

Session 4

Approaches for addressing Loss and damage associated with climate impacts related to slow onset events

Learned facts

- Large part of African population lives on dry land
- Livelihood is dependent on agrarian activities
- Climate impacts are observed in all countries
- Climate change amplifies the existing problems
 - Both drought and floods
- There is a need for understanding how people manage risks - for building resilience
- Availability of proper tools helps to assess climate impacts eg GIS and proper statistics

Learned facts

- Internal resources can support to reduce climate impacts
- Even with regional cooperation, some problems remain to be tackled by individual countries
 - E.g water availability&quality, wetland protection & coastal erosion
- Regional cooperation is necessary for tackling common/shared problems
- A need for proper solution not to cause other problem
 - E.g the case of water scarcity causing salt intrusion due to groundwater overexploitation.

Matters for discussion

- Traditional capacity: noted that climate impacts may cause erosion of traditional capacity
- Improved governance: improvement takes longer time before realizing its impacts
- Project timing: need for longer implementation time for room to realize project impacts
- Need for Laws: important to control human induced effects but natural disasters/changes may not be controlled

Matters for discussion

- Trans-boundary matters: Need regional and sub-regional cooperation to avoid resource control conflict and human movement
- Slow onset events:
 - Known to have future significant impact.
 - Not discussed because they are not easily captured like livelihood related effects

Conclusion

- Need for strengthening regional and sub-regional cooperation to reduce cost of common problem.
 - E.g establishment of early warning system
- Implementation of MEAs needed for showing commitments
- Drought and floods be considered as serious environmental consequences

Crosscutting issues

- Resource limitations for tackling loss and damages
- Importance of setting/improving disaster management units
- Proper selection of climate control method e.g. case of cloud seeding, coastal barriers
- Need for improving technical capacity, and selection of cost effective method

Crosscutting issues

- Limitation of infrastructure
- Problem of planning v/s implementation
- Slow policy review inline with emerging changes

END