

Identifying Gaps and Providing Guidance for Good Practices in National Adaptation Plans (NAP-GGPP)

Supporting Partners



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Background

To advance global adaptation efforts, the Paris Agreement requires that all developed and developing countries participate in adaptation planning processes. It states that "each Party shall, as appropriate, participate in climate change adaptation planning processes and the implementation of measures, including the development or improvement of relevant plans, policies and/or inputs," making the process of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) a key element in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

As part of the first Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement, countries were called to develop and update their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) addressing the country-specific key risks of climate change by 2030. Countries were asked to submit Adaptation Communications and further encourage Parties' adaptation plans to be inclusive, informed, long-term, and with sustainable development and mitigation co-benefits and synergies in mind.

This is not a trivial task, as there is a lack of consensus on how adaptation can be tracked. However, scholars note that the 'best method to ensuring robust adaptation is to ensure rigorous adaptation planning'. Higher-quality plans have been shown to decrease the cost of disasters and deliver on implementation, reducing trade-offs, and increasing synergies. Hence, across spatial levels scholars invest in giving guidance on how to best develop an adaptation plan and best shape the adaptation planning process, such as "*Quality of urban climate adaptation plans over time*" by Reckien et al. (2023).

To date, a total of 50 countries have submitted their NAPs to the UNFCCC. These strategic frameworks have been systematically assessed by various bodies to determine their implementation efficiency and substantive effectiveness in adapting to climate impacts. As a result, this has led to the derivation and dissemination of a corpus of optimal *modi operandi* and recommendations for refining NAPs in the scientific discourse. However, there remains a notable lack in the form of a holistic and user-friendly framework that provides best practice guidance and recommendations as a common thread for the design and development of new NAPs.

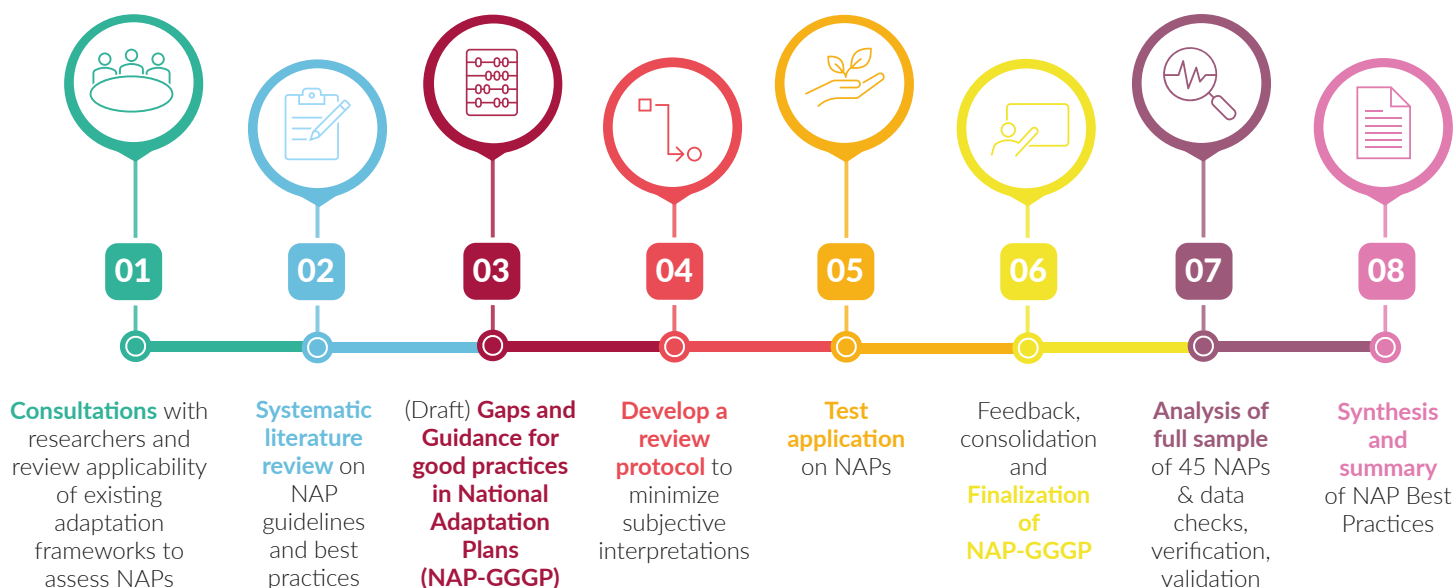
The complete findings will be presented in a detailed final report in the first quarter of 2024.

