



Approach paper



Begnas Lake in Pokhara/Practical Action

Background

Climate change adaptation is fundamental to safeguard the climate vulnerable communities and ecosystems. As climate change continued to affect people and resources adversely, Nepal prepared National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in September 2010 to address such impacts. Nepal also prepared National Framework on Local Adaptation Plans for Action (LAPA) to implement adaptation actions at the local level and ensure integration of climate change adaptation into local to national planning process. Furthermore, Nepal's Climate Change Policy (2011) ensures allocation of at least 80 percent of the total budget from climate change fund to programme implementation at the community level. The climate change budget code, introduced in 2013, opens avenues to channel climate finance to the field level activities.

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

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

From NAPA to NAP

The UNFCCC opens avenues to support the LDCs¹. In 2001, the 7th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 7)² in Marrakesh, Morocco decided to support the preparation and implementation of NAPA. For about a decade, LDCs were engaged in accessing fund, preparing NAPA, and implementing adaptation actions as prioritized in their NAPAs. In 2005, the Parties launched the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change to promote sharing of information and knowledge for adaptation.

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

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

The COP 16 at Cancun in 2010, under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, established a process to enable LDC Parties to formulate and implement NAPs³, and established Adaptation Committee, including a work programme on loss and damage. Article 7 of the Paris Agreement⁴ in 2015, establishes the global goal on adaptation, and calls Parties to engage in adaptation planning process such as formulation and implementation of NAPs, share experiences and lessons learned on support needs, plans and actions through adaptation communication and actively participate in global stocktake to enhance implementation of adaptation actions.

In LDCs, NAP process will build upon the experiences of preparing and implementing NAPAs, as a means of (a) identifying medium and long-term adaptation needs; and (b) developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address adaptation needs. From COP 17 at Durban,

South Africa to COP 21 at Paris, France several decisions have been made to expedite the NAP process. The COP 17 decided initial guidelines on NAPs whereas the COP 20 invited LDCs to forward outputs, including NAP documents, and outcomes related to the NAP process to the NAP Central⁵.

The LDC Expert Group (LEG⁶) in 2012 prepared the NAP Technical Guidelines. Later in 2014 and 2015, the LEG organized training in order to develop human resources on the NAP formulation process in the LDCs. In the meantime, the LEG also encouraged LDCs to engage themselves in this process so as to meet the above objectives.

Approaches for the NAP formulation

Nepal's NAP process builds on the NAPA experiences, and maintains a country-driven, participatory, multi-disciplinary and gender-sensitive approach. Medium and long-term perspective of the NAP

Objectives of the NAP:

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



Irrigation Canal at Rawatgaun, Bherimalika MNC, Jajarkot. Photo © NCCSP

³ Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 15

⁴ https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris_nov_2015/application/pdf/paris_agreement_english.pdf

⁵ Decision 3/CP.20, paragraph 9.

⁶ Decision 5/CP.17, paragraph 15.

NAP Launching in Nepal

Nepal accords high priority to climate change adaptation (CCA) and thereby, Nepal made efforts in enhancing awareness and collecting ideas and concerns to NAP process. Understanding the urgency of enhancing initiatives to address medium- and long-term adaptation needs, the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) – focal point for UNFCCC – launched the NAP formulation process in September 2015. This has paved the way to explore supports and promote wider participation and engagement of partners and involve professionals in the NAP process. Nepal's NAP has received initial support from Action on Climate Today (ACT), a UK-Aid funded initiative.



process require sustained and iterative adaptation planning and ensure integration of CCA into local to national development planning processes. Hence, NAP process in Nepal seeks to promote integration of adaptation into policies, plans and programmes and reduce climate vulnerability. In addition, NAP process in Nepal will be scientific evidence-based to the extent possible considering the IPCC fifth assessment report while assessing vulnerability and risk and adaptation options appraisal among others.

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

a. Establishing working groups to coordinate the thematic areas:

The MoPE engages seven thematic working groups (TWGs) and two cross-cutting working groups (CWGs) in the NAP formulation process to cover climate change sensitive sectors. The TWGs are on: (i) agriculture and food security (including nutrition); (ii) forests and biodiversity; (iii) water resources and energy; (iv) public health (including water and sanitation); (v) climate-induced disasters; (vi) urban settlements and infrastructure; and (vii) tourism, natural and cultural heritage whereas the CWGs are on gender and marginalized group (social inclusion) and livelihoods and governance. While preparing the NAPA, six thematic areas were identified and engaged, however, based on the NAPA experiences, three additional areas were identified for the NAP process viz. tourism, natural and cultural heritage as one thematic area and gender and marginalized group (social inclusion), and livelihoods and governance as two cross-cutting areas.

b. Utilising existing coordination mechanism:

The MoPE aims to optimize the use of existing coordination mechanisms to achieve the desired outcomes of the NAP process. The Multi-stakeholder Climate Change Initiative Coordination Committee (MCCICC), established in 2010 and chaired by the Secretary at the MoPE, will ensure overall coordination and guidance for the NAP process.

