

# Provisions for support to LDCs

Facilitating the implementation of the  
UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement



Produced by the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) in partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment). This paper has been made possible with support from the joint UNDP-UN Environment 'Building capacity for the Least Developed Countries to participate effectively in intergovernmental climate change processes' programme, which is funded by the Least Developed Countries Fund. The GEF, UNDP and UN Environment would like to thank the authors of this paper. The designations employed and the presentations in this paper do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNDP, UN Environment, GEF or any other United Nations or contributory organisations, editors or publishers concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authority. Mention of a commercial company or a product in this paper does not imply endorsement by UNDP, UN Environment, GEF or any other United Nations or contributory organisations. The use of information from this publication concerning proprietary products for publicity or advertising is not permitted.

**Rebecca Byrnes**

Independent research and communications consultant.

**Stella Gama**

Deputy director of forestry, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, Malawi.

**Mamadou Honadia**

GCF/NDA and advisor to the prime minister, Burkina Faso.

**Bubu Pateh Jallow**

Technical advisor, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Water Resources, Forests, Parks and Wildlife, The Gambia.

**Marek Soanes**

Researcher, Climate Change Group, IIED.

**Priyanka Teeluck**

Independent consultant.

**Janna Tenzing**

Researcher, Climate Change Group, IIED.

Published by IIED, October 2017

Rebecca Byrnes, *et al.* 2017. Provisions for Support to LDCs: Facilitating the implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement

Toolkit. IIED, London.

<http://pubs.iied.org/10164IIED>

ISBN: 978-1-78431-400-2

Printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based inks.

# Contents

Acronyms	4
Introduction	5
National communications and biennial update reports	6
Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency	9
Nationally determined contributions	11
National adaptation programmes of action	13
National adaptation plans	16
Nationally appropriate mitigation actions	19
Technology needs assessments	21
Paris Committee on Capacity Building	24
Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation: REDD+	26
Clean development mechanism	28
Enhancing the participation of women in the negotiations	31
Least Developed Countries Expert Group	34
Least Developed Countries Fund	36
Green Climate Fund	40
Adaptation Fund	45

# Acronyms

<b>BUR</b>	biennial update report
<b>CBIT</b>	capacity building initiative for transparency
<b>CDM</b>	clean development mechanism
<b>CEO</b>	chief executive officer
<b>CGE</b>	Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
<b>CMP</b>	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
<b>COP</b>	Conference of the Parties
<b>CTCN</b>	Climate Technology Centre and Network
<b>ECBI</b>	European Capacity Building Initiative
<b>EST</b>	environmentally sound technology
<b>GCF</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>GHG</b>	greenhouse gas
<b>IEO</b>	Independent Evaluation Office
<b>IIED</b>	International Institute of Environment and Development
<b>LDC</b>	Least Developed Country
<b>LDCF</b>	Least Developed Countries Fund
<b>LEG</b>	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
<b>NAMA</b>	nationally appropriate mitigation action
<b>NAP</b>	national adaptation plan
<b>NAPA</b>	national adaptation programme of action
<b>NC</b>	national communication
<b>NDC</b>	nationally determined contribution
<b>NDE</b>	nationally designated entities
<b>NIE</b>	national implementing entity
<b>PCCB</b>	Paris Committee on Capacity Building
<b>PIF</b>	project identification form
<b>REDD</b>	reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
<b>REDD+</b>	reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conserving forest carbon stocks, sustainably managing forests and enhancing forest carbon stocks
<b>SBI</b>	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
<b>SCCF</b>	Special Climate Change Fund
<b>SIDS</b>	Small Island Developing States
<b>STAP</b>	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
<b>TAP</b>	technology action plan
<b>TEC</b>	Technology Executive Committee
<b>TNA</b>	technology needs assessment
<b>UN Environment</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>WEDO</b>	Women's Environment and Development Organisation

# Introduction

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) architecture is notoriously complex — even more so since the entry into force of the Paris Agreement and as ongoing negotiations shape its rule book. Yet, despite their limited resources and capacity, the 47 members of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group continue to engage proactively in the discussions, pushing for ambitious and equitable outcomes in the decision-making process. Not only this, they are training their next generation of negotiators to ensure they remain an informed and proactive group in the long term.

In this process, LDCs have obligations to deliver (albeit with some flexibility) alongside all other Parties. These include submitting national communications on the effective implementation of the Convention, or communicating nationally determined contributions towards the collective effort to meet the Paris Agreement's objective. They also have mandates that are more specific to their countries, such as developing national adaptation programmes of action or national adaptation plans.

Provisions for support have been (and continue to be) adopted for developing countries — LDCs in particular — to help them undertake these tasks. For LDCs, Article 4, paragraph 9 of the Convention is the cornerstone of this support. Here, Parties commit to “take full account of the specific needs and special situations of the least developed countries in their actions with regard to funding and transfer of technology.” Various decisions subsequently adopted by the Conference of the Parties include clauses enabling support for LDC Parties or giving them greater flexibility for meeting certain commitments. The Paris Agreement reiterated this call.

Such provisions are essential for LDCs to be able to implement their UNFCCC and Paris Agreement commitments and take actions on climate change at the national level. From an LDC negotiation strategy perspective, meeting and demonstrating ambition in the implementation of their own commitments also strengthens their moral voice.

**This toolkit is a collection of short briefs on the ways LDC Parties engage in the UNFCCC process and which provisions adopted to date help them undertake their work. It aims to serve a dual purpose:**

- 1** To help new LDC negotiators build their knowledge about their commitments under the UNFCCC process and where to find the support they need to do this, and
- 2** To provide an overview for national stakeholders who are not necessarily involved in the negotiations process of support mechanisms established for LDCs at the international level, to enable national climate change action.

As the negotiations are fast-moving, this toolkit is a living document that will be periodically updated.

## Readers may wish to refer also to our other toolkits:



### Climate negotiations terminology: the pocket guide:

<http://pubs.iied.org/10148IIED> (English)

<http://pubs.iied.org/10148FIIED> (French)

### Becoming a UNFCCC delegate: what you need to know:

<http://pubs.iied.org/17385IIED>

# National communications and biennial update reports

## Context

---

In accordance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (Article 4, paragraph 1 and Article 12, paragraph 1), all Parties must communicate the following elements of information on the implementation of the UNFCCC to the Conference of the Parties (COP) secretariat:

- A.** A national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, to the extent its capacities permit, using comparable methodologies to be promoted and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties
- B.** A general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the Convention, and
- C.** Any other information the Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its communication, including, if feasible, material relevant for calculations of global emission trends.

This information is known as national communications (NCs).

But Annex I (or developed) and non-Annex I (or developing) country Parties provide different information — or similar information in different ways. NCs from developing country Parties provide information on greenhouse gas inventories, measures to mitigate and facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change, and any other information that the Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention.

Non-Annex I Parties are required to submit their first NC within three years of entering the Convention and every four years thereafter.

COP4 made clear that these Parties' NCs would be considered in a facilitative, non-confrontational, open and transparent manner (Decision 12/CP.4, paragraph 1).

The COP adopted guidelines for the preparation of NCs at COP2 and revised the guidelines at COP8. These are found in the annex of Decision 17/CP.8.

Submitted NCs from non-Annex I Parties are available here: [http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/items/10124.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/items/10124.php)

### Biennial update reports

At COP16, Parties decided to enhance reporting in developing country Parties' NCs, giving additional flexibility to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 60): developing country Parties should submit biennial update reports (BURs) of the information contained in their NCs, consistent with their capabilities and the level of support provided for reporting. These new reports should contain updates of national greenhouse gas inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received.

COP17 adopted guidelines for the preparation of the BURs (Decision 2/CP.17, Annex III). It agreed that Parties should submit their first BURs to the secretariat by December 2014 and every two years thereafter (Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 41). This can be either a summary of the parts of their NC in the year they submit it, or a standalone update report. Respecting the previous year's decision to accord them more flexibility, the COP agreed that LDCs and SIDS may submit their BURs at their discretion.

The first BUR must cover, at a minimum, the inventory for the calendar year no more than four years before the date of submission or more recent years if information is available. Subsequent BURs must cover a calendar year that does not precede the submission day by more than four years.

Submitted BURs from non-Annex I Parties are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/y92xktqp>

In accordance with the adopted guidelines for both NCs and BURs, the COP decided that Parties should take into account their development priorities, objectives, capacities and national circumstances (Decisions 17/CP.8, paragraph 1 and 2/CP.17, paragraph 41).

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to support LDCs in the preparation of their NCs and BURs include:

- Developed country Parties
- The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from non-Annex I Parties
- The Global Environment Facility
- UNFCCC secretariat

### Who provides support for the preparation of NCs and BURs?

Arrangements for the provision of technical and financial support to developing country Parties in preparing their NCs is embedded in Article 12.7 of the Convention. The Convention as a whole recognises that the extent to which developing country Parties will effectively

implement their commitments depends on the financial resources and transfer of technology that developed country Parties provide to them. Indeed, financial and technical assistance and support are essential for developing countries in the preparation of their NCs and BURs.

In Decision 10/CP.2, the COP requested that the UNFCCC secretariat facilitate assistance to developing country Parties in the preparation of their initial NCs. This assistance could include organising workshops and forums to exchange experiences in the development of emission factors and providing activity data to estimate the GHG inventory.

The COP also decided that the Global Environment Facility (GEF) should provide funding to developing country Parties to meet the agreed full costs of preparing initial and subsequent NCs (Decisions 11/CP.2, paragraph 1 and 2/CP.4, paragraph 1). It should do this by maintaining and enhancing relevant national capacity, so as to prepare the initial and second NCs, which will take into account experiences — including gaps and problems identified in previous NCs — and COP guidelines.

Finally, in Decision 8/CP.5, the COP established the Consultative Group of Experts on NCs from Developing Country Parties (CGE), with the objective of improving these Parties' NCs (paragraph 3). Further information on the CGE's mandate and its work is available here: [http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/cge/items/2608.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/items/2608.php)

### Support for the preparation of BURs

The COP agreed that developed country Parties should provide enhanced support (resources) for BUR preparation, on the basis of full-cost funding (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 41). As with the NCs, this support should come through the GEF.

### How has this support been delivered?

The COP used the guidelines for the preparation of NCs and BURs (contained in Decisions 17/CP.8 and 2/CP.17 respectively) as the basis for guidance to the GEF on providing financial support to developing country Parties for this purpose.

Under the GEF's 'Operational procedures for the expedited financing of national communications', developing country Parties can access up to US\$405,000 each for the preparation of their NCs, and US\$15,000 each for stocktaking exercises and stakeholder consultations to prepare for project proposals. The procedures are available here: [www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/c22\\_inf16\\_rev1\\_5.pdf](http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/c22_inf16_rev1_5.pdf)

According to the GEF's 'Policy guidelines for the financing of BURs', developing country Parties can access up to US\$352,000 for the preparation of their BURs. The guidelines are available here: <https://tinyurl.com/y9t5acvf>

The GEF-funded Global Support Programme for NC and BUR preparation is a five-year (2014–2019) project managed jointly by the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme. Its overall objective is providing financial and technical support to developing countries to facilitate the timely preparation and submission of their NCs and BURs, among other areas of support. For further information, see: [www.un-gsp.org](http://www.un-gsp.org)

The CGE is the main channel for technical assistance and support for measurement, reporting and verification for developing countries. It has developed training materials for the preparation of NCs and BURs and organises workshops on preparing NCs and BURs and using these materials.

## Additional resources

---

### Publications



UNFCCC (2013) Toolkit for non-Annex I Parties on establishing and maintaining institutional arrangements for preparing national communications and biennial update reports.

See <https://tinyurl.com/ybnccg926>

UNFCCC (2014) Handbook on measurement, reporting and verification for developing country Parties.

See <https://tinyurl.com/y8fgfhua>

UNFCCC (2017) Guide for peer review of national GHG inventories.

See <https://tinyurl.com/y8r6l3kq>

### Websites



UNFCCC NCs webpage. [http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/items/2716.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/items/2716.php)

UNFCCC BURs webpage. <https://tinyurl.com/y8hm4y6l>

## References

---



UN (1992) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Articles 4 and 12).

UNFCCC (1996) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its second session, held at Geneva from 8 to 19 July 1996. FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1 (Decisions 10/CP.2 and 11/CP.2).

UNFCCC (1999) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fourth session, held at Buenos Aires from 2 to 14 November 1998. FCCC/CP/1998/16/Add.1 (Decision 2/CP.4 and 12/CP.4).

UNFCCC (2000) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifth session, held at Bonn from 25 October to 5 November 1999. FCCC/CP/1999/6/Add.1 (Decision 8/CP.5).

UNFCCC (2003) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighth session, held at New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002. FCCC/CP/2002/Add.2 (Decision 17/CP.8).

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held at Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 (Decision 1/CP.16).

UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 (Decision 2/CP.17).



# Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency

## Context

Article 13 (paragraph 1) of the Paris Agreement established an enhanced transparency framework (ETF) for action and support, to build mutual trust and confidence among Parties and to promote the effective implementation of the agreement.

Although the ETF's modalities, procedures and guidelines are under negotiation, it will have built-in flexibility to take into account Parties' different capacities, in accordance with the Paris Agreement. Negotiations are scheduled to conclude at the 24th

Conference of the Parties (COP24) in 2018.

Decision 1/CP.21 also established the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). This initiative builds the institutional and technical capacity of developing country Parties, on request, so they can meet the enhanced transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement.

The aims of the CBIT are to:

- Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities
- Provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement, and
- Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions requested to provide support through the CBIT:

- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- GEF donors

### Who supports Parties through the CBIT?

The COP mandated the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to make arrangements to support the establishment and operation of the CBIT through voluntary contributions, starting at its sixth replenishment cycle. The CBIT Trust Fund was open for business at COP22 in Marrakech (GEF 2016a).

Eleven donors — including Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, the

Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Belgium's Walloon Region — have pledged more than US\$50 million to the CBIT Trust Fund.<sup>1</sup> Others, including Japan, have publicly declared their intention to support the fund.

The CBIT is already helping developing countries such as Costa Rica, Kenya, South Africa and Uruguay to meet requirements for an ETF for action and support. Over 30 interested developing countries are developing their CBIT initiatives.

