

ISSUE SIX 2013

## Inspiring Mitigation Ambition – LECB Hosted Side Event in Bonn, Germany

Over 45 participants, including UNFCCC party delegates, NGOs, IGOs and development organizations attended the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme's side-event *Inspiring Mitigation Ambition: Experience from the LECB Programme*. The side event focused on country work in the areas of NAMA prioritization, NAMA governance structure and engagement with the private sector. Donor representatives from the European Commission and the governments of Germany and Australia offered brief remarks on their support of the LECB programme and its broader goals of transformational mitigation actions, including:

- Strengthening of GHG inventory systems;
- NAMA and LEDS development along with their associated MRV systems, and;
- Private sector engagement in mitigation actions

### Institutional Arrangements

To begin Vahakn Kabakian of the Ministry of Environment in Lebanon shared his country's NAMA Governance Structure, outlining the six-step process they've formulated for identifying, prioritizing and elaborating NAMAs. Mr. Kabakian opened the presentation stressing the importance of understanding the iterative nature of the process the country has put in place, stating "this is what we're planning, but we're not there yet". Nevertheless the plan is robust. To begin the process the Lebanese government established the National Council for the Environment (Decree 8157/24-5-2012) and the 14 member Council of Ministers (CoM) appointed the Ministry of Environment as the National Coordinators of NAMAs. This structure allows NAMAs to be discussed at the CoM level and secures "political knowledge" of "what is to come"; namely the NAMAs being produced under the LECB Project in Lebanon.

Arranged in two working streams (Research and Technical Support and the Governmental Group), the National Council for the Environment allows members, such as the Ministry of Water and Environment and the Ministry of Energy to flesh out differences at the technical level, thereby

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NATURAL SYNERGIES AND COLLABORATION – MOROCCO AND BEYOND 4

### SAVE THE DATE

Low-Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme's Annual Global Meeting - ATTRACTING CLIMATE FINANCE FOR LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT will be held 25-27 September in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Panel (L-R): Yamil Bonduki, UNDP; Vahakn Kabakian, Lebanon; Friedrich Barth, UNDP; Julia Martinez, Mexico; and Chebet Maikut, Uganda



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avoiding political disputes. According to Mr. Kabakian the LECB Programme in Lebanon helps to catalyze interaction and capacity development within the Council of Environment working further towards "NAMable" proposals.

Julia Martinez of the National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) of Mexico began her presentation by offering the context - 15% of emissions in Mexico are attributed with the industrial sector. If left unchanged this percentage is expected to rise to 22% by 2020, thereby encouraging, if not necessitating more diverse engagement of parties and increased action for change, especially by the private sector.

Mexico contributes some of their projects' initial success to engagement with industrial associations for the Mining and Chemical industries that have preexisting mandates for capacity building. The role of these two industrial associations is to help their associates to overcome challenges in a number of areas. These two industrial associations include over 90% of Mexican industries in the Mining and Chemical sectors thereby proving crucial partners in the puzzle for

low carbon futures. According to Ms. Martinez the LECB Programme has proven a natural fit in this context, providing a mutually beneficial alliance between these industries and the government counterpart and one that will hopefully continue to grow.

The country presentation session was concluded with an engaging presentation by Chebet Maikut, of the Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda. Mr. Maikut shared the Ugandan approach to NAMA prioritization which has involved formulating and adopting a prioritization tool consisting of a six weighted criteria. Once adopted this prioritization criteria was applied to 32 previously identified mitigation options. This stakeholder driven activity was carried out in May at a National Validation Workshop organized through the LECB Project in Uganda. As an outcome of this process key results and challenges were identified in four key sectors: waste, transport, agriculture and energy. The prioritized NAMA options will be further explored and refined and the prioritization tool improved as the project moves forward. Furthermore, this prioritization approach serves as a model that may be utilized in other countries.

## ACCOMPANYING NATIONAL NAMA PROCESSES – NAMA GUIDELINE WORKSHOP

The LECB Global Support Unit, in collaboration with the UNFCCC and UNEP-Risoe used the opportunity of the SB sessions to convene a group of over 40 individuals to discuss the jointly produced *Good Practice Guidance for Preparation and Implementation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions*. The meeting took place on Saturday 15 June, directly following the 38th SBI Sessions, and included government officials from over 20 countries, as well as representatives from Perspectives, GIZ, Ecofys, CCAP, ICI and ECN. The meeting served as an opportunity to formally introduce the draft NAMA guidance document and provide an overview of previously received comments. Once the overall structure and comments were introduced participants split into parallel working groups to discuss structure, content and suggested changes. The meeting was highly interactive and provided ample suggestions as to how to improve and strengthen the guidance. Comments provided by participants during the day both within the plenary and within parallel working groups mainly focused on four thematic areas outlined below, providing the following suggestions for strengthening the

guidance:

### 1. NAMA prioritization process

Key feedback on the NAMA prioritization process section included suggestions to provide a prioritization tool that can be adapted to countries' circumstances, to define the criteria envisioned to evaluate 'transformational' impact and to make explicit the need to include a broad range of stakeholders in the prioritization process.

