

Ticking the boxes? Adaptation, Mitigation, and Finance

LESS TALK MORE AGREEMENT: HOW RESEARCH CAN
HELP UNBLOCK A CLIMATE DEAL

London, May 2014.

Linking research and negotiation

Negotiators and experts from like-minded LAC countries – have met regularly in a workshop since 2006

Meet and write down issues and responses together – this then used –or not at all- by each as it sees fit.

Way of overcoming varying degrees of capacity gaps, train new people, support and learn from each other

Based on own research and assessment of circumstances

Have been arguing since before Poznan by supporting work towards submissions, plenaries and declarations - all need to do more - and press others to do even more.

Tried to build bridges and dialogues across groups and UNFCCC divides along these ideas

A little story: mitigation in Haiti?



Have we mis-diagnosed the problem?

- Not an issue about countries receiving money – and issue about countries acting together to change the narrative towards action
- Main costs for most is impacts, not sharing the mitigation burden - avoiding impacts is at the core of the problem – and the convention
- A majority of countries reduces costs in a situation where everybody does as much of differentiated mitigation as possible – even themselves
- Mitigation and adaptation synergies can facilitate more action by all, diminish risk – link action to domestic concerns - and blend domestic and international finance

Some Challenges - and ideas

- Collectively, main cost is of delivering 2 degrees - even less 1.5 - bridging the gap collectively to avoid further impacts must remain at the forefront.
- To make possible the most ambition response to this challenge, lead a high ambition drive linking adaptation and mitigation from a position that supports synergies
- Base this on self interest and on co benefits - we can all gain by acting. Adaptation will become unmanageable with 3 or 4 degrees if emissions keep going up, while joining them up produces co-benefits.
- Willingness to act boldly has political value - and should be recognized, regardless of size. Low carbon countries willing to act should be supported in their intention to adapt and remain low carbon - in as much as those that are larger.



Arguing this for a while...

Impacts much larger than mitigation costs in:

- A) Latin America
- B) South East Asia
- C) Africa



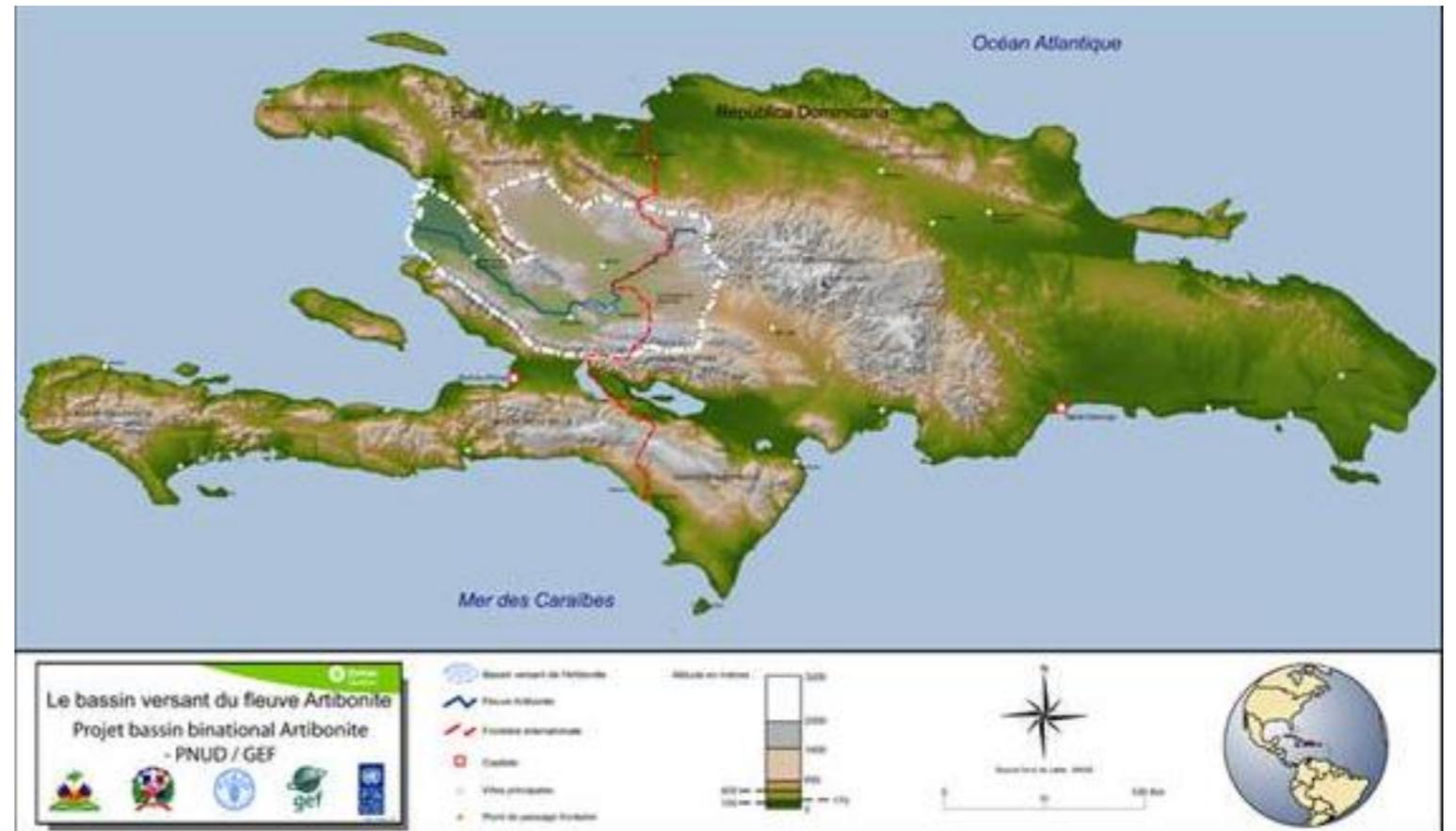
Similar situation across groups:

