

**NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN GLOBAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME (NAP-GSP)  
SOUTH-SOUTH KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FORUM**

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28 JUNE – 1 JULY 2021  
*FORUM PROCEEDINGS REPORT*

## INTRODUCTION

The National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) held its flagship South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum between 28 June and 1 July 2021. The Forum was organized online and aimed to facilitate an exchange of learnings, lessons learnt, as well as existing and untapped opportunities experienced by supported Least Developed Country (LDC) parties in addressing their medium- and long-term adaptation needs through the process to formulate, implement, and finance National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). These insights will help countries make greater strides in their respective NAP processes in the near future. The Forum also aimed at informing current NAP formulation efforts by facilitating a global exchange, highlighting emerging best practices, and presenting experiences with existing tools that policymakers, technical experts, and government officials have made use of.

The NAP-GSP is jointly implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), with funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF).

The Forum was organized over four days and each day focused on a different set of topics. Given the significant time differences between countries, LDCs were been clustered into three different country groups. The final meeting agenda including an overview of the topics and groups and list of participants are available as separate documents for reference. The presentations and resources from the Forum will be made available through links for post-Forum records.

## PROCEEDINGS

**DATE:** 28 JUNE 2021 – DAY 1 – GROUP 1

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Kiribati, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Time:** 09:30 – 13:00 BKK | 05:30 – 09:00 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 25 country participants and 24 participants from various partner agencies

## PROCEEDINGS

### Opening Session

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (Regional Coordinator ROAP, UNEP) opened the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum session on day 1 for group 1 by giving an overview of the NAP-GSP, which is jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP, with funding from the GEF. Due to the current ongoing pandemic this meeting had to be organized as an online event, with over 300 participants from multiple time zones spread across three groups and four days. He handed over to **Ms. Isabelle Louis**, Deputy Regional Director, Regional office of the Asia and the Pacific, UNEP, for the opening remarks.

**Ms. Isabelle Louis** (UNEP) welcomed the special guests Mr. Jaco Cilliers and Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal, and all distinguished participants to the NAP-GSP South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum. Excerpts from her speech as follow: *“Good Morning dear participants and colleagues. It is with great pleasure I welcome you all to the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP GSP) South-South Knowledge Exchange*

*Forum, which is a flagship event of under this very important joint programme of UNDP and UNEP supported by Global Environment Facility (GEF). As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to upset our ways of meeting and discussions, we are moving towards more online ways to continue our dialogue and sharing and learning from each other. We are seeing more and more use of virtual form of discussion including recently concluded Bonn Climate Talk that many of you have attended. It is at this opportune time, I recall that the Paris Agreement has reminded urgency of adaptation and enhanced actions as well as recognized complex situation as countries are taking measures in the increasingly harsh reality of adverse climate impacts, which are even felt worse due to the pandemic. In support of the Paris Agreement and broader sustainable development objectives, South-South cooperation has been vital in ensuring mutual exchanges of best practices, enhancing adaptation and increasing the resilience of developing, especially the least developed countries and communities facing the devastating impacts of climate change.*

*Dear participants, let me reiterate here that the process to formulate and implement the NAP was established within the Cancun Agreements in 2010 as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. This joint programme has been assisting the Least developed countries (LDCs) to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into medium and long-term national planning and financing and also strengthened the institutional and technical capacities of LDCs to advance their NAP process. In doing so, the NAP-GSP has worked with several partners to advance NAP as well as linking it with the Nationally Determined Contributions that promotes ambitious on climate action and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals. It is remarkable to note that during the last 6 years of its implementation, the NAP-GSP, along with its 14 partners, has supported activities in 4 regions, which include the 47 LDCs. I am glad to state that for this Forum, the response received from country's climate change focal points has been so encouraging. I am happy to inform that more than 150 participants, from about 35 countries are participating in this Forum. Notably, they are from the various Ministries and agencies in their governments. It would be extremely valuable to receive their feedback on exchange of the lessons learnt, existing and untapped opportunities, in addressing their medium- and long-term adaptation needs through the process to formulate and implement the National Adaptation Plans (NAP). It is also great to have some non-LDCs member countries sharing their experiences on the NAP process. We thank them for accepting our request to share their experiences and enrich the discussions. The Forum also brings in the expertise and experiences on support, of the NAP partner agencies, that they offer to the various countries in the NAP process. It would be worth mentioning here that 12 partner agencies have contributed and are participating in this Forum in the various groups and sessions. A big special thanks to them for their huge efforts. This Forum has also set a standard that even with nations spread across the various continents on the globe and with different time-zones, the issue of climate change and environment binds us and brings us all together. I congratulate the NAP GSP team for putting together, a great agenda which is spanning across the globe, under 3 different time-zones, covering 7 key topics under the NAP process and facilitating exchange in 3 languages. The overwhelming nominations and registrations make this forum even more relevant in terms of country coverage. The NAP GSP is in its successful final year of completion, this Forum is crucial in-terms of facilitate an exchange of the learnings, lessons learnt, existing and untapped opportunities, by the LDCs. I am confident that the Forum would inform current formulation of NAPs by facilitating a global exchange, highlighting emerging best practices and presenting experiences with the existing tools that policymakers, technical experts and government officials have been using. I wish all participants, moderators and partners for an extremely rich and fruitful Forum and believe that the feedbacks received through these exchanges would be important to pave the way to strengthen the NAP process in the future. I wish you a success."*

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Isabelle for her welcome remarks and continued by handing over to Mr. Jaco Cilliers, Manager of the Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP for his remarks.

**Mr. Jaco Cilliers** (UNDP) shared his gratitude for the invitation to this Forum and welcomed all participants. He continued by stating that 2021 will be the ultimate test of our collective commitment to people and planet. In this historic year, adaptation is not only central to the nature and climate priority set by member states, but also to an inclusive, resilient, and green recovery from COVID-19. The enhancement and implementation of the NDCs and acceleration of NAPs are important vehicles for building long-term resilience. Climate change especially impacts SIDS and LDCs; since 1970, SIDS have lost USD 153 billion due to weather, climate, and water-related hazards. And we have also seen that 1.4 million people have lost their lives during this period due to weather, climate, and water-related hazards. He paid tribute to the leadership of so many of the countries, especially from SIDS and LDCs, who have taken on a leadership role on adaptation and the ambition through their actions and NDCs. Many of the countries now have strong adaptation components in their revised NDCs. They are also accelerating their NAP processes and integrating climate risks into planning, budgeting, and monitoring systems together with the important departments under planning and finance ministries. Many have also demonstrated integrated planning into disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as key sectors of their economies, and also within their food and agriculture, as well as tourism programmes. He continued by highlighting some of the support that UNDP in partnership with UNEP and other relevant UN agencies are providing to this important effort. The NAP-GSP, headquartered in Bangkok, Thailand, has been implemented since 2014 and has assisted over 50 countries in having their foundations for their adaptation integrated at all levels of development. As part of this programme, UNDP has also provided tailored support to 28 LDCs and has, amongst other things, conducted stocktaking of available capacities, policies, strategies, and plans, strengthened institutional frameworks, developed roadmaps, and delivered in-country trainings, as well as identified adaptation planning priorities to develop large-scale proposals. And since 2020, UNDP is supporting seven countries, which includes Burundi, Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, and Timor-Leste to formulate their first NAP. He congratulated the Timor-Leste government for recently submitting their quite ambitious NAP to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). UNDP is also very proud to support the governments of Bangladesh and the Royal Government of Bhutan in their forthcoming NAPs as well as the Government of Viet Nam, Thailand, and Papua New Guinea. He further mentioned that together with many partners, UNDP is also supporting the governments of Mongolia, Nepal, and Thailand on their adaptation plan in land-use and agriculture, specifically with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the funding support from the German government. The NAP formulation is a full contribution to the NDCs revised process under the Climate Promise that UNDP has made a commitment to. And UNDP is also supporting 118 countries of which 38 are LDCs. Of these 118 countries, 27 are in Asia-Pacific. Countries have stressed the importance of exchanging experiences, challenges, and solutions, and that is why UNDP feels that events like this Forum are important to show what works and what does not as we move on to this ambitious goal and plan. Therefore, UNDP hopes that the experiences and information that participants will share during the discussions will not only advance, but also revise and lead to funding of large-scale donors such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). He thanked together with all partners present all participants for their commitment to this global effort to positively influence the long-term future. Not only the people in the Forum, but also our children and generations to come will also be thankful for the commitments the countries are making this week and in the long-term.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Jaco Cilliers for his remarks and invited Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal, Nepal- LEG Vice Chair for his opening remarks.

**Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal**, LEG Vice Chair, Nepal, thanked UNEP and UNDP for the invitation to this Forum and the opportunity to share at this opening session on behalf of the LEG. Our current analysis of progress made in the formulation and implementation of NAPs reveals that there remains to be limited progress in the LDCs. It is ten years since the establishment of NAPs and 40 out of the 46 LDCs do not have a NAP. The LDCs also continue to face a lot more challenges in accessing support to make progress in the formulation and implementation in their NAPs. He then highlight-ed a few critical lessons that can help shape future support to the LDCs. Firstly, support for NAPs should include all steps from assessment, planning, implementation, access to funding and implementation on the ground, reporting, monitoring and review. So far, many countries were only supported to initiate the process, undertake initial stocktaking, and develop roadmaps, with no further support to formulate their NAP. Secondly, we need to develop NAPs that are built on wide inputs beyond what a single agency can offer, as is usually the practice. We have seen the launch of the open NAPs initiative to support LDCs to accelerate the formulation and implementation of NAPs by mobilizing support from all sites, organizations, regional centers, and networks, as well as other key experts. This dramatically increasing the breadth of technical assistance available to LDCs in their adaptation effort, and we invite everyone to join this course. We are glad that the NAP-GSP has been able to support some countries in this context. Thirdly, the true success resilience building lies in the actual vulnerabilities reduced and avoided adverse impacts of climate change. The only way to achieve that is to increase actual investment in adaptation and resilience, meaning the implementation of actions. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) continuously ex-presses interest to receive funding proposals from LDCs. However, established models of support have not yet helped LDCs in this regard. We need to redirect our efforts to ensure that LDCs are not left behind and are assist-ed to develop and submit funding proposals to the GCF or any other sources to implement adaptation priorities associated with their NAPs. The LEG is rolling out a set of activities to support LDCs in initiating and submitting proposals for implementing adaptation projects and programmes. We therefore invite relevant accredited entities and all other actors to support LDCs in this regard. The LEG maintains an updated compilation of gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This compilation is the reference for the design and pro-vision of support to LDCs, both through the intergovernmental process and by a wide range of organizations. In conclusion, we need to set specific milestones and targets that the support to the LDCs should aim to achieve in alignment with the vision and goals of the countries. For instance, all countries must have a NAP by now. They should be implementing adaptation projects with GCF funding. They should be having robust M&E systems in place. They should be having established systems for generating and applying climate data and scenarios.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal for his kind remarks. He continued by explaining the forthcoming technical session on Topic 1.

### **Topic 1 – Formulation of mandate and institutional coordination mechanism for NAP process**

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP), who moderated this first session, introduced the three speakers from Bhutan – Ms. Tshering Yangzom, Head, Adaptation Section, Climate Change Division, National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS), Nepal – Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, and Mongolia – Dr. Batjargal Zamba, National Focal Point for the UNFCCC. He then invited Ms. Tshering Yangzom to share Bhutan’s insights and experiences.

**Ms. Tshering Yangzom**, Head, Adaptation Section, Climate Change Division, National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS), shared the outline of her presentation and started with presenting Bhutan’s

vulnerability to climate change. Bhutan as a small country is highly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, in addition to being a landlocked and LDC with a very fragile ecosystem. The country is heavily dependent on climate sensitive sectors like agriculture and sets a significant role for hydropower for economic development, which increases its vulnerability to climate change. Threats from climate hazards and extreme weather events such as flash floods, glacial lake floods, droughts, diseases, forest fires, or landslides are increasing. She then provided an overview of Bhutan's NAP process. She pointed out that this is Bhutan's first NAP and is being financially supported from the GCF Readiness project. The country increasingly engages with the private sector through technical working groups.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Tsering and handed over to Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle to share Nepal's experiences.

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle**, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment shared that Nepal is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. While having a small population of only 0.39% of global population and insignificant Greenhouse Gas emissions, the country experiences the effects of climate change firsthand. The country observes that the nights are getting warmer, rainfall patterns are changing, snow melting in the Himalayas is accelerating, due to which the country loses an important source of water. There is further an increased frequency and magnitude of climate-induced disasters. She further pointed out some positive impacts, such as an increase in crop yields in some areas, and the shift in vegetation has created new habitats for biodiversity. .

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle and handed over to Dr. Batjargal Zamba, National Focal Point for the UNFCCC to share Mongolia's experiences.

**Dr. Batjargal Zamba**, National Focal Point for the UNFCCC, Mongolia thanked the organizers for the event and kind invitation to speak. He outlined the country and climate background of the country and highlighted that the agricultural sector, especially the pasture-based livestock and rainfed crop production, are one of the most sensitive sectors to climate change. However, Dr. Zamba further pointed that the country realizes its opportunity to increase efforts on ecosystem-based approaches for its NDC and NAP due to its low-density population and an intact ecosystem.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** (UNEP) thanked Dr. Batjargal Zamba for his presentation. He then pointed out that the question was raised to what extent the private sector is being engaged within the NAP processes in countries.

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle** thanked the NAP-GSP for the opportunity to share Nepal's experiences and insights. She explained that Nepal the private sector is being engaged in the country's NAP formulation and implementation processes as one of its main stakeholders. The country established eight thematic working groups and other cross-cutting working groups. The private sector is heavily engaged in one of the thematic working groups, which has also led to the development of a private sector engagement strategy. The country also raises awareness to the private sector in terms of climate change scenarios and climate adaptation and mitigation. The NDC implementation process also entails the private sector engagement strategy, and especially through their involvement in mitigation strategies the private sector will ultimately also contribute to adaptation efforts. On another note, academia is also highly involved in their NAP process through the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology with a representation from different universities. This has led to the development of a master's degree course on climate change management. This intends to increase the capacity, research and knowledge base on climate-related issues in the country.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** invited Prof. Saleemul Huq, Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Bangladesh, to share his experiences and views on the NAP formulation process. **Prof. Saleemul Huq** shared that the NAP process needs to be a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach. The sooner countries get to that, the more effective they will be in their planning efforts. Adaptation solutions need to be ecosystem friendly. He pointed out three areas that are important to share on between countries: i) there needs to be an institutional structure that helps to plan NAPs and implement its outcomes. A NAP needs to be integrated and mainstreamed into national development within government and outside government, such as with the private sector, academia, research, and local communities. ii) Ecosystem-level knowledge sharing is important: there are similarities between landscapes and ecosystems, drought prone areas are different from flood prone areas, that countries can share their experiences and approaches on. Adaptation solutions need to be ecosystem friendly and ecosystem specific. iii) Participation of the most vulnerable communities. Community-based or locally led adaptation practices is about involving the most vulnerable communities living in the most vulnerable ecosystems in designing and implementing adaptation measures, so that adaptation plans are not top-down plans but from the bottom up.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** announced a short break of 30 minutes before the Forum will continue with the discussions and presentations for Topic 2.

## **Topic 2 – Development of NAP roadmap and NAP formulation**

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office**, who moderated this second session, introduced the six speakers from Cambodia - Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun – Deputy Director of Department of Climate Change, General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Nepal – Ms. Srijana Shrestha, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Lao PDR – Mr. Tavanh Kittiphone, Deputy Director of Climate Change Adaptation Division, Luis Dos Reis, WHO Country Office Timor-Leste, Faustina Gomez, Technical Officer, Climate Change and Health, WHO South-East Asia Regional Office, and Ms. Josefina Ashipala, UNITAR. He then invited Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun to share Cambodia’s insights and experiences.

**Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun** – Deputy Director of Department of Climate Change, General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, shared Cambodia’s general climate change experiences and data.

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanked Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun for his presentation and invited Ms. Srijana Shrestha, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment to share Nepal’s insights.

**Ms. Srijana Shrestha**, Under Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, learned from its experiences it derived from its NAPA and follows a multi-stakeholder approach that engages with both national and sub-national levels. It also established a planning committee and aligns with the country’s development strategies.

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanks Ms. Srijana Shrestha for her presentation and invited Mr. Tavanh Kittiphone, Deputy Director of Climate Change Adaptation Division to share Lao PDR’s insights.

**Mr. Tavanh Kittiphone**, Deputy Director of Climate Change Adaptation Division, Lao PDR, highlighted that the preparation phase of the NAP process is an important milestone with the objective to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities to advance the NAP. He further outlined the institutional structures for the NAP and activities that are envisioned for its NAP.

