

REPORT OF THE WEBINAR ON 'INDIA-EU EXPERIENCE SHARING ON ADAPTATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION'

30th June 2020

Pre-Conference Webinar

India-EU Experience Sharing on Adaptation Planning & Implementation

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supported by
Strategic Partnerships for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA)

of the Federal Republic of Germany

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Executive summary

Under the Strategic Partnership for the Implementation of Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project, being implemented with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) as the nodal ministry, a webinar on 'India-EU Experience Sharing on Adaptation Planning and Implementation' was organised on 30th June 2020, as part of the pre-conference webinar series of 'Adaptation Futures Conference'.

The webinar, consisting of a plenary session and three breakout sessions, aimed at bringing together representatives from the MoEFCC, EU (DG CLIMA, Joint Research Centre, EU Delegation to India), EU Member States (France), Indian States and Union Territories (UT), TERI and GIZ India to exchange information on the EU and India's adaptation planning and implementation process, in particular at state level.

The plenary session of the webinar, being a public session, had around **110 participants** from all over India. The breakout sessions were attended by around **60 representatives** from **30 States and UTs** in India.

Each break out session was designed in such a way that it included two to four keynote presentations from the Indian States and UTs and one presentation from the EU representatives on the same thematic topic, followed by a discussion:

- Breakout session 1 on “Use of climate model outputs for regional / local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning”, with a presentation from Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and the Joint Research Centre;
- Breakout session 2 on “Mainstreaming climate change adaptation planning in the development process” with a presentation from Tamil Nadu, Assam, Telangana, Karnataka and DG CLIMA;
- Breakout Session 3 on “Ensuring local ownership of climate change adaptation solutions” included a presentation by France and Gujarat.

In a concluding session the main messages / recommendations were reported back to the whole group, followed by a brief discussion and concluding remarks (for conclusions see page no 15).

Introduction: overview and design of the webinar

Climate Change is having an increasingly severe impact on all ecosystems and is threatening human wellbeing. Adaptation to climate change and increasing climate resilience should be a powerful ally of sustainable development and disaster risk reduction efforts.

The Government of India has made significant progress with respect to formulation of multi-pronged, long term and integrated strategy for climate change. Following the release of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in 2008 with eight missions addressing mitigation and adaptation issues all States/Union Territories (UTs) have prepared the State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) to address state specific issues on climate change. In 2019, the Indian Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) developed guidelines for revising State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) for all the Indian States. It offers a strategic approach to revisiting SAPCCs considering new climate science and projections, as well as the country's commitments under its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). SAPCC will become the guiding policy document to implement adaptation planning at the sub-national level. Apart from integrating climate science and data, it aims at adopting a 'people-centric' approach by addressing socio-economic vulnerabilities and by incorporating gender-sensitive planning strategies at the community level.

In this context, a public webinar on '**India-EU Experience Sharing on Adaptation Planning and Implementation**' was organized on 30th June 2020 as part of the Strategic Partnership for the Implementation of Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project. It was organized in the context of the pre-conference webinar series of 'Adaptation Futures 2020'. The public webinar was followed by a virtual meeting between the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, climate change nodal officers from the Indian States and Union Territories (UTs) and officials from the EU and EU Member States on three key issues related to climate change adaptation planning and implementation with two key questions including:

Use of climate model outputs for regional / local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning.

- How to define the projected climate change and its impacts at regional / local level and assess the vulnerability to these impacts?
- What methodologies / models are used and how is dealt with lack of local data / projections (including example case studies)?

Mainstreaming climate adaptation.

- How to mainstream climate adaptation policies (to adapt to changing conditions, anticipate shocks and build up capacity to recover) in other development policies (agriculture / infrastructure / housing etc)?
- How to ensure coordination between the different policies and between national, state and local level (including example case studies)?

Ensuring local ownership of adaptation solutions.

- How to ensure that proposed adaptation solutions, including gender-sensitive approaches and tools, meet the local context and have local ownership?

- Share example case studies of successful engagement of local communities in implementation of climate change adaptation measures?

The first of its kind virtual meeting among key officials from State governments and Union Territories responsible for climate action at the state level was an initial step in a series of dialogues being planned under the EU-Strategic Partnership for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project. It was structured as thematic discussions with a focus on exchanging best practices, lesson learnt as well as exchanges on opportunities and challenges in climate change adaptation planning at the state level.

Public session on climate change adaptation planning

The public webinar had a participation of more than 110 participants from across the country. The discussions were moderated by **Dr. Ashish Chaturvedi**, Director-Climate Change, GIZ India.