Implementing agencies include Conservation International, the UN Development Programme, the UN Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization.

### How can Parties access support from the CBIT?

All developing country Parties can access the CBIT, as long as their proposed activities fit within the GEF's programming directions for the CBIT (GEF/C.50/06), available here: <https://tinyurl.com/yycsrs4qz>

The GEF's programming directions for the CBIT includes a non-exhaustive list of activities that support the CBIT's aims.

Proposals must be submitted to the GEF secretariat through a GEF agency, in line with the GEF's usual policies and procedures. The secretariat will prioritise proposals from Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Parties that demonstrate responsiveness to the Paris Agreement's transparency requirements, as countries that are most in need of capacity-building assistance for transparency-related activities (GEF 2016b).

1. [www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/web-documents/CBIT-donor-statement-COP22.pdf](http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/web-documents/CBIT-donor-statement-COP22.pdf)

The CBIT can also support and fund activities at regional and global levels. This could include a global assessment of transparency, and capacity needs and achievements; or developing and sharing best practices on establishing and enhancing transparency and building capacity. The GEF's programming directions for the CBIT also include a non-exhaustive list of regional and global levels activities.

The GEF has also established a global coordination platform to support CBIT management. This platform aims to maximise learning opportunities and enable coordination and knowledge sharing to facilitate transparency enhancement. The GEF intends for the platform to engage countries, GEF partner agencies and other relevant entities and institutions to enhance partnership of nationally, multilaterally and bilaterally-supported capacity-building activities (GEF 2016b).

## Additional resources

---



### Websites

GEF CBIT webpages [www.thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit](http://www.thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit)

## References

---



GEF (2016a) Talking points for Naoko Ishii at the high-level facilitative dialogue. 16 November 2016. See [www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/CEO%20Remarks%20on%20CBIT%20COP22.pdf](http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/CEO%20Remarks%20on%20CBIT%20COP22.pdf)

GEF (2016b) Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency. GEF/C.50/06. See <https://tinyurl.com/ycsrs4qz>

UN (2015) Paris Agreement.

UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its 21st session, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1. (Decision 1/CP.21).

# Nationally determined contributions

## Context

The Copenhagen Accord, a political declaration which the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) took note of in 2009, was the first time all countries were called on to make climate change mitigation pledges.

For Annex I (or developed) countries, these were to be in the form of quantified emission reductions, whereas for non-Annex I (or developing) countries, they were to be in the form of mitigation actions. But the Copenhagen Accord was never adopted.

Nevertheless, the Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015, built on the idea of countries submitting national climate pledges, but removed the Annex I/non-Annex I distinction. It states that 'each Party shall prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions [NDCs] that it intends to achieve.' In other words, all Parties are obliged to communicate pledges — including the Party's intended mitigation actions for the next five years, and possibly information on adaptation, loss and damage, finance, technology and capacity building plans and/or needs — on a five-yearly basis. There are some exemptions for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), with paragraph 6 holding that LDCs and Small Island Developing States may prepare and communicate strategies, plans and actions for low greenhouse gases that reflect their special circumstances.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support to LDCs for the development of NDCs:

- Developed country Parties
- All Parties, with respect to technology transfer and capacity building
- Operating entities of the UNFCCC's financial mechanism
- Other organisations in a position to do so
- Global Environment Facility

Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation.' Paragraph 2 encourages other Parties to provide support on a voluntary basis.

The provision of finance should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation and

### Who is mandated to provide NDC support to LDCs?

The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 5) provides that support will be provided to help developing countries prepare, communicate and maintain their NDCs in accordance with Articles 9, 10 and 11.

Article 9 (paragraph 1) provides that 'developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country

take into account country-driven strategies and the priorities and needs of developing country Parties, explicitly referring to the LDCs (paragraph 4). This indicates that developed countries should provide finance to help develop NDCs' mitigation and adaptation components, and loss and damage to the extent this is included within the adaptation component of an LDC's NDC.

Paragraph 15 of the decision implementing the Paris Agreement (Decision 1/CP.21) also reiterates the call for developed country Parties, operating entities of the financial mechanism and any other organisations in a position to do so to provide support for NDC preparation and communication.

Decision 8/CP.21 recognises support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to help 46 developing countries in preparing their NDCs and encourages the GEF to continue providing such support (paragraph 11). In particular, the GEF is asked to consider how to support developing country Parties to formulate policies, strategies, programmes and projects to implement activities that advance priorities identified in their NDCs (paragraph 12).

Article 10 of the Paris Agreement relates to technology development and transfer. Paragraph 2 contains a general obligation on all Parties to strengthen cooperative action on technology development and transfer. As developed country Parties have access to technology — which would help LDCs develop or implement their NDC (under Articles 4 and 3 respectively) — they are expected to cooperate in facilitating technology development and transfer. But there is no firm obligation to this effect.

Article 11 of the Paris Agreement, paragraph 3 provides that ‘all Parties should cooperate to enhance the capacity of developing country Parties to implement this agreement’ and ‘developed country Parties should enhance support for capacity-building actions in developing country Parties.’ This provision could be particularly helpful to LDCs seeking support to develop the institutional capacity they need to prepare comprehensive NDCs, and would help build LDC capacity to implement their NDCs. Paragraph 1 of Article 11 specifically identifies LDCs as countries that should receive capacity-building support to take effective climate change action, including to implement adaptation and mitigation actions, among other things.

#### How is this support to be delivered?

Finance from developed country Parties is to be mobilised from a variety of sources, instruments and

channels and using a variety of different actions, while recognising the significant role of public funds (Paris Agreement Article 9, paragraph 4). Although there are no clear provisions for how finance will be made available, options include obtaining finance on a bilateral basis, through private sector investment or through multilateral funds such as the GEF and Green Climate Fund. The latter option would be more suited to larger projects related to NDC implementation.

LDCs may apply to the GEF for funding to develop future NDCs. Depending on the anticipated cost involved with developing the NDC, different procedures apply. The procedures and modalities for accessing GEF funding can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yancbms5>

The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) offers assistance in accessing technology transfer and development opportunities. For more information on how to submit a technical assistance request to CTCN, see: [www.ctc-n.org/technical-assistance/submit-request](http://www.ctc-n.org/technical-assistance/submit-request)

Capacity building support is available bilaterally or from international climate funds such as the GEF. Policy guidance and recommendations for enhancing cooperation on capacity building falls within the mandate of the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB). For more information on the PCCB, see: [http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_and\\_support/capacity\\_building/items/10257.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_and_support/capacity_building/items/10257.php)

## Additional resources

### Websites



CTCN. [www.ctc-n.org](http://www.ctc-n.org)

Global Environment Facility. [www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org)

Green Climate Fund: [www.greenclimate.fund](http://www.greenclimate.fund)

### Publications



GEF (2016) GEF project and program cycle policy. GEF/C.50/08/Rev.01.

See <https://tinyurl.com/yancbms5>

## References



UNFCCC (2009) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its 15th session, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 19 December 2009. FCCC/CP/2009/11/Add.1. (Copenhagen Accord).

UNFCCC (2015) Decision 1/CP.21: Adoption of the Paris Agreement (adopted 12 December 2015, entered into force 4 November 2016).

UNFCCC (2015) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its 21st session, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1. (Decisions 1/CP.21 and 8/CP.21).

# National adaptation programmes of action

## Context

One of the major decisions adopted in 2001 as part of seventh Conference of the Parties' (COP7's) Marrakesh Accords has to do with the implementation of the UNFCCC's Article 4.9. Parties established a work programme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and an important part of this work programme has been to support the preparation of national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) (Decision 5/CP.7).

These NAPAs are to serve as a simplified and direct channel of communication for information relating to LDCs' vulnerabilities, priority adaptation needs and concerns. As explained in the guidelines for the preparation of NAPAs (contained in Decision 28/CP.7), the rationale for developing NAPAs rests on the low adaptive capacity of LDCs, which renders them in need of immediate and urgent support to start adapting to current and projected effects of climate change. The guidelines state that activities proposed through NAPAs would be those whose further delay could increase vulnerability or lead to increased costs at a later stage.

NAPAs are presented in the form of a document specifying a list of priority activities, with a concise justification based on a tight set of criteria (Decision 28/CP.7). Parties are clear that the document is not an end in itself, but rather a means for LDC Parties to disseminate its proposed programme of action to address its urgent needs for adaptation.

Characteristics of NAPAs (as outlined in the guidelines for the preparation of NAPAs):

- A.** Easy to understand
- B.** Action-oriented and country-driven, and
- C.** Set clear priorities for urgent and immediate adaptation activities as identified by the countries.

They usually follow the following structure:

- 1.** An introductory section that covers background information about the country. It will outline current characteristics, key environmental stresses and how climate change and climate variability adversely affect biophysical processes and key sectors.
- 2.** A section laying out the framework for the adaptation programme, and its relationship to the country's socioeconomic development goals. Here, the country provides an overview of climate variability and observed and projected climate change, as well as associated actual and potential adverse effects. This information is normally based on existing and ongoing studies and research, and/or empirical and historical information as well as traditional knowledge. It describes the NAPA's goals, objectives and strategies and potential barriers to implementation.
- 3.** A section identifying key adaptation needs, including past and current adaptation practices, to address the country's specific vulnerabilities. It identifies relevant adaptation options, including capacity building, policy reform, integration into sectoral policies and project-level activities.
- 4.** A presentation of locally-driven criteria used for selected priority adaptation activities, including, for example: level or degree of adverse effects of climate change; poverty reduction to enhance adaptive capacity; synergy with other multilateral environmental agreements; and/or cost effectiveness. These are then applied to: loss of life and livelihood; human health; food security and agriculture; water availability, quality and accessibility; essential infrastructure; cultural heritage; biological diversity; land use management and forestry; other environmental amenities; coastal zones and associated loss of land; and others.
- 5.** A section listing priority activities based on the selected criteria.
- 6.** A section describing the NAPA development process, including the process of consultations, methods for evaluating and monitoring, institutional arrangements and the mechanism of endorsement by the national government.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs:

- Developed country parties
- Least Developed Countries Fund
- Global Environment Facility
- Least Developed Countries Expert Group

Decision 5/CP.7 invites developed country Parties to contribute financially to the LDC work programme, which includes NAPAs. It also specifies that this support should be provided through the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF, see page 36).

Also at COP7, Parties established the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG, see page 34) to support LDC Parties in their work related to NAPAs.

All LDCs have completed their NAPAs and have started to implement the priority activities identified in them.

#### How has support for NAPAs been provided, and has it been adequate?

Although the NAPA preparation process took time (LDCs took almost four years on average to complete their reports), developed country Parties, through the LDCF, have supported all LDCs in this work. It represents a significant achievement, as the NAPA preparation projects were the first experience in climate change adaptation planning for many LDCs

(COWI and IIED 2009). The NAPA documents are clear political statements of adaptation needs and priorities; a first step towards enabling future adaptation action in LDCs. The LDCF has since committed resources towards projects that support the implementation of these NAPAs.

But LDCs still do not get support for the full implementation of NAPAs. Implementing all the LDCs' NAPAs will cost at least US\$2 — a very conservative estimate based on early NAPA submissions, which had a tendency to underestimate adaptation costs (LEG 2009). Others have argued that the US\$2 billion LEG estimate excludes co-financing, and put NAPA costs closer to US\$5 billion, with co-financing (Ciplet *et al.* 2013). Yet the LDCF has received only US\$1.17 billion since its establishment. Although support for NAPA implementation is also provided through channels other than the LDCF, the LDCs' NAPAs remain under-funded.

NAPAs outline the LDCs' most urgent and immediate adaptation priorities and needs. But as time passes, these priorities and needs and their associated costs will continue to escalate to levels far beyond what is contained in the NAPAs, and priorities will probably change (COWI and IIED 2009). Financial support for the implementation of NAPAs needs to be scaled up and delivered without further delay.

Beyond financial support, the LEG has produced a number of outputs and convened trainings and workshops to support LDCs in their NAPA work. A step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs (produced in collaboration with the GEF and its agencies) can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yauzpqek>

## Additional resources



### Websites

NAPA priorities database. <https://tinyurl.com/ycrslghm>

## References

---



COWI and IIED (2009) Operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund for adaptation to climate change. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. See [www.oecd.org/derec/denmark/43989776.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/derec/denmark/43989776.pdf)

Ciplet, D, Roberts, T, Jarju, P, Abeyasinghe, A, Durand, A, Kopin, D, Santiago, O, Madden, K and Purdom, S (2013) A burden to share? Addressing unequal impacts in the Least Developed Countries. IIED, London.

Global Environment Facility (2017) Progress report on the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). GEF, Washington DC. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/03/Rev.01.

Green Climate Fund (2015) Decision B.11/04, Agenda item 20: Readiness programme implementation (progress report).

Green Climate Fund (2016) Decisions of the Board – thirteenth meeting of the Board, 28–30 June 2016. GCF/B.13/32/Rev.01 (Decision B13/09).

Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2009) Support needed to fully implement national adaptation programmes of action. UNFCCC. See [http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/09\\_ldc\\_sn\\_napa.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/09_ldc_sn_napa.pdf)

Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012) National adaptation plans: technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process. LDC Expert Group, December 2012. See <https://tinyurl.com/yicsbjej8>

UNFCCC (2002) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held at Marrakesh from 29 October to 10 November 2001. FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1 and FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4 (Decisions 5/CP.7 and 28/CP.7)



# National adaptation plans

## Context

At the 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16), Parties established the Cancún Adaptation Framework, with the objective of enhancing action on adaptation (Decision 1/CP.16). As part of this framework, Parties launched a process for Least Developed Country (LDC) Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs).

These would build on the LDCs' experience in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs, see page 13) to identify medium- and long-term adaptation needs. They would also serve to develop and implement strategies and programmes to address those needs.

Although Parties launched this process with LDCs in mind, the COP also invited non-LDC developing country Parties to develop NAPs as part of their adaptation planning efforts.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for the NAP process:

- Developed country Parties
- Least Developed Countries Fund
- Global Environment Facility
- Green Climate Fund
- Least Developed Countries Expert Group
- Adaptation Committee
- Other UNFCCC bodies, as relevant
- UN organisations, specialised agencies and other relevant organisations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies
- National and regional centres and networks

### Who is mandated to provide support to LDCs for NAPs?

In Decision 1/CP.16 (paragraph 18), the COP requested that developed country Parties provide developing country Parties with long-term, scaled-up, predictable, new and additional finance, as well as technology and capacity building to enable them

undertake activities related to the NAP process.

