



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



United Nations Development Programme

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012: STRATEGIC INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

BOOTS ON THE GROUND ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Foreword 4

Background 6

Map of Boots Countries.....8

Overview of Impacts in 2012..... 10

Global Achievements – Exchanging Experiences and Building a Global Network10

Regional Trends and Highlights..... 12

 The Africa Region12

 The Arab States Region14

 The Asia Region16

 The Latin America and Caribbean Region18

 The Pacific Region20

National achievements according to outcome 22

Outcome 1: Support for engagement with the UNFCCC negotiations and other global processes.....22

Outcome 2: Improved capacity to integrate climate change concerns into development planning and policy processes.....24

Outcome 3: Climate change mainstreaming in UN/DP portfolio and programming30

Outcome 4: Sharing knowledge, lessons learned and communication of impact results31

Outcome 5: Strengthening UNDP’s national climate change portfolio and policy-related needs34

Looking ahead 39

Cover Photo: In Bhutan, a project is working at more than 4000m above sea level to reduce climate-induced risks and vulnerabilities from glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF) in the Punakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar Valleys. The climate change adaptation project illustrated here is funded by the Global Environment Facility Least Developed Country Fund based on the country’s first National Adaptation Programme of Action (2006) and the Austrian Development Assistance.

Acknowledgements

With thanks for contributions from Walid Ahmed Ali, Joanne Aihunu, Ababu Anage, Kumeh Salim Assaf, Jennifer Baumwoll, Abdoulaye Bayoko, Idesbald Chinamula, Cristina Colon, Pema Dorji, Joao Carlos Fernando, Excellent Hachileka, Idriss Hared, Alex Heikens, Phearanich Hing, Constant Houndenou, Alexis Kaboré, Alioune Badara Kaere, Shanti Karanjit, Niina Kylliainen, Benoit Lebot, Marta Moneo, Tirivanhu Muhwati, Rose Mwebaza, Singha Ounniyom, Marwan Owagen, Carlos Perez Aleman, Limomane Peshoane, Kevin Petrini, Timothy Ranja, Dauda Sau, Jonky Yawo Tenou, Abu Uddin, and a special thanks to Pia Treichel.

Design: Rebecca Buttrose

FOREWORD

Low-income countries and communities suffer disproportionately from the short- and long-term impacts of climate change, while degradation of natural and human resources further threaten productive livelihoods.

It is increasingly recognized that addressing climate change is a critical component of achieving sustainable human development. We are already seeing climate-induced impacts exacerbating economic, political and humanitarian stresses that degrade inclusive growth and threaten to slide back development gains. Low-income countries and communities suffer disproportionately from the short- and long-term impacts of climate change, while degradation of natural and human resources further threaten productive livelihoods.

At the same time, the production and consumption patterns modeled by developed countries have proven unsustainable. These approaches threaten even deeper inequality and poverty for vulnerable populations dependent on depleting natural resources. What is needed is a profound transformation to more resource-efficient, inclusive and resilient forms of growth, while also taking into account potential risks posed by climate-related impacts.

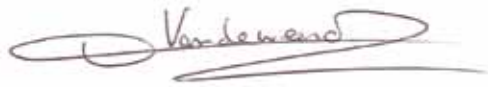
UNDP is responding to growing country demand for support on achieving this transformation through its extensive portfolio of projects, policy advice and technical support provided through the Environment and Energy Group (EEG). Through this work, UNDP has actively supported developing countries strengthen comprehensive measures to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient objectives which promotes inclusive and sustainable growth where livelihoods for the poor are resilient to future climate impacts. This work further advances and sustains the achievements of national development priorities.

Low-income and least developed countries are typically least able to address the challenges posed by climate change, given their limited access to resources and dependence on natural capital. As a result, UNDP’s efforts on climate change focus on vulnerable developing countries, particularly Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. One of its flagship programmes to strengthen the capacity of low-income countries, the “Strategic Initiative to Address Climate Change in LDCs,” referred to as “Boots on the Ground,” was launched by EEG in 2009, supported by UNDP’s Executive Board. This initiative has proven to provide valuable policy and implementation support to national governments in the area of climate change.

The Boots on the Ground initiative puts in place national and regional climate change policy advisors to address the changing climate-related needs and demands of their national counterparts. This programme model is unique and has successfully incentivized the collaboration among various UNDP initiatives across regions, complementing UNDP’s vast project portfolio. Not only do the Boots on the Ground advisors have an opportunity to scale up action on climate change mitigation and ad-

aptation across sectors, but they also work closely with the Regional Bureaus and other Practice Areas to strengthen an integrated approach to addressing climate change as a means of reducing poverty and strengthening sustainable development.

This report showcases the valuable results of the Boots on the Ground Initiative in 2012. It examines both regional trends and national achievements across the 26 participating countries. It is my hope that the examples provided in this report will provide evidence for the immense need of the support being provided through this initiative. With this evidence, UNDP looks forward to continued efforts to meet a range of needs expressed by government partners in low income and least developed countries.



Veerle Vandeweerd
Director, Environment and Energy Group
United Nations Development Programme

BACKGROUND

Climate change threatens to undermine hard won human development gains and achievements made on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This is particularly true for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which will most likely bear the brunt of climate change impacts, yet remain the least equipped to adapt. LDCs face a broad range of climate change challenges – from flooding risks in glacial mountain countries and sea-level rise in low-lying coastal areas to increased rainfall variability with hotter climates in land-locked arid countries. LDC populations are also heavily reliant on sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, and forestry to support their livelihoods and drive their economies, which are also the sectors most vulnerable to climate change impacts. Finding solutions for resilience in the face of climate change will continue to be a key priority for LDCs.

At the same time, opportunities are emerging for developing countries to pursue low-carbon approaches that also contribute to achieving development priorities. For example, decentralized renewable energy solutions could reduce negative health benefits caused by pollution and increase energy access for the poor, especially in remote communities.

Developing countries are increasingly turning their attention to the formulation of comprehensive approaches to address climate change that align with development priorities. The ability to both adapt to climate change impacts and chart low-emission and pro-poor growth paths is essential; yet the capacity to use relevant data and information for informed policy and decision-making, and the resources (financial, human and social) to implement these decisions is often limited.

In many countries, particularly LDCs or low-income countries, the institutions and systems in place to address these challenges are often limited. Stronger institutional capacities and informed decisions at the national level would help LDCs to better respond to climate change and pursue comprehensive approaches to addressing its threats and capitalizing on its opportunities. This is particularly important as the landscape in which climate change decisions are made continues to change rapidly and new funding sources are launched, new technologies emerge, and new policies and approaches are developed.

In 2009, UNDP’s Executive Board established the Strategic Initiative to Address Climate Change in LDCs, aka “Boots on the Ground,” to address these needs. The objective of the initiative is to support LDCs in responding to the threat of climate change by strengthening high-quality and timely policy advice, while providing sustained institutional and capacity development support on climate change at the country level.

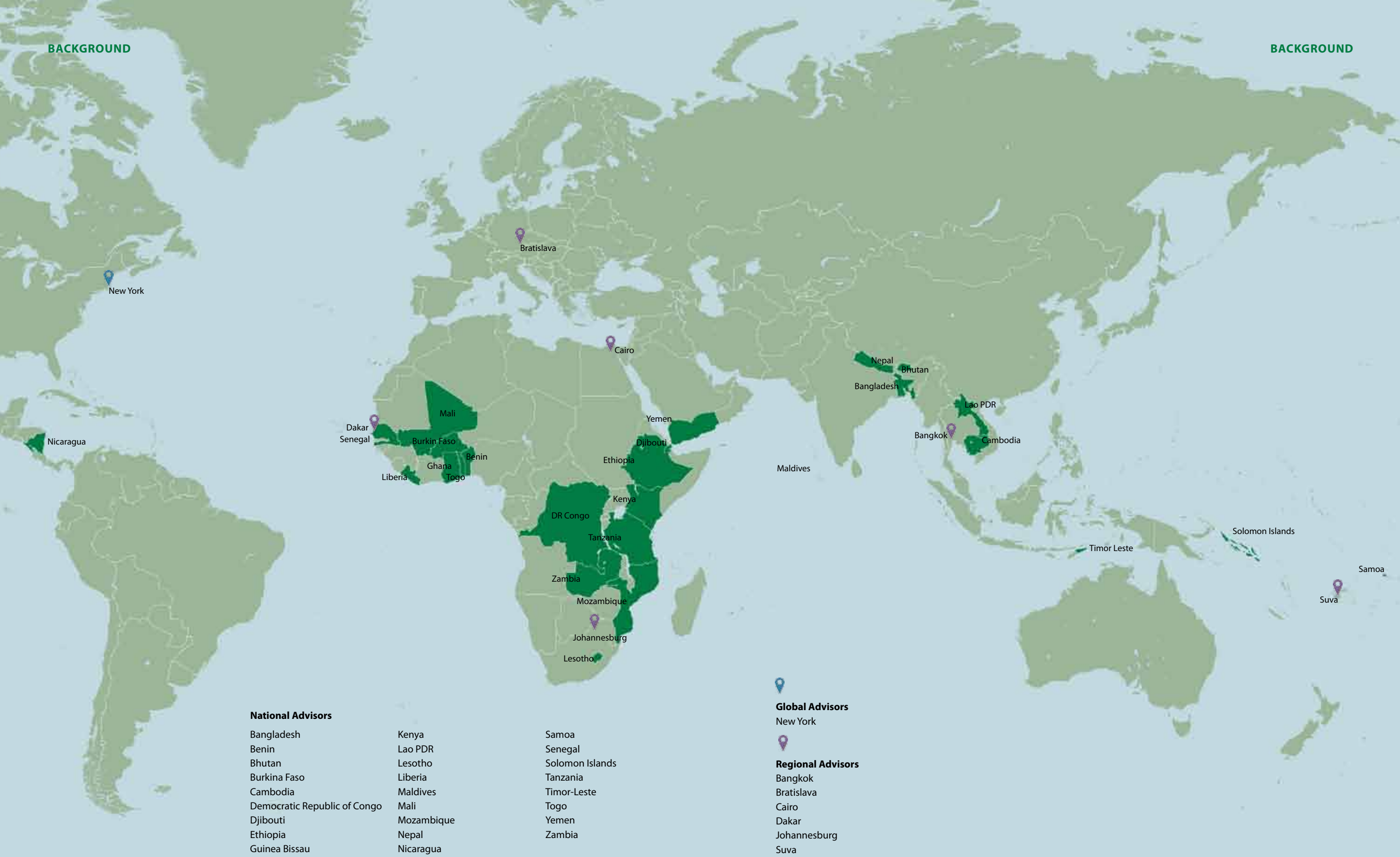
Through this initiative, UNDP has intensified its policy support to LDC governments through a network of 26 national climate change specialists and 4 regional climate change advisors who draw on the expertise and knowledge management tools and products developed by UNDP more broadly. The programme works towards 5 key outcomes:

OUTCOME 1	OUTCOME 2	OUTCOME 3	OUTCOME 4	OUTCOME 5
Governments and civil society substantively engaged and supported in their preparations for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations across the key negotiation themes.	Improved capacity of governments and other stakeholders to integrate climate change concerns into development planning and policy processes.	UNDP Country Offices positioned as leading development partner on climate change.	UNDP’s knowledge and evidence-base in the area of climate change policy expanded and enhanced.	Country Office’s climate change portfolio enhanced and specific policy-related needs satisfied.

These outcomes draw directly from the objectives of the *UNDP’s Strategic Plan* and *UNDP’s Climate Change Strategy*, and are adapted so that they reflect the priorities of each region and country participating in the programme.

Through the coordinated approach of Boots on the Ground, the programme seeks to contribute to UNDP’s institutional goals by promoting a multi-practice approach (drawing on corporate expertise on gender, democratic governance, capacity development, and poverty reduction) and South-South cooperation (both intra- and inter-regionally) to provide broader support and integrated policy advice to specific governments, regional bodies, and the UN.

The 26 participating Boots on the Ground countries have also benefitted from effective coordination with other UNDP initiatives, namely the Integrating Climate Change Risks into Development Planning and Programming project (ICCP) (2009-2013), which provided 3 additional regional policy advisors (RPAs) based in Bangkok, Bratislava, and Dakar, as well as ad hoc support from HQ for the LAC region. These additional RPAs supported by ICCP worked in harmony and complementarity with the Boots on the Ground RPAs, which resulted in an exponential increase in results from both initiatives.



OVERVIEW OF IMPACTS IN 2012

“...exchange of experience has been effected with Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, through existing projects allowed discuss best practices and lessons learnt to be shared and replicated in the region, including first-hand contacts from farmers, extension workers, officials and experts on how various technologies implemented in the area improved living conditions of farmers, as well as raising the role women in the project.”

Jennifer Topping, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP-Resident Representative, UNDP Mozambique.

“Indeed, the Boots on the Ground programme complement[s] the more traditional strengths of programme analysts/managers to ensure that programmes/projects are technically sound (by bringing their expertise) and politically viable (because of stakeholder engagement) and linked to policy.”

Ms. Setsuko Yamazaki, Country Director, UNDP Cambodia

During its third year of implementation, the Boots on the Ground programme has demonstrated both the demand for and the value of targeted climate change policy support for LDC and low income countries. Across all 26 participating countries, national advisors have provided support to government counterparts for global processes, such as UNFCCC negotiations, Rio +20 and the Secretary General’s initiative “Sustainable Energy for All.” Capacities for the effective use and management of climate finance have been strengthened, while government officials have also gained extensive knowledge on other climate-related issues, such as the potential risks and opportunities climate change poses to development. Tools and measures for applying this knowledge have been shared and tested, resulting in climate-resilient development plans, comprehensive financial and institutional assessments, and low-carbon growth strategies. These experiences have been shared between the Boots on the Ground network, and help to strengthen and inform existing practice.

In 2012, the programme achieved significant results both at the global and national level, succeeding in positioning UNDP as a key player in the area of climate change. The following sections summarize some examples of 2012 achievements at the global level and across each region.

GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENTS – EXCHANGING EXPERIENCES AND BUILDING A GLOBAL NETWORK

One of the valuable global achievements of the programme is the frequent and in-depth **South-South exchange** it has fostered. While UNDP has experience in South-South sharing, this most commonly takes place within a region. Examples of exchange taking place between two regions are far rarer, however Boots on the Ground has shown the ability to capitalize on the cultivated relationships across 4 regions – Asia-Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Arab States. For example, in early 2012, the government of Zambia approached the UNDP Zambia CO seeking examples of terms of reference and organograms for institutional arrangements



Simone in the mangrove plantations of the Gandon Community Nature Reserve, Senegal.
Photo: Erick-Christian AHOUNOUS.

for climate change coordination. Capitalizing on the Boots network, this request was immediately and seamlessly shared with 25 other countries around the world and the officer in Zambia was able to share these results with their government.

Further developing a **strong network** among Boots advisors and broader colleagues, workshops and Monthly Knowledge Topics have been facilitated on relevant, demand-driven issues. These initiatives help to further share experiences while also building the expertise of the National Officers who can then offer better support to their respective country governments. Recent examples include a joint topic with UNDP’s Democratic Governance Group on engaging parliamentarians on climate change, exploring the topic of Loss and Damage with UNDP’s Disaster Risk Team, and REDD+ readiness and other key technical issues (i.e. Monitoring, Reporting and Verification, Reference emission levels/reference levels, safeguard information systems, etc.).

REGIONAL TRENDS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Strengthening the Capacity of African Negotiators

Helping to strengthen countries' participation in the international climate change negotiations and building the capacities of negotiating teams continued to be a strong focus in the region over 2012.. National policy briefs on key aspects of the negotiations (such as climate change finance, NAMAs, NAPs and NAPAs) have been developed and shared in all countries in the region, and the development of position papers supported. Further, National post-COP 17 workshops were organized for key climate change stakeholders in **Kenya** and **Lesotho** to update them on the outcomes of the negotiations in 2011. Training and preparatory workshops to prepare for COP 18 were supported in **Mozambique, Kenya, Lesotho, and Zambia**, with post-COP debriefing workshop scheduled for early 2013 in Ethiopia, Lesotho, Kenya and Zambia. These workshops and other capacity building efforts resulted in improved capacity of individual negotiators to participate in the negotiations, as well as strengthened clarity on country positions (including the national statements made) in advance of the COP.



THE AFRICA REGION:

The six countries in East and Southern Africa supported by Boots on the Ground are **Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia**. These six countries are supported by a Regional Policy Advisor based in the UNDP Regional Service Centre (RSC) in Johannesburg, South Africa. Similarly, the eight countries in West and Central Africa supported by Boots on the Ground are **Benin, Burkina-Faso, DR Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, and Togo**. These six countries are supported by a Regional Policy Advisor based in the RSC in **Dakar, Senegal**. The regional advisor in West and Central Africa is provided by the ICCPP initiative and delivered in a coherent manner, allowing for additional countries in the sub-region to also receive regional policy support.

Results in the Africa Region in 2012 focused on the following areas (specific country achievements are outlined in the next section):

- 1) **Capacity to substantively and effectively engage in the UNFCCC negotiations built:** Many African countries were supported to develop national positions for the 18th Conference of Parties (COP 18) to the UNFCCC, which included trainings on climate change negotiations, information meetings and briefings on COP18, and awareness raising on key UNFCCC-related products (e.g. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), National Communications). Technical support was also provided to the African Union and the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) to develop an African position on climate change in preparation for COP 18.

- 2) **Capacity for effective use of climate finance improved:** Technical support and training was provided to the federal and regional ministries of finance and planning on climate change finance to enhance access to and delivery of climate change funds at the national level in several countries. A regional capacity building workshop on climate finance for East and Southern Africa provided an opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned. Dedicated national support was also provided to several countries, focusing on support for NAMAs, operationalization of National Climate Funds and National Climate Change Coordination Frameworks to coordinate climate funds, and integration of gender considerations into climate finance frameworks.

- 3) **South-South Cooperation and awareness raising of relevant decision makers on climate change fostered:** Extensive experiences have been shared both within the region and with other regions, particularly focused on climate finance. Learning tours have been organized through Boots on the Ground with delegations from one African country visiting another to learn about national climate change financing mechanisms. Similarly, countries in Africa have been learning about the work undertaken in the Asia-Pacific region on Climate Finance Frameworks and CPEIRs, and as a result, these are expected to be key work areas for Africa in 2013.

- 4) **Support provided to the African regional organizations to address climate change:** Technical support has been provided to the African Union (AU) to mainstream climate change finance in the Africa Strategy on Climate Change. This will enhance continental efforts to mobilise climate change finance. Support has also been provided to other African regional organizations, such as the Regional Economic Commission of the West Africa States (ECOWAS), and the UN integrated Sahel Strategy. This support encouraged the development of policies & programmes that address climate change and helped to identify synergies and complementarities among ongoing initiatives. In Mali, for example, UNDP and the African Centre on Climate Policies (ACCP) of ECOWAS have discussed collaboration to support Mali's transition to a low carbon and climate-resilient economy.