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanked Mr. Tavanh Kittiphone for his presentation and invited Mr. Shivanal Kumar from Fiji to share their insights.

**Mr. Shivanal Kumar**, Climate Change Adaptation Specialist, Government of Fiji, thanked the NAP-GSP for their kind invitation. He outlined that Fiji is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The country also highlighted that it is important to set up a strong M&E system and to properly cost the NAP.

**Dr Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanked Mr. Shivanal Kumar for his presentation and invited Mr. Luis Dos Reis, WHO Country Office Timor-Leste to share his insights.

**Mr. Luis Dos Reis**, WHO Country Office Timor-Leste, covered a brief introduction from the overall NAP process in Timor-Leste and discusses the roadmap, as well as lessons-learned along with recommendations.

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanks Mr. Luis Dos Reis for his presentation and invited Ms. Faustina Gomez, Technical Officer, Climate Change and Health, WHO South-East Asia Regional Office to share her insights.

**Ms. Faustina Gomez**, Technical Officer, Climate Change and Health, WHO South-East Asia Regional Office, explained that the office supports member states in developing tools and guidelines on the formulation and implementation of NAPs. For this, they look at regional-level mapping and assessment of how climate change affects health systems in the region, climate change risk and vulnerabilities, and the adaptation readiness of countries.

**Dr. Daniel Gilfillan (WHO)** thanked Ms. Faustina Gomez for her presentation and closed the session after a short Q&A session was held, thanking all participants for their attendance and presentations.

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## **DATE: 28 JUNE 2021 – DAY 1 – GROUP 2**

Burundi (F), Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Zambia, Comoros (F), Djibouti (F), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Madagascar (F), Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen

**Time:** 15:00 – 18:30 BKK | 11:00 – 14:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 34 country participants and 28 participants from various partner agencies

## **PROCEEDINGS**

### **Opening Session**

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (Lead Technical Specialist, Adaptation Planning, UNDP) opened the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum session on day 1 for group 2 by thanking participants for joining this session from different parts of Africa. After three weeks of hectic negotiations conducted virtually, the team wished it could have done this Forum in person. She continued that the team is grateful for participants taking the time to joining this session today. On behalf of UNDP-UNEP implementation team of the NAP-GSP, she called upon the panelists on their opening remarks. The first opening remarks are to be given by Ms. Jessica Troni, Head Climate Change Adaptation Unit, Ecosystems Division, UNEP.



**Ms. Jessica Troni**, Head Climate Change Adaptation Unit, Ecosystems Division, UNEP, opened her remarks by thanking all participants and colleagues and continued by stating the following: *“It is with great pleasure I welcome you all to the National Adaptation Plan- Global Support Programmes (NAP GSP)’s South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum, which is a flagship event of under this very important joint programme of UNDP and UNEP supported by Global Environment Facility (GEF). As the global COVID-19 pandemic continues to upset our ways of meeting and discussions, we are moving towards more resilient ways to overcome this challenge. It is at this opportune time, I recall that the Paris Agreement has reminded urgency of adaptation and enhanced actions as well as recognized complex situation as countries are taking measures in the increasingly harsh reality of adverse climate impacts, which are even felt worse due to the pandemic. In support of the Paris Agreement and broader sustainable development objectives, South-South cooperation has been vital in ensuring mutual exchanges of best practices, enhancing adaptation and increasing the resilience of developing, especially the least developed countries and communities facing the devastating impacts of climate change.*

*Dear participants, African nations have played a major role on climate change issues, especially as a major force within the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (which comprise of 33 African countries, making for 70% of the LDC Group). Let me recall that the provisions under Article 4 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), historically served as the basis for the establishment of an LDC work programme by the Conference of the Parties in 2001, and to support flexibility provisions extended to the LDCs under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Since then, the LDCs played a leadership role in the collective global efforts to combat climate change. Let me also reiterate here that the process to formulate and implement the NAP was established within the Cancun Agreements of 2010 as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. The joint UNDP-UNEP, NAP-GSP, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), has been assisting the LDCs to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into medium and long-term national planning and financing and also strengthened the institutional and technical capacities of LDCs to advance their NAP process. In doing so, the NAP-GSP has worked with several partners to advance NAP as well as linking it with the Nationally Determined Contributions that promotes ambitious on climate action and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals. It is remarkable to note that during the last 6 years of its implementation, the NAP-GSP, along with its 14 partners, has supported activities in 4 regions, which include the 47 LDCs. I am glad to state that for this Forum, the response received from country delegates has been so encouraging. I am happy to inform that more than 150 country delegates, from about 35 countries are participating in this Forum. Notably, they come from the various Ministries and agencies in their governments, and it would be extremely valuable to receive their feedback on exchange of the lessons learnt, existing and untapped opportunities, in addressing their medium- and long-term adaptation needs through the process to formulate and implement the National Adaptation Plans (NAP). It is also great to have some non-LDCs member countries sharing their experiences with the NAP process. We thank them for accepting our request to share their experiences and enrich the discussions. The Forum also brings in the expertise and experiences on support, of the NAP Partner agencies, that they offer to the various countries in the NAP process. It would be worth mentioning here that 12 partner agencies have contributed and are participating in this Forum in the various Groups and sessions. A big special thanks to them for their huge efforts. This Forum has also set a standard that even with nations spread across the various continents on the globe and with different time-zones, the issue of climate change and environment binds us and brings us all together. I congratulate the NAP GSP team for putting together, a great agenda which is spanning across the globe, under 3 different time-zones, covering 7 key topics under*

*the NAP process and facilitating exchange in 3 languages. The overwhelming nominations and registrations make this even more relevant in terms of country coverage. Although the NAP GSP is in its successful final year of completion, this Forum is crucial in-terms of facilitate an exchange of the learnings, lessons learnt, existing and untapped opportunities, by the LDCs. I am sure the Forum would also inform current formulation of NAPs by facilitating a global exchange, highlighting emerging best practices and presenting experiences with the existing tools that policymakers, technical experts and government officials have been using. I wish all participants, moderators and partners for an extremely rich and fruitful Forum and believe that the feedbacks received through these exchanges would be important to pave the way to strengthen the NAP process in the future. I wish you a success.”*

**Dr. (Mr.) Filipe Domingos Freires Lúcio**, Director, Regional Strategic Office, Member Services & Development Department, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), opened his remarks by stating that the Paris Agreement demands that parties make use of the best available climate science as the basis for climate action. The WMO embraces this imperative and is working with 193 member countries to support them in this respect. In October 2020, WMO and 17 partner organizations released the *2020 State of Climate Services Report*. The report provides an analysis of top climate change adaptation priorities expressed by LDCs and SIDS in their NDCs and NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC. The report highlights the critical role that national meteorological and hydrological services play in supporting the achievement of effective adaptation, considering that the vast majority of disasters are triggered by hydrological hazards, for which weather, climate, and hydrological services are provided by national meteorological and hydrological services. WMO is an active member of the NAP-GSP that assists LDCs and non-LDCs to design and implement NAPs. He continued by highlighting how WMO provided support to the NAP-GSP through the development initial NAPs in six African countries and integrating climate science in NAPs. This aligns with the agreement that WMO signed in 2018 with the GCF, intended, that proposals submitted to the GCF, as well as NDCs and national action plans, have a sound science basis. WMO compiled a comprehensive methodology for developing a climate science basis for GCF-funded activities. This will enhance countries capacity to respond the increasing demand for climate information and tools in face of increased frequency and severity of climate change impacts. Monitoring the past, present, and projected future status of climate enriches countries’ abilities to track climate conditions in their national and local contexts and select effective adaptation solutions. This will also contribute to the Paris Agreement global stocktake and transparency framework. This Forum is therefore an excellent opportunity to align multilateral efforts to address regional and country needs. There is a great need to exchange data that meet national requirements.

**Mr. Ram Prasad Lamsal**, Nepal-LEG Vice Chair. His opening remarks can be read in Day 1, Group 1.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP) thanked the distinguished speakers for their opening remarks. She then closed the opening session and announced the start of the first topic for the second group.

### **Topic 1 – Formulation of mandate and institutional coordination mechanism for NAP process**

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP), who moderated this first session, introduced the two speakers from Somalia – and Madagascar – Mr. Marcellin Aimé LALASON, Head of Adaptation, National Bureau for Climate Change, Carbon and REDD+ (BNCCCREDD+), MEDD. She continued by briefly provided an overview of the NAP process in general and the four elements of the NAP process and stated that no country started its NAP process from scratch, as most countries already had specific adaptation efforts in place and were at various stages in the process. She pointed out that alignment is highly important, such as with the SDGs or Disaster Risk

Reduction, but especially with countries' NDCs. She then invited Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason to share Madagascar's insights and experiences.

**Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason**, Head of Adaptation, National Bureau for Climate Change, Carbon and REDD+ (BNCCREDD+), MEDD, Madagascar, thanked the NAP-GSP team for their kind invitation to this knowledge exchange forum. She explained that the National Bureau for Climate Change coordinates all climate change-related activities in Madagascar. She continued by highlighting the national organizational structures and mandates.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP) thanked Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason for his presentation and mentioned that it really showed how deep the coordination is amongst the ministries, and that Madagascar has the Ministry of Finance amongst the stakeholders is a major achievement. Many countries can learn a lot from the experiences of Madagascar. She then continued by inviting the UNDP NAP M&E project team to provide their insights.

**Mr. Haykal Omar**, NAP M&E Project Manager, UNDP Somalia, presented the NAP process for the country in detail, including activities, outputs, and outcomes. He then handed over to Mr. Salah Dahir to continue.

**Mr. Salah Dahir**, M&E Specialist, UNDP Somalia, continued the presentation for Somalia by providing an overview of the NAP Roadmap in the country between 2015 until 2024.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP) thanked both Mr. Haykal Omar and Mr. Salah Dahir from Somalia. She noticed that the NAP process in Somalia is both at the state and the national level, which is challenging but inspiring to hear how the country is dealing with this. She then opened the floor to a Q&A session.

**Mougabe Koslengar**, WASH UNICEF Madagascar raised the question if all countries will be requested to revise their NDC before the next COP.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP) responded by explaining that this will not be a mandatory requirement.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda**, Principal Climate Change Officer Adap, Zambia, asked colleagues from Madagascar how they manage to mobilize resources.

**Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason** responded that this is a question that requires a complex response, and on 1 July there will be a finance session in this Forum, and Madagascar will reply in depth on that day.

**Yeshitila Mogssie**, Climate-Sensitive Disease Surveillance, WHO Country Office Ethiopia, asked *who is responsible for the implementation of the NAP?*

**Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason** responded by explaining that Madagascar is currently in the implementation phase of its NAP. It is a sectoral approach, so all sectors should implement the programme in their respective ministries.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda**, Principal Climate Change Officer Adaptation, Zambia, asked the colleagues from Somalia about their national institutional coordination efforts and the outcome of establishing an institutional and legal framework.

**Mr. Salah Dahir** responded that before the NAP process can be started, a strong basis needs to be established. Many policies exist already in the country, but the NAP process needs mainstreaming and coordination of such policies to be effective.

**Ms. Rondro Herinirina**, Madagascar National Bureau for Climate Change, Carbon and REDD+ (BNCCREDD+) added that with regards to the implementation of Madagascar's NAP, we intended to establish sectoral documents in reference to adaptation to inform various institutions and avoid duplication of efforts. Madagascar has only limited financial resources, and at the national level there is no funding available for climate change or adaptation efforts. As a result, Madagascar has bundled all financial and technical capacities in order to prepare the country's NAP.

**Mr. Marcellin Aimé Lalason** commented on the question on how to choose consultants to prepare a NAP. He shared that while it is oftentimes consultants who prepare a NAP, it is the ministry or the national bureau for climate change who establish the guidelines. First, it is important to conduct a survey to collect information and data that will feed into the NAP.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** (UNDP) thanked all participants for their presentations and for this rich discussion. She explained that the group is entering the closing of this first session.

## **Topic 2 – Development of NAP roadmap and NAP formulation**

**Mr. Alexander Forbes**, Programme Officer, UNEP Climate Change Adaptation Unit, who moderated this second session, introduced the five speakers from Zambia – Mr. Joseph Mbinji, South Sudan – Wani Nelson Mogga, Climate change Officer, Ministry of environment and Forestry, Malawi – Mr. Bismark Ndhlovu, NAP Coordinator, Malawi – Mr. Hendricks Mgodie, National Health and Climate Change Focal Person, Ministry of Health, and Ms. Josefina Ashipala, UNITAR. He then invited Mr. Joseph Mbinji to share Zambia's insights and experiences.

**Mr. Joseph Mbinji**, NAP Project Manager, Zambia, explained that the development of the NAP roadmap in the country has been the result of multi-stakeholder consultations. The country's coordination efforts are guided by the national technical steering committee which comprises all key sectors that report to a permanent secretary, as well as a council of ministers. He further outlined that the process started with a stocktaking report in 2017. However, the country could not enhance due to inadequate resources to embark on the NAP process. There was an agreement with stakeholders to secure funds in order for the country to take this forward. In 2020, the country received support from the GCF, after which Zambia updated the stocktaking report to be guided by revised data and information.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Joseph Mbinji for his presentation and insights and handed over to Mr. Wani Nelson Mogga to share experiences from South Sudan.

**Mr. Wani Nelson Mogga**, Climate Change Officer, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, South Sudan, started by introducing South Sudan's climate change background and its NAP process, which started in 2017 and completed an initial NAP for submission to the UNFCCC by the end of 2020. He outlined in detail the country's climate background and projections.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Wani Nelson Mogga for his presentation and insights. He stated that it was interesting to hear that the country went ahead and utilized its initial NAP document as a basis for support and serves as its roadmap. He then handed over to Mr. Bismark Ndhlovu, NAP Coordinator of Malawi, to share their experiences on the NAP process.

**Mr. Bismark Ndhlovu**, NAP Coordinator of Malawi, outlined that the country was involved in a number of exercises related to its NAP process, such as raising awareness, developing a stocktaking report, and mapping out the adaptation vision.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Bismark Ndhlovu for his presentation and insights and handed over to Ms. Josefina Ashipala, UNITAR, to share UNITAR's experiences on the NAP process.

**Ms. Josefina Ashipala**, UNITAR, introduced that UNITAR's mandate is to build long-term human capacities rather than broader institutional capacities for adaptation. She stated that this presentation will explore (i) what we really mean by human capacity; (ii) the elements that we need to ensure that new skills are acquired and that training programmes are recurrent and sustained; (iii) the importance of assessment from the outset; (iv) partnership with national training entities. She stated that adaptation is only partly the operative focus here. While there are undoubted skills areas that institutions need that are specific to climate change adaptation, our experience is that much of what is needed to build capacities is a bit more generic, relating to broader function and structure. This is good news because it means that the knowledge conveyed through training can have broader and longer-term relevance. There are three areas where human capacities need to be strengthened covering technical knowledge, management skills, participatory skills. UNITAR has developed a card game to help organizations to select from these skills sets and help them focus on what is most important for them.

- **Technical skills** are necessary to understand the science of climate change, issues of vulnerability and risk, and the prioritization of adaptation options. A person with technical skills can apply knowledge and experience gained in a specific field to support effective adaptation solutions. For instance, a technical specialist may be required to examine the economic benefits of an adaptation project.
- **Management skills** are required to organize and maintain complex social organizations. Skills include leadership, supervisory and delegation, enabling an individual to oversee the process of mainstreaming climate change, while inspiring others. People with management skills can build an environment conducive to progress and change by creating space for concrete adaptation action. They may also bring in resources for programs necessary to ensure that deadlines are met and that results are monitored and evaluated.
- **Participatory skills** are required to promote and sustain cooperation, ownership, and action. A person with participatory skills can create a welcoming and engaging environment that brings people and organizations together, and can encourage individuals to express diverse views, create consensus and build ownership over decisions made. Adaptation planners use participatory skills to liaise with counterparts in another ministry, or between national and sub-national levels.