The respective TWGs and CWGs will ensure thematic and sector coordination. The Technical

Committee chaired by the UNFCCC focal point for Nepal, will coordinate at technical level. This Committee will also be represented by TWGs/ CWGs, local bodies, academia and research organizations, NGOs working on climate change, experts and private sector. This will ensure harmonisation of ongoing efforts and integrate outcomes into the NAP.

c. Building capacity and enhancing understanding on climate change adaptation:

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

d. Building ownership and avoiding duplications:

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

e. Promoting multi-stakeholder participation:

In major initiatives, Nepal has a culture of engaging multiple stakeholders to inform and ensure their participation, including of climate vulnerable communities, and women. Each thematic and cross-cutting group will ensure participation of women, and make the group inclusive in terms of geographical areas (through consultation programmes), representation of minorities, and marginalized and disadvantaged groups. Nepal's NAP underscores the importance of '**leave no one behind**' during the entire process.

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN FORMULATION PROCESS IN NEPAL

Approach: 'Development first', country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and inclusive, concerned ministry-led working groups, synergizing EbA and CbA, and linking with DRR framework and SDGs processes

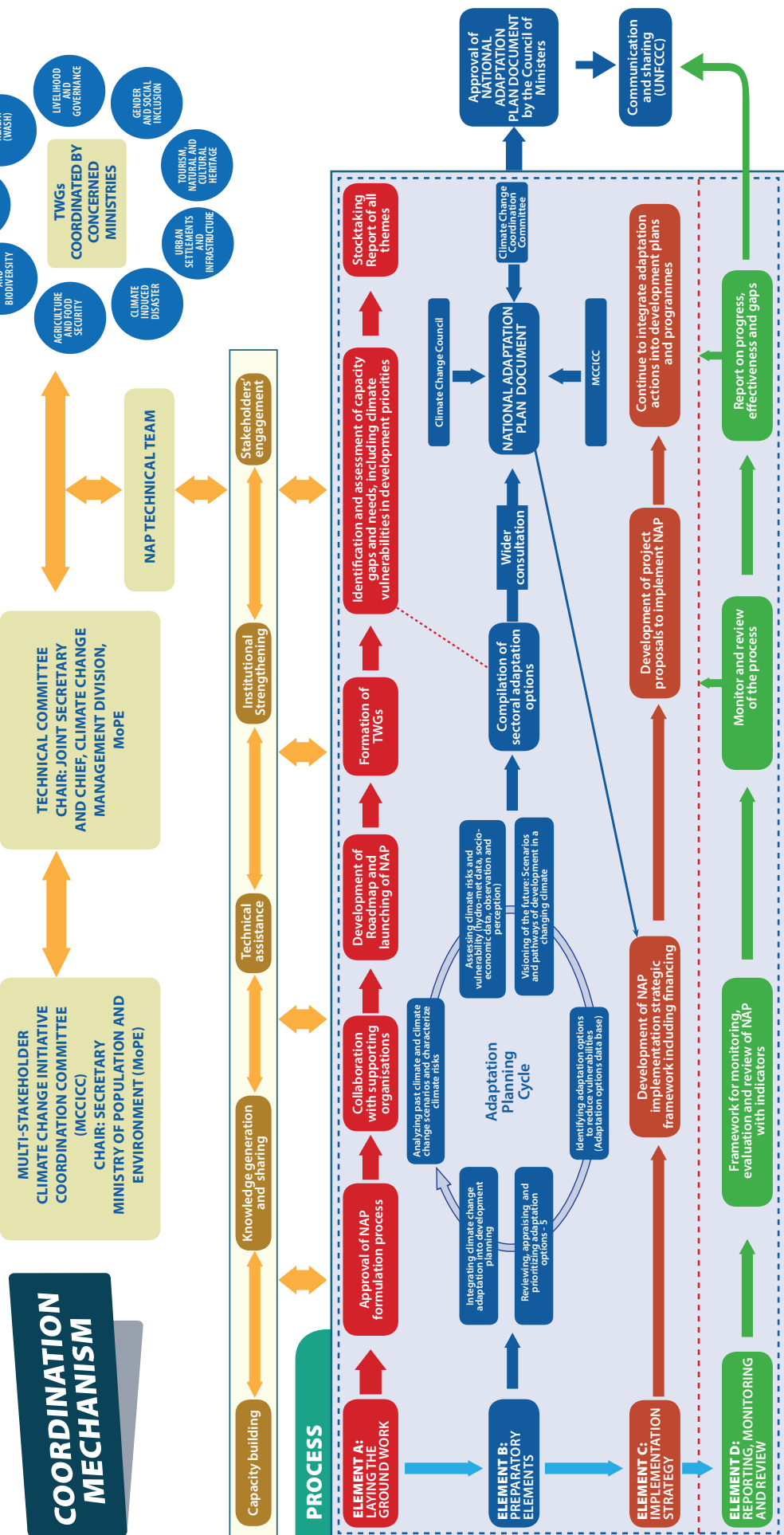


Figure 1 NAP Process in Nepal



A farmer multi cropping in his field as a method of building resilience in Chitwan/Practical Action

