

## Linking Climate Change Negotiations with Disaster Risk Reduction

**Roundtable no. and title: 4** Keeping the Focus Where It Should Be: Reducing Vulnerability and Building Resilience

### Main points of discussion:

#### **1. Need for clearer guidance on risk identification – vulnerability analysis, at different levels, including a rights-based angle**

Economic impacts for disaster: 1-2%/year reduction in growth – the largest single impact on economy hitherto unrealised by economists. Disasters are 'occasional chocks' but fundamental impact on economy. Micro-level (individuals') setbacks add up to macro-economic impacts. GDP and rainfall patterns are closely correlated. Need economic argument to convince

Lacking data on 'vulnerability' and coping strategies

What can vulnerability mean – and what are relevant proxy indicators

Consequences of poverty on watershed, creates exacerbating factors for floods downstream – but climate change is blamed. Household coping needs to be sustainable. CC adds to the problem – but difficult to distinguish between the causes.

We are unable to define vulnerable to specific risks – so difficult to set priorities for addressing the risks and accessing RR or CCA funds

Vulnerability: individual to macro-economic, environmental vulnerability etc.... need to integrate DRR & CCA

Quantitative hazard/risk identification, vulnerability and needs assessments a first step: basis for planning next steps – a prerequisite for funding allocation and investments.

#### **2. Need for guidance on characterizing what constitutes adaptation and DRR -- for different actors and levels, and what characterises genuine adaptation?**

Holistic view – short term interventions but with long term view, addressing root causes

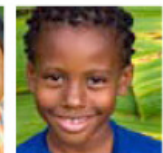
Safety net needs not addressed. Weather-based EWS linked to contingency fund (Example: early rainfall too low, funds released as a safety net before disaster strikes)

Where is RR and CCA not just 'any development'? RR a major component of Development!

RR an 'entry point' – adaptation the add-on ensuring 'preparedness for an even more uncertain future from a changing climate.

Daily struggle for life: how survive today limits peoples' ability for long term





planning (ex: Flood mitigation creates land access for landless along rivers in Nepal.)

Act: guide programme development for different levels of adaptation fund recipients.

Good Hum response is development – Rwanda a showcase. Long-term plans fundamental – calling for collaboration across agencies. Watershed management along a Hum response – or continue to respond forever.

Long-term strategies for food security from the outset of famine interventions – not just food relief.

New dynamics and magnitudes arrive with CC: desertification, migration etc: how to prepare?

New issues on the list of challenges developing countries are seeking support to meet.

Physical land use planning and enforcement effective risk management – but disappearing from the scene.

### **3. Need for a pro-poor focus, incl. clarifying duty bearers and rights holders**

Elite's Investments in risk-prone areas – induce pressure on 'adaptation', not for the poorest (Mozambique); certain adaptation elements not to be funded by development funds. But easily dealt with by donor and accountability systems to target the most vulnerable people.

RB agenda – how to get acceptance..?

### **4. Call for community-driven processes**

Community leaders play crucial role in asset management, incl. in disaster situations. Need to better manage climate risks – information, institutions at all levels, resilient assets/infrastructure, enabling environment.

### **5. Ensuring non-state actors' access to resources (adaptation)**

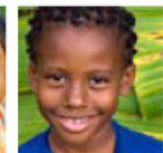
Adaptation funds: access for non-state actors – to reach the specific vulnerable people/areas? Need for a 'body' (UNFCCC????) to approve interventions that can truly be termed 'CC Adaptation'.

How can local funding be raised – not just waiting for international support?

### **6. Need to gather and apply lessons learnt – for replication and scaling up**

Vast experience in practical livelihoods protection means to use in further adaptation attempts – terracing, soil conservation etc. A strong government can drive the development to improve resilience.





Encourage a bottom up learning process – what remains when development programs withdraw... Better at identifying cases of spontaneous change.

Challenges with linking local, national and international actions – NGOs often effective in local implementation. How do we scale up the good lessons learnt?

**Main challenges:**

1. Need for clearer guidance on hazards and physical, social, environmental and economic vulnerability identification for people, livelihoods and assets – at different levels (national to local) and time scales.
2. Need for guidance on characterizing what constitutes adaptation/DRR *vis a vis* normal ODA -- for different sectors, actors and levels -- and what characterises genuine incrementality.
3. Need of a rights based approach incl. securing participation of vulnerable groups in design and implementation of DRR/CCA, ensuring a pro-poor focus.
4. Ensuring non-state actors' access to resources (adaptation).
5. Need to gather and apply lessons learnt on DRR as a basis for CCA – for replication and scaling up in response to changing climate.

**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.**

Climate change raises new issues of social vulnerability, requiring equitable distribution of responsibility and rights to address social justice and equity issues between rich and poor, generations, and developed and developing nations.

Therefore, to prepare for the COP 15, the following actions will be taken:

**Actions for the next 12 months:**

1. Identify COP negotiators who can communicate that DRR and CCA must be viewed with a social and human rights lens /Provention, RC/RC CCC, NGOs
2. Lobby for access for non state actors to adaptation funds /Provention, RC/RC CCC, NGOs
3. Dissemination of:
  - o national level risk assessment tools (e.g. CAPRA) /GFDRR
  - o guides on community level risk assessments and CCA (Provention CRA toolkit) /Provention

