



# A GLIMPSE INTO THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS IN NEPAL

## BUILDING CAPACITY TO ADVANCE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS IN NEPAL

### BACKGROUND

Climate change adaptation is fundamental to safeguard climate vulnerable communities and ecosystems. As climate change continued to affect people and resources adversely, Nepal prepared the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in September 2010 to address such impacts. Nepal also prepared the National Framework on Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) to implement adaptation actions at the local level and ensure integration of climate change adaptation into local to national planning process. Furthermore, the National Climate Change Policy 2019, provides policy guidance to various levels and thematic areas towards developing a resilient society by reducing the risk of climate change impacts.

The number of climate vulnerable people is increasing over the years due to climate-induced disasters. Several scientific literatures reveal that with the business-as-usual scenario of greenhouse gas emission, the impacts are very likely to couple up in the coming decades. Thus, it is of utmost importance to prepare ourselves to medium and long-term impacts

by building adaptive capacity, and enhancing resilience to climate change. In addition, as NAPA also addresses only the most urgent and immediate adaptation needs, formulation of plans that addresses the medium and long-term adaptation needs has become imperative. Accordingly, Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its Sixteenth Session (COP 16) decided to formulate and implement the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). Adhering to this decision, Nepal started a process to formulate and implement NAP.

### FROM NAPA TO NAP

The UNFCCC opens avenues to support the LDCs. In 2001, the 7th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 7) in Marrakesh, Morocco decided to support the preparation and implementation of NAPA. For about a decade, LDCs were engaged in accessing fund, preparing NAPA, and implementing adaptation actions as



prioritized in their NAPAs. In 2005, the Parties launched the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change to promote sharing of information and knowledge for adaptation.

The COP 16 at Cancun in 2010, under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, established a process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement NAPs, and established Adaptation Committee, including a work programme on loss and damage. Article 7 of the Paris Agreement in 2015, establishes the global goal on adaptation, and calls Parties to engage in adaptation planning process, such as formulation and implementation of NAPs, share experiences and lessons learned on support needs, plans and actions through adaptation communication and actively participate in global stocktake to enhance implementation of adaptation actions.

In LDCs, NAP process will build upon the experiences of preparing and implementing NAPAs, as a means of (a) identifying medium and long-term adaptation needs; and (b) developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address adaptation needs. From COP 17 at Durban, South Africa to COP 21 at Paris, several decisions have been made to expedite the NAP process. The COP 17 decided initial guidelines on NAPs, whereas the COP 20 invited LDCs to forward outputs, including NAP documents, and outcomes related to the NAP process to the NAP Central .

The LDC Expert Group (LEG ) in 2012 prepared the NAP Technical Guidelines. Later in 2014 and 2015, the LEG organized training in order to develop human resources on the NAP formulation process in the LDCs. In the meantime, the LEG also encouraged LDCs to engage themselves in this process so as to meet the above objectives.

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE NAP:

- A. To reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, by building adaptive capacity and resilience; and
- B. To facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular, development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.

1. Article 4.9 of the Convention states that 'Parties shall take full account of the specific needs and special situation of the LDCs in their actions with regard to funding and transfer of technology'.

2. COP 7 adopted a package of decisions to support LDCs with a separate work programme for LDCs (decision 5/CP.7); LDC Fund (decision 5 & 7/CP.7); guidelines for NAPA preparation (decision 28/CP.7) and LDC Expert Group (decision 29/CP.7)

3. Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 15

4. [https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris\\_nov\\_2015/application/pdf/paris\\_agreement\\_english\\_.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris_nov_2015/application/pdf/paris_agreement_english_.pdf)

## **NEPAL NAP PROJECT – “BUILDING CAPACITY TO ADVANCE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS IN NEPAL”**

To identify and address the country's medium- and long-term adaptation needs to climate change, the Government of Nepal officially launched the NAP formulation process in 2015, adhering to the Cancun Adaptation Framework. At present, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is executing the NAP process through the project, “Building Capacity to Advance National Adaptation Plan Process in Nepal,” with financial aid from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Building on the experiences of the NAPA formulation and implementation, this GCF-NAP project supports the Climate Change Management Division (CCMD) of the Ministry of Forests and Environment in the formulation process, through a multi-sectoral working group approach, and emphasizing “leave no one behind” as the guiding principle.

