

United Nations Development Programme & Climate Change Adaptation

- A Quarterly Update of Activities -



ISSUE No. 5
FEB 2011

This bulletin is produced by the Environmental Finance Services (EFS) Unit of UNDP's Environment and Energy Group. It provides an overview of EFS' support to countries to effect policy and institutional change for climate change adaptation at the national, sub-national and community-level. It includes updates on a range of topics including the status of ongoing projects, new project approvals, performance indicators, project impacts and results, and noteworthy announcements.

To contribute to future editions of the newsletter, please write to adaptation@undp.org

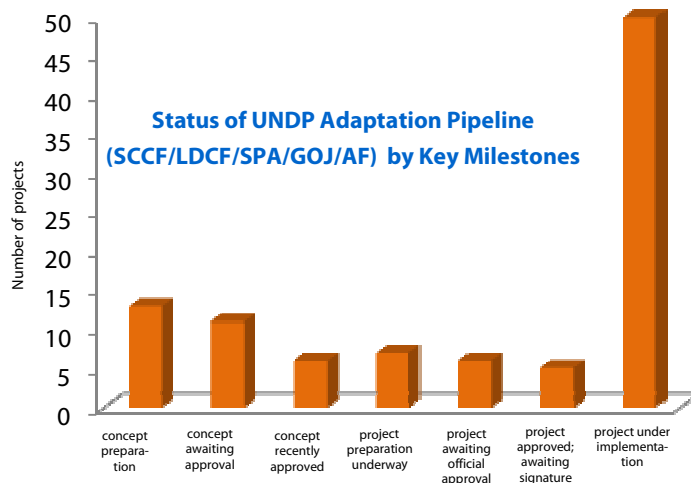
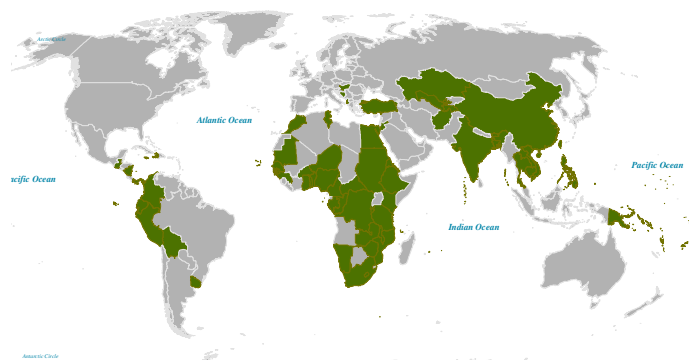
Managing Ecosystems to Improve Resilience

Ecosystems respond to natural perturbations by absorbing disturbances and often reorganizing themselves while undergoing change and retaining functionality. The resilience of an ecosystem refers to its ability to maintain core functions when faced with an external pressure, such as climate change, in other words withstand shocks and rebuild and/or tolerate disturbances without collapse. As climate change unfolds, many ecosystems are likely to face tipping points, where they change structurally into another ecosystem entirely (i.e. tropical forests to savannah). This may adversely affect ecosystem functioning, and impair the ability of ecosystems to supply ecosystem services. In turn this will have severe ramifications for human societies, as the continued provision of ecosystem services (such as carbon sequestration and stream flow regulation) will be vital to climate risk management, both from a mitigation and adaptation angle.

As a contribution to global efforts to enhance ecosystems resilience, UNDP is supporting a number of national, sub-national and community-based initiatives in more than 20 countries. Building on UNDP's signature programmes on biodiversity and sustainable land management, initiatives are underway to manage ecosystems to enhance their resilience to undesirable change. Financing for these initiatives is leveraged by UNDP from numerous sources including AusAID, NZAid, Government of Japan and the GEF.

For more information, please visit: www.undp.org/biodiversity

Quick Glance at UNDP's Adaptation Portfolio (Jan'11)



Countries Awaiting Funding from Adaptation Fund



ADAPTATION FUND

Following the Adaptation Fund Board's (AFB) approval of projects in Honduras, Nicaragua and Pakistan in September and December 2010, countries are making preparations for implementation to commence as soon as the funding is made available. This includes converting Adaptation Fund proposals into operationally viable project documents that national entities, which will lead project implementation, can use as a blueprint during the implementation phase; establishing systems of monitoring and reporting of finances and results; finalizing

terms of reference for project-financed staff; commencing recruitment processes; and finalizing implementation arrangements in dialogue with Government counterparts.

With Germany conferring legal capacity to the AFB in mid-February, the necessary agreements will soon be signed by UNDP and the AFB Secretariat, thereby enabling funds to commence flowing to countries. UNDP continues to engage in communication with the AFB Secretariat, based in Washington, D.C., and is in regular contact with the Governments of Honduras, Nicaragua and Pakistan.

