget support. The EU continues to provide support to all LDCs as well as to other developing countries.

Examples of activities supported by the EU and its Member States

The following examples at global, regional and national level highlight support provided to many elements relevant to the NAP process, such as strengthening the knowledge base about climate change impacts, improving regulatory frameworks, developing institutional and technical capacities and the assessment, evaluation and implementation of adaptation priorities in and across relevant sectors. The examples below are only a few selected cases intended to showcase the nature of the support provided and the modalities applied.

Recognizing the importance of a sound knowledge base for adaptation action and decision-making, examples of relevant initiatives supported include:

- The **Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)** supports decision-makers in designing and delivering climate compatible development by helping them translate global and local research and information on climate change into policies and programmes on the ground. The aim is to have access to this knowledge and information guaranteed for developing countries, including LDCs, and to increase research and participatory capacity demonstrably. The Netherlands and the United Kingdom are supporting this programme.
- In the context of AFRIMET (Conference of Directors of The West African Meteorological and Hydrological services), Spain supports the **West Africa Agriculture Meteorology Project** which enables rural communities in West Africa (Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) to make better use of weather and climate information to increase productivity of their cropping systems.
- The **flood information project (the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Hydrological Cycle Observing System)** is a joint project among six countries in the region (Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and China). The goal is to build a regional flood observation and information system, to strengthen local flood management preparedness and to improve the dissemination of information so that it would also benefit local inhabitants suffering from floods. The project is carried out by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) together with the World Meteorological Organization, and supported by Finland.

In the area of **strengthening regulatory frameworks** to enable and incentivize adaptation priorities, examples of actions supported are:

- The UNDP-UNEP **Poverty Environment Initiative** is a global UN-led programme that supports country-led efforts to mainstream poverty-environment linkages into national development planning. The programme is increasingly supporting mainstreaming of climate change concerns into national development policies and planning processes as a central component. Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the European Commission are key contributors to this programme.
- The Ministry for the Environment and Sustainable Development in **Mauretania coordinates the countries efforts to update its National Adaptation Programme of Action** in the context of reforming its overall environmental governance and incorporating priorities into the broader development planning. Bilateral and multilateral sources, as well as funding streams inside and outside the Convention are being mobilized to support the adaptation planning process, its implementation and monitoring. Germany, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme support the process.
- **Local environmental governance in Burkina Faso:** Strengthening the capacities of local governments and communities to effectively address development challenges linked to climate change will be key for effective national adaptation planning. Austria in cooperation with UNDP is supporting the Government of Burkina Faso, among others, to integrate sustainable natural resource management and climate change in local development plans and to enable the monitoring of the implementation of environmental policies on decentralized levels. It further assists to establish a national climate fund that facilitates access to finance for local communities.

To **build institutional and technical capacities** needed for implementation and planning of adaptation at all levels, some examples of initiatives by the EU are:

- The **Cambodia Climate Change Alliance** aims to develop capacity within government to coordinate and address the challenges of climate change and implement priority actions. It is implemented by the UNDP in collaboration with the Cambodian government and receives support from Sweden, the EU and Denmark. The programme supports a number of priority actions identified in the NAPA.
- The **Southeast Asia Network of Climate Change Focal Points**, financially supported by Finland and implemented by UNEP, builds capacities of climate change focal points and their collaborators in relevant national ministries and agencies in order to (i) contribute to the UNFCCC negotiations, and (ii) support their country's integrated responses to climate change challenges with an emphasis on priority sectors of their choice. Climate change offices may e.g. decide to support the further development of climate change vulnerability assessment skills and greater expertise on integrating adaptation to climate change into sectoral and national development planning and request that specific support be delivered by the project to national institutions in charge of agriculture, spatial planning, water resources etc.

- In the **Preparedness for Climate Change Project**, supported by the Netherlands, the Climate Centre of the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC/RC) family worked with Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Fiji, India, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Yemen. The Climate Centre supports the RC/RC Movement to understand and address the humanitarian consequences of climate change and extreme weather events. It offers the opportunity for countries to incorporate climate change into their policies. This is achieved through a flexible four-step process with the objective to learn and raise awareness about country-specific climate change risks, analyse those risks in the context of local vulnerabilities and capacities, and develop strategies to prepare and minimize them.
- **A cooperation programme with South Pacific SIDS aimed at planning adaptation measures and meeting the development priorities of the local governments** is carried out by Italy. The programme has a strong participatory approach. It is designed to strengthen national capacities for the establishment of national policies and strategies with a special focus on the renewable energy sector and to ensure sustainability through the development and deployment of specialized human resources at both the national and community levels.
- **Regional training sessions in Mali and Uganda** is being carried out by the Belgian Development Cooperation, with a focus on integrating climate change adaptation into development cooperation. Participating countries include Mali, Senegal, Benin, Niger, Morocco, Uganda, Mozambique, Rwanda and South-Africa, as well as local NGO's. Trainings have been explicitly designed to create synergies with capacity building work done by other development cooperation agencies.
- **The programme “Support to resilient national climate change policies and strategies”** focuses on three African countries including one LDC: Niger, Gabon, Kenya and potentially Tunisia. France aims to support the institutional and technical process for elaboration of national strategies for low carbon and climate change resilient development in the countries. Among other things the program intends to elaborate methodologies for developing adaptation strategies; to articulate for each country the strategy to elaborate action plans against climate change; to foster the elaboration of national sectoral action plans aiming at mitigating GHG emissions, and increasing the institutional capacities on these issues.

Examples of projects, programmes, and funds to **support implementation of prioritized adaptation measures** include the following:

- The **Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR)** aims at piloting and demonstrating ways in which climate risk and resilience may be integrated into core development planning and implementation. It provides large scale investments to support a countrywide paradigm shift towards climate-resilient development. Among the EU member states, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Germany and Spain are supporting this programme. The program has had projects in 9 pilot countries and 2 regional programmes in small island developing states. Among the pilot countries are Zambia, Mozambique and Cambodia.
- The **Adaptation Fund (AF)** finances concrete projects and programmes whose principal aim is to adapt and increase climate resilience with particular focus on vulnerable communities. The AF places particular emphasis on country-driven processes and provides countries with the option to choose the direct access modality through a National Implementing Entity (NIE). Key contributors are Spain, Sweden, Germany and the United Kingdom.
- In Bangladesh, the **Bangladesh Climate Change Resilience Fund (BCCRF)** is a multi-donor trust fund established by the Government of Bangladesh and the World Bank together with Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom and the EU. The aim is to contribute to the implementation of Bangladesh's ten-year Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan within the following six pillars: (1) food security, social security and health, (2) disaster management, (3) infrastructure, (4) research and knowledge management, (5) reducing greenhouse gas emissions and a conversion to low-carbon development, (6) capacity development.
- **The West African Development Bank (BOAD)** offers low-interests loans to the governments of Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Senegal for climate change adaptation activities related to agriculture, natural resources management and flood protection. The loans are made available through grants provided by Germany. With this mechanism, the original grant is leveraged by a factor of six. In **Mali**, Germany supports integrating adaptation into local level development, and is about to scale up its support for implementing national adaptation priorities.