To sustain climate change vulnerabilities, the nation needs to put its system in place and build its adaptive capacity. Aware of this, the NAP process functions to analyze current and future climate change scenarios and further assess vulnerability to its impacts. Precisely speaking, the NAP formulation process provides a basis for analyzing, prioritizing, and implementing multiple adaptation integration measures in the national planning, decision-making, and budgeting process to help the nation become more resistant to climate change impacts.

### **THE GCF SUPPORTED NAP PROJECT AIMS TO:**

- a. Strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of the government of Nepal at the national and local level to advance the NAP process
- b. Contribute to reducing climate vulnerability by integrating CCA into existing and new policies, strategies and programmes
- c. Establish and strengthen the system to generate and share knowledge, experience, lessons learned, gaps and needs at international (NAP Expo, side-events during COPs sessions and SBs meetings), national and sub-national levels to advance CCA for the benefit of the poor people and restoration of ecosystem restoration
- d. Develop a strategy to implement, monitor, and communicate adaptation benefits at different levels.



5 Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 9.

6 Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 15.



## APPROACHES FOR THE NAP FORMULATION

Nepal's NAP process builds on the NAPA experiences, and maintains a country-driven, participatory, multi-disciplinary and gender-sensitive approach. Medium and long-term perspective of the NAP process require sustained and iterative adaptation planning and ensure integration of CCA into local to national development planning processes. Hence, NAP process in Nepal seeks to promote integration of adaptation into policies, plans and programmes and reduce climate vulnerability. In addition, NAP process in Nepal will be scientific evidence-based to the extent possible considering the IPCC fifth assessment report, while assessing vulnerability and risk and adaptation options appraisal, among others.

MoFE is leading the national process to identify and prioritise medium and long-term adaptation actions. The preparation of the NAP document undertakes the following approaches:

### **A. BUILD SYNERGY WITH ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION & PROMOTE NATURE-BASED SOLUTION TO ADAPTATION:**

Recalling the experiences and lessons learned, recognising the synergistic benefits, and need for supporting livelihood through adaptation options, the NAP process will integrate ecosystem and community-based approaches to adaptation, while promoting nature-based solutions.

### **B. PROMOTING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK:**

In major initiatives, Nepal has a culture of engaging multiple stakeholders to inform and ensure their participation, including of climate vulnerable communities, and women. Each thematic and cross-cutting working groups will ensure participation of women, and make the group inclusive in terms of geographical areas (through consultation programmes), representation of minorities, and marginalised and disadvantaged groups. Nepal's NAP



underscores the importance of 'leave no one behind' during the entire process. Engagement of multi-stakeholder in the NAP process through extensive consultations will enhance ownership of the NAP project and promote transparency, participatory and gender-sensitivity and offer flexibilities as per the national needs.

#### **C. FEDERAL LEVEL COORDINATION THROUGH ESTABLISHING AND FUNCTIONALISING THE WORKING GROUPS OF THEMATIC AND CROSS-CUTTING AREAS:**

MoFE engages eight thematic working groups (TWGs) and four cross-cutting working groups (CWGs) in the NAP formulation process to cover climate change sensitive sectors. The TWGs are on: (i) Agriculture and food security; (ii) Forests, biodiversity and watershed conservation; (iii) Disaster risk reduction and management; (iv) Health, drinking water and sanitation; (v) Industry, transport and physical infrastructure; (vi) Rural and urban settlements; (vii) Tourism, natural and cultural heritage; and (viii) Water resources and energy. The CWGs are on (i) Gender and social inclusion (GESI), livelihood and governance; (ii) Awareness raising and capacity building; (iii) Research technology development and extension; and (iv) Climate finance management. While preparing the NAPA, six thematic areas were identified and engaged, however, based on the NAPA experiences, three additional areas were

identified for the NAP process viz. tourism, natural and cultural heritage as one thematic area and gender and marginalized group (social inclusion), and livelihoods and governance as a cross-cutting area.

