

EXPERT MEETING ON METHODS AND TOOLS TO ASSESS IMPACTS OF, AND VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION TO, CLIMATE CHANGE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

25-26 April 2004

Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Makati City
Manila, Philippines

Introduction

- The aim of the work of the secretariat on methods and tools to assess impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change is to enhance dissemination of methods and quality of information on them; and to encourage and assist Parties, especially developing country Parties, in applying the best available methods in their assessments.
- In 1999 the secretariat produced *Compendium of Decision Tools to Evaluate Strategies for Adaptation to Climate Change*. The aim of that report was to understand the use and availability of such decision tools.
- Since 1999, the adaptation assessment process has changed considerably and in some ways grown more sophisticated.
- SBSTA and SBI encouraged broadening the above work of the secretariat taking into account new developments in this area and on-going work under different UN projects.
- New reporting NAI guidelines make reference to the Compendium, encouraging its use by the Parties for the evaluation of adaptation strategies and measures.
- Subsequently, in 2003, the secretariat has reinvigorated the Compendium to reflect the above new developments. A number of experts from developed and developing countries have taken part in the preparation of the new version.
- An initial presentation of the Compendium was made at CC:FORUM side event at COP9.
- A final draft of updated Compendium, now entitled *Compendium of methods and tools to evaluate impacts of, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change*, was placed on the web and comments from Parties and organizations were solicited (see <http://unfccc.int/program/mis/meth/index.html>).

Purpose of the meeting

- To review *Compendium of Methods and Tools to Evaluate Impacts of, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change (2003)* in order to assess and provide advice to the secretariat on:
 - Overall structure of the Compendium.
 - Correctness and comprehensiveness of the information on methods and tools in the Compendium.
 - Existing gaps.
 - Additional information to be included in the Compendium.
- To discuss and identify possible ways for further development, updating and periodical review of the Compendium.

Approach

I. Before the meeting

- You are invited to make yourself familiar and come prepared to review the content of the draft *Compendium* according to the preliminary assignment presented in the table below. Although there will be some time available to continue the individual review during the meeting, we are encouraging you to make your first draft of the review presentation and a short report ready before the meeting.
- Please also prepare 5-min presentation introducing yourself, your area of expertise and experience with experience in applying models for V&A assessment.

II. During the meeting

- The meeting will start with an introductory presentation by the secretariat and agreeing on the agenda and way to proceed at the meeting.
- Experts will then be invited to make 5-7 min introductory presentations, as noted above.
- The presentations will be followed by an hour brainstorming on the criteria for the assessment of the information in the Compendium.
- An initial list of questions presented in Annex I to this background paper can be used as a starting point for the discussion. It is expected that this initial list will be revised and added as the result of the brainstorming.
- Experts then will continue working on the review of the information by assigned sector (please see Table 1 for the preliminary assignment), and prepare a report and a presentation of the findings for the next day, using the revised list of the criteria.
- At the next day of the meeting (see preliminary agenda), experts will be invited to make 10-15 min final presentation of their findings. This presentation should, to the extend possible, include:
 - Expert's assessment of the overall structure and scope of the Compendium
 - Overall assessment of the methods by assigned sector/area
 - Summary of assessment of the information about methods/tools by assigned sector/area
 - Gaps encountered
 - Proposal for inclusion of new methods
 - Proposals for exclusion of methods and correcting the information
 - Suggestion on possible options for periodic review of the methods
- The meeting will finish with the general discussion as presented in the agenda and final summary remarks by the secretariat.

Outcome

- The secretariat will prepare a report of the expert review meeting with option for future steps for the development of this work, which will be placed on the UNFCCC web site. The secretariat will also present the summary report of the meeting at the UNFCCC workshop on the preparation of National Communications from non-Annex I Parties on Tuesday, 27 that is to be included in the report of the workshop.
- The Compendium will be revised in accordance with the recommendations of the expert meeting and placed on the UNFCCC web and presented at a side event during SBSTA20.

