Capacity building to develop and review climate resilient policies
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Introduction
Why am I here?

- National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA, 2005)
  - Lack of trained staff
  - Lack of capacity building
- Africa Adaptation Programme
Mauritius second national communication to UNFCCC

• Climate Change Action Plan developed in 1998 but implementation undermined by:
  – Limited climate change knowledge
  – Lack of impact studies
  – Resource limitations
  – Lack of incorporation into national planning
The challenge

“… development of new, comprehensive, and strategic policies and guidelines which will ensure that all future development in coastal areas has the maximum possible chance of resilience under the worst possible conditions”

Source: Climate Change Adaptation Programme in the Coastal Zone of Mauritius, Project Proposal
The challenge of mainstreaming

• A narrow and uncertain window of opportunity
• Adaptive capacity will not necessarily translate to action
• There is already a lot of maladaptation
• The measurement of adaptation success is very complex

Source: Adger and Brown, 2009
The challenge for Mauritius

- Limited land area
- High population density
- Changing land use
- Growing tourism industry
- Changing climate
- Rising sea levels
Pacific Island experience

• 1997/98, development and delivery of a 6-month V&A training course to 20 Pacific Island trainees
• Trainees prepared draft V&A reports for their countries
• 1999, travelled to participating countries to support preparation of V&A statements for UNFCCC reporting
• Numerous climate change projects in the Pacific since then
• 2011, on-going lack of capacity
Key objectives

• Capacity building on climate change and climate resilient policy development
• A Road Map on policy change
• An Action Plan towards some climate resilient policies
My approach & expectations

• I am a climate change expert but I am not an expert in everything

• You are all experts in your respective areas

• My focus
  – Share my expertise
  – Facilitate the sharing of your expertise

• Keep things as simple and doable as possible

We’re all in this together
More on my approach

• Key presentations
  – Climate change science
  – Impacts, vulnerability & adaptation
  – Resilience
  – Planning for climate resilience
  – Case studies

• Facilitation of group work
Multi-stakeholder (participatory) approaches

Source: http://portals.wi.wur.nl/msp/?page=1211
Really it’s about people …
and their environment
Outcomes

• Greater understanding of climate change science, impacts, vulnerability, adaptation, resilience

• Greater appreciation of the need for integration of top down and bottom up approaches … and how to achieve this

• Enhanced understanding of the importance of empowering people
Outputs

- A Road Map on policy change
- An Action Plan towards some climate resilient policies
Thinking outside the box

A ‘Business-As-Usual’ response won’t work
Today’s programme

• 0900 Climate change science and what it means for Mauritius
• 1000 Impacts, vulnerability, resilience
• 1100 Tea/coffee
• 1130 Climate resilient policy, challenges and opportunities
• 1230 Outcomes from capacity building workshops
• 1330 Close