- The **Productive Safety Nets Programme (PSNP)** is one of the Government of Ethiopia's flagship programmes for reducing hunger and poverty and building the resilience of vulnerable communities to shocks, particularly those associated with climate change. The PSNP delivers cash and food transfers to rural Ethiopians through Public Works or for free as direct support. The PSNP design aims to effectively respond to shocks by: (i) adaptive measures through the approach of participatory and integrated watershed management, and (ii) the capacity to scale up in response to shocks, guided by local level risk management plans and risk financing at local and regional level. Ireland is one of the contributors to this Programme.
- The **Adaptation Learning Programme (ALP)** to help rural communities in Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique and Niger adapt to the impacts of climate change is supported through CARE by the British, Danish, Finnish and Austrian governments. The programme helps communities express their needs and priorities, to exchange experiences and provides support to make changes, such as introducing new varieties of drought-resilient crops and setting up systems for storing food and protecting livestock during extreme weather. The programme will directly benefit around 12,000 vulnerable men and women. The Niger National Council for Environment and Sustainable Development say "Community Based Adaptation by ALP will feed into Niger's National Adaptation Plan of Action and the successes of the ALP can also be disseminated from Dakoro to other parts of Niger."

Most initiatives, including the examples above, **contribute to several elements relevant to national adaptation planning**. Some more examples of projects, programmes and funds supporting a range of elements, depending on country priorities, include:

- The **Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)** supports a work programme to assist LDCs to carry out, inter alia, the preparation and implementation of NAPAs. Seventeen EU member states contribute to this fund (as of September 30, 2011): Germany, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Forty-seven LDCs were supported to develop NAPAs. Forty-six countries have officially submitted projects implementing priorities identified in NAPAs to the LDCF, in addition to mobilizing other sources of support.
- The **Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)** was initiated by the European Commission (EC). The GCCA focuses on LDCs and Small Island Developing States globally. Adaptation, especially in climate sensitive sectors, is among its five priority areas. The modalities of the support varies from one country to another seeking the highest feasible level of alignment with national priorities and procedures and harmonisation with other funding sources, including piloting direct access support modalities, for example: Solomon Islands (general budget support), Bangladesh (contribution to national Trust Fund also supported from other sources), Mozambique, Cambodia (policy programme support pooled with other donors and national resources). The EC, Ireland, Sweden, Estonia, Cyprus and the Czech Republic are contributing.

Conclusion

The EU recognises that the adaptation planning process involves a range of activities over time. The complexity of climate change, combined with the fact that impacts are manifested in different sectors and in different temporal perspectives, means that efforts to support countries should contribute to enhancing capacities in a comprehensive manner. As such the EU has focused its support on all stages of the planning process, ranging from the assessment and evaluation of impacts and identification of responses to climate change to strengthening relevant institutions and regulatory frameworks and ensuring effective implementation of action. The EU recognises that multiple avenues exist to provide support to enable adaptation planning and the integration of climate change in all relevant sectors. Consequently, the EU in collaboration with its partners has strived to utilise all relevant channels in meeting this challenge.

Paper no. 3: Gambia on behalf of the least developed countries

The least developed countries (LDCs) welcomes the invitation to provide their views on **information on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries**. This information is of great importance in order to build upon decisions 1/CP.16 par 15-18 and 5/CP.17 and to create the necessary conditions to enable LDCs to effectively formulate and implement NAPs.

From the LDCs perspective, there is a need to take a number of additional necessary provisions to make the previous decisions concerning the NAPs effective, coherent and applicable and to guarantee the success of the NAPs process in LDCs. These provisions include:

1. A specific and dedicated process for enabling activities for the formulation of NAPs in LDCs, where it is appropriate.

The formulation of NAPs in LDCs will require accelerating the establishment of the necessary arrangement to undertake *enabling activities* in LDCs country Parties, where appropriate, to assist these countries formulating their NAPs. Exception will be made to the LDCs parties, which special circumstances allow adoption of a country-project based approach.

These enabling activities should be based on ongoing processes at country level in connection with development planning and adaptation. Considering the specific circumstances of LDCs as recognized by the Convention, the support for such enabling activities is the most appropriate way to accompany LDCs overcome the limits and difficulties they are facing regarding planning, assessment and implementation of adaptation. Any delay or failure in establishing such process, would allow partners and institutions to provide their supports on ad-hoc and voluntary basis and would thereby not guarantee the overall objective pursued in the Cancun Adaptation Framework to enhance adaptation action, and strengthen least developed countries, as a group, in their effort to adapt to climate change. LDCs call upon the SBI to recommend to the COP for its consideration and adoption at its eighteenth session a decision urging and requesting the Global Environment Facility to make available support to LDCs Parties for the formulation of NAPs as early as possible and on the basis of **agreed full cost funding**. Furthermore the LDCs call upon the SBI to recommend the organization of an inception workshop by March/April 2013 to expedite the NAPs process in LDCs.

2. The need to make available financial, technical and institutional support

The success of such process will require to clearly identify the scope of support required but also the mechanisms and channels for such support. These will include financial, technical and institutional supports.

