Honduras' experience on NAP

Climate Change in Honduras

Climate vulnerability is composed of three main components: exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity. In addition to the climatic conditions and biophysical characteristics of Honduras (exposure and natural sensitivity), the vulnerability of the inhabitants has been increased by the low levels of development of the country. Factors such as high territorial dispersion, a growing tendency to increase the urban population with limited access to basic services, degraded natural resources, a high dependence on subsistence agriculture and government subsidies, a low level of education and a low organizational capacity, lack of financing for small producers and limited access to agricultural land, mark Honduras' low level of development and increase climate vulnerability and sensitivity while limiting adaptive capacity.

Some studies describe the country's vulnerability to climate change and climate variability, in each of the development sectors and in the different territorial regions. In the last three years, GermanWatch's global climate risk index indicates that Honduras has been the country most affected by climate change (Kreft, et al., 2014, Kreft et al., 2015, Kreft, Eckstein and Melchoir, 2016). The University of Notre Dame's Global Adaptation Index, which measures the vulnerability and preparedness of countries in the face of climate change, in 2015 ranked Honduras with high vulnerability and low readiness, placing it at No. 124 out of 181 countries (ND-GAIN, 2017).

SDG's addressed

Honduras has adopted the 17 SDS as part of its development planning agenda. The Hondurian scope to do this is multidimensional, intersectorial and territorial. This scope is the same one used in the NAP,

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16,

National policies on adaptation

The policy framework of Honduras on climate change relies on the national policy framework that rule the nation's development planning (i.e. Country's Vision 2010-2038 and Nation's Plan 2010-2022), based on the principles of ecosystem-based management, with the aim of achieving by year 2038 a better country. These policies aim at looking at managing the country according to the ecosystem-based management theory which focuses on "the whole ecosystem, defined in local, biophysical, and cultural terms, and on development of an integrative process for planning and management" (Slocombe, 1998).

The Country's Vision 2010-2038 presents a target image of the country for the following next 28 years; it has four national objectives and each one of them has specific goals to achieve (see Table 1). The Nation's Plan is a guide to achieve the goals set by the Country's Vision. It proposes 11 specific strategic guidelines (see Table 2) with their own indicators and budget guidelines. In both tables, the goals and strategic guidelines related to climate change are highlighted.

Table 1. Country's Vision (2010-2038) Objectives

Objective		Goals	
1.	A Honduras without poverty, educated and healthy, with solid systems of social prevision.	1.1	To eradicate extreme poverty
		1.2	To reduce to less than 15% the percentage of households in poverty
		1.3	To raise average schooling to 9 years
		1.4	To achieve 95% coverage of health at all levels of the system
		1.5	To universalize pension scheme for 90% of employees in the country and 50% of non-salaried employed
2.	A Honduras developed in democracy, with security and no violence.	2.1	Seven continuous and transparent democratic elections held from 2009
		2.2	Reduce crime levels to a level below the international average
		2.3	Reduce the Rate of Social Conflict within 6
		2.4	Reduce to less than 5% rate of extralegal land occupation
		2.5	Improve border protection as a condition for external deterrence and increased internal confidence
3.	A productive Honduras, generator of opportunities and employment, that uses its natural resources sustainably and reduces its environmental vulnerability	3.1	To reduce the unemployment rate to 2% and invisible underemployment rate to 5% of the active population
		3.2	To expand the export / GDP ratio to 75%
		3.3	To increase up to 80% the rate of renewable energy within the electric generation matrix of the country
		3.4	To achieve 400,000 hectares of irrigated land, meeting 100% of the national food demand
		3.5	To increase the rate of damming and water use up to 25%
		3.6	To achieve 1,000,000 hectares of forest land in the process of ecological and productive restoration, accessing the international carbon stock market
		3.7	To take the Global Climate Risk Index to a ranking superior to 50
4.	A modern, efficient and competitive State.	4.1	To improve the ranking of Honduras to 5.5 under the Global Competitiveness Index
		4.2	To reach a decentralization of public investment of 40% to the municipal level
		4.3	To reach a proportion of 90% of civil servants benefiting from a stable civil service system that rewards competence, capability and performance
		4.4	To develop electronically the main processes of customer service in state institutions
		4.5	Placing Honduras in section 90-100 percentile scale Index Control of Corruption World Bank

Source: Country's Vision (2010-2038). SEPLAN (2012b)

Table 2. Nation's Plan (2010-2022) Strategic Guidelines

Number	Strategic Guidelines
1	Sustainable development of the population
2	Democracy, citizenship and governance
3	Poverty reduction, generation of equal opportunities
4	Education and culture as social emancipator means

5	Health as base for life conditions improvement
6	Security as requisite for development
7	Regional development, natural resources and environment
8	Productive infrastructure as driver for economic activity
9	Macroeconomic stability as base for internal savings
10	Competitiveness, country's image and productive sectors
11	Climate change mitigation and adaptation

Source: Nation's Plan (2010-2022). SEPLAN (2012b)

To achieve goal 3.7 and strategic guideline 11, in 2010, the National Strategy on Climate Change was launched. The has 15 adaptation objectives (Table 3) and 2 mitigation objectives.

