

Peer learning exchange on policy coherence for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

In contribution to the rolling out the National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Technical Committee

| 21 November | Lilongwe Malawi |

1. Rationale

In 2015, Members of the United Nations adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement for Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which together provide a road map for a more sustainable and resilient world. The implementation of each agenda has led to the creation of a range of institutional arrangements, funding mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Therefore, members require mechanisms and guidance at both regional and country level to overcome the siloed approaches and the duplication of efforts in implementing DRR, climate change and sustainable development, and ultimately foster policy coherence for risk-informed development.

The UNDRR Regional Office for Africa (ROA) organized a multi-country workshop with the participation of 12 member states of the Sub-Saharan region, UN agencies and other relevant stakeholders (IFRC, WB, EU). The objective of the workshop was to foster peer learning exchanges on how coherence between CCA-DRR and SDGs can be achieved in the sub-Saharan Africa region, drawing upon risk-information, policy design and monitoring and reporting as entry points. One of the recommendations of the workshop was to organize peer-learning exchanges on policy coherence at the national level.

After the participation of Malawi at the multicity peer-learning exchange, UNDRR ROA proposes to facilitate a national peer learning exchange in order to explore opportunities for policy coherence, including the contribution the Sendai Monitor to link DRR and CCA. The peer-learning exchange will also contribute to inform the work of the *National Technical Committee on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management* and propose actions to further integrate disaster risk reduction into the climate change adaptation with a focus on the NAP in Malawi. Finally. The peer learning exchange will propose actions to enhance policy coherence and promote exchanges on the roles and contribution of the different stakeholders (Government, civil society, Academia, UN system) in this process.

2. Aim of the workshop

The aim of the workshop is to foster peer-learning exchanges on how coherence between CCA-DRR and SDGs can be achieved at country level and how partnerships and collaboration contribute to this effort.

3. Specific objectives

Through a participatory approach, the workshop will contribute to:

- Identify coherent objectives, actions and tools in support of policy objectives for DRR, CCA and sustainable development at national and subnational level in Malawi;
- Identify barriers and opportunities to achieving policy coherence at the country level;
- Define actions that could be undertaken by the *National Technical Committee on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management* and by the different stakeholders to enhance policy coherence

- Propose elements for a common monitoring framework for CCA, DRR and development planning.

4. Target audience

- Disaster risk reduction decision makers and practitioners from governmental institutions
- Climate change adaptation decision makers and practitioners from governmental institutions
- National academia, scientific institutions and policy research centers
- Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Malawi
- Governance/Coordination structures within CCA and DRM
- Partners (UN Agencies, NGOs, Red Cross Movement) working on DRR and CCA

5. Duration and location

The peer learning workshop will be held in Lilongwe Malawi (venue TBC) for one day. A field trip, organized by the Government, is planned for the second day

Background information

Annex 1. Policy landscape for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in Malawi

Malawi has undertaken important efforts to ensure that disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and resilience are integrated into the Malawi Growth Development Strategy (MGDS III) 2017-2022. Tailored resilience, disaster risk reduction and climate change policies have also been elaborated. In addition, the Government and the UN System work together in actions aiming at enhancing resilience at national and district level and with a multi-sector approach. Malawi is one of the few countries in Africa having developed a *resilience strategy* and a related action plan combining disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and food security.

An overview of the policy landscape on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation is presented below. This is not an exhaustive mapping and will be complemented based on the discussions during the peer learning exchange on policy coherence.

Development frameworks

- **Malawi Growth Development Strategy (MGDS III) - 2017-2022:** The third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS III) will be implemented from 2017 to 2022. It is the fourth medium-term national development strategy aligned to the country's long-term national development aspirations, which are articulated in Vision 2020.
- **The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Malawi 2019-2023:** The UNDAF mentions the needs to address disaster risk as a key action to ensure sustainable development in Malawi. One indicator of the results matrix of the UNDAF is the proportion of districts that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

