



# ADVANCING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE UNDP-GEF ADAPTATION PORTFOLIO

United Nations Development Programme

# Supporting Countries on Climate Change Adaptation

UNDP is currently assisting over 60 non-Annex I countries to adapt to climate change. Countries are being supported to access, sequence, and combine GEF-managed UNFCCC funds -- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF); Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF); GEF Strategic Priority on Adaptation (SPA) Trust Fund -- with other sources of finance including national and bilateral funds. Leveraging the strength of the UN family, UNDP is working with international and national development partners to help countries better manage the inherent uncertainties of climate change. Enabling activities include:

- ▶ Developing technical capacities at national and sectoral level to undertake prospective exercises to identify climate change risks and opportunities and prepare long-term strategies for risk management
- ▶ Internalizing climate change risks into planning, budgeting, management, and decision-making processes of key economic sectors
- ▶ Revising and formulating national and sectoral policies and establishing appropriate institutional support mechanisms
- ▶ Testing approaches and technologies for climate change risk management in key sectors at the sub-national and local levels
- ▶ Codifying and disseminating knowledge and best practices

## Status of UNDP's LDCF, SCCF, and SPA-Funded Projects



Figure 1: Overview of Thematic Coverage by Fund

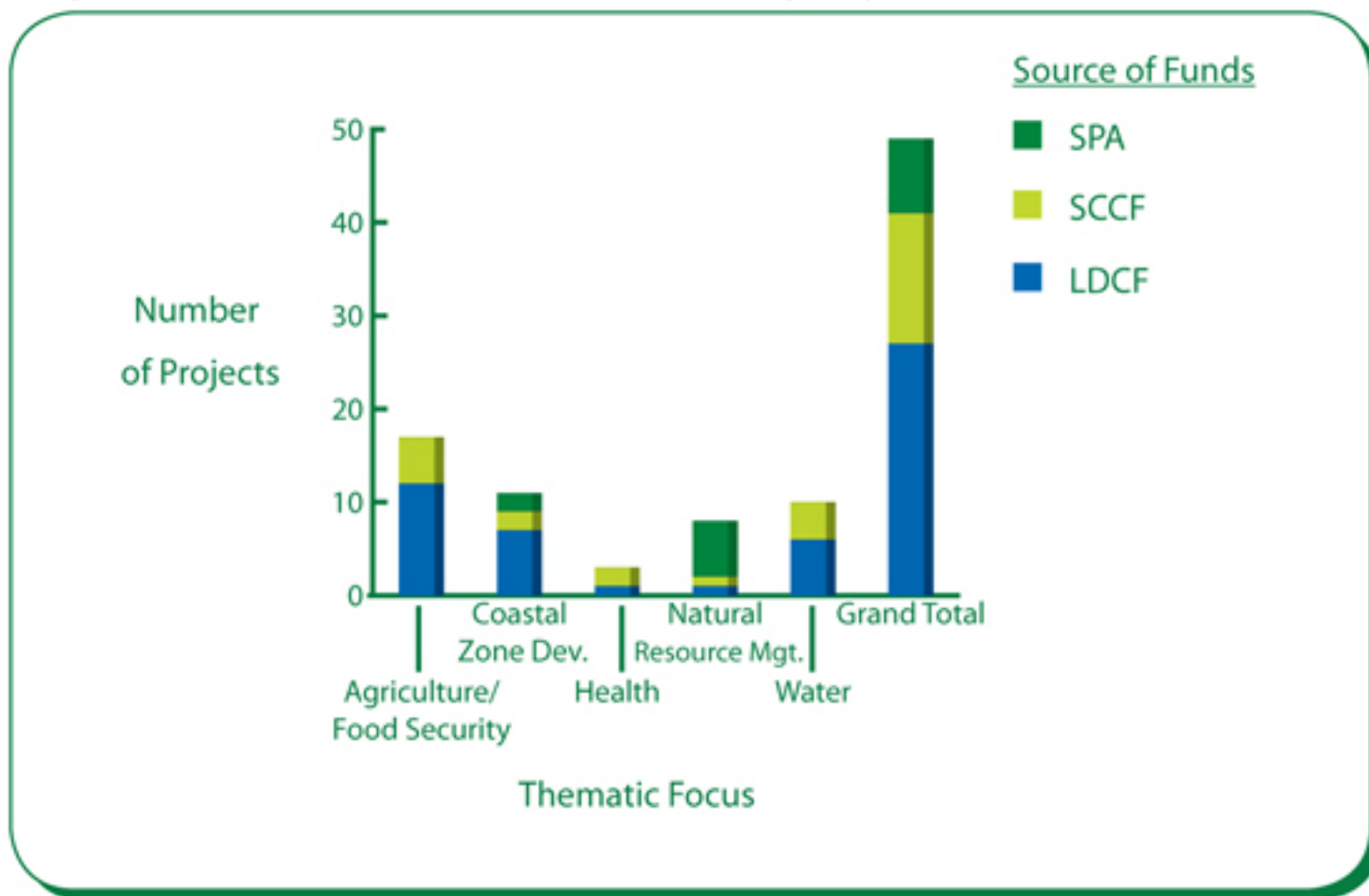


Figure 2: Distribution of LDCF/SCCF/SPA Financing

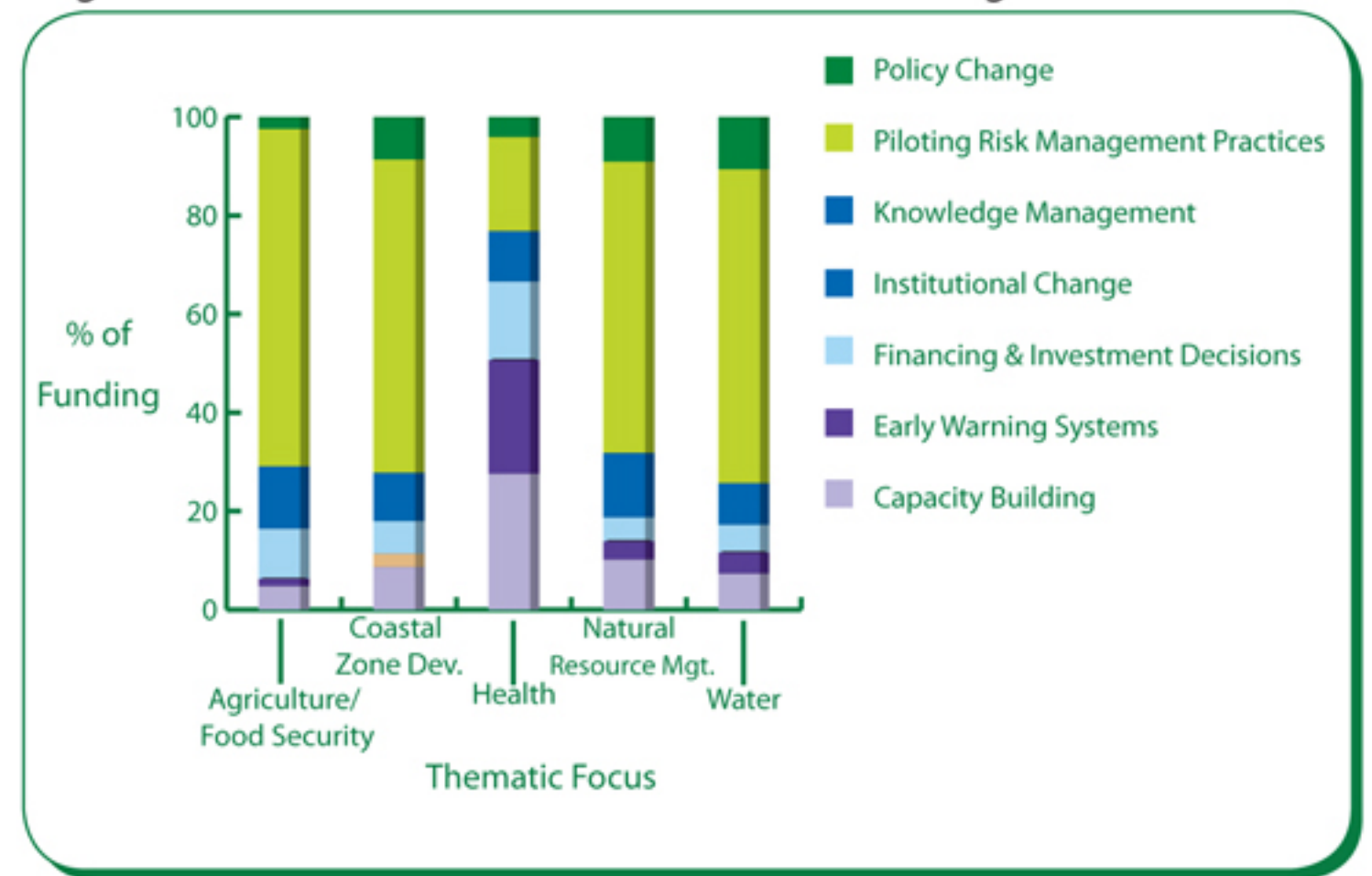
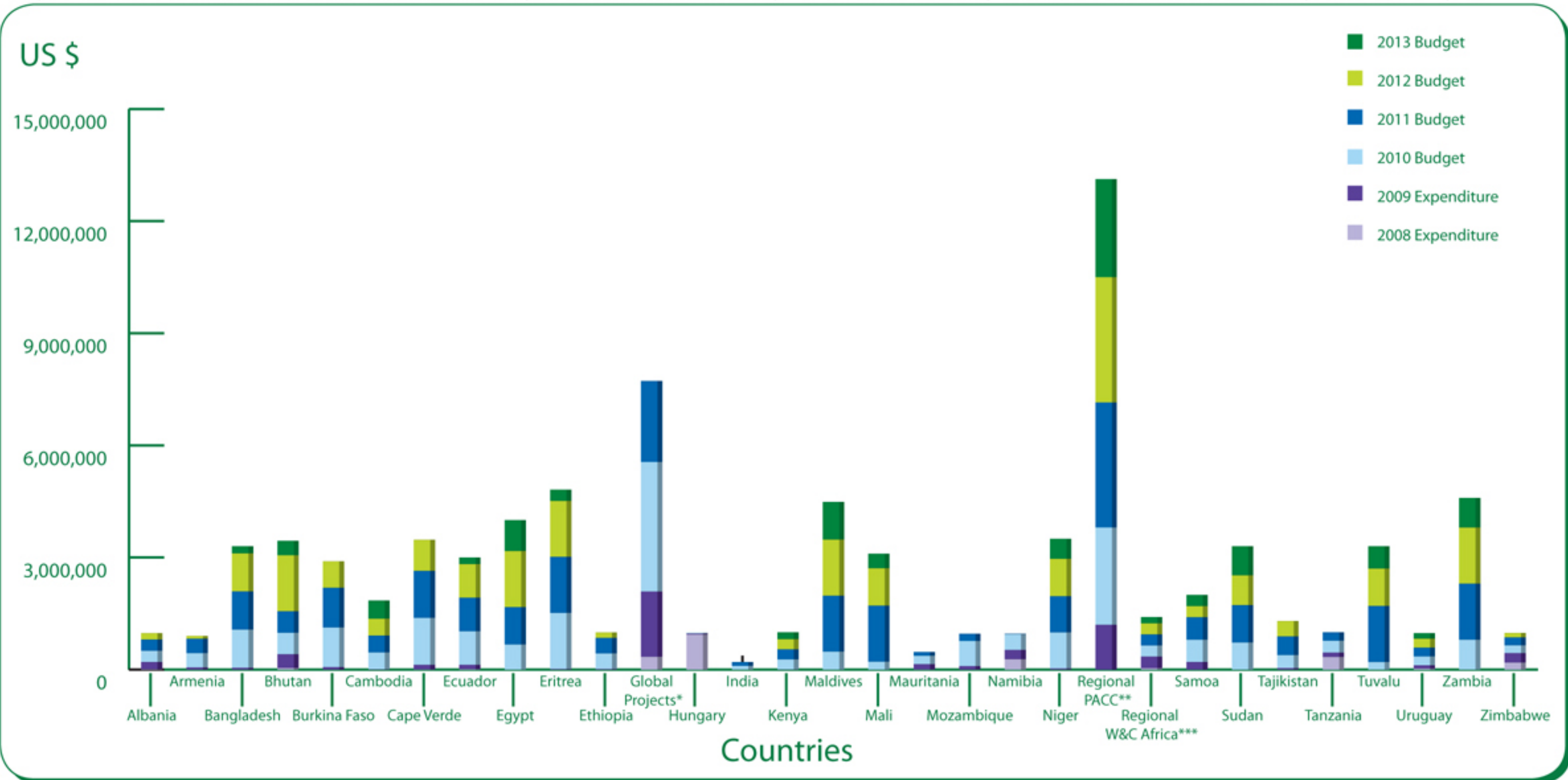


Figure 3: LDCC/SCCF/SPA Resources Committed by National Implementing Partners for Delivery of Project Outcomes over a 5 year Project Cycle



\* Includes: Adaptation Learning Mechanism; Community-based Adaptation - Bangladesh, Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Morocco, Niger, Namibia, Kazakhstan, Samoa/Vietnam; Global Health - Barbados, Bhutan, China, Fiji, Jordan, Kenya, Uzbekistan  
 \*\* Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu  
 \*\*\* Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal

# Country Millennium Development Goals and Climate Change Adaptation

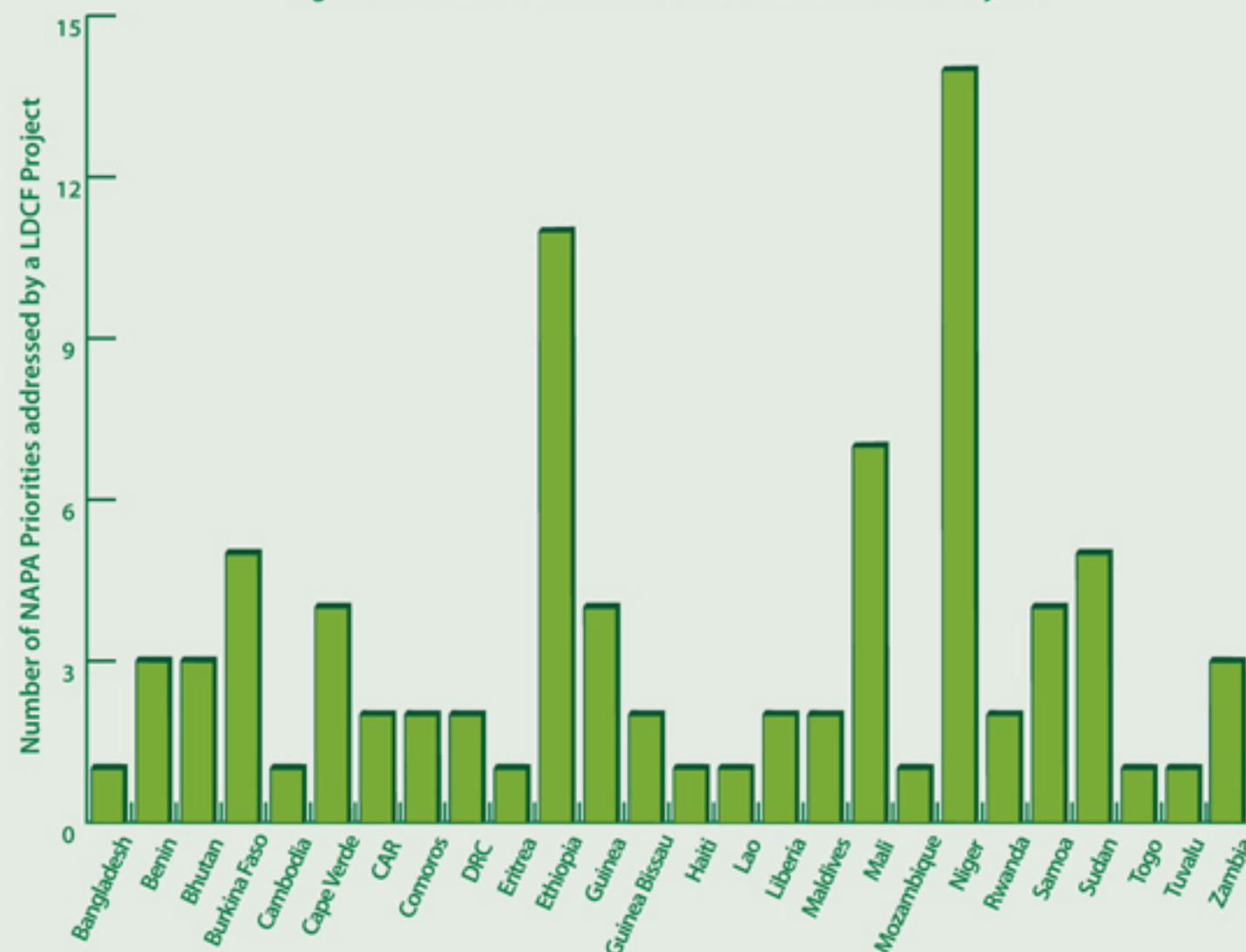
## UNDP Support to LDCs

UNDP supported 31 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with the development of their National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs). Of these, 29 NAPAs have been successfully completed and submitted to the UNFCCC. The remaining two NAPAs are due for completion in September and December 2010.

A report by the GEF to the UNFCCC's Least Developed Countries' Expert Group in Copenhagen highlighted that UNDP is the first development agency to begin supporting the implementation of NAPA follow-up activities financed by the LDCF. UNDP currently supports more than 70% of all LDCs to access financing from multiple sources, including LDCF/SCCF/SPA, and bilateral finance from the Government of Japan, Denmark, Switzerland and Australia, among others, for implementing NAPA priorities.

At present, UNDP is supporting 30 countries to access new financing from the LDCF to implement priorities identified in their NAPAs. Approximately 80 NAPA priorities are being financed by the LDCF. UNDP has mobilized further funding from bilateral sources to support implementation of additional NAPA priorities in LDCs in Africa and the Pacific.

Figure 4: Number of NAPA Priorities addressed in LDCF Projects



## Advancing the Achievement of MDGs through Climate Change Adaptation

Recognizing that sustainable development and climate change are inextricably linked with climate change, countries are mainstreaming climate change considerations into their Millennium Development Goal (MDG) mandates and strategies. UNDP is supporting countries to incorporate gender-sensitive climate resilient policies into national development plans and sectoral policies to promote poverty reduction and sustainable development goals.

### MDG 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

UNDP assists countries in increasing adaptive capacities to safeguard food security and enhance income and employment opportunities.

In Mali, LDCF funding is helping countries put in place resilient agro-pastoral practices, technologies, and income generating activities to support poverty reduction and enhance food security. These involve application of drought-resistant seeds, implementation of multi-use water management plans, establishment of a revolving fund, and micro-finance supported alternative livelihood identification and promotion.

### MDG 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

UNDP supports countries to address gender-specific impacts of climate change and integrate gender perspectives in national plans and sector programming.

In Mozambique, UNDP is supporting the implementation of climate resilient policies in the priority sectors of health, gender, and fisheries. The project plans to undertake gender vulnerability studies at selected locations and integrate knowledge into gender sensitive climate change adaptation planning and action.

### MDG 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

UNDP adaptation programming promotes sustainable development through land and water management, eco-system based adaptation, disaster risk management, etc.

In Tajikistan, GEF-SPA funds are promoting agro-biodiversity conservation and adaptation through the incorporation of climate resilient policies into agriculture, trade, and industry policies. Practices such as creation of "gene banks" are being introduced to sustain agricultural biodiversity.

# Key Principles for Managing Climate Change Risks

**Building Institutional and Individual Capacities:** Through its adaptation programming, UNDP is assisting countries in building the requisite capacity at systemic, institutional, and individual levels to integrate climate information and management of climate risks and opportunities into the national development priorities.

*In Vietnam, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, with support from UNDP and the Asian Development Bank, is aiming to integrate climate change risks into coastal zone management frameworks. Coastal zone policies and regulations will be reviewed and revised in line with anticipated climate change impacts. Technical training including capacity to integrate climate information in coastal development planning will be provided to key sectoral ministries.*

**Integrating Gender Perspectives:** UNDP's adaptation programming efforts aim to assist countries in systematically and comprehensively addressing gender-specific impacts of climate change. Gender is mainstreamed into LDCF/SCCF/SPA funded adaptation initiatives through scoping of adaptation needs, engagement with local stakeholders, vulnerability assessments, and capacity building.

*Mainstreaming gender equality and parity is mandated by UNDP. Efforts are measured through a set of indicators reported by all projects including GEF-financed LDCF/SCCF/SPA initiatives. Indicators include reference to gender or gender equality in project documents, gender needs and vulnerability assessment, extent of engagement with women's organizations or groups, targeted women beneficiaries, women in project staff management, and use of gender disaggregated data, to name a few.*

**Engaging Multiple Stakeholders and Partnering for Success:** UNDP engages multiple stakeholders through consultative and participatory processes in project development, delivery, and monitoring and evaluation. It also partners with national and regional institutions, international agencies, private sector entities, NGOs, and CBOs to provide coordinated assistance to countries.

*In Bhutan, project preparation included a series of consultations with stakeholders at the national and regional levels, including the ministries of agriculture, forestry, livestock, environment, roads, health, geology and mines, finance, planning, and home affairs and the dzongkhag administrations.*

*Multilateral agencies include ADB, FAO, Red Cross, UNEP, UNV, World Bank, WFP, WWF, and WHO.*

**Promoting Regional and South-South Cooperation:** UNDP plays a key role in promoting inter-institutional coordination and regional collaboration to strengthen adaptive capacities across institutions, sectors, and national boundaries. Regional partnerships are being strengthened to prioritize cross-cutting measures to advance environmental and climate change considerations.

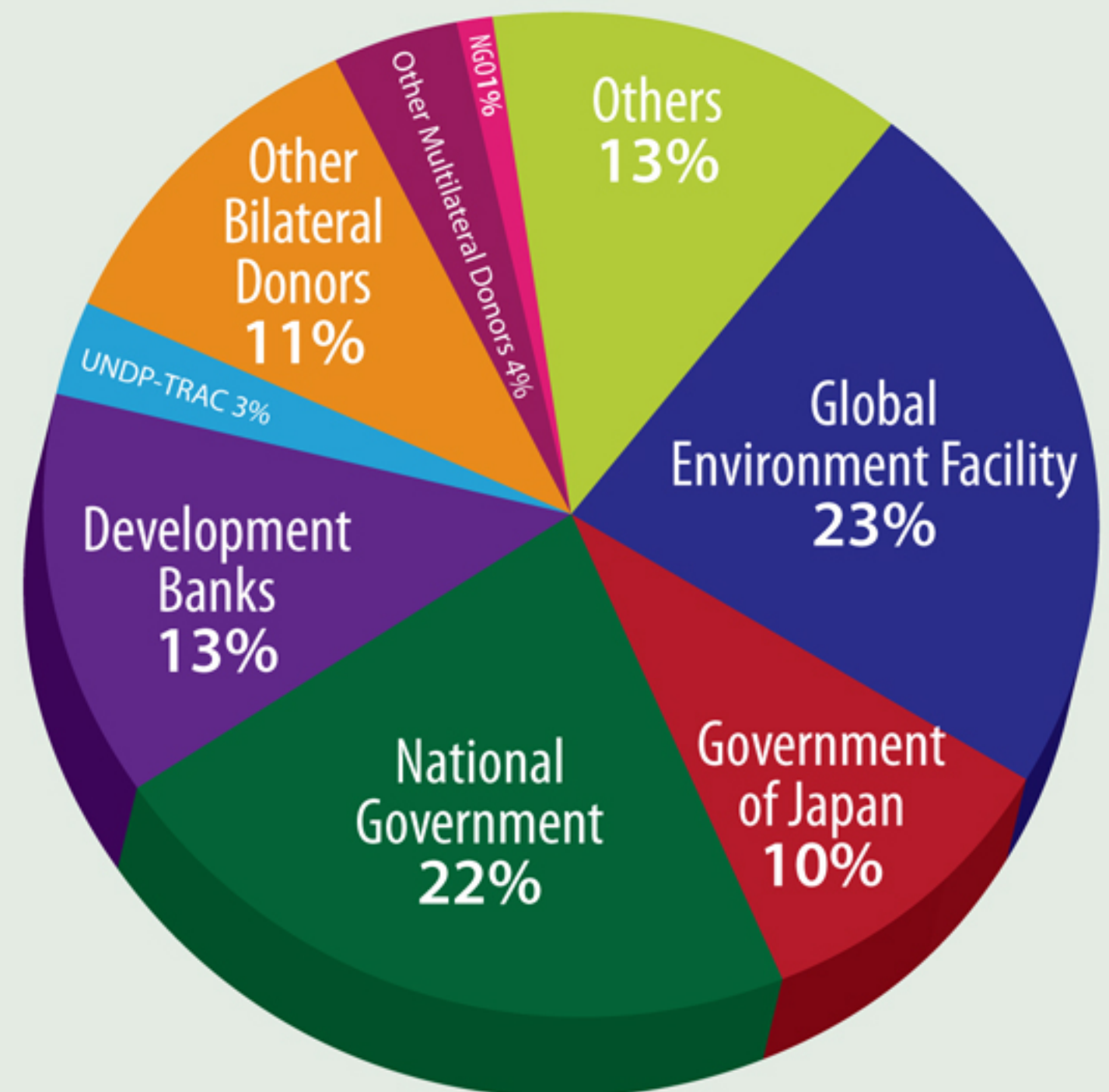
*The Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change initiative, funded by SCCF, brings together Pacific Island countries in increasing resilience in the areas of food security, water, and coastal management. UNDP is implementing this project in partnership with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).*

**Demonstrating Adaptation for Scale:** Prioritizing the need to link global, regional, and national policy programming to local adaptive action, UNDP supports the demonstration of adaptive responses to offer lessons to replicate, scale, and leverage the interventions to inform national and sub-national level policies and programming.

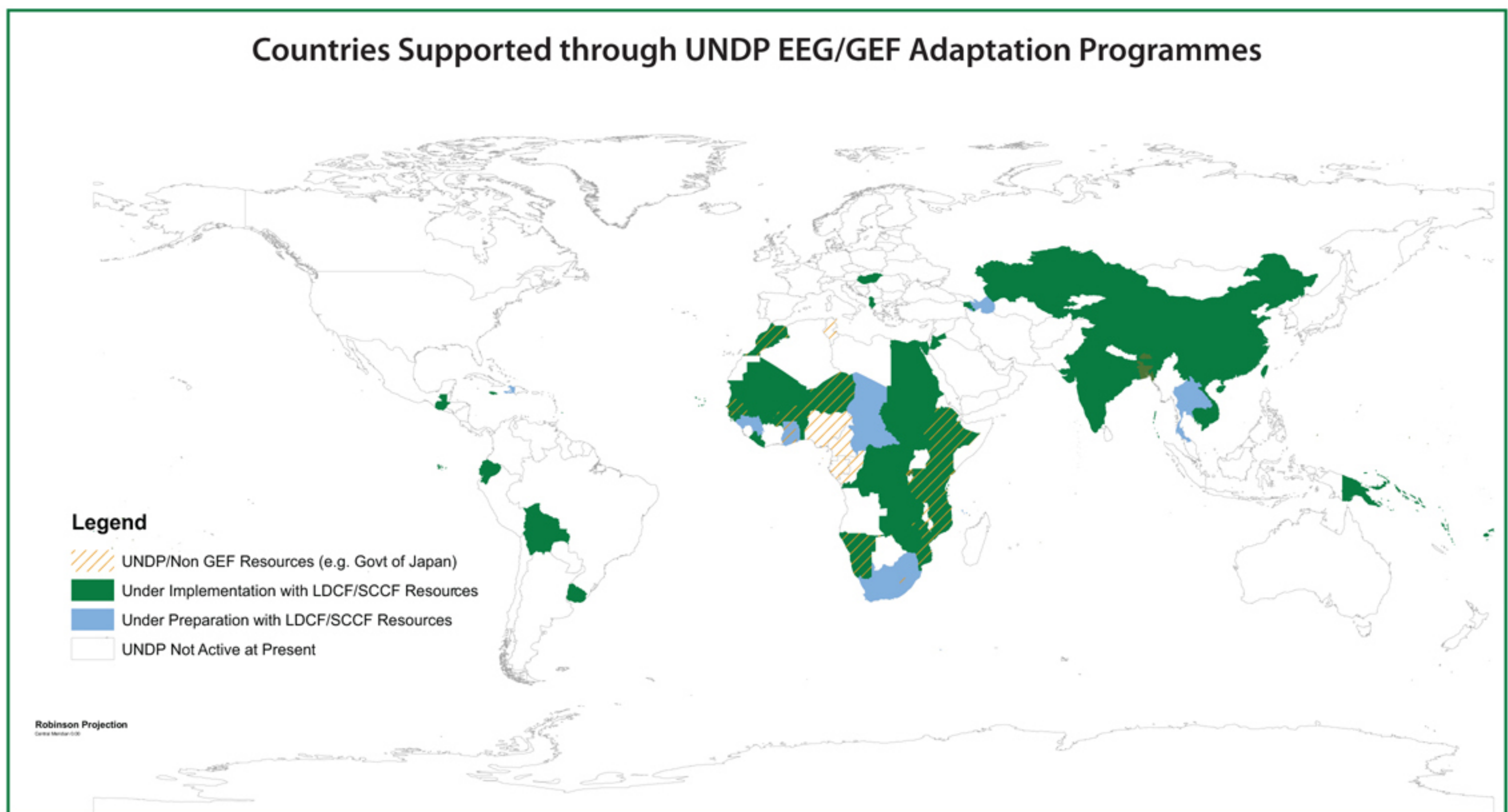
*In Liberia, with LDCF funding, the Environmental Protection Agency and UNDP, are aiming to enhance resilience of coastal systems by demonstrating adaptive measures such as building a breakwater system for Monrovia coastal area, restoring mangroves and natural buffer zones, and establishing early warning systems.*

**Catalyzing Additional Financing:** By accessing, sequencing, and combining adaptive financing from a diverse set of sources, UNDP is facilitating climate risk management and adaptive capacities at various levels. UNDP plays a key role in assisting countries to mobilize adaptive financing including from bi-lateral donors, international agencies, NGOs, development banks, and the GEF-managed adaptation funds. Most recently, UNDP supported initiatives have been approved for funding by the newly operationalized the UNFCCC/Kyoto Adaptation Fund. To date, UNDP has leveraged over US \$1 billion in adaptive financing, including more than US\$ 360 million in grants.

Figure 5: Distribution of UNDP's Adaptation Portfolio (% based on total funding)



# Promoting Country Priorities World-wide



Note: UNDP also supports countries in the Pacific and the Caribbean on climate change adaptation, including: **Pacific:** Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea. **Caribbean:** Barbados, Haiti, and Jamaica.

## Responding to Country Priorities and Promoting Country Ownership

### Integrated and Country-Driven Approaches to Adaptation

Climate change adaptation cuts across sectors, and requires innovative measures to create synergies between existing and new programs. In support of this, UNDP LDCF and SCCF initiatives are designed to integrate with or complement ongoing development initiatives in line with national Poverty Reduction Strategies and/or other overarching national and sub-national development strategic frameworks. They also take into consideration United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and other frameworks streamlining donor assistance towards national priorities on adaptation.

Integrated, country-driven initiatives are key to the long-term success of climate change adaptation and development initiatives. UNDP supports countries in building a strong base and increasing their national capacity for managing the uncertainties of climate change risks on key sectors. Country priorities on climate change adaptation are at the core of UNDP supported adaptation initiatives. UNDP facilitates the design and implementation of projects that are country-led, and directly benefit local stakeholders. Initiatives are designed with the full participation of civil society, public and private sector, academia, and other development partners.

In the current portfolio, UNDP is supporting the integration of climate change risk into the overall governance of respective sectors across Ministries of Agriculture, Economic Affairs, Energy, Environment, Finance, Fisheries, Forests, Geology, Health, Mineral Resources, National Planning, Public Works, Science & Technology, Transport, Tourism, Urban Development, Water, among others.

### National Execution of Adaptation Initiatives

At present, all LDCF/SCCF projects are nationally executed and have direct access, via specific line Ministries, to adaptation financing through the network of UNDP country offices. In addition to assisting countries to access financing for adaptation by complying with expected international fiduciary standards, UNDP provides a suite of technical and backstopping services to national executing authorities on: (a) identification, sourcing/screening of ideas for fund mobilization, including due diligence on technical and financial viability; (b) programme/project development; (c) programme/project oversight; and (d) support with project implementation.

## Supporting Climate Resilience and Grassroots Actions for Policy Change

The greatest risks posed by climate change exist where both socio-economic vulnerability and climate hazards are highest. UNDP supports countries in this position to adapt to climate change risks. The agency works at many levels, including the local level, to assist countries on this front.



[www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba](http://www.undp-adaptation.org/project/cba)

As part of UNDP's corporate climate change programme, UNDP places an emphasis on assistance to countries at the grassroots level.

The UNDP programme is designed to:

- ▶ *Strengthen a community's ability to design and implement climate change adaptation measures*
- ▶ *Ensure a multi-stakeholder process, which includes open discussion between community, local, and national levels as well as development agencies*
- ▶ *Support the dissemination of indigenous knowledge on managing climate-related risks*
- ▶ *Apply lessons and practices from community-led initiatives to the preparation of national policies*

## Looking Ahead to GEF-5 (2010-2014)

Over the next four years, UNDP will roll out a series of technical services to support national and sub-national governments to attract and direct public and private investment towards catalyzing and supporting integrated low carbon climate resilient economic growth and human development. As a result of UNDP's assistance, several key outcomes are expected, including:

### *Support to key sectoral governance entities to develop and strengthen policies, institutions, and knowledge based on:*

- ▶ *Improved climate change risk information relevant to a broad range of end users*
- ▶ *Established policy development and review mechanisms to systematically integrate climate change risk information and experience into relevant policies, strategies, and plans*
- ▶ *Strengthened institutions across sectors and at different levels in conjunction with harmonized institutional mandates to coordinate and jointly formulate and implement climate change policy*

### *Use of the full range of public and private financing mechanisms by Ministries of Finance and national and sub-national planning to support low-carbon climate-resilient development that includes:*

- ▶ *Pro-poor public sector budgeting adjusted to incorporate climate change risk*
- ▶ *Design and application of climate change risk finance mechanisms*

### *Implementation of incentive structures by Ministries of Finance and national and sub-national planning bodies designed to effect behavioral adjustments by the public and private sectors. Examples include:*

- ▶ *Regulatory and fiscal incentive structures adjusted/expanded in relevant institutions, including key sectoral ministries and sub-national governing bodies, to stimulate climate change risk reduction and/or reduce carbon emissions by the private sector and households*
- ▶ *Social safety nets enhanced to support vulnerable groups, especially women impacted by climate change*

