

## Synthesis of the LDCs' NDCs Analysis

On request of the LDC Group Chair, an analysis of the LDCs' NDCs was conducted to aggregate information from LDCs' NDCs to assist countries in building future strategies in relation to their NDCs implementation, and deepen the common level of understanding and knowledge within the Group on the key features in individual countries' NDCs.

For this purpose, the analysis covers the NDCs (NDCs and INDCs where there is no NDCs) of the 47 LDCs through systematic review of their mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, and means of implementation components. The results of this assessment will be synthesized in a briefing paper, below is a summary of the key messages.

**Due to tight framework, lack of a standard template for NDCs formulation, and capacity constraints, not all information was available, and NDCs are very unequal in details. The information contained is not always comparable. These constitute limitations to the analysis**

### General overview: ratification, conditional & unconditional targets, target years

- As of September 2017, **37 out of the 47 LDCs have ratified the Paris Agreement; and all LDCs have submitted NDCs to the UNFCCC.**
- Cumulatively, the LDCs contribute roughly 3% of global greenhouse gas emissions. However, **many are leading globally in their efforts to stay below the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement. Gambia and Ethiopia, for instance, are among the five countries rated "2°C compatible" by the Climate Action Tracker<sup>1</sup>.**
- Based on the data provided in the NDCs on both conditional and unconditional targets, LDCs are offering a combined mitigation potential of 3122 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq by 2030, international support is critical for realization of this potential
- **While being the poorest countries, LDCs are showing leadership in their commitment to mobilizing domestic resources (the unconditional component of their NDCs) towards achieving their targets.**
- All the NDCs indicate 2025 and/or 2030 as timeframes. With the 2025 target year, LDCs may have to prepare new NDCs by 2020, and every five years after that (Para 23, 1/CP.21). With the 2030 timeframe, LDCs may have to update current NDCs by 2020, and every five years thereafter (Para 24, 1/CP.21).
- **In both cases, the preparation of the first NDCs showed that LDCs face technical and financial constraints, therefore assistance will be needed to build institutional capacity and enhance country systems for formulation and implementation of ambitious NDCs. In the coming year, LDCs will have to approach institutions and bilateral partners to ensure resources will be available to support update or submission of new NDCs that will sustain the leadership of LDCs on the international stage.**

### Mitigation priorities

- **Energy (100% of countries), forestry/LULUCF (72% of countries), agriculture (62% of countries) and transport (60% of countries) appear as common top mitigation priorities for LDCs.**
- **The main target areas are renewable energy (mentioned by 44 out of 47 countries) and energy efficiency (mentioned by 31 countries).** In the LDC renewable energy targets, solar ranks first, followed by hydroelectricity, biofuels and biomass, then wind.
- This overwhelming recognition of renewable energy as a priority in LDC's NDCs demonstrate the **high relevance of the LDC Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative for Sustainable Development (LDC REEEI) as a key mechanism for support and cooperation.**

### Adaptation priorities and investments needs estimates

- Nearly all (46) LDCs include an adaptation component in their NDCs, and the majority (96%) mentioned **agriculture, water (85%), and forestry (74%) as their top adaptation priorities.** Livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, as well as climate smart agriculture feature prominently, as they contribute to food security, which the LDC's cite as a major area of concern under agriculture.

<sup>1</sup> Climate Action Tracker, September 2017 Update, <http://climateactiontracker.org/news/283/Climate-Action-Tracker-launches-new-rating-system.html>

- 30 LDCs provided part - or full - estimates of adaptation costs or investment needs which, **on aggregate, amount to approximately US\$ 213 billions**. More capacity will be needed to improve the costing and development of financing strategies for the adaptation component.
- Only six NDCs refer to some co-benefits of adaptation. **Going forward, LDC will need more capacity in building the case for adaptation co-benefits and fostering synergies with the implementation of the SDGs.**

#### Loss and Damage

- Only 14 out of 47 NDCs mentioned Loss and Damage (L&D) as a national priority, along with climate-adaptive measures. **This apparent gap in L&D information in many NDCs most likely reflects the lack of guidelines in the preparation of the NDCs and the limited national capacity and tools and methodologies in estimating risks and losses – and their costs - something that has been voiced by multiple LDC countries. This could inform the work plan of the Warsaw International Mechanism.**

#### Implementation support needs

- Almost all LDCs have expressed the need for international support for NDCs implementation, which mostly includes the need for financial support, technology transfer and capacity building. **Capacity building is specifically critical to be able to translate NDC priorities into bankable projects and programmes and develop financing strategies and investment plans.**
- Almost all LDCs have specified that some of the actions outlined in NDCs are conditional on receiving financial support through the international climate finance architecture. Only two out of all the LDCs have stated that the implementation of emission reductions plans is fully conditional on international finance.

#### The Green Climate Fund (GCF) and NDCs implementation

- The majority of LDCs featured the GCF with the expectation that the Financial Mechanism of the Convention will be a primary channel for multilateral support for the implementation of the Paris Agreement. This signifies **readiness and technical assistance programmes such as the GCF readiness programme and bilateral initiatives are very important for LDCs and should be sustained.**
- As of October 2017, the GCF has approved 18 projects out of 54 submitted by individual or group of LDC countries, using a combination of three main financing instruments including grant, equity and loan. These include recently approved proposals from Ethiopia, Senegal and Bhutan at the 18<sup>th</sup> GCF Board meeting in Cairo, Egypt (Sep 30 – Oct 2, 2017).
- On both adaptation and mitigation, GCF-approved LDC projects fall in the areas mentioned by most countries as top three mitigation (energy, forestry, agriculture) and adaptation (agriculture, forestry, water) priorities. **This shows an alignment of LDC-submitted projects with NDC priorities, indicating that the GCF may be on track towards meeting its prioritization of LDCs. However, the volume of funding needs to increase, and a balance between adaptation and mitigation ensured.**
- Out of the 59 accredited entities by the GCF, five direct-access national entities and four regional entities have been accredited from LDCs. **Improving direct access would also increase ownership and ensure country's drive in the choice of financing options for LDCs.**

#### Technology transfer, capacity building and institutional arrangements

- 45% of LDCs (21 countries) mentioned technology as a crucial need to allow the execution of both mitigation and adaptation targets contained in the NDCs. 55% (26 countries) identify and indicate specific technology needs to achieve their climate goals. 43 LDCs have nominated national designated entities (NDE) to serve as national entities for the development and transfer of technologies.
- Almost two-thirds of the LDCs express a need for capacity building and knowledge transfer in order to be able to implement NDCs objectives, especially in the areas of knowledge and skills development at the institutional level to address gaps in climate change adaptation planning, and facilitate countries' direct access to international climate change financing.

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