One year later, when it reiterated this request, the COP urged developed country Parties to mobilise financial support for LDCs through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF, see page 36) (Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 21). It asked the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), through the LDCF, to consider how to enable activities for LDCs to prepare for the NAP process (paragraph 22), while maintaining progress for the LDC work programme. The LDCF's mandate is to support this programme.

At COP18, Parties provided more specific guidance to the LDCF and GEF to support this work. The COP agreed that the GEF should provide funding through the LDCF to meet the agreed full cost of activities to enable LDCs to prepare the NAP process (while still supporting LDCs in developing and implementing their NAPAs) (Decision 12/CP.18, paragraph 1a and 1b). It also agreed that the GEF should encourage a flexible approach that enables LDCs to access funding for components of the NAP process, as identified by LDC Parties themselves, to respond to their national needs and circumstances (paragraph 1c).



COP17 called upon the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) (Decision 5/CP.17, paragraphs 13–14) to prepare technical guidelines for the NAP process (paragraph 15). It further requested Parties and other United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) bodies — namely the Adaptation Committee — to support the NAP process together with the LEG (paragraph 17).

Institutions outside of the UNFCCC can also be involved. At COP17, Parties invited national and regional centres and networks to strengthen their programmes and support the NAP process at the regional, national and subnational levels. Decision 5/CP.17 said they should do this in a country-driven manner that encourages cooperation and coordination between regional stakeholders (paragraph 18). The decision also invited UN organisations, specialised agencies, other relevant organisations, bilateral and multilateral agencies to support the process and consider establishing NAP support programmes that could facilitate financial and technical support to LDCs (paragraph 23).

The COP continued to reiterate the above provisions for financial and technical support to LDCs for the NAP process at subsequent conferences. The Green Climate Fund (GCF, see page 40) entered the picture at COP20, as another fund that could support Parties in the NAP formulation and implementation process (Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 11). The following year, the COP asked the GCF to consider how to improve access to financial support for NAPs (Decision 4/CP.21, paragraph 9) and requested the LEG and Adaptation Committee to consider how they can provide more information on accessing NAP funding from the GCF (paragraph 10).

### How is support being delivered?

LDCs and other developing countries are in the early stages of developing their NAPs. Burkina Faso was the first country to submit a NAP; Sudan has also submitted its NAP; Benin, Bhutan, Nepal and Zambia are all in the process of formulating theirs (Abeyasinghe *et al.* 2017).

The LEG issued mandated technical guidelines for the NAP process (see <https://tinyurl.com/ybg8pmuv>) in December 2012. It has also published a number of papers to support LDCs in this process. For further details, see page 34).

To date, developed country Parties have contributed US\$1.17 billion to the LDCF (GEF 2017), which has disbursed US\$47.1 million of this total for activities related to the NAP process in Senegal, Chad, Niger and Bangladesh. It has also supported technical assistance provided through the LDCF-financed NAP Global Support Programme (GEF 2017). See page 36 for information on how to access LDCF financing.

The GCF Board decided that its readiness and preparatory support programme could support voluntary country-driven NAP processes in coordination with other programmes and channels (Decision B.11/04). At its 13th meeting, the Board approved up to US\$3 million per country through this programme to support the formulation of NAPs and/or other national adaptation planning processes (Decision B.13/09). See page 40 for information on how to access financing through the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.

The United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme established the NAP Global Support Programme (NAP-GSP) for LDCs in 2013. The programme's objective is to assist LDCs in bringing greater focus and attention to medium- and long-term climate change adaptation planning and budgeting. It provides one-on-one institutional support to countries to sensitise national stakeholders, undertake stock-takes and facilitate NAP roadmaps. It also delivers training on relevant tools, methods and guidelines to support effective adaptation planning and enables knowledge sharing to enhance international and regional cooperation. For more information on the NAP-GSP, see <http://globalsupportprogramme.org/nap-gsp>

The UNFCCC organises an annual NAP Expo (subject to available budget). The LEG usually plays a leading role in this event, which is meant to provide a platform for interactions between Parties and non-Party stakeholders on advancing the NAP process. Participants share experiences, best practice, lessons and information about gaps, needs and challenges that have emerged from their NAP-related activities. It is also an opportunity for countries to interact with support providers, including the GCF, GEF and bilateral agencies. Four NAP Expos have taken place so far; the fifth is due to be held in April 2018 in Bonn. For more information on the NAP Expos, see: <https://tinyurl.com/y8ujtmq9>

## Additional resources

### Websites



UNFCCC NAPs. [http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/national\\_adaptation\\_plans/items/6057.php](http://unfccc.int/adaptation/workstreams/national_adaptation_plans/items/6057.php)

UNFCCC guidelines for NAPs. <https://tinyurl.com/ybg8pmuv>

NAP poster. [http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/nap\\_poster.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/nap_poster.pdf)

NAP Central. [www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/Home.aspx](http://www4.unfccc.int/nap/Pages/Home.aspx)

### Publications



Abeyesinghe, A *et al.* (2017) National adaptation plans: understanding mandates and sharing experiences.

See: <http://pubs.iied.org/10180IIED>

This paper considers the benefits and challenges of implementing a national mandate to provide the impetus to develop a NAP, assign responsibilities and encourage cross-sectoral participation, exploring the legal forms such a mandate could take and sharing experiences from LDCs undergoing the NAP process.

LEG (2012) The NAP process: a brief overview. See <https://tinyurl.com/ybc44uqo>

## References

Abeyesinghe, A., Dambacher, B., Byrnes, R. (2017) National adaptation plans: understanding mandates and sharing experiences. IIED, London. See: <http://pubs.iied.org/10180IIED>

Global Environment Facility (2017) Progress report on the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). GEF, Washington DC. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/03/Rev.01.

See <https://tinyurl.com/y93yaywn>

Green Climate Fund (2015) Decision B.11/04, agenda item 20: Readiness programme implementation (progress report).

Green Climate Fund (2016) Decisions of the Board – thirteenth meeting of the Board, 28–30 June 2016. GCF/B.13/32/Rev.01 (Decision B.13/09)



Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012) National adaptation plans: technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process. LDC Expert Group, December 2012. See <https://tinyurl.com/yicsbjej8>

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.2. (Decision 1/CP.16)

UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1. (Decision 5/CP.17)

UNFCCC (2013) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighteenth session, held in Doha from 26 November to 8 December 2012. FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.2. (Decision 12/CP.18)

UNFCCC (2015) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twentieth session, held in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014. FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2. (Decision 3/CP.20)

UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1. (Decision 4/CP.21)

# Nationally appropriate mitigation actions

## Context

In Cancún in 2010, the Conference of the Parties (COP) agreed that developing country Parties would take nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in the context of sustainable development, designed to achieve a deviation in emissions relative to business-as-usual emissions in 2020. (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 48).

Developing countries were invited to voluntarily communicate their NAMAs to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat (paragraph 50) and submit information on their NAMAs for which they were seeking support (paragraph 54). Parties who had not yet communicated NAMAs by 2013 at COP19 were urged to do so (Decision 1/CP.19).

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for NAMAs:

- Developed country Parties
- Annex II developed country Parties
- Climate Technology Centre and Network
- UNFCCC secretariat
- Entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism, including the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund
- Multilateral, bilateral and other public donors
- Private organisations
- Non-governmental organisations

### Who is mandated to provide support to NAMAs?

Paragraph 52 states that, in accordance with developed countries' obligations under Article 4 (paragraph 3) of the Convention, developed country Parties will provide financial, technological and capacity-building support for the preparation and implementation of NAMAs and to assist developing countries with NAMA reporting. This obligation was reiterated at COP19 in 2013, where developed country Parties were encouraged to provide support — including financial, technical and

capacity-building support — to address specific nationally determined capacity-building needs relating to NAMAs. Developed country Parties were also urged to increase technological, financial and capacity-building support to help developing country Parties increase their mitigation ambition.

The UNFCCC secretariat set up a registry to record the NAMAs that seek international support, to help match offers of financial, technological and capacity-

building support from developed countries to the expressed needs of developing countries. Developed country Parties were also invited to submit to the secretariat information on support they can offer and support that they have provided for NAMAs (paragraph 55).

Decision 2/CP.17 elaborated on this by encouraging developed country Parties; the entities entrusted with operating the financial mechanism, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF); multilateral, bilateral and other public donors; and private and non-governmental organisations in a position to do so — to communicate to the secretariat information on the support available and/or support that has been provided for the development of NAMAs. This information covers: whether the support is for NAMA preparation and/or implementation; the source of the support, including the name and contact information of the entity channelling it; the amount and type of support available; delivery status; the types of actions they might support; and the process for providing the support (paragraph 48).

This invitation was reiterated in Decision 16/CP.18 (paragraph 2), along with an invitation for developing countries to submit information on further NAMAs seeking international support (paragraph 3). Paragraph 5 emphasised the importance of this information in helping the registry match projects seeking support with support available.

Decision 1/CP.18 also asked that, at the request of interested developing country Parties, the secretariat should organise regional technical workshops and prepare technical material to help build capacity to prepare, submit and implement NAMAs.

In 2011, Decision 3/CP.17, which launched the GCF, provided that it would support developing countries in pursuing project-based and programmatic approaches in accordance with climate change strategies and plans, including NAMAs.

In 2013, COP19 developed the modalities and procedures for the Climate Technology Centre and Network. Annex I (paragraph 4) provided that the network should support countries develop draft proposals into fully articulated proposals, including in the form of NAMAs, to enable implementation and action.

### How is this support delivered?

Developing countries may apply to the GEF for funding to develop and implement their NAMAs.<sup>2</sup> Funding from the GEF is accessed through partnership with one of the GEF's partner agencies. A list of GEF partners can be found here: [www.thegef.org/partners/gef-agencies](http://www.thegef.org/partners/gef-agencies).

Depending on the anticipated cost of developing the NAMA, different procedures apply. For example, funding for NAMA development would be considered an enabling activity, while implementing a NAMA would probably classify as a full-sized project, if the project costs are more than US\$2 million). Project classification templates can be found here: [www.thegef.org/documents/templates](http://www.thegef.org/documents/templates). The procedures and modalities for accessing

GEF funding can be found in the GEF project and program cycle policy report (GEF 2016).

In 2012, Germany and the UK jointly established the NAMA Facility. Denmark and the European Commission have since joined them in supporting the facility. While not an official entity involved with operation of the financial mechanism, the NAMA Facility is designed to support developing countries "that show leadership on tackling climate change and that want to implement ambitious climate protection measures (NAMAs)."<sup>3</sup> The NAMA Facility's fourth call for projects closed on 31 October 2016, with seven support projects (in Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines, Thailand, Tunisia and Uganda) selected to receive a share of the available €59 million funding for the detailed NAMA preparation phase.

While the GCF is a possible vehicle for financing NAMAs, a recent update on the status of NAMAs found disbursement of funds from the GCF to be slow and complicated and recommended the simplification of GCF procedures (Bosquet *et al.* 2016).

With respect to bilateral support, the UNFCCC NAMA registry aims to match NAMAs that seek support with offers of support from developed country Parties, entities of the financial mechanism, international organisations, and private sector and non-governmental organisations. To view the support available, access the NAMA registry here: [www4.unfccc.int/sites/nama/SitePages/Home.aspx](http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nama/SitePages/Home.aspx)

## Additional resources

### Websites



GEF, GEF Agencies. [www.thegef.org/partners/gef-agencies](http://www.thegef.org/partners/gef-agencies)

GEF, Nationally appropriate mitigation actions in the energy generation and end-use sectors. <https://tinyurl.com/y9dl5w6p>

NAMA Facility. [www.nama-facility.org](http://www.nama-facility.org)

NAMA registry. [www4.unfccc.int/sites/nama/SitePages/Home.aspx](http://www4.unfccc.int/sites/nama/SitePages/Home.aspx)

## References



Bosquet, M *et al.* (2016) Status report on nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs): mid-year update 2016" (ECN ECOFYS)

GEF (2016) GEF project and program cycle policy. In GEF. 50th GEF council meeting, GEF/C.50/08/Rev.01, Washington DC.

UNFCCC (2010) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 (Decision 1/CP.16).

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1 (Decisions 2/CP.17 and 3/CP.17).

UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighteenth session, held in Doha from 26 November to 8 December 2012. FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.1 (Decisions 1/CP.18 and 16/CP.18).

# Technology needs assessments

## Context

At the seventh Conference of the Parties (COP7) in 2001, Parties established a technology transfer framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (specifically Article 4.5), by increasing and improving the transfer of and access to environmentally sound technologies (ESTs) and know-how (Decision 4/CP.7). Technology needs and technology needs assessments (TNAs) are key themes of this framework.

As defined in the annex of Decision 4/CP.7, a TNA generates a set of country-driven activities to identify and determine developing country Parties' mitigation and adaptation technology priorities. Various stakeholders are involved in a consultative process to identify the barriers to technology transfer and measures to address these barriers through sectoral analyses.

The purpose of TNAs is to help Parties identify and analyse priority technology needs, which can form the basis of a portfolio of EST projects and programmes. In turn, these can facilitate the transfer of — and access to — ESTs and know-how.

The COP encouraged developing country Parties to undertake these assessments, subject to the provision of resources. It further encouraged them to make available information on the results of their TNAs in their national communications (see page 6) and other related national reports and channels.

The TNA process has evolved since 2001. While the first round of submitted TNAs focused mainly on developing a clearer understanding of the technological needs and priorities of developing country Parties to address climate change, the second wave (beginning in 2009) has focused on implementing projects and programmes that respond to those needs and priorities (UNFCCC 2017). The latter include technology action plans (TAPs).

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for the TNA process:

- Developed country Parties
- Global Environment Facility
- Special Climate Change Fund
- Technology Executive Committee
- Climate Technology Centre and Network
- UN agencies and other relevant organisations

### Who supports developing country Parties in developing TNAs?

The COP requested the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as an operating entity of the Convention's financial mechanism, to provide financial support for implementing the technology transfer framework (Decision 4/CP.7) through its climate change focal area and its Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF).

