

SYNOPSIS SERIES:

GAPS IN EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF THE CONVENTION TO ADDRESS LOSS AND DAMAGE

OVERVIEW

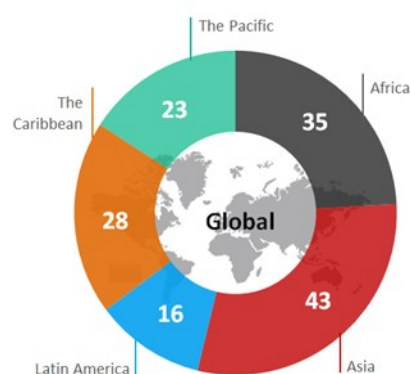
Existing institutional arrangements are mapped according to:

Geographical coverage:

- * Global (120 institutional arrangements);
- * Regional:
 - Africa (35);
 - Asia (43);
 - Latin America (16);
 - The Caribbean (28);
 - The Pacific (23).

Five broad themes:

- * Policy process;
- * Technical backstopping in relation to assessing and managing the risks of L&D;
- * Financial schemes and funds;
- * Data, information and knowledge exchange;
- * Trans-boundary issues.



Contents of the technical paper:

- * Summary of the key findings on features, emerging trends and gaps in existing institutional arrangements;
- * Graphs of regional and thematic distribution of institutional arrangements;
- * Examples of types of institutional arrangements;
- * Annexes with synthesis information on institutional arrangements by geographical coverage;
- * List of the mapped institutional arrangements.

The technical paper was mandated by COP 18 (2012) under the work programme on loss and damage (L&D).

The technical paper:

- * Provides a mapping of some 265 institutional arrangements undertaking work to address L&D;
- * Synthesizes information on these arrangements with preliminary analyses on general features, emerging trends and gaps.

The term institutional arrangement used in the technical paper refers to formal provisions that involve some forms of organizational structure that govern assessing and managing the risk of, and sharing knowledge, on L&D.

Methodology:

The mapping is based on:

- * Information contributed by regional and international organizations in response to a call for inputs by the secretariat;
- * Additional/complementary desk research at the regional level.

Each mapped institutional arrangement is described, to the extent possible, by the following aspects:

- * Geographical coverage of operation;
- * Scope of relevant work;
- * Relevant institutional mandates and operational frameworks;
- * Sources of funding and technical support;
- * Implementation modalities, approaches and delivery mechanisms;
- * Relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries;
- * Timescales and results to date.

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE MAPPING

General trend

- * Across all regions, a larger number of institutional arrangements focus on addressing L&D associated with extreme weather events compared to those with focus on slow onset events;
- * No institutional arrangement focusing specifically or solely on addressing the non-economic losses associated with climate change impacts was identified;
- * Relatively few institutional arrangements are in place to address transboundary issues related to L&D;
- * Institutionalized provision of financial support to address L&D is mostly centrally placed at the global level;
- * Coordination and collaboration gaps are present, despite the large number of mapped institutional arrangements;
- * Existing institutional arrangements provide a good basis and opportunities for further enhanced action and support to address L&D.

FINDINGS ON CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Roles of institutional arrangements for assessing and managing the risks of L&D

- * Providing scientific advice;
- * Providing policy guidance;
- * Generating research;
- * Sharing research and best practices;
- * Generating data, observations and monitoring;
- * Sharing data, observations and monitoring;
- * Coordinating responses to natural disasters;
- * Governing natural resources;
- * Providing funding or financial tools;
- * Mainstreaming the consideration of climate change related L&D into existing policies and process.

Coverage over the risk management continuum

- * Existing institutional arrangements generally cover all aspects of the risk management continuum;
- * Crystallization of what constitutes effective approaches to addressing L&D are still essential at the operational level, especially in the context of evaluating boundaries of climate risk reduction, adaptation and DRR;
- * Major gaps and challenges relate to the current knowledge and thinking on the specific needs for addressing L&D.

Coordination, coherence and synergies

- * Overlapping mandates, functions and work programmes of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs);
- * Limited coordination on L&D-related issues between the MEAs, infrequent coordination meetings, ad-hoc activities and workshops;
- * Need for better coordination between the institutions and agreements to align the vast body of L&D-related work at the global level.

Financial institutional arrangements

- * Implementation models for the financial institutional arrangements are primarily grants, along with concessional loans and provision of financial strategy, advice and leveraging;
- * Tracking funding allocated and disbursed to L&D-related work is a key challenge.

Data and knowledge sharing

- * Lack of focused assessment of the knowledge needs to address L&D, specifically data and knowledge requirements;
- * No overarching system, arrangement, institution or process for collecting, exchanging or disseminating relevant knowledge among stakeholders.

FINDINGS: REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

LATIN AMERICA

Overview

The majority of existing practices for addressing L&D have been developed in connection with DRR, in particular risk retention and risk reduction.

There is a large amount of work focusing on the development of methodologies to address L&D. The number of institutional arrangements for actually assessing the cost of L&D is relatively small.

Trend

The institutional arrangements have formed around subregional geopolitical realities, ecosystem resource use and livelihoods. Subregional bodies are generally taking the lead in the development of policy and regulatory frameworks in the region.



Coverage of issues

There is no single arrangement at the regional level that specifically seeks to assess and manage non-economic losses. Impacts of slow onset events are also not specifically addressed.

