

Adaptation Committee
Monitoring and Evaluation of Adaptation

**Summary of lessons and key messages from
the AC's workshop on M&E of adaptation**

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Bonn, NAP Expo 2014



AC Work on M&E - Three Guiding Questions

The AC Expert workshop on M&E of adaptation (Nadi, Fiji, 9 – 11 September 2013)

- **Q1:** Given the **diverse set of indicators** that currently exist to measure and evaluate adaptation, how can we build a **common understanding** of success in achieving climate resilience?
- **Q2:** How can a framework be created that **links individual assessments with national level assessments** to broaden the focus from the means of achieving the outcomes (individual interventions) to the desired end result (countries becoming less vulnerable and having more adaptive capacity)?
- **Q3:** How can results from M&E be reported and disseminated to **promote learning** and identification of good practices?

All details and report on the web <unfccc.int/6053>



Common understanding of successful adaptation

- **Success is context specific** Indicators of success therefore differ.
- **Common indicators not necessary but common understanding of success useful**
- **Pragmatism vs. idealism**
- **Complement indicators by learning through dialogue and qualitative narratives**
- **Indicators to also monitor outcomes and impacts, in addition to process**



Linking national level assessment and project/program level M&E

- Adding up indicators from local level to get an aggregate number is **neither necessarily possible nor desirable**.
- Instead, national level assessments could **measure different aspects of adaptive capacity** than subnational/project-based assessments.
- E.g. national level assessments could seek to measure the degree of coordination and integration of adaptation into national priorities.



Enhancing learning on adaptation through M&E

- M&E has **multiple purposes and benefits**, including raising awareness, learning, accountability etc. - it is a tool not an end in itself.
- **Learning is a key** in M&E and should be encouraged through creating the necessary **enabling environment**, drawing from different **sources of knowledge**, establishing respective **communication channels** and **incentives**, building in and **budgeting** for learning and involving all relevant **stakeholders**.
- **Peer-to-peer learning** and **participatory approaches** can be effective and help to reveal underlying inequality/rights/ structural causes for vulnerability.
- M&E systems are often **designed** without learning in mind.
- Learning from M&E is not only about successes and good practices, but also about learning from **failures/non-delivery**.



Additional lessons and key messages from the workshop

- **Planning and allocation of resources**, both technical and financial, are key for effective M&E systems.
- There does not always need to be a separate M&E system for climate change adaptation. It could **build on existing national frameworks**, allowing for the incorporation of updates and new indicators to measure adaptation.
- Important to **raise awareness** among stakeholder including through capacity-building, and to promote coordination particularly between ministries responsible for planning, finance and climate change to ensure that adaptation is integrated into the national M&E framework.



Additional lessons and key messages from the workshop

- Based on experience to date, there seems to be a clear distinction between *developed* and *developing* countries in term of who drives/uses the M&E. In many developing countries, M&E are donor-driven and for the purpose of **accountability**.
- **Strong institutional structures** are needed for coordination of monitoring and also reporting. There is value to having a **coordinating body**, which sees all reports at national level and can identify good practices, lessons learned, and areas for synergies and coordination.
- **Practical tools**, e.g. scorecards and tables etc., could be used to create a system to satisfy monitoring and reporting requirements and at the same time be flexible enough to allow for tailoring to national circumstances.



Thank you

Adaptation Committee

Additional details and report on the web

[<unfccc.int/6053>](http://unfccc.int/6053)

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