



# How to engage with National Adaptation Plans

Guidance for  
National Red Cross and  
Red Crescent Societies

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and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva, 2013**

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**How to engage with National Adaptation Plans  
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# How to engage with National Adaptation Plans

## Guidance for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest volunteer-based humanitarian network, reaching 150 million people each year through our 187 member National Societies. Together, we act before, during and after disasters and health emergencies to meet the needs and improve the lives of vulnerable people. We do so with impartiality as to nationality, race, gender, religious beliefs, class and political opinions.

Guided by *Strategy 2020* – our collective plan of action to tackle the major humanitarian and

development challenges of this decade – we are committed to 'saving lives and changing minds'.

Our strength lies in our volunteer network, our community-based expertise and our independence and neutrality. We work to improve humanitarian standards, as partners in development and in response to disasters. We persuade decision-makers to act at all times in the interests of vulnerable people. The result: we enable healthy and safe communities, reduce vulnerabilities, strengthen resilience and foster a culture of peace around the world.



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# Glossary

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**Climate.** The climate of an area is its local weather conditions — such as temperature, precipitation (rainfall, snow, etc.), humidity, sunshine, cloudiness, wind, and air pressure. It is the weather averaged over a long period of time, taking account of the *average conditions* as well as the *variability of these conditions*. Some people say climate is what you expect, and weather is what you get. (IPCC 2007)

**Climate change.** A significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). Climate change can result from both natural changes (such as changes in the sun’s intensity or oceanic circulation) and human activities. Today we tend to use the term for changes in the climate that are induced by human activities that alter the gaseous composition of the atmosphere due to the release of greenhouse gases, in particular CO<sub>2</sub> (such as fossil fuel burning or deforestation). (IPCC 2001)

**Climate change adaptation.** “Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities.” The definition recognizes that humans can adjust to past (“actual”) climate change and its impacts, or prepare for projected future (“expected”) climate change and its impacts. Adaptation can include changes in behaviour, technology, institutions, policies, and other aspects of human systems. (IPCC 2007)

**Climate change mitigation.** Actions that reduce the sources of greenhouse gases, or enhance carbon sinks. Examples include using fossil fuels more efficiently for industrial processes or electricity generation, switching from oil to natural gas as a heating fuel, improving the insulation of buildings, and expanding forests and other sinks to remove greater amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. (UNFCCC)

**Climate projections.** Statement about the likelihood that under certain conditions the climate will develop in particular way several decades to centuries in the future. In contrast to predictions, projections allow to vary influential factors – such as the global amount of greenhouse gas emissions – in order to understand how the future climate might develop under different conditions. In other words, projections can be understood as conditional expectations (if this happens, then that is what is expected).

**COP.** The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) is the annual meeting of all states that are members (parties) to the UNFCCC. The parties discuss progress on the many decisions taken since 1995 at these annual meetings and negotiate future decisions to reduce the risks of climate change.

**Global warming.** The progressive rise of the earth's surface temperature caused by the increasing amounts of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Global warming may be responsible for changes in global climate patterns. (IPCC 2007)

**Greenhouse gas (GHG).** Naturally occurring and human-made gases that trap infrared radiation as it is reflected from the earth's surface, trapping heat and keeping the earth warm. The six main GHGs emissions which are human-caused are carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>).

**LDC Expert Group (LEG).** As part of the global climate change negotiations countries have decided to establish an expert group from least developed countries that guides the preparation and implementation of NAPs and NAPAs.

**NAP.** Under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF), a process was established to enable least developed country (LDCs) parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs). This process will build upon their experience in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), as a means of identifying medium- and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. Other developing country parties are also invited to employ the modalities formulated to support the NAPs in the elaboration of their planning efforts.

**NAPA.** National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) provide a process for LDCs to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change – those for which further delay would increase vulnerability and/or costs at a later stage.

**National focal point.** Every country has identified a focal person or ministry that is in charge of issues related to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Typically the focal point is in the Ministry of Environment.

**United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).** A global treaty that aims at preventing dangerous levels of climate change. Countries party to the treaty meet annually in the global climate change conference to negotiate modalities of limiting GHG and coping with the impact of unavoidable changes in the climate.

**Weather.** Set of meteorological conditions – wind, rain, snow, sunshine, temperature, etc. – at a particular time and place. (AMS 2008)

**Vulnerability.** The conditions determined by physical, social, economic, environmental and political factors or processes, which increase risk and susceptibility of people to the impact of hazards. The question that must always be asked is. “Vulnerable to what specific hazard or what specific shock?” For example, people living in coastal zones are vulnerable to seasonal storms, flooding and rising sea level. (IFRC 2008)

# Why a guide on National Adaptation Plans for the Red Cross Red Crescent?

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Through their work with local communities, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies today are increasingly confronted with rising weather variability and an ever increasing number of both small-scale and extreme weather events. While National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have been at the forefront in supporting local communities to reduce their vulnerability to risk and build their resilience, exposure to increased risk and vulnerability is stretching existing resources. As this trend is set to continue it will be difficult, if not impossible, to face the additional impacts brought about by climate change.

Planning, at national, regional and local levels needs to take into account the additional risks brought about by climate change, but also to include measures that will support local communities in reducing their vulnerability (often resulting from unsustainable development patterns) and building their resilience to current and future risks. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are well placed to inform policy-makers at all levels about the needs of communities and the types of interventions best suited to strengthen their resilience.

This guide aims to support National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' engagement on national level policy discussions regarding climate change adaptation, particularly through the development of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) by their respective governments. While it will be increasingly important for National Societies to engage in the NAP process, this is a new area for the Red Cross Red Crescent. It will require the initiation of dialogue with non-traditional government partners.

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Red Cross Red Crescent involvement in the NAPs is necessary to ensure that communities most at risk are appropriately and adequately represented in policies. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies are also well-positioned in supporting their respective governments to channel resources at the local level – to those most in need – due to their extensive network of staff and volunteers. Furthermore, it will be necessary for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to better position themselves with regard to issues related to climate change and disaster risk reduction and to strengthen their engagement with existing and non-traditional partners that are active in the climate change arena.

NAPs will play a major role in determining the future path that climate change adaptation will take in a given country and will closely be linked to available funding sources. Therefore, it is important to start an early dialogue with governmental officials to understand where the government stands in the process of developing a NAP, who the key stakeholders are and in which form the National Society can contribute to the development and implementation of the NAP.

The rest of this document is organized as follows:

- Chapter 1 provides relevant background information on the NAPs and an overview of their relevance to the work of the Red Cross Red Crescent.
- Chapter 2 provides step-by-step guidance on how to engage in the NAP process, including collecting relevant information, evaluating information, the NAP process and engagement of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in it.



A woman in a black top and patterned skirt is filling a white bucket from a well dug into the ground. The well is surrounded by a large rock. In the background, there is a body of water, a rocky bank, and a hillside with sparse vegetation under a cloudy sky. A green circular graphic with a dotted border is overlaid on the top right of the image.

National  
Adaptation Plans  
and the Red Cross  
Red Crescent

The impacts of climate change are already being felt across the globe and are resulting in increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (IPCC 2012). Global average temperature has risen by about 0.74 degrees Celsius in the past 100 years (IPCC 2007), and will rise to at least 1.4 degrees Celsius by the end of this century, even if emissions were stopped today, due to the long lasting effect of already emitted GHGs. Given that emissions of GHGs will continue to rise if no radical measures are taken in the near future, the world is on a trajectory of 3–4 degrees Celsius rise in average temperatures (World Bank 2012). This is despite international agreement that a rise of more than 2 degrees Celsius should be avoided, as this may create impacts that humanity and ecosystems no longer can cope with. The number of climate-related disasters has risen from an annual average of 200 in the early 1990s to more than 350 annually since 2000 (CREC 2012). At the same time, socio-economic factors in combination with impacts of past disasters are increasingly affecting the vulnerability to cope with and adapt to extreme and non-extreme weather events (IPCC 2012).

**It is estimated that developing countries will bear the majority of the costs of damages related to climate change** as a result of increased droughts, floods and strong storms coupled with a rise in sea levels. In addition to an increase in the number of climate-related disasters, higher temperatures and increased vulnerability, together with population growth, will result in increased incidence of food shortages and vector-borne diseases (IPCC 2012). From a humanitarian standpoint, this will stretch existing resources substantially, particularly considering the increased number of small-scale events that are increasingly undermining people's capacities to cope with and recover from disasters. The most vulnerable people will be the ones hardest hit by these changes in climate.

**Additional funding is needed today to strengthen the resilience of communities before disasters occur.** However, most funding sources currently available focus on disaster response, while sufficient investments are not being allocated to disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and resilience building (UNISDR 2011). Furthermore, as humanitarian aid interventions and development programmes are designed differently not only in terms of their timeframes, but also with regard to their goals and institutions, these differences have resulted in separate aid architectures, different jargons, procedures and organizational commitments that do not reflect the reality faced in high disaster risk areas (Voice-Concord position paper 2012).

## 1.1 What are NAPs?

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The concept of NAPs was introduced through the Cancun Adaptation Framework (paragraphs 11-35) that was adopted during the 16<sup>th</sup> UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) held in Cancun in 2010. The Cancun Adaptation Framework was a document agreed on internationally with the objective to “enhance action on adaptation, including through international cooperation and coherent consideration of matters relating to adaptation under the Convention.”<sup>1</sup> Amongst the decisions that were adopted under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, included support to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in formulating and implementing NAPs. In addition, other developing countries were invited to conduct their long-term adaptation plans under the same modalities.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> (UNFCCC at [http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun\\_adaptation\\_framework/items/5852.php](http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/items/5852.php))

<sup>2</sup> For more information, see the UNFCCC site on NAPs: [http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun\\_adaptation\\_framework/items/5852.php](http://unfccc.int/adaptation/cancun_adaptation_framework/items/5852.php)

## What are NAPs?

NAPs support national governments in planning and prioritizing adaptation activities in the medium- and long-term. They focus on identifying key sectors in strengthening resilience and should be mainstreamed with national strategies on development and risk reduction.