DRR policy frameworks and policies

- **National Resilience Strategy (2018-2030) and its implementation plan (2018-2023):** led by the Office of the President, whose implementation is co-chaired by the Department of Disaster Management Affairs (DODMA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Water Development (MoAIWD). First three-year NRS implementation plan (NRS-IP) has been elaborated.
- **National Disaster Risk Management Policy 2015:** The policy aims at facilitating the effective coordination of disaster risk management programmes in the country. It highlights a set of key priority areas and strategies for making Malawi a nation resilient to disasters. It also provides a common direction to all government, non-governmental organisations, private sector organizations, media and development partners at national and local levels on how to effectively implement disaster risk management programmes and activities.
- **Draft disaster risk management bill:** Malawi has worked with the International Federation of the Red Cross in a disaster management bill which is in process of revision.
- **GFDRR risk profile** developed with the World Bank. This risk profile aims at creating an environment for dialogue on risk financing strategies. They provide visual information and data on the hazards, sectors and regions that are most at risk of disasters induced by flood, landslide, drought and earthquake. They provided an estimated impact of disasters on population, building stock, transport, networks, critical facilities and agriculture at the national and subnational levels. <https://www.gfdrr.org/en/publications>

Climate change policies and programmes

- National Communications of 2002 and 2011 submitted to COP
- **NAPA (2006):** First main adaptation plan focusing on urgent and immediate priorities, implemented with over USD 30 million from the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)
- National Environment and Climate Change Communication Strategy (2012)
- Malawi's Climate Change, Learning Strategy (2012)
- **National Climate Change Investment Plan (NCCIP) 2013–2018:** Climate change investment framework that has four key priority areas to promote climate change management in Malawi, namely, (i) adaptation; (ii) mitigation; (iii) climate change research and systematic observation, technology development and transfer; and (iv) capacity building. The NCCIP provides a platform for coordination of investments in climate change arena.
- **Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) under the pilot program on climate resilience (PPCR):** The SPCR was produced in 2017 and includes five priority programmes. After production of the SPCR, the PPCR programme declared it would not be in a position to fund implementation of the SPCR as initially planned and recommended that the proposed programmes seek financing under the GCF.
- Process of formulating and implementing the National Adaptation Plan (NAP): The NAP process was launched in 2014 and a number of outputs have been produced including: (i) A **Stocktaking Report for the development of a national adaptation plan (NAP)** has been elaborated by the Government of Malawi, through the National Climate Change Programmes., (ii) NAP Road Map, (iii) Draft NAP framework document, (iv) A prototype NAP through the Open NAP initiative.
- **Intended National Determined Contributions (INDC):** Malawi submitted an INDC leading up to the Paris COP in 2015, and is expected to submit an updated National Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2020, informed by the work on the NAP.
- **NAP proposal submitted to GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support (March 2019):** This proposal aims at the development of a National Adaptation Plan for Malawi. The implementing partner is UNEP and the budget allocated for this project is USD 2,849,018 (3 years). The objective of the NAP process is derived from the National Climate Change Policy, as follows: to reduce vulnerability of people in Malawi and to promote community and ecosystem resilience to the impacts of climate change and gender-equitable adaptive capacity for planning and implementing adaptation interventions. The planned four NAP project outcomes are: (i) Capacity and tools developed for the coordination and execution of future activities of the NAP process; (ii) NAP adaptation priorities are operationalised through line ministry spending plans; (iii) Private sector finance mobilised for investment in climate risk management; (iv) Learning about the NAP process disseminated
- **National Climate Change Management Policy (2016):** The policy acts as a guide for integrating climate change into development planning. The policy goal is to create and enabling policy and legal framework for a pragmatic coordinated and harmonised approach to climate change management.

Annex 2. Challenges and needs identified for policy coherence

UNFCCC published in 2017 a technical paper on opportunities and options for integrating climate change adaptation with the SDGs and the Sendai Framework. The technical paper mentions some challenges for policy coherence which are applicable for the African Region. In addition, the Global Assessment Report 2019 (GAR19), also mentions some needs to be addressed when building policy coherence for DRR, climate change adaptation and sustainable development.

Key challenges and needs are summarized below.

