Opportunities for natural rubber in NDCs and NAPs

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Natural Rubber Systems and Climate Change
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Introduction: NDCs and NAPs

• Policy documents that are meant to orient national policies and planning related to climate change
• Established by UNFCCC
• Orient also funding from international funds (GCF...) and other donors (ODA)
• Periodically reviewed

• Very different in nature and scope
1) Land use, forests and rubber in the NDCs

Padang Sugihan Wildlife Reserve - Sebokor.
NDC process and content

• Short documents: an international commitment
• Mandatory mitigation commitments
• Adaptation optional but present in all NDCs of developing countries

• 1st set in 2015
• Being implemented: look for opportunities in producing countries; and also in consuming countries
• NAP often mentioned as the vehicle for implementation of the adaptation part of the NDC
• Monitoring implementation
• Prepare the next NDCs, more ambitious
Forests and land use in the NDCs

• LULUCF is referenced in 77 percent of all countries’ INDCs, and as such is second only to energy.
• Agriculture is mentioned in 73 percent of the countries’ mitigation contributions.
• 86 percent of countries refer to agriculture and/or LULUCF.
• Land use is the sector the most frequently mentioned for synergies between adaptation and mitigation as well as for co-benefits with SDGs.
What opportunities for rubber in the NDCs?

• Rubber rarely mentioned (short documents: Malaysia 6p). Indonesia more use of rubber wood (energy)

• But broad orientations on forests or plantations (afforestation, plantations, sustainable management) to which can be linked policies and measures for implementation

• Look also at orientations on biomaterials in consuming countries

• Revision of NDCs, including quantitative impacts, mitigation, adaptation and co-benefits

• Importance of evidence
2) Forests, trees, and rubber in the NAPs

Mangrove Sapling
Photo by Sigit Deni Sasmito/CIFOR
The NAP process

Established by UNFCCC in 2010 in Cancun (COP 16)

a) To reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, by building adaptive capacity and resilience;

b) To facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.

The process shall be “guided by best available science”.
(UNFCCC, decision 5/CP.17)

To date 20 countries have published their NAP.
Relations between «sectors»

Forests, trees and agroforestry

- Ecosystems, biodiversity
- Crops
- Livestock
- Fisheries
- Aquaculture
- Water
- Energy
- Vulnerable populations

Cities
Human settlements
Infrastructures

Health

Regional

Local
Structure of the NAPs

• Most often chapters/sections by sectors.
• Two NAPs, Sudan and Palestine, are organized by regions, with in both cases a strong focus on agriculture.
• Ethiopian NAP organized by broad options
• Some NAPs (Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Kenya) explicitly mention forms of coordination and organization at subnational level

• But the NAP is not only a material document; it is a process.
Place of forests in the NAPs

• Forestry is in the majority of cases integrated in the ecosystems and biodiversity section.

• Some exceptions where forestry is a specific section (Cameroon) or a subsection of a broader agriculture and forestry part (Togo).

• For Chile, forests are included in the biodiversity plan, but planted forests are part of the sylvo-agro-pastoral plan.

• For Ethiopia, one “option” is sustainable forest management, explicitly linked to other sectors.

• By contrast, in most adaptation plans of developed countries there is a specific section on forestry, covering all types and functions of forests.
Main measures for adaptation of natural forests in the NAPs

• Monitoring and risk management systems:
  • Changes
  • Forest fires
  • Pests and diseases

• Research, esp species of interest (commercial, threatened, invasive), restoration, biological indicators of stress, modeling effects on ecosystems

• Ecosystem based adaptation
Main measures for adaptation of planted forests in the NAPs

• monitoring and risk management systems:
  • forest fires
  • weather
  • Pests and diseases (integrated system for agriculture and planted forests Chile)

• changes of planted species and varieties

• conservation and sustainable management of genetic resources

• anticipate future changes; for instance use seeds coming from areas that are hotter or drier in order to have adult trees that will be adapted to the future climate.
Planting trees in the NAPs

1) For natural resources management, for instance to:
- restore degraded land,
- reduce soil erosion,
- restore water catchments,
- protect water tanks and rivers (against erosion and evaporation)
- reduce coastal erosion and protect against storms.

2) In agriculture, with:
- wind breaks,
- shade trees
- agroforestry in general.

3) For the protection and greening of cities to:
- reduce the urban heat island effect
- manage increased fire risks.
Agroforestry in the NAPs

• In most cases agroforestry is covered in the agriculture section of NAPs.

• The word “agroforestry” is mentioned in about two thirds of the NAPs, 3 countries mention it more than twice.

• Few mentions of the need to adapt agroforestry systems or planted trees (Sri Lanka, Cameroon and Chile).

• In some cases, agroforestry is mentioned (Togo) or broad measures like increase the proportion of perennial plants and forest farming or planting 10% of agricultural land with forest trees (Sudan).

• In some countries broad measures or orientations implicitly include agroforestry like:
  • design farming systems to reduce thermal stress, plant shade trees (Chile)
  • Identify and manage ecosystems that provide ecosystem services that sustain agriculture systems, to prevent soil erosion, regulate nutrient cycles, pollinate plants, control pests and regulate water in quantity and quality (Colombia).
Good examples for rubber

- Sri Lanka, complete plan as part of a complete package for plantations
- Cameroon: Mesure 6.15. strengthening of rubber production capacity in a context of climate change (classified in Industry)
- Chile: specific adaptation plan for plantations, with some measures common to agriculture (monitoring of pests and diseases)

- Sectoral dialogues: Uruguay, Uganda?
- Subnational efforts
Improving integration of rubber in the NAPs

Often lack of consideration in the national process of the needs of a sector and of its potential contribution to national adaptation.

Need for:

- **Evidence of the contribution of the sector** to economy, employment,…

- **a sector focused adaptation reflection**, to identify vulnerabilities and means for adaptation

- **a dialogue** between the sector and the sectors that can benefit from it for adaptation (allies)

Need, and opportunity, for the **scientific community to be better engaged** and provide options and enabling conditions that would enable forests and trees to play their role to support national adaptation.
http://foreststreesagroforestry.org/

The CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA) is the world’s largest research for development program to enhance the role of forests, trees and agroforestry in sustainable development and food security and to address climate change. CIFOR leads FTA in partnership with Bioversity International, CATIE, CIRAD, ICRAF, INBAR and TBI.