

LPAC Minutes

Minutes

Of the Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting (LPAC) for the project:
“Central Asian Climate Risk Management in Tajikistan”

May 17, 2010

Participants:

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| <i>Chairman</i> | 1. Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov, UNDP Assistant Resident Representative |
| <i>Members</i> | 2. Mahmoudov Ahad, UNDP EE Programme Manager, Nargizakhon Usmanova, UNDP Programme analyst, Isoev Mirzohaydar, UNDP EE Programme analyst, Takhmina Touraeva, CRM project Manager. |
| <i>Invitees</i> | 3. Timur Haibullaev, head of international Dept. Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of Republic of Tajikistan, Nematullo Safarov Director of National Centre on biodiversity and biosafety/ UNCBD National Focal Point on Biodiversity Conservation and Biosafety, Kayumov M, lead climate expert, Tajik Hydromet, Alisho Shomahmadov, Chief of Information Management and Analytical Center, Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Protection.
4. Mahmadsarif Khaqdodov, Deputy Member of the Parliament of Tajikistan, deputy chairperson of the Environmental Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan. |
| <i>Secretary</i> | 5. Firuz Ibragimov, UNDP CACILM MCB Project Coordinator |

Agenda

1. Presentation of the new BCPR funded project and its current status
2. Discussion of the project document
3. Conclusion and next steps

Minutes

Mr. Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov, Chairman

Mr. Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov, UNDP Programme/ARR, opened the session greeting all participants and congratulated all participants with the forthcoming International Holiday Nawruz and delivered welcoming speeches. Further Mr. Khoshmukhamedov stressed the purpose and objective of the meeting, to review, discuss, comment and approve BCPR funded project document. Also participants were briefly informed about prehistory of project development phase. Moreover he informed participants, that project will be directly executed (DEX modality) in close cooperation with the Committee on Environment Protection under the Government of Tajikistan, Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Protection, Ministry of Agriculture and other relevant institutions. He has also highlighted project components, and the possible date of project commencement upon national wide inception workshop and hence also urged the importance of the decision of the LPAC, thereby opened started shortly informed the participant on the following project briefs.

The event was further chaired by Mr. Ahad Mahmoudov, Energy and Environment Programme Manager.

The UNDP Central Asia Multi-country project on Climate Risk Management (CRM) is a going to be a four year programme to assist the five Central Asian Countries to address risks posed by current climate variability and future climate change and to adjust their national development processes to attend to these risks.

LPAC Objectives: to introduce the representatives of parliament, ministries, departments, committees and international organizations and other interested stakeholders to the goals, objectives, and structure of the

UNDP Climate Risk Management project in Tajikistan. It furthermore planned to assemble recommendations, remarks and viewpoints of the participants on the presented Project and its objectives for better coordination and interaction amongst organizations, committees and relevant stakeholders in the field of climate risk management in the country.

The LPAC meeting to present the Project to the wide range of stakeholders took place in the Conference Hall of the UNDP Tajikistan in Dushanbe.

It was concertedly underlined that the project within its framework seeks to build coordinated capacity at a national, sub-national and local level to respond to climate risks. It seeks to synthesize the scientific basis for CRM interventions, develop an overarching CRM strategy, identify potential funding routes for scaling up interventions, deliver capacity building for organizations and individuals, and catalyze learning for large scale interventions.

Presentation of Mr. Ahad Mahmoudov, UNDP E&E Programme Analyst. Mr. Mirzohaydar Isoev presented statistics of natural disasters (including floods, droughts, landslides, extreme temperatures, wind storms, and wildfires from 1950 through 2000) in Central Asian countries including Tajikistan. Climate related natural disasters and the economic losses associated with them have drastically increased over the last two decades. Utilization of integrated approaches will lead to reduction of climate-related losses through more widespread implementation of DRR measures linked with adaption, more efficient use of financial, human and natural resources, increased effectiveness and sustainability of both adaptation and DRR approaches. CRM integrates both elements of climate change adaptation and climate-related disaster risk reduction. It aims to manage societal vulnerability associated with firstly short-term climate variability and secondly long-term climate change. This dual approach is critical for preventing climate-related disasters and protecting development both in the short and long term.

CRM assesses existing and future patterns of risk stemming from climate variability, including those deriving from climate change and integrates them into development strategies, policies, plans, and projects. CRM is aimed at:

- Providing climate information for decision support in climate-affected sectors;
- Improving sustainable development outcomes in the face of present climate variability;
- Providing the capacity required to cope with both current and future variability and change;
- Reducing socioeconomic vulnerability to extreme climate events, combined with strategies to enable communities to capitalize on favorable conditions, where/when such may exist.

Commonly CRM involves the following:

- Analysis of climate-related risks (hazard, vulnerability and capacity)
- Institutional and policy analysis
- Consensus-based identification and prioritization of risk management actions
- Development of decision-making support tools
- Provision of policy-making support
- Institutional engagement and capacity development
- Mainstreaming into local and national development processes
- Local tool application (local disaster managers, development planners, farmers)
- Receiving user feedback to improve climate risk management process and tools

CRM is an approach to climate-sensitive decision making that is increasingly seen as the way forward in dealing with climate variability and change. The approach seeks to promote sustainable development by reducing vulnerability from, and increasing resilience to, climate-related risks. It integrates elements of both disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and incorporates current and future risks and uncertainties related to climate variability and change, with the goal of making communities adaptive and resilient, that is, able to make decisions and cope amid uncertainty, change and limitations in knowledge and resources.

