



Ministry of Environment



Country: Sri Lanka
Initiation Plan (IP)

Project Title: Strategic Support to Accelerate Climate Action in Sri Lanka
Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s): UNDAF Outcome 4/CPD Outcome 2
Expected CPD Output(s): Output 2.3: Low-carbon pathways and green development promoted focusing on renewable energy and Blue-Green investment
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates: 8 March 2022 – 7 September 2023
Implementing Partner: UNDP Sri Lanka

Brief Description

Recent policy and institutional issues have undermined Sri Lanka's low-carbon growth trajectory and lowered the environmental sustainability of the country. Therefore, in line with the new and ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), a push towards climate action, which feeds into green development, is critical.

Sri Lanka's NDCs were updated in 2021. The updated NDCs introduced a 14.5% reduction target for total GHG emissions by 2030, in addition to sectoral GHG reduction targets, and set policy targets to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. These ambitious targets highlighted the need for consistent and coherent efforts from the government and society. A clear Roadmap providing guidance to sectoral agencies to mainstream the NDCs into their plans and programmes is required.

The overall objective of this Initiation Plan is to assist the Government of Sri Lanka to conduct inclusive national consultations to build a shared vision to accelerate progress on the SDGs and NDCs and enhance institutional effectiveness by developing a 2050 Carbon Neutrality Roadmap for Sri Lanka. Additionally, this Initiation Plan will support to develop a comprehensive Damage and Loss Framework to build resilience to climate change impacts in Sri Lanka.

This Initiation Plan will cover the following specific interventions:

1. Develop a 2050 Carbon Neutrality Road map through an inclusive and participatory approach;
2. Develop Country Report encompassing Stockholm+50 themes for a healthy planet and prosperity for all;
3. Establish mechanisms to access and support enhanced climate resilience.

To implement the activities for this Initiation Plan, UNDP will invest resources from

1. Climate Promise Phase II (Government of Sweden)
2. Stockholm+50 National Consultations (Government of Sweden)
3. Damage & Loss Fund (UNDP TRAC)

Programme Period: 08/ 2022 – 09/2023	Total resources required: US\$ 474,000
	Total allocated resources: US\$ 324,000
Atlas Project Number: 00142290	

Atlas Output ID: 00130586	Government of Sweden US\$ 324,000
Gender Marker: GEN 2	Unfunded budget: TRAC (Damage & Loss Fund) US\$150,000
	In-kind Contributions:

Prepared by:

Signature

DocuSigned by:

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Name and Designation

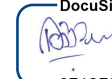
: Sugandhi Samarasinghe, Technical Coordinator (CET)

Date of Signing

: 07-Mar-2022

Cleared by:

Signature

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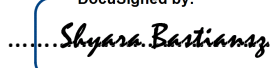
Name and Designation

: Buddika Hapuarachchi, Policy Specialist & Team Lead (CET)

Date of Signing

: 08-Mar-2022

Signature

DocuSigned by:

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Name and Designation


: Shyara Bastiansz, Programme Analyst & Team Lead, (RRMT)

Date of Signing

: 08-Mar-2022

Agreed by UNDP:

Signature

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Name and Designation

: Malin Herwig, Officer In Charge, UNDP Sri Lanka

Date of Signing

: 08-Mar-2022

I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

1.a) Current Context Analysis

Sri Lanka faces multiple economic crises stemming from long-term fiscal and debt sustainability issues, exacerbated by the Easter Sunday attacks of 2019 and the Covid-19 pandemic, climate related hazards pose a further significant threat to the economic and social development of the country.

Highly vulnerable to climate change induced extreme weather events, Sri Lanka has been included in the Global Climate Risk Index and amongst the top 10 countries at risk of extreme weather events. Several large-scale disaster events have already affected the country, with severe droughts in 2011 and 2016 and major floods and landslides in 2011, 2014, 2016, and 2017. In 2016 and 2017, Sri Lanka's economy contracted due to prolonged drought and widespread flooding. Climate change projections predict long-term changes to monsoon patterns and the shifting of ecological regions. Sectors that contribute significantly to Sri Lanka's economy, such as tourism, fisheries, tea production and agriculture are climate-sensitive and impacted by disruptions caused by monsoons and altered rainfall, which could further undermine an already fragile economy.

