USAID/Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility for Asia and the Pacific (USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific)

READINESS SUPPORT IN ASIA

Mumbai, India
August 24, 2016

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific at a Glance

Project Period & Budget: 6 years (2011-2016); $19+ Million

Coverage: 13 countries in Asia and 14 in the Pacific

Overarching Approach:

• Stakeholder, demand-driven programming

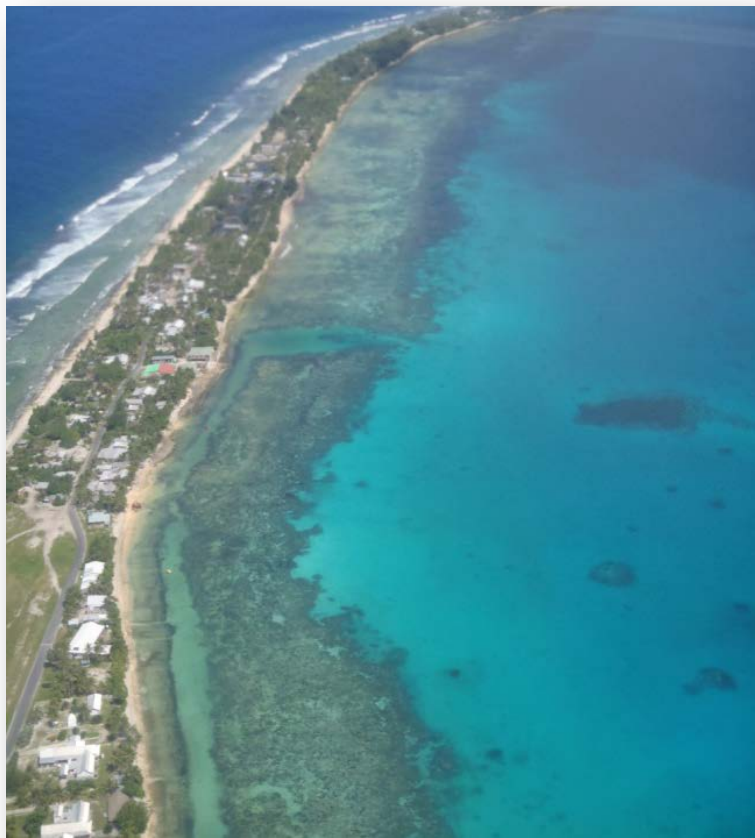• Partnerships for long-term sustainability of project-assisted activities

Implemented by AECOM International Development

Improving national gov't. access to climate change adaptation financing and accelerating investment proposals

Sustainable <u>knowledge transfer</u>, <u>capacity building</u> and <u>technical assistance</u> facility

- Strengthen the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) regional knowledge sharing platform (Component 1)

- Promote regional networking and training through regional events (Component 2)

- Strengthen practitioner capacity to prepare adaptation projects through targeted capacity building/training (Component 3)

- Provide specialized technical assistance to country partners in preparing adaptation project funding proposals (Component 4)

Assumptions and Ground Realities

Project Purpose (as stated in the SoW)

*Support national governments **to access CCA funds** and **accelerate investments in increasing resilience** to the negative impacts of CC*