Objective

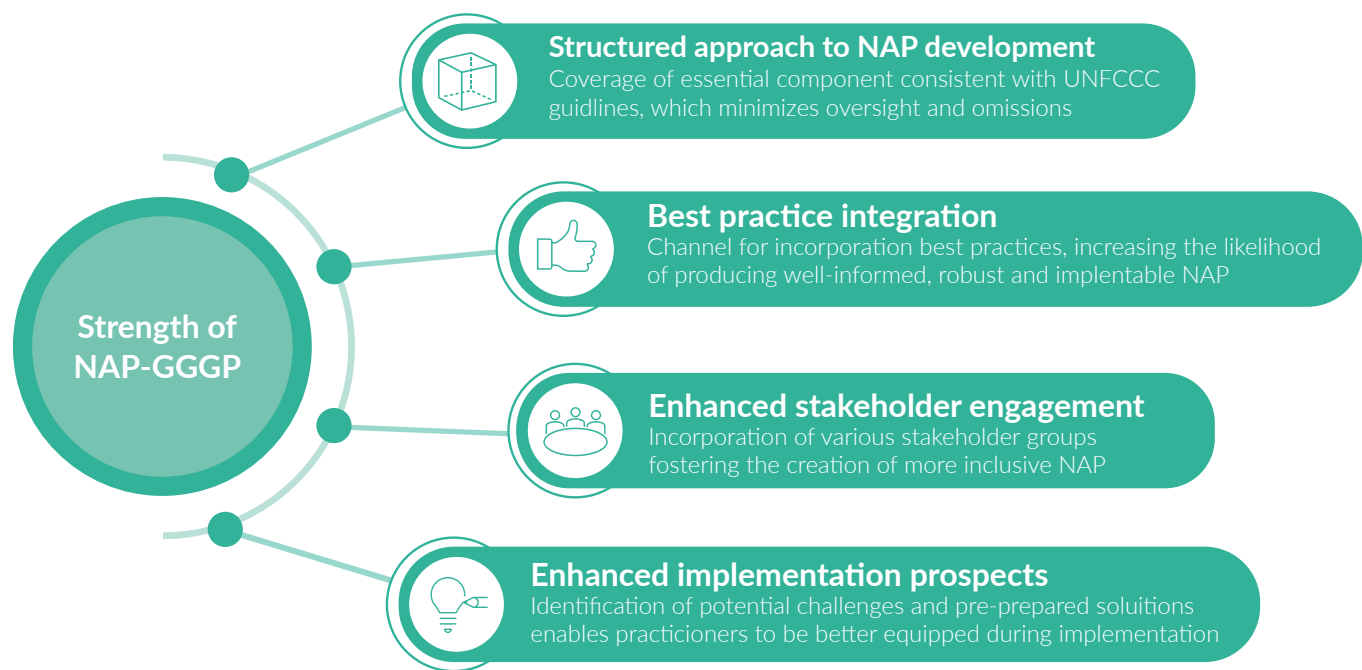
The aim of the study is to develop a framework to identify gaps and best practices for enhancing NAPs in developing countries.



Process



Enhanced scientific robustness through comprehensive desk research and literature review: over 24 related guidelines, frameworks and articles were reviewed, alongside **collaboration with a diverse range of experts** (university researchers, practitioners and key groups like the NAP Global Network and Least Developed Countries Expert Group).



