

Submission to the Nairobi Work Program on adaptation approaches, strategies, practices and technologies for adaptation

**Climate Change and Disasters Group of the
Institute of Development Studies (IDS)**

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About the Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

The Institute of Development Studies is a leading global organisation for research, teaching and communications on international development. IDS was founded in 1966 and enjoys an international reputation based on the quality of its work and its commitment to applying academic skills to real world changes. IDS acts as a development research and knowledge hub, connecting and convening networks throughout the world.

Our vision is a world in which poverty does not exist, social justice prevails and the voices of all people are heard in national and international institutions. We believe that generating, mobilising and sharing knowledge, through research, teaching and communications, plays a key part in realising this vision. Our mission is to work with a global network of partners to:

- Develop dynamic ideas and analysis on the global issues that shape our world
- Provide practical solutions that accelerate sustainable poverty reduction, promote social justice and ensure that all people’s voices are heard
- Use authoritative research, innovative teaching and cutting-edge communications to influence key audiences in order to achieve our vision.

What Makes IDS Different?

When IDS was established in 1966, it was one of the first institutes of its kind. Now there are many more research organisations and think tanks, both in the North and, increasingly, in the South. However, IDS remains distinctive in its commitment and approach to development. We see our current strengths relying primarily on our:

- **People-centred perspective on development** which recognises the many faces of poverty, and the way that power differentials can mediate progress towards equity, justice and poverty reduction;
- **Integrated ways of working, combining research, teaching and communications work.** IDS is one of the only development organisations that is a world leader in all three spheres. We work hard to integrate these elements as we recognise the positive synergies that their interaction generates;
- **Multidisciplinary approach** which we see as essential in tackling the complex and multi-faceted challenges of development;
- **Unique network of partners and contacts** which stretches from international agencies to grassroots activists and spans civil society, governments, the business sector and the media;
- **Reputation and credibility.** Built up over 40 years, this provides IDS with the convening power to bring together leading players in development policy and practice and to capture the attention of a wide audience.

The IDS Climate Change and Disasters (CCD) Group

The Climate Change and Disasters (CCD) Group at IDS is part of the Vulnerability and Poverty Reduction Team, the largest IDS research group. The CCD group is engaged in a range of activities including **policy-related research, advisory work, capacity-building, networking and developing innovative and accessible knowledge services.**

The CCD Group is comprised of four full-time research fellows, admin and finance support, and a team of full-time and project-based research assistants. The latter are often drawn from the Institute's considerable post-graduate expertise in development, climate change and disasters.

The group **links up with expertise in other IDS research and information teams** including:

- **Vulnerability and Poverty Reduction:** within our own team, improving the understanding of vulnerability, and designing effective means of addressing it, as a central component of poverty reduction. In doing so, our work programme is linked to other areas of the team including work on agriculture, social protection, conflict, work and migration.
- **Globalisation:** focusing in particular on the dynamics of international agreements, policy and practice on climate change adaptation, particularly with regard to emerging economies.
- **Governance:** focusing on the politics of state engagement and public action in developing countries regarding climate change adaptation, in urban as well as rural areas.
- **Knowledge, Technology and Society:** exploring how science and technology can improve the livelihoods and well-being of poor people, looking at issues such as biofuels and land-use.
- **Participation, Power and Social Change:** looking at how and where participation by citizens can make a difference to questions of social justice and development, particularly around locally appropriate and accountable adaptation and participatory vulnerability assessments.
- **IDS Information Department** supporting a variety of knowledge services and networks for knowledge sharing on vulnerability and adaptation.

