Capacity Building in Adaptation Practices

Andrea Cattaneo

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

Durban Forum on Capacity Building

Bonn, Germany, May 22, 2012

- FAO's country- and region-specific experiences are valuable in seeking location-specific solutions for adaptation.

- climate change strategies and guidelines developed by forestry, fisheries and aquaculture departments are guiding the design of sector-specific activities in FAO field projects

- **FAO-Adapt** provides an umbrella framework to FAO's organization wide adaptation activities.

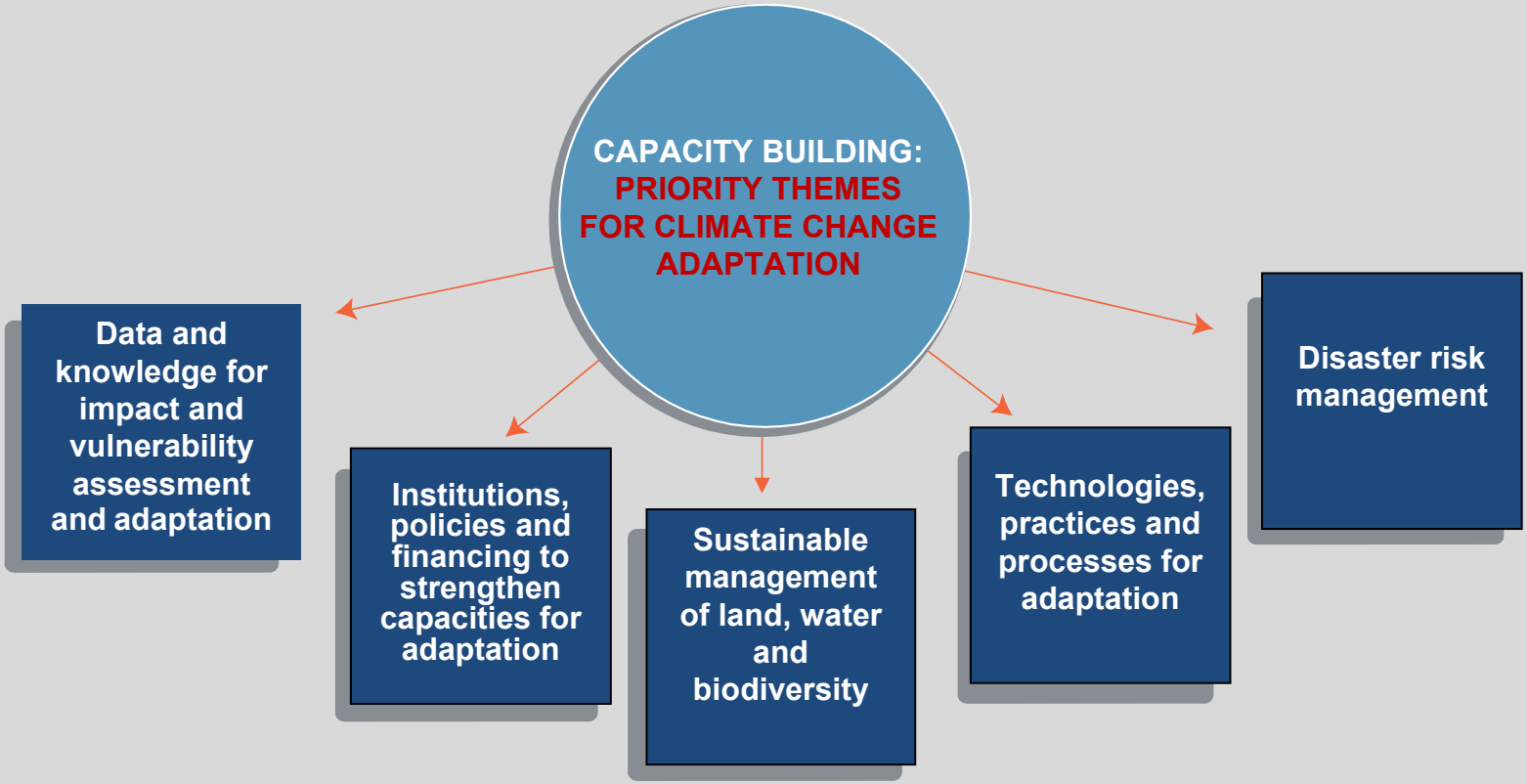
FAO's comparative advantage

- "Bottom up" **technical support** draws priorities from the countries needs outlined in national plans, programmes such as NAPAs, NAPs, NPFS; and also FAOs regional and Country Programming Frameworks. The local experiences "feed up" into agriculture and food security policies, plans and programmes in member countries.

- Provide technical assistance to strengthen need-based **climate information services and develop databases, tools and methodology** to assess climate impacts, crop yield forecasting and to strengthen the capacity for adaptation.

- In many member countries, adaptation priorities are often addressed through **disaster risk reduction as an entry point**. FAO supports member countries in preparing sectoral DRR plans, demonstration and replication of good practices for risk reduction; and capacity development

Different Dimensions of Capacity Building for Adaptation



Examples

In the Forestry department, the work on adaptation focuses on providing technical support for:

- increasing resilience and **reducing risks** for forest dependent people, promoting economic diversification through **agroforestry**; **scaling-up** integrated natural resource management approaches that enhance local adaptation capacity
- Capacity building ranging from climate change guidelines for forest policy makers and forest managers, to field projects in support of forest governance

In the Economics and Social department:

- Understanding the barriers to adoption facing possible climate-smart agricultural practices such as:
  - Agro-forestry, conservation agriculture, crop diversification, breeding and conservation of crops, trees, livestock and fish adapted to changed climate conditions., irrigation systems, water harvesting
- Capacity- building through collaboration with local research institutions and dialogue with policymakers.

Conclusions

- Capacity-building has to be **evidence-based**
- **Understanding the context** is necessary to tailor capacity-building, but need to go beyond anecdotal evidence
- Emphasis on research in SBSTA discussion on agriculture indicate big **knowledge gaps remain**. This needs to be reflected in capacity-building.
- **Information platforms** and tools are key!

Thank you!

http://www.fao.org/climatechange/en/

http://www.fao.org/climatechange/climatesmart/en/