It further urged developed country Parties to provide technical and financial assistance, as appropriate, through existing bilateral and multilateral cooperative programmes to support the efforts of the Parties in implementing the programmes and measures identified in the technology transfer framework.



Specifically on the TNA process, the COP urged developed country Parties to facilitate and support developing country Parties, recognising the special circumstances of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (Decision 4/CP.7, annex). It also encouraged other organisations in a position to do so to help developing country Parties facilitate the TNA process.

### Other sources of support

In Cancún in 2010, the COP established the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) as the policy arm of the technology mechanism (Decision 1/CP.16). In accordance with its mandate, the TEC analyses TNAs and develops guidance for countries to enhance the effectiveness and utility of the TNA process. The TEC has produced policy briefs on results and success factors of TNAs (TEC 2013a) and integrating the TNA, nationally appropriate mitigation action (NAMA) and national adaptation plan (NAP) processes (TEC 2013b). They are available here <https://tinyurl.com/y8f4vsvq> and [herehttps://tinyurl.com/yagvrrgg](https://tinyurl.com/yagvrrgg)

Also in Cancún, the COP created the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) as the operational arm of the technology mechanism (Decision 1/CP.16). It provides support on request to countries for the TNA process and can play a key role in supporting the implementation of TNA outcomes. Nationally designated entities (NDEs) (in other words, focal points) must submit requests for technical assistance to the CTCN, so it is crucial that Parties appoints their NDEs. For further information on the CTCN, see [www.ctc-n.org](http://www.ctc-n.org)

The CTCN also manages an incubator programme specifically for LDCs, to support the implementation of climate change actions in nationally determined contributions (NDCs) through technology interventions. Through this programme, LDCs can develop technology roadmaps (building on their TNA, if available), which will in turn facilitate the development of concept notes for bankable projects and programmes that can be submitted to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). If the country requesting support does not yet have a TNA, the incubator programme can provide support for developing this (as part of the

road map). For further information, see [www.ctc-n.org/capacity-building/request-incubator](http://www.ctc-n.org/capacity-building/request-incubator)

Developing country Parties can also access support through the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (see page 40). This programme aims to enhance country ownership and access to the fund by providing resources to strengthen the capacities of GCF nationally designated authorities or focal points and direct access entities to engage efficiently with the fund. On request, it can also support countries to develop TNAs and TAPs as well as technological elements of NDCs, NAPs and NAMAs.

### How is support provided?

Between 2001 and 2008, the GEF provided support for the formulation of developing countries' TNAs, with the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the United Nations Development Programme supporting country projects as implementing agencies (UNFCCC 2017).

In 2009, developing country Parties started accessing support from the GEF's Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer, with UN Environment becoming the main implementing entity in partnership with the Technical University of Denmark. Phase I of the GEF-funded TNA global project ran until 2013. Participating LDC countries included Mali, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Zambia, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos and Nepal. Phase II has been implemented since 2014 and includes Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Gambia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Tanzania, Togo and Laos. Phase III is due to begin at the end of 2017 or in early 2018 and will involve the Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Niger, São Tomé e Príncipe, Uganda, Afghanistan, Myanmar and Haiti.

The GEF-UN Environment-Technical University of Denmark partnership has produced a series of guidebooks on TNAs, available here: [www.tech-action.org/Publications/TNA-Guidebooks](http://www.tech-action.org/Publications/TNA-Guidebooks)

All submitted TNAs can be found here: <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/tna/reports.html>

## Additional resources

---

### Publications



Publications on TNA success stories are available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y7mux9ud> (2017) and here <http://tinyurl.com/ycewwul2> (2016).

TNA guidance is available on UNFCCC website: <http://unfccc.int/ttclear/tna/guidance.html>

Parties have asked the secretariat to prepare synthesis reports of submitted TNAs.

These can be found here:

1st report (2006): <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2006/sbsta/eng/inf01.pdf>

2nd report (2009): <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sbsta/eng/inf01.pdf>

3rd report (2013): <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/sbsta/eng/inf07.pdf>

## References

---



TEC (2013a) Results and success factors of TNAs.

TEC (2013b) Possible integration of the TNA process with the NAMA and NAP processes.

UNFCCC (2002) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held at Marrakech from 29 October to 10 November 2001. FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1 (Decision 4/CP.7).

UNFCCC (2010) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 (Decision 1/CP.16).

UNFCCC (2017) Technology needs assessment: pathways for climate tech implementation.

# Paris Committee on Capacity Building

## Context

In the lead-up to COP-21, developing country Parties, and especially the LDCs, fought hard for an institutional mechanism to coordinate and implement capacity building activities.

The argument they gave for this was that all other major thematic issues under the UNFCCC (such as adaptation, finance, technology) had an institution or

mechanism dedicated for coordinating their respective activities, but this was currently missing for capacity building. Capacity building activities were consequently not undertaken in a systematic and coordinated way.

While the Paris Agreement itself does not respond to this key ask of developing countries, the COP did establish the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) through decision 1/CP.21. The aim of the PCCB, it agreed, is to address gaps and needs, both current and emerging, in implementing capacity building in developing country Parties, and in further enhancing capacity building efforts.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to support or collaborate with the PCCB:

- Subsidiary Body for Implementation
- Relevant bodies established under the Convention (Adaptation Committee, Least Developed Countries Expert Group, Standing Committee on Finance, Technology Executive Committee)
- Operating entities of the Financial Mechanism (Global Environment Facility and Green Climate Fund)

### What is the role of the PCCB in supporting developing country Parties?

Parties launched a workplan for the 2016-2020 period, contained in paragraph 73 of decision 1/CP.21. It includes the following activities:

- Assessing how to increase synergies through cooperation and avoid duplication among existing Convention bodies that implement capacity building activities, including through collaborating with institutions under and outside the Convention;
- Identifying capacity gaps and needs and recommending ways to address them;

- Promoting the development and dissemination of tools and methodologies for the implementation of capacity building;
- Fostering global, regional, national and subnational cooperation;
- Identifying and collecting good practices, challenges, experiences and lessons learned from work on capacity building by bodies under the Convention;
- Exploring how developing country Parties can take ownership of building and maintaining capacity over time and space;
- Identifying opportunities to strengthen capacity at the national, regional and subnational level;
- Fostering dialogue, coordination, collaboration and coherence among relevant processes and initiatives under the Convention, including through exchanging information on capacity building activities and strategies of bodies under the Convention;
- Providing guidance to the secretariat on the maintenance and further development of the web-based capacity building portal.

The PCCB is to manage and oversee this workplan.



Moreover, decision 1/CP.21 asks that each year, the PCCB focus on an area or theme related to enhanced technical exchange on capacity building, with the purpose of maintaining up-to-date knowledge on the successes and challenges in building capacity effectively in a particular area. The focus area or theme for 2017 is capacity building activities for the implementation of nationally determined contributions in the context of the Paris Agreement (SBI-45 conclusions).

The COP tasked the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) with organising annual

in-session PCCB meetings. The first meeting took place in May 2017.

There are twelve PCCB members: one from each of the five UN regional groups, one member that is a LDC Party, and one member that is a SIDS Party. In addition, six representatives from Convention bodies and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism are invited to participate in the PCCB meetings. The full terms of reference for the PCCB were adopted in Marrakech and are contained in decision 2/CP.22.

## Additional resources



### Websites

UNFCCC PCCB webpage. <http://tinyurl.com/y9c5p4ny>

## References



UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.2. (Decision 1/CP.21).

UNFCCC (2017) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-second session, held in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016. FCCC/CP.2016/10/Add.1. (Decision 2/CP.22).

UNFCCC (2017) Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its forty-fifth session, held in Marrakech from 7 to 15 November 2016. FCCC/SBI/2016/20. (Paragraph 91).

# Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation: REDD+

## Context

At the 13th Conference of the Parties (COP13) in 2007, Parties were encouraged to support ongoing efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), and to support this by exploring a range of actions, identifying options and undertaking efforts to address drivers of deforestation (Decision 2/CP.13, paragraphs 1 and 3).

The Cancún Agreements in 2010 further fleshed out this obligation, encouraging Parties to contribute to

mitigation actions by reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conserving forest carbon stocks, sustainably managing forests and enhancing forest carbon stocks (REDD+) (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70).

Developing country Parties were requested to undertake these activities in the context of the provision of adequate support to assist with developing a national strategy or plan, a national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level, a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system and a system for providing information on how the safeguards outlined in Appendix 1 to the decision are being addressed (1/CP.16, paragraph 71).

REDD+ finance also includes results-based finance in the context of achieving the activities outlined above. To receive results-based finance developing countries must fully measure, report and verify their actions.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for REDD+:

- Parties in a position to do so
- Developed country Parties
- Green Climate Fund
- Operating entities of the financial mechanism

### Who supports Parties for REDD+?

Parties in a position to do so were encouraged to support capacity building, provide technical assistance and facilitate technology transfer to help improve data collection, emission estimation, monitoring and reporting and to address developing

countries' institutional needs in relation to REDD (Decision 2/CP.13, paragraph 2). This was reiterated in Decision 4/CP.15, with Parties in a position to do so encouraged to support and strengthen developing countries' capacity to collect, access, analyse and interpret data; and both Parties in a position to do so and international organisations invited to enhance capacity building related to REDD (paragraphs 4 and 5). Decision 1/CP.16 urged Parties —particularly developed country Parties — to support the development of national strategies or action plans, policies and measures, and capacity building as well

as the implementation of such plans, through multilateral and bilateral channels (paragraph 76).

When the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was launched in 2011 at COP17, its mandate included financing agreed full and incremental costs for activities to enable and support enhanced action on, among other things, mitigation, and REDD+ in particular (Decision 3/CP.17, Annex, paragraph 35).

In the same year, Decision 2/CP.17 provided that developing country Parties may receive results-based finance that is new, additional and predictable from a wide variety of sources, including private, public, bilateral, multilateral and alternative sources (paragraph 65). Entities of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s financial mechanism were encouraged to provide results-based finance for REDD+ (paragraph 68).

At COP19 in 2013, it was reiterated that results-based finance provided to developing countries Parties for the purposes of REDD+ may come from a wide variety of sources, including private, public, bilateral, multilateral and alternative sources (Decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 1). Developing countries seeking

results-based finance should provide a summary of the most recent information on how they have addressed the safeguards relating to REDD+ in Appendix I to Decision 1/CP.16 (paragraph 4).

Entities financing REDD+ activities, including the GCF, were encouraged to collectively channel adequate and predictable results-based finance in a fair and balanced manner (paragraph 5). They should also continue to provide financial resources to alternative policy approaches, such as joint mitigation and adaptation approaches to sustainably manage forests (Decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 8).

### How is support for REDD+ provided?

Support for REDD+ may come in the form of capacity-building support or results-based payments for successful conservation of forests. Mandates for capacity building support to be provided by:

- Collecting data and estimating emissions from REDD+ activities: Parties in a position to do so and international organisations (decision 2/CP.13, paragraph 2; and Decision 4/CP.15, paragraphs 4 and 5), and
- Planning, policies and preparing for implementation of REDD+: Parties, in particular developed country Parties (Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 76).

With regards to the latter, Decision 1/CP.16 explicitly provided that support could be made available through multilateral and bilateral channels. In the case of the other mandates, there was no explicit provision for how support should be provided, so both bilateral and multilateral channels would probably be suitable. The GCF also has a mandate to support enhanced action on REDD+. This is expressed generally, so

probably includes both support in implementing REDD+ activities and results-based payments after the fact. To access results-based payments, developing country Parties must fully measure, report and verify the impacts of their REDD+ actions (Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 64). Parties could draw on capacity building support for collecting data and estimating emissions from REDD+ for this purpose.

With respect to results-based payments, Decision 9/CP.19 provided that the GCF was to have a key role in channelling funds in a predictable, fair and balanced manner, taking into account different policy approaches. Methodologies for determining results-based payments are set out in a number of decisions, including 4/CP.15, 1CP.16, 2/CP.17 and 11-15/CP.19. The GCF must follow these methodologies when providing results-based finance, so it is important for developing country recipients to be aware of these methodologies when carrying out REDD+ activities. These methodologies include guidance on monitoring, verification and reporting, data collection and technical data assessment.

Decision 9/CP.19 provides that results-based finance needs to be predictable, fair and balanced (paragraph 5) and may come from private, public, multilateral, bilateral or alternative sources (paragraph 1). Developing countries may therefore access results-based payments bilaterally from country donors, private enterprises or through multilateral funds.

In 2017, the GCF called for submissions on developing a request for proposals for REDD+ results-based payments. Inputs from the GCF Board and country Parties can be found here: [www.greenclimate.fund/reddplus-results-based-payments](http://www.greenclimate.fund/reddplus-results-based-payments). The first REDD+ payment through the GCF started in July 2017 (GCF 2017a).

## References

Green Climate Fund (4 July 2017a) GCF begins first REDD+ transfer. See <https://tinyurl.com/ybuctgyc>

Green Climate Fund, GCF Consultations on REDD+ results-based payments. <https://tinyurl.com/ybkpu3mx>

Green Climate Fund (2017b) Green Climate Fund support for the early phases of REDD-plus. Meeting of the Board held in Incheon from 5-6 July 2017. GCF/B.17/16. See <https://tinyurl.com/yd4plsly>

UNFCCC (2007) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its thirteenth session, held in Bali from 3 to 15 December 2007. FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1 (Decision 2/CP.13)

UNFCCC (2009) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its fifteenth session, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 19 December 2009. FCCC/CP/2009/11/Add.1 (Decision 4/CP.15)

UNFCCC (2010) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.1 (Decision 1/CP.16).

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1 (Decisions 2/CP.17 and 3/CP.17).

UNFCCC (2013) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its nineteenth session, held in Warsaw from 11 to 23 November 2013. FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 (Decision 9/CP.19).



# Clean development mechanism

## Context

Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol establishes the clean development mechanism (CDM) to help non-Annex I Parties achieve sustainable development goals and Annex I Parties achieve compliance with their quantified emission limitation and reduction

commitments under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol.

