

GIZ/IIED Side Event

Measuring and reporting effective adaptation: challenges, approaches and ways forward

UNFCCC SB40 - 10 June 2014 Bonn, Germany



1. Welcome

Mr. Christoph Feldkötter, Head of GIZ's *Climate Protection Programme for Developing Countries*, who facilitated this Side Event, welcomed participants on behalf of GIZ and IIED.

2. Opening address

Gottfried von Gemmingen, *Policy Advisor, Special Unit 'Climate', Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany*

Mr von Gemmingen highlighted the **importance and relevance of the topic** for the current UNFCCC negotiations. During the recent negotiations on adaptation he observed a **focus away from inputs** like capacity building or finance **to an emphasis on "what are we aiming at"**, i.e. what do we want to achieve with adaptation. It is because of that focus that **"M&E is key"**. Since M&E of adaptation is a new area, Mr von Gemmingen advocated for **joint learning among countries** on how to develop and utilize M&E systems for adaptation.



3. Introduction to the topic

Christoph Feldkötter, *Head of the Climate Protection Programme for Developing Countries, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*

Mr Feldkötter referred to a recent guidance note by UKCIP and the SEChange Community of Practice outlining [twelve reasons why M&E of adaptation is challenging](#). Mr Feldkötter briefly described four of them, namely that adaptation spans over long time scales, that it is difficult to measure attribution, that adaptation is local whilst climate change is global, and that no single set of indicators exists for adaptation because adaptation is context-specific. Mr Feldkötter stressed the importance of M&E and outcome-orientation of adaptation as part of the "broad debate about adaptation effectiveness".



4. Presentation on the Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMD) Initiative

Dr. Susannah Fisher, *Researcher, Climate Change Group of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)*

Dr Fisher presented the Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMD) approach, a practical and flexible framework to monitor adaptation and its results. TAMD is currently being applied in eight countries in Eastern and Southern Africa and Asia. Dr. Fisher emphasized that just tracking financial flows is not providing the much needed information on how adaptation works best and what its outcomes are. She also said that **governments need to monitor what they are doing on adaptation and if their development trajectory is on track**. The TAMD framework therefore consists of two tracks, one on monitoring climate risk management (institutions, policies, capacities) and the other on development performance (well-being, vulnerability, resilience). The combination of both tracks and their interdependencies can be used to evaluate the success of adaptation.



For further information: [TAMD website](#) (includes country examples, indicators and the framework)

5. Implementing TAMD in Kenya

Ms Irene Karani, *Director, LTS Africa*

Ms Karani first presented the policy background of adaptation in Kenya. The government of Kenya has approved the National Climate Change Action Plan in 2013 and developed an accompanying National Performance and Benefit Measurement Framework which covers both adaptation and mitigation. The rationale is to assist government entities in reporting on results and attracting international climate financing. Ms Karani then presented how TAMD has been implemented in five pilot projects with a particular reference to the Isolo County (a 'County' is an administrative unit at the local level). She noted that the biggest challenge for M&E is inadequate data and lack of skills and equipment at the county level to monitor climate change and its responses.

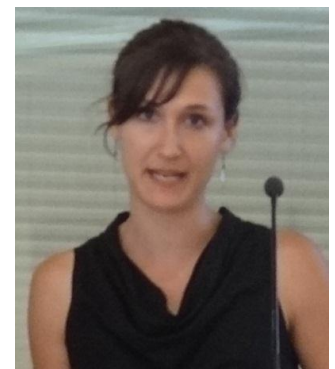


Reference: see factsheet on the Kenyan adaptation M&E system as part of the study by GIZ & IISD: [Monitoring and Evaluating Adaptation at Aggregated Levels: A Comparative Analysis of Ten Systems](#)

6. GIZ's experience with national level adaptation M&E

Susanne Schwan, *Head of the global Project Effective Adaptation Finance (M&E Adapt), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH*

Ms Schwan underlined the objective of adaptation: to facilitate sustainable development in spite of climate change. M&E serves as a means to assess whether adaptation reduces vulnerability effectively. She presented **GIZ's five step approach to developing national adaptation M&E systems** and reported from the joint work with several partner countries including Mexico, South Africa, Morocco and Mozambique on operationalising adaptation M&E systems. She stressed that there is **no one size fits all approach** to M&E due to different contexts.



GIZ is also active in capacity development on this topic and has developed a new [training programme on adaptation M&E](#). Government representatives of seven countries have already participated in the training course which is based on the established adaptation training "[Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Planning](#)".