#### **D. VERTICAL COORDINATION THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MOBILISATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (PC4):**

PC4 has been established at seven ministries to steer and coordinate climate change issues at the provinces. These PC4 will be engaged in a consultation process, while formulating the NAP for Nepal.

#### **E. UTILISING EXISTING COORDINATION MECHANISM:**

The MoFE aims to optimize the use of existing coordination mechanisms to achieve the desired outcomes of the NAP process. The Inter-Ministerial Climate Change Coordination Committee (IMCCCC) established in 2020 and chaired by the Secretary at the MoFE, will ensure overall coordination and guidance for the NAP process. The respective TWGs and CWGs will ensure thematic and sector coordination. The Technical Committee chaired by the UNFCCC focal point for Nepal, will coordinate at technical level. This Committee will also be represented by TWGs/CWGs, local bodies, academia and research organizations, NGOs working on climate change, experts and private sector.



This will ensure harmonisation of ongoing efforts and integrate outcomes into the NAP.

#### **F. BUILDING CAPACITY AND ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING ON CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION:**

The NAPA preparation and implementation process in Nepal created awareness and enhanced capacity on CCA. The NAP process is expected to enhance awareness, and scale-up national capacity in general, and capacity of the government officials and stakeholders, in particular. It engages sector ministries to coordinate the thematic and cross-cutting areas.

#### **G. BUILDING OWNERSHIP AND AVOIDING DUPLICATIONS:**

Experiences of the NAPA preparation process, Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR), the Third National Communications (TNC), the Enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (eNDC) and other climate change projects, and consultative mechanisms practiced in Nepal have encouraged in promoting working group approach with multi-stakeholder engagement in order to develop ownership and transparency. Such approach will promote sharing of information and knowledge on efforts and help in avoiding duplications. Respective ministry for the thematic and cross-cutting areas coordinates the concerned working groups. About 12,000 people are expected to be engaged during consultations and review at different stages of the NAP process.

#### **H. ENSURING GENDER-RESPONSIVE AND INCLUSIVENESS:**

The NAP process accords high priority for inclusiveness, particularly of the marginalized and disadvantaged communities, indigenous and traditional groups, disabled, women and youths among others. The NAP process will ensure that it is inclusive of all stakeholders and is gender sensitive in its approaches so that its benefit is enjoyed by all adhering to the core principal of the NAP process as mentioned in the NAP technical guidelines.

#### **I. GENERATING, UTILIZING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND GOOD PRACTICES:**

Adaptation information, including traditional and indigenous knowledge and practices; good and ‘failure’ practices will be collected, collated and utilized at different stages of the NAP process. This will help us to reflect ourselves in the process and promotes ‘up-scaling’ of the best practices and lessons learned from the failure.

#### **J. SUPPLEMENTING TO DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS WITH INTEGRATION OF ADAPTATION ACTIONS:**

Nepal accords high priority to adaptation as a survival strategy for poor and vulnerable communities. Hence, adaptation options identified in the NAP will supplement the development efforts of the country that are aimed at reducing poverty; improving people’s livelihood and building resilience.

#### **K. ALIGNING WITH NATIONAL POLICIES AND LINKING WITH RECENT INITIATIVES:**

The NAP will be aligned with new and existing sectoral policies, strategies and programmes. It will equally consider and align with Sendai Framework on Disaster Risks Reduction, and Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030).



Government of Nepal  
Ministry of Forests and Environment

## Climate Change Management Division

# NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN FORMULATION PROCESS IN NEPAL

**Approach:** Country-driven, gender responsive, participatory & inclusive, concerned ministry-led working groups synergizing EbA and CSA country practices and experiences, establishing and strengthening provincial institutions and ensuring vertical coordination, aligning with the DRR framework and SDGs processes and national development priorities.

