

Linking Climate Change Negotiations with Disaster Risk Reduction

Roundtable no. and title: **1** Joining Forces: One Unified Approach for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation?

Main points of discussion:

(Organizations represented at the roundtable: WB, ISDR, Sida, GTZ, DFID, GFDRR, MFA DK)

Overarching issue is how prevention, response, and recovery supplement and – how to work together

At community level things converge, less of problem. Intl agencies, donors, stay at national/aggregate level.

Variety of Levels:

Community

-DRR/CCA

-Recovery

(level best performing in terms of convergence, coordination)

National

(level least well performing of coordination)

Regional

(natural lead is ISDR)

Global

(certain level of coord. ISDR, GFDRR, but still level of confusion as to responsibilities, division of labour)

Are DRR and CCA synonymous? DRR and CCA actors not coordinated – at what levels do we have biggest challenges?

Donors clump together in certain sectors, but in sense DRR and CCA, too little is done, no combined efforts, no efforts to do joint advocacy – missed opportunity for enhanced effectiveness through joint action.

What happens between national and community level – can national entities roll-out intended actions with scarce resources?

Local governments not able to implement policies – need to go through community based organizations, perhaps? What is the missing link? How do we engage/use NGOs?

In large countries, province is big, missing link between national and community level (ex China)

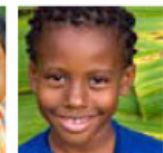
Another missing link (national/community levels) = private sector.

As donor, national level is important – who takes care of what? Do we work with the right structures at national level? (Ministry of Natural Resources vs Ministry of Agriculture)

At community level, people don't care if it is DRR or CCA, they just want sustainable development. (examples from Latin America). Examples of models and tools used for different objectives at community level than at national level.

We're good at placing blame for lack of coordination on others – but are we





spreading our resources too thin, working with too many actors? Real issue: do we coordinate?

Coordination within donor community (donors/multilateral, within donor governments) lacking.

DRR, CCA discussion is top-down discussion. Asking governments to make national strategies, but we're just making models. At the moment we don't know what adaptation means – whatever you call it, same thing is required. We should stop imposing approaches – we're being too formalistic about accessing specific funds, instruments; must first make all kinds of strategies).

In field, usually implement DRR during recovery – CCA will usually be headed by Min of Environment. Funding for DRR usually comes from humanitarian funds, whereas CCA usually comes from environment – as soon as we talk about CCA it usually becomes a question of positioning themselves, thus creating south-north divide. Recommending that we be careful of labelling.

WB SWAP approach – by and large failure, for DRR not a single example of sector-wide approach.

DRR/CCA funds have interfered with work that local governments have been doing to reduce risks, not matter from where. It is about increased vulnerabilities. We have to make very clear

Unifying approach working at country level is risk approach, maybe label "Climate change and risk management", "comprehensive risk management" – look at whole basket of risk, while international community and donors look at it in compartmentalized manner.

Risk reduction; once looked at from development perspective, understood as type of insurance, was more easily understood. We have to be careful when we start the CCA debate – have to translate to development agenda; i.e. socio-economic impact of shocks. We need to frame as addressing risks of future – not an environment agenda, a development agenda.

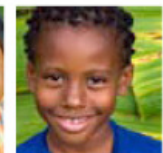
Difference today from earlier debates is that there is more knowledge of the issues in all sectors, pipelines – there is recognition that the different risks are interlinked, that there is not one solution and it belongs in the development agenda, but there is still competition – need to spell out sector by sector what DRR and CCA means in terms of required action (coordinated, under relevant leadership).

When this coordination and leadership doesn't exist, what is our responsibility? Aren't we abdicating? Aren't we spreading ourselves too thin? Right now only 4% of hum asst goes into prevention..... we can all hope for more funds, and when we do get these, that we coordinate our efforts, channel to joint efforts.

Opportunity at PSPR to interject coordination – use these to flag DRR elements to be pursued with bilateral donors.

Main determinant is whether weak state or strong state – strong states can manage themselves, in weak state, there is mess. Donors can do a lot of harm in these situations if they don't coordinate their efforts/approaches.





Channel used should be on basis of comparative advantages – donors and agencies have each their preferences and will drive for specific approaches. If you want unified approach, the art is to choose the different actors in smart way. Partnerships and streamlining financing mechanisms....(too many “funding boxes”)

Pure coordination often just adding additional layers.
GFDRR funded risk reduction plan – needs assessment – after Bali there was need to show results for CCA; same work was relabelled....