Non-Annex I Parties are to benefit from projects that result in certified emissions reductions (Article 12, paragraph 3a) and Annex I Parties can use the certified emissions reductions resulting from these project activities to contribute to compliance with article 3. Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can face challenges in attracting CDM investors due to low technical and institutional capacity.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for CDM:

- Implementing agency of the CDM loan scheme
- Green Climate Fund (Executive Board to explore opportunities to provide support)
- CDM Executive Board (mandated to support underrepresented countries in engaging with CDM)
- Secretariat (mandated to support underrepresented countries in engaging with CDM)
- Parties and institutions wishing to do so (voluntary contributions to CDM loan scheme)
- Designated operational entities (to establish offices in developing countries to reduce transaction costs)
- Project participants
- Annex I Parties (to provide capacity building and/or support for developing standardised baselines)
- Non-Annex I Parties with relevant experience (to provide capacity building and/or support for developing standardised baselines)
- Intergovernmental organisations (to support the development of broadly applicable methodologies)
- Non-governmental organisations (to support the development of broadly applicable methodologies)
- Industry and others (to support the development of broadly applicable methodologies)

### What are the areas of support related to the CDM?

The support provisions relating to the CDM encompass three areas of support: capacity building relating to CDM projects; support for the CDM loan scheme; and finance acquired directly through participation in the CDM itself.

#### *Capacity building*

In Decision 7/CMP.1 (paragraph 34) of 2005, the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) requested that Annex I Parties continue with measures to help non-Annex I Parties — particularly LDCs and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) — build capacity to facilitate their participation in the CDM. Decision 2/CMP.3 also asks Annex I Parties to support initiatives such as the Nairobi Framework on capacity building to address barriers to regional CDM project distribution. It also asks them to consider further financial support for start-up costs and demonstration projects, especially in LDCs, African countries and SIDS (paragraph 34).

In 2007, the CMP reiterated its encouragement to Parties, intergovernmental organisations, non-government organisations, industry and others to support project participants' development of broadly applicable methodologies governing CDM projects (Decision 2/CMP.3, paragraph 17). At CMP6, Annex I Parties and non-Annex I Parties with relevant experience were also encouraged to provide capacity

building and/or support for developing standardised baselines (Decision 3/CMP.6, paragraph 50).

The CDM's Executive Board was encouraged to strengthen the role of designated operational entities, who are responsible for approving CDM projects in countries where they are being implemented, and to provide secretarial and information technology support to members (Decision 2/CMP.3, paragraph 9).

Decision 2/CMP.5 (paragraph 55) asked the secretariat to enhance its support to designated national authorities in host countries by providing training opportunities for CDM stakeholders, facilitating information exchange and awareness raising, developing studies on CDM potential and organising subregional meetings of the Designated National Authorities Forum. This is reiterated in Decisions 10/CMP.7 (paragraph 31) and 4/CMP.8 (paragraph 50).

#### *Support to Parties with fewer than ten CDM projects*

At CMP.4 in 2008, Parties and private sector entities were encouraged to help countries — particularly LDCs, SIDS and African countries — with fewer than ten registered CDM project activities identify and develop project design documents and to meet the cost of validating these projects (Decision 2/CMP.4, paragraph 56).

Decision 2/CMP.5 (paragraph 49) asked the CDM Executive Board to use funds from interest accrued on the CDM Trust Fund and voluntary contributions from donors to support activities in countries with fewer than ten registered CDM project activities. This support was to cover the cost of developing project design documents and the cost of project validation and verification. This was reiterated in Annex III of Decision 3/CMP.6 (paragraph 1).

Paragraph 6 of Annex III (Decision 3/CMP.6) established a loan scheme to support activities in countries with fewer than ten registered CDM projects to further support these costs. The loan scheme was welcomed in Decision 5/CMP.8 (paragraph 48), while Decision 3/CMP.9 (paragraph 22) reiterates the invitation to Parties and institutions wishing to do so to make voluntary contributions to the CDM loan scheme. Decision 3/CMP.12 (paragraph 14) provides that the loan scheme's implementing agency may write off amounts disbursed under the scheme on a case-by-case basis, where it becomes evident it will not be feasible for the loan recipient to repay the funds.

#### *Participation in CDM*

Decision 10/CMP.7 explicitly relates to carbon capture and storage projects under the CDM.

Paragraph 19 provides that project participants shall provide financial resources to cover: the cost of ongoing monitoring of the geological storage site; the costs associated with any seepage; any remedial measures required by the laws of the host Party; and any other requirements determined by the host Party and agreed at the time of host Party approval and described in the project design document.

Decision 5/CMP.11 encouraged the Executive Board to explore opportunities for financing the CDM through international climate financing institutions such as the Green Climate Fund and report back at the 12th session of the CMP. But there were no clear recommendations on this point.

#### **The CDM Project Process?**

Decision 3/CMP.12 recognises that more than US\$300 billion has been invested in 7,700 projects across 95 countries under the CDM, with 1.7 billion certified emission reductions issued as a result (paragraph 3). To access the CDM, a project developer — this could be a government, non-governmental organisation, international organisation or private enterprise — needs to develop a project plan, which must be validated by the designated national authority of the host country, where the project will take place. Once the host country has validated the project, it can be registered with the CDM Executive Board. The project developer then implements the project and, based on monitoring and verification, will receive certified emission reduction credits upon completion of the project (UNDP 2003).

Further information on the rules governing the CDM can be found here:

<http://cdm.unfccc.int/Reference/index.html>

Information on the relevant methodologies can be found in the CDM Methodology Booklet here:

<http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/documentation/index.html>

Capacity building support can be undertaken bilaterally by Annex I Parties or other Parties with relevant experience. The secretariat is also mandated to provide capacity building support through various training activities as outlined above.

So far, 78 loans have been approved under the CDM loan scheme, to a total of approximately US\$6.2 million (paragraph 3(g)). There are two annual deadlines for processing CDM loan applications. Loan applications are processed by the CDM's Technical Review Committee and decisions are non-appealable.<sup>4</sup> Countries with less than ten registered CDM projects are eligible to apply to the loan scheme. The process for applying for a loan can be viewed here: <http://cdmloanscheme.org/procedure/loan-application-process>.

4. "Application Timeline," CDM Loan Scheme, accessed August 15, 2017, <http://cdmloanscheme.org/procedure/application-timeline>.

## Additional resources

---

### Websites



UNFCCC CDM website . <http://cdm.unfccc.int>

CDM loan scheme website. <http://cdmloanscheme.org>

Climate Neutral Now website. <http://climatenutralnow.org>

This platform enables organisations to offset their carbon footprint by purchasing certified emissions reductions generated under the CDM.

## References

---

UNDP (2003) Clean development mechanism: a user's guide. See <https://tinyurl.com/yb98fp38>

UNFCCC (2005) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal from 28 November to 10 December 2005. FCCC/KP/CMP/2005/8/Add.1. (Decision 7/CMP.1).

UNFCCC (2008) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Bali from 3 to 15 December 2007. FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9/Add.1. (Decision 2/CMP.3).

UNFCCC (2008) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Poznan from 1 to 12 December 2008. FCCC/KP/CMP/2008/11/Add.1. (Decision 2/CMP.4).

UNFCCC (2009) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Copenhagen from 7 to 19 December 2009. FCCC/KP/CMP/2009/21/Add.1. (Decision 2/CMP.5).



UNFCCC (2010) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its sixth session, held in Cancun from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/KP/CMP/2010/12/Add.2. (Decision 3/CMP.6)

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/KP/CMP/2011/10/Add.2. (Decision 10/CMP.7).

UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Doha from 26 November to 8 December 2012. FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.2. (Decisions 4/CMP.8 and 5/CMP.8).

UNFCCC (2013) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Warsaw from 11 to 23 November 2013. FCCC/KP/CMP/2013/9/Add.1. (Decision 3/CMP.9).

UNFCCC (2015) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015. FCCC/KP/CMP/2015/8/Add.1. (Decision 5/CMP.11).

UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016. FCCC/KP/CMP/2016/8/Add.1. (Decision 3/CMP.12).

UNFCCC (2016) CDM methodologies booklet (eighth edition).



# Enhancing the participation of women in the negotiations

## Context

The 18th Conference of the Parties (COP18) in Doha established gender and climate change as a standing agenda item in COP sessions and adopted Decision 23/CP.18 on promoting gender balance and improving the participation of women in United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations and in the representation of Parties in bodies established pursuant to the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol.

This decision reinforced the importance of representing women's voices in climate change discussions, particularly women from countries that are disproportionately dependent on climate-sensitive resources for their livelihoods, such as Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

At COP19 in Warsaw (2013), the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) recognised the progress made in implementing this decision and encouraged Parties and other relevant organisations to continue these efforts by developing additional tools, research, knowledge transfer, innovative finance and other funding. COP20 in Lima saw the adoption of Decision 18/CP.20, which established the two-year Lima Work Programme on Gender, extended for another three years at COP22 (Decision 21/CP.22). The work programme facilitates further implementation of Decision 23/CP.18 by enhancing understanding of the linkages between gender and climate change and reinforcing the importance of promoting women's participation in UNFCCC bodies.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for implementing gender mandates:

- Parties and relevant organisations
- UN organisations
- Multilateral, intergovernmental and other international and regional organisations
- UNFCCC secretariat

### Who helps LDCs increase women's participation in the negotiations?

The most explicit call for delivering support to LDCs comes in Decision 18/CP.20 of the Lima Work Programme, which "encourages interested Parties and relevant organizations to support these training and capacity-building efforts, particularly for delegates from Parties that are

particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including the least developed countries" (paragraph 7). This is supplemented by the request to "the secretariat to support the organization of these training and capacity-building efforts, inter alia, in conjunction with sessions of the subsidiary bodies" (paragraph 8). This was reiterated in Decision 21/CP.22 (paragraphs 8 and 9).

This builds on language asking all Parties to make additional efforts to improve women's participation in negotiations and UNFCCC bodies. The SBI's report at its 39th session (SBI39) invites "other United Nations organizations and multilateral, intergovernmental and other international and regional organizations" to complement Parties' efforts through: innovative ways to finance and further encourage women's participation as delegates; further developing additional tools, knowledge, research and strategies for gender-responsive climate policy; and additional support from the secretariat in organising and conducting training and capacity-building activities (FCCC/SBI/2013/20; paragraphs 209, 212, 213).

The SBI39 report also encourages "Parties that are eligible for funding from the Trust Fund for Participation in the UNFCCC Process to nominate delegates of both genders for such funding in order to promote gender balance in national delegations" (paragraph 210). This trust fund receives voluntary contributions and supports participation of eligible representatives from developing country and economies in transition Parties in the COP and its subsidiary bodies.

### **How do Parties and relevant organisations help LDCs increase women's participation in the negotiations?**

The government of Finland launched the Women's Delegate Fund in 2009 in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and the Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO), which has administered the fund since. The fund addresses the gap in women's participation by providing travel resources for, in particular, LDCs that already have limited capacity and resources to attend and participate effectively in climate negotiations. This is supplemented by training workshops that facilitate knowledge and capacity-building efforts on technical issues related to negotiations, including "running mock sessions and practice in drafting interventions." This enables women delegates to participate more effectively in negotiations, promoting policy change at the highest levels. To register for training workshops, visit the WEDO website: <http://wedo.org/what-we-do/our-programs/women-delegates-fund>

The European Capacity Building Initiative (ECBI) is a network of institutions led by the International Institute for Environment and Development, the Oxford Climate Policy and the Legal Response Initiative, funded by the government of Germany. The

ECBI runs a training and support programme — made up of three regional workshops and one pre-COP workshop — for junior climate negotiators from developing countries and provides bursaries to junior women delegates from LDCs to participate in the negotiation sessions. For further information, see [www.eurocapacity.org/public/workshops.shtml](http://www.eurocapacity.org/public/workshops.shtml)

Formed in 2007, the Global Gender and Climate Alliance consists of UN agencies, civil society and intergovernmental organisations undertaking specific activities on gender and climate change at all levels. It has produced a training manual on gender and climate change for delegates (available in four languages) and a number of tools, publications and training materials that build on the interlinkages between gender and climate change. These are all available at: <http://gender-climate.org/learn>

The UNFCCC secretariat supports the above efforts through its gender team's work, publishing documents and resources and organising events and workshops. These are accessible on its Gender and Climate Change website: [http://unfccc.int/gender\\_and\\_climate\\_change/items/7516.php](http://unfccc.int/gender_and_climate_change/items/7516.php)

The secretariat has also published tools and guidelines to help Parties identify entry points for gender considerations in developing climate actions under UNFCCC workstreams.

## **Additional resources**

---



### **Websites**

Women and Gender Constituency. <http://womengenderclimate.org>

Gender CC – Women for Climate Justice. [www.gendercc.net/home.html](http://www.gendercc.net/home.html)



## Publications

National Climate Change Gender Action Plans (ccGAP). <http://tinyurl.com/y9o5ajmm>

These nationally recognised strategies have a unique methodology for training and building the capacity of women and women's organisations on the linkages between gender and climate change.

UNFCCC Secretariat. (2013) Best practices and available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices for adaptation, needs of local and indigenous communities and the application of gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation. See

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/tp/11.pdf>



UNFCCC Secretariat. (2016) Gender composition. See <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/cop22/eng/04.pdf>

UNFCCC Secretariat. (2016) Guidelines or other tools for integrating gender considerations into climate change related activities under the Convention. See <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2016/tp/02.pdf>

UNFCCC Secretariat. (2017). Draft Compilation of decisions, subsidiary body reports related to gender and climate change. See [http://unfccc.int/files/gender\\_and\\_climate\\_change/application/pdf/gcc\\_drc\\_2017\\_1\\_9may2017.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/gender_and_climate_change/application/pdf/gcc_drc_2017_1_9may2017.pdf)

Gama *et al.* (2016) Strengthening the Lima Work Programme on Gender: perspectives from Malawi and the CBD. See <http://pubs.iied.org/10165IIED>

## References

UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its eighteenth session, held in Doha from 26 November to 8 December 2012. FCCC/CP/2012/8/Add.3. (Decision 23/CP.18).

UNFCCC (2013) Report of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation on its thirty-ninth session, held in Warsaw from 11 to 18 November 2013. FCCC/SBI/2013/20.

UNFCCC (2015) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twentieth session, held in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014. FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.3. (Decision 18/CP.20).

UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.2. (Decision 21/CP.22).