Engagement of multi-stakeholder in the NAP process through extensive consultations will enhance ownership of the NAP product and promote transparency, participatory and gender-sensitiveness and offer flexibilities as per the national needs.

f. Ensuring gender-sensitivity and inclusiveness:

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

g. Generating, utilizing and sharing knowledge and good practices:

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

h. Supplementing to development efforts with integration of adaptation actions:

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

i. Aligning with national policies and linking with recent initiatives:

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

j. Synergising ecosystem-based and community-based adaptations:

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

STAKEHOLDERS OF THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS

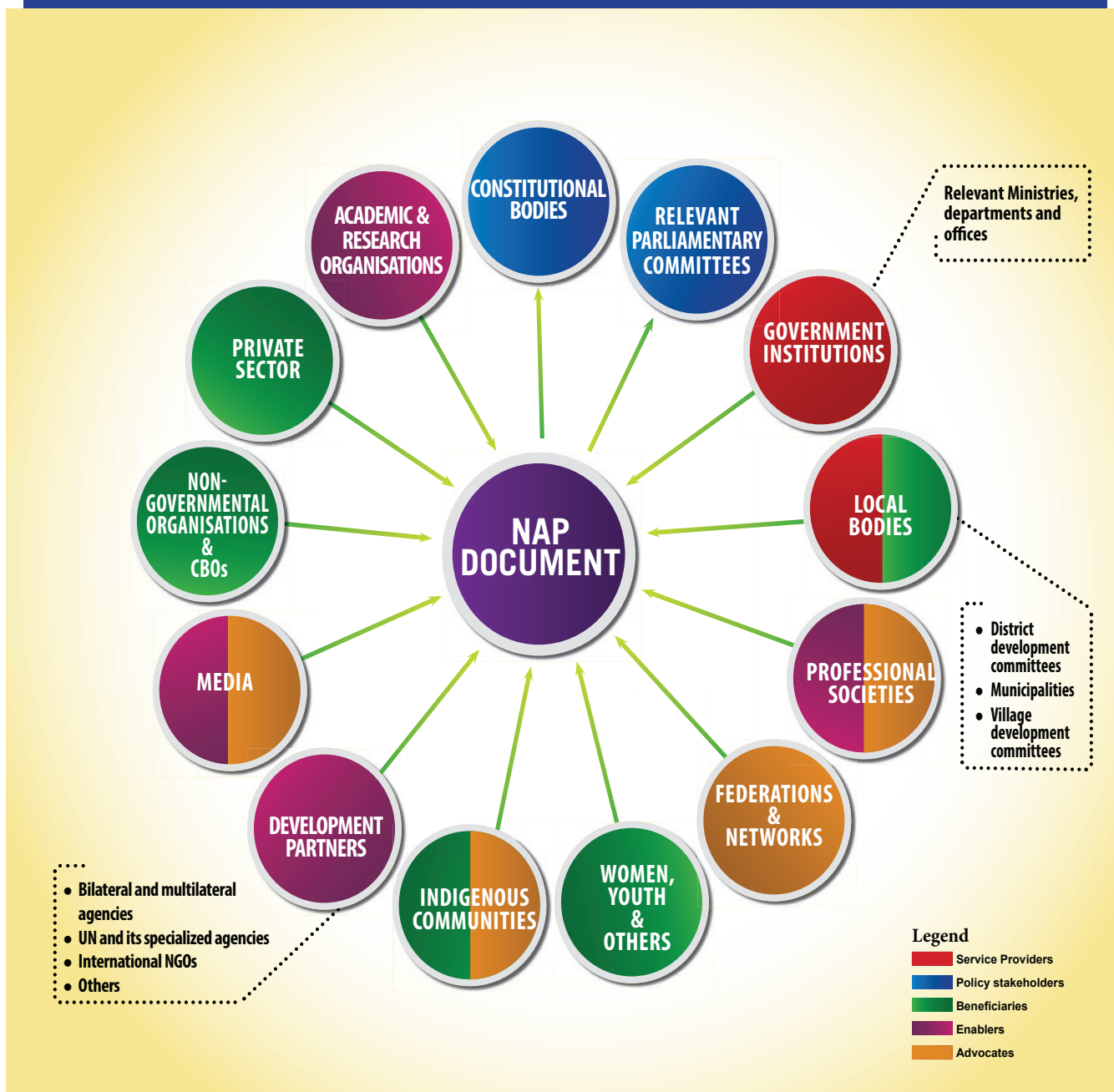
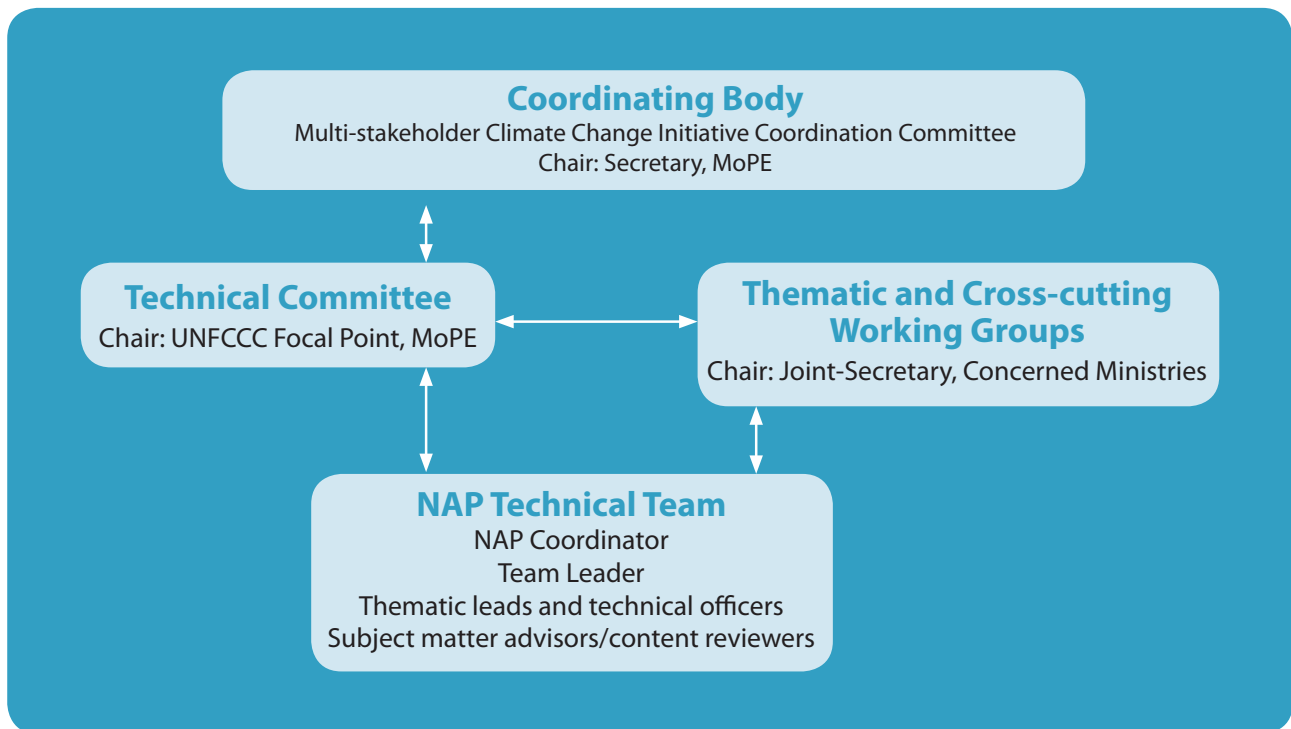


