2023 PROGRESS AND LEARNING REPORT

# Learning for Adaptation





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The NAP Global Network was created in 2014 to support developing countries in advancing their NAP processes and help accelerate adaptation efforts around the world. To achieve this, the Network facilitates South– South peer learning and exchange, supports national-level action on NAP formulation and implementation, and generates, synthesizes, and shares knowledge. The Network's members include individual participants from more than 155 countries involved in developing and implementing national adaptation plans. Financial support for the Network has been provided by Austria, Canada, Germany, Ireland, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Green Climate Fund. The Secretariat is hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The opinions stated in this report do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the Network's funders or participants.

The NAP Global Network Secretariat is hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), an award-winning independent think tank working to accelerate solutions for a stable climate, sustainable resource management, and fair economies. IISD's work inspires better decisions and sparks meaningful action to help people and the planet thrive. We shine a light on what can be achieved when governments, businesses, non-profits, and communities come together. IISD's staff of more than 250 people come from across the globe and from many disciplines. With offices in Winnipeg, Geneva, Ottawa, and Toronto, our work affects lives in more than 100 countries.

IISD is registered as a charitable organization in Canada and has 501(c) (3) status in the United States.

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This is the NAP Global Network Secretariat's sixth progress report. It highlights activities and some of the achievements of the NAP Global Network from January 1 to December 31, 2023.



### National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Process

A strategic process that enables countries to identify and address their medium- and long-term priorities for adapting to climate change.

#### **NAP Global Network**

The Network supports developing countries in advancing their NAP processes, which can help accelerate climate change adaptation efforts worldwide.

#### **Mission**

Our mission is to harness the collective knowledge and resources of governments, practitioners, donors, and civil society to build capacities and accelerate the formulation and implementation of NAP processes.

### In This Report

- *we, us, our* and Network mean the NAP Global Network
- NAP stands for national adaptation plan

### Vision

Our vision is a world where communities and countries—particularly the poorest and most vulnerable—are able to articulate, work toward, and realize their development aspirations in a changing climate. This is possible by having national adaptation planning processes that are aligned with development priorities and effectively channelling resources to the people, places, and systems that need them most.

#### **Network Secretariat**

International Institute for Sustainable Development





#### **Network Funders**

In the period covered by this report, the Network Secretariat received funding from:

- Government of Canada
- Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Government of Ireland
- Government of the United States
- Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Green Climate Fund



## Foreword

Adaptation action is complex and urgent, particularly for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like Saint Lucia, where climate change impacts are disproportionately severe. Adaptation, viewed as a necessary complement to mitigation, helps communities withstand and minimize the ravages of climate change already affecting us.

In 2018, the Government of Saint Lucia adopted its national adaptation plan (NAP), identifying eight priority areas: Water, Agriculture, Fisheries, Resilient Marine and Terrestrial Ecosystems, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, Education, Health, and Tourism. We were proud to be the first in the region, and among the first globally, to incorporate limits to adaptation in our NAP, addressing the critical issue of loss and damage—a contentious topic at United Nations Climate Change Conference negotiations. This forward-thinking approach positions us to access additional funds from the newly dedicated loss and damage fund.

Earlier this year, we were delighted to mark the launch of a USD 1.7 million Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Project titled "Enhancing Saint Lucia's National Adaptation Plan Process Through the Elaboration of Sector Strategies and Action Plans, a Strengthened Evidence Base, and Improved Private Sector Engagement." This project is another significant step in our climate adaptation journey. It supports tangible gains in implementation and underscores our steadfast commitment to national adaptation planning.

This project will bolster further NAP action. This funding aims to enhance capacities in climate change adaptation planning, strengthen the evidence base for advancing adaptation technologies, and improve private sector engagement. Vulnerable communities will benefit from an increased understanding of climate-related coastal vulnerabilities, risks, and impacts, aiding future adaptation planning and implementation of tailored solutions. Our efforts will ensure inclusively integrated, gender-responsive, and participatory multisectoral solutions, ultimately enhancing access to finance.

Addressing climate change through adaptation necessitates urgent physical, political, economic, social, and institutional adjustments. These adjustments are essential for identifying sustainable development pathways. The recent Conference of the Parties (COP 28) emphasized the global stocktake (GST), which assesses collective progress toward the Paris Agreement's long-term goals. The GST highlights the urgent need to accelerate global adaptation efforts and set the agenda for the next 5 years of climate action.

Despite significant progress in adaptation planning and implementation, substantial gaps and challenges remain. COP 28 emphasized the importance of integrated, multisectoral solutions that are genderresponsive and participatory. The launch of the NAP GCF Readiness Project brings us closer to achieving our adaptation planning goals, which support critical and urgent implementation. We look forward to forging partnerships and alliances to implement the priority adaptation measures, programs, projects, and activities outlined in our adaptation framework. We extend our gratitude to our multilateral funding partner, the GCF. The project will be implemented with our delivery partner, the International Institute of Sustainable Development (IISD), which hosts the NAP Global Network Secretariat. IISD will collaborate with the Department of Sustainable Development and the Department of Economic Development, our National Designated Authority to the GCF. We anticipate active involvement from all stakeholders through the project's 30-month implementation period.

