Identification of Priority Actions to Adapt to Climate Change in the Health Sector – The Gambia

Bernard Edward Gomez
Department of Water Resources
Banjul
The Gambia
Tel: (220) 422 4122 / 771 9570
Email: <be63gomez@yahoo.co.uk>
Overview

- Climate scenarios & status of health sector
- Adverse impacts of cc on health - Malaria
- Identification of priority activities & devt of health project profiles
- Strengths of NAPA methodology
- Lessons, gaps & next steps
Climate scenarios - temperature

Model projections of mean monthly temperature of The Gambia to 2100

- 1951-1990
- CCCM
- GFDL30
- HCGG
- HCGS
- GFDLTRAN

Temperature range from 24°C to 34°C.
Climate scenarios - rainfall

Model projections of monthly rainfall in The Gambia up to 2100
Which way – The Gambia?

- Observed rainfall
- Temperature
Current health status

- Population size: 1,384,145 (2003 census)
- Annual growth rate: 3.5%
- Urban Population: 38%
- Life expectancy: 58 yrs
- Total fertility rate: 5.1
- Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population): 46
- Crude death rate (per 1,000 population): 23
- Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births): 61
- Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000): 75
- Population access to safe water: 62%
Current Health status cont…

- Primary Health Care (PHC) Strategy (1979)
- National Health Policy (1994)
- Main Elements of the Policy:
  - Safe motherhood
  - Family planning
  - Child survival
  - Proper nutrition
  - Control of common endemic diseases
  - Health promotion
Malaria is an infection caused by a parasite and carried from person to person by mosquitoes.

Endemic in The Gambia with marked seasonal variation, highest during rainy season (June to October).


Weaker environmental constraints for spread of water-based and insect vector-borne infections.
Identification of Priorities – NAPA

- Desk review of existing literature
- Validation in the 7 Local Gov. Authorities (LGA)
- PRA
  - Priority thematic areas (04) per LGA
  - Nature of the vulnerability
  - Range of affected populations
  - Types of physical impacts
  - Scope of economic risks
  - Urgency of the threat
  - How does the current climate monitoring/prediction system enhance understanding of the stresses caused by the climate system
  - Differentiated impact of climate change on men and women
  - Adaptation Options: Ranking /Location /Stakeholders /Actors /Policy /Technology /Project
  - Criteria for prioritisation of adaptation and coping strategies
  - Prioritized criteria for selecting adaptation and coping strategies
Identification ... contd

- National stakeholder ranking
  - Use of MCA tool (selection of criteria & scoring of proposed adaptation options against criteria)

- Ranking as per national policy

- Reconciliation of stakeholder vs policy

- Selection of actions for intervention

- Project profile development (Environmental sanitation, screening programmes, provision of drugs & supplies, public awareness creation, training of disease surveillance personnel)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Objective</th>
<th>Sub-objectives</th>
<th>Adaptation Options</th>
<th>Stakeholder ranking</th>
<th>Policy ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cutting down disease burden related to cc</td>
<td>Controlling spread of water-based diseases</td>
<td>Environment sanitation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccination programmes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Improved water management</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reducing temp-related disability</td>
<td>Public awareness creation</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reducing respiratory diseases/ailment</td>
<td>Clean technology</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public transport</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
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Strengths of NAPA Methodology

- Stakeholder participation in identification of problems and solutions
- Awareness creation (stakeholders, policy)
- Entry point for streamlining cc into nat. policy
- Flexibility

Lessons:
- Dynamism of adaptation to cc
- Difficulty in prioritising across thematic areas
- Need for combination of actions to achieve desired objective
- Subjectivity of opinions by stakeholders
Gaps, next steps

- **Data gaps:**
  - socio-economic
  - Climate
  - Other stresses (extreme events, indirect effects, etc.)

- **Next steps:**
  - Hurdles in project profile devt (absence of Good Practices, etc.)
  - Implementation bottlenecks (institutional framework)
Thank you!