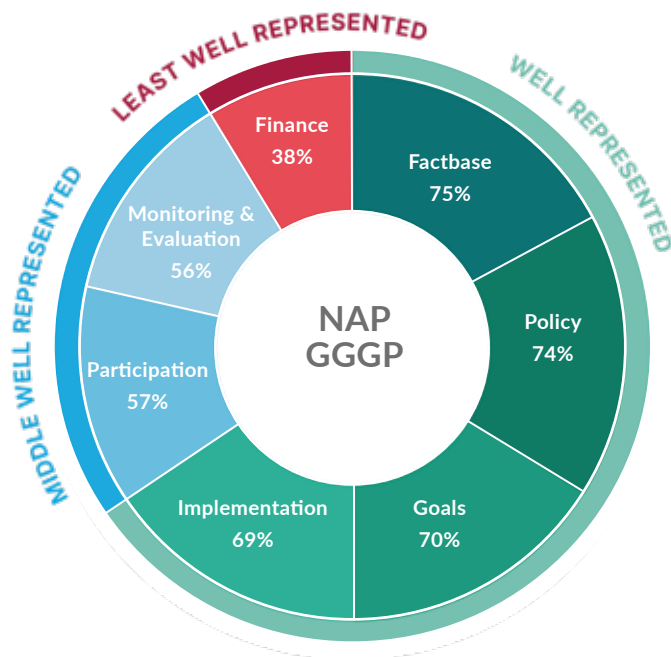
NAP-GGGP

7 Categories with 56 elements and 44 sub-elements, each with an application protocol



NAP Gaps and Good Practices

NAP is an ongoing and iterative process: countries are drafting their NAPs according to the overarching goals they set, and may further be developing specific NAP components (for example, Implementation by sector, M&E, Finance) and revising different components as intermediate goals are achieved.



GOALS

Delineate clear, preferably Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound (SMART) objectives for both the adaptation plan and its implementation process, that are specific to climate change impacts.

Peru has set goals for specific and relevant sectors, for the time 2030 and 2050. It integrates the goals into other relevant policy fields, such as into the gender and other social policies. It also sets quantitative goals by highlighting percentages of Climate Change Actions implemented per prioritized specific objectives.

IMPLEMENTATION

Prioritizing adaptation actions with clear implementation timelines is crucial for efficient resource allocation that improves the implementation of the actions. In addition, defining responsible parties, supported by a comprehensive institutional framework, ensures accountability and coordinated efforts. To proactively address hurdles and ensure successful execution, potential barriers to implementation shall also be identified at both national and sub-national levels.

Timor-Leste showcases effective practices by assigning specific lead agencies to prioritize actions, ensuring comprehensive implementation aligned with their respective mandates. These actions are categorized into projects, programs, and policies, all overseen by a coordinating secretariat for climate actions.

Bangladesh emphasizes vertical integration in its institutional arrangement for climate adaptation by involving multiple entities like ministries, private sector, NGOs, CSOs, women's and youth associations, CBOs, as well as local institutions such as District Development Coordination Committees and community representatives.

PARTICIPATION in the preparation phase

Participation, throughout the process and best before the goal setting starts, is vital for the relevance, legitimacy, and effectiveness of NAP processes. In particular, vulnerable groups, such as women but also youth representatives are important groups to include with a well-defined mechanism of involvement.

Fiji's NAP Steering Committee includes relevant technical expertise to support technical working groups as needed to progress decision-making. Responsive to the needs of all stakeholders and vulnerable groups the committee will be drawn from government, development partners, civil society representatives, private sector, academia and research institutions, to help inform both the review of NAP progress and the development of actions.

South Africa makes a particular mention of including youth representatives, addressing the need of infants and child-headed families, but also women, particularly poor rural women.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

While specifying indicators per sector, outcome or activity remains an important guideline alongside with making these targets time-specific in the short-, medium, and long-term, even more crucial remains to consider assessing the outcome of adaptation actions on different vulnerable population groups or communities. The guideline is to make vulnerable populations/their representatives and vulnerable industries part of the M&E process.

Togo's robust M&E system precisely outlines targets to monitor adaptation action implementation, assigning responsibilities across ministerial, local authority, civil society, and private sector levels. In addition, engagement of diverse groups and communities at each level ensures objective evaluations.

FINANCE

To ensure comprehensive planning, outline the costs of proposed adaptation actions, potential funding sources, and domestic financial gaps. Highlight the cost of inaction will drive motivation for implementation. Additionally, developing a robust financial strategy, extending beyond conventional sources by engaging the private sector and leveraging innovative financing mechanisms enhances the likelihood of securing adequate funding.

Burkina Faso highlights the cost of inaction or delaying action to showcase the potential economic, social, and environmental losses resulting from not implementing adaptation measures, which underlines the urgency and necessity of taking action

Armenia's Financing Framework and Implementation Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (FFIPCCA) is tailored to involve the private sector and utilize financial, technical, and human resources for a coordinated implementation of adaptation measures.

Papua New Guinea's Climate Resilience and Green Growth Trust Fund (CRGGTF) aims to channel revenue sources towards climate adaptation, alongside efforts to engage the private sector through public-private partnerships and tax incentives.