We look forward to continuing to make significant strides toward building climate resilience in Saint Lucia and achieving the ambitions we set out in our NAP. Together, we will achieve a sustainable and resilient future for our nation.



#### Honourable Shawn Edward

Minister of Education, Sustainable Development, Innovation, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Saint Lucia

## Head of Secretariat's Message

Climate change impacts are more evident and concerning year on year. The UN Environment's *Adaptation Gap Report 2023* brought us mixed news. On the positive side, almost all countries have adopted at least one national adaptation planning instrument. But we also continue to face major challenges—the report found global adaptation action to be too slow on financing, planning, and implementation. The number of adaptation projects has stagnated for the past decade, gender and social inclusion are inadequately addressed in adaptation actions, and the gap in adaptation finance continues to grow.

NAP processes are more important than ever to address these challenges in working toward scaling up more effective and inclusive adaptation. Progress on NAP processes continues to be significant. Many actors measure progress on NAPs based on the number of NAP documents being submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)no doubt a key milestone for many countries' NAP process. But it is not the only metric used to measure progress-the UN reported last year that almost every non-Annex I country has a NAP process underway, and at least 100 countries have accessed NAP support from the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support window. The GCF has since made available new and additional funding for the implementation of priority actions identified in NAPs. This progress is clear recognition of the herculean efforts by countries' NAP teams and the importance of addressing adaptation challenges through a process-oriented approach. This progress should be recognized and celebrated, even as we continue to make efforts to strengthen, amplify, and accelerate.

#### **NAP Facts**

142/154

# of developing countries that have NAP processes underway<sup>1</sup>

> # of countries with approved adaptation planning proposals to the GCF for a combined value of approximately USD 248 million<sup>2</sup>

NAP documents submitted to the UNFCCC<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> UNFCCC Secretariat. (2023, November). Progress in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans. <u>https://unfccc.int/documents/632355</u>

<sup>2</sup> Green Climate Fund. (2023). GCF Open Data Library. https://data.greenclimate.fund/public/data/readiness

<sup>3</sup> As of May 31, 2024. This includes NAPs from 23 least developed countries (LDCs) and 13 SIDS.

Over the last year, the NAP Global Network Secretariat has observed an increase in attention to NAPs and their role in global policy discussions. It was clear in 2023 through GST and Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) discussions that NAPs—and the NAP process—are seen as important barometers of progress in adaptation action.

On a personal note, I remain humbled by the opportunity to lead this exemplary organization, the NAP Global Network, this past year as its Head of Secretariat. As the NAP Global Network approaches its 10-year anniversary, I am very pleased to lead this amazing team of adaptation experts and policy advisors and continue our important work in accelerating the development and implementation of climate change adaptation efforts in developing countries.

The NAP Global Network continues to serve as a technical ally to countries on the NAP process, in addition to continuously advocating for the importance of NAP processes and providing thought leadership. Our results in 2023 speak to this.

Our technical support offer has continued to expand, with the Secretariat team working with new and established partners alike. In 2023, our technical support strongly emphasized gender and monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), and we also saw growing interest in support for the transition from planning to implementation.

As travel restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic lifted in 2023, our peer learning pillar was rejuvenated with an exciting slate of inperson activities. We have taken lessons from our virtual convenings and are finalizing our peer learning strategy to enhance the effectiveness of our efforts.

Under our knowledge pillar, our NAP Trends platform has also been a key tool for analysis and communication in tracking approaches and priorities in NAP documents. We published a broader range of reports and analyses than ever before, profiled in more depth in this report, and we continued to profile the human stories behind NAP processes through photo essays and other creative approaches.

The Network Secretariat has also continued to invest in enhancing our operations, most notably by adopting a whole-of-Network MEL system, which we are strategically implementing, that consolidates and formalizes the MEL of our activities to date. Under this system, we are placing an emphasis on learning to build in the routines and spaces we need to help us learn from our activities and deliver better support.

The continued confidence of our funders is appreciated as we enter the final year of implementing our strategic plan to 2025. We have major funding confirmed to at least 2026 and partial funding to 2028. This puts us on good footing as we develop a renewed strategic vision and continue our funding outreach beyond 2026.

Above all, we remain adamant that good governance of adaptation is fundamental to achieving climate resilience at scale. The NAP process is the key vehicle for improving the systems, capacities, and institutions for adaptation governance. We are grateful for the continued collaboration and partnership of developing country partners, funders, and institutional partners to work toward our shared vision of effective, inclusive NAP processes for all.



