



# National Adaptation Plan (NAPs) Bhutan

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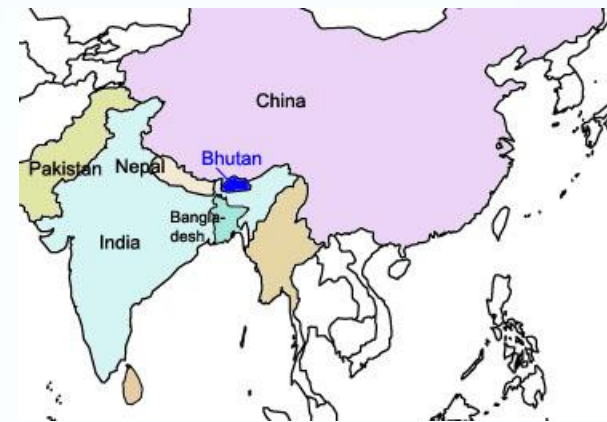
*Royal Government of Bhutan*



# Country Profile

**Total land area:** 38,816 sq km

- **Location:** South East Asia (Eastern Himalayas)
- **Topography:** Mountainous terrain (200 – 7000 meters)
- **Forest cover:** 72.5% of the total land area
- **Total population:** approximately 700,000
- **Development philosophy:** Gross National Happiness
- **Main economic sectors:** Hydropower, Agriculture and Tourism



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# Bhutan: Vulnerability to Climate Change

- ✓ High dependence on climate sensitive sectors
  - ❑ Agriculture and hydropower
- ✓ Level of economic development
  - ❑ ~ 70% population engaged in subsistence agriculture
  - ❑ Least Developed Country (LDC)



- ✓ Geography
  - ❑ Fragile mountain ecosystem
  - ❑ Land locked
  - ❑ Increased risk of disasters (GLOF and flash floods, drought, forest fires, landslides)

# Applying the NAP Technical Guidelines in Bhutan

# Launching of NAPs

- ❖ **18-20 May 2015** : NAP process launched during stakeholder consultation workshop “*Dialogue on Climate Resilient and Carbon Neutral Development*”
- ❖ **Objectives specific to NAPs during the workshop :**
  - Develop indicative mandate for climate change action in Bhutan through a policy, legislation, or strategy for climate change.
  - Introduce process for preparation of National Adaptation Plans for Bhutan (sensitization and awareness on NAPs)
  - Inform stakeholders on climate change action and activities in Bhutan.
- *Workshop funded under LECB project (INDC Preparation)*

# Launching of NAPs (workshop)

## *Recommendations at Launch of NAPs*

1. For long term NAP Process:
  - ❖ address sustainability issues after end of projects
  - ❖ Continuous capacity building will be important
  - ❖ Need for active mobilization of support based on national strategy
2. Adaptation should be addressed at all levels,
  - ❖ with more focus to local and community level (on actual implementation)
3. On the mandate for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
  - ❖ NECS should take the lead
  - ❖ NAPs should be supported under a clear climate policy/mandate
  - ❖ NAPs should contain implementation strategy and timeline

# NAP Mandate

- (February 2016) National Environment Commission (NEC) give directives for the NEC Secretariat (NECS) to take the lead on NAP development
  - Directives based on outcome of consultations and existing mandates

## ***National Environment Commission (NEC)***

- High level policy and regulatory body chaired by the Hon Prime Minister
- Powers and mandates under National Environment Protection Act (NEPA 2007)
- mandates to negotiate and implement Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) in coordination with the stakeholders
- Focal institution for UNFCCC among other MEAs

# NAP Road Map

- ❖ **4<sup>th</sup> March 2016:** NAP road map presented and discussed during the consultative workshop on “*Advancing Action on Climate Change for National Priorities and International Obligations*”
- The Road Map informed the stakeholders the various steps for developing a NAP and engagement of sectors
- [NAP Road Map](#)

*(Workshop funded from LECB and TNC project)*



# Further work on NAPs

- ❖ **June 2016:** Workshop on Climate Change Information and Tools for Vulnerability and Adaptation (V&A) was held:
  - ✓ Stock-take information on the state of knowledge in Bhutan – sharing results and findings of climate change V&A activities in sectors and agencies.
  - ✓ Enhance understanding of V&A approaches and tools for climate change adaptation planning
    - PVA (poverty and vulnerability assessment) tool from ICIMOD and ADVANCE from WWF
  - ✓ Generating information to support development of Third National Communication and National Adaptation Plans.
- *Workshop funded by WWF-Bhutan.*

# Support for NAP formulation and process

- *Proposal for project to formulate NAPs had been under development since 2015 but suspended due to information that funds not sufficient in LDCF*
- Stakeholder consultation workshop on Proposal for NAP proposal under LDC (June 2016)
  - Workshop had following objectives:
    - Inform stakeholders on the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) under UNFCCC
    - Reach a common understanding on NAP process for Bhutan including under Paris Agreement
    - Validate project proposal for NAPs to LDC Fund (LDCF)

# Status of Bhutan's NAP

and application of the technical guidelines

## Element A: Laying the groundwork and address gaps

Steps	Status
Initiating and Launching of the National Adaptation plan (NAP) process	<p>NAP Process launched in May 2015 during Climate Dialogue</p> <p>NECS to lead NAP development as per directives from NEC (February 2016)</p>
Stocktaking	<p>Stocktaking information from sectors/agencies/universities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Climate Dialogue 2015</li><li>-Advancing Action on CC for National Priorities and International Obligations meeting held in March 2016</li><li>-Vulnerability and Adaptation held in June 2016</li></ul>

# Element B: Preparatory elements

- Only V&A under NAPA (2005 and Second National Communication (2011);
  - vulnerability and adaptation (V&A) assessment was conducted at a preliminary level for some sectors
- Further work required
  - data collection and analysis,
  - V&A assessments, projections and scenarios
  - inform stakeholders on climate change impacts
  - Etc...

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# Challenges

- Institutional & technical capacity for V&A;
- Access to finance;
- Access to information and knowledge

# Strong policy vision, political will and institutions

- Article 5 of Constitution (2008)
  - Citizens as trustees (Fundamental Duty)
  - Government mandate for environment protection
  - Maintain 60% of land under forest cover for all times
- Political Will/Champions
  - National Environment Commission chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister
- Multi Sectoral Technical Committee on Climate Change (MCTCCC)
  - Technical level body
  - Advisory and coordination of climate change issues
  - Reports to NEC

# Way forward

- ❑ Take on board all the stakeholders (including the local and communities) right from the planning stage:
  - Sensitization and awareness at the local and community levels
  - Capacity building at all levels (National, Sub-national, Local level)
- ❑ Access to finance
  - For development/formulation of NAP
  - For actual implementation of the Plan
  - Implementation of priority actions



**Tashi Delek**

**Thank You**