

Adaptation Committee  
**Monitoring and Evaluation of Adaptation**

**Summary of lessons and key messages from  
the AC's workshop on M&E of adaptation**

Juan Hoffmaister  
**Adaptation Committee, Co-Chair**

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## AC Work on M&E - Three Guiding Questions

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The AC Expert workshop on M&E of adaptation (Nadi, Fiji, 9 – 11 September 2013)

- **Q1:** Given the **diverse set of indicators** that currently exist to measure and evaluate adaptation, how can we build a **common understanding** of success in achieving climate resilience?
- **Q2:** How can a framework be created that **links individual assessments with national level assessments** to broaden the focus from the means of achieving the outcomes (individual interventions) to the desired end result (countries becoming less vulnerable and having more adaptive capacity)?
- **Q3:** How can results from M&E be reported and disseminated to **promote learning** and identification of good practices?

All details and report on the web <[unfccc.int/6053](http://unfccc.int/6053)>

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## Common understanding of successful adaptation

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- **Success is context specific** Indicators of success therefore differ.
- **Common indicators not necessary but common understanding of success useful**
- **Pragmatism vs. idealism**
- **Complement indicators by learning through dialogue and qualitative narratives**
- **Indicators to also monitor outcomes and impacts, in addition to process**



## Linking national level assessment and project/program level M&E

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- Adding up indicators from local level to get an aggregate number is **neither necessarily possible nor desirable**.
- Instead, national level assessments could **measure different aspects of adaptive capacity** than subnational/project-based assessments.
- E.g. national level assessments could seek to measure the degree of coordination and integration of adaptation into national priorities.



## Enhancing learning on adaptation through M&E

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- M&E has **multiple purposes and benefits**, including raising awareness, learning, accountability etc. - it is a tool not an end in itself.
- **Learning is a key** in M&E and should be encouraged through creating the necessary **enabling environment**, drawing from different **sources of knowledge**, establishing respective **communication channels** and **incentives**, building in and **budgeting** for learning and involving all relevant **stakeholders**.
- **Peer-to-peer learning** and **participatory approaches** can be effective and help to reveal underlying inequality/rights/ structural causes for vulnerability.
- M&E systems are often **designed** without learning in mind.
- Learning from M&E is not only about successes and good practices, but also about learning from **failures/non-delivery**.



## Additional lessons and key messages from the workshop

- **Planning and allocation of resources**, both technical and financial, are key for effective M&E systems.
- There does not always need to be a separate M&E system for climate change adaptation. It could **build on existing national frameworks**, allowing for the incorporation of updates and new indicators to measure adaptation.
- Important to **raise awareness** among stakeholder including through capacity-building, and to promote coordination particularly between ministries responsible for planning, finance and climate change to ensure that adaptation is integrated into the national M&E framework.



## Additional lessons and key messages from the workshop

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- Based on experience to date, there seems to be a clear distinction between *developed* and *developing* countries in term of who drives/uses the M&E. In many developing countries, M&E are donor-driven and for the purpose of **accountability**.
- **Strong institutional structures** are needed for coordination of monitoring and also reporting. There is value to having a **coordinating body**, which sees all reports at national level and can identify good practices, lessons learned, and areas for synergies and coordination.
- **Practical tools**, e.g. scorecards and tables etc., could be used to create a system to satisfy monitoring and reporting requirements and at the same time be flexible enough to allow for tailoring to national circumstances.



# Thank you

Adaptation Committee

Additional details and report on the web

[unfccc.int/6053](http://unfccc.int/6053)

Contact: [AC@unfccc.int](mailto:AC@unfccc.int)