- Financial support

The financial support should be made available for LDCs parties only through public funds for both formulation and implementation of NAPs and should allow review every five years.

o Financial support for the NAPs formulation:

Given the enormity of the adaptation needs, which will be fulfilled largely based on results from a well articulated adaptation planning process, the call made in Durban to invite various partners, including the United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to support the LDCs in this process is relevant and welcomed. However the launch of the NAPs process should be supported through specific funding. For this purpose, the LDCs lay stress on the need for this support to be provided at its early stage through invitation to developed countries to contribute, new and additional financial resources to NAPAs implementation funding to the LDCF, in order to support the NAPs formulation on the basis of full agreed costs.¹ Thus,

¹ During the negotiation in 2011, LDCs made a proposal for a Global Support Program for the formulation of the NAPs. Institutions, including the GEF, have been invited to submit their views on

for the setting up and the design of NAPs, the LDCF should be used but there should be clear separation from the funding for the NAPAs to avoid confusion. The financial needs in order to set up and formulate or design the NAPs has been estimated at a range of USD \$500,000 to \$1, 000, 000. The setting up and designing period of NAPs should be two to three years.

At the same time, specific guidance should be given to the operating entity or entities of the financial mechanism, namely the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund, to fund the formulation of LDCs' national adaptation plans. The modalities of access to resources for NAPs shall be made either through the means of implementing entities or through direct access for enabling activities (GEF/C.38/06/Rev.1), as appropriate for each LDC.

Furthermore, the funding to support setting up and designing the NAPs should be separate from implementation funding.

o Financial support for NAPs implementation

The entity or entities entrusted with the financial mechanism of the Convention, as well as other institutions, namely the United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies shall all collaborate to make available the necessary financial arrangement and support for the implementation of national adaptation plans for the Least developed countries. All the financial resources to be allocated for adaptation activities in LDCs should exclusively be grants and cannot in any cases refer to concessional lending.

- Technical support and capacity building

Despite progress in addressing adaptation issues in LDCs, there is still a huge need for support to these countries to perform scoping of climate change issues, assess and map vulnerability, undertake other assessments to identify the impacts on vulnerable communities and sectors, build internal capacity in the long-term, train personnel and strengthen regional centres etc. In order to fulfill these needs, the Least Developed Countries should be provided with, the necessary technical support required in the context of the NAPs to successfully conduct this process. This support will include technical assistance, capacity development, tools needed in order to support (1) enhanced understanding of the vulnerability at all levels, be they national, regional, sectoral, systemic etc., (2) the integration of adaptation into sectoral and regional planning, and into strategic tools (ie. into the environmental assessment tools), (3) modeling, data gathering, processing and analysis, (4) systematic observation and research, (5) adaptation practices etc.

The capacity building activities to support the LDCs NAPs process should include support to set up national implementing entities and national financial institutions with high accountability and fiduciary standards. The capacity of LDCs experts to managing funding and projects for climate change should be improved in a sustainable manner. South-South cooperation must be promoted to exchange knowledge, learning and skills.

how to: « support the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries and, where possible, to consider establishing support programmes for the national adaptation plan process within their mandates, as appropriate, which could facilitate financial and technical support to least developed countries ». LDCs expect the information to be provided by these organisations will help clarify the nature of support to be provided during SBI 36.

- Institutional arrangement at national level

The financial support should be provided for LDCs to establish, develop and enhance the institutional framework at national level aiming at improving the coherence of all activities undertaken on adaptation. This arrangement should enhance collaboration, coordination and synergies between all the relevant sectors, and with regions and sub-regions. This framework should include the arrangement for the management of the different sources of funding. Indeed, all the LDCs should be supported to create, funding entities to mobilize and administer both domestic and international resources at national level.

3. The need to take stock and learning lessons from the NAPAs formulation and implementation

A successful NAPs process should be built not only on the formulation of NAPAs, but also on their implementation. There is a need to expedite the process of funding allocation for NAPAs implementation through efficient and streamlining projects cycle, in order to capitalize lessons learnt to inform the preparation and implementation of the NAPs.

Indonesia Submission of information on support for NAP's LDC financial arrangement.

Indonesia supports LDC to be priority for financial support through the following considerations:

1. It has been scientifically and potentially threatened by climate change on the main source of economic, food security and water areas in the country. The fact is reinforced by the results based on review of the scientific panel.
2. All stakeholders on the territory of a country including parliament and private sector should support implementation of National Adaptation Plan.

Based on Indonesia experienced in formulating adaptation policy and measures which can be lesson learned for LDC countries, as follows:

1. National Adaptation Plan should include the analysis of funding needs and technology, as well as assess mitigation requirements that can affect the success of adaptation.
2. Approach and the need for adaptation should be able to take a commitment between sectors as well as Private sector as common agenda.

Japan's submission on National Adaptation Plans

Japan welcomes its opportunity to submit information on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries (LDCs).

Japan has supported developing countries in promoting their actions for adaptation, in various fields such as disaster prevention, water and food security, by strengthening their capacity to cope with natural disasters including the establishment of early flood warning systems, the improvement of water access including water supply plans, the expansion of irrigation systems and the enhancement of food productivity. Japan has provided assistance in adaptation amounting to over 1 billion dollars (as of 31st October, 2011) for fast-start finance.

In LDCs, in particular, the focus on the support is to secure the foundation for livelihood and achieve sustainable development by implementing adaptation measures that are based on appropriate assessments. In addition to assistance to specific sectors, Japan has a planning programme for vulnerable countries. The Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP), launched by UNDP with financial support from the Government of Japan, is designed to assist 20 countries across Africa to incorporate climate change risks and opportunities into their national development processes in order to overcome vulnerability to climate change and achieve sustainable development. It is Japan's view that the experience under this programme will be relevant and useful to future support to the national adaptation plan process. (See appendix for more concrete information.)

It is important that support for developing countries, especially vulnerable countries should be seamlessly delivered beyond 2012. Japan will continue to provide supports steadily in the future, taking into account the outcome of COP17 including national adaptation plan process.

Appendix

The AAP was established under the Japan-UNDP Joint Framework for Building Partnership to Address Climate Change in Africa, which was founded at the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) in May 2008. The AAP was launched in 2008 by the UNDP in partnership with UNIDO, UNICEF and WFP and with US\$92.1 million support from the Government of Japan. It has a more strategic focus, aimed at creating an environment in which more informed and appropriate adaptation decisions and practices are made in the participating countries. The AAP focuses on strengthening five capacities that are crucial to designing and implementing a resilient development agenda:

1. Data and Information Management
2. Institutions and Leadership
3. Analysis and Implementation
4. Knowledge Management
5. Innovative Finance

The information is compiled on <http://www.undp-aap.org/>

Paper no. 6: United States of America

The United States welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission, pursuant to paragraph 24 of the COP 17 decision on national adaptation plans (NAPs), on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries.

