

**Statement by ISET  
(Institute for Social and Environmental Transition)  
UNFCCC Technical Workshop on Enhancing Economic Resilience**

Thank you for invitation and opportunity to participate. The discussions have been extremely rich, and it is heartening to see the emerging priorities and recommendations reflect critical efforts required to enhance economic resilience at multiple levels.

ISET, the Institute for Social and Environmental Transition (<http://www.i-s-e-t.org>) is an institutional collective working on research, implementation and advocacy on climate change adaptation, vulnerability and natural resource management. ISET is a small organization based in Boulder, USA and Kathmandu, Nepal and we work closely with sister organizations and partners particularly in South and Southeast Asia, and with international organizations working on adaptation and disaster risk management. We aim to facilitate development, action and learning of methods, tools and approaches in the field on climate adaptation, and link lessons to multiple levels for evidence-based learning and policy advocacy. Our work to date has primarily been focused in Asia, and we work across the rural to urban continuum, exploring how methods and approaches need to be adapted in these different contexts.

Concretely, we are able to share methods, experiences and lessons learned from our work on climate adaptation strategies. We have shared some publications here, particularly on Adaptive Capacity and Livelihoods Resilience in the context of Floods and Droughts in South Asia, and on identification and evaluation of social, economic, and environmental considerations of disaster risk management and climate adaptation measures [From Risk to Resilience: Understanding the Costs and Benefits of Disaster Risk Reduction under Changing Climate Conditions Working Paper]. Our publications are also available on our website.

Areas in which ISET is planning and interested to work (dependent on funding) which may contribute to the Nairobi Work Plan, and resonate with the issues and recommendations emerging from workshop include:

1) The **development, testing, application and training of an adaptation “suite” of methodologies that can support decision-making at local levels**. The aim of these methods are:

- To identify points of entry for tangible interventions for adaptation (and disaster risk management)
- Support evaluation of these options in social/economic terms

We also recognize the challenges of working in “data”-limited environments, and the need to develop and support practical methods and tools that are applicable at local levels and may be relevant dependent on range of data availability. Specifically, these methods include:

- Facilitating shared learning across stakeholders (including the translation and understanding of scientific information at multiple levels);
- Application of climate downscaling;
- Frameworks, tools, and indices for vulnerability analysis and social and economic indicators of resilience; and
- Expanding on cost-benefit analysis methods to better integrate social/economic considerations

2) A second key area of work is to **support activities for “innovation-incubation”**, i.e. pilot activities for supporting diversification at community levels. We have supported some initial activities, and would like to further develop this area, at scale with partners if resources permit. This includes approaches to energy and transport (e.g. concentrating solar/wind power options micro-medium hydro, etc.) that may be key factors enabling economic diversification at the local level.