The NAPs should be seen as medium- to long-term lists of priorities for climate change adaptation activities developed by the national government and closely aligned with its development objectives. By supporting the identification of key priorities, the NAPs are intended to kick-start the planning for adaptation in developing countries and give an overall framework for the implementation strategy.

Most funding for climate change adaptation and mitigation, from both multilateral and bilateral donors, will increasingly be channelled through national governments and conditional to activities

### Box 1. The Cancun Adaptation Framework on NAP – Original quote

“The Conference of the Parties (...) decides to hereby establish a process to enable least developed countries Parties to formulate and implement national adaptation plans, building upon their experience in preparing and implementing national adaptation programmes of action, as a means of identifying medium and long-term adaptation needs and developing and implementing strategies and programmes to address those needs. (...)”

Invites other developing country Parties to employ the modalities formulated to support the above mentioned national adaptation plans in the elaboration of their planning effort referred to in paragraph 14 (a) above. (...)”

identified as priorities in the NAP. Therefore, the priorities identified in the NAP will determine where and what types of adaptation activities will take place in a given country and how adaptation finances will flow.

## 1.2 What will NAPs look like?

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Based on UNFCCC decisions NAPs should:

- Provide an initial analysis of the country, the expected impacts of climate change and a prioritization of medium- and long-term adaptation needs.
- Be guided by “the best available science, and, as appropriate traditional and indigenous knowledge” (UNFCCC 2012a).
- Built on experience from preparation and implementation of National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA). These documents were developed by LDCs as short-term response to immediate and urgent adaptation needs.

In all likelihood, the structure of the NAPs will be quite similar to that of the NAPA<sup>1</sup> and will:

- contain a list of key priorities usually identified in terms of sectors such as agriculture, infrastructures, coastal zone protection or management of water resources
- tend to focus on ‘hardware’ solutions (such as infrastructure) with less attention given to approaches related to capacity building of communities, education and disaster risk reduction.

Implications for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies:

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Annex 1 for an example of a table of contents in an existing NAPA.

- For countries where a NAPA has been produced, the National Society's knowledge of it will put it in a better position to understand the NAP process.
- National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' input into the process is key, in particular given that through their work with communities they are able to witness on-going changes and to identify key issues for different sectors, such as health, water and sanitation, food security and strengthening of livelihoods. The analysis of the NAP will be more or less detailed depending on available country-specific information.
- National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' engagement with their respective governments is vital in ensuring that attention is not limited to 'hardware' solutions, but that an integrated approach to support adaptation to climate change is adopted, thus taking into account different measures needed to build capacity for resilience at the local level, 'software solutions'.

## 1.3 Engagement of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

As mentioned, active involvement with national governments on the development of the NAP will ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable people are at the centre of national adaptation priorities and that humanitarian issues are addressed sufficiently by the government at all levels, from national to local.

There is a significant risk that NAPs develop 'stand-alone' climate change adaptation projects, while climate related risks will have a potential impact on all climate sensitive sectors at all levels

### Box 2. Differences between NAPs and NAPAs

NAPAs provide a process for LDCs to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change – those for which further delay would increase vulnerability and/or costs at a later stage. Currently, 47 countries have submitted their NAPAs to the UNFCCC and have initiated their implementation (refer to Annex IV).

The main difference between NAPs and NAPAs are:

- NAPAs were designed as an immediate response to urgent adaptation requirements, whereas NAPs will address long-term priorities for adaptation.
- Countries where a NAPA has already been developed will build on their experiences when developing their NAP.
- NAPs will not simply duplicate the NAPAs priority list, but by having a longer-term, developmental outlook they will identify new priorities and respective prioritization.
- While NAPAs were only conducted by LDCs, all developing countries are now invited to develop a NAP.
- Long-term planning under the NAPs cannot be understood as a stand-alone activity: it has to be consistent and coherent with national development planning.

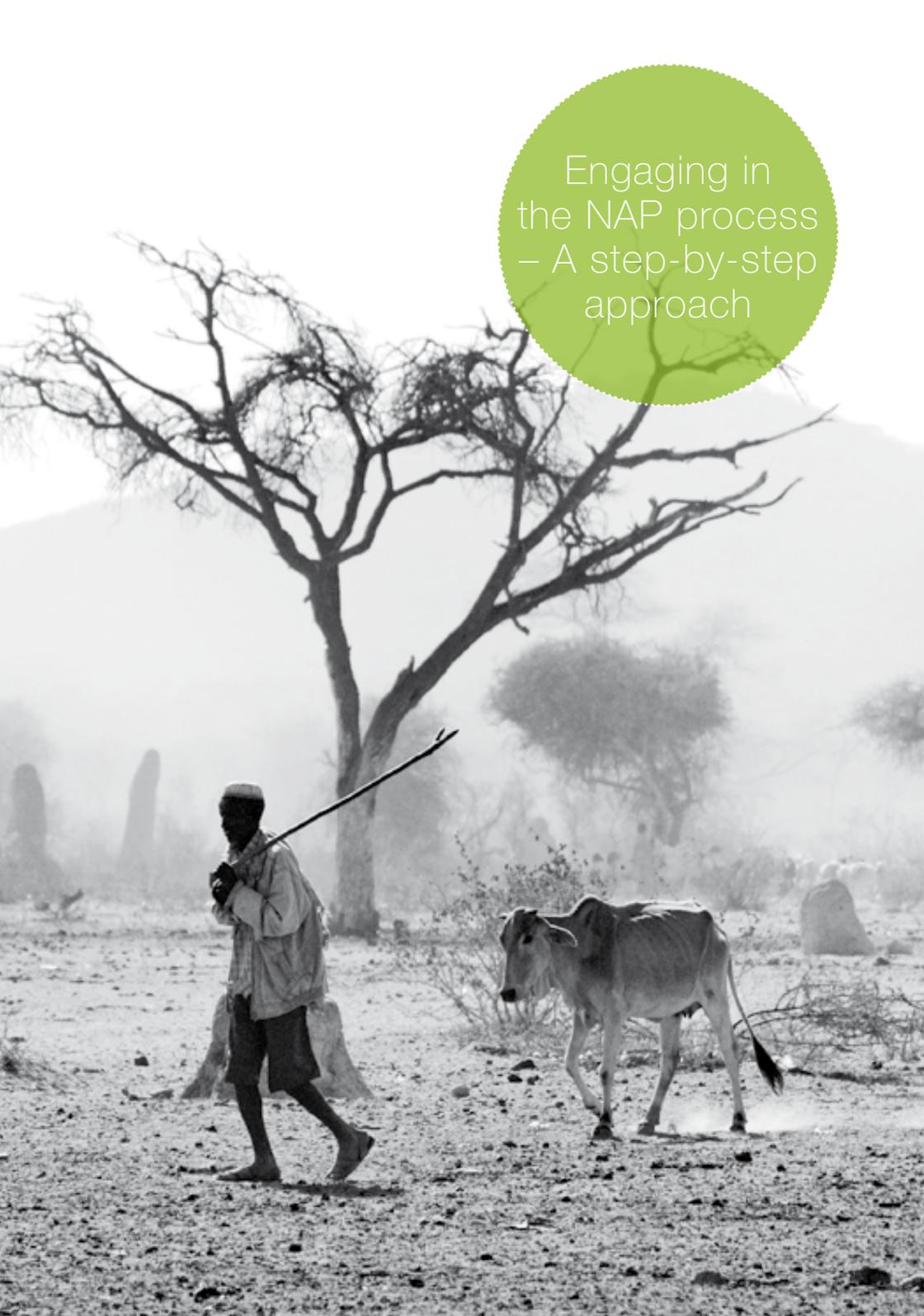
### Box 3. The IFRC and the UNFCCC process

The IFRC has been following the COP process since COP 6, and it has been actively engaged in the negotiations since 2007 to highlight the humanitarian impacts of climate change. As a result risk management is well acknowledged as a key adaptation strategy in the Cancun Adaptation Framework. The IFRC and other humanitarian organizations also advocated for the most vulnerable people to be at the heart of the NAPs. Although this found no formal support from governments in the UN text, vulnerable groups are mentioned as one of the target groups for adaptation. Critically, it is still possible at the national level to advocate that the most vulnerable be at the centre of the NAPs.

(local to national). By being at the table during the development of the NAP, the Red Cross Red Crescent can:

- advocate for mainstreaming climate risk assessments and adaptation measures in all relevant sectors; support greater coherence and mutual enforcement of national disaster risk reduction strategies and plans of action with the NAP
- be better positioned to mobilize resources for adaptation if their activities will be aligned with the priorities identified by the NAP
- highlight the work that Red Cross Red Crescent does on climate change and risk reduction and their experiences in building resilience at the local level.

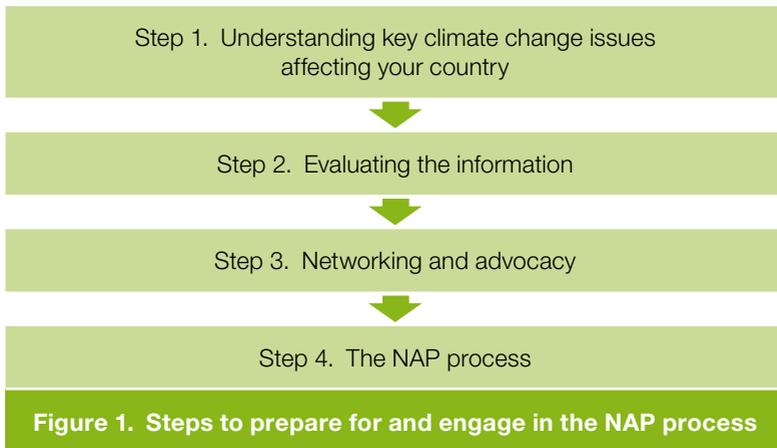
At international level, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) can provide a consolidated report to the UNFCCC sharing information on activities carried out at national, regional and global levels.