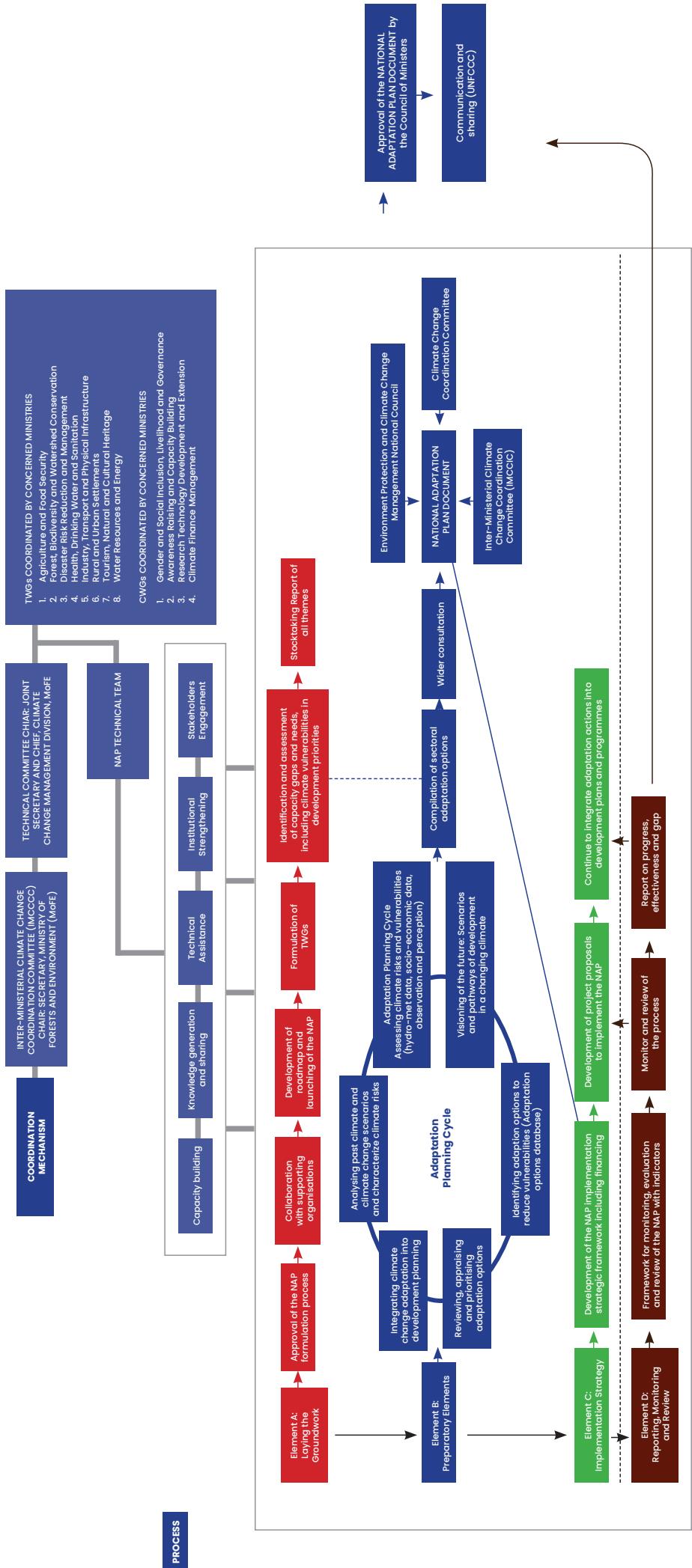


Figure 1: NAP Process in Nepal

## STAKEHOLDERS OF THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS

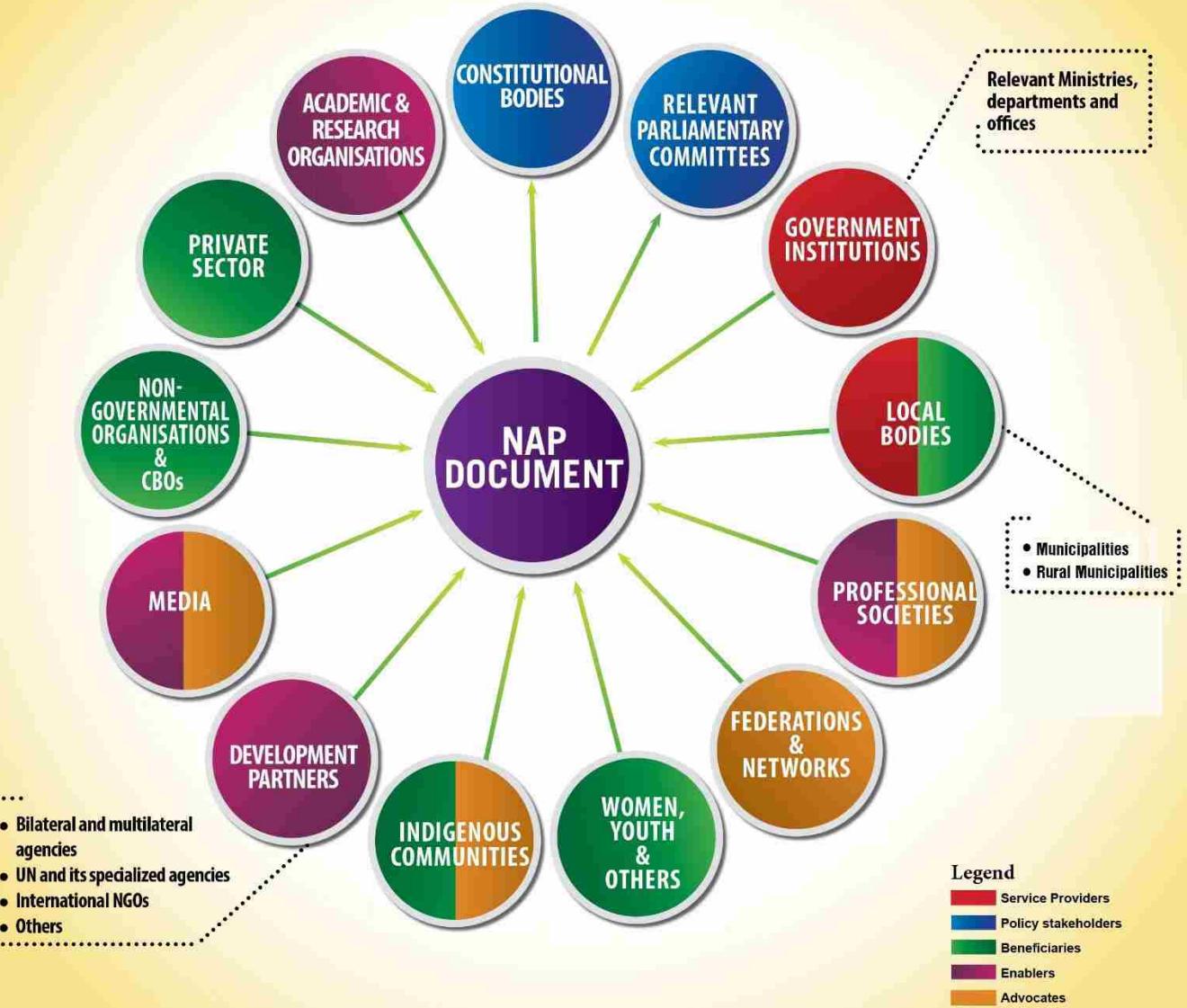


Figure 2: NAP Stakeholders

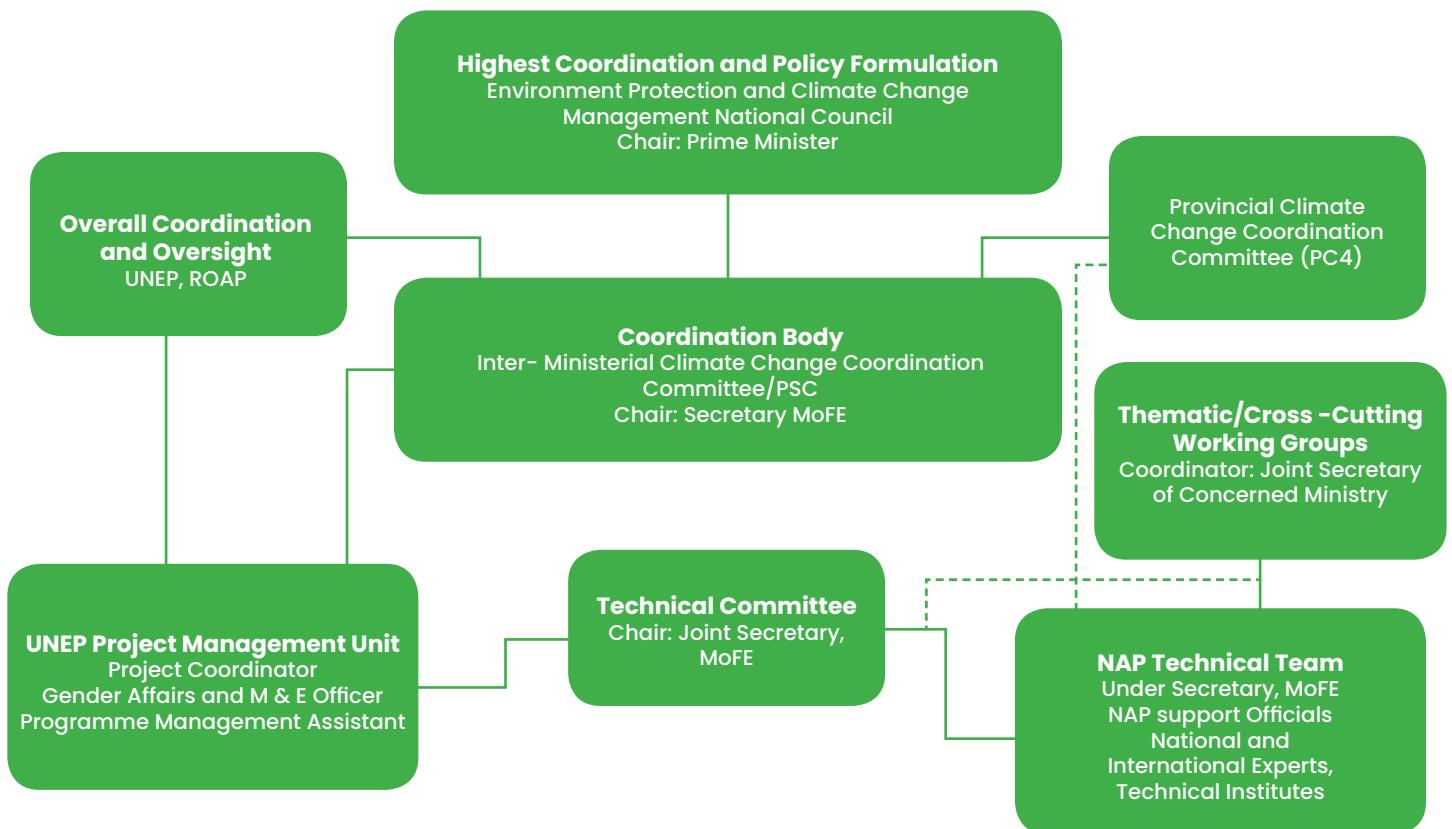


Figure 3: Implementation Modality

## OUTCOME DOCUMENTS

The NAP is both a ‘process’ and ‘product’. The process will help in creating awareness and building capacity to adapt and build resilience to climate change impacts, and enhancing understanding on adaptation planning in order to meet the twin objectives of the NAP. The product will be a NAP document to address

medium- and long-term adaptation needs of the country.

During the NAP process, the following documents will be prepared and shared. A single NAP document will include climate change sensitive themes and sectors.