# Least Developed Countries Expert Group

## Context

The Conference of the Parties (COP) established the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) at COP7 in 2001, as part of the Marrakech Accords.

This decision, along with those launching the Least Developed Country (LDC) work programme (Decision 5/CP.7) and establishing the LDC Fund (Decisions 5/CP.7 and 7/CP.7, see page 36), were the first major steps the COP took to implement Article 4.9 of the Convention.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support through or in collaboration with the LEG:

- 13 LEG members: ten from LDC Parties and three from developed country Parties
- UNFCCC secretariat
- Global Climate Fund
- Global Environment Facility programmes, projects and/or networks that support the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans
- National and regional centres and networks

### What is the LEG's mandate?

The LEG's initial mandate is outlined in its terms of reference, contained in Decision 29/CP.7. This mandate focuses mainly on supporting LDCs in their work related to national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs, see page 13):

- To provide technical guidance and advice on the preparation and on the implementation strategy of NAPAs, including the identification of possible sources of data and its subsequent application and interpretation, upon request by LDC Parties
- To serve in an advisory capacity to the LDCs, for the preparation and strategy for implementation of NAPAs, through, inter alia, workshops, upon request by LDC Parties
- To advise on capacity-building needs for the preparation and implementation of NAPAs, and to provide recommendations, as appropriate, taking into account other relevant capacity-building initiatives
- To facilitate the exchange of information and to promote regional synergies, and synergies with other multilateral environmental conventions, in the preparation and in the implementation strategy of NAPAs
- To advise on the mainstreaming of NAPAs into regular development planning in the context of national strategies for sustainable development, and

- To provide input into the review of NAPA guidelines.

At COP16 (Decision 6/CP.16), Parties extended the LEG's mandate to include longer-term planning for adaptation and considerations affecting vulnerability to climate change. Specifically, they asked the LEG to provide technical guidance and advice on:

- Revising and updating NAPAs upon request by LDC Parties, to further improve their quality, facilitate the integration of adaptation actions into development planning and reflect increased adaptation knowledge and changed priorities in the countries
- Identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs, their integration into development planning and their implementation
- Strengthening gender-related considerations and considerations regarding vulnerable communities within LDC Parties, and
- Implementing other elements of the LDC work programme that are relevant to the expertise of the LEG.

Finally, at COP21 (Decision 19/CP.21), Parties decided that the LEG should also provide support to LDCs in:

- Integrating climate change adaptation into national planning and developing programmes that address both objectives of the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs)
- Regional approaches to adaptation planning
- Accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for the process to formulate and implement NAPs in collaboration with the GCF secretariat, and
- Needs related to adaptation that may arise from the Paris Agreement and the decisions adopted at COP21.

From its establishment, the COP decided that it would review the need for the LEG's continuation and terms of reference, taking into account various factors including the experience of LDC Parties in implementing their NAPAs. For this reason, the LEG's mandate has been extended five times already.

At COP21, Parties decided that the next review of the LEG should be initiated in June 2020 at the Subsidiary Body for Implementation's 52nd session (SBI52) and that they should adopt a decision on the outcome of the review at COP26 (2020). The LEG will convene a stocktaking meeting of its work prior to June 2020, to inform this review.

### LEG members

The LEG consists of 13 experts with recognised competence and appropriate expertise to assist in the development of NAPAs. Each expert serves in his or her personal capacity.

Every year, the LEG elects a chair, vice-chair and three rapporteurs (one each for Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries) among its members. The group meets twice a year.

The group's membership is as follows:

- Five experts from African LDC Parties
- Two experts from Asian LDC Parties
- Two experts from small island LDC Parties
- One expert from an LDC Party, and
- Three experts from Annex II (developed country) Parties.

The UNFCCC secretariat facilitates the work of the LEG.

### How has the LEG been providing support to LDC Parties?

In Cancún, the COP asked the LEG to develop a two-year rolling programme of work which the SBI

would consider at its first sessional meeting each year (Decision 6/CP.16). It also asked the LEG to report on its work to the SBI at each of its sessions. The LEG's detailed rolling work programme for the current period (2017–18) as well as its previous work programmes can be found here: <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/napas/items/10292.php>

Since its establishment, the LEG has produced a number of outputs and convened trainings and workshops to support LDCs. We present some of its publications below.

#### On NAPAs:

Annotated guidelines for the preparation of NAPAs (2002). See [http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/annguid\\_e.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/annguid_e.pdf)

Least Developed Countries: step-by-step guide for implementing NAPAs (2009).

See <https://tinyurl.com/yauzpqek>

#### On NAPs:

Technical guidelines for the NAP process (2012).

See <https://tinyurl.com/ybg8pmuv>

Monitoring and assessing progress, effectiveness and gaps under the process to formulate and implement NAPs: the PEG M&E tool (2015).

See <https://tinyurl.com/y8beydlb>

Best practices and lessons learned in addressing adaptation in the LDCs, Volume 3 (2015).

See <https://tinyurl.com/y72vajse>

Information paper on how the process to formulate and implement NAPs can be supported in the LDCs, (2015). See <https://tinyurl.com/ycpdownen>

#### On gender considerations in adaptation planning:

Strengthening gender considerations in adaptation planning and implementation in the LDCs (2015).

See <https://tinyurl.com/y82nf7xo>

## Additional resources

### Websites



UNFCCC LEG webpage. <https://tinyurl.com/yc8grzbi>

NAP Expo. <https://tinyurl.com/y8ujtmq9>

In 2013, the LEG began convening events known as the NAP Expo to launch and subsequently provide a platform for knowledge exchange on the NAP process. The next NAP Expo is scheduled for April 2018, in Bonn.

## References



UNFCCC (2002) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held at Marrakech from 29 October to 10 November 2001. FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1 and FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4. (Decisions 5/CP.7, 7/CP.7 and 29/CP.7).

UNFCCC (2011) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session, held in Cancún from 29 November to 10 December 2010. FCCC/CP/2010/7/Add.2. (Decision 6/CP.16).

UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1. (Decision 19/CP.21).

# Least Developed Countries Fund

## Context

In December 2001, Parties convened at COP7 and took their first major steps in developing a comprehensive adaptation agenda, setting up four new funding channels to support developing countries specifically in their adaptation efforts.

One of these, the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), was established through Decisions 5/CP.7 (paragraph 12) and 7/CP.7 (paragraph 6).

As its name suggests, the LDCF is a dedicated fund for the LDC Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Its primary objective, as stated at the time of its establishment, is to finance the preparation and full implementation of LDCs' national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs) (see page 13) for

urgent and immediate adaptation needs (Decisions 5/CP.7, paragraph 12; 7/CP.7, paragraph 6; 27/CP.7, paragraph 1; and 6/CP.9, paragraph 2).

The Fund also supports other elements of the LDC work programme, which, along with NAPAs and other actions, includes capacity building for LDC negotiators to help them engage in the UNFCCC process and to strengthen national climate change secretariats, thus enhancing the implementation of commitments (Decisions 5/CP.7, paragraph 12 and 7/CP.7, paragraph 6).

In 2011, the fund's mandate was further extended to help LDCs prepare their national adaptation plans (NAPs) (see page 16) to address medium- and long-term adaptation needs (Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 21).

Finally, in Decision 1/CP.21 (paragraph 58), Parties agreed that the LDCF would also serve the Paris Agreement, which means LDCF financing will support activities related to the implementation of the Agreement.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support for implementing gender mandates:

- Parties and relevant organisations
- UN organisations
- Multilateral, intergovernmental and other international and regional organisations
- UNFCCC secretariat

### Who supports LDC Parties through the LDCF?

LDCF capitalisation depends on voluntary contributions of finance by developed country Parties. To date, the largest donors out of the 25 countries that have contributed to the fund have been Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States (GEF 2017b). It is also worth noting that in December

2015, at the margins of COP21, Canada's Province of Quebec pledged CA\$6 million to the LDCF, the first ever pledge to a multilateral climate fund by a subnational government (GEF 2015). The Walloon Region of Belgium followed suit at COP22, announcing a contribution of €3.25 million to the fund (GEF 2016).

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) administers the LDCF under the guidance of the COP also providing secretariat support. This is why the LDCF and its sister fund, the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) are sometimes referred to as the GEF funds. The GEF, as an operating entity of the UNFCCC's financial mechanism, must report annually to the COP on all the activities it has supported to implement the Convention, including those financed through the LDCF.

The LDCF/SCCF Council— a joint council that governs the two funds — is primarily responsible for developing, adopting and evaluating LDCF (and SCCF) policies and programmes and approving funding decisions. The council must act on COP guidance (contained in COP decisions giving guidance to the GEF or directly to the LDCF). Its work is also informed by advice from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), a 13-member body under the UNFCCC (also established at COP7) that provides technical support and advice to LDCs on NAPAs, NAPs and other elements of the LDC work programme.

## How is LDCF support provided?

All LDCs are eligible for support from the LDCF, if they are party to the UNFCCC and have submitted a NAPA, which they have now all done (GEF 2017a). All LDC Parties have tapped into the LDCF to date, as have four countries that have since graduated from the LDC category.

The LDCF programming strategy includes a principle for balanced access (Decision 6/CP.9, paragraph 3). This reflects the reality that the level of human and institutional capacity to absorb and manage funds varies greatly even among members of the LDC group (Gaspar-Martins 2015). So, rather than disbursing resources on a first-come, first-served basis, the LDCF puts a cap on the amount each eligible country can receive to ensure that available resources are allocated equitably. This ceiling is raised over time, as the fund grows. So, while countries could only access up to US\$3 million each when the LDCF became operational, the amount they can cumulatively receive today has risen to US\$40 million. The principle of balanced access also ensures that LDCF resources are released in a manner that reflects the geographic distribution of the 47 LDCs.

Funding is disbursed in the form of grants, but projects must fulfil a co-financing requirement to receive support. The reasoning behind project proponents having to demonstrate co-financing is to acknowledge the importance of undertaking adaptation actions in a manner that supports sustainable development and poverty eradication efforts, rather than in isolation (GEF 2006). So LDCF-financed activities and NAPAs would be more broadly in line and integrated with each recipient country's national development policies, plans, programmes, projects and actions.

The level of co-financing required varies from project to project. It is determined by identifying baseline and adaptation scenarios and costs (GEF 2012a, 2011, 2006). The baseline costs represent what is needed to support business-as-usual development — in other words, actions that would happen or be needed even in the absence of climate change. These costs need to be met by co-financing from resources outside of the LDCF. The latter will top up development financing to cover the full additional costs arising from an adaptation scenario— in other words, the costs associated with the extra action needed to address the adverse impacts of climate change on the development intervention in question. Sources of co-financing can include bilateral or multilateral development assistance, government budget lines, contributions from non-governmental organisations or community groups and even in-kind contributions (GEF 2012b).

## Project cycle

Early COP guidance for the operation of the LDCF called for the fund to provide expedited support to LDCs, given the urgency and immediacy of adapting to the adverse effects of climate change (Decisions 7/CP.7 and 27/CP.7). Accordingly, the GEF set up an expedited modality for reviewing and approving projects on a rolling basis, making the LDCF project cycle more streamlined than that of the GEF Trust Fund.

Project proponents must first partner with a GEF agency.<sup>5</sup> The GEF agency submits the application for LDCF financing and works closely with the applicant country throughout the project cycle and implementation.

Full-sized projects (requesting more than US\$2 million from the LDCF) require a project identification form (PIF), which is reviewed by the secretariat and subsequently approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council on a no-objection basis. The project is then developed fully and crafted into a full project document, and reviewed by the secretariat. Once this is endorsed by the GEF chief executive officer (CEO), funding is released and the project is ready for implementation.

Medium-sized projects (requesting less than US\$2 million of LDCF-financing) follow a more streamlined cycle by skipping the PIF stage. Project proposals can be directly developed into full project document form for approval by the GEF CEO. For both full- and medium-sized projects, applicants may request a project preparation grant. But in this case, a medium-sized project will need to submit a PIF.

A project concept enters the LDCF pipeline once basic criteria are met (this is usually determined by the PIF). These deal broadly with: assessing the adaptation benefit and additional cost argument to a business-as-usual development intervention; whether the project responds to priorities identified in the country's NAPA; whether the project complements existing ones in the area/sector and/or avoids duplication; and the indicative budget (GEF 2011). Entry into the pipeline signals that the proposed project is consistent with the LDCF's mandate. It also allows the GEF to keep track of financing requests and earmark available resources, while respecting the principle of balanced access.

## Has LDCF support been adequate?

As LDCF evaluations have underlined, the fund's voluntary nature has greatly affected the scale and predictability of available resources and consequently, its ability to fulfil its objectives (GEF IEO 2016; COWI and IIED 2009). The primary mandate the COP assigned to the LDCF when it established the fund

5. GEF agencies are responsible for developing project proposals and managing projects and have direct access to the LDCF. There are currently 18 GEF agencies, including the nine that have so far managed LDCF projects: the Asian Development Bank; the African Development Bank; the Food and Agriculture Organisation; the International Fund for Agricultural Development; the International Union for the Conservation of Nature; the United Nations Development Programme; the United Nations Environment Programme; the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation and the World Bank.



was to support LDCs in preparing and implementing their NAPAs. Although the NAPA preparation process took time — LDCs on average took almost four years to complete their reports (COWI and IIED 2009) — the LDCF has successfully supported all LDCs in this work. This represents a significant achievement because NAPA preparation projects were the first experience for many LDCs had in climate change adaptation planning (COWI and IIED 2009). The NAPA documents resulted in clear political statements of adaptation needs and priorities, and were a first step to enabling future adaptation action in LDCs. Indeed, the LDCF has since been committing resources towards projects that support the implementation of these NAPAs.

But the fund is far from being able to support the full implementation of these NAPAs. The LEG estimated that the full cost of implementing all the LDCs' NAPAs amounts to approximately US\$2 billion (LEG 2009). Moreover, it acknowledged that this figure is very conservative, as it is based on early NAPA submissions, which had a tendency to underestimate adaptation costs. But the LDCF has received only US\$1.17 billion since its establishment, and the GEF has voiced its concerns since 2014 that the demand for resources from the LDCF far exceed the funds available (GEF 2014). At the end of March 2017, the GEF reported that, while 24 projects sought US\$156.1 million in funding, only US\$62.2 million was available for new funding decisions (GEF 2017).

