

Module: Adaptation Planning



Module Description:

Climate adaptation is about making decisions, but the outcome of climate change in 20 years is not knowable - there is too much uncertainty. However, we can say something about what should be changed when making a decision, because of climate change. There are many frameworks for making decisions and climate adaptation should fit into one of these frameworks. Nevertheless, to ignore the uncertainty around climate change is dangerous and misleading in terms of planning suitable and robust options.

There are still many decision-screening processes that may take place at this point. This module aims to provide guidance on one approach for decision screening in a given case using 3 different decision-making methods. These could be supplemented with many other methods too. That is, this module is not to advocate any one particular method and not to design a comprehensive decision making model. However, it will show the value of using a range of methods and demonstrate what this can help us understand about different options in a given vulnerability context.

Learning Objectives:

- Guidance for evaluating different adaptation options, particularly with respect to making decisions in an uncertain domain such as that posed by future projections of climate change.
- Appreciation for the use of a range of methods and the differences in the results they provide.

Key Messages:

- Adaptation options may be additional to development options and these must be distinguished.
- One method does not fit all situations. The application of a variety of methods is important and necessary to help address issues of uncertainty.
- It is important to view the choice of methods from a variety of stakeholder perspectives.

Activities:

In the morning:

- Create groups of 5-6 people and ask participants to read Case Study I and list possible options.
- Groups elicit further options from Case Study II.
- Apply methods to all options.

In the afternoon:

- Continue to apply methods to all options.
- Analysis of options using guidance provided.
- Plenary: Short presentations explaining the options that emerged using each method and the actual envelope where a cluster of options overlapped.

Resources Required:

- Classroom layout: small groups
- Flipcharts, paper, post-it notes, white boards, markers
- Data beamer and a computer
- Course handouts – **Adaptation Planning** exercise sheet and **Case Study I and II**
- Notes need to be taken during group and plenary discussions

Recommended Readings & Web Resources:

- ⇒ Examples of a prototype tool being developed to emulate the exercise – the [Adaptation Decision Explorer](#) by SEI
- ⇒ [Examples](#) of outputs from the tool

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