General approach

It is the view of the United States that the process to enable least developed country (LDC) Parties to identify medium and long-term adaptation needs, and develop and implement strategies and programs to address those needs (hereby referred to as “NAPs process”), should:

- 1) enable LDCs to maintain the flexibility to organize their adaptation planning processes to best fit their individual contexts, circumstances, and development plans;
- 2) provide LDCs with the opportunity to consult and engage with a broad range of actors to diversify available support for the NAPs process; and
- 3) take account of, and build from, existing and future climate change and/or adaptation strategies and development plans.

Support for the NAPs process should recognize that LDCs are at different stages of addressing climate risks in their development planning, budgeting, and implementation. Some countries, for example, are already beginning to integrate short- and long-term climate risks into national development and sector-based planning and policymaking. Some countries have barely started planning, while others have already moved beyond planning to implementation. The institutional arrangements of different sources of support may be more readily applied to either the formulation elements of the NAPs process (e.g. impact and/or vulnerability assessments, stakeholder consultations, institutional capacity building and coordination, etc.) or the implementation elements of that process (defining programmatic approaches to address priority adaptation needs, creating regulatory frameworks, etc.) For example, private sector finance may be available for implementing NAPs priority actions, while it is unlikely that private sector finance would play a significant role in the formulation elements of the NAPs. Guidance on support for the NAPs process should be sufficiently flexible to accommodate LDCs in different stages of adaptation planning.

The NAPs process should encourage broad stakeholder engagement and diverse partnerships. The NAPs process should integrate into the larger development strategy in each country, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, thereby enabling good adaptation planning to form the basis for broad support through multiple sources and across sectors. An explicit determination of sources of support for the NAPs process may limit both the integration of adaptation planning into national development strategies and the possible avenues by which LDCs can seek that support.

Support for the NAPs process should take account of, and build from, existing climate change and/or adaptation strategies, such as National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and the Climate Investment Fund’s Pilot Program on Climate Resilience (PPCR). LDCs may be able to use the analyses of impacts and vulnerability from the NAPAs as a solid foundation for medium- and long-term planning. The PPCR process of building capacity for inter-ministerial decision making platforms, stakeholder consultations, priority setting, and investment plans is an important model for the desired elements of the NAPs process. Bilateral programs, such as support for developing Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDs), also provide excellent models for the economy-wide, cross-sector adaptation planning and implementation we envision as the outcome of a successful NAPs process.

Parties should give due consideration to prioritizing support under the NAPs process to LDCs that have not benefited from the PPCR, given that the PPCR is intended to provide participating countries with the basis for addressing short, medium and long term actions on climate adaptation as part of national development strategies, policies and plans. LDCs that are benefiting from the PPCR could come into the NAP process at a later stage. In those PPCR countries, it is critical that the NAP process not replicate or undermine ongoing efforts, but rather build upon the work underway.

Clarification on the NAPs process

Parties defined initial guidelines for the NAPs process in Durban, but they remain fairly broad. The COP17 NAPs decision requests the Least Developed Countries Experts Group (LEG) to:

- a. prepare technical guidelines for the NAPs process;
- b. arrange for a review of these guidelines; and
- c. identify support needs for the process of formulating and implementing NAPs.

Guidance on support for the NAPs process in LDCs should flow from the work of the LEG on technical guidelines, while maintaining flexibility and a country-driven focus. The United States believes discussions at SBI 36 should focus on defining a timeline for these outcomes. The LEG should collaborate with multilateral and bilateral partners to develop these guidelines, and to ensure an effective process for review.

U.S. views on support for the NAPs process

It is the view of the United States that the LEG should complete those tasks critical to clarifying the NAPs process before Parties provide detailed guidance on effective means of support for that process. However, we are open to a discussion of possible existing and future opportunities for scientific, technical, financial, or capacity building support. We reiterate, as Parties have agreed, that the NAPs process should be continuous, progressive, and iterative. The distinction between formulation and implementation activities does not imply that the completion of one aspect is a prerequisite to beginning activities under the other. While some sources of support may be more readily applied to either the formulation or implementation elements of the NAPs process, others may be applicable to both.

The Adaptation Committee and the Nairobi Work Program (NWP) can provide scientific and technical support relevant to all elements of the NAPs process. The Adaptation Committee will be drafting a three-year work plan over the next year, which may include considering technical support and guidance for the NAPs process. The NWP is well suited to identifying tools and resources to support adaptation so that LDCs can more effectively design plans that are robust under multiple climate scenarios. The NWP's inclusive partnership model, that includes a database of calls for action to which a wide variety of partners can respond, can connect the diverse needs and interests of LDCs with those partners best-suited to provide support. For example, the Adaptation Partnership is a NWP partner whose work on mapping the landscape of adaptation activities underway around the world, regional workshops on issues including mainstreaming of adaptation into development plans and projects, and support for communities of adaptation practice can provide a range of technical guidance and data for the NAPs process.

The mandate of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) includes both the formulation and implementation of the NAPAs. As of September 2011, the United States was the third largest contributor to this fund. Many of the projects we have reviewed as part of the LDCF Council combine the implementation of adaptation action with the stakeholder coordination and institutional capacity building that would constitute part of the formulation element of the NAPs process. Noteworthy examples of this integration of formulation and implementation activities include a project in Liberia to mainstream adaptation into agricultural sector development, and a coastal afforestation project in Bangladesh that will introduce new ecosystem-based adaptation techniques and build capacity for adaptation planning on the district and local level. The LDCF has valuable experience to apply to supporting many aspects of the NAPs process, particularly once that process is clarified by the LEG. Multilateral and bilateral assistance can also support both the formulation and implementation elements of NAPs process, as the LEDS program and USAID support for adaptation planning in countries like Barbados demonstrate.¹

Finally, support for reporting back on effective strategies for both the formulation and implementation elements of the NAPs process will help track progress in adaptation action and allow for the exchange of knowledge, lessons learned and good practices. The Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) helps non-Annex 1 Parties in the preparation of their national communications, including the elements on adaptation and vulnerability assessment and reporting. National communications guidelines on adaptation can be improved so that they reflect and support the NAPs process, and LDCs could report on progress made in the NAPs process every four years through their national communications. The CGE has made recommendations for revision of the adaptation chapter and may continue to provide further recommendations in line with the NAPs process, possibly in coordination with the Adaptation Committee, once it is up and running.