In its overarching national policy framework 'Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor', the government of Sri Lanka has committed to development that is culturally sensitive and environmentally sustainable. This is further reflected in the recent engagements at UN General Assembly and UN High Level Dialogue on Energy wherein, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Sri Lanka revised and submitted ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) targets to the UNFCCC in 2021, an obligation as party to the Paris Agreement. Despite ambitious targets, a multitude of regulations, policies and implementation in some areas is still lagging.

Building on UNDP support to the Ministry of Environment through Climate Promise Phase I (to update and submit the NDCs), this project seeks to develop a clear Road Map for carbon neutrality and to support sectoral agencies to mainstream the NDCs into their plans and programmes, enhancing implementation while accelerating green development, to support the vision of a resilient and low-carbon future for Sri Lanka.

1.b) Objectives and Outputs

This Project builds on UNDP's support to the Government of Sri Lanka to implement and realize climate action targets towards net-zero to transform the country's development trajectory towards a sustainable, resilient, and green economic recovery. This Initiation Plan mobilizes resources from Climate Promise Phase II, Stockholm+50 National Consultations and Damage & Loss Fund in catalysing climate action in Sri Lanka. UNDP's support will comprise of technical advisory services, strategic coordination, and communications support.

The overall expected outcome from these interventions is to strengthen institutional and regulatory frameworks to deliver and track ambitious climate action across sectors towards net-zero, climate resilient and sustainable development pathways via enhancing scale and speed, amplifying ambition with lasting inclusivity of the revised NDCs.

In aligning NDC implementation with the SDGs to enhance synergies for the effective implementation of climate actions, links between SDGs and NDCs across sectoral action plans will be mapped. These activities will further complement efforts to develop a 2050 Carbon Neutrality Road Map which will address entry points to mainstream the NDCs in selected sectors and outline important milestones in order to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Through this Initiation Plan, a mechanism for periodic reviews of sectoral milestones to correct actions and meet international obligations will also be developed.

Inclusive national consultations with government organizations, non-government entities including Civil Society Organizations, private sector, communities, women, youth, and marginalized groups will help to identify needs, gaps, and challenges to give direction to NDC implementation and ensure

buy-in of stakeholders, build political and societal consensus and offer recommendations on pathways for a sustainability and green recovery. Further, a gap analysis of Sri Lanka's commitments under the Stockholm Declaration (and subsequent Conventions) will be conducted.

Additionally, this IP will look to develop a comprehensive Damage and Loss Framework and System to gauge levels of resilience, vulnerability and exposure and build capacity to ensure timely recovery and reconstruction planning and implementation by the Government.

The 3 main outputs of this Initiation Plan include:

Output 1: 2050 Carbon neutrality Roadmap is developed through an inclusive and participatory process

Output 2: Developed Country Report encompassing Stockholm+50 themes for a healthy planet and prosperity for all

Output 3: Established mechanisms to access and support enhanced climate resilience

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Initiation Plan (IP) will be managed by the UNDP Country Office (CO), under the overall guidance of the Resident Representative (RR), and oversight of the Deputy Resident Representative (DRR). The IP will be managed and implemented by the Climate and Environment Team (CET), with the technical support of the SDG Advisor, Gender Specialist, Economist, the Communications team and the Policy and Engagement team.

The Team Leader and Policy Specialist of the Climate & Environment Team will be accountable for the IP's overall results and quality assurance. A National Coordinator will be recruited to provide technical advice, day-to-day project management and implementation support.

The outputs will be implemented by UNDP under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) and in close coordination with the Ministry of Environment.

III. MONITORING

The outputs of the Initiation Plan, as outlined in the Work Plan, will be monitored and evaluated bi-annually during project implementation, to ensure that the project effectively achieves the results that have been identified. The indicators will be monitored through a simple means of verifications.

The National Coordinator is responsible for regular monitoring of project results and risks, including social and environmental risks, gender inclusion and will ensure that all project staff maintain a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in M&E and reporting project results. The National Coordinator will inform the UNDP CO of any delays or difficulties as they arise during implementation so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted.