The Bati biofuel project in Ethiopia was supported by the Boots on the Ground national advisor through implementation of the Africa Adaptation Programme, funded by the Government of Japan. This project aimed to ensure sustainable environmental management by planting Jatropha, a plant that helps with land degradation and at the same time provides the stock for a renewable source of energy: biofuel. Growing Jatropha helps remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere thus contributing to mitigation by reducing the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. At the same time, activities such as fencing with and planting Jatropha in and around agricultural areas also contribute to soil and water conservation by protecting soils and encouraging rain water infiltration, thus providing mechanisms to adapt to more extreme climate events (i.e. floods and drought) in the future.

Developing agro-pastoral shade gardens as an adaptation strategy to climate change for poor rural communities in Djibouti

In Djibouti, the Boots on the Ground programme supported the government to formulate a \$4.6m adaptation project to develop shade gardens in rural communities. The project, funded by the Adaptation Fund, contributes to water access and management, and rural microfinance measures to build resilience of rural communities.



THE ARAB STATES REGION:

Boots on the Ground is active in two countries in the Arab States region, Djibouti and Yemen, with five additional countries supported in 2012 (Algeria, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, and Sudan) through the provision of a regional policy advisor based in the Regional Centre in Cairo.

Results in the Arab Sates Region in 2012 focused on the following areas (specific country achievements are outlined in the next section):

- 1) **The development of new climate change adaptation projects:** Both Yemen and Djibouti are highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, with a large percentage of their population and land dedicated to agriculture and pastoralism.¹ Both countries are also vulnerable to natural hazards, including droughts, extreme flooding, changing rainfall pattern and sea level rise. As a result, climate change adaptation is an urgent priority and is being supported by the Boots on the Ground programme. In both countries, funding was mobilized to support adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives, and implementation of these new and ongoing projects were supported through technical support and management.

¹ In Djibouti, pastoral lands make up 95% of the land area and are highly erodible soils with limited water supplies, making food security issues a concern for pastoral communities. Similarly, in Yemen 75% of the population is rural-based and engaged in farming activities and pastoralism, and these communities are highly reliant on favourable climate conditions for their livestock.

“The presence of a national expert has also facilitated climate change mainstreaming across other UNDP projects, bringing new programmatic focus and approaches (National Agricultural Sector Strategy National Fishery Development Strategy; National Water Sector Strategy & Investment Program; UNDP Country Program Document, amongst others).

Ismail Ouldcheikhahmed, UNDP Resident Representative, Yemen

- 2) **Raising the profile of the international climate negotiations in the region:** With Qatar hosting the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 18th Conference of the Parties (COP) in December, 2012 was an important year for the Arab States region in terms of the climate negotiations. Through the Boots initiative, advisors provided dedicated updates and summaries of COP related issues to strengthen the capacity of negotiation teams in both **Djibouti** and **Yemen**. A sub-regional workshop on climate change for Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) diplomats held in Kuwait in preparation for COP 18 was facilitated. A contribution was also made to an event organized by Chatham House held in Qatar on “Approaching COP 18 - New Avenues for Enhancing Multilateral Action.”
- 3) **Integrating climate change considerations into national development planning:** In both Djibouti and Yemen, support was provided to ensure climate risks and opportunities are integrated into national and sectoral development policies, such as the National Fishery Development Strategy in Yemen and the Disaster Risk Reduction Action plan in Djibouti, which integrated drought risk management. A workshop on integration of climate change into development processes in Djibouti also targeted a range of different ministries, and laid the foundation for a 2013 workshop on the topic of integration of climate change considerations into national development, and the national budgeted aspects for adaptation;
- 4) **Mainstreaming climate change in UNDP portfolio and programming:** As the UN System’s strategic programme framework for the UN Country Team, the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) describes the collective response of the UNCT to the priorities set out in the respective national development framework. The UNDAF usually runs for a 5-year cycle, and as such, it is important that climate change considerations are taken into account in both the development and implementation of the UNDAF. To implement the UNDAF, UNDP designs its own Country Programme Document (CPD) which defines the specific support UNDP will provide to contribute to achieving the UNDAF outcomes. In Yemen, the new UNDAF cycle began in 2012, and in Djibouti it began in 2013. Therefore, in 2012 the Boots on the Ground programme supported the integration of climate change into the UNDAF and CPDs of the respective countries. In Djibouti, for example, the new CPD covering 2013-2017 recognizes the nexus between climate change and development.

Mainstreaming Climate Change into UNDP Country Programming in Yemen

In **Yemen**, technical advice from the Boots on the Ground national advisor was provided to integrate climate change considerations into the revised Country Programme Document (CPD), aligned with the UNDP Transitional Plan under the Gulf Countries Council’s (GCC) deal. The advisor also reviewed several UNDP CO programmes and projects to identify entry points for integrating climate change consideration across several portfolios – including local economic development disaster risk reduction and early recovery, gender and economic empowerment, and natural resource management. In addition, a policy note advocating for mainstreaming climate change into Socotra Governance and Biodiversity Conservation (SGBP) was developed, and has provided basis for UNDP Country Office’s future programmatic visioning on Socotra as a globally recognized rich and unique biodiversity.

“The [Boots Adviser] position has been particularly instrumental in building capacity for climate change negotiation and assisting Bangladesh delegation to demonstrate leadership and articulate LDC concerns in COP/MOP meetings.”

Robert Juhkam, Deputy Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh



THE ASIA REGION:

The Asian countries included in the Boots on the Ground initiative are Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Nepal, and Timor-Leste, each of which has a National Policy Advisor based in the UNDP Country Office. In addition, in Asia-Pacific, the Boots initiative is delivered in parallel with the Integrating Climate Change Risks into Development Planning and Programming project (ICCPP) , which supports a Regional Policy Advisor providing direct support to the seven national advisors. The two complementary initiatives being delivered in a coordinated and coherent manner has allowed additional countries such as Indonesia and Viet Nam outside of the participating countries to benefit from the work..

Results in the Asia Region in 2012 focused on two substantive areas of climate finance readiness, as well as mobilizing resources to further support Asian countries (specific country achievements are outlined in the next section):

- 1) **Strengthening understanding of National Climate Funds (NCFs):** Many countries in the region have had their understanding of and capacity for NCFs built as a result of the Boots programme, with a discussion paper, 5 case studies, e-discussions, and a regional clinic, together strengthening south-south cooperation and learning across the region.

- 2) **Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews (CPEIRs) initiated:** CPEIRs have been finalized in six countries in Asia, namely Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and Thailand. This work was done in collaboration with the UNDP-UNEP joint Poverty Environment Initiative programme (PEI) and was thus implemented in countries outside of the Boots on the Ground initiative. Several follow-up projects are being developed and the methodology will be implemented in additional Asian countries, as well as applied in other regions.
- 3) **Resource mobilization for continued support on climate finance readiness:** In late 2012 the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) agreed to finance a 3-year regional programme in Asia on the governance of climate finance to benefit the poor and vulnerable. Results of Boots on the Ground, achieved through collaboration with the PEI and the ICCPP, played a key role in mobilizing these external resources and positioning UNDP in Asia at the forefront of dialogue and support on climate finance to governments in Asia.

“Climate Change agenda is a fast evolving area, and especially in the context of low capacity LDC (such as Lao PDR), some of the technical terms and discussions are not familiar and [Government officials] feel comfortable soliciting support in understanding the topics, through such support by a trusted local advisor. In this regard we can say that the BoG advisor has definitely contributed to the capacity development, and knowledge transfer, to benefit the country”

Kyoko Yokosuka, Deputy Resident Representative (Programme), UNDP Lao PDR

Results of Climate Public Expenditure Reviews in Nepal

Supported by UNDP and UNEP, the Government of Nepal led by the National Planning Commission undertook a CPEIR in 2011. One specific recommendation was to introduce a climate change budget code in the national budget system that would allow the government to start systematically track climate relevant expenditures. In 2012, the government indeed decided to introduce such a budget code, developed the methodology and criteria, and included it in the budget system. The climate change budget will be applied for the 2013 budget onward.

“...Since [the National Climate Change Policy Advisor’s] incorporation, he has been key to the full integration of climate change into the country vulnerability assessment and throughout the preparation of the new UNDAF 2013 - 2017. He has also contributed to integrating climate change into the agricultural sector up to the point that the Ministry of agriculture has spread out the Strategy of the Agricultural Sector to Adapt to Climate Change.”

Pablo Mandeville, UNDP Resident Representative, Nicaragua



THE LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION:

Boots on the Ground is active in only one country in the **Latin America and Caribbean** (LAC) region – **Nicaragua**. However, the national advisor in **Nicaragua** and global support from HQ has been involved in several regional activities, particularly in the Central American region, through which additional countries in the region have benefitted.

Results in the Latin America and Caribbean Region in 2012 focused on the following areas (specific country achievements are outlined in the next section):

- 1) **Low-emission Climate Resilient Development (LECRD) Strategies at the local level:** In Nicaragua, Boots on the Ground is contributing to the implementation of a LECRD Strategy in the Las Segovias region. The LECRD strategy will focus on the local level by strengthening the capacities of municipal authorities to integrate climate change and climate risk into territorial planning. The main output from this initiative in 2012 was the preparation of the sub-national strategy, which integrates adaptation and mitigation measures. Boots support for this initiative included: 1) providing the conceptual basis and methodologies for climate change adaptation and vulnerability reduction in Las Segovias; 2) helping define the human resources needs and corresponding terms of reference for acquisition of services and 3) reformulating the Annual Workplan for 2013 which was approved by the Project Steering Committee in November 2012.



