

Compilation of National Progress Reports on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2009-2011)

HFA Priority 4, core indicator 4.1:

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Know the Risks and Take Action

Reporting period: 2009-2011
Country information as of 18 Aug 2011 (for internal use only)

This report compiles inputs by Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) priority for action 4.1 from 86 countries' final national HFA progress reports in order to better facilitate analysis and provide examples by priority and region. Inputs are provided in their original reporting language.

Note that these extracts are provided for convenience only and that national HFA progress reports should be considered in their entirety. To view them, visit:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/framework/progress/>

An HFA Monitor update published by PreventionWeb

Africa

Algeria (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Le plan national d'action pour l'environnement et le développement durable PNAEDD et la stratégie nationale prennent en charge la réduction des risques naturels au même titre que les autres aspects et risques environnementaux.

La problématique des changements climatiques est prise en charge dans le cadre de la stratégie nationale pour l'environnement et du PNAEDD.

Le plan climat national, en cours d'élaboration, intègre des politiques et des plans d'action et d'adaptation aux changements climatiques ainsi que la coopération internationale.

L'Agence Nationale des Changements Climatiques a été créée en vue de contribuer à l'atténuation des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, à la protection du climat mondial et à la réduction de la vulnérabilité aux changements climatiques.

Un projet de loi sur les aires protégées est en cours d'adoption pour assurer la protection des écosystèmes, la réhabilitation des espaces dégradés et la préservation du capital de biodiversité.

Des plans d'Aménagement Côtier intégrant les risques majeurs ont été élaborés.

La variabilité climatique a été prise en charge dans le plan national de l'eau et une étude d'impact des changements climatiques a été finalisée.

La loi 05-12 du 04 août 2005 relative à l'eau, a permis l'institution de périmètres de protection pour les nappes aquifères surexploitées ou menacées et l'application de mesures préventives des risques d'inondations.

Des dispositifs sont mis en place pour améliorer la prévention et la lutte contre les feux de forêts, en tenant compte de la sensibilité de chaque zone.

En matière de projets routiers et autoroutiers des directives pour la prise en charge de l'impact sur l'environnement au niveau des études ont été édictées.

Concernant le secteur de l'énergie et de l'industrie, des études d'impact sur l'environnement et des

études de danger sont réalisées pour des installations polluantes et dangereuses.

Context & Constraints:

Le contexte économique et social réduit quelque peu l'efficacité des efforts fournis dans le domaine de la protection de l'environnement et la prise en considération des outils déjà élaborés par l'ensemble des planificateurs.

Des efforts consistants restent à déployer en matière de :

- Coordination multisectorielle des actions,
- Etablissement des plans d'action pour l'adaptation,
- Elaboration de projets éligibles au Mécanisme de Développement Propre (MDP).

Botswana (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

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Description:

The Government has provided a special policy for ecologically sensible areas of the country such as Okavango delta. The Ministry of Environment Wildlife and Tourism is running a programme as Green Scorpions, they are group of volunteers working at the community level act as watchdogs for any kind of environmental violations conducted by people in the villages of Okavango delta. The Ministry has also developed Okavango Delta Management Plan, which provides guidelines to operate the business related to the ecologically friendly tourism industry in the area.

Environment Protection initiatives:

LEGISLATION:

Wildlife and National Parks Conservation Act

Environment Impact Assessment Act 2005

Waste Management Act 2006

Herbage preservation Act, Forestry Act, Agric Resources Board Act

Meteorological Services Act

National Monuments and Relics Act

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

National Conservation Policy and Strategy; Wildlife; Forestry; Waste Management; Land Use; and Tourism Policies

Ecotourism Strategy

Environment Management Act (in prep)

National Sustainable Development Strategy (to be developed by March 2012)

PLANNING

Area/Ecosystem/ Species Management Plans – Elephant Conservation Plan and Strategy, Okavango Delta Management Plan, Makgadikgadi Pans Management Framework, Chobe National Park Management Plan, etc.

INSTITUTIONS

Green scorpions

Anti-poaching Unit

Context & Constraints:

The national committee on the climate change adaptation and DRR are managed by two separate government entities and there is need for better coordination between these two entities.

Burundi (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Dans le cadre de la mise en oeuvre de la Convention des NU sur les Changements Climatiques et les Conventions des NU de lutte contre la Désertification et la Diversité Biologique, le Burundi a:

- Initié l'intégration de l'environnement dans les stratégies nationales (Cadre Stratégique de Lutte contre la Pauvreté, Cadre Stratégique pour la Consolidation de la Paix, Burundi Horizon 2025);

- Intégré de l'environnement dans les politiques sectoriels de certains Ministères (Agriculture et Elevage, Energie et Mines, Santé Publique et Commerce et Industrie);
- initié un programme de reboisement

Context & Constraints:

Problème de financement des projets et stratégies de promotion de l'environnement

Cape Verde (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

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Description:

O Governo, criou o Decreto-Lei nº 29/2006, que estabelece o regime jurídico da avaliação do impacto ambiental dos projectos públicos ou privados susceptíveis de produzirem efeitos no ambiente. Trata-se de um importante instrumento para a preservação do ambiente, principalmente para as intervenções que poderão causar danos irreversíveis no ambiente e que também poderá por em risco pessoas e bens.

Ordenar, planear, gerir o nosso território, trata-se de um compromisso ético para todas as gerações Cabo-verdianas e com implicações directas para a RRD a longo prazo. Para reforçar o sistema Nacional do ordenamento do Território e do Planeamento Urbanos, são vários os ganhos jurídicos que Cabo Verde tem tido, nomeadamente, a aprovação da Lei de Bases do Ordenamento do Território, o Regime de Utilização dos Solos. Estes diplomas constituem um momento de viragem no processo de ordenamento do território e do planeamento urbanístico, porque se baseiam nos princípios de solidariedade intergeracional, coordenação, articulação, complementaridade e compatibilização, equidade, participação, reforço da coesão e unidade nacional, o aproveitamento racional dos recursos naturais, assegurar a defesa do património natural, acautelar a protecção civil das populações, prevenindo os riscos e os desafios das catástrofes naturais e de acção humana.

Nos últimos anos são vários os instrumentos de gestão territorial que foram criadas, nomeadamente: Instrumento de Ordenamento e Desenvolvimento Territorial (DNOT – Directiva Nacional de Ordenamento do Território; EROT – Esquema Regional de Ordenamento do Território), Instrumento de Política Sectorial

(Plano sectorial), Instrumento de Natureza Especial (PEOT – Plano Especial de Ordenamento do Território, POOC – Plano de Ordenamento da Orla Costeira, POT – Plano de Ordenamento Turístico, POAP – Plano de Ordenamento de Áreas Protegidas), Instrumento de Planeamento Territorial (PIMOT – Plano Intermunicipal de Ordenamento do Território, PDM – Plano Director Municipal, PDU – Plano de Desenvolvimento Urbano, PD – Plano Detalhado).

Em 2010 Cabo Verde apresentou o 2.º Relatório de Adaptação às mudanças climáticas, documento produzido pelo Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia e Geofísica, que já foi socializada.

O Segundo Plano de Acção Nacional para o Ambiente (PANA-II), está a ser implementada e também foram assinados protocolos para os Planos Municipais Ambientais.

A Educação Ambiental tem apresentado bons resultados, e está sendo abordada de forma global, como instrumento transversal de apoio à implementação de todos os programas e para a mudança dos comportamentos da comunidade estudantil.

Context & Constraints:

Trata-se de um tema transversal, que é necessário envolvimento do poder local e central e a intervenção de diferentes actores da sociedade. O grande desafio para a real implementação do RRD, passa pela implementação de uma estratégia que consiga estabelecer sinergias entre os diferentes actores acima mencionados e da mobilização de mais recursos para esta área.

Comoros (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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Description:

Il y a un projet de mise en place d'un réseau d'Aire Protégée aux Comores mais, actuellement, un seul site est protégé juridiquement, à Mohéli. Des Décrets de création sont en cours d'élaboration pour les autres futures aires protégées (Karthala, Ntringui, mlédjele): un juriste a été recruté à cet effet dans le cadre d'un projet spécifique financé par le PNUD.

Le Projet WIO-LaB (Addressing Land Based activities in the West Indian Ocean), financé par l'UNEP et le FEM, est intervenu à itsamia à Mohéli dans le domaine de la préservation des tortues.

Il y a un projet COI (PROGECO) pour la gestion intégrée des zones côtières. La Convention de Nairobi intervient aussi dans ce domaine.

Le programme d'adaptation aux changements climatiques (PANA) avait été développé en 2006 mais une seule activité issue du PANA est en préparation à ce jour pour la gestion des ressources en eau potable.

Les Etudes d'Impact Environnementales (EIE) sont institutionnalisées mais doivent être mises en application systématiquement et non au cas par cas.

Context & Constraints:

Il n'y a à ce jour pas de réglementations et de contrôles efficaces pour un développement durable : les EIE ne sont pas systématiques, le projet de réseau d'Aires protégées est en cours d'exécution et ne devrait aboutir qu'à la fin de 2011 à la publication d'un décret d'application, le PANA n'a pas été suivi d'actions (seule une activité en démarrage prochain).

La législation ayant trait à la protection de l'environnement aux Comores est par ailleurs inefficace. Ainsi, la législation sur l'extraction de sable existe mais n'est pas mise en application, quant à la législation forestière, elle est en cours d'élaboration.

Cote d'Ivoire (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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Description:

Bien que les politiques et plans de gestion des ressources naturelles et environnementales existent et peuvent, d'une certaine façon, prendre en compte la réduction du risque, il convient de relever qu'ils n'intègrent pas toujours explicitement des stratégies et des objectifs de réduction du risque.

Context & Constraints:

La meilleure façon de prendre en compte la réduction du risque est de les intégrer systématiquement dans les politiques et plans de gestion des ressources naturelles et environnementales.

Ghana (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

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Description:

NDPC, NADMO and EPA are currently mainstreaming DRR, CCA into development plans and projects of metropolitan, municipal and district assemblies.

Environmental impact assessment are being seriously enforced by EPA in collaboration with other agencies.

Context & Constraints:

Inadequate enforcement of regulations and bye- laws.

Inadequate capacity to achieve the objective.

Low level public awareness on climate change.

Guinea-Bissau (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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Description:

Le Plan d'Action Forestier, la stratégie Nationale pour les Aires Protégées et la Conservation de la Biodiversité, l'Institut de la biodiversité et des Aires protégées, le Plan Stratégique du Développement de la Pêche Industrielle, le Plan d'Action Nationale d'Adaptation aux changements Climatiques. les dits programmes travaillent pour protéger et restaurer les services régulateurs pour les écosystèmes.

Context & Constraints:

Pays en voie de développement et membre des PIED, la Guinée Bissau fait partie du groupe moins avancés(PMA), avec un PIB par habitant estimé en 2008 à 590 \$USD et un taux de croissance réel du PIB de 3,2%. D'après le Rapport Mondial sur le Développement Humain Durable des Nations Unies (2009), le pays occupe le 173 eme rang sur un total 182 pays, avec un Indice de Développement Humain (IHD) de 0,396.

Kenya (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

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Description:

land policy is in place, there are also Acts of Paliament in placeto address the land use natural resource Management and the protection of mangroove forests,Environmental impacts Assessmentsis being carried out by the Naional Environmental Management Authority.

Context & Constraints:

There are threats to the conservancy to Mangroove forests, So a lot of awareness raising campaigns need to be done.

Lesotho (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

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Description:

Lack of human resources poses a constraint in coordinating all the sectors responsible for areas contained in this section.

Context & Constraints:

Lack of human resources for coordination.

Madagascar (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

L'appropriation de la problématique de l'adaptation au changement climatique par l'Etat malgache date de 2003 lors de la première communication nationale. Cette dernière a permis la création d'un groupe de travail sur le Plan d'Action National pour l'Adaptation. Le PANA a été finalisé et présenté à l'UNFCCC en 2005, avec 3 axes stratégiques d'intervention, à savoir : i) le renforcement des capacités, ii) la réforme des politiques et enfin iii) l'intégration de l'adaptation dans les politiques sectorielles, et 15 projets prioritaires.

Toutefois, aucun investissement n'a encore pris place, en partie à cause du manque de financement, même si le Grand Sud, avec l'initiative du gouvernement, a été identifié pour un fond GEF de 3 millions d'US\$ pour les pays les moins avancés en 2007. Certaines priorités ont néanmoins été incorporées dans des projets sectoriels (la mise à jour des normes para cycloniques).

Context & Constraints:

D'autres projets sur l'adaptation au changement climatique existent, mais ne se réfèrent pas souvent au PANA, du fait que ce dernier n'était pas encore validé politiquement et que les acteurs désirant investir dans ce domaine, s'appuient sur de nouvelles études et analyses qu'ils mènent eux mêmes. Aussi assiste-t-on à un manque de coordination.

Malawi (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

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Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

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* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Currently, DRR is not an integral part of development planning although social protection and disaster risk management have been recognised under theme 2 of the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy

(2006-2011). Progress has been made to strengthen the link between climate change, DRR and the environment at policy and planning levels. It is now being recognised that development projects have to be formulated, monitored and evaluated with regards to DRR considerations. A climate change adaptation programme has been developed and is being implemented and DRR stakeholders are part of this process.

Context & Constraints:

Government has developed sectoral policies and strategies including the MGDS and the NAPA. A number of sectoral strategies also exist. But disaster risk considerations are not adequately addressed in those policies and plans. This has resulted in limited investment in DRR in the national budget. This also affects capacity to fulfill its core mandate and hindering longer-term progress towards enhanced disaster resilience

Mauritius (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

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- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

A number of measures already implemented do target disaster risk reduction, though they are not specific environment related policies. Similarly, there are some adaptation measures already in place without specifically mentioning the issue of climate change.

The National Environment Policy (revised version 2007) has a number of measures pertinent to disaster risk reduction. The National Forest Policy has a provision for land use management in the context of climate change.

Context & Constraints:

Though hazard information do exist, it has not yet been translated into integrated policies across planning documents. The issue of climate change and climate variability has not yet been integrated in general sustainable development policies.

Request of developments permits in areas with high hazard exposure is a real concern. An example is the high demand for coastal properties that are at increasing risk from storm surge, coastal erosion, tsunami

and the effects of climate change.

Morocco (in French)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Conformément aux orientations de Sa Majesté le Roi Mohammed VI, le Maroc a engagé un ensemble de réformes, des programmes et des projets structurants qui ont concerné autant le domaine économique, social qu'environnemental, notamment l'élaboration et à l'adoption d'une Charte Nationale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable, selon un processus national de concertation très large, qui concilie les exigences économiques, sociales et celles de la protection et de la préservation des ressources naturelles, du patrimoine national culturel et historique. Une charte qui porte une vision globale et une approche progressive vers un développement durable.

C'est dans ce cadre, que le Gouvernement entend élaborer une Stratégie Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement (SNE), pour redéfinir, préciser et partager ses priorités, ses objectifs dans une vision globale et harmonisée où les différents secteurs d'activités, selon leurs visions, contraintes et leurs possibilités contribuent d'une manière progressive et synergique à l'atteinte des objectifs de la charte nationale de l'environnement et du développement durable. Cette Stratégie constitue un préalable fondamental pour la Stratégie Nationale du Développement Durable (SNDD) qui sera élaborée dans une phase ultérieure.

Context & Constraints:

le projet de la charte de l'Environnement et du développement durable ainsi que le projet de Stratégie Nationale de Protection de l'Environnement doivent intégrer clairement la notion de la réduction des risques des catastrophes.

Mozambique (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

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Means of Verification:

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* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> Africa Adaptation Programme (2009)

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/16411_africaadaptationprogramme.pdf [PDF]

Description:

Efforts have been made to reduce disaster risk by issuing environmental legislation, policies, strategies and plans, aiming at regulating the use of natural resources and protecting ecosystem under growing socio-economic pressure.

- Approved and under implementation the Land Law, the Forest and Wild life Law and the Environment Law;
- Created the Sustainable Development Centers (CDS), for Natural Resources, Coastal Zones, Urban Areas
- Increased the percentage of protected areas from 11% to 16% with the creation of new 6 national parks and reserves, including marine and coastal environments (Quirimbas National Park, Limpopo National Park, Chimanimani National Park, Ponta de Ouro Marine Reserve)
- Creation of 3 new Trans-Frontier Conservation Areas (Libombos, Grande Limpopo and Chimanimani)
- Proposal for the creation of new conservation areas in the Niassa Lake and in the Primeiras and Segundas Islands, and the new Rovuma and Zimoza TFCA's
- Established the Marine and Coastal Environment Research Center in Cabo Delgado Province
- Allocated to local communities, 20% of annual total revenues from forest exploration and tourism activities within the protected areas.
- Launched the international bid for hiring a consultant to carry out the Strategic Assessment of the Coastal Zone, aiming at guiding future development along the Mozambican coastal areas;
- Submission of all category A socio-economic developments projects, both public and private, to Environmental Impacts Assessments for their establishment.