Ms Schwan also presented a number of studies and tools that have recently been developed by GIZ's Competence Centre for Climate Change including:

- **Vulnerability Assessments: A Sourcebook**, a guidance document for undertaking vulnerability assessments and using them for M&E purposes. The Sourcebook will be available on AdaptationCommunity.net under [Vulnerability Assessments](#) in July 2014
- A **comparative analysis of ten national adaptation M&E systems** and factsheets describing each system in detail. Download the study from [AdaptationCommunity.net](#)
- **"Adaptation made to measure"**, a **guidebook for the development of adaptation projects and results-based monitoring systems**, as well as an associated [list of adaptation indicators](#)

7. Adaptation M&E by the Mekong River Commission

Dr. Nguyen Huong Thuy Phan, *Programme Coordinator, Climate Change Adaptation Initiative, Mekong River Commission (MRC)*

Dr. Phan first introduced the region and the Mekong River Commission which has been jointly created by the four countries of the lower Mekong basin: Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos. The Climate Change Adaptation Initiative (CCAI) is a long term programme of the MRC. Dr. Phan stressed that M&E of adaptation is part of their mandate. Thus, their work on M&E is not just a "testing exercise", but a formal task of the MRC. In close coordination with the four governments the MRC has developed a concept of an M&E system and an initial set of indicators covering climatic parameters, climate change impacts & vulnerability and adaptation responses. It is planned that the monitoring responsibilities will be gradually shifted to each government whilst the MRC would prepare reports based on the provided data.



Reference: see factsheet on the MRC adaptation M&E system as part of the study by GIZ & IISD: [Monitoring and Evaluating Adaptation at Aggregated Levels: A Comparative Analysis of Ten Systems](#)

8. Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Change Adaptation under the GEF Adaptation Programme

Mr. Roland Sundström, *Climate Change Specialist, Global Environment Facility (GEF)*

Mr Sundström briefly characterized the adaptation portfolio of the GEF (around 300 adaptation projects, about 1.2 billion USD in volume). When the first adaptation projects started around ten years ago there was no standardized way of monitoring the adaptation-specific aspects of GEF projects and the GEF subsequently developed the [Adaptation Monitoring and Assessment Tool \(AMAT\)](#), a flexible menu of some 50 indicators. Mr Sundström described the trade-off between flexibility of indicator selection and ability to aggregate information across the portfolio.



Mr Sundström then outlined the **way forward**: The GEF Adaptation Programme will get a **revised results framework** effective July 1, 2014 with three objectives and ten outcomes. Indicators are to be finalized by October 2014. The GEF seeks to **move from outputs to outcomes** with regard to institutional and technical capacity building as well as mainstreaming. In doing so the GEF **seeks input and experience on methodologies and approaches** and aims for coherence with other funds. They are in particular **looking for qualitative indicators**.

Questions & Answers (Q&A)

There were about 20 minutes left for discussion with the audience. Below is a selection of questions.

Q: What is adaptation? Can or should adaptation be separated from development?

A. by Roland Sundström: There needs to be an **intentionality to address climate change**. As fund managers they need to address this given the vulnerability to climate change. It is this additional part that characterizes adaptation that they seek to provide funding for.

A. by Susannah Fisher: **Adaptation helps keeping development on track**. Adaptation and development should therefore not be seen as something separate. The TAMD framework has been deliberately designed to measure adaptation process and mainstreaming (Track 1) and development outcomes (Track 2). (Please see the [TAMD working paper](#) for further details)

Q: Is it possible to have one global indicator for adaptation?

A. by Susanne Schwan: No, it is not possible because of the diversity of adaptation and the context specific nature of vulnerability. Whilst sustainable development and vulnerability reduction share a common objective, their practical meaning and implementation differ from country to country, making it difficult to capture progress through one universal indicator.

(For illustrative examples of adaptation indicators at the national level GIZ's global project *M&E Adapt* is currently compiling a repository of indicators which will be available on [AdaptationCommunity.net](#) in August 2014).

Q: Is outcome-orientation sufficiently reflected in the adaptation architecture?

A: It is currently being negotiated to what extent adaptation will be part of the new climate change agreement. One aspect is the debate around global adaptation goals or indicators. As Mr von Gemmingen mentioned in his opening address, there is a focus away from treating adaptation as input towards asking what results are being aimed for and whether they are being achieved. That is why M&E of adaptation is so important.

Q: How does the transboundary cooperation in the Mekong Region work?

A. by Dr. Phan: The MRC has been in existence already since 1957. The different development levels of the four countries are presenting a challenge for cooperation. However, the MRC has a mandate from all four countries and decisions are taken concordantly.

Comments

Christoph Feldkötter notes that the example of the MRC shows the “inherently political process to the M&E of adaptation”.

Saleem Huq from IIED announces that the next [Community-based Adaptation Conference](#) taking place in Kenya in May 2015 will have a focus on adaptation effectiveness.

Contact

For further questions about the side event please contact:

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