UNFCCC Workshop on Climate Related Risks and Extreme Events under NWP on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to CC
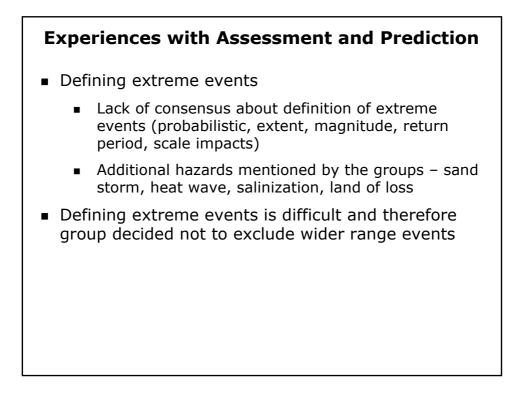
Summary - Cairo Workshop

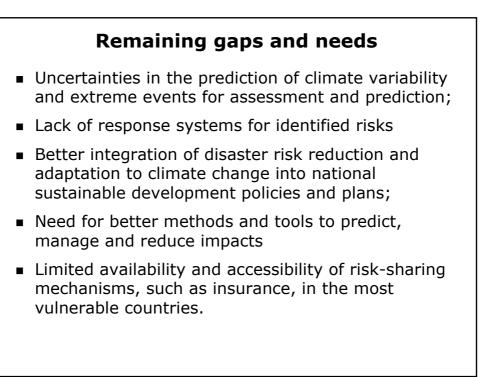Based on Report from
Breakout Groups and Summary Prepared by UNFCCC

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Experiences with Assessment and Prediction

- Defining extreme events
    - Lack of consensus about definition of extreme events (probabilistic, extent, magnitude, return period, scale impacts)
    - Additional hazards mentioned by the groups – sand storm, heat wave, salinization, land of loss
- Defining extreme events is difficult and therefore group decided not to exclude wider range events

Lessons learned and best practices identified

- Assessment and Prediction
    - Approaches, Methodologies and Tools are available at local and global risk assessments but are disconnected in terms of geographical detail and timescales;
    - Gaps in terms of cooperation and collaboration between weather forecasters and climate modellers;
    - There are uncertainties in the prediction of climate variability and extreme events
- Management of climate-related risks and impacts
    - There are constraints in developing robust and effective policies that take into account possible adverse effects on multiple sectors;
    - Low awareness of climate change among sectoral practitioners is also a barrier to effective risk management

Remaining gaps and needs

- Uncertainties in the prediction of climate variability and extreme events for assessment and prediction;
- Lack of response systems for identified risks
- Better integration of disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change into national sustainable development policies and plans;
- Need for better methods and tools to predict, manage and reduce impacts
- Limited availability and accessibility of risk-sharing mechanisms, such as insurance, in the most vulnerable countries.

Summary of recommendations

- Active engagement of stakeholders and adoption of a cross-cutting and interdisciplinary approach to reducing climate-related risks;

- Better provision of data at the national, regional and global levels by data providers, and continuous access;

- Capacity building of national and sectoral planners related to climate-related risks and can be built on existing initiatives;

- Undertake research to understand better the role of insurance;

- Sharing of information on the use and availability of data, information and tools for reducing hazards, risks and vulnerability across all sectors

How can the implementation of the recommendations be better

- Action Pledges by Different International, Regional, National bodies and institutions;

- Request for Regular Inputs from other UN bodies, International, Regional and National Agencies and Research Organizations;

- Link with Bali Action Plan Particularly adaptation building block;

- Establishment/link with other bodies particularly under Subsidiary Body for Implementation