

Community Based Adaptation and the UNFCCC

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Filtering Adaptation Down

- Secondary to mitigation.
- Confined to climate CHANGE.
- Poorly linked to linked to development
- Seen as an environmental pollution problem,
- Little recognition of climate-related disasters.
- Slow progress in setting up small voluntary adaptation windows at GEF.
- Trickle down

Wanted now – a Flood Up.

- Many local case studies of impacts and adaptation
- Many observations being made of impacts and adaptation needs.
- How to bring this information UP?
- Synthesize and generalize from specific cases?
- Model adaptation?
- Cost adaptation?

A Recent Synthesis from AIACC. Nine Lessons.

- 1. Adapt Now!
- 2. Adaptation = Development.
- 3. Adaptation is for Ourselves.
- 4. International financial help is Necessary.
- 5. Strengthen Institutions.

Lessons 6 – 9.

- 6. Involve those at risk.
- 7. Use sector based approaches as well as place based approaches.
- 8. Expand Information, Awareness, and Technical Knowledge.
- 9. Adaptation is place-based and therefore there are many, many lessons.

Modeling Adaptation.

- Mostly Models FOR adaptation.
- Decision – support tools.
- Models OF adaptation? Largely absent.
- Need to understand adaptation decisions and how they are made.
- In order to promote adaptation better understand the adoption process.

Costs of Adaptation?

- Stern Review assesses costs of mitigation and compares them with the costs of impacts.
- But these are impacts without adaptation.
- Stern promotes adaptation but offers no information on adaptation costs, or costs of impacts net of adaptation.

Some Needed Steps.

- Model the adaptation process.
- Estimate costs.
- Understand motivation and obstacles to action.
- Look for contagion effects.
- New national and international policy contexts to facilitate adaptation.
- Find better ways to promote the flood up.