Once you have a better understanding of the human capacities needed, the question is how to ensure that these can be acquired, retained, and used. Ms. Ashipala then continued by sharing an example from Egypt. National skills assessments for adaptation planning can support countries to plan for adaptation better and efficiently – by clarifying the types of skills needed and where those skills should be located. April 2019: UNITAR in partnership with UNDP/NAP-GSP supported the Egyptian government in assessing its internal human capacities as part of their GCF funding proposal development process. The objective of the assessment was to establish a baseline from which to plan future skills development and capacity building and to identify an initial plan in three key ministries involved in the NAP development process (Environment, Finance & Planning). Some key findings: i) Women knew more about CC because of their kids homework, ii) Lack of climate change advocacy skills in the Environment Ministry impacted their ability to communicate to other ministries (Finance and Planning) – improving that could greatly scale up climate action, iii) Many familiar with concept of gender mainstreaming, however majority questioned how men and women can be

affected differently by climate change while acknowledging that such differences exist with other vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children as well those with physical or mental impairments. Another example came from Cambodia. With a view to responding to Cambodia's increasing demand for climate finance knowledge, the collaboration with EFI can serve as a model for other countries. Building on EFI's pre-existing expertise in training for public financial management (PFM), the initiative helped create a specific skill set in the institution's faculty to link the PFM training to climate responsive budgeting. This puts EFI in a strategic position as the primary provider of capacity building on climate finance in the Cambodian public sector. She then reflected on the question "How do you know when you have achieved it? What to measure?" There is much debate on this, and results are notoriously hard to measure. One way would be to look the status of the 4 elements that I have already introduced. i) Is there a recognized national training institution with a formal mandate to provide training on adaptation? ii) Is there technical capacity to develop e-learning and to use online platforms in tandem with face-to-face events (the Cambodia shows the power of e-learning by reaching out to thousands more, while the face to face and coaching lead to specific outcomes in the budget process. iii) Do you have a syllabus on climate change adaptation that is tailored to national circumstances? iv) Do adaptation experts in country have the capacity to train/coach, for example to understand the principles of adult learning and the range of competencies and skills needed (e.g., not only technical skills)

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Ashipala for her presentation and insights and opened the floor for a Q&A session. He asked Zambia and Malawi where the climate science and climate projections come into the development of the NAP roadmap.

**Mr. Bismark Ndhlovu** responded by stating that Malawi has established a working group targeting climate information production to mainstream the information and data into vulnerable sector plans. This work is forthcoming and planned for.

**Mr. Joseph Mbinji** shared that in the case of Zambia, data gathering is one of the milestones of the country's NAP roadmap where vulnerabilities are being assessed.

**Dr. (Ms.) Hana Hamadalla Mohamed** shared that Sudan perceives awareness raising and capacity building as huge building blocks for the enhancement of its NAP. During the formulation process of its NAP, the country was highly focusing on the gaps and needs. The document therefore outlines in detail the enabling environment which will enhance the implementation of the NAP.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes**, UNEP thanked all participants for their insightful presentations. He continued by closing the session on topic 2 of group 2.

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### DATE: 28 JUNE 2021 – DAY 1 – GROUP 3

Haiti (F), Burkina Faso (F), Gambia, Guinea (F), Guinea-Bissau (L), Liberia, Mali (F), Mauritania (F), São Tomé and Príncipe (L), Senegal (F), Sierra Leone (A), Togo (F), Angola (L), Benin (F), Central African Republic (F), Chad (F), Democratic Republic of the Congo (F), Niger (F), Mozambique (L)

**Time:** 19:00 – 22:30 BKK | 15:00 – 18:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 42 country participants and 27 participants from various partner agencies

## PROCEEDINGS

### Opening Session

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt**, Programme Officer, Climate Change Adaptation, and Coordinator GAN, UNEP, opened the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum session on day 1 for group 3 by thanking participants for joining this session from different parts around the globe. Over the next four days this Forum will facilitate an exchange of the learnings, lessons learnt, existing and untapped opportunities, by the LDCs in addressing their medium- and long-term adaptation needs through the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). She welcomed all participating countries and encouraged countries to raise any questions in the chat box. She continued by welcoming Ms. Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo, Director and Regional Representative, UNEP–Regional Office for Africa, to share her welcome remarks.

**Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo**, Director and Regional Representative, UNEP–Regional Office for Africa, started by sharing that this Forum is an important flagship event organized by the NAP-GSP.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo for her remarks and welcomed Mr. Kenel Delusca, Haiti - LEG Chair to share his remarks.

**Mr. Kenel Delusca**, Haiti - LEG Chair thanked Ms. Bernhardt and UNDP and UNEP for the opportunity to share at this opening session on behalf of the LEG. Our current analysis of progress made in the formulation and implementation of NAPs reveals that there remains to be limited progress in the LDCs. It is ten years since the establishment of NAPs and 40 out of the 46 LDCs do not have a NAP. The LDCs also continue to face a lot more challenges in accessing support to make progress in the formulation and implementation in their NAPs. He then highlighted a few critical lessons that can help shape future support to the LDCs. Firstly, support for NAPs should include all steps from assessment, planning, implementation, access to funding and implementation on the ground, reporting, monitoring and review. So far, many countries were only supported to initiate the process, undertake initial stocktaking, and develop roadmaps, with no further support to formulate their NAP. Secondly, we need to develop NAPs that are built on wide inputs beyond what a single agency can offer, as is usually the practice. We have seen the launch of the open NAPs initiative to support LDCs to accelerate the formulation and implementation of NAPs by mobilizing support from all sites, organizations, regional centers, and networks, as well as other key experts. This dramatically increasing the breadth of technical assistance available to LDCs in their adaptation effort, and we invite everyone to join this course. We are glad that the NAP-GSP has been able to support some countries in this context. Thirdly, the true success resilience building lies in the actual vulnerabilities reduced and avoided adverse impacts of climate change. The only way to achieve that is to increase actual investment in adaptation and resilience, meaning the implementation of actions. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) continuously expresses interest to receive funding proposals from LDCs. However, established models of support have not yet helped LDCs in this regard. We need to redirect our efforts to ensure that LDCs are not left behind and are assisted to develop and submit funding proposals to the GCF or any other sources to implement adaptation priorities associated with their NAPs. The LEG is rolling out a set of activities to support LDCs in initiating and submitting proposals for implementing adaptation projects and programmes. We therefore invite relevant accredited entities and all other actors to support LDCs in this regard. The LEG maintains an updated compilation of gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs. This compilation is the reference for the design and provision of support to LDCs, both through the intergovernmental process and by a wide range of organizations. In conclusion, we need to set specific milestones and targets that the support to the LDCs should aim to achieve in alignment with the vision and

goals of the countries. For instance, all countries must have a NAP by now. They should be implementing adaptation projects with GCF funding. They should be having robust M&E systems in place. They should be having established systems for generating and applying climate data and scenarios.

### **Topic 1 – Formulation of mandate and institutional coordination mechanism for NAP process**

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt** (UNEP) thanked Mr. Kenel Delusca for his kind remarks and introduced participants to the first session of this group. Topic 1 will discuss the formulation of the mandate and institutional coordination mechanisms for the NAP processes in countries. Ms. Bernhardt welcomed the three presenters of this session, Togo – Ms. Yaou Mery - Head, Climate Change Division, Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources and Senegal – Ms. Madeleine Diouf - Head, Climate and Coastal Protection Division. She then welcomed Ms. Yaou Mery to share experiences and insights from Togo.

**Ms. Yaou Mery**, Head, Climate Change Division, Ministry of the Environment and Forest Resources, Togo, thanked the NAP-GSP for their kind invitation. She outlined the institutional context in the country and provided definitions of the climate change mandate. She highlighted that continuous capacity building efforts, raising public awareness, and others are needed to ensure a successful NAP process.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Yaou Mery for her presentation and insights and handed over to Ms. Madeleine Diouf - Head, Climate and Coastal Protection Division, to share Senegal's experiences on the NAP process.

**Ms. Madeleine Diouf** - Head, Climate and Coastal Protection Division, Senegal, thanked UNDP and UNEP for their kind invitation. She provided an overview of the climate context in the country and pointed out that the country's roadmap, which is currently being developed together with partners, serves as the primary vision to have the financial and logistical resources needed to mainstream adaptation in priority sectors.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt** (UNEP) thanked Ms. Madeleine Diouf for her presentation and insights and opened the floor for a Q&A session and open discussion. She asked the presenters to respond to the question what they think best contributed to the success of their respective NAP processes.

**Ms. Madeleine Diouf** responded by stating that it is important firstly to understand what adaptation means and to understand what sectors are being affected by climate change. There is a national and a community approach in Senegal. Senegal conducted many trainings, facilitated many discussions, and included experts from various institutions, such as universities and others. Several ministries such as economy and finance were included. All these efforts were crucial for our success in developing a strong NAP.

**Ms. Fatoumata Sangare**, Guinea asked Senegal how they were able to mobilize so many partners not only on the technical, but on the financial level as well. She further asked why there are two separate teams involved on the formulation of the document; what are their respective roles and why does Senegal not merge them?

**Ms. Madeleine Diouf** responded by explaining that the process was fairly similar to what the Forum has heard from other countries. Senegal collaborated with GIZ, especially on the technical support, and then managed to see the country's needs to be able to draft a sound NAP. After the drafting stage Senegal asked its partners if they were willing to support the implementation plan.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt**, UNEP, thanked Ms. Madeleine Diouf for her kind response and clarification.



**Ms. Deyina Cheiguer** from Mauritania asked if there is a type of model that evaluates the impacts and climate scenarios on northern and eastern African countries, and also their needs and amount of adaptation required.

**Ms. Biliga Koivugui** from Guinea asked about local adaptation efforts. How could the countries integrate local communities in their NAP efforts?

**Ms. Madeleine Diouf** responded by explaining that for the climate modelling, countries should work with specialists. In Senegal there is the national meteorological institutions, and for our scenarios we utilize these experts. Products such as CORDEX. On the question on local community involvement, it depends on factors such as decentralization. In Senegal, at the regional level, we have a regional committee for climate action, and we try to involve and inform them as much as possible, since they know best what the local reality is. We also organize training meeting to engage these local players, since they know how they are being impacted by climate change. This local influence is important to analyze how parameters evolve at the local level. It is necessary to go down to the local level to gather knowledge of the real climate problems.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt** (UNEP) thanked all participants for this successful first session of group 3 and closed this session.

## **Topic 2 – Development of NAP roadmap and NAP formulation**

**Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis**, WHO Regional Office for Africa, opened this second session on the development of NAP roadmaps and NAP formulation efforts by countries and welcomed the four panelists Sierra Leone – Mr. Sheku Kanneh, Gambia – Mr. Alpha A.K. Jallow, Mr. Waltaji Kutane, Climate Change and Health Technical Officer, WHO Country Office Mozambique, and Ms. Josefina Ashipala, UNITAR. He then asked Mr. Sheku Kanneh to share Sierra Leone’s experience.

**Mr. Sheku Kanneh**, Deputy Director of Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, Sierra Leone, started by sharing Sierra Leone’s climate change background and vulnerabilities.

**Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis** thanked Mr. Sheku Kanneh for sharing Sierra Leone’s NAP experiences. He then invited Mr. Alpha A.K. Jallow from Gambia to share their insights.

**Mr. Alpha A.K. Jallow**, Director of Climate Change Secretariat, the Gambia, started by sharing the background and timeline of the country’s NAP process.

**Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis** thanked Mr. Alpha A.K. Jallow for sharing the Gambia’s NAP experiences. He then invited Mr. Waltaji Kutane from the WHO Country Office in Mozambique to share Ethiopia and Mozambique insights.

**Mr. Waltaji Kutane**, Climate Change and Health Technical Officer, WHO Country Office Mozambique started by sharing the rationale for developing a Health-NAP in Ethiopia and Mozambique.

**Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis** thanked Mr. Waltaji Kutane for sharing Mozambique’s Health NAP experiences. He then invited Ms. Josefina Ashipala to share UNITAR’s insights. For the full presentation given by Ms. Josefina Ashipala, please see group 2, topic 2.

**Ms. Fatoumata Sangare**, Guinea asked Mr. Sheku Kanneh from Sierra Leone: did they develop a national climate change action plan first and then translated it into a NAP?

**Mr. Sheku Kanneh** responded by stating that Sierra Leone developed in 2014 a National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan. On that national document, informed by vulnerability assessments and stakeholder engagements, he outlined that the country then looked at the relevance of their information at the time of NAP development and updated or revised accordingly. This was done to ensure that no efforts were lost and fully utilized.

**Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis** thanked all participants for sharing their insights and experiences from four different countries, and sector-specific approaches for developing a NAP. He then closed the last session of the first day.

**– END OF DAY 1**

**DATE: 29 JUNE 2021 – DAY 2 – GROUP 1**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Kiribati, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Time:** 09:30 – 13:00 BKK | 05:30 – 09:00 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 21 country participants and 16 participants from various partner agencies

**PROCEEDINGS****Topic 3 – Climate science and vulnerability and risk assessments to guide decision-making in adaptation**

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi**, Regional Technical Advisor, UNDP-GEF, who moderated this session, pointed out the highlights from day 1 and spoke about the similarities that countries face and elaborated on. He then introduced this third topic for the second day of the Forum and welcomed all participants and invited the four speakers for this session, Netra Sharma, Project Manager, NAP, Bhutan, Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha, WHO Country Office Nepal, and from WMO with a recorded presentation. He then invited the first speaker to present.

**Mr. Netra Sharma**, Project Manager, NAP, Bhutan, outlined that while it would be good to have sufficient resources that allow for assessments for all sectors, it is currently not possible and not practical. He therefore highlighted that the country prioritized a number of sectors and further shared the basis for their prioritization process.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** thanked Mr. Netra Sharma for sharing Bhutan's experiences. He then invited Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha from Nepal to share their insights.

**Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha**, WHO Country Office Nepal, shared Nepal's climate background and experience on assessing vulnerabilities in the health sector of the country. He explained that the country faces an increase in metabolic and water and foodborne illnesses. He further cited a study from May 2021 which found a clear association between six climatic variables and certain diseases, such as malaria and dengue.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** thanked Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha for sharing Nepal's experiences. He then invited Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun from Cambodia to share their insights.

**Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun**, Deputy Director of Department of Climate Change, General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, Cambodia, presented that the country used a climate model downscaling technology to analyze the country's climate system on the local level in detail.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** thanked Mr. Heng Chan Thoeun for sharing Cambodia's experiences. He then invited the technical team to share the recorded presentation from Mr. Amir Delju, WMO.

**Mr. Amir Delju**, Climate Services Branch, WMO, reminded of Article 7 of the Paris Agreement. Adaptation should be based on information and scientific knowledge on climate, including research, systematic observation of the climate system and early warning systems, in a manner that supports decision-making. He further explained that climate information is the collection and interpretation of weather and climate data that is credible, relevant, and usable.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** thanked Mr. Amir Delju for sharing WMO's insights and continued by summarizing the key points from all presentations. Mr. Taishi then invited all participants to raise questions to the panelists.

He stated that the purpose of vulnerability assessments is to inform future planning, budgeting, and behavioral change. There is no point in undertaking a detailed vulnerability assessment if the results are not reflected by decision makers in the end, and the execution of the assessment itself is a technical problem. In the past 10 to 15 years, we have seen tremendous progress in the technical and scientific basis of vulnerability assessments. Bhutan, Nepal, and Cambodia went through the NAP process nearly 10 years ago, and we can all remember that this process was based on much more core data on climate and future projections. We have now heard that in Cambodia, for example, the data that go into the vulnerability assessment have improved tremendously. The use and interpretation of the results is not as much of a scientific and technical problem. It is the process of political economy, it is dependent on people's awareness, political will. What is your experience in moving from the technical process of executing or undertaking vulnerability assessments to helping decisionmakers integrate themselves? He mentioned that he was quite surprised how much into the future Bhutan looks within their vulnerability assessment. They look at three different scales, and the most distant scale is from 2070 to 2099. Therefore, the level of uncertainty is quite significant, and the country needs to take a risk-based approach or a no-regret approach anyway. How do countries navigate in this process of embracing uncertainty and talking to decision-makers who are oftentimes more concerned about investments in the near term?

**Mr. Netra Sharma** responded that in the case of Bhutan, the country has prioritized the four sectors of agriculture, water, biodiversity, and health. The country is reaching out to the different technical working group members who come from the different agencies. They have representatives from the academia, from civil society organizations, local governments, and other agencies, such as the National Weather Agency, National Meteorological Agency, or Department of Agriculture. The country further capacitates those key stakeholders and tries to communicate what the climate impacts will be in the short-, medium-, and long-term. When it comes to long-term impacts, however, Bhutan does not have very robust information at hand, but mostly relies on national housing and population census. Much of the climate science is based on uncertainty, and if countries were to implement all recommended adaptation plans and activities based on climate forecasts, we might run the risk of overbuilding, which is not efficient either. LDCs need to consider their resource constraints. Bhutan also tries to communicate what these findings mean to policymakers in the language that they understand so that they are able to take up ownership, especially for the sectors that they represent. This will also generate a better understanding and acceptance of the need for adaptation. At the same time Bhutan also pushes to integrate adaptation into development processes.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** further asked Nepal their experiences of communicating data to policymakers, especially around health issues.

**Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha** responded that at the time, there was limited technical information and technical data available, as well as a lack in understanding that this is becoming an emerging issue. The government then tried to link data to planning and implementation, such as in the health sector, where meteorological data was linked to major diseases.

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle**, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, raised the question to Mr. Netra Sharma from Bhutan how the country ensures women participation in NAP process and capacity building, How the vulnerability risk is informed from the gender perspective in those four sectors that were mentioned? Is there any gender and climate change-related policy in Bhutan?

**Mr. Netra Sharma** responded by stating that Nepal has a very good number of women in the National Technical Working Groups. Through their stocktaking exercise and capacity assessment they have also

found that capacity development of women, engagement of women in decision making for climate change adaptation is crucial. Nepal has a climate change policy in place where gender is an important component. He added that of their climate change risk assessments also look at vulnerable people and women. Nepal tries to get as much sex disaggregated data, so climate change adaptation planning and implementation becomes easier. Nepal's work with the universities and climate change training topics also strongly includes the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and PWDs.

**Sindhu Prasad Dhungana** raised the question in the chat box of the meeting to Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha and others i) How far has VAA/HNAP assessed / analyzed the vulnerability in terms of gender, ethnicity, and other community factors, and ii) How far has VAA/HNAP informed Nepal's NAP process? Or in other words, how far has Nepal's NAP process tried to benefit from VAA/HNAP?

**Mr. Netra Sharma** explained that in the context of Bhutan on data management, Bhutan has made use of the National Housing and Population census (2005, 2017) secondary data. There is ground truthing of this information done through consultations at the district and local levels as well. In all the assessments, questions and indicators on differentiated impacts of climate change on gender and people with disabilities are included, so Bhutan knows the realities on the ground. He added that Bhutan will also be converting their findings into simple policy briefs for policymakers' absorption and decision-making. **Mr. Raja Pote Shrestha** added that Nepal carried out its first vulnerability assessment in 2013, so the technical analysis itself was limited. However, it still disaggregated by sex and age, for example. This information was based on 15 clusters.

**Mr. Yusuke Taishi** thanked all panelists and participants for the lively and insightful presentations and discussions. He added that it was quite encouraging to hear from all three panelists that the gender dimension has been reflected in their respective vulnerability assessments. It is great to hear that people with disabilities are reflected in vulnerability assessments by using housing and population census, such as it is the case in Bhutan. He added that it is good to see that the assessments in Nepal led to the design of new programmes, such as the disease surveillance system. In summary he concluded that it is encouraging to hear that vulnerability assessments are not simply carried out for the sake of the assessment, but that the results are actually being used to steer policy decisions and public investments.

He continued by closing the first session of group 1 for day 2.

#### **Topic 4 – Integrating adaptation into national and subnational development planning and budgeting**

**Ms. Julie Teng**, Technical Specialist on NAP, UNDP, who moderated this session, introduced this fourth topic for the second day of the Forum presented enabling factors for mainstreaming and finding entry points for adaptation mainstreaming is an important step of the NAP process. She then continued by welcoming all participants and invited the three speakers for this session, Sri Lanka – Ms. Dakshini Perera, Assistant Director of the Climate Change Secretariat, Solomon Islands, and Lao PDR – Government representative (either Ministry of Health or Department of Climate Change – TBC) – co-presented by Dr. (Ms.) Oyuntogos Lkhasuren, WHO Country Office Lao PDR. She then invited the first speaker to present.

**Ms. Dakshini Perera**, Assistant Director of the Climate Change Secretariat, Sri Lanka, outlined the background and history of Sri Lanka's NAP process. It involved consultations with stakeholders from all levels, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, and others.

**Mr. Netra Sharma** shared that Bhutan is also setting up a knowledge sharing platform for two-way sharing of information/data on climate change adaptation and mitigation. It will be a "one-stop" platform. A climate

change research strategy and roadmap has also been prepared to guide future country specific research on climate change and relevant training programs designed to be offered in universities in line with the recommendations from that strategy. The training programme is planned to be offered through a hybrid mode, meaning will be facilitated by field practitioners and academia.

**Ms. Julie Teng** thanked Ms. Dakshini Perera for sharing Sri Lanka's experiences. She then invited Dr. (Ms.) Oyuntogos Lkhasuren from Lao PDR to share their insights.

**Dr. (Ms.) Oyuntogos Lkhasuren**, WHO Country Office Lao PDR, provided an overview of the Lao climate background and context and the WHO's support to the country's NAP process.

**Mr. Netra Sharma** raised the question to Sri Lanka how well the private sector had been receptive of the NAP process in Sri Lanka given their usually higher inclination towards mitigation planning and implementation and less to adaptation?

**Ms. Dakshini Perera** responded by explaining that Sri Lanka also faced this challenge. Private sector involvement is still rather low. While at the sectoral level there are some institutions involved, at the national level participation is still rather low. Sri Lanka conducted several workshops on climate finance, for example, to encourage their involvement and to also become Direct Access Entities to global funds.

**Ms. Julie Teng** thanked Ms. Dakshini Perera for sharing Sri Lanka's experiences. She then invited Ms. Szivia Lehel to share UNDP's insights.

**Ms. Szivia Lehel**, Gender and Climate Finance Specialist at UNDP, explained that it is highly important to mainstream climate adaptation into national public finance management systems.

**Mr. Netra Sharma** raised the question to Ms. Szivia Lehel how thoroughly CCBA is done since the GCF requires it to be done for new projects proposed anyways during PPG phase?

**Ms. Szivia Lehel** responded by stating that the GCF has a different level of intervention, it can be provincial or across levels. It should not be seen as mutually exclusive, but as complementary. It is an evolving process.

**Ms. Julie Teng** thanked all panelists for their insightful presentations that highlighted many different aspects. She then closed the second session for the second day of group 1.

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## **DATE: 29 JUNE 2021 – DAY 2 – GROUP 2**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Kiribati, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Time:** 09:30 – 13:00 BKK | 05:30 – 09:00 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:**

32 country participants and 21 participants from various partner agencies

## **PROCEEDINGS**

### **Topic 3 – Climate science and vulnerability and risk assessments to guide decision-making in adaptation**

**Mr. Animesh Kumar**, UNDRR, who moderated this session, pointed out the highlights from day 1 and spoke about the similarities that countries face and elaborated on. He then introduced this third topic for the second day of the Forum and welcomed all participants and invited the four speakers for this session,

Zimbabwe – Dr. Leonard Unganai, Government Consultant of the NAP Zimbabwe Project, Ms. Rakotoarison Norohasina, Chef du Service de Santé et Environnement, Ministère de la Santé Publique, Madagascar (co-presented by Malala Ranarison, WHO Country Office Madagascar, Mr. Animesh Kumar / Ms. Donna Mitzi, UNDRR, Mr. Amir Delju, WMO. He then invited the first speaker to present.

**Dr. Leonard Unganai**, Government Consultant of the NAP Zimbabwe Project, shared Zimbabwe’s lessons on climate change data and vulnerability assessments.

**Ms. Rakotoarison Norohasina**, Chef du Service de Santé et Environnement, Ministère de la Santé Publique, Madagascar, explained that the country carried out a vulnerability and risk assessment, and the country established a steering committee that worked on the study as well as on other sectoral climate-related needs. A technical team carried out technical studies in the field and collected data that were relevant in the health sector. The study was validated by key stakeholders and the information was disseminated to present its results.

**Mr. Animesh Kumar** thanked Ms. Rakotoarison Norohasina for sharing Madagascar’s experiences. He pointed out the disproportionate impact climate change has on vulnerable groups, especially children and women. He then invited Ms. Donna Mitzi, UNDRR, to share their insights.

**Ms. Donna Mitzi**, UNDRR, provided a comprehensive overview of global disaster-related deaths and losses on a year-by-year trend, which is significantly increasing. She further presented a comprehensive risk management approach, as outlined by UNDRR. Seeing climate change as an underlying risk factor for all assessments is vital to generate sound data and information and projections.

**Mr. Animesh Kumar** thanked Ms. Donna Mitzi for sharing UNDRR’s experiences and insights into integrative approaches to disaster risk reduction and climate change. He then invited Mr. Amir Delju to share WMO’s insights.

**Mr. Amir Delju**, Climate Services Branch, WMO, reminded of Article 7 of the Paris Agreement. Adaptation should be based on information and scientific knowledge on climate, including research, systematic observation of the climate system and early warning systems, in a manner that supports decision-making. He further explained that climate information is the collection and interpretation of weather and climate data that is credible, relevant, and usable. WMO manages a platform for reliable hydro-climatic data and technical resources, open source for anyone to access.

**Mr. Animesh Kumar** thanked Mr. Amir Delju for sharing WMO’s comprehensive overview on the global climate outlook and the application of data, which should be available throughout the NAP process. He then opened the floor for an open discussion and a Q&A session. He initiated the discussion by asking **Ms. Rakotoarison Norohasina** if the country has a health sector NAP.

**Ms. Rakotoarison Norohasina** responded by explaining that Madagascar, besides having its NAP, also developed a strategic NAP for the health sector specifically. In June 2021 they updated the data for this HNAP and will update the document this year.

**Yeshitila Mogssie** commented in the chat box that climate service is very important for health early warning and health risk reduction. It needs to work with WMO to advance the health early warning system integrating with meteorological information.

**Mr. Amir Delju** responded that they have an agreement with WHO and they are exploring methodologies that are used in both climate and health sectors. They have jointly produced an atlas of climate and health

and have developed indices together with WHO. One of the major challenges or gaps is a lack of systematic health data in LDCs and developing countries.

**Mr. Animesh Kumar** concluded that data is very important, but that meaningful data is even more important. Information needs to be actionable. Adaptation that is not risk-informed leads to maladaptation. How do we process that data to make sense for decision? **Salima Hamada** asked “*how to set up a community early warning system?*” **Mr. Animesh Kumar** explained that there are many examples of good community early warning systems, including nature-based solutions offering ecosystem-based early warning systems. **Mr. Amir Delju** mentioned that they have a multi-hazard early warning system with the intention to reach the last mile. Even though many countries may have such systems at the national level, it is not guaranteed that such systems provide services to the local levels.

**Kasanda Bunda** mentioned that among the many challenges faced by LDCs is capacity to execute climatic modelling to inform planning. Does WMO provide downscaling of climatic modelling information for respective countries, for example sub-Saharan countries? **Mr. Amir Delju** responded that WMO has now developed around 20 regional downscaled models which are all on the Climate Information Platform. It is free of charge, and it would be unrealistic to expect every developing country to be equipped with such infrastructure and expertise as it is very costly. Centers around the world provide this, but what WMO seeks to do is to change the data shaping policy to make it obligatory to these centers to provide data free of charge.

**Mr. Animesh Kumar** thanked all presenters and participants and concluded the session.

#### **Topic 4 – Integrating adaptation into national and subnational development planning and budgeting**

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam**, Regional Coordinator ROAP, UNEP, who moderated this session, introduced this fourth topic for the second day of the Forum and welcomed all participants and invited the five speakers for this session, Zambia – Mr. Joseph Mbinji, Project Manager for the National Adaptation Planning Project, Zambia, Ethiopia – Mr. Misganaw Tewachew, Climate Change and Health National Program Officer, Health Ministry of Ethiopia (co-presented by Mr. Yeshitila Mogssie, Climate sensitive disease surveillance, WHO Country Office Ethiopia), Rwanda – Mr. Herman Hakuzimana, Agriculture Environment and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Specialist, REMA, Malawi – Mr. Hendricks Mgodie, National Health and Climate Change Focal Person, Ministry of Health, and Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis, WHO Regional Office for Africa. He then invited the first speaker to present.

**Mr. Herman Hakuzimana**, Agriculture Environment and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Specialist, REMA, Rwanda, provided an overview of climate change-related shocks and disasters as well as policies in Rwanda. He further explained how the country integrates climate change into all sector plans and budgets.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Herman Hakuzimana for sharing Rwanda’s experiences and insights. He then invited Mr. Hendricks Mgodie to share Malawi’s insights.

**Mr. Hendricks Mgodie**, National Health and Climate Change Focal Person, Ministry of Health, Malawi, provided a detailed overview of Malawi’s development processes, with a focus on the Ministry of Health and its efforts on its Health NAP. He shared that scientific evidence-based data and information build a credible HNAP, and that coordination across all sectors is vital.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Hendricks Mgodie for sharing Malawi’s experiences and insights. He then invited Mr. Yeshitila Mogssie to share Ethiopia’s insights.



**Mr. Yeshitila Mogssie**, Climate sensitive disease surveillance, WHO Country Office Ethiopia, shared insights into Ethiopia's progress on its Health NAP, and that the inclusion of a group of various directorates and ministries was vital for a strong and efficient process.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Yeshitila Mogssie for sharing Ethiopia's experiences and insights. He then invited Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis WMO's insights.

**Mr. Antonis Kolimenakis**, WHO Regional Office for Africa presented that WHO AFRO's office strategic priorities are, amongst others, to support countries to conduct vulnerability and risk assessments, especially with an emphasis on strengthening the capacities for the health sector. The World Health Organization follows a system-based approach to building resilience to climate change, with one of the building blocks being climate and health finance.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis for sharing WHO's experiences and insights. He thanked all participants and presenters for their insights into especially the health sector during this session. He added that it is good to see that many countries are increasingly accounting for the health sector when planning adaptation actions, which was not the case some years back. Setting the correct budget for such efforts is difficult, hence it is important to exhaust this network and work together.

He continued by closing this session.

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### **DATE: 29 JUNE 2021 – DAY 2 – GROUP 3**

Haiti (F), Burkina Faso (F), Gambia, Guinea (F), Guinea-Bissau (L), Liberia, Mali (F), Mauritania (F), São Tomé and Príncipe (L), Senegal (F), Sierra Leone (A), Togo (F), Angola (L), Benin (F), Central African Republic (F), Chad (F), Democratic Republic of the Congo (F), Niger (F), Mozambique (L)

**Time:** 19:00 – 22:30 BKK | 15:00 – 18:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**PARTICIPANTS: 49 COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS AND 30 PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS PARTNER AGENCIES** PROCEEDINGS

### **Topic 3 – Climate science and vulnerability and risk assessments to guide decision-making in adaptation**

**Mr. Alexander Forbes**, Programme Officer, UNEP Climate Change Adaptation Unit, who moderated this first session, provided key highlights from the first day of the Forum. He then continued to introduce the five speakers from DRC – Mr. Hans Andre Djamba, Liberia – Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker, Mr. Waltaji Kutane, Climate Change and Health Technical Officer, WHO Country Office Mozambique, and Mr. Amir Delju, WMO. He then invited Mr. Hans Andre Djamba to share DRC's insights and experiences.

**Mr. Hans Andre Djamba**, National GCF Focal Point, DRC, explained that utilization of climate science to decrease vulnerability is still very low in the country. Data collection is still almost non-existent in the DRC, which leaves the country in a data crisis. The DRC has set a focus on the energy sector, as the country lacks energy supply systems, and the majority of the population does not have access to energy.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked Mr. Hans Andre Djamba for sharing DRC's experiences and insights. He then invited Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker to share Liberia's insights.

**Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker**, Liberia, first provided a glance at Liberia's NAP process and then highlighted the importance to develop an evidence base to identify how climate change impacts different sectors.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker for sharing Liberia’s experiences and insights. He then invited Mr. Waltaji Kutane to share WHO’s insights.

**Mr. Waltaji Kutane**, Climate Change and Health Technical Officer, WHO Country Office Mozambique, outlined WHO’s climate change and health vulnerability and adaptation assessment process that the team undertook in Mozambique and Ethiopia.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked Mr. Waltaji Kutane for sharing WHO’s experiences and insights from Mozambique and Ethiopia He then invited Mr. Amir Delju to share WMO’s insights.

*Mr. Amir Delju’s presentation is in part available in day 2, group 2, topic 3.*

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked Mr. Amir Delju Kutane for sharing WMO’s experiences and insights, that climate data and science is vital for any adaptation effort. He congratulated WMO’s Climate Information Platform (CIP). He then opened the floor to any questions and comments. He initiated the discussion by raising the question both to Mr. Kutane and Mr. Becker, what were your starting points vis-à-vis your risk assessments, what were the climate perspectives that you were looking at?

**Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker**, Liberia, responded that Liberia looked at all priority sectors and analyzed the needs associated along those various sectors. Additionally, taking into consideration community consultations and how effective intended efforts will be for communities.

**Mr. Waltaji Kutane**, WMO, stated that WMO looked at the past 15 years and the projections until 2030 with regards to climatic changes, both in Mozambique and Ethiopia. In addition, the extreme weather trends and the effect on health were considered.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked both responders. He continued by asking Liberia and Mozambique: how long did the risk assessments take with your multi-disciplinary teams take, and what were the costs involved?