Engaging in  
the NAP process  
– A step-by-step  
approach

This chapter contains a step-by-step guidance on how to engage in the NAP process. Generally, four key steps can be identified that support Red Cross Red Crescent engagement in the NAP process. While these are also useful for engagement in other national level climate change planning processes, this guidance refers specifically to the NAP process. The steps need to be seen as an overall guidance and should be tailored to meet specific National Society experiences and capacity, while also taking into account country contexts.

An overview of the steps is provided by Figure 1. For each of the steps there are different activities that should be carried out, more detailed explanations are provided in subsequent sections.



## Step 1. Understand key climate change issues affecting your country

To begin with it is important to better understand the key issues related to climate change in your country and the activities of other agencies and the government in relation to these specific issues.

### Step 1. Understanding key climate change issues affecting your country

- ↳ Understanding climate change in general
- ↳ Understanding climate change in your country
- ↳ Understanding climate change adaptation policies in your country
- ↳ Knowing relevant public documents on adaptation policies in your country
- ↳ Getting in touch with your focal point



Step 2. Evaluating the information



Step 3. Networking and advocacy



Step 4. The NAP process

## 1. Understanding climate change

Some National Societies have already integrated climate change activities in their programming, while for others this topic will be completely new. Either way to initiate a dialogue with a national government, it is necessary to have a basic understanding of climate change, key terminology and what climate change impacts are expected in the future in your country.

The *Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Guide* is a useful document for those not familiar with the topic of climate change.<sup>1</sup> Particularly, the first chapter 'Climate Change: the basics' will provide a solid understanding of the key issues related to climate change. This chapter summarizes the scientific background of climate change and how it affects Red Cross Red Crescent activities.

In addition, FedNet contains a section dedicated to climate change adaptation and mitigation available at:

*Resources and Services* → *Community Preparedness and Risk Reduction* → *Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation*. (Click [here](#) for direct link)

This section includes a site with the most relevant IFRC documents on climate change. More specific information can be found by searching the FedNet disaster risk reduction database. The database contains a specific section on climate change and it has a search function for documents (i.e., search by language, country, keywords, etc.). Additional information can be obtained through IFRC's disaster management focal points or disaster management coordinators in the zone offices.<sup>2</sup> The designated focal points will

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<sup>1</sup> The *Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Guide* is available on FedNet (or click [here](#) for direct link).

<sup>2</sup> If limited internet access makes it problematic to download certain documents, please contact the IFRC to request that these documents to be shared in another format.

have experience in climate change related programming and will be able to share information on what other National Societies have been doing and where to find information. The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre's website<sup>1</sup> also offers relevant resources.

## **2. Understanding climate change in your country<sup>2</sup>**

It will also be important to have a general idea about what changes in the climate are likely to occur in your country aside from a general understanding of climate change. Local universities and research centres<sup>3</sup> should be able to provide information on expected changes in climate and likely impacts. It might be a good idea to highlight the Red Cross Red Crescent's specific areas of work to facilitate researchers/scientists' understanding of the type of information required (and perhaps to allow them to package it in ways that are useful for decision-making within a humanitarian context). In addition, it is always good to check whether any assessment has been carried out by the different UN agencies in-country (UNDP, UNEP, etc.).

The national meteorological service is also a good source of information.<sup>4</sup> Though meteorological services are specialized on weather forecasts – i.e., the short-term conditions of wind, rain, snow and temperature – many of them also provide information on the national climate or even on future climate projections. The World Meteorological Organization's website contains a list of all member national meteorological services. The list is not

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<sup>1</sup> [www.climatecentre.org](http://www.climatecentre.org)

<sup>2</sup> Under the 'Preparedness for Climate Change Programme' some National Societies have already conducted a full report of national climate risk and their implications for humanitarian issues in their countries. These reports can be used as primary sources of information or may need to be updated, since new climate relevant information may have become available.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to Annex III for a list of relevant universities and research centres.

<sup>4</sup> The Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre has prepared a guidance on questions that could be asked to meteorological services: [www.climatecentre.org/site/news/340/climate-related-stakeholders-and-questions-to-ask-them](http://www.climatecentre.org/site/news/340/climate-related-stakeholders-and-questions-to-ask-them)

exhaustive; therefore, if information for a specific country does not appear on the list, it does not mean that there is none. To access the list: [www.wmo.int](http://www.wmo.int) → 'Members' → 'National Services'(Click [here](#) for the direct link).

Once on the website, country specific information related to climate can be found under keywords such as 'climate' or 'climatology.' In order to obtain more specific information, contact the national meteorological service directly, this will also provide a good opportunity to access information on existing expertise in a given country.

If, after consulting with the national meteorological service/local research centres, it is still unclear what current and future climate trends will affect your country, another option is to contact the IRI-IFRC helpdesk at Columbia University at [ifrc@iri.columbia.edu](mailto:ifrc@iri.columbia.edu). The desk will be able to give you information on climate-related questions, including questions on their map-room which shows climate forecasts on a global map. Response is guaranteed within 24 hours.

### 3. Understanding climate change adaptation policies in your country

After gaining a better understanding of the expected impacts of climate change, the next step is to understand how the government is planning to address climate change impacts. The first information needed is to understand where the government stands with regard to the development of its NAP. Each country has its own focal point responsible for the development of the NAP. Usually this person is located in the National Ministry of Environment, Energy or Natural Resources. To find the country focal points on the UNFCCC website: [www.unfccc.org](http://www.unfccc.org) → 'Parties & Observers' → 'National Focal Points.' (Click [here](#) for the direct link)

#### 4. Identifying relevant public documents on adaptation policies in your country

Once the NAP focal point has been identified it will be useful to look at the website of the respective ministry to check if there is any information on the national adaptation strategy.

If your country is one of the LDCs that have developed a NAPA <sup>1</sup> in the past, this should be available on the website of the relevant ministry or alternatively on the UNFCCC's website: [www.unfccc.org](http://www.unfccc.org) → 'Adaptation' → 'National Adaptation Plans of Action' → 'Submitted NAPAs' (Click [here](#) for the direct link)

Looking at the NAPA will help to understand what a potential NAP will look like and what priorities were identified regarding short-term climate change adaptation needs. It is important to remember that **short-term priorities will not necessarily be the same as long-term priorities that are the focus of the NAP.**

In addition, most countries have submitted National Communications to the UNFCCC. These reports summarize all relevant information on a country's efforts to address climate change. It might be worthwhile to also look at what the government is doing with regard to climate change mitigation – i.e., the reduction of GHG emissions. There may be synergies between adaptation and mitigation in certain sectors and potential responses to climate vulnerabilities can go along with emission reductions as co-benefits. In addition, National Communications also feature an assessment of the country's vulnerability to climate change. This assessment will give an insight on where the government sees the largest need for climate change adaptation. The list of public communications can be found at: [www.unfccc.org](http://www.unfccc.org) → 'National Reports' → 'National Communications (Non-Annex I)' (Click [here](#) for the direct link)

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Annex IV for full list of countries that have developed a NAPA.

## 5. Getting in touch with the NAP focal point

The next step is to get in touch with the NAP focal point. This is an opportunity to ask questions on subjects that are still not well understood and to demonstrate that your National Society is already knowledgeable about the topic and interested in being engaged in the process.

Depending on the national context, the person contacting the focal point will either be a technical person or a senior management person. In this case, he/she should be given a sound briefing on the likely climate change impacts, the political process related to the NAP and the implications of both for Red Cross Red Crescent activities. It will help to prepare in advance clear arguments on why the National Society is interested in being part of the development of the NAP and how it will add value to the process. In many countries, Red Cross Red Crescent activities are still seen as limited to response/relief and emergency health. Very little is known about the work being carried out in resilience building, livelihoods and risk reduction. It will be important therefore to highlight these aspects to the government and illustrate how through these activities the Red Cross Red Crescent can support communities in adapting to climate change. Particularly relevant is to highlight the Red Cross Red Crescent's comparative advantage in the implementation of community-based climate change adaptation activities due to its extended volunteer base and long-term presence at the local level.

Depending on the context, it might be best to send an official letter before directly talking to the focal point on the phone or in person. It is also advisable to build on contacts that already exist between the different ministries to find entry points in the NAP process.

It is equally important to identify other active stakeholders in the NAP process and to assess their areas of expertise. Some of them

may be more experienced and willing to share their knowledge of this process. There may also be possibilities for partnerships, and using the NAP process to develop cooperation in policy and programme development (Refer to section 3.3 for more details on partnerships).

### **Step 1 – Checklist**

#### **Information needed for engagement with the NAP process:**

- Do you know what the key issues are related to climate change in your country? Are you familiar with the key terminology related to climate change?
- Do you know what climate change impacts are expected in your country?
- Do you know where your government stands in the NAP process?
- Do you know the climate change priorities and strategies of your national government?
- Do you know what other organizations are doing to address climate change?
- Who is the national climate change focal point and in which government ministry is he/she located?
- Who are the other key stakeholders working on climate change issues in your country?

#### **Where to find this information:**

- Have you consulted existing documents from the IFRC, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre, other regional IFRC research centres?
- Did you contact resource/research centres and universities based in your country to obtain more information?
- Did you contact the National Meteorological Office and asked for further information?
- Were you able to access government documents on climate change?

- Is your country one of the LDCs that has developed a NAPA? If yes, did you review it?
- Did you try to get in touch with your national focal point? Do you know people working in the ministries that could help you contact him/her?

