

sNAPshot: Initiating sector integration of adaptation considerations

Overview Brief

This Overview Brief introduces the topic of sector integration and different ways to initiate it in the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process. A number of separate **sNAPshot** briefs provide further detail on approaches individual countries have taken to initiating the sector integration process.

While there is no single approach to integrating adaptation considerations into sector planning, concrete examples are emerging as more countries pursue NAP processes. Participants in the NAP Global Network's first Targeted Topics Forum (TTF) in 2015 shared a range of approaches to addressing climate risks through sector planning. Participants included national climate change focal points and representatives working in finance ministries and climate-sensitive sectors in developing

countries. In particular, this south-south sharing of experiences highlighted that in the early stages of NAP processes, *the impetus for sector integration can be found in different ministries and at different levels depending on the country context*. A spectrum of approaches to initiating sector integration of adaptation emerged, ranging from sector-driven to nationally driven approaches.

Why does integration matter?

One of the two objectives of the NAP process is to integrate climate change adaptation into new and existing development planning across sectors and levels. According to the [NAP Technical Guidelines](#), a guiding principle of the NAP process is that it "seeks to enhance the coherence of adaptation and development planning within countries, rather than duplicate efforts." To this end, an important step in laying the groundwork for the NAP process is stocktaking, which includes identifying ongoing and past adaptation activities of agencies and ministries responsible for climate-sensitive sectors. This stocktaking can help inform the NAP process by giving a sense of the current adaptation capacity and institutional arrangements in the country.



This stocktaking can also help to identify where there is existing impetus for adaptation planning and activities in the country—whether this exists in agencies responsible for climate-sensitive sectors, the ministry responsible for the environment, at local levels, or across a number of these actors. Identifying and cultivating this existing impetus for addressing climate risks can contribute to an understanding of the NAP process as one that complements and/or builds upon ongoing and previous initiatives. It can also help frame the NAP process as one that is closely related to and supportive of priority agendas in climate-sensitive sectors. In the agriculture sector, for example, framing adaptation planning in terms of its potential benefits for agricultural productivity can help build political support in countries where agriculture is a critical sector for the economy.

Initiating sector integration of adaptation: A spectrum of approaches

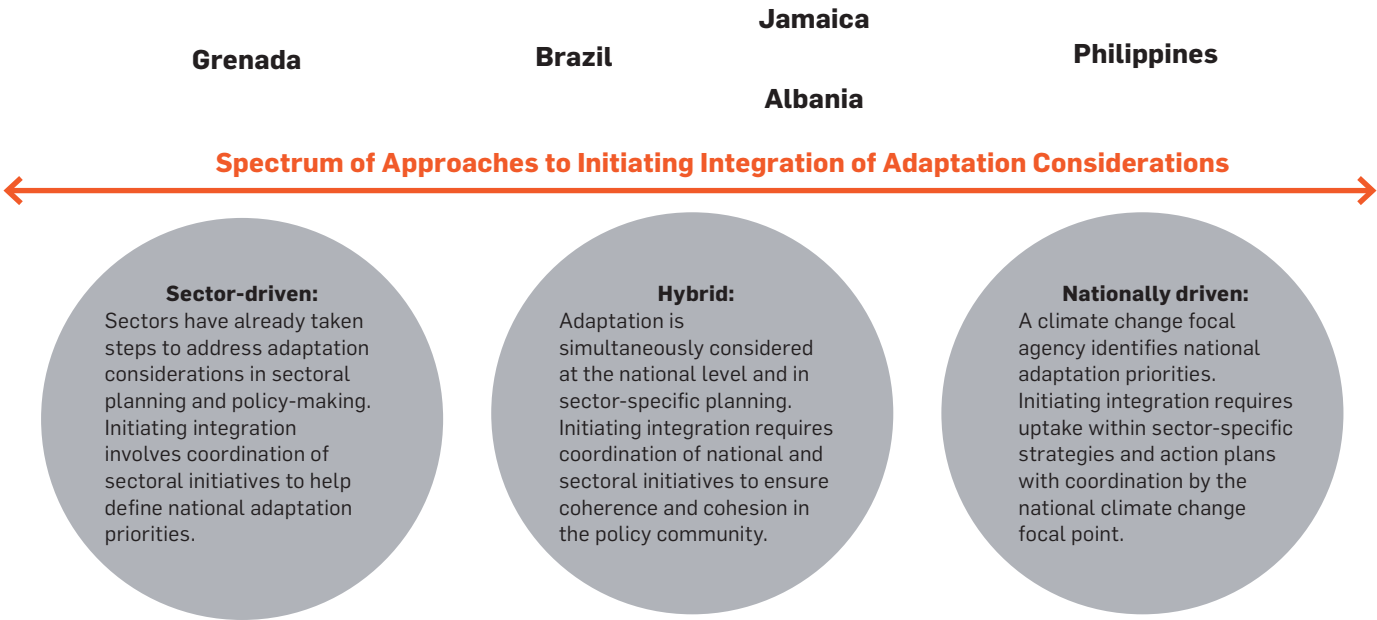
Countries who participated in the Network’s first TTF are taking different approaches to initiating integration of adaptation into sector planning. In some countries, sectors have already taken steps to address adaptation considerations in sectoral

