

2.2.1 Regional approaches in implementing NAPs

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Least Developed Countries Expert Group:

- The LEG is mandated, inter alia, to provide technical guidance, support and advice to the LDCs on regional approaches to adaptation planning and implementation
- While NAPs have primarily focused on plans at the national and subnational/sectoral levels, the consequences of climate change are not limited to specific administrative boundaries and go beyond national borders.
- Promoting regional coordination in the design and implementation of adaptation projects and policies is a key step in addressing transboundary climate impacts.



- Joint adaptation initiatives provide the opportunity to lower the costs of implementation while improving countries access to international climate finance.
 - For instance, the effective coordination of countries efforts in the implementation of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project led to a significant reduction in the cost of interventions.



- Regional adaptation planning also promotes the exchange of essential climate data, which can improve forecast and prediction which allows for more concrete adaptation actions.
 - This will improve the quality of vulnerability assessment results and increases awareness and engagement of all stakeholders between countries.



- For example, the diversions and construction of dams by one country may reduce water resources available to another which could be regarded as a casus belli.
 - Contentious cross-boundary resources such as river basins and biodiversity corridors are best managed through regional exchange of experience and best practices. It helps to avert resource-stress conflict among participating countries.



- Coordination of responses to transboundary climate risk among nations can also facilitate peer learning and utilization of best available science.
 - For instance, ICIMOD, SPREP,
 AGRHYMET and ACPC organize
 regional workshop to raise awareness
 on climate risk and for participants to
 learn more from other participants'
 experiences with similar economic and
 social background.



Integrating regional approaches in NAPs

- Ensure the NAP mandate explicitly identifies transboundary risk and how adaptation could be initiated through regional effort
- Identify issues that would best benefit from being handled at the regional level
- Identify, strengthen and/or establish regional coordination and governance mechanisms
- Participate in joint risk assessment and studies
- Have a system to share information on transboundary risk
- Promote synergies and linkages between transboundary initiatives and national/sectoral development frameworks



Thank you!