



**DRAFT
MEDIUM TERM WORK PLAN**

on

**COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF CLIMATE CHANGE
VULNERABILITY, RISK ASSESSMENT, ADAPTATION AND
MITIGATION**

between

**THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF COSTA RICA (MINAE)**

and

**THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, LAND AND SEA OF THE
ITALIAN REPUBLIC (IMELS)**

Following the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the field of climate change vulnerability, risk assessment, adaptation and mitigation, signed in Rome, on May 27th, 2016, and entered into force on October 6th, 2016 between the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic (IMELS) and the Ministry of Environment and Energy of the Republic of Costa Rica (MINAE), the Signatories agree to implement the following Medium Term Work Plan (WP).

Objectives

The objectives of the present WP are to identify and select activities and projects, that correspond to the general objectives of the MoU that are:

- to strengthen and coordinate efforts to combat global climate change and address its adverse effects;
- to support mechanisms to reduce climate change's impact and variability, increasing the adaptive capacity and disaster risk management, providing better resilience to vulnerable sectors;
- to promote secure, clean and efficient energy;
- to support the key sector emission reduction activities (energy, agriculture, solid waste) to drive the low emission development transformation process to achieve the country's Carbon-neutral goal within National Contribution framework under the UNFCCC;
- to stimulate and disseminate the economic and technological transformation to low emissions;
- to implement adaptation actions and opportunities to protect the environment and the natural resources.

The intention is to make a substantial contribution to the implementation of both adaptation and mitigation actions, to properly address and manage the current and future impacts of climate change in Costa Rica.

Description of Activities

In accordance with Article 4.3 of the aforementioned MoU, in the course of the implementation of the projects and activities, consideration will be given to the participation of the public, private and non-profit sectors and, where appropriate, universities, scientific and technical research bodies and non-governmental organizations, as well as institutions coming from Italy and Costa Rica.

Following Article 2 of the MoU, and taking into account the indications provided by the NDCs submitted on September 2015 by the Republic of Costa Rica, this WP aims to focus on the following areas of interest:

1. **Energy sector:** enhancing energy efficiency and conservation, promotion of non-conventional renewable energies;
2. **Electro Mobility (E-Mobility):** promotion of electro mobility of private and public transport;
3. **Forestry sector:** reduction of deforestation and promotion of a sustainable forest management (REDD+);
4. **Agricultural sector:** promotion of sustainable and low carbon agricultural practices under current and new NAMA projects (Livestock, Coffee, Banana, etc)
5. **Waste sector:** promotion of proper waste collection and treatment in urban areas;
6. **Disaster Risk Reduction:** strengthening the disaster risk governance and national capacities for disasters prevention, mitigation and preparedness, particularly in coastal areas;
7. **Water sector:** integrated management of water resources.

A brief description of the above mentioned areas of interest are described below:

1. Energy sector

The aim is to reduce the emissions in the energy sector promoting the transition towards low-carbon energy sources and enhancing energy efficiency and conservation.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- promote innovative financial instruments/mechanisms for renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies;
- promote renewable energies sources and energy efficiency measures through the implementation of pilot projects in the residential, tertiary and industrial sector.

2. Electro Mobility (E-Mobility)

The objective is to promote the electro mobility of private and public transport in order to develop of low carbon towns resilient at climate change.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- reduce fossil fuel consumption and transport related GHG emissions promoting low emission urban mobility;
- reduce transport infrastructure vulnerability while improving its quality;
- promote green and efficient public transport;
- improve efficiency for freight transportation.

3. Forestry sector

The objective is to promote sustainable forest management, reduce emissions in the forestry sector, in particular from deforestation, while ensuring a sustainable low carbon economic growth.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- support the identification of successful actions and actors to facilitate the scale up of private investments in REDD+.
- increase forest contribution to the economy and ecology, through sustainable development and conservation activities;
- promote awareness creation to decentralize participatory forest management and local based environmental conservation systems;
- establish modern data base center which helps in planning, implementing and monitoring environmental and forestry development initiatives;
- improve and diversify economic opportunities from agroforestry and sustainable afforestation of degraded forest areas.
- enhance the socioeconomic contribution of the forest sector and environmental development;
- ensure public benefits in the areas of environment, forestry development, conservation and utilization.