#### **Orville Grey, PhD**

Head of Secretariat, NAP Global Network Resilience, International Institute for Sustainable Development

## What We're Learning About Effective NAP Processes

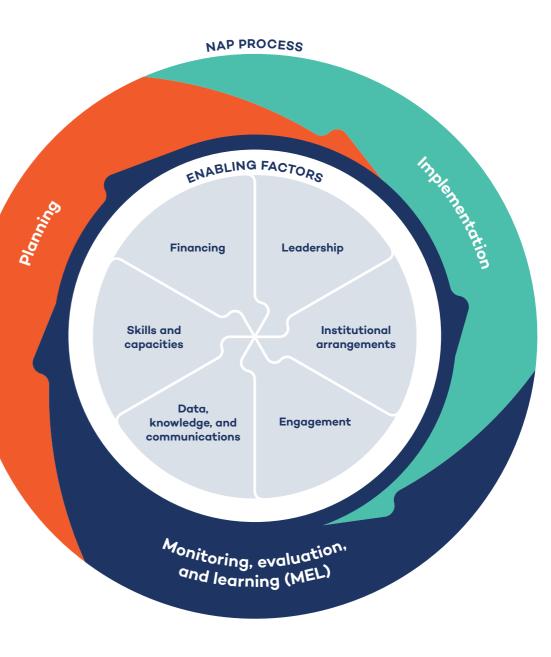
In 2023, the NAP Global Network updated the figure we use to visualize our understanding of the NAP process.

This figure, which is closely aligned with the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) 2012 technical guidelines for the NAP process, shows a simplified version of the NAP process through three broad overlapping elements: (i) planning, (ii) implementation, and (iii) MEL. The inner circle represents the six interlinked enabling factors that support effective, inclusive NAP processes.



To learn more, read our <u>2023 article</u> on what we're learning about the NAP process.

For the official definition, objectives, and technical guidelines for the NAP process, visit the <u>UNFCCC website</u>.



The NAP Global Network has three key objectives



Facilitating South–South peer learning and exchange



Generating, synthesizing, and sharing knowledge



Supporting nationallevel action

A cross-cutting principle in our work is enhancing bilateral coordination.

## **The NAP Global Network**

The world's leading network on adaptation planning

Now approaching our 10th anniversary since the NAP Global Network was established in 2014, the Network delivers NAP support to help NAP teams in developing countries channel resources to the people and places that need the most support, with over half of our support going to LDCs and SIDS.



## Progress Toward our 2025 Targets

We are approaching the final year of NAP Global Network's Strategy to 2025. This section shares an overview of our progress toward the targets we set out in our strategic plan relative to a June 2020 baseline.

## Walk

| Making some progress,   |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| but may need adjustment |  |

#### Run

Good progress, consistent with expectations



### Fly

Outstanding progress, ahead of expectations

## Overall 2025 strategy targets

| Target  | Progress | Notes   |
|---|----------|---|
| At least 30% of support to LDCs                                     | Ŕ        | 8 of 22 In-Country NAP Support Programs (ICPs) for LDCs.<br>55 of 121 Country Support Hub (CSH) requests from LDCs since June 2020.                 |
| Reach at least 30 new developing countries                          | =        | The Network has supported 26 countries against a baseline of June 2020.   |
| Support at least 15 countries with the transition to implementation | Ŕ        | Network has supported 12 countries on the transition from planning to implementation; in 2024, the Network dedicated funding to support this theme. |

## 2025 strategy targets by activity area

| Activity                             | Target to 2025   | Status     | Description  |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------|--|
| Peer Learning and Ex                 | kchange  |            |  |
| Global-level peer<br>learning events | Two Peer Learning<br>Forums per year                                   | *          | The NAP Global Network peer learning events, which were set back by the<br>COVID-19 pandemic's travel restrictions, have picked back up, with a 2023 global<br>event in Kenya (see page 20) and funding secured for two global-level forums for<br>coming years. |
| Peer exchanges                       | 50 peer exchanges,<br>including 10 "on-the-job"<br>exchanges           | <b>:</b> ; | Responding to demand from country partners, the NAP Global Network's broader peer learning offering has been kickstarted with a new regional cohort for Central American countries (see page 20) and more.   |
| National-Level Actic                 | n  |            |  |
| ICPs (longer term)                   | 3–5 ICPs underway<br>per year  | Ż          | Funding secured for the NAP Global Network has made it possible to ramp up our support for countries to exceed our strategy's targets, with 22 ICPs active since June 2020 (nine ICPs active in 2023).   |
| CSH requests<br>(short term)         | 75 CSH requests (15 per<br>year) + 25 remote expert<br>advice requests | Ż          | Additional funding and strong demand from country partners have allowed us to significantly surpass our strategy's targets, with 121 CSH requests active since June 2020 (53 CSH requests active in 2023).   |