Mozambique is also actively engaged in the implementation several climate change adaptation programmes and projects. Examples are:

- The revision the National Adaptation Program (NAPA), to incorporate recent climate changes issues, including REDD+ initiative
- Under implementation the Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP), aiming at building national capacity for climate change mainstreaming into national and sectoral development plans and strengthening of coordination mechanisms
- Under implementation the "Coping with Droughts" project under UNPD leadership; the INGC phase II and the PPCR phase I.

Context & Constraints:

The Government of Mozambique is aware and recognizes the impacts of environmental degradation on disaster risk. It also recognizes the linkages between poverty and environment degradation and the role of local communities to reduce their negative impacts. However:

- High poverty levels coupled with high dependency of local communities on natural resources for subsistence increase pressure on natural resources, in one hand, by deforestation induced by bush fires associated to wildlife hunting and agricultural land preparation, and on other hand, by extraction of firewood and construction materials.
- Weak implementation of forest management plans and unplanned coastal land use practices by private sector increase environmental risks associated with soil degradation and coastal erosion.

However, there are opportunities to change the present scenario through:

- Reforestation campaigns launched under the "One Community one Forest" Presidential initiative;
- Implementation of REED mechanisms with participation of private sector
- Implementation of the Land Use Planning Law with integration of recommendations provided by the ongoing Strategic Assessment of the Coastal Zone

In this regard, more capable human resources are required to guarantee the correct elaboration, implementation and monitoring of national and local development plans so that new risks are prevented and sensitive ecosystems are fully protected.

Nigeria (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

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Description:

The Federal Ministry of Environment has legislation in place for the protection of Forest Reserves, for the Conduct of EIA for major development projects.

A major climate change project is the green wall project to reduce desert encroachment.

Context & Constraints:

There is inadequate monitoring and evaluation of many of the projects where EIA were conducted.

Senegal (in French)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

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Means of Verification:

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* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> Plan d'action national d'adaptation aux changements climatiques (2009)

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/13379_pana.pdf [PDF]

Description:

La politique environnementale du Sénégal vise à assurer un environnement durable et inverser la tendance actuelle à la dégradation de l'environnement et des ressources naturelles. ces objectifs sont définis dans la Lettre de politique sectorielle de l'environnement

Context & Constraints:

Le manque de synergie des interventions, l'absence d'un mécanisme de gestion de la transversalité de l'environnement et des ressources naturelles

Sierra Leone (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Government has established structures/systems to address protection and regulatory issues. But as it is with many other policies around here, it is the translation of such policy into practice that throws the real challenge. In addition, many of these policies need updating as they have become obsolete in the course of time, thereby losing their relevance.

Context & Constraints:

Many of our existing policies need updating, as they have become obsolete in the course of time, thereby losing their relevance.

Duplicity of efforts/functions is also another issue leading to operational ineffectiveness and inefficiency.

In some instances, the penalties for violating these laws are so ridiculous that they hardly serve as deterrents.

Tanzania, United Rep of (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

There is ongoing project on Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation into National Policies in Tanzania (2010 - 2011) under the Vice President's Office – Division of Environment financed by UNDP. There is another initiative by World Bank known as Coastal Environmental Management Project (MACEMP) to support a comprehensive system of managed marine areas in the territorial seas, building on integrated coastal management strategies and give coastal communities access to economic opportunities that improve livelihoods and help manage the marine ecosystem. The Country has Environment Management Policy and the Environment Management Council is there to oversee all the matter concerning to environmental risk.

The management of environment and natural resources in Zanzibar is facilitated by National Environment Policy of Zanzibar of 1992 accompanied by the Environmental Management for Sustainable Development Act No. 2 1996 of Zanzibar. The government of Zanzibar finances all the activities geared towards either prevention or reduce the rate of pollution to the environment. For example, it works together with NGOs such as Jambiani Management Beach Conservation (JAMABECO), and Menai Bay Conservation which try to educate the society on how to protect and conserve local environment. The Government also cooperates with educational institutions, the media and other organisations to devise implementation of environmental programmes. For instance, the government established special subject concerning environment in secondary schools and in different higher institutions. There is also a bi-weekly radio programme that provides environmental education to the public.

There has been established The National Environmental Action Plan which is aimed at identifying strategies for preventing, controlling or mitigating any adverse impact on the environment. It is the base of the environmental action plan for environmental problems which requires special localised planning are identified, especially those which threaten Zanzibar biological diversity or an ecosystem such as coastal and water catchments areas.

Zanzibar is currently undertaking Climate Change consultancy which will guide the country through a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA). A NAPA is a process for Developing Countries to identify priority activities that respond to their urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change – those for which further delay would increase vulnerability and/or costs at a later stage.

Context & Constraints:

Funds to implement climate change related programs is still a challenge, more project should now be channeled to this area to address climate change adaptation programs. Also availability and education on various laws and policies related to climate change must be a priority.

Zambia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The country has the National Adaptation Plan for Action (NAPA) which identifies priority activities that respond to Zambia's urgent and immediate needs to adapt to climate change. The NAPA prioritizes agriculture, health, water and energy and natural resources as the sectors where adaptation programmes need to be immediately carried out. The country has also developed the National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS). The NCCRS has been developed to support and facilitate a coordinated response to climate change issues in the country. The Strategy will enable Zambia position itself strategically to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change.

Context & Constraints:

Coordination is still required to bring all on board. Further, resources to conduct the DRR activities are inadequate.

Americas

Anguilla (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

No

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

St Georges Declaration, Sustainable Development Policy, Biodiversity Strategy/Policy, Oil Spill Plan.

The Department of Environment is currently working with its partners and the Department of Disaster Management to assess the environmental changes following Hurricane Earl which will identify where changes in policy may be required.

A consultation exercise and recommendations for Hazardous Materials Programme and Plan has been carried out by the DDM in partnership with Fire and Fisheries via the NDMC, along with Mitigation recommendations for bulk fuel depots and updates to the National Oil Spill Plan.

The pesticide gramazone (paraquat) is now banned in the valley area due to the potential for contamination to the water table and a pesticide board is proposed to advise/control pesticide imports.

The vulnerable areas designation which is found in the Disaster Management Act.

Context & Constraints:

Ownership issues between departments with regard to environmental related risk is apparent. A previous initiative to bring coordination and cooperation between environmental related agencies needs to be reinstated.

In light of the passing of Hurricane Earl, plans for the penultimate Climate Change Workshop (towards the completion of Anguilla's Climate Change Mitigation Strategy and White Paper) scheduled for September 10, 2010 were postponed until October, however representatives from the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre will still join the staff of the Department of Environment and the people of Anguilla to review the draft Green Paper on Climate Change.

Antigua and Barbuda (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

While there is no Policy, there is a very strong focus on climate change adaption. In recent times there has been movement towards integrating climate change and disaster risk reduction as a common platform for future projects and programmes. Under the leadership of the environment and fisheries divisions significant work has been done and is ongoing in the areas of: coastal protection, reef health, ridge to reef monitoring, mapping of wet lands, mapping of forest, among other important activities.

Context & Constraints:

The absence of environmental legislation and a clear policy are two very important issues that when completed will see significant changes in the enforcement and overall management of environmental issues.

Argentina (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* No: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

La vinculación entre Cambio Climático y RRD está siendo paulatinamente incorporada, tanto desde la Secretaría de Ambiente de la Nación como desde la Subsecretaría de Desarrollo Territorial del Ministerio de Planificación.

La actividad de esta última apoyada por la EIRD que tomará desde la Provincia de Jujuy al norte hasta la del Neuquen al sur, todo sobre la zona andina, prevé especialmente este componente.

De la misma manera, la Fundación Metropolitana en el panel que condujo en el Foro de Megaciudades 2010 realizado en Buenos Aires con los auspicios de la Cámara Argentino-Germana, incluyó especialmente este componente con más el de "Ciudades Resilientes".

El anteproyecto de Ley de Ordenamiento Territorial que ha presentado la Sra. Presidenta (septiembre 2010) también incorpora el uso del suelo como componente ambiental.

Context & Constraints:

Importantes son los esfuerzos, pero las limitaciones presupuestarias y algunas dificultades técnicas que se encuentran ante la falta de recursos para resolverlas, deben ser vencidas para alcanzar el objetivo.

Barbados (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* No: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The draft Environmental Management Act has been in draft form for more than 10 years. The document is very comprehensive, and will be very useful in advancing the disaster management agenda. One advantage is that the draft document is very well known by the agencies with responsibility for

environmental management, and many of its tenets have been incorporated into the routine actions and decisions of those agencies. The importance of conservation of all ecosystems for the benefit of DRR is recognized and considered in policy and planning. Such activities however, do not preclude the need to have the legislation passed.

The 2003 Amended National Physical Development Plan has taken account of the requirements to incorporate elements of DRR into land use management, and the Town and Country Planning Department is well prepared to establish the system needed for incorporating hazard impact assessments in the current Environmental Impact Assessment process. However, for this procedure to be operationalised, there needs to be the installation of the hazard mitigation council.

The draft National Climate Change Adaptation Policy is in the process of being completed and presented to policy makers for their endorsement. Barbados is Party to the United Nations framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The Ministry of Environment, Water Resources and Drainage is the National focal point to the UNFCCC. A National Climate Change Steering Committee, chaired by the Ministry, includes members of key sectors such as energy, coastal zone management, tourism, the private sector and training institutions, and the DEM Director sits on this committee.

Context & Constraints:

At all levels of Barbados's governance structure, the nexus between disaster management and environmental protection is very clear. However, the enactment, and hence enforcement, of environmental legislation continues to plague the implementation process. Consultation among agencies exists, but needs to be taken to the next level of collaboration.

Limited capacity within the DEM has held back the installation and consequential service requirements of the hazard mitigation council. However, given the new mandates with respect to climate change adaptation programmes, it has now become imperative that the council be convened. The broad range of climate change issues has not been generally understood by the majority of players within the disaster management system.

Recommendations

The draft Environmental Management Act must become a reality for the institutionalization of joint DRR and environmental initiatives.

The Hazard Mitigation Council must be instituted expeditiously, as there are a number of plans which cannot be implemented without this framework.

The completion of the draft Climate Change Adaptation Policy is also of necessity, to advance the DRR agenda in relation to climate change impacts.

Bolivia (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Por parte del Gobierno hay el Programa Nacional de Cambio climático y el mecanismo de adaptación. Por parte del Gobierno Municipal de Trinidad hay el trabajo de recuperación de tecnología de regulación hídrica con los camellones. Hay algunos proyectos que están haciendo recuperación de saberes locales sobre prácticas de adaptación.

Context & Constraints:

Lamentablemente este último punto no es sostenido, se acaba el financiamiento y se concluye la iniciativa.

Brazil (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Promover o conhecimento dos efeitos das Mudanças Climáticas aos Órgãos Estaduais, Municipais e comunitários de Defesa Civil, com vistas a orientá-los e assessorá-los sobre os impactos dessas mudanças, avaliando os riscos e a conseqüente minimização dos desastres relacionados.

Context & Constraints:

Realização de eventos técnicos para elaborar e aperfeiçoar planos de contingências para o enfrentamento da maior frequência e intensidade de desastres naturais provocados pelas mudanças climáticas . Análise de estudos e pesquisas concentrados no âmbito federal (SINDEC) e difusão das informações pertinentes para órgãos de Defesa Civil estaduais e municipais, com o objetivo de apoiar o estudo e o mapeamento das áreas nas quais há riscos de desastres e de elaborar mapas temáticos sobre as vulnerabilidades dessas áreas em relação às mudanças climáticas.

British Virgin Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Different methods have been undertaken to improve the interaction of disaster management, physical planning and environmental management to ensure that vulnerability to hazards and mitigation are incorporated in decision making in development planning. The CDM Strategy includes various programmatic efforts that contribute to “focusing on risk reduction in the future from natural and man-made disasters” and “improving the coordination of disaster management, physical planning and environmental management to ensure that these considerations are incorporated in decision making in an integrated fashion”. Activities include having the DDM Director sit on the Planning Authority and Environmental Management committees, non-structural mitigation, training planners, engineers and developers for hazard mitigation integration into building/development and ongoing coordination/ collaboration between the Town and Country Planning Department, the Public Works Department and the DDM.

Since 2008, the building review/application process has made provisions for Hazard Assessments for development within "high risk areas" which gives the public/private sectors the ability to develop appropriate hazard mitigation strategies and measures to prevent or reduce the occurrence of disasters.

Further integration of disaster risk reduction concepts throughout various sectors and continued capacity building continues through incorporation of methods for Hazard Risk Assessments into the Impact Assessment Process and integration of hazard data into the National GIS database. Efforts are being made to encourage the use of cost benefit analyses for hazard mitigation measures for large development projects in the VI.

The VI CDM Strategy and Programming Framework 2009-2013 takes into account of the need and aims to contribute to reducing vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change. The current vulnerability and capacity assessments are being spearheaded by the Conservation and Fisheries Department with the DDM lending support. Current efforts include identifying risks and undertaking monitoring, mapping and modelling to better prepare for the future.

Context & Constraints:

Though a substantial amount of technical data is available for the Territory, additional data is required for comprehensive vulnerability assessments. At times, this can pose challenges to providing information towards the building and development process, a condition not unique to the Virgin Islands. Efforts are being made to address existing gaps.

There is a need for the strengthening and enforcement of regulations related to the Building Authority, Environmental Health Unit, Conservation & Fisheries Department and the Town and Country Planning Department.

Canada (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Environmental Damages Fund (EDF) follows the “Polluter Pays Principle” to help ensure that those who cause environmental damage or harm to wildlife take responsibility for their actions. The EDF is a specified purpose account, administered by Environment Canada, to provide a mechanism for directing funds received as a result of fines, court orders, and voluntary payments to priority projects that will benefit our natural environment.

The Regional Adaptation Collaborative (RACs) Climate Change Program is a three year, \$30 million, cost-shared federal program to reduce the risks and maximize the opportunities posed by climate change. The Program helps communities prepare for and adapt to local impacts posed by our changing climate, such as: decreasing fresh water supplies; increasing droughts, floods and coastal erosion; and changing forestry, fisheries and agricultural resources.

In the area of climate change, the Government of Canada is committed to reducing Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 17 per cent from 2005 levels by 2020 - a target that is inscribed in the Copenhagen Accord and aligned with the United States. To meet this ambitious target, Canada will proceed on three parallel pathways, with strong domestic, continental and international action."

Transport Canada (TC) monitors shipping through its National Aerial Surveillance Program (NASP) to detect ship-source pollution enabling TC and Environment Canada (EC) to enforce domestic and international laws. NASP allows to: enforce the domestic laws and regulations; act as a deterrent to polluters; support to emergency response; provide ice monitoring; and enhance maritime awareness.

Context & Constraints:

Climate change is a global issue that requires real solutions. The Government of Canada supports an approach that will achieve real environmental and economic benefits for all Canadians.

The causes of climate change and its impacts on the environment and human health are now more understood. Canada is a vast country with a diverse climate, which makes the impacts of climate change all the more important.

The Government of Canada supports efforts to protect the environment by developing policies and programs, conducting scientific research, and working with other government departments, the provinces, territories and international partners in the fight against climate change.

Cayman Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> Enhancing Capacity for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Caribbean UK Overseas Territories (2007)

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/13946_044climatechangeprojectmemofinal260.doc [DOC]

Description:

Environmental Policies and Plans are lacking. There is little or no protection for the majority of wetlands. Private land ownership in coastal areas extends to the high water mark and setbacks for development are typically to the vegetation line which often has little relevance in terms of vulnerability to disaster risk

reduction. Fresh water lenses are vulnerable to overexploitation and lack sufficient monitoring and legal protection.

In coastal areas where there are mangroves private land ownership extends to the (seaward margin) outer fringe of the mangroves and this has resulted in large scale clearance and filling of the natural storm buffer provided by the mangrove forests.

Cayman is extremely flat and low lying, there are no natural drainage systems (like rivers) and in the rainy season the rate of precipitation often exceeds the rate of evaporation which leads to flooding. Much of the development is concentrated on the west side of grand cayman where the soil is fairly thin and because the land is so low lying the water table is usually only a few feet below the ground further compounding the flooding problem.

About 80 percent of the residences in the Cayman Islands use septic systems for waste water and sewerage. There is little to no monitoring or enforcement of the septic systems to ensure they are functioning effectively. Grand Cayman has an unlined landfill which is adjacent to the semi enclosed body of water known as the Northsound.

Agricultural land is scarce and in areas where there is fertile and suitable soil deposits in conjunction with a fresh water lenses, residential development is occurring which reduces the capacity of the Cayman Islands to grow and produce it's own food or raise livestock.

Property elevations are required to be five feet above mean sea level but this is often inadequate to appropriately mitigate the effects of storm surge especially in coastal areas.

