

Note on Strategic Options for Collaboration Between the NDC Partnership and the NAP Global Network

January 2017

Purpose of this paper

This briefing paper seeks to provide inputs to continued discussions about the design of the evolving NDC Partnership. More specifically, it highlights how the **adaptation component** of the NDC Partnership might benefit from close collaboration with the **NAP Global Network**. To this end, the brief describes different **strategic options** for the relationship between the NDC Partnership and the NAP Global Network, and highlights **specific activities** with high potential for synergies.

Background on the NAP Global Network

The **NAP Global Network** is a group of individuals and institutions working together to enhance national adaptation planning and action in developing countries. It was established in 2014 by developing countries and donor governments¹ interested in seeing enhanced coordination of bilateral support and in-country actors to better inform, align and advance national adaptation planning. The Secretariat is hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

With initial financial support from the governments of Germany and the U.S., as well as Canada and Austria providing additional funding beginning in 2017, the Network's activities are structured around three mutually-reinforcing objectives:

- i. **Facilitating sustained peer learning and exchange** on the challenges and opportunities related to national adaptation planning and implementation;
- ii. **Supporting national-level action** on NAP development and implementation.
- iii. **Enhancing bilateral support for adaptation**, through better coordination and alignment with developing countries' priorities.

In meeting these objectives, the Network engages with two main audiences: developing countries that are formulating and implementing their NAPs, and bilateral donors who are supporting these processes. Activities are designed to facilitate exchanges both within and between these target audiences at global and national levels. For example, the Network has established two cohorts of 8-10 developing countries that meet every year at **Targeted Topics Forums** to have detailed technical discussions on specific NAP-related issues. A **peer exchange program** was launched in 2016, allowing different countries to request and offer their expertise on specific NAP issues. The Secretariat has been engaging with **bilateral donors** to understand and share their approaches to NAP support, and in some cases help coordinate NAP programming in certain countries or regions. These efforts complement a growing portfolio of targeted in-country activities focused on advancing NAP processes, such as coordination meetings called **NAP Assemblies** and technical support offered through the Network's **NAP Country Support Hub**.

Value added of collaboration with the NAP Global Network

A collaboration with the NAP Global Network would bring a number of benefits to the NDC Partnership. Firstly, it would **support the Partnership's objective** of building on and 'connecting the dots' between existing initiatives that strive to support climate action in develop-

¹ For details on founding countries and those currently engaged in Network activities, see the Annex.

ing countries. Collaboration would also be an opportunity to **leverage the valuable experiences, technical knowledge, and in-country contacts** that the Network has established in its first two years of activities. Relatedly and critically, it would strengthen the Partnership's **credibility in the eyes of partner countries**, who are already spending valuable time navigating a rapidly-evolving and complex landscape of initiatives supporting NDC implementation. Collaboration would also help ensure **efficient use of resources**, by relying on – and possibly amplifying – existing efforts rather than duplicating work and further crowding the aforementioned landscape. Finally, collaboration between the NDC Partnership and the NAP Global Network would help to **reinforce links between NDC and NAP-related discussions**, signifying that the two agendas are connected and mutually reinforcing.

Strategic options for collaboration

There are numerous options for collaboration between the NDC Partnership and the NAP Global Network. These options fall along a continuum with increasing degrees of collaboration. Along this continuum, **three strategic options** have been identified for the relationship between the two initiatives.

1. **Separate initiatives:** The NDC Partnership and the NAP Global Network coexist as two separate initiatives but regularly update each other and coordinate activities where appropriate to avoid duplication of work and promote synergies. This might involve quarterly check-in calls to update each other on respective global and in-country activities, and signposting each other's resources on the initiatives' respective websites.
2. **NAP Global Network as Institutional Member of the NDC Partnership:** As an Institutional Member, the NAP Global Network closely collaborates with the NDC Partnership beyond mere exchange of information. In particular, the NDC Partnership makes active use of the specific expertise, on-going activities and existing in-country contacts of the NAP Global Network.
3. **NAP Global Network with coordinating function:** The NAP Global Network assumes a certain coordinating function for adaptation-related activities under NDC Partnership, potentially expanding its scope from the NAP process to the broader implementation of adaptation components of (I)NDCs. This might include the NAP Global Network holding a Co-Chair position in the Adaptation Working Group under the NDC Partnership.