**Mr. Waltaji Kutane**, WMO, explained that multi-disciplinary teams are needed as in the case of health sector, it can not only be approached from one single angle, but needs attention from many levels of government. It took around nine months from developing the concept note to implementation. The costs were about USD 85,000 to USD 95,000.

**Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker**, Liberia, shared that it costed around 150,000 USD across various sectors, the timeframe was approximately 6 months to one year, depending on the sector.

**Mr. Alexander Forbes** thanked all presenters and participants and closed this first session.

#### **Topic 4: Integrating adaptation into national and subnational development planning and budgeting**

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko**, Climate Adaptation Consultant, UNDP, who moderated this second session, welcomed the three speakers from, the Gambia – Mr. Bubu Jallow, Chief Technical Adviser, Togo – Mr. Azankpo Komla, Chad – Mr. Docteur Koussoumbi, Expert in Capacity Building, and Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis, WHO Regional Office for Africa. She then invited the first panelist Mr. Bubu Jallow to share the Gambia’s insights and experiences.

**Mr. Bubu Jallow**, Chief Technical Adviser, the Gambia, started out by presenting the mandates for the integrating of adaptation into national policies, strategies, and plans in the Gambia, followed by a brief timeline and support partners of the Gambia’s efforts

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** thanked Mr. Bubu Jallow for sharing the Gambia's experiences and insights. She then invited Mr. Azankpo Komla to share Togo's insights.

**Mr. Azankpo Komla** started by stating that Togo adopted a framework on adaptation planning. After its adoption, Togo put together a guide on adaptation and allocated clear financing for Togo's efforts on adaptation. He explained that all steps involved multiple stakeholders to build consensus and ensure ownership at all levels. A final validation workshop confirmed that all stakeholders have built consensus.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** thanked Mr. Azankpo Komla for sharing the Togo's experiences and insights. She then invited Mr. Docteur Koussoumbi to share Chad's insights.

**Mr. Docteur Koussoumbi**, Expert in Capacity Building, Chad, highlighted that Chad is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. He continued by providing a brief overview of the climate context of Chad. He stated that Chad conducted training workshops for relevant representatives that oversee planning and budgeting efforts in the country. Women are at the forefront of activities in Chad.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** thanked Mr. Docteur Koussoumbi for sharing the Chad's experiences and insights, especially putting an emphasis on the role gender inclusivity plays in budgeting and planning processes. She then invited Ms. Kerricia Hobson to share Grenada's insights.

**Ms. Kerricia Hobson**, Climate Change Focal Point, Grenada, pointed out the high vulnerability to extreme weather events, and that one single extreme event can be highly destructive, such as hurricane Emily in 2005. She further highlighted that many SIDS are highly indebted countries, so grant financing is challenging. Ms. Hobson explained that the country's NAP is the country's reporting document on adaptation, while its NDC is on mitigation. The country is currently updating its NAP.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** thanked Ms. Kerricia Hobson for sharing Grenada's experiences and insights, especially sharing that adaptation is highly contextualized. She then invited participants to share comments or ask questions.

**Mr. Henry David Bayoh**, Sierra Leone, raised the question to the panelists how they are mainstreaming climate change adaptation budgeting across sectors?

**Mr. Bubu Jallow** commented that country's need strong national budgeting processes in place since they cannot solely rely on external financial support. A national coding system was set up so that any sector that is requesting funding for adaptation-related projects needs to request through the coding system in order to receive funding from the national budget.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** welcomed the last panelist, Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis from the WHO Regional Office for Africa. His presentation in brief can be viewed in group 2, topic 4.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** thanked Dr. Antonis Kolimenakis for his informative presentation. She continued by thanking all participants and panelists for their contribution and time and closed this session.

**– END OF DAY 2**

**DATE: 30 JUNE 2021 – DAY 3 – GROUP 1**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Kiribati, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Time:** 09:30 – 13:00 BKK | 05:30 – 09:00 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 12 country participants and 8 participants from various partner agencies

**PROCEEDINGS****Opening Session and Topic 5 – Developing Implementation strategies**

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, introduced herself and opened the third day for group 1 by giving an overview of the highlights that were discussed during the second day of the Forum. She then presented the various steps involved in national adaptation planning and pointed out that today's discussions on Topic 5 will focus on Element C. Ms. Pethiyagoda highlighted FAO's involvement in NAP development, including GCF funded projects and SCALA. She then presented a recorded video session prepared by the NAP Global Network.

**The NAP Global Network** summarized their work on adaptation planning with multiple partners. They concluded by presenting a video from Fiji's experiences on national adaptation planning, which takes a whole-of-economy and whole-of-society approach. However, Fiji mentioned that financing implementation strategies is difficult, and that private sector entities need to be pulled in to move forward.

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda** shared an interactive question and answer presentation. The first question asked participants "*What institutional capacity gaps and needs have been identified in your country?*". The overall theme of responses seemed to suggest that many gaps and needs are related to the planning and preparatory phases, such as climate modelling, climate risk assessments, climate change trainings for local government functionaries, technical capacities and resources support such as M&E, standards and guidelines for climate resilient development, coordination, meteorological stations and information management, or technological support.

**Netra Sharma**, Project Manager, NAP, Bhutan, added that Bhutan uses Environment Friendly Road Construction guidelines for its rural farm roads construction where principles and impacts of climate change are incorporated. But for other infrastructures such as drinking water we do not have.

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda** thanked Netra for his point raised. She then shared the second question "*have implementation strategies been developed in your country?*".

**Mr. Netra Sharma** shared that Bhutan's NAP will have an implementation strategy (with clear milestones) alongside a financing strategy as chapters in the overall NAP document. The implementation strategy will also clearly outline how national adaptation planning will be integrated into national development planning efforts. He summarized that Bhutan's Implementation strategy chapter in NAP Document would have: i) Roles and responsibilities (different key players) and milestones, ii) Financing strategy and resource mobilization, and iii) Integration and linkages with Five Year Plans.

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle**, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, shared that Nepal has developed a plan to develop implementation a strategy

framework, which has not started yet. Nepal will also develop a financing strategy for its implementation, which is still in the planning phase.

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda** thanked both for their comments and shared the third question “*in your experience, which key barriers impede the implementation of the NAP*”. She continued by asking Timor-Leste to share their experiences.

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda** thanked all participants for the fruitful discussions and responses and closed this session.

### **Topic 6 – Adopting inclusive approaches and fostering indigenous and community led approaches to NAPs including gender considerations**

**Mr. Albert Salamanca**, Stockholm Environment Institute introduced participants to this second session of day three and welcomed the three panelists from Nepal – Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Ms. Inkar Kadyrzhanova, Regional adviser on gender and climate change, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN Women, and the NAP Global Network and country perspectives on gender responsive NAP processes as recorded presentations. He then invited the first speaker to present.

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle**, Chief, Climate Change Management Division, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal, thanked Mr. Albert Salamanca for the introduction. She presented the gender and social inclusion in Nepal’s NAP process. She pointed out that women, IPs, people with disability, economically poor, as well as people from certain castes and religions are mainly excluded from the process.

**Ms. Angie Dazé**, Senior Policy Advisor and Lead, Gender Equality from the NAP Global Network, in a pre-recorded presentation, shared their insights into gender integration. They explained that it needs an intersectional approach, which recognizes that groups can have various identities. A rich woman is differently vulnerable to climate change impacts than a poor woman in a rural area. It is important to see the linkages between gender equality and social inclusion. They further shared different entry points for gender inclusion in adaptation. The NAP Global Network then shared insights from partner countries, including Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Togo, Fiji, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Bangladesh, and the U.S. Department of State in a video.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** invited all participants to share lessons and experiences on gender-responsive NAP processes. He started by raising the question to Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle gender equality and social inclusion, would she say that moving forward these challenges improve, continue, or worsen in the future?

**Dr. (Ms.) Radha Wagle** explained that the journey is still progressive, however, the country needs to continue to strongly focus on inclusivity through resources, gender-responsive technologies, sensitization activities, and more. There is no time to be complacent, we need to maintain the momentum, to make sure that we achieve the objectives on gender equality.

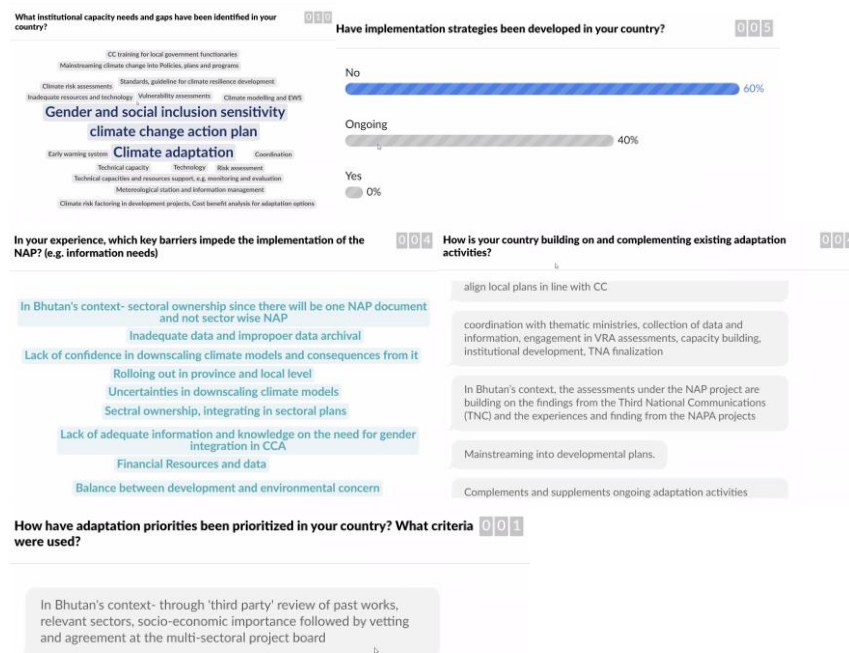
**Mr. Netra Sharma** shared that Bhutan has updated its climate vulnerability and risk mapping, through which the country intends to gather information around the various groups and locations that are most vulnerable. They are ranking districts where women or children are impacted more significantly.

**Ms. Monika Thapa** from Bhutan shared that NAP requires access to data and information, decision-making and planning, and implementation. Gender equity can be incorporated by capacity building and participation of woman.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** continued by asking participants if intersectional gender analyses are easily conducted and the tension between “progress” and “process” and asked for reflections from countries.

**Mr. Netra Sharma** shared that it is not sufficient to simply have many women present and participating at events, but more to evaluate the quality of the discussions and the outcomes that they lead to.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked all presenters and participants for the lively discussion and for sharing key insights on how to integrate gender into NAPs. He then closed this session.



## DATE: 30 JUNE 2021 – DAY 3 – GROUP 2

Burundi (F), Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Zambia, Comoros (F), Djibouti (F), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Madagascar (F), Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen

**Time:** 15:00 – 18:30 BKK | 11:00 – 14:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 22 country participants and 14 participants from various partner agencies

## PROCEEDINGS

### Opening Session and Topic 5 – Developing Implementation strategies

**Ms. Neha Rai**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, introduced herself and provided an overview of the highlights of the previous day. She continued by welcoming the panelist from Sudan – Dr. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed, Ministry of Environment Natural Resources & Physical Development.

**Dr. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed**, Ministry of Environment Natural Resources & Physical Development, Government of Sudan, started by thanking the NAP-GSP for organizing this Forum as many LDCs struggle with the formulation and implementation of their NAPs. She provided a brief climate context of the country and a timeline of its NAP process.

**Ms. Neha Rai** thanked Dr. Hamadalla for her comprehensive presentation on the state of adaptation with a focus on implementation in Sudan. She then invited the technical team to show the pre-recorded presentation from the NAP Global Network.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda** raised the question to Sudan (1) During the integration of adaptation programmes into state level policy, what criteria had been used in prioritizing adaptation measures (2) How has this process of integrating adaptation programmes into state-level policy helped to codify NAP project outcomes?

**Dr. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed** responded that after thorough capacity building activities, in-depth consultation sessions with stakeholders from multiple government levels supported Sudan to identify priority adaptation measures. This has helped Sudan to mainstream adaptation in all state-level policy efforts.

**Mr. Golivati Gomani** raised the question to Sudan what the implementation timeframe for the plan is, any modalities in place for its review? What targets are in the plan to measure its success focusing on the medium- and long-term?

**Dr. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed** responded that the implementation timeframe is now set at five years. Developing a system to measuring its success is currently still being developed.

**Ms. Gloria Namande** asked how Sudan has integrated the NAP priorities in the country's NDC? How does Sudan plan to involve the private sector in the implementation of those adaptation priorities?

**Dr. Hana Hamadalla Mohamed** responded that one of the main components of their NDCs is adaptation, especially also with a focus on priority sectors. Sudan uses its NAP as a main document for its NDC contribution. On the private sector she mentioned that it is crucial when it comes to technology transfer and the adoption of those technologies,

**Ms. Neha Rai** thanked Dr. Hamadalla for her responses and the questions raised by participants. She then opened the floor for an interactive question and answer session to share experiences from other countries. Responses to the interactive question poll are available in Annex of this report.

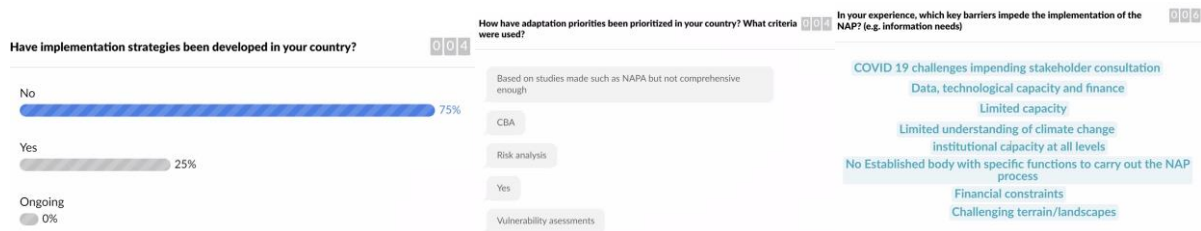
**Ms. Neha Rai** raised the question to Rwanda how the country is moving from planning to implementation.

**Mr. Theophile Dusengimana**, Environment and Climate Change Policy Specialist at Ministry of Environment, Rwanda, has a long-term planning strategy called the 'Green Growth Climate Resilient Strategy', all efforts on adaptation are linked to this policy. On implementation, efforts focus on secondary cities, floodings, capacity building on adaptation, building resilience for rural communities in the northern parts of Rwanda including agriculture, human settlements, efficient cooking, agro-forestry, and more. There are more than 50 adaptation indicators in Rwanda's updated NDC that the country seeks to implement in the next ten years. Right now Rwanda revises its Green Growth Climate Resilient Strategy' to formalize its intentions on adaptation.

**Ms. Neha Rai** raised the question to the group what the main barriers that impede the implementation of the NAP.

**Mr. Yeshitila Mogssie**, Climate sensitive disease surveillance, WHO Country Office Ethiopia, mentioned that changing priorities hinder efficient NAP implementation in Ethiopia.

**Ms. Neha Rai** thanked all participants and closed this session of the meeting.



## Topic 6 – Adopting inclusive approaches and fostering indigenous and community led approaches to NAPs including gender considerations

**Mr. Albert Salamanca**, Stockholm Environment Institute introduced participants to this second session of day three and welcomed the NAP Global Network and country perspectives on gender responsive NAP processes as recorded presentations. He invited participants to share their expectations of this session. Primarily it was shared that the methods to include various key groups, including vulnerable stakeholders, can be incorporated in the NAP. He then invited the technical team to share the pre-recorded materials.

**Ms. Angie Dazé**, Senior Policy Advisor and Lead, Gender Equality from the NAP Global Network shared their insights on gender and social inclusion. More information can be viewed in the previous groups' session.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** asked the participants if after this presentation they are confident that there are helpful experts they can get in touch with and resources they can use.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda**, Principal Climate Change Officer, Adaptation Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources, Climate Change & Natural Resources Management Department, outlined that it was helpful to see that institutional arrangements are important, where key ministries need to be part of the process.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Mr. Bunda for his comment. He added that this presentation also hosted a variety of contact details that can be contacted to support countries' processes.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda** raised the question on how one really conducts an intersectional analysis?

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked him for this question and mentioned that experts from the NAP-GSP will need to respond to this question. He then welcomed the next presentation provided by the NAP Global Network to be given. The presentation contents can be read in more detail in the previous groups' session.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** mentioned that all these questions would be useful for a future needs' assessment of what the NAP GSP can impart in future, possibly.