The UNDP Country Office will support the project team as needed, including through monitoring and oversight missions, under the guidance of the Programme Quality and Design Analyst. The CO will also ensure that the standard M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality. This includes ensuring that targets at the output level are monitored and reported on and that any risks arising during implementation are managed or mitigated to the extent possible. Any quality concerns flagged during monitoring activities will be deliberated on and addressed in a timely manner by the UNDP CO and National Coordinator.

Monitoring activities will be designed in a way that facilitates learning and to ensure that knowledge is shared and widely disseminated to support upscaling and replication of project results.

IV. WORK PLAN

Period: March 2022- September 2023

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME						RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1 Mar – May 2022	Q2 Jun – Aug 2022	Q3 Sept Aug – Nov 2022	Q4 Dec – Feb 2023	Q5 Mar – May 2023	Q6 Jun – Aug 2023		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
Output 1 2050 Carbon neutrality roadmap is developed through an inclusive and participatory process <i>Indicator:</i> # of long-term strategies approved by government to manage carbon neutrality <i>Baseline:</i> Newly revised Nationally Determined Contributions <i>Targets:</i> Develop and hand over the developed 2050 Carbon Neutrality Road map of Sri Lanka <i>Related CP outcome:</i> CP Outcome 2: Adopt a green development strategy with a specific focus on green agriculture, energy, construction, green villages, cities and green employment for the sustainable development of Sri Lanka.	Activity 1.1 Mapping links between SDGs and NDCs in sectoral action plans	X						UNDP	Govt of Sweden	Institutional Contract	225,000
	Activity 1.2 Develop 2050 Carbon Neutrality Roadmap of Sri Lanka			X	X	X			UNDP	Govt of Sweden	Institutional Contract to develop Report
Output 2	Activity 2.1 Conduct gap analysis on Stockholm Declaration and related conventions	X						UNDP	Govt of Sweden	Institutional Contract to	75,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME						RESP ONSIBLE PART Y	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1 Mar – May 2022	Q2 Jun – Aug 2022	Q3 Sept Aug – Nov 2022	Q4 Dec – Feb 2023	Q5 Mar – May 2023	Q6 Jun – Aug 2023		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
<p>Developed Country Report encompassing Stockholm+50 themes for a healthy planet and prosperity for all</p> <p><i>Indicator:</i> <u># of consultations with national stakeholder groups</u></p> <p><i>Baseline: Gap analysis on Stockholm Declaration and subsequent related conventions</i></p> <p><i>Targets:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Inclusive Stakeholder analysis</i> 2. <i>Develop and hand over Country Report</i> <p><i>Related CP outcome: CP Outcome 2: Adopt a green development strategy with a specific focus on green agriculture, energy, construction, green villages, cities and green employment for the sustainable development of Sri Lanka.</i></p>									develop Report		
	Activity 2.2 Conduct national stakeholder consultations and update SparkBlue platform	X	X					UNDP	Govt of Sweden	Institutional Contract to conduct consultations	
	Activity 2.3 Draft country report on insights gathered from national stakeholder consultations								Govt of Sweden	Institutional Contract to develop Report	
<p>Output 3</p> <p>Established mechanisms to access and support enhanced climate resilience</p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p>	Activity 3.1 Develop a Damage and Loss Assessment Framework and System				X	X	X	UNDP	TRAC	Institutional Contract to develop Report	150,000

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME						RESP ONSIBLE PART Y	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1 Mar – May 2022	Q2 Jun – Aug 2022	Q3 Sept Aug – Nov 2022	Q4 Dec – Feb 2023	Q5 Mar – May 2023	Q6 Jun – Aug 2023		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (USD)
<p># of developed data extracts for decision-making or policy drafts</p> <p># of trained government officials on managing recovery, reconstruction planning and implementation</p> <p><i>Baseline: No Damage and Loss Framework/ System currently exists</i></p> <p><i>Targets:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a Damage and Loss Assessment Framework and system - Build capacity of government for recovery, reconstruction planning and implementation <p><i>Related CP outcome: CP Outcome 2: Adopt a green development strategy with a specific focus on green agriculture, energy, construction, green villages, cities and green employment for the sustainable development of Sri Lanka.</i></p>											
	<p>Activity 3.2 Capacity building for timely recovery and reconstruction planning and implementation</p>							UNDP	TRAC	Software, training programs & workshops	
Other fees											
GMS (8%)										24,000	
TOTAL (USD)										474,000	

