



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Environment

NAPA Bulletin

June – August 2010

Background

The National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) Project to Climate Change in Nepal was signed on 14th November 2008 between the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and UNDP Nepal Country Office, who are the implementing partners of NAPA project with support from the Danish International Development Agency, Global Environment Fund, and UK Department of International Development.

The project goal is to enable Nepal to respond strategically to the challenges and opportunities posed by climate change. The NAPA Project has three components:

- 1) Preparation of a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)
- 2) Development and maintenance of a learning and knowledge platform to act as a clearing platform for climate change; and
- 3) Development of a multi-stakeholder framework of action on climate change.

This is a bulletin from the NAPA Project Team to update interested stakeholders on progress of NAPA Project. More detailed information on NAPA can be found at <http://www.napanepal.gov.np/reports.php>.

National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) Project

Ministry of Environment
Singha Durbar, Kathmandu NEPAL
Phone: +977 1 4211927/4211997
Email: info@napanepal.gov.np

Draft NAPA presented in Climate Change Council Meeting

The draft National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) was presented in the 5th Climate Change Council meeting on 29 August 2010 in order to seek inputs and guidance from the Council members for the finalization of the document. This is the last step in the preparation of the NAPA before it is submitted to the Cabinet for endorsement.



The Right Hon'ble Prime Minister and members of the Climate Change Council listen to the presentation on the NAPA.

Held at the Prime Minister's Office, the meeting was chaired by the Rt. Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Madhav Kumar Nepal and attended by Honorable Ministers, Vice-Chairman and Member (Environment) of the National Planning Commission, Chief Secretary, Permanent Representative of Nepal to United Nations, and Secretaries of the Government of Nepal, and expert members of the Council.

The NAPA draft report was summarized focusing on the key features of vulnerability assessment, adaptation options prioritization process, and the prioritized adaptation projects. The Climate Change Council members recognized the importance of the NAPA process and suggested putting more emphasis on forestry issues, particularly forest fire management, grazing, and enforcement control. The members also suggested looking into the possibility of developing programs on studying land use change and its consequences. The Council agreed to move the NAPA process to finalization.

The meeting also discussed preparations for the 16th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16); indicative funding sources for the implementation of climate change activities; strengthening of the Climate Change Council Secretariat; and opening of adaptation, research, and technology windows under the Environment Protection Fund.

Formed in August 2009, the Climate Change Council consists of 25 members, including eight experts to provide policy guidance and ensure coordination on climate change activities in Nepal. The Ministry of Environment functions as the Secretariat of the Council.

Consultations on the draft NAPA conducted

In order to ensure that the NAPA reflects local opinions into consideration, the Ministry of Environment conducted regional consultations on the NAPA draft in Nepalgunj and Ilam on June 21-22 and July 11-12 respectively. After a discussion about the NAPA process, participants were consulted on the priority adaptation projects identified in the NAPA and on the proposed framework for NAPA project implementation. Approximately 100 people representing local government agencies, civil society organizations, and the media, participated in the consultations, which were organized in partnership with Practical Solution (Nepalgunj) and Namsaling Community Development Center (Ilam). A public comment period was also opened from July 25th through August 6th. Comments elicited during the consultations are being incorporated in the final version of the NAPA.

MoE and NAST to set up climate change knowledge management center in Nepal

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) are collaborating to establish the first climate change knowledge management center in the country. The center, which will be embedded within NAST, will serve as a dedicated facility for managing climate change knowledge in the country. Its purpose is to strengthen inter-disciplinary climate change research in Nepal and facilitate the delivery of information and knowledge required for formulating climate change responses in the country.

The partnership between MoE and NAST to establish this center builds upon the collective strengths and institutional mandates of the MoE, the focal agency for coordinating climate change activities in Nepal and NAST, the apex body for the development and promotion of science and technology in the country. Under this partnership, NAST will receive a seed grant from the NAPA project to establish the center.



Mr. Purushottam Ghimire (left) National Project Director, NAPA Project & Joint Secretary, MoE, and Dr. Dinesh Raj Bhujju (right), Chief, Faculty of Science, NAST sign the agreement to establish the climate change knowledge management center in the country.

