



NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (NAP) ROADMAP FOR LAO PDR

NOVEMBER 2022

Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to
Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process



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Forward

The Government of Lao PDR, under the responsibility of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, has prepared the roadmap to identify key steps on developing its NAP with an effort to address climate change impacts. This roadmap has been prepared as a result of national and sub-national level consultations with government agencies, academia, civil society and other stakeholders involved in climate change adaptation. The objective of the roadmap is to identify key activities that will realize the country's NAP, their timelines, as well as key actors responsible for their delivery. The roadmap divides the scope of work into the four main elements guided by the UNFCCC LEG Technical Guidelines, including i) laying the groundwork and addressing gaps; ii) preparatory elements; iii) implementation strategy; and iv) reporting, monitoring and review of the NAP process. Moving forward, the Lao PDR will clearly develop the NAP and mainstream climate change into all sectoral and sub-national development plans based on this roadmap. The Government of Laos appreciates the support provided by the GEF, UNEP and other stakeholders in the development of this roadmap.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCAP	Climate Change Action Plan
CCTWG	Climate Change Technical Working Group
COP	United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
DCC	Department of Climate Change
DONRE	District Office of Natural Resources and Environment
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GHG	Green House Gas
GIZ	German Agency for International Cooperation
GoL	Government of Lao PDR
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
Lao PDR	Lao People Democratic Republic
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LEGs	Least Developed Countries Expert Groups
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NSEDP	National Socio-Economic Development Plan
NCCS	National Climate Change Strategy
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mines
MIC	Ministry of industry and Commerce
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports
MoNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MPWT	Ministry of Public Works and Transport
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verifying

MTT	Ministry of Telecommunication and Technology
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NC	National Communication
NECCC	National Environment and Climate Change Committee
NGOs	None Government Organisations
NSCCC	National Steering Committee on Climate Change
PDNA	Post-Disaster Needs Assessment
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WFP	World Food Programme
WWF	World Wild Fund for Nature

Executive Summary

The Lao Peoples Democratic Republic is the only landlocked country in Southeast Asia. With its core natural resources (forests, waterways, etc.), it contributes significantly to mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. Subsistence agriculture still accounts for half of the GDP and provides 80% of employment. In light of this, Laos is forced to take urgent adaptive measures to cope with the impacts of global warming. Mindful of the Sustainable Development Goals, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for Laos is a national initiative designed to effectively address climate-related challenges in the pursuit of sustainable development. The NAP received support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) via the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project entitled *“Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process”*.

The NAP shall be designed in a manner that applies a flexible methodological approach which helps Laos to conduct comprehensive medium and long-term climate adaptation planning, which is integrated into legislative, regulatory and planning frameworks and supports the ongoing adaptation initiatives, relevant to achieving national objectives within resource boundaries and a practical timeframe. The NAP caters to adaptation needs at the strategic national level and the economic sectors that are prioritized for adaptation-based climate risk and vulnerability. The strategic national level priorities considered in the NAP include strengthening of institutional arrangements; improving data and information collection systems; further integration of climate change into economic development policies, plans and programmes; enhancing technical capacity; including gender inequalities into Climate Change adaptation initiatives; identifying and increasing access to financing and investment geared towards climate change adaptation.

The prioritized economic sectors under the NAP include productive sectors such as Water Resources, Sustainable Forestry, Energy and Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. The NAP is designed for a period of ten years, which will be further subdivided into consecutive phases based on different priority sectors and different time frames. These phases include, Phase 1, Near Term (year 1-3, priority sectors: water, forestry, energy and agriculture); Phase 2, Medium Term (year 3-6, priority sectors: infrastructure, housing, tourism and mining) and Phase 3 Long-term (year 7-10, priority sectors: maintain resilience built on priority sectors in Phase 1 and 2).

The NAP requires the intensification of efforts and multi-level action among cross-cutting sectors such as environment, disaster risk reduction and spatial planning. The successful implementation of these strategic and multi-sector objectives is dependent on precursor actions and activities. The NAP does not adopt a radical framework nor is it a repeat of what has transpired in the past but can serve as an umbrella initiative for the Government of Laos (GoL), while simultaneously filling the gaps required in sector specific programming. The GoL through the implementation of the NAP will facilitate a coordinated and logic based national effort towards upholding its commitment to reducing climate change impact and resiliency building.

I. Introduction

1.1 National Overview

The impacts of climate change can be observed over every conceivable level; global, regional, national and local that calls for multi-level action. Laos, a tropical nation, is highly vulnerable to adverse impacts of climate change. National level actions must play a critical role while international cooperation is also important. Recognizing this responsibility, the Government of Lao PDR (GoL) has launched a national initiative to face the impacts of climate change, by recently ratifying the country's 9th National Socio-economic Development Plan (NSED) 2021-2025. Key concerns in the 9th NSED development included *"the challenges associated with COVID-19 response and recovery, sustainability and climate change, quality and inclusive growth, human capital, infrastructure development and the graduation from Least Developed Country status."*¹ Outcome 4 of the 9th NSED specifically targets Environmental Protection and Natural Disaster Risk Reduction.² Activities under Outcome 4 include striving to register and issue 1.6 million land titles nation-wide; mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) and mitigation into sectoral and local development plans; accelerating the development of nature-based solutions (NbS) for environmental preservation and sustainable development; and ensuring that all people in Lao PDR, have equitable access to natural resources in a responsible and transformative manner.³

The GoL as a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), has, over the years, been actively involved in climate change vulnerability assessments, adaptation and mitigation efforts. These assessments paint a gloomy future for the country. Fundamentally, they conclude that climate change is imminent, and the country is already affected by some of the adverse impacts of climate change.⁴ Some of the highlighted risks include increased frequency and intensity of floods, droughts and typhoons. It is projected that the mean annual temperatures are predicted to increase by 3.6°C by 2090 against the baseline data over 1986-2005. While the annual rainfall is projected to increase, in parallel with more frequent drought conditions occurring with greater severity.⁵ As climate change is a cross-cutting phenomenon, major economic sectors (agriculture, biodiversity, health, water, construction, service, transportation, communication, and tourism) could therefore be significantly impacted.⁶

Recognizing the inevitable impacts associated with climate change, the GoL has taken proactive measures to adapt to climate change impacts. These adaptation measures aim to reduce sectoral vulnerability to climate change and to avoid reversing the economic gains that the country has achieved. Major adaptation milestones include the development of the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) of 2009, the National Climate Change

¹ Government of Lao PDR (2021). *Lao PDR 2nd Voluntary National Review: Main Message*. Retrieved from https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/277122021_Main_Message_Lao_PDR.pdf. p. 1.

² Government of Lao PDR (2021). *The 9th Five-Year National Socioeconomic Development Plan (2021-2025)*, Draft 5, 8 Dec 2020.

³ Ibid Note 1

⁴ UN-Habitat (2020). *Lao PDR National Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment: Preliminary Results*.

⁵ World Bank (2021). *Climate Risk Country Profile: Lao PDR*. Retrieved from <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/15505-Lao%20PDR%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf>

⁶ Government of the Lao PDR (2018). *Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) 2018 Floods*. Retrieved from <https://laopdr.un.org/en/12913-2018-floods-post-disaster-needs-assessment>

Strategy (NCCS) of 2010, the Climate Change Action Plan of 2011 and the 2015 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). Additionally, the GoL, through its Vision 2030, a strategic document that outlines the country's long-term economic aspirations over a 20-year period, has identified climate change as a development challenge that has the potential to reverse economic developments made over time. Consequently, the NDC and other key climate policies have explicitly highlighted the need for the country to undertake national adaptation measures to climate change to safeguard the economy and livelihoods.⁷

As mentioned above, if GoL is to achieve the objectives and targets set out in the climate policies and strategies, then it must adapt and take robust actions. The GoL has long been undertaking efforts to identify vulnerabilities to climate change.⁸ While efforts to adapt have been ongoing for some time, they have now gained greater impetus with the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process under the UNFCCC. The NAP process was formally established under the 2010 Cancun Adaptation Framework, which calls for countries to develop and implement NAP processes by following a logical process of identifying and prioritizing medium and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programs to address those needs.⁹ The GoL is initially undertaking its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) as a continuous, progressive, and iterative process to ensure a systematic and strategic approach to adaptation in all government decision making, which will facilitate institutional coordination, resource mobilization, and – ultimately – effective adaptation actions.¹⁰

1.2 Climate Change in Lao PDR and Issues Surrounding Adaptation

Lao PDR's climate can be divided in two distinct seasons: a dry season from mid-October to April and a rainy season dominated by the south-west monsoon which brings high rainfall, high humidity, and high temperature between May and mid-October. Temperatures during March-May period can reach high into the 30s°C, while at higher elevations and during the dry season's cooler months of December and January, temperatures can drop as low as 15°C and below. According to the recent study of the climate trends across Lao PDR, it shows that temperatures have increased on average between 0.1 to 0.3°C per decade since 1951. The year 1998 was the highest in temperature in the past two decades with average temperatures of 30°C. This was also the driest year on record with average rainfall of 800mm. The average annual rainfall ranges between 1,300-3,000mm, however, whilst Rainfall has decreased between 1961 and 1998 and the number of droughts and floods over the last three decades has increased.¹¹

The World Bank report significantly notes that the projected changes in Laos's climate Mean annual temperatures are predicted to increase by 3.6°C by 2090 against the baseline data over 1986-2005, with similar projected rates of warming for all seasons.¹² Some studies indicate that similar warming is likely to occur across all regions, while others suggest that the

⁷ MoNRE (2021). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

⁸ UN-Habitat (2020). *Lao PDR National Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment: Preliminary Results.*

⁹ UNFCCC (2012). *The National Adaptation Plan process: A brief overview*. LDC Expert Group. Retrieved from https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/nap_overview.pdf

¹⁰ UNFCCC (2011). *Report of the Conference of the Parties on its sixteenth session. Addendum. Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth session.* FCCC/ CP/2010/7/Add.1

¹¹ Manton et al. (2001). *Trends in extreme daily rainfall and temperature in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific.*

¹² World Bank (2021). *Climate Risk Country Profile: Lao PDR.* Retrieved from <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/15505-Lao%20PDR%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf>

country's southern climatic zone will experience smaller warming than the northern and north central zones. Mean annual rainfall is also projected to increase, with the most significant increases expected in the wet season. Recent studies have used a regional model where climate change simulations were based on the increase of CO² concentrations. The predicted scenarios indicate that the lower region of the Mekong River basin will be warmer (1 or 2°C) under the CO₂ concentration of 720ppm.¹³

Lao PDR has a low capacity to adapt to climate change because of its poor socio-economic development. From 1970 to 2010, 33 natural hazard events (mostly floods and droughts) have been registered, affecting almost 9 million people and causing economic damages of over US\$ 400 million.¹⁴ In 2019, UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) carried out a National Vulnerability Assessment. All 8,500 villages, urban and rural, were covered in the assessment, and results shows that most of the northern provinces have a very high level of climate change vulnerability (classified as Level 5), especially in Phongsaly, Houaphanh and Xiengkhouang provinces, which are considered hotspots for the impacts of multiple hazards, including floods, droughts, storms and landslides.¹⁵

Climate change presents Lao PDR with significant challenges as current climate-related disasters are being exacerbated by increased rainfall variability, stronger and more frequent typhoons, and inland flooding. According to the recent PDNA, Lao PDR remains highly vulnerable to climate change. Lao PDR is extremely vulnerable to floods with the country climate risk profile showing a score of 9.1 on a scale of 0 – 10 for risk to floods. Despite these projections, climate change impacts in Lao PDR are highly localized and may not play out the same in all districts. According to the National Vulnerability Assessment, the resulting data is shown in the maps in this section. Figure 1 below show areas that are vulnerable to the climate change (left most) and prone to floods (right most).¹⁶

¹³ World Bank (2011). *Climate Risk and Adaptation Profile: Vulnerability, Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change*, Lao PDR. Retrieved from https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2018-10/wb_gfdr climate_change_country_profile_for_LAO_0.pdf

¹⁴ World Bank (2011). *Climate Risk and Adaptation Profile: Vulnerability, Risk Reductiin and Adaptation to Climate Change*, Lao PDR. Retrieved from https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2018-10/wb_gfdr climate_change_country_profile_for_LAO_0.pdf

¹⁵ UN-Habitat (2020). *Lao PDR National Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment: Preliminary Results*.

¹⁶ UN-Habitat (2020). *Lao PDR National Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment: Preliminary Results*.

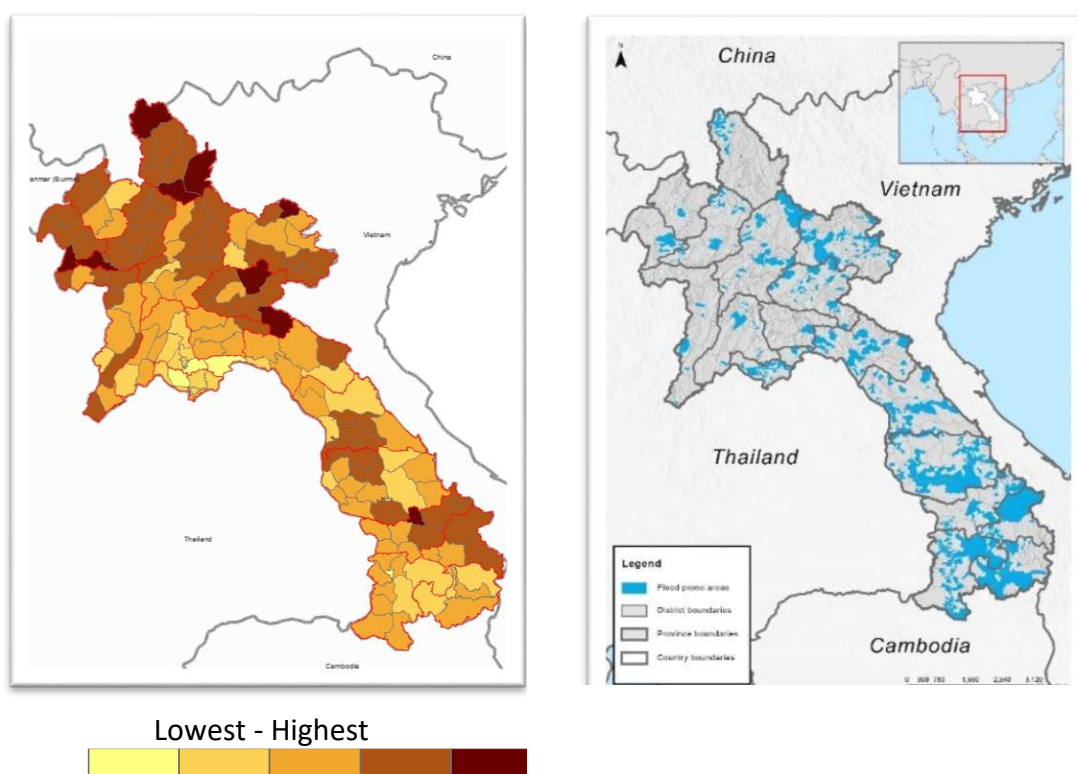


Figure 1: National vulnerability level map and flood prone-area

In addition, there are projected increases in droughts and tropical storms or typhoons. More research is needed for detailed projections but data suggests an increased annual likelihood of drought.¹⁷ In 2010, extreme droughts during the normal rainy months between May and October severely affected the year's harvest and created life-threatening food shortages in southern Lao PDR, affecting around 85,000 people.¹⁸ This drought took place after Typhoon Ketsana, which damaged agricultural land, housing and infrastructure especially in the southern provinces and was responsible for 28 deaths and an economic loss of US\$58 million.¹⁹ In recent years, drought has been experienced in Lao PDR in 2015, 2016 and 2019. Research shows a strong correlation also between drought and El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) events, with 71 percent of flood or drought disasters in Lao PDR coinciding with ENSO events.²⁰ Added to heavy rainfall and droughts, Lao PDR experiences tropical storms and typhoons which are projected to increase in intensity.²¹ Figure 2 shows drought- (left) and storm-prone (right) areas.

