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**COP26 Side Event:**  
**Enhancing National Climate Action through NDC  
Implementation Planning: Experiences from the  
Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub  
(CCFAH)**

**6th November 2021; 15:30 - 16:30; NDC Partnership Pavilion**

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## **Background**

The Commonwealth Secretariat partnered with the NDC Partnership under its Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) Programme to support four Commonwealth member countries namely, Belize, Eswatini, Jamaica and Zambia through in-country technical expertise, capacity building and targeted support on climate finance for expediting the implementation of each country's NDCs.

Support has been provided through the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH) and Commonwealth National Climate Finance Advisers, who have developed and deployed different tools and strategies related to climate finance that match the strategic priorities of the member countries. The aim of this side event is to share the experience gained from delivering these complementary interventions to support NDC implementation with other countries and stakeholders. These are outlined by country as follows:

## **Belize**

### **a. The Climate Finance Landscape Study**

The Climate Finance Landscape Study has been carried out by CCFAH to understand the overall picture of climate finance flows to Belize. It provides a detailed assessment of the amounts, sources, channels, instruments, partners and focal sectors of climate finance of the country. The study also includes an assessment of the trends, policy context as well as the institutional mechanism in place to access climate finance. This assessment is very important to understand the strengths to capitalise as well as areas to improve as far as access to climate finance is concerned. This study has been used as the basis in developing the climate finance strategy of Belize. The climate finance landscape study and its methodology can be used as an important tool to set the background for a strategic approach for climate finance interventions.

### **b. The Climate Finance Strategy**

The Climate Finance Strategy of Belize 2021-2026 has been developed by CCFAH as a vital tool in the NDC implementation of the country. Belize has submitted its updated NDC with a higher ambition level across many sectors. Achieving the ambitious NDC targets, a country requires a significant level of financial resources. An integrated strategic approach is also required to bridge the finance gaps while capitalising on the opportunities and strengthening the weak areas. The Climate Finance Strategy has been developed as a key implementation tool of Belize's NDC targets. It provides an integrated and strategic approach to the country to meet the challenging climate finance requirements. The strategy is not only addressing access to finance but also strengthening the country capacities in accessing climate finance with a futuristic vision.

## **Eswatini:**

### **a. Government of Eswatini Climate Public Expenditure & Institutional Review (CPEIR)**

The Government of Eswatini has requested support from the Nationally Determined Contributions Partnership (NDCP) Climate Action Enhancement Programme (CAEP) for undertaking the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) with a view of strengthening its national climate action programme and climate finance management in the country. The Commonwealth Secretariat responded to the CAEP request from Eswatini and agreed to provide technical assistance through its Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH). The goal and objective of the CPEIR within the specific context of Eswatini are to assess the opportunities and constraints for integrating climate change concerns within the national (and sub-national, where applicable) budget allocations and expenditure processes and estimate the current level of climate expenditures by the government. The aim of the CPEIR is also to allow relevant national institutions for the consideration of climate change into the national development planning and budgeting process in a systematic manner and to integrate climate change considerations in the national development decision making processes.

### **b. Strategy to Enhance Private Sector Engagement in Eswatini NDC Actions**

The revised NDC sets clear mitigation and adaptation targets along with comprehensive roadmaps based on the local context. It incorporates new sectors for mitigation and adaptation actions. Along with the opportunity created by the Paris Agreement comes the important challenge of transforming NDC into tangible actions that lead to long term zero-carbon and climate-resilient development.

The private sector in the Kingdom of Eswatini has a crucial role to play in the country's response to climate change in mobilizing green investment and in implementing mitigation and adaptation actions. The strategy document presents an assessment of the private sector in Eswatini and their potential as well as existing opportunities to leverage climate finance to meet NDC targets and presents recommendations for private sector participation in climate action as well as guidance for the Government of Eswatini and development partners to encourage private sector participation and engagement in climate change action. The document intends to stimulate a more informed and devoted private sector to contribute actively to NDC action. The key interventions carried out by the CCFAH under the CAEP in the aforementioned four member countries are briefed below of which the details will be discussed during the proposed event.