¹ For more information on the USAID-supported adaptation planning work in Barbados, see the Barbados Fact Sheet in "Meeting the Fast Start Commitment" (<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/177750.pdf>)

Paper no. 7: International Organization for Migration

Subject: International Organisation for Migration (IOM) submission to the UNFCCC concerning draft decisions 23 and 24 of 5/CP.17 of the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

IOM appreciates the UNFCCC's invitation to comment on the important developments regarding the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) as a follow up to decisions adopted at the Durban Summit.

IOM recognises the value of the NAPs as providing long-term country-driven strategic frameworks for climate change adaptation. In this context, it is important to build on the experiences of the National Adaptation Programs for Action and on the decisions made over the course of the UNFCCC's Conference of the Parties (COPs). IOM holds it important for NAPs to broaden capacities for greater inclusion of specialised organisations, as delivering more options to the UNFCCC Parties NAP implementation.

This submission is delivered as part of IOM's efforts to implement paragraph 14f¹ of the Cancun Agreements within the lines of the Organisation's mission and strategy as decided by its membership² to: Assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management (for all types of migration, from forced to voluntary and including displacement); Advance understanding of migration issues; Encourage social and economic development through migration; Uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

IOM is directly concerned with climate induced migration, displacement and related relocation planning. The Organization has wide-ranging experience on a global scale in humanitarian preparedness, response to displacement induced by natural disasters, livelihood stabilization programmes for environmentally vulnerable communities and other migration activities related to climate change impacts.³ Through the work on the ground, IOM is witness to the growing impact of climate change on livelihoods and human mobility. Thus, adaptation planning should already factor in human mobility considerations.

The increase of IOM's membership to 146 states and 98 observers with a majority of representatives from developing countries is testimony to the growing geopolitical significance of human mobility in our time. With a structure of 450 field offices in more than a hundred countries, the organization can also directly engage with relevant counterparts at local and regional levels, in particular in Least Developing Countries (LDCs). Addressing the migration and displacement implications of climate and environmental factors is one of the Organization's thematic priorities.

The Organization's work on environmental migration includes research, policy dialogue, capacity building, partnership, legal research, advocacy and operational activities. IOM supports in particular migration and adaptation activities via its Development Fund including capacity building pilot projects such as: "Support Malian national and local institutions in managing environmental migration within the framework of their strategy for reducing vulnerability to climate change" ; "Pilot Project - Assessment and Strategy Development to Respond to the Impact of Rising Sea Level on Human Mobility in Egypt"; "The Other Migrants - Cause and Prevention of Migration of Gradual Environmental Change – Environment and Sustainable Development in Mauritius and "Senegal: Promotion of youth labour in environmental sector in Senegal (as a way to combat irregular migration)".

The submission should be also read in conjunction with the results of the 2011 IOM International Dialogue on Migration Workshop on "Environmental Degradation, Climate change and Migration" calling for increased capacity building to mainstream migration into adaptation planning (www.iom.int/idmclimatechange/lang/en) and with IOM's

¹ Measures to enhance understanding, coordination and cooperation with regard to climate change induced displacement, migration and planned relocation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels" (UNFCCC, Cancun Agreements 2010).

² Please refer to IOM Strategy MC/INF/287, Nov. 2007 at <http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/about_iom/docs/res1150_en.pdf>.

³ Please refer to IOM's pages : <www.iom.int/envmig and www.iom.int/climateandmigration>.

inputs to the Cop17 in Durban, in particular IOM's Director General's speech at the High level segment⁴ and IOM's contributions to interagency side events on the human dimensions of climate change.

This submission should be read in conjunction with the previous IOM and collaborative organisations' submissions also relating to the topic of climate change, migration and displacement, including:

- 1) Change, Migration and Displacement: Who will be affected? Working paper submitted by the informal group on Migration/Displacement and Climate Change of the IASC. 31 October 2008 to the UNFCCC Secretariat.
- 2) Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies and Risk Management Practices: Critical Elements for Adaptation to Climate Change. Submission to the UNFCCC *Adhoc* Working Group on Long Term Cooperative Action by The Informal Taskforce on climate change of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. 11 November 2008.
- 3) Climate change, migration, and displacement: impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation options. Submitted to UNFCCC Secretariat by International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations University (UNU), The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and the representatives of the Secretary-General in the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (RSG on the HR of IDPs). 6 February 2009.

Overall National Adaptation Plans should:

- Include the consideration of the impacts of climate change on population movement and settlement patterns, in particular the combined impacts of climate change, rural-urban migration and other pressures on urban areas;
- Recognize the humanitarian consequences of climate change, including forced migration and displacement and take action to minimize them, including through prevention of displacement, and to prepare for and to address the unavoidable consequences.
- Consider that human mobility can in certain cases play a positive role in adaptation and recognize that the adaptation dividends of migration can best be harnessed at the earlier stages of environmental degradation, before the migration becomes entirely forced, and where return remains possible after the migration event.
- Give priority to the particular needs of those most vulnerable to and affected by climate change: this includes those on the move for environmental reasons, those at risk of displacement, but potentially also "trapped" communities whose extreme vulnerability stems from the *inability* to move away from dangerous or unsustainable environments due to a lack of resources.
- Include consultations with affected populations in the strategic planning.

⁴ Please refer to: www.iom.int/climateandmigration.

**Ideas and Proposals on paragraphs 23 and 24
Draft decision 5/CP.17 regarding National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**

