

S1-PS.5 Vertical integration: Lessons from local level adaptation planning.

Session Summary

11:00-12:30, 19 October, 2016

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Session shared the experiences and lessons learned from existing practices in planning and implementing adaptation at the local level, and in integrating local actions into national efforts.

- Indonesia. NAP and pilot projects at the local level were outlined. Support on impact assessment and adaptation scenario development is being provided. Preliminary findings include the evaluation of climate models, the climate-crop production projection, and the vulnerability areas. Adaptation scenario is being developed.
- Mongolia. Vulnerable sectors such as agriculture were presented. Weather-related natural disasters were also mentioned. National action Program on Climate Change (NAPCC) with five key forces was developed. MOEJ-funded project for addressing climate impact on livestock and water resources was presented. The project aims to help promote local actions and their integration into national strategies. Policy options based on carrying capacities, including the control of overgrazing, were suggested.
- Sri Lanka. National Adaptation Strategy and National Adaptation Plan were developed in sector wise consultation but with few civil society organization participation. The role of civil society was emphasized. The participation of local stakeholders, including farmers, fisherman and local community, is lacking due to the lack of system, and therefore should be encouraged. Challenges include the difficulty to understand “climate language” at the local level, needs of immediate solutions and weak capacity of government to engage with public. Opportunities consist of high awareness of local people on climate change impact, high literacy rate, access to the media and existing many community level organizations.
- UNDP. The view to consider climate change, additionally to poverty and gender, as part of sustainable development was presented. It also noted that local governments are fundamental actors to service delivery. Challenges involves the short term perspective at the political level. Population growth adds complexities as well as opportunities to address the problem. Framework for climate finance is being developed in Asian countries based on public expenditure review and other initiatives not only at the national level, but also the local level. The importance of tools and good practices is emphasized to support long-term sustainable planning. Support program such as NAP-AG is introduced to include local governments to facilitate vertical integration between the national and local levels.
- Saitama Prefecture. A mechanism for vertical integration was presented. Competitive research

funding was outlined to describe the situation of prefectural governments, research institutes, and universities to access to funds for climate research. Non-climatic factors (e.g. local urban climate) as well as climatic factors are examined to make local planning. “Climate Downscaler” is used to predict local urban climate, and training opportunities are provided for developing countries.

Required conditions for successful planning and implementation of local actions as part of the overall adaptation strategy set at the national level identified

- Indonesia. National and local mid-term development plans mainstream climate change into development. National government is encouraging and supporting local government to develop local adaptation plan. Strong agreement between the national and local levels has made. However the lack of knowledge and information at the local level is the challenge, and the continued national support has been provided to improve the local capacity.
- Mongolia. Major challenges include the lack of finance. The use of PES is considered to fill the gap. Introduction of new technology and innovation are also important.
- Sri Lanka. For the inclusion of local stakeholders, there are systems of civil society organizations and local authorities which are quite diverse and the systems can be utilized to accommodate the information and opinion of local stakeholders. Such consultative process with local stakeholders is helpful, and therefore, should be strengthened. To Visit field and get information from local stakeholders facing difficulties caused by climate change are also important for government authorities. As Sri Lanka is not big country, it is possible.

Discussion with audiences

- The access to information (e.g. vulnerable assessment results) should be enhanced.
- Challenges and opportunities for integrating local efforts into national agenda such as National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and/or other relevant plans, including national development plans, are discussed. Indonesia already has the process to reflect the discussion in sub-district level, district level and provincial level to national development plan.
- How a lot of and significant efforts already done and delivered by civil society can be leveraged, and how the capacity of political system to integrate local level activities and efforts to national system should be enhanced, are discussed. In Mongolia case, importance of the farmer associations based on local community and the leadership of these associations are emphasized in terms of the role to reduce the damage of climate change such as *zud*.
- In order to balance the multi sector issues, the project in Indonesia organized workshop and selected priority sectors for local communities.
- How the scientific evidence can be translated into local community is discussed. In Sri Lanka,

existing scientific climate change adaptation tools are not well available for local people so that the importance of communication and information sharing with local people and translating climate change adaptation language to them are emphasized. For example, if information regarding prediction of heavy rainfall and cyclone is provided with enough time, farmers and fisherman told they can adapt and prepare to such event. In Japanese case Ministry of Environment Japan has created web-based information platform so that people can easily access to the information on climate change assessment data and climate change adaptation results.

- As the important key partners, national and local government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), local community/people, scientist/University, media group, etc. are identified by the panelists. In Mongolia case, University has important role as an interpreter of scientific knowledge and communicator to local stakeholders. In Sri Lanka case, NAP was developed by academics. However the challenge is that many government officials cannot share the vision that how their sectors should be transformed to face/address climate change issues so that it is insisted that the participation of government officials to the development process of NAP are also important. UNDP insisted all stakeholders have their own role and are the key partners for overcoming challenges and/or advancement of climate change adaptation.
- More communication among and involvement of different sectors are needed and the importance of sustained and continuous implementation of NAP is emphasized.

Conclusion

- Generally, the participants agreed that there continues to be a wide information and knowledge gap at the local level and efforts to optimize and localize climate change adaptation knowledge including scientific knowledge should be prioritized.
- Efforts to develop social and political system for uptake and scaling up of many local activities and efforts conducted by civil society and leveraging existing local system based on local community should be enhanced.
- Communication, coordination, and integration across all levels of government – in particular, facilitating bottom-up communication – were also cited as priorities.
- The partnerships between local and national governments, Universities, Civil Society Organizations, and media groups should continue to be enhanced.

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