Degraded hillsides in Las Segovias

- 2) **Strengthening the Regional Climate Change Strategy:** The Boots on the Ground programme worked closely with the Central American Integration System (SICA) through the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD). Support was provided to develop an Action Plan for the Central America Climate Change Strategy, which was approved by Ministers in 2012.
- 3) **Policy Dialogue:** Through support from Boots on the Ground, key Latin American stakeholders were supported to engage in a regional workshop on the policy-relevant issue of Loss and Damage, in partnership with UNFCCC Secretariat and with active participation of CCAD/SICA. This provided an opportunity to share experiences and coordinate with other countries in the region on this important issue. Further, as part of the LECRD Strategy development in **Las Segovias**, the Boots programme contributed to dialogue amongst UNDP, the Swiss Agency for International Cooperation and Development, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and the National Institute of Territorial Studies. This coordination has contributed to policy dialogue and methodology discussions to support the design and implementation of adaptation activities. At the same time it promoted institutional coordination among key climate change actors at the national level.
- 4) **Mainstreaming climate change into UN/DP portfolio and programming:** In 2012, the national advisor worked with the Country Team to successfully integrate climate change into Nicaragua’s UNDAF and CPD (2013 – 2017). Climate change, disaster risk reduction and technology innovation are key elements of both documents. The integration of climate change into the new UNDAF and CPD are coherent with the objectives of the National Human Development Plan for 2012 – 2016.

Supporting a Low Emission Climate Resilient Development Strategy in Las Segovias

The National Advisor is providing support and advice to the Territorial Approach to Climate Change programme in Las Segovias, the northern region of Nicaragua. The programme aims to design and implement a comprehensive sub-national strategy on climate change, to build capacity in nine municipalities, and implement adaptation measures in six microwatersheds prioritized jointly with local authorities. The project is constructing climate change scenarios and extreme event parameters with professionals from the National Institute of Territorial Studies (INETER) and professors from three local universities, while also jointly organizing workshops and integrating climate change into the university curriculum. Additionally, the program has completed an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, and is supporting the climate change mitigation strategy in the territory.



THE PACIFIC REGION:

There are two countries in the Pacific with Boots on the Ground advisors: **Samoa** and **Solomon Islands**. In 2012, a total of fourteen Pacific Island Countries (PICs), including 5 LDCs, received technical support through Boots as a result of the two National Officers and the Regional Policy Advisor based in Fiji. These countries include: Cooks Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu².

Results in the Pacific Region in 2012 focused on the following areas (specific country achievements are outlined in the next section):

- 1. **Climate Finance:** Responding to a call from the Pacific leaders to support PICs in accessing and managing climate finance, the Boots on the Ground programme has been a key partner in facilitating regional and national dialogue and providing targeted technical assistance on climate finance. The Boots officers have provided direct support to both Samoa and Solomon Islands and to the broader region through the Regional Policy Advisor to address climate finance readiness needs, and have been instrumental in raising awareness on climate finance issues in the region through Climate Public Expenditure Reviews (CPEIRs), National Implementing Entity (NIE) Assessments, and discussions and workshops on National Climate Funds. Support has also been provided for the development of the Pacific Climate Finance Assessment Framework (PCFAF).

² In addition to the specific work carried out in the two dedicated Boots countries and the support to regional projects and programmes, extensive support was delivered to the additional 13 countries in the region (such as facilitating the finalization of the draft PNG National Climate Change policy, and co-authoring a study on National Climate Funds, and the Pacific Climate Finance Assessment in Nauru) that will not be outlined in detail here.

- 2. **Project and Programme Support:** There has been a tremendous growth in UNDP climate change projects in the region from delivering about \$7m in 2010 to over \$21m in 2012. Currently, there are approximately 16 UNDP climate change projects in the Pacific for a value of about US\$100million. The Boots on the Ground programme has been instrumental in supporting the management and implementation of many of these projects and mobilizing additional climate change resources.
- 3. **Mainstreaming climate change:** Responding to demand from Pacific Island Governments, the Boots on the Ground programme has supported the integration of climate change into national and sectoral policies and plans including in the areas of: agriculture, health, water management, coastal protection, and climate information services. The Boots programme also supported the development of a Pacific specific climate change mainstreaming guide, and integration of climate change into UNDP frameworks.
- 4. **Coordination and Information sharing:** The first Pacific regional database on UNDP climate change projects has been developed to identify all UNDP climate change actions in the Pacific across the UNDP offices engaged in the Pacific. Further, an intra-UNDP climate change roundtable was established to support information sharing and collaboration amongst UNDP offices engaged in the Pacific. Boots advisors have also provided learning opportunities for other UNDP staff as well as external partners.

“The last two years have brought significant strategic changes on climate change in Samoa and the Pacific. Institutional changes are allowing for a better integration of environmental aspects in national and sectoral policies and the capacity of communities to understand the impacts of climate change has increased.”

Nileema Noble, Resident Representative, UNDP MCO for Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau

Pacific Climate Finance Assessment Framework

The leaders of the Pacific have called for greater access and management of climate finance. In 2012, working closely with the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and building upon the CPEIR methodology, the Boots Regional Policy Advisor (RPA) supported the design of the Pacific Climate Finance Assessment Framework (PCFAF). This PCFAF is being used by the Pacific countries to assess the country’s ability to access and manage climate change resources against six inter-related dimensions: 1) Funding sources; 2) Policies and plans; 3) Institutions; 4) Public financial management and expenditure; 5) Human capacity; and 6) Development effectiveness. The output of the assessment is an Action Plan which outlines a series of actions to strengthen a country’s approach to climate change finance. The first application of this framework has been implemented in Nauru with support from the RPA, resulting in a national climate change finance assessment which has been documented and will be used to inform application in other island countries. As a result of this work in Nauru, key government stakeholders are beginning to see climate finance as a cross-cutting development issue and recognize the need of enhanced Government coordination for climate change. The PCFAF will continue to be rolled out in the Pacific to enhance government systems for accessing and managing climate finance. The efforts of the Boots Programme will likely have a lasting legacy in the Pacific, as it has helped to put in place the foundations for this Pacific-driven public good.

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ACCORDING TO OUTCOME

Launched in September 2011 by the Secretary General, the **Sustainable Energy for All (SEFA)** initiative aims to mobilize action from all sectors of society in support of three interlinked objectives to be achieved by 2030: ensure universal access to modern energy services, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency, and double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. The Boots on the Ground programme supported all of these global initiatives in 2012.

Outcome 1: Governments and civil society supported in their preparations for and substantive engagement with the UNFCCC negotiations across the key negotiation themes.

Global policy processes provide important frameworks and guidelines for countries in their efforts to address climate change. At the same time, experiences and perspectives from countries must be fed into global processes. Boots on the Ground provides extensive support to countries to engage in the UNFCCC negotiations. At the same time, in 2012, support was provided to countries to engage in two other important global processes which contribute to advancing climate change policy. These include: Rio +20, the UN Sustainable Development Conference, where global stakeholders came together to make a joint political statement about how to reduce poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection; and the **Sustainable Energy for All (SEFA) initiative**, to mobilize action in support of advancing energy efficiency and energy access.

UNFCCC Negotiations

Boots on the Ground provided support to countries to strengthen the capacity of individual negotiators to participate in the UNFCCC through briefings, workshops, trainings, as well as delivering clarity on national and regional positions. As illustrated below, these support activities spanned the entire year, building on the results of COP 17 in Durban, and preparing for COP 18 in Doha.



National Communications to the UNFCCC

One of the requirements for non-Annex I parties to the UNFCCC is to submit a National Communication to the UNFCCC which reports on the steps the country is taking or envisages undertaking to implement the Convention (Articles 4.1 and 12). The Boots programme has provided technical support to governments for National Communication preparation processes, through direct technical assistance as well as coordination with existing projects, such as UNDP's Global Support Programme for National Communications, supported by GEF in many low-income countries. For example, in Liberia the Boots on the Ground programme encouraged the training of national GHG data collection and management experts from different secotral agencies. Trainings were held in Germany and Ghana for these experts to build on previous trainings held in 2011.

Other Global Processes: Rio+20 and Sustainable Energy for All

Support through the Boots programme was provided for the lead up to the Rio +20 Conference, held in June 2012, by supporting national governments to engage in a series of national preparatory dialogues, consultations and in the development of reports. Many Boots programme countries were also engaged in The Sustainable Energy for All initiative which was initiated in 2012.

In **Bhutan, Burkina Faso Cambodia, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Guinea Bissau, Lao PDR, the Maldives, Senegal and Togo** Boots on the Ground was instrumental in supporting national preparations for the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development. In **Cambodia, Lao PDR and Maldives**, this included providing substantial inputs to the key thematic areas of the report that included climate change and energy. The National Report on Rio+20 was published and distributed to stakeholders in **Cambodia**. In **Lao PDR**, the Lao National Report was well received and included in the Secretariat's Synthesis of National Reports for Rio+20. The country's energy policy framework has also been reflected as a good example of energy policy frameworks in the Asia-Pacific Region. Boots on the Ground supported the National Preparatory Commission in **Guinea Bissau** through substantial inputs on key thematic reports used by the delegation at the Rio+20 summit and raising awareness on climate change and sustainable development issues. In both **DRC** and **Togo**, UNDP supported synthesis reports produced on actions that have been undertaken in each country to promote sustainable development since 1992. In **Togo**, a strategic note on the transition toward green economy in the renewable energy and sustainable forest management sectors was developed.

