

Wider Implications of Addressing Climate Change

In developing a national Climate Change strategy, Myanmar can demonstrate an integrated approach to mainstreaming climate change into national and local development plans. This will help Myanmar to promote sustainable economic development that incorporates climate change risk mitigation and preparation.

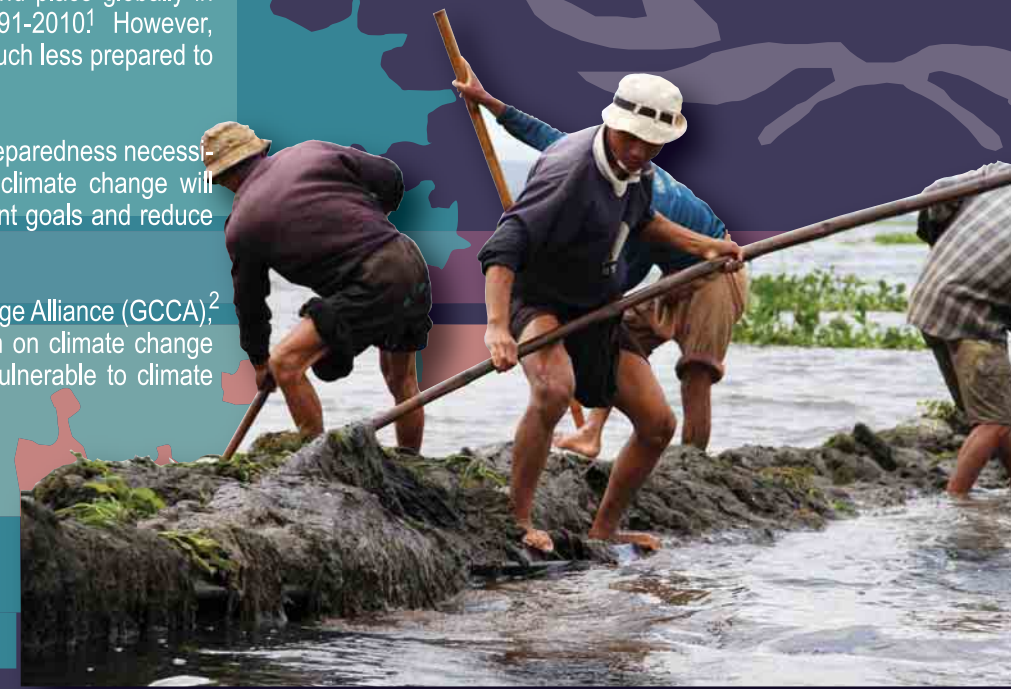
By the end of the project period in 2017, Myanmar will be equipped with policy tools and capacity that can access global climate finance to address climate change induced threats across development sectors. Myanmar will also be able to take advantage of opportunities for sustainable economic growth coupled with ensuring climate resilience for vulnerable and exposed people in Myanmar.

THE MYANMAR CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE PROGRAMME

Myanmar is highly vulnerable to climate change and was placed second place globally in terms of vulnerability from extreme weather events in the period 1991-2010¹. However, when compared to many other countries in the region, it is currently much less prepared to respond to the challenges posed by climate change.

The potential impacts of climate change and the current low state of preparedness necessitates an overarching response. A proactive approach to addressing climate change will safeguard Myanmar's economic, social and environmental development goals and reduce the risks from potential climate change.

Myanmar is to receive financial support under the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)², which, was launched in 2007 to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on climate change between the European Union (EU) and developing countries most vulnerable to climate change.



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¹ Global Climate Risk Index 2012, Germanwatch and Munich Re Nat Cat Service.

² For more information on the GCCA priorities: <http://www.gcca.eu/>

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Objectives

The Myanmar Climate Alliance (MCCA) programme has been designed to strengthen capacity in Government, private sector and civil society actors and to facilitate the Government in preparation of a national strategy for climate change that will result in sectoral strategies and actions to address climate change. Further the programme will support the development of appropriate institutional structures within Myanmar to implement climate change projects and programmes.

The overall objective is to mainstream climate change into the Myanmar policy development and reform agenda.

The specific objectives of the project are:

To strengthen the climate change related institutional and policy environment through sharing of technical knowledge and best practice, training and institutional support.

To promote evidence-based planning and policy making through pilot integration of climate change into sub-national and local level development planning initiatives.

Expected Results of MCCA programme

Expected result 1: Government, civil society and the private sector in Myanmar are more aware of the implications of climate change.

Expected result 2: Government has the capacity and support needed to integrate climate change considerations in policies, strategies, plans and operations and civil society capacity to contribute to climate change activities is enhanced.

Expected result 3: Lessons drawn on climate change from sub-national and local level activities inform policymaking and are communicated to relevant decision-makers in the relevant sectors.

Implementation Arrangements

The Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) is to be jointly implemented by the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). It will run for four years from October 2013. The lead government partner ministry will be the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, but the program will also work closely with several other ministries, government agencies, private sector and civil society.

MCCA Steering Committee: The MCCA will support the establishment of a project steering committee which will be co chaired by MoECAF and the EU

MCCA Technical Unit: A Myanmar Climate Change Alliance Unit (MCCAU) housed within MOECAF will provide technical and administrative support for the strategy development.

Sectoral technical working groups (TWG's): The TWGs will prepare sectoral strategies and action plans for integrating climate change into national development plans.



Cross Cutting issues

Gender equality: Gender will be a key pillar of the Climate Change Strategy development and the sector and local level consultations will make gender a key priority. It is proposed that at least 1/3 member of the TWGs shall consist of women.

Environment: The intervention is expected to have a positive environmental impact as it will promote environmental protection and an understanding of environmental sustainability in the supported communities.

Good governance: Governance will be an integral part of the GCCA program in Myanmar, focusing on institution building that will improve capacity and coordination within government and between government and civil society. The project interventions will be implemented in a way to ensure any land rights, property rights; the rights of the child and indigenous peoples are enhanced and not negatively affected.