Table 1. Review assignment

Sector /area		Structure, focus and scope of the compendium	General approaches/ Frameworks	Cross-cutting issues	Agriculture	Water	Coastal zones	Health	Forestry vegetation
Experts									
	J. Antoine (FAO)	X			X				X
	K. Broersma , (MDC, Netherlands)	X	X	X NAPAs Decision tools.					
	V. R. Cruz (Forestry and Nat Resources College, Philippines)	X				X			
	W. Dougherty (Tellus Institute, USA)	X	X	X Scenarios and decision tools			X		
	L. Erda (Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China)	X		X	X				X
	R. Lasco (Forestry and Nat. Resources College. Philippines)	X	X	X Decision tools	X				X
	X. Lu (Tyndal Center, UK)	X	X	X Application of scenarios					
	R. Misdorf (Policy Adviser, Netherlands)	X				X			
	I. Niang Diop (Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal)	X	X	X Stakeholder approaches			X		
	H.Ogawa (WHO, Philippines)	X						X	
	R. Perez (Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astro-nomical Services. Philip.)	X	X	X Socio-economic scenarios			X		
	E. Sempris (CATHALAC, Panama)	X		X		X			
	X. Wei (Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, China)	X	X		X	X			X
	V. Wangwacharakul (Katsart University, Thailand)	X	X	X	X				

Agenda of the meeting

Sunday, 25 April

- 10:30 – 11:00 Welcome. Introduction. Presentation of the overall structure, scope and focus of the Compendium. Tasks for the meeting. Agenda. – O. Pilifosova, UNFCCC secretariat
- 11:00 – 11:20 Discussion/adjustment of the agenda (if needed)
- 11:20 – 12:00 Self-introduction of the experts
- 12:30 – 13:30 Discussion of the criteria for the review of the information on methods
- 13:30 – 14:30 Lunch
- 14:30 – 18:30 Individual work of the experts on reviewing the information. Work in groups by sector/area to discuss findings and final presentations.

Monday, 26 April

- 9:00 – 10:30 Work in sectoral groups to discuss findings and final presentations
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee-break
- 11:00 – 12:00 Presentations of review findings by experts
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 – 15:30 Presentations of review findings by experts
- 15:30 – 16:30 Brainstorming on the options for future periodical review, next steps in work on collection and dissemination of information
- 16:30 – 16:50 Break
- 16:50 – 17:30 Brainstorming on activities on improving methodologies
- 17:30 – 18:00 Summary of the review and discussion. Wrap-up

Annex

Initial list of questions/criteria for the review of the information in the draft *Compendium of Methods and Tools to Evaluate Impacts of, and Vulnerability and Adaptation to, Climate Change*

Overall structure, focus and scope of the Compendium (Chapter 1).

- Does the present structure of the Compendium allow covering the diversity of methodologies, methods and tools for existing V&A assessment?
- Is the structure clear and straightforward for users?
- Does the Compendium provide clear description of its focus and scope? How can these gaps be addressed?
- To what extent is a set of frameworks/methods/tools representative and up-to date for an area or sector in question?

Assessment of methods/tools in the area or sector in question. (chapters 2-4).

- Is the method up to date and reflect recent developments and state of the art of methodologies to assess impacts, vulnerability and adaptation?
- Is the method in question being used widely or has it a limited application?
- Is the method useful/feasible for assessment in developing countries?
- Where are the gaps?
- What additional methods should be included under areas/sector in question?
- What criteria would you suggest for inclusion or exclusion the methods in the Compendium?

Assessment of the information about methods.

- Is information about method in question comprehensive enough and correct?
- Does description and application sections include recent information?
- Is description and scope of the methods clear?
- Is information for contact information correct? (Please assess to the extent possible).
- Where are the gaps? What information should be checked?

Criteria for inclusion methods/tools in the Compendium.

- **Credibility.** The method should be tested and peer-reviewed.
- **Applicability.** The method should be applicable for at least one region or/and several countries.
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FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE - Secretariat
CONVENTION - CADRE SUR LES CHANGEMENTS CLIMATIQUES - Secrétariat

Expert Meeting on Vulnerability and Adaptation

25-26 April 2004

Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Manila, Philippines

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