
BRIEF DESCRIPTION

This module explores the different approaches to aggregation of vulnerability indices, with an ambition to produce vulnerability profiles to visualise the structure of the risks rather than simple indices. The aim of this approach is to highlight uncertainty and make a vulnerability assessment relevant to adaptation decision-making.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Identify what indicators are relevant to the actors in a system and their exposure to present and future risks (from the V-E exercise)
- Explore methods for aggregation of indicators
- Produce stylised profiles for selected exposure units for the case study
- Discussion of important thresholds that may be reached; ecological, socio - economic, moral case examples.
- Discuss as a group the benefit of the exercise and how they add to the vulnerability assessment

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Awareness of the different indicators that could be used in an assessment depending on which field of study is chosen; the nature of the analysis and the spatial and temporal scales of the study and the levels and contexts of the decision making process for which you are providing information.
- Knowledge of the different methods of selection, aggregation and assessment must be understandable to ensure that the results of the assessment are used and can be verified by experts and stakeholders.
- Realisation of vulnerability as a dynamic process and the limitations of the indicators and profiling methods. Vulnerability assessment and indicators are not ends in themselves but have to support the decision - making process for adaptation.

ACTIVITIES

- Aggregates – presentation on standardising and weighting, introduction of protocol tables
- Exercise on profiles, produce graphical profiles for several exposure units. Ecological, social, and moral thresholds presentation
- Discussion on strengths, weaknesses and challenges of vulnerability assessment

RESOURCES/FACILITIES

- Laptop and tv for presentations
- Flipchart paper and pens for 2/3 groups for exercises, pos -it notes
- Flipchart paper for discussion

EXPECTED OUTPUT

- Presentation of graphical and narrative profiles of vulnerability for the case study region by working groups for several exposure units

READINGS

www.weAdapt.org Lots of material here of SEI and partners experience over several years– look for methods and examples of good practice

Capacity strengthening in climate change vulnerability and adaptation strategy assessment. ENDA, CIAT, SEI, UNITAR.

Dow, K. 2005, Vulnerability profile of West Africa, Working Paper, Poverty and Vulnerability Programme, SEI, Sweden.

Adaptation Planning Framework, UNDP . Vulnerability assessment for climate adaptation, Technical Paper 3.

Downing, T.E and Bharwani, S. 2005. AVA Assessment of vulnerability for adaptation, Newater project.