

Annex I Expert Group Seminar 19-20 March

Shaping International Priorities to Support National Adaptation Needs



Ian Fry
Environment Department, Tuvalu

“.....the overall costs and risks of climate change will be equivalent to losing at least 5% of global GDP each year, now and forever. If a wider range of risks and impacts is taken into account, the estimates of damage could rise to 20% of GDP or more.”

Stern Review

The formulation of adaptation policies:

- hazard identification
- vulnerability assessment
- identification of systems at risk
- the determination of responses to reduce the impact of risks and
- determine the feasibility of interventions, “adaptation options.”

Inter-American Development Bank, “Adaptation to Climate Change and Managing Disaster Risk in the Caribbean and South-East Asia”, *Report of a Seminar*, Barbados, July 24 – 25, 2003

Challenges to applying existing methodology:

- **Absence of specific data sets for the region;**
- **Inadequacy of monitoring systems (climate and sea-level);**
- **Non-specificity of projections from climate models;**
- **Absence of region-specific climate change scenarios both on climate change scenarios and localized impacts information;**
- **Lack of adequate capacity (individual and institutional) in the region**

Adaptation Measures Pt 1

- Early warning systems and better forecasting;
- land-use planning and zoning;
- Adjusted building codes;
- Better disaster mitigation strategies (including floodplain and other hazard mapping);

Adaptation Measures Pt 2

- Inventories of resources (such as water);
- The use of water-saving devices and watershed management;
- The inclusion of traditional knowledge, especially in agriculture;
- The integration of climate change considerations into the day-to-day management of all sectors
- Public awareness programmes

No reference to “mainstreaming”

International Strategic Approach to Adaptation

- Political Will
- Funding
- Insurance
- Training
- Planning Support
- Technology Support

Political Will

- Recognise the urgent adaptation needs of vulnerable countries
- Establish an Ad hoc Working Group on Adaptation – create a voice for vulnerable countries and communities
- Decouple discussions associated with the impacts of climate change and the impacts of response measures
- Make institutional links with Disaster Risk Reduction community

Funding:

- Expand the source of funding for the Adaptation Fund to include share of proceeds from all Kyoto mechanisms
- Develop expedited funding procedures similar to the Small Grants Programme for governments
- Accept a new, more representative management structure for the Adaptation Fund – not within the GEF

Funding Difficulties with GEF:

- Incremental cost, global benefits requirements
- Co-financing
- Over-emphasis on enabling activities (report writing, not projects),
- Cumbersome process
- Slow project cycle
- Bias toward large projects

Additional Funding:

- Develop new options for hypothecated levies (e.g. carbon levy on bunker fuels paid into Adaptation Fund)
- Regulate to “climate proof” foreign direct investment

Insurance

- Establish technical expert group under the Convention to develop insurance options, particularly for LDCs and SIDS
- Develop regional insurance facilities

Training and Awareness

- Develop adaptation awareness programmes using work under Article 6 of the Convention
- Provide support for short courses and professional training in V and A assessment

Planning Support

- Develop NAPA-like processes for highly vulnerable countries and locales

Technology Support

- Provide assistance to downscale climate models
- Develop a clearing house mechanism for adaptation technologies
- Establish regional expert groups to assist SIDS in V & A assessments

SIDS Specific Needs

- Establish special funding window within the Adaptation Fund for SIDS
- Establish a SIDS desk in the UNFCCC Secretariat
- Provide support to establish regional climate change institutions for all SIDS regions
- Need IPCC FAR downscaled for SIDS

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