Table 3. Strategic Objectives for Adaptation

Source: SERNA (2010), p. 80

Sectors	Strategic Objectives for Adaptation	
Water Resources	1	Reduce the impacts of more frequent and intense droughts, by reduced rainfall and enhance groundwater recharge.
	2	Reduce the alteration of ecological flows, considering the effects of climate change on river systems.
	3	Prevent and avoid reducing water quality due to pollutants, considering the effects of climate change on the volume of water available.
Agriculture, soil, and food security	4	Facilitate farmers adaptation to climate change, improving the resilience of crops and pastures to heat and water stress, and preventing or reducing the incidence of pests and climate change caused by diseases.
	5	Prevent erosion, loss of productivity and eventual desertification of soils, considering the effects of climate change.
	6	Preserve and improve the nutritional quality and contribute to food security of the population, under conditions of climate change.
Forests and biodiversity	7	Preserve long-term function, structure and composition of ecosystems to improve resilience to climate change.
	8	Prevent loss of broadleaf and coniferous forests due to the incidence of forest fires and pests under climate change conditions.
	9	Implement good forest management for protection and production, to the alteration of wealth, functionality and symbiotic relationships the effect of climate change.
Coastal and marine systems	10	Preserving the structure and dynamics of marine and coastal ecosystems, considering the effects of climate change, particularly sea level rise and changes in surface air temperature and the sea.
Human Health	11	Reduce the incidence and geographical distribution of human diseases caused by the effects of the manifestations of climate change.
Risk Management	12	Reducing risks and impacts associated with the occurrence of meteorological events, the frequency, intensity and duration are increasing due to climate change.
	13	Promote the design, development, construction and deployment of more appropriate infrastructure and facilities, in terms of strength and versatility, in order to better adapt to the current and projected effects of climate change.
	14	Strengthen civil security and governance of the nation, preventing, reducing and addressing appropriate and timely temporary or permanent displacement of human populations, climate-induced causes.

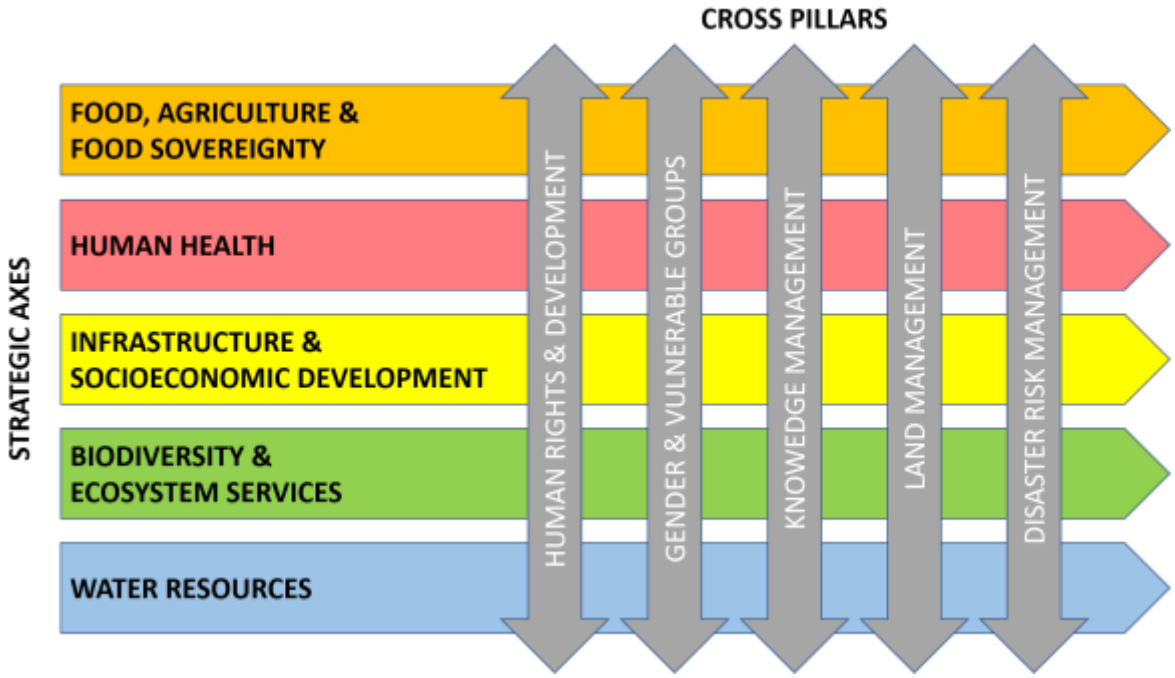
Hydro electricity	15	Facilitate the adaptation of the sources of hydroelectric power, to the observed and projected impacts of climate change.

