

Data and Observations Breakout group 1

Promoting implementation and improvements in D&O.

Gaps identified:

- There is a need to improve **local, national regional and global** data - including **present** observations, **historical** data and **meta-data**.
- This refers to both quality and expertise **-human and instrumental**.
- Intercomparability** of instruments is very important

Recommendations

- From the Sydney workshop (Learning from the IPCC AR4) recommendation: **define an authoritative set of data and information needs for adaptation.**
 - This authoritative set should eventually lead to parties committing themselves to establishing and maintaining adequate networks.

Recommendations

- Recommend that governments commit to a **minimum network they have to operate that is specific for adaptation** in line with the standing international agreement –for example as done when becoming a member of the WMO.
 - GCOS may be asked by UNFCCC to provide guidance.

Other recommendations:

- Ensure that climate-system D&O is **linked** with **socioeconomic information**.
- Involve **stakeholders** at municipal and state levels, and in **sectors**, including the private sector, to ensure **ownership** at the local scales.
- Incorporate as well **local and indigenous knowledge**, and knowledge from local forecasters

Other recommendations:

- **Raise awareness** amongst policy-makers of the need to strengthen D&Os not just for global purposes, but **because it is in their own interests -for development and adaptation** purposes.
 - This can be done through presenting **cost-benefit analyses** and **addressing the cost of inaction**.

Other recommendations:

- Include in **national communications** to the UNFCCC the national inventory of met services activities and **needs for adaptation**
- **Encourage the use of Open Source initiative** for access to free software and cost-effective equipment

Other recommendations:

- **Encourage recovery of data** (which even though it is difficult to get money, you **only have to do it once**).
 - There could be a role for development agencies to support this.

More:

- Encourage regions/parties that have **regional action plans** (10) **to take action** on them and on the **GCOS Implementation Plan**.
- Develop **regionally agreed proposals** which can be quoted to increase chances of accessing funding for supporting individual developing countries.

And...

- Stress that better observations are requested by the UNFCCC; GCOS plays a coordinating role (avoid the impression that this is an external request)