The session started with introductory remarks by **Dr. Ajay Mathur**, Director General, TERI. He explained the importance of this series of pre-conference webinar series linked with the themes of the 'Adaptation Futures' conference co-hosted by TERI. He emphasized the need for prioritizing climate change adaptation activities across sectors.

Mr. Edwin Koekkoek, Counsellor, Energy and Climate Action, Delegation of the European Union to India delivered an overview of the EU-Strategic Partnership for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project. The project is one of the main instruments implementing the EU-India Clean Energy and Climate Partnership, that was agreed at the EU-India Summit in 2016 and reconfirmed in 2017. The SPIPA project aims at deepening the cooperation on climate related topics in all non-EU G20 countries. It is funded from the EU Partnership Instrument and by the German Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, is the nodal partner ministry for the SPIPA project. The project is being implemented by the EU Delegation to India, with GIZ India as the implementing agency.

It was followed by an address by **Ms. Richa Sharma**, Joint Secretary and Head of Climate Change Division, MoEFCC including an overview of the adaptation planning and implementation process in India. She stated that India has already initiated activities contributing towards achievement of the targets of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted to UNFCCC. She emphasised the achievements of the country related to climate action through the eight flagship missions spearheaded by different nodal Ministries and coordinated by the MoEFCC. She highlighted the importance of experience and knowledge sharing between States and UTs within India as well as internationally with partners like the EU. She emphasised on the fact that States and UTs play a critical role in climate action particularly in adaptation planning and implementation as local vulnerabilities and capacities must be considered for adaptation. She stated that planners at the national and state level should consider location-specific vulnerabilities for planning adaptation activities in water, agriculture, infrastructure and other sectors. Further, she highlighted that as implementation must be done at the state-level the involvement of state level officials in experience exchange is critical. She informed that State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) have been prepared by all states and UTs in line with the National Action Plan on

Climate Change (NAPCC) and SAPCCs are being revised considering the NDCs and SDGs. She informed that climate resilient crop varieties have been developed as part of the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and there is need to increase adoption of these varieties beyond the pilot projects. Similarly, she emphasized the need for sharing lessons from the implementation of the projects funded by the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC). Further, she emphasized the need for including adaptation issues in all planning processes including the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (Prime Minister's Housing Scheme) providing houses for poor households, activities as part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme etc. She highlighted that India has launched the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) an international coalition for knowledge building and exchange on disaster-resilient infrastructure which should provide insights for implementation of resilient infrastructure projects. She appreciated the conference on addressing climate change linked urban flooding organized in Mumbai as part of the SPIPA project for the exchange of experiences and ideas on addressing urban flooding.

Mr. Liviu Stirbat, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission shared a strategic policy level overview of adaptation planning and implementation in the EU. He introduced the 'The European Green Deal' which includes an ambitious roadmap for the EU to achieve 'Carbon Neutrality' by 2050 and which also includes adaptation to climate change. He briefly explained the evolution of climate change adaptation strategies in EU. He stated that the recovery from the pandemic is considered an opportunity to increase the EU's resilience and sustainability ambitions by mainstreaming the activities under the 'Green Deal'¹.



Figure 1 European Green Deal

Dr. Luc Feyen, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission, explained the recent developments in the use of climate information for adaptation planning with a cost-benefit analysis of adaptation options. He briefly explained climate model studies in the EU

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

implemented by JRC with an emphasis on “Projection of Economic impacts of climate change in Sectors of the European Union based on bottom-up Analysis” (PESETA) studies. The unique features of these studies are: Results are based on bottom-up, process-based impact models and it has a provision of coupling with sectoral economic model studies.

