



# Engaging decision makers and other stakeholders: *Experiences from Bhutan*

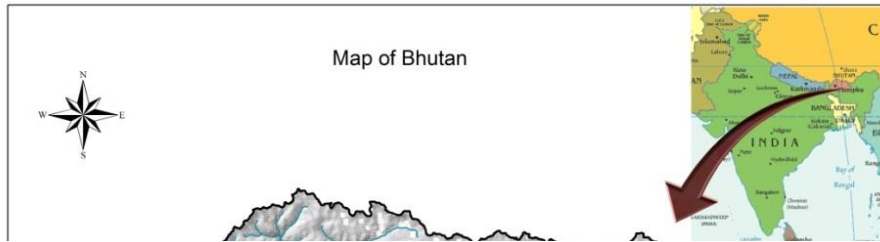
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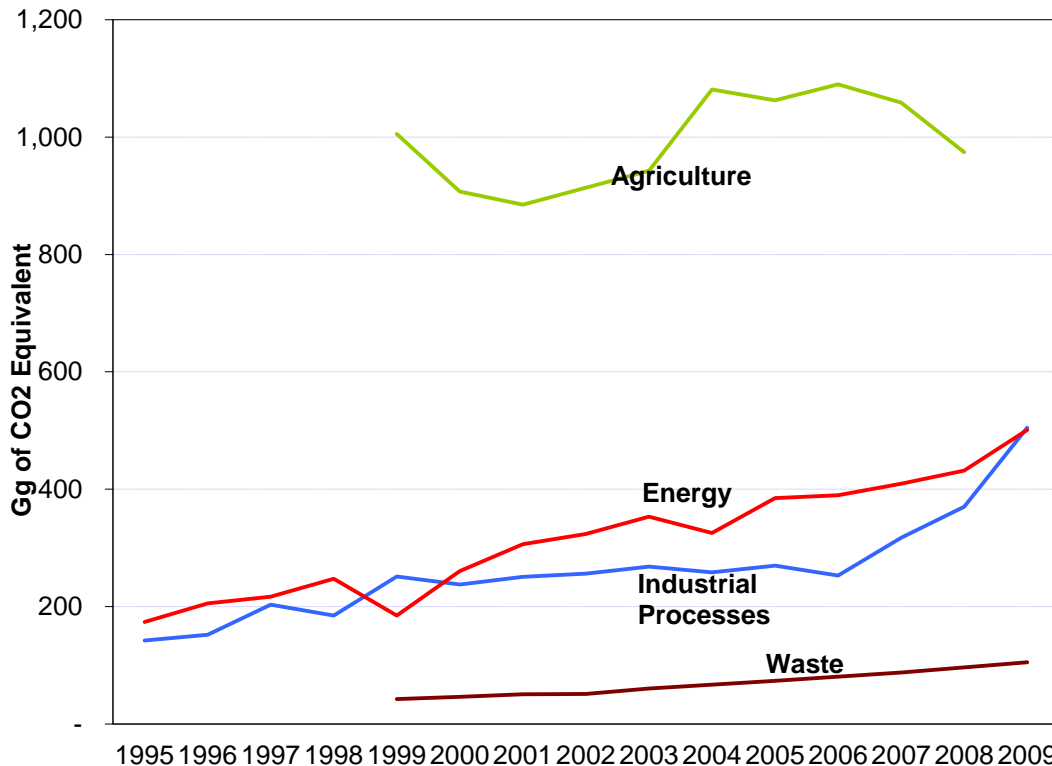
**Asia LEDS Forum 2013**  
**1-4 October 2013, Manila, Philippines**

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# Introduction



**GHG Emissions from Bhutan by sectors**



- Bhutan is a small land locked LDC in Himalayas
- Population of around 700,000
- Rich biodiversity
- Challenges of rugged but fragile mountain landscape
- Low GHG emissions
  - Net negative emissions including forest sinks
- Rapidly growing emissions in transport and industries



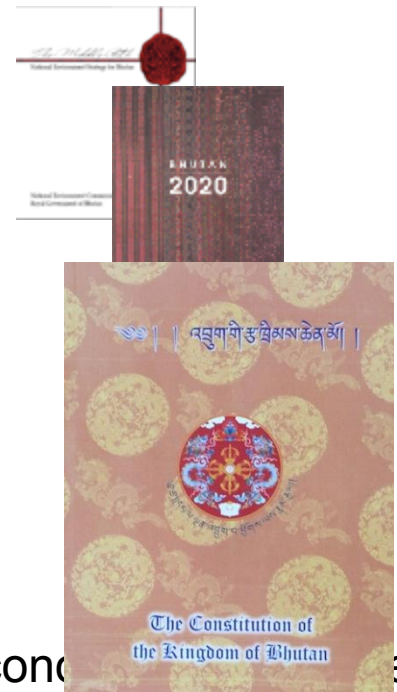
# Bhutan benefits from strong policy vision on environment & climate change