planning and policy-making: In those countries that currently fall close to the sector-driven end of the spectrum, the NAP process presented an opportunity for stocktaking and coordination of sectoral initiatives to define national adaptation priorities and ensure a coherent approach. On the nationally driven end of the spectrum, a climate change focal agency may take the lead on identifying national adaptation priorities to launch the process. In these cases, initiating sector integration calls for promoting uptake within sector strategies and action plans.

The two are not mutually exclusive: a number of countries are taking approaches that fall somewhere in between nationally and sector-driven. In these hybrid cases, adaptation is simultaneously being considered at the national level and in sector-specific planning, and initiating the integration process requires coordination of numerous related and ongoing initiatives by sectors and the environmental ministry.

In experiences shared through the Network’s activities to date, varying combinations of initiatives by ministries and agencies responsible for the environment and/or for climate-sensitive sectors are driving sector integration of adaptation

Figure 1: Spectrum of approaches to initiating sectoral integration



considerations. A strong coordination function is present across the spectrum. The following explains the placement of each of the countries in Figure 1 along this spectrum.

Grenada falls close to the “sector-driven” end of the spectrum. In this small island developing country, various sectors had already begun integrating adaptation considerations into strategies and plans with support from the Environment Division in the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment and development partners, but a coordinated and coherent approach at the national level was missing. Through the NAP process, Grenada is taking stock of ongoing adaptation efforts to identify gaps and priorities for climate-proofing its national development plan.

In **Brazil**, stakeholders from relevant sectors participated in consultations that informed the inclusion of short chapters on sector-specific priorities in the national adaptation policy document that the country has developed. Sectors are expected to make further contributions to integration of adaptation considerations into their respective strategies based on these priorities.

Albania is closer to the nationally driven end of the spectrum: the country will develop a draft umbrella document by early 2016 to provide national-level policy orientation on mainstreaming climate change adaptation. The document will include priority areas for adaptation, provide concrete conceptual steps and tools for mainstreaming, and identify steps for accessing national and international climate finance for implementation. Sectors are expected to use this document to bolster efforts to integrate adaptation considerations into their own plans and policies.



Jamaica's national development plan, *Vision 2030*, includes both a clearly defined national climate change outcome and the agreed national and sectoral strategies to achieve this outcome. A national policy launched a process through which climate change considerations are currently being integrated into priority sector-specific policies and plans to ensure climate-resilient development. A dedicated national Climate Change Division coordinates and oversees adaptation efforts.

The **Philippines** falls at the nationally driven end of the spectrum. The country developed a National Climate Change Action Plan that outlines a long-term program and strategies for adaptation and mitigation in line with its national development plan. The Philippines Climate Change Commission (CCC) coordinates involvement of stakeholders from relevant national agencies and ministries, local government units, academe, business and civil society. The CCC includes a panel of experts with representatives of a range of climate-sensitive sectors who provide technical advice in climate science, technologies and best practices to enhance adaptive capacity.

This spectrum and an accompanying set of country *sNAPshots* on the topic of initiating the sector integration process illustrate how different country-specific pathways can lead to a common outcome of sectoral integration.



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About the NAP Global Network and sNAPshots series

The NAP Global Network is a group of individuals and institutions who are coming together to enhance bilateral support for the NAP process in developing countries. Based on experiences and lessons shared through the activities of the NAP Global Network, sNAPshots highlight examples of how countries are currently approaching different aspects of the NAP process.

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