NAP Global Network activities with high potential for synergies

Related to these three broad strategic options for collaboration, there are a number of concrete activities which exhibit high potential for synergies with the NDC partnership. Broadly speaking, many of the NAP Global Network activities can be used as opportunities to clarify, explore, coordinate and operationalize the links between NAP processes and NDC implementation. The Network offers several vehicles for requesting and receiving support, and it would be a matter of specifying that the support sought is to address issues related to the NAP-NDC nexus.

The following table suggests what collaboration on specific activities could look like under each of the options for collaboration described above, considering the specific activities of the Network and the Partnership. The terms of such collaborations, such as any co-branding implications, allocation of resources by the different initiatives, and detailed working arrangements would need to be mutually discussed and agreed.

NDC Partnership pillars of activity	Associated NAP Global Network activity	Separate Initiatives	Network as Institutional Member	Network with Coordinating Function of Adaptation Activities under Partnership
<p>Develop and share knowledge & information</p> <p>Raise awareness of and enhance access to NDC support initiatives, best practices, analytical tools and resources via online portals and communities or practice or networks. Peer-to-peer learning and exchanges will enable practitioners to gain confidence in what is achievable and accelerate learning curves.</p>	<p>This pillar of Partnership work is most relevant to the Network's activity area on Facilitating Peer Learning and Exchange and its cross-cutting function of producing analysis, communications and knowledge products.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge products such as case study briefs (i.e. sNAPshots), guidance notes, webinars, blog posts, podcasts, infographics, and motion graphics are produced and disseminated to highlight the approaches, lessons, and needs related to NAP processes in developing countries • Note that targeted knowledge products on the links between NAPs and NDCs – e.g. blog, briefing note series – already being produced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular updates on planned adaptation-related publications • NDC Partnership online portal can signpost the Network / available knowledge resources, and vice versa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network leads development of the adaptation-related knowledge products under the NDC Partnership, which might be co-branded for the two initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as previous column
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted Topics Forum: Signature peer exchange meetings where 8-10 developing countries at different stages of the NAP process come together to have detailed, technical exchanges about specific NAP-related topics (e.g. sectoral integration, finance, M&E) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep NDC Partnership updated on TTF plans, and vice versa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-organize a session(s) or side meeting(s) on how to integrate the NAP and NDC agendas in partner countries (if participating countries prioritize this topic) • Sessions related to linking NAPs and SDGs could feed into Partnership discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TTFs to become the main forum for global peer learning on NAP process and its links with NDC adaptation component implementation, potentially framed more generally implementing adaptation component of NDCs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer / technical exchanges: The Network supports participants to travel to other countries for up to a week to provide in-person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly updates on exchanges being supported and requests received by each initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership may point to Network to support peer exchanges requesting particular support on NAP-NDC links – for example, a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer exchanges related to adaptation – NAP process and adaptation components of NDCs more generally—to be managed by the NAP Global Network as a part of

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	support on specific issues – e.g. climate services, developing a financing strategy, etc.		roadmap for aligning processes – may be supported	the NDC Partnership adaptation working group
<p>Facilitate technical support</p> <p>Support countries in defining processes, policies and plans needed to advance NDC implementation, facilitate access to tailored technical assistance and knowledge sharing, and foster greater collaboration to ensure that development efforts and climate action are mutually reinforcing.</p>	<p>This pillar of Partnership work is most relevant to the Network’s activity area on Supporting National-Level Action</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAP Assemblies: In-country meetings which build broader awareness and buy-in for the NAP process among national stakeholders and improve alignment and coordination of NAP-relevant support from donors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share quarterly updates on planned country-level events and any linkages being made between NAP and NDC implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-host NAP Assemblies with the NDC Partnership in shared countries of activity where there is interest from the host country in discussing NDC-NAP linkages / implementation of the NDC adaptation component <p><i>Note:</i> Links to NDC would be determined by countries’ own preferences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAP Assemblies framed more broadly to focus on implementation of NDC adaptation components and the role of the NAP process within this, working as part of the NDC Partnership Adaptation Working Group. Network offers advantage of drawing on existing network of donors to reach in-country contacts. <p><i>Note:</i> Links to NDC would be determined by countries’ own preferences</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAP Country Support Hub: Mechanism through which Network participants can request and receive timely, targeted support from experts and peers to advance and maintain momentum in their NAP processes. The Network manages a roster of experts who support this function by providing timely advice and technical support on a range of NAP-related issues. The aim is to provide complementary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share quarterly updates on requests being addressed through the Country Support Hub and country-level technical support being provided by the Partnership, with particular focus on countries where both initiatives may be engaging. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDC Partnership could look to the Network’s roster of experts to help respond to adaptation-related requests • An “NDC Translator” has been proposed as a specific vehicle of targeted technical support. This would channel requests for support in preparing/revising the adaptation components of their NDCs, translate the adaptation contributions in NDCs into activities and outputs in the NAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country Support Hub clearly communicate scope to address questions related to implementation of NDC adaptation components • Network would coordinate targeted technical support requested under NDC Partnership, if a similar mechanism is set up there, including offering the NDC Translator option and drawing on its roster of experts (see previous column). E.g. If the Partnership gets adaptation-related requests; they pass requests to the Network. 	