**Mr. Paul Nteza** from Ethiopia pointed out the support from the UNCDF LoCAL Project, which is seeking to internalize the financial support for adaptation actions. This can be a workaround to standard external funding sources.

**Mr. Kasanda Bunda** mentioned that in Zambia the Climate Change Action Plan mandates sectors to integrate gender into their planning activities. Planning efforts are decentralized in Zambia. A challenge that he mentioned is around the codes that are used, as these need to be completely mainstreaming throughout. Capacity building in this regard is key.

**Ms. Gloria Namande**, Project Manager at NDC Support Programme, Uganda, mentioned that she thinks that mainstreaming of gender has been done by many countries in policies and budgets, but the challenge has been budgeting and tracking the implementation of those gender targets in those plans. She continued that she thinks that there is need for each of the government departments to report on these gender indicators in their annual reports with concrete evidence.



**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked all participants and closed this session.

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### **DATE: 30 JUNE 2021 – DAY 3 – GROUP 3**

Haiti (F), Burkina Faso (F), Gambia, Guinea (F), Guinea-Bissau (L), Liberia, Mali (F), Mauritania (F), São Tomé and Príncipe (L), Senegal (F), Sierra Leone (A), Togo (F), Angola (L), Benin (F), Central African Republic (F), Chad (F), Democratic Republic of the Congo (F), Niger (F), Mozambique (L)

**Time:** 19:00 – 22:30 BKK | 15:00 – 18:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 41 country participants and 23 participants from various partner agencies

### **PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Opening Session and Topic 5 – Developing Implementation strategies**

**Ms. Neha Rai**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, introduced herself and provided an overview of the highlights of the previous day. She continued by welcoming the panelist from Senegal – Mr. Gabriel Ndiaye, Coordinator, NAP/GEF, Ms. Danise Love Dennis, Communications Officer, Liberia Environmental Protection Agency, and Ms. Anne Hammill, Senior Director, Resilience, IISD/ NAP Global Network. She then welcomed the first speaker to present.

**Mr. Gabriel Ndiaye**, Coordinator, NAP/GEF, Senegal, thanked the NAP-GSP for the invitation. He provided an overview of Senegal’s sectoral and cross-sectoral approach to its NAP

**Ms. Neha Rai** thanked Mr. Ndiaye for his comprehensive presentation. Especially the dimensions for local adaptation planning are very forward looking. She then welcomed the next panelist to present.

**Ms. Danise Love Dennis**, Communications Officer, Liberia Environmental Protection Agency, shared Liberia’s experiences on gender-inclusive approaches to national adaptation planning.

**Ms. Neha Rai** thanked Ms. Danise Love Dennis for her inspiring presentation on gender-responsiveness. Especially gender responsiveness of risk and impact assessments is an important point. She then welcomed the next panelist to present.

**Ms. Anne Hammill**, Senior Director, Resilience, IISD/ NAP Global Network, started out by outlining the NAP Global Network’s three main areas, i.e., peer learning and exchange, national-level action, and knowledge and communication. She continued by providing an overview of the progress on NAPs. She explained that the transition from planning to implementation should be seamless, but in practice there are many steps involved, which can be quite demotivating and frustrating. She added that if we lose momentum, it might happen that the NAP is being perceived as just another document.

**Ms. Shanali Pethiyagoda** raised the question given that there is some overlap with activities suggested for the transition stage, and activities recommended by the NAP Guidelines under Element C: Implementation Strategies, what do you see as the key distinction between these two stages?

**Ms. Anne Hammill** response that she does not see a clear distinction between activities. This is only a guideline on how to develop NAPs, and some countries cover only a few activities, others are very detailed.

**Ms. Neha Rai** raised the question about Liberia’s presentation, which presented a very systemic approach to adaptation planning. How does Liberia use assessments to inform adaptation priorities and then moving towards implementation?

**Ms. Danise Love Dennis** responded that currently the country needs to assess how to move forward, which is heavily dependent also on resource mobilization outcomes.

**Ms. Neha Rai** raised the question about Senegal's presentation, which presented a coefficient ranking system to its approach. How did the country decide upon this approach?

**Mr. Gabriel Ndiaye** responded that it was a vote that was conducted to reach consensus on the methodology.

**Ms. Neha Rai** concluded this session by outlining some main aspects: when we are thinking about developing implementation strategies, it is not only about prioritization but making sure that the entire process of setting-up criteria or moving from planning to implementation is a robust, inclusive, and bottom-up process. She highlighted that it is an important aspect to create a culture of learning in the prioritization process, so that it is not a linear but an agile process which can improve priority setting as countries go forward. Furthermore, to move from planning to implementation should in theory be a very seamless transition, but a lot of steps are needed to ensure that countries do not lose momentum. Mr. Kenel Delusca also spoke about this yesterday by stating that there is a need for a continued process because oftentimes NAP processes can break and then countries do not move from one station to another. Finally, enabling factors need to become more tailored to the different stages of NAPs. We cannot just have a blueprint of finances needed, but it needs more attention towards how countries can tailor that for different stages of the NAP process once they are moving into the implementation stage.

She then closed this first session.

#### **Topic 6 – Adopting inclusive approaches and fostering indigenous and community led approaches to NAPs including gender considerations**

**Mr. Albert Salamanca**, Stockholm Environment Institute, introduced participants to this second session of day three and welcomed participants from Chad – Mr. Aubin Ndodjide, from Haiti – Mr. Raoul Vital, from DRC – Ms. Ida Mangala, Communications Expert (Mr. Arsene Byaene on behalf), Ms. Angie Dazé, Senior Policy Advisor and Gender Equality Lead, Resilience, IISD/ NAP Global Network. He then invited the first panelist to present.

**Mr. Aubin Ndodjide** highlighted that Chad is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. He continued by providing a brief overview of the climate context of Chad. He stated that Chad conducted training workshops for relevant representatives that oversee planning and budgeting efforts in the country. Women are at the forefront of activities in Chad.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Mr. Aubin Ndodjide for his presentation and invited the next speaker to present.

**Mr. Raoul Vital** thanked the NAP-GSP for this insightful Forum. He continued by highlighting that Haiti had to go through a challenging socio-economic process, which was becoming worse with the current COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic put Haiti's NAP efforts on short hold, and they are now resuming their work. Haiti's consultation process was extensive and at the core of its NAP. Shared responsibilities, inclusiveness and representation, and transparency are the three main elements that are guiding Haiti's NAP process.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Mr. Raoul Vital for his presentation is looking forward to the outcomes of all the efforts put in place by Haiti. He then invited the next speaker to present.

**Ms. Ida Mangala**, Communications Expert from DRC (Mr. Arsene Byaene on behalf), presented that DRC's NAPA was a highly interesting process for the country. He further presented the country's experiences on their NAP process and highlighted that DRC is strongly including vulnerable groups, especially women and children.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Mr. Arsene Byaene for sharing DRC's experiences. He continued by asking the panelists what has been the key challenge to integrate gender-equity and social inclusion?

**Mr. Raoul Vital** responded by stating that in general there were a few problems. The pandemic has affected the implementation. Secondly, there is a governance challenge in the country, since there are two ministries that are responsible for the NAP, that are now changing. Thirdly, there is a lack of available data, so they had to gather data in order to inform the process.

**Mr. Arsene Byaene** responded by stating that the pandemic was a big influencing factor, and secondly there was a lack in data available. In addition, especially indigenous peoples and women have only little capacity.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked both respondents for sharing DRC's experiences. He then invited the next speaker to present.

**Ms. Angie Dazé**, Senior Policy Advisor and Gender Equality Lead, Resilience, IISD/ NAP Global Network. More information can be viewed in the previous groups' session.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Ms. Angie Dazé for her presentation and opened the floor for questions. He initiated by asking how should one execute an intersectional gender analysis?

**Ms. Angie Dazé** responded by explaining that the toolkit that was outlined includes some detailed resources. Some tools that are openly available may not be adaptation-specific, but still look at the differences within certain groups that are affected by various different factors such as socio-economic, for example.

**Mr. Albert Mfwamba** from DRC explained that the DRC at first only included women, but now also include men and youth. We have realized that everyone can be vulnerable. And men need to be convinced that they too need to participate in tasks that are usually only for women.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked Mr. Mfwamba for this comment. He asked Ms. Dazé what resources are available. **Ms. Angie Dazé** responded that she will share a link to resources and her email address.

**Mr. Albert Salamanca** thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the session.

**– END OF DAY 3**

## **DATE: 1 JULY 2021 – DAY 4 – GROUP 1**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Kiribati, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

**Time:** 09:30 – 13:00 BKK | 05:30 – 09:00 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 19 country participants and 13 participants from various partner agencies

### **PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Highlights of Day 3 and Topic 7 – Mobilizing Finance for NAPs**

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam**, Regional Coordinator ROAP, UNEP, opened the final session of the NAP-GSP South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum by giving an overview of the proceedings for the final day. He then welcomed Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee to provide the key highlights of all previous days.

**Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee** provided the audience with an infographic-like overview of key highlights for the first two days, clustered by topic and region.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee for her interactive summary of the key highlights and proceeded by highlighting the key highlights for the previous day three. He then introduced the two speakers from Bangladesh – Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza, Director Climate Change and Int’l Convention, Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and Mr. Beau Damen, Food and Agriculture Organization, Asia Office.

**Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza**, Director Climate Change and Int’l Convention, Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment started by outlining the current NAP funding modalities, which is supported amongst others by the GCF. In addition, Bangladesh accesses financial resources for climate change from both domestic (Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund, Development Partners such as GIZ) and international sources (LDCF, GCF, AF). He added that Bangladesh succeeded in establishing two Direct Access Entities that can access financing from the GCF.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza for his presentation. He then asked the technical team to show a recorded presentation from the NAP Global Network, given by **Mr. Christian Ledwell**, Manager of the NAP Global Network. He pointed out that financing is needed throughout the NAP process, and that it covers two types of costs: operating and investment costs. The amount that is needed varies from country to country and is expected to be significant. A dedicated NAP financing strategy can help to align financial requirements with the sources of financing and should be developed early on in the process. **Mr. Mozaharul Alam** then invited Mr. Beau Damen to share FAO’s perspective.

**Mr. Beau Damen**, Food and Agriculture Organization, Asia Office, provided an overview of the financial needs with a focus on the agriculture sector in NAPs. He pointed out that the agricultural sector is a priority within most NAPs and NDCs, yet it had limited success in mobilizing finance at the scale needed. In addition, he explained that the private sector is the largest source of finance, yet countries should not expect that the private sector simply provides resources. Agriculture clearly is a sector priority yet not a finance priority. They will respond to policy changes that incentivize them. There are both demand and supply-side barriers to finance that need to be overcome. It is advisable to develop robust NAP investment strategies and plans that provide concrete climate risk informed investable opportunities

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Beau Damen for his overview. He then opened the floor for questions.

**Mr. Netra Sharma** raised the following questions to Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza: How do you ensure sustainability of capacity building efforts in Bangladesh? 2. How far do you engage national universities in this effort? 3. Could you share some lessons from your knowledge management platform – how widely is it used? He further asked if Bangladesh has a separate budget code that helps track how much has been allocated for climate change adaptation activities in the national budgeting and fund allocation process? 4. Do you have a national guidelines/standard to guide your climate resilient infra development works such as roads, dykes etc. How do you ensure that you don not 'overbuild'?

**Mr. Monika Thapa** from Bhutan asked Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza if he can please share some objectives and activities implemented and planned under structure resilient infrastructure and vulnerable landscapes under NAP.

**Mr. Shawkat Ali Mirza** responded that Bangladesh faces difficulties ensuring sustainability, but continuously seek to capacitate its stakeholders. On budgetary processes he mentioned that the GCF is the biggest source of financing, however, substantial sources will need to come from domestic sources as well. On the question from Ms. Monika Thapa he responded by stating that there are currently some assessments being conducted that for example review outdated dykes in coastal areas. In addition, roads will be updated and increased in height to make them more resilient to flooding.

**Ms. Chanthoeun Heng** asked Bangladesh about the amount of budget support for the country's NAP implementation plan and the budget allocation from domestic and international resources as such GCF, AF etc.?

**Ms. Sonam Khandu** from Nepal mentioned that no-regret options need to be considered. She applauded Bangladesh's national climate change fund. She outlined that the term of having robust implementation strategy, but it is difficult to define this term.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked all participants for their contributions and closed the session.

### Closing Session

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya**, Climate Change Adaptation Consultant, UNEP, who moderated the closing session, welcomed the two speakers for this closing session, Ms. Rohini Kohli, Lead Technical Specialist, Adaptation Planning, UNDP and Mr. Mozaharul Alam, Regional Climate Change Coordinator, UNEP.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** provided an overview of the NAP-GSP, which has been active for six years with an objective to assist LDCs and non-LDCs in developing and advancing NAPs. The Programme has worked across four regions in 59 countries, together with 21 partners, conducted 27 workshops. The support included one-on-one country support, regional and global training workshops, and knowledge brokering, for example. She further provided a preview of the forthcoming flagship report on "*Integrating Climate Risks for a Resilient Future*".

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Kohli for her presentation and insights from the several years of work from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Mr. Mozaharul Alam to present.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** provided an overview of the products and tools to support and implement elements of the NAP-GSP that will be available to LDCs. Firstly, a guideline for integrating EbA into NAPs: supplement

to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines. Secondly, a self-paced online tutorial on national adaptation planning – from start to finish. And lastly, an online compendium summarizing the knowledge wealth that was generated over the years of the NAP-GSP.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Mr. Mozaharul Alam for his presentation and overview of upcoming products from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Ms. Isabelle Louis to provide her closing remarks.

**Ms. Isabelle Louis**, Deputy Regional Director, Regional office of the Asia and the Pacific, UNEP, welcomed all participants and colleagues, and shared the following: *“It is glad to see you again on the successful conclusion of the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programmes (NAP GSP)’s South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum. We have yet again proved that the global COVID-19 pandemic, although has created hurdles in achieving our goals and targets, it has not been able to stop us in moving forward in exchanging our views effectively. We have been continuing to be moving towards more resilient ways to overcome this challenge. As I mentioned earlier this Forum concluded with a great elaborate agenda which included discussion around 7 key issues related to the NAPs and which were namely, (1) formulation of mandate and institutional coordination mechanism, (2) Development of NAP road map and formulation, (3) Climate science and vulnerability and risk assessments to guide decision-making in adaptation, (4) Integrating adaptation into national and subnational development planning and budgeting (5) Developing Implementation strategies, (6) Adopting inclusive approaches and fostering indigenous and community led approaches to NAPs including gender considerations, and (7) Mobilizing finance for NAPs. As it was evident, the discussions revolved around the four key elements of the NAP process and included exchanges on laying the groundwork and addressing gaps, the preparatory elements, the Implementation strategies and some portions of reporting and monitoring. As you have already seen colleagues, the Forum concluded under 12 overall sessions which discussed 2 topics under each session in a day. If we take a deeper look into the detailing of how these sessions were structured, we see that entire discussion were convened under 21 sub-sessions which were the 7 topics and exclusive discussions on them in all the 3 Groups. This gives us a whooping figure of a total of approximately 55 country delegates from around 31 countries sharing their country experiences through their PPTs. These numbers itself indicates clearly, how enriching the 4-day discussions would have been. Moreover, the single day programme spanned for approximately 13 hours, taking the total hours of exchange to approximately 52 hours. This is an ample time duration for a fruitful and wholesome discussion.*

*Dear delegates and colleagues, during the Forum, we were made aware of few key analyses on the progress made in the formulation and implementation of NAPs. It was stated that there needs to be a lot of progress in the formulation and implementation of NAPs in the LDCs as astonishingly 40 out of the 46 LDCs do not have a NAP. The Forum highlighted many common issues and lessons faced by all the LDCs irrespective of their region. This was majorly encircling the need for political will and support around the NAPs, aggressive promotion of NAP roadmaps at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels), multi-sectoral engagements and strong ownership and accountability for NAPs. A key message that echoed from all the 3 groups was the ‘whole of society and whole of Government approach’ that could help the expediting formulation and implementation of NAPs. Both federal and vertical coordination efforts are vital, and the establishment and mobilization of climate change coordination committees can enhance NAP formulation processes. A good lesson that many countries highlighted is the message around building synergies with ecosystem-based adaptation & promote multi-stakeholder partnerships and establish thematic working groups in their countries that work cross-cutting. Gender inclusivity was found to be central to the NAP process and countries echoed that climate change adaptation cannot be successful without the involvement of all people in a country, and women in particular. The focus on gender should be an integral part of the communication*

*and engagement plan. Around the science and assessment aspects, it was echoed that importance of thoroughly assessing sectoral vulnerabilities and risks, as well as adaptation needs and priorities for the medium-to long-term of sectors, was important for all countries in all the regions. Many countries in the Asia and the Pacific region highlighted that the successful formulation of a strong NAP can be used as a basis for attracting international support to increase national resilience and that strong link is needed between the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) and the NAPs. Also, that the NAP process should take into account earlier efforts of developing adaptation planning interventions, such as the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPAs) etc. There were similar reflections from the countries of the Eastern and the Western Africa and the Latin American Caribbean (LAC) region. One of the key highlights that can be a great potential avenue for future collaborations on the NAP and its community of Practice is the close cooperation with national universities in developing environmental and climate science-related programmes for national capacity building efforts. This could form an important element of vulnerability and risk assessments in long run for developing a strong methodology, identify and create consent on indicators, and to collect, manage, and analyze data. Collaboration and partnership with multiple sectors and development partners specially with national meteorology agencies, universities, and research institutes, both nationally and internationally would help progressing NAPs. Also, let me allow to present few key points highlighted by the Least developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) which are critical to the NAP future scenarios in the LDCs. It was pointed out that support for NAPs should include all steps from assessment, planning, implementation (access to funding and implementation on the ground), reporting, monitoring and review. There was also a felt need to develop NAPs that are comprehensive and build on wide inputs. Another key outcome of the Forum was that the true success of resilience-building lies in the actual vulnerabilities reduced and avoided adverse impacts of climate change. One of the main ways to achieve that is through actual investments in adaptation and resilience – i.e., implementation of actions. It was good to note that the joint UNDP-UNEP, NAP-GSP was commended for the continuous support that it has been providing from time to time to the LDCs in assisting them to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into medium and long-term national planning and financing and also strengthened the institutional and technical capacities of LDCs to advance their NAP process. I again thank all the participants and the NAP Partners, the organizing team for their great efforts. We will be sharing the summary in the form of various products from the Forum which would provide a good overview of the captured discussions. This has really been an extremely rich and fruitful Forum would go a long way strengthen the NAP process in the future.”*

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Isabelle Louis for her closing remarks and invited Ms. Akiko Yamamoto to share her closing remarks.