Decision and Relevance to IOM	IOM recommendations
<p>Paragraph 3. 23. <i>Also invites</i> United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to support the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries and, where possible, to consider establishing support programmes for the national adaptation plan process within their mandates, as appropriate, which could facilitate financial and technical support to least developed countries; and to submit to the secretariat, by 13 February 2012, information on how they have responded to this invitation;</p>	<p>Access to finance: Building on the experience of NAPAs, and of the Cancun Adaptation Framework in incorporating migration, displacement and planned relocation as an activity that qualifies for adaptation funding in the future; IOM recommends that the NAPs process fully incorporates the participation of specialised organisations to develop climate change adaptation programmes that factor in human mobility. IOM will make use of its extensive regional and national office presence in particular in least developed countries to support the incorporation of migration related issues into the adaptation planning process.</p>
<p>Paragraph 3. 24. <i>Invites</i> Parties and relevant organizations as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies, to submit to the secretariat, by 13 February 2012, information on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries;</p>	<p>Migration as adaptation: In-line with IOM's central objectives in managing environmental migration, the Organisation recommends that NAPs should factor in migration related issues through activities: <i>a) Preventing</i> (forced) migration and making migration work for adaptation; <i>b) Preparing</i> for potential migration/displacement/relocation; <i>c) Managing</i> (mass) migration; <i>d) Mitigating</i> the impact of (forced) migration; <i>e) Addressing</i> (forced) migration through durable solutions.</p> <p>Inclusive and participatory processes: Involve affected populations as directly and as early as possible. Local communities should form the primary focus of action and attention.</p> <p>Migration as part of national development strategies: NAPs provide an opportunity to link migration management with other policy areas in terms of climate change adaptation, in particular with sustainable development policy strategies.</p> <p>Risk assessment: Develop risk assessments of natural hazards, preparedness measures and programmes to prevent and manage displacement to minimise the impacts of forced migration in natural disaster scenarios, through such measures as early warning systems, contingency planning and bolstered capacities for humanitarian assistance and protection, especially for the most vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Build resilience: Improve urban environments and build</p>

	<p>resilience as forward looking programmes that take into account the expected increase in rural-urban migration flows, the risks of having populations trapped, or displaced because of the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Overall IOM recommends pursuing the following priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recognize and realize the potential of migration as a climate change adaptation strategy, and its linkages to sustainable development. ▪ Develop policy coherence at national, regional and international levels by mainstreaming environmental and climate change considerations into migration management policies and practice, and vice versa. ▪ Strengthen linkages among policy domains, especially migration management, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and sustainable development, to reduce vulnerability in the long term. ▪ Recognize and facilitate the role of migration, including climate change related migration, as an income diversification strategy at the household level and strengthen the development effect of migrant remittances on areas of origin. ▪ Relate the issue of environmental migration to labour migration schemes and to policies facilitating labour mobility. ▪ Promote the option of sustainable return where possible and support the local integration of those who have been forced to move. The return, integration and relocation of migrants should all be considered within the general frameworks of sustainable development and adaptation. ▪ Build the capacities of all stakeholders, including local communities, to anticipate and respond to environmental changes and their implications for human mobility. <p>IOM wishes bring its experience and expertise to further contribute to the national adaptation planning process in the least developed countries, in collaboration with all relevant partners at local, national, regional and international levels via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research, publication and information sharing activities; ▪ Capacity building, training and policy activities in particular policy dialogue (national, regional, global) and identification of good practices on factoring in human mobility into adaptation planning; ▪ Operational projects that deal with all migration aspects from forced to voluntary, including responses to displacement due to natural disasters, and planned relocation.
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Views for UNFCCC Submission on the Support to the National Adaptation Plan Process from a Disaster Risk Reduction Perspective

At UNFCCC COP17, Durban, South Africa, Parties adopted initial guidelines for least developed countries to formulate their national adaptation plans (NAPs). The objective of the plans is to reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts and to build resilience targeting national development processes.

In order to assist least developing countries in this effort, Parties and relevant organizations are invited to submit to the UNFCCC by 13 February 2012 information on support to the national adaptation plan process in the least developed countries.

The Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) with UNISDR held an initial consultation, involving UNDP-BCPR, FAO, GFDRR, UNEP, UNICEF, WHO, IOM, WFP, on 27 January 2012 on disaster risk reduction to identify existing support available. UNDP/BCPR, IFRC and WHO provided further written inputs.

The Durban decision on the national adaptation plans provides a helpful context in the coming years for ensuring efforts to reduce disaster risk effectively and to support least developed countries in particular to adapt to climate change.

The draft table below includes support available within institutions addressing natural hazard risk that can contribute to national adaptation plans in least developed countries. The table is structured along the format of the initial draft guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by least developed country Parties adopted in Durban.

Relevant areas of the initial draft guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by least developed country Parties (UNFCCC, COP17)	Support available on addressing disaster risk
1. a) Identification and assessment of institutional arrangements, programmes, policies and capacities for overall coordination and leadership on adaptation	Capacity, institutional and policy reviews on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation are available. UNDP has undertaken 20 country-level analyses of institutions and policies for managing climate-related risks; the twofold purpose of the analyses is to identify capacity gaps and to inform NAPs. These assessments review: 1) historical climate variability and extreme events, current trends and future projections, and 2) climate impacts on development (historical, current and potential), as a basis for systematically identifying risk management priorities, institutional and policy requirements and capacity development needs for improving climate-related development outcomes. The methodology (available on the UNDP website and attached) is directly applicable to NAP preparation. UNISDR has carried out a regional review in Asia. The Global Assessment Report 2011 also provides reviews of effective institutional arrangements for addressing risk based on the analysis of country report on the Hyogo Framework for Action.
1. (b) Assessments of available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, measures taken to address climate change, and gaps and needs, at the national and regional levels;	A range of tools support the assessment of risk to climate related extreme events, in particular the Global Assessment Report (GAR) and its global and regional risk analysis, the Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment (CAPRA), the seasonal forecast tools developed in a cooperation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre and the International Institute for Climate and Society (IRI) as well as UNDP's Global Risk Identification Programme (GRIP).
1. (c) Comprehensive, iterative assessments of	UN programmatic support to development plans and policies at country

<p>development needs and climate vulnerabilities</p>	<p>level is coordinated through the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). UNDP, the UNISDR Secretariat and other UN partners provide support for integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into UNDAFs in countries facing climate-related risks to development.</p> <p>UNDP supports UNDAF preparation through CADRI and UNDAF implementation through its country programmes.. Regional training is also provided integrating both disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Civil society organisations and the Red Cross/Red Crescent have over the years developed community based DRR methods that include climate related risks.</p>
<p>2. (a) Design and development of plans, policies and programmes by considering decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 14 (a) (the Cancun Adaptation Framework);</p> <p>2. (c) Activities aimed at integrating climate change adaptation into national and subnational development and sectoral planning;</p>	<p>The Hyogo Framework for Action, as recognized in the Cancun Adaptation Framework, provides a coherent set of no-regret actions to effectively ensure that sustainable development efforts address the risk of climate extreme events.</p> <p>UN Resident Coordinators are the primary interagency mechanism for pulling together the assistance of UN Country Teams and the international community at country level in support of governments. Services include aligning international assistance with government plans and policies, mapping and aligning on-going and planned international programmes and initiatives, and coordinating programme activities.</p> <p>UNDP supports UN Resident Coordinators through it country offices to pull together comprehensive, multi-stakeholder disaster and climate risk management programmes of sufficient scale and scope to assist countries in achieving the Hyogo Framework expected outcome of a substantial reduction in disaster losses</p>
<p>(d) Participatory stakeholder consultations;</p>	<p>UNISDR Campaign of local authorities brings over 800 mayors committed to the subject of addressing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Various programmes in developing countries by the Red Cross/Red Crescent and NGOs that facilitate the involvement of local stakeholders, in particular those most vulnerable to the impacts of CC, in national adaptation planning.</p>
<p>4. (b) To monitor and review the efforts undertaken, and provide information in their national communications on the progress made and the effectiveness of the national adaptation plan process.</p>	<p>a) Regular monitoring by countries of efforts to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action. National reports are available on www.preventionweb.org.</p>

