

**Pre-Consultations with Provincial and Local Governments for Development of Nepal's Green,  
Resilient and Inclusive Development Strategic Action Plan**

**Final Draft Concept Note<sup>1</sup> for discussion with Government of Nepal**

**Background and Objectives:**

Under leadership of the Ministry of Finance (MoF), the Government of Nepal (GoN), with support from international development partners, is initiating the process of developing a Green, Resilient and Inclusive Development Strategic Action Plan (GRID-SAP).<sup>2</sup>

In sum, the GRID approach departs from previous development strategies in that it promotes economic progress that goes hand in hand with the preservation of the environment, including climate and biodiversity. The GRID approach pursues the twin goals of poverty eradication and shared prosperity with a sustainability lens, considering the interdependence between people, the planet, and the economy; tackling increasing risks of shocks in an integrated manner; and simultaneously addressing sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness. The GRID approach is tailored to country needs and to their objectives. It sets a path that achieves lasting economic growth without aggravating inequality, providing a robust recovery and restoring momentum on the Sustainable Development Goals. Nepal's GRID-SAP will be directly aligned with existing national priorities and commitments, including as outlined in the 15<sup>th</sup> Plan, the Nationally Determined Contributions, and the objectives for LDC graduation.

The GRID-SAP development process will conclude in mid-2022. As a key stakeholder in both development and implementation of Nepal's GRID ambition, provincial and local governments will be actively engaged throughout the process. Engagement with provincial and local governments and civil society will also be important to ensure the plan is designed by and for beneficiaries and the voices of all are heard. Provincial and local governments will also be represented in the GRID Advisory Group (GRID-AG), together with MoF, MoFAGA, sectoral ministries, representatives from private sector, civil society and academia. It is proposed that the GRID-AG meets three times during AP development and be chaired by NPC.

To enhance understanding, ownership and engagement of provincial and local governments of the GRID-SAP purpose and process of development, a series of pre-consultations will be conducted between January-February 2022. The pre-consultations will pave the way for further formal engagement of provincial and local governments and other key stakeholders at the sub-national level. These will be followed by a series of formal consultations to inform the GRID-SAP development during March-April 2022. The pre-consultations will also inform the GRID-SAP Inception Report, expected in February 2022.

As a next step of the GRID-SAP development process, a **provincial level analysis will be conducted** of existing provincial plans to provide a summary of the key GRID issues and opportunities in each Province of Nepal, this is likely to include analysis of:

**Green growth** opportunities based on provincial resources and market opportunities - focusing on policies and investments in important sectors such as energy, agriculture, forestry, water and land management, and sustainable transportation and cities, with an aim to support solutions that sustain natural capital, creates green jobs, and protects both people and the environment.

**Resilience risks** that need to be addressed to prevent future loss and damage – focusing on key areas where respective provinces need to invest in and mainstream risk management, prevention

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by UNDP Nepal Country Office, DD December 2021

<sup>2</sup> Further details are included in the GRID-AP Terms of Reference-\*\*\*\*\*-99

and preparedness, for example related to climate change, pandemics, natural disasters and socio-economic or financial shocks.

**Inclusion barriers** that prevent access to different groups to GRID opportunities – with key focus on how to ensure that target beneficiaries are fully engaged in policy and investment design and implementation processes, reducing inequalities and disparities, leaving no one behind.

**Sustainability issues** that can limit the length and scale of development in the Province.

The intention is not to complete a full GRID-SAP in each province but to provide the initial analysis and engagement with each province on that can provide the basis for each Province to develop their own GRID-SAPs. This information will be used to develop seven provincial annexes to the main GRID-SAP report and identify specific case studies to include in the main report.

#### **Content and Logistics:**

The pre-consultations will include:

- presentation on the background and purpose of the GRID-SAP
- outline of the process for development of the GRID-SAP,
- discussion on engagement of provincial and local governments throughout the process of development the GRID-SAP

The pre-consultations will be conducted in a hybrid-mode, with options to join both in-person and online. The pre-consultations will be conducted in Nepali language, with translation provided to English and other local languages as relevant.

#### **Participants:**

One pre-consultation will be conducted in each Province, with representatives from:

- Provincial government agencies, including from the Office of the Chief Minister (OCMCM), Provincial Planning Commission and sectoral ministries, including: Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Forest and Environment, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Development, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, and Ministry of Social Development, or other related ministries in respective provinces.
- Local government representatives, (including both urban and rural municipalities) and local government associations, District Coordination Offices.
- Federal government representatives, including from MoF, NPC, NNRFC, MoFAGA, and key line ministries.
- Development Partner representatives, including the GRID Support Team members, as facilitators, presenters and observers.

Each consultation will have approximately 20-25 participants. Gender balanced participation will be ensured in all consultations, to the extent possible.

Representatives from civil society, private sector, academia and media will be invited to the formal consultation at provincial and local levels, planned for March-April 2022.

#### **Tentative Timeline:**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Tentative date (week of)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Province 1	17-21 January 2022	
Province 2	17-21 January 2022	
Bagmati Province	17-21 January 2022	
Gandaki Province	24-28 January 2022	

Lumbini Province	24-28 January 2022	
Karnali Province	31 January – 04 February 2022	
Sudurpaschim Province	31 January – 04 February 2022	

*Detailed timeline to be confirmed in consultation with GoN and DPs. Aim to conclude pre-consultations with provincial and local governments by early February 2021.*

**Responsibilities:**

The round of pre-consultations with provincial and local governments will be led by UNDP, with support from the concerned Provincial Governments, the UN Country Team, Development Partners, and the federal government.

**Tentative agenda for each consultation:**

<b>Time allocated</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Responsible agency</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
20 minutes	Opening remarks	Federal: MoF/NPC/MoFAGA Provincial: Chief Secretary / OCMCM / PPC Local: Mayor/Deputy Mayor	To be confirmed. UNDP to coordinate
15 minutes	Presentation on the background and purpose of the GRID-SAP	Ministry of Finance (federal)	With support from GRID-SAP Support Team
15 minutes	Outline of the process for development of the GRID-SAP	Ministry of Finance (federal)	With support from GRID-SAP Support Team
60 minutes	Discussion on engagement of provincial and local governments throughout the process of developing and implementing the GRID-SAP	Facilitated by OCMCM/PPC and UNDP	
20 minutes	Summary of discussion and next steps	Facilitated by OCMCM/PPC and UNDP	
20 minutes	Closing remarks	Federal: MoF/NPC/MoFAGA Provincial: Chief Secretary / OCMCM / PPC Local: Mayor/Deputy Mayor	To be confirmed. UNDP to coordinate