¹⁷ World Bank (2021). Climate Risk Country Profile: Lao PDR. Retrieved from

<https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/15505-Lao%20PDR%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf>

¹⁸ The Government of the Lao PDR (2018). *Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) 2018 Floods*. Retrieved from

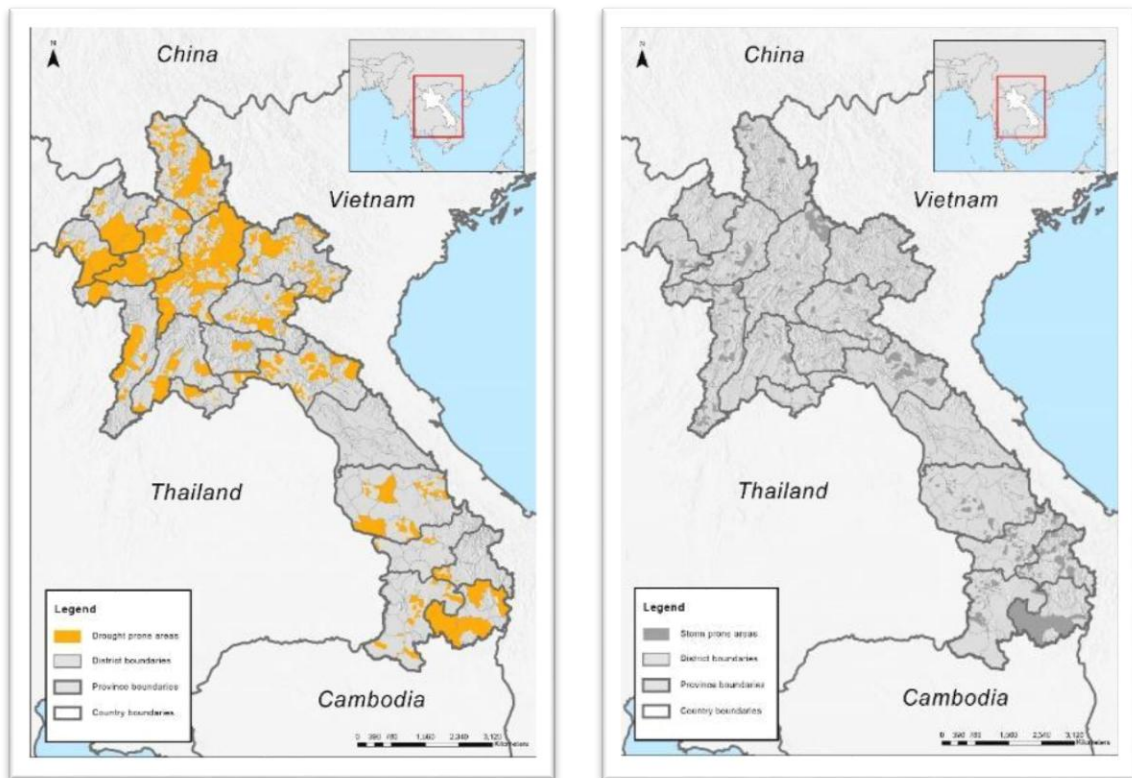
<https://laopdr.un.org/en/12913-2018-floods-post-disaster-needs-assessment>

¹⁹ http://www.un-spider.org/sites/default/files/41.%20UN-SPIDER_Lao%20PDR%20rev1-ilovepdf-compressed.pdf

²⁰ Sutton, W., Srivastava, J., Rosegrant, M., Koo, J., Robertson, R. (2019). *Striking a balance: Managing El Niño and La Niña in Lao PDR's Agriculture*. World Bank Group. Retrieved from

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/31523/Striking-aBalance-Managing-El-Ni%C3%B1o-and-La-Ni%C3%B1a-in-Myanmar-s-Agriculture.pdf>

²¹ Ibid note 17



Source: UN-Habitat

Figure 2: Drought- and storm-prone areas

Floods and droughts continue to be the most significant threats. In 2008, floods affected more than 200,000 people and 75,000 hectares of agricultural land.

Another great example is the flood occurred in 2011, causing a loss of US\$200 million, and were followed by a series of flood events in 2013, which were caused by different weather systems occurred in different locations from July through till October. 395,000 people were affected and over 20 lives were lost in 12 affected provinces.²² Later in 2018, Tropical Storm Son-Tinh caused heavy rains and flooding in 55 districts of 13 provinces across the country, and torrential rain overwhelmed a dam in Attapeu Province, causing flash floods.²³ Some of those provinces, in central and southern Lao PDR, were also affected by Tropical Storm Podul and Tropical Depression Kajiki in 2019, resulting in damage estimated at US\$164 million.²⁴

In this context, the GoL has committed to tackle climate change in a comprehensive manner, reducing the effects of natural shocks for a more sustainable natural resources management. The 2015 Lao PDR's NDC strong defined adaptation and mitigation activities to be implemented over 2015-2030, including the implementation of climate change action plans in order to develop and implement effective, efficient and economically viable climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. According to the NDC, the costing of

²² <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-Lao-PDR-floods/floods-in-Lao-PDR-kill-20-damage-rice-crops-idUSBRE97R0BB20130828>

²³ World Bank (2021). Climate Risk Country Profile: Lao PDR. Retrieved from <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/15505-Lao%20PDR%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf>

²⁴ AHA Centre (14 October 2019) Situation Update: Tropical Storm Podul and Tropical Depression Kajiki. Retrieved from <https://ahacentre.org/situation-update/situation-update-no-5-tropical-storm-podul-and-tropical-depression-kajiki-13-sep-2019/>

interventions has been initially estimated for key climate action measures. The total cost for mitigation and adaptation is US\$ 4,762 million²⁵ and US\$ 968.18 million respectively.²⁶

1.3 Objectives of the NAP and the Lao PDR's NAP Roadmap

The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC acknowledged that national adaptation planning can enable countries to assess their vulnerabilities, mainstream climate change risks, and address adaptation. The COP also acknowledged that, because of their lower level of development, climate change risks magnify development challenges for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). It recognized the need to address adaptation planning in the broader context of sustainable development planning.²⁷

The NAP process was, therefore, established in 2010 as part of the Cancun Adaptation Framework to complement the existing short-term orientated “*urgent and immediate*” focused NAPAs. The objective of the NAP process is to support developing countries, especially the LDCs, in meeting their **medium- and long-term adaptation** needs. The NAP process plays a critical role in reducing vulnerability and building adaptive capacity by mainstreaming adaptation into all sector-specific and national development planning. The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) has published the NAP Technical Guidelines to help countries put in place a system for their NAP process to take effect.²⁸ The main objectives of a NAP process according to UNFCCC and LEG Technical Guidelines are:

- To reduce vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change by taking a medium- and long-term approach;
- To facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.

While the objective of the Lao PDR's NAP Roadmap under this document is to identify vitally indicative activities that will inform the country's NAP process, including key steps, outputs, timelines, coordination and institutional arrangements, resource mobilization, and funding, as well as key actors' responsibilities and roles for their output delivery. Furthermore, the document intends to develop a strategy for annual progress review and update on the results of the monitoring and reviewing system and national development and adaptation priorities.²⁹

Given the above, the NAP roadmap is a description of “what” needs to be done for the NAP process by planners, financial institutions, relevant ministries, civil society, as well as training and research institutions. The implementation of roadmap is not a description of “how” activities need to be done – this will be elaborated as specific initiatives and

²⁵ MoNRE (2021). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

²⁶ MoNRE (2015). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

²⁷ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

²⁸ Ibid Note 27

²⁹ UNEP (2020). *Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process: Project Document*

programmes are further developed. During the course of this roadmap development under this document, stakeholder consultation workshops were conducted to not only identify key steps, but also to identify what mechanisms exist or need to be created to ensure continuous learning and exchange on adaptation to climate change.³⁰

The NAP process will, therefore, work toward achieving the country's NCCS, NDC, as well as the 9th NSEDP. However, to design and implement a comprehensive NAP process, a "Roadmap" must be firstly developed and endorsed. The NAP Roadmap is meant to identify vital activities that will realize the country's NAP, its timelines and key actors responsible for their delivery. The approach in developing the Lao PDR's NAP Roadmap is in line with the UNFCCC guidelines. This Roadmap document has been developed according to the results of Output 1.2 of the GEF funded Project "*Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process*", and putting a particular focus on identifying key activities for NAP process, roles and mandates of the key stakeholders, timelines as well as the institutional arrangement to facilitate and coordinate the NAP process for Lao PDR.

1.4 Structure of this NAP Roadmap

This Roadmap document comprises 9 key chapters covering as followed:

- Chapter 1, the current chapter, introduces the NAP process, the national climate change context overview and objectives of the NAP process for the country;
- Chapter 2 describes the methodologies and approaches used for developing the NAP roadmap;
- Chapter 3 presents the NAP's history, and the technical guidelines including the suggested key elements and steps on advancing the NAP;
- Chapter 4 points out the linkages of the NAP document to the existing national policies and strategies as well as the climate change initiatives and programmes of relevance to the NAP process;
- Chapter 5 summarizes the climate change institutional arrangements and coordination mechanism including mapping out the key stakeholders, and their engagement to the NAP process;
- Chapter 6 outlines the Roadmap for the Laos NAP and key steps for the NAP process including indicative activities, outputs, timelines, key responsible actors and activity status;
- Chapter 7 provides recommendations and stakeholder feedback on advancing and enhancing the NAP process; and finally
- Chapter 8 elaborates next steps and ways forward on developing the NAP.
- Annex A: Stakeholders consulted and data collection exercises.

³⁰ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

II. Methodology for the NAP Roadmap Development

The NAP document is a strategic document that aims to guide adaptation processes in the country to ensure that national vulnerability to climate change is significantly reduced. Therefore, its development called for a holistic and all-inclusive approach that ensures that the majority of key sectors of the economy are represented in the NAP process. Effectively, methods consisting of a national workshop, desktop review, and consultations with the key economic sector stakeholders are employed. As for Lao PDR, the development of the NAP Roadmap has involved two processes: 1) a desk-based review of relevant climate policy documents; and 2) stakeholder consultations:

- **Desk-based or document/literature review:** The first method is an extensive literature review, which is undertaken covering the relevant national climate policies, strategies, policy briefs and other national scientific reports. Moreover, a desktop review is undertaken at a higher level with a focus on the UNFCCC guidelines developed by the LEG on the NAP process. Additionally, existing NAP roadmap documents developed by other countries have been reviewed. The purpose of the international desktop review is to incorporate international best practices into the NAP process development. Essentially, the desktop review shaped the structure and components of the NAP Roadmap for Lao PDR.
- **Stakeholder consultations:** The second method that employed is a stakeholder consultation. As the NAP process must be totally country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory, and fully transparent.³¹ So, this called for a series of consultations to sensitize key stakeholders on the development of the NAP roadmap, incorporating their views to ensure that they drive the NAP process, and fundamentally ensure their meaningful participation throughout the NAP process. Key sectors included agriculture and forest, transport, energy, industry, education, finance, land management, water resources, etc.) were consulted – at both national and sub-national levels.

The consultations are conducted through two types of workshops: the first one is the inception meeting which were conducted in three different region of Lao PDR is to gather the initial feedback on the roadmap as well as the capacity needed for the key stakeholders, and the second included a validation workshop where stakeholders (including the CCTWG and NECCC) have the opportunity to deliberate on the draft NAP roadmap and endorse. The second type of the consultation involved focus group discussions with the relevant government departments, organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sectors, academia, civil society organizations (CSOs), and local authorities. The consultations are based on structured questions that targeted the structure and various components of the NAP roadmap. The group discussion and interview are conducted during the consultations. The details of questions and tools employed are shown in Annex A.

³¹ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

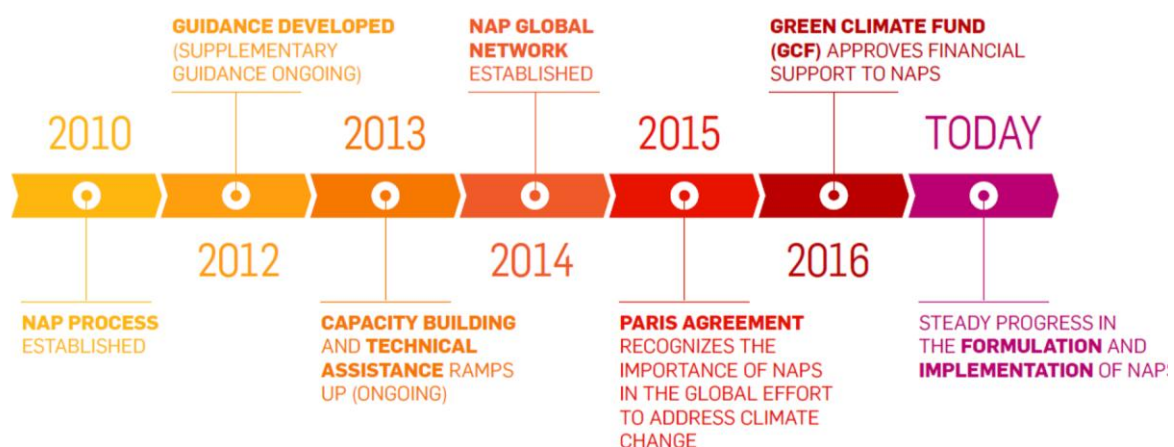
III.NAP Process Overview

3.1 NAP's History

The NAP process was established in 2010 as part of the Cancun Adaptation Framework, which was an outcome of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC to complement the existing short-term orientated, “*urgent and immediate*” focused NAPAs. The NAP process is to support all developing countries, especially the LDCs, in meeting their medium- and long-term CCA needs. The NAP process is meant to play a critical role in reducing vulnerability and, building adaptive capacity by mainstreaming CCA into all sector-specific and national development planning.³²

Led by national governments, the NAP process involves analyzing current and future climate change and assessing vulnerability to its impacts. This provides a basis for identifying and prioritizing adaptation options, implementing these options, and tracking progress and results. Importantly, the NAP process puts in place the systems and capacities needed to make adaptation an integral part of a country's development planning, decision making and budgeting while ensuring it is ongoing practice rather than a separate *ad hoc* exercise.³³

The NAP process was also put in place to make sure countries look at adaptation over the medium and longer terms – a shift from ad hoc, project-based adaptation interventions focused on short-term needs toward more strategic and programmatic approaches to adaptation. Many countries were making efforts to identify adaptation needs and integrate them into their decision-making processes before 2010.³⁴ The NAP process still builds on this work and seeks to scale up adaptation.



Source: NAP Global Network

³² Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

³³ NAP Global Network (2020). *The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Process: Frequently Asked Question*. Retrieved from <https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/napgn-en-2020-NAP-Process-FAQs.pdf>

³⁴ NAP Global Network (2020). *The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Process: Frequently Asked Question*. Retrieved from <https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/napgn-en-2020-NAP-Process-FAQs.pdf>

Figure 3: NAP process evolved since it was established

The NAPs, as strategic national plans, also provide guidance to processes at the national level and beyond. These processes would encompass not only government agencies and ministries, but also communities, the private sector, local municipalities, non-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders. The NAPs would identify priority adaptation programmes, and provide mechanisms by which policies can gradually be modified, to become more resilient. The structure and form of the NAPs vary by country, and may include sectoral plans and sub-national plans to provide the necessary guidance in addressing adaptation needs where they matter.³⁵

The NAP process isn't the first attempt under the UNFCCC to facilitate adaptation planning in developing countries. In 2001, LDCs were invited to develop NAPAs, which aimed to identify urgent and immediate adaptation needs (UNFCCC, 2017). The NAPAs were designed to address urgent and immediate needs of LDCs. They were created to act as a channel through which LDCs could access support quickly and take advantage of win-win measures that would avoid increased damages and be more expensive to implement in the future, and was designed to produce one national adaptation programme of action. While the NAP process seeks to identify and address medium- and long-term adaptation needs and is designed to offer LDCs an opportunity to take a more considered approach, working towards transformational change in their capacity to address adaptation. However, the NAP process will build upon the achievements and lessons learned from the NAPA process.³⁶

In case of the Lao PDR, the NAP process seeks to build upon the foundation laid by the NAPA.³⁷ The NAP process can add value by identifying gaps and areas for greater strengthening in addressing medium-term adaptation priorities, such as climate-responsive planning and budgeting processes, and to access international funding opportunities. The suggestions for implementing the NAP process made in this report are meant to build on existing climate change adaptation planning processes and initiatives, in order to provide continuity to previous planning efforts and to build on implementation success, eliminate duplication and avoid repetition of implementation failures. Thus, the NAP process will be an opportunity to pull all efforts together into a cohesive whole and build on them in a coordinated approach.

3.2 NAP Process Mandates in the Country

As for Lao PDR, the mandate of the NAP process originates from existing national climate change policies. Specifically, the NDC calls for national adaptation planning to ensure that the country's vulnerability to climate change is reduced. Furthermore, the NDC explicitly calls for the integration to be undertaken through the formulation of strategies, programs, and regulatory frameworks that will create a conducive environment for inclusive stakeholder participation in implementation.³⁸

³⁵ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

³⁶ Ibid note 35

³⁷ MONRE (2009). *Lao PDR National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)*. Retrieved from https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/downloads/laos_pdr_napa.pdf

³⁸ MONRE (2021). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

Similarly, the National Strategy on Climate Change (NSCC) also provides key strategies, plans, and goals that serve as a mandate for the development and implementation of the NAP process for Lao PDR. The NSCC has highlighted strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The adaptation component of the NSCC will be an input to the NAP process.³⁹ Other important documents that make explicit reference to climate change adaptation measures are the NAPA, Climate Change Action Plan, and the First, Second and Third National Communications (NC) to the UNFCCC. These documents highlight strategic sectoral adaptation projects and programs to be implemented to reduce the country's vulnerability to climate change.

