

Early Summary Findings of the Health Case Studies of CLACC

By

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About Presentation

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About Group and Programme

- An initiative of southern institutes working on sustainable development with financial and technical support from a number of northern institutes.
- Main objective is to strengthen capacity of civil society organizations working on environment and development field.
- Help in integrating climate change issue in the development planning and implementation of project.
- The CLACC programme is in 12 Least Developed Countries in Africa [Mali, Benin, Mauritania, Sudan, Tanzania, Malawi, Uganda, Mozambique, Zambia] and Asia [Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal].

Health Case Study: Awareness Raising

- **Increase awareness** of climate change within the health community - both public health, and civil society and the health systems.
- **Engage health community** at different level and stage of case study including workshop.
- CLACC is using **health case studies as means towards this broader end.**
- **Experts in each country** has also examined a climate health problem in depth (case study).
- The health component is **funded by the DFID, UK.**
- **Mapping out the impacts and community responses** to current climate variability to address health is also part of the study.

Example of Health Case Study

Country	Case Study
Malawi	Malaria and Cholera
Uganda	Malaria
Mali	Malaria and Meningitis
Benin	Malaria
Mauritania	Malnutrition
Bhutan	Malaria, Kal-azar, Encephalitis
Bhutan	Malaria
Bangladesh	Malaria
Sudan	Malaria

Awareness Raising: Heath Workshop

- During 2006 each country has held a stakeholder workshop to **engage relevant health experts and professionals** in addressing adaptation.
- Workshop invited wide range health professional ranging from policy makers to service providers.
 - Ministry of Health, Directorate of Health
 - Medical Professional
 - Public health department
 - Research organizations
 - Climate change focal point
 - Etc.

Preliminary findings

- **Awareness** of climate change impacts among health sector is **generally very low**, consistent with relative **weak capacity of public health and environmental health sectors**.
- However, some countries are very engaged with climate change issues, and with health community, such as Bangladesh.
- There is still a **high burden of climate sensitive diseases** in the Least Developed Countries, and **within countries** there are also **important differences** in health effects, due to climate.
- Climate sensitivity diseases include: malaria, kala-azar, protein-energy malnutrition, micronutrient deficiency, diarrhoeal disease and enteric fevers.

Preliminary findings

- The difficulty in attributing observed changes in disease patterns to observed changes in climate, especially where health surveillance is limited.
- The impacts of extreme weather events are often underestimated, and not well reported, as they fall under the threshold for "disasters".
- However, the impact in terms of deaths, injuries, and loss of health and other infrastructure is significant.
- There is limited capacity for short-term and long-term preparedness strategies
- But there is scope to provide insights effective ways to mainstream climate change responses into national and local policies and planning.

Next Step

- At the end of the project (spring 2007) each country will have a vulnerability and adaptation assessment to address the potential health impacts of climate change in vulnerable communities.
- Initiated joint activities to prepare project proposal for do detail case study on “Salinity and Health” in Coastal Area of Bangladesh.

Thank You