Emerging Lessons from UNEP’s NIE Direct Access to International Climate Funds Support Programme

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Mr. Mozaharul Alam, UNEP ROAP
UNEPMOEJ Support Project

- Ongoing since 2012, supporting readiness for Adaptation Fund in particular
- Initial participating countries include Cambodia, Cook Islands, Maldives, Palau, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu
- Country level support agreements with Cook Islands, Maldives, Palau, Sri Lanka with view of accreditation by 2015
- 4 UNEP regional experts
- Project support Helpdesk
Emerging Lessons
Selection of NIE

* Engaging stakeholders from early on ensures best possible selection of NIE
  * Larger pool of potential IEs
  * Taking stock of capacity
  * Selecting IE that requires the least amount of capacity building
* CC Adaptation experience not a requisite for NIE
* Many support programmes exist. Clear need for coordination or collaboration with different actors to avoid duplication of efforts
Emerging Lessons
Selection of NIE

* Generally Ministries of Environment nominated as NIE
* Strength of IEs should be appraised on all fiduciary standards and not only implementation of projects
* Some nominated NIEs were recalled after stakeholder consultations
* DAs are often also focal points of other MEAs
  * Provides room for synergy
  * Can be over-burdened with different responsibilities
Emerging Lessons Capacity Development

* Functions can be outsourced to other organizations or entities as long as proven collaboration track record exists
* Need to understand not all potential NIEs will be accredited
* Building capacity may be too costly for some IEs
* Regional or Multilateral IEs can still fill some gaps
* Capacity development not a quick process – requires institutional change
Emerging Lessons
Capacity Development

* Going through the accreditation has potential to elevate CC adaptation related issues at the national level
* Accreditation process can improve fraud protection and corruption at the institutional level
* Potential to improve coordination between sectoral ministries and organizations
Emerging Lessons
Projects preparation

* Accreditation does not guarantee funds
* Accreditation lasts 5 years - Need for NIEs nearing accreditation to start developing projects and programmes
* Average time between accreditation to project submission up to 1 year
* IEs can be prepared to submit proposals immediately after accreditation