At the global level, as a party to the UNFCCC, with obligations to fulfill, the Lao PDR also takes advantage of available opportunities for developing countries to enhance actions on adaptation. For instance, under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, country parties are requested to develop, prioritize, and implement their adaptation plans.⁴⁰

3.3 NAP Technical Guideline and Main Elements of the NAP Process

In 2012, the LEG (the UNFCCC body tasked with providing support to LDCs in the NAP process) developed technical guidelines that outline the key steps involved in the process. While recognizing that the NAP process must be country-driven and context-specific, these guidelines provide a roadmap for countries in advancing their NAP processes.⁴¹

As described in the Technical Guidelines, the process of developing a NAP consists of four main elements, including **A. Lay the groundwork and address gaps; B. Preparatory elements; C. Implementation strategies; and D. Reporting, monitoring, and review;** However, the elements are flexible in order to encourage governments to tailor the process as it is relevant to their country, and in the order that is deemed most appropriate. Typically, an early step in a country's NAP process is to draft a “roadmap” that specifies the scope of the NAP, the roles and responsibilities of those involved, and the sequence of planning steps for that country. Additionally, a monitoring and evaluation framework must be established early on.⁴²

Moreover, a list of key steps under each of the elements is arranged based on a broad literature review and inputs from stakeholders. It is important to emphasize that the planning of the activities, and the way they are sequenced, will depend on national circumstances and be determined by each LDC Party. In cases where sufficient activities have already been undertaken for a given step, these can simply be summarized and the NAP process proceed to another entry point. An overview of the four main elements and steps recommended for developing and implementing a NAP are described below:

³⁹ MONRE (2010). Lao PDR National Strategy on Climate Change. Retrieved from https://mirror.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/12679_1_595432.pdf

⁴⁰ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

⁴¹ Ibid note 40

⁴² Ibid note 40

Element A. Laying the Groundwork and Addressing Gaps: Includes stocktaking of needs, opportunities, entry points, and key resources for adaptation in the country. Frequently, it also means establishing an institutional home for the NAP process within government and a legal or administrative mandate to legitimize the process. The stocktaking identifies the information available on climate change impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (V&A) measures already taken to address climate change in the country, as well as assessing the gaps and needs of the enabling environment for the NAP process. The stocktaking also supports the identification of barriers to adaptation design and implementation. Key steps under this element including:

1. Initiating and launching of the NAP process;
2. Stocktaking and identifying available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation and assessing gaps and needs of the enabling environment for the NAP process;
3. Addressing capacity gaps and weaknesses in undertaking the NAP process;
4. Comprehensively and iteratively assessing development needs and climate vulnerabilities.

Element B. Preparatory Elements: Includes analytic activities to fill information gaps identified in the previous stocktaking effort. For example, planners might commission a national climate vulnerability assessment or develop a set of future climate scenarios if these did not yet exist. They also might synthesize existing adaptation plans from line ministries or sub-national governments and set procedures for integrating adaptation into key economic sectors. The main steps under this element included below:

1. Analyzing current climate and future climate change scenarios
2. Assessing climate vulnerabilities and identifying adaptation options at the sector, subnational, national and other appropriate levels
3. Reviewing and appraising adaptation options
4. Compiling and communicating national adaptation plans
5. Integrating climate change adaptation into national and sub-national development and sectoral planning

Element C. Implementation Strategies: Focuses more concretely on who will do what, and how. Planners use information and criteria from Element B to set priorities and decide on the sequence of activities. They also might focus on how to finance adaptation, build needed capacities, and establish roles and responsibilities for coordinated implementation. The key steps for this element are summarized below:

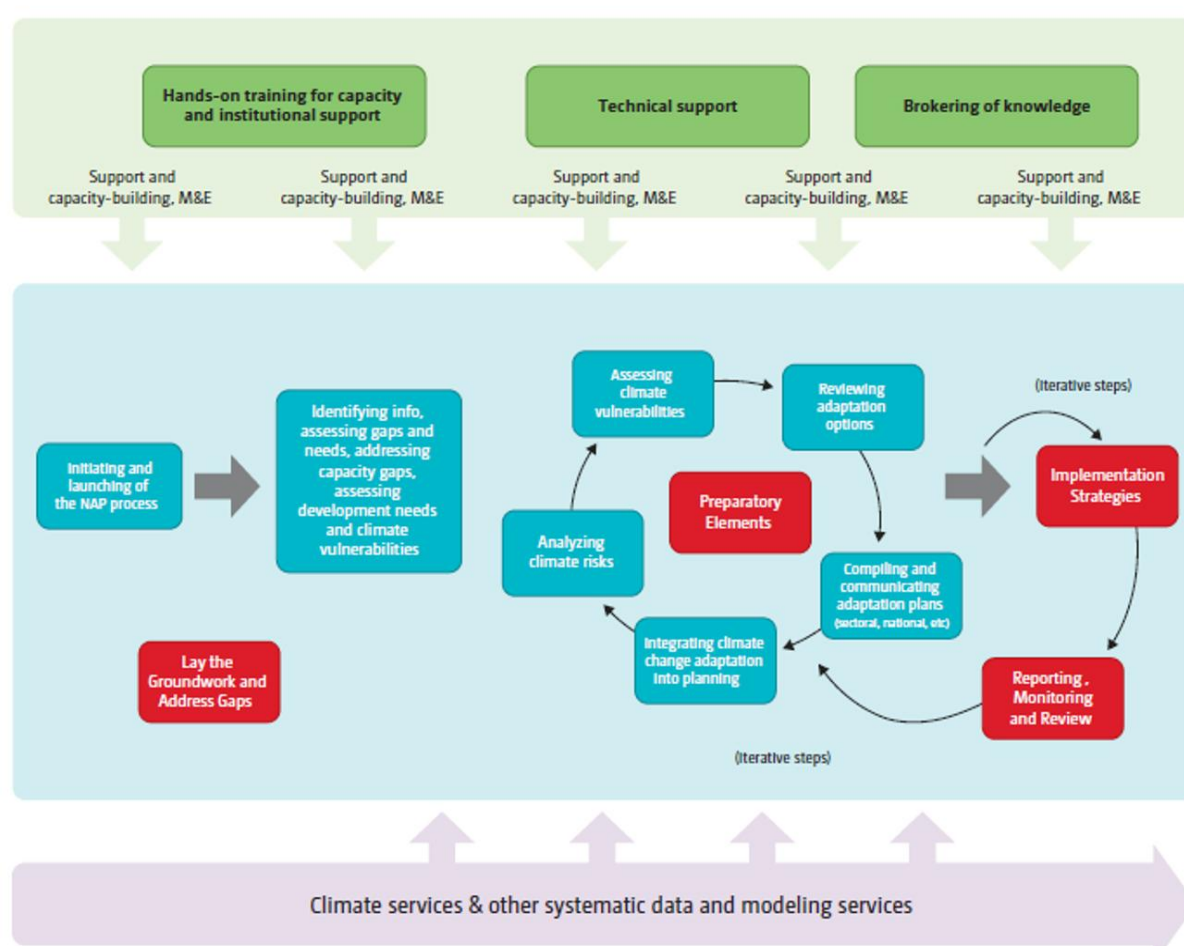
1. Prioritizing climate change adaptation in national planning
2. Developing a (long-term) national adaptation implementation strategy
3. Enhancing capacity for planning and implementation of adaptation
4. Promoting coordination and synergy at the regional level and with other multilateral environmental Agreements

Element D. Reporting, Monitoring, and Review: Includes setting up systems to track their NAP's progress. This often means choosing effectiveness criteria, setting up a review

timeline, and establishing a reporting and outreach plan. This would require monitoring and review of the various efforts to be undertaken, and updates integrated into the national communication process. Following are the key steps under this element:

1. Monitoring the NAP process;
2. Reviewing the NAP process to assess progress, effectiveness and gaps;
3. Iteratively updating the national adaptation plans;
4. Outreach on the NAP process and reporting on progress and effectiveness.

However, it is important to note that countries will choose which steps are applicable for their country specific situation, and in what order they would be undertaken. The sequence of steps, timing and allocated responsibilities “who will do what”, therefore, depends upon national multi-stakeholder consultations. Figure 4 below illustrates the main elements of NAP process presented in red and some suggested steps in blue.



Source: LEG Technical Guideline

Figure 4: An example of the sequence of the NAP process for a country and iterative step.

IV. NAP Links to Other Existing Policies, Strategies and Initiatives

4.1 Key Strategies and Policies of Relevance to Lao PDR's NAP Process

Lao PDR has already undertaken a great deal of groundwork that will be incorporated and integrated in the NAP, which is useful for the preparation of the country's NAP such as the NAPA, the NSCC, the 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plans (NSEDPs), the National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP), the NDC, Climate Change Decree, and other relevant laws and regulations. All such work done by the government will be built on by and integrated into the Lao PDR NAP. Key documents are summarized as followed:

- **9th Five-Year National Socio-Economic Development Plan for 2021-2025 (NSEDP):** aimed to lead the country to become a middle-income country, to integrate with regional and international cooperation, and to build the society with fairness and solidarity that allows all people to access quality social services. In order to achieve the goal, the NSEDP sets out the direction to ensure green and sustainable development, which uses economic development as the center for country development, ensuring consistency and harmony between the development of the economy, social-cultural and environmental protection, as well as responding to natural disasters in a timely manner and ensuring comprehensive rural development in close connection with poverty alleviation of the people: the “Three Build Policy”. The objectives and targets related to climate change were also identified, with a focus on effective preparedness for natural disasters and climate change, as well as restoration of disaster damage to build back better.⁴³
- **The 2009 Lao PDR National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA):** presents a comprehensive overview of existing environmental, economic and social conditions, current and predicted climate change impacts, as well as the overall framework for the NAPA process. This includes the identification of immediate and urgent needs for climate change adaptation and the barriers preventing implementation. The barriers identified include: i) limited coordination and cooperation among sectors; ii) weak institutional set-up; iii) low levels of public awareness on climate change matters; and iv) limited budget available to implement the priority adaptation activities identified in the NAPA. In total, 45 priority interventions totaling US\$ 85 million are identified for the four priority sectors for climate change adaptation, namely agriculture, forestry, water resources and public health.⁴⁴
- **The 2010 National Strategy on Climate Change Strategy (NSCC):** The purpose of the NSCC is “to secure a future where Laos is capable of mitigating and adapting to changing climate conditions in a way that promotes sustainable economic development, reduces poverty, protects public health and safety, enhances the quality of Laos’s natural environment, and advances the quality of life for all Lao people”. The NSCC is the key climate policy which specifically aims to provide guidance for climate change adaptation and mitigation of the country in a way that promotes sustainable

⁴³ Government of Lao PDR (2021). *The 9th Five-Year National Socioeconomic Development Plan (2021-2025)*, Draft 5, 8 Dec 2020.

⁴⁴ MONRE (2009). *Lao PDR National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)*. Retrieved from https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/downloads/laos_pdr_napa.pdf

development. This strategy defined directions and specific measures for seven sectors on climate change adaptation and six sectors on climate change mitigation. Those adaptation sectors are (1) agriculture and food security, (2) forestry and land use change, (3) water resources, (4) energy and transport, (5) industry, (6) urban development and (7) public health. Goals of the NSCC are also aligned with the vision for sustainable development, which includes poverty reduction, enhanced quality of the natural and urban environment, and improving the health of the Laotian public. To work towards achieving the NSCC's vision and goals and to implement climate change action plans effectively for all sectors, it is immediately necessary to develop a monitoring and evaluation system for the Lao PDR.⁴⁵ Table 1 reflects the country's adaptation priorities given the current understanding of expected climate impacts.

Table 1: Lao PDR's climate change adaptation priorities

Sector	Focused Projects and Programmes
1. Agriculture	- Promote climate resilience in farming systems and agricultural infrastructure. - Promote appropriate technologies for climate change adaptation
2. Forestry and land use change	- Promote climate resilience in forestry production and forest ecosystems. - Promote technical capacity in the forestry sector for managing forests for climate change adaptation.
3. Water response	- Strengthen water resource information systems for climate change adaptation. - Manage watersheds and wetlands for climate change resilience. - Increase water resource infrastructure resilience to climate change. - Promote climate change capacity in the water resource sector.
4. Transportation and urban development	Increase the resilience of urban development and infrastructure to climate change.
5. Public health	- Increase the resilience of the public health infrastructure and water supply system to climate change. - Improve public health services for climate change adaptation

- **The 2011 Climate Change Action Plan for 2013-2020 (CCAP):** The GoL has developed climate change action plans for the period 2013-2020 to define mitigation and adaptation actions in the sectors of agriculture, forestry and land use change, water resources, energy, transportation, industry and public health. The action plan places a high priority on, "*Mainstreaming climate change into sector policies, strategies and development plans*". The Climate Change Action Plan was also formulated in support

⁴⁵ MONRE (2010). *Lao PDR National Strategy on Climate Change*. Retrieved from https://mirror.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/12679_1_595432.pdf

of the strategy guiding government agencies and other actors in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation in a sustainable manner.⁴⁶

- **The Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC):** The GoL submitted its (I)NDC to the UNFCCC in 2015 and the updated one in 2021. The NDCs outline the country's climate change-related actions to date, including the development of the NSCC, and identifies the country's mitigation and adaptation contributions. Lao PDR is committed to the implementation of its NDC, and related sectoral climate change action plans. Significant financial resources are needed to deliver the mitigation and adaptation actions within these, as well as enhancing the enabling environment for climate-related investment. Adaptation measures highlighted in the NDC require an indicative investment of \$990M. Following are sector-specific targets for the NDC's adaptation activities. According to the updated NDC (2020), it was found difficult to report the progress on the adaptation component due to absence of sectoral adaptation plan, targets and indicators in many key sectors. An exception is the health sector that developed and endorsed the Strategy on Climate Change and Health Adaptation 2018-2025 and Action Plans 2018-2020, which clearly define strategic directions to build resilience in this sector. Therefore, one of the targets set forth in the NDC 2020 is to enhance mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in sectoral strategy and with a results-based management framework established for key sectors such as agriculture & forestry, urban development, water resources, and energy.⁴⁷

Table 2: Adaptation activities in critical sectors

Sector	Focus of projects and programmes
Agriculture	• Promote climate resilience in farming systems and agriculture infrastructure. • Promote appropriate technologies for CCA.
Forestry and land use change	• Promote climate resilience in forestry production and forest ecosystems. • Promote technical capacity in the forestry sector for managing forests for CCA.
Water resources	• Strengthening water resource information systems for CCA. • Managing watersheds and wetlands for climate change resilience. • Increasing water resource infrastructure resilience to climate change. • Promotion of climate change capacity in water resources sector.
Transport and urban development	• Increasing the resilience of urban development and infrastructure to climate change.
Public health	• Increasing the resilience of public health infrastructure and water supply system to climate change. • Improving public health services for CCA and coping with climate change induced impacts.

⁴⁶ MONRE (2012). *Climate Change Action Plan of Lao PDR 2013 – 2020*, p.2.

⁴⁷ MoNRE (2021). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

- **Natural Resource and Environment Strategy (2016- 2025):** The Strategy developed in 2015 outlines the mission and activities of the MONRE and has a vision to make Lao PDR 'Green, Clean and Beautiful'. It focuses on improving natural resource management, reducing pollution and addressing climate change. The underlying action plan includes targeted actions to implement environmental dimensions of the Eighth NSEDP. It includes priorities for a) land management and administration, b) Water resources management, c) forest and biodiversity management, d) mineral resources management, and e) climate change.⁴⁸
- **Climate Change Decree (2019):** identifies measures on climate change adaption for people, animals, plants, ecosystems, infrastructure, urban planning, etc. to ensure they are resilient to climate change and to minimize the impacts by implementing suitable measures to reduce vulnerability, risk and potential damage. Crucially, this decree recognizes the need for public participation in dialogues and planning processes, as well as the need to ensure that the climate change adaptation measures are gender, disability and culturally sensitive. It also highlights the need to address these challenges in an integrated manner, both across different sectors and at different levels of government i.e., working at the district, province and national level. Furthermore, the decree proposes the establishment of a Climate Change Fund to ensure sufficient and sustainable budgets for implementing the disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation interventions.⁴⁹
- **Law on Meteorology and Hydrology (2015):** sets out principles, regulation and measures to manage and monitor meteorology and hydrology activities to ensure the development, modernization, efficient and effective services, aimed at surveillance, reduction of the natural disaster impacts on life and property of the state, communities and individuals, ensuring the provision of information quickly and precisely, is linked with regional and international cooperation, and contributes to green and sustainable socio-economic development and national security.⁵⁰
- **Law on Disaster Management (2019):** sets out disaster management principles and measures to make implementation efficient, effective and modern, ensuring information is provided quickly and clearly, and aiming at surveillance, reduction of disaster impacts on health, life, property of the state, communities and people, the environment and infrastructure, including recovery, restoration and rebuilding after a disaster. It can be linked to regional and international cooperation, contributions to green, resilient and sustainable socio-economic development and national security.⁵¹
- **Law on Water and Water Resources (2017):** Aims to improve the sustainability of Lao's water resources. The law is expected to influence the monitoring, management and planning of the country's rivers. The update adds new provisions on water rights and use, including waste-water discharge permits, wetlands and water-resources

⁴⁸ MONRE (2015). *Natural Resources and Environment Strategy 2016-2025*

⁴⁹ MONRE (2019). *Decree on Climate Change*. Retrieved from <https://data.laos.opendevlopmentmekong.net/dataset/decree-on-climate-change-lao-pdr-2019>

⁵⁰ Government of Lao PDR (2015). *Law on Meteorology and Hydrology*

⁵¹ Government of Lao PDR (2019). *Law on Disaster Management*. Retrieved from https://disasterlaw.ifrc.org/sites/default/files/media/disaster_law/2021-03/DM%20Law%20Unofficial%20Translation.pdf

protection, ground-water management, and river-basin management. Additionally, the law expands the terms and conditions of large, medium, and small-scale uses and includes articles on environmental flows for hydropower as well as stipulations related to irrigation use.⁵²

- **Law on Forestry (2008):** Was amended in 2019 and informs national policy on reforestation and deforestation, sustainable use of forests and forest resources, and the use of forests and ecosystems for ecotourism. The revised law recognizes participation of local communities in forest management and creation of a village forest management plan. The law requires the increase of forest cover as sink source for GHG emissions, classifying forests into three types for their management and use.