Elements	Deliverables
A: laying the groundwork	Stocktaking report Stakeholder's mapping and actors profile Capacity gaps, needs and barrier analysis report Development priorities and climate sensitivity report NAP road map (refined) with detail work plan
B: Preparatory work	Past and future climate change scenario report Vulnerability and risk assessment report Compilation of climate change adaptation options Prioritisation of adaptation options for medium and long-term Climate-resilient development visioning report NAP DOCUMENT Report on integration of adaptation into development
C: Implementation strategy	NAP implementation strategic framework (including financing framework)
D: Reporting, monitoring and review	Framework for monitoring, evaluation and review of NAP with indicators

# PROJECT BRIEF

Building Capacity to Advance National Adaptation Plan Process in Nepal

<b>Guiding Decisions</b>	<p><b>Cancun decision 1/CP.16</b> in 2010: formulate and implement national adaptation plans to identify medium- and long-term adaptation needs</p> <p><b>Durban decision 5/CP.17</b> in 2011: NAP initial guidelines and modalities for LDCs</p> <p><b>Paris Agreement Article 7</b> in 2015: Adaptation-para 9: Process to formulate and implement NAPs</p>
<b>Guiding Principles (decision 5/CP.17)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous planning process at the national level with iterative updates and outputs</li> <li>• Country-owned, country-driven</li> <li>• Non-prescriptive, but flexible and based on country needs</li> <li>• Building on and not duplicating existing adaptation efforts</li> <li>• Participatory and transparent</li> </ul>
<b>Aims</b>	<p>To achieve reduction of the vulnerability and risk of climate change and further integrate Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) into development planning through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and enhance country capacity to promote CCA at systematic, institutional and individual levels; and help poor and vulnerable communities in adapting and building resilience to climate change impacts;</li> <li>• Contribute to the reduction of climate vulnerability by integrating CCA into existing and new policies, strategies and programmes;</li> <li>• Establish and/or strengthen a system to generate and share knowledge, experience, lessons learned, gaps and needs at international, national and sub-national levels to advance CCA for the benefit of the poor people and restoration of ecosystem; and</li> <li>• Develop strategy to implement, monitor and communicate adaptation benefits at different levels.</li> </ul>
<b>Global Approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing and functionalize thematic and cross-cutting working groups and Provincial Climate Change Coordination Committee to coordinate multi-stakeholder thematic areas</li> <li>• Utilising existing coordination mechanisms;</li> <li>• Building capacity and enhancing understanding on climate change adaptation;</li> <li>• Building ownership and avoiding duplications on efforts;</li> <li>• Promoting multi-stakeholder participation;</li> <li>• Building on experiences of NAPA, LAPA, resilience and other good practices</li> <li>• Ensuring gender-sensitivity and inclusiveness; 'LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND'</li> <li>• Generating, utilising and sharing knowledge and good practices;</li> <li>• Supplementing to 'development efforts' with integration of adaptation actions;</li> <li>• Aligning with national policies and linking with recent initiatives (Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals); and</li> <li>• Synergising ecosystem-based and community-based adaptations.</li> </ul>
<b>Four Elements of the NAP Formulation Process</b>	<p><b>Laying the groundwork and addressing gaps</b> – initiating and launching, stocktaking, addressing capacity gaps, and assessing development needs and climate vulnerabilities</p> <p><b>Preparatory elements</b> – identify specific needs, options and priorities on a country-driven basis; design and develop plan; assess medium- and long-term adaptation needs, and development needs and climate vulnerabilities; integrate adaptation into national and sectoral planning, conduct stakeholder consultations, communication, awareness and education</p> <p><b>Implementation strategies</b> – prioritize and strengthen institutional and regulatory framework, and capacity building</p> <p><b>Reporting, monitoring and review</b> – regular review to address inefficiencies, monitor and review efforts undertaken, and provide information in the national communication on progress and effectiveness of the NAP process</p>
<b>Launching &amp; Duration</b>	November 2018 – October 2021
<b>Financial Support</b>	Green Climate Fund
<b>Executing Agency</b>	United Nations Environment Programme
<b>Project Components</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical and institutional capacity for the NAP process in Nepal;</li> <li>• Climate information system for prioritizing adaptation needs;</li> <li>• Funding strategy for the NAP process; and</li> <li>• Monitoring, reviewing and knowledge sharing to learn from the NAP process in Nepal.</li> </ul>

