



Community Management of Natural Resources as a Possibility to increase Adaptive Capacity

Experiences from the past and challenges for the future

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Structure



- ***What do we know?***
 - Some lessons from assessments of the effects of development cooperation programs and projects on vulnerability and adaptation to Climate Change and Climate Variability
- ***How to proceed now?*** Two proposals:
 - Introduction to adaptation to climate change in forest ecosystems and the forest sector and guidelines for project developers
 - Adaptation Toolkit



Lessons learned from the assessments



Goal



to evaluate the effects on an
(improving) adaptive capacity at
national, regional and local level



What was assessed?



- **General assessment:**
 - Projects and programs in 12 countries
- **1 case study in Bolivia**

All projects in the assessment are aimed at alleviating poverty and none of the projects considered climate change issues



In which countries?





Which kind of projects?



- Forestry
 - Wood and Non-Wood Forests Products
- Agroforestry
- Agriculture
- Eco-tourism (only 1)
- Watershed management

**Community participation and
community management of natural resources**



Conclusions



- There are many differences at the level of national and sub-national institutional frameworks
- At the local level people don't differentiate between climate change and climate variability
- At local level people know more about mitigation than about adaptation
- More than 90% of the assessed projects correspond to the adaptation priorities defined at the national level (even if they don't know them and even if projects were designed long ago)
- In those areas where sustainable management practices have been applied was observed that livelihoods are less vulnerable to climate change and variability
- Social organization and community management of natural resources play an important role in promoting sustainable management of natural resources, especially in poor communities
- Clarification of land tenure and land-use rights are key elements (or main barriers) in promoting sustainable management



Needs for action



- **Main areas**
 - Development of the institutional framework at the national and sub-national levels (inc. land tenure and use rights)
 - Development/improvement of methodologies
 - Technology Transfer and Technology Development
- **Methodological needs** 
 - to define impacts and vulnerability at the local level
 - to design measures for adaptation
 - to establish the relationship between adaptation and (payments for) ecosystem services
- **In practice**
 - Systematizing previous experiences (instruments, methodologies, etc)
 - Definition of *Scale* of adaptation measures (compared to CC impacts)
 - Monitoring



How to proceed now?

Two proposals



Adaptation and forest ecosystems



Developed for FAO and currently under review

- ***Introduction to adaptation of the forest ecosystems and the forest sector***
 - Scientific component
 - Institutional framework and policies
 - Financing matters
- ***Guidelines for project managers***
 - Adaptation measures in the forest sector
 - Adaptation projects
 - Relevant experiences within the UNFCCC



Adaptation Toolkit



Developed by Intercooperation, IISD, SEI-Boston and IUCN (currently under preparation). The kit can be used to

- ***identify*** adaptation-relevant *projects*;
- ***identify*** adaptation-relevant *activities*;
- ***design*** local adaptation projects (or components);
- ***monitor*** adaptation-relevant projects or to
- ***evaluate*** adaptation-relevant projects



**Thank you very much
for your attention!!**

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