### 2. Technical aspects of NAMAs and MRV

Considerations on governance and implementation aspects focused on MRV issues. Some participants highlighted that MRV considerations shouldn't be used as a means to prioritize NAMAs, as this may lead to excluding NAMAs with potentially high positive impact on the basis of complex MRV needs. It was recommended that the design of MRV systems take into account the level of ambitious and transformational aspects of the proposed NAMAs.

### 3. NAMA governance and implementation

The discussion raised questions of the time-scales: It is argued that one of the most important drivers to support NAMAs will be co-benefits, e.g. improved

health, sustainable development, financial savings etc. How can these be successfully approached, given NAMAs usually have a long-term time horizon, while often private sector and policy makers have to keep in mind short-term considerations like return on investment and elections. It was recommended that the guidance assist countries in setting up the institutional structures, based on national circumstances, that balance the short and long term horizons while ensuring that such structures are aligned with the decision making process. Participants stressed the need to avoid duplication and to learn from other similar processes in the countries.

### 4. NAMA finance

There was broad agreement that any approach to secure finance to implement NAMAs should include the funding aspect upfront, not at the end of the NAMA identification process, following the question: How would a context in which NAMAs are implemented have to look financially? Thus it was recommended that the guidance assist countries to identify both the potential sources of funding and the key consideration to ensure that NAMAs are

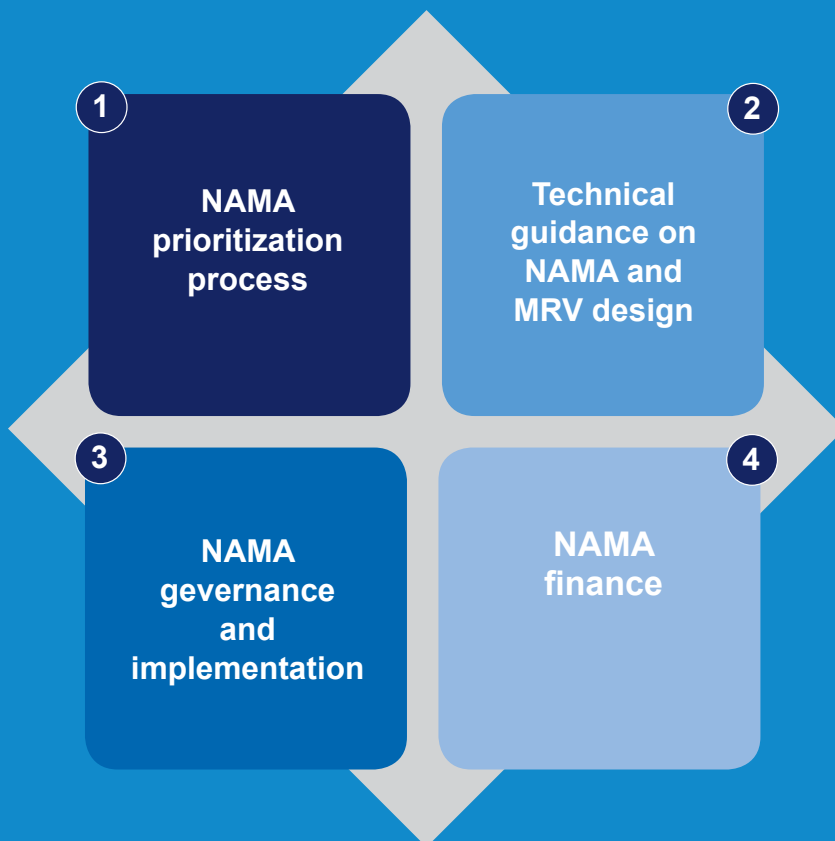
## Donors' support is key to assist countries in low carbon development

The side event was fortunate enough to be attended by individuals from all three donor organizations: the European Commission, and the Governments of Germany and Australia. Each representative offered interventions of support and broader investments in programmes promoting climate awareness and capacity building. Etienne Coyette of the European Commission (EC) highlighted how the LECB Programme is in line with overall EC objectives as regards to low emission programming and stressed the point that the political will is there to continue investing in projects that contribute to sustainable development and emissions reduction worldwide. To illustrate this point Mr. Coyette drew attention to the distribution of funds in the upcoming budget stating that 20% of the total budget across ministries will be dedicated to climate change initiatives. Julia Wolf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety seized

the opportunity to announce the forthcoming NAMA Facility, which just issued its [first call for project proposals](#), and underscored that their commitment to the LECB Programme is made in an effort to promote enhanced ambition.