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Supporting Least Developed Countries



Since 2005 UNDP has supported over 30 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to combine and sequence multiple funds for implementing adaptation priorities in key economic sectors. Early efforts focused on supporting 31 LDCs to prepare **National Adaptation Programmes of**

Action (NAPA). With the last two NAPA submissions to the UNFCCC, Timor-Leste and Nepal (see inset box), UNDP has completed its NAPA exercise, which was financed by the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). For many LDCs, the NAPAs are considered to be the starting point for directing public finance towards priority actions on adaptation. This experience was invaluable as new efforts are initiated following the 16th Conference of Parties (COP) held in December 2010 in Cancun where the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) was tasked to establish a process to enable LDCs and any other developing country to formulate and implement revised or new NAPAs. These plans will identify medium and long-term adaptation needs as well as develop and implement strategies to address those needs.

Implementation of NAPA Priorities

Having completed their NAPAs, countries are now turning to implementation of priorities outlined as well as other national strategies. UNDP-EFS is assisting LDCs to access finance from multiple sources including UNFCCC funds such as the LDCF as well as bilateral funds (from Governments of Japan and Denmark) for this purpose. UNDP will be releasing a document on the results of these ongoing initiatives. Some examples are outlined below.

In **Mali**, responding to its NAPA with LDCF resources, UNDP is supporting the Government and its partners to help commu-

Timor-Leste & Nepal: NAPAs Completed

Since 2005 the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have been formulating their **National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA)** with support from UNDP and GEF.

This past November the Government of **Nepal** submitted its NAPA to the UNFCCC. **Timor-Leste** representatives travelled to Cancun, Mexico in December to officially present its NAPA at the COP. With this, the last two countries supported by UNDP have completed their NAPAs, hence bringing UNDP/GEF's engagement in the NAPA preparation exercise to a successful closure.

Visit the UNFCCC NAPA website to download the relevant documents: http://unfccc.int/national_reports/napa/items/2719.php

nities establish resilient agro-pastoral practices, technologies and income-generating activities to support poverty reduction and enhance food security.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, another recently launched LDCF-funded initiative based on a NAPA priority is focusing on strengthening the capacity of the agriculture sector to plan for and respond to additional threats to food production and security posed by climate change in the country's most sensitive agricultural areas.

Sudan is responding to one of its NAPA findings by training its technical staff and extension workers in climate proofing and adaptive techniques to support natural resource management by local communities. Pastoralists and farmers, especially women, are involved in designing and implementing priority adaptation measures such as reseeding of the rangeland with heat-resistant varieties of grass and legume species, thereby promoting awareness of the need to integrate climate risks into productive activities.

For more information please visit:

http://www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar_adaptation.shtml

Bhutan's Winning Fight with Melting Glaciers

Bhutan, perched on the eastern end of the Himalayas, is surrounded by ice caps that have been melting with increasing speed over the past decade. As the ice caps melt, flooding the basins below, locals look for new ways and means to restrain the water flows.

Ranked one of the most dangerous lakes in Bhutan, Thorthormi Glacier Lake, at 3.42sq km, is thrice the size of Lake Lugge, which burst in 1994. The massive ice bed surrounding the lake is found to be melting at the rate of 30-35 m per year. A natural dam wall is precariously restricting the lake waters from spilling over, but geologists say that the wall between Lake Thorthormi and neighboring Lake Rapstreng is only 32.5 m thick at the crest and is becoming thinner every year. If this wall collapses, it will flood the valleys of Punakha, Wangduephodrang, Tsirang and Dagana causing great human and economic harm.

In an effort to reduce the likelihood of a glacial lake outburst flood in the Punatsangchhu Basin, a UNDP-supported initiative, financed by the Least Developed Countries Fund, has successfully reduced water levels of Lake Thorthormi by 1.3m to-date. In areas where heavy machinery could tumble down the slopes, the project reverted to human muscle and low-tech tools to widen the outlet channels of the lake, controlling the drainage of its waters. A team of 340 locals worked for two months in the second phase of this initiative to attain this goal. In the first phase of the project the water levels were reduced by 86 cm.

The reduction in water levels represents a significant achievement, given the extreme weather conditions in the area this year. The target of this initiative is to reduce Lake Thorthormi's water level by 5 m within three years in order to prevent the lake from merging with Lake Rapstreng, thereby averting glacial lake outburst floods.