The Climate Change and Disasters Group's research and advisory work around adaptation focuses on the following **strategic work areas:**

1. **Knowledge Services and Networks for Knowledge Sharing on Adaptation**
Approaches: Supporting a large and diverse international community through its family of Knowledge Services and knowledge sharing and consultancy work, sharing one goal: to help development research and knowledge reach those who can use it to reduce poverty and injustice.
2. **Children in a Changing Climate:** Investigating the role of children as communicators and advocates of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, linkages child rights debates, and child-centred development in the context of climate change futures.
3. **Post 2012 climate change regime:** Supporting in-country analytical work to determine what kind of climate change actions best fit with national circumstances, interests and priorities. How national and international climate policy-making processes can support adaptive practices at community level. Investigating and the role of governments and other actors in promoting mitigation through decarbonising development pathways.
4. **Climate change, disasters and organizational change:** Assessing the implications of climate change for development organizations, and developing tools to facilitate change processes and mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
5. **Poverty and Climate Governance:** Investigating poverty dimensions of adaptation and the optimal governance arrangements to support effective climate change adaptation at local, regional and national scales.

Specialist Contribution to the Nairobi Work Programme

The CCD's key contributions relevant to the Nairobi Work Programme lie in the areas of **knowledge services and building networks around adaptation approaches, strategies, practices and technologies**. The CCD Group have stimulated a number of successful and innovative networks to promote knowledge sharing and capacity building amongst the climate change, disasters and development community. For example the Linking Climate Adaptation (LCA) project has provided close to 1000 members with an online space for communities, policy-makers, practitioners and academics to share experiences and knowledge about adaptation and climate change in developing countries. In April 2007 IDS brought 40 participants together for two days to discuss and share adaptation tools for international development and in March 2006 IDS convened a workshop in Nairobi for 90 African adaptation researchers to share ideas and build collaborative partnerships.

IDS are specialists in **managing research programmes across multiple countries** and the CCD group have convened several research programs in collaboration with Southern research partners in the area of adaptation, including around developing strategies and tools for adaptation. Ongoing examples include leading a team of international researchers to develop and pilot Climate Change Risk Screening methodologies for development interventions (see ORCHID below), to analyse adaptation, vulnerability and finance in the BRICS countries (see the BASIC project below) and approaches to assessing urban governance for adaptation in Asia (See Urban Governance and Climate Change Resilience below).

IDS acts as a facilitator for information sharing as well as using its research and convening expertise to strengthen the knowledge base of other organisations. All projects are centred around constructive **collaboration with partners** including academic and policy research institutions and practically applied development NGOs and IGOs such as Tearfund, Plan, Action Aid and UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. This approach is fundamental to the institute's core objectives - **to influence as well as inform** and to incorporate the latest policy developments and practice into our body of research and knowledge services.

Finally, the IDS CCD Group is committed to **linking the shared agendas, activities and communities around mainstream development, Disasters Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation**. This acknowledges that approaches to vulnerability and risk reduction policy and practice developed through the programmes provide important learning for adaptation practitioners. IDS is able to connect these experiences to wider debates on adaptation and share them through its knowledge services and networks.

A more detailed breakdown of IDS strategic work areas with examples of projects relevant to the Nairobi Work Programme is provided in the pages below:

1. Knowledge Services and Networks for Knowledge Sharing on Adaptation Approaches

Together with the IDS Information Department, the CCD Group supports a large and diverse international community through a variety of knowledge services and networks for knowledge sharing on vulnerability and adaptation.

Example Projects:

Linking Climate Adaptation (LCA) Project

The LCA project investigates the most appropriate frameworks for linking locally determined climate change adaptation upwards to national and international policy. At the centre of the project is the LCA Network, a web and email-based network for all those with an interest in climate adaptation in developing countries to share their relevant experiences and knowledge. The network provides an online discussion space for close to 1000 members and has covered discussion topics such as Preparation and Implementation of NAPAs, Climate Change and Disasters and Future Adaptation Policies. It has also coordinated a set of case studies and convened a workshop of African researchers to generate and link research ideas.