Context & Constraints:

Planning and development decisions are often made that run contrary to sustainable agricultural, environmental and disaster risk reduction philosophy.

Inter-agency consideration and cooperation is meager to non-existent when it comes to planning and development decision making.

Environmental impacts studies are rare and usually only relate to very large scale infrastructure developments on the coastline.

Challenging economic conditions are creating of climate where there is political will to make the planning and development process easier - environmental and DRR considerations are sometimes considered too 'restrictive' to development and overly bureaucratic.

The general view appears to be a fairly short term outlook. Medium to long term strategic planning that includes sustainability, disaster risk reduction and climate change considerations are not typically practiced.

A significant percentage of people in the Cayman Islands believe that if they 'own' a piece of land they should be able to do what they want with it. There is a sense among these people that additional layers of rules and regulations are oppressive.

Despite the fact the electrical wires are vulnerable to hurricane winds (prolonged outages) and there are no apparent deposits of fossil fuels in the Cayman Islands - the sole utility provider in Grand Cayman exclusively uses diesel to power the generating capacity. Policies, procedures and license agreements tend to discourage rather than encourage the use of renewable energy sources.

Chile (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

No

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

En términos legales el manejo del ambiente está contemplado en la LEY 19.300 SOBRE BASES GENERALES DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE que fue modificada por la ley 20.173 el 2007 y por la ley 20.417 de 2010.

Esta Ley ofrece lineamientos generales sobre el manejo del Medio Ambiente estableciendo en su artículo 1 que:

"El derecho a vivir en un medio ambiente libre de contaminación, la protección del medio ambiente, la preservación de la naturaleza y la conservación del patrimonio ambiental se regularán por las disposiciones de esta ley, sin perjuicio de lo que otras normas legales establezcan sobre la materia." El espíritu de la ley tiende a revisar el impacto que las diferentes modificaciones que el ser humano realiza en un ecosistema dado pueden afectar el medio ambiente. No menciona directamente la reducción del riesgo de desastres y tampoco menciona directamente cuando el proceso es inverso y las condiciones y amenazas naturales afectan a la población.

Se crean bajo este sistema la obligación de generar estudios de impacto en una lógica homologable a la esperada en Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres. No se presenta espacio para actividades coordinadas con el Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil y con su agente coordinador que es ONEMI.

En su Artículo 6 establece que el proceso educativo, en sus diversos niveles, a través de la transmisión de conocimientos y de la enseñanza de conceptos modernos de protección ambiental, orientados a la comprensión y toma de conciencia de los problemas ambientales, deberá incorporar la integración de valores y el desarrollo de hábitos y conductas que tiendan a prevenirlos y resolverlos. No aúna estos esfuerzos con los propios del Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil.

Context & Constraints:

Si bien el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente participa como un integrante del Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil, no pareciera existir mucha cooperación interagencial con ONEMI y los otros organismos técnico científicos que asesoran al Sistema Nacional. En el desarrollo del Ministerio de Medio Ambiente no se incorporan explícitamente objetivos y estrategias para la reducción del riesgo salvo que estos hayan sido generados por la intervención del hombre en ecosistema.

Se han desarrollado iniciativas como la Estrategia Nacional de Gestión Integrada de Cuencas Hidrográficas (2008) pero a estas no se les ha dado el seguimiento debido.

En ONEMI se ha reestablecido el Comité Científico Técnico pero en este no hay incorporado representantes del Ministerio de Medio Ambiente. Desde el comité se está promoviendo el estudio de las diversas amenazas. A modo de ejemplo, a mediados de Septiembre del 2010, el volcán planchón de la región del Maule, estuvo en peligro de erupción y se convocó al CCT de urgencia para analizar la situación y dar una respuesta técnica a la comunidad. En este aspecto, no se incorporó la opinión y los posibles

estudios de impacto de la zona aledaña.

Pareciera ser que ambas instituciones observan el mismo objeto de estudio pero no dialogan entre sí para ver como la información de una puede complementar a la otra. A partir del 2011 se ha buscado fortalecer las relaciones y en Junio, con la colaboración de JICA se llevará a cabo seminario "Medio ambiente, seguridad y desastres naturales" Se espera que esta actividad de inicio a una serie de trabajos en conjunto."

La nueva orgánica del Ministerio de Medio ambiente y la clarificación de sus facultades reguladoras y fiscalizadoras, han facilitado y promovido la incorporación de la RRD entre sus prioridades.

Colombia (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Se ha incorporado la Gestión de riesgo en las políticas de gestión ambiental. Actualmente el análisis del riesgo es un componente integral de instrumentos como los Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial, planes de Manejo de Cuencas Hidrográficas y de los instrumentos a través de los cuales se busca incorporar la dimensión ambiental en los procesos de ordenamiento del territorio, esto es; los planes de gestión ambiental regional soportado normativamente a través de la Ley 388 de 1997 y el Decreto 1729.

El Ministerio de Ambiente Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial ejecuta las políticas del Ordenamiento Territorial, así como las de medio ambiente y recurso natural y el uso del suelo. Estas políticas van articuladas en los tres niveles. De forma complementaria el Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial viene trabajando en Políticas, Planes y Programas tendientes a la protección de los ecosistemas.

De igual forma, los avances que se han realizado a nivel municipal, frente a los temas de uso y ocupación del suelo han sido trascendentales para la definición del marco normativo a nivel municipal, en especial en temas correlacionados con zonas de protección ambiental y de alto riesgo no mitigable. Es de destacar que en la actualidad el país cuenta con el 98% de los municipios con planes de ordenamiento territorial, documento en el que confluyen los temas correlacionados con el medio ambiente, recursos naturales, usos del suelo, proyecciones de crecimiento, etc;

De igual forma, a través de las CARs se están formulando planes de ordenamiento que trascienden al ámbito político administrativo de los municipios, y aborda una visión mucho más amplia de región a través de un elemento integrador como lo es la cuenca, en la actualidad se están liderando 35 procesos de ordenamiento de cuencas.

Con la participación de diferentes entidades del orden nacional, el país avanza en la elaboración del Estudio de los impactos del Cambio Climático en el país, producto de lo anterior, ha sido los resultados del estudio sobre la SEGUNDA COMUNICACIÓN SOBRE CAMBIO CLIMATICO realizada por el IDEAM la cual ha contribuido para la definición de un documento de política para orientar acciones de mitigación y adaptación a los efectos del Cambio Climático.

Context & Constraints:

La implementación de los planes de ordenamiento de cuencas hidrográficas en el país, en los términos que lo establece la legislación vigente, tiene antecedentes muy recientes con lo que su impacto en los procesos de ordenamiento ambiental territorial han venido implementándose recientemente. No obstante que la legislación define el procedimiento a través del cual ha de incorporarse la dimensión ambiental en los planes de desarrollo departamental y municipal existe una baja articulación entre estos dos instrumentos de planeación. De igual forma, es importante resaltar que como limitación importante de estos instrumentos fue el análisis de riesgo el cual desafortunadamente se construyó con un sesgo desde la amenaza, desconociendo en la mayoría de los procesos los aspectos de vulnerabilidad, generado dificultades para identificar los resultados finales de este proceso.

Limitación: Un riesgo potencial para la no implementación del plan es su no articulación con otras políticas sectoriales que impulsan otros procesos productivos o de infraestructura, como también la presión que sobre los bosques hacen los cultivos ilícitos. Adicionalmente, la debilidad institucional (Pública y Privada) para la gestión en los recursos forestales. De igual forma, la baja decisión política en la asignación de recursos económicos para la adopción del plan. Retos:

Consolidar los procesos normativos correlacionados a los procesos de Ordenamiento Territorial.

Liderar acciones a corto plazo encaminadas a actualizar todos los procesos de ordenamiento territorial realizados en el país, en donde se involucre un análisis más detallado sobre las amenazas y vulnerabilidades en los territorios.

Consolidar la estructuración e implementación del CONPES sobre Cambio Climático.

Costa Rica (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

La política en materia ambiental tiene más de 30 años. Hay indicadores de impacto ambiental y reglamentación que obliga a los estudios de impacto ambiental en los proyectos de construcción. Una de las metas más importantes del plan nacional de desarrollo es el de llevar a 0 el nivel de emisión de carbono. En adaptación al cambio climático se ha dispuesto la elaboración de la estrategia y los planes, especialmente para la intervención en el ámbito local.

Context & Constraints:

La agenda en materia de cambio climático ha tardado en definirse pero en los últimos años se ha aclarado, haciendo posible las decisiones y la participación de más actores.

Cuba (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Existe la legislación para las zonas protegidas a todo nivel, en la que se ha tenido en cuenta la planificación integral para las zonas costeras y otras de alto riesgo de inundación. Sistemáticamente se realizan evaluaciones del impacto ambiental (EIA) y se efectúan pagos por servicios de los ecosistemas (PSE). En los proyectos y programas relativos a la adaptación al cambio climático se desarrollan medidas y acciones dirigidas a la protección de los ecosistemas y medio ambiente en general.

Context & Constraints:

Las condiciones creadas por la Revolución Cubana, desde 1959, garantiza la preservación de valores tales como acceso universal a la cultura; salud pública, educación y seguridad social para todas las cubanas y cubanos. Las limitaciones que se presentan están localizadas en la escasez de financiamiento

para el desarrollo integral y sostenible del país, como consecuencia del injusto bloqueo a que nos tiene sometido el gobierno de EEUU

Dominican Republic (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

- Existe el marco legal para las áreas protegidas (la Ley 202-04) y tenemos el 25% del territorio en el sistema de áreas protegidas, Estrategia de Gestión y Manejo del Fuego 2007-2011, Plan Nacional de Reforestación Quisqueya Verde
- El Ministerio de Medio Ambiente ha establecido un programa de compensación de servicios ambientales y hay varias experiencias pilotos en el país (cuenca yaque del norte y el yaque del sur, p.e.);
- La Ley 64-00 establece el instrumento de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (Art. 38 – 48) y se esta aplicando en los proyectos de desarrollo
- Se ha creado un Consejo Nacional de Cambio Climático mediante decreto N0. 601-08, y el país se encuentra trabajando en las políticas de cambio climático, además se pretende integrar la gestión de riesgo en las evaluaciones ambientales de los proyectos de inversión.
- Existen normas de control de emisiones para las industrias, normas y reglamentos de manejo de desechos peligrosos (aceites, grasas, entre otras).

Context & Constraints:

- No existe una integración entre la gestión de riesgos de desastres en las políticas y planes mediambientales de manera que permita una adecuada gestión de los ecosistemas y recursos naturales.
- Falta ordenamiento territorial ambiental.
- El Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales no tiene una unidad de gestión de riesgo;

- Existen conflictos de uso en las zonas costeras, por turismo, infraestructura, tenencia de la tierra; entre otros.

- A nivel institucional no esta claro cuales son las acciones y los programas sobre cambio climático

- No existe un programa establecido con niveles de priorización para las áreas a reforestar. Se debe incluir la gestión de riesgos en el plan de reforestación, contribuyendo al control de inundaciones, control de procesos de erosión, entre otros.

- Es preciso desarrollar estrategias, políticas y planes de gestión ambiental y recursos naturales con enfoque de isla (RD y Haiti).

Ecuador (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

El Ecuador, bajo el liderazgo del gobierno nacional y el Ministerio del Ambiente en coordinación con la Secretaría Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos, realizan esfuerzos para conocer mejor sus manifestaciones, examinar los grados de vulnerabilidad social y natural ante sus amenazas y determinar las vías de acción para minimizar los daños que pueda ocasionar. Al efecto, promueve y conduce actividades de investigación sobre la situación del clima, así como de las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero causantes del calentamiento global.

Los esfuerzos están de acuerdo con la Convención Marco de las Naciones sobre el Cambio Climático de la que es parte el Ecuador y están encaminados a explorar, experimentar opciones y oportunidades de adaptación a las nuevas condiciones del clima, a la vez que hace esfuerzos para remediar una buena proporción de los daños que este fenómeno causa en la infraestructura social y la naturaleza. Busca dar respuesta organizada al fenómeno,

considerando especialmente las necesidades de los grupos más vulnerables, y cooperar con la comunidad internacional a través de su participación.

En el proceso de afianzar una respuesta organizada, sistemática y oportuna a los retos que representan estas variaciones climáticas, el Estado Ecuatoriano ha visto la necesidad de formular un conjunto básico de iniciativas generales de política y estrategia nacional sobre el cambio climático que aborde los principales elementos problemáticos asociados a dicho fenómeno. Para el efecto, plantea lineamientos de políticas y estrategias específicas que guíen a las instituciones y organizaciones claves a organizarse y trabajar para enfrentar el problema según sus competencias y responsabilidades particulares.

La Estrategia nacional de Cambio Climático asimila los principios, objetivos y disposiciones de la Constitución de la República, en especial lo que concierne al “derecho de la población a vivir en un ambiente sano y ecológicamente equilibrado, que garantice la sostenibilidad del buen vivir”, y al “derecho de la naturaleza a que se respete integralmente, su existencia y el mantenimiento y regeneración de sus ciclos vitales, estructura, funciones y procesos evolutivos”. Esta Estrategia acoge la obligación de que el Estado adopte “medidas adecuadas y transversales para la mitigación del cambio climático, mediante la limitación de las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero, la deforestación y de la contaminación atmosférica” con el fin de proteger a la “población en riesgo”.

Context & Constraints:

Regular y coordinar las políticas estrategias programas y proyectos de mitigación y adaptación al cambio climático, para contribuir al posicionamiento del país a partir de su patrimonio natural y cultural en los mecanismos globales de lucha contra el cambio climático y fomentar los sistemas sociales naturales y económicos frente a sus impactos.

El Salvador (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

El país, cuenta con una Legislación Ambiental y una Legislación de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, las que

plantean que es el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN) la autoridad competente en materia medioambiental.

A fin de garantizar la protección de la flora y fauna del país, se creó el Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas (SANP) de El Salvador, que cuenta con 15 áreas de conservación, 87 áreas naturales y los manglares remanentes del país, que suman un total de 75,069 hectáreas.

Context & Constraints:

El país aún no cuenta con un sistema de valoración económica para sus Áreas Protegidas. Sin embargo, el Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales ha establecido dentro de su Manual de Procedimientos la “Valoración Económica de los Recursos Naturales” y si bien se han realizado algunos estudios de valoración de la biodiversidad en Áreas Protegidas, no se cuenta con estudios e indicadores definidos sobre la contribución económica de las AP al país y a los sectores locales.

Guatemala (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

El artículo 64 de la Constitución Política de la República de Guatemala menciona que es de interés nacional la conservación, protección y mejoramiento del patrimonio natural de la nación. De este mandato surge el decreto 4-89 y reformado con el decreto 110-86 que crea el Sistema Guatemalteco de Áreas Protegidas, SIGAP (recursos naturales).

Durante el 2009 y 2010 aumenta a 26 el número de áreas protegidas que son administradas por la Comisión Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP) lo que representa un total de 8,358.27 kilómetros cuadrados y 284 áreas protegidas registradas dentro del SIGAP.

En lo referente a los instrumentos legales para las zonas protegidas se cuenta con las Políticas: Forestal Nacional, de Áreas Protegidas y Biodiversidad, de Recursos Marino Costero y de Producción Más Limpia. En cuanto al pago de servicios de ecosistemas, el Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN) está facilitando este mecanismo en la Mancomunidad del Valle, integrada por Salamá, Granados, Rabinal y San Miguel Chicaj.

Se han desarrollado talleres de capacitación orientados al financiamiento y compensación de servicios ambientales y se han aplicado conocimientos recibidos en la formulación de 49 proyectos comunitarios referidos a servicios ambientales e hídricos. Por acuerdo gubernativo 328-2009 se aprobó la Política para el Manejo Integral de las Zonas Marino Costeras de Guatemala, que busca resolver los problemas socioambientales costeros que garanticen la participación responsable en el desarrollo económico y social.

El MARN desarrolló un proceso de fortalecimiento en la aplicación de herramientas para la evaluación de impacto ambiental en distintas Oficinas de Planificación Municipal por medio de talleres departamentales.

Context & Constraints:

A nivel institucional, se cuenta con una serie de instrumentos que pueden ser de utilidad para lograr cambios significativos en cuanto a la reducción de riesgos a desastres. Sin embargo, no se ha logrado poner en marcha varios de los mandatos legales que lograría en determinado momento reducir los desastres que han aumentando las estadísticas del país y que han sido recurrentes.

En lo que se refiere a medio ambiente, hay varios instrumentos legales, aunque no son conocidos por la población, lo que dificulta su aplicación. Los retos para el país son grandes y diversos, pero con estos instrumentos se puede continuar con el trabajo de la divulgación de las políticas, iniciando en las comunidades organizadas con acompañamiento de las instituciones rectoras, como el MARN, los Consejos de Desarrollo, la CONRED entre otras. Sin embargo, una de las limitaciones para esta tarea es el presupuesto, ya que no puede cubrir este tipo de eventos. Otro factor que frena la continuidad de las políticas es la rotación del personal de las distintas instancias del gobierno y la falta de políticas.