CRM involves proactive 'no regrets' strategies aimed at maximizing positive and minimizing negative outcomes for communities and societies in climate-sensitive areas such as agriculture, food security, water resources, and health. The 'no regrets' aspect of CRM means taking climate-related decisions or action that make sense in development terms, whether or not a specific climate threat actually materializes in the future.

Presentation of Mirzohaydar Isoev, UNDP E&E Programme Analyst. The Government of Tajikistan had numerously approached UNDP Tajikistan to assist in addressing complex risk management issues related to climate change and improvement of sustainability of the country's economy and population against growing negative impact of climate related factors. In response to this call, UNDP Tajikistan has developed a climate related risk management project with the involvement of national stakeholders. Mr. Isoev has also mentioned the objective of this meeting which is two-fold: to introduce the representatives of line ministries and state agencies, donor community and international and local non-governmental organizations dealing with the climate risk management matters in Tajikistan to our initiative on one hand, and to discuss the possibility of joint collaboration and possible involvement of the concerned stakeholders in the common effective and efficient implementation of the utmost relevant initiative and projects in Tajikistan on the other hand. This project seeks to build coordinated capacity at a national, sub-national and local level to respond to climate risks. It seeks to synthesize the scientific basis for CRM interventions, develop an overarching CRM strategy, identify potential funding routes for scaling up interventions, deliver capacity building for organizations and individuals, and catalyze learning for large scale interventions. Consideration will be given to gender issues and indigenous knowledge. It will in particular focus on CRM issues related to vulnerable mountainous communities, engaged in subsistence agriculture, small scale agro-forestry and livestock management. The project explores the important linkages between slope management and disaster risk reduction (land stabilization and river bank management), improved water management in agriculture (water rights, water conservation techniques), and livestock management (land access and grazing rights). It also incorporates linkages to biodiversity considerations, and the potential use of resilient indigenous cropping varieties.

Mr. Khaqdodov mentioned successful implementation of the several initiatives jointly with UNDP projects since 2003 also informed participants that identification of the community's vulnerability and factors should be conducted as the baseline for the climate related disaster risks and based on which the project can develop list of activities to address those risks. Moreover he pointed that this project is timely and there is an actual need for it.

Mr. Timur Haibulaev the issue of execution modality and partnership strategy under given project, as a result of discussion it was agreed that during the project inception period partnership strategy should be reviewed and detailed action plan will be prepared.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov has pointed out the coordination and communication between Tajik hydromet and CoES should be improved in order to better analyses and forecast the frequency of the climate related disasters. As well as a data base system should also be improved with other type of indicators that project may help us to comprehend our system.

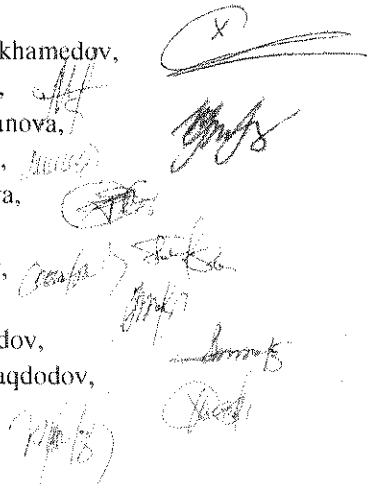
Mr. Kayumov, mentioned that indeed the project may play an important role on improving the climate change profile and communication through a multi modular approaches and implementation activities. He has specifically mentioned that beyond the legislative working group, the project should also be part of the PPCR national stakeholders' group where the issues of the climate change and associated risks are nationally discussed.

Mr. Ahad Mahmoudov, has mentioned that project will be closely cooperating with the respective agencies to jointly address the comments raised. He has also mentioned that at the national level the project will focus on mainstreaming the climate risk principles into a news law on forest code and envisages joining the existing working group on development of the law on pastures in close cooperation with CACILM MCB project. The project needs to develop a list of concrete activities where the national partners will also have chance to review and propose the recommendation for the activities.

Including the meeting Mr. Khoshmukhamedov, has greatly thanked the participants for valuable solutions and recommendation for strengthening of our cooperation with concrete cooperation plan. Also urged the fact that during revision of the project indicators, the members of LPAC should play active role on correcting, understanding and development of proposals for further improvement.

Taking into account all supportive and proposals for cooperation stressed during the meeting and results of discussions mentioned above, all LPAC members decided to endorse the "Central Asian Climate Risk Management" project and send all necessary documents to BCPR for further consideration.

Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov,
Mahmoudov Ahad,
Nargizakhon Usmanova,
Isoev Mirzohaydar,
Takhmina Touraeva,
Timur Haibullaev,
Nematullo Safarov,
Kayumov M,
Alisho Shomahmadov,
Mahmadsharif Khaqdodov,
Firuz Ibragimov,

A collection of handwritten signatures in black ink, corresponding to the names listed on the left. The signatures are written in a cursive style. Some signatures are accompanied by a small 'x' mark or a circle. The signatures are arranged vertically, roughly aligned with the names they represent.