## Step 2. Evaluating the information

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After having collected and analysed information on expected impacts of climate change on your country, the next step will be to evaluate how your government is planning to address them. A key factor is using evidence derived from Red Cross Red Crescent activities with communities to better understand the scope of changes that are already taking place, specifically the impacts most felt by communities and key actions needed to address

Step 1. Understanding key climate change issues affecting your country



### Step 2. Evaluating the information

- ↳ Building on Red Cross Red Crescent daily work
- ↳ Using well-known tools such as the VCA
- ↳ Getting everyone involved
- ↳ Sectoral entry points



Step 3. Networking and advocacy



Step 4. The NAP process

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people's vulnerability and build greater resilience. Information gathered from processes such as the vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA) are extremely valuable not only to inform Red Cross Red Crescent planning, but also to contribute to and inform national level planning, since it provides a snapshot of the situation at the local level, what communities are already doing to address it and what activities are needed to strengthen community-based initiatives and capacities.

### 1. Building on Red Cross Red Crescent daily work

In order to start a dialogue with your national government on how the NAP is going to address new risks and vulnerabilities caused by a changing climate, it is important to have a clear understanding of what these are.

This might sound more complicated than it is. To have a better understanding of new risks, it is important to liaise with a national climate knowledge centre, such as the meteorological office. The Red Cross Red Crescent has expertise on the implications that new risks will have on existing vulnerabilities for local communities. Vulnerability to climate change depends not only on the characteristics of the external environment, but also on characteristics of the communities. **Therefore, analysing climate change related vulnerabilities is closely linked to the daily activities undertaken by National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies with local communities.** Who else would know the communities better? You do not need to be a climate change expert to understand issues related to vulnerability and risk. Your experience in dealing with community vulnerabilities at the local level is needed to both evaluate and complement the NAP process from a humanitarian perspective. For example, if you have already gained experience in disaster risk reduction, climate change will not completely shift programming, but it will simply require you to base your expectations about risk not only on past risks, but also on future climate projections. In addition, the Cancun

Adaptation Framework has identified disaster risk reduction as a key component of climate change adaptation. Therefore, National Red Cross Red Crescent Societies are already familiar with many aspects of climate change adaptation.

## 2. Using well-known tools such as the VCA

An important tool that can support both the analysis and collection of information to feed into the NAP process is the VCA. Climate change can in many cases be understood as intensifying existing vulnerabilities rather than a completely separate issue. Therefore, information gathered through the VCAs together with the knowledge of expected climate change impacts will make it possible to better assess which interventions are needed to help local communities adapt to a changing climate. Past participatory vulnerability assessments, participatory rural appraisals or hazard and vulnerability assessments could be used as a starting point to think about existing vulnerabilities and where climate change might intensify the risks.

In order to support National Societies in assessing risks, the IFRC has recently updated the VCA handbook. This new document 'Using VCA in the context of Climate Change and Urban Risk' (IFRC 2013) contains a chapter which provides an overview on how to analyse issues related to climate change when carrying out a VCA. The document also contains a detailed explanation on how climate change affects the work areas of the IFRC, means of integrating climate change into VCA methodology<sup>1</sup> and identifying key entry points.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> As part of their Preparedness for Climate Change Programme, some National Societies have already conducted a plan of action for their work on climate change. If your National Society has such a plan, you can use it in addition to see where the priorities for Red Cross Red Crescent activities have been set.

<sup>2</sup> The chapter is available on FedNet as part of the VCA section and also on the section on climate change.

When reviewing the information gathered through VCA, it is important to remember that the VCA is a tool that not only allows for the collection of information but it is also a means of ensuring that the community and National Society work together to address the community's needs and priorities. It will therefore be important to also understand how community action plans have been integrated into the community/local level development plans. If they have not been integrated, the reasons for this should be assessed. It is critical to understand the reasons so to ensure that in your recommendations for the NAP this issue is addressed. Equally pertinent is summarizing and highlighting how you National Society, following the VCA and the development of community action plans, has taken measures to support communities in reducing their vulnerabilities and strengthening their resilience.

The information collected will make it possible to start drafting key messages/information that can be shared with your government during the development of the NAP or if your government has already drafted an initial NAP, to use to evaluate it and identify:

- i) Where the gaps are?
- ii) Which key priority/priorities find no mention in the governmental plan?
- iii) Where you would recommend other ways of addressing risks?

### 3. Getting everyone involved

When providing inputs to the NAP process it is important to do so in an integrated manner, ensuring that all climate change impacts are addressed or considered. When considering climate change risks, it is important to keep in mind that:

- ✎ Climate change will not only increase the frequency or intensity of natural disasters, but it will also change long-term trends of climate in regions.
- ✎ These changes can have direct and indirect impacts on local livelihoods, food security, health and livestock and many other sectors.

Therefore, the best way to evaluate a NAP or other adaptation policies and to prepare inputs is to involve staff from different programme areas to ensure that all aspects are taken into account.

A summary of the information gathered on expected climate risks in your country and the way the government is going to address them should be shared amongst all relevant staff so that they are able to evaluate them from their area of expertise.

#### 4. Sectoral entry points

Experience gained from the NAPAs can give insight on which sectors governments might focus in the NAPs. Below some entry points in sectors that are usually part of the NAPAs are highlighted.<sup>1</sup>

##### ***Food security***

Many NAPAs prioritize activities related to food security. Not all of these activities are related to agricultural production, others relate to fishery or livestock. Predominantly these activities concentrate on diversification of production or intensification of production. While these activities can contribute to support adaptation, from a Red Cross Red Crescent perspective the following are critical:

- i) Are the activities actually targeted at the most vulnerable communities?
- ii) Do small-scale farmers and landless rural poor also benefit from the programmes?
- iii) Are there any activities that focus on urban food security?
- iv) In addition to diversification and intensification of production are alternative income generating activities included?
- v) How are they designed and how could they be improved to strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable?

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<sup>1</sup> The information on NAPA priority sectors is taken from the UNFCCC NAPA Priority Database (Click [here](#) for the direct link).

### **Health**

Rising temperatures, increased flood risk and other changes in weather patterns will also change risks related to communicable or water borne-diseases. In addition, very young children and the elderly will be greatly impacted by temperature extremes (i.e., heat waves). Therefore, most NAPAs contain one or more activities to improve health conditions in the country. Often activities are very vaguely described and focus on the public provision of health services. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, however, can support governments in reaching local communities. When assessing whether government plans are adequate, check:

- i) If there are entry points for collaboration?
- ii) Where can the Red Cross Red Crescent countrywide network be used for implementing the government's health plans?

In addition, effective approaches to improving health conditions address not only supply, but also demand for health services. Research has proven that improved knowledge about health can be very effective in leading to behavioural change (Ensor and Cooper 2004). Therefore, capacity building, social mobilization and public education should be integral parts of every public health programme. Your National Society may already have experience in these 'software' approaches to public health. It may be good to identify:

- i) What constitutes high risk diseases?
- ii) How could improved supply of health services be combined with a public awareness campaign?
- iii) Potential activities that could be implemented by your National Society?

### **Water and sanitation**

Water and sanitation programmes often play a major role in the adaptation plans of governments. Approximately one billion people lack access to safe water (2003). Rising average temperatures due to climate change combined with socio-economic factors such as population growth will put existing water resources under increasing pressure. Generally, governments tend to address this issue primarily through ‘hardware’ approaches. This means investment in better technologies to provide water. The Red Cross Red Crescent, however, recognizes the need for an integrative approach that combines ‘hardware’ – such as appropriate technology – with ‘software’ – such as education campaigns and gender-sensitive approaches.

An important aspect will therefore be to evaluate how far the ‘software’ aspects of water and sanitation have been considered in the government’s adaptation planning. Some key aspects to verify include:

- i) Is the programme targeting the most vulnerable?
- ii) Is the programme designed to provide water to private households or agricultural production?
- iii) What implications does this have for the most vulnerable?
- iv) In what way can the Red Cross Red Crescent support these activities?
- v) What are your National Society’s experiences in water and sanitation programmes?
- vi) What are your National Society’s areas of expertise/added value?
- vii) How can the Red Cross Red Crescent’s volunteer network be used to support the integration of climate change issues into water and sanitation activities?

***Disaster risk management, including early warning systems, contingency planning and disaster risk reduction***

Disaster risk management and risk reduction should be key features of the NAP. It constitutes National Societies' areas of expertise, in particular linking with community-based disaster preparedness, early warning systems and disaster risk reduction programmes and has been clearly stated as key priority of NAPs in the Cancun Adaptation Framework (UNFCCC COP 15, 2010).

Given the cross-cutting nature of disaster risk reduction it should not be viewed as a stand-alone activity, but needs to be considered within all sectors in regard to national development planning. In the context of the NAP process, the Red Cross Red Crescent can support national policies in strengthening the integration of climate change aspects into risk reduction and disaster preparedness, and – if extreme events do occur – disaster response. Particularly at the community level this should be a key activity in every NAP due to its potential to prevent disasters and protect the most vulnerable. In most NAPAs, however, this is either not mentioned or it is mentioned indirectly. Therefore, it becomes critical to build on disaster risk reduction activities that have been carried out your National Society and to identify:

- i) Which activities should be maintained or scaled up?
- ii) What other activities might be necessary to reduce risk from changes in the climate?

**Box 5. Community Early Warning Systems (CEWS)**

Often public alert systems are not sufficient to reach out in time to remote communities. Community-based or driven early warning systems are the systematic approach of communities to collect, compile and disseminate information on impending hazards. The IFRC has developed **guiding principles** to support disaster risk managers in setting up CEWS. The **draft Community Early Warning Systems training toolkit** is available for operational support. For more information, refer to CEWS FedNet site.

The answers to these questions are key entry points in your dialogue with the government in advocating for stronger disaster risk reduction programming in the NAP.

