

**Statement from the Costa Rica Meteorological National Institute at UNFCCC expert meeting on
assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change -
Japan March 2012**

The data and information requirements for our studies were:

Regarding the economic-social indicators

Local coverage

Clear institutional framework

Positive movement of vulnerability

Relation to water resource and human development

Response to climate change effects

Regarding the database

Be from representative areas of a climatic region

Have a reliable and long lasting (at least 20 years) precipitation records

Minimal technological change in its records

The data available is:

Social, economic and biophysical indicators

Meteorological databases

Modelling results

Projection of indicators

The gaps:

Not all indicators have the requirements for these studies

Gaps in meteorological stations' records (such as data loss)

Uncertainty of numerical models

Challenges with data availability:

We need the indicators' studies to get done more often.

We need more computational power to get the modelling results faster.

Challenges with accessibility in addressing these gaps:

We need to get better and more meteorological stations.

We need to do more studies on numerical models to find out what best adjust to our country.

Needs and challenges for an integrated approach to data analysis to support decision making:

We need public awareness, more education and a cultural change.

The CEPAL study "The Economics of Climate Change in Central America: Summary 2010" is product of a very integrated project which aims to conduct an economic impact study on the effects of climate change in Central America based on various development scenarios and emissions trajectories, estimating the potential costs and benefits of a response of inaction or of public-policy adaptation and mitigation options to prevent or reduce adverse impacts.

One of the most pressing gaps is that we need to have a strong bond and partnership with the government and the decision takers, because is crucial that the government is willing to take the proposed adaptation measures and operate them. In the case of Costa Rica, the government has its National Plan, and it considers the climate change, then all government institutions must perform actions that allows the government reach its goals, otherwise its annual funding is not approved to be given to its institutions. This ties the institutional actions with the government goals. The Ministry of Environment is in charge of taking the risk proposals, but the Presidency is the responsible for their compliance.

Regards!

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