Workers clearing the main channel from the Thorthormi Lake to reduce water levels

AFRICA



The multi-country ***Coping with Drought and Climate Change (CDCC)*** programme, supported by UNDP, has been heralded as a great achievement in Southern and Eastern Africa. Several of its sub-projects are newsworthy for their use of SCCF funding. Two examples from Chire-

dezi district in **Zimbabwe**: One community is harnessing local knowledge and practices on diversifying their crop mix to include open pollinated, drought tolerant maize varieties, sorghum, pearl millet, groundnuts, cowpeas and cassava to cope with local drought conditions and feed villages of people who would otherwise go hungry.

Crocodile handbag anyone? In the Chiredzi district, crocodiles have been turned from predators to a new source of livelihood, and a new source of income. In an effort to adapt to the new reality of regularly failing crops due to increasing drought conditions, the farmers have been capturing crocodiles, which are in abundance in Zimbabwe, and developing crocodile farms. One year into the project, the locals are legally operating as well as selling crocodile skins and meat to bridge the gap for failed crop farming in the region.



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LATIN AMERICA & THE CARRIBBEAN



Extreme El Niño flooding events occur on a regular basis in northern **Peru**. Even with advanced warning, poor households in the city of Piura struggle to manage the risk posed by El Niño flooding, losing the productive assets that defined their livelihoods

and throwing them back into unrecoverable economic hardship. In partnership with GlobalAgRisk, UNDP is currently supporting an initiative to enhance risk coping and adaptive capacity of the working poor.

The municipality of Piura is leading an effort with UNDP and its partners to develop insurance products for households and small businesses in a unique effort with insurance payments that are triggered in advance of the onset of the El Niño. Once ocean temperatures rise beyond an established norm, insurance claims are issued to allow the locals to take the necessary measures to manage and adapt to oncoming impacts. In parallel to the activities at the household level, work with regional government agencies and producer groups has been under-

taken to help them incorporate El Niño insurance into their risk coping and longer term adaptation strategies.

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In **México** UNDP is supporting national public policies to address climate change and is providing inputs for the development of a National Adaptation Policy. This initiative is implemented in coordination with the Directorate General for Climate Change Policy of SEMARNAT and the Adaptation Working Group (GT-Adapt) of the Inter-ministerial Commission on Climate Change (CICC).



Through this effort, the "*Marco de Políticas de Adaptación a mediano plazo*" document is aiming to showcase the adaptation efforts of the different national sectors and establish a baseline to develop a vision for adaptation to climate change in México towards the year 2030.

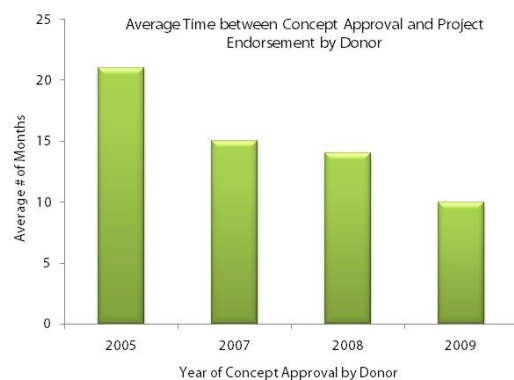
During the recent COP16 in Cancun, the Government of Mexico showcased this document, which promoted South-South cooperation on the formulation of policies and programmes to address the problem of climate change adaptation.

For more information, please contact Ms. Verania Chao: verania.chao@undp.org

From Country Requests to Operational Solutions: UNDP Efforts to Fast-Track Assistance on Adaptation

UNDP has intensified efforts to develop a faster system to turn countries' adaptation ideas into operational realities. The time needed for countries to access adaptation financing through UNDP has dramatically reduced to an average of 10 months.