⁵³

- **The National Green Growth Strategy to 2030:** Endorsed in 2019 and further places climate change adaptation as a cross-cutting focus area with the objective of reducing vulnerability of the country and of the population, especially disadvantaged groups, to natural disasters. While mainstreaming climate change into national policy and strategies is well underway, it is still stagnant at sectoral level.⁵⁴

4.2 Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives of Relevance to NAP Process

The implementation of priority and urgent actions identified in the Lao PDR's climate policies are currently under development to address gaps.⁵⁵ It is recommended for the NAP process to build on these projects; ensure coordination and synergies with other donors and technical partners; and apply the lessons learnt, studies and analyses produced from past initiatives.⁵⁶ The project will be of particular relevance and complementarity should be sought, especially concerning support to national climate change coordination and climate information.

Table 3 below provides an overview of ongoing and upcoming climate related initiatives and programmes of relevance to the NAP process in Lao PDR and which it can build on and develop links with in order to achieve better integration of climate change into development planning and budgeting.

⁵² Government of Lao PDR (2017). *Law on Water and Water Resources*. Retrieved from <https://leap.unep.org/sites/default/files/national-legislation/Law%2520on%2520Water%2520a.pdf>

⁵³ Government of Lao PDR (2008). *Law on Forestry*. Retrieved from https://data.laos.opendevlopmentmekong.net/en/laws_record/forestry-law/resource/787e4a63-9888-4cf2-83c4-6306bc77036e

⁵⁴ MPI (2018). *The National Green Growth Strategy to 2030*. Retrieved from https://data.opendevlopmentmekong.net/dataset/e7db2aa8-c294-47dc-a2da-aa6e41493a12/resource/861b9f4c-cf6c-413b-aeff-e4f6b9346fd7/download/final_version_of_national_green_growth_strategy_english_feb_2019_.pdf

⁵⁵ MoNRE (2021). *Lao PDR Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)*

⁵⁶ NAP Global Network (2020). *The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Process: Frequently Asked Question*. Retrieved from <https://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/napgn-en-2020-NAP-Process-FAQs.pdf>

Table 3: Climate related initiatives of relevance for the Lao PDR's NAP advancing

Name/Responsible/ Institution/Donor/Budget	Main objectives	Relevance to the NAP
Ongoing and incoming initiatives		
- Project title: Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process; - Executing entity: Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources (MONRE); - Implementing entity: UNEP - Duration: 48 months 2021-2024 - Budget: US\$3,552,969 - Donor: GEF - Status: On-going	The objective of the project is to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of stakeholders and the government in Lao PDR to advance the NAP Process". The implementation focus of the project will be on: - strengthened coordination capacity building at both national, sectoral and subnational levels; - building the climate change adaptation knowledge and information system; - mainstreaming climate adaptation into national development policies, planning and budgeting and improving access to domestic and international finance; - ensuring knowledge development and learning through iterative monitoring and review;	There is a range of relevance to the NAP process, as followed: - National climate change scenarios, planning tools and training courses established to promote iterative adaptation planning in the future; - Nationally agreed gender-sensitive adaptation targets and modalities mainstreamed into national, sectoral and provincial strategies; - Strengthened central to sub-national government planning linkages on setting adaptation targets and monitoring progress on those targets; - Enhanced access to adaptation finance that delivers the country's adaptation targets effectively, and - Private sector engagement in adaptation that will both provide support for the agenda and investment to meet some of its challenges.
- Project title: Advancing Lao PDR's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) through Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments for Disaster Risk Management; - Executing entity: Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources (MONRE); - Implementing entity: UN-Habitat - Duration: 36 months (under finalisation) - Budget: US\$1,998,869 - Donor: Green Climate Fund (GCF) - Status: On-going	The main objective of this GCF support programme is to establish integrated adaptation planning and monitoring systems to enable climate resilience across sectors, as well as strengthen impact and catalyze the scale of public and private adaptation finance, based on strong climate rationale and active stakeholder engagement	This programme will contribute towards the NAP process through: - Improving climate change impacts, exposure and vulnerability understanding at all levels; - Reducing vulnerability to impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience; - Addressing the gaps/barriers identified in the Lao First National Communication to the UNFCCC, 8th National Socio-economic Development Plan (2016-2020) and other national strategy documents; - Facilitating the integration of climate change

		adaptation into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, and strategies within all relevant sectors; V. Integrating adaptation-planning activities into specific or broader resilience planning to increase awareness and information on climate change adaptation across government actors.
- Project title: Support for Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation into Sectoral Planning in Lao PDR; - Executing entity: Department of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE); - Implementing entity: Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) - Duration: 24 months (under finalisation) - Budget: US\$1,000,000 - Donor: Green Climate Fund (GCF) - Status: On-going	The programme aims to enhance Lao PDR's climate resiliency through the integration of adaptation at the sector level	This programme would significantly contribute to NAP process through identifying, designing and implementing adaptation investments in line with national priorities as knowledge on key vulnerabilities will be generated and coordination mechanism will be established for an effective action planning and implementation for resilience.
- Project title: Building Resilience of Urban Populations with Ecosystem-based Solutions (EbS) in Lao PDR; - Executing entity: Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE); - Implementing entity: UNEP - Duration: 5 years (2021-2025) - Budget: US\$11 mil. - Donor: Green Climate Fund (GCF) - Status: On-going	The project objective is to implement an integrated approach to flood management to build the climate resilience of local communities living in four major cities in Laos, namely Vientiane, Paksan, Savannakhet and Pakse.	The project will complement with the NAP process through implementing three main components, including: - strengthening technical capacity and knowledge management for EbA; - developing city-level flood management strategies; and - implementing urban EbA interventions in three cities located along the Mekong River.
- Project title: Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific region - Executing entity: Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE); - Implementing entity: UNEP	The project objective is to reduce the vulnerability of poor urban communities in Asia-Pacific LDCs to climate change impacts using Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Oudomxay and Phongsaly Province.	The four-year project has three main components for: - institutional strengthening and capacity building of city management authorities in pilot cities to plan and implement urban EbA; - demonstrating urban EbA interventions in pilot cities; and

- Duration: 48 months (2020-2023) - Budget: US\$1,000,000 - Donor: GEF - Status: On-going		disseminating knowledge and raising public awareness on urban EbA in pilot cities.
- Project title: Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems (SAMIS) to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR Project - Executing entity: Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH), MONRE and the Department of Agricultural Land Management (DALAM), MAF; - Implementing entity: FAO - Duration: 2017-2022 - Budget: US\$22,000,000 - Donor: GEF-LDCF - Status: On-going	The project aims to address monitoring, observation, analysis, data storage, and development of value-added information products, promote sharing and better inform agricultural decision making	The project includes three components i. strengthening agro-climatic monitoring, analysis, communication, and use of data and information for decision making in agriculture and food security; ii. strengthening institutional and technical capacity for monitoring and analysis of agricultural production systems and development of Land Resources Information Management System; iii. knowledge management dissemination and application of information at local level including integrating lessons learned into planning
- Project title: Change Change and Health Adaptation Plan (H-NAP) - Executing entity: Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion, Ministry of Health; - Implementing entity: WHO - Duration: 2020-2023 - Budget: - - Donor: WHO - Status: On-going	The Health Sector is quite progressive on the climate change integration in the sectoral plan. With the support of WHO, the sector aimed to develop its own Health – National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP) which led by the MoH with WHO support, aiming to integrate into the NAP moving forward.	

V. Institutional Arrangements and Coordination Mechanisms for Lao PDR's Climate Change

5.1 Climate Change Institutional Arrangements for Lao PDR

The NAP process was established to enable developing countries, and LDCs in particular, to formulate and implement NAPs. Within a country, the institutional arrangements for the development and implementation of NAPs will vary, and will be driven by national circumstances. Countries that have already embarked on a NAP-like process typically appoint a government agency to lead efforts on climate change adaptation. This agency typically has a mandate to coordinate the efforts of all other agencies or ministries, and to facilitate assessments and planning, including through outreach, capacity-building

efforts and the convening of relevant agencies and other stakeholders to identify and rank national priorities for adaptation.⁵⁷

Regarding Lao PDR, the institutional and policy frameworks relating to climate change are closely intertwined, with institutions being created in order to develop policies. Climate change was initially dealt with under the umbrella of the environment but there has been an increasing focus on it as a standalone issue. In 2002, a high-level **National Environment Committee** was established. In 2008 a **National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC)** was established to provide insight and guidance for climate change policy and programme development, chaired by a Deputy Prime Minister and the Chairperson of the National Environment Committee. The NSCCC's role was to guide the formulation of climate change strategies, programmes and projects. Eight cross sectoral working groups were also established to assess climate change issues and to identify priority actions in preparation for a climate change strategy⁵⁸.

In 2009, as a result of the Government's intention to place climate change within a broader global perspective, this arrangement was replaced as a result of revising the mandate of the National Environmental Committee to include climate change mitigation and adaptation in its duties and responsibilities⁵⁹. Thenceforward, the Committee became the **National Environment – Climate Change Committee (NECCC)**, also chaired by a Deputy Prime Minister. Formally, the NECCC is still the lead national coordination arrangement on climate change for both mitigation and adaptation but in practice it is dormant.⁶⁰ In 2014, it comprised the following membership:

- The Chair Person (the Deputy Prime Minister);
- Two Vice-Chairs (Ministers of MoNRE and MAF);
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Energy and Mines;
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Public Works and Transport;
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Finance;
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce;
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Education and Sports;
- Vice Minister, Ministry of Telecommunication and Technology;
- Vice-Chair, Lao Front for National Construction;
- Vice-Chair, Lao Women's Union;
- Vice-Chair, Lao Youth Union;
- Deputy General Secretariat, National Trade and Industry Council.

In 2013 a **Technical Working Group on Climate Change (TWGCC/CCTWG)** was established to act as a secretariat for the NSCCC (currently NECCC). The CCTWG is a cross-sectoral working group chaired by the Director General of DCC. The Group meets on an ad-hoc basis and facilitates communication, cooperation and coordination between Ministries on climate change and climate finance. It supports the formulation and implementation of climate change strategies and action plans, National Communications on Climate Change,

⁵⁷ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

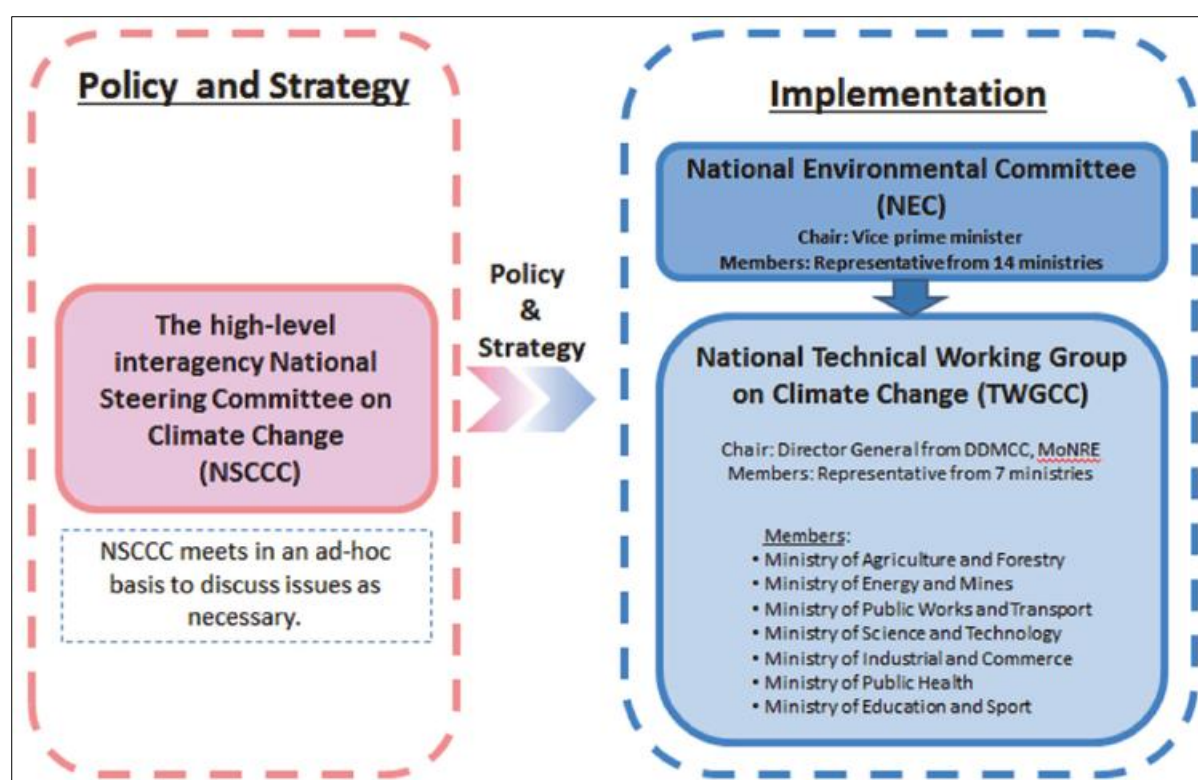
⁵⁸ MONRE (2010). *Lao PDR National Strategy on Climate Change*. Retrieved from https://mirror.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/12679_1_595432.pdf

⁵⁹ MONRE (2013). *Second National Communication on Climate Change*

⁶⁰ Lao National Mekong Committee (2014). *Status Climate Change Strategy, and Implementation, Lao PDR: 2nd Mekong Climate Change Forum*, MoNRE, October 2014.

adaptation planning, and NDC and other climate change commitments to the UNFCCC. The CCTWG is a key body for technical consultation at the national level in relation to the GEF and GCF, particularly in providing comments and guidance to readiness activities and investment proposals. Note that over the past two decades there have been many institutional changes relating to the climate change sector, but the current key ministry is MONRE.⁶¹ Figure 5 shows the working relationship between the committees and CCTWG.⁶² It consists of technical representatives from:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Department of Cultivation);
- Ministry of Energy and Mines (Institute of Renewable Energy Promotion);
- Ministry of Public Works and Transport (Department of Transport);
- Ministry of Industry and Commerce (Department of Industry and Handicraft);
- Ministry of Health (Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion);
- Ministry of Education and Sports;
- Ministry of Telecommunication and Technology (Moved to Ministry of Education and Sports);
- Lao Women Union.



Source: OECC (2015). *The NAMA Guidebook*. 2nd. Edition. Published by OECC, Japan; p. 44

Figure 5: High level institutional arrangements for climate action

Under the NAP advancing project for Lao PDR, The NECCC and the CCTWG will be reformulated and activated during the first phase of the Project. The CCTWG will play a lead

⁶¹ UNEP (2020). *Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process*: Project Document

⁶² MONRE (2009). *Lao PDR National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)*. Retrieved from https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/downloads/laos_pdr_napa.pdf

role in elaborating, implementing, monitoring and coordinating the technical aspects of the NAP process particularly in the development of the NAP Roadmap, the elaboration of the NAP document, and the implementation of climate change adaptation mainstreaming across Ministries and provinces. Moreover, the climate change focal points of the CCTWG would be retitled as Ministerial-level NAP Coordinators. They would play a pro-active role in promoting and coordinating the NAP process in their respective Ministries. Province NAP Coordinators will also be appointed to play a similar role at the provincial level.⁶³

At the ministry level, the key implementing actor for the NAP advancing will be the **MoNRE**. MoNRE's mandate is to act as a secretariat and regulator for natural resources and environment including the management of water, air, biodiversity, minerals, climate change, meteorology and hydrology. The Ministry consists of 12 departments including one cabinet office, 9 technical departments, one National Mekong River Secretariat, one Natural Resources and Environmental Research institute as well as 18 provincial offices with 148 district offices.