LDC stakeholders have also voiced concern that complex procedures to access funds makes it difficult to obtain resources in a timely manner, allowing them to implement NAPA actions (which, by definition, are priority adaptation actions) (COWI and IIED 2009). This issue has been aggravated in recent years by the fact that the fund has had no resources available, while the backlog of projects in the pipeline has continued to increase. And with LDCs' urgent and immediate adaptation priorities and needs and their associated costs continuing to escalate as time passes to levels far beyond what is contained in the NAPAs, their priorities are expected to change (COWI and IIED 2009).

Finally, the LDCs have called for enhancing country ownership of LDCF financing. One way the LDCs have sought to address this issue has been by calling for direct access to LDCF resources, a service provided by the Adaptation Fund (see page 45) under the Kyoto Protocol. Direct access would allow recipient countries to tap into resources more quickly and directly contract the GEF agency of their choice (COWI and IIED 2009). It would also have the potential to build human and institutional capacity within LDCs to mobilise, access and manage funds. Unfortunately, Parties have not collectively agreed to include a request for a direct access modality in any of the COP guidance given to the LDCF to date. And without the mandate from the COP, the GEF has not been able to advance this agenda very far.

## Additional resources

### Websites

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP). [www.stapgef.org](http://www.stapgef.org)

STAP provides objective, strategic, scientific and technical advice on GEF policies, operational strategies, programmes and on projects and programmatic approaches.

GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). [www.gefio.org](http://www.gefio.org)

The IEO sets minimum requirements for monitoring and evaluation, ensures oversight of the quality of monitoring and evaluation systems at programme and project levels and shares evaluative evidence within the GEF.

### Publications

GEF (2011) Accessing resources under the Least Developed Countries Fund. See [www.thegef.org/publications/accessing-resources-under-ldcf](http://www.thegef.org/publications/accessing-resources-under-ldcf)


GEF (2011) Least Developed Countries Fund. See [www.thegef.org/publications/least-developed-countries-fund](http://www.thegef.org/publications/least-developed-countries-fund)

GEF (2016) Time to adapt: insights from the GEF's experience in adaptation to climate change. See [www.thegef.org/publications/time-adapt-insights-gefs-experience-adaptation-climate-change](http://www.thegef.org/publications/time-adapt-insights-gefs-experience-adaptation-climate-change)

Tenzing, J, Andrei, S, Gaspar-Martins, G, Pateh Jallow, B, Njewa, E (2016) A vision for the Least Developed Countries Fund in a post-Paris climate regime. See <http://pubs.iied.org/17372IIED>



## References

- 
- COWI and IIED (2009) Operation of the Least Developed Countries Fund for adaptation to climate change. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. See [www.oecd.org/derec/denmark/43989776.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/derec/denmark/43989776.pdf)
- Gaspar-Martins, G (25 August 2015) Making the Least Developed Countries Fund fit for purpose. <http://cdkn.org/2015/08/opinion-making-the-climate-fund-fit-for-purpose>
- GEF (2006) Programming paper for funding the implementation of NAPAs under the LDC Trust Fund. GEF/C.28/18.
- GEF (2011) Accessing resources under the Least Developed Countries Fund. See [www.thegef.org/publications/accessing-resources-under-ldcf](http://www.thegef.org/publications/accessing-resources-under-ldcf)
- GEF (2012a) Clarification on the concept of additional costs of adaptation to climate change. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.12/Inf.04.
- GEF (2012b) Updated operational guidelines for the Least Developed Countries Fund. GEF/ LDCF.SCCF.13/04.
- GEF (2014) Progress Report on the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund. 8 October 2014. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.17/03.
- GEF (2015) Quebec announces \$6 CAD million to Least Developed Countries Fund. Press release. See [www.thegef.org/news/qu%C3%A9bec-announces-6-cad-million-least-developed-countries-fund](http://www.thegef.org/news/qu%C3%A9bec-announces-6-cad-million-least-developed-countries-fund)
- GEF (2016) Belgium announces €7 EUR million to Least Developed Countries Fund. Press release. See [www.thegef.org/news/belgium-announces-7eur-million-least-developed-countries-fund](http://www.thegef.org/news/belgium-announces-7eur-million-least-developed-countries-fund)
- GEF (2017a) Progress report on the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/03/Rev.01.
- GEF (2017b) Status report for the Least Developed Countries Fund (Financial report prepared by the Trustee). GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/Inf.02.
- GEF IEO (2016) Program Evaluation of the Least Developed Countries Fund. (Prepared by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office). 11 May 2016. GEF/LDCF.SCCF.20/ME/02.
- LEG (2009) Support needed to fully implement national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs). UNFCCC. See [http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/09\\_ldc\\_sn\\_napa.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/09_ldc_sn_napa.pdf)
- United Nations (2015) Paris Agreement. (Article 9.8).
- UNFCCC (2002) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held at Marrakesh from 29 October to 10 November 2001. FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1 and FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4. (Decisions 5/CP.7, 7/CP.7 and 27/CP.7).
- UNFCCC (2004) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its ninth session, held at Milan from 1 to 12 December 2003. FCCC/CP/2003/6/Add.1 (Decision 6/CP.9).
- UNFCCC (2012) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventeenth session, held in Durban from 28 November to 11 December 2011. FCCC/CP/2011/9/Add.1 (Decision 5/CP.17).
- UNFCCC (2016) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held at Paris from 30 November to 12 December 2015. FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1. (Decision 1/CP.21).

# Green Climate Fund

## Context

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was created at the 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16) in Cancún and subsequently operationalised with the approval of its governing instrument at COP17 in Durban (GCF 2011).

The governing instrument outlines the GCF's mandate and its accountable body, the COP, provides annual guidance (GCF 2017a). These instruments and mechanisms guide the GCF to, inter alia:

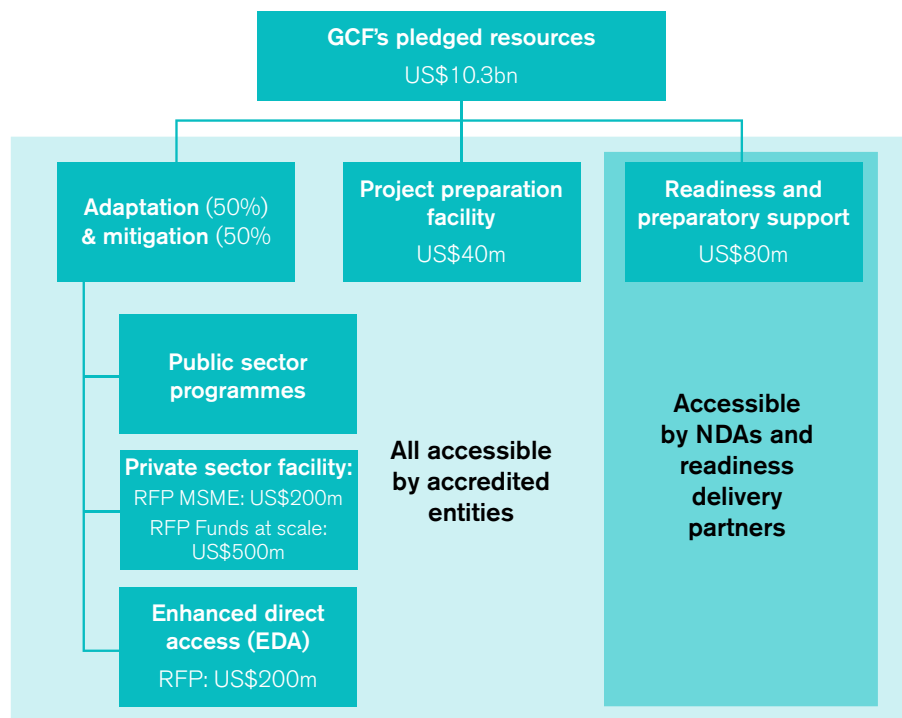
- Play a key role in channelling new, additional, predictable and adequate financial resources to all developing countries to promote the paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development
- Catalyse climate finance from public and private sources at national and international levels
- Strive for a balance between adaptation and mitigation financing

- Consider the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and African states, and
- Evolve over time to become the main global fund for climate finance.

Alongside the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GCF is an operating entity of the Paris Agreement's financial mechanism (UN, 2015). It has become the world's largest dedicated climate fund, with pledged financial resources of US\$10.3 billion as of June 2017. Discussions to initiate the formal replenishment of the fund are ongoing.

The GCF's Board — which includes one LDC member — makes final decisions on policies, procedures and its funding portfolio. The Board has operationalised the GCF's mandate by developing modalities for adaptation and mitigation finance, has earmarked resources for the private sector through its a private sector facility, and for capacity building for readiness and preparatory support programme and project preparation facility (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. GCF financing modalities and windows (August 2017)





## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions involved in providing support through the Green Climate Fund:

- Developed country Parties
- Other Parties, on a voluntary basis
- Green Climate Fund Board
- Other institutions (National Designated Authorities, accredited entities, etc.)

### What can GCF finance support?

The GCF's main financial resources are available to finance mitigation and adaptation projects. At its sixth meeting, the GCF Board agreed to aim for a 50:50 balance between adaptation and mitigation finance over the life of the fund and a minimum of 50 per cent of this adaptation finance to LDCs, SIDS and African states (GCF

2014a). The GCF provides a range of financial instruments — including grants, concessional loans, equity and guarantees — and projects can individually range from less than US\$10 million (micro) to more than US\$250 million (large). The GCF will finance projects and programmes that contribute towards one or more of its climate change impact areas (GCF 2014b):

Climate change mitigation reduces and/or avoids greenhouse gas emissions from:

- Energy access and power generation through e.g. on-grid, micro-grid and off-grid renewable energy
- Low-emission transport through e.g. high-speed rail, rapid bus transport systems and electric vehicles
- Buildings, cities, industries and appliances through e.g. new and retrofitted energy-efficient buildings, and
- Forest and land use through e.g. forest conservation and management, agroforestry and agricultural irrigation

Climate change adaptation reduces the vulnerability from and/or increases resilience against climate change impacts on:

- The most vulnerable people and communities — e.g. by relocating housing, community-based adaptation
- Health, wellbeing, food security and water security through e.g. climate-resilient crops and efficient irrigation

- Infrastructure and the built environment by e.g. building sea walls and resilient road networks, and
- Ecosystems and ecosystem services through e.g. ecosystem conservation, ecosystem management and ecotourism.

Parties can only access this mitigation and adaptation finance through entities accredited to the GCF, either by developing and submitting unprompted proposals or responding to specific requests for proposals (RFPs) administered by the GCF. To become accredited, entities must demonstrate their capacity to meet a series of fiduciary, environmental, social and gender standards, as well as potential to contribute towards the GCF's paradigm-shift mission. Following the Adaptation Fund's modality for direct access to funding, the GCF also provides direct access to national and regional developing country entities. Its accreditation standards are based on a fit-for-purpose model that differentiates according to size, scope and environmental and social risk of planned climate change activities.

### Private sector facility

To promote private sector participation and investment, the GCF has established a private sector facility (PSF), which is open directly to accredited private sector institutions and public sector accredited entities seeking to work with the private sector. The COP has encouraged the GCF to mobilise private sector climate finance within LDCs and SIDS (GCF 2017a) and the PSF's advisory body — the Private Sector Advisory Group — is currently working on recommendations to the GCF Board on how to achieve this. The GCF board launched the following pilot programmes to operationalise different approaches to private sector climate financing:

- Micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) programme: Launched at the 13th Board meeting (GCF 2016b), this US\$200 million pilot promotes climate financing activities that enhance the resilience of, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from, MSMEs.
- Mobilising funds at scale programme: Launched at the 16th Board meeting (GCF 2017b), the GCF earmarked an initial US\$500 million for this pilot for climate change projects that can leverage significant private investment.

### Enhanced direct access

Accredited entities can also access the GCF's adaptation and mitigation funding for climate change activities that enhance direct access (EDA). The GCF's 10th Board meeting approved the EDA pilot phase (GCF 2015), setting aside US\$200 million for programmes that aggregate a significant number of small-scale projects using local intermediaries such as local governments and banks, to reach communities and MSMEs. EDA proposals offer the opportunity for programmatic climate financing with greater multi-stakeholder decision making at national level.

### How is the GCF supporting LDCs in particular?

By August 2017, the GCF's Board had approved 43 projects, totalling US\$2.3 billion in GCF resources and US\$7.5 billion in total value, when including co-financing. The 11 projects approved in LDCs have channelled US\$366.2 million in GCF funding and US\$202.9 million in co-financing. The Board has also approved a further three regional projects totalling US\$736 million, which include some LDCs, but it is not yet possible to determine the total committed to individual LDCs.

Only US\$30.6 million of this GCF-approved finance is committed to direct access entities from LDCs. This accounts for just nine per cent of the LDC GCF portfolio. There are only five direct access entities from LDCs, including:

- Centre de Suivi Ecologique, a national implementing entity from Senegal
- Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), a national implementing entity from Bangladesh
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, a national implementing entity
- Ministry of Natural Resources of Rwanda, a national implementing entity, and
- Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), the second national implementing entity from Bangladesh.

The Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement, a regional implementing entity, covers Burkina Faso and Niger.

With the exception of IDCOL and PKSF, all other LDC accredited entities were fast-tracked for accreditation as they were already accredited with the Adaptation Fund (see page 45); in other words, they had already gone through the rigorous accreditation process with the Adaptation Fund. Now, any new LDC entities that are looking to be accredited will have to go through the full accreditation process for the first time. Thus, to enhance the LDC portfolio of accredited entities and projects, capacity strengthening, including to support the accreditation process, is very important.

### Capacity building support

The GCF funds capacity building and technical support through its core adaptation and mitigation financing, as key parts of approved projects and programmes. But the GCF also has two dedicated financing mechanisms for building the capacity of developing countries to access, manage and programme the GCF's finance. These are:

- The readiness and preparatory support programme (known as readiness support): The GCF's eighth Board meeting approved and operationalised this US\$80-million grant and technical support programme designed to enhance country ownership and GCF programming (GCF 2014c).
- The project preparation facility (PPF): The 13th GCF Board meeting operationalised this facility to improve the design and feasibility of full funding proposals to the GCF, with US\$40 million in grant and equity resources (GCF 2016b). PPF funding is only available to accredited entities and is approved directly by the secretariat.