Figure 2 Stakeholders of the Nepal's NAP Process





Working Group members

As mentioned above, the concerned ministry leads the working group and ensures multi-stakeholders participation taking into account their role, influence and contributions.





Rice varieties trial at Regional Agriculture Research Station in Tarahara, Sunsari/Practical Action

Outcome documents

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

NAP. The product will be a NAP document to address medium- and long-term adaptation needs of the country.

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

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



Weather information board at community flood shelter in Bargaun village in Dhansingpur VDC of Kailali District in Nepal. Photo © Practical Action/Zurich



Dam Construction to make water available for irrigation canal at Githenala Motipur 1, Shivapur VDC (village development committee), Bardiya District (mid-western Region of Nepal) during the month of April/May 2015. Photo © NCCSP



Conservation pond as adaptation measure in Terai plain area/Practical Action

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NAP Formulation Process

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The opinions expressed in this approach paper do not necessarily represent the views of the Department for International Development.



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ACTION ON CLIMATE TODAY

ACT (Action on Climate Today) is a UK Department for International Development (DFID) funded initiative that aims to work in partnership with the governments of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan. Over the next five years, the programme will help these countries to integrate climate change into policies, plans and budgets, and to attract further climate change investment from the public and private sector. Managed by Oxford Policy management, ACT brings together two DFID programmes: the Climate Proofing Growth and Development (CPGD) programme and the Climate Change Innovation programme (CCIP). In Nepal, it is led by Practical Action.