

EC Partners

UNITAR

Climate System
Analysis Group, UCT
Cape Town

START International,
START South East
Asia and Temperate
East Asia

ENDA T M, Dakar

Stockholm
Environment Institute.

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution:
€1.43 million (70% of
the project)
- Duration: 2006-2008
- 19 pilot actions in
Bangladesh, Burkina
Faso, Cameroon,
Ethopia, Ghana,
India, Kenya, Mali,
Malawi, Mongolia,
Nepal, Niger,
Nigeria, Philippines,
South Africa, Tunisia



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Environment

ACCCA - Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation

While uncertainty in climate change is a big challenge for climate experts, communicating the risk of climate change to a layman is even more challenging.

Archana Shrestha, Department of
Hydrology and Meteorology,
Kathmandu (Nepal)



Context

Climate change is now recognised as having a significant impact on development efforts around the world. A key step in improving the way climate impacts are managed is to assess the magnitude of potential future changes. A sound risk assessment is a fundamental first step in this process, ensuring climate change science is appropriately taken into account in the decision-making process.

Objective

- Promote exchange of information between experts and the data users within communities. Improve analysis and interpretation of climate information through capacity building.
- Enhance communication between vulnerable communities and policy makers and promote greater stakeholder ownership through participatory dialogues.
- Develop communication tools/methods to allow stakeholders to communicate climate risks in a multi-dimensional context.

Impact

- Enabled assessment of communities' risks in the context of climate change through the dissemination of the software Climate Change Explorer and AWhere.
- Awareness among policymakers raised of the implications of climate change through training sessions.
- Sharing and dissemination of data and knowledge among regional partners. Internet based means of communication developed allowing regional partners to provide assistance to pilot action teams and to access to critical information.

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Supporting learning-and-doing

Bruce Hewitson, climatologist at Climate System Analysis Group (CSAG), stated that "it is extremely important to understand the range of uncertainty that exists rather than just relying on one outcome chosen from many possibilities – we need to work with this uncertainty. Some aspects of the climate system may be too chaotic to say with certainty where within a range of possibilities the system may end. One way of looking at it is to conduct an envelope analysis, taking multiple runs with different conditions, of multiple models, and looking at the distribution of the results."

Meanwhile **Tom Downing**, from Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Oxford, a leading figure on social science for adaptation, suggested "one of the core principles developed in the ACCCA project is that adaptation is a social and institutional process. This is now well established – techniques for supporting such learning-and-doing processes were instigated by project partners. It is exciting to see the results now: a much larger and more experienced community of practitioners, developing successful projects and working with stakeholders at all levels."



Dr. T. E. Downing (SEI) and Prof. B. Hewitson (CSAG)