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GUIDANCE FOR NAMA DESIGN IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS:

A Tool To Realize GHG Mitigation Under NDCs

A collaborative effort between UNDP, UNEP DTU Partnership and the UNFCCC Secretariat

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© November 2016

¹ This guidance document is largely based on an earlier version entitled Guidance for NAMA Design: Building on Country Experiences, published in 2013. This earlier version was co-authored by Bjoern Dransfeld (Perspectives Climate Change); Stefan Wehner (Perspectives Climate Change) and reviewed by Lucas Black (UNDP); Lachlan Cameron (ECN); Daniela Carrington (UNDP); Michael Comstock (CCAP); Stacey Davis (CCAP); Caroline de Vit (Ecofys); Samah Elsayed (WRI); Ann Gan (Singapore); Stephen Gold (UNDP); Vahakn Kabakian (Lebanon); Naoki Matsuo (Japan); Trinto Mugangu (Democratic Republic of Congo); Susanne Olbrisch (UNDP); Carlos Salgado (UNDP); Mateo Salomon (UNDP); Rakshya Thapa (UNDP); Tran Thuc (Vietnam); Klaus Wenzel (GIZ); Sebastian Wienges (GIZ). The respective institutional affiliations of the co-authors and reviewers are from the time of original publication of the earlier guidance document in 2013

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ADP	Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform
BAU	Business as Usual
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CBA	Cost-Benefit Analysis
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEA	Cost-Effectiveness Analysis
CER	Certified Emission Reduction
CPEIR	Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review
DNA	Designated National Authority
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EU-ETS	European Union Emissions Trading System
FiT	Feed-in Tariff
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICA	International Consultations and Analysis
IET	International Emissions Trading
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
JI	Joint Implementation
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LCDS	Low-Carbon Development Strategy
LECB	Low-Emission Capacity-Building
LECRDS	Low-Emission Climate-Resilient Development Strategy
LEDs	Low Emission Development Strategy (or Strategies)
MAC	Marginal Abatement Cost
MCA	Multi-Criteria Analysis
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification

NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NC	National Communication
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
PEER	Public Environmental Expenditure Review
PoA	Program of Activity
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RE	Renewable Energy
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
TAP	Technology Action Plan
TNA	Technical Needs Assessments
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Foreword

Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) represent a valuable opportunity for developing countries to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while remaining true to their sustainable development priorities and needs. They represent mitigation actions that are naturally framed within the targets specified by a country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). NDCs were established under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement as a means for Parties to jointly achieve the objective of limiting temperature rise to 'well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C'. These contributions are not actions in themselves, but constitute a country's vision of its own development through an alternative path which is 'cleaner' in terms of GHG emissions and that enhances a country's resilience to climate change. The objectives and targets specified therein are to be achieved through measures such as NAMAs. NAMAs are therefore a natural means to help countries realize the vision enshrined in their NDCs.

Many countries have already developed NAMAs as instruments for participating in the global mitigation agenda and as a means of leveraging national and international support for more effective and transformational climate actions. National governments, multilateral organizations, development partners and others are joining forces to ensure that NAMAs contribute to urgent efforts to limit the increase in GHG emissions while pursuing development at the national and local levels, including poverty reduction, job creation and access to energy. The NDCs have given a further impetus to these actions, underscoring the importance of the mitigation agenda and the relevance of NAMAs.

In 2013, UNDP, the UNFCCC Secretariat and the UNEP DTU Partnership (formerly UNEP Risø Centre) joined forces to produce a comprehensive Guide on formulating effective NAMAs. The emergence of NDCs as frameworks for mitigation action and the associated processes defined under the Paris Agreement makes an updated second edition of this NAMA guidance document necessary, particularly to bring clarity to the relevance of NAMAs in the context of NDCs. In doing so, the original group of institutions collaborated with the NAMA Facility to produce this updated document, signaling an increased emphasis on the central financial structuring of the mitigation actions to be anticipated as a result of the Paris Agreement.

The second edition of this guide incorporates the relationship between NDCs and NAMAs by suggesting that the latter become an implementation concept for the former. The Paris Agreement, through NDCs, provides a more tangible framework and a clearer structure upon which NAMA development can succeed; the NAMA Guide, however, does not attempt to prescribe a linear path for NAMA development. This process may still be iterative, encompassing and capitalizing on learning from past experience and involving a wide range of stakeholders at the national level, while adapting or establishing policy frameworks that include the necessary means for establishing the institutional, financial and monitoring components that go into solid NAMAs.

This NAMA Guide does not attempt to replace, but rather complements, a growing stock of available relevant guidance materials, including emerging guidance on the relationship between NDCs and NAMAs.² Its purpose is rather to provide additional guidance on NAMAs as an efficient tool to accelerate the materialization of those national contributions that are aimed at reducing global emissions. It includes tools that countries may wish to use or consult throughout the various stages of their NAMA development process and which will be regularly updated in an online 'toolbox'. This NAMA Guide, including the toolbox in Annex 1, should be considered a 'living' document, meaning that future updates will incorporate feedback and experiences from users and stakeholders.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all reviewers for their valuable comments that went into the drafting of this second edition of the NAMA Guide. We received an overwhelming number of helpful comments and suggestions, indicating a high level of interest, support and commitment from a wide range of partners around the world. It remains our aim to develop a Guide that is as practical and useful as possible in order to best assist countries in navigating through their NAMA development and implementation processes in the context of NDCs.

It is our hope that this NAMA Guide will make a positive contribution to the development and implementation of technically robust NAMAs that help achieve the ambitions underlying NDCs and that it will aid in bringing to light the crucial connections and positive human development potential that exist between mitigation actions and national development priorities and planning.

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