Honduras (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Aun falta esta info

Context & Constraints:

Aun falta esta info

Jamaica (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Jamaica has made significant strides in Environmental Management with the establishment of the National Resource Conservation Act (1991) and the formulation of a single agency (national Environment and Planning Agency) in 2001 with sole responsibility for addressing environmental issues. Projects such as the "Ridge to Reef" looks specifically at land use and natural resource management of targeted watershed areas and its effects on marine environment.

The country has also examined the whole conceptual framework for the Adaptation to Climate change which was initially addressed under preparation of the first National Communication and has been updated under preparation of the second national communication.

Jamaica is Party to the United Nations framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The Meteorological Service is the National focal point to the UNFCCC.

The mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into development planning has been an integral component of the work programme of the National Disaster Office. Notwithstanding greater buy in is necessary by the various sectors, in working towards this effort.

EIAs being reviewed to be a more established requirement for approval.

SEA to be developed and included as part of the D.O.

Regarding PES, project is underway to cost value ecosystems.

Signatory to RAMSAR Convention and Designation of RAMSAR sites.

Establishment of Devt. Assistance Centre - "One-Stop Shop".

Context & Constraints:

While the link has been made in terms of Disasters and Environmental Protection there needs to be greater collaboration among agencies especially as it relates to monitoring and enforcement, sharing of data and public education strategies.

Mexico (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

El Instituto Nacional de Ecología ha adquirido un compromiso institucional en materia de adaptación al cambio climático, ya que diferentes instrumentos de planificación y programas de acción a nivel nacional y subnacional, abordan dicho planteamiento. Ejemplo de éstos son: el Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2007-2012, que enmarca la adaptación al cambio climático en el objetivo once del eje cuatro sobre sustentabilidad ambiental; la Estrategia Nacional de Cambio Climático de 2007, que incluye líneas de acción para el fortalecimiento de capacidades de adaptación y de reducción del riesgo; los Programas Estatales de Acción ante el Cambio Climático que desarrollan evaluaciones técnicas sobre los impactos, la vulnerabilidad y la adaptación al cambio climático, con un enfoque de gestión de riesgos; y el Programa Especial de Cambio Climático (PECC), iniciativa del Gobierno Federal que incluye metas específicas para contribuir a desarrollar capacidades de adaptación.

La visión del PECC respecto a la adaptación y desarrollo de capacidades estratégicas para 2050 considera tres etapas:

- 1)2008-2012. Evaluación de la vulnerabilidad del país y valoración económica de las medidas prioritarias.
- 2)2013-2030. Fortalecimiento de capacidades estratégicas de adaptación, nacionales, regionales y sectoriales.
- 3)2031-2050. Consolidación de las capacidades construidas para lograr metas de adaptación a largo plazo.

El cumplimiento cabal del PECC podría alcanzar una reducción total de emisiones anuales en 2012, de alrededor de 51 millones de toneladas de CO₂e, con respecto al escenario tendencial (línea base al 2012 que ascendería a 786 MtCO₂e), y como resultado de acciones desarrolladas en los sectores relacionados con la generación y uso de energía, agricultura, bosques y otros usos del suelo, y desechos.

Con la instalación de la Comisión Intersecretarial para el Manejo Sustentable de Mares y Costas, se abre un espacio de coordinación institucional que permite la promoción de acciones transversales con enfoque integral.

Context & Constraints:

Actualmente INMUJERES implementa el proyecto "Género y Cambio Climático", que considera el deterioro del medio ambiente y el incremento de los desastres naturales como un efecto del cambio climático, e involucra a la Coordinación General de Protección Civil, INMUJERES, SEMARNAT, a la SRE y PNUD. Dicho proyecto, compuesto por acciones a nivel estatal, municipal, nacional e internacional, tiene por objetivo realizar un documento en el cual las mujeres expresen cómo afectan los efectos del cambio climático en sus comunidades. Este documento proveerá insumos para la Conferencia sobre Cambio Climático (COP 16) a realizarse en noviembre próximo.

Como reto, se identifica la necesidad de fortalecer las capacidades a nivel nacional y subnacional, en materia de evaluación de impactos, vulnerabilidad e instrumentación de medidas de adaptación al cambio climático. La forma en que se puede solventar dicho requerimiento es mediante la impartición de cursos y talleres prácticos de capacitación y el intercambio de experiencias.

Un medio que se identifica para captar recursos económicos es el diseño de mecanismos financieros, regionales e internacionales, que sean de acceso rápido a los gobiernos nacionales y locales.

La instrumentación de acciones integrales de prevención entre los diferentes sectores sociales, económicos y naturales es un reto que sigue presente a nivel nacional y subnacional. Otra medida sugerida es la creación de programas de mitigación en estados y municipios, lo que resulta un gran reto considerando las diferentes capacidades institucionales entre las entidades y la gran desigualdad existente entre los municipios del país.

Resulta vital reducir la vulnerabilidad de los sistemas naturales y humanos en forma sistemática y que los sectores productivos y sociales, a nivel nacional y subnacional, se sensibilicen e incluyan la reducción del riesgo y la adaptación al cambio climático en sus políticas sectoriales.

Nicaragua (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> Estrategia Nacional Ambiental y de Cambio Climático (2010)

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/15491_estrategianacionalambientalydecambi.pdf [PDF]

Description:

El PNUD ha apoyado la formulación integral de la estrategia ambiental y cambio climático, contando con la formulación de proyectos en adaptación y movilización de recursos. Actualmente se cuenta con documento aprobado por el ejecutivo sobre la Estrategia Nacional Ambiental y del Cambio Climático Plan de Acción 2010-2015, la que incorpora cinco lineamientos estratégicos como son la Educación Ambiental para la Vida, Defensa y Protección Ambiental de los Recursos Naturales, Conservación, Recuperación, Captación y Cosecha de Agua, Mitigación, Adaptación y Gestión de Riesgo ante el Cambio Climático y el Manejo Sostenible de la Tierra. El Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales, gerencia el proceso de implementación de la estrategia con el apoyo de las instituciones de gobierno, los Gobiernos Municipales, los Gabinetes Ambientales, Productivos y Económicos territoriales.

MARENA, ha realizado estudios sobre evaluación de la vulnerabilidad actual y futura del sistema recursos hídricos y agricultura, elaborándose una estrategia de adaptación ante el cambio climático fundamentada en acciones de conservación del suelo y del agua, incremento de la productividad del suelo, reconversión de los sistemas de producción y participación, en coordinación con los gobiernos municipales que se ubican dentro de la Cuenca No. 64.

El CIES ha contribuido en el diseño de modelos de desarrollo y su relación con las afectaciones del Ambiente y los Recursos naturales.

La SE-SINAPRED/CEPREDENAC, colaboró en la reproducción de 1,250 Guías de Educación Ambiental para el Manejo integrado de Cuencas Hidrográficas.

Context & Constraints:

Dentro de las principales limitaciones, se tiene que aun los factores subyacentes ó riesgos agregados a reducir no son considerados como problemas para el desarrollo seguro.

Panama (in Spanish)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Existe la voluntad y el marco legal donde la reducción de riesgos es parte integral de las políticas.
Ejemplos:

Ley general de ambiente. Ley 41

Ley de Delito Ecológico. Ley 5

Resolución AG-0526-2006 aprueban el manual del procedimiento para la elaboración y evaluación de auditorías ambientales y programas de adecuación y manejo ambientales.

Política Nacional de Recursos Hídricos (ANAM)

Política Nacional de Cambio Climático

Política Nacional de Producción Más Limpia.

Política Nacional de Información Ambiental.

Política Nacional de Gestión Integral de Residuos No Peligrosos y Peligrosos.

Política Nacional de la Descentralización Ambiental.

Política Nacional de Supervisión, control y Fiscalización ambiental. Y por terminar y aprobar las Políticas Nacionales de Humedales y de Manejo Integrado del Fuego en Masas Vegetales.

La Unidad de Cambio Climático y Desertificación de la Autoridad Nacional del ambiente está trabajando en la adaptación y mitigación al CC, ya que se ha elaborado la primera comunicación nacional correspondiente a circunstancias en las cuales los estudios realizados para el primer inventario nacional de efecto invernadero y el análisis de opciones de mitigación y la observación sistemática del clima; Los resultados de la evaluación de la vulnerabilidad y medidas de adaptación a los impactos adversos del cambio climático; de aquí también sale la elaboración del mapa de vulnerabilidad en costas por aumento del nivel del mar.

Actualmente se está trabajando en la segunda comunicación nacional y se está valorando el mapa de vulnerabilidad en costas.

Se está elaborando el Cuarto Informe de Desertificación en donde se está haciendo una evaluación de las actividades realizadas para reducir la vulnerabilidad en las tierras degradadas del país.

La reducción del riesgo de desastres es un objetivo integral de las políticas y los planes relacionados con el medio ambiente, lo que incluye la gestión de los recursos naturales y el uso del suelo, al igual que la adaptación al cambio climático.

Se realizan acciones de supervisión, fiscalización y control, con la activa colaboración y participación del sector público y la sociedad civil relacionada, integrando y buscando armonizar adecuadamente el desarrollo con sostenibilidad ambiental.

Actualmente se desarrolla la consultoría para la elaboración de un Reglamento de Atención de Desastres y Accidentes Ambientales.

Se cuenta con las metodologías para la elaboración de indicadores de salud, ambiente, seguridad alimentaria y desastres, para las cuencas Calovébora y Chucunaque.

Se realizó un taller de capacitación en adaptación y mitigación al cambio climático (salud y desastres naturales), por cuenca (Tabasará y Chucunaque), con las organizaciones comunitarias, indígenas y municipales. Además se cuenta con:

Proyecto de Construcción de Indicadores de Sequía y Degradación de suelos para las Áreas Secas y degradadas,

Se pretende fortalecer la capacidad de la Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente y de la Comisión Nacional para la prevención, control y manejo de los incendios forestales (CONPRECMAIF), grupos locales y organizaciones de bases comunitarias participantes en el manejo integrado de fuego en los bosques tropicales de Panamá.

Programa Regional de Reducción de Vulnerabilidad y Degradación Ambiental (PREVDA)

El Programa Regional de Reducción de la Vulnerabilidad y Degradación Ambiental inició operaciones con temas relacionadas con los temas de Riesgo, Agua y Ambiente, a través de comisiones de trabajo.

Proyecto de Construcción de Indicadores de Sequía y Degradación de suelos para las Áreas Secas y degradadas,

Subprograma Coordinación de Manejo Integrado del Fuego

Subprograma Coordinación de Desastres Ambientales.

Context & Constraints:

Se han logrado avances y se tiene una buena legislación Ambiental, que debe integrarse un poco más con la parte de gestión de riesgo.

Las leyes existen, pero falta la aplicación de las leyes, esto pudiera ir ligado con la obtención de favores por las personas llamadas a la aplicación de la ley.

La ley da participación a la sociedad civil pero falta que esta se involucre en la toma de decisiones.

Se adolece de Políticas masivas de educación ambiental y de gestión de riesgo que mueva a las comunidades a participar.

Paraguay (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

La incorporación de la reducción de riesgos de desastres en las políticas y planes relacionados con el medio ambiente es reciente, el compromiso de las instituciones rectoras en cuestión ambiental y de reducción de riesgos se evidencia en la voluntad para el cumplimiento de la legislación vigente, además de la inclusión y vinculación de temas no considerados hasta hoy como la adaptación al cambio climático y la reducción de riesgos.

Context & Constraints:

El Paraguay ha aumentado su condición de país vulnerable a los efectos adversos del cambio climático, entre las causas subyacentes se encuentran la deforestación y degradación de los bosques, las limitaciones en las políticas sobre producción, la falta de ordenamiento territorial, los incumplimientos, superposiciones y vacíos de legislación así como de las capacidades institucionales se convierten en las limitantes actuales.

Peru (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

La Dirección Nacional de Saneamiento (DNS) del Ministerio de Vivienda, Construcción y Saneamiento, cuenta con la Unidad de Evaluación del Impacto Ambiental, que se encarga de aprobar los estudios del impacto ambiental de los proyectos de saneamiento a fin de que cumplan con la leyes establecidas para la protección del ambiente y cumplan con el Reglamento Nacional de Edificaciones aprobado por D.S N° 011-2006 VIVIENDA, en la parte pertinente a saneamiento y que además cumpla con los requerimientos para disminuir la vulnerabilidad de los sistemas de agua potable y desagüe.

Existe en el marco de la Política Nacional del Ambiente y los instrumentos normativos vigentes, de parte del MINAM

En el sector Producción, se realiza la Evaluación del Impacto Ambiental por medio de las Direcciones Generales de Medio Ambiente de Industria y Pesquería. Las Direcciones Generales de Medio Ambiente de Industria y Pesquería de acuerdo a su POI, tienen proyectados planes de trabajo a mediano y largo plazo relacionados con el medio ambiente.

Dentro de los estudios ambientales de Saneamiento se considera la evaluación de los componentes ambientales, determinando por las interrelaciones enfocadas en la disminución o minimización de los diferentes riesgos identificados, las mismas que tienen estrecha relación con la preservación de los RRNN y de cómo efecto posterior con la ACC.

Context & Constraints:

Si bien existen normas legales, estos no permiten satisfacer la necesidad global, ni realizar un monitoreo, seguimiento o fiscalización.

Existe superposición de intereses sectoriales y falta de inclusión del ciudadano en el dialogo. No existe un mecanismo de protección, pues se dan malas prácticas que contradicen este indicador.

Se requiere mayor presencia del MINAM y llegar descentralizadamente a las diversas regiones.

Falta de instrumentos y herramientas de gestión para la aplicación de la gestión ambiental.

Saint Kitts and Nevis (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

There has been much progress in each of the following areas :

- Protected areas legislation e.g. The Central Forest Reserve on St. Kitts and Nevis Peak on Nevis.
- Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs). An EIA is required for all major development projects.

Context & Constraints:

There are financial and technical constraints. Climate Change Adaptation projects and programmes require much work, and expertise is needed.

Saint Lucia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes
 - > Climate Change Policy <http://www.climatechange.gov.lc/lpolicy.htm>
 - > Saint Lucia's first Communication on Climate Change (2005) <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/lucnc1.pdf>

Description:

DRR is not always the integral objective of the related plans and programmes although by their very existence DRR is implied. Protected areas legislation does not afford adequate protection or restoration to mangroves and wetlands and although a number of strides have been made with respect to coastal zone management integrated development planning is not currently practiced.

Further the political approval system is such that the recommendations from EIAs are sometimes circumvented.

Context & Constraints:

The development and approval of policies and plans is only part of the resolution. Commitment to and the enforcement of these policies, plans and regulations is a grave issue; for example the enforcement of existing regulations regarding land use planning is a challenge and both with respect to human capacity and cultural mores.

Turks and Caicos Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

While DRR may not be the terminology formally used when referring to the environment in the TCI, a number markers are conducted here in the TCI

Context & Constraints:

Climate Change Adaptation which is in its infancy in the TCI, will be challenging because you will be asking persons to make long term decisions over addressing short term needs. The solution, as with DRR, is the conducting of a cost benefit analysis

United States of America (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

In October 2010, the Climate Change Adaptation Task Force, co-chaired by the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, released a report outlining recommendations for how federal agency policies and programs can better prepare the United States to respond to the impacts of climate change. The Task Force's work has been guided by a strategic vision for a resilient, healthy, and prosperous nation in the face of climate change. To achieve this vision, the Task Force identified a set of guiding principles that public and private decision-makers should consider in designing and implementing adaptation strategies. These strategies include, but are not limited to: adopting integrated approaches; prioritizing the most vulnerable; using the best available science; applying risk management tools and methods; and applying ecosystem-based approaches. These strategies were informed in part by a series of public outreach meetings held across the country, involving NGOs, local communities, and private sector representatives. Additionally, the NSTC Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction has engaged with the Task Force to help ensure that the disaster reduction perspective is incorporated into these strategies with the recognition that a number of aspects of mitigating disaster risks can also be effective for climate change adaptation.

Also, under the National Environmental Policy Act, all federal agencies are required to prepare detailed statements assessing the environmental impact of and alternatives to major federal actions significantly affecting the environment. These statements are commonly referred to as environmental impact statements (EISs). The act further specifies a Declaration of National Environmental Policy requiring the federal government to use all practicable means to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony.

Context & Constraints:

Federal R&D programs will need to evolve toward more systems-focused approaches, and there is already good evidence that these changes are underway. For example, the U.S. Global Change Research Program, which is overseen by a subcommittee of the NSTC Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Sustainability, is undergoing a strategic planning process that will build an end-to-end capability from understanding climate change to responding to its impacts, including adaptation research,

impact assessment, regional approaches to understanding impacts and delivery of climate information and services.

Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep of (in Spanish)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Venezuela prevé, en su marco constitucional, que: “El Estado protegerá el ambiente, la diversidad biológica, los recursos genéticos, los procesos ecológicos, los parques nacionales y monumentos naturales y demás áreas de especial importancia ecológica” y establece como objetivo del plan de desarrollo de la nación la conservación y preservación de ambientes naturales.

Context & Constraints:

- Involucrar la variable riesgo en los planes y programas de gestión ambiental, haciendo especial énfasis en el Plan Nacional de Adaptación al Cambio Climático.

Asia

Bangladesh (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The issue of climate change and variability has received greater attention in past years in Bangladesh. Bangladesh has prepared the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP, 2009). During the reporting period, GoB has established Climate Change Fund (CCF) and in last consecutive year (reporting period) government has allocated USD 100 million each year. Bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors are also exploring the possibility of creating a multi-donor trust fund to accelerate financing for research and adaptation in Bangladesh. For institutionalizing climate change issues, Climate Change Cell has been established, expanded climate change issues through establishing focal point in almost all major department and ministries which are also linked with Disaster Management Bureau. The Climate Change Cell (CCC) and DMB carrying out some of its functions and activities will be relocated within government to contribute to the broader GoB effort in addressing climate change. Ministry of Environment and Forests in partnership with relevant stakeholders finalized and adopted the National Capacity Self Assessment for Environment and Natural Resource Management which addresses risk reduction issues in the policies and plans. This project identified the policy and planning gaps and in consensus recommended the road map for actions and development of capacity building plans and programmes. Government has approved Sustainable Land Management Programme which is intended to cover land related risk reduction issues including mining. Ministry of Land is implementing Coastal Land Zoning Project. Ministry of Agriculture and its technical agencies are engaged and in continuous process to develop climate resilient crop varieties in the context of salinity intrusion, drought and submergence. A project is launched in early 2008 by FFWC and Action-Aid with support from DANIDA to understand effectiveness of expandable DRR approaches into climate change context in three agro-ecological zones.

Context & Constraints:

Research and piloting of climate change adaptation at the community level is necessary to inform various areas of intervention on CCA. Key constraints includes (i) small scale and isolated pilot initiatives which

needs to be scaled up and mainstreamed; (ii) much more investment needed for large scale research and development investment and its dissemination; (iii) Short term, medium term and long term human resource development policies and plans are needed in order to make all risk reduction efforts sustainable. On top of that exact institutional frameworks and financing mechanisms for a national level climate change initiative have yet to be fully finalized and made effective.

Brunei Darussalam (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The level of awareness on the need to apply proper construction and site preparation techniques especially in flood-prone or hilly areas which may be at risk to landslides is increasing.

In accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1972, TCP provides guidance and advisory services on matters pertaining to physical developments.

The National Land Use Master Plan 2006-2025, was prepared under the auspices of the TCP which superseded the 1987-2005 Negara Brunei Darussalam Master Plan (NBD Master Plan). Major achievements of the past master plan according to the TCP are: the promotion of protection of forests, natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas through land use zoning; allocation of assorted Housing Scheme sites; expansion of Bandar Seri Begawan Board Area; and identification of Sungai Liang as a long-term strategic industrial reserve.

Context & Constraints:

The need to strengthen linkages with the environment, town and country planning, and relevant departments is aparent.

Georgia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

DRR takes an integrated approach to all environmental policies and plans. NEA currently coordinates activities to investigate legislative needs for Disaster Mapping, or the risk knowledge assessment study - identifying natural hazards' sensitive areas, communities vulnerable to the hazards, type and character of the risks. First version of the Disaster Mapping study is expected to be available by early next year. In Hydrometeorological and Geological hazardous events and shoreline monitoring are included in all preventive measures to decrease hazards in some prone regions of the country.

Activities in Georgia on disaster management are guided by the following legislation and regulatory acts. The 1997 Law on the State of Emergency represents a framework law for regulation of the aftermath of natural disasters. 2007 Law on Protecting the Population and Territory from Natural and Technological Emergency Situations; 1997 presidential Decree No. 66 on Counter-measures of Development of Disastrous Natural Geological Processes and Protection of Underground Hydrosphere and Lands; 1998 Decree No. 779 on Promotion of Implementation of UN Programme on Management of Emergency Situations. The shoreline protection activities are regulated by the Law of Georgia about Engineering Protection and Regulation and Adjustment of Sea, Reservoirs and Rivers Shoreline; - #576 27.10.2000.

Georgia joined the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1994 and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Presently in the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources is worked out the second National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP-2), where the management problem of natural and anthropogenic disaster represents priority direction.

Context & Constraints:

The Government of Georgia undertakes efforts to improve the country's legal framework in disaster preparedness, a number of legal acts and regulations have been developed in the last few years, but the most part of them covers the issues of disaster response with little if any attention given to disaster risk reduction.

In spite of overall challenge for the national level is to reduce rural exodus and/or address the consequences of rural land-use abandonment (also known as changing land-use patterns). It is necessary

to adopt the legislation to proscribe the legalization of (not arable) lands without geological hazardous risk assessment, also land legalization of refugees from disaster prone communities. Even the adaptation on climate change must be further utilized to address the difficulties in environmental policy.

There is a need for frameworks in sustainable resource and environment management because there is a lack of consistent integration of environmental politics and planning, aside from the successes on the project level. Currently the integration is more situational than systematic.

India (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Issue of Climate Change and the interlinkages that exist between Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction has been widely acknowledged by Government of India.

National Action Plan for Climate Change has been formulated which emphasizes on such actions like vulnerability assessment, contingency plans, maintenance of critical facilities like water supply, health, enforcement of building codes, strengthening of early warning system ect.

Other legislations which are available to protect the environment and natural resources are as follows:

Environment Protection Act
Environment Impact Assessment
Biological Diversity Act,2002
Coastal Zone Regulation
Notification on Eco-Sensitive Zone
The Chemical Accident(EMERGENCY PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE) Rules.
Forest Conservation Act and Forest Conservation Rules.

Context & Constraints:

There is a need to understand the various facets of environmental vulnerabilities specially in the context of hazard risks how it can effect the natural ecosystem and environmental resources.

Indonesia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Indonesia has started to relate disaster risk reduction with environmental management and integrated it to its development policy, in particular through the ninth priority program in the Middle-term National Development Plan 2010-2014. Indonesian National Council for Climate Change (Dewan Nasional Perubahan Iklim/DNPI) has initiated the integration of DRR into CCA in the formulation of the National Action Plan for Climate Change. Thus, disaster risk reduction programs will be implemented in complementary with environmental conservation programs, including land use management, natural resource management and adaptation to global warming and climate change programs.

The above policy has also been supported by numerous regulations, such as the Environment Bill, the Spatial Planning Bill, the Natural Resource and Ecosystem Conservation Bill, the Forestry Bill, the Geothermal Bill, the Water Resource Bill, the Coastal Management Areas Bill, the Waste Management Bill, and the other relevant laws. Several regulations ancillary to Law No. 32 on the Environment have been drafted. There has also been a draft damage assessment tool for wetland, complete with the damage indicators. Several institutions have also implemented programs that integrate disaster risk reduction to climate change adaptation in the regions.

In practice, central-level policies have not always been aligned with those at the regional and local levels. In Riau Province, for instance, the central government puts much restriction for activities in protected forests, but the local authority let mining activities take place in the same areas. The case is also true with spatial planning related to road construction, which in the policy of the Ministry of Forestry cannot be built through national parks, but this is contested by the policies of the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Public Works.

Context & Constraints:

One of the constraints related to this issue is the weak law enforcement and overlapping of regulations. Indonesia has already had many laws and their ancillary regulations, but the efforts to enforce these regulatory and policy instruments have not been so successful due to the lack of understanding and commitment of the sectors in building a synergic cooperation. Corruption has also become a big challenge.

At the community level, awareness has appeared, but community-based initiatives have often not been accommodated by the authority. The Ministry of Environment, for instance, has developed the Climate Village Project; the Ministry of Fishery and Maritime Affairs developed Disaster Prepared Village; Surabaya Green and Clean project constitutes a community-based initiative; but all these initiatives have not been integrated into the existing policies.

In the future Indonesia needs to nurture understanding of the importance of disaster risk reduction that is integrated into environmental conservation efforts and reduce compartmentalization among the sectors that manage disasters and risk reduction. Mangrove planting, for instance, needs to be seen as part of disaster risk reduction since it is also useful to prevent abrasion and provide protection against tsunamis. Institutional coordination and synergy among agencies working with disaster risk reduction and climate change issues need to be built. Emphasis needs to be given to policies that are based on sustainable development. Multi-sectoral policy advocacy and implementation needs to be enhanced, besides law enforcement for corruption cases related to natural resource and environmental management. Coordination and synergy need to be built between the central government and local governments to prevent opposing regulations issued by different government levels.

Japan (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Japan has national land conservation projects such as river improvement, soil erosion control (sabo), and soil and coastline conservation which are carried out strategically for protecting national land, citizens' lives and property from various disasters. In 2005, the National Spatial Planning Act (revision of

Comprehensive National Development Act) was enforced in order to make the shift from the policy centered on development. Based on the Act, the National Spatial Strategies was developed at national level in 2008, and Regional Spatial Strategic Plans was developed in each of eight large regional areas in August 2009. One of the strategic goals identified in the Act and the National Strategies are to design disaster resilience nation to ensure safe and secure life including promotion of comprehensive disaster risk reduction measures.

Additionally, the second period of the “Forest Improvement and Conservation Works Master Plan (Five-Year Plan)” was developed as a plan from 2009 to 2014 to promote comprehensive and effective forestry improvement and soil conservation projects.

Context & Constraints:

The task force to comprehensively review the current progress of adaptation to climate change in the national policies has established and just started the activities in March 2009. Furthermore, an examination committee on climate change adaptation was established in May 2010, and developed the report “Direction of adaptation to climate change” in November 2010, as a conclusion of studies. In the report, disaster risk reduction is considered one of the important issues to be examined.

Lao People's Democratic Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Description:

Environmental law includes DRR to some extent and is presently undergoing review. National and Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate Change (NAPA) programmes focuses on 4 main sectors, which are directly and severely affected by climate change – agriculture, forestry, water and water resources and public health. Various projects have been initiated under the NAPA Framework to prepare and enhance the capacity of rural farmers to adapt to climate changes and associated natural disasters. The key components of the projects are capacity building for local agriculture extension officers and farmers living in the natural hazard prone areas on land management, diversity of crop and animal species; Research and promote a diversity of crop varieties and animal species that are adapted to the stressful environmental conditions; train farmers on food processing and storing of human and animal food stuff. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is key agency to implement the projects.

Environmental and Social Impact assessments (ESIA) are also required for projects of a certain size/extent, but these are not readily available to public, although mandated as such under the ESIA Decree. The Decree is implemented by the Department of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (DESIA) under WREA, only recently established in 2008. ESIA is considered as a preventive measure to potential adverse environmental impacts from investment projects, but its effectiveness will depend on the technical capacity within DESIA to review ESIA's of complex projects, and on its integration within the investment approval process.

A National Steering Committee on Climate Change also exists in the country, with 7 technical working groups i.e. agriculture & food security, forest and land management, energy management, hydrology and water resources, city infrastructure, economic management and financial instruments and are currently working on the formulation of a National Climate Change Strategy for 2020 and a first National Action Plan in alignment with the 7th national socio economic development plan.

Context & Constraints:

Constraints:

Environment issues are quite new for the Lao PDR local population and awareness of environmental impact is at an early stage. At this time, it will be quite hard to enforce the law. ESIA is also a very recent requirement in Lao PDR and the focus is currently on setting up the technical and institutional procedures for implementation of the law.

Effective coordination remains a challenge while enhancing capacity on climate change adaptation to farmers will be resource and effort consuming.

The Way Forward

DEISA within WREA requires building of the technical capacity to review ESIA's of complex projects, and on its integration within the investment approval process.

Ongoing projects within NAPA

Expediting review of environmental laws

Lebanon (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Although Lebanon has yet to develop a clear national strategy for DRR, several regulations and activities are currently underway that do fall under DRR policies and plans. Such regulations include the protected areas legislation, the land use master plan, and the coastal master plan.

Context & Constraints:

The main identifiable constraint is the lack of available resources and funds. Other constraints include a lack of strategy implementation, and a lack of control over the implementation of laws and regulations.

Recommendations include:

- Developing a national strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Coordinating between planning and building laws
- Addressing environmental legislation
- Including provisions for Disaster Risk Reduction in the budget

Malaysia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The DRR objectives and elements have been progressively achieved through the Five Year Malaysia Plans over the years, which reduce underlying risk factors and promote sustainable development. The Land Use Planning Appraisal For Risk (LUPAr) Programme, chaired by the Director General of Town and Country Planning, monitors the implementation of HFA in preparation of state structure plan, local plan and other related studies. A total of 86 local plans and 14 structure plans, which incorporated environment and natural resource conservation considerations, were prepared during the Ninth Malaysia Plan (2005-2010). The Department also formulated the National Physical Plan adopted to further enhance integrated land use planning as well as developed guidelines to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas (ESA). The Department of Irrigation and Drainage oversees the implementation of its guidelines, namely the Urban Stormwater Management Manual (MSMA) by local authorities in the feasibility assessment and execution of physical developments. The National Slope Master Plan by the Public Works Department provides a comprehensive guidance for slope management and disaster risk reduction strategy on landslide hazards. At the First World Landslide Forum in Japan in November 2008, the Department was chosen as one of ten World Centres of Excellence in Disaster Risk Reduction by UNISDR.

In the agriculture sector, initiatives that had been undertaken include sustainable agriculture practices, and the enforcement of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) for agriculture projects that pose risks to the environment i.e. at hillsides, aquaculture projects and livestock farming. In order to reduce the impact of disasters like floods to crops, flood mitigation projects involving the strengthening drainage and irrigation infrastructure including the construction of dams in rice fields had been implemented.

Context & Constraints:

To ensure concerted holistic responses to address climate change, a National Policy on Climate Change was formulated based on stakeholder consultation and was approved in late 2009. The Policy seeks to mainstream climate resilient development into national, state and local levels of government. It contains several Key Actions that address DRR directly and indirectly through, amongst others, systematic reviews

for harmonisation and integration in existing and new legislation, policies and plans; mobilisation of financing and technical assistance; and R&D and establishment of disaster database inventory.

Maldives (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Land use plans are being developed for islands and an EIA has to be conducted for developmental infrastructural work before the starting of the project. Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture is developing an Agricultural Land Legislation for both inhabited and uninhabited islands. The legislation has a focus on sustainable agricultural practices on resources management for agriculture. Maldives is a party to Kyoto Protocol and has developed a National Adaptation of Action (NAPA) under the ICCS, from this plan a more refined and adapted plan named SNAP has been developed including DRR and CCA components with institutional capacity building. Furthermore, there have been negotiations with the concerned ministries for instance the Ministry of Housing and Environment, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, on assigning certain islands for each atoll for sand mining. It is assumed that from this action, there would be a decrease in soil erosion and land degradation.

According to Section 50 of the Environmental Act gives the (Guidelines for Environmental Disasters) the Environment Section shall in consultation with the relevant Line Ministries, Police Force, the health care authorities, the Atoll Environmental Committees and other organizations which the Agency considers necessary, develop and implement contingency plans for the management of environmental disasters.

It also states that the Atoll Environment Committees in collaboration with the Agency, shall prepare plans for responses to environmental disasters, with specific reference to known, possible disasters within their area of jurisdiction. Environmental disaster plans shall be distributed to all sectors and institutions and the Environmental Committees so established under this Law to disseminate information, and carry out awareness programmes.

Context & Constraints:

The Ministry of Housing and Environment is in the process of finalizing a Planning Act, which would enable sustainable planning, development and use of land in the country, as well as to enable local authorities to carry out their land use planning and building control functions more effectively.

Under the UNDP/MHE project: “Integration of Climate Change Risks into Resilient Island Planning the Maldives”, it has been proposed to prepare Land use plans of 4 islands that would in turn cater for an adaptation or mitigation for the Climate change Risks.

Lack a proper framework of how to mainstream climate change and disaster risks in areas of land use planning, coastal development and coastal protection as these areas are identified in the NAPA as key priority areas.

Mongolia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Government of Mongolia is taking the following measures to implement the MDG based Comprehensive Policy on National Development, strengthen adaptation to climate change, and reduce disaster risks:

1.The draft National Climate Change Program has been revised and discussed by the Cabinet of Ministers and is in the process of being prepared for submission to the Parliament.

2.The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is under development.

3.Several national programs including “Water” program, “National Program for Combating Desertification” and “Mongolian Livestock” program are in the process of acquiring approval from the relevant authorities.

4.The “Climate Change Induced Risk Management Strategy” and its “Implementation Plan” have been developed and are ready to be discussed and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

5.Methodical measures to establish the capacities to conduct detailed analysis of climate change with time units of 5-10 years are being implemented. The capacities needed to be in place are trained human resources and climate change analysis methodologies and equipments.

