



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



ECA



UNITED NATIONS
NAMIBIA



CONCEPT NOTE

1. Background

In response to a request from the National Planning Commission (NPC), UN DESA is implementing a joint capacity development initiative coordinated by the Economic Analysis and Policy Division (EAPD) and the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Governance (DPIDG), in partnership with the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) in Namibia, the Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN ECA).

The Climate, Land-use, Energy and Water Systems (CLEWs) project is intended to support the assessment of policy strategies to implement the Harambee Prosperity Plan II (2021-2025) and NDP6 and pave the way for embedding the methodology into the national development process, UN DESA proposed CLEWS as quantitative modelling methodology to address the current challenges facing Namibia when it comes to intersectoral policy integration in the areas of climate, land, energy, and water.

The CLEWs initiative aims to support the government in transitioning from sectoral to integrated policy making. It will do so by enhancing the capacities of the Government in adopting the Climate, Land, Energy and Water systems (CLEWs) integrated assessment for identifying and managing trade-offs and synergies in policy and strategy formulation. The latter is a tool suited to assess interlinkages and trade-offs between

sustainable development policies. If such interlinkages are not properly addressed and awareness among policy makers is not cultivated, this is likely to create challenges of competition between food or fuel, security of water supply and issues concerning land use for biofuel production. Hence, the importance of integrated planning and modelling approaches for sustainable development.

Strengthening institutional coordination arrangements is also key to enhance coherent approaches to policy formulation. This is in line with the recommendations of the country's second VNR in 2021 to develop a roadmap for the implementation of the SDGs. Therefore, UN DESA will also support the Government of Namibia to put in place a new or strengthened framework, to institutionalize the CLEWS modelling and use the integrated assessment to inform the national development policy planning and review process.

Through the development of a tailored CLEWS methodology, the activity's integrated assessment and institutional arrangements will inform Namibia's 6th National Development Planning (NDP) process and offer timely support for the implementation of the recommendations in Namibia's NDP.

UN DESA will support the government of Namibia in adopting a tailored CLEWS integrated assessment and institutional arrangements for identifying and managing tradeoffs and synergies in policy and strategy formulation towards Namibia's 6th National Development Plan (NDP6) and offer support with implementation of the recommendations.

The CLEWS project focuses on:

2. Building national cross-sectoral technical capacity through transfer of knowledge and skills for integrated modeling of climate, land, energy and water systems (CLEWS) in support of implementation of the SDGs, and NDP6
3. Transfer the knowledge and skills needed to develop and apply CLEWS models to national Counterparts
4. Co-development of a CLEWS model tailored to the unique circumstances and development of Priorities of Namibia
5. Establishment of institutional arrangements and mechanisms to facilitate effective coordination among stakeholders in the design and implementation of the models during the process of policy formulation
6. Application of the tool to assess national development priorities and inform national Planning processes

Since 2021, DPIDG and EAPD have engaged through several virtual meetings with the UNRCO, UNDP, the FAO, UN ECA and the National Planning Commission of Namibia, and several national stakeholders to assess policy priorities and ministerial engagement for the project. DPIDG in collaboration with UN ECA, UNDP and FAO took part virtually in the hybrid induction workshop that was organized from 7-11 of February 2022 in Swakopmund to launch the capacity development project with a view to strengthening its agriculture sector. DPIDG held an advisory mission from 18-21 July 2021 to refine under the guidance of the NPC leadership the options for institutional arrangements, customized the Namibian context, the

roadmap for implementation and further develop the proposal to establish a CLEWS Lab that would offer an infrastructure that will enable an inter-ministerial development and update of the CLEWS modeling, supported by the University of Namibia, both in terms of human capacity development and in terms of infrastructure. and a roadmap for implementation. During the same mission, DPIDG also discussed how to ensure advisory and technical support to support the use of the integrated CLEWS assessment to inform the common country analysis – as committed during the February mission in Swakopmund. NPC proposed to hold a validation workshop to ensure that the Executive Directors of the relevant ministries commit to use of CLEWS results as a basis to inform their sectoral strategies and collaborate with other ministries to inform NDP 6.

2. Objectives

The objective of the validation workshop is to hold a 2-day workshop to engage senior government officials in:

- Validating the proposed roadmap and institutional arrangement for implementation of CLEWS in Namibia.
- Validating the outputs developed during the CLEWS modelling capacity development process and those related to the establishment and implementation of the institutional arrangements required to embed CLEWS into the national development planning process
- Discussing and improving on the steps to be taken for the implementation of the CLEWS approach towards the formulation of the NDP6

3. Format

The validation workshop will take place over the course of 2 days. The workshop will be facilitated by the NPC as the focal point for CLEWS, supported by UN DESA, RCO, UN ECA, WFP and FAO. Plenary discussions will be combined with group discussions to ensure full ownership of the government officials, a thorough understanding of the steps and issues lying ahead and a proper identification of the outstanding challenges and concrete outputs.

Discussions will be held following presentations of the policy briefs – a customized and comprehensible presentation of the CLEWS integrated assessment; the proposal for the establishment of a CLEWS Lab; a proposed roadmap of the implementation of CLEWS; options for the establishment of institutional arrangements that are aimed at strengthened inter-sectoral collaboration and the corresponding roles and responsibilities for stakeholders involved; and the presentation of the National Development Plan Policy Process, Roles and Responsibilities.

4. Participation

The workshop will be attended by the senior leadership and other representatives of the National Planning Commission (NPC), UN DESA, UN ECA, RCO, FAO, the national consultant, the Executive Directors

of the Ministry of Agriculture Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME), Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism (MEFT), Namibia Statistics Agency and Senior leadership and lecturers/researchers from the University of Namibia and the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

5. Expected outcomes

The workshop is expected to result in:

- i. Commitment from the senior leadership of the relevant ministries to use the CLEWS modeling to inform the formulation of sectoral policies that will form the basis of NDP 6.
- ii. Agreement on the Policy Briefs/ integrated assessments for CLEWS as a basis for future modeling work to inform NDP 6.
- iii. Discussion and agreement on the proposed institutional arrangements that will drive the CLEWS modelling for policy planning process in Namibia.
- iv. Discussion and agreement on the proposed roadmap that sets out roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders towards the realization of CLEWS modeling in Namibia

6. Date and Venue

The workshop will be held over the period 23 to 24 November 2022, in Otjiwarongo, Namibia.