

Concept note and Agenda

Institutional arrangements for coherent national policy formulation in the areas of Climate, Land, Energy and Water systems (CLEWs) framework in Namibia

Namibia CLEWs meeting with Directors from MME, MAWLR, MEFT, NSA, UNAM, NUST and NPC

Windhoek, 23 November



Background

The government of Namibia, through the National Planning Commission (NPC), has requested the United Nations' support to enhance capacities in government in adopting the Climate, Land, Energy and Water systems (CLEWS) integrated assessment which is a tool suited to assess and manage trade-offs and synergies in policy and strategy formulation. A tailored CLEWS methodology would inform Namibia's 6th National Development Planning process and offer timely support for the implementation of the recommendations in Namibia's NDP. CLEWS could also offer a framework for modelling and revising Namibia's nationally determined contributions (NDCs) as an integral part of the Harambee Prosperity Plan II where they relate to actions in the water, energy, and land sectors.

The overall objective of the CLEWS initiative is to strengthen technical and institutional capacity for integrated analysis among stakeholders in the national development planning process in Namibia. The rationale for this capacity development work is that strong tools and internal capacity for integrated analysis, that can be called upon as needed, combined with institutional arrangements that foster inter-ministerial collaboration and coordination, is an asset that can help ensure that decisions and planning processes are conducted on solid evidence, knowledge, and analytic foundation, based on the best data and appropriate methodologies.

An evaluation based on experiences with CLEWS and other modelling tools in different countries highlights that conducive institutional arrangements are required to embed CLEWS into the policy making and implementation process to overcome the inter-institutional challenge of developing and implementing integrated planning approaches. Embedding CLEWS into the planning cycle requires proper institutional arrangements to secure a legacy framework for ongoing integrated participatory planning.

The implementation of the CLEWS methodology and the institutional arrangements require a close collaboration between the government, UN DESA, RCO Namibia, FAO Namibia, WFP Namibia, UNDP Namibia, UNAM, UNDP HQ and UN ECA in order to make it operational and embed it into the Namibian policy cycle in the longer term.

The expected outcomes of the CLEWS initiative include:

- **Establishment of in-house capacity for integrated analysis with the Climate, Land, Energy and water systems (CLEWS) tool** within Government agencies and the University of Namibia that the leadership can call on to conduct assessments and analysis in response to needs and emerging issues as they arise. This collaboration can help expand the science-policy interface practice.

- **Establishment of an integrated analysis tool (CLEWs model)** adapted to the specific circumstances and priorities of Namibia, using national data and consultations with national stakeholders on model structure, that national stakeholders/ ministries can use and further develop to assess sustainable development policy issues (national and sector policy level).
- **Establishment and/or improvement of effective institutional arrangement mechanisms aimed at enhancing collaboration between the different relevant stakeholders** (ministries, NPC, NSA, UNAM & NUST) who play a role in the development and the use of CLEWS.
- **Establishment of a CLEWs lab** that could serve as a hub and platform for collaboration on integrated policy analysis among national stakeholders.
- **Analytic input into the NDP6 planning process** to strengthen the evidence base and analytic underpinnings of the plan in the form of scenario analysis and comparative assessment of different policy and technology options.

In 2022, UN partners, including UN DESA supported the National Planning Commission (NPC - the CLEWS focal point), the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR), the National Statistics Agency (NSA) and the Ministry of Mines and Energy (MME) with the adoption of the Climate, Land, Energy and Water systems (CLEWs) tool and related institutional arrangements to inform national sustainable development policy.

An inter-institutional Technical Working group (TWG) was created and worked with UN staff and external experts to co-develop and apply a CLEWs model tailored to the unique national circumstances of Namibia. The team held bi-weekly meetings/ trainings and was able to work efficiently in a remote format. Analysis was developed in 4 areas of relevance to national development priorities, namely i) *green hydrogen*; ii) *agricultural modernization*; iii) *water security*; and iv) *climate resilience*.

A workshop to present the findings to senior leadership took place on 23-24 November 2022. At the workshop the Government endorsed the continued use of CLEWs as part of its national planning process, as well as the adoption of a roadmap for institutionalization of CLEWs.

In 2023, NPC and UN Namibia requested further collaboration on CLEWs to support national planning activities and the development of the next national development plan 6 (NDP6) under the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

A proposal to establish the CLEWs Lab at the University of Namibia has also been approved and UN DESA will work with national counterparts from UNCT, the Government and academia to initiate and making the CLEWS Lab operational. The CLEWS Lab is meant to function as a fully-fledged dedicated resource center where experts/ technical analysts from government institutions that are part

of the CLEWS Technical Working Group can collaborate on intersectoral policy questions and conduct analysis with the CLEWS framework on a structural basis and under the guidance and trained by the University of Namibia (UNAM) in collaboration with NUST (Namibia University of Science and Technology).

Objective of the mission

NPC in support of the UN partners would like to take the opportunity after the workshop in Otjiwarongo of November 2022 to proceed with concretizing and further operationalizing the institutional arrangements to embed the CLEWS modelling tool into the national development planning process. The UN advisory mission will include several meetings and activities with key stakeholders in furthering making CLEWS operational to inform the national development planning process.

Objective 1: The meeting with Directors of NPC, MAWLR, MME, MEFT, NSA, NUST and UNAM will:

- (1) provide an update of the progress to date of the CLEWS approach in Namibia – both in terms of the quantitative outputs as in terms of the legacy framework for CLEWS to ensure its use into the NDP 6 and beyond.
- (2) create space for a discussion between directors and technical analysts about its use, comparative advantages as compared to other modelling tools, its concrete application based on specific policy priorities and on challenges to be addressed.
- (3) invite directors to incorporate the institutional arrangements in the day-to-day work of the team and individual technical analysts.
- (4) Agree on/ sign off the roadmap for CLEWS that gives an overview of the tasks and responsibilities of the relevant stakeholders in the coming months.

Objective 2: Take further actions to initiate the establishment of the CLEWS Lab.

Objective 3: Update senior management of NPC, UN RC and UN FAO on the results achieved so far and agree upon the roadmap that will be the pathway for applying and incorporating CLEWS into the NDP 6 planning process.

Agenda Thursday 23 November	
8:30-9:00	Arrival of participants/ Welcome
9:00-9:15	Introduction remarks by UN RCO, Carlos Fernandez Garcia, Head of UN RCO Namibia Introduction remarks by NPC Director Mr. Ned Sibeya Introduction remarks by UN DESA, Veronique Verbruggen, Interregional Advisor on Governance and Institution Building to describe the objectives of the meeting with Directors and work progress to date
9:15-9:20	Introduction of participants
9:20 -10:45	Technical analysts/ Deputy Directors to share insights, findings and challenges that are relevant for their own sectors based on their assessment of the added value of CLEWS for their own sectors (Mines and Energy, NPC and Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform).
10:45-11:00	
11:00-11:15	Q&A regarding presentations by the 3 ministries
11:15-11:45	Share outputs related to the relevance of the institutional arrangements for CLEWS and corresponding outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation TORs Technical Working group - Identification of technical analysts for all relevant ministries, academia and NSA including NPC - Presentation of the updated Roadmap - Presentation CLEWS Lab (UNAM) - Update re the CLEWS Lab - Presentation of the institutional arrangements: how CLEWS integrated assessment will be approved by senior leadership and inform NPD 6 <p>Discussion among participants and Q&A</p>
11:45-12:15	Summary of agreed steps, including next virtual trainings and the validation workshop
12:15-13:00	Lunch break