**Ms. Akiko Yamamoto**, Regional Team leader, Nature, Climate and Energy, UNDP, delivered an effective and impressive closing remarks. Excerpts from her speech as follow: *“Ladies and gentlemen, At the opening session on Monday, we had said that we hoped we would fully use this digital platform to learn from each other’s experiences in the NAP process and collectively contribute in expanding the knowledge base on climate change adaptation and resilience. This objective has undeniably been met as you shared your countries successes, challenges, and important lessons learned. It was encouraging to see the breadth and depth of the discussions. You were 142 participants, representing 28 LDCs and 6 non-LDCs. And, you reminded us this week that adaptation is not only central to the nature-climate priorities, but also to an inclusive, resilient green recovery from COVID 19. We also heard loud and clear that the enhancement and implementation of NDCs (National Determined Contributions) and the acceleration of National Adaptation Plans are important vehicles for building long term resilience. And, integrating the priorities identified into our development plans and budgets is key to scaling adaptation investments. These are important messages ahead of the*

*two upcoming landmark events this year: the UN Biodiversity Conference and COP26. These two events are the ultimate test to our collective commitments to people and planet. [Technical take away messages]. Within this backdrop and drawing from the rich exchange this week and our ongoing work at UNDP, we have identified six intervention areas that UNDP, other UN agencies, bilateral and multi-lateral partners need to continue to focus on to further assist countries: 1. Being responsive to countries ongoing requests for technical and financial assistance to (i) enhance their NDCs and formulate NAPs and (ii) promote alignment between NDC- NAPs-SDGs. 2. Strengthening the Climate change rationale for countries to be better equipped to address vulnerability of people, livelihood and property in relation to hydro-meteorological hazards. 3. Supporting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning and budgeting. This to ensure that global dialogue and frameworks are translated into local action that is cohesive and not carried out in silos. 4. Investing in long term capacity building of national institutions and fostering locally led adaptation action, including through curating: Knowledge, Innovation, Working in different languages, Access to funding, in particular through continuing supporting direct access to GCF funding, Supporting the integration of transboundary issues into adaptation planning, Being responsive to the COVID-19 pandemic and green recovery by linking adaptation to green recovery efforts. UNDP is convinced that to achieve this, long term partnerships continue to be critical to build capacity both at the national level but also at community and local levels, so that vulnerability is reduced on the ground and the benefits actually reach people. UNDP is already taking this approach in partnership with countries through: Our Climate Promise; Support to NAPs development; CCA portfolio of interventions in agriculture, ecosystems, water, early warning systems; and through Support to Adaptation and Resilience Coalition of the Climate Summit, and by supporting the locally led action track in partnership with the GCA (Global Commission on Adaptation). The NAP-GSP is closing at the end of the year, but our engagement in supporting countries in adaptation planning and implementation will continue, including through these partnerships. [Closing words]. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank UNEP and NAP GSP colleagues for having done a stellar job in organizing this digital event. They have helped us navigate the COVID-19 world by converting this global event into a digital one against all odds. We are also grateful to UNEP for 7 years of a rich collaboration as part of the NAP-GSP. Please allow me to also thank warmly the GEF for their financial and strategic support, all NAP-GSP partners and our UNDP colleagues in country and regional offices who are present with us. Thank you all for your continuous engagement and instrumental inputs and support. I cannot close without paying tribute to the leadership of the SIDS and the LDCs on adaptation ambition and action. It is humbling to see that while you are on the frontlines of climate impacts with extremely vulnerable populations, you are also the frontrunners on the adaptation planning. A big thank you for all of your country's representatives for their participation at the South-South Exchange Forum. It is your expertise, experiences and engagement that has made this event a success. All the best to everyone as you go back to your respective duty after this long week. Thank you for your attention".*

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Akiko Yamamoto for her closing remarks. He announced that presentations, resources, together with links, graphics and audio-visual summaries, will be made available to participants and partners soon after the Forum. Specially, he thanked all country participants who joined and presented on behalf of their governments and made the Forum a success. He thanked all the NAP GSP partners (including the GEF, the LEG Chair and Vice-Chair, UNFCCC, WHO, WMO, UNITAR, UNDRR, FAO, SEI, NAP GN, GiZ,, ICCAD and UN Women) who contributed to the various sessions. He extended special thanks to the entire NAP GSP team, colleagues at UNEP's Nairobi headquarters and regional Office of the Asia and Pacific who helped at various stages of the Forum. He thanked the Liaisoning Focal Point, Rapporteur, IT colleagues and teams and creative partners for helping with various key components of the Forum. He then closed the Forum.



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**DATE: 1 JULY 2021 – DAY 4 – GROUP 2**

Burundi (F), Lesotho, Malawi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Zambia, Comoros (F), Djibouti (F), Eritrea, Ethiopia, Madagascar (F), Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen

**Time:** 15:00 – 18:30 BKK | 11:00 – 14:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 17 country participants and 19 participants from various partner agencies

**PROCEEDINGS****Highlights of Day 3 and Topic 7 – Mobilizing Finance for NAPs**

**Mr. Maik Winges, GIZ**, opened the final session of the NAP-GSP South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum by giving an overview of the proceedings for the final day. He then welcomed Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee to provide the key highlights of all previous days.

**Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee** provided the audience with an infographic-like overview of key highlights for the first two days, clustered by topic and region.

**Mr. Maik Winges** thanked Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee for her interactive summary of the key highlights. He then proceeded by highlighting the key highlights for the previous day three, followed by an introduction the four speakers from United Republic of Tanzania – Mr. Issa Musa Nyashilu, Urban Planning, Environment and Climate Change Expert, Senior Environmental Management Officer, Madagascar – Ms. Rondro Herinirina, National Bureau for Climate Change, Carbon and REDD+ (BNCCCREDD+), Ms. Neha Rai, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Mr. Patrick Guerdat, Policy Analyst, NAP Global Network. He then invited the first panelist to present.

**Mr. Issa Musa Nyashilu**, Urban Planning, Environment and Climate Change Expert, Senior Environmental Management Officer, United Republic of Tanzania, thanked the NAP-GSP for the organization of and invitation to the Forum. He then proceeded by providing a baseline overview of the state of climate change in the country. He outlined that there is a lack of an effective national institutional framework for integrating climate risks and adaptation measures into planning. There is also a lack of capacity at different levels, information on risks and vulnerabilities, and a clear linkage between NAP and NDCs.

**Mr. Maik Winges** thanked Mr. Issa Musa Nyashilu for his presentation and welcomed the next speaker to present.

**Ms. Rondro Herinirina**, National Bureau for Climate Change, Carbon and REDD+ (BNCCCREDD+), Madagascar, thanked the NAP-GSP for their invitation and for giving Madagascar the opportunity to share their experiences with the Forum participants. She started out by providing a summary of the climate context and an overview of the overall NAP process in the country. Its first preliminary NAP was developed in 2012, which was followed by workshops on gender mainstreaming and skills development trainings.

**Mr. Maik Winges** thanked Ms. Rondro Herinirina for her presentation and welcomed the next speaker to present.

**Ms. Neha Rai**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations presented on mobilizing finance for agriculture sector priorities for NAP implementation. She covered three main items: i) why do we need to

finance NAPs, ii) what are the finance gaps, and iii) how can we set up more foundational steps to leverage finance for NAPs, especially from the perspective from LDCs and various sectors?

**Mr. Maik Wings** thanked Ms. Neha Rai for her presentation and welcomed the next speaker to present.

**Mr. Patrick Guerdat**, Policy Analyst, NAP Global Network provided an overview of the NAP Global Network's publication on 'Financing NAP Processes' and presented key points of this guidance note.

**Mr. Maik Wings** thanked Mr. Patrick Guerdat for his presentation and closed the session.

### Closing Session

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya**, Climate Change Adaptation Consultant, UNEP, who moderated the closing session, welcomed the two speakers for this closing session, Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt, Programme Officer, Climate Change Adaptation, and Coordinator GAN, UNEP and Ms. Sadya Ndoko, Climate Change Adaptation Consultant, UNDP. He then invited Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt to provide her presentation.

**Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt**, Programme Officer, Climate Change Adaptation, and Coordinator GAN, UNEP, provided an overview of the products and tools to support and implement elements of the NAP-GSP that will be available to LDCs. Firstly, a guideline for integrating EbA into NAPs: supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines. Secondly, a self-paced online tutorial on national adaptation planning – from start to finish. And lastly, an online compendium summarizing the knowledge wealth that was generated over the years of the NAP-GSP.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Lis Mullin Bernhardt for her presentation and overview of upcoming products from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Ms. Sadya Ndoko to present.

**Ms. Sadya Ndoko** provided an overview of the NAP-GSP, which has been active for six years with an objective to assist LDCs and non-LDCs in developing and advancing NAPs. The Programme has worked across four regions in 59 countries, together with 21 partners, conducted 27 workshops. The support included one-on-one country support, regional and global training workshops, and knowledge brokering, for example. She further provided a preview of the forthcoming flagship report on *"Integrating Climate Risks for a Resilient Future"*.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Sadya Ndoko for her presentation and insights from the several years of work from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Ms. Jessica Troni and Ms. Rohini Kohli to present their closing remarks in the same order.

**Ms. Jessica Troni**, Head Climate Change Adaptation Unit, Ecosystems Division, UNEP, welcomed all participants and colleagues, and shared the following: *"It is glad to see you again on the successful conclusion of the National Adaptation Plan Global Support Programmes (NAP GSP)'s South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum. We have yet again proved that the global COVID-19 pandemic, although has created hurdles in achieving our goals and targets, it has not been able to stop us in moving forward in exchanging our views effectively. We have been continuing to be moving towards more resilient ways to overcome this challenge. As I mentioned earlier this Forum concluded with a great elaborate agenda which included discussion around 7 key issues related to the NAPs and which were namely, (1) formulation of mandate and institutional coordination mechanism, (2) Development of NAP road map and formulation, (3) Climate science and vulnerability and risk assessments to guide decision-making in adaptation, (4) Integrating adaptation into national and subnational development planning and budgeting (5) Developing Implementation strategies, (6) Adopting inclusive approaches and fostering indigenous and community led approaches to NAPs including gender considerations, and (7) Mobilizing finance for NAPs. The discussions under all the above 7 topics*

*spanned across the various time-zones, were facilitated by various experts from different agencies, and information was exchanged in 3 languages of English, French and Portuguese. As it was evident, the discussions revolved around the four key elements of the NAP process and included exchanges on laying the groundwork and addressing gaps, the preparatory elements, the Implementation strategies and some portions of reporting and monitoring. As you have already seen colleagues, the Forum concluded under 12 overall sessions which discussed 2 topics under each session in a day. If we take a deeper look into the detailing of how these sessions were structured, we see that entire discussion were convened under 21 sub-sessions which were the 7 topics and exclusive discussions on them in all the 3 Groups. This gives us a whopping figure of a total of approximately 55 country delegates from around 31 countries sharing their country experiences through their PPTs. These numbers itself indicates clearly, how enriching the 4-day discussions would have been. Moreover, a single day programme spanned for approximately 13 hours, taking the total hours of exchange to approximately 52 hours. This is an ample time duration for a fruitful and wholesome discussion.*

*Dear delegates and colleagues, during the Forum, we were made aware of few key analyses on the progress made in the formulation and implementation of NAPs. It was stated that there needs to be a lot of progress in the formulation and implementation of NAPs in the LDCs as astonishingly 40 out of the 46 LDCs do not have a National Adaptation Plan. Political will and strong support to NAP, inclusive and multi-sectoral engagement and promotion of NAP roadmaps at all levels (national, sub-national and local levels), and a strong ownership and accountability for NAPs commonly highlighted issues during the forum. A key message that echoed from all the 3 group of countries was the “whole of society and whole of Government approach” that could help in expediting formulation and implementation of NAPs. Both horizontal and vertical coordination efforts are vital, and the establishment of climate change coordination committees can enhance NAP formulation processes. Countries have also highlighted need of building synergies and emphasized ecosystem-based adaptation as well as promote multi-stakeholder partnerships. Establishment of thematic working groups also found very helpful to ensure synergies and avoid duplication of efforts. Gender inclusivity was found to be central to the NAP process and countries echoed that climate change adaptation cannot be successful without the involvement of all people in a country, and women in particular. The focus on gender should be an integral part of the communication and engagement plan. During the forum countries from Asia, the Eastern and the Western Africa and the Latin American Caribbean (LAC) region emphasized that the NAP process should take into account earlier efforts of developing adaptation planning interventions, such as the National Adaptation Plan of Acton (NAPAs) etc. The Forum also echoed the importance of climate science and science-based assessment to understand climate risks and vulnerabilities of sectors, as well as identify adaptation needs and priorities. Many countries in the Asia and the Pacific region highlighted that the successful formulation of a strong NAP can be used as a basis for attracting international support to increase national resilience. It has also highlighted need of strong link between the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) and the NAPs. Collaboration between the NAP and its community of Practice with national universities in developing environmental and climate science-related programmes for national capacity building efforts could be explored in future. This could form an avenue for long run capacity building around vulnerability and risk assessments, developing a strong methodology, identify and create consent on indicators, and to collect, manage, and analyze data. Collaboration and partnership with multiple sectors and development partners specially with national meteorology agencies, universities, and research institutes, both nationally and internationally would also help progressing formulation and implementation of NAPs. Let me present few key points highlighted by the Least developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) which are critical to the NAP future scenarios in the LDCs. It was pointed out that support for NAPs should include all steps from assessment, planning, implementation (access to funding*

and implementation on the ground), reporting, monitoring and review. There was also a felt need to develop NAPs that are comprehensive and build on wide inputs. Another key outcome of the Forum was that the true success of resilience-building lies in the actual vulnerabilities reduced and avoided adverse impacts of climate change. One of the main ways to achieve that is through actual investments in adaptation and resilience – i.e., implementation of actions. It was good to note that the joint UNDP-UNEP, NAP-GSP was commended for the continuous support that it has been providing from time to time to the LDCs in assisting them to identify technical, institutional and financial needs to integrate climate change adaptation into medium and long-term national planning and financing and also strengthened the institutional and technical capacities of LDCs to advance their NAP process. I again thank all the participants and the NAP Partners, the organizing team for their great efforts. We will be sharing the summary in the form of various products from the Forum which would provide a good overview of the captured discussions. This has really been an extremely rich and fruitful Forum would go a long way strengthen the NAP process in the future.”

