

# ZAMBIA'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE NAP PROCESS

CLIMATE FINANCE READINESS SEMINAR FOR LEAST  
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

30 May –1 June 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

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# NAP Overview

- Zambia drew the mandate to start the NAP process from its National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) and the (then draft) National Climate Change Policy,
- The Ministry of National Development Planning has spearheaded the NAP process through the former Interim Climate Change Secretariat (ICCS).
- The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Zambia's focal point institution for climate change, is co-facilitating the implementation of the NAP process.
- The NAP development process started in 2014.

## NAP Cont'

- The NAP process is now anchored in the development of Zambia's 7NDP, which is coordinated by the Ministry of National Development and Planning.
- This is a key milestone that will ensure a coordinated approach towards building the country's resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change
- NAP is considered to be a process as well as an end product
- At the stakeholder workshops, the former ICCS was assigned a mandate to coordinate the NAP process; the Ministry of Finance was assigned a mandate to mobilise relevant resources.
- Zambia has developed a agriculture NAP and is in the process of developing the health , Water and Energy NAP.

# The importance/significance of developing NAPs

- NAP facilitates mainstreaming climate change adaptation into development plans and budgets and enables shifting from project and programmes approach to climate proofed government development interventions;
- NAP also facilitates/triggers domestic funding to climate change when national development plans and budgets take climate change adaptation into account);
- NAPs present a basis for CSO and private sector engagement in government development programmes since it enables definition of roles and responsibilities for undertaking various activities;
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# Experience of the NAP development process

- The NAP process is effective when the institutional mandates are clear on providing leadership to the process; institutional, financial and human resource capacities in the ministry responsible for overall national/development planning is important to ensure the NAP process momentum is maintained and keep participating sectors constantly engaged;
- A formal pronouncement on the designated lead agency for NAP is important to ensure country activities are harmonized and also attaches a sense of authority to the process; staff involved in development planning at all levels of government (national, provincial, district) should have knowledge of NAP, climate change mainstreaming and should have technical capacities to undertake these processes; awareness at decision-makers' level is important for NAP to take root in an institution (and not end up as a theoretical exercise undertaken simply because external support is available).
- In most cases, planners who participate in the actual development planning processes are not at decision-making level and may not have a platform to influence what processes the ministry undertakes and what activities ultimately get to the national budget for funding;
- Identifying the entry points is important for the timing of undertaking the NAP (e.g. review of policies and plans, cycle for development of the 7NDP, preparation of provincial plans) to ensure that climate change adaptation is integrated as part of the processes;

# Challenges in launching/initiating the nap process

- Unpredictable timing for NAP entry points
- Low NAP awareness in the key national planning institutions
- Absence of designated sector/provincial focal point persons for NAP
- Absence of mechanism for harmonization of NAP with on-going initiatives

# Challenges in the NAPs process and innovative solutions:

- Different understanding of what form a NAP (NAPs) should take.
- The reference to preparation of a NAP limits lines of thought to the perception that there can only be one NAP for a country.
- NAP guidelines should endeavor to clarify that the core aspect of NAP is integrating climate change adaptation into "development plans" (and these can be national, sector, provincial, district, e.t.c.) and the approach by which a country does that should be based on prevailing institutional arrangements, financial resources and human resource capacities.
- The challenge with NAP has been on the emphasis placed on the process and this poses a risk of going through the process without achieving the intended goal;
- Aligning and timing the NAP process to country development planning processes and other entry points. these processes take place in different ministries and may proceed at different paces and times and leave NAP behind; planning officers involved in development plan formulation are not necessarily those trained in NAP;
- Ensuring that what is reflected in the overall NAP is in line with sector priorities is also a challenge.
- This challenge is posed when the NAP is taken purely as a national broad process and end up putting in place issues and measures that may not be in line with the lower level development plans;



# NAP Innovation Solutions

- Started NAP in sectors where risk assessment, adaptation option and other key issues can be considered on the prevailing policy or plan;
- Undertake district and provincial NAPs to ensure assessments and adaptation options are based on prevailing regional plans;
- Consolidate the sector, provincial and district NAPs into an overall NAP based on what the lower levels of development have prioritized;

# Linking NAPs to project development and implementation

- In principle climate change adaptation options arising from a NAP process should be an integral part of government plans and not be isolated into projects and programmes (ultimately, NAP should help a country to climate proof its development plans and allocate domestic resources where possible).
- However where the adaptation option is at large scale and involving a complex technological scope requiring external resources, then that can be packaged into a project or programme but arising from a plan that has integrated adaptation (e.g. energy sector development plan screened and it prioritizes "expansion of climate resilient renewable energy like solar" but it has no capacity to undertake it within government funding, then this intervention can be done as a project;
- NAP should enable a country to continue doing its business but with an adaptation eye. emphasis should be placed at mobilizing domestic resources (government, private sector, e.t.c.).
- The approach of implementing adaptation options within the national plans can help in ensuring interventions are sustainable (reduces the risk of project ending)

# NAP linkages continues

- Multilateral Development Banks should be the last resort since even if they offer grants, usually the grant comes with a loan component. financing a project that responds to NAPs using a loan should ensure that such an investment has potential for economic returns that can meet the cost of such borrowing.
- When NAP is done as a government intervention, the concerned sector, province, district will plan and budget for it annually for example) and assures national ownership (implemented where government identifies urgent needs as opposed to donor interests (e.g. some REDD+ projects funded by donors tend to align to soft spots like areas rich in wildlife or already well stocked with forest and leaves degraded areas without interventions).

# Potential sources of fund for NAPs

- The GCF and the Adaptation Fund should be the primary external sources.
- Other multilateral sources can be explored on bilateral arrangements e.g. UN agencies (NAP Global Support Program) and government to government bilateral relations
- Multilateral Development Banks should be the last resort since even if they offer grants, usually the grant comes with a loan component. Financing a project that responds to NAPs using a loan should ensure that such an investment has potential for economic returns that can meet the cost of such borrowing. Therefore such investments should be planned in an integrated manner to ensure the economic benefits accrue to the project (e.g. construction of a dam to meet adaptation needs for water supply should support viable economic activities in agriculture (crops, livestock and fisheries, energy generation, e.t.c.)

**END OF PRESENTATION**