Paper no. 9: World Health Organization

The World Health Organization welcomes the opportunity to provide the UNFCCC with information on the experiences of the public health community with the application of the guidelines for the national adaptation plan process for least developed country Parties and recommendations on financial arrangements for the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans.

Health Community support to the national adaptation plans

In recent years the health community has become much more engaged on climate change issues. In addition to the mandates from the UNFCCC, there are now strong political mandates from the international health governing bodies, through a 2008 World Health Assembly resolution (WHA 61.19)¹ on climate change and health, and equivalent commitments at Regional level. These include, for example, the Libreville Declaration and the Luanda Commitment, through which African Ministers of Health and Environment have jointly proposed a regional framework for health adaptation to climate change, with similar commitments being made in the Americas², European³, Eastern Mediterranean⁴, South-East Asian⁵ and Western Pacific Regions⁶.

These political mandates are also supported by advances in technical guidance, and in health adaptation projects. The health community is therefore much better equipped to engage in the new round of national adaptation planning that is now under discussion.

WHO is currently supporting the national adaptation planning through the following activities:

- 1) Awareness raising and guidance to support greater health sector engagement in climate-change adaptation programming at national, regional and global level.
- 2) Technical and policy support for vulnerability and adaptation assessment based on newly-revised guidance produced by WHO and the Pan-American Health Organization, following consultation with health and environment practitioners.
- 3) Integration of adaptation measures within a comprehensive approach to strengthening health systems to protect populations from the impacts of climate change.
- 4) Sharing of lessons learned and technical resources from the range of WHO pilot projects on health adaptation to climate change, through the Nairobi Work Programme and other UNFCCC mechanisms, as appropriate.
- 5) Technical and policy support for new projects and programmes on health adaptation to climate change.
- 6) Technical support in developing national strategies and action plans.

Planning Health Adaptation in the most vulnerable countries

Through its country, regional and headquarters offices, WHO supports countries in planning and implementing health adaptation to climate change, contributing to the implementation of the decisions of the UNFCCC CoP, and its support

¹ http://www.who.int/globalchange/A61_R19_en.pdf.

² [http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=14471&Itemid=.](http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=14471&Itemid=)

³ <http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/environment-and-health/Climate-change/publications/2010/protecting-health-in-an-environment-challenged-by-climate-change-european-regional-framework-for-action>.

⁴ <http://www.emro.who.int/rc55/media/pdf/EMRC55R7a.pdf>.

⁵ http://www.searo.who.int/linkfiles/sde_ndds.pdf.

⁶ http://www.wpro.who.int/nr/rdonlyres/d386d219-a3fd-43bc-9746-b7b8df1f576d/0/wpr_rc59_r07.pdf.

mechanisms, such as the Nairobi Work Programme. WHO is currently executing major projects to pilot adaptation to climate change in 14 countries in all six WHO regions, and has provided support for assessments of health vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in over 30 countries.

WHO is now bringing this experience and tools together into a more comprehensive and programmatic approach to supporting health adaptation. While WHO's work in all parts of the world is relevant to this process, it can be best illustrated in relation to the LDCs through the comprehensive Plan of Action for Public Health Adaptation to Climate Change to minimize the adverse public health effects of climate change in Africa. This was developed by WHO and UNEP in response to the UNFCCC process, and to specific calls from the Ministers, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, to provide technical assistance to countries for implementation, and to facilitate access by African countries to existing climate funds, to protect health from climate change. The plan has now been endorsed by the Ministers of health and Ministers of environment of Africa⁷,

Countries will implement a set of public health and environment interventions to strengthen their resilience by developing and implementing national action plans for public health adaptation to climate change. These plans will be based on an essential public health package of interventions that would include baseline risk and capacity assessments, capacity building, integrated environment and health surveillance, awareness raising and social mobilization, public health oriented environmental management, scaling up of existing public health interventions, strengthening of partnerships and, promotion of research. At the international level, specialized agencies and technical institutions are requested to coordinate their actions to provide guidance, tools and technical support to countries for implementation of the above interventions. An initial estimated budget required for implementation is USD 1 001 000 000 for a 5 year period (2012–2016), or less than US 15 cents per capita per year.

Programmatic and Financial support for health in national adaptation plans

The process established under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF) to enable least developed country Parties (LDCs) to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) is supposed to build upon their experience in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs.