### **Capacity building, public awareness and education**

While several countries have included capacity building programmes in their NAPA, currently the funding for these activities is very low (UNEP 2012). This suggests that either countries did not prioritize these activities in their implementation plans as the most pressing activities, or that donors are not receptive to proposals that have been developed. Either way there is a need to push for stronger capacity building programming under the NAPs. This can include public awareness and public education programmes or capacity building for development and management of CEWS. If the NAP includes capacity building actions, it is important to check if these are targeted at vulnerable communities that often have less access to education. A useful document to identify ways in which the Red Cross Red Crescent can support climate change capacity building at the local level is the guide on ‘Public education and public awareness (PAPE)’ and the ‘Community early warning systems training toolkit and guiding principles (CEWS).’ Both documents are available on FedNet (Click [here](#) for PAPE and [here](#) for CEWS).

#### **Box 4. Public Awareness and Public Education**

National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have a long history in reducing disaster risks and vulnerabilities through public awareness and education campaigns. The IFRC **Public Awareness and public education guide** was designed to help National Societies in scaling up their work in disaster risk reduction campaigning, partnerships and education. In addition, the newly launched **Public awareness and public education key messages** contains clearly formulated communications that can help promote consistent action and are based on a vast survey on the current messaging from National Societies. For more information, refer to the FedNet site on PAPE.

## **Step 2. Evaluating the information – Checklist**

### **To be considered in the evaluation process:**

- Have you assessed information derived from VCAs, participatory vulnerability assessments or hazard and vulnerability assessments? Do you have enough information to understand changing risks/vulnerabilities? Do you need to carry out further assessments?
- Did you share and discuss information from participatory appraisals with your National Society colleagues working on different programme areas (i.e., water and sanitation, health, food security, etc.)? Do information gaps exist that need to be addressed by carrying out further community-based participatory assessments?
- Did you discuss the NAP process/document with Red Cross Red Crescent colleagues?
- Did you provide them with a brief summary of the impacts that climate change will have on risk and vulnerability and how the government is or is not planning to address them in the NAP?

### **Evaluating the NAP and preparing feedback:**

- In what way will existing risks/vulnerabilities be impacted by climate change?
- What new risks and vulnerabilities will be caused by climate change?
- If a NAP is already under development, does it target the most vulnerable communities?
- Are there Red Cross Red Crescent priorities that are not mentioned in the NAP? Are there gaps that need to be addressed to promote community-based risk reduction interventions?
- If the NAP has not been developed yet, have you prepared a list of Red Cross Red Crescent key priorities for intervention to share with the government?
- In what ways can your National Society support the implementation of the NAP?

**Sectoral checklist:**

Did you assess whether food security activities will:

- benefit small-scale farmers and landless rural poor ?
- consider urban food security?
- include alternative income generating activities?
- contribute to strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable?

Did you assess whether health and water and sanitation activities include:

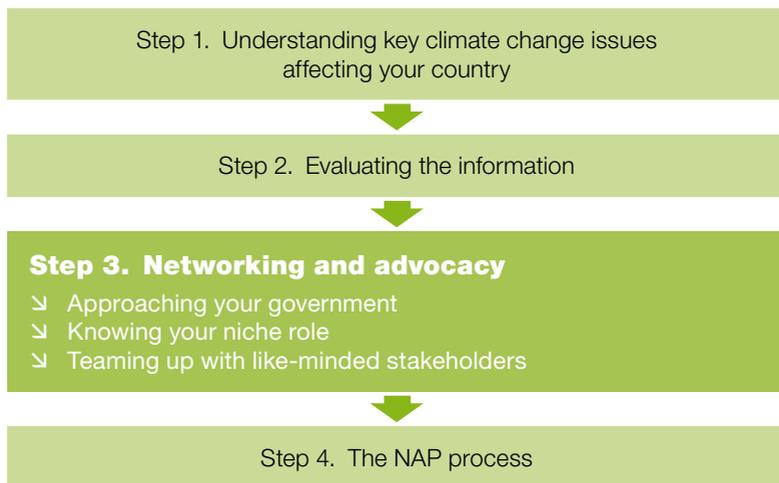
- identification of high risk diseases?
- mapping of potentially most affected areas/population?
- public awareness campaign to support supply of health services?
- provision of water supply to private households or small-holder agricultural production?

Did you assess whether disaster risk reduction:

- is part of the NAP and has been sufficiently integrated in the different areas of intervention? If not, have you drafted clear indications on how to integrate it into the NAP?
- includes community preparedness activities (such as CEWS and local capacity building)?
- is supported by vulnerability assessments at community-level (e.g., VCAs)?

## Step 3. Networking and advocacy

Steps 1 and 2 focused on understanding the government's climate change adaptation priorities and identifying key priorities for adaptation from the Red Cross Red Crescent's perspective. The next step is to initiate a dialogue with the government.



### 1. Approaching the government

You can approach your government in different ways, depending on the context and also on existing relations/dialogue with the government. What might be helpful is the preparation of a document that clearly states what the Red Cross Red Crescent's objectives are and that includes:

- ↳ empirical evidence, such as data from VCAs, to illustrate specific needs for adaptation at the community level

- successful examples from the National Society's activities in-country or by other National Societies with particular reference to some of the activities needed (i.e., PAPE)
- use of statistical data that support your position, such as data on increasing frequency of heavy rainfall and increased risk for flooding in order to advocate for risk reduction activities
- practical solutions on how your National Society can help the government implement community-based adaptation activities.

For more tips about effective advocacy, refer to at the IFRC's 'Disaster risk reduction – a global advocacy guide,' which is available on FedNet. (Click [here](#) for direct link)

## 2. Knowing your comparative advantage

A key element of the NAP process is its emphasis on the importance of involving main stakeholders and civil society in its development.<sup>1</sup> Under the UNFCCC, the Cancun Adaptation Framework recognized, *“the need to engage a broad range of stakeholders at the global, regional, national and local levels.”* In addition, it invites all parties to *“enhance climate change related disaster risk reduction strategies, taking into consideration the Hyogo Framework for Action, where appropriate, early warning systems, risk assessment and management, and sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance, at the local, national, sub-regional and regional levels, as appropriate.”*

This statement implies that the Red Cross Red Crescent's expertise in disaster risk reduction, early warning systems and risk assessment (e.g., VCA) makes it a key actor in climate change adaptation. The above quotation can be used to highlight the importance of these activities and to strengthen the profile of any National Red Cross and Red Crescent Society as a key stakeholder

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<sup>1</sup> From UNFCCC 2011: Decision 5/CP. 17 – National Adaptation Plans: “[Parties further agree that enhanced action on adaptation should be undertaken in accordance with the Convention, should follow a country-driven, gender-sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach (...)]”

in the NAP development process. In summary: **the Red Cross Red Crescent has expertise on working with the most vulnerable, assessing their needs, vulnerabilities and capacities and linking adaptation efforts with existing local capacities.**

It is envisaged that similar to the NAPA process, most countries will establish a multi-stakeholder steering committee. For the NAPA, these steering committees provided strategic oversight and helped to identify priorities for overall policy directions. The committees generally included government officials, stakeholders from NGOs, research and academia (EBCI 2007). Most NGOs that work on climate change are generally focusing on environmental issues. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, therefore, have a comparative advantage in their expertise on community resilience at the local level and should ideally be represented in the steering committee.

### **3. Partnering with like-minded stakeholders**

To strengthen the Red Cross Red Crescent's message it can be helpful to partner with like-minded stakeholders. An important step, therefore, is identifying other organizations working on climate change adaptation, including: local NGOs and UN agencies that support governments in their climate change adaptation efforts.

It will be important to ascertain if these stakeholders have a similar approach to climate change adaptation and whether they have already been involved in the government's planning for climate change adaptation.<sup>1</sup> If some of them are already working with the government, it might be a good idea to approach them first. However, partnering with other organizations is only useful

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<sup>1</sup> If your country has developed a NAPA, find out which stakeholders have been involved in this process. They are likely going to be part of the NAP process. Therefore, find out if there are entry points for collaboration.

when they share similar perspectives. Avoid partnerships where the activities and messages being conveyed do not comply with Red Cross Red Crescent principles.

Another option is to contact other National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies that have already engaged in the NAP process together with their respective governments. To find them you contact the IFRC zone office.<sup>2</sup>

### **Step 3: Networking and advocacy – Checklist**

- Have you shared the Red Cross Red Crescent's priorities in the NAP process with your government? If a NAP has already been developed, have you discussed what activities still need to be included or strengthened with your government?
- Have you shown/shared with your government empirical evidence (e.g., VCAs, case studies of other National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, statistical data) to illustrate specific needs for adaptation and what needs to be done to address them?
- Have you discussed how your National Society can support the government in identifying adaptation needs at the local level and implementing activities to address them? Have you prepared key messages to help promote community-based practical solutions?
- Have you shared successful examples from your National Society's work in-country, with particular reference to some of the activities that should be included in the NAP, with your government?
- Have you highlighted the Red Cross Red Crescent's comparative advantage in building resilience at the community level with key stakeholders?
- Have you identified/contacted other organizations which you could partner with for advocacy purposes?

