



## Adaptation that Accelerates Development

Climate change poses great challenges to society, particularly in developing countries. The impacts of climate change will reverse decades' worth of human development gains and threaten achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While many developing countries remain the most vulnerable to these future threats, they have limited capacity to adapt to the climate crisis.

United Nations Development Programme promotes pro-poor and pro-growth adaptation that encourages sustainable economic development and livelihoods in the face of climate change. UNDP supports the development of adaptive capacity to create robust and responsive state institutions, capable public and private sector management, and skilled human resources able to innovate, adapt and deliver to the changing conditions. This is done by working with UN Country Teams, UNDP Country Offices, governments and other partners to provide a number of services to support regional, national and sub-national stakeholders in addressing climate change risks.

UNDP's adaptation programme currently supports 75 countries in the development of national, sub-national and community-level capacities to adapt to climate change. In total, UNDP is leveraging more than US\$800 million for climate change resilient development in developing countries. This includes grants of over US\$300 million and co-financing of over US\$500 million. Some of UNDP's work in adaptation includes:

**National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)**, funded by the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF) through the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), provide a process to identify priority activities that respond to urgent and immediate needs of Least Developed Countries. UNDP is the largest implementing agency of the LDCF, delivering US\$70 million to support the design and implementation of priority NAPA interventions in 22 Least Developed Countries.

[www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar\\_adaptation.shtml](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar_adaptation.shtml)

The **Spain-funded MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F)** provides US\$89 million over four years (2007-2010) to support environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation work toward reaching the MDGs. UNDP directly supports adaptation measures in 13 countries, as part of collaborative UN activities, supporting the one UN process.

[www.undp.org/mdgf/environment.shtml](http://www.undp.org/mdgf/environment.shtml)

The **Africa Adaptation Programme** assists 21 African countries to incorporate climate change risks and opportunities into national development processes. The Government of Japan provided US\$92.1 million for this three-year programme.

[www.undp-adaptation.org/africaprogramme](http://www.undp-adaptation.org/africaprogramme)

The **Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)** of the GEF contributes US\$37 million to UNDP projects in 18 countries with

### Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM)

The ALM is a UN Inter-agency global knowledge platform on climate change adaptation. UNDP is facilitating the ALM in close partnership with the UNFCCC, UNEP, the World Bank and specialized UN agencies including FAO and WHO. The platform is funded by the Global Environment Facility as a three year project started in December 2007. ALM captures the current state of knowledge on climate change adaptation and supports evolving efforts to integrate climate change adaptation into development planning. The platform provides access to adaptation resources, and supports interactive learning and knowledge exchange through a network of global adaptation practitioners. ALM practically illustrates the strength and potential of the UN delivering as one system to enhance country's capacity to adapt to long-term challenges posed by a changing climate. Become a member of the ALM community at

[www.adaptationlearning.net](http://www.adaptationlearning.net)

an additional regional project covering 13 countries in the Pacific and a global project with the World Health Organization (WHO).

[www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar\\_adaptation.shtml](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar_adaptation.shtml)

The **Strategic Priority on Adaptation (SPA)** of the GEF provides US\$16 million toward UNDP's implementation of projects in 21 countries.

[www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar\\_adaptation.shtml](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/pillar_adaptation.shtml)

**Community-Based Adaptation (CBA)** projects support local national resource management to address climate risk in vulnerable regions. CBA is financed from multiple sources including GEF, AusAID, NZAid, and the Government of Japan and also supported by key partnerships including with the United Nations Volunteers and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

[www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba](http://www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba)

[www.undp.org/gef/portfolio/cc\\_1.html](http://www.undp.org/gef/portfolio/cc_1.html)

**Climate Change and Development – Adapting by Reducing Vulnerability (CC-DARE)** is a three-year programme, funded by the Government of Denmark and launched in February of 2008 provides US\$9 million to support climate risk management initiatives in 42 countries of sub-Saharan Africa. This is done by identifying climate risks and ensuring that development efforts serve to reduce, rather than increase, vulnerability to climate change. This programme is in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

[www.ccdare.org](http://www.ccdare.org)

## Adaptation Knowledge Management and Methodology Support

UNDP promotes learning and knowledge sharing within and between countries to develop capacity to address climate risks and make decisions under the inherent uncertainties of climate change. This knowledge draws from the broad range of UNDP activities on adaptation and the activities of its numerous partners. UNDP has also played a major role in providing guidance and methodologies to support practitioners and decision-makers.

## UNDP's methodologies and resources to support countries in adaptation initiatives

**Adaptation Policy Framework (APF)** is a comprehensive guidebook for countries to help design and implement adaptation strategies, policies, and measures which ensure the goals of human development are met in the face of climate change.

[www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/apf.html](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/apf.html)

**Toolkit for Designing Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives:** In December 2009, an additional resource will be made available which provides guidance on key steps, checklists and training power point slides to support climate change adaptation projects.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Approach to Adaptation** is used to integrate considerations related to climate change into national development or sectoral management planning or policymaking processes. [www.seataskteam.net/](http://www.seataskteam.net/)

**Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** consists of a set of indicators linked to MDGs, which facilitate the mainstreaming of climate risks into the UNDAFs, and national development.

[www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/program.html](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/program.html)

**Thematic Areas Paper** identifies key areas for climate change adaptation programming by outlining common "baseline" challenges, summarizing the latest IPCC findings of regional impacts in each thematic area, and proposing a scope of eligible adaptation measures to pursue. [www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/program.html](http://www.undp.org/climatechange/adapt/program.html)

**Country Adaptation Profiles** which present a series of country-level studies of climate observations with multi-model projections reflecting historic trends and projected future changes.

[country-profiles.geog.ox.ac.uk/#documentation](http://country-profiles.geog.ox.ac.uk/#documentation)

December 2009

### For further information contact:

Veerle Vandeweerd

Director, Environment & Energy Group

United Nations Development Programme

[Veerle.Vandeweerd@undp.org](mailto:Veerle.Vandeweerd@undp.org)

[www.undp.org/climatechange](http://www.undp.org/climatechange)