LCA Project: <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/prty/ClimateChange/adaptationlca.html>

LCA Network: <http://www.linkingsclimateadaptation.org/>

Community Based Adaptation Exchange(CBA-X)

This online resource, initiated by the International Institute for Environment and Development and hosted by IDS, supports the exchange of up-to-date information on community based climate adaptation, including definitions, case studies and tools for implementation. The resource is hosted through ELDIS and the LCA website. <http://www.cba-exchange.org/>

The SPIDER Network (Science and Policy Interfaces for Disaster Risk Reduction)

The SPIDER Network was established to re-evaluate the role of science in disaster management. Through a series of meetings and activities six UK-based academic departments from different universities and disciplinary traditions have been exploring the interface between more community centred approaches to DRR and the ways in which traditional hazard-related scientific knowledge is generated. The meetings are generating conference reports documenting the discussions and emerging research questions. The network intends to publish a series of working papers and annotated bibliographies of interdisciplinary DRR related research.

<http://www.spidernetwork.org/index.htm>

Poverty and Adaptation Seminar Series Network (PASSNET)

This seminar series on pro-poor climate adaptation seeks to develop co-operative partnerships between researchers and development specialists to explore the theoretical and policy challenges related to making climate adaptation work for the poor. By hosting meetings in the UK, Africa and in the wings of the UN Climate Conference, the research network will engage and involve policy-makers, academics, practitioners, and members of industry, while retaining a core community of researchers.

Other Relevant IDS Knowledge Services:

➤ *Eldis Climate Change Adaptation Resource Guide*

An online gateway to thousands of documents, resource guides, and country profiles covering all aspects of development, policy, practice and research. The Eldis climate change adaptation guide provides a summary of current thinking on climate adaptation issues with access to relevant and up to date resources and publications for researchers, practitioners, and policy formers.

<http://www.eldis.org/climate/index.htm>

➤ *Climate Change on id21*

An online database communicating UK-sourced international development research for policymakers and practitioners worldwide including the latest in climate change and development research. <http://www.id21.org/zinter/id21zinter.exe?a=1&w=a3>

➤ *Livelihoods Connect*

An online database of information resources related to sustainable livelihoods. A new 'hot topic' on Climate Change, Disasters and Agriculture is planned for late 2007. www.livelihoods.org/

➤ *Siyanda (Gender and CC)*

An online database of gender and development materials from across the world including tools, case studies, policy papers and research to support practitioners in implementing gender programmes and in mainstreaming gender equality concerns. The site includes resources on Gender and Climate Change. <http://www.siyanda.org> http://www.siyanda.org/archive/july06_siyanda.htm

2. Children in a Changing Climate

This programme of work is built around six thematic areas

- **Voice and Participation:** Opportunities for children's voices to influence decision-making on disaster risk reduction
- **Risk Communication:** Children as communicators of disaster and climate risk
- **Futures:** Possible impacts of climate change with regard to migration, conflict, employment opportunities which stand to impact children's futures
- **Perception and Knowledge:** Children's understanding of disaster and climate change vis-à-vis their parents and grandparents.
- **Rights and Governance:** Mainstreaming child rights to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
- **Relief to Disaster Risk Reduction:** The role of children in securing relief to risk reduction pathways

Example projects:

Voice and Participation: Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation

Collaboration with Plan UK to lead the way in researching the role of children in disaster risk reduction in El Salvador and the Philippines, supporting Plan's objectives of placing children and young people at the centre of disaster risk reduction. The research seeks to investigate opportunities for children's voices to influence decision-making on disaster risk reduction and adaptation incorporating thorough assessments of risks to children's futures posed by climate change. Phase 2 examines the role children play in communicating and influencing perceptions of disaster risk, and how this affects the actions of their families and the wider community. Aspects of the program were recorded for two documentaries on children and disasters produced by the Thompson Foundation in collaboration with Plan for BBC World. Reports, papers and briefings have been generated by the project including an IDS working paper.