### Readiness and preparatory support

Although readiness support is available to all developing countries, the GCF aims for at least 50 per cent of this to be allocated to the LDCs, SIDS and African states (GCF 2014a). National designated authorities (NDAs) or focal points can access readiness support funding for:

- Strengthening NDAs: building NDA or focal point capacity to coordinate, oversee and monitor a country's GCF activities. This might range from assistance in selecting and structuring an NDA or focal point to establishing 'no-objection' procedures for a country's funding proposal approval
- Strategic frameworks: assistance to develop strategic country programmes outlining a country's GCF funding priorities and developing investment pipelines through multi-stakeholder processes

- Strengthening direct access entities: identifying and strengthening the appropriate national implementing entities to meet the GCF's accreditation standards and helping develop investment pipelines known as entity work programmes
- Private sector engagement and mobilisation: engaging with the local private sector in country programming and project development, including public-private partnerships, and
- Adaptation planning: assistance to develop and help implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) and other adaptation planning mechanisms (GCF 2017c and 2016c).

Each developing country can access up to US\$1 million a year for its first four readiness activities, with additional caps of US\$300,000 and US\$100,000 a year for NDA strengthening and stakeholder meetings respectively. They can also access US\$3 million for adaptation planning, operationalised at the 13th Board meeting (GCF 2016a) following the Paris Agreement's guidance for the GCF to "expedite support for LDCs and other developing countries for the formulation of NAPs" (UN, 2015).

NDA's apply directly for readiness support, which is approved by the GCF secretariat. It can be implemented by accredited entities, certified readiness providers or other institutions that pass the GCF's financial management capacity assessment (GCF 2016b).

By August 2017, the GCF had committed US\$39 million of the US\$80 million available to 88 developing countries, including at least 23 LDCs (GCF 2017d). This leaves a further US\$41 million available in the current tranche of the readiness and preparatory support programme.

### **How can GCF support to LDCs be enhanced going forward?**

Given the small number of LDC accredited entities and direct access projects approved, it is essential that the GCF develops funding modalities that enhance ease of access for LDCs and provide targeted support to strengthen LDC capacity to gain accreditation and develop strong funding proposals.

The LDCs are supported by the guidance from the UNFCCC, whereby the Paris Agreement states that the GCF as an operating entity of the financial mechanism shall "...ensure efficient access to financial resources through simplified approval procedures and enhanced readiness support for developing country Parties, in particular for LDCs" (Article 9, paragraph 9). So, LDCs can work at the COPs to enhance the GCF's mandate to support LDCs in particular. Box 1 shows the functions through which LDCs can access and influence the GCF.

#### **Box 1. How LDCs can engage with the GCF**

A non-exhaustive list of ways in which the LDCs can influence the GCF includes:

- Developing guidance for GCF policies, procedures and resource allocations at annual COPs
- Developing guidance and dialogue through the Least Developed Countries Expert Group
- Accessing mitigation and adaptation project and programme funding directly through accredited LDC entities or international entities such as UN institutions and multilateral banks
- Accessing readiness support to develop LDC capacity to access, manage and programme GCF finance, including for NAP development
- Developing and influencing GCF policies and procedures through the LDC GCF Board member
- Engaging in dialogue and strengthening LDC civil society organisations to participate as observers at GCF and other UNFCCC financial mechanisms

## Additional resources

---



### Websites

GCF. [www.greenclimate.fund/home](http://www.greenclimate.fund/home)

GCF '101'. [www.greenclimate.fund/gcf101](http://www.greenclimate.fund/gcf101)

GCF '101' on readiness support. <https://tinyurl.com/yc6z89xq>

## References

---



GCF (2017a) Sixth report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

GCF (2017b) Decisions of the Board: 16th meeting of the Board, 4–6 April 2017.

GCF (2017c) Readiness and preparatory support programme: progress report.

GCF (2017d) GCF readiness programme marks milestone, hitting USD 10m in funds disbursed to 59 countries. See <https://tinyurl.com/ybyavk42>

GCF (2016a) Decisions of the Board: 13th meeting of the Board, 28–30 June 2016.

GCF (2016b) Accessing the GCF readiness and preparatory support programme: an introduction and how-to guide.

GCF (2015) Decisions of the Board: tenth meeting of the Board, 6–9 July 2015.

GCF (2014a) Decisions of the Board: sixth meeting of the Board, 19–21 February 2014.

GCF (2014b) Annex VIII : Mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks.

GCF (2014c) Decisions of the Board: eighth meeting of the Board, 14–17 October 2014.

GCF (2011) Governing Instrument.

UN (2015) The Paris Agreement. (Articles 9.8 and 9.9)

# Adaptation Fund

## Context

Parties established the Adaptation Fund with Decision 10/CP.7, as part of the Marrakesh Accords. They specified that this fund should finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing country Parties that are party to the Kyoto Protocol.

The fund should also support these Parties in activities identified in Decision 5/CP.7 (paragraph 8):

- Starting to implement adaptation activities promptly where sufficient information is available to warrant such activities, including in the areas of water resources management, land management, agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems (including mountainous ecosystems) and integrated coastal zone management

- Improving the monitoring of diseases and vectors affected by climate change and related forecasting and early-warning systems; and in this context improving disease control and prevention
- Supporting capacity building, including institutional capacity, for preventive measures, planning, preparedness and management of disasters relating to climate change, including contingency planning, in particular, for droughts and floods in areas prone to extreme weather events, and
- Strengthening existing — and where needed, establishing — national and regional centres and information networks for rapid response to extreme weather events, using information technology as much as possible.

The Adaptation Fund became operational in 2009. It functions under the guidance of, and is accountable to, the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) (Decision 28/CMP.1, paragraph 2).

All LDC Parties to the Kyoto Protocol are eligible to access resources from the Adaptation Fund.

## Provisions for support

### Parties and institutions asked to provide support through the Adaptation Fund:

- Developed country Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
- Adaptation Fund Board
- Adaptation Fund secretariat

### Who supports LDC Parties through the Adaptation Fund?

Decision 10/CP.7 specifies that the Adaptation Fund is financed from the share of proceeds from clean development mechanism (CDM) project activities and voluntary contributions from developed country

Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (paragraphs 2 and 3).

The fund's principal governing and administering body is the Adaptation Fund Board. The Board is comprised of 16 members: two representatives from each of the five UN regional groups; one representative of the Small Island Development States (SIDS); one representative of the Least Developed Country (LDC) Parties; two other developing country representatives; and two other developed country representatives. The composition

of the Board thus reflects an equitable majority of developing country representatives. The Adaptation Fund Board takes decisions related to the work of its committees —including on accreditation, ethics and finance and programme and project review.

### How is Adaptation Fund support provided?

The CMP decided that developing country Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change are eligible for funding from the Adaptation Fund to help them meet the costs of adaptation (Decision 1/CMP.3, paragraph 1). This includes all LDC Parties. It also agreed that the fund would be guided by a principle of balanced and equitable access for eligible countries (Decision 5/CMP.2, paragraph 1).

Adaptation Fund grants support concrete adaptation projects and programmes that are country-driven and based on the needs, views and priorities of eligible Parties (Decision 1/CMP.3, paragraph 2) and are available for national, regional and community-level activities (Decision 5/CMP.2, paragraph 2).

Only institutions accredited by the Adaptation Fund may receive funding for adaptation projects. After accreditation, the multilateral, regional or national entity may submit project proposals aligned with national priorities for consideration by the Adaptation Fund Board. Parties may submit concept notes before submitting a fully developed project proposal. This option enables a more rapid approval process.

#### *Direct access*

The Adaptation Fund was the first multilateral climate fund to introduce the principle of direct access to resources for recipient countries. This modality allows for the accreditation of national implementing entities (NIEs) to endorse and develop projects and programmes and be the direct recipient of funds. It removes the need for an intermediary entity (such as a UN agency or development bank) to implement the project, in an effort to enhance the recipient country's ownership of the project.

The following LDC Parties to the Kyoto Protocol have NIEs accredited for direct access to the Adaptation Fund:

- Centre de Suivi Ecologique, Senegal [www.cse.sn](http://www.cse.sn)
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [www.mofed.gov.et](http://www.mofed.gov.et)
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Rwanda [www.minirena.gov.rw](http://www.minirena.gov.rw)
- National Environment and Climate Fund, Benin [fnec-benin.org](http://fnec-benin.org)

For more information on direct access, see [www.adaptation-fund.org/about/direct-access](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/about/direct-access)

#### **Readiness programme for climate finance**

The Adaptation Fund's readiness programme launched in May 2014, to help regional and national implementing entities access and manage resources from the fund, particularly through its direct access modality, and to implement concrete adaptation projects in various sectors. For more information, see [www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness)

Several small grants are available under this programme to help accredited NIEs provide peer support to countries seeking accreditation and to build capacity for undertaking various climate finance readiness activities. They include:

- South-south cooperation grants, for NIEs to provide peer support to countries seeking to become accredited. See [www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/south-south-cooperation-grants](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/south-south-cooperation-grants)

- Project formulation assistance grants, up to a maximum of US\$20,000 per NIE, to help NIEs tap into external (international or national) expertise to undertake specific technical assessment such as an environmental impact assessment, a vulnerability assessment, a risk assessment, a gender study and other environmental and social assessments. See [www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/project-formulation-assistance-grants](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/project-formulation-assistance-grants)
- Technical assistance grants, to strengthen NIE capacity in environmental, social and gender risk management as they design, develop and implement concrete adaptation projects and programmes. See [www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/technical-assistance-grants](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness/readiness-grants/technical-assistance-grants)

Only accredited NIEs are eligible to apply for these small grants.

The Adaptation Fund secretariat also convenes capacity building workshops and seminars around the world. See [www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness\\_for\\_upcoming\\_events](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/readiness_for_upcoming_events).

Finally, the fund has produced guidance documents on its environment and social policy and its gender policy, to help implementing entities comply with these policies throughout the project or programme cycle. Policies and guidance documents are available here: [www.adaptation-fund.org/documents-publications/operational-policies-guidelines](http://www.adaptation-fund.org/documents-publications/operational-policies-guidelines)

#### **Has Adaptation Fund support to LDCs been adequate?**

The LDCs consider the Adaptation Fund to be a critical fund because of its focus on concrete adaptation projects and its direct access modality. But like the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funds, the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) in particular (see page 36) has suffered from insufficient resources in recent years. One reason is that the price of certified emission reduction units, from which it was receiving a two per cent share of the proceeds, has fallen dramatically, meaning it has had to rely primarily on voluntary contributions from Kyoto Protocol Parties, notably Germany, the largest donor to date.

Moreover, while the Adaptation Fund's direct access modality is welcomed, only four out of 47 LDCs have institutions that have been accredited as NIEs. The other LDCs have to rely on multilateral implemental entities to access resources from the fund. For this reason, at CMP10 (2014), Parties to the Kyoto Protocol requested the Adaptation Fund Board to consider, under its readiness programme for direct



access to climate finance, options for enhancing the fund's access modalities. These included targeted institutional strengthening strategies to help developing countries — and LDCs in particular — accredit more national or regional implementing entities to the Adaptation Fund (Decision 2/CMP.10, paragraph 5).

Finally, the future of the Adaptation Fund is uncertain in the post-Paris climate regime. When the Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015, the Conference of Parties (COP) could not agree that the Adaptation Fund, a Kyoto Protocol Fund under the authority of the CMP, should definitively serve the agreement. The following year, at COP22, Parties agreed that it

should (in principle) serve the Paris Agreement. Developing country Parties, including LDCs, believe that only procedural steps remain for the fund to serve the agreement: these are one decision each by the CMP and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA), stating that the fund shall serve the agreement with its current operational modalities applying *mutatis mutandis* (i.e. having changed only what must be changed). In contrast, many developed country Parties argue that Parties need to agree how the fund is to serve the agreement before they can take any decisions on whether the fund shall serve the agreement.

## Additional resources

### Websites



Climate finance-ready website. <https://climatefinanceready.org>

An online platform for climate finance readiness, which provides climate finance practitioners and others with best practices, news articles, links to resources, opportunities for sharing experiences and more.

## References



UNFCCC (2002) Report of the Conference of the Parties on its seventh session, held at Marrakesh from 29 October to 10 November 2001. FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.1 and FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4 (Decisions 5/CP.7 and 10/CP.7).

UNFCCC (2006) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its first session, held at Montreal from 28 November to 10 December 2005. FCCC/KP/CMP/2005/8/Add.1 (Decision 28/CMP.1).

UNFCCC (2007) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its second session, held at Nairobi from 6 to 17 November 2006. FCCC/KP/CMP/2006/10/Add.1 (Decision 5/CMP.2).

UNFCCC (2008) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its third session, held in Bali from 3 to 15 December 2007. FCCC/KP/CMP/2007/9/Add.1. (Decision 1/CMP.3).

UNFCCC (2015) Report of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol on its tenth session, held in Lima from 1 to 14 December 2014. FCCC/KP/CMP/2014/9/Add.1. (Decision 2/CMP.10).



Knowledge  
Products

## Toolkit

October 2017

### Climate change

*Keywords:*

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), capacity building

In the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process, Least Developed Country (LDC) Parties have obligations to deliver (albeit with some flexibility) alongside all other Parties. These include fulfilling reporting requirements and having to communicate forward-looking plans to address climate change in their countries, among other tasks. Taking into account their specific needs and special situations, provisions for support have been (and continue to be) adopted for LDCs to help them undertake these commitments.

This toolkit is a collection of short briefs on the ways LDC Parties engage in the UNFCCC process and which provisions adopted to date help them undertake their work.



The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) promotes sustainable development, linking local priorities to global challenges. We support some of the world's most vulnerable people to strengthen their voice in decision making.

International Institute for Environment and Development  
80-86 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8NH, UK

**Tel:** +44 (0)20 3463 7399

**Fax:** +44 (0)20 3514 9055

**www.iied.org**

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/thelIIED](http://www.facebook.com/thelIIED)

**Twitter:** @iied

**LinkedIn:** [www.linkedin.com/company/iied/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/iied/)

Download more publications at <http://pubs.iied.org/10164IIED>