Major gaps

The role of subregional and regional institutions is mostly promoting the collaboration of data, information sharing and enhancing the exchange of best practices. Coordination across the entire region is scarce in comparison to other regions.

THE CARIBBEAN

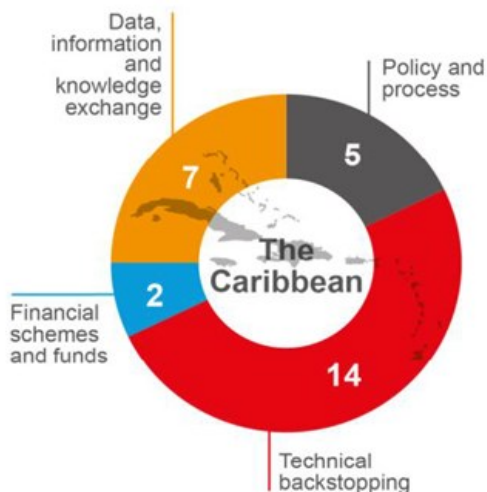
Overview

The existing institutional arrangements tend to concentrate more on extreme weather events than on slow onset events.

More recently, greater focus and priority has been placed on the execution of pre-impact assessments of potential loss across multiple scenarios, in order to facilitate informed planning and risk-reduction efforts.

Trend

Policy and regulatory institutional arrangements in the region focus on establishing synergies between sustainable development and climate change, building institutional capacity, managing and adapting to climate change and associated risk and DRR, and the dissemination of climate-relevant information.



Coverage of issues

Coverage is sparse and none of the risk transfer arrangements in the region currently deal with the issue of slow onset events. The assessment of non-economic losses and related natural resources and environment management is mainly incorporated in the modalities and mechanisms for data and knowledge sharing.

Regional arrangement for data, information and knowledge sharing are mostly hosted by intergovernmental institutions.

Major gaps

There is a small number of arrangements for managing risk in the region, partly because DRR and Disaster Risk Management are almost entirely coordinated through the well-established Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency.

ASIA

Overview

Since the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004, an unprecedented amount of work has been done on disaster relief, which has given rise to new institutional arrangements with large number of regional dialogue.

Emerging risk mechanisms are mainly led by a mixture of public and private sector in the agriculture sector.

Although the Asian Development Bank is the only regional institutional arrangement working on economic L&D, some economic costing is also being undertaken by international agencies, insurance companies and national governments.



Trend

Institutional arrangements tend to focus their efforts on disaster management with a wide range of implementation.

Coverage of issues

Both communities and multilateral banks play a role in assessing and addressing non-economic losses. There is a large number of institutional arrangements in the region whose primary role is generating and sharing data and knowledge for adaption or disaster risk management, including research partnerships and monitoring centres.

There is little information on how institutional arrangements have addressed knowledge gaps and needs for data and climate science in developing responses to L&D.

In respect of slow onset events, the focus is largely on oceans, glaciers and biodiversity.

Major gaps

Given the extensive mountains areas and mountain ecosystems at risk in the region, there is a clear gap in the existing institutional arrangements. Glaciers and glacial lake outburst floods are largely addressed by the affected countries at the national level.

THE PACIFIC

Overview

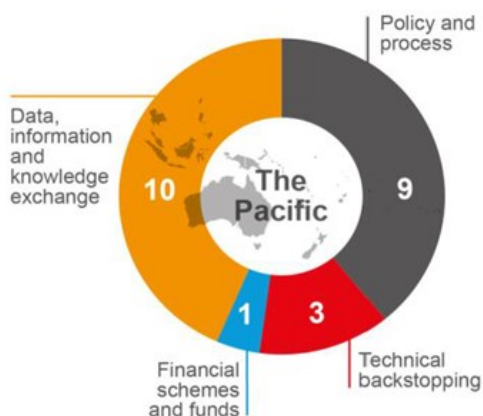
Institutional arrangements focus largely on adaptation options for extreme weather events and sea level rise.

Institutional arrangements related to governance include geopolitical and economic communities and negotiating blocks, regional joint agencies, environmental dialogues and frameworks.

Trend

Climate-related migration and displacement is being integrated into the work plan of several institutional arrangements in the region.

Regional institutional arrangements for disaster risk transfer are emerging, aiming to provide governments with immediate funding when a major natural disaster occurs.



Coverage of issues

No institutional arrangements met the mapping criteria for arrangements addressing non-economic losses. Given that bilateral aid is a major source of funding in the region, much of the work addressing slow onset events comes in the form of donor projects.

Major gaps

There is a gap of the institutional arrangements addressing L&D associated with climate change impacts on water resources, coral reefs, biodiversity, agriculture and forests.

AFRICA

Overview

The majority of institutional arrangements focus on policy and process which include action plans for implementation or formal and binding pan-African agreements.

No institutional arrangements focusing on enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches were identified.

Trend

All institutional arrangements tend to focus on particular climatic events or specific risk management aspects.

Coverage of issues

There is little evidence of arrangements that provide broad coverage of the non-economic losses associated with climate change.

Majority of work related to data and knowledge exchange is implemented by regional bodies, which produce data, information and advice and bring national stakeholders together.

All of the mapped institutional arrangements covering transboundary issues related to L&D are resource-management bodies focusing on river basins and forests.

Major gaps

There are only few institutional arrangements working in the areas of strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among stakeholders, provision of access to technology to access and address L&D, and financial schemes and funds.

