Sustainable development under CC - achieved through climate responsive local government plans and budgets?

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Adaptation Learning Programme for Africa

www.careclimatechange.org/our-work/alp/
Climate change risks and impacts threaten development

- Adaptation action needed now to achieve and maintain sustainable development
- CC is complex, with increasing uncertainty, new unknowns, extreme events
- No blueprints for adaptation: local impacts require local and flexible responses
- Capacities, aspirations and priorities of people vulnerable to climate change matter
- Adaptive capacity to anticipate impacts and to enable different responses as CC impacts change, addressing opportunities & barriers for change
Policy and finance constraints

Enabling frameworks:
• NAP/INDCs guidelines
• Adaptation Gap Report
• National planning cycles
• Adaptation finance: GCF/AF - direct access

But in practice:
• Often top down, sector based
• Assume adaptation actions are technical interventions
• Low capacity, mandate and resources at local level
Adaptation in local development planning

Model for integrating community based adaptation into district plans and budgets in Ghana

New Vision of the District’s development
including adaptation measures

Annual District Plan and Budget
Outputs and Outcomes consistent with
Medium Term Development Plan
Water - Agriculture
Health - Infrastructure
Food Security - Disaster Risk Reduction
Climate Knowledge
Environmental Protection

New activities & old activities (revised)
• Enable adaptation
• Build adaptive capacity
New Indicators for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of adaptation measures

District Planning and Budget Officers
• Integrate community-focused processes into District planning,
• Guide implementation,
• Guide monitoring, reporting and evaluation

Participatory Analysis (Gendered) and Community Adaptation Action Plans (CAAPs)
Communities mobilized to contribute inputs to District’s Plan:
• Livelihood Analysis
• Hazard/Asset Mapping
• Institutional analysis
• Seasonal & historical factors, trends
• Vulnerability/risk analysis, and
• Underlying poverty drivers.

Capacity building and training, Knowledge of adaptation planning, Learning

District Planning Guidelines from National Development Planning Commission;
Evaluation Criteria from the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development

Members of District Assembly
District Chief Executive
District Officers
Adaptation at scale through local plans

Ghana / Niger:

• Community adaptation action plans integrated in District Medium-Term Development Plans
• National guidelines for local planning and budget criteria promote integration of climate risks
• Evidence of increased community resilience

Kenya / Ghana:

• Participatory scenario planning for integrating seasonal climate forecasts at county/district level
• Multi-stakeholder forums institutionalized
$1 invested in adaptive capacity

$4 return of social, environmental and economic benefits

- Risk analysis / management
- Access to climate information services and early warning
- Flexible and informed decision making, strong institutions
- Better informed livelihood strategy choices
- Innovation and good development practice
- Greater access and control over assets and services

New Economics Foundation

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Conclusions/Recommendations

Local planning will achieve sustainable development under CC when:

- Policy grants ownership for local adaptation decisions and innovations, responding to community vulnerability and priorities
- NAPs coordinate with local development planning systems and cycles
- Capacity increases for integrating adaptive capacity and community based planning in local development plans
- Coordination between development plans, sectors, climate information, risk management and early warning increases
- Decision making is multi-stakeholder and inclusive of all vulnerable groups, men and women
- Local governments have access to finance & invest in responsive public goods and services - including climate information services
- Adaptation finance augments development budgets & provides flexibility