## Mandates and Policies related to LEDS:

- **Article 5 of Constitution (2008)**
  - Citizens as trustees (Fundamental Duty)
  - Government mandate for environment protection
  - Maintain 60% of land under forest cover for all times
- **National Environment Protection Act (2007)**
  - Environmental umbrella act
- **Carbon neutral declaration (2009)**
- **Economic Development Policy (2010)**
  - Encourages green growth
- **11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (2013-2018)**

*Objective:* “Self Reliance and Inclusive Green Socio-Economic Development”

*Green = ensuring carbon neutral development*



# Bhutan benefits from robust institutional arrangements & political champions



- **National Environment Commission (NEC)**
  - Established in 1992
  - High level cross-sectoral body chaired by Prime Minister
  - Close cooperation and coordination with stakeholders
  - NEC acts as National Climate Change Committee
  - Climate Change Unit of NEC Secretariat upgraded to Climate Change Division in 2012
- **Multi Sectoral Technical Committee on Climate Change (MSTCCC)**
  - Technical level body
  - Advisory and coordination of climate change issues
  - Reports to NEC





# National Environment Commission plays key role as facilitator & advisor

- NEC as lead cross sectoral agency at national level:
  - Facilitating, Regulatory & Advisory roles
  - LEDS and mitigation fairly new issues, so role of NECS to provide awareness and capacity building
  - Maintains a consultative process for development of strategies, policy, regulation and in projects
- Mainstreaming of CC and uptake by sectors & stakeholders
  - Important for building ownership of Strategies and Action Plans
  - Need awareness and capacity building
  - Learning by doing approach
  - Collaboration with Planning Agency (GNHC)

# Stakeholder engagement required at all levels

- Briefings and reporting to high level decision makers
  - NEC commission (Executive)
  - Parliament members (Legislative)
- Technical level consultations and in teams/task forces
  - technical stakeholders (MSTCCC)
  - govt agencies
  - Local governments
  - NGOs, CSOs, Private sector
- Outreach
  - General public
  - Media
  - Public consultation process



# LECB project provides important stakeholder capacity building function



- UNDP Low-Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project
  - 3 NAMAs: Transport, housing efficiency, waste management
  - 2 LEDS: Transport, Industrial development
- Implementation arrangements
  - Led by National Environment Commission
  - National task force with working groups led by sectoral agencies
  - capacity building, consultative processes, outreach & advocacy



# LECB project supports government to deliver on national mandates & development goals

- Carbon Neutral Declaration of 2009 has implications for both transport and Industrial sectors
  - NECS using LECB project as platform to facilitate discussion and development of strategies for the two sectors on how to meet national goal
- Transport sector already has Transport Vision 2040 and Strategy
  - NAMAs and LEDS provide opportunity to focus on low emission and leverage of financing and projects
- Economic Development Policy promotes green growth in Industry,
  - LEDS to provide more detailed options and low emission pathways for industry sector





# Challenges in engaging stakeholders & key decision-makers

- Low level of capacity and awareness
- Cannot reach everyone
  - Focal persons may not convey information to sectors and agencies
  - Cannot involve everyone
  - People in position change
- Level of interest
  - varies depending on potential for support (finance)
  - Sectoral priorities
- Donor driven project through sectors
  - Coordination important to avoid duplication of efforts
- Stability in policies
  - Changes in government and priorities (Carbon neutral?)



# Way Forward

- National policy on Climate Change
  - long term scope covering adaptation, mitigation, finance, technology
  - Currently a 5-year goal within 11 FYP
- Elaboration on carbon neutral strategy
  - Detailed scenarios and options for key sectors in LEDS, NAMAs
  - Institutional arrangements for implementation
  - financing, collaborators
- Outreach and advocacy on benefits of LEDS and Mitigation
  - Local and national benefits and co-benefits



# Conclusions

Successful development of LEDS will require:

- mandate “**to enable**” development of low emission
- cooperation and engagement of all decision makers and stakeholders for “**buy in**”
- **political champions**