Context & Constraints:

Financial constraints are the major obstacles to the implementation of these projects and programs.

Nepal (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

No

Means of Verification:

* No: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Nepal experiences frequent hydro-meteorological disasters and Climate change/variability will further increase their frequency and severity. Climate change will also adversely impact lives and livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people which will render them vulnerable to natural disasters. Moreover, as large share of the population is dependent on rain-fed agriculture, impact of climate change will be manifested in food shortage further aggravating the vulnerability of the population. Although there is general acknowledgement of the issue, lack of sufficient contextual scientific and technical information is impeding program formulation to cope with these adversaries.

The political commitment for mitigating and adapting to Climate Change is reflected in the fact that the Government has formed high level council for Climate change in 2009. In 2008 budget, there was very clear reference to establishment of Climate Change Research Center but has not been realized yet. The commitment has again been repeated in the approach paper for current 3 year plan also (2010-12).

Initiatives such as construction of electric fences, embankment improvement, machans, culverts, drainage, bridges, shelters, irrigation facilities and toilets in the communities in the districts covering over 47,000 population in 5 districts have induced better living environment along with reduced underlying risks on flood, drought, wildlife intrusion and health related hazards including the impacts of climate change. Similar integrated approach of Environmental management, CCA and DRR for improving livelihoods of people will be instrumental in making substantial difference.

Context & Constraints:

There is a growing inclination among competing line agencies in the government to believe that Climate Change, Environmental Management and Disaster Risk Reduction have to be taken care of by separate entities. Ministry of Environment is the focal agency for Climate Change and Environmental management

and MoHA is the focal agency for Disaster Risk Management. This has often led to limit the effectiveness of the efforts and also confused implementing agencies not to mention the communities themselves whose first attention always is meeting the immediate needs.

Other challenges include:

- Translating policies into practice
- Community-based projects have limitations in terms of technical quality, resource availability, and operations & maintenance
- Inconsistent recorded data and very high cost of available data
- Inconsistency in the available information
- Wider areas and issues (hazards) to cover within limited resources.
- Resource availability and also maintenance
- Reaching out to the poorest of poor communities due to cost implication for such devices

Recommendation

The high level committee under chairmanship of the Prime Minister envisaged by NSDRM should be formed immediately. The high level committee should develop a framework to realize integration of Environmental Management, Climate Change and DRR issues. The framework should have resonance with the livelihoods of the people at local level.

A network/platform should be established where experts in environmental management, climate change and DRR can exchange views, share information and make coordinated effort.

The development plans and policies need to integrate DRR, Climate Change adaptation and mitigation and environmental management comprehensively in development strategies. This comprehensive approach should also be reflected in the grass-root level implementation as well with the well established link to address the livelihoods of the people.

Establish CC and DRR research center at national level. Implementation oriented and scientific research on inter-linkage of Environmental management, CC and disaster occurrences should be fostered through the center.

Pakistan (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

At the federal level, the Ministry of Environment has the institutional responsibility for coordinating all all efforts related to natural resources and environmental management. Pakistan Environmental Protection Act 1997 provides the legal framework for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment.

National Environmental Policy 2005 provides an overarching framework for addressing the environmental issues facing Pakistan which includes deforestation, loss of bio diversity, natural disasters and climate change. Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA) is mandated to ensure adherence to enviromental protection safeguards and standards in cross cutting sectors especially in industrial and infrastructure development sectors. Besides, as a standard practice, Environmental Impacts Assessments (EIA) constitute an integral part of the feasibility studies carried out for large infrastructure development projects including dams, hydro electric power projects etc

Pakistan conservation laws provide for acreation of Protected Area (PA) categories including Wildlife Sanctuaries, National parks, Game reserves and Unclassified PAs. Provincial and territorial legislation provides the legal framework for biodiversity conservation in the four provinces, capital territory and Azad Jammu & Kashmir. In addition forestry related legislation such as Forest Act and other provincial/territorial legislation place restrictions on forest use.

Despite its difficult economic conditions, Pakistan has striven to make environmental issues a priority. At the provincial, territorial and national level, the country is endeavouring to reduce poverty while conserving its natural resources. The Pakistan Wetlands Programme fits well within Pakistan’s development goals by aiming to promote equitable sharing of natural resources, securing rights-of-access, especially for poor communities, diversifying livelihoods, improving the income earning potential of stakeholder communities and creating incentives for sustainable wetlands management.

Context & Constraints:

As a developing country, faced with political and economic instability, Pakistan has serious and varied economic problems. A key development challenge for the country is to promote economic growth and an equitable income distribution without degrading its natural resources. As a prevalent phenomenon in the developing world, Environment Sector does not receive requisite degree of attention in the development policies of the Governments. The environmental protection policies and programmes have an integral element of risk reduction. Therefore, the increased allocation of resources for environmental sector complements the DRR policies as a consequential outcome. However, the government, constrained by scarcity of resources, have not been able to allocate reasonable allocation of resources to pursue development policies in the environmental sector which invariably has a direct adverse bearing on pursuance of DRR policies and strategies.

Sri Lanka (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> Building disaster resilience through establishing community preparedness plans, enhancing community lobbying strength, national advocacy and research (2008)

[http://www.preventionweb.net/files/15417_pips12ndprojectupdatep2forhfa\[1\].doc](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/15417_pips12ndprojectupdatep2forhfa[1].doc) [DOC]

> State of the Nation on Climate Change

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/15417_stateofthenationlowfilezise.pdf [PDF]

> Climate Change Adaptation <http://www.climatechange.lk/adaptation>

Description:

The National Environmental Act (NEA) was enacted in 1980 and undertaking IEE or EIA was made compulsory for development prescribed by regulations under the provisions of the NEA.

The DMC is involved with the Central Environment Authority (CEA) in considering DRR concepts in the EIA process for new development projects.

The Government has accepted the Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) as a requirement for regional development. Integrated SEA was undertaken for the Northern Province, Trincomalee, and Hambantota Districts incorporating disasters.

Environmentally sensitive areas are declared as protected areas under the NEA. The National Wetland Policy and Strategy was approved by the Government.

A pilot project has been implemented on Emergency Preparedness Plans at the local level for Koggala and Ekala industrial zones.

IUCN has implemented many projects for replanting and conservation of wetland mangroves.

The Forest Department continues to implement reforestation programmes (mangrove) in catchment areas, which improve the retention capacity, thereby, reducing flash floods in some areas.

The Soil Conservation Act provided a legal basis for taking action to minimise soil erosion due to human intervention, especially in hilly terrain.

The Coast Conservation Department (CCD) implementing Coastal Zone Management Programme (CZMP) was updated in 2005 and a study was undertaken to develop guidelines for the incorporation of disaster concerns in the CZMP with the financial assistance from ADPC.

Pilot projects were conducted to identify seed varieties including, paddy that is resistant to flood and drought. With the assistance of the Department of Agriculture, and as a Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) strategy, farmers were trained to cultivate in marginal lands with high saline content.

A Seed Bank was established with the assistance of the Faculty of Agriculture, Eastern University of Sri

Lanka, and the Department of Agriculture. As a CCA activity, seeds resistant to drought are being issued to farmers.

Sectoral Vulnerability Profile for CCA was finalised and will be used for the CCA strategy.

A National Climate Change Adaptation Policy is at the draft stage.

The CCD developed Special Area Management Plans (SAMP) incorporating DRR concerns for six specific locations in Sri Lanka.

The WFP initiated a provision of fuel efficient stoves to Primary Schools and IDP returnee areas.

Context & Constraints:

Differences of definitions in different Acts and regulations, e.g. sensitive area/disaster prone area.

Assessing the impact of disasters on development is made difficult due to non-availability of hazard and risk maps for vulnerable areas.

Consultants undertaking EIA studies need to be made aware of disasters in Sri Lanka and their impact on development.

Proper plans to address disasters caused by industrial activities (chemical) are unavailable.

Syrian Arab Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

-

Context & Constraints:

-

Thailand (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

DRR is considered as the important part for the completion of environmental related plan and policies, particularly in natural resource management, land use planning, and climate change adaptation. Thailand has adopted National Strategy for Climate Change Management 2008-2012. This national framework clearly identifies DRR as one of the strategies. DRR is in "Strategy 1: building capacity for climate change adaptation and vulnerability reduction, Tactic 1.2.2: development of disaster prevention and impact mitigation measures for natural disaster and human settlements. All concerned agencies have agreed and participated in this framework such as Ministry of Interior. Report of progress are disseminated periodically.

Context & Constraints:

The national framework for DRR and CCA has identified several requirements for successful implementation of the plan, including conducting research and studies to develop forecast capabilities; risk, vulnerability, and impact assessment towards climate change, ecosystem, coastal settlement and so on. However, such requirements have not yet translated into a specific action plan.

Yemen (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

In 2007, MWE completed some of the paragraphs and items related to the risks of drought and floods in the Bulletin of the National Strategy, and there are also more than 10 items related to disasters and DRR that have been added to the environmental law draft No. 96 of 1995 .

There is a mechanism to protect and restore the organizing ecosystem services, but it is not comprehensive as required in terms of implementation of laws and projects targeted. There are protected areas and legislations to protect them but the implementation mechanisms are missing. There are no payments for ecosystem services, accompanied by the existence of shortcomings in the management of coastal areas included in the plans of the MWE, because of the inadequacy of monitoring and evaluation. The legislations of the environmental impact assessment is included in the national plans of the state .They were partially implemented in some projects, accompanied by apathy and manipulation in its implementation, and WB cooperation with EPA launched a project is climate change and adaptation.

After the rock fall in the village of Althafeer (December 2005) the project of producing risks map of cap rock was established in the Geological Survey Authority with government funding.

After the flood of Hadramout and Al-Mahra (October 2008) the WB financed through the program GFDRR a study of mapping the disaster, and making Atlas of the national disaster.

Yemeni Environment Protection Society, the Friends of Environment, the Beekeeping Association, Agricultural Unions, Women Associations have set their respective objectives on the promotion of public awareness of environmental protection issues and responses as well as on initiating some field-work relating to environment and desertification control activities.

Context & Constraints:

- Non-implementing the binding laws and legislations.
- Scarcity of financial and technical capabilities.
- Lack of the encouraging alternatives.
- Lack of awareness and knowledge in aspects of disaster risks.
- Lack of participation the women and youth in the environment protection.

The EPA sees that there are other challenges:

1. Intensity of pressure and threats on natural resources and ecological balance.
2. Weakness of the strategic planning for developmental sectors and to identify priorities, policies and options for sustainable environmental development and updating indicators regularly.
3. Lack of the economic mechanism for the real pricing of resources such as energy and water that lead to environmental damages ,waste of natural resources , increase of pollution and not calculating the cost of environmental degradation within the national economy.
4. Lack of community awareness about the environmental issues which weakened the motives and stimulation to conserve and properly manage the environmental resources.

The absence of issuing the legislations circulars relating to land use linked to seismic hazards.

The Geological Survey Authority states that it was planned to produce a risks map of cap rock of Yemen in three years; however, there is a lack of resources due to the economic conditions of the country which prevented the commitment to the proposed period of time.

To overcome such obstacles requires providing an adequate support of technical requirements, qualitative training and rehabilitation, institutional capacity-building and creating binding legislations

Europe

Armenia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Reduction of the major disaster risks associated with changing social, economic and environmental conditions related to geological endogenous and exogenous processes, changes in climatic and meteorological conditions and the development of sectors and situations - the consequences of disasters. Consider the six prior "core indicators" to monitor and review progress and challenges in implementing the actions identified by HFA.

1. Disaster risk reduction - an integral part of the strategy and plans in the areas of: environmental, land use, strategic management of natural resources, the system preservation of natural ecological balance of the ecosystem, preservation of natural-technical system (NTS) to climate change and hydrometeorological conditions and the prevention of adverse changes in relief-and landscape conditions of the territory, contributing to the normal conditions of life of population and sustainable development of the NTS.
2. Programs and plans for social development aimed at reducing the vulnerability of most at-risk populations. Social development plans are in accordance with the socio-economic problems of emergencies and the procedure of liquidation of their consequences. The developments of the economy for sustainable functioning in emergency situations are compulsory, which are linked to the rational distribution of productive forces, a complex of measures aimed at security, livelihoods and life provision of population. Develop master plans for towns and cities, improving the reliability of municipal services, training systems and communications for the restoration of livelihoods, in case of violation under the influence of an emergency.
3. As part of the development of sectoral programs and plans aimed at reducing the vulnerability of economic activities, the following should be included:
 - Development of scientific and methodological foundations of the establishment and functioning of national forces for action in emergency situations
 - Development of scientific and methodological foundations of economic analysis of safety regulation in natural and man-made spheres
 - Advanced research in the field of protection of critical facilities and infrastructure from disaster.
4. Elements of disaster risk reduction should be included in the planning of settlements; however this factor

is not always taken into consideration in Armenia. As the areas favorable for the construction are limited, it is common to use the areas at risk from the impacts of exogenous processes, subject to flooding as the residence areas. All these factors should be subjected to detailed studies in the planning of human settlements development and justified the construction of building area.

5. When planning the construction of spatial development at the stage of research and detailed design of infrastructures of cities and towns, in order to minimize the adverse natural and technological hazards, the implementation of engineering protection measures is recommended which reduce the vulnerability of reclaimed areas, as well as the reliability of each structure.

Level of progress

In general the level of progress can be estimated as:

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are not complete and significant, but for some items "core indicators" assessment of progress consistent with the significant achievements of long-term commitment and capacity on the main level.

The mechanism of protection and recovery management

Yes, there are also realized by the legislative and institutional mechanisms for program management of ecological systems, particularly in relation to the flooded areas, areas under the development of mining, forests, etc.

Legislation on protected areas

There are protected areas, national parks and monuments under the protection of the state legislature in Armenia. In particular, the National Park "Lake Sevan", under the protection of the State today is in poor environmental condition. In connection with the water levels in Lake, the coastal areas are flooded, considerable funds are spent for the reconstruction of coastal inundation zone associated with the reconstruction and restoration of coastal infrastructure (eliminated illegal exploitation of the territory transferred to the design of communication are restored to treatment facilities, drainage structures are constructed to eliminate the negative impact on adjacent areas, etc.).

It should be noted that there is public concern about the placement of the mining industry in the area of Teghut Reserve.

Payment for Ecosystem Services

All protected areas in the sites and monuments of culture are potential areas of ecotourism. In particular, it should be noted the unique lake Parzlich (Tavush Marz), the territory's unique architectural monument of the V century - Tatev monastery, where a unique airlift with 4,5 km length is constructed. All the ecosystem services in eco-tourism zones are charged.

Integrated development planning and implementation of coastal management is associated mainly with the processing of rivers, lakes and artificial reservoirs from erosion, abrasion, impacts of flood debris, siltation and pollution of river beds, etc. In particular, there are developments of measures from recycling banks of river Aghstev in Ijevan city (Tavush Marz) from the mudflows in 1994 and 2002. Associated with the silting of the river bed and the flooding of large areas of the city. Coastal abrasion bowl reservoirs Dzhogaz (Tavush Marz), out of the operating mode of the main hydrotransportation channel in zone of Razdan city (Kotayk Marz), etc. According to the aforementioned hazards engineering stabilizing activities were developed.

Environmental impact assessment (EIA)

The key reason for the assessment of environmental impacts is the development of mobilizing and prevention of environmental disaster that may arise in connection with the planned replacing of gold factory from Ararat marz to the area near Lake Sevan. The Government of the Republic of Armenia, in response to the concerns of the environmental community, has banned the project.

In this section the scientific and applied work of ARS of MES RA should be highlighted in partnership with

JSC "Mining and Metallurgical Institute": "Mechanisms of environmental disaster risk reduction associated with the design, construction and operation of processing enterprises in Armenia ", 2010.

Projects and programs of adapting to climate change

Developing approaches, forms and methods of scientific and regulatory program in the area of prevention, prevent and minimize the consequences of emergencies caused by today's threats, coupled with changes in climatic and meteorological conditions, is carried out in accordance with Armenia's participation in the international program of joint scientific research organizations of CIS member states to prevent and to liquidate the consequences of emergencies for the period up to 2011. (Paragraphs: 3.6., 3.1.2., 3.7.1.)

Context & Constraints:

Despite of legislative base and institutional security, in some cases because of the need to replenish the economic potential and time benefits the natural balance of ecosystems is violated, creating a threat in some regions of the country.

An example is the violation of the ecology and cutting of valuable species plantations, loss of unique species of fauna and population movements due to the use of the territory of the reserve under Teghut for molybdenum developments, imprudent use of water under artesian water pond fish farms in the Ararat valley, leading to salinisation and desertification of fertile lands; planned energy program of extensive construction of small hydroelectric power stations, resulting in a breach of the Hyogo Protocol, to which Armenia joined. In this case, even the most strict compliance with all relevant norms and standards can not guarantee the inevitable in the construction of small hydropower violations of the flow of rivers. In fact, during the construction of ecology of rivers causes great damage, starts drying up of rivers and their transformation into banks in landfills, uncontrolled cutting of forest areas, etc.

