



# Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change

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# Introduction

- ▶ Climate change is any alteration of weather patterns in an area.
- ▶ Natural and man-made activities cause climate change
- ▶ Most economies, especially the developing countries, depend on climate-sensitive sectors: Agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and water
- ▶ Impacts of climate change: unpredictable weather, degradation of ecosystems, droughts, floods, chronic poverty, conflicts
- ▶ Climate change has been central to international agreements like SDG 13 on combating climate change and its impact.
- ▶ Climate change doesn't have quick or easy solution
- ▶ It is a complex problem involving science, economics, society, politics, morality and ethics

# Community Development Practitioners and Climate Change

- ▶ Community development practitioners play important roles in climate resiliency and adaptation
- ▶ Their participation in climate change should be a continuous practice
- ▶ How prepared are CDEV practitioners to solve climate related issues?- there is need for capacity building and experience sharing
- ▶ Are there policies supporting CDEV practitioners? If Yes, how effective are they? If No, why?
- ▶ Local communities might not understand climate change well without the help of community development practitioners





# Community Based Adaptation

- ▶ Adaptation entails practical steps to protect countries and communities from the likely disruption and damage resulting from climate change (UNFCCC, 2006).
- ▶ A process by which strategies to moderate, cope with and take advantage of the consequences of climatic events are enhanced, developed and implemented (UNDP, 2006)-Adjusting our way of life to face actual and expected climate issues
- ▶ Community Based Adaptation is a community-led process based on community needs, priorities, knowledge and capacities
- ▶ Building the capacity of communities is important because they can withstand the impact of climate emergency
- ▶ CBA is considered an newer and important approach in the management and avoidance of climate change. Together with the ecosystem-based adaptation, they have been supported as key measures to climate change
- ▶ CBA combines livelihoods and disaster risk reduction strategies

# Why Community Based Adaptations?

- ▶ It improves livelihood resilience
- ▶ Builds on existing cultural norms
- ▶ Embraces gender issues-mostly women participate from planning to implementation
- ▶ Captures communities traditional knowledge and experience
- ▶ Participatory learning and problem solving
- ▶ Collective documentation and sharing



# Ways of Community Based Adaptation

- ▶ Community based seed banks
- ▶ Use of smoke and chilli water to get rid of pests
- ▶ Drought resistant crops, livestock
- ▶ Drip irrigation
- ▶ Access to weather forecasting services
- ▶ Diversification of livelihoods (eg pastoralists)
- ▶ Planting local broom grass to prevent soil erosion
- ▶ Use of organic fertilizers
- ▶ Use of demo-farm
- ▶ Tree planting- local tree varieties eg Neem in Kenya



# Types of adaptations

- ▶ *Planned adaptation*: planned adaptation at the level of national governments, local governments, large companies, communities.
- ▶ *Adaptative capacity*: will need to be supported (especially in the most vulnerable developing countries). Capacity to cope and be able to overcome the adverse impacts of climate change (i.e. have high “adaptive capacity”) many other countries (and communities) have a much lower “adaptive capacity”(specially in poorer countries and communities).
- ▶ *General (or generic) adaptive capacity*: This explores the notion that if a country (or community) is well off in terms of wealth, health and other attributes of well being it is likely to have more (or better) adaptive capacity than a country (or community) that is not so well off. (IPCC, 2001)



# Guidelines for Community Based Adaptation

- ▶ People should have access to an ongoing, reliable flow of credible information on disaster and associated relief efforts.
- ▶ Normal cultural and religious events should be maintained or re-established
- ▶ Isolated persons, such as separated or orphaned children, older people should have access to activities that facilitate inclusion in social networks.
- ▶ The community should be consulted regarding decisions on where to locate social amenities. The design of settlements for displaced people should include recreational and cultural space.



# Participatory Tools

Tool	Objective of the tool
Livelihood Resource Mapping	To map the community by showing its boundaries, key facilities, and resources(including crops, livestock, houses, schools, temples, health post, roads, forested areas, and water bodies).
Seasonal cultivation calendars	Identify the timing of cropping patterns for major crops.
Hazard mapping	To identify and describe the major hazards, the time frame in which each occurs, and locations of the affected resources.
Vulnerability matrix	Determine the hazards with the most serious impact on livelihood resources, and rate the vulnerabilities of the resources.
Response	Identify current coping strategies, evaluate their sustainability, and identify possible alternative strategies.
Dream maps and drawings Participatory video	Vision of community or farm and how tom achieve Advocacy and awareness raising

# Which is the best way?

BUSINESS AS USUAL	BUSINESS UNUSUAL
Prioritising, designing, learning, monitoring and evaluating adaptation all takes place at international and national levels.	For each adaptation investment, international donors and intermediaries set out the appropriate localisation of decisions via the concept of subsidiarity.
Local actors are not empowered to make adaptation decisions.	Explicitly defines the local actors and hierarchies to be engaged.
Most adaptation finance is managed by international intermediaries. Little is accessed directly by national institutions let alone local institutions.	Community leaders are represented and have decision-making power within international and national platforms and delivery mechanisms for adaptation.
Local level stakeholders are defined as homogenous groups, with no differentiation between public, private or civil society actors, or local hierarchies.	70% of adaptation finance flows directly to local institutions — or directly via the relevant national institutions — for investment behind community priorities.
	Women, youth, children, disabled and displaced people, Indigenous Peoples, marginalised ethnic groups and other local actors lead a significant amount of adaptation design, prioritisation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