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	<p>assistance to existing, longer-term NAP support initiatives in a country. Specific services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask an Expert: Light touch feedback and advice on NAP issues from the Secretariat, Network participants, and the Roster of Experts • Targeted technical support: More tailored, in-depth but short-term assistance whereby experts are contracted to respond to specific requests to advance a country's NAP process. 		<p>process, and help align the NDC and NAP processes moving forward. These types of requests could be directed to the NAP Global Network to address.</p>	<p><i>Conditions:</i> Pending agreement on whether Network would maintain right to determine which requests it addresses, and how sharing of experts would work.</p>
<p>Facilitate financial support</p> <p>Working with governments to better understand and address constraints to access bilateral and international NDC support programs. The Partnership aims to align development finance more strongly and</p>	<p>This pillar of Partnership activity is most relevant to the Network's activity area on Enhancing Bilateral Support.</p>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donor exchange / coordination: The Network facilitates the sharing of lessons and best-practice related to NAP support, exploring opportunities for better support in common countries of interest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDC Partnership and Network update quarterly on donor coordination activities and coordinate timing and topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network-convened donor meeting (e.g. on margins of UNFCCC SBs in 2017) could include an agenda item on better coordinating NDC-NAP support • Donor coordination meetings at country level co-organized by Network and Partnership in common countries of operation (for the Network, this is normally done as a part of / on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network becomes main forum for donor coordination and exchange on implementation of adaptation NDC components and NAPs, linked to Partnership through adaptation working group • At the country level, donor coordination efforts (normally done as a part of or on the margins of NAP Assemblies listed above) may address

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coherently with NDC implementation			<p>the margins of a NAP Assembly)</p> <p><i>Note:</i> At country level, links to NDC would be determined by countries' own preferences</p>	<p>questions of NDC-NAP linkages more broadly, drawing on Network's existing donor contacts.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> At country level, links to NDC would be determined by countries' own preferences</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donor-targeted capacity building: Based on a survey of and ongoing engagement with bilateral donors, the Network will develop some awareness-raising and knowledge exchange materials on different approaches, experiences, and emerging questions with NAP support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NAP-NDC nexus can be flagged as a specific topic for discussion and capacity building for donors (i.e. webinars, training materials, etc.); Network would update NDC Partnership on this work and vice versa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network and NDC Partnership may co-organize a donor coordination meeting re: building capacity on the topic of NDC-NAP linkages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network becomes the main forum for donor coordination discussions and targeted capacity building related to links between NDCs and NAPs

Key Messages

For concise key messages developed by the NAP Global Network as a result of this analysis, please refer to the attached "Key Messages" brief, which is also being shared with other NAP Global Network participants who may be able to convey interest in collaboration during NDC Partnership discussions

Annex: Countries Engaged in the NAP Global Network

While participants from more than 60 countries have taken the initial step of registering for NAP Global Network participation, the following countries are currently actively engaged in the Network's activities. Active participation by developing countries is through participation in a TTF cohort, receiving support through the Country Support Hub, and/or participating in a peer exchange. Active participation by bilateral donors is through participation in Network activities and events, and/or funding Network activities.

Legend:	
-	Orange highlight indicates country is also listed under NDC Partnership
-	Bold text indicates the country is a founding member of the Network

Active NAP Global Network Countries	
Albania	Japan (JICA)
Australia	Kenya
Austria	Madagascar
Benin	Malawi
Botswana	Mexico
Brazil	Morocco
Cambodia	Peru
Canada	Philippines
Colombia	Samoa
Ethiopia	South Africa
European Commission	Tanzania
France	Thailand
Germany (BMZ)	Togo
Grenada	United States (US State, USAID)
Jamaica	United Kingdom (DFID)

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