Donor have become better at coordinating – although still room for improvement.

Sectoral divides – would be helpful if there were funds available for cross-sectoral institutional mechanisms (coordination at national level – risk is to place coordination with political entity).
Risk is that the coordinating body only survives as long as external funding is available. Leadership...

(GTZ) Don't ask for something (adaptation strategy) we don't have ourselves !
Being a good performer shouldn't be a precondition.
Knowledge of what everyone else is doing (donors) is enough – don't need to coordinate.

Country should be leader of what they are trying to do rather than imposing “best practices”.

Point of departure should be reducing risks for people.

GFDRR has made huge difference – because money talks.
We don't have robust tools to tell us whether we are making progress (impact assessment).

ISDR and GFDRR are powerful coordinating mechanisms. Connecting this new mechanism with already existing actions, mechanism – but is it true that there is schism between WB and UNDP?? Depends on personalities involved.

Tension between long-term nature of the work and the need for donors to have results to show

All screaming for joint framework/planning – identify what are the results we are working for – which is what the ISDR is doing – and how that is done is less of an issue. Have to identify quick wins.

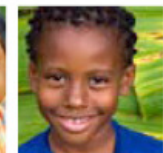
Need to communicate results – you won't necessarily get the quick wins if you have strategic focus (need to make use of some opportunistic windows)

We can only influence (as bank)

Prioritized challenges (that the roundtable can address):

Lack of coordination at national level:





Coordination DRR/CCA agenda; channel funds in unified way agreeing on results
 – we are not driven toward common goals

Accountability of donors, agencies.

We should work towards a development agenda rather than looking at DRR or CCA (cross, stay within institutional divide); identifying incentives for change (to get on same development agenda).

Unified understanding of risks, will help us understand where our priorities should be. (GFDRR is good mechanism to fund risk assessments – but are we moving fast enough? Should key outcome of disasters be a risk assessment – without making it a hoop that we are making governments jump through)

Should we pilot joint risk assessments?

How do we harness good work and energy achieved at community level? Address delink between community level work and national and global level.

Demand-driven approach....

Day 2 Challenge formulation:

Identifying and implementing incentives at country (national) level to unify DRR/CCA efforts: (relevant for donors, UN, WB and individual countries)

- Making the case for unifying DRR and CCA
- Common understanding of risks to sustainable development
- Coordination of workplans and expected results
- Pooling (mentally if not physically) resources and energy
- Holding each other accountable.

Suggested action points for a roadmap on further streamlining of DRR and CCA towards COP-15 – including appointment of drafting group to formulate each action point in further detail.

Day 2:

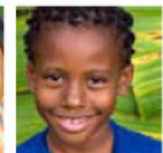
Things to do in prep for global platform:

- Joint letter from WB-UNDG-OCHA, championed by donors
- Invite negotiators on adaptation to mitigation for a – “identify people to talk with”
- Trends to consider in contemplating unification: CCA community is linking to crisis prevention more than DRR to the detriment of DRR efforts. Have to be careful not to become defensive. Problem is lack of understanding of disaster risk management, exacerbated by lack of understanding of adaptation. Solution: clarifying the terms, **educating** climate change community (UNFCCC) (adaptation = DACable, mitigation isn’t), rather than fighting turf-wars.

Action:

Education/Advocacy:





- Targetgroup: Board of CDM Adaption Fund
- Targetgroup: National negotiators; participants in climate change adaptation workshops. (I.e. make sure going into negotiations that DRR and CCA is included (rules should allow the outcomes we want to happen, i.e. need to advocate for rules of the CDM Adaptation Fund). Ex in Pacific already workshops taking place to prepare negotiators – if we could have additional workshops to provide insight into broader interest in harmonizing adaptation and DRR.)
- Targetgroup: Poznan WG on risk. Identify who is going to participate, contact them pre- Poznan and immediately post-Poznan (latest by January) to inform and bring case studies to their attention (practical action – as per Results Management Group of GFDRR, tracking and documenting benefit of following harmonized approach (CCA and DRR)).

Action:

Joint letter WB/UN senior management to field staff (Country Directors, Resident Representatives) on need to harmonize of DRR and adaptation – to be supported by board members, donors.

Action:

National level preparation for Global Platform meeting; develop country case studies (GFDRR) making case for CCA/DRR linkage – preferably a joint endeavour, talking about the broader context of development and crisis management in order to take the political connotations out as much as possible.

Action:

Pilot programme on climate resilience to be designed to integrate DRR. (DFID to influence this process)