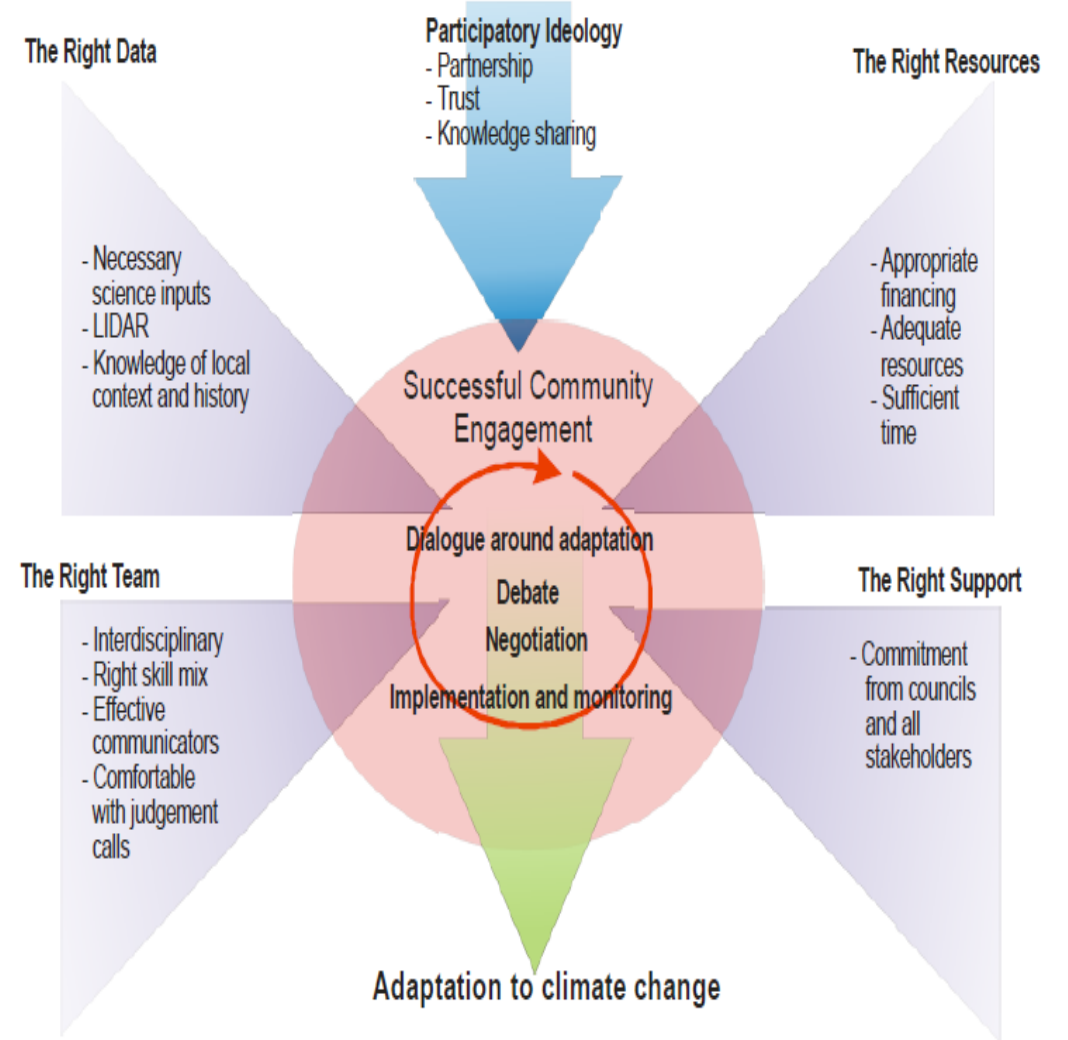
1. **Right team**-An interdisciplinary team is needed to create projection maps and answer questions

2. **Right data**-Scientific data and knowledge of community

3. **Right support**-Commitment of local decision makers

4. **Right resources**-Financial and staff

(Rouse et al. 2013)





# Social capital and Social network analysis

- ▶ High social cohesion, trust and participation enhance collective adaptation to climate change
- ▶ Social capital has to be mobilized for climate change adaptation
- ▶ Elements of social capital may help in acquiring funds and creating risk awareness, amongst others.



# Challenges of Community Based Adaptation

- ▶ Low levels of participation by community members
- ▶ Cost of some interventions
- ▶ Fear of exploring new methods-farmers want to maintain the status quo
- ▶ Adaptation is circumstance-specific: there is no one-size-fits-all list of adaptation measures that can be implemented in all locations.
- ▶ Not all members of a community are equally vulnerable to climate change. To successfully implement complex adaptation actions, it is important that the term ‘community’ is understood to include a diverse collection of households and individuals.
- ▶ The ‘missing middle’ in climate finance-‘community-based’ does not mean that communities can adapt entirely on their own to climate variability and change.

# Recommendations

- ▶ Adaptation activities need to be implemented in an integrated way and take a long-term view, rather than involving short-term, stand-alone projects.
- ▶ Adaptation work should involve vulnerable communities at the local level and take a bottom-up approach to project planning.
- ▶ Climate monitoring and early warning systems would help to reduce the very high impact of climate-related disasters.
- ▶ Communities should receive incentives that aims to encourage behavioral change
- ▶ Need to improve evidence based to ensure policy buy in.
- ▶ Continent wide agreement
- ▶ Every part is potential, research is needed to demystify
- ▶ Keep locally led solutions at the center of international climate change agreements
- ▶ Challenge power imbalances
- ▶ Lets think about alternative sources of energy



# References

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*Thank You.*