Young researchers garnered award to carry out adaptation research

Twenty nine young researchers, representing 12 research proposals, were chosen as recipients of the *Applied Research Grants for Climate Change Adaptation* under the NAPA project. Each research project receives a grant award of up to 150,000 NRS towards research-related expenses.

Ninety eight proposals - covering a wide range of adaptation topics from all over the country - competed for the grant awards. Proposals were evaluated based on their relevance in current climate change discussions, practicality of approach and methodology, innovativeness, and track record of proponents. The final decision also reflects the need for adequate regional, thematic, and gender coverage.

The following are the grant award winners:

Bipin Chandra Ghimire, Jyotendra Jyu Thakuri, Shyam Prasad Adhikari
*Assessment of status of *Ibisbill Ibidorhybcha struthersii* for adaptation to climate change in central Nepal*

Dipesh Chapagain
Assessment of the impacts of climate change on cardamom production and vulnerability of the farmers with proposed adaptation measures in eastern hilly area of Nepal

Kabindra Dhakal, Mr. Govinda Khanal

Assessment of water resources vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in high altitude areas of Nepal: A Case Study from Langtang Valley, Rasuwa

Krishna Lamsal, Manoj Aryal, Sudhir Poudel

Building resilience of farmers to climate change impacts in selected VDCs of Syangja District

Muna Sharma, Subash Dahal

Assessment of the impacts of climate change and local adaptation measures in agriculture sector and livelihoods of indigenous community in high hills of Sankhuwasabha District

Nagendra Bastakoti, Sulochana Dhital

Developing effective management strategies for enhancing agricultural production in Nepal in the context of climate change

Pramila Shrestha

Climate change impacts on river dynamics of Bagmati Basin, Kathmandu, Nepal

Santosh Karki, Mukesh Bhattarai, Arbindra Shrestha, Sunil Thapa

GIS based flood hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment of people due to climate change

Shambhu Charmakar

Exploring existing local adaptation practices and potential strategic options to address climate change impacts on biodiversity and its dependents

Kamal Raj Rai, Binaya Joshi, Yogendra Man Shrestha

Improving Climate Change Resilience through Uncultivated Food Crops

Suchita Shrestha, Anita Shrestha, Rameshwor Kaphle

Gender perspectives: Integrating Energy Resources Use into Climate Change Adaptation

Arjun Kumar Luitel, Soni Aryal, Pratistha Singh, and Sunil Acharya

Climate change, its impacts on agriculture, and adaptation strategies in Chitwan District

The research grant competition aims to encourage students, young researchers, and practitioners by publicly recognizing their potential and providing them with financial resources and learning opportunities to carry out research projects that can potentially contribute climate change adaptation discourses and implementation.

Senior officials oriented on climate change negotiations

Thirty senior government officials and representatives from NGOs, academe, and media completed the training workshop on climate change negotiations organised by the Ministry of Environment and UNDP Nepal under the expanded National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) Project.

The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Nepal to promote its national interest in international climate change negotiations. The participants were the officials who would be involved in the negotiations as actual negotiators or as part of the expert teams who would advise and support the negotiators in following different negotiations tracks.

The training workshop was inaugurated by Honorable Thakur Prasad Sharma, Minister for Environment, and presided by Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Environment.

Ms. Bernarditas Muller, the lead negotiator and coordinator of Group 77 and China in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and Dr. Saleemul Huq, a renowned adaptation scientist served as resource persons. Joining them as resource persons are veteran Nepali negotiators Mr. Batu Uprety, Joint Secretary and Chief, Climate Change Management Division and Mr. Purushottam Ghimire, Joint Secretary, Environment Division and National Project Director of NAPA Project.

The participants discussed the substance and process of international climate change negotiations. They learnt methods to develop and present national position on issues for actual negotiation process.



Participants review the draft text of the ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) and prepare their position for the climate change negotiations simulation exercise.

The training workshop culminated with a negotiation simulation on the draft text of the ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action (AWG-LCA) under the UNFCCC which will be one of the key subjects of negotiations in the upcoming 16th UNFCCC Conference of Parties in Cancun as well as in the inter-sessional negotiations.

The workshop is part of the broader effort to establish a climate change knowledge management platform in Nepal, being supported by the Embassy of Denmark and UK Department for International Development under the NAPA Project. **(Adopted with revisions from UNDP Newsletter, Issue 43, July 2010)**

The NAPA Project is supported by:

