

## CASE STUDIES : CRiSTAL

### Goals-Oriented Lens : Developing projects, programmes, and policies for implementing strategies

<b>Illustration:</b>	Developing Projects for Implementing Strategies	GOALS-ORIENTED LENS
<b>Tool:</b>	<a href="#">CRiSTAL</a>	
<b>Case Study:</b>	<a href="#">CRiSTAL: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment In Zambia</a>	
<b>Description:</b>	<p><b>Summary:</b>  CRiSTAL is a decision-support tool intended to enable project planners and managers to assess and enhance a project's impact on community-level adaptive capacity.  The tool includes two modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Synthesizing information on climate and livelihoods;</li> <li>(2) Planning and managing projects for adaptation.</li> </ol> <p>The vulnerability assessment was undertaken in four ongoing field projects in Zambia, using CRiSTAL, with the purpose to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Get an indication of the risks related to climate change at the local level;</li> <li>(2) Introduce managers and implementing team to an easy to use tool to assess climate related risks in their project areas and provide a framework to adjust project activities so they do not have a negative impact on local coping strategies under climate pressure; and</li> <li>(3) Provide complementary information on climate hazards and on existing coping strategies at the local level for decision makers and other actors involved. Four climate hazards (drought, floods, extreme heat, and a shorter rainy season) were identified as having a major influence on people's livelihoods, impacting mainly agricultural production, quality and availability of water, and human and animal health. Some coping strategies were identified, and suggestions for improving CRiSTAL were made.</li> </ol> <p><b>More information:</b>  It was stressed that greater access to natural resources, as well as higher levels of specialization, education, expertise, coordination or institutional support enhances adaptive capacities. Therefore, human capabilities, social resources, natural resources, and financial resources (notably liquid assets, such as cash crops, livestock, fish, honey, and charcoal) play a crucial role in coping.  The application of Cristal was successful in showing that there are positive and negative impacts that the project could have on local communities' adaptation capacities. It also helped sensitize project teams, government officials and communities on the necessity of including climate change as an important factor in decision making (often not well understood by project managers and government officials).  Three main recommendations stemmed from this experience:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) First, the project should focus on increasing resilience of communities towards the risks identified in the vulnerability assessment;</li> <li>(2) Second, strategies to increase resilience should be built on communities' current coping strategies to climate variability;</li> <li>(3) And thirdly, the project should involve various development project teams and cover various ecological zones and types of livelihoods.</li> </ol> <p>Finally, suggestions for improving Cristal were made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) First, neutral impacts on resources should appear as of the first phases;</li> <li>(2) Secondly, if strategies to increase resilience should be built on communities' current coping strategies to climate variability, it would be useful to analyse which of these current strategies are actually sustainable on the long term;</li> <li>(3) And lastly, it would be helpful to assess how project activities lead, or could lead, to new or improved adaptation strategies.</li> </ol>	
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