

Planning for Climate Change Adaptation

Lessons from Sri Lanka

GWP Workshop
Colombo, February 24, 2011

ADBTA 7326-SRI: Strengthening Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation



Introduction

- Climate change is a reality we cannot escape.
- Sri Lanka's contribution to global warming is negligible.
- However, Sri Lanka is already facing the negative impacts of climate change.
 - Increases in frequency/intensity of disaster events
 - Variability of rainfall patterns
 - Temperature increases
 - Sea level rise
- These impacts will be more severe in the future.

The Project

- TA initiated on a request by the GOSL in late 2009
 - Implementing agency is Ministry of Environment—Climate Change Secretariat
- Target:
- Develop a comprehensive National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
 - A prioritized framework for action
 - Based on national development priorities
 - The basis for mobilizing resources
 - Bring focus on adaptation
 - Move the nation towards a climate change resilient future

The Strategy Development Process



The Strategy Development Process

- 1 year endeavor
- Examined all key sectors in the economy
- Engaged hundreds of stakeholders
- Helped to bring sharper focus on CC adaptation in Sri Lanka

Key Steps in the Process

- Develop Sector Vulnerability Profiles for key sectors
- Map CC Vulnerabilities
- Understand CC perceptions and communications needs
- Establish Strategic Priorities
- Formulate and refine the strategy
- Develop adaptation project pipeline

Key Steps in the Process

Develop Sector Vulnerability Profiles

- How climate change may compromise thrust of a given sector
- Provide insight into where adaptation may be necessary
- Developed through extensive consultation

SVPs developed for:

1. Water
2. Agriculture & fisheries
3. Urban development, human settlements and economic infrastructure
4. Human health
5. Biodiversity and ecosystem services

Key Steps in the Process

Map Climate Change Vulnerabilities

- Sector specific assessment based on historical data
- Understand the spatial distribution of vulnerability in various sectors
- Establish sense of scale of impact

Key Steps in the Process

Understand perceptions communications needs

- Review/inventory CC communications materials
- Assess perceptions/info needs at central and local level
- Survey public perceptions

Key Steps in the Process

Establish Strategic Priorities

- Nexus between national development trajectory and CC vulnerability
- Sri Lanka's 5 Strategic Thrusts:
 1. Mainstream Climate Change Concerns into National Planning and Development Processes
 2. Improve Climate Resilience and Health of Human Settlements
 3. Improve Climate Resilience of Key Economic Drivers
 4. Minimize Climate Change Impacts on Food Security
 5. Safeguard Biodiversity and Natural Resources from Climate Change Impacts

Key Steps in the Process

Formulate and refine the strategy

- Done with stakeholders
 - Revolving multi-sector groups to tackle each Strategic Thrust
 - Voting to prioritize
- Strategic Thrust
 - Thematic Areas
 - Adaptation Measures

Key Steps in the Process

Adaptation Project Pipeline

- Project concepts developed by range of stakeholders
- Straddle across all strategic thrusts
- Various scales
- Continuous process
- Goal: Expedite investment

The Financing Envelope

- An estimated Rs. 47.7 billion to finance the strategy over its 6 year duration (approx. \$450M)
- Beyond current and ongoing expenditure

Estimated Financing Requirements (Rs.million)							
Strategic Thrust	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
1. Mainstream CC Adaptation into National Planning & Dev't.	50	554	669	637	820	820	3,550
2. Enable Climate Resilient and Healthy Human Settlements	91	496	2,768	2,434	2,398	2,098	10,285
3. Minimize Climate Change Impacts on Food Security	8	183	2,123	1,690	1,755	7,215	12,974
4. Improve Climate Resilience of Key Economic Drivers	160	375	3,785	3,610	3,875	3,375	15,160
5. Safeguard Nat. Resources & Biodiversity from CC Impacts	20	219	279	1,652	1,770	1,790	5,730
Totals	329	1,827	9,604	10,023	10,618	15,298	47,699

Catalytic Interventions

- Restructuring and strengthening of CCS
- Climate Change Adaptation Small Grant Facility
- Coordinated climate change research programme
- Include climate change considerations in SEA processes
- Update guidelines (like rainfall intensity curves)
- Step up engagement with civil society and media
- Multi-disciplinary climate negotiation team

Recurrent Themes

- Climate change-related risks aggravate existing development disparities and problems
- Problems are rarely isolated clearly within one sector—cross sectoral linkages are common
- A multidisciplinary approach is critical
- Integrated solutions straddling multiple sectors are needed to address key concerns
- Broad-based stakeholder engagement is absolutely critical to success

Thank you.

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Ministry of Environment

Over 500 other stakeholders!