## **Jamaica**

### **a. Development of climate expenditure analyses and modelling.**

Jamaica has played a key role in integrating climate mitigation and adaptation in its economic development processes. The policy response is comprehensively based on the number of agencies that report and seek to implement the various climate policies of the Jamaican Government. However, the review of the agencies responsible for implementing the numerous climate policies, suggest that there may be a risk of duplication of efforts and creating parallel systems. Public-private partnerships must be a crucial component of the climate policy framework, the responsibilities of climate change are not exclusive to government-only activities. The models developed for this project provide the necessary tools that allow the government to integrate and mainstream climate consideration into all aspects of policy. The Climate Change Macroeconomic accounts model, if kept current and DALAs become routine, could allow the government to model possible impacts of climate change on the economy and seek to model the outcome of the interventions that could prevent those impacts. Strengthening technical capacity in climate modelling and

forecasting, having a dedicated and central repository (easier access to data) for climate data and financial flows, and mitigation and adaptation actions will need to be addressed to enhance Jamaica's ability to respond to the reporting requirements of the Paris Agreement.

## **Zambia:**

### **a. Climate Finance Mapping for NDC Implementation in Zambia**

As Zambia moves from NDC updating to NDC implementation, financing the actions required to meet its NDC targets becomes central. The full realization of climate finance is critical to meet its NDC targets. Hence, Zambia will need to tap all sources of climate finance available – international and domestic, public and private. The climate mapping is part of the Government of Zambia's strategic intervention to build climate finance capacity to better coordinate resource mobilization and track climate change expenditures.

The overall objective of the climate mapping is to optimize and enhance mobilization of funding to implement the NDC priority actions, supporting Zambia to achieve its commitment under the PA. The Mapping presents identified gaps and capacity building needs for implementing NDCs, ways to build awareness and understanding on instruments and resources available to support NDC implementation, methods to enhance mobilization of funding from public and, private finance sources for NDC by developing short, medium and long terms action plans for NDC implementation, the basis for developing MRV system and way to align NDC priorities with financing opportunities

### **b. Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) of Climate Finance**

Zambia has made progress in setting arrangements for monitoring, coding and tracking climate change expenditures to enhance accountability and transparency in line with the Paris Agreement. However, the process is still developing and requires concerted effort to develop accurate and measurable indicators for both mitigation and adaptation remain weak. The country has made progress to identify relevant and appropriate indicators to track progress on adaptation and building resilience. However, these still need to be refined and agreed upon by various stakeholders. Mechanisms to identify the sources and track how the finance has been utilized have still not been fully actualized, yet these are international standards required in climate finance and this may prevent the country from benefiting from and accessing some funds. The overall objective of the climate finance MRV is to increase the effectiveness of climate finance through an information tool that improves the understanding of the financial flows to mitigate and adapt to climate change, from public, private, national, and international sources; helps manage climate finance, and helps identify investment gaps to tackle the climate change problem.

## **Objectives**

The main objectives for the side event are as follows:

### **Overall Objective**

- To share the country experiences on strategic approaches to meet climate finance challenges and maximise opportunities in implementing NDCs.

### **Specific Objectives**

- To enhance the awareness of stakeholders on the options to meet the finance requirements for NDC implementation;
- To share the experiences of the countries in developing and utilizing these tools and interventions;
- To discuss the way forward in using these tools and interventions in the future to mobilize and utilize climate finance effectively and efficiently.

## Agenda and Potential Speakers *(to be confirmed)*

6th November 2021; 15:30 - 16:30

Timing (1 hr)	Item
15:30 - 15:45 (15 mins)	<b>Welcome and Keynote Address</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC, Secretary General of the Commonwealth</li> </ul> <b>Introductory Presentation on the CAEP interventions of CCFAH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Uzoamaka Nwamarah, Adviser, Climate Change, Commonwealth Secretariat</li> </ul>
15:45 - 16:10 (25 mins)	<b>Moderated Panel Discussion</b> <b>Panellists:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Lennox Gladden, Chief Climate Change Officer, National Climate Change Office, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, Government of Belize</li> <li>Ms. Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina, Director, Ewastini Meteorological Services, Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Eswatini (tbc)</li> <li>Dr Karelle Samuda, Adviser to the Minister of Finance and the Public Service, Jamaica</li> <li>Mr. Ephraim Shitima , Director, Climate Change &amp; Natural Resource Department, Ministry of Land and Natural Resources, Zambia (tbc)</li> <li>Ms. Amanda McKee, Head of CAEP and Deputy Director for Knowledge and Learning</li> </ul>
16:10 - 16:25 (15 mins)	<b>Moderated Question and Answer Session</b>
16:25 - 16:30 (5 mins)	<b>Closing Remarks and Vote of thanks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Unnikrishnan Nair, Head of Climate Change, Commonwealth Secretariat</li> </ul>
<b>Event Moderator: Dr. Sam Ogallah, Commonwealth National Climate Finance Adviser to Eswatini</b>	