Under the MoNRE, the key focal point for the NAP advancing is the **DCC**. Due to the climate-related disasters which have impacted Lao PDR in recent times, there is often a conflation of climate change and natural disasters. This has resulted in institutional changes. When the Climate Change Office was upgraded to a department of MoNRE in 2011, it became the Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change. The Disaster Management mandate was moved from its previous place in the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MLSW) to MoNRE in 2013, but the decision was made for it to return to MLSW in 2017. It is only since this time in 2017 that an independent Department of Climate Change has existed, separate from disaster management, although Disaster Risk Reduction remains within DCC.

The DCC acts as the national focal point to the UNFCCC. It has the mandate to coordinate and develop policy frameworks related to climate change such as preparation of the National Communications (NCs), but the responsibility for implementation rests with the relevant sectors. According to this mandate, the department has established institutional arrangements for compiling the climate change work.⁶⁴ Under this structure, the CCTWG provides technical advice to the DCC in carrying out its mandates for the NAP advancing, including preparation and submission of the NAP document – see figure 6 for structure of the Lao PDR's NAP coordination mechanism. The new DCC's mandate was also established by Ministerial Decree and recently comprises four Divisions:

- Climate Change Information Division;
- Climate Change Adaptation Division;
- Climate Change Mitigation Division;
- Climate Change Policy Division.

⁶³ UNEP (2020). *Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process*: Project Document

⁶⁴ MoNRE (2021). *Mandate on Department of Climate Change*

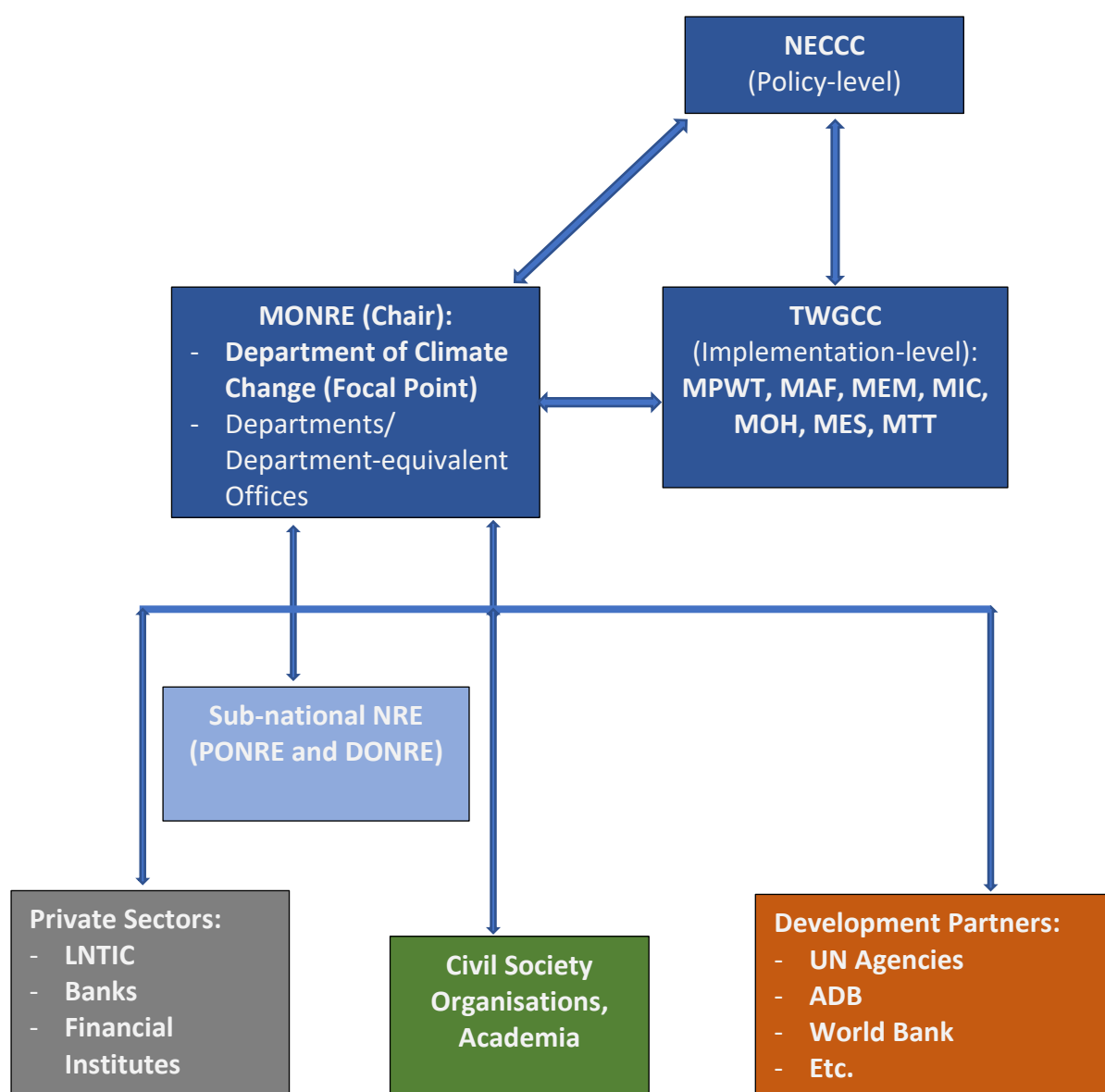


Figure 6: Structure of Lao PDR's climate change institutional and coordination mechanism

At the provincial level, the Provincial Office of Natural Resources and Environment (PONRE) has 7-8 sections, of which one is the Environmental and Climate Change section. Under this section are five units, namely Pollution Control, Climate Change, Environmental Quality Promotion, Natural Resources and Environment, and a Natural Resources and Environmental Research Institute. However, the Environment and Climate Change Section is a new section. The section has roles on promoting policy, collecting data and monitoring and evaluating, and raising the awareness of other sectors including the private sector. Horizontally, PONRE report regularly to the provincial government, as well as coordinating with District Office of Natural Resources and Environment (DONRE). This includes translating policy into the district level. PONRE work with DONRE on such activities as collecting data.

At the district level, there are a few divisions in DONRE. Climate change comes under the environment section. As a result of the understaffing, staff share many roles instead of

being allocated specialist responsibilities. Therefore, there is no one person who is focusing on climate change. DONRE coordinate with the Governor's Office and vertically with PONRE.

Like the National Environmental Committee, there is an inter-sectoral environmental committee at both provincial and district level, as shown in Figure 7 below. The Provincial Environmental Committee (PEC) meets annually to discuss all environmental matters. In some provinces, there are not defined committee members but rather a representative of each sector will attend the meeting and there may be a different attendee at the following meeting. The meeting often focuses on currently impacted areas, for example, issues of flooding.⁶⁵ In practice, sectors, however, implement independently of one another and the PEC is not a key factor in their work.

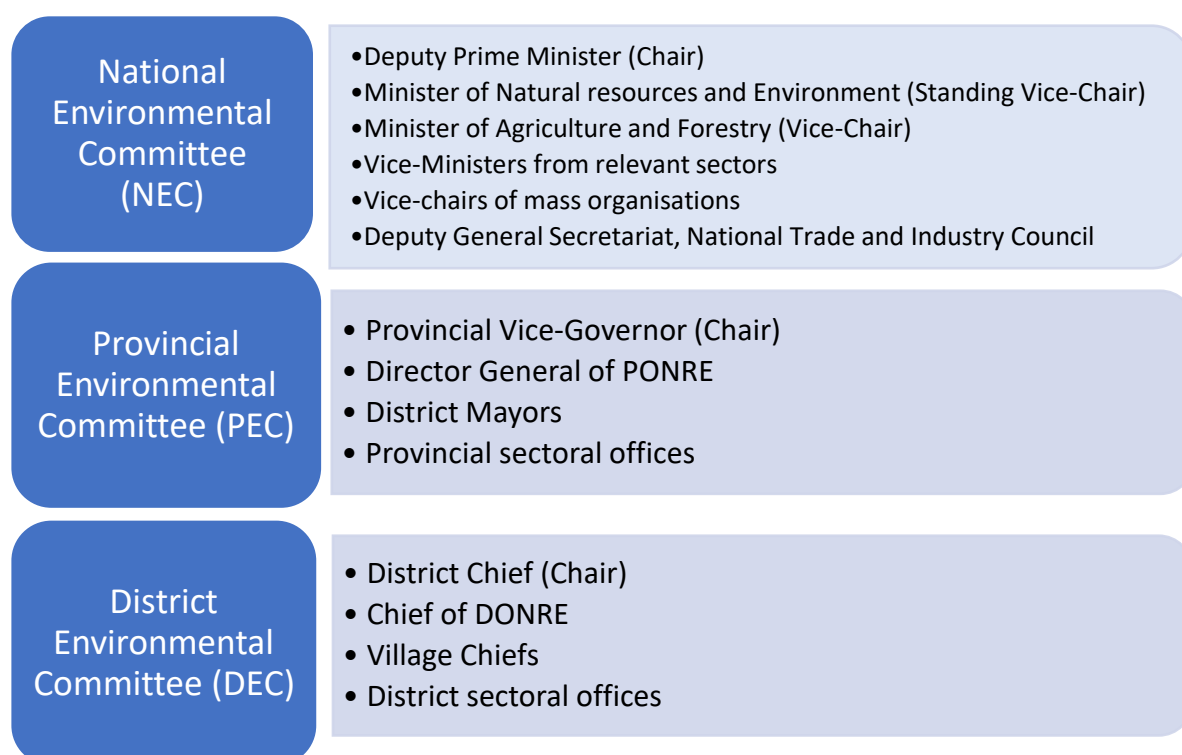


Figure 7: Environmental committees at three levels

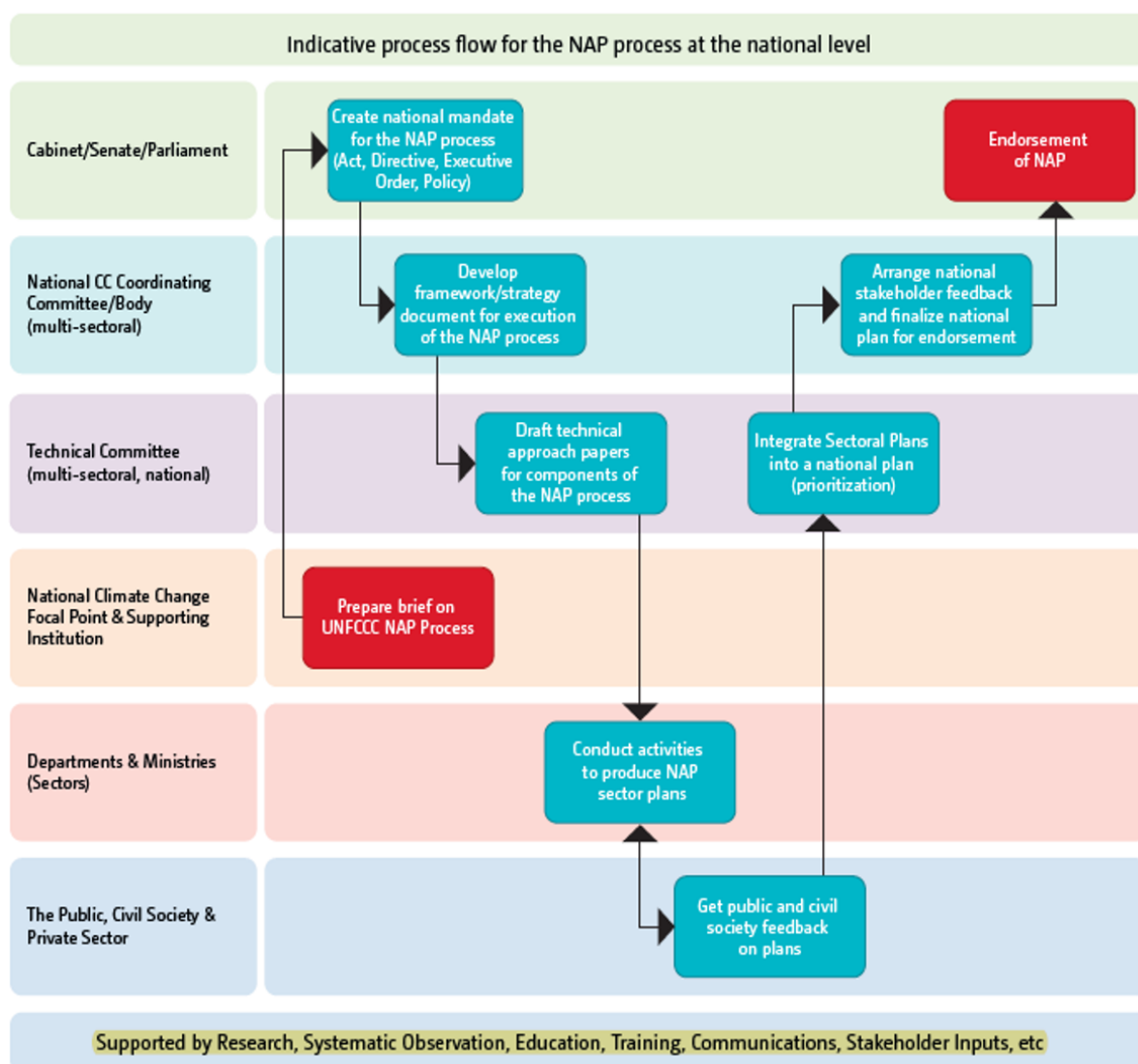
5.2 Roles and Responsibility of Key Stakeholders for NAP Process

The roles of government ministries, departments and non-government agencies are to provide policy direction and strategic direction in the particular sector of interest. The roles may also include policy formulation, coordination of the thematic activities; monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of project activities, capacity building, resource mobilization as well as the endorsement of the NAP document.⁶⁶ The possible interaction with relevant agencies and stakeholders, that may assist countries in the NAP process, is shown in this Figure 8.⁶⁷

⁶⁵ UN-Habitat (2019). *Opportunities for Vertical Integration Related to Low Emission Urban Development Strategies in Lao PDR*

⁶⁶ UNDP (2016). *Malawi NAP Stocking Report: Final Report*

⁶⁷ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>



Source: UNFCCC Technical Guideline

Figure 8: Possible flow of responsibilities for a NAP process until the endorsement stage

As for Lao PDR, implementation of NAP as a whole is expected to fall under the mandate of the various agencies and stakeholders, such as the MONRE, Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Ministry of Energy and Mines and other sectors, academic institutions, CSOs, International Organisations, private sectors and local governments. The MONRE holds responsibility for coordination of the implementation of the NAP process, and for coordination of required follow up actions. The specific expected roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders involved in NAP process and governance are described in table below.