Preparing the Second National Communication in Lao PDR

Since the completion of the First National Communication in **Lao PDR** in 2000, climate change mainstreaming into government development policies, plans, projects and programmes has been making steady progress. Since 2010, UNDP has provided regular support through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) for the implementation of the Second National Communication (SNC) on climate change. As of December 2012, the SNC document was fully prepared and approved at the technical level, and was submitted to the Government of Lao PDR for political endorsement before its official submission to the UNFCCC. UNDP was actively engaged in the technical paper preparation and refinement process during the course of project implementation. UNDP representatives provided policy and technical advice for improving the quality of the SNC technical paper through regular communication with the SNC project team and during the consultation meetings at provincial and national levels. It is expected that the SNC document will be discussed in the Government meetings and be approved in 2013.



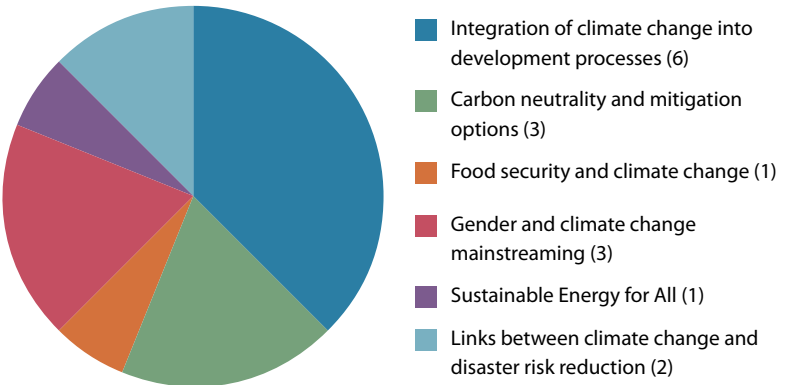
National Parliamentarians from Benin attend a workshop hosted by UNDP through Boots on the Ground, aimed to strengthen understanding of what is needed to improve environmental legislation for disaster-risk reduction and climate change.

In Mozambique, the Civil Society Organizations’ Climate Change Platform, developed in 2011, was utilized to support country preparations for Rio+20 (including the country report), and support for the Platform’s annual planning workshop

In Benin, Burkina Faso, DRC, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, and Togo the Boots programme supported the implementation of SEFA. In Tanzania support was directly provided to the development of the SEFA National Action Plan. In DRC, support focused on generation information on the various gaps to reach the three SEFA objectives and a literature review highlighting existing resources and knowledge on energy issues in the country, aiming to highlight the high potential for renewable energy in DRC and inform decision-making on energy. In Burkina Faso, the Boots Programme supported the production of briefing notes to national partners and reviewing of the country Energy Rapid Assessment and Gap Analysis for Sustainable Energy For All (SEFA) whose joint-mission visited Burkina Faso before Rio+20 Conference.

Workshops and Trainings Held by Boots Officers in 2012 – Organized by Topic

To strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national stakeholders on climate change, Boots on the Ground officers held a number of workshops and trainings in 2012 on a variety of relevant topics.



Outcome 2: Improved capacity of governments & other stakeholders to integrate climate change concerns into development planning and policy processes at the national, sub-national and/or sectoral levels and implement these policies

The Boots on the Ground programme supports four key elements to ensure climate change is mainstreamed into development efforts at the national and sub-national level. National policy advisors provided **training and technical advice** to strengthen understanding of climate change risks and opportunities, ensured **climate change is integrated into development and sectoral policies, strengthened institutional arrangements and systems** for effective implementation of policies, and worked with governments to ensure they are **“ready” to plan for, access, deliver and monitor climate finance**.

Capacity Development through Training and Technical Advice

The capacity of numerous government partners, and other national and sub-national stakeholders to understand climate change risks and opportunities has been enhanced through the provision of technical assistance, workshops and trainings.

In Zambia, specific technical advice was provided in support of the Zambia representative on the Transitional Committee (TC) of the Green Climate Fund. A number of advisory notes and summaries on issues related to the design of the Fund were shared and discussed with the TC member. These helped her in preparing adequately and presenting the options in the TC meetings.

Strengthening institutions and coordination arrangements for climate change

Support was provided to strengthen institutional capacity and coordination to ensure effective implementation of policies, strategies and plans. These included:

- In Cambodia, a coordination platform was established to bring together government and development partners to discuss guidelines for mainstreaming climate change adaptation into the sub-national investment plans. Boots on the Ground also coordinates regular Informal Development Partner Meetings on Climate Change. The meetings aim to harmonize development partners’ activities and avoid duplication in project/programme interventions.



The Impact of Engaging Stakeholders in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia over 300 parliamentarians, the heads of eleven regional environment bureaus and 13 department heads from sector ministries participated in a sensitization program on climate change risks and opportunities. As a result of this series of events for decision makers, as well as further direct support to different stakeholders, the Boots on the Ground national advisor has contributed to the preparation of the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE), incorporating adaptation and mitigation action, and disseminated this CRGE Vision. Further, to follow up on implementation of the CRGE, 167 districts are being supported to introduce Green Technologies and climate change resilience investment plans are also being prepared for these districts. Through this process, the regional states have also committed to allocating 2% of their budget for environment.



In Liberia, the Boots on the Ground Programme supported integration of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, at a regional workshop under the theme “Women – the invisible force of resilience.” Local authorities and the citizenry were trained to adapt to climate change through timely reporting of unusual events, making lifestyle changes to build resilience and mitigate disasters.

- Technical support was provided to **Zambia** to establish a National Climate Change Coordination Framework to enhance access to and coordination of climate change funds at the national level. The Boots Advisor also supported the establishment of Zambia’s Climate Change Secretariat, which is responsible for coordinating climate change and disaster risk management activities.
- In **Lao PDR**, through support from Boots on the Ground, a proposal was initiated to establish the National Committee on Climate Change (NCCC), functioning at the ministerial level, and a climate change Technical Working Group (TWG), where members will be appointed from relevant departments. The mandate to establish the NCCC has been finalized and submitted for final approval.

- In **Nepal** Climate Change Donor Coordination Group meetings, the key donor platform including 14 development partners, were reinstated under the chairmanship of UNDP. These meetings initiated a dialogue on Climate Change Funds and its linkage to the Climate Change Policy, 2011. In addition, Boots on the Ground is actively engaging with Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) team on behalf of UNDP to help the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment prepare an overall M&E framework of the climate change adaptation projects led by the ministry. The current activity includes the establishment of Climate Change Program Coordination Committee at the ministry with a specific mandate to oversee the integration of project-specific M&E frameworks and facilitation of the information and data flow among the projects.

Supporting Climate Finance Readiness at the national level

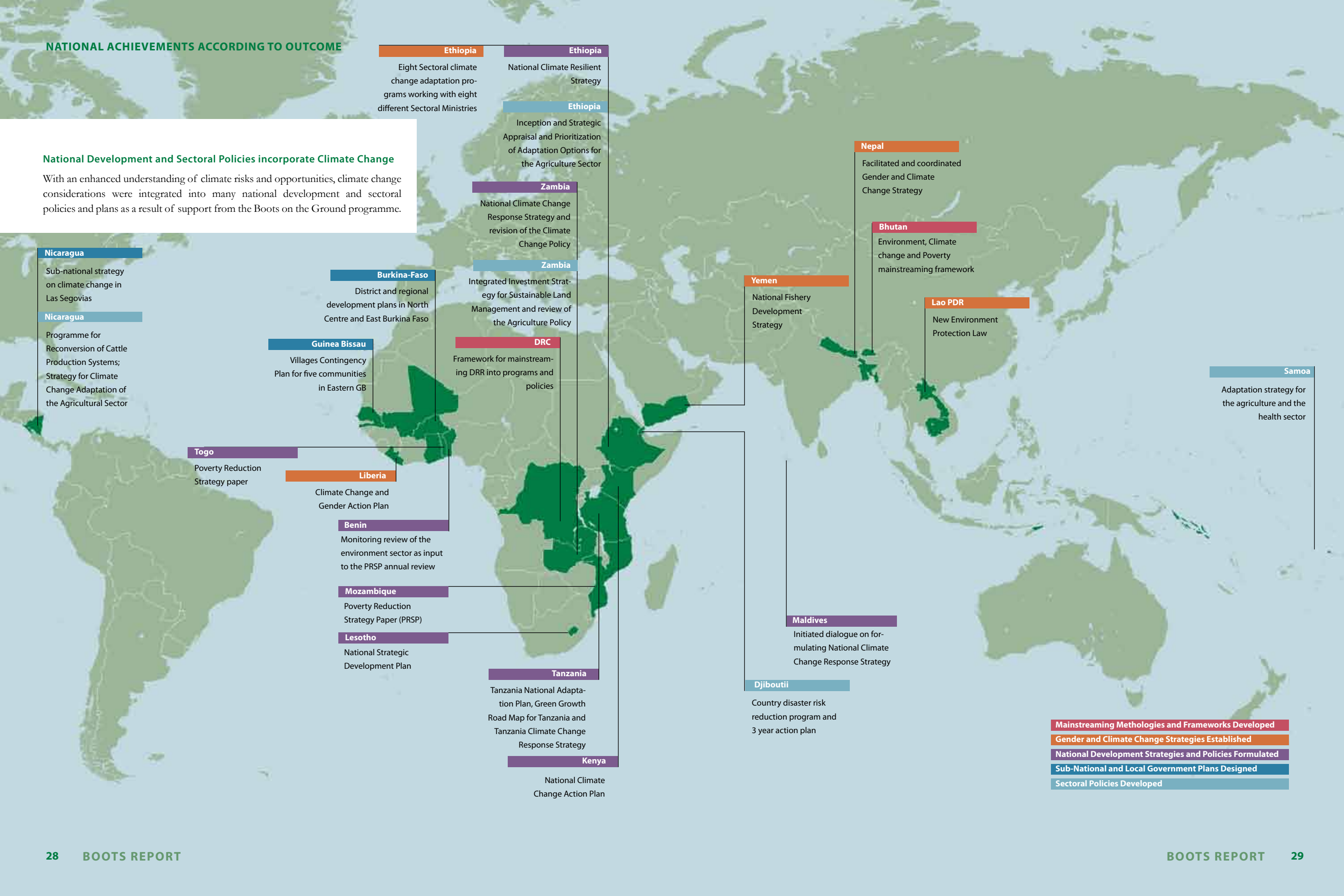
Through trainings and targeted initiatives, capacities were strengthened to effectively plan for, access, deliver and monitor climate finance.