Gregory Andrews of the Government of Australia stressed the importance of engaging the private sector, stating the "public purse is limited, but the private sector is only limited by its imagination". Citing financial data, Mr. Andrews expressed his interest in seeing the LECB Programme as a capacity building tool to help countries to tap into already existing financial flows.

**Additional side events featuring country experiences and lessons learned will take place at the 19th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Warsaw, Poland. More information will be included on the website [www.lowemissiondevelopment.org](http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org).**



financeable.

Overall, some participants highlighted that in a number of countries the NAMA process is already quite advanced, so the guidance should be flexible in order to be adapted to existing frameworks. Along these lines was also the remark that it would be beneficial if the guidance takes into account the broader development priorities of countries and processes including LEDS.

Another consideration was that as NAMAs comprise a wide range of actions that are not necessarily tagged as climate change activities (but e.g. as energy, transport, forestry or health measures), a stocktaking should be an integral part before initializing a prioritization process, as NAMAs should not consist in only identifying additional activities or projects, but help countries to deviate from their business as usual practices.

As a result of feedback collected before and during the one-day meeting a thorough redraft of the document is underway. The next draft will be delivered at the beginning of September, and once finalized, will be translated into Spanish and French.



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## Natural Synergies and Collaboration – Morocco and beyond



Stakeholders engaging at the workshop in Morocco. (Photo credit: Mounir Temmam)

### LECB GLOBAL SUPPORT NEWSLETTER

Visit the LECB Programme website at [www.lowemissiondevelopment.org](http://www.lowemissiondevelopment.org) and bookmark the page to stay up-to-date with Programme progress and events.

The Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Global Support Newsletter provides updates and information on a range of topics including the status of ongoing national activities, global programme updates, topical news, country highlights, project impacts and results, and noteworthy announcements.

#### DO YOU WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS DISCUSSION?

Contact us at [lowemission@undp.org](mailto:lowemission@undp.org) to let us know your thoughts and proposals.

*Mr. Mounir Temmam of Morocco contributed to this article*

Over the preceding months the Low Emission Capacity Building Programme has taken advantage of natural synergies to collaborate with collegial organizations such as [GIZ](#) and the [International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV](#) in an effort to strengthen the support offered to countries. One such collaboration was carried out in Morocco on the 18th and 19th of June where the national team organized a workshop on Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) and Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV).

More than 50 participants representing different institutions (ministries, government agencies, private sector and national experts) attended this workshop. The workshop had two main objectives the first of which was to strengthen the capacities of the participants, shed some light on the new concepts of LEDS, NAMAs and MRV and demonstrate their link with the latest developments to the international negotiations on climate change. The second objective was to engage the participants in group sessions to discuss the potential NAMA project and the associated measures. The groups were structured around the Agriculture, Transport, Forestry, Energy, Waste Management & Buildings sectors interactive discussions among participants and experts:

- Mitigation and economic development;
- The importance of marginal abatement cost curves in the process of LEDS and NAMAs development; and,
- NAMAs methodological development approach.

As the main workshop outcome, five potential sectors were engaged in detailing their NAMA project through a standardized factsheet. All sectors were invited to submit their factsheet by mid-July to allow the LECB local project team to take further screening steps to guide the future development of the NAMAs and preparation of the Moroccan LEDS.

The workshop was a collaborative effort led by Mr. Benoit Lebot (UNDP, Senegal Regional Office), Mr. Klaus Wenzel (GIZ, Mitigation Partnership), Mr. Mounir Temmam (Local Consultant) and Mr. Mustafa Bendejbi (Department of Environment).

Another such collaboration is demonstrated through a joint workshop entitled Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action Design and Consultation on Selecting Priority NAMAs for Lebanon, supported by the [LECB Programme](#) and the [International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV](#) as well as a joint NAMA Training held in collaboration with [GIZ](#) in Dakar, Senegal where the [GIZ NAMA Tool](#) was translated into French through the support of the LECB Programme.

The LECB Programme will continue to carry out collaborative exercises and produce resources, such as the forthcoming Good Practice Guidance (see page 3-4) in order to ensure the best, most extensive resources for LECB Programme colleagues.