Table 4: Roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders for NAP advancing in Lao PDR

Organization	Roles during the NAP Process
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) - Department of Climate Change (DCC) - Department of Planning and Cooperation (DPC) - Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) - Department of Water Resources (DWR)	DCC is the focal point and responsible for its coordination, oversight, and implementing the NAP advancing project as well as the climate related initiatives of relevance to NAP process. Under the DCC, the Climate Change Adaptation Division will contribute its roles to: i) the appointment of the National Consultant; ii) the coordination of the Inception Workshop, the Validation Workshop, country missions and other stakeholder meetings; iii) providing inputs into the NAP process development; iv) helping collect data relating to climate change, capacities, and M&E, and so on. DPC acts as a coordinator on the MoNRE baseline situation and outline plans for the NAP advancing project. DMH is in charge of weather-related, climatic, and hydrological data, monitoring frameworks, and early warning systems, so DMH can play a role on providing the climate information system and inputs to the baseline situation relating to meteorology and hydrology information systems, capacities, mainstreaming and M&E; the gaps in those same areas; and other activities needed to consolidate the climate change support functions of DMH with climate scenarios downscaling to be finalised for the project. DWR has mandates on developing and management of water resources including surface water, wetlands, reservoirs, ground water, storage for water supply and water zoning; and researching on water discharges released from reservoirs to secure human requirement basis and eco-system sustainability. Under the NAP advancing project, DWR can play role on providing the baseline situation, gaps and needs regarding climate change adaptation in the water resource sector.
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) - Research Centre for Resilience in Agriculture (RCRA) of the National Agriculture and Forest Research Institute (NAFRI) - Department of Agriculture - Department of Livestock and Fisheries - Department of Forestry - Department of Agricultural Land Management (DALAM) - Department of Planning and Cooperation	MAF is responsible for crop, livestock, fisheries and forestry sectors and their publicly performed support activities. Under the NAP project, MAF can play a role on providing information specifically regarding: i) the forestry and agriculture programme; ii) the baseline situation relating to climate change knowledge and information, capacities, mainstreaming in the main MAF Departments; iii) the gaps in those same areas; and iv) the activities that are needed to build the capacity to enable better climate change mainstreaming within MAF.
Ministry of Finance - Department of National Budget - Department of Accounting - Department of Audit	MoF is the final decision maker for government resource allocation, and has a mandate on managing the recurrent budget directly while the development / investment budget is managed by the Ministry of Planning and Investment. MoF is responsible for the allocation of budget across all levels and sectors. The Departments of Accounting and Audit are responsible for the budget for the expenditure / financial tracking and reporting. MoF can play a role on providing inputs and

	recommendation on the national budget allocation for the NAP process as well as the financial mechanism to be taken place for the process.
Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) • Department of Planning Division of Economic Affairs • Department of International Cooperation • Department of Investment Promotion • The Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB)	MPI acts as the central coordination ministry for development and investment planning. The ministry can play a role on providing inputs into the NAP process regarding specific information on: i) Lao's planning, budgeting and policy processes; and ii) gaps in climate change adaptation knowledge and financing in the public and private sectors.
Ministry of Energy and Mines • Department of Energy Policy and Planning • Renewable Energy Institute	MEM oversees the management of all energy-related activities in Lao PDR including hydropower; and the investment in the mining projects. The ministry can play a role in supporting and providing the information relating the energy investment and development projects, the baseline situation relating to climate change knowledge and information, capacities, mainstreaming in the energy and mining sector.
Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) • Public Works and Transport Research Institute • Roads Department • Department of Planning	MPWT's responsibilities include transport, urban planning and infrastructure development. Under the NAP project, MPWT can play a role on providing information specifically regarding: i) the public works and transport programme; ii) the baseline situation relating to climate change knowledge and information, capacities, mainstreaming in the main MPWT Departments; iii) the gaps in those same areas; and iv) the activities that are needed to build the capacity to enable better climate change mainstreaming within MPWT
Ministry of Public Health (MoH) • Department of Environmental and Occupational Health • Department of Planning • Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion	MoH is the main provider of health services to the Lao population. The ministry has a mandate in health policy development and de-centralisation of health services to provincial, district and health centre levels. Under the project, the ministry can play a role in supporting the information relating the public health, the baseline situation relating to climate change knowledge and information, capacities, mainstreaming in the health sector.
Ministry of Education and Sports (MES)	MES is responsible for the development and delivery of basic and higher education. The Ministry participated in the development of national Climate Change Strategies and policies and is currently mainstreaming climate change in higher education curricular. This has a potential of bringing climate change adaptation awareness students. The ministry can provide the significant input and information relating to climate change through the consultation meetings and activities.
Environment Protection Fund (EPF)	EPF has a mandate under the MONRE to strengthen environmental protection, sustainable natural resources management, biodiversity conservation and community development. It is an autonomous national entity, both financially and administratively and currently channels financial resources from World Bank, UNDP and domestic sources. Under the NAP project, the EPF is to provide the specific information related to climate change projects and programmes; gaps in EPF - funded projects for climate change adaptation; ii) capacity needs assessment of EPF; iii) the baseline situation of climate change adaptation funding.
Provinces and Districts • Planning Divisions • NRE Divisions	Provincial and District offices of NRE and other climate sensitive Ministries is involved as partners in the NAP project to bridge the national level to subnational levels. Capacities will be built for the purpose of integrating climate change into strategic and action planning and budget processes through development of analytical skills so that they are better able to fulfil their mandate to advise at these levels.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)	CSOs in the Lao PDR are engaged in awareness raising, and advocacy for various thematic areas, including sustainable development, food security, natural resource management, climate change, human rights, gender inclusive and education. CSOs are important strategic partners in climate change, as they work mainly with the local communities. The CSOs also work with district offices, as well as directly with the communities. The key CSOs for the engagement of the NAP process will be the Lao Women Union and Lao Youth Union. Both can play roles on participating in the NAP process consultation activities and providing substantial inputs and feedback to the process.
Private Sector • Lao National Industry and Commerce Chamber (LNICC) • Bank Institutes	The private sector, particularly the banking sector and small and medium enterprises play an important role in driving the country's development, and hence climate change activities. However, the private sector is very undeveloped in relation to climate change. There are very few private companies delivering quality services for climate change adaptation. Their initial engagement and participation in the consultation meetings can provide substantial input for the NAP process. Through The NAP process, it will continuously create a conducive environment to support the private sector through activities such as the provision of data for robust decision-making, capacity development to conduct independent vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans, developing guidelines for incorporating climate risks, and facilitating access to affordable financing.
The Mekong River Commission (MRC) • Planning Division • Climate Change Adaptation Unit	MRC is a regional inter-governmental organization working with the governments of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam for joint management of the shared water resources and the sustainable development of the Mekong River. MRC acts as a regional knowledge hub for water resources management that helps to inform decision-making based on scientific evidence. As MRC has had extensive programmes dealing with climate change research for the LMB of which Lao forms a significant part. So, MRC can provide information on climate change science, modelling and forecasting and risk analysis for the NAP process.
Academic and research institutions • National University of Laos (NUOL)	NUOL is expected to provide the role on undertaking studies and research, and developing climate models, prediction and scenarios, and seasonal forecasts, clarifying the level of uncertainty and impacts of climate change in Laos, which can serve to populate some resilient activities indicators, through data base on impact of climate change for each climate zone and vulnerable groups.
UN Agencies: • UNEP • UN-Habitat • UNDP • FAO • WFP • Etc.	UN agencies have developed and implemented a number of climate change resilience projects in the last decades. Their participation on the consultation activities can provide inputs which provided orientation on linkages for the project with past, present and future donor sponsored climate change activities.
International Organisations: • World Bank • ADB • GIZ • IUCN • Oxfam International • CARE • Etc.	International organisations through participation in the consultation workshop for NAP process can provide the significant inputs and information relating climate change projects and programmes.

VI. Roadmap and Proposed Steps to Advance the Lao PDR's NAP

The NAP process often involves the development of several documents, of which is NAP roadmap. The NAP roadmap is a strategic document provides an overview of what needs to be done for the NAP process; it spells out the key steps, activities, roles and responsibilities, necessary resources, and timeframe for the NAP process.⁶⁸

The Lao PDR's NAP roadmap presented in table 5 below details the sequence of activities that create and organize the country's NAP process. It is based on the literature review, stakeholder consultations and reports from the GCF NAP advancing Project such as project document, as well as the NAP elements and steps suggested by the LDCs Expert Group's *Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process* (LEG Guidelines) for the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and follows, in general terms, the structure offered in the NAP Roadmap Checklist (see Annex 11.3); which was preferred among other options presented due to its simplicity and ease of use.

It is important to note that this proposed roadmap highlights the iterative nature of the NAP process and suggests short, medium and long-term activities, which will need to be monitored and updated as necessary throughout implementation. It places emphasis on a progressive approach with initial activities focused on capacity building at all levels and the finalization of a first-generation NAP in the short-term, moving towards a comprehensive and operational NAP in the longer-term.

Defining the Lao PDR's NAP roadmap activities

A NAP road-map could assist in reflecting what needs to be done by a country during the NAP process. To develop a roadmap the following activities were defined and discussed during the document review and stakeholder consultation meetings:

- Stocktaking of existing adaptation initiatives to identify entry points for the NAP process: It is important to pull together information from the literature review to get a comprehensive picture of existing adaptation planning initiatives in the country. Based on the extent to which adaptation activities have already been undertaken, so Lao PDR could identify building blocks and "entry points" for the NAP process.
- Indicative activities, outputs, responsibilities and funding sources: A logical sequence of steps for multi-stakeholder activities are included key activities, output, and responsibilities for different sectors at both national and sub-national institutions. From Step A to Step D, activities and responsibilities are built upon each other. Moreover, key stakeholders are asked to consider the available funding sources and status of activity on adaptation planning.
- Time frame: The NAP roadmap time frame is decided based on national planning horizons. As noted by LEG Guidelines, there is no prescribed time frame for a road-map, but specific activities defined over 1 – 2 years may be useful. In other cases, up-to 5 years may be useful. Beyond 5 years activities may be indicative.

⁶⁸ Least Developed Countries Expert Group (2012). *National Adaptation Plans. Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process*. Bonn: UNFCCC secretariat. Bonn, Germany. December 2012. Retrieved from <http://unfccc.int/NAP>

The Approach Adopted

The approach reflects the UNFCCC core elements expected (red) whilst embracing the iterative steps (blue) anticipated in order to produce an internationally accepted NAP. Figure 1 shows these elements and steps, with the highlighted yellow boxes declaring the current status of the NAP (November 2022).

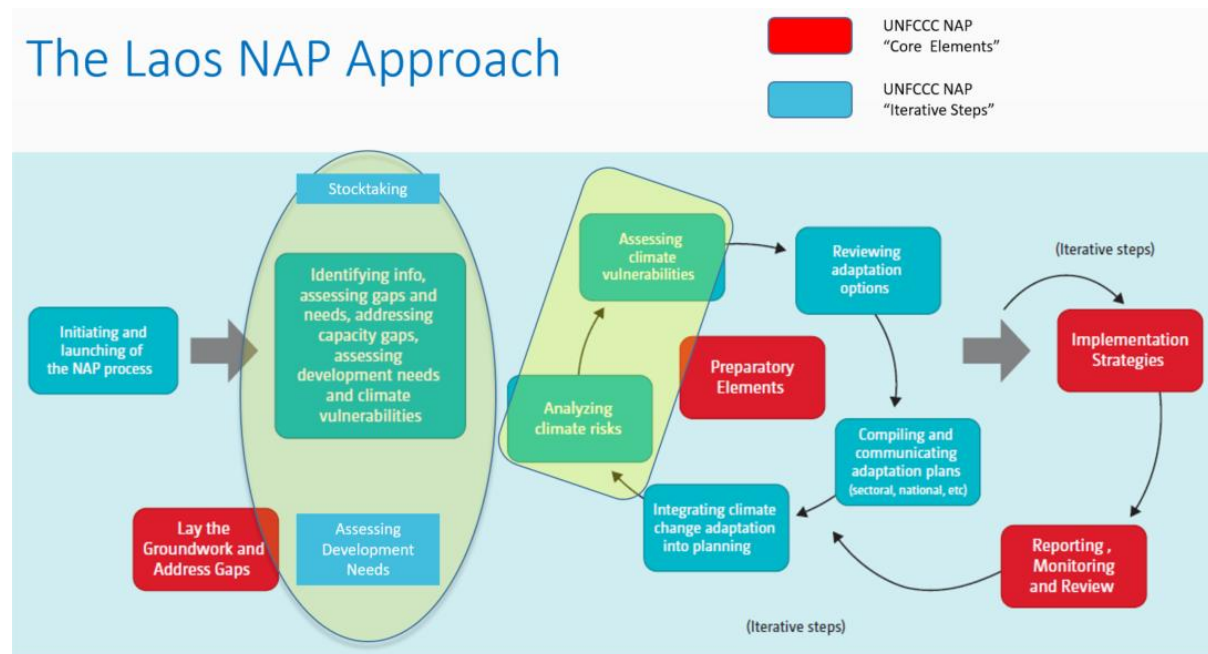


Figure 9: Laos NAP elements and steps being pursued

Table 5: Lao PDR's NAP roadmap and sequencing of different elements and activities

NAP Roadmap for the Laos National Adaptation Plan (as of Nov 2022)

Formatted to UNFCCC guidelines.

	Completed Task		Commenced Task		Task Experiencing Problems		Task not started
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GEF Project Component	GEF Project Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Key Responsible Party	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
UNFCCC NAP CORE ELEMENT A “LAY THE GROUNDWORK AND ADDRESS GAPS”							
UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – A1 - INITIATING AND LAUNCHING OF THE NAP PROCESS							
COMPONENT 1: Institutional and technical capacity for the NAP Process in Lao PDR	Output 1.1 National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) established for the NAP Process	Section 1: Objectives Principles Policy Scope Timeline	Activity 1.1 - Develop Adaptation Process for Laos to guide the NAP and its development including objectives, principles, scope and timelines	MONRE	Draft Adaptation Process	Oct 2022	Completed
			Activity 1.2 - Undertake inception workshop with stakeholders to review and consolidate the Adaptation Process and the NAP Log-Frame	MONRE	Finalised Adaptation Process	July 2022	Completed
			<u>Supporting Activity</u> Set up Stakeholder Engagement Action plan (SEAP), Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and Gender Action plan	MONRE/ UNEP	Final endorsed SEAP, GRM and GAP	Nov 2022 – Feb 2023	To use information from GCF EbS Project
		Section 2: Arrangements and Preparation	Activity 2.1 - Establish institutional and oversight arrangements for climate activity and the NAP development	MONRE	Structure approved by Cabinet	June 2022	Completed
			Activity 2.2 - Set up local Project Coordinator	MONRE	Project Coordinator appointed.	May 2022	Completed
			Activity 2.3 - Appoint NAP Report Writer Specialist for circa 10 months (Part B of the proposed ISP tender process)	MONRE/ UNEP	NAP specialist appointed	Dec 2022 – Jan 2023	ISP Tender process

GEF Project Component	GEF Project Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Key Responsible Party	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
			Activity 2.4 Set up the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM) to support the NAP development process	MONRE	A framework and the ToR for a coordination mechanism	June 2022	Completed
	Output 1.2 Roadmap produced for the elaboration, coordination, implementation of the NAP Process	Section 2: Arrangements and Preparation	Activity 2.6 - Roadmap updated by the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) and submitted to the CCTWG and NECCC for approval	MONRE/ UNEP	Roadmap for the NAP formalised	Nov-Dec 2022	90% complete
	Output 1.3 CCA ToT and technical staff training programmes	Section 2: Arrangements and Preparation	Activity 2.7 - Undertake a training of trainer CCA events across sectors for 350 staff (50% men 50% women) with toolkits developed and delivered for elaborating, implementing, monitoring and coordinating the NAP process	MONRE	Training Needs Assessment Report	May 2022	Complete
			Activity 2.8 - Based on the ToT events undertake capacity training workshop for Provincial NAP Coordinator and also NAP focal points (including government, CSOs, local communities and private sector) <i>(Northern, Southern and Sector concerned line ministries)</i>	MONRE	Training event reports	June-November 2022	Complete
	Output 1.4 One central and three regional awareness raising events conducted for the public	Section 2: Arrangements and Preparation	Activity 2.9 - Deliver 1 national and 3 regional events for government, CSOs, local communities and private sector- on the need for and the process towards medium and long-term adaptation.	MONRE	Training event reports	May-June 2023	Not yet implemented
		Section 3: Communication and Consultation	Activity 3.1 - Develop a Communication and Outreach Strategy (COS) addressing awareness of adaptation issues at the village, Province and national levels. Address communication and dialogue at the regional and global level for promoting the plight of Lao communities.	MONRE	A Communication and Outreach Plan and draft NAP Section 3 text.	May-July 2023	Tender process to start

GEF Project Component	GEF Project Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Key Responsible Party	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – A2 - STOCKTAKING							
COMPONENT 3: Social and economic development in Lao PDR that integrates adaptation to climate change	Output 3.1: Revisions to national, sectoral and provincial strategies and development plans made to integrate CCA priorities	Section 4: Statement of Situation	Activity 4.1a - Conduct a macro level Laos statement of situation for: - geographic - demographic - social - economic - environment - climate change effects and adaptation activity so far	MONRE/ UNEP	Macro-level background description nuanced for understanding climate change issues and draft for NAP Section 4	March-April 2023	Not started – CTA to offer a template to help the NPPC to collect this information
			Activity 4.1b - Conduct a macro level Laos statement of situation for: - demographic - land use/tenure - economic as they relate to changing human settlement patterns, customary and legal frameworks for land use and the value of the Lao culture.	MONRE/ UNEP	Internal reviewed and endorsed “situational” report with input to NAP Section 4.	March-May 2023	Not started – CTA to offer a template to help the NPPC to collect this information
		UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – A3 ASSESSING DEVELOPMENT NEEDS					
		Section 5: Existing policies, plans and adaptation activity	Activity 5.1a - Undertake a stocktake of existing policies, plans, assessments and activity within Laos – including progress within the physical and well-being dimensions	MONRE/ UNEP	Stocktake report and draft NAP Section 5	Jan-March 2023	Not started
			Activity 5.1b - Identify synergies between development and adaptation objectives, policies, plans and programmes with a view to identifying risks to investment and opportunities for collaboration and realizing co-benefits (e.g. climate-	MONRE/ UNEP	Report to support NAP Section 5	March-April 2023	Not started