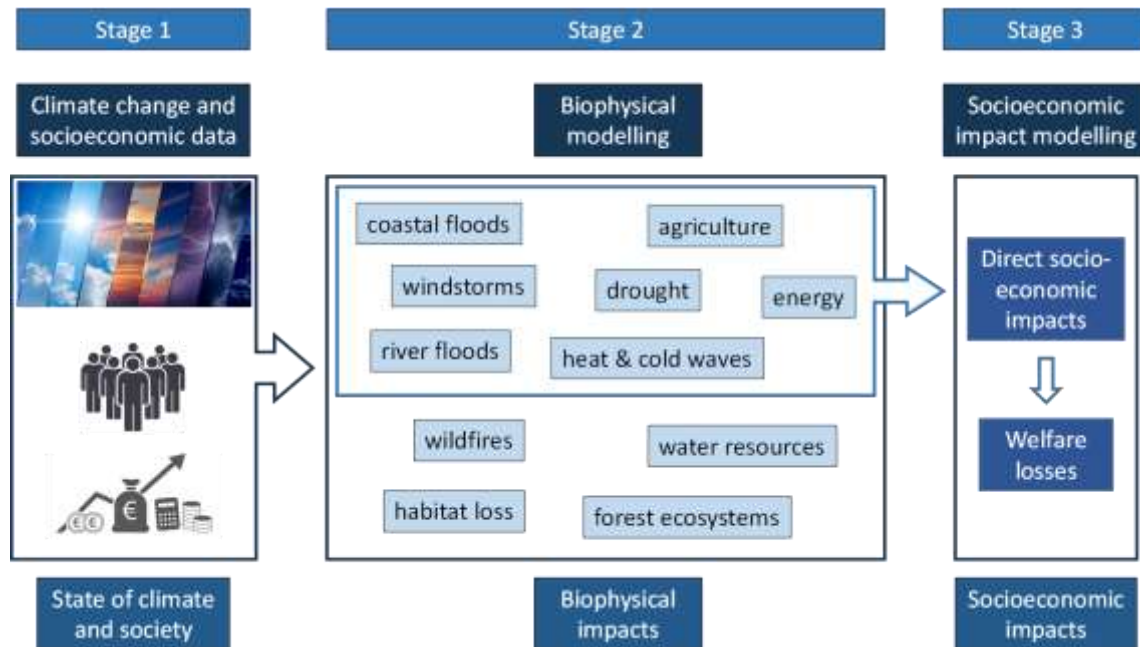


Figure 2 PESETA IV impact analysis framework

He also explained the multi-hazard vulnerability of European countries through a series of scientific studies conducted by JRC. He stated that with global warming, people in the EU will be exposed more frequently to heatwaves but less to extreme cold spells, resulting in a strong net increase in fatalities from temperature extremes. He also stated that Coastal flood risk in Europe will dramatically increase with global warming but with mitigation and adaptation economic losses can be reduced by 95%.Dissemination (For further reading and reference): <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/peseta-iv>

Key messages and recommendations from the plenary session:

1. There is a need for including adaptation issues in all relevant policies at the national and state levels.
2. Learnings and achievements of National Missions related to climate change and projects implemented as part of the NAFCC should be scaled up and replicated across India.
3. Coherence in adaptation planning at the European Union level with the national level adaptation planning process of the EU member states is at some extent comparable to the adaptation planning at the central government level and state government level in India. Therefore, there is significant potential for knowledge and experience exchange.
4. Climate model outputs based on high-resolution local level climate data enables policymakers to make informed decisions in adaptation planning. Linking climate model output with economic models enable the projection of losses due to climate change and can help in preparing adaptation plans.

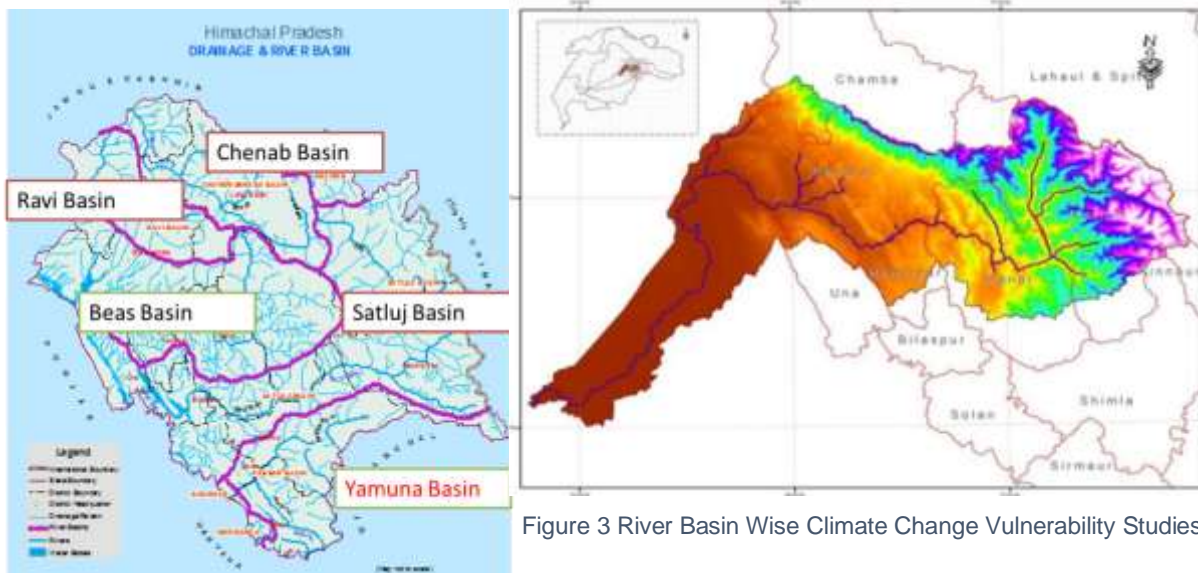
Learnings from breakout session one: use of climate model outputs for regional / local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning

Ms. Somya Bhatt, Technical Expert-Climate Change, GIZ-India was the moderator for the first session on ‘**Use of climate model outputs for regional / local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning**’. She initiated the discussion with short introductory remarks on the necessity of climate science in adaptation planning and briefly gave an overview of moderation strategy for the session.

It was followed by a presentation from the state of Himachal Pradesh by **Dr. Suresh C. Attri**, Principal Scientific Officer (Environment) and Programme Coordinator which was followed by the presentation by **Dr. Braj Kumar**, Deputy Director, Climate Change Cell, Manipur and **Dr. Luc Feyen**, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

They explained the use of climate model outputs for regional / local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning in their respective states. The State of Himachal Pradesh, situated on the foothills of the Himalayas, and the state of Manipur, in the North East of India, are two vulnerable states with a hilly terrain, therefore regional and local level vulnerability assessment is very crucial in adaptation planning.

Dr. Suresh C Attri emphasised that down-scaling climate data is crucial for creating a Climate Change Vulnerability Index at the sub-national level. He explained that Instead of administrative boundaries, Micro Watershed boundary-based Hydrological Modelling was more effective for Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment in the context of Himachal Pradesh. The state government has prepared the ‘District-wise Indicative Adaptation Plan Framework’ up to the Panchayat Level (Village Level) for districts located in 5 river basins of Himachal Pradesh.



Dr. Braj Kumar explained various climate change impacts in the state of Manipur, visible impacts include more erratic and intense rainfall events while there is overall depletion of water resources in the state. It causes problems such as drying up of water reservoirs, drying up of stream heads and forced migration of communities due to water shortage.

He stated that in Manipur the state government has conducted Vulnerability Assessment at village level by using IPCC 2014 report Framework. Highly vulnerable villages are prioritized for implementing various adaptation initiatives. From the experience of pilot scale implementation of initiatives like integrated mountain farming, introduction of climate smart agriculture, intercropping, promotion of community owned forest and various capacity building initiatives in the selected villages their scope of scaling up is being further explored. He also informed that revision process of Manipur State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) is under progress which will incorporate these learnings.

