

The Vulnerability Sourcebook

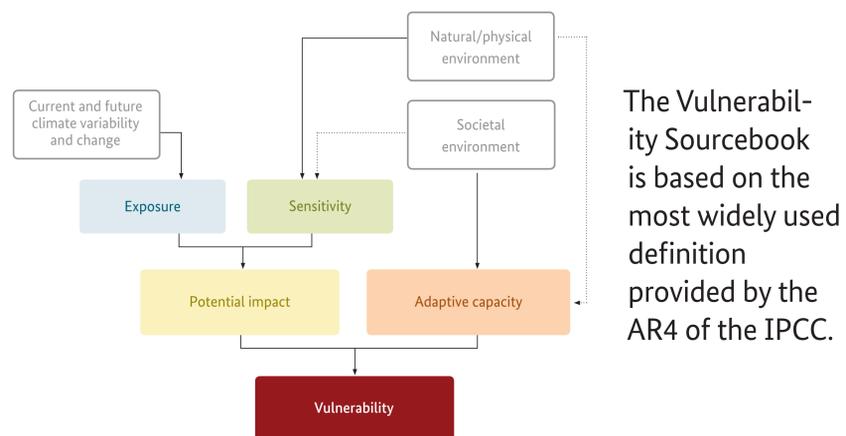
Standardized vulnerability assessments support adaptation planning and evaluation



Background

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process aims at reducing the vulnerability of developing and least developed countries (LDCs) by addressing medium and long-term adaptation needs. To support this process and to use adaptation finance effectively, there is an increasing need for practical tools that can support the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of adaptation activities. In this context, the LDC Expert Group has emphasized the usefulness of vulnerability assessments. However, definitions of vulnerability are quite diverse, and so are methodologies to assess it. Standardised methods are needed to make results easier to compare across sectors and regions. GIZ's Climate Policy Support Project, on behalf of BMZ, has commissioned the development of practical guidelines on how to conduct standardised vulnerability assessments that can also be used for monitoring and evaluating adaptation.

Concept



The Vulnerability Sourcebook is based on the most widely used definition provided by the AR4 of the IPCC.

Development



The Vulnerability Sourcebook was inspired by Germany's 'Network Vulnerability'. It is based on an extensive literature review and was successfully tested during its development in four different pilot cases: Pakistan, Bolivia, Burundi, and Mozambique.

The eight modules of the Vulnerability Sourcebook

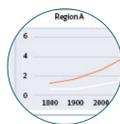
The Vulnerability Sourcebook comprises eight modules and an annex that provide practical guidance on how to conduct vulnerability assessments:



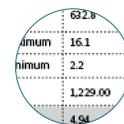
1 Prepare VA (Scoping)



2 Developing Impact Chains



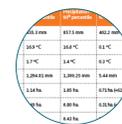
3 Identifying and Selecting Indicators



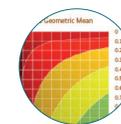
4 Data Acquisition and Management



5 Normalizing/Threshold Definition



6 Weighting and Aggregating Indicators

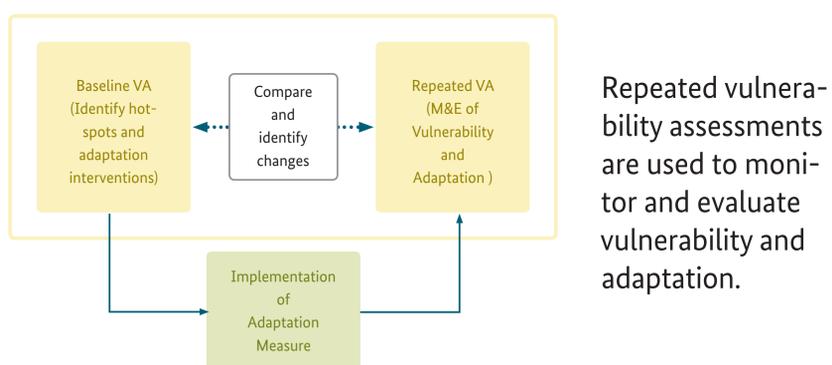


7 Aggregating Vulnerability Components



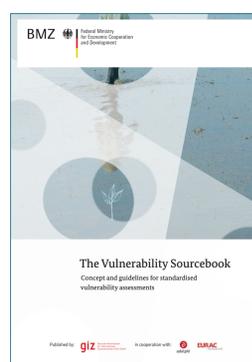
8 Presenting VA outcomes

M&E of vulnerability and adaptation



Repeated vulnerability assessments are used to monitor and evaluate vulnerability and adaptation.

Conclusions



The application of the Vulnerability Sourcebook in the four test cases demonstrated that it can make a valuable contribution to adaptation planning and M&E of adaptation. It is of particular interest for technical and adaptation experts.

BMZ



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

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References: Fritzsche, Kerstin; Schneiderbauer, Stefan; Bubeck, Philip; Kienberger, Stefan; Buth, Mareike; Zebisch, Marc and Walter Kahlenborn (2014): The Vulnerability Sourcebook. Concepts and Guidelines for Standardised Vulnerability Assessments. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. Eschborn.