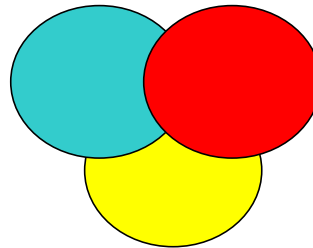


Framing Socio-economic Data Priorities for Impact and Vulnerability Assessments

Heather McGray
World Resources Institute
Nairobi Work Programme Trinidad Workshop
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Seeking Shared Priorities in a World of Diverse Assessments



Factors Affecting Data Needs/Priorities

1. The Purpose of the Assessment

- Who will use assessment findings?
- What decisions will assessment influence?

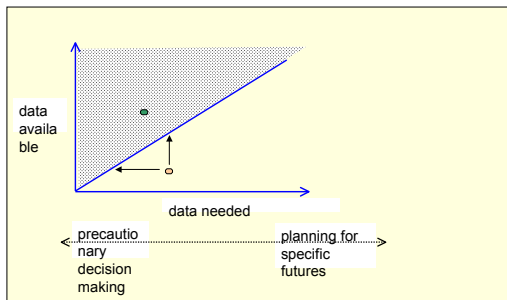
2. The Scope of Assessment

- Geographic scope (local, sub-national, national)
- Sector or system (health, coastal resources, agriculture, etc.)

3. Relevant Types of Information

- Demographic
- Economic
- Natural Resource Use
- Governance
- Culture

4. The Question of Data Availability



(with thanks to Fran Sussman)

5. Assessment Approaches

- 'What if' Approach: The classic climate impact assessment
- Vuln. Assessment and Sustainable Livelihoods: Climate risks in the context of current vulnerability

(Downing 2007)

- Stakeholder Threats and Opportunities: Understanding stakeholder/institutional adaptive capacity
- Climate Impacts Management: Guidance for a specific resource allocation decision

(Downing 2007)

Thoughts on Prioritizing Gaps to Fill

1. Priorities Within a Sector or at a Given Scale

- Particularly frequent or important use/function of I & V assessments?
- Particularly frequent or important audience or decision process?

2. Priorities Within a Region

- Opportunities to share data
- Building regional capacity

3. Shared Priorities Across Scale/Sector/Region/Use

For example:

- The need for geospatial presentation of data
- The challenge of aggregation/disaggregation
- Most data sets have limited coverage
- The need for methods of linking 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' types of assessments.