Bulgaria (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Preventive measures, which are invented on a basis of expertise, investigation and analysis, for possible avoiding and coping with natural disasters are subject of a National Program for protection in disasters.

Context & Constraints:

n.a.

Czech Republic (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> National Program to Abate the Climate Change Impacts (2004)

http://www.preventionweb.net/files/15427_ozknationalprogramme20040303.pdf [PDF]

Description:

The protection of ecosystems is realized by laws and the ministry of environment as well as the departments of regional and local authorities have got rights for an enforcement of EIA and other measures for protection of these systems. Recent years also operational programs for environment protection supported by EU have been applied and funded.

Context & Constraints:

Climate change adaptation has also been recognized as an important tool. Special National Program to Abate the Climate Change Impacts in the CR has also been introduced.

Finland (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

In the last few years, Finland has reformed its land use planning system. The new system has three levels of land use plan with a clear division of labour between them: the regional land use plan, the local master plan and the local detailed plan. In addition, the Government defines national land use guidelines, which should be taken into account throughout the country in all land use decisions and land use planning. The land use planning system is hierarchical; higher level plans steer lower plans. The national land use guidelines are implemented mainly through regional plans. Regional and local plans are drawn up through participatory planning procedures, which give local residents the chance to get involved in the planning processes that affect them.

Construction in Finland is controlled by the Land Use and Building Act. More detailed regulations and controls on construction are included in the Land Use and Building Decree. The Building Code of Finland contains technical regulations and instructions referring to building. The objective of building guidance is to promote:

- creation of a good living environment that is socially functional and aesthetically harmonious, safe and pleasant and serves the needs of its users,
- building based on approaches which have sustainable and economical life-cycle properties and which are socially and economically viable, and create and maintain cultural values,
- continuous care and maintenance of the built environment and building stock.

Context & Constraints:

Limited budget because the low risk.

Germany (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> International Climate Protection Initiative (2009) <http://www.bmu-klimaschutzinitiative.de/de/aktuelles>

Description:

As mentioned in Priority 1 Core Indicator 1, DRR accounts for an important part of the environmental law/policy, as well as spatial and land use planning. The “Competence Centre on Global Warming and Adaptation” (KomPass) of the “Federal Environment Agency” (UBA), and the “Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance” (BBK) of the “Federal Ministry of the Interior” (BMI) with “German Committee for Disaster Reduction” (DKKV) worked out an official “German strategy of adaptation to climate change” (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie: DAS). The DAS has been concluded by the federal cabinet on 17. December 2008. Next steps within the implementation of DAS is the “Action Plan for Adaptation” which will be developed until March/April 2011. A civil protection stakeholder workshop planned for the mid of 2010 together with UBA and "Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance" (BBK) will develop first steps towards this Action for Adaption Plan.

The “Competence Centre on Global Warming and Adaptation” (KomPass) supports the implementation of DAS in professional and organizational way. As an interface between CC research, society and policy it detects vulnerable sectors and regions, assesses consequences of Climate Change and works out its chances and risks. Furthermore it implements Climate Change related projects like “Klimalotse” and “System of Indicators - Climate consequences and adaptation in Germany”. In the framework of Klimalotse a decision support system for municipalities and business companies will be developed with the objective to improve their management capabilities. Beyond the assessment of risks and chances of climate change the project will include natural hazards. The outcome of the project will be guidelines targeting municipalities and medium-sized companies, presenting possibilities how to better adapt to climate change. The project “System of Indicators - Climate consequences and adaptation in Germany” will provide UBA a professional basis to the Action Plan for Adaptation.

Since 2009 the “Federal Ministry of Education and Research” (BMBF) finances the initiative KLIMZUG to facilitate innovative approaches to adaption to climate change. KLIMZUG focuses on the regional aspect of adaptation. It comprises of 7 project: DynAKlim, INKA BB, KLIMZUG-NORD, KLIMZUG Nordhessen, nordwest2050, RADOST und REGKLAM which are responsible for the regional implementation of adaptaion and the assessment of climate change chances and risks. DRR and natural hazards and vulnerability assessments are partly included. One important objective of KLIMZUG is to facilitate regional networks between business, administration and society. Another is to strengthen cooperation networks between stakeholders to include the expected changes into regional planning and development processes.

The BMBF fund „klimazwei - Research for Mitigation and protection climate implication“ (Forschung für den Klimaschutz und Schutz vor Klimawirkungen) concluded in 2009 with a publication of its results. The projects within klimazwei focused on the development of practical strategies for mitigation and adaptation. Some of the projects were strongly related to DRR:

1. Regional risk of convective extreme events: User-oriented concepts for assessing the trends and adaptation (Regionales Risiko konvektiver Extremereignisse: Anwenderorientierte Konzepte zur Trendbewertung und –anpassung)
2. SAFE – Sensor-Actor-aided early warning system for extreme weather (SAFE – Sensor-Aktor-gestütztes Frühwarnsystem bei Extremwetter)

3. Network for sustainable adaption of regional Urban Water Resources to climate trends and extreme weather (Netzwerk für eine nachhaltige Anpassung der regionalen Siedlungswasserwirtschaft an Klimatrends und Extremwetter)

The BMU is preparing a draft for a new environmental code for all issues related to sustainable development and DRR. In the case of land use planning the national parliament has passed a version of the "Regional Planning Act" (Raumordnungsgesetz) in July 2008 in which civil protection and critical infrastructure play a more important role. In March 2010 mitigation and adaptation to climate change were integrated into the "Regional Planning Act" in the course of its amendment.

In the course of implementation of the EU flood directive the Water Management Act has been amended in 2009. According to the amendment, areas with significant flood risk has to be denoted as areas of risk (risk management plans). This progress may be regarded as an important step towards a more effective flood risk management. The implementation of this regulation will contribute to the Priority 2 of the HFA. This regulation includes all water bodies, thus also coastlines. The Federal States have different approaches in developing the required risk management plans.

The "Working Group on Water Issues" (LAWA: see link) formulated a draft strategy for the implementation of a flood risk management guideline.

DRR takes an integrated approach to all policies because of its overlapping importance, but especially in environmental policies and plans. Besides climate policy, for example, DRR is active in agriculture policy through flood resistant coverage areas or in a more sustainable (heat and storm resistant) forestation through the conservation of resources. Especially in forest management practices, traditional measures are included for the prevention and spread of wildfires. The consequences of altered forest management practices and land-use change (abandonment of agricultural and pasture lands) are resulting in an increase of wildfire hazards in some regions of the country.

The German development cooperation promotes synergy effects between DRR and the management of natural resources. Therefore, aspects of DRR are already integrated in some partner countries in terms of the relevant development cooperation measures. It participates, for example, in a German-Nicaraguan environmental program on the integration of disaster risks into land use planning. Environmental programs in the Philippines and Madagascar integrate DRR elements automatically. Even climate change and disaster risks are integrated together into adaptation strategies of the German development cooperation.

Context & Constraints:

The overall challenge for both the national and EU level is to reduce rural exodus and/or address the consequences of rural land-use abandonment (also known as changing land-use patterns). At the same time the increasing lack of young work force/volunteers to be recruited by the volunteer fire and emergency services (what is directly connected to rural exodus and the mobility of the population) should be addressed (see the next Core Indicator). Even the adaptation on climate change must be further utilised to address the difficulties in environmental policy.

The general consensus of the German development cooperation maintains that there is a need for frameworks in sustainable resource and environment management because there is a lack of consistent integration of environmental politics and planning, aside from the successes on the project level. Currently the integration is more situational than systematic.

From the GRC's point of view, adaptation to climate change is closely linked to DRR. The fact that combining adaptation and DRR is necessary and vital has officially been acknowledged at the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference held in Geneva in 2007, even by the delegations of the states parties to the Geneva Conventions.

The Conference confirmed the importance of disaster preparedness to also enable people to take up the challenge of climate change.

Related links:

DKKV <http://www.dkkv.org/>

BMI <http://www.en.bmi.bund.de/>

BBK <http://www.bbk.bund.de/>

BMU - Anpassung an den Klimawandel <http://www.bmu.de/klimaschutz/aktuell/aktuell/1675.php>

UBA - Climate Change <http://www.umweltbundesamt.de/klimaschutz-e/index.htm>

KomPass http://www.anpassung.net/cln_117/sid_C940668629DB2F6A6FD5756550AC1E5F/DE/Home/homepage__node.html?__nnn=true

LAWA <http://www.lawa.de/Ausschuesse-Staendiger-Ausschuss-Hochwasserschutz-und-Hydrologie.html>

Italy (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The relevant authority for the definition of environment related policies and plans is the Ministry of Environment, Land Protection and Sea, together with other competent authorities (such as the Basin Authorities) set up to face particular problems. These framework policies include guidelines for land use and natural resource management. National policies are then translated into regional measures and implemented at the provincial and local level. Due to their inter-disciplinary nature, climate change issues are faced through a multiplicity of initiatives undertaken at all levels by a variety of institutional, research and private subjects, including volunteer's associations and private companies.

Context & Constraints:

A strong effort is being made towards the development of a comprehensive National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy. This will involve the definition of its relations with other specific policies and plans falling under the responsibility of different institutions. This is one of the main goals of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, with particular reference to climate change regulation.

Norway (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use, natural resource management and adaptation to climate change. The new act on land use planning is taking this into account. A Secretariat for climate change adaptation is established to support the sectors and municipalities on issues related to a changing climate. Norway is working on a long-term plan for adaptation to climate change.

Context & Constraints:

-

Poland (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

> <http://klimatolubni.pl/>

Description:

EIA procedures as well as CBA assist individual investments

Context & Constraints:

Wider scope in planning process including Water Framework Directive requirements is needed to avoid risk of conflict among different policies

Romania (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* No: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Environmental policies, developed in compliance with the European directives, take into account the sustainable development objectives. They incorporate disaster risk reduction issues in land use strategies, natural resources management and adaptation to climate change.

Context & Constraints:

The main constraints consist of economical, social and urban development necessities

Sweden (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Supported by environmental legislation, the County Administrative Boards work towards sustainable development by protecting natural areas (nature reserves, water protection areas etc). Through the planning and building legislation, the County Administrative Boards can forbid unsuitable city planning in risk areas. These and other measures are positive steps towards disaster risk reduction.

The County Administrative Boards are responsible for the regional coordination of adaptation to climate change. One of the key issues within this area is the aim of increased resilience and risk reduction in case of disasters related to extreme weather events.

The Swedish Forest Agency is building up knowledge and information and is continuously working on the adaptation of forest management for long-term prevention and mitigation of the adverse effects of storms and other natural events. The Swedish Environmental Code is also an instrument to protect natural environments. For ecosystem services there is work done within a number of so called "environmental quality objectives" including for instance plans and actions regarding restoration, protection, preservation of endangered species, and wise use of the overall landscape. These plans and actions will undoubtedly together increase the resilience of natural environments and different regulatory ecosystem services. Payment of ES is partly in place in Sweden in the form of certain agricultural activities.

Integrated planning: The Planning and Building Act states that it is the responsibility of all municipalities to have updated comprehensive plans for the entire land and water area. The municipalities have had problems in fulfilling this task especially for the marine areas. The shoreline protection regulations are important in fulfilling this goal.

Environmental Impact Assessments: There are two kind of environmental assessments in Sweden, EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) and SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment). Both are based on EU regulations and have been implemented in chapter 6 of the Environmental Code. The official name of the EIA directive is Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment, and the official name of the SEA directive is Directive 2001/42EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programs on the environment. Sweden has also ratified the Espoo convention on the environmental impact assessment in a trans-boundary context and the protocol on strategic environmental assessment. The Swedish Government is planning to make amendments that

will reduce the number of EIS (environmental statements) produced in Sweden each year. Sweden is one of the countries that are writing the most EISs in the EU (3.500 – 5.000/year).

The National Board of Housing, Building, and Planning is the central government authority for planning and management of land and water resources, urban development, building and housing. A fundamental requirement in the Planning and Building Act is that land has to be suitable for building development. In examining building permits, the municipality has to take into account whether the land is suitable for development in consideration of the health and safety of the residents. The Board is responsible for ensuring that ecological, cultural, and social aspects are taken into account in the planning process. The focus of planning is increasingly turning to regional development and sustainable urban development by introducing new planning methods. In the field of building, the Board is responsible for developing design and building regulations and other regulative measures for construction as well as implementation measures concerning EU directives. The Board supports the development of cost and energy efficient, robust and sustainable buildings as well as accessible public spaces.

The National Board of Housing, Building and Planning is responsible for the Environmental Quality Objective that cities, towns and other developed areas must provide a good, healthy living environment and contribute to a good regional and global environment. Natural and cultural assets must be protected and developed. Buildings and amenities must be located and designed in accordance with sound environmental principles and in such a way as to promote sustainable management of land, water and other resources.

The MSB assists municipalities with land use planning, natural environmental protection and climate change adaptation in a number of ways. For example, the MSB has the task of implementing EU's Floods Directive in Sweden. The aim is to reduce the negative consequences of flooding on human health, the environment, cultural heritage and financial activities. The MSB assists municipalities and County Administrative Boards with general slope stability and flood mapping in developed areas. The Swedish government has earmarked financing for prevention measure to be taken in developed areas in case the risk for landslide or flooding is high.

The risk and vulnerability analysis done by all the Swedish municipalities has the purpose of reducing the vulnerability of society and increase the ability to handle crises. MSB has written guidelines on how risk and vulnerability analysis can be carried out. However, here is no accepted standard. Risk analysis has often focused on identifying hazards and assessing the probabilities of adverse events and the immediate consequences of these. Several municipalities have already developed strategies, plans or programs on climate change adaptation.

Context & Constraints:

Due to the great variations in the Sweden's natural landscape, and the high level of decentralization, the plans, strategies and inventories vary in type and detail.

There are defects regarding the scoping process and lack of quality regarding the Strategic Environment Assessment SEA process and reports. In some cases no screening is made but in other cases no SEA process are performed although it is required by the legislation. One problem regarding the quality of the SEA report is the handling of proposed alternatives.

The need for coordination between the Planning and Building Act and environmental legislation should be addressed.

Switzerland (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) is responsible for the sustainable use of natural resources, including soil, water, air and forests. Use and protection of natural resources and protection from natural hazards are among FOEN's tasks. Furthermore, disaster risk reduction and environmental protection are both anchored in Swiss Federal Laws (e.g. Federal Law on River Training, 21.6.1991; Federal Law on Forests, 4.10.1991). They claim environmentally compatible maintenance of watercourses, (protection) forests and protection measures.

Climate Change Adaptation is considered a topic for many years. In 2009, the Federal Council asked for the elaboration of national strategy. This strategy will include 9 sectoral strategies (water management, agriculture, forest management, energy production, tourism, dealing with natural hazards, biodiversity, health and land use), the most relevant risks will be identified and goals set.

Context & Constraints:

A sustainable management of natural resources is mandated by the constitution, which means that any protection measure must also take into account the protection of the natural resources and their social and economical benefits. Still a major challenge is to give priority to land use planning over technical protection measures.

The former Yugoslav Rep of Macedonia (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Within NPDRR, Platform on Environmental Risks has been established and led by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MEPP), incorporating national commissions in the fields of: air pollution; waters pollution; soil pollution; bio-diversity; global warming and climate change (CC); dumpfields incidents; industrial facilities and refineries incidents; dangerous materials storage incidents.

Within the thematic working groups, a "Working Group on CC/Repercussions and Adaptation" is led by the National Committee for Climate Change. A thematic working group on Forestation is led by "Tree Day-Plant your Future" civic initiative.

Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) is high on the agenda. The lead beneficiary for the 4th strategic choice within IPA-MB-2011-2013 (enhancing the regional cooperation in the area of CC), is the Republic of Macedonia. As Co-chair of the European Forum for DRR in 2010, Macedonia leads the Advisory group on CCA&DRR.

Integration of risk reduction in environmental policies and plans is addressed by the Law on environment, which transposes SEVESO II Directive. Achievements have been made in providing consolidated national guidelines on carrying out the Strategic Environmental Assessment-SEA and applying SEA directive, drawing on the available "best practices" within current EU member-states and experience from the possible conduct of pilot cases in the country.

Progress has been made through prepared the guidelines and improved the practice of introduction of risk and safe management issues in the EIA and Land-use Planning Policies. There is also flood risk management. Government adopted a unified EIA form and EIAs are being prepared, updated and adopted. Agency for State Roads prepared an EIA study for the highway E-75 (Corridor 10)

Ministry of Health developed a Climate Change Health Adaptation Strategy and Heat Health Action Plan.

Appropriate legislation exists for the protection and preservation of the three national parks.

Context & Constraints:

It is recognized that additional progress on the incorporation of DRR strategies in the environmental policies is always needed.

