

INSIGHTS FROM PRACTICE



ADAPTATION FORUM 2012

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What are the key lessons from adaptation field practices?



- Involvement from local communities is crucial
 - Example: Bhutan's GLOF Project involves local communities in their three project outcomes:
 1. Improved national, regional and local capacities to prevent climate change-induced GLOF disasters in Punakha-Wangdue and Chamkhar Valleys
 2. Reduced risks from GLOF from Thorthormi Lake through an artificial lowering of the lake
 3. Reduced human and material losses through installation of GLOF early warning systems



What are the key lessons from adaptation field practices?



- Adaptation issues should engage multi-sectors
 - Bhutan has a National Technical Level Task force on all Climate change issues: Multi Sectoral Technical Committee on Climate Change (MSTCCC)
- The MSTCCC:
- Supported in updating the NAPA
 - Updated project proposals which consider new climate hazards (windstorms, impacts of cyclone Aila)
 - Assistance with Project Identification Form (PIF) in order to access LDCF



What are the key constraints to linking field practices to policies?



- Transfer of information from field often does not get communicated into policies because people engaging in the field practices are often not policy makers and vice versa



How can field practices be sustainable?



- Field practices should be documented
- Experience should be shared in forums, seminars and workshops
 - Example: Bhutan Climate Summit which took place in Bhutan on 19th November 2011 and engaged the Governments of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and India to address adaptation issues for ensuring food, water and energy security while maintaining biodiversity and eco-system services.
- Financial mechanism: Ensuring that adequate financing is provided for best field practices



How can field practices be evaluated?



- Documenting lessons learnt
- Survey to gather information from people involved to learn whether the field practices was useful/effective
 - Example: Bhutan's GLOF project conducted a survey
 - Based on the qualitative-based survey conducted in spring 2011, 90% of households in the vulnerable communities are aware of the GLOF automatic EWS. Communities are better prepared to respond to GLOF disasters with 57% of members having participated in awareness activities since the inception of the project.



How can field practices be disseminated?



- Scaling up pilot initiatives
 - Example: The GLOF project involved installation of GLOF Early Warning Systems (EWS). Now the Department of Hydromet services in the revised NAPA is proposing installation of Automatic Weather Stations with real time link to the National Weather and Flood Forecasting and Warning Center
- Sharing experiences in workshops/forums
 - Example: Currently, a field trip is being organized for the LDC Expert Group to impart information on the GLOF project in Bhutan
- Awareness (media)



What types of knowledge base is required?



- Information on climate hazards to adapt to:
 - Example: Current NAPA revision has updated climate hazards from those identified in the NAPA 2006 document. Windstorms and impacts from cyclone Aila which were previously not identified in the 2006 document have been identified as new climate hazards. Such initiatives need to be carried out continuously.
- Vulnerability and Adaptation needs
 - Some information can be drawn from the vulnerability and adaptation chapter of the Second National communication which needs to be further verified and tested



What types of research is required?



- Evaluating effectiveness of field practices
- Finding the most effective coordination method between field practices and policy making
- Adaptation needs



What types of capacity building is required?



- Capacity building of policy makers and planners
 - Example: Bhutan's Joint Support Programme on Capacity Development for mainstreaming Environment, Climate Change and Poverty (ECP) at the national and local level.
 - strategies to mainstream ECP in all national and local policies, plans and programmes



Who play vital roles in bridging the gaps?



- Policy planners :

- In Bhutan, GNHC who are aware of the projects and the plans and have the opportunity to coordinate them simultaneously
- MSTCCC: The technical committee that is engaged in issues pertaining to climate change can communicate information back to their sectors



THANK YOU