

Glacier Melting/Retreat

Group 1

Sharing experiences

- Impacts on different sectors - water, agriculture, energy, mining, local communities, tourism, lost of livelihood, displacement of population, food security, forestry.
- hazards - flash floods, GLOF, landslides, from water availability to desertification.
- rural vs urban - different experiences/different approaches
- Challenges are cross-sectoral and intensify overtime
- countries/regions experience different challenges depending on specific circumstances, but there is room for replication and regional cooperation.

Priorities

- Level of awareness is high, but it does not always translate into policy
- how to translate the information we have in policy development
- Strengthening decision making: increase availability of data - knowledge building (systematic observation, monitoring, modelling)
challenge: need financial resources
- Knowledge and data management - from gathering data, monitoring, and how to interpret it and use it in DM
- Glacier melting also impacts on livelihood and resource management and we need to address it. Providing options/alternatives but also safety net when options are not available
- methods and technologies on how to address the issue - including traditional and indigenous knowledge and technologies
- capacity building at all levels
- communication tools to inform population, communities
- international sharing of good practices and analyse lessons learned
- development of early warning systems

Potential Responses

- Local level: physical loss experienced can be better address at the local level with providing options/alternatives
- National level: planning and integration - intersectoral approaches, creation of funds to address the issue
- Regional level: transboundary issue needs cooperation in affected areas (e.g., Mekong River Commission)
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- Traditional knowledge provide examples of successful adaptation approaches.
- Some approaches are more radical - migration
- design tools based on needs of community, but also should provide incentives for adaptive actions
- we have to recognize that rehabilitation and compensation will be necessary in some cases. Need to be very careful how it is done (avoid maladaptation).
- There is no insurance penetration in some cases.
- Planning is better done at the national level where providing options/alternatives is better at the local level.