

Regional Training Workshop “Strengthening Capacity on M&E of Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives in SEA Region”

Concept Note

Target Countries	10 ASEAN Countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam
Intended Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Two (2) participants per country nominated by SEAN-CC focal point. At least 10 will be represented by national governments (with one from the Climate Change office and another from sectoral ministries/departments) while others are staff of local government units (preferably those in the planning department)- Two to three experts and resource speakers
Venue	Manila, Philippines
Proposed Dates	13-14 August 2013

Background and Rationale

In Southeast Asian countries, there are already a number of efforts both at the national and local level to mainstream CCA. There is an appreciable knowledge base available on climate change adaptation. It has also been widely accepted that a combination of adaptation tools is needed in order to produce desired outcomes. Each tool has its own strength and weaknesses, and may or may not be applicable for a particular area. However, what is often overlooked by most organisations and entities implementing CCA interventions is the importance of monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

At the regional level, the MRC has established a “Climate Change and Adaptation Initiative”, in collaboration with a number of partners, that aim to support adaptation to the new challenges. ASEAN on the other hand has developed the 2009-2015 Roadmap for the ASEAN Community including planned actions such as the development of ASEAN Climate Change Initiative. APAN as one of the regional networks on climate change of UNEP recently concluded a study on “Trends in Adaptation in SEA”. The conclusions from the activities and the overall study conducted in the FY 2012 reiterated the need for the establishment of M&E framework for CCA, strategies that work and do not work needs to be clearly identified; mechanisms to adjust the process accordingly should be outlined. Suffice to say, the establishment of an M&E framework for CCA is quite complex because of the cross-cutting concerns that CCA initiatives intend to address. There are also CCA interventions which are sector-specific in nature and as such, require more customised set of indicators.

On the other hand, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability with support from the Rockefeller Foundation has been implementing the Asia Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) process to help cities develop urban climate change resilience strategies. The ACCRN Results Framework supplemented by the Monitoring Indicators Paper has been put in place in order to monitor the progress of each city using key indicators and specific measurement schemes. ICLEI recognises that while it is at the national level where CCA plans are being formulated, it is actually at the local level where adaptation happens since the LGUs are among the first to experience the adverse impacts of climate change. As such, CCA planning should be based on the specific contexts of a community or landscape.

The participation of LGUs in technical trainings can be a good opportunity to increase their adaptive capacity. Since cities have already started implementing specific projects, this is a good time to equip them with the necessary skills to monitor and evaluate their respective initiatives. Coupled with the involvement of experts and policy-makers from the sub-region, participating cities can tailor-fit current and future CCA interventions based on the national agenda resulting to more coherent strategies to combat climate change.

As cities and countries gradually move towards results-based M&E for CCA, the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) and ICLEI will conduct this activity focused on strengthening capacity on M&E of CCA initiatives in the Southeast Asian region. This training workshop will be held back-to-back with the orientation of two pilot cities in

the Philippines on ACCCRN and the closing workshop of *AsianCitiesAdapt* project implemented by ICLEI and funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU). ICLEI-Southeast Asia worked with the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) Potsdam, Germany as well as ICLEI European and South Asia Secretariats.

Session Key Questions:

The following key questions will be addressed by the session:

1. Why is M&E important in the context of implementing CCA initiatives?
2. How do you develop key indicators to monitor and evaluate various types of CCA projects?
3. How do you set up measurement schemes to monitor and evaluate various types of CCA projects?
4. What are the frameworks and tools that can be used in M&E of CCA?
5. What are the current efforts within Southeast Asia as far as M&E of CCA is concerned?
6. How often should M&E be conducted?

Objectives

The training-workshop intended for SEAN-CC members and selected local government units aims to:

1. Equip participants with the skills to monitor and evaluate past and/or current CCA initiatives
2. Explain the relevance of M&E in the CCA planning process
3. Enhance participants' skills in developing key indicators and setting up of measurement schemes for CCA initiatives
4. Facilitate knowledge sharing among ASEAN Countries on how CCA initiatives can be monitored and evaluated
5. Promote networking between and among national and local government representatives working on CCA within the region.

Methodology

The training-workshop will discuss the M&E process and how it can be applied in the context of implementing CCA initiatives. Sessions will be handled by experts on M&E of CCA. The workshop will zero in on various M&E frameworks that can serve as the participants' guide in developing and enhancing their respective M&E plans. One session will also be devoted to country presentations on their M&E plans, if any, for specific CCA projects.

Since the mix of participants will be national government and local government unit from the countries, this workshop will provide a platform for both parties to network and recognise each other's initiatives on CCA. The event can also help facilitate an exchange of ideas on what M&E indicators and measurement can work best in the region. All sessions will be facilitated, and guidance will be provided especially during the group exercises. At the end of the workshop, participants will receive a feedback on their proposed M&E scheme for their past and/or current CCA interventions.

Expected Outputs

The expected outputs of this session are as follows:

1. Increased level of awareness on the relevance of M&E for CCA as well as existing tools to monitor CCA interventions
2. Familiarity with various M&E frameworks and how these can be used
3. Shared and learned from the successes and challenges of country presenters.

Expected Outcomes

After the session, participants should have:

1. Gained a broader perspective on the importance of M&E for CCA
2. Increased knowledge on using various M&E frameworks for CCA
3. Enhanced technical capability in identifying key indicators and setting up of measurement schemes for their respective CCA initiatives
4. Recognized the need to present the proposed M&E plan to their respective offices.