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction through schools

Researching experiences of ActionAid International's multi-country 'DRR through schools' project aimed at reducing people's vulnerability to natural disasters by contributing to implementation of the Hyogo framework. The research has focused on the effectiveness of the approaches and model used, and helped to refine the model. IDS is connecting this area of work to wider debates on climate related mitigation and adaptation, disseminating experiences and findings to wider audiences of policymakers and practitioners through its knowledge services and incorporation into other areas of climate change and disasters research.

3. Post 2012 Climate Change Regime

This work area is focused on supporting in-country analytical work to determine what kind of climate change actions best fit with national circumstances, interests and priorities. This area investigates the role of governments and other actors in developing policies to promote mitigation through decarbonising development pathways and adaptation through climate resilient development. It thereby provides evidence-based building blocks for the future climate change regime as well as indicating how national and international climate governance can support the transition to low carbon development and support adaptive practices at community level.

Example Projects:

BASIC (Building and Supporting Institutional Capacity) Project

BASIC is an action-orientated research project focusing on building and supporting institutional capacity in Brazil, South Africa, India and China on UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) and Kyoto matters. The project is strengthening institutional capacity, analytical capacity, negotiation skills and the knowledge base of the project countries contributing to a more upwards-oriented climate change regime development and implementation. Of the five core areas of the project, task two, led by the India Team is most relevant to the NWP, covering adaptation, vulnerability and finance and has included examining tools for vulnerability assessment and adaptation. In May 2006 a BASIC workshop 11 was held on “Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change: From Practice to Policy” giving all BASIC country partners a chance to share experiences on adaptation.

BASIC Project: <http://www.basic-project.net/>

In 2006, the BASIC team developed the *Sao Paulo Proposal for an Agreement on Future International Climate Policy*. The proposal outlines a stable, long-term universal regime to address climate change that reflects the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities. As adaptation will likely form part of the core features of the post 2012 framework, adaptation is given a prominent role in the proposal assisted by mechanisms such as: a ‘prompt start’ pilot phase to catalyze rapid learning about adaptation ‘best practices’; the development of vulnerability and adaptation tools to ensure the Adaptation Fund reaches the most vulnerable populations and fragile ecosystems; and the establishment of an Adaptation Committee of Experts to advise the COP/MOP and other Protocol bodies.

Sao Paulo Proposal: http://www.basic-project.net/data/SP_prop_rev_nairobi.pdf

Supporting National Assessments of Post-2012 Proposals for Climate Protection and Sustainable Development (SNAPP 2012)

In collaboration with WWF, the SNAPP 2012 project builds on the BASIC project through supporting developing countries to assess the merits and shortcomings of various proposals for a post-2012 framework against national priorities and sustainable development goals. In 2008 an International Dialogue will take place to bring together the outcomes and discussions of national level workshops and proposals into a comprehensive proposal capable of fulfilling the ultimate objective of the Convention in a way that appeals to developing countries.

Scenario Modelling for Future International Climate Change Policy

This project aims to conceptualize & model 3-4 scenarios (packages), including aspects of adaptation, for a future global climate regime that are potentially attractive to UNFCCC Parties and useful for current negotiations on a post 2012 regime. The purpose of constructing packages is to allow a better understanding of the merits, trade-offs and choices involved in concluding different kinds of “deals” amongst UNFCCC Parties. The final report will provide a detailed assessment of a range of packages that could be agreed as part of a future global framework.

4. Climate Change, Disasters and Organisational Response:

As a recently emerging topic of increasingly urgent importance, many organisations working in the development field are evaluating their responses to climate change adaptation and mitigation. IDS work convenes research, networking and debate to help assess the implications of climate change for development organizations, and to develop tools to facilitate change processes and mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

Example Projects:

ORCHID (Opportunities and Risks from Climate Change and Disasters): Screening of Development Agency Portfolios

Through the development of innovative methodologies for climate risk screening of development interventions ORCHID aims to improve the ability of development planning and implementation to manage future climatic impacts that might compromise the effectiveness of development investments. The process identifies risks to projects as well as assessing the vulnerability reduction and adaptation potential of projects and programmes in the short and longer term. IDS has been leading a team of international researchers to pilot the methodology for DFID's portfolio in Bangladesh and India, and is advising a similar process in Kenya.