GEF Project Component	GEF Project Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Key Responsible Party	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
			proofing), including economic benefits				
	UNFCCC NAP CORE ELEMENT B “PREPARATORY ELEMENTS”						
	UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – B1 ANALYSING CLIMATE RISKS						
		Section 6: Issues impacting on Laos capacity to address climate change	Activity 6.1 - Review stocktake report under Activity 5.1a and consult key sector agencies and identify issues limiting or constraining effective adaptation activity	MONRE/ UNEP	Issues report and draft NAP Section 6	Jan-Feb 2023	Not started
		Section 7: Gaps and perceived development needs and vulnerabilities to climate change	Activity 7.1a - Assess potential barriers to the planning, design and implementation of adaptation activities and conduct a gap analysis to assess strengths and weaknesses regarding the capacity, data and information, and resources required to effectively engage in the NAP process.	MONRE/ UNEP	SWOT analysis identifying barriers and potential remedial actions to address the gap/ barrier. Input text for Section 7	Feb-March 2023	Not started
			Activity 7.1b - Undertake an assessment of the core climate science data and analysis for Laos to identify gaps in the context of potential critical climate change impacts	MONRE/ UNEP	Science gaps identified and included in Gaps report in 7.1	March-April 2023	Not started

GEF Project Outcome	GEF Project Component and Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Delivered By	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – B2 ASSESSING CLIAMTE VULNERABILITIES							
Component 2: Climate information system for prioritising adaptation needs	Output 2.1: A standardised framework developed and applied for district and provincial climate risk and vulnerability assessment and evidence-based adaptation and development planning.	Section 8: Climate Summary and Development of Scenarios	Activity 8.1 - Develop a suite of science-based scenarios for: - rainfall/temperature patterns and drought - extreme events Provide a climate summary projecting levels of confidence and potential post 2100	MONRE/ UNEP	Climate summary and scenarios adopted by Cabinet as basis for adaptation planning. NAP Section 8	Feb-April 2023	Not started
		Section 9: Statement of Vulnerabilities	Activity 9.1 - Present vulnerabilities of key community elements of: - habitation/demographic - health/education - livelihood activity - land and coastline - infrastructure - economic activity to the suite of scenarios from Section 8. Address migration trends and where appropriate identify limits of habitability and barriers to adaptation.	MONRE/ UNEP	Vulnerability report for NAP Section 9	April-May 2023	Not started
			Activity 9.2 - Assess vulnerability to climate change at sector, subnational, national or appropriate levels (by applying applicable frameworks)	MONRE/ UNEP	Vulnerability report for NAP Section 9	Q1-Q2 2023	Not started
	UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – B3 REVIEWING ADAPTATION OPTIONS						
	Output 2.2: Applied research carried out to measure the technical effectiveness and economic efficiency of adaptation strategies in providing	Section 10 Adaptation options	Activity 10.1 - Identify, categorize and appraisal of all adaptation options at multiple scales to address priority vulnerabilities.	MONRE/ UNEP	Adaptation options appraisal report (per Province) for NAP Section 10 [Note: must be presented as integrated recommendations.	Q2 2023	Not started

GEF Project Outcome	GEF Project Component and Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Delivered By	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
Component 3:	adaptation benefits in the medium and long-term	Section 11 Review and appraise the options			It is a product of UNFCCC]		
			Activity 10.2 - Engage with the sample local populace to discuss and agree 'business as usual' adaptation options and costs for all Provinces.	MONRE	Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 11	July-Aug 2023	Not started
	UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – B4 COMPILING AND COMMUNICATING ADAPTATION PLANS						
	Output 2.3: A platform established for sharing climate information for CCA	Section 12 NAP Plan of Action	Activity 12.1 From the issues identified in Section 10.2 develop policies and/or positions to resolve them and support adaptation activity.	MONRE/ UNEP	Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 12	Aug-Sept 2023	Not started
			Activity 12.1 Consult on options from Section 11 and prepare a progressive integrated NAP Plan of Action as the basis for funding discussions and decision-making	MONRE		Aug-Sept 2023	Not started
	Output 2.4: NAP document elaborated based on Outcomes 1 and 2 deliverables and submitted to the NECCC for approval. NAP document elaborated	Section 13 Implementation policy/strategy	Activity 13.1 Develop an implementation strategy allocating accountability at the sector level through detailed planning and coordination mechanisms. Liaise with development partners to build credibility for Laos case.	MONRE	Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 13	June-Sept 2023	Not started
	UNFCCC NAP CORE ELEMENT C “IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES”						
	UNFCCC NAP “STEPS” – B5 INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTION INTO PLANNING						
	Output 3.1: Revisions to national, sectoral and provincial strategies and development plans made to integrate CCA priorities	Section 14 Detailed programming – Sector plans and finance plan	Activity 14.1 Develop detailed planning mechanism/guideline to support adaptation planning at the sector and organisational levels. Ensure the mechanism has an emphasis on ‘well-being’ adaptation as well as material adaptation including targets and monitoring.	MONRE/ UNEP	National adaptation planning mechanism/guideline to encourage climate change integration into sector specific plans. Text to	Aug-Oct 2023	Not started

GEF Project Outcome	GEF Project Component and Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Delivered By	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
Social and economic development in Lao PDR that integrates adaptation to climate change					support NAP Section 14.		
	Output 3.2: A NAP finance strategy developed to effectively mobilise and utilise funding resources for adaptation that promotes sustainable development.		Activity 14.2 Assess climate financing scenarios and options stocktaking for adaptation funding and develop a funding strategy for engagement with development partners	MONRE/ UNEP	Finance Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 14	May-July 2023	Not started
	Output 3.3: One central and three regional training courses with adaptation mainstreaming toolkit, targeting 160 planning and decision-making staff conducted in years 1 and 3 integrate adaptation social and economic development.	Section 15 Address capacity issues and the enabling environment	Activity 15.1 Continue to strengthen the institutional arrangements and capacity of the Lao public service and further develop the enabling environment to support the NAP implementation	MONRE	Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 15	July-Aug 2023	Not started
		Section 16 Establish coordination mechanisms	Activity 16.1 Strengthen the alignment of the public sector HOD's to improve accountability and provide for stronger coordination	MONRE	Report with findings to feed into NAP Section 16	July 2023	Not started
Component 4:	UNFCCC NAP CORE ELEMENT D "REPORTING, MONITORING AND REVIEW"						
Monitoring, reviewing and reporting on the NAP Outcomes in Lao PDR	Output 4.1: A NAP monitoring and review system established comprising of data collection, analysis, reporting conventions and guidelines.	Section 17: Monitoring and review policy	Activity 17.1 Establish a monitoring and review policy with indicators and milestones reflecting national plans and the global frameworks of SDG's and the Sendai and Paris Agreements	MONRE/ UNEP	Report (to feed into NAP Section 17) that designs a data/information collection, analysis, monitoring, reviewing and reporting system for the NAP including organisational arrangements.	Jan-June 2023	Not started

GEF Project Outcome	GEF Project Component and Output Title	Proposed NAP Section No.	Activities (numbered after the proposed NAP Chapter)	Delivered By	Output	Timeframe Ending	Status
	Output 4.3: NAP Annual Progress Reports developed and reported to national and international institutions (e.g. the UNFCCC's LEG and other LDC)s	Sections 18/19: Monitoring procedure/ review and assess process	Activity 18/19.1 Establish and implement monitoring, assessment and review procedure consistent with the policy from 17.1 including indicators, milestones and data collection and analysis (<i>Work towards aligning the production of updates to the NAPs with national development plans</i>).	MONRE/ UNEP	Report (to feed into NAP Section 17) that designs a monitoring framework / system to help report on indicators set out in the NAP	Jan - June 2023	Not started
		Section 20 Update process	Activity 20.1 Update the NAP, and related documentation, at a frequency specified in the national mandate, framework or strategy for the NAP process, by repeating selected steps as appropriate (e.g.: establish an update process for re-casting of the NAP every 3 years)	MONRE/ UNEP	Future updates to the NAP – text to be presented in the NAP Section 20	Post 2023	TBD
		Section 21 Reporting	Activity 21.1 Set up a formal reporting mechanism including annual reporting (Work towards aligning the production of updates to the NAPs with relevant national development plans)	MONRE/ UNEP	Future reporting mechanisms for the NAP – following the system developed in Output 4.1 including data collection and analysis; Text to be presented in the NAP Section 21.	Jan-June 2023	Not started
	Output 4.2: Technical training provided and awareness events conducted	Section 15 Address capacity issues and the enabling environment	Activity 21.2 Target 100 national and local government staff across 18 provinces to implement the NAP monitoring and review system.	MONRE/ UNEP	Train 100 government technical staff at national and provincial level on monitoring and reviewing the NAP Process	June-Sept 2023	Not started

VII. Recommendations and Stakeholder Feedback on Advancing NAP Process

The NAP roadmap stakeholder consultation workshops conducted in three different regions from April-June 2022 was a key learning opportunity on how different stakeholders view climate change and the need for urgent organized interventions. By outlining the roles and potential responsibilities of the central government, local government, academia and CSOs, stakeholders have demonstrated some level of understanding and appreciation of the need to address climate change issues. The following are key findings and recommendations summarized from the stakeholder consultations and desk review on the NAP advancing:

1. There is a need for establishment of a dedicated vertical and horizontal coordination unit to ensure that the coordination and governance structures are improved and inter-ministerial steering and management committees meet regularly following the time schedules to improve the NAP process effectively.
2. There is a need for development of a communication strategy for conveying climate change information to all concerned stakeholders as well as an effective repository and feedback mechanism
3. There is a need for the creation of a knowledge-management platform to facilitate institutional learning between adaptation stakeholders.
4. It is important to maintain and strengthen the technical working group established for climate change/NDC in lead sectors to enable the government to obtain better results from the NAP implementation.
5. There is a need for capacity building and training manual/modules on the integration of climate change into national and sub-national development planning.
6. Conducting of climate vulnerability assessments and development of climate change scenarios are necessary to inform the NAP, as the NAP is responsive to the impacts of climate change in Laos.
7. It is necessary to build the capacity of the local policy makers to provide accurate and useful information for adaptation strategies as well as integrate the NAP process into the sub-national development plans.
8. There is a need to develop the integrated database management system for climate data collection, allowing for collation of all information stored on institutional climate databases and the systematic storage of climate data – can be incorporated with Lao Statistics Bureau.
9. There is a need for development of a resource mobilization strategy identifying potential resources to possibly fund NAP implementation, addressing the urgent need for mobilization of financial resources dedicated to adaptation research programs.
10. It is important to have a publicity of the NAP process, including through involvement of high-level officials— in the form of short documentaries, dissemination and consultation workshop on the implementation of the NAP process in Laos.

11. There is a need to develop general planning guidelines to include climate change adaptation so that adaptation could be mainstreamed as a cross cutting issue.
12. Existing coordination mechanisms and platforms with different projects and partners are needed to be developed in order for sharing and pooling together of resources for joint implementation to ensure scaling up of adaptation project activities.
13. Due to low participation process of the private sector in the NAP process and adaptation activities in general, DCC and NAP projects should arrange a tailor-made consultative meeting with private sector members to raise awareness.
14. There should be the establishment of stakeholder consultation platforms that bring together public and private sector actors to raise and discuss key climate change-related issues.
15. There is a need for awareness raising and capacity building on gender-related issues of the lead ministries at all levels (national and sub-national levels) starting with widespread education and awareness, not only on adaptation but mitigation actions with adaptation co-benefits as well.
16. The Government should urgently consider setting up a special fund or ensure adequate allocation for climate change adaptation activities by different line ministries and departments to provide adequate financial flows for climate change adaptation. This type of approach could be recommended and formalized in the NAP moving forward.

VIII. Next Steps and Ways Forward

The NAP process will be designed to work toward achieving the country's NCCS, NDC, as well as the 9th NSEDP. However, to design and implement a comprehensive NAP process, a "Roadmap" must be firstly developed and endorsed. The NAP Roadmap is meant to identify vital activities that will realize the country's NAP, its timelines and key actors responsible for their delivery.

Figure 10 provides an indicative "Roadmap" for the timely production of the Laos NAP through to its intended national endorsement into 2024. It should be noted that dates below are subject to change depending upon required national and/or donor administrative timelines for endorsement.

Proposed NAP Roadmap for Laos (2022 to 2023)

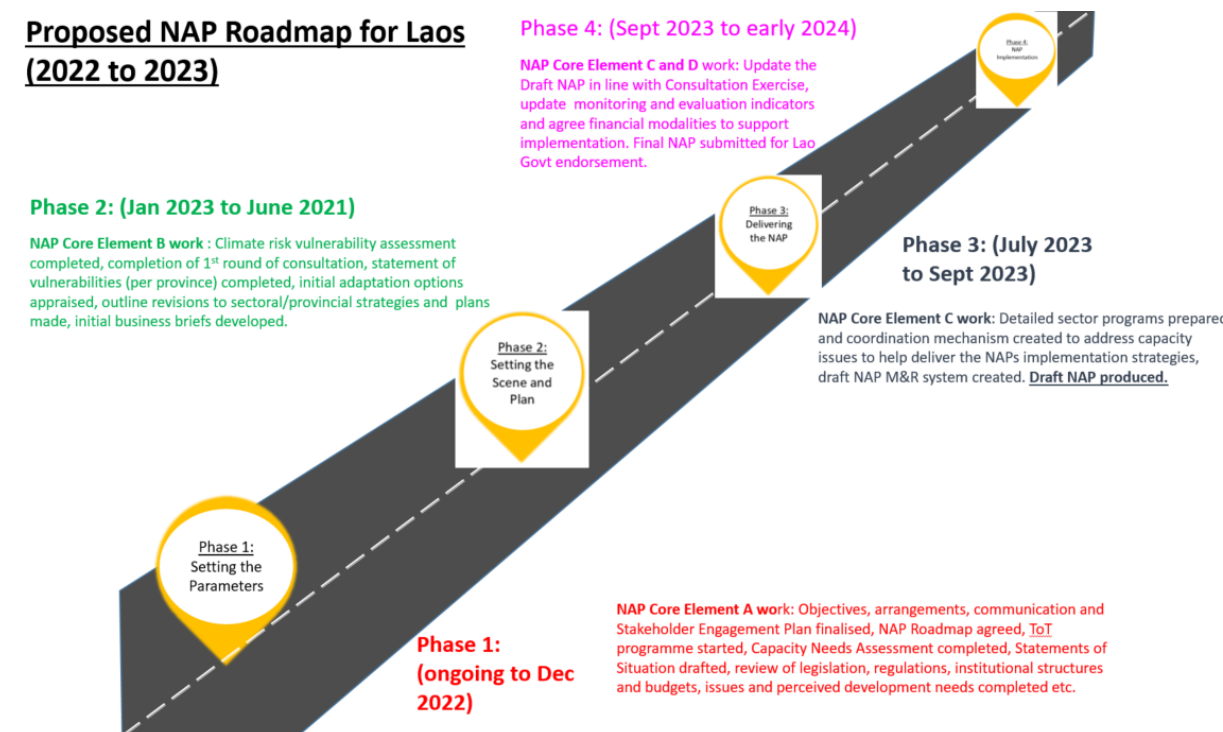


Figure 10: Proposed Roadmap for Laos NAP completion

The Way Forward and core messages from Laos

As an increasing number of countries (post 2022 – which includes Laos) shall be finalizing their NAPs and shall seek to make more detailed, ambitious commitments in the adaptation components of their NDCs. The global focus needs to quickly shift from planning to implementation. In fact, the recent IPCC report noted that intensifying climate change impacts require that adaptation actions be sped up and scaled up to adequately address the needs of vulnerable countries and communities.

Laos strongly recommends that the global donor community ensure that finance is scaled up significantly to support adaptation needs. At COP26, developed countries agreed to at least double finance for adaptation from 2019 levels by 2025, which equates to roughly \$40 billion. Many stakeholders are calling for much greater levels of adaptation funding, and for adaptation finance to match that dedicated to curbing emissions (the latest available figures show that adaptation finance only amounts to approximately a third of total climate finance). At COP27, developed countries must also specify how they will ensure this finance reaches those who need it most (including Laos). This will mean committing more finance for locally led adaptation, ensuring local people and organizations who are often disproportionately vulnerable to climate impacts have a say in investment decisions and can access the funding and other resources they need to build resilience.

Countries will also be pressed to make progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) in Egypt. Established under Article 7.1 of the Paris Agreement in 2015, this goal aims to provide a framework to define the process, action and support needed to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability, while contributing to sustainable development. The Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work program (GlaSS) provide an opportunity to help advance discussions on metrics for tracking progress for locally led adaptation, including to account for quantity and quality of finance reaching local communities.

Laos NAP shall be focusing on this aspect in particular, seeking to define our own monitoring and evaluating of adaptation implementation and more ambitious NDCs.

