

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Medium- and long-term adaptation in LDCs

LEG/LDC experiences with the NAPAs

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UNFCCC Secretariat, Adaptation Programme

Key messages

- NAPAs provide a good starting point for medium- and long-term adaptation;
- Medium- and long-term adaptation requires an iterative process, with stages or phases that may be designed to suit specific national circumstances;
- Medium- and long-term adaptation is more policy-driven, and therefore effective integration of adaptation into national development becomes more important;
- Medium- and long-term adaptation does not replace the need to address the urgent and immediate needs and concerns of the LDCs relating to adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change;
- A significant body of material is available for guiding the adaptation process, although it may need to be tailored and supported by targeted training.



Additional considerations

- NAPAs are designed to focus on the urgent and immediate adaptation needs and concerns of the LDCs, relating to adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, for which further delay could increase vulnerability or lead to increased costs at a later stage;
- There will remain a continuing need in the LDCs to address their urgent and immediate adaptation needs, given their extreme vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change and their low adaptive capacity, and therefore addressing medium- and long-term adaptation is complementary and not intended as a replacement for NAPAs;
- Medium- and long-term adaptation activities are viewed as those that will follow a structured process aimed at reducing vulnerability to climate change in the LDCs by building adaptive capacity and resilience and 'climate proofing' development against current and future climate change.



Applicability of the guiding elements from the NAPA Guidelines to medium- and long term adaptation

<i>Guiding element</i>	<i>Applicability to medium- and long-term adaptation</i>
A participatory process involving stakeholders, particularly local communities	Identification of stakeholders may be different for long-term adaptation planning
A multidisciplinary approach	Still applies
A complementary approach, building upon relevant existing plans and programmes	Still applies
Sustainable development	Still applies
Particular consideration of marginalized groups (gender)	Still applies
A country-driven approach	Still applies
Sound environmental management	Still applies
Cost-effectiveness	Still applies
Simplicity	Medium- and long-term adaptation planning will be more complex, but the principle of keeping approaches simple still applies
Flexibility of procedures, based on individual country circumstances	Still applies