LDCs, SIDs but also AILAC, EIG, and a large number of middle income countries in all continents.

Many countries in the EU are of a similar persuasion – a 360 degree movement

Quisqueya...

- Taino language name of Hispaniola
- River basin work joins up agriculture practices for adaptation, with hydropowers and energy diversification and security
- Action on one side needs action on the other – mitigation implies adaptation
- Could contribute to a narrative where adaptation and mitigation work hand in hand - not in silos
- A “Quisqueya platform” as a basis from where to see how these linkages can support each other to achieve ambitious outcomes, be stringently MRVed, and engage others willing to identify further examples



A Quisqueya Platform

- A multilateral space to enhance action and raise the visibility and relevance of links between mitigation, adaptation, and finance in a multilateral context of early climate change action through high ambition mitigation contributions by participants.
- Facilitate informed interaction between participants so as to deliver and implement practical examples showing leadership in articulating and advancing high ambition pledges,
- Contribute support for stringent MRV schemes, that combine mitigation, adaptation blended finance and MRV components in real life settings
- Enhance support for domestic climate action efforts while contributing to a high ambition evolution of the multilateral climate action regime that bridges the collective mitigation gap-

Quisqueya Platform - delivering content to collective action

Levels

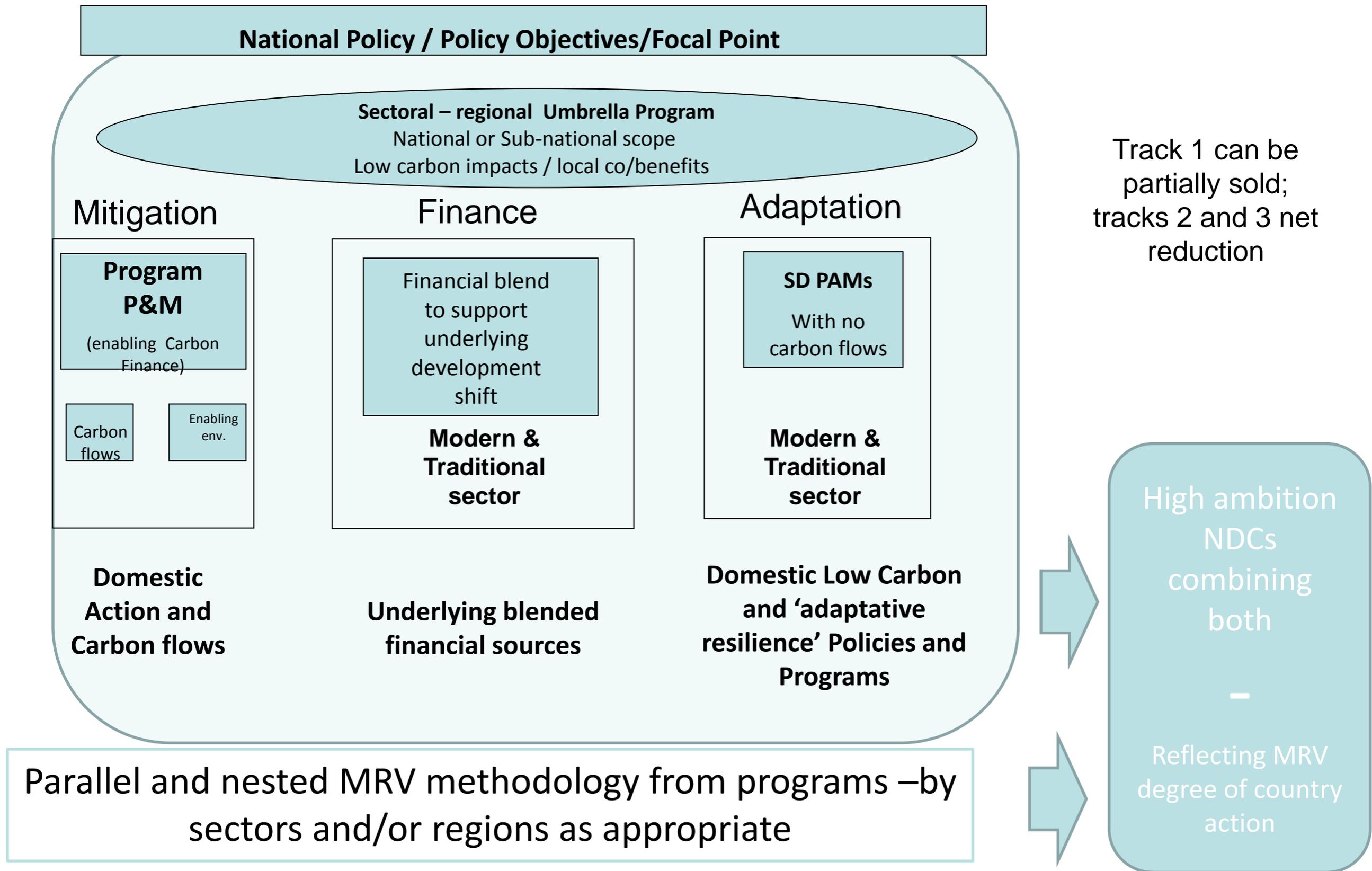
- A narrative of differentiated but ambitious action by all;
- Small is beautiful – as little governance as needed to help it grow with what participants wish to advance.
- Support and visibility for countries action in terms of program articulation, finance and MRV, and thinking on how to advance and MRV solutions for these challenges and low carbon & climate resilient development
