



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Environment

NAPA Bulletin

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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 (background, modalities, inception phase progress etc) can be found at <http://www.napanepal.gov.np/reports.php>

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Ministry of Environment forms multi-stakeholder committee for coordinating climate change initiatives

The first meeting of the Multi-Stakeholder Climate Change Initiative Coordination Committee (MCCICC) was convened in the auspicious presence of the Honorable Minister for Environment Mr. Thakur Prasad Sharma on 14 May 2010 at the Ministry of Environment meeting hall.



Participants of the multi-stakeholder coordination meeting exchanging updates on various climate change initiatives in Nepal

Convened under the chairmanship of Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, the meeting was attended by coordinators of the NAPA six thematic working groups, National Project Directors of the climate change related projects, representatives of the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers, local governments, academe and development partners. Ministry of Environment (MoE) officials and NAPA Project Team also participated. The participants exchanged updates about ongoing, upcoming, and planned climate change initiatives in

Nepal and discussed how collaboration could be carried out in a more effective and strategic manner. The participants lauded the MCCICC as a significant breakthrough towards fostering a unified and coordinated climate change response in Nepal. Approved by the Ministry of Environment on 28 April 2010, the MCCICC is designed to serve as a key national platform for ensuring regular dialogue and consultations on climate change related policies, plans, financing, programmes/projects and activities. By coordinating at the functional and operational level, the MCCICC complements the higher policy level coordination carried out by the Climate Change Council. The recently-established Climate Change Management Division at MoE serves as the Secretariat of the Committee, which will meet at least once every quarter.

NAPA Thematic Working Groups identified six priority projects to address urgent and immediate adaptation needs in Nepal

The workshop on NAPA project prioritization was a success as unanimous agreement was reached on the most important climate adaptation response measures pertaining to the “urgent and immediate” climate adaptation needs criteria set by the Least Developed Countries Fund. The government-led NAPA Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) identified the six highest priority projects to address urgent and immediate adaptation needs in Nepal. The selection was made on the basis of the thematic assessment reports, vulnerability assessments, and a wide range of stakeholder consultations conducted by the TWGs over the past 18 months.

The selection of prioritized short list of projects is the final process towards the preparation of the draft NAPA document following the guidelines from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The six priority projects, which will form the basis for the funding proposal to the Least Developed Countries Fund, are flood management; construction of water retention structures along the Bagmati Watershed Area; evidence generation through research for mitigating public health impacts of climate change in Nepal; promotion and upscaling of water multi-use system; integrated watershed management in Terai; and on-farm soil and water conservation.

The project prioritization workshop, conducted from May 28th to 29th at Park Village Hotel in Kathmandu, was attended by NAPA TWG coordinators and facilitators, NAPA project team, and Ministry of Environment officials. Consultants working on a technical assistance project funded by the Asian Development Bank to help the Government of Nepal prepare project proposals for submission to the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) also participated in the workshop. Their participation was important to ensure synergy between the NAPA and the PPCR.

72 journalists completed Climate Training for Media

Seventy two journalists graduated from the Climate Training for Media, which was organized by the NAPA Project as part of the effort to establish a climate change knowledge management platform in Nepal. Recognizing its role as the frontline source of news and information, the training aims to enhance the participants' skill in researching and writing various climate stories - ranging from the science and impacts of climate variability and change, international climate change policy regime, national and local responses.

The national training was held from March 15th to 18th in Dhulikhel and produced 25 graduates from various media organizations all over the country. Experts from ISET Nepal facilitated a field visit to Paanckhal, a community reeling under water scarcity. The regional training was conducted in the Far Western region from May 20th to 22nd in Dhangadhi produced 47 graduates. The training was conducted in collaboration with the Achham-based Social Empowerment and Building Accessibility Centre Nepal (SEBAC). Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD) facilitated the site visit in Gadaria, Kailali District.



Participants of the media climate training in Dhulikhel work together to pool materials from the field visit in Paanckhal. Several participants published or aired stories about Paanckhal after the training.

The training structure and content was developed by the NAPA Project Team in collaboration with international resource persons Mr. Alex Kirby, who worked in various capacities at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) for 26 years and Mr. Quamrul Chowdhury, a journalist with the National New Agency in Bangladesh who also serves as a principal negotiator for G-77 and China in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Training materials are available upon request at info@napanepal.gov.np.



Participants of the media training in the Far Western Region during their field visit in Gadaria, Kailali District, observe how climate change is impacting ecosystems and communities.

98 proposals compete for climate change adaptation research grants

The NAPA Project/Ministry of Environment received a large number of applications in response to the call for proposals launched under the NAPA Project to encourage students and young professionals in Nepal to engage in applied research that would inform the design and practice of climate change responses at various governance levels. Ninety eight proposals, covering a wide range of adaptation topics from all over the country, will compete for 10 to 15 research grants. The evaluation of proposals is now underway.

MoE and NAPA coordinating ministries visit Bangladesh

Eleven officials and specialists from the Ministry of Environment and the six NAPA coordinating ministries, namely the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Physical Planning and Works/Department of Urban Development and Building Construction, participated in a learning tour to Bangladesh.

The learning tour enabled the officials and specialists involved in the NAPA process in Nepal to learn from Bangladesh's experience in developing its NAPA document; establish professional network with experts and agencies working on climate change in Bangladesh; and observe first-hand the climate change vulnerabilities in Bangladesh and strategies implemented to manage climate risks.

The officials visited the places affected by cyclones Sidr and Aila and various community based adaptation projects. They held meetings with the Climate Change Cell at the Ministry of Environment and Forest, and non-governmental agencies, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Bangladesh Center for Advance Studies, and Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Service.

The NAPA Project is supported by:



Nepal
