

## Summary and key points

# Discussion series on Adaptation Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

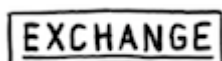
### Background

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In March and April 2013 the online discussion series of the project *Inventory of Methods for Adaptation to Climate Change* (IMACC) presented **four webinars on Monitoring and Evaluation of Adaptation**:

1. **Adaptation M&E at national level** – Presentations by the Philippines' Climate Change Commission and South Africa's Department of Environmental Affairs
2. **Introduction to adaptation M&E** and overview of **new OECD training modules**
3. **GIZ's guidebook "Adaptation made to measure"** and practical example of M&E of climate proofing of adaptation projects in India
4. **Knowledge needs in adaptation M&E and how to address them** – jointly hosted by GIZ-IMACC and the Asian Community of Practice on M&E of Climate Change Interventions "[SEAchange](#)"

Overall, more than 200 participants joined these webinars. The programme of the discussion series and all **webinar recordings** can be accessed at [AdaptationCommunity.net](#) under



Related discussions, links and resources can also be found in the **members area** of [AdaptationCommunity.net](#) (registration is free and easy).

### Summary and key points

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#### ► Webinar 1: "**Pioneers in adaptation M&E**" (12 März 2013)

This webinar focused on adaptation M&E at national level presenting two pioneering approaches from the Philippines and South Africa.

**Welcome note:** Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMU)

In her welcome note, Ms Daniela Göhler from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety highlighted the value of online

exchange to connect adaptation practitioners and policy makers and the opportunities and challenges for M&E of adaptation.

### **The Philippines:**

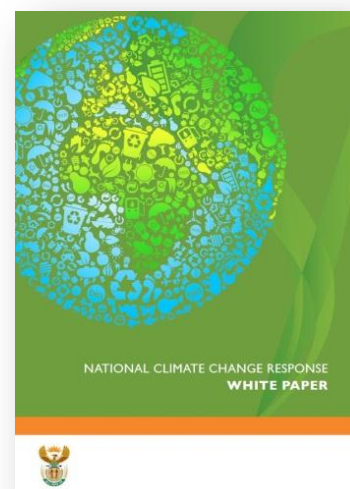
#### **Developing an M&E system for the National Climate Change Action Plan**

Dr. Albert Aquino from the Asian Institute of Developmental Studies, Inc. (AIDSI) presented the Philippines' approach to developing an M&E system for adaptation. The [National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan \(NCCAP\)](#) is structured around seven strategic priorities<sup>1</sup> and provides a results chain for each of them including activities, outputs and outcomes. The development process of the M&E system has been launched in October 2012 and is guided by the WRI/GIZ guidance "[Making adaptation count](#)", a six-step framework to structure the M&E process. The process is being coordinated by the Climate Change Commission which is the main policy-making body of the Philippine government tasked with coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the programs and action plans of the government relating to climate change. Workshops were held that validated the results chains and formulated associated indicators. Next steps are to finalise the set of indicators and establish the institutional set-up of the national adaptation M&E system.

### **South Africa:**

#### **Towards a CC response M&E system in accordance with the National Climate Change Response White Paper**

Dr. Tsepang Makholela from the South African Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) presented the process of developing a National Climate Change Response M&E System in accordance with the [National Climate Change Response White Paper](#). DEA is the coordinating department for the implementation of the White Paper. The White Paper requests an M&E system to monitor the success of responses and to ensure their effective implementation. DEA has established a technical working group on climate change M&E and tasked a consortium to develop a draft climate change M&E system. The process is closely aligned with related activities such as the Research Flagship Programme *Long Term Adaptation Scenarios* funded by GIZ which amongst others includes the development of climate change impact assessments for the priority sectors mentioned in the White Paper. Active stakeholder consultation during the development of the M&E system is also considered and a national workshop on adaptation M&E with key stakeholders is planned for the first half of 2013.



