

THE RESILIENCE CONTINUUM

COMPREHENSIVE RISK MANAGEMENT
IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

EXPERT CONSULTATION
SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2017
ISID COMPLEX, 3RD FLOOR
4 VASANT KUNJ INSTITUTIONAL AREA
NEW DELHI, INDIA

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Image: Moniruzzaman Sazal



BACKGROUND

The notion of systemic resilience lies at the heart of all climate change initiatives. As countries scale up their adaptation action in line with the more ambitious UNFCCC process and its Paris Agreement, a comprehensive approach to climate risk management becomes essential. In this context, the way agencies - national and subnational governments, multilateral institutions, humanitarian organizations, universities - use their respective comparative advantages to optimize the balance between actions effected through preemptive investments in adaptation measures, and others that center on contingent measures on the remaining risk, will ensure that societies remain resilient.

In conceptual terms, we can consider all policy and planning discussions in this space to lie along an ex ante and ex post continuum, i.e. what should be done to avoid or prepare for climate shocks, and what should be done to minimize or mitigate the damage. Typical preemptive actions may include climate-proofing infrastructure, building protective measures, raising awareness and improving early warning systems, mainstreaming adaptation into planning, revising land zoning regulations, water harvesting projects, and changing cultivars, for example. The contingent suite of actions includes safety net functions that hasten rehabilitation, like insurance and innovative financial tools, as well as loss acceptance. These would typically resort to cost-benefit considerations and probability of losses in the optimization effort. But there are other factors that affect the need for contingent arrangements, for example:

- Unforeseen impacts or magnitude;
- Impacts of transboundary action such as upstream water retention operations in shared river basins;
- Impacts in other countries leading to indirect effects in the country under consideration;
- Responses contingent on future transboundary action;
- Absence of full feasibility of action – technologically, economically, or socially.

MOTIVATION

This meeting will gather experts from international organizations, NGOs, academics and governments to discuss and share experiences in the context of the resilience continuum. Participants will identify how they have addressed the challenges and benefits from investing in preemptive measures, disaster preparedness and education and/or in contingent actions to deal with the aftermath of adverse impacts of climate change, and what factors they considered in balancing both aspects.

Actual examples from lived experience on the ground is a promising entry point for developing the optimal policy mix for countries between preemptive and contingent measures to cope with climate change. Methodologies would also consider spatial and temporal distributional effects of policy benefits, feedback loops (induced by insurance premiums), culturally induced levels of risk aversion, as well as linkages with the global mitigation trajectory.

OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUT

- Advance the thinking on the resilience continuum in the context of comprehensive climate change risk management;
- Explore how stakeholders can collaboratively develop methodologies and specialized policy and planning instruments to foster comprehensive adaptation to climate change within the context of the resilience continuum;
- Draft a priority list/document containing the outcomes of the deliberations, including concrete steps.

OUTCOMES

As a result of the discussions, the experts will be able to share and identify a range of inputs for policy including: specific relevant lessons from examples on the ground, concrete steps, common ground, common tools and synergies.

The results and conclusions from the consultation will foster a more integrated effort towards operationalizing the resilience continuum, within the framework of climate change and adaptation strategies, and practitioners will be able to identify entry points for comprehensive resilience strategies. Furthering this optimization process is an important element of country support. Results and conclusions from the consultation will feed into the COP 23 discussions in November this year.

DRAFT AGENDA Updated on 23/08/2017

The Resilience Continuum Day 1 – Policy, Planning, Implementation and Support Schemes

September 15, 2017 **Opening Session**
09:00 - 9:45

Pierre Jacquet, President of **Global Development Network**

Jyoti K Parikh, Executive Director, **Integrated Research for Action and Development (IRADe)**

Youssef Nassef, Director of the Adaptation Programme, **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

Albert Salamanca, Coordinator, SEI Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, **Stockholm Environment Institute**

Aditya V. Bahadur, Regional Programme Development Manager, **Action on Climate Today**

09:45 - 10:00 **Coffee Break**

10:00 – 12:00 **Consultation: Policy and Planning**

Objective

Identify the cost benefits of adapting/reducing risk versus recovery or post hoc management, and the key entry points for reducing risk and building resilience within key development sectors.

Moderator: Pierre Bertrand, Senior Programme Associate, Global Development Network

Hitesh Vaidya, Country Manager, India, **UN-Habitat**

Albert Salamanca, Coordinator, SEI Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, **Stockholm Environment Institute**

Satoko Yano, Programme Specialist in Education, **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization** (UNESCO New Delhi)

Thomas Tanner, Research Associate on Adaptation and Resilience, **Overseas Development Institute**

Chubamenla Jamir, Assistant Professor at the Department of Energy and Environment, **TERI University**

Santosh Kumar, Professor Policy and Capacity Building, **National Institute of Disaster Management (Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)**

12:00 – 13:00

Lunch Break

13:00 – 15:00

Consultation: Planning and Implementation

Objective: Identify good practices and lessons that have helped ensure an effective recovery, optimize investment and build longer term resilience in response after disaster strikes considering the levels, frequency and severity of the impacts.

Moderator:

CARE India

Marcella D'Souza, Executive Director, Watershed Organization Trust (**WOTR**)

Aditi Kapoor, Climate and Resilience Adviser, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/ **International Federation of Red Cross**

Shashikant Chopde, Senior Research Associate, **Institute for Social**

and Environmental Transition-International (ISET-International)

Nambi Appadurai, Director (Climate Resilience Practice), **World Resources Institute** (WRI - India)

Danny Marks, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Department of Asian and International Studies, **City University of Hong Kong**

15:00 – 15:15

Coffee Break

15:15 – 17:00

Consultation: Financial Innovations

Objective: Identify new and innovative financial tools and support schemes relevant to optimizing support in order to mainstream climate adaptation into domestic budgets and financial plans in the context of comprehensive risk management.

Moderator: Francesco Obino, Head of Programmes, Global Development Network

Aditya V. Bahadur, Regional Programme Development Manager, **Action on Climate Today**

Zeenat Niazi, Vice-president, **Development Alternatives Group**

SVRK Prabhakar, Research Manager (adaptation), **Institute for Global Environmental Strategies** (IGES)

UnniKrishnan Divakaran Nair, Senior Policy Advisor (Natural Resource Management), **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit** (GIZ India)

Olga Chepelianskaia, Senior Expert - Asia & Europe, **Erg Terra Expertise**

Green Climate Fund (TBC)

The Resilience Continuum Day 2 – Results and Future Steps

September 16, 2017

10:00 – 11:30

Moderator: Anindya Chaudhuri, Senior Economist, Global Development Network

Discussion on the results and future steps: bridging assessment to implementation.

11:30 – 12:00

Closing Session

Youssef Nassef, Director of the Adaptation Programme, **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** (UNFCCC)

Aditya V. Bahadur, Regional Programme Development Manager, **Action on Climate Today**

Pierre Jacquet, President of **Global Development Network**

12:00 – 13:00

Networking Lunch