NATIONAL CLIMATE FUNDS	NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	NATIONALLY APPROPRIATE MITIGATION ACTIONS	CLIMATE FINANCE CONSULTATIONS	CLIMATE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW
Studies on National Climate Funds (NCF) were undertaken in several countries and consultations were initiated to identify potential paths for development of an NCF. • Benin • Laos • Yemen • Zambia • Benin • Mali • Samoa • Senegal	Several countries explored the possibility of getting accreditation for a National Implementing Entity (NIE) to the Adaptation Fund. Support was provided for identification of which entity should be accredited, and the specific capacity needs of that entity. • Burkina Faso • Mali • Yemen • Zambia • Laos • Nauru • Cooks Island	A few countries focused on the development of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions to enhance access to opportunities for supporting low emission development activities. • Guinea Bissau • Yemen	Consultations focused on climate change finance were undertaken in several Boots countries to enhance access to and delivery of climate change funds at the national level. • Ethiopia • Kenya • Lesotho • Mozambique • Tanzania • Nepal • Samoa • Liberia	In collaboration with the ICCPP and PEI initiatives, several countries, particularly in the Asia Region, the Boots programme initiated discussion with government stakeholders on the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) approach. The objective was to identify existing expenditures in both domestic and international budgets related to climate change • Laos • Samoa • Cambodia • Nepal • Bangladesh

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ACCORDING TO OUTCOME

National Development and Sectoral Policies incorporate Climate Change

With an enhanced understanding of climate risks and opportunities, climate change considerations were integrated into many national development and sectoral policies and plans as a result of support from the Boots on the Ground programme.



Ethiopia
Eight Sectoral climate change adaptation programs working with eight different Sectoral Ministries

Ethiopia
National Climate Resilient Strategy

Ethiopia
Inception and Strategic Appraisal and Prioritization of Adaptation Options for the Agriculture Sector

Zambia
National Climate Change Response Strategy and revision of the Climate Change Policy

Zambia
Integrated Investment Strategy for Sustainable Land Management and review of the Agriculture Policy

Burkina-Faso
District and regional development plans in North Centre and East Burkina Faso

Guinea Bissau
Villages Contingency Plan for five communities in Eastern GB

DRC
Framework for mainstreaming DRR into programs and policies

Yemen
National Fishery Development Strategy

Nepal
Facilitated and coordinated Gender and Climate Change Strategy

Bhutan
Environment, Climate change and Poverty mainstreaming framework

Lao PDR
New Environment Protection Law

Samoa
Adaptation strategy for the agriculture and the health sector

Nicaragua
Sub-national strategy on climate change in Las Segovias

Nicaragua
Programme for Reconversion of Cattle Production Systems; Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation of the Agricultural Sector

Togo
Poverty Reduction Strategy paper

Liberia
Climate Change and Gender Action Plan

Benin
Monitoring review of the environment sector as input to the PRSP annual review

Mozambique
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

Lesotho
National Strategic Development Plan

Tanzania
Tanzania National Adaptation Plan, Green Growth Road Map for Tanzania and Tanzania Climate Change Response Strategy

Kenya
National Climate Change Action Plan

Maldives
Initiated dialogue on formulating National Climate Change Response Strategy

Djiboutii
Country disaster risk reduction program and 3 year action plan

- Mainstreaming Methodologies and Frameworks Developed
- Gender and Climate Change Strategies Established
- National Development Strategies and Policies Formulated
- Sub-National and Local Government Plans Designed
- Sectoral Policies Developed

Integrating climate change into One-UN Programmes

Joint one-UN activities at the national level are prevalent in many Boots countries, and the programme supported the integration of climate change into their work. For example, **Zambia** initiated a UN Joint Programme on Climate Change and Disaster Risk reduction, starting implementation in 2013 (US\$16 million). **Kenya** acted as the lead facilitator for the **Kenya** Country Annual Report for 2012 entitled “Climate Change and Human Development: Harnessing Emerging Opportunities” (2013). **Tanzania** and Lao PDR also implemented several joint projects under the UNDAF, including a Lao Inter-Agency Contingency Plan for Disaster Risk Management, which included climate-related risks as a main component, and a national strategy for mainstreaming of gender considerations in climate change initiatives in **Tanzania**.

Outcome 3: Climate change mainstreaming in UN/DP portfolio & programming enhanced

Just as it is important to integrate climate change into national and sectoral policies and plans, UN efforts at the national level, particularly those associated with development and poverty reduction, must also consider risks and opportunities posed by climate change. The Boots on the Ground programme invests in ensuring UN Programming documents, programmes and projects take climate change into account in order to accelerate and sustain development achievements.

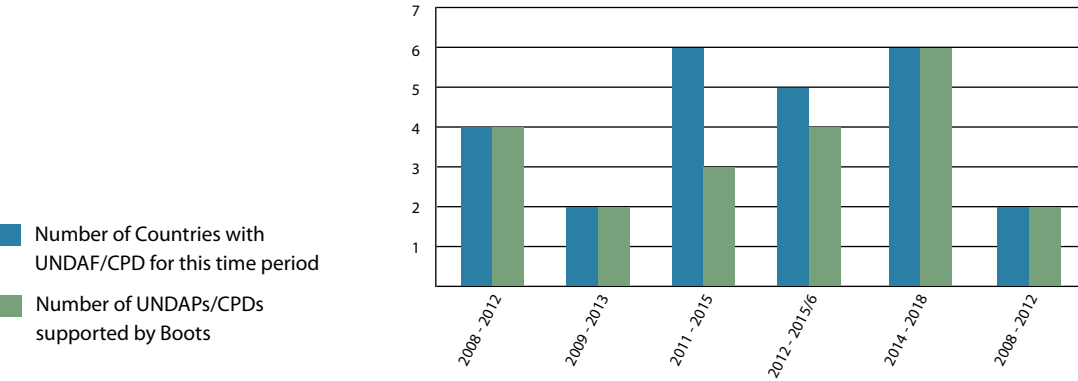
UNDAFs, CPDs and CPAPs

In many Boots countries, the development of an UNDAF or Country Programme Document was supported in 2012. The Boots on the Ground advisors were able to ensure that climate change and environment issues were effectively integrated into UN framework documents.

Integrating climate change into new and existing UNDP projects/programmes

Beyond UN policies, the Boots programme also supported integration of climate change into UNDP projects and programmes. Much of this support focused on engaging with project officers and managers across different work areas to review projects and identify entry points for integrating climate change considerations. Other countries emphasized the integration of gender considerations into climate change projects.

Out of a total of 25 national UNDAF/CPD developed, Boots on the Ground supported 21 processes to mainstream climate change



Outcome 4: UNDP's knowledge management and communication of impact results in the area of climate change policy enhanced

Based on UNDP experience, one of the challenges facing many countries in addressing climate change – particularly LDCs and low income countries – is a limited understanding of climate change and the options for addressing its impacts. Through the Boots on the Ground programme, extensive investment is made in sharing this knowledge by presenting results and lessons learned from existing initiatives, raising awareness through education campaigns, outreach and engaging with the media to spread information to all stakeholder groups. Knowledge is also generated and shared between countries, through publications, knowledge platforms, and learning exchange programmes. Sharing this type of information ensures that valuable experiences can be built on and lessons learned can be incorporated into future initiatives.

Sharing lessons learned and good practice

Best practices from the implementation of climate change adaptation projects in Ethiopia, Mozambique and Kenya have been documented. Similarly, several countries contributed articles on country initiatives to UNDP promotional publications such as the website, flyers, newsletters, and knowledge exchange. For example, **Samoa** collaborated on the paper on lessons learned on Adaptation for the Pacific region by provision of information on reviews and lessons learned from on-going projects. **Solomon Islands** contributed to a discussion on the Pacific Solution Exchange (PSE) Network that focused on climate change and non-communicable diseases. In **Nicaragua**, the Boots officer supported the development of key publications, including i) The experience of UNDP with promoting Hydropower in remote areas off-the-grid; ii) Food security and climate change in Las Segovias and other dry-land zones; and iii) a publication with FAO on Food Security and Climate Change in Nicaragua.

The following map outlines additional activities, including workshops and meetings, education and raising awareness, south-south exchange, and publication and knowledge platforms, which contribute to knowledge management and communication on climate change.



Greening the UN

In **Nepal** and **Nicaragua**, the Boots programme helped to implement greener practices within UNDP Country Offices. Nepal's inter-agency Task Force for the “Greening the Blue” initiative supported by the Boots national advisor, is working towards sensitizing UN personnel on lowering their carbon footprint and greening the UN operations. The national advisor in **Nicaragua** has contributed to the design and implementation of the UNDP Green Office Program 2012. A plan was designed with indicators, targets, means of verification, and concrete actions for UNDP to reduce its GHG emissions, waste and water consumption. A guide to purchasing green office supplies, including vehicles, has also been designed and implemented by the Procurement Office.

BOOTS
ACTIVITIES

Nicaragua

Generated and shared publications on climate science and economics as input to the UNDAF preparation and other relevant programming documents.