### **Discussion**

Participants pointed to the **conceptual challenges of adaptation M&E** including the link between local level adaptation actions and national level indicators as well as the distinction between adaptation and "business as usual" development. The role of and coordination among different government departments was also discussed. Questions to be addressed by both countries are what exactly to monitor (scope of M&E and specific indicators) as well as **how to disseminate the results and use them**, for example, to inform policy and adaptation decision making.

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<sup>1</sup> 1. Food security, 2. Water sufficiency, 3. Ecological and Environmental stability, 4. Human security, 5. Climate-friendly industries and services, 6. Sustainable energy, 7. Knowledge and capacity development

► Webinar 2: “**Getting up to speed – Introduction to adaptation M&E**”  
(18 März 2013)

This webinar presents a systematic introduction to adaptation M&E based on new training modules that form part of the established OECD adaptation training.

**Introduction to adaptation M&E and new training modules**

Modul	Theme	Contents
Module 6	Overview on adaptation M&E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction adaptation</li> <li>• Concepts / approaches for M&amp;E</li> <li>• Practical experiences</li> </ul>
Module 6a	M&E at national / regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Context of application</li> <li>• Methods</li> <li>• Experiences</li> </ul>
Modul 6b	M&E at project / programme level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts</li> <li>• Results framework</li> <li>• Indicator development</li> </ul>
	From training to implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer-to-peer advice</li> <li>• Letter to me</li> </ul>

GIZ is developing new training modules specifically focusing on adaptation M&E as part of the established OECD training “[Integrating climate change adaptation into development planning](#)”. The new modules are shown in the table.

In the webinar, Mr. Alfred Eberhardt, co-

author of the new modules, went through the introductory presentation of Module 6 which includes the following:

- Adaptation: what to measure?
- What are benefits of adaptation M&E?
- What is challenging about adaptation M&E?
- What methods or tools exist?
- What practical examples exist?

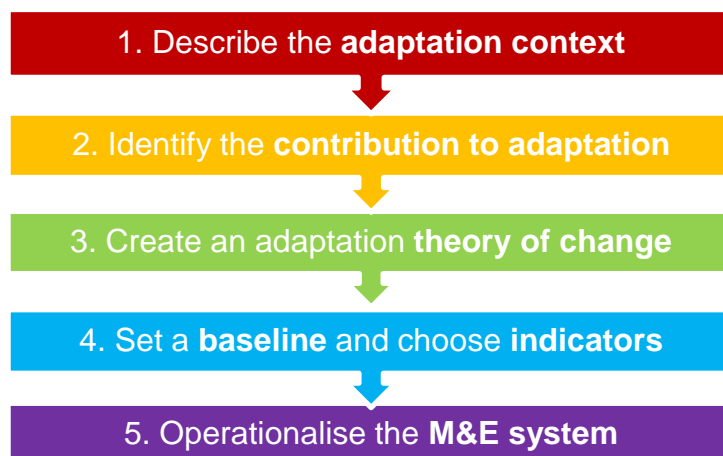
These aspects were also subject of the following discussion. A particular focus was on suitable adaptation indicators. A test-run of the new training modules will take place in Mexico early May 2013 with officials from all IMACC partner countries. The final training materials will be available on the [OECD training website](#) in the second half of 2013.

► Webinar 3 (26 März 2013):  
“**Adaptation made to measure - a five step approach to adaptation M&E**”

This webinar focused on the GIZ approach “Adaptation made to measure” and on a practical application of project-level adaptation M&E in India.

**GIZ’s “Adaptation made to measure”**

Timo Leiter, IMACC team member and co-author of the GIZ guidance “Adaptation made to measure”, presented the **five step approach to designing adaptation projects and their results based monitoring systems**. The approach, which builds on earlier work by the World Resources Institute and GIZ, is focusing on adaptation projects in a development cooperation context. The webinar provided an overview of the five steps which are shown in the following figure.



The five steps are applicable to a broad range of contexts and help to systematically integrate adaptation into project planning and to design an adaptation-specific M&E system. The guidance also addresses techniques for evaluating adaptation.

The guidance “Adaptation made to measure” can be downloaded [here](#) (an updated version will be published in September 2013).