EastWest:China - Establishing an Adaptation Screening Tool for the Water Sector in China

The overall purpose of this work is to improve the ability of development planning and implementation to manage future climatic impacts that might compromise the efficiency and effectiveness of development investments. The project will help to develop a climate change screening tool to evaluate and facilitate adaptation to climate change impacts on water sector development investments. A prototype tool will be tested through analysis of case studies in water sector projects in China, involving 6 different institutions in China, each with expertise relating to the water sector. The research is coordinated by DFID-China and the National Climate Change Committee of the National Development Reform Commission (NDRC).

UNISDR support: On Better Terms

IDS provided assistance to UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) in the production of their booklet *On Better Terms: A glance at Key Climate Change and Disaster Reduction Concepts*. The booklet sets out differences in the way the climate change community and the disasters community use key terms and concepts. A resource compendium was also published on a CD-ROM to accompany the booklet.

On Better Terms: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/risk-reduction/climate-change/on-better-terms/On-better-terms.pdf>

Research collaboration with Tearfund: Adaptation and Adaptation Mainstreaming

In collaboration with Tearfund, IDS conducted research around adaptation in developing countries resulting in two publications 'Adapting to climate change: Challenges and opportunities for the development community' and 'Overcoming the barriers: Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in developing countries'. This type of support has enabled IDS to directly assist development NGOs with analysis, frameworks and resources so that they can lead the way in effective adaptation policy and practice

Resulting Tearfund Publications:

- T. Mitchell and T.Tanner,(2006) Adapting to climate change: Challenges and opportunities for the development community, Tearfund Climate Change Briefing paper
- T. Mitchell and T.Tanner,(2006) 'Overcoming the barriers: Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in developing countries' Tearfund

5. Poverty and Climate Governance

It is a common assertion that climate change has significant implications for poorer people, communities and countries. We believe that understanding differences in vulnerability is crucial in enabling more adaptive governance arrangements and livelihoods that can reduce negative impacts and enhance opportunities from a changing climate. This work area aims to improve adaptation processes by enhancing our understanding of the poverty dimensions of adaptation and the governance arrangements required to support effective climate change adaptation at local, regional and national scales.

Example Projects

Urban Governance and Climate Change Resilience

Urban areas require different types of systems and capacities to enhance climate resilience when compared with rural environments. These adaptive systems must also ensure poor urban populations are not disproportionately impacted by climate change. IDS is coordinating a team of researchers in building an urban governance and climate change resilience program in Asia based on scoping studies from 10 Asian cities into existing governance regimes and realities. The program aims to build greater understanding of the links between urban governance and climate resilience, through assessing the nature of a city's institutions, and its political economy and the wealth, spatial distribution and knowledge of its people in the light of known climate risks.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/cities.html>

Social Protection and Adaptation in Agriculture

IDS is developing a research area linking social protection, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. It is increasingly recognised that social protection has a role to play in rural communities, building resilience to climate induced shocks and enabling growth to occur through reducing risk and vulnerability. An initial working paper focusing on agricultural growth explores the potential policy linkages and complementarities of climate change adaptation and DRR with social protection. This identifies ongoing work, demonstrates good practice and recommends practical ways forward and options for further work. A working paper will be available by November 2007 at www.ids.ac.uk/climatechange.

Chronic Poverty and Adaptation

The prevailing discourse suggests that the poorest people in the world have the least capacity to adapt to a changing climate. In a working paper for the *Chronic Poverty Research Centre*, IDS authors unpack this orthodoxy through an examination of the climate change and chronic poverty literature, and examine the implications of a more nuanced understanding of poverty for vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. It provides an opportunity bring the two communities closer to each other and to explore inter-linkages and proposes a pioneering research and policy agenda on *pro-poor adaptation*. In doing so, it suggests ways in which climate change may actually be an opportunity to create pathways out of chronic poverty through targeted efforts to enhance vulnerability reduction and adaptation. A working paper will be available by November 2007 at www.ids.ac.uk/climatechange.