The NSCC was launched through an inter-institutional platform called Inter-Institutional Technical Committee on Climate Change (CTICC). The CTICC is formed by 70+ institutions (government ministries, private, public, NGO's, academia, and civil society) and led by the Ministry of Environment. The CTICC is in charge of climate change discussions at the national level and of the promotion of the implementation of the NSCC. To better address the different implications and effects of climate change in the country, the CTICC has been further subdivided into sub-committees that deal with specific issues (i.e. adaptation, food security, air quality, water resources, marine resources, REDD+, etc.).

To implement the NSCC, a Climate Agenda was developed as part of the Water, Forest and Soil Master Plan (ABS). The Climate Agenda depends on a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and a National Mitigation Plan (NMP) to implement measures and technologies on climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Climate Agenda and its national plans outline the workplan for the CTICC and its sub-committees.

Priority adaptation themes/sectors

The NAP underwent a process of analysis involving government institutions, international cooperation agencies and civil society organizations at the national, regional and local levels. This analysis resulted in the definition and validation of the strategic axes or priority sectors and the cross pillars or themes to guarantee the inclusion, comprehensiveness, resilience and order for the CCA in Honduras.



Progress on the NAP

- **Have you initiated and launched the process? How? What were the activities undertaken? Are there any published materials and outputs on this?**

Yes. The process began in 2015 with the support of the Project "Addressing Climate Risks in Water Resources in Honduras" funded by the Adaptation Fund and the UNDP/UNEP NAP Global Support Program, through technical assistance and stakeholder engagement workshops to prepare an initial road map for the NAP process.

The DNCC stablished a technical workgroup to follow up the process and engage civil society, government institutions. The UNDP Country Office and civil society organizations through the Honduran National NGO Association (ASONOG) mobilized additional funding for the NAP development from the Swiss Cooperation and Development Agency, and other donors such as Ayuda en Acción, Pan para el Mundo, OXFAM and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development. A participatory methodology was implemented through regional and community consultations, and some bilateral meetings to assure a wide participation of national stakeholders. In these consultations and meetings, participants outlined the potential impacts of climate change in their regions, their current vulnerabilities and proposed adaptation initiatives. All this information, plus the strategic guidelines contained in the national policies on climate change were included in the NAP for the 2017-2030 period.

The NAP is currently being revised by different actors before it is open to the public for feedback and approval. There are not published materials yet.

- **What key milestones were achieved in undertaking the process? (includes outputs etc.)**

The main output of the process was the participatory analysis of the vulnerability and impacts of climate change in the different regions of the country. Likewise, the main adaptation initiatives to be implemented were assessed, which Will be part of the program portfolio to increase the national adaptive capacity.

- **When are you likely to produce and communicate your NAP?**

It is expected to be ready on October 2017 for the public revision. By December 2017, it should be finalized and ready for communication to the UNFCCC.

- **Is there any (technical/financial) support received by the government in undertaking the process? If yes, on what particular workstream do you get the most support?**

Yes. The process was possible through the technical and financial support received by the organizations mentioned above.

- **Have you tried accessing the GCF? Please share your experience.**

Yes, Honduras submitted a proposal to the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Program for NAP. The proposal is currently under review by the GCF.

Ongoing national adaptation initiatives

The implementation of the National Adaptation Plan is projected until 2030 in accordance with Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Objectives (ODS), in particular ODS 13 "Action for the Climate". Similarly, the NAP is linked to other strategic national development planning

instruments: the Country's Vision and Nation's Plan (VPPN), the 20/20 Plan, Better Life Program, the National Climate Change Strategy (NSCC), the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Drought (PAN-LCD), the Water, Forest and Soil Master Plan (ABS), the National Restoration Plan for Productive Landscapes and the different sectoral strategies for adaptation to climate change (i.e. agriculture, forestry, health, coffee, and marine and coastal areas in the Caribbean).

Additionally, civil society organizations and international cooperation projects develop adaptation initiatives in the country at different scales according to their agendas.