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Integrated Vulnerability  
&

Adaptation Assessments

SIDS Workshop

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# Outline of Presentation

- Definition of Vulnerability and Adaptation
  - Vulnerable sectors of Caribbean SIDS
  - Adaptation Strategies
  - Need for Integrated Assessment
  - Example of Adaptation Integration
  - Impacts, Levels, Targets, Mechanisms for policy communication
  - Lessons Learnt and Best Practices
  - Role of UNFCCC and Other Agencies in the Process
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# Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation

- ❖ Vulnerability is a function of the character, magnitude and rate of climate change and variation, to which a system is exposed, its sensitivity and its adaptive capacity [Summary for Policy Makers (IPCC WG II)]
  - ❖ Adaptive capacity is the ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities or to cope with the consequences [Summary for Policy Makers (IPCC WG II)]
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# Vulnerable Sectors of Caribbean SIDS

- ✓ Water resources
  - ✓ Health
  - ✓ Coastal zones
  - ✓ Agriculture
  - ✓ Marine systems
  - ✓ Human Settlements
  - ✓ Energy and Industry
  - ✓ Insurance and other Financial services
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# Adaptation Strategies

While there are numerous adaptation strategies, the interest should now be on incorporating initiatives, measures, strategies to reduce vulnerability to climate change into other existing policies, programs, resource management structures, disaster preparedness programs, livelihood enhancement activities, and other sustainable development initiatives.

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# Need for an Integrated Assessment

It is unrealistic to expect special policy initiatives to deal with climate change adaptation by itself, especially when so many of the suggested adaptations (drought planning, coastal infrastructure planning, flood preparedness, early warning, livelihood enhancement, etc) were being addressed in other policies or programs.

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# Why is Integration Important?

- ✓ Impacts do not happen in isolation
    - Impacts in one sector can adversely or positively affect another
    - Some sectors are affected directly and indirectly
    - Others just indirectly
    - Sometimes a change in one sector can offset the affect of climate change in another sector
  
  - ✓ In addition, integration is necessary for ranking vulnerabilities and adaptations
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# Examples of Adaptation Integration

- Caribbean (CPACC, GEF/WORLD BANK, CIDA)
  - Integration of adaptation into national policies dealing with risk management and into their Environment Impact Assessment procedures.
  - Land use planning and Integrated natural resource management under the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change (MACC) Project
  - Integration of climate change considerations into the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process also under the MACC Project
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# Impact on Policy makers-1

## ✓ Sectoral level

- Water Resources
  - Coastal Resources
  - Biodiversity
  - Agriculture
  - Environment
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# Impact on Policy makers-2

## ✓ National Level

- Planning
  - Foreign Affairs
  - Finance
  - Office of The Prime Minister
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# Impacts on Policy makers-3

## ✓ International

- COP 5,6,7
  - Adaptation Issues
  - COP 8 (New Delhi)
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# Levels of Policy making

- Global/International (e.g. UNFCCC, COP) Regional (e.g. MACC)
  - National (Agenda 21, etc)
  - Sectoral (e.g. water, agriculture, etc)
  - Local (e.g. local Agenda 21, etc)
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# Targets for Policy Communication-1

## ✓ Global/International

- IPCC
  - Scientific literature
  - SBSTA
  - Media
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# Targets for Policy Communication-2

- ✓ Regional
    - CARICOM
    - Others
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# Targets for Policy Communication-3

## ✓ National

- Ministry of Environment
  - Ministry of Planning
  - Ministry of Finance
  - Prime Minister's Office
  - Members of Parliament
  - Senior civil servants
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# Targets for Policy Communications-4

## ✓ Sectoral

- Department of Agriculture
  - Water and Sewage Corporation
  - Ministry of Tourism
  - National Emergency Management Agency
  - Etc
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# Targets for Policy Communications-5

## ✓ Local

- Local government
  - Local representatives of sectoral agencies
  - NGOs
  - Community leaders
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# Mechanisms for Policy Communication

- Regional workshops (regional and national policy makers)
  - National (national policy makers, NGOs, academics, etc)
  - Sectoral workshops (sectoral policy makers, etc)
  - Short briefing papers (senior policy makers)
  - Seminars (senior policy makers)
  - Articles in national newspapers (policy makers, general public)
  - Scientific papers (researchers, IPCC)
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# Lessons Learned

- Technical capacity to do analysis of climate change impacts- Good
  - Awareness amongst sectoral planners and policy makers-Reasonable
  - Awareness amongst national policy makers-Low
  - Strategy for international negotiations-CCCCC-Good
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# Best Practice-OECD Method

Table showing Ranking

<b>Resource/ranking</b>	<b>Certainty of impact</b>	<b>Timing of impact</b>	<b>Severity of impact</b>	<b>Importance of resource</b>
Water resources (flooding)	High	High	High	High
Agriculture	Medium-low	Medium - low	Medium	High
Human health	Low	Medium	?	High
Biodiversity	Low	?	?	Medium-high



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# Role of UNFCCC and Other Agencies

- Through the CGE, identify and assess technical problems and constraints affecting the preparation of vulnerability and adaptation assessments.
  - Analyze and review national vulnerability and adaptation assessments in terms of methodological issues, technical problems and constraints in preparing and reporting.
  - Provide technical advice and support through hands-on training workshops on the preparation and reporting of national vulnerability and adaptation assessments.
  - The NCSP Knowledge Network is designed to assist V&A experts working on SNCs and national SNC coordinators. The online learning facility aims to facilitate knowledge sharing, data and information exchanges, and relate best practices with lessons learned.
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