For more information please contact: undpef@undp.org



REGION	COUNTRY	SOURCE OF FUNDS	GRANT (US\$)
CONCEPT PREPARATION (by Country with UNDP support)			
Africa	Burkina Faso	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Djibouti	AF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Central African Republic	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Guinea	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Lesotho	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Mauritania	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Sao Tome & Principe	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
Arab States	Morocco	AF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
	Yemen	AF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
Asia	Timor Leste	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
Europe and Central Asia	Moldova	SCCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
Pacific	Kiribati	LDCF	<i>Under Discussion</i>
CONCEPT AWAITING APPROVAL (by GEFSEC or AFB)			
Africa	Eritrea	AF	6,000,000
	Mauritius	AF	8,400,000
Arab States	Egypt	AF	5,200,000
Asia	Bangladesh	LDCF	3,000,000
	India	AF	5,000,000
Europe and Central Asia	Armenia	SPA	1,720,000
	Turkmenistan	AF	2,700,000
Pacific	Fiji	AF	5,280,000
	Niue	AF	3,150,000
	Papua New Guinea	AF	8,100,000
	Solomon Islands	AF	5,100,000
CONCEPT RECENTLY APPROVED (by GEFSEC or AFB SEC)			
Asia	Maldives	AF	8,285,000
	Mongolia	AF	5,000,000
Europe and Central Asia	Georgia	AF	4,900,000
Latin America and Caribbean	El Salvador	AF	5,000,000
	Guatemala	AF	5,000,000
Pacific	Cook Islands	AF	4,600,000
PROJECT PREPARATION UNDERWAY (by Country with UNDP support)			
Africa	Central African Republic	LDCF	3,400,000
	Ethiopia	LDCF	5,307,885
	Liberia	LDCF	2,381,000
	Mozambique	LDCF	4,433,000
	Swaziland	SCCF	1,670,000
Asia	Indonesia	SCCF	5,000,000
Europe and Central Asia	Azerbaijan	SCCF	2,700,000
PROJECT AWAITING OFFICIAL APPROVAL (by GEFSEC or AFB SEC)			
Africa	South Africa	SCCF	3,536,000
Asia	Pakistan*	AF	3,600,000
	Vietnam (lead: ADB)	SCCF	1,220,000
Latin America and Caribbean	Honduras*	AF	5,180,000
	Nicaragua*	AF	5,000,000
Pacific	Samoa	LDCF	2,400,000
PROJECT APPROVED, AWAITING SIGNATURE (by Country)			
Africa	Comoros	LDCF	3,100,000
	Ghana	SCCF	1,718,000
	Guinea Bissau	LDCF	4,000,000
Asia	Lao	LDCF	4,445,000
Latin America and Caribbean	Haiti	LDCF	3,500,000

REGION	COUNTRY	SOURCE OF FUNDS	GRANT (US\$)	
PROJECT UNDER IMPLEMENTATION (by Country with UNDP support)				
Africa	Benin	LDCF	3,410,000	
	Burkina Faso	GOJ/LDCF	5,801,000	
	Cameroon	GOJ	3,000,000	
	Cape Verde	LDCF	3,000,000	
	Congo	GOJ	2,975,000	
	Democratic Republic of Congo	LDCF	3,000,000	
	Ethiopia	GOJ/SCCF	7,477,749	
	Gabon	GOJ	2,465,000	
	Ghana	GOJ	2,709,000	
	Guinea	LDCF	2,970,000	
	Kenya	GOJ/SCCF	6,469,726	
	Lesotho	GOJ	2,975,000	
	Liberia	LDCF	2,900,000	
	Malawi	GOJ	3,881,580	
	Mali	LDCF	2,340,000	
	Mauritius	GOJ	2,987,004	
	Mozambique	GOJ/SCCF	3,947,620	
	Namibia	GOJ/SPA	3,940,000	
	Niger	GOJ/LDCF	6,500,000	
	Nigeria	GOJ	5,475,000	
	Regional-West Africa Shoreline (5 countries)	SPA	3,300,000	
	Rwanda	GOJ/LDCF	4,923,900	
	Sao Tome & Principe	GOJ	2,750,000	
	Senegal	GOJ	3,000,000	
	Tanzania	GOJ/SCCF	3,971,575	
	Zambia	LDCF	3,795,000	
	Zimbabwe	SCCF	983,000	
	Arab States	Egypt	SCCF	4,000,000
		Morocco	GOJ	2,975,000
		Sudan	LDCF	3,300,000
		Tunisia	GOJ	2,975,000
	Asia	Bangladesh	LDCF	3,300,000
Bhutan		LDCF	3,445,000	
Cambodia		LDCF	1,850,000	
India		SPA	200,000	
Maldives		LDCF	4,485,000	
Thailand		SCCF	869,090	
Europe and Central Asia	Albania	SPA	975,000	
	Armenia	SPA	900,000	
	Hungary	SPA	985,000	
	Tajikistan	SPA	950,000	
Global	Adaptation Learning Mechanism	SPA	724,000	
	Community-based Adaptation (10 Countries)	SPA	4,525,000	
	CC & Health (with WHO) (7 Countries)	SCCF	4,500,000	
Latin America and Caribbean	Ecuador	SCCF	3,000,000	
	Uruguay	SPA	975,000	
Pacific	Regional (13 Pacific Islands)	SCCF	13,125,000	
	Samoa	LDCF	2,000,000	
	Tuvalu	LDCF	3,300,000	

*Full Proposals have been approved; awaiting transfer of funds from AFB Secretariat

NOTES

AF-Adaptation Fund; GEF- Global Environment Facility; GOJ- Government of Japan; SPA- Strategic Priority on Adaptation (GEF Trust Fund); LDCF- Least Developed Countries Fund (UNFCCC Fund); SCCF- Special Climate Change Fund (UNFCCC Fund); Kyoto AFB-Adaptation Fund Board. The column on funding reflects resources leveraged by UNDP as grants to countries.

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