SoW Assumptions

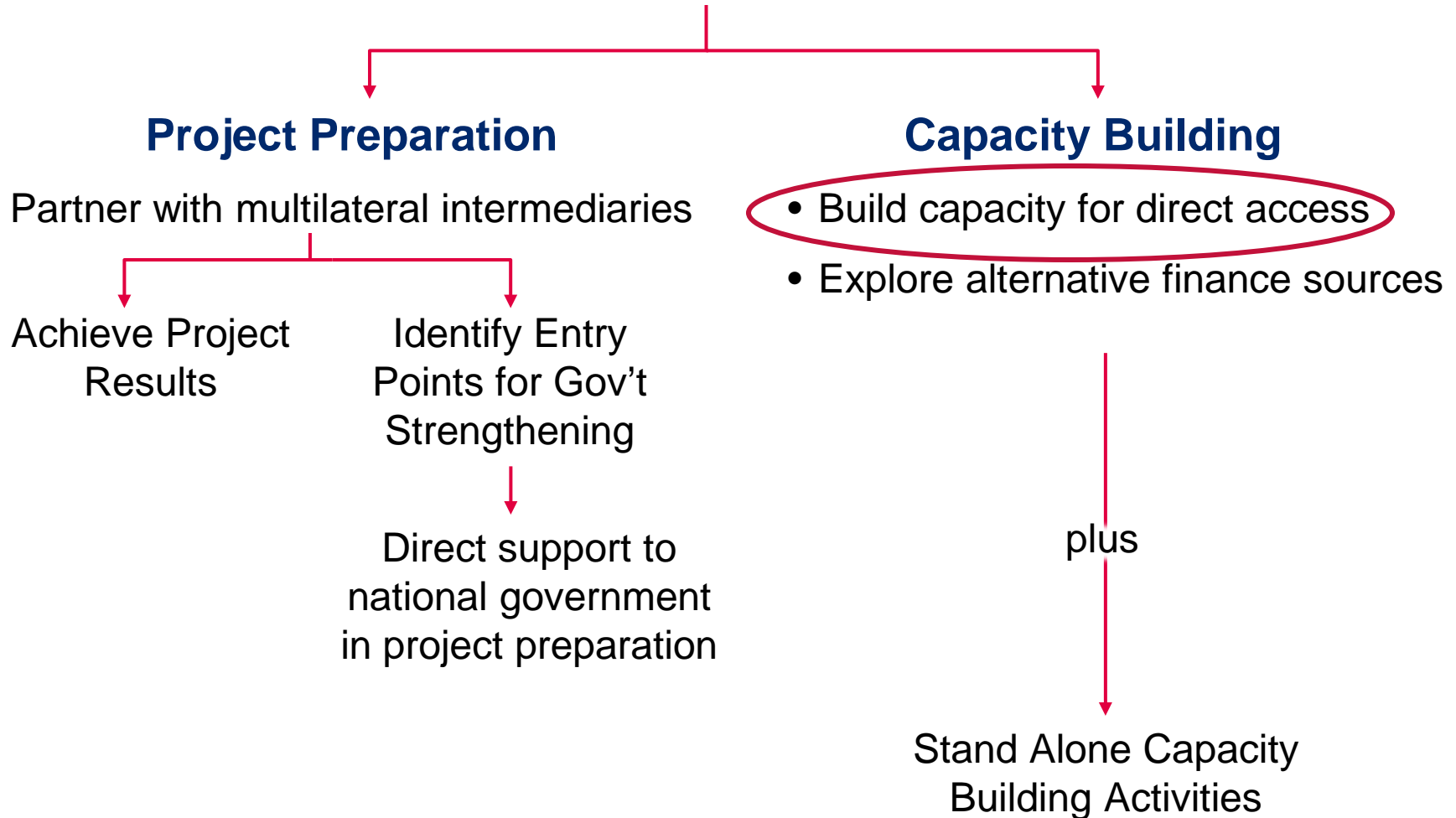*Governments **don't have the capacity to prepare bankable projects** and that there would be **considerable international adaptation financing available***

Ground Reality

- *Lack of Capacity for Project Preparation*
- *… but more importantly …*
- ***Lack of Direct Access** by governments to international climate funds*
- *Less than anticipated Climate Finance, particularly for adaptation*

Project Approach/Underlying Assumptions

Ground Reality

Project Preparation

Partner with multilateral intermediaries

Achieve Project Results

Identify Entry Points for Gov't Strengthening

Direct support to national government in project preparation

Capacity Building

- Build capacity for direct access
- Explore alternative finance sources

plus

Stand Alone Capacity Building Activities

Readiness Support Provided

- Support to NIEs to prepare for accreditation

    - Conducting institutional assessment against accreditation criteria

    - Recommendations on institutional/policy/operational changes required

    - Support in conducting detailed technical studies, drafting policies and regulations

    - TA to implement changes in institutional frameworks, operationalizing new systems/policies or implementing changes in rules and regulations

- Technical support to complete accreditation application, responding to questions, and initiating follow-up actions to comply with requirements

- Follow-up assistance such as building project pipeline

- Assistance provided through embedded international and national consultants

- Support for training, attending fund workshops, peer-to-peer learning, twinning with other accredited entities

Eligible Countries

13 ASIAN COUNTRIES

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Vietnam

14 PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Accessing the Support

- Written request for support to the project to include

    - Official nomination as NIE from DA (letter of authorization/government order/ministerial approval for accreditation)

    - Nature of assistance requested – TA, training, support to draft application

    - Focal point/technical committee

- Initial meeting with focal point to define scope of support

- Multiple internal approvals required through USAID – regional approval and bilateral mission approval