| Activity                        | Target to 2025   | Status | Description   |
|---------------------------------|--|--------|---|
| Knowledge                       |  |        |   |
| Knowledge products              | 100 new knowledge<br>products (20 per year),<br>including storytelling<br>on impacts | Ľ      | The Network Secretariat has stepped up the pace of its knowledge work, sharing lessons and good practices based on its engagement with NAP teams.                 |
| Self-directed online<br>courses | Three courses available<br>by 2025   | Ŕ      | Two courses are under development, and a further course is planned.   |
| NAP Trends                      | Establish a database<br>of the NAP Global<br>Network's analysis of<br>NAP documents  | Ľ      | NAP Trends was launched in 2022 and is updated monthly to reflect analysis of all NAP documents submitted to the UNFCCC's NAP Central.                            |
| Quarterly webinars              | Hold quarterly webinars<br>(four per year)   | Ŕ      | With the surge in virtual events during the pandemic travel restrictions, the Network Secretariat's webinar schedule began to lag. Course correction is underway. |

## The Year in Review: NAP Global Network highlights and milestones in 2023

#### January

- Eswatini completes outreach program on Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge on adaptation
- Madagascar completes NAP awareness campaign

#### March

- 🕥 NAP Expo 2023, Chile
- Albania launches first NAP progress report
- Rwanda pilots MEL framework for the agricultural sector
- Benin builds capacity on MEL and develops indicators

#### February

- S LDC Expert Group (LEG) 43rd meeting
- Regional Peer Learning Event on Vulnerability Assessments for NAP Processes, Senegal

#### April

- Vietnam completes MEL training program
- Belize completes vulnerability assessments for two coastal communities



- O Liberia launches MEL framework
- Central African Republic holds highlevel dialogue on peacebuilding and adaptation

#### May

Zambia develops MEL system for the NAP process

We also partnered with the UNFCCC Paris Committee on Capacity-building to host regional thematic dialogues on Building Capacities for NAP Implementation Strategies at four UNFCCC Regional Climate Weeks in Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### June

- S UNFCCC 57th Subsidiary Body Meetings
- S Global NDC Conference, Germany
- S NAP Global Network Steering Committee Meeting

#### August

S Asia-Pacific Regional NAP Expo, Republic of Korea LEG 44th meeting

- First Meeting of the Central American Peer Learning Cohort, Germany
- Ghana completes six district-level vulnerability assessments

Six young women share photo

stories on adaptation with decision-

makers in Jamaica as part of the Envisioning Resilience program

#### July

- 😏 Women Deliver, Rwanda
- Haiti holds a training program on gender in the NAP process

#### September

Cameroon completes an analysis of its NAP MEL system

#### October

- 😏 Adaptation Futures 2023, Canada
- Peer Learning Summit: Vertical Integration in the NAP Process, Kenya

#### December

- S COP 28, United Arab Emirates
- Côte d'Ivoire completes an evaluation of its National Gender and Climate Change Strategy

- Central African Republic launches Gender and Climate Change Strategy
- Tonga convenes national MEL training on its NAP
- Brazil launches an adaptation strategy for the agriculture and livestock sector

#### November

 Vietnam develops monitoring and evaluation indicators for the water sector

## **Network in Numbers**

## All Time



Network participants



Countries that have participated in peer learning and exchange events



Countries where we have delivered technical assistance



Knowledge products on national adaptation planning and action

## 2023

598 ¢õõ

New Network members in 2023



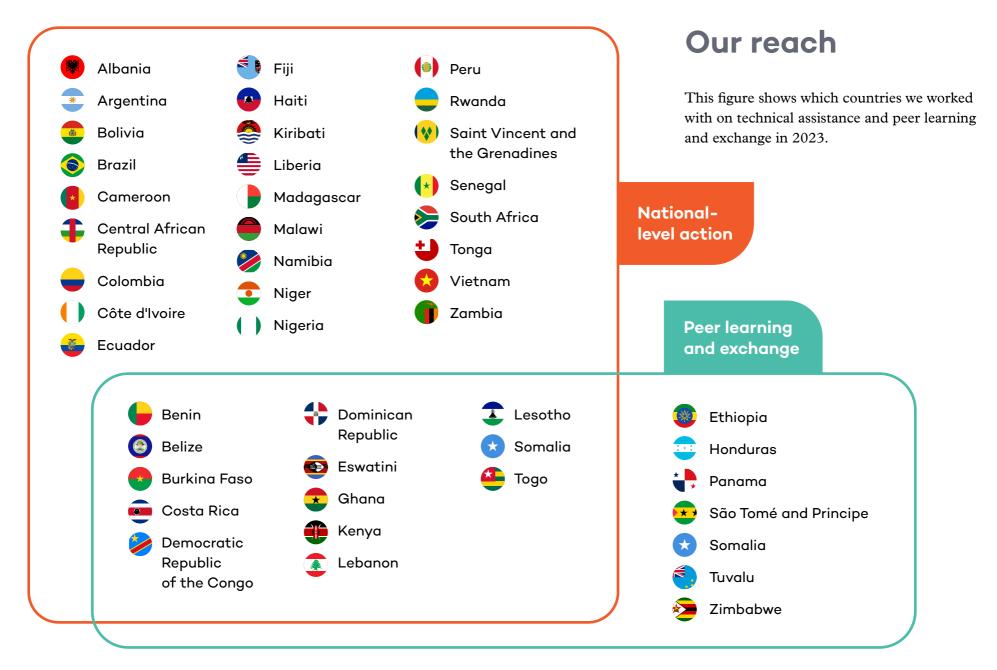
Countries whose representatives took part in peer learning and exchange in 2023