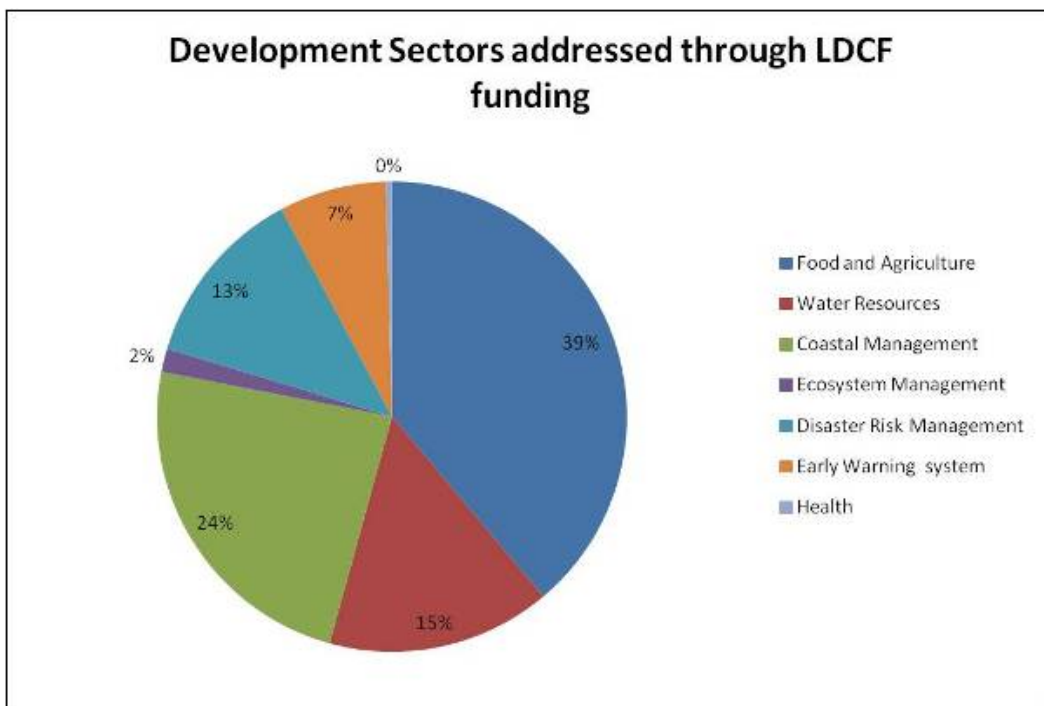
Health is one of the priority sectors identified by the UNFCCC National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) guidelines and key development sectors addressed through the LDCF (the Least Developed Countries Fund) . To assess the degree to which this has been reflected in national adaptation planning, particularly in developing countries, WHO undertook a review of the coverage of health in September 2010. Nearly all of the 41 NAPAs reviewed consider health as being one of the sectors on which climate change will have an impact. However, only just under a quarter of the NAPAs were considered to be comprehensive in their health-vulnerability assessment⁸. Notable gaps in vulnerability assessments include a lack of baseline epidemiological data for the diseases and medical conditions specified that would be affected by climate change, and a description of the trends anticipated in these disease and conditions. In most plans, there were no specific health protection objectives, targets or articulation of the public health strategy or national disease prevention and control programme under which they would be implemented. In many instances, this resulted in inadequate adaptation actions and the proposed projects were for the most part insufficient in terms of scope, size and resources.

Important implementation activities are taking place on climate change and health, but these have mainly taken place in parallel to the previous NAPA process. A recent systematic scoping review of intervention projects which aim to protect human health from climate change identified more than 40 eligible health focused intervention projects,

⁷ Resolution AFR/RC61/R2 of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, and Decision SS4/1 of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment, both adopted in September 2011
http://www.afro.who.int/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=6661.

⁸ Manga, L., Bagayoko, M. et al. (2010). Overview of health considerations within National Adaptation Programmes of Action for climate change in least developed countries and small island states.
http://www.who.int/phe/Health_in_NAPAs_final.pdf.

including several of significant size⁹. However, none of these resulted directly from the outcome of the NAPA process, or were supported by the UNFCCC financial mechanisms. Weaknesses in connection between the international climate change and health processes, may contribute to the relative lack of investment in this area. It is estimated that current international support for health adaptation is only approximately 0.5% of the health-damage costs sustained from climate change. This is also shown by the distribution of LDCF resources by priority sector identified in the NAPAs - with less than 1 % allocated to health protection¹⁰. The investments that have been made in areas such as agriculture, disaster risk reduction and water resources may contribute to health protection, but this is more likely to happen if health is designed as an objective of the programmes in other sectors, and the health community are engaged as stakeholders in such initiatives.



Conclusions and Recommendations

Climate change will worsen the main health problems of the LDCs, and other vulnerable populations, most importantly by increasing malnutrition, reducing access to safe water and adequate hygiene, from deteriorating air quality and increasing exposure to vector-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria, chickungunya etc. and other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. The climate change that has occurred since the 1970s already causes over 140 000 excess deaths each year, and climate change is estimated to add at least US\$2-4 billion in annual health sector costs by 2030¹¹. International funding for health adaptation is less than 1% of this figure. Over 95% of least developed countries identify health as a priority sector for adaptation—but less than 30% have an adequate health assessment or response plan.

⁹ The review identified 18 currently active implementation projects in non Annex-1 countries that have a budget of over US\$500,000. This included seven countries participating in a project on health adaptation to climate change in Eastern Europe and Central Asia coordinated by the WHO Regional Office for Europe, funded by the German Government; seven in a global project coordinated by WHO and UNDP funded by the GEF SCCF; three run by WHO country offices funded by Spain through the MDG-F, and one run by UNDP funded by the GEF SCCF.

¹⁰ <http://www.thegef.org/gef/LDCF>.

¹¹ UNFCCC. Investment and Financial Flows to Address Climate Change. Bonn, 2007.

There is therefore an urgent need to increase the climate resilience of health systems to provide adequate protection to the most vulnerable populations. WHO is promoting a comprehensive approach to strengthen health systems to assess and address the adverse effects of climate change on health, and has made significant progress in defining policy frameworks, providing technical guidance, assessing risk and vulnerability and piloting adaptation with health actors at the national level. All of this work contributes to the UNFCCC goals. However, until now it has proceeded largely in parallel to the UNFCCC process, and receives very little programmatic or financial support from the UNFCCC mechanisms. The new initiative on national adaptation planning provides an excellent opportunity to address these weaknesses, and more effectively link health and climate change goals, capacities and support mechanisms.

Key recommendations include:

- 1) Continuation of UNFCCC endorsement for greater engagement of the health community in adaptation planning at national, regional and global level;
 - 2) Ensuring health expertise is represented in the committees on the different technical and financial forums which support adaptation works through the UNFCCC work programmes on adaptation;
 - 3) Inclusion of a health window under adaptation within the green climate fund as well as the inclusion of measurable health benefits as criteria to screen and prioritize adaptation and mitigation programmes and actions to be funded;
 - 4) Establishment of a health sub-programme/work programme within the UNFCCC negotiation structure;
 - 5) Promotion of implementation of article 4.1.f of the UNFCCC, related to the commitments of Parties to employ appropriate methods, for example impact assessments, to minimize the adverse effects of climate change on public health of mitigation and adaptation programmes and measures;
 - 6) Supporting health sector initiatives on climate change adaptation and mitigation, such as the implementation of the Frameworks for public health adaptation to climate change in Least Developed Countries, to align with and contribute to the UNFCCC process and also to regional and national strategies.
-