- Letter of Agreement to formalize support

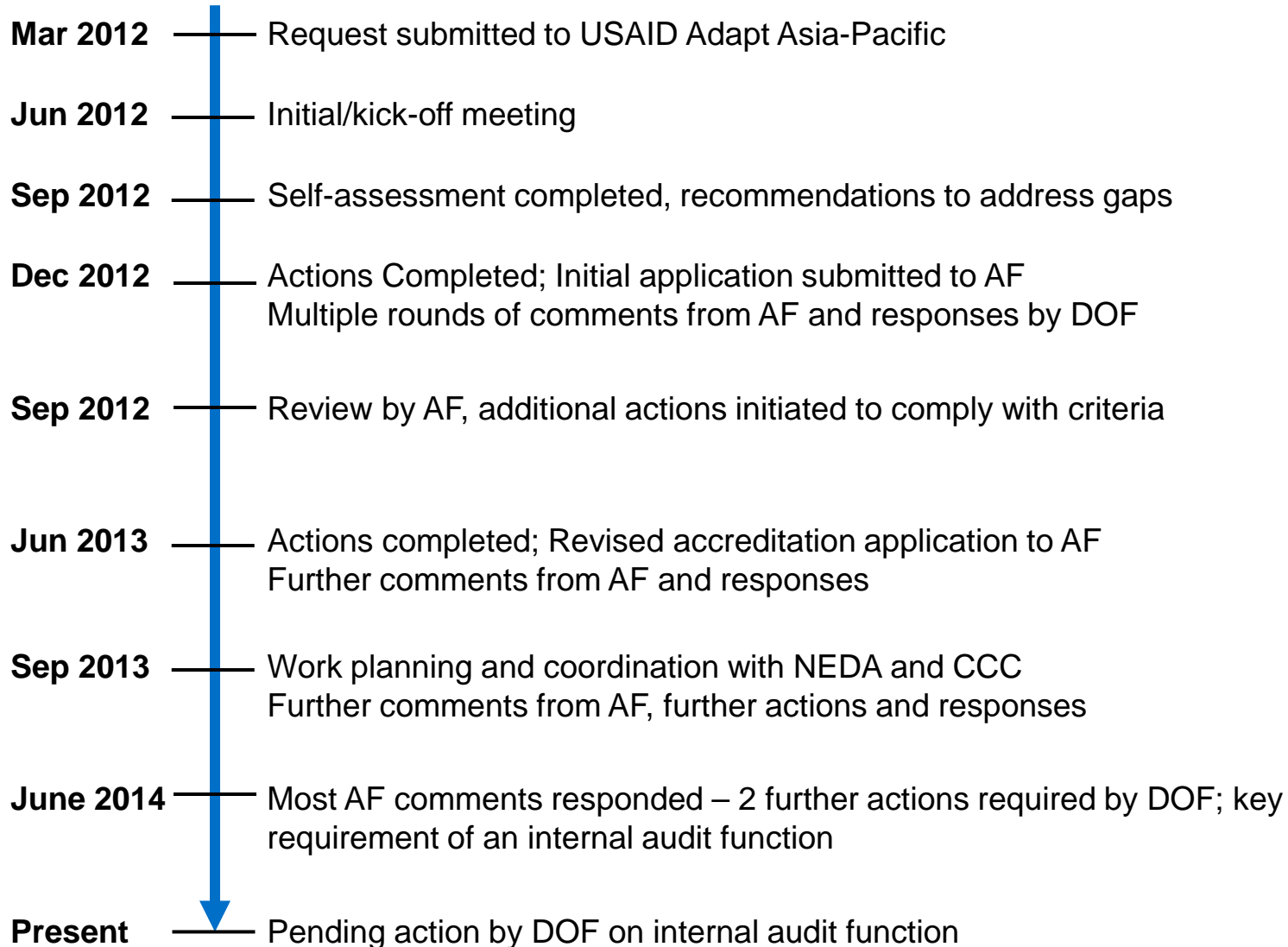- Timing – initial request by September

Support to Department of Finance, Philippines

- DOF nominated as the NIE for the Adaptation Fund

- Request submitted in early 2012, initial meeting in June 2012

- Initial assistance provided in conducting self-assessment against AF accreditation criteria and taking actions prior to application

- Subsequent assistance in drafting accreditation application, responding to multiple rounds of comments from AF, and initiating actions to comply with requirements

- TA provided through a team of international and national consultants

- The application is still pending action from DOF on recommendations by AF

Types of Support Provided to DOF

- Initial support in conducting self-assessment and identifying gaps – collated 50+ documents to support the accreditation application

- TA to take internal actions, such as improve M&E system, prepare an operations guideline, improve internal processes to comply with AF criteria

- Support to drafting and revising application – responding to each criteria

- Support to respond to comments from AF – clarification based on documents submitted, improving internal documentation, supporting further development of M&E systems and processes, and improving operational processes