Countries where we delivered technical assistance in 2023



Knowledge products developed in 2023



Peer Learning and Exchange is Back

Having relaunched in-person peer learning in 2022 following the COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions, 2023 saw the NAP Global Network's South–South peer learning and exchange activities pick up significantly. We returned to convening events for policymakers and adaptation practitioners to have honest and focused exchanges on what works and does not work in the NAP process.





### **2023 Peer Learning Forum:** Vertical Integration in the NAP Process

**Hosts**: Government of Kenya and NAP Global Network

**Participating countries**: Belize, the Dominican Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, São Tomé and Príncipe, Tuvalu, Zimbabwe

#### Language: English

The NAP process is a critically important opportunity to build strategic and intentional links with sub-national adaptation planning and implementation through vertical integration.

This global forum convened 10 countries to share lessons and experiences on multilevel governance and vertical integration in the NAP process.



### 2023 Regional Peer Learning Event: Advancing Risk and Vulnerability Assessments (RVAs) in the NAP Process

**Hosts**: Government of Senegal and NAP Global Network

**Participating countries**: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Lebanon, Lesotho, Somalia, and Togo

Language: English and French

RVAs are fundamental for adaptation planning. This event convened seven countries, primarily from West Africa, to share lessons on designing and using RVAs strategically in the NAP process.



**2023 Regional Peer Learning Cohort:** Partnerships for adaptation in the Central American region

Hosts: NAP Global Network

**Participating countries**: Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Panama

Language: Spanish and English

In 2023, we convened the first meeting of a new Central America Peer Learning Cohort, which will meet annually over the next 3 years to share lessons and approaches to the NAP process. This event kickstarted this 3-year peer learning process by exploring how academia and researchers can contribute to advancing NAP processes in the region.

## **Our Support to Countries**

Under the NAP Global Network's national-level action pillar, we offer technical support on the NAP process under two windows:

- **Country Support Hub (CSH)** Short-term technical support (up to 6 months) to fill gaps and build momentum.
- **In-Country NAP Support Programs (ICPs)** Longer-term technical support (1 year or more) to advance NAP processes.

In 2023, technical support to countries continued to be the most active of the NAP Global Network's three pillars, with a strong thematic emphasis on support for

- 1. MEL for NAP processes and
- 2. gender-responsive NAP processes.

| Country      | Status   | End date   | Funder    | Focus |
|--------------|----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| Somalia      | Complete | March 2023 | Irish Aid | MEL   |
| Burkina Faso | Complete | March 2023 | BMZ*      | MEL   |
| Ghana        | Complete | March 2023 | BMZ       | MEL   |
| Peru         | Complete | March 2023 | BMZ       | MEL   |
| Rwanda       | Complete | March 2023 | BMZ       | MEL   |

### ICPs active in 2023

| Country       | Status   | End date         | Funder    | Focus                |
|---------------|----------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Fiji          | Complete | March 2023       | Irish Aid | MEL                  |
| Senegal       | Complete | December<br>2023 | GAC**     | Gender               |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Complete | December<br>2023 | GAC       | Gender               |
| South Africa  | Underway | June 2024        | U.S.      | COVID-19<br>recovery |

\* German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) \*\* Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

Note: In addition to the above ICPs, the NAP Global Network will initiate 14 new ICPs in 2024.

## 2023: Strong Demand for Short-Term NAP Support Continues

Demand for support for short-term technical assistance via the Network's CSH mechanism remained strong through 2023.



# **CSH Highlight**: Integrating peacebuilding in the NAP process in the Central African Republic

Central African Republic (CAR) launched its first NAP in late 2022 and submitted a request for support to the NAP Global Network to organize a high-level dialogue in early 2023 to highlight the links between peacebuilding and adaptation. This dialogue was held as CAR's peacebuilding plan was up for renewal and brought members of the NAP team from the Ministry of Environment together with the peacebuilding leads from the Office of the President to participate in the High-Level Dialogue on Climate Change Adaptation and Peacebuilding.

