

Capacity Building for Adaptation: Fostering an Enabling Environment Assessing Infrastructure Vulnerability to Climate Change

Durban Forum on Capacity-Building – 2nd Meeting UNFCCC SB 38 Bonn, Germany June 4, 2013



Canada

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#### World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO)

- International non-government organization for the world engineering profession
- National engineering organizations from over 90 countries as well as international organizations e.g. Unión Panamericana de Asociaciones de Ingeniería (UPADI)
- More than 15 million engineers working worldwide
- Nine standing committees including Engineering and the Environment, Energy, Disaster Risk Management, Capacity Building





### Fostering an Enabling Environment WFEO's Perspective on Capacity Building

There is a strong correlation between:

- critical mass of educated and skilled engineering and science graduates and economic and social development.
- That stronger efforts are required to develop and build:
- engineering and scientific capacity and
- strengthening informed decision-making capacity in developing nations

## WFEO's Perspective (con't)

- "That the building of human, institutional, and infrastructure capacity to help societies develop secure, stable, and sustainable economies, governments, and other institutions can be achieved by
- Mentoring, training, educating,, and most importantly, instilling the motivation and inspiration of people to improve their lives." (on physical projects, with the infusion of financial and other resources)
  - This will create the environment for the improving quality of life and the eradication of poverty



# Six Principles for Capacity Building

These revolve around:

- Individual needs
- Institutional strengthening
- Technical Standards and enforcement
- Decision makers (understanding their role)
- Funding access and conformance
- Other Resources e.g WFEO Capacity Building Guidebook



### WFEO-CEE Nairobi Work Program Action Pledge

Adaptation of Sustainable Civil Infrastructure to Climate Change Impacts

- To develop and implement engineering tools, policies and practices for risk assessment and adaptation of existing and new civil infrastructure to climate change
  - To build knowledge, experience and appropriate techniques to enhance the technical capacity of engineers to adapt civil infrastructure to climate change, particularly within developing and least developed countries

# **PIEVC Engineering Protocol**

- A tool developed by Engineers Canada using risk science and vulnerability assessment
- Used by senior engineering practitioners working with climate scientists and other professionals
- Requires contributions from those with local knowledge and operations experience
- Focused on the principles of vulnerability and resiliency
- Applied to many infrastructure systems in Canada, 2 international examples (Costa Rica and Honduras)





### Capacity Building Assessment Levels

- Level 1 Exposure to the issues, principles, results of projects
- Level 2 Awareness and demonstrated learning
- Level 3 Demonstrated application or engagement in a project
- Level 4 Application beyond the initial project
- Level 5 Independent application without external advice or intervention



Capacity Built at a Project Level





### WFEO-CEE Capacity-Building Activities and Projects in Central and South America

#### **1. PIEVC Introductory Training Workshops**

- Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama
- Principles of risk assessment, climate information – sources and methods, previous assessments, small group exercises
- 2. "Learn by Doing" Case Studies of Public Infrastructures
  - Costa Rica Limon Sewage Treatment Plant Assessment
  - Honduras Highway Bridge Assessment





- The City of Limon sewage system was selected by Costa Rica as the representative and priority infrastructure
- Limon is located on the Caribbean Sea side of Costa Rica
  - Capital city and main hub of the Limon province
    - Total Metro population =105,000







### Costa Rica Participating Organizations

**CFIA** (Colegio de Ingenieros y de



COLEGIO FEDERADO DE INGENIEROS Y DE ARQUITECTOS DE COSTA RICA

Arquitectos de Costa Rica

**AyA** (Instituto Costarricense de Acueductos y Alcantarillados

**IMN** (Instituto Meteorologico Nacional)







# Capacity Building Support Strategy and Mechanisms

- Costa Rica team did the work and report
- Canada's role advice, consultation and mentoring
- Protocol Documentation (Spanish and English) and Canadian case studies
- Canadian engineering expertise bilingual
- Canadian climate expertise and availability of local climate data
- Periodic joint workshops Canadian and Costa Rican Project Teams
  - Review of interim materials and final reports



## **Costa Rica Project Outcomes**

- AyA is implementing the recommendations and has determined to do similar assessments for water infrastructure in Costa Rica
- CFIA Project Manager Protocol trainer and technical adviser to the Honduras project
- Opening of a climate change office to promote and deliver the Protocol in Costa Rica and Central American countries
- Discussions with other government agencies to use the Protocol and training of personnel





# Honduras Project Objectives (1)

- Capacity building:
  - Analysis of vulnerabilities and risk assessment of infrastructure due to climate change applying the PIEVC protocol (``Learn by Doing``)
  - Development of recommendations for adaptation solutions
  - Transfer of knowledge through team work (Canada, Costa Rica and Honduras)
  - Development and delivery of university level educational materials with local university (UPI)







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# Honduras Project Objectives (2)

- Risk assessment and adaptation recommendations for bridges in Honduras:
  - Four risk assessments of bridges on major transportation routes in distinct climate zones
  - Availability of climate data from several sources
- Comparative analysis of procurement and construction processes
- Honduras team to do the work and reports

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# **Noted Challenges**

- No previous interactions between groups
- Language and translation
- Communication and culture
- Business practices
- Project management
- Recruitment, team building
  - and teamwork
- Contracting and administration
  - Government profile





### Honduras Lasting Legacy – University Educational Materials Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment

- 1. Lessons (English and Spanish)
  - a. Asset Management
  - b. Climate Change
  - c. Risk management
  - d. PIEVC Protocol
  - e. Case Studies (Honduras, Canada, Costa Rica)

2.

Website (Spanish) to be hosted by CICH



### **Questions?**

For more information on WFE O Capacity –Building Guidebook

www.wfeo.net

Costa Rica and Honduras Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessments

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