

COMPREHENSIVE ACTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE – ASIA (CACCI-ASIA)

Investment Options

March 2022

The Comprehensive Action for Climate Change Initiative – Asia (CACCI-Asia) will support host country collaborators in the design and implementation of policies and programs to achieve the commitments under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Renewed commitments under COP26, USAID's Climate Strategy 2022-2030, and President Biden's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE), provide an opportunity to develop partnerships to accelerate evidence driven mitigation and adaptation strategies to climate change in Asian food systems.

As part of their commitment to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions, Asian countries submitted their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and have developed National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) that identify medium and long-term mitigation plans and strategies to meet their NDCs. Governments in Asia have recognized the importance of sectoral strategies in their NAPs and are in the process of developing interventions to achieve their mitigation and adaptation goals. However, a number of challenges have been encountered in the initial phases of implementation. While approaches to modeling climate change impacts and solutions are helpful as they capture linkages between climate change, biological, and economic processes, large information gap exists at a more basic level, such as evidence on the financial versus social profitability of climate change innovations. Absence of systematic analysis of proposed interventions remains a significant barrier to developing meaningful investment plans and actions.

Regional partners such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) have shown interest to collaborate with CACCI using comprehensive approaches. At the national level, Asian countries including Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam have shown interest to design and implement mitigation and adaptation strategies. Working in collaboration with its regional partners, CACCI - Asia will deliver on research-based strategies and capacity strengthening to address climate change concerns and support effective implementation of NAPs in selected Asian countries under three areas:

- Strengthen local capacity for country-level policy modeling and analysis, and more effective local, national, and regional coordination and engagement
- Ensure strong participation by multi-sectoral stakeholders in formulation and implementation of mitigation and adaptation plans
- Create a stronger evidence base through enhanced tracking using Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Adaptation (MELA) systems for measuring and reporting on mitigation and adaptation commitments

This will be a four-year initiative with activities and the final content of training worked out in consultation with country teams.

In Year 1, the focus would be on country level resource stocktaking and policy mapping, formulating NAPS, reviewing mitigation and adaptation indicators and metrics, and ex-ante analysis of adaptation and mitigation impacts and outcomes. For Years 2-4, the focus would be on strengthening policy, institutional, and individual capacity at local, national, and regional levels to fulfill NDC and implement the NAPs.

Strengthen capacities to support NDCs and NAPs implementation. Activities here would include:

- Support country level needs assessment, mapping of resources and climate finance resources for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Build policy modeling research and analytical capacity of local institutions, experts, and climate change committees to conduct data collection, data analysis, climate modeling, track climate change indicators, create dashboards, and develop analytical reports
- Build policy communication capacity of regional stakeholders to engage, collaborate, and learn from each other as well as disseminate climate change research

Build capacities and strengthen institutional architecture for comprehensive MELA. Activities here would include:

- Strengthen capacity to design, operationalize, and use data tracking and Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Adaptation (MELA) platforms
- Support NDC and NAP implementing agencies to identify required institutional infrastructure to enable data collection and management
- Strengthen organizational and managerial skills necessary for institutions to improve their efficiency and accountability

Recognizing the importance of knowledge sharing for evidence-based policymaking, the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System in Asia (ReSAKSS-Asia), facilitated by IFPRI was established to promote south-south learning and enhance networking within and across each of the three sub-regions— South Asia, Southeast Asia and Central Asia. USAID has a long history of strengthening policy systems in Asia and has been collaborating with ReSAKSS- Asia through the Feed the Future USAID Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy, Research, Capacity (PRCI) to strengthen the capacities of research organizations to conduct rigorous analysis, influence national and regional policymaking, and improve institutional sustainability. CACCI-Asia will build on PRCI's existing network in the region to accomplish its key goals.

Table 1: CACCI-ASIA Investment Options

Activities under the standard CACCI-Asia package are shown in Table 1 at a cost of US\$250,000 and compared with activities that could be included at higher funding levels (CACCI-Asia+ (Level 2) and CACCI-Asia++(Level 3)). Level 1 activities are timed for the first year of the project. Activities in Level 2 will build on activities of Level 1 in the second year. Activities of Level 3 will build on Levels 1 & 2 in the third and fourth years of the project. In all cases, the details of targeted groups, number of beneficiaries, and final content of training will be worked out in consultation with country teams.

Not supported
Basic support
Higher support
Highest support

Component	Description of Activities	Deliverable	Level 1 (\$250,000)	Level 2 (\$500,000)	Level 3 (\$250,000)
Support Design and Implementation of NAPs and NDCs	Facilitate stock taking of mitigation and adaptation policies and programs derived from NDCs and NAPs at the sectoral and national level	Country Level Reports on current state of NDCs, NAPs, and their linkages to national economic development plans and sectoral policies	✓	✓	✓
	Review state of mitigation and adaptation intervention options and their status of adoption at the sectoral level	Mitigation and Adaptation (Technical, Institutional, Policy, Governance, and Capacity) Interventions Reports	✓	✓	✓
	Ex ante analysis of adaptation and mitigation impacts and outcomes	Country level reports on mitigation and adaptation pathways	✓	✓	✓
	Review mitigation and adaptation indicators and metrics	Technical review paper on NDC mitigation and adaptation metrics	✓	✓	✓
	Conduct stakeholder consultative and validation workshops	Workshops and recommendations of intervention, implementation, and tracking options for mitigation and adaptation interventions	✓	✓	✓
	Capacity needs assessment for policy design and implementation	Country level reports on capacity needs assessment for policy design and implementation	✓	✓	✓
Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Adaptation (MELA)	Develop and track performance of monitoring and evaluation indicators at national, sub-regional, district, community and household levels	MELA Database and Platform for real time monitoring of intervention progress		✓	✓
	Track performance of implementation under individual commitment areas in NDCs	MELA Database and Platform for real time monitoring of implementation of programs	✓	✓	✓
	Develop multi-sectoral accountability processes at the country and regional levels	Mitigation and Adaptation Scorecard at the country and regional levels		✓	✓
	Capacity needs assessment and analysis for MELA	MELA Capacity Needs Assessment report	✓	✓	✓
	Learning events at country and regional levels	Learning events and recommendations for refinement of interventions	✓	✓	✓

Component	Description of Activities	Deliverable	Level 1 (\$250,000)	Level 2 (\$500,000)	Level 3 (\$250,000)
Capacity Strengthening at local, national, and regional level	Policy, institutional, and individual level capacity strengthening	Workshops for strengthening policy and analytical skills and capacity of key stakeholders		✓	✓
Capacity Strengthening at local, national, and regional level	Capacity to design, operationalize, and use data tracking and MELA platforms	Workshops for strengthening MELA platforms		✓	✓
	Institutional infrastructure to enable data collection and management	Workshops for data collection, processing, and management		✓	✓
	Strengthen organizational and managerial skills necessary for institutions to improve their climate governance, efficiency, and accountability	Workshops for improving climate governance, efficiency, and accountability		✓	✓
	Build policy research and modeling capacity of local think tanks and their researchers for climate modeling, data collection, data analysis, climate modeling, track climate change indicators, and create dashboards	Workshops for policy research and modeling capacity		✓	✓
	Support multi-stakeholder research to policy communication at the local, national, and regional level	Communication workshops for skills developed for national consultative processes including policy briefs, policy memos, high level presentations		✓	✓