Mariam Amoudou Sidi, the gender and climate change focal point for CAR's NAP team, stressed the importance of the dialogue "because we know that conflicts are essentially rooted in the intolerable living conditions of the population, which result from the unequal and inequitable distribution of the resources that exist in our country—inequality that is further exacerbated by climate change."

### CSH in Numbers (all-time)

57

# of total countries supported

129

# of completed requests

### **Completed Requests By Year**

| 29 | in<br>2021 | 25 | in<br>2022                              |
|----|------------|----|---|
| 37 | in<br>2023 | 32 | total for all other<br>years since 2016 |

### 2023 Completed Requests By Region



## MEL for NAP Processes

# Where we provided technical support on MEL in 2023

Albania, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Vietnam, Zambia

#### The 2023 MEL highlights

- Supporting eight countries (Senegal, Ghana, Lebanon, Togo, Somalia, Burkina Faso, Benin, and Lesotho) in advancing their knowledge and implementing climate risk assessments through a peer learning event in Senegal.
- Defining approaches for countries to do progress reporting through an analytical report, following experiences from Albania, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Grenada, and Kenya.
- Working to strengthen enabling factors and institutional arrangements to establish MEL systems in Fiji, Lesotho, Liberia, and Zambia.

### Key lessons we learned about MEL for NAPs in 2023

- Stronger linkages are needed between climate risk assessments and MEL systems to track how the NAP process effectively reduces climate risks and vulnerabilities.
- 2. Integrating gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) considerations at the onset of designing MEL systems is critical to ensuring that institutional arrangements and baselines represent priorities across different social groups.
- 3. Countries target specific sectors to pilot the implementation of their MEL systems once they have defined their national MEL framework. This sectoral approach enables countries to focus on priority areas, capturing lessons learned and then scaling up.

# Our call to action on MEL for NAP processes

To implement robust MEL frameworks for NAP implementation processes, countries need to address capacity needs, develop skills, overcome budget constraints, and manage data effectively.

Country partners need to actively engage marginalized groups, vulnerable communities, and local governments in the design and implementation of MEL systems to foster inclusive processes. MEL processes should incorporate the diverse perspectives and needs of different groups to ensure climate change adaptation.

## Gender and Social Inclusion

Systemic inequalities based on gender and social differences exacerbate people's vulnerability to climate change. A genderresponsive and social inclusion approach to the NAP process addresses these inequalities to enable equitable outcomes from adaptation actions.

# Where we provided GESI technical support in 2023

CAR, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Nigeria, and Senegal, in addition to integrating a GESI lens across all NAP Global Network technical support

## 2023 highlights

• The CAR government developed their first national gender and climate change strategy, providing an actionoriented roadmap for a genderresponsive NAP process.

- In Côte d'Ivoire, gender and climate actors continued to collaborate to systematically integrate gender considerations in the development of the country's NAP document.
- NAP Global Network supported gender analyses conducted in Haiti, Nigeria, and Senegal, providing the evidence needed for gender-responsive adaptation action.

## What we're learning

 Gender analysis is the foundation for gender-responsive NAP processes. To maximize their effectiveness, they need to include targeted and specific recommendations and be supported by systems that enable the ongoing integration of gender considerations throughout the planning, implementation, and MEL of adaptation. 2. Capacity strengthening for genderresponsive and inclusive NAP processes requires a range of actions. Targeted, practical training is important but must be supported by financial resources and ongoing access to technical expertise for participants to be able to act on what they have learned.

### Our call to action on GESI

Effective integration of gender and social considerations in NAP processes requires dedicated human and financial resources—funders, governments, and other actors involved in adaptation action must ensure adequate allocations within budgets to realize the potential of NAP processes to contribute to GESI.



## **Advancing Knowledge**

Under the Network's knowledge pillar, we provided up-to-date analyses of NAPs through our NAP Trends platform and published analyses on a wide range of themes on effective, inclusive NAP processes. To read more, visit <u>napglobalnetwork.org/resources</u>.



### **Key Publications**



Addressing Loss and Damage: What can we learn from countries' national adaptation plans?

The NAP process is fundamentally about minimizing loss and damage through adaptation actions.

Through a systematic review of NAP documents and interviews with key informants, this report showcases the role of NAP processes in minimizing and addressing loss and damage. It provides insights into how loss and damage information is presented in relation to adaptation efforts and how adaptation priorities identified in the NAPs have the potential to respond to loss and damage.



#### Using Climate Risk Assessment to Measure Adaptation Success at the National Level: Preliminary lessons from 12 countries

While climate risk assessments (CRAs) are widely carried out, a detailed and up-to-date understanding of which regions, ecosystems, economic sectors, and populations are most vulnerable to climate impacts—and why—is still missing in many countries.

