Outputs of Heather’s working group

Our approach

• Questions
  – What information exists but is not well used? And ways to improve its use.
  – What information needs to be gathered?

• Focus on Integrating information into
  1. Impacts and vulnerability assessments and
  2. Adaptation planning

• Principles for discussion:
  – Usefulness
  – Being vaguely right rather than precisely wrong
  – Who
  – How

Given that....

• There is often a mismatch between the climate change information needs and the data that are gathered

• The fact that the data are available...
  – Most often disseminated at aggregate scales.
  – Dispersed in terms of their location, and not well known to climate communities.
  – Often not in formats usable for vulnerability and impacts assessments and adaptation planning.
  – Not always accessible to the public (private, institutional inertia)
  – Needs to be analyzed in light of climate change priorities (livelihoods—fisheries, marine traffic, fishing quotas, catches)

• Needs for integration vary (methods, data, approaches, objectives, actors, sectors)

• Some data not available
  – Subsistence crops, water distribution within sectors, migration, remittances.

Some collective suggestions

• Develop an open dialogue between providers and users of information/data in order to balance specific data needs against other potential uses.

• Develop guidance on the translation (analysis) of existing data to provide information relevant to climate change.
  – Social capital - Need to better collect vulnerability data?
  – Spatialization

• Establish appropriate channels to link climate change community to leverage existing knowledge, data, experiences (networks)
  – Role of regional centers as human clearing-houses (CCCCC, SPREP)
  – Professional international organizations (World Water Forum, UN statistics commission)
  – Using CDM model (Designated National Authority on Adaptation)
  – Grassroots organizations (RC, Provention)
Next Steps

• **Challenges in putting people to tasks**
  – Universities, regional centers, national agencies (met services, statics bureaus, ..), inter-agency national bodies (DNAA), partnerships (CIESEN), grassroots organizations……

• **Refining sector specific data needs**
  - water, health, coastal management, and agriculture