- Create capacity and support local action and international cogent discussion across traditional negotiating groups

Environment

- A view of development that combines low carbon, resilience, risk management and finance
- Combing research and policy institutions and practitioners
- Countries leading around coalitions/clubs expand this approach and contributing bridge gaps
- Within a regime that highlights proactive action
- With a Caribbean and Latin American focus, but open to all –developed and developing

SPAs / Inspired by work with Peru and LAC

Combining Mitigation, Adaptation, and Finance



A Regime Supporting Leadership

- Principles and equity interpreted to spur action by all
- Provide a vehicle to mobilize countries wishing to do more, with a legal floor with mandatory commitments by all
- ...and implicit and additional support to those those willing to take more stringent and ambitious early action - be them the size they are.
- An implicit idea of clubs – Coalitions where countries willing to advance support each other – within the convention
- More action – more cooperation

What we are not saying

- It is up to some countries to do mitigation; it is up to others to do adaptation
- Some NDCs can be formed with adaptation action alone
- Support for adaptation is not an obligation towards the most vulnerable.
- There is no duty by developed countries to lead and support
- There is no option for developing countries to lead - others should

What we are saying

- All need to act – tiny, small, or large.
- Any country advancing adaptation can find a way to link it to mitigation –and vice versa.
- This action can be supported by blended sources of finance to mobilize more
- These linkages can help enhance and deliver high level ambition across regions and groups, with strong and stringent MRV of the linkages and support - see case of Mexico's PECC
- Groups of countries of similar persuasion –developed and developing- can organize themselves and the regime to reward this sort of collective action
- Already emerging – Cartagena, Majuro, Quisqueya.