

UN Climate Action Summit: Resilience and Adaptation strand

LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR)

Goal: A historic shift towards a more effective and more ambitious global climate response, spearheaded by the LDCs with supporting development partners, behind a shared 2050 Vision, that ensures support reaches vulnerable communities and countries, with no one left behind.

Context

The LDC Group recognises business-as-usual approaches to climate change are not working. We need long term cross-sectoral and multi-level responses, yet current responses are short term, sectoral projects. We need support to reach those who need it most, yet globally only 18% of finance reaches LDCs, and globally only 10% reaches the local level. We need climate action driven by and for our countries, yet many responses are externally driven and top down and fail to build our institutional capabilities, structures and systems for the long term.

In response, we the LDCs, have taken decisive action to step up our climate ambition. Over the last two years, we have been developing our 2050 Vision for a climate resilient future informed by the deliberations of over 600 experts from across Anglophone and Francophone countries from the Africa and Asia Pacific regions. We are making unconditional commitments to achieve our Vision, drawing upon the resources, capabilities and institutions we have in country to deliver, and using LIFE-AR to drive this forward. We are joined by development partners, civil society, academia and private sector, who stand alongside us in support of a common Vision, one in which they too are part.

Structure and governance

To achieve our 2050 Vision, and under the overarching guidance of the Chair of the LDC Group, LIFE-AR will engage with and benefit all LDCs, leaving no LDC behind. Countries will join the initiative in cohorts over time with learning shared through regional clusters and peer to peer support. In the initial period, six front runners have stepped forward (Uganda, the Gambia, Bhutan, Malawi, Tanzania and Somalia with official interest also expressed from Nepal, Sao Tomé, Mali and Burkina Faso).

LIFE-AR will be governed by a high-level Partnership Forum with members drawn from:

- LDC Governments and Ministers
- LDC Chair and LIFE-AR Advisory Group
- Development partner governments.
- Key LDC academic institutions including the LDC University Consortium on Climate Change

Outcomes

LDC Vision: *All 47 Least Developed Countries deliver climate-resilient development pathways by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050, to ensure our societies, economies and ecosystems thrive.*

Enhanced LDC commitment, our climate action 'offer', to achieve:

1. *Whole of society, multi-level and cross-sectoral responses, bringing together government, private sector, civil society, academia and communities.*
2. *Strong climate finance architecture with at least 70% of flows supporting local action by 2030.*
3. *Integrated adaptation, mitigation and resilience planning at national and local level.*
4. *Strengthened climate capabilities, institutions, knowledge, skills and learning.*
5. *Improved governance of climate decisions centred on gender transformation and social justice.*

Enhanced climate action supported by international community, our 'ask', *calling for development partners' own 1.5 °C compatible long-term strategies as well as long term and high quality, predictable and accessible finance with mutual accountability, investing in our institutions and economies.*

And with a shared 70% finance goal for local action, with £450 million invested *over 10 years in our LDC Vision to channel support directly to local communities who need it most, achieved through building our capabilities and inclusive mechanisms for planning and financing effective climate action across whole of society. This estimate is just for the first frontrunners, needs will grow as more countries step forward and fall over time as countries graduate to accessing multilateral climate finance directly.*

Roadmap for LIFE-AR

The LDC 2050 Vision will be launched in conjunction with the UN Climate Action Summit. The LDCs and international partners will sign up to the goals of the LDC Vision. Front runner countries will then develop their long- term vision and LIFE-AR delivery mechanisms in country with learning shared across LDCs.

Contacts

LDC Chair: LDCchair.bhutan@gmail.com / spwangdi@nec.gov.bt

LDC Lead Negotiator: twangmo@nec.gov.bt

LIFE-AR Technical Lead: gebru.j@yahoo.com

LIFE-AR Secretariat: clare.shakya@iied.org; sarah.mcivor@iied.org and binyam.gebreyes@iied.org