This report explores the potential for CRAs to be used as a tool for assessing adaptation effectiveness, expanding on the implications of designing or updating CRAs and MEL systems for NAP processes.



#### Peace, Conflict, and NAP Processes

Though prioritizing climate change action in peacebuilding contexts can be difficult because climate change and fragility are closely linked, it would be a mistake to ignore medium- and long-term adaptation needs in these contexts.

This guidance note examines how governments operating in peacebuilding contexts can initiate, finance, implement, monitor, evaluate, and learn from their NAP process in a way that understands and responds to peace and conflict dynamics.



Progress on Vertical Integration in NAP Processes: Analysis of strategic linkages between national and sub-national levels

Sub-national governments and local actors are already taking action to adapt, and locallevel adaptation needs to be carefully linked to and supported by national-level adaptation planning to channel resources to the people, places, and systems that need them most.

This synthesis report presents an analysis of how countries are advancing vertical integration in NAP processes.



#### Reporting on Progress in NAP Processes

Progress reporting is a critical element of the NAP process for regular tracking and continuous enhancement of adaptation planning and implementation.

This analysis provides insights into practical examples of NAP progress reporting.

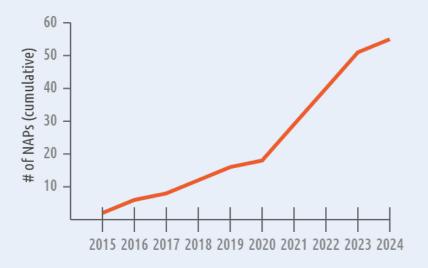
#### We also published

- **Report** | Leveraging the NAP Process for Adaptation Communications
- **Report** | *Public Engagement on Climate Change Adaptation: A briefing for developing country NAP teams*
- Briefing Note | Adaptation in Biennial Transparency Reports: Frequently asked questions
- Briefing Note | Maximizing the Impacts of Targeted Gender Analyses for the NAP Process
- **sNAPshot Country Brief** | Regional Approach to Adaptation to Climate Change in Burkina Faso: Study of the Central Plateau region
- sNAPshot Country Brief | Zambia Takes an Inclusive Approach to Developing a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Framework for its NAP

## **NAP Trends**

The NAP Trends platform was launched in early 2022.

## Multi-sector NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC by year



In 2023, we added country analyses for 11 developing countries that submitted NAP documents to the UNFCCC's NAP Central. The NAP Global Network Secretariat provided technical reviews on draft NAPs for Haiti and Zambia.

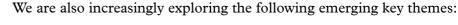




We've added new features to NAP Trends to allow users to download factsheets on country data and trends in key themes. Have questions or want to discuss trends in NAPs? Please drop us a line at <u>trends@napglobalnetwork.org</u>.

## **Key Themes**

Since it was established in 2014, the Network has focused much of our work on nine established key themes in NAP processes.



- the transition from planning to implementation and
- conflict and peacebuilding in NAP processes.



### Gender

Making NAP processes gender-responsive and socially inclusive.

#### Monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL)

Tracking progress on whether climate change adaptation actions work, how, and for whom.

### **Nature-based solutions**

Scaling-up ecosystem-based adaptation through NAP processes.



### Private sector engagement

Working with private sector actors as financiers and implementers of NAP priorities.

### NDC-NAP alignment

Leveraging NAP processes to meet other commitments under the Paris Agreemen and the 2030 Agenda.

### **Vertical integration**

Creating intentional and strategic linkages between national and sub-national actors and institutions.



### Strategic communications

Strategies for effective, inclusive communication in the NAP process.

#### **Financing NAP processes**

Strategically using different sources of finance—public, private, international, domestic—for adaptation.

# Sector integration of adaptation

Integrating climate adaptation into key sectors, such as water, agriculture, health, and infrastructure.

## Photo Essays on NAP Implementation

NAP processes—and strengthening the systems, capacities, and institutions for adaptation—can often seem abstract. In 2023, we partnered with four countries—Albania, Grenada, Kenya, and Saint Lucia—to prepare photo essays on NAP implementation to help show the people and places involved in adaptation.





## Grenada

#### Climate Resilience From Mountaintop to Seafloor

This photo essay profiles how three communities in Grenada are implementing priorities through actions such as restoring mangroves, sustaining living shorelines, and harvesting rainwater at high altitudes for resilient ecosystems and water security.

Photo: Samuel Ogilvie

## Albania

Protecting Kune-Vaini Lagoon: Scaling up ecosystem-based adaptation in Albania's oasis for migratory birds

This essay profiles lessons from ecosystem-based adaptation in the Kune-Vaini Lagoon System in northern Albania, whose rich ecosystem supports local communities' livelihoods in agriculture, fishing, and tourism.

