

# SESSION 3

Barriers and Opportunities for  
effective adaptation response – Dr  
Keith Bettinger

# Session 3: Barriers and Opportunities for Effective Adaptation Response

**19 August 2019**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**Keith Bettinger**



# Session objective

- **Analyze three key barriers for incorporating climate-relevant data and information into decision-making processes**
- **Discuss some common measures for addressing these barriers and how the NAP process can be used to improve data and information systems**

# Relevant LEG Elements/Building Blocks

- A3: Addressing capacity gaps and weaknesses in undertaking the NAP process
  - Building institutional and technical capacity
  - Opportunities for integrating adaptation into development
- C3: Enhancing capacity for planning and implementation of adaptation
  - Training at sectoral and subnational levels



## Connection to last session...

- **We understood that effective adaptation planning requires data and information for a variety of reasons...**
  - **Data and information on physical processes**
  - **Data and information on non-climate factors and processes**
- **Here we discuss elements of data and information systems**

# Some elements of data and information systems

- **Gathering**/producing data...
  - Methodologies, standards, storage, formats, etc
- **Developing** relevant climate change information...
  - Relationships between producers/users, analytical capabilities
- **Use** of data and information for decision making...
  - Interpretation and mainstreaming
- **Communication/Dissemination** of climate relevant data and information...
- **Design** of policies, strategies, programs, interventions...
- **Coordination** on action...

# Common Barrier #1: Production

- **Countries often lack adequate data and information to conduct rigorous risk and vulnerability assessments...**
  - **Climate data and information**
  - **Non-climate aspects of vulnerability**
- **Mismatch between data/information that is available and that which is needed....**

*Remember that we need data on **differential vulnerabilities***

*Data and information should be **disaggregated** when possible and applicable*

# Common Barrier #2: Use

- **Countries often face challenges in using data and information to its maximum potential**
  - **Lack of capacity to identify sectoral risks/vulnerabilities**
  - **Lack of capacity for mainstreaming (budgeting/planning)**
  - **Lack of capacity to use data for **climate proofing** investments (economic modelling of impacts, costs and benefits)**
  - **Legal/institutional frameworks may not facilitate integrating climate change into day-to-day processes of governance**
  - **Obstacles for non-government users (farmers, private sector)**



# Common Barrier #3: Coordination

- **Countries often face difficulties with respect coordination, mainstreaming, and implementation**
  - **No/weak mechanism for coordination and knowledge sharing between different ministries/agencies**
  - **Different assessment methodologies utilized in different agencies/levels of government in ad-hoc manner**
  - **Data and information has many “homes”**
- **Common challenges related to vertical integration**
  - **Establishing 2-way channel of communication between national and subnational levels**

# Key NAP Element: Assess technical and institutional capacity

- Barriers and gaps assessments are often part of NAP processes
- These help to identify the human and institutional capacities and enabling conditions that should be built
- May include stakeholder mapping to identify relevant institutions, agencies, organizations, and existing/potential roles and responsibilities
- Conduct literature review, key informant interviews
- Actions/interventions should be linked to clearly identified problems!

# Addressing Production Barriers

- **Are barriers structural or capacity in nature?**
  - **Capacity requires capacity development, structural requires institutional arrangements and strengthening**
- **Improve “co-production of knowledge” (session 5)**
- **Capacity development programs for government research agencies, academic institutions, others**
- **Establish “twinning” relationships between institutions**

# Addressing Use Barriers

- **Develop decision making tools for planning and budgeting departments...**
- **Establish guidelines and capacity building for climate proofing...**
- **Guidelines for mainstreaming and integration of CCA into development planning...**
- **Piloting integration in priority sectors...**
- **Capacity development programs at civil service academies, universities, NGOs...**
- **Identify appropriate communication channels and improve messaging to end-users**

# Addressing coordination barriers

- **Establish a legal mandate for coordination**
  - Lower level agencies often can't direct ministries
  - Clarify roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders
- **Strengthen integration of climate change in MoF/MoP submissions by line agencies**
- **Establish coordinating/steering committee with high-level buy-in from different agencies**
  - Often supported by technical advisory panel/working groups
- **Establish centralized repositories of data and information (e.g. Bangladesh knowledge management portal)**
  - Mechanism for consolidating data/information (e.g. Stats Agency, Womens' Ministry, Line Agencies)
  - Compile/consolidate previously conducted RVAs

# NAP Example: Fiji

- Identifies knowledge and information barriers with recommendations for improvement, roles and responsibilities
- Improved understanding of CC at sectoral and subnational levels
- High-rez elevation and flood maps
- Improved information sharing
- Centralized database
- Improved & targeted communication
- Better locally-relevant information





A Hui Hou! Let's design a data and information system!

# Group Exercise

- **Develop a “process map” of how an information system might work that includes:**
  - **Identification of barriers (institutional, capacity, etc)**
  - **Improving production of risk and vulnerability information (physical and non-physical processes)**
  - **how they inform governance, investments, the private sector, etc.**

**The diagram might be three areas described by the problems:  
data/information production; data/information use for decision making processes, and coordination/mainstreaming.**