

## **Submission by Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group on the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change**

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The Least Developed Countries Group (LDC Group) welcomes the invitation by SBSTA under the Nairobi Work Programme to share information on;

- lessons learned and good practice in relation to adaptation planning processes that address ecosystems and interrelated areas such as water resources;
- lessons learned and good practices in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation; and
- tools for assessing the benefits of mitigation and adaptation to enhancing resilience and emission reductions that ecosystem-based adaptation provides.

The LDC Group, as the most vulnerable countries to climate change acknowledge the importance of the NWP to provide support and input to better understand the issues related to impacts, vulnerability and impact of climate change. LDCs are in the forefront of having in-depth experience of climate change adaptation by formulating policies, plans and initiatives at the country level. All LDCs has presented their urgent and immediate adaptation needs through national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) and are now formulating national adaptation plans (NAPs) identifying medium and long term adaptation needs. Similarly, countries have also formulated sectorial policies and plans and have integrated climate change related components across different sectors.

There have been many good practices and lessons learned in the process of formulating and implementing NAPAs in LDCs. This information has been captured in the three volume of reports prepared by the LDC Expert Group (LEG). The reports also include lesson learned and best practices among the LDCs in implementing adaptation related projects, including activities related to ecosystem based adaptation and interrelated areas such as water resources.

The LDCs represents countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America covering diverse geography and topography such as mountainous countries, small island developing states, landlocked countries, subtropical regions and the Sahel region. This diversity among the member countries have distinct experience, lesson learned and good practices in relation to planning and implementation of adaptation related projects. Most importantly, despite of limited resource available many LDCs undertook various measures, varying in scale from local level initiatives, to national level programmes in adapting to climate change.

The LDC Group believe that the reflected views, along with other experiences shared by parties, will assist planning the national adaptation interventions with in their countries context. Thus, this submission aims to reflect a summary of key lessons in the planning process for adaptation, the benefits while implementing the planned interventions and the system of monitoring and tracking the progress achieved.

### **Planning Process and Implementation**

In developing a national adaptation strategy and interventions,

- The planning process should not be statutory/stagnant/unchanging in context and intervention. The document must be flexible to hold changes and modification.

- Identification of previous adaptation planning and drawing lessons from their experiences; and also integrating the key lessons it to the planning process.
- Mainstreaming adaptation plan and action in Countries overall national planning process.
- Key implementation sectors must be identified and synergy should be made amongst implementing authorities.
- Raising the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the planning process is crucial for making accurate, cost effective and appropriate adaptation interventions. From the community at a grass root level to a high level political appointees must take part in the adaptation planning process.
- Engagement of non state actors in the planning process.
- Grass root stakeholder involvement in the implementation is key to meet the planned objectives.
- Raising awareness to the community and the general public regarding the relevance of the intervention.
- Building up on existing information management system is crucial as the information that is gathered during the implementation of the adaptation intervention needs to be used to inform future activities, either to reinforce the implemented strategy or to change it.

#### **Monitoring and evaluation**

- Creating an integrated management system bringing on board all responsible authorities.
- Assessing the implementation through a focus groups and community management groups
- Creating adequate indicators to assess and track the progress of the planned adaption interventions.
- Non state actors/Private sector can serve as a watch dog to the implementation of the adaption interventions when adequately involved both in the planning process and the implementation phase.

Full realization of these lessons, along with others, in the national planning process of adaptation interventions will assist Parties in meeting their planned adaptation objectives. The approach should be seen in a holistic manner in the sense that the contributed effect of the lessons will bring the expected outcome.

As this is a group submission, specific reference to countries strategy will not be assessed but the key lessons and important practices will be specified in the document. The LDC group further encourages its member countries to share their countries lessons learned and good practice in relation to adaptation planning processes that address ecosystems and interrelated areas such as water resources; including lessons learned and good practices in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation; and tools for assessing the benefits of mitigation and adaptation to enhancing resilience and emission reductions that ecosystem-based adaptation provides.