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** thanked all participants for their participation in the Forum. Excerpts from her closing speech as follow: “Ladies and gentlemen, At the opening session on Monday, we had said that we hoped we would fully use this digital platform to learn from each other’s experiences in the NAP process and collectively contribute in expanding the knowledge base on climate change adaptation and resilience. This objective has undeniably been met as you shared your countries successes, challenges, and important lessons learned. It was encouraging to see the breadth and depth of the discussions. You were 142 participants, representing 28 LDCs and 6 non-LDCs. And, you reminded us this week that adaptation is not only central to the nature-climate priorities, but also to an inclusive, resilient green recovery from COVID 19. We also heard loud and clear that the enhancement and implementation of NDCs (National Determined Contributions) and the acceleration of National Adaptation Plans are important vehicles for building long term resilience. And, integrating the priorities identified into our development plans and budgets is key to scaling adaptation investments. These are important messages ahead of the two upcoming landmark events this year: the UN Biodiversity Conference and COP26. These two events are the ultimate test to our collective commitments to people and planet. [Technical take away messages]. Within this backdrop and drawing from the rich exchange this week and our ongoing work at UNDP, we have identified six intervention areas that UNDP, other UN agencies, bilateral and multi-lateral partners need to continue to focus on to further assist countries: 1. Being responsive to countries ongoing requests for technical and financial assistance to (i) enhance their NDCs and formulate NAPs and (ii) promote alignment between NDC- NAPs-SDGs. 2. Strengthening the Climate change rationale for countries to be better equipped to address vulnerability of people, livelihood and property in relation to hydro-meteorological hazards. 3. Supporting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning and budgeting. This to ensure that global dialogue and frameworks are translated into local action that is cohesive and not carried out in silos. 4. Investing in long term capacity building of national institutions and fostering locally led adaptation action, including through curating: Knowledge, Innovation, Working in different languages, Access to funding, in particular through continuing supporting direct access to GCF funding, Supporting the integration of trans-boundary issues into adaptation planning, Being responsive to the COVID-19 pandemic and green recovery by linking adaptation to green recovery efforts. UNDP is convinced that to achieve this, long term partnerships continue to be critical to build capacity both at the national level but also at community and local levels, so that vulnerability is reduced on the ground and the benefits actually reach people. UNDP is already taking this approach in partnership with countries through: Our Climate Promise; Support to NAPs development; CCA portfolio of interventions in agriculture, ecosystems, water, early warning systems; and through Support to Adaptation and Resilience Coalition of the Climate Summit, and by supporting the locally led action track in partnership with the GCA (Global Commission on Adaptation). The NAP-GSP is closing at the

*end of the year, but our engagement in supporting countries in adaptation planning and implementation will continue, including through these partnerships. [Closing words]. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank Soumya Bhattacharya, Mozaharul Alam aka Babu, Lowine Hill, Jessica Troni, and Liz Bernhardt, and through them all of our UNEP colleagues for having done a stellar job in organizing this digital event. They have helped us navigate the COVID-19 world by converting this global event into a digital one against all odds. We are also grateful to UNEP for 7 years of a rich collaboration as part of the NAP-GSP. Please allow me to also thank warmly the GEF for their financial and strategic support, all NAP-GSP partners and our UNDP colleagues in country and regional offices who are present with us. Thank you all for your continuous engagement and instrumental inputs and support. I cannot close without paying tribute to the leadership of the SIDS and the LDCs on adaptation ambition and action. It is humbling to see that while you are on the frontlines of climate impacts with extremely vulnerable populations, you are also the frontrunners on the adaptation planning. A big thank you for all of your country's representatives for their participation at the South-South Exchange Forum. It is your expertise, experiences and engagement that has made this event a success. All the best to everyone as you go back to your respective duty after this long week. Thank you for your attention".*

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Jessica Troni and Ms. Rohini Kohli for their closing remarks. He announced that presentations, resources, together with links, graphics and audio-visual summaries, will be made available to participants and partners soon after the Forum. Specially, he thanked all country participants who joined and presented on behalf of their governments and made the Forum a success. He thanked all the NAP GSP partners (including the GEF, the LEG Chair and Vice-Chair, UNFCCC, WHO, WMO, UNITAR, UNDRR, FAO, SEI, NAP GN, GiZ,, ICCAD and UN Women) who contributed to the various sessions. He extended special thanks to the entire NAP GSP team, colleagues at UNEP's Nairobi headquarters and regional Office of the Asia and Pacific who helped at various stages of the Forum. He thanked the Liaisoning Focal Point, Rapporteur, IT colleagues and teams and creative partners for helping with various key components of the Forum. He then closed the Forum.

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### **DATE: 1 JULY 2021 – DAY 4 – GROUP 3**

Haiti (F), Burkina Faso (F), Gambia, Guinea (F), Guinea-Bissau (L), Liberia, Mali (F), Mauritania (F), São Tomé and Príncipe (L), Senegal (F), Sierra Leone (A), Togo (F), Angola (L), Benin (F), Central African Republic (F), Chad (F), Democratic Republic of the Congo (F), Niger (F), Mozambique (L)

**Time:** 19:00 – 22:30 BKK | 15:00 – 18:30 NBO

**Location:** Online Video Meeting via Zoom

**Participants:** 26 country participants and 20 participants from various partner agencies

### **PROCEEDINGS**

#### **Highlights of Day 3 and Topic 7 – Mobilizing Finance for NAPs**

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam**, Regional Coordinator ROAP, UNEP, opened the final session of the NAP-GSP South-South Knowledge Exchange Forum by giving an overview of the proceedings for the final day. He then welcomed Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee to provide the key highlights of all previous days.

**Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee** provided the audience with an infographic-like overview of key highlights for the first two days, clustered by topic and region.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Ms. Desiree Llanos Dee for her interactive summary of the key highlights and proceeded by highlighting the key highlights for the previous day three. He then introduced the four speakers from Senegal – Ms. Dibor Faye, Adaptation Expert, Benin – Mr. Wilfried Biao Mongazi, Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable (MCVDD), Mr. Christian Ledwell, Manager of the NAP Global Network (recording), Ms. Neha Rai, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Mr. Abraham Tumbey, Programme Coordinator UNDP Liberia Country Office. He invited the first speaker to present.

**Ms. Dibor Faye**, Adaptation Expert presented an overview of Senegal’s NAP process in general and then dived into the financing means. Senegal has requested the support from several partners that are supporting one or several sectors, such as the UNDP-GEF, GIZ, USAID, FAO, AFD, EU, or the GCF amongst others. Currently, Senegal is finalizing several project documents to request funding from international climate funds. She further outlined that Senegal developed a NAP platform which follows up with all national and local stakeholders and sectors on a continuous basis.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Ms. Dibor Faye for her detailed presentation. He highlighted that it is indeed valuable to be reminded that countries cannot rely on one single source of funding, and that it is important that the sources are directly connected with vulnerable sectors because the various funding agencies may have their own priorities. He continued by inviting the second speaker to present.

**Mr. Wilfried Biao Mongazi**, Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable (MCVDD), Benin, outlined that Benin is currently working on their final NAP and provided an overview on what steps the country took to develop its NAP. He highlighted the various funding sources, such as GIZ, UNCDF’s LoCAL Project, UNDP, the NDC Partnership, and FAO, amongst others.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Wilfried Biao Mongazi for his detailed presentation. He continued by inviting the technical team to share a recorded presentation from the NAP Global Network, given by **Mr. Christian Ledwell**, Manager of the NAP Global Network. **Mr. Mozaharul Alam** continued by inviting Ms. Neha Rai to share FAO’s experience and learning.

**Ms. Neha Rai**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations presented on mobilizing finance for agriculture sector priorities for NAP implementation.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Ms. Neha Rai for her contribution and invited Mr. Abraham Tumbey to present.

**Mr. Abraham Tumbey**, Programme Coordinator UNDP Liberia Country Office, presented on Liberia’s experience on mobilizing financing for NAPs. He started by providing an overview of Liberia’s country context and the reasoning for the country’s NAP. He explained that Liberia analyzed current funding flows from domestic and international to public and private, and assessed the funding gap and financial characteristics, i.e., if investments generate any revenue and if it is suitable for private financing.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked Mr. Abraham Tumbey for his sharing Liberia’s experiences. He then opened the floor for questions.

**Ms. Fatoumata Sangare**, Guinea thanked the organizers for the invitation and congratulated the speakers for their presentations. She raised the question how intends Senegal to feed the national fund? Further, does FAO have investment action plans for many sectors? And thirdly, how does the NDC Partnership intend to mobilize financing?

**Mr. Alhassane Hamzatta Cherif** from Guinea asked Senegal if each donor intervenes in a sector, is this imposed by the country, and can multiple donors intervene in the same sector?

**Ms. Dibor Faye** responded that the national fund will be fed by analyses on what is needed. One way to raise funds is via taxes, for example. Further, the country will develop sectoral NAPs that will then lead into a national NAP. On the donors, the Ministry of Environment cooperates with the lenders and partners to assess the needs in the country and see where alignments with donors and national priorities are.

**Mr. Wilfried Biao Mongazi** responded by stating that the adaptation planning process started in 2016 and it helped the country to assess and foresee the needs and gaps in the country. Partnerships helped us to analyze priorities and to follow through with the various steps involved.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** thanked all participants for their participation and contribution and closed this session.

### Closing Session

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya**, Climate Change Adaptation Consultant, UNEP, who moderated the closing session, welcomed the two speakers for this closing session, Ms. Rohini Kohli, Lead Technical Specialist, Adaptation Planning, UNDP and Mr. Mozaharul Alam, Regional Climate Change Coordinator, UNEP. He mentioned that exchanges of lessons and experiences between the countries, reflected the ever-increasing pool of knowledge, understanding and efforts around the NAPs while also at the same time highlighted the need that still existed to chart out ways towards fulfilling the further needs of the countries. He then invited Ms. Rohini Kohli to provide his presentation.

**Ms. Rohini Kohli** provided an overview of the NAP-GSP, which has been active for six years with an objective to assist LDCs and non-LDCs in developing and advancing NAPs. .

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Kohli for her presentation and insights from the several years of work from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Mr. Mozaharul Alam to present.

**Mr. Mozaharul Alam** provided an overview of the products and tools to support and implement elements of the NAP-GSP that will be available to LDCs.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Mr. Mozaharul Alam for his presentation and overview of upcoming products from the NAP-GSP. He then invited Professor Anthony Nyong, Ms. Srilata Kammila, and Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo to present their closing remarks in the same order.

**Professor Anthony Nyong**, Regional Director of GCA Africa, Global Centre on Adaptation, thanked the organizers for this rich forum and for the privilege to join. He highlighted that the African continent currently needs between seven and fifteen billion USD to address climate change. Vulnerabilities are high and adaptation actions are urgently needed. Financing needs could extend to about 50 billion USD per annum by 2040 as per estimate conducted by the International Monetary Fund. The GCA was established to accelerate adaptation action globally. It was led by the 8<sup>th</sup> Secretary General of the UN, Ban Ki-moon with 28 commissioners, including the President of the African Development Bank Group. The GCA calls for three revolutions needed to bring adaptation action at the forefront. The first is the revolution of understanding. The second is a revolution in planning, and the third in financing. The NAPs are central components of this revolution and sets the foundation and direction for countries. We do not constantly reinvent the wheel but can learn from each other. The knowledge is there and together we can enable a just transition to a green and resilient society. A whole-of-society and a whole-of-government approach is vital to make good planning and budgeting decisions. Therefore, mainstreaming adaptation into all policy processes is essential and should be included as standard and basic requirement for all. NAPA and NAPs cannot remain standalone documents. Many countries and governments, however, perceive them as documents that can

be implemented if resources from outside rather than seeing them as integral to our development processes. He encouraged that NAPs must be integrated into national development plans and strategies, including a broad range of stakeholders and be gender sensitive. Gender equality still needs a long way to go. In addition, the number of meteorological stations is insufficient. Data is crucial, and without enough stations we will not be able to generate data, and adaptation planning will be in the dark.

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Professor Anthony Nyong for his detailed closing remarks and invited Ms. Srilata Kammila to share her closing remarks.

**Ms. Srilata Kammila**, Head of Adaptation, UNDP, addressed the closing session with her appreciations and observations on the 4 day Forum. Excerpts from her speech as follow: *“Ladies and gentlemen, At the opening session on Monday, we had said that we hoped we would fully use this digital platform to learn from each other’s experiences in the NAP process and collectively contribute in expanding the knowledge base on climate change adaptation and resilience. This objective has undeniably been met as you shared your countries successes, challenges, and important lessons learned. It was encouraging to see the breadth and depth of the discussions. You were 142 participants, representing 28 LDCs and 6 non-LDCs. And, you reminded us this week that adaptation is not only central to the nature-climate priorities, but also to an inclusive, resilient green recovery from COVID 19. We also heard loud and clear that the enhancement and implementation of NDCs (National Determined Contributions) and the acceleration of National Adaptation Plans are important vehicles for building long term resilience. And, integrating the priorities identified into our development plans and budgets is key to scaling adaptation investments. These are important messages ahead of the two upcoming landmark events this year: the UN Biodiversity Conference and COP26. These two events are the ultimate test to our collective commitments to people and planet. [Technical take away messages]. Within this backdrop and drawing from the rich exchange this week and our ongoing work at UNDP, we have identified six intervention areas that UNDP, other UN agencies, bilateral and multi-lateral partners need to continue to focus on to further assist countries: 1. Being responsive to countries ongoing requests for technical and financial assistance to (i) enhance their NDCs and formulate NAPs and (ii) promote alignment between NDC- NAPs-SDGs. 2. Strengthening the Climate change rationale for countries to be better equipped to address vulnerability of people, livelihood and property in relation to hydro-meteorological hazards. 3. Supporting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into development planning and budgeting. This to ensure that global dialogue and frameworks are translated into local action that is cohesive and not carried out in silos. 4. Investing in long term capacity building of national institutions and fostering locally led adaptation action, including through curating: Knowledge, Innovation, Working in different languages, Access to funding, in particular through continuing supporting direct access to GCF funding, Supporting the integration of transboundary issues into adaptation planning, Being responsive to the COVID-19 pandemic and green recovery by linking adaptation to green recovery efforts. UNDP is convinced that to achieve this, long term partnerships continue to be critical to build capacity both at the national level but also at community and local levels, so that vulnerability is reduced on the ground and the benefits actually reach people. UNDP is already taking this approach in partnership with countries through: Our Climate Promise; Support to NAPs development; CCA portfolio of interventions in agriculture, ecosystems, water, early warning systems; and through Support to Adaptation and Resilience Coalition of the Climate Summit, and by supporting the locally led action track in partnership with the GCA (Global Commission on Adaptation). The NAP-GSP is closing at the end of the year, but our engagement in supporting countries in adaptation planning and implementation will continue, including through these partnerships. [Closing words]. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank Soumya Bhattacharya, Mozaharul Alam aka Babu, Lowine Hill, Jessica Troni, and Liz Bernhardt, and through them all of our UNEP*



*colleagues for having done a stellar job in organizing this digital event. They have helped us navigate the COVID-19 world by converting this global event into a digital one against all odds. We are also grateful to UNEP for 7 years of a rich collaboration as part of the NAP-GSP. Please allow me to also thank warmly the GEF for their financial and strategic support, all NAP-GSP partners and our UNDP colleagues in country and regional offices who are present with us. Thank you all for your continuous engagement and instrumental inputs and support. I cannot close without paying tribute to the leadership of the SIDS and the LDCs on adaptation ambition and action. It is humbling to see that while you are on the frontlines of climate impacts with extremely vulnerable populations, you are also the frontrunners on the adaptation planning. A big thank you for all of your country's representatives for their participation at the South-South Exchange Forum. It is your expertise, experiences and engagement that has made this event a success. All the best to everyone as you go back to your respective duty after this long week. Thank you for your attention".*

**Mr. Soumya Bhattacharya** thanked Ms. Srilata Kammila for her closing remarks. He announced that presentations, resources, together with links, graphics and audio-visual summaries, will be made available to participants and partners soon after the Forum. Specially, he thanked all country participants who joined and presented on behalf of their governments and made the Forum a success. He thanked all the NAP GSP partners (including the GEF, the LEG Chair and Vice-Chair, UNFCCC, WHO, WMO, UNITAR, UNDRR, FAO, SEI, NAP GN, GiZ,, ICCAD and UN Women) who contributed to the various sessions. He extended special thanks to the entire NAP GSP team, colleagues at UNEP's Nairobi headquarters and regional Office of the Asia and Pacific who helped at various stages of the Forum. He thanked the Liaisoning Focal Point, Rapporteur, IT colleagues and teams and creative partners for helping with various key components of the Forum. He then closed the Forum.

**– END OF DAY 4**

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