### Practical case: M&E of climate proofing of watershed programmes in India

Mr. Unnikrishnan Divakaran Nair, Technical Expert in GIZ’s project Climate Change Adaptation for Rural Areas of India (CCA RAI) presented the M&E approach of [climate proofing of a Watershed programme](#) run by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development of India (NABARD).

The climate proofing process begins with gathering **two sources of data**: local knowledge and scientific data, e.g. on rainfall patterns. This information is used in a participatory process to complete a **climate proofing table** which specifies exposure, impacts, non-climatic stressors, existing adaptation strategies and maladaptation practices for the unit of analysis. In a next step, direct impact indicators, e.g. soil moisture content or productivity of crops, and indirect impact indicators, e.g. area under cultivation, are formulated. Both quantitative and qualitative indicators are being used. Indicators are tailored to the specific circumstances of the watershed. A review is undertaken of what is being monitored and by whom. Unnikrishnan stressed the following points:

- Source of the baseline data: **availability of data** is a problem, existing data may not be reliable and needs to be verified
- For data collection it is important to use **representative samples** within the watershed as the results may otherwise be misleading. An understanding of the ecological processes and the human influences of a particular watershed is therefore necessary to select appropriate samples

The objective of GIZ’s work is to integrate the M&E process into the watershed guidelines and thereby mainstream and upscale useful M&E practices.

### Discussion

One focus was the **practical implementation of the five steps** of the *Adaptation made to measure* approach, e.g. in how far the results model used by GIZ differs from the more traditional and linear results chain. Limits of the *Adaptation made to measure* approach were also discussed. Unnikrishnan provided **further details of the M&E process of climate proofing**, for example on the verification of data. Further questions addressed the spatial and temporal scale of indicators and the combination of different indicators to inform a conclusive assessment of the situation. Unnikrishnan announced that a documentation of the M&E process is currently under review by NABARD and is expected to be finalized by mid-2013. Once available it will be posted on [AdaptationCommunity.net](#).

## ► Webinar 4 “Adaptation M&E in practice – what is needed next?” (3 April 2013)

Jointly presented by:



This webinar presented a summary and key insights from previous webinars, reviewed the development in monitoring and evaluation of adaptation and discussed a number of M&E **knowledge needs** and how they can be addressed. The webinar was jointly hosted by GIZ and [SEAchange](#), the Asian Community of practice for M&E of climate change interventions.

**Welcome note:** GIZ’s Competence Centre for Climate Change

In her Welcome note, Ms. Vera Scholz, Head of GIZ’s Competence Centre for Climate Change highlighted some of GIZ’s flagship global climate change projects on adaptation, mitigation and climate finance. She also pointed to the emerging interest in adaptation M&E.

### **Key insights from previous webinars and Adaptation made to measure**

Timo Leiter, IMACC team member and co-author of the GIZ guidance “Adaptation made to measure”, presented the key insights which emerged from previous webinars, particularly on national-level adaptation M&E and presented an overview of GIZ’s five step approach “[Adaptation made to measure](#)” (an update will be available by September 2013).

### **Adaptation M&E knowledge needs and next steps**

Dennis Bours, Team Leader of the SEA Change Community of Practice, presented **key aspects of the field of adaptation M&E** including:

- distinguishing adaptation from “business as usual” development
- challenges of project-level adaptation M&E
- attribution vs. contribution

He also presented the **results of a recent survey** among SEA Change members about what they find helpful for addressing adaptation M&E knowledge needs. Dennis highlighted the need for reviews of evaluation findings to facilitate learning. The survey found that online platforms, webinars and e-learning are seen as helpful tools to knowledge sharing and learning.

### **Discussion**

Timo responded to questions of whether GIZ has standard climate change indicators for its portfolio and how it supports mainstreaming of climate change aspects into its projects. Further points of discussion were how learning and policy relevance of evaluations can be fostered and what data and indicators could be used. Dennis also pointed to M&E experiences in Disaster Risk Reduction.

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All **webinar recordings** can be accessed at [AdaptationCommunity.net](http://AdaptationCommunity.net) under **Exchange**.

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