Nicaragua

Initiated sessions in local universities to explain climate change impacts and how university curriculum can help strengthen technical understanding and inform climate change strategies

Benin

Training workshop for journalists and communication professionals of Benin on the adverse effects of climate change and disaster risk reduction.

Tanzania

Established extension services at the National Environment Management Council for climate change awareness and dissemination of knowledge and information at local level; launched awareness campaigns through climate change documentaries, policy briefs, cartoon books, public debates, and TV and radio programs.

Tanzania

Jointly organized a learning tour to Ethiopia to learn about the Ethiopian experience on national climate change financing mechanisms, in particular the newly created Climate Resilient Green Economy Fund (CRGE).

Ethiopia

1. Established a platform for documenting and disseminating model school-based climate change adaptation relevant activities (<http://www.ccee-ethiopia.org>).
2. Prepared a "Journalist's Guide to Reporting Climate Change Adaptation Issues in Ethiopia."
3. Developed the Knowledge Management Platform on Climate Change which will be incorporated in the EPA's website. The platform is available at: <http://www.yesakor.com/eccf/> Also established a platform for documenting and disseminating model school-based activities on climate change and environment (<http://www.ccee-ethiopia.org>)
4. Prepared a 15 minute Video Film on the Leadership for Results Programme

Ethiopia

1. Contributed to a national climate change Knowledge Management and Communication strategy
2. Broadcast the lessons learned from the implementation of AAP climate change adaptation demonstration projects on Ethiopian Television.

Ethiopia

Jointly organized a learning tour to host Tanzanian government delegates and share experiences on national climate change financing mechanism, in particular the newly created Climate Resilient Green Economy Fund (CRGE).

Ethiopia

Published and disseminated a Compendium on 16 Green technologies and documented best practices on 7 climate change mitigation and adaptation demonstration projects

Yemen

Facilitated and coordinated the International Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) conference with more than 70 participants from across the region.

Yemen

Trained 20 participants from local media on climate change and began collaboration with a number of national academic institutions.

Djibouti

Developed a website and video for a climate change adaptation project; the website is expected to be used in the future for all climate change adaptation projects

Bangladesh

1. Supported the inception of the Climate Change Knowledge Network (CCKN) held under the stewardship of Climate Change Cell, within the Department of Environment. Over 50 participants from 40 Government agencies participated.
2. Collaborated with Bangladesh in the revision of the "Proposal for a framework of indicators for: Pro-Poor, Environment Friendly Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development"

Nepal

Provided support to government on organizing Mountain Initiative Conference as a result of which Kathmandu Call was released which was later shared at COP 18 in the side-event organized by Government of Nepal.

Bhutan

Facilitated and coordinated the International Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) conference with more than 70 participants from across the region.

Lao PDR

Engaged in high-profile events such as the Monsoon Forum held in May by FAO, and the national workshop on REDD+ organized in June by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Timor Leste

Facilitated several environmental events to raise awareness for children and adults.

Samoa

Collaborated with Bangladesh in the revision of the "Proposal for a framework of indicators for: Pro-Poor, Environment Friendly Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development"

Cambodia

Co-authored a case study on Adaptation Mainstreaming and Planning on Climate Resilient Water Resources Management and Agriculture Practices for Earth Observatory

Workshop & meetings

Education & Raising Awareness

South South Exchange

Publication & Knowledge Platforms

Enhanced resilience of communities in the Pacific

The National Boots Officer in the Multi-Country Office in Samoa is helping to ensure resilience of communities in the Pacific and up-scaling adaptation interventions. In 2012, the national officer has provided technical and policy backstopping for the implementation of climate change related projects in the four Pacific countries. This portfolio encompasses 12 projects for a total of about ~US\$54m. It also includes the regional GEF-SCCF-funded Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) project which involves around 75 communities in 14 countries and approximately 40,000 people.

Country	Project
Bangladesh	• Joint programme with WFP and ILO on building resilience of coastal communities through Integrated Water Management (USD\$7.89 million, Netherlands)
Benin	• Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Africa for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change: (\$4.5 million, GEF/LDCF) • Strengthening the resilience of the energy sector in Benin to the impacts of climate change (\$8 million, GEF/LDCF) • National Policy & Strategic Plan for the Promotion of Renewable Energy in Benin: (\$3.65 million, GEF) • 09 million souls and 09 million trees (Government financing for initial launch)
Bhutan	• REDD+ Readiness Strategy • Programme pluriannuel de renforcement des capacités de resilience des populations vulnérables aux crises et catastrophes au Burkina Faso [Multiannual programme for strengthening the resilience capacity of vulnerable populations] (\$9.96 million, TBD)
Democratic Republic of Congo	• Low Emission Capacity Building Programme
Djibouti	• Developing agro-pastoral shade gardens as an adaptation strategy for poor rural communities in Djibouti (\$4.66 million, Adaptation Fund)
Guinea Bissau	• Renforcement des capacités d’adaptation des communautés et de la résilience des écosystèmes côtiers bissau-guinéens face aux changements climatiques [Integrated coastal zone adaptation project] (\$12.5 million, GEF/LDCF) • Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Guinea Bissau for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change (\$5 million GEF/LDCF)

Outcome 5: Country Office's climate change portfolio enhanced and specific policy-related needs satisfied

Under the final outcome of the Boots on the Ground Programme, national advisors provide valuable policy coherence and project delivery support to governments through the UNDP Country Office. This consists of designing new projects, managing and implementing existing climate-related project portfolios, supporting project assurance, and providing technical inputs to UNDP’s ongoing work on both policy and programming.

Project development and formulation

Building on the policy support and interaction with government counterparts, national advisors are in a unique position to design innovative initiatives that respond to country needs. In almost every participating country, national advisors supported the government to develop and formulate new projects and access funding to implement them. This type of support included: integrating climate change into existing project proposals, direct advice and counseling to national Ministry partners, undertaking environmental and social screening procedures, organization of consultations with stakeholders, and the development of the project document.

Country	Project
Laos	• Effective Governance for small-scale rural infrastructure and disaster preparedness in a changing climate (\$4.8 million, GEF/LDCF)
Lesotho	• Reducing Vulnerability from Climate Change in the Foothills, Lowlands and the Lower Sengu River Basin (\$8 million, GEF/LDCF)
Liberia	• Strengthening Liberia's capability to provide climate information and services to enhance climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change (\$6.73 million, GEF/LDCF) • Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction proposal • Project proposals on climate change induced water scarcity and climate change induced soil erosion that affect island communities
Mali	• Programme Support for Climate Change Adaptation in the Vulnerable Regions of Mopti and Timbuktu (\$8.5 million Adaptation Fund)
Nicaragua	• Vulnerability reduction of small-scale farmers, men and women, in zones prone to drought in the departments of Boaco and Chontales. • Proposal for project promoting agro-ecology and/or organic agriculture to local farmers (USD\$100,000 through CAMBio project, Central American Economic Integration Bank)
Samoa	• Coastal infrastructure project in Samoa (Adaptation Fund, \$8.5m) • Coastal protection project in Cook Islands (Adaptation Fund, \$5.5)
Tanzania	• Development of GHG inventory to provide the baseline for the development of NAMAs (\$600,000) • Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Tanzania (\$4 million, GEF/LDCF) • Small Grants Project • Mainstreaming Environment and Climate Change in National development plans (\$4.8 million) • Strengthening capacity for climate change governance in Zanzibar (\$2.8million) • Low carbon, energy efficient climate change mitigation project (\$1million) • Hosting of the Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment (\$120,000) • Promoting Sustainable Bio-Energy Production from biomass project • Strengthening national and decentralized capacities for environment management (\$1,670,000, GEF and UNDP)
Yemen	• Revival of traditional water harvesting technologies to adapt to climate change induced water shortages (\$ 5 million, Adaptation Fund)
Zambia	• Low Emission Capacity Building • UN Joint programme on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction • Strengthening climate information and early warning systems in Eastern and Southern Africa for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change(\$4 million, GEF/LDCF)

Project management and implementation

As programming on climate change has accelerated in recent years Country Offices are under pressure to ensure these vast portfolios are implemented in an effective and strategic manner. The Boots on the Ground national advisors support these processes through managing and implementing various projects within the vast portfolio. With this additional support, UNDP is able to achieve a wider recognition of climate change initiatives, create sustainable capacities in ministries and civil society on climate-related issues, and allow LDCs to better address the challenges of climate change. Nearly half of the national boots advisors are supporting in this area, as can be seen below.

Country	
Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NAPA Follow up Project: Integrated Adaptation Programme to Combat Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Agricultural Production and Food Security in Benin (3 million, GEF/LDCF)
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce climate change-induced risks and vulnerabilities from glacial lake outbursts Flood in the Punakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar valleys (\$3.4 million, GEF/LDCF and \$800,000, Austrian Development Assistance)• Addressing the risk of climate-induced disasters through enhanced national and local capacity for effective actions (11.54 million, GEF/LDCF)
Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidation de la Gouvernance Environnementale Local [Consolidation of Local Environmental Governance to enhance capacity of districts to address climate change in local development plans] (8.34 million, UNDP, Burkina Faso Government and Austrian Development Agency)
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development of agro-pastoral systems in rural communities of Djibouti as an adaptation strategy to climate change (\$1 million, Japan)• Developing National Capacities for Disaster Risk• Management in Djibouti (\$850,000, Japan and UNDP/BCPR)• Drought early recovery (\$500,000, African Union and OCHA)
Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Africa Adaptation Programme (\$6.5 million, Japan)
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNEP, UNDESA, Joint Programme for Supporting a Green Economy Transition (\$110,000, UNDESA)• Low Emission Capacity Building Programme• Africa Adaptation Programme (\$5.5 million, Japan)
Lesotho	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthening Rural Livelihoods Severely affected by Climate change-Induced drought (UN Trust Fund for Human Security)• Africa Adaptation Programme (\$2.975 million, Japan)
Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small-grants project (GEF-funded)• Strengthening Management Effectiveness of the Terrestrial Protected Area Network in Mozambique (\$4.85 million, GEF/LDCF)• Adaptation in the Coastal Zones of Mozambique (\$4.4 million, GEF/LDCF)

Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Samoa Sustainable Land Management (GEF, \$500,000);• Samoa Protocol Terminal Phase Out (Montreal Protocol, \$75,000);• Integrated Climate Change Risks to Agriculture and Health in Samoa (GEF/LDCF, \$2.1m);• Integration of Climate Change Risks into Forestry in Samoa (GEF/LDCF, \$2,400,000);• Cook Islands Sustainable Land Management (GEF, \$500,000);• Cook Islands Enabling Activity for POPs (GEF, \$290,750),• Niue Sustainable Land Management (GEF, \$499,545);• Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) (GEF/SCCF, 20.9m);• Climate Change and Tourism in Samoa (GEF/LDCF, \$2m);• Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes in Samoa (GEF, 5.5m)
Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Territorial Approach to Climate Change Project (TACC) (\$1 million)• Participatory Biodiversity Conservation and Low Carbon Development in Pilot Ecovillages in Senegal (\$3.85 million, GEF)• Africa Adaptation Programme (\$2.975 million, Japan)• Groundnut Basin Soil Management and Regeneration (\$3.35 million, GEF)• Technology Transfer for Typha-based Thermal Insulation Material Production in Senegal: (\$ 2.2m, GEF)• National Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programme through Energy Efficiency in the Built Environment in Senegal (\$1m, GEF)
Solomon Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solomon Islands Water Adaptation Project (SIWSAP) (\$7 million, GEF/LDCF)
Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewable energy project (\$1million)• Parliament Action of renewable Energy Regional Project (\$3million, EC)
Timor Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enabling Activities for the Preparation of Initial National Communication under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (\$420,000, GEF)
Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disasters risks reduction project to improve national coordination mechanism and capacity building for natural disasters prevention, preparedness and response (\$200,000, UNDP TRAC)• Renforcement Des Capacités De Gestion De L'environnement [Building capacity to improve environmental governance] (\$250,000, UNDP TRAC)• Strengthening the conservation role of Togo's national System of Protected Areas (\$2,222,200, GEF, West African Economic Monetary Union Commission, UNDP)• GEF small grant programme - 48 registered micro-projects (\$400,000, GEF)• Energy Services Access programme supported by the UNDP Energy Poverty Programme (UNDP-PREP) (\$149,000, UNDP Poverty Thematic Trust Fund)• “Commune du millénaire” - UNCT joint program of poverty reduction and MDG localization (\$323,000, UNDP TRAC)• Agribusiness project (\$200,000, UNDP TRAC)• National micro-finance system improvement project (PASNAM) (\$100,000, UNDP TRAC)• Youth employment project (\$100,000, UNDP TRAC)• Preparation of the Third National Communication (\$500,000, GEF)



Coastal erosion, a threat to water resources in Taro town, Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands.

Project assurance

With the expansion of climate change portfolios at the national level also comes a need for technical assurance that the projects are being implemented effectively and efficiently. Several Boots on the Ground advisors are monitoring and reporting progress of existing projects and programmes. In several cases, this relates to projects which integrate climate change into efforts to reduce poverty and strengthen resilience of national development planning and policies.

Country	Project
Bangladesh	• The Poverty Environment and Climate Mainstreaming (PECM), Joint programme with UNEP/UNDP through the Poverty Environment Initiative (\$1 million)
Laos	• Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts (\$12.4 million GEF/LDCF)
Nepal	• Nepal Climate Change Support Programme: Building Resilience in Nepal (NCCS) (\$4.4 million technical assistance component, DFID and EU)

Technical Inputs

Boots on the Ground national advisors have proven to be a valuable resource on climate-related issues at the national level, providing specific technical inputs to existing initiatives. Such technical support includes reviewing proposals to ensure they take into account climate risks and opportunities, participating in key meetings relevant to climate change, contributing to annual planning processes to ensure inclusion of climate change, and ensuring government is informed of all policy and programming through the delivery of briefings. In some countries, Boots advisors have undertaken gap analyses or capacity assessments to better understand the specific needs around climate-related programming issues. In the following 12 countries, Boots on the Ground supporting policy and programming through provision of such technical inputs.

Country	Project
Bhutan	• Update of NAPA based on disasters due to storms/cyclones in 2009
Burkina Faso	• Sustainable Energy for All
Cambodia	• Sustainable Energy for All
Guinea Bissau	• National portfolio identification exercise for GEF5, leading to allocation on biodiversity, mitigation and land degradation
Kenya	• Sustainable Energy for All
Liberia	• One-UN Programme on National Resource Government, Disaster Risk Management (DRM) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) • Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Areas to Climate Change Risks (\$3.3 million, GEF/LDCF) • Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change by Mainstreaming Adaptation Concerns into Agricultural Sector Development (\$2.4 million, GEF/LDCF) • GEF Small Grants Programme
Maldives	• Climate Risk Management Technical Assistance Support Programme – Draft Country Report
Mali	• Transformation of the Rural Solar PV Market in Mali – focused in Sikasso and Segou (\$2.1 million, GEF STAR allocation and UNDP)
Senegal	• Projet de Renforcement des Capacités de Résilience des Sols salés et dégradés (PRESAL)” (\$ 4.3m, GEF)
Solomon Islands	• UN-REDD Programme • Enhancing Resilience of Communities in Solomon Islands to the Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture and Food Security - Strogem Waka lo Community fo Kaikai (SWoCK) (\$5.5 million, Adaptation Fund) • Capacity Development and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management (GEF)
Tanzania	• Adaptation Measures to Reduce Vulnerability of Livelihoods and Economy of Coastal Communities (Adaptation Fund)
Yemen	• Preparation and submission to HQ of the UNDP CO 2013 GHG reporting

LOOKING AHEAD

The next few years leading up to 2015 encompass a number of milestones for potential progress on climate change. Under the UNFCCC, the process is underway to initiate a global agreement in 2015 that would establish a “protocol, another legal instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force” on climate change, to be implemented beginning in 2020. At the same time, as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) expire in 2015, the global community is examining the global development agenda and working to define new sustainable development goals through the post-2015 process. It is expected that these will most likely take into account climate change more fully than the MDGs, and highlight the links between climate change, poverty eradication and human development. Further, the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) on Disaster Risk Reduction will also expire in 2015, and discussions are already underway to put in place a second framework which would promote enhanced action on disaster risk reduction building on the experiences gained in the first HFA period.

With these global processes as a backdrop, UNDP is also developing its new Strategic Plan (2014-2017). This Plan will respond to the changing global context and present an opportunity to further form UNDP's contribution to sustainable development and supporting the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (‘Rio +20’).

To support and accelerate inclusive and sustainable development pathways as outlined in Rio +20, UNDP's new Strategic Plan focuses on supporting the eradication of poverty and reduction of inequalities and exclusions while offering strong connections to issues of environmental sustainability, governance and resilience. The aim will be to help improve the capacity and resources of the poor and boost their prospects for sustainable employment and livelihoods that are resilient to future climatic changes. In this context, support for addressing climate change becomes even more important, given its threat to further exacerbate inequities, degrade natural resources, and drive vulnerable populations into impoverishment. As a result, UNDP's new Strategic Plan recognizes the importance of ensuring effective risk management and building resilience to climate change as a means of meeting its ambitious vision for sustainable development. It also emphasizes the importance of providing support to low-income and least developed countries (LDCs) to reduce their inherent vulnerabilities and build their capacities to address the impacts of climate change.

In this context, strengthening planning, policy frameworks and institutional capacities in low-income countries will continue to be a cornerstone of UNDP's work moving forward. This will entail integrating low-emission and climate-resilient objectives into national and sectoral development plans and designing and implementing priority mitigation and adaptation measures to achieve these objectives. It also includes sup-

port for developing data, policies and capacities for comprehensive risk management by strengthening risk and vulnerability assessments, establishing long-term planning and investment frameworks that are disaster risk-sensitive, and integrating risk reduction into all development efforts to minimize adverse impacts.

The Boots on the Ground Programme has already done extensive work to support low-income countries and LDCs to achieve these objectives. The programme's achievements in 2012 have been illustrated in this report, and will continue to be an essential and valuable contribution to the objectives and approaches of UNDP's new Strategic Plan, and in supporting the broader global processes leading up to and beyond 2015. Through comprehensive policy support to governments, Boots on the Ground climate change advisors will continue to emphasize the importance of climate change in promoting and achieving sustainable development. This has been done through integrated and cooperative approaches, drawing on expertise from different parts of UNDP across regions, and by working directly with governments to take action.

The impacts posed by climate change have the possibility of exacerbating existing poverty and inequalities, while sliding back important sustainable development gains. At the same time, climate change offers opportunities to do development differently and contribute to the goals outlined by UNDP and the broader global community. While representing only one contribution to addressing the enormous challenge posed by climate change, the Boots on the Ground Programme will continue to be a critical means of demonstrating that concrete progress can be made toward sustainable development in low income and least developed countries with committed UNDP support.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

United Nations Development Programme

Bureau for Development Policy

One United Nations Plaza

New York, NY, 10017 USA

Tel: +1 212 906 5081

For more information: www.undp.org

Copyright 2010, UNDP.