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Annex A: Stakeholders consulted and data collection exercises

No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation	No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation
1	Mrs. Teuanchith Alounlasy	Deputy Director General, DCC, MONRE	18	Mr. Vongdavanh Insysiengmay	Deputy Head, DONRE, Savannakhet
2	Mr. Amphayvanh Oudomdeth	Deputy Director General, DCC, MONRE	19	Mrs. SithOuthone Keomixay	Technical, Planning and Investment, Savannakhet
3	Mr. Tavanh Kittiphone	Deputy Director, DCC, MONRE	20	Mr. Ponepadith Naviengchanh	Technical Official, Savannakhet
4	Mr. Vannavong	DCC, MONRE	21	Mr. Chanhhao Xayyathong	Head, PONRE, Xekong
5	Mrs. Dalaphone Khounphoumi	DCC, MONRE	22	Mrs. Soulinphone Xayyasane	Technical, PONRE, Xekong
6	Mr. Khampasong Khamvene	DCC, MONRE	23	Mrs. Vanmany Keokhounnang	Deputy Head, Women Union, Xekong
7	Mr. Souphaxay Komany	Director, DCC, MONRE	24	Dr. Xayyasith Silipath	Deputy Head, PONRE, Champasak
8	Mrs. Tiew Phimthong	DCC, MONRE	25	Mr. Soukdavone Senethavisouk	Technical, PONRE, Champasak
9	Miss. Kesone Mounlamay	DCC, MONRE	26	Mrs. Chanmina Oudthikone	Head, Health, Champasak
10	Mrs. Ny Khamoulida	DCC, MONRE	27	Mr. Oday Keomany	Technical, PONRE Salavanh
11	Mrs. Nalinthone Vilaysane	Consultant	28	Mr. Sangvieng Thidalath	Deputy Head, PONRE, Salavanh
12	Mr. Katthaneth	Consultant	29	Mr. Phithsakone Keothammavong	Technical, Finance, Salavanh
13	Mr. Chanthamy Siliya	Consultant	30	Mr. Sithane Heuangxayyanang	Head, PONRE, Attapeu
14	Mr. Phayvanh Sayphoumi	Deputy Director, Bolikhamxay PONRE	31	Mr. Soukvilay Phonesalasane	Deputy Head, PONRE, Attapeu
15	Mr. Vilath Phanthalasy	Technical Official, PONRE	32	Mr. Bounleua Syhachak	Technical, Attapeu
16	Mr. Khamfong Vongvilay	Public Works and Transport, Bolikhamxay	33	Mr. Sengchanh Phongpachith	Agriculture and Forest, NAFRI, Vientiane Capital
17	Mr. Vilavong Kenesoulin	Deputy Head, Vientiane Capital PONRE	34	Mr. Xaypasith Bouapha	Ministry of Energy and Mines
35	Mr. Phouvong Khanthavong	Deputy Head, Khammouan PONRE	55	Mrs. Phoupheth Kokeo	Ministry of Energy and Mines

No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation	No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation
36	Mr. Boualamthong Ontavong	Technical Official, Khammouan PONRE	56	Mrs. Soukdalay Chanmanyvong	National Lao Women Union
37	Mrs. Khounmy Chounlamany	Head, Energy and Mines, Khammouan	57	Mr. Xaysavath Souvanvisay	National Lao Youth Union
38	Mrs. Sengmany Phanthasath	Ministry of Planning and Investment	58	Mr. Somnak Sisavath	Min. of Agriculture and Forestry
39	Mr. Soudavy Nanthavong	National Mekong River Committee	59	Mrs. Seumsavanh Thoulacanh	Water Resources, MONRE
40	Mr. Bouasavanh Vongbounleua	DCC, MONRE	60	Mrs. Symeuang Niamvanith	Lao Front Union
41	Mr. Chanthavong Bounsombath	Ministry of Public Works and Transport	61	Mrs. Minaphone Vongsouthi	Finance, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
42	Mr. Channiphone Xayyalath	Ministry of Public Works and Transport	62	Mr. Khamkeuth Phomsavanh	Energy and Mines, Xiengkhouang
43	Mr. Sommay Douangchaleunsak	Ministry of Industry and Commerce	63	Mr. Phethchay Sonethavy	PONRE, Vientiane Province
44	Mr. Somlith Sithsana	National University of Laos	64	Mr. SomOk Manychanh	Public Works and Transport, Bokeo
45	Mr. Intan Thongpanya	Planning and Finance, MONRE	65	Mr. Phengdy Thavichanh	Industry and Commerce, Phongsaly
46	Mr. Lae Manyvong	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	66	Mr. Sounthone Vannachanhom	PONRE, Bokeo
47	Mr. Sommay Khonesavanh	Agriculture and Forestry, Xiengkhouang	67	Mrs. Viengthong Phonevilay	Provincial Lao Youth Union
48	Mr. Vixay Dalasavanh	Health, Oudomxay	68	Mrs. Thongbay Khaysounthong	PONRE, Vientiane Province
49	Mrs. Boualoun Phethsikham	PONRE, Oudomxay	69	Mrs. Sounva Lotaphan	Planning and Investment, Luangnamtha
50	Mr. Khithsamone Phothilak	PONRE, Xayyabouly	70	Mr. Kamsone Duangphonchaleun	Planning and Investment, Luangnamtha
51	Mr. Chanthaneth Oudomphong	PONRE, Luangprabang	71	Mr. Anou Sensoukham	PONRE, Huaphan
52	Mrs. Phayphone Chanthalangma	Lao Women Union, Xayyabouly	72	Mr. Somchaleun	PONRE, Phongsaly
53	Mrs. Minsa Sothipmany	Project Finance	73	Mr. Phoukham Duangkhamphai	PONRE, Oudomxay
54	Mr. Kamsone Duangphonchaleun	PONRE, Oudomxay	74	Mr. Bounleuth Keovang	PONRE, Vientiane Province
75	Mr. Thongbai Khamluang	PONRE, Huaphan			

No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation	No.	Name and Surname	Position and Organisation
76	Mrs. Viengthong Phonesongkham	PONRE, Huaphan			
77	Representative (unidentified name)	PONRE, Xaysomboun			
78	Representative (unidentified name in survey form)	Sectoral Office, Vientiane Capital			
79	Representative (unidentified name in survey form)	Xayyabouly			

Tools and exercises on the NAP Roadmap identifying and stakeholder mapping

Exercise 1: Questions for the NAP roadmap identifying (activities, roles, timeframe and funding sources). For this exercise, each group is required to discuss following questions.

1. *What is the starting point? What are main goals and milestones? What is needed to get there?*
2. *Who is driving the process? Who provides (technical/scientific) assistance?*
3. *Who implements it? Define clear roles and responsibilities.*
4. *Who will make funds available (state budget, national and international climate funds, private sector)?*

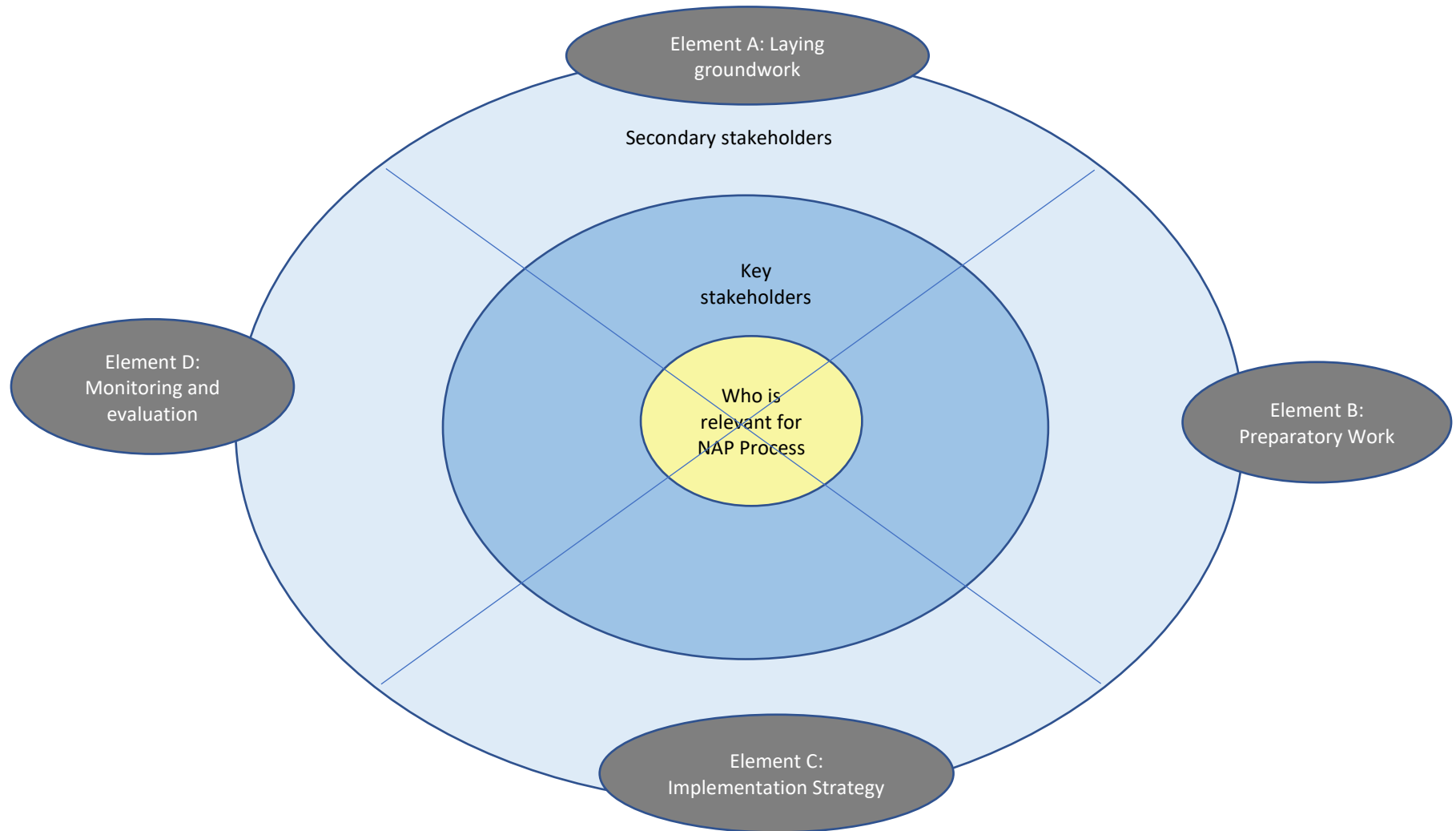
Additional questions:

1. *What are the gaps in capacity and knowledge that need to be addressed in order for your department/organization/programmes to begin the NAP process?*
2. *What mechanisms exist or need to be created to ensure continuous learning and exchange in your organization and beyond your organization or department on the NAP process?*
3. *In order to enhance NAP process, which existing entry points/programmes exist in your department/organization/programme? What are the new opportunities that the NAP process can offer to scale up existing initiatives or build new ones?*
4. *How can your department/organisation/programmes promote CCA integration? What new programmes are needed in your ongoing work?*
5. *Which institutions can your organization collaborate with and how?*
6. *What are your additional suggestions to enhance NAP process development for Lao PDR?*

Exercise 2: The table below is to define key activities, outputs and timeframes related to the identified steps, as well as the responsibilities of key institutions in leading and managing the NAP process. Each group needs to discuss and complete table below. (Complementary with NAP Roadmap Checklist 9.3)

No.	Key step/activity (What activities needed?)	Output	Responsible institutions (Who is responsible?)	Timeframe (When?)	Funding sources (Which resources?)
1	Initiate / launch NAP				
2	Stocktaking				
3					
4	Assess vulnerabilities				
5	Other activities				

Exercise 3: Stakeholder mapping – Each stakeholder needs to write down their own institution names and roles on the given sticker note and then put in the chart below where they think it is relevant to them and what they can provide support for the NAP process.



Checklist for a NAP Roadmap

Steps	Indicative Activities					
Element A. Lay the groundwork and address Gaps		Sample NAP Output	Lead Institution	Support Needed	Target for Support	Timeframe
☐ Initiating and launching of the NAP process	☐ Briefing on NAP process ☐ Coordinating mechanism ☐ National vision and mandate for NAPs ☐ Access to technical and financial support ☐ NAP framework/strategy road map Other activities: _____	• Mandate for the NAP process • Framework and strategy for the climate change adaptation • Funded project to support operations of the NAP process • Road map for the NAP process			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Stocktaking: identifying available information on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation and assessing gaps and needs of the enabling environment for the NAP process	☐ Stocktaking of adaptation activities ☐ Synthesis of available knowledge on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation ☐ Capacity gap analysis ☐ Barriers analysis Other activities: _____	• Report on synthesis of available information • Geospatial database in support of the NAP process • Knowledge-base of observed climate impacts, vulnerabilities and potential interventions • Gap and needs analysis report • Barrier analysis report			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•

☐ Addressing capacity gaps and weaknesses in undertaking the NAP process	☐ Building institutional and technical capacity ☐ Opportunities for integrating adaptation into development ☐ Programmes on climate change communication, public awareness-raising and education Other activities: _____	• Strategy document(s) for capacity-building, awareness-raising, communication and education • NAP website			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Comprehensively and iteratively assessing development needs and climate vulnerabilities	☐ Compile development objectives, policies, plans and programmes ☐ Synergy between development and adaptation objectives, policies, plans and programmes Other activities: _____	• Report on stocktaking of development/adaptation activities • Report on approaches for ensuring synergy between development and adaptation			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
Element B. Preparatory elements						
☐ Analysing current climate and future climate change scenarios	☐ Analysis of current climate ☐ Future climate risks and uncertainty/Scenario analysis ☐ Communicating projected climate change information Other activities: _____	• Report on climate analysis • Report on climate risks/Projected climate changes • Strategy for climate information services			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Assessing climate vulnerabilities and identifying adaptation options at sector, subnational, national and other appropriate levels	☐ Climate vulnerability assessment at multiple levels ☐ Ranking climate change risks and vulnerabilities ☐ Scoping adaptation options Other activities: _____	• Vulnerability and adaptation assessment report			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic	•

	_____ _____				☐ Others: _____	
☐ Reviewing and appraising adaptation options	☐ Appraisal of adaptation options Other activities: _____	• Report on appraisal of adaptation options • Sectoral and subnational plans or strategies			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Compiling and communicating national adaptation plans	☐ Draft national adaptation plans ☐ Finalization of NAPs and process endorsement ☐ Communicate NAPs at national level Other activities: _____	• Draft NAPs for review • Endorsed NAPs			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Integrating climate change adaptation into national and subnational development and sectoral planning	☐ Opportunities and constraints for integrating climate change into planning ☐ Building capacity for integration ☐ Integration of adaptation into existing planning processes Other activities: _____	• Report on Integration of adaptation into development			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
Element C. Implementation strategies						

☐ Prioritizing climate change adaptation in national planning	☐ National criteria for prioritizing implementation ☐ Identification of opportunities for building on existing adaptation activities Other activities: 				☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: 	
☐ Developing a (long-term) national adaptation implementation strategy	☐ Strategy for adaptation implementation ☐ Implementation of NAPs through policies, projects and programmes Other activities: 	Implementation strategy for the NAP			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: 	
☐ Enhancing capacity for planning and implementing adaptation	☐ Strengthening long-term institutional and regulatory frameworks ☐ Training at sectoral and subnational levels ☐ Outreach on outputs at the national level and promotion of international cooperation Other activities: 	National training and outreach programme (s)			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: 	
☐ Promoting coordination and synergy at the regional level and with other multilateral environmental agreements	☐ Coordination of adaptation planning across sectors ☐ Synergy at the regional level ☐ Synergy with multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) Other activities: 	- Report on regional synergy - Report on synergy with MEAs			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic	

	_____				☐ Others: _____	
Element D. Reporting, monitoring and review						
☐ Monitoring the NAP process	☐ Identify (few) areas of the NAP process to monitor progress, effectiveness and gaps (PEG) ☐ Define metrics for documenting PEG ☐ Collect information throughout the NAP process to apply the metrics developed Other activities: _____	• Metrics report/Monitoring Plan • Database of metrics			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Reviewing the NAP process to assess progress, effectiveness and gaps	☐ Synthesis of new assessments & emerging science and the results and outcomes from implemented adaptation activities ☐ Evaluate metrics collected to assess progress, effectiveness and gaps of the NAP process Other activities: _____	• Evaluation report			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•
☐ Iteratively updating the national adaptation plans	☐ Repeat some steps and update NAPs and related documentation ☐ Production of updates to the NAP outputs aligned with relevant national development plans Other activities: _____	• Updated NAPs			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: _____	•

☐ Outreach on the NAP process and reporting on progress and effectiveness	☐ Disseminate the NAPs and related outputs to the UNFCCC secretariat and others ☐ Provision of information in national communications on progress in and effectiveness of the NAP process Other activities: 	• Progress report and information in national communication			☐ LEG/AC ☐ NAP-GSP ☐ GEF/LDCF/SCCF ☐ Bilateral ☐ Regional Centers ☐ Domestic ☐ Others: 	•
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