

Considerations regarding vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems

Expert meeting to assess progress made in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs)

7 to 9 February 2018, Sao Tome, Sao Tome and Principe



Context (1/2)

- ❑ References to vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems (VCGE) in the Paris Agreement, other decisions (NAPs, etc.)
- ❑ References to VCGE in the SDGs
- ❑ Vulnerable communities and groups includes
 - ❖ Marginalized groups
 - ❖ Indigenous groups
 - ❖ Youth
 - ❖ Women
 - ❖ Elderly
 - ❖ The poor (extreme poor)



- ❑ Vulnerable ecosystems
 - ❖ Those highly sensitive to climate change
 - ❖ Those with unique value (e.g. global heritage, provision of critical ecosystem services)
 - ❖ Threatened by other (non-climatic) stress factors (land use pressure, disasters, etc.)

- ❑ Related this item: one of the guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs, and is repeated in the Paris Agreement (show how it fits within the process to formulate and implement NAPs)



Recommendations for adaptation (planning)

- ❑ A definition of VGCEs and how they would be considered, could be included in national adaptation mandates/policies to facilitate further action and documentation in the NAP, to be used when assessing how the NAP has addressed all guiding principles of the process to formulate and implement NAPs.
- ❑ Given climate change is one of several factors of vulnerability, it would be useful to construct a good representation of the vulnerability for the system in question, and to track all factors, in order to fully and effectively address vulnerability to climate change. Several national integrated models exist and new ones are under development (e.g. UN CDP and RAND models), and these provide a tool to look at the national systems as a whole.
- ❑ Given most countries would be addressing vulnerability already through different programmes and activities, it would naturally be useful to promote synergy and build on existing programmes



Recommendations for adaptation (implementation)

- ❑ In addition to the above elements that would also apply to implementation, it would be important to ensure adaptation actions are fully integrated with actions to address other key vulnerabilities and shocks. This would require coordination of funding in cases where adaptation funds would not cover non-climatic change activities.
- ❑ Some countries have found it useful to define percentage of climate change funds that would be dedicated to the most vulnerable. For example, Nepal has such a law.



Questions for discussion

- What are case studies of key experiences in how you have addressed vulnerable communities, groups and ecosystems based on the above introduction?
- What are concrete decisions, if any, that may have been taken to address this issue? e.g. some country declared to allocate 80% of all adaptation funds to adaptation to vulnerable groups.
- How is this issue being included in the NAPs by countries?



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Contact:

The Chair

Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)

leghelp@unfccc.int