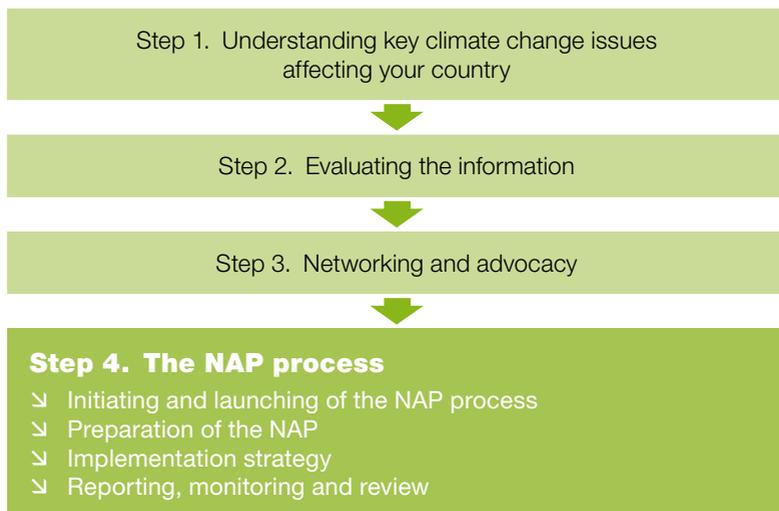
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<sup>2</sup> More information can be found on FedNet including contact details of respective staff: <https://fednet.ifrc.org/en/resources/community-preparedness-and-risk-reduction/climate-change-adaptation-and-mitigation/>

## Step 4. The NAP process

There are several countries that have already engaged in national level planning for climate change adaptation. However, this document focuses only on the UNFCCC NAP process and as of March 2013, while countries might have started this process; there is not as yet an example of a completed NAP. However, there is a set of technical guidelines developed by the LDC Expert Group on how to develop NAPs. It includes recommendations on the main elements and steps regarding the NAP process, it can be used to analyse where specific governments stand in the NAP process.

We will now look at each step from the guidelines and provide recommendations for interaction with governments. More information can be found at the official technical guidance from the LDC Expert Group, on the UNFCCC's website.



## 1. Initiating and launching the NAP process

The first step consists in taking stock of institutional arrangements that exist or need to be created in order to develop the NAP. In this step the government will generally define how the NAP process should be designed, it will assess information and capacity gaps and identify ways to address them.

Ideally the Red Cross Red Crescent should try and get involved during this initial part of the process (i.e., refer to Step 3 under ‘Networking and advocacy’). As already mentioned, it is during these initial stages that data derived from the VCAs or other assessments conducted by the National Society could be essential in covering information gaps regarding vulnerabilities at the community level. Often governments will focus on vulnerabilities of economic or functional sectors and little attention is given to the local level. In this instance, it is crucial to advocate for the inclusion of vulnerabilities at the community level in order to reduce risk and promote development goals.

It is also during these initial stages that the government will decide how stakeholders will be involved in the NAP process. The NAP has to be a participatory process and has to take marginalized groups into consideration. Use this decision to promote Red Cross Red Crescent involvement in the planning process and to set-up a multi-stakeholder steering committee where the National Society could be represented.

## 2. Preparation of the NAP

The second step in the NAP process is the development of the NAP document. This will involve the analysis of current and future climate scenarios, including the risk of more extremes, assessment of vulnerabilities and options to address them, ranking of adaptation activities and compilation of the final NAP.

If your government has already entered this stage, it is still not too late to engage and play an active role in the development of the report.<sup>1</sup> Ideally, the National Society should sit in the multi-stakeholder steering committee. If it is too late to join or set up the steering committee, there might be a less formal way to provide input to the NAP document, in particular with regard to assessing vulnerabilities at the local level. As described in Step 3, it can be helpful to prepare a document that summarizes the National Society's adaptation priorities and provides empirical information and offers to comment on draft texts. Advocate that the importance of focusing on the most vulnerable people, not only vulnerable sectors, is reflected in the NAP document and how individual adaptation activities are ranked in the final NAP document.

### **3. Implementation strategy**

In the third step governments will have to decide which activities are going to be implemented first and develop an implementation strategy with specifies timeframes, target groups, sequencing and responsible authorities for the different activities. In this stage the National Society has the opportunity to influence activities that are being implemented first and to support their implementation. It will be important to be involved in the consultation process that develops the implementation strategy and to continue advocating for community-based adaptation activities. It is at this stage that it will be possible to identify activities within the NAP that could be implemented by the National Society, and due to Red Cross Red Crescent's comparative advantage in working at the local level. Most funding for climate change adaptation from international donors is only accessible to national governments and funded activities need to be incorporated in the priority list of the NAP. Therefore, to receive governmental funding, it will be

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Step 3 'Networking and advocacy' for tips on how best to network with the government.

crucial to link the proposed Red Cross Red Crescent activities to the NAP.

To make sure that the National Society stays independent in its activities, the best strategy is to frame activities that are among the National Society's own priorities in a way that matches the NAP. This will ensure that the National Society's programming is not influenced by external interests.

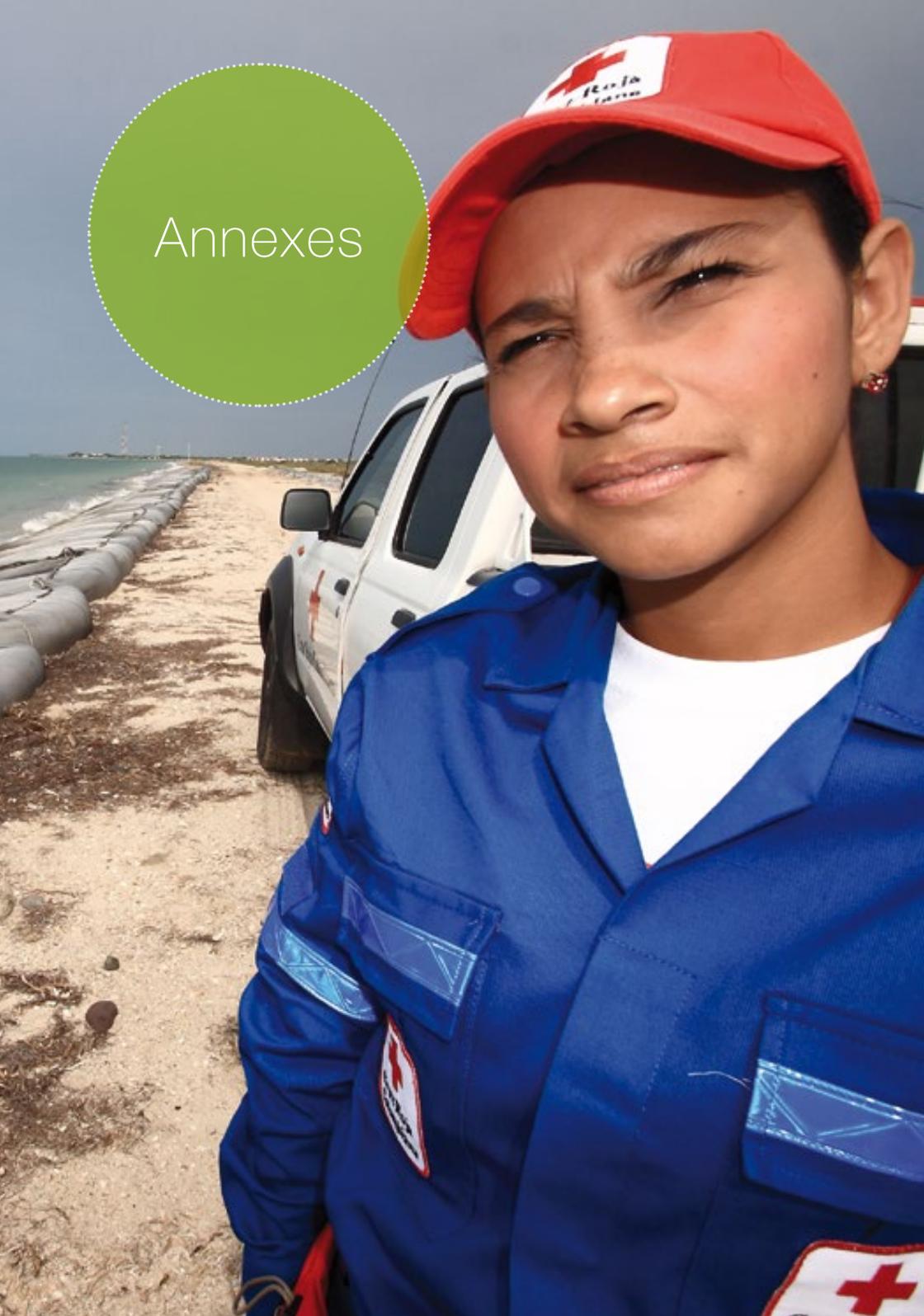
#### **4. Reporting, monitoring and review**

When the first activities are implemented, ideally governments will continue to review and re-assess the NAP process. This is another opportunity for Red Cross Red Crescent engagement. By being actively involved in the review of the activities, the National Society could, for example, advocate for the inclusion of activities that have been missed out in the current NAP. Since the NAP is designed as a continuous and progressive planning process there will always be an opportunity to push for a revision and the inclusion of certain aspects. Even if the Red Cross Red Crescent's engagement with the NAP process in your country begins at this stage it can still influence the government's priorities.

***Step 4: Checklist – Entry points to the NAP process***

- Have you identified the stage that your country is in with regard to the NAP process?
- Have you contacted the government to ensure the National Society is included in the NAP process?
- Have you reminded your government about the participatory nature of the NAP and the importance of having the National Society be part of the process?
- Have you shared with your government relevant data from VCAs or other community-based assessment processes (i.e., risk and vulnerability mapping) that can be used to complement existing information?
- Have you advocated the inclusion of key Red Cross Red Crescent priorities in the NAP?
- Have you advocated for the need to include the local level in NAP planning?
- If a multi-stakeholder steering committee exists, is your National Society part of it?
- If there is no multi-stakeholder steering committee, have you advocated for the establishment of one?
- What opportunities exist to support the implementation of activities identified in the NAP?



A woman wearing a red cap with a white cross and the text "Korea" and "Korea" on it, and a blue uniform with a white cross on the chest. She is standing outdoors, possibly near a beach or a body of water, with a white vehicle visible in the background. The background shows a sandy area, a white vehicle, and a body of water under a clear sky.