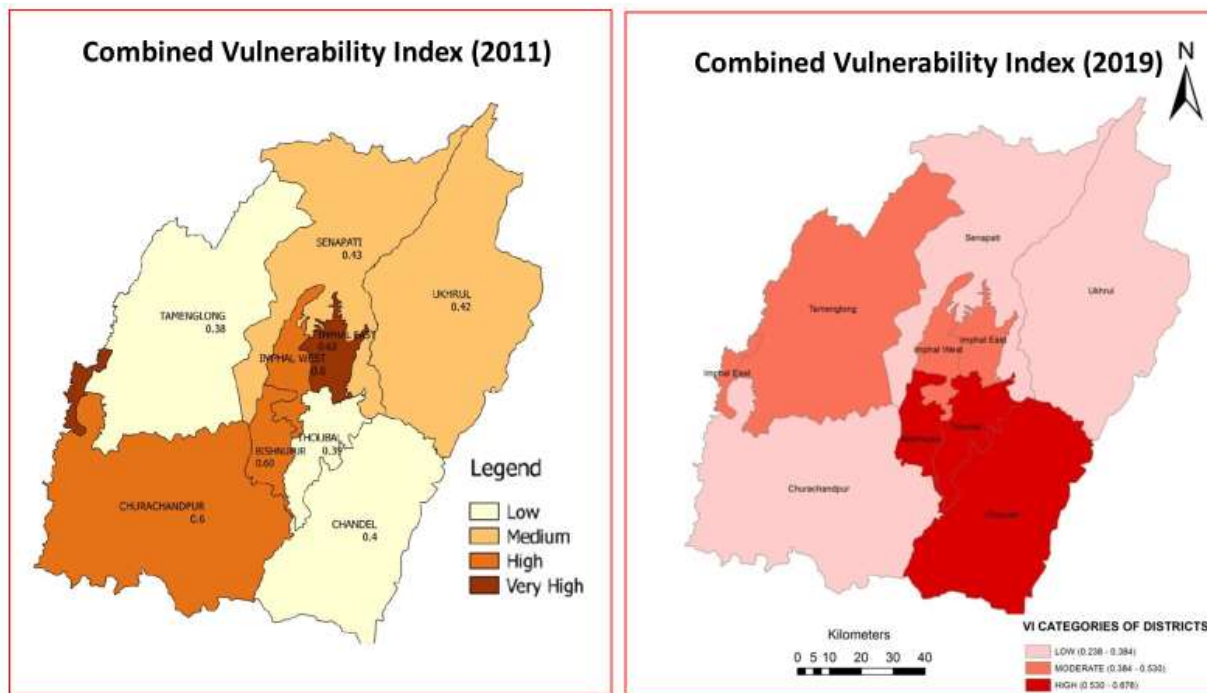


Figure 4 Vulnerability Index for the state of Manipur

The keynote address by Mr Luc Feyen from Joint Research Centre, European Commission gave a fresh perspective to the participants on the use of climate model outputs for adaptation planning. He explained the 'Impact Modelling' approaches used in the scenario of different disasters.

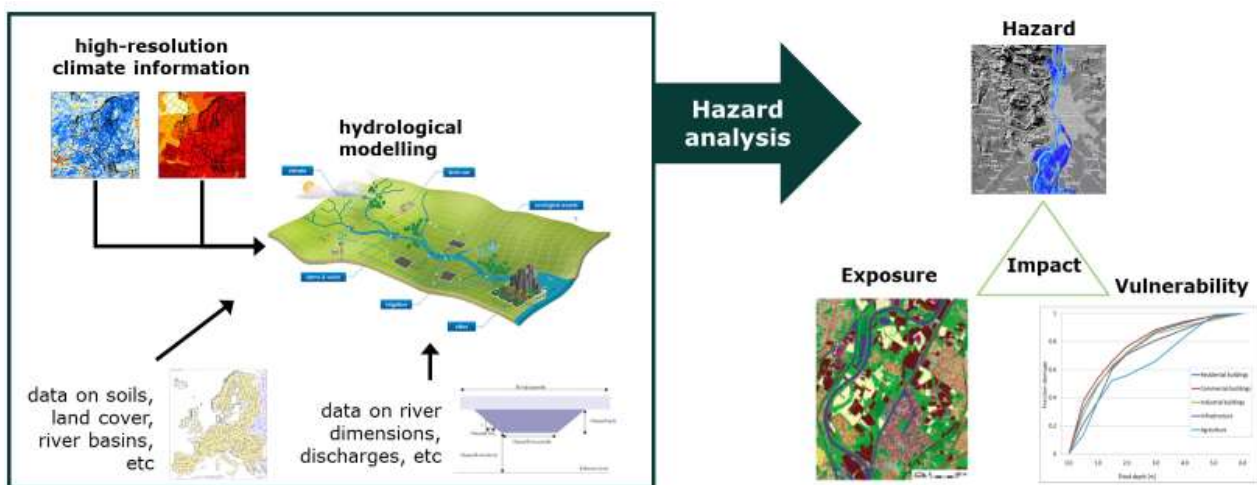


Figure 5 Impact modelling case study of riverine floods

He shared data requirements for a comprehensive modelling exercise for assessing riverine floods. Hydrological modelling with high resolution climate data and with spatial data on land use/land cover, soil typology and digital elevation models was also conducted in Manipur. He stated that modelling enables projecting the positive impacts of mitigation and adaptation policies under different scenarios. This facilitates assessment of climate change impacts in different sectors such as agriculture, transport and energy during disasters like droughts, river and coastal flooding. He also emphasised on the fact that we should explore the possibilities of nature-based solutions in adaptation along with hard infrastructure.

Key messages and recommendations from breakout session one:

1. SWAT tool (Soil and Water Assessment) can be used for local level adaptation planning through a rigorous consultation at the district and village level.
2. Watershed boundaries instead of administrative boundaries should be considered for vulnerability assessment by other states learning from the example of vulnerability assessment in Himachal Pradesh.
3. The state of Manipur followed seven-step approach for local vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning by using climate model outputs including:
 1. Selection of a system for vulnerability assessment on village/block level
 2. Indicators based vulnerability assessment
 3. Vulnerability ranking on block/village level
 4. Identification of drivers of vulnerability
 5. Prioritization of most vulnerable systems (Villages/Blocks)
 6. Selection of most vulnerable systems
 7. