

## **INDCs – Sri Lanka**

### ***Vulnerabilities***

- Small island – vulnerable to sea level rise in the coastal plains
- Tourism and fisheries affected
- Agricultural country – climate change will affect food security, foreign exchange income generated through export crops
- Could alter natural systems connected to water cycle, ecosystems and biodiversity
- Impacts on human health and settlements

### ***Implementation of the Paris Agreement by Sri Lanka***

Sri Lanka submitted its INDCs in October 2015 and re-submitted in April 2016 having signed the Paris Agreement on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016.

The focal point for the UNFCCC is the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment now headed by the President of Sri Lanka. In 2008 a Climate Change Secretariat was established within the Ministry.

The key initiatives are the Sri Lanka National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2011-2016 (NCCAS) and the National Climate Change Policy adopted in 2012 prepared by the Ministry of Environment. This was followed by the National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change Impacts in Sri Lanka 2016-2025 (NAP). This was prepared in accordance with the guidelines set out by the UNFCCC for the development of national action plans, and a country specific methodology was developed and adopted in accordance with these broad guidelines. It is also based on the first two documents. The NAP also refers to the Sustainable Development Goals and notes that many of these goals also stress the need for adaptive strategies.

### ***Vulnerability and adaptive capacity***

Sri Lanka's capacity to adapt to climate change depends on two factors – vulnerability and adaptive capacity of the population.

According to the NAP the most vulnerable sectors are food security, water, coastal sector, health, human settlements, bio-diversity, tourism and recreation, export development and industry-energy-transportation. Sector vulnerability profiles have been prepared for - agriculture, health, water, biodiversity and human settlements. The agricultural sector which threatens the livelihoods of around 28% of the people as well as national food security is critical. Poverty is also a vulnerability enhancing factor and Sri Lanka could suffer setbacks in poverty alleviation due to climate change.

Adaptive capacity has not been mapped and depends on factors such as livelihood assets, knowledge and skills, technology, institutions and information. However, it is obvious that there are many gaps in many areas such as institutional capabilities, technology, knowledge and information.

### ***INDCs comprise the following areas***

- Mitigation
- Adaptation
- Loss and Damage
- Means of Implementation

### ***Equity and social justice***

The implementation of the INDCs will be done so as to ensure equity by maintaining inclusiveness including groups such as women, youth and vulnerable communities.

### ***Mitigation INDCs - sectors where greenhouse gases could be reduced***

Energy Sector – growing demand – wind farms, biomass, waste, mini and micro hydro, Demand Side Management and Building Management. Implement sustainable energy policies

Transport Sector – electric buses, BRT systems, fuel quality standards, Urban Transport Master Plans, electrification of private vehicles, vehicle emission standards

Industrial Sector – Eco-Industrial Parks, Greening the Supply Chain, eco efficiency and cleaner production, tax structures to promote sustainable technologies, implement National Green Reporting System

Forestry Sector – Increase forest cover to 32% by 2030, river basin management, urban forestry

Waste sector – source separation at household level, energy generation from waste, Solid Waste Management Strategies

### ***Adaptation INDCs***

This is the key strategy since Sri Lanka's contribution to climate change is negligible. Five major adaptation targets were identified based on the NAP and the NCCAS:

- Mainstreaming climate change adaptation into national planning and development.
- Enabling climate resilient and healthy human settlements.
- Minimizing climate change impacts on food security.
- Improving climate resilience of key economic drives.
- Safeguarding natural resources and biodiversity from climate change impacts.

### ***Loss and Damage INDCs***

1. Improvement of forecasting capabilities
2. Improvement of weather forecasting capabilities
3. Analysis of total losses and damages of climate induced disasters from 1990 and the gap that was not compensated / recovered.
4. Strengthening existing national mechanism to recover the losses and damages in maximum possible extent.
5. Introduction of possible insurance schemes to recover the losses and damages on affected sectors due to climate change adverse impacts.

### ***Means of implementation***

- Finance – government will fund but will need aid
- Technology – mitigation technology transfer and scaling up adaptation technologies
- Capacity Building – must ensure that climate change mechanisms are mainstreamed into the development process

### ***Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Change***

Concurrently with the Paris Agreement the SDGs were adopted by the global community. Sri Lanka has specifically noted the link between its commitments towards climate change mitigation and adaptation and its commitment to achieving the SDGs. Sri Lanka has established a Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife with a Sustainable Development Division. The Ministry will be the national focal agency to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of national commitments to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Currently it has begun work on the National Sustainable Development Roadmap as a first step towards formulating Policy and the institutional framework, strategy and action plan to achieve the SDGs in Sri Lanka. This will address cross cutting issues including climate change.

### ***Sources and references:***

Sri Lanka National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2011-2016

National Climate Change Policy 2012

National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change Impacts in Sri Lanka 2016-2025 (NAP)

Intended Nationally Determined Contributions 2016