- Forward looking support to operationalize DOF as a NIE – coordinate with NEDA and CCC in preparing work plans and building project pipelines

- Supporting technical drafting for government action to create internal audit function, developing operational manual, support for government decree

Support to DOF – Timeline

Mar 2012 — Request submitted to USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific

Jun 2012 — Initial/kick-off meeting

Sep 2012 — Self-assessment completed, recommendations to address gaps

Dec 2012 — Actions Completed; Initial application submitted to AF
Multiple rounds of comments from AF and responses by DOF

Sep 2012 — Review by AF, additional actions initiated to comply with criteria

Jun 2013 — Actions completed; Revised accreditation application to AF
Further comments from AF and responses

Sep 2013 — Work planning and coordination with NEDA and CCC
Further comments from AF, further actions and responses

June 2014 — Most AF comments responded – 2 further actions required by DOF; key
requirement of an internal audit function

Present — Pending action by DOF on internal audit function

Lessons from the DOF Experience

- The requirements for accreditation and direct access are quite stringent

- Financial and management integrity, institutional capacity, and transparency are all equally important – must comply with all

- Documentation is critical to an accreditation application – multiple AF questions related to clarifications on existing documents

- Need for robust M&E – documentation and processes

- Demonstrate ability to manage funds as well as develop projects

- Most importantly the AF is interested in learning how the organization will operate as a NIE

- Do not underestimate the time required to go through the process

- Have realistic expectations of what is possible within the government system

USAID Climate Change Adaptation Capacity Building Mandate

- Support qualified gov't. officials to attend short training courses

- Develop standalone capacity building programs

- Provide direct technical support to gov't. institutions - twinning, mentoring, on-the-job training

- Develop and disseminate tools, guidelines and methodologies

Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Course

- Aimed at mid-to-senior level officials of urban local bodies

- Covers from basics to climate change to CCA project preparation

- Developed in partnership with East West Center, Hawaii

- Very good reception in trials and ToT

- Over 80 officials from fourteen local governments have already taken the course – approx. 3,200 person-hours of training delivered

- Rollout through training partners in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, and Philippines who will customize and contextualize the course

USAID

Urban Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience
A Training Manual

Training Course on Managing CCA Project Preparation

- Aimed at senior level officials of national gov'ts. involved in project preparation

- Focusses on key skills to manage the project preparation process – developing SoWs, recruiting and managing consultants, responding to fund requirements

- Developed in-house with lessons from project preparation activities

- Initial trial/testing at Bangkok in partnership with CCA, AIT

- Very high demand – multiple requests from Asian countries

- Rollout through CCA, AIT & country institutions such as ILFS India

Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation

- Partnered with multilateral intermediaries (UNDP, ADB, WB) in preparing 12 approved cca projects in Asia and the Pacific
  - Lao PDR, Nepal, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Samoa (3), Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Tonga and Solomon Islands
  - US$88.2 million in adaptation financing and US$298.6 million in co-financing

- Provided direct support to national government institutions in preparing 13 projects for international and domestic financing
  - NABARD, India – 5 projects,
  - ICCTF, Indonesia – 7 projects and
  - MNRE, Samoa – 1 project

- Partnered with ADB/GIZ Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA) in preparing cca projects in local governments of Valenzuela, Philippines (US$54 million) and Mysore, India (under development) for international financing

Modalities to Access International Climate Financing

Financing can be accessed through accredited international, regional and national entities.

USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific has accessed climate financing through the following entities:

- **MIE: UNDP, ADB, and World Bank**

- **RIE: Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)**

- **NIE: National Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (NABARD), India**

- **Other entities: Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA), Manila**

Online Gender Sourcebook

- Hosted by APAN, the Sourcebook is a live document

- This Sourcebook is intended to be used mainly by individuals and teams who prepare CCA project proposals

- Provides readers with tools to help answer the question, "How do we best go about incorporating gender considerations into our CCA proposal?"

- Intended at a varied audience including gender specialists, CCA specialists, engineers, economists and others.

- Each section of the Sourcebook is self-contained; we expect that you will go directly to those sections, tools, and sectors of particular relevance to your work.

- http://asiapacificadapt.net/gender-sourcebook/

Thank You!

Bikram Ghosh
Chief of Party
USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific
D +66 26 51 8826 – extn 121 M +66 92 284 7575
bghosh@adapt-asia.org

AECOM
SG Tower, 5th Floor, Unit 506,
161/1 Soi Mahadlek Luang 3, Rajdamri Rd.,
Patumwan, Bangkok 10330 THAILAND
T +66 26 51 8826 F +66 26 51 8864
www.adaptasiapacific.org