Themes	Challenges	Needs
Coordination mechanisms	Cross-sectoral and inter-ministerial collaboration is essential for policy coherence to reduce risk and enhance resilience. However, it is not always apparent how sectors and ministers interact and coordinate and how multiple institutional frameworks are implemented in a coordinated manner.	Clarifying the administrative set-up for developing CCA, DRR and development planning and agreement on who leads and participates in which mandate. Integrating part of the administrative set-up if needed.
Availability of data and information	Understanding risk requires interdisciplinary expertise and data from different sources. The lack of data and information available to actors for risk knowledge and SDG reporting (including DRR and climate change) is an important challenge for risk-informed policy making.	Establishing a common ground regarding rationale, objectives, methodologies, instruments and terminologies regarding risk-information and monitoring.
Different sources of funding and competition for resources	CCA, DRR and sustainable development programmes and projects may have different sources of funding and are implemented by different institutional arrangements which can lead to difficulties in coordination and competition for resources.	Identifying common actions and instruments in support of shared policy objectives to leverage existing funding opportunities.
Different monitoring and reporting processes	CCA, DRR and SDGs have different tools and instruments to report and monitor progress against commitments. Some linkages already exist between DRR and SDGs as well as CCA and SDGs but they could be enhanced.	Establishing joint or joined-up monitoring and progress reporting of CCA, DRR, and development planning.

The peer learning exchange aims at identifying the specific challenges and needs for Malawi and how the different actors involved in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and resilience can contribute to overcome those challenges and implement policies, programmes and projects that facilitate policy coherence.

Annex 3. Information background on the Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy (CEPA) – key note speaker presenting opportunities for policy coherence in Malawi

The Government of Malawi has invited the Centre for Environmental Policy and Advocacy (CEPA) to provide a key note presentation on the opportunities for policy coherence.

CEPA was formed in 2002 and has over the years grown and carved a niche in **policy, research and advocacy on environmental issues**. CEPA was established to contribute to policy advocacy for sustainable development to fill the existent gap in research and advocacy on environmental and natural resources management issues.

CEPA has **contributed to various policy and legislative processes**. Some specific contributions have been in biodiversity and biotechnology policy making; facilitating access to environmental information, justice and public participation; undertaking policy research in land and agrarian reform; conducting capacity building and environmental advocacy; facilitating development of legislation in access and benefit sharing; and promoting local policy dialogue in climate change, disaster risk management and agricultural biodiversity.

Peer-learning exchange on policy coherence DRR and CCA

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Day 1: 21st November, 2019

08:30 –09:00	Registration
09:00 –09:30	Welcome Remarks and introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome remarks (<i>PS, UNRC, UNDRR</i>)
09:30 –10:00	<i>Coffee break & Group picture</i>
10:00-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and expectations of participants Objectives and outline of the workshop
10:30 - 11:00	Policy coherence –discussions on synergy and coherence at the global level – UNDRR/UNFCCC
11:00 - 13:00	Session 1: Policy landscape in Malawi for coherence between DRR and CCA Key note presentation: Opportunities for coherence (CEPA) PART 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster risk reduction strategies (<i>DODMA</i>) Climate change adaptation strategies (<i>Department of Environmental Affairs</i>) PART 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coherence from development partners' perspective (<i>DFID as Chair of DG on Environment</i>) Coherence from the civil society perspective (<i>Civil Society network on Climate Change</i>) Role of the CC and DRM Technical committee (<i>Department of Environmental Affairs - Jane Swira</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How could coherence be achieved?
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 – 15:30	Session 2: Disaster risk reduction and the process to formulate and implement the NAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advancements of the NAP in Malawi (<i>Department of Environmental Affairs</i>) The Malawi Open NAP: a multi-stakeholder prototype NAP (<i>UNFCCC/LEG</i>) DDR and adaptation: Areas for collaboration and joint work (<i>UNEP /UNDRR/Department of Environmental Affairs</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How to promote coherence between the Sendai Framework Target E and the NAP?
15:30– 16:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:00 –17:00	Conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy coherence: a practical perspective in Malawi Partnerships for policy coherence in Malawi
17:00 – 17:30	Closing remarks

