

Linking Regional Adaptation Knowledge to Country Level Adaptation Programs (USING WEB PORTALS)

BACKGROUND

Adaptation to climate change is a complex process which can be characterized as decision making under uncertainties. It entails the assessment of risks and opportunities associated with climate change for the natural environment as well as human society, identification and appraisal of adaptation options, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of adaptation interventions. Adaptation planning and practices involve multiple stakeholders, require knowledge and expertise from multiple disciplines, need to address specific needs at multiple levels and in multiple sectors/systems. Therefore, successful adaptation policies and actions are necessarily dependent on effective knowledge management to provide the sound information and knowledge base.

Despite the proliferation of knowledge management initiatives and their associated products (e.g. online platforms and portals etc.), major gaps in the provision and delivery of accessible and practical adaptation knowledge exist. This has partially hindered progress towards implementation of concrete adaptation policies and practices. The lack of collaboration between the producers and users of adaptation knowledge was often pointed out. In addition, the collaboration between those mandated to produce and/or disseminate knowledge has been identified as a key barrier to effective knowledge support for adaptation on the ground. One focus event was devoted to the collaboration on knowledge management in the Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum on 21-22 Oct 2010. The participants of the focus event agreed to discuss further on the issue.

Monday, 28 February 2011

09:00-17:00 hrs

Cocktail Reception: 18:00 hr

Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

Objectives

In the effort to increase access to information, promoting and improving exchange of adaptation knowledge, experience and tools in the region, the **webportal-Climate Change Adaptation in Asia and the Pacific** is designed and developed. The interactive gateway for climate change adaptation is a response to demand for effective mechanisms for sharing information and knowledge on climate change adaptation and developing adaptive capacities in Asian and Pacific countries. The knowledge based web portal will offer services such as climate change adaptation information & knowledge assimilation, generation (through online Community of Practice-COP), management, sharing and exchange.

Primarily, the webportal will aim to provide concise information on projects; information resources; and knowledge products on climate change adaptation in Asia and the Pacific region and share with the climate adaptation community at different scales, from practitioner to decision-maker as well as to donors and the media. Climate data, project information, videos, innovative research and descriptions of people and organizations doing adaptation will all be available through the system.



The partnering organizations in the initiative are the Adaptation Knowledge Platform, Asia Pacific Adaptation Network and UNDP.

This workshop aims to invite **Information & Knowledge Focal Points** to take stock of adaptation knowledge relevant to the Asia Pacific region, highlight good practices and lessons learned, identify guidelines, ways and means to strengthen information exchange amongst a diverse range of adaptation stakeholders, including vulnerable communities (i.e. the ultimate beneficiaries of adaptation knowledge), donor organizations, implementing agencies, national and regional research institutions, knowledge intermediaries/ knowledge brokers, and the private sector.

Expected Outputs

A key output from this workshop will be,

1. To identify **knowledge partners**;
2. To engage Knowledge Partners to come to an understanding and agreement outlining a **strategy** to foster adaptation knowledge sharing at regional and at national levels; a kind of common vision of knowledge management in the region and constitute preamble of the framework;
3. Inputs received from the workshop will help derive an **adaptation knowledge management framework**, with key players identified and their roles defined;
4. To prepare guidelines on Knowledge codification, dissemination, and management. Guideline is extension of the framework and will attempt to explain how institutions will provide information to the webportal including the procedure, formats and links.

Approach to the event

The session will have two parts: a set of short panel presentations highlighting current knowledge management practices at regional, national, subnational and thematic levels; and open discussions to meet specific outputs (2, 3 and 4).

For the first part, to share, highlight the following aspects of their ongoing adaptation knowledge management initiatives undertaken by respective organizations/institutions through a brief *5-minute presentation* (not more than 2 slides)

- Key adaptation knowledge management activities;
- Their respective role, scope of operation;
- Their adaptation knowledge resources;
- Opportunities for collaboration.

The second part of the event will have interactive discussions on

- How to engage Knowledge Partners to come to an understanding and agreement outlining a strategy to foster adaptation knowledge sharing at regional and at national levels ;
- Modalities for enhancing collaboration among different stakeholder groups to improve sharing of knowledge services in support of adaptation on the ground;
- Specific ways for sharing data and knowledge (such as data exchange or connection of web-portals which are currently developed in the Asia Pacific region);
- Develop adaptation knowledge management framework;
- To prepare guidelines on knowledge management and dissemination.

Please confirm your participation to Ms. Jihyun Kim,
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Secretariat

Adaptation Knowledge Platform

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