Achievements have been made in providing consolidated national guidelines on carrying out the Strategic Environmental Assessment-SEA and applying SEA directive, drawing on the available "best practices" within current EU member-states and experience from the possible conduct of pilot cases in the country. Prescribing the contents of the environmental report in secondary legislation. Prescribing in secondary legislation public consultation procedures; Carry out training of relevant staff in MEPP and other relevant ministries; and in enterprises accredited to prepare urban and spatial plans.



Oceania

Australia (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * No: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Historically, the size, severity, timing, location and impact of disasters have been difficult to predict. Although risk management approaches go some way to understanding hazards and supporting risk reduction, warnings that climate change is likely to see weather patterns become less predictable and more extreme increase the uncertainty about Australia's future risk profile.

Land-use planning in respect to the challenges posed by climate change is an important element of work underway by a number of Australian Government agencies working collaboratively together.

One example is in the area of targeted climate change vulnerability assessment as a part of the National Coastal Vulnerability Assessment project. This work is led and funded by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, and includes contributions from Commonwealth and State and Territory government agencies, as well as academic, research and commercial organisations. Geoscience Australia's contribution aimed to provide indicative, quantitative estimates of the potential impacts to residential buildings and basic infrastructure in coastal areas from sea-level rise projections combined with information on storm tides (where available) on a national scale.

The work of the Bureau of Meteorology, described elsewhere in this report, also informs the work underway in the area of adaption to climate change.

Context & Constraints:

The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts develops and implements national policy, programs and legislation to protect and conserve Australia's environment.

The Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency leads the development and coordination of Australia's climate change policies in three areas: mitigation policy through domestic emissions reduction;

adaptation to the unavoidable impacts of climate change; and helping to shape a global solution through Australia's international climate change strategy.

Environment related policies and plans, including those associated with land use, natural resource management and adaptation to climate change, are generally the responsibility of the States and Territories. These include measures to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services associated with wet lands, mangroves and forests, coastal zone management, environmental impacts assessments and climate change adaptation projects and programmes.

Cook Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The National Environment Strategic Action Framework 2011-2015 includes DRM considerations related to waste, biodiversity, climate change and water resources. The National Sustainable Development Plan incorporates risk reduction goals and the Environment Act (2003) focuses on impacts on the environment of development, including a risk assessment component.

Legislation for biosecurity and biosafety has been enacted and legislation for hazardous substances is under development. Regulations have been passed for Ozone Depleting Substances under the Environment Act and draft protected area legislation exists under Biodiversity Regulations. EIAs are incorporated into planning regulations, eg. development activities involving aggregate use in areas of concern require EIA. There are some examples of integrated planning, including "areas of concern" such as wetlands, slopes and foreshore requiring development permits.

Water quality monitoring takes place, but not monitoring of quantity or type of use. Several DRR initiatives are underway in integrated water resource management. GEF with EU's support, is leading a project to improve the water quality and land-based sewage pollution in Muri Lagoon. The CI Marine Resources Institutional Strengthening Project (NZAID and GEF) is undertaking a water quality testing regime. A new GEF-supported project focuses to protect limited water resources and coastal lagoons including groundwater investigations and water quality monitoring.

Marine resources are monitored for some species and effects such as coral bleaching, habitat loss etc. A recent FAO case study sets baselines for food security/agriculture. Deforestation tends not to be an issue of concern.

A Joint NAP for DRM and CCA is under development and Climate Change Policy is being drafted. A project concept was submitted to the Kyoto Protocol Adaptation Fund for the implementation across islands. The project will support mainstreaming of DRM and environment across sectors. A functional review is being undertaken on institutional positioning/strengthening of CC within the Government, including environment and DRM considerations.

Context & Constraints:

Gaps exist in the areas of risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning. Very little risk assessment has been carried out in the Cook Islands to identify potentially vulnerable areas for different types of hazards (especially flooding, drought and tsunamis) and there is insufficient hazard mapping. Climate change considerations have not been integrated into current risk assessment procedures such as Environment Impact Assessments. Early Warning Systems for hazards are also limited. Inadequate information and assessment inhibits the reduction of underlying risk factors and preparedness for effective response and recovery.

On many fronts, the people, biodiversity and economy of Cook Islands remain very vulnerable to a host of external factors that pose many challenges for the country. There is the ongoing threat of natural disasters especially cyclones that have the potential to inflict severe losses to the economy, biodiversity and peoples lives. Increase in trade with the global economy brings with it new challenges such as the need to prevent and control invasive species. The impressive growth in the tourism industry is putting pressure on land and marine habitats and requiring increased efforts at undertaking impact assessments and adopting practices and technologies that can give rise to sustainable use of land and marine resources and minimization of externalities. Increasing commercial activities and disposable incomes of families is giving rise to higher levels of consumption and waste generation with the threat of pollution levels affecting the natural environment and human health if left unchecked.

There is increasing recognition that DRM and CCA goals and activities are strongly related is leading to consideration of how to pool resources more effectively. The Joint DRM–CCA National Action Plan provides an opportunity to strengthen coordination, maximize resources and achieve more effective results.

Fiji (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

Fiji has a number of resource-use policies and legislations nearly all mostly focussing at the sector levels and being diligently applied across the sectors aimed at conservation issues, wildlife, marine and biodiversity protection. Overarching are the EIA and Public Health legislations which are used nationally to regulate activities on protection and restoration of ecosystems in ensuring developments comply with existing resource use legislations eg Catchment Reserves to maintain ground cover protection in designated water catchment reserves.

These wide ranging regulatory mechanisms draw in strong community support eg marine reserves (many reserves are in Fiji). There are provisions for Reserve Parks in urban development, and mandatory reserve areas along river banks, negotiated forestry reserves as the Sovi Basin that includes payment to landowners for eco-system services, and community based re-planting of mangroves (as along the coral coast).

New mechanism on promoting resource use practices would emerge under the ambit of Climate Change Adaptation projects. DOE has started work on developing CCA-DRM policies. These would complement existing community initiatives as that by Health Dept in developing village regulations for protected areas, packaged together with healthy village lifestyles including workers training as in keeping a safe water source. In the Education sector as well strong emphasis is directed in keeping safe water sources and in protection of boreholes. The WAF is drafting policies on safe management of water resources quality and quantity.

The review of land use practices has been completed and amended policies endorsed in Parliament. However enforcement on compliance with the Land Use & Land Conservation Acts is weak and has to be strengthened.

Context & Constraints:

The EIA legislation is new and quite comprehensive, and processes have been established that are now ensuring the assessment provisions of the Act are being adhered to. There is a lot of improvement needed in EIA application to better outline cost benefit analysis in new development proposals as in resource losses or quality degradation and risk reduction measures eg loss of mangroves, development on flood plains or foreshores. A framework on acceptable standards of assessment should also be developed after wide consultation with resource owners, EIA practitioners, scientists and academia.

Enforcement is a major constraint in Fiji. EIA compliance in particular requires substantial monitoring activities. The lack of institutional experience, manpower and resources affects the ability of the Department of Environment to effectively manage monitoring and enforcement. Additionally a lot of awareness campaign amongst stakeholders is required to improve support.

CCA projects are active at the sector level and national coordination needs to be advocated to optimise use of resources as CCA cuts across all sectors.

Marshall Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * No: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

While some capacity building initiatives highlight the importance of incorporating DRR into environmental policies and plans, and land use and resource management (e.g. TAF / OFDA, and the NWS Annual Workshops), much more is needed to highlight the importance of DRR. The Reimaanlok Conservation Strategy addresses DRR via its approach to conservation. Coastal management is a priority of CMAC, and the group is achieving progress in their integrated approach which works effectively with local groups in the outer islands.

Environmental Impact Statements (EIAs) are required for developments; however, enforcement is a capacity challenge for the EPA. There are many Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and therefore growing awareness of the importance of conservation – assisted greatly by MICS and the awareness of the Micronesia Challenge and the Reimaanlok Strategy. The EPA operates under two main pieces of legislation: the Environmental Protection Act and the Coast Conservation Act, and carries out both Act's duties with nine regulations. The more recent Coastal Management Framework (2008) provides the basis for local coastal management and guides environmental concerns for strategic development, including mention of DRR and climate change.

There are a growing number of initiatives relating to climate change adaptation, and this is set to increase over coming years as additional funding comes on line. It is hoped that the National Climate Change Policy, which is currently being drafted, will facilitate a coordinated approach to climate change programs.

Context & Constraints:

Much more is needed to be done to raise the awareness of DRR, and what it means in practice. Some activities are occurring within key ministries that address DRR in an incidental manner. If DRR is given a higher priority, these activities and initiatives may be scaled up and broadened so as to address DRM and DRR in a more robust and meaningful way. As stated in the Coastal Management Framework, coastal data is collected sporadically and in response to the availability of donor grants. A more manageable and coordinated approach is required, and one which is relatively low cost so as to be sustainable in the long term.

New Zealand (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Resource Management Act seeks to achieve the sustainable management of natural and physical resources and this includes addressing the potential adverse effects of natural hazards, and requiring particular regard to climate change.

Under this Act, local authorities undertake hazard assessments and mapping, set overarching policy in Regional Policy Statements, and apply specific policies and methods (rules, advocacy and services) through Regional Plans, and District Plans. Quality Planning Best Practice Guides are available online nationally, and include guidance notes on:

- climate change
- natural hazards
- coastal land development (with aspects on coastal hazards), and
- use of emergency powers to undertake necessary works and activities to manage an event that normally are subject to environmental regulatory controls (Quality Planning link below).

Hazard risk reduction within the environmental area is linked to communities' broader goals and aspirations through Long-Term Council Community Plans, community asset management plans and annual plans (setting out budgets & outputs) of local authorities, produced in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

To help New Zealand build its resilience and plan ahead for climate change, the government has formed partnerships with organisations such as local government, engineers, the insurance industry and the agriculture sector. The Ministry for the Environment also produces a range of information and guidance materials on the impacts of climate change and how different groups within New Zealand, can adapt to, and prepare for these impacts (see Related Links below):

- Adaptation and local government (link below)
- Adaptation and planning (link below)
- Adaptation in agriculture and forestry (link below)

- Engineering Lifelines and Emergency Management (link below)
- Adaptation in the community (link below)
- Adaptation and central government (link below)
- Adapting to sea-level rise (link below).

Context & Constraints:

A continuing challenge is translating known hazard information into effective and integrated policies and plans for risk reduction, and undertaking coordinated and concerted action across different agencies' roles, functions and processes.

Of particular concern are the existing use rights attached to developments in areas with long-term high hazard exposure. An increasing concern are coastal properties now recognised to be at higher risk from storm surge, coastal erosion, tsunami and the effects of climate change. Key to this challenge is changing the risk perceptions and behaviours of individuals and communities

Samoa (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

Yes

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Planning and Urban Management Agency is the lead agency in environmental management for new development in Samoa. PUMA is a Division of the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) that is responsible for administering the Planning and Urban Management Act 2004. Other policies which mainstream disaster risk reduction include the CIM Strategy 2001/2006, Codes of Environmental Practice 2006, Housing Guidelines 2006, EIA Regulation 2007. The level of mainstreaming is still relatively low due to the fact that many of these policies, codes and regulations face the same problem in terms of limited resources and the absence of a mechanism to ensure effective enforcement and compliance.

The Coastal Infrastructure Management (CIM) Strategy 2001/2006 derived 41 District CIM Plans that promote better management of coastal infrastructure and development of greater hazard resilience for Samoan communities; and looks at impacts on infrastructure and community vulnerabilities to coastal

hazards – which impacts are exacerbated by Climate Change.

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction are linked mostly at the programmatic level, combined national policies and strategies have not been developed, there may be some opportunity with the development of the NDMP Implementation Plan, where existing and potential linkages to CCA is possible.

Context & Constraints:

As the Act and the Regulations are relatively new pieces of legislation and not everyone fully understands the purpose, let alone the need, for the assessment, consultation and approvals that are required as a result of their implementation. The MNRE-PUMA has commenced addressing this problem through a nation-wide television campaign on the public's requirements for the Development Consent Process. This initiative needs to be extended to include information specifically for the Construction and Utilities Sector.

The CIM Plans consultations need to also include inland infrastructure and communities and be extended to include a range of other hazards, including river/inland flooding, landslides etc.

Whilst Samoa has made great progress to realising sustainable development and achieving the MDGs and targets, such endeavour has been generally made through sectoral approaches. In doing so the competitive demands of different sectors are difficult to manage, and the result is a continued increase in population growth and land use. For Samoa, this demand is now close to exceeding the natural carrying capacity of its islands, especially in the Apia Urban area. Samoa having to address these challenges at this time, whilst recognising that it has limited human and financial resources and does not have the benefits of the economies of scale that larger countries can utilise.

Solomon Islands (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

-- Nothing reported within this timeframe. --

Means of Verification:

- * Yes: Protected areas legislation
- * No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- * No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)
- * Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)
- * Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The results for this indicator are mixed. Legislation does exist, the Protected Areas Act 2010 and Environment Act 1998 cover conservation issues, wildlife, marine and biodiversity protection. DRM issues

are included in these Acts through the creation of the Environment Advisory Council. Communities themselves are demarcating areas for protection and conservation examples include; Arnavon Island, Tetepari, Maravagi and Upi. These are not government led initiatives, but they are impacting on preservation of ecosystem services. Some income is made in these sites from small-scale tourism ventures, but payment is not made for the ecosystem services themselves.

The Solomon Islands is at the early stages of consideration in terms of DRM and climate change adaptation (CCA) integration of government led work. A climate change database and climate change working groups are being developed. The Ministry of Agriculture has 2 CCA programmes currently running and one due to start next year on climate change and food security. The NAPA process is being rolled out and also makes reference to DRM and CCA. Red Cross is mainstreaming DRM and CCA across their projects.

Natural resource use monitoring has been enforced since 2008 under the Environment Act, but a new Forestry Act is yet to be enforced. Planned palm oil projects may have both positive and negative impacts on ecosystem services.

Context & Constraints:

During the multi-stakeholder workshop, some groups stated that legislative Acts contradict implementation in terms of actual projects. It was felt that the policies that do exist are difficult to enforce. Numerous examples were given during the discussions of flooding and landslide events that were exacerbated by deforestation. It is hoped that the proposed new Forestry Act will mitigate the impact of poorly managed forestry practices. Palm Oil projects may have positive and negative impacts on ecosystem services; care should be taken to monitor this.

More effective enforcement of the Environment Act (1998) and the Protected Areas Act (2010) that purport to monitor land and resource use is required. High levels of deforestation and damage to ecosystem services are proven to increase exposure to disaster risk.

The establishment and enforcement of building codes is necessary. Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA's) also need to be more rigorously conducted and monitored.

Vanuatu (in English)

Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc)

No

Means of Verification:

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* No: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

The Vanuatu government has established a National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) and National Advisory Committee on Climate Change (NACCC) which has helped Vanuatu successfully secure donor funding and implement a range of activities to address climate change related risks (e.g. conducting vulnerability assessments, implementing adaptation activities such as sea walls, introducing climate-resistant crops, developing community land-use plans, conducting community education programs.)

The Government is considering plans for the integration of the implementation programmes under its NAP for DRM with those for both the Vanuatu National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) and the Climate Change Policy. The integration of the major national DRM and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) policies and plans would ensure a more coherent and coordinated approach to dealing with issues of natural hazard risk within Vanuatu.

The Environmental Management and Conservation Act 2002 of Vanuatu provides for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) to be undertaken for all development activities that impact or are likely to impact on the environment of Vanuatu. At the moment Risk assessment is not yet incorporated into EIA. However, the government is planning to do so in its legislation in order to further harmonize development planning. Vanuatu does have in place legislation on protected areas, ecosystem and coastal zone management. These, however, are not fully implemented due to the country's complex land tenure system.

Context & Constraints:

The report card is mixed in terms of broader sector regulatory and planning processes for DRR. Some good work has been done in the area of hazard assessment, although assessments are typically hazard specific (rather than multi-hazard), and it is not clear to what extent this information is being used to systematically inform land use planning at provincial and community level. Moreover, enforcement of issues such as building and planning codes remains a major challenge (e.g. Building Code has been in draft form for 10 years). Due to resource constraints, NDRMO engagement with the private sector in this area is also very limited.

DRR-DM activities in other sectors (e.g. infrastructure) are largely incidental, and are not guided by an overarching DRR-DM strategy or clearly linked to the NAP. Some DRR related activities are, however, linked to the government's National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) for climate change.

Even when there is good information, there are not always sufficient budget resources to address identified problems (e.g. condemned buildings still being occupied by some government departments).

Bringing together the task forces for climate change and DRR-DM may help to strengthen coordination and the adoption of a multi-hazard approach to reducing vulnerability. In the medium term, establishing a national multi-stakeholder platform for DRR-DM may help to improve coordination and mainstreaming of DRR-DM amongst all key actors.