Annexes

## Annex 1. Example of a NAPA table of contents

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The table of contents below were taken from the NAPA developed by the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 2009.

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    - 2.1.3 Observed Adverse Impacts of Extreme Climatic Events on Physical Systems
    - 2.1.4 Predicted Adverse Impacts of Climate Change on Physical Systems
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  - 2.2 NAPA Framework and Relationship to National Development Plans and Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)
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#### REFERENCES

#### APPENDIXES

priority Two project Proposals for Adapting to Climate Change in  
Lao PDR

- 1. Agriculture
- 2. Forestry
- 3. Water Resources
- 4. Public Health

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## Annex 3. List of research centres by geographical region

List of useful research centres by geographic region  
(source: [www.thinktankmap.com](http://www.thinktankmap.com))

### Africa

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)</b> <a href="http://www.fara-africa.org/">www.fara-africa.org/</a>	Ghana	Improved access to knowledge, particularly on agricultural practices/ adaptation on climate change in agricultural sector
<b>African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)</b> <a href="http://www.acts.or.ke/">www.acts.or.ke/</a>	Kenya	Improving linkages between research in praxis in three key areas: agriculture and food security, energy and water security, biodiversity and natural resource management
<b>Building Nigeria's Response on Climate Change (BNRCC)</b> <a href="http://www.nigeriaclimatechange.org/">www.nigeriaclimatechange.org/</a>	Nigeria	Information on climate change impacts in Nigeria, project implementation with financial support from CIDA
<b>Environment and Development Action in the Third World (ENDA-TM)</b> <a href="http://www.enda.sn/">www.enda.sn/</a>	Senegal	Research on agriculture, natural resources, energy, sustainable cities, health and others in context of climate change
<b>Climate Action Partnership (CAP)</b> <a href="http://www.cap.org.za">www.cap.org.za</a>	South Africa	Awareness raising and education on climate change with emphasis on impacts on biodiversity
<b>Climate Change System Analysis Group (CSAG)</b> <a href="http://www.csag.uct.ac.za/">www.csag.uct.ac.za/</a>	South Africa	Capacity building of both African researchers and users in climate adaptation and policy-making, climate modelling, applied climate science, delivering tailored climate information, stakeholder engagement

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (DiMP)</b> <a href="http://riskreductionafrica.org/en/rra-ddr-per/rra-periperi-partners/55">http://riskreductionafrica.org/en/rra-ddr-per/rra-periperi-partners/55</a>	South Africa	Climate impacts, disaster risk reduction, sustainable livelihoods, urban risk, capacity building

## Americas

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)</b> <a href="http://caribbeanclimate.bz">http://caribbeanclimate.bz</a>	Belize	Impacts of climate change; policy and institutions
<b>Bolivian Forum on Environment and Development</b> <a href="http://www.fobomade.org.bo">www.fobomade.org.bo</a>	Bolivia	Policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Institute for Advanced Studies in Development (INESAD)</b> <a href="http://www.inesad.edu.bo/">www.inesad.edu.bo/</a>	Bolivia	Renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM)</b> <a href="http://www.ipam.org.br/">www.ipam.org.br/</a>	Brasil	Adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Núcleo Interdisciplinar de Meio Ambiente (NIMA)</b> <a href="http://www.nima.puc-rio.br">www.nima.puc-rio.br</a>	Brazil	Climate and development, sustainable cities, forestry and land use
<b>Instituto Socioambiental (ISA)</b> <a href="http://www.socioambiental.org/e/">www.socioambiental.org/e/</a>	Brazil	Policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Vitae Civilis</b> <a href="http://www.vitaecivilis.org.br">www.vitaecivilis.org.br</a>	Brazil	Renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, water

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>Centro de Cambio Global</b> <a href="http://cambioglobal.uc.cl">http://cambioglobal.uc.cl</a>	Chile	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Research Center on Ecosystems and Global Change (Carbono &amp; Bosques)</b> <a href="http://www.carbonoybosques.org/">www.carbonoybosques.org/</a>	Colombia	Climate change impacts, carbon finance, land-use and forestry
<b>Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE)</b> <a href="http://www.catie.ac.cr">www.catie.ac.cr</a>	Costa Rica	Technical cooperation and research on sustainable development
<b>Grupo FARO</b> <a href="http://www.grupofaro.org/">www.grupofaro.org/</a>	Ecuador	Impacts, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>Centro Ecuatoriano de Derecho Ambiental (CEDA)</b> <a href="http://www.ceda.org.ec">www.ceda.org.ec</a>	Ecuador	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Vitalideas</b> <a href="http://www.vitalideas.info/">www.vitalideas.info/</a>	Ecuador	Impacts, carbon finance, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Centro Mario Molina</b> <a href="http://www.centromariomolina.org">www.centromariomolina.org</a>	Mexico	Sustainable development, climate change, education, air quality
<b>Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA)</b> <a href="http://www.cemda.org.mx/">www.cemda.org.mx/</a>	Mexico	Climate change impacts and air pollution, policy and institutions
<b>Climate Change Research Program (PINCC-UNAM)</b> <a href="http://www.pincc.unam.mx/">www.pincc.unam.mx/</a>	Mexico	Climate change impacts in Mexico
<b>Property &amp; Environment Research Center (PERC)</b> <a href="http://www.perc.org/">www.perc.org/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, forestry and land use, water

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>Climate Change Clearing House</b> <a href="http://www.theclimatechangelclearinghouse.org">www.theclimatechangelclearinghouse.org</a>	USA	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, water
<b>Purdue Climate Change Research Center (PCCRC)</b> <a href="http://www.purdue.edu/climate">www.purdue.edu/climate</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, carbon finance, forestry and land use
<b>Climate Change and African Political Stability (CCAPS)</b> <a href="http://strausscenter.org/ccaps/">http://strausscenter.org/ccaps/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Florida Center for Environmental Studies (CES)</b> <a href="http://www.ces.fau.edu/">www.ces.fau.edu/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate and development, water
<b>Global Footprint Network</b> <a href="http://www.footprintnetwork.org/">www.footprintnetwork.org/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions
<b>Sustainable Prosperity</b> <a href="http://www.sustainableprosperity.ca/">www.sustainableprosperity.ca/</a>	USA	Impacts, policy and institutions, carbon finance, sustainable cities
<b>Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL)</b> <a href="http://cisdl.org/">http://cisdl.org/</a>	USA	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, carbon finance, climate and development
<b>Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC)</b> <a href="http://www.whrc.org">www.whrc.org</a>	USA	Impacts, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, Water
<b>MIT Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR)</b> <a href="http://mit.edu/ceepr/www/">http://mit.edu/ceepr/www/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development
<b>Princeton Environmental Institute (PEI)</b> <a href="http://www.princeton.edu/pei/">www.princeton.edu/pei/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, water

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)</b> <a href="http://portal.iri.columbia.edu/">http://portal.iri.columbia.edu/</a>	USA	Impacts, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)</b> <a href="http://www.edf.org/">www.edf.org/</a>	USA	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>The Earth Institute</b> <a href="http://www.eath.columbia.edu">www.eath.columbia.edu</a>	USA	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, sustainable cities
<b>National Climate Change and Wildlife Science Center (NCCWSC)</b> <a href="http://nccwsc.usgs.gov/">http://nccwsc.usgs.gov/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, forestry and land use, water
<b>The Nature Conservancy</b> <a href="http://www.nature.org/">www.nature.org/</a>	USA	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use, water

## Asia-Pacific

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Centre for Climate Economics and Policy (CCEP)</b> <a href="http://ccep.anu.edu.au">http://ccep.anu.edu.au</a>	Australia	Impacts, Adaptation, Renewable energy & Energy efficiency, Policy & Institutions, Carbon finance
<b>Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis (CAMA)</b> <a href="http://cama.crawford.anu.edu.au/">http://cama.crawford.anu.edu.au/</a>	Australia	Impacts, Renewable energy & Energy efficiency, Policy & Institutions, Carbon finance, Climate & Development
<b>The Climate Institute</b> <a href="http://www.climateinstitute.org.au/">http://www.climateinstitute.org.au/</a>	Australia	Impacts, Adaptation, Renewable energy & Energy efficiency, Policy & Institutions, Carbon finance
<b>UNSW Climate Change Research Center (CCRC)</b> <a href="http://www.crc.unsw.edu.au">http://www.crc.unsw.edu.au</a>	Australia	Impacts, Adaptation, Renewable energy & Energy efficiency, Policy & Institutions, Climate & Development