Photo: Reard Gjermani





### Kenya

Thriving in Dry Times: How Kenyan communities are working toward drought-resilient livelihoods through the NAP process

Five alumni of the Envisioning Resilience training program organized by Lensational and the NAP Global Network on visual storytelling on adaptation profiled a series of photo essays about how Kenyans are implementing NAP priorities to respond to climate impacts, including the prolonged drought the country has endured.

Photo: Charity Kishoyian

## Saint Lucia

The Coral Gardeners of Saint Lucia: Local heroes against coral bleaching

This essay profiles how Saint Lucia is implementing a priority action for the fisheries sector from its NAP—a program for coral gardeners to restore reefs by introducing climate-resilient coral species to help withstand climate change impacts like coral bleaching and boost local livelihoods.

Photo: Lucius Doxerie

## Introducing a MEL Framework for the NAP Global Network

MEL must be at the core of the NAP Global Secretariat's operations to ensure that the Network's activities remain relevant and responsive. The Network is working to continuously improve its governance activities and secretariat functions to strengthen its position as a technical ally, thought leader, and global advocate for advancing NAP processes in developing countries.

In 2023, we adopted a MEL framework for the Network to enhance the Secretariat's capacity to measure the collective progress and impact of Network activities and promote organizational learning. The ultimate goal is to ensure that MEL is at the core of the Network's operations to remain relevant and responsive.



The framework is supported by tools and templates for data and information collection, analysis, and reporting against the Network's Theory of Change, which was first developed in 2015 and subsequently updated in 2020 under the NAP Global Network Strategy to 2025.

The MEL framework builds on and consolidates monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities the Secretariat has been undertaking since its establishment in 2014, formalizing a whole-of-Network approach. The MEL framework is based on five key principles approved by the Network's Steering Committee:

- Learning-focused M&E: A strong focus on analysis and learning, not just focused on accountability.
- **Simplicity**: The selected tools should build on what the Network already has in place.
- Comprehensiveness: MEL of (1) the NAP Global Network's three pillars (technical support, peer learning, and knowledge);
  (2) the different levels of the NAP Global Network's Theory of Change (activities, outputs, outcomes, impacts, and associated assumptions); and (3) the Network's themes.
- Understanding the NAP Global Network's contributions: MEL tools should help us understand how the NAP Global Network contributes to and influences NAP processes.
- **Flexibility**: The tools should not be overly rigid, recognizing that realities on the ground change constantly.

"Stories of change" interviews are key tools of the MEL framework, an approach piloted with partners from Haiti, Liberia, and Kenya in 2023.

## How We're Governed

The NAP Global Network's Steering Committee is our highest-level decision-making committee; our Management Team oversees decision making on operations; and the Secretariat manages the Network's day-to-day work.

Our **Steering Committee** provides vision and strategic direction to the Network, and its members act as champions for the NAP process.

Our Management Team oversees the Network's operations. In 2023, it included representatives from donors that provided support to the Network:

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
- Global Affairs Canada
- Irish Aid
- United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
- U.S. Department of State

#### **Steering Committee Members**





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The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) Resilience program hosts the **Network Secretariat**. IISD is a global think tank working to create a sustainable future in our changing climate. The Secretariat manages the NAP Global Network's day-to-day operations and provides research, logistical, administrative, and strategic support. To find out more about the IISD Resilience team, please visit: www.iisd.org/about/teams.

#### **Bilateral Funder Members**

Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, European Commission, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States

## **Priorities for 2024**

As the Network prepares to mark its 10th anniversary and enters the final year of its strategic plan, we are prioritizing efforts to achieve the targets we set to June 2025.

- Accelerating the transition from planning to implementation. We are projecting to exceed our 2025 strategy target to support 15 countries (having already reached 12 countries) in navigating the transition from planning to implementation, as this becomes an increasingly important area.
- Launching key guidance on MEL for NAP processes. The comprehensive toolkit, which was co-developed with the UNFCCC Adaptation Committee, will be accompanied by a Massive Online Open Course to help NAP teams strengthen their MEL efforts alongside other training and sensitization sessions.
- Prioritizing peacebuilding. Drawing on our 2023 guidance, we will work with NAP teams in conflict-affected countries to help make the link between adaptation and peacebuilding to ensure systematic, strategic alignment as countries recover.

 Continuing to emphasize gender and social inclusion. We are working on our fourth synthesis report on gender in NAPs, technical support to partner countries, and ongoing training programs on visual storytelling on adaptation through Envisioning Resilience.

### On the Agenda for 2024

- Expanding our demand-driven technical support to work on themes most relevant to countries and with new countries that have not previously accessed the Network's technical and financial support.
- 2024 will be the Network's busiest year yet on peer learning, featuring global and regional events and a pilot of a new 1:1 modality anchored within a new NAP Global Network peer learning strategy.
- On our knowledge agenda, we will continue to update NAP Trends monthly, synthesize and publish analyses of key themes in NAP processes, and finalize our first-ever online course.





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