<b>Project Outcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National and provincial government institutions are capable of integrating CCA into development policy and plans</li> <li>Meteorological Offices and Sectoral Ministries are able to use up to date climate information for risk assessment and appraisal of adaption interventions</li> <li>Government of Nepal endorses resource mobilization strategy for medium and long-term CCA investment including private sector engagement</li> <li>National and Sectoral Planning Unit of the key Ministries are capable of reviewing, monitoring and communicating results of the NAP process</li> </ul>																												
<b>Project Impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerability of key economic sectors and people are addressed and climate resilient development promoted in Nepal by capacitating national and provincial government institutions;</li> <li>Enhance effective use of climate change adaptation finance for vulnerable population, sectors and regions by bringing synergies and avoided duplication of efforts through coordination among key ministries and partnership with private sectors.</li> </ul>																												
<b>Thematic and Cross cutting Areas</b>	<p><b>a. Theme-based Working Groups and its Coordinating Ministries</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="498 615 895 682">Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)</th><th data-bbox="895 615 1435 682">Coordinating Ministries</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 682 895 750">Agriculture and Food Security</td><td data-bbox="895 682 1435 750">Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 750 895 817">Forest, Biodiversity and Watershed Conservation</td><td data-bbox="895 750 1435 817">Ministry of Forests and Environment</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 817 895 884">Water Resources and Energy</td><td data-bbox="895 817 1435 884">Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 884 895 952">Rural and Urban Settlements</td><td data-bbox="895 884 1435 952">Ministry of Urban Development</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 952 895 1019">Industry, Transportation and Physical Infrastructure</td><td data-bbox="895 952 1435 1019">Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transportation/ Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1019 895 1087">Tourism, Natural and Cultural Heritage</td><td data-bbox="895 1019 1435 1087">Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1087 895 1154">Health, Drinking Water and Sanitation</td><td data-bbox="895 1087 1435 1154">Ministry of Health and Population/Ministry of Water Supply</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1154 895 1221">Disaster Risk Reduction and Management</td><td data-bbox="895 1154 1435 1221">Ministry of Home Affairs</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>b. Cross-cutting Working Groups and Coordinating Ministries</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="498 1334 895 1401">Cross-cutting Working Groups (CWGs)</th><th data-bbox="895 1334 1435 1401">Coordinating Ministries</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1401 895 1468">Gender &amp; Social Inclusion, Livelihood and Governance</td><td data-bbox="895 1401 1435 1468">Ministry of Women, Children and Senior citizen</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1468 895 1536">Awareness Raising and Capacity Building</td><td data-bbox="895 1468 1435 1536">Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1536 895 1603">Research, Technology Development and Extension</td><td data-bbox="895 1536 1435 1603">Ministry of Forests and Environment</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="498 1603 895 1671">Climate Finance Management</td><td data-bbox="895 1603 1435 1671">Ministry of Finance</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)	Coordinating Ministries	Agriculture and Food Security	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development	Forest, Biodiversity and Watershed Conservation	Ministry of Forests and Environment	Water Resources and Energy	Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation	Rural and Urban Settlements	Ministry of Urban Development	Industry, Transportation and Physical Infrastructure	Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transportation/ Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies	Tourism, Natural and Cultural Heritage	Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation	Health, Drinking Water and Sanitation	Ministry of Health and Population/Ministry of Water Supply	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management	Ministry of Home Affairs	Cross-cutting Working Groups (CWGs)	Coordinating Ministries	Gender & Social Inclusion, Livelihood and Governance	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior citizen	Awareness Raising and Capacity Building	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology	Research, Technology Development and Extension	Ministry of Forests and Environment	Climate Finance Management	Ministry of Finance
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<b>Reports/ Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stocktaking report</li> <li>Stakeholder mapping and actor profile</li> <li>Development priority &amp; climate sensitivity report</li> <li>Climate change trend and scenario report</li> <li>Capacity gaps, needs and barrier analysis report</li> <li>Climate change vulnerability and risk assessment report</li> <li>Policy gaps and recommendations report</li> <li>Compilation of climate change adaptation options</li> <li>Prioritization of adaptation options for medium and long term</li> <li>NAP document</li> <li>NAP implementation strategy framework</li> <li>Framework for monitoring, evaluation and review of NAP with indicators</li> <li>Climate change finance strategy for Nepal</li> </ul>																												



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