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>The Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA)</b> <a href="http://ceda.com.au">http://ceda.com.au</a>	Australia	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, water
<b>International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)</b> <a href="http://centers.iub.edu.bd/icccad/">http://centers.iub.edu.bd/icccad/</a>	Bangladesh	Adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)</b> <a href="http://www.bcas.net/index.php">www.bcas.net/index.php</a>	Bangladesh	Adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Civic Exchange</b> <a href="http://www.civic-exchange.org/">www.civic-exchange.org/</a>	China	Impacts, policy and institutions, climate and development, sustainable cities, water
<b>The Learning Institute</b> <a href="http://www.learninginstitute.org/">www.learninginstitute.org/</a>	Cambodia	Adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)</b> <a href="http://www.teriin.org/">www.teriin.org/</a>	India	Renewable energy and energy efficiency, carbon finance, climate and development, water
<b>Gujarat Ecology Society (GES)</b> <a href="http://www.gesindia.org/">www.gesindia.org/</a>	India	Adaptation, policy and institutions, sustainable cities, forestry and land use, water
<b>Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology (ATREE)</b> <a href="http://www.atree.org/">www.atree.org/</a>	India	Impacts, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Public Affairs Centre (PAC)</b> <a href="http://www.pacindia.org/">www.pacindia.org/</a>	India	Impacts, adaptation, policy and Institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)</b> <a href="http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/">www.cifor.cgiar.org/</a>	Indonesia	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Global Development Research Center (GDRC)</b> <a href="http://www.gdrc.org/">http://www.gdrc.org/</a>	Japan	Impacts, Adaptation, Renewable energy & Energy efficiency, Policy & Institutions, Sustainable cities
<b>Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)</b> <a href="http://www.rite.or.jp/en/">http://www.rite.or.jp/en/</a>	Japan	Impacts, Adaptation, Policy & Institutions, Carbon finance, Water
<b>HuMa</b> <a href="http://www.huma.or.id/">www.huma.or.id/</a>	Malaysia	Policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Institute for Social and Environmental Transition - Nepal (ISET-N)</b> <a href="http://isetnepal.org.np/">http://isetnepal.org.np/</a>	Nepal	Policy and institutions, climate and development, sustainable cities, forestry and land use, water
<b>Forest Action Nepal</b> <a href="http://www.forestaction.org/">www.forestaction.org/</a>	Nepal	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>New Zealand Climate Change Research Institute</b> <a href="http://www.victoria.ac.nz/sgees/research-centres/ccri">www.victoria.ac.nz/sgees/research-centres/ccri</a>	New Zealand	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use, water
<b>Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC)</b> <a href="http://www.gcisc.org.pk/">www.gcisc.org.pk/</a>	Pakistan	Impacts, adaptation, forestry and land use, water
<b>Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)</b> <a href="http://sdpi.org/">http://sdpi.org/</a>	Pakistan	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Climate Change Adaptation in Pakistan</b> <a href="http://lums.edu.pk/ccap/">http://lums.edu.pk/ccap/</a>	Pakistan	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Tebtebba - Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education</b> <a href="http://tebtebba.org">http://tebtebba.org</a>	Philippines	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>Center for Environmental Concerns (CEC-Phils)</b> <a href="http://www.cecphils.org/">www.cecphils.org/</a>	Philippines	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Earth Observatory of Singapore (EOS)</b> <a href="http://www.earthobservatory.sg/">www.earthobservatory.sg/</a>	Singapore	Impacts, adaptation, water
<b>Korea Research Institute of Climate Change Countermeasure Strategies (KRICCCS)</b> <a href="http://www.kricccs.com/">www.kricccs.com/</a>	South Korea	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, carbon finance
<b>Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)</b> <a href="http://www.ips.lk/">www.ips.lk/</a>	Sri Lanka	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>South East Asia START Regional Center</b> <a href="http://cc.start.or.th/climateChange/">http://cc.start.or.th/climateChange/</a>	Thailand	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, sustainable cities

## Europe

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)</b> <a href="http://www.iiasa.ac.at/">http://www.iiasa.ac.at/</a>	Austria	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>Northern Alliance for Sustainability (ANPED)</b> <a href="http://www.anped.org">www.anped.org</a>	Belgium	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development
<b>Centre de Recherche sur la Terre et le Climat Georges Lemaitre</b> <a href="http://www.uclouvain.be/teclim">www.uclouvain.be/teclim</a>	Belgium	Impacts, adaptation, forestry and land use, water

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>GIS Climat-Environnement-Société</b>  <a href="http://gisclimat.fr/">http://gisclimat.fr/</a>	France	Impacts, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Institut national de recherche en sciences et technologies pour l'environnement et l'agriculture (Irstea)</b>  <a href="http://www.irstea.fr">www.irstea.fr</a>	France	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, forestry and land use, water
<b>Institut Pierre Simon Laplace (IPSL)</b>  <a href="http://www.ipsl.fr/">www.ipsl.fr/</a>	France	Impacts, adaptation, water
<b>Objectif Terre : Bassin Méditerranéen (OT-MED)</b>  <a href="http://www.otmed.fr/">www.otmed.fr/</a>	France	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)</b>  <a href="http://www.pik-potsdam.de/">www.pik-potsdam.de/</a>	Germany	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, sustainable cities
<b>Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research</b>  <a href="http://www.ufz.de/">http://www.ufz.de/</a>	Germany	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, sustainable cities, water
<b>National Society of Conservationists (NSC)</b>  <a href="http://www.mtvsz.hu/">http://www.mtvsz.hu/</a>	Hungary	Impacts, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Biodiversity International</b>  <a href="http://www.biodiversityinternational.org/">http://www.biodiversityinternational.org/</a>	Italy	Impacts, policy and institutions, sustainable cities, forestry and land use, water
<b>Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC)</b>  <a href="http://www.cmcc.it/">http://www.cmcc.it/</a>	Italy	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use, water

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>National Climate Research The Netherlands</b> <a href="http://www.climate-research-netherlands.nl">www.climate-research-netherlands.nl</a>	Netherlands	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, water
<b>Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research (BCCR)</b> <a href="http://www.bjerknes.uib.no/">www.bjerknes.uib.no/</a>	Norway	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, water
<b>Ecological &amp; Environmental Change Research Group (EECRG)</b> <a href="http://www.uib.no/rg/EECRG">www.uib.no/rg/EECRG</a>	Norway	Impacts, adaptation, carbon finance, climate and development, water
<b>Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO)</b> <a href="http://www.cicero.uio.no">www.cicero.uio.no</a>	Norway	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, climate and development
<b>Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Modelling (CCIAM)</b> <a href="http://sim.ul.pt/cciam/">http://sim.ul.pt/cciam/</a>	Portugal	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, sustainable cities, water
<b>IH Cantabria - Environmental Hydraulics Institute</b> <a href="http://www.ihcantabria.com/">www.ihcantabria.com/</a>	Spain	Impacts, adaptation, water
<b>Research Centre for the Management of Agricultural and Environmental Risks (CEIGRAM)</b> <a href="http://www.ceigram.upm.es">www.ceigram.upm.es</a>	Spain	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies in Water Technologies (IMDEA)</b> <a href="http://www.water.imdea.org/">www.water.imdea.org/</a>	Spain	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, water
<b>Center for Climate Systems Modeling (C2SM)</b> <a href="http://www.c2sm.ethz.ch/">www.c2sm.ethz.ch/</a>	Switzerland	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, water

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Research fields</b>
<b>Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research</b> <a href="http://www.oeschger.unibe.ch/">www.oeschger.unibe.ch/</a>	Switzerland	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, water
<b>International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</b> <a href="http://www.iucn.org/">www.iucn.org/</a>	Switzerland	Impacts, adaptation, climate and development, forestry and land use, water
<b>Center for International Environmental Studies (CIES)</b> <a href="http://graduateinstitute.ch/cies">http://graduateinstitute.ch/cies</a>	Switzerland	Impacts, policy and institutions, carbon finance, climate and development, water
<b>Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) – Sabanci University</b> <a href="http://ipc.sabanciuniv.edu/en/">http://ipc.sabanciuniv.edu/en/</a>	Turkey	Climate change impacts, capacity building, advocacy, public policy
<b>Cambridge Centre for Climate Change Mitigation Research (4CMR)</b> <a href="http://www.4cmr.group.cam.ac.uk/">www.4cmr.group.cam.ac.uk/</a>	UK	Impacts, adaptation, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>Environmental Change Institute (ECI)</b> <a href="http://www.eci.ox.ac.uk/">www.eci.ox.ac.uk/</a>	UK	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate and development, sustainable cities, forestry and land use
<b>Global Canopy Programme (GCP)</b> <a href="http://www.globalcanopy.org/">www.globalcanopy.org/</a>	UK	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>Global Climate Adaptation Partnership</b> <a href="http://www.climateAdaptation.cc">www.climateAdaptation.cc</a>	UK	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, water
<b>International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)</b> <a href="http://www.iied.org/">www.iied.org/</a>	UK	Impacts, climate and development, sustainable cities, forestry and land use, water

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>ClientEarth</b> www.clientearth.org	UK	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, forestry and land use
<b>Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)</b> http://cdkn.org	UK	Impacts, adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>C40 Cities</b> www.c40cities.org/	UK	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, policy and institutions, sustainable cities

## MENA

Institution	Country	Research fields
<b>Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE)</b> www.cedare.int/	Egypt	Impacts, adaptation, water
<b>Center for Environment and Sustainable Development Studies and Application (CENESTA)</b> www.cenesta.org/	Iran	Impacts, renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate and development, forestry and land use
<b>Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED)</b> www.afedonline.org	Lebanon	Adaptation, policy and institutions, climate and development, forestry and land use, water

## Annex 4. List of countries that have developed a NAPA

1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
3. Bangladesh
4. Benin
5. Bhutan
6. Burkina Faso
7. Burundi
8. Cambodia
9. Cape Verde
10. Central African Republic
11. Chad
12. Comoros
13. Democratic Republic of Congo
14. Djibouti
15. Eritrea
16. Ethiopia
17. Gambia
18. Guinea
19. Guinea-Bissau
20. Haïti
21. Kiribati
22. Lao People's Democratic Republic
23. Lesotho
24. Liberia
25. Madagascar
26. Malawi
27. Maldives
28. Mali
29. Mauritania
30. Mozambique
31. Nepal
32. Niger
33. Rwanda
34. Samoa
35. Sao Tome and Principe
36. Senegal
37. Sierra Leone
38. Solomon Islands
39. Sudan
40. Tanzania
41. Timor-Leste
42. Togo
43. Tuvalu
44. Uganda
45. Vanuatu
46. Yemen
47. Zambia

Source: UNFCCC 2013: [http://unfccc.int/cooperation\\_support/least\\_developed\\_countries\\_portal/submitted\\_napas/items/4585.php](http://unfccc.int/cooperation_support/least_developed_countries_portal/submitted_napas/items/4585.php)

# The Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

**Humanity** The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

**Impartiality** It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

**Neutrality** In order to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

**Independence** The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

**Voluntary service** It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

**Unity** There can be only one Red Cross or Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

**Universality** The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.

**For more information on this IFRC publication,  
please contact:**

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