IDS Key Adaptation Actions Summary

Title	Type	Scope	Status	Partners	Resources
LCA Network	Adaptation approach / strategy	Global Reach	Ongoing	Open to all	http://www.linkingclimateadaptation.org/
CBA-X	Adaptation approach / strategy	Global Reach	Ongoing	Open to all	http://www.cba-exchange.org/
SPIDER Network	Adaptation approach / strategy	UK-based – global reach	Ongoing	University College London, Cambridge University, University of East Anglia, Portsmouth University, ActionAid UK, Coventry University	http://www.spidernetwork.org/index.htm
Knowledge Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ELDIS ▪ Id21 ▪ Livelihoods Connect ▪ Siyanda 	Adaptation approach / strategy	Global Reach	Ongoing	N/A	http://www.eldis.org/climate/index.htm http://www.id21.org/zinter/id21zinter.exe?a=l&w=a3 http://www.livelihoods.org/ http://www.siyanda.org/search/results.cfm
Voice and Participation: Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation	Adaptation approaches / strategy	Local in El Salvador and Philippines	Ongoing	Plan UK	http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/drrccdr.html http://www.plan-uk.org/action/issues/reducingchildreusvulnerability/%20
Climate change & DRR through schools	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General	Ongoing	ActionAid International	http://www.actionaid.org/main.aspx?PageID=212
BASIC Project (Building and Supporting Institutional Capacity)	Adaptation approaches / strategy	National level in Brazil, South Africa, India and China	Completed	28 international partner organisations	www.basic-project.net
SNAPP 2012 (Supporting National Assessments of Post-2012 Proposals for Climate Protection and Sustainable Development)	Adaptation approaches / strategy	National Level and International	Ongoing	World Wildlife Fund, BASIC team as above	Website to be launched shortly
Scenario Modelling for Future International Climate Change Policy	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General		Ecofys, Margaree Consultants	
<i>EastWest:China</i> Establishing an adaptation screening tool for the water sector	Adaptation approaches / strategy	China – Water Sector	Ongoing	Institute for Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Cranfield University UK, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/adaptationorchid.html

ORCHID (Opportunities and Risks from Climate Change and Disasters)	Adaptation approaches / strategy	DFID country offices in Bangladesh and India)	Ongoing	Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad (BUP), University of East Anglia (UEA), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) India: The Energy research Institute (TERI), UEA, IIASA	http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/adaptationorchid.html
On Better Terms: UNISDR Support	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General	Completed	UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)	http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/drrobt.htm http://www.unisdr.org/eng/risk-reduction/climate-change/on-better-terms/On-better-terms.pdf
Adaptation Research collaboration with Tearfund	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General	Completed	Tearfund	'Adapting to climate change: Challenges and opportunities for the development community' http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/pdfs/adaptingtoclimatechange.pdf 'Overcoming the barriers: Mainstreaming climate change adaptation in developing countries' http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/pdfs/overcomingthebarriers.pdf
Cities and Climate Change / Urban Governance and Climate Change Resilience	Adaptation approaches / strategy / practices	Asia Region, national level research / implementation	Ongoing	10 research partners in Bangladesh, China, India, Thailand, and Vietnam	http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/pvty/ClimateChange/adaptationasiancities.html
Social Protection and Adaptation in Agriculture	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General	Ongoing	DFID	A working paper will be available by November 2007 at www.ids.ac.uk/climatechange .
Chronic Poverty and Adaptation	Adaptation approaches / strategy	General	Ongoing	Chronic Poverty Research Centre	A working paper will be available by November 2007 at www.ids.ac.uk/climatechange .