4. Agricultural sector

The objective is to promote sustainable agricultural practices under current and new NAMA projects (Livestock, Coffee, Banana, etc) so as to enhance a sustainable food production and curb GHG emissions.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- introduce sustainable agro-forestry and agricultural practices;
- promote technology transfer to preserve and develop the ecological richness and diversity in soil systems;
- reinforce the capacity of agricultural producers through the sharing of knowledge and best practices.
- increase agricultural productivity and minimize food insecurity and increase incomes irrespective of climate change by breeding and making available improved crop varieties;
- promote and disseminate drought prone agricultural crops and diversify agroforestry that suit in specified agro ecological areas where previously unsuitable.
- set options to increase incomes irrespective of climate change, implementing different agricultural and forestry options;
- select and identify improved crop varieties to be implemented in available areas, primarily adaptive to the climate change;
- enhance the adaptive capacity of ecosystems, communities and infrastructure through an ecosystem rehabilitation approach in Costa Rica.

5. Waste sector

The aim is to increase the sustainability of waste management at all levels, from collection to reuse, recycling, recovery and safe disposal; providing a significant contribution to the national strategy for the treatment of the whole generated waste and the phase-out of land filling.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- enhance the regulatory framework in order to promote the reuse, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste to reduce GHG emissions;
- enhance the proper collection and treatment in urban areas.

6. Disaster Risk Reduction

The objective is to strengthen the governance, the national technical capacity and quality of local expertise in disaster and environmental management; enhancing Disaster Response and Readiness.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities

- collection, analysis, management and use of relevant data, on the evolution of weather events (such as tropical cyclone activities, hurricane, etc.) storm surge and coastal flooding, in order to address environmental concerns and risks, resulting from global climate change.
- increase soil permeability and drainage in order to facilitate and accelerate recovery from coastal flooding events;
- enhance awareness, capacity and engagement of stakeholders and coastal communities;
- environmental education, mainly on disaster management, coastal management, assessment of coastal infrastructures and footprint related to their realization climate change, assessment of infrastructures and footprint related to their realization.

7. Water sector

The objective is to improve quality and quantity of water resources through their integrated management and planning.

To this end, cooperation will be focused on the following possible activities:

- create an integrated framework for the management of all water sources, incorporating district and community-based catchment management;
- promote water storage and irrigation, rainwater harvesting, water conservation and water efficiency practices.
- increase the sustainability of urban wastewater and meteoric drainage systems;

- preserve and develop the ecological richness and biodiversity;
- implement coastal vulnerability assessment procedures for natural/environmental, structural and operational components, concerning coastal zones;
- elaborate national policies and special programs for coastal zone management, disaster management, impact assessment and community level mitigation and adaptation measures.

Mean of Implementation

The activities under the aforementioned sectors will be implemented through the following means:

Elaboration of “ad hoc” projects in the priority areas of mutual interest,

Capacity building:

- improvement of the system for evaluating and assessing mitigation and adaptation measures against climate change vulnerability;
- ensuring participation of the society, local communities, indigenous peoples, women, men, youth, civil organizations and private sector in national and sub national climate change planning.

Sharing of resources, technologies and information.

- organization of workshops, presentations and meetings (also b2b) for technology transfer;
- exchange of experiences and best practices;
- exchange trainees and personnel.

Each funded activity will include a budget for missions and travels, that will cover also travel expenses of both sides of experts and officials, according to the UN regulations and/or specific agreement between both sides.

Entry into force

This Work Plan will come into force after signature by the Signatories.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present document in two copies in English, in San José on February 1st, 2018.

**For the Ministry of Environment
and Energy of the Republic of
Costa Rica**

Director of International Cooperation
Rubén Muñoz Robles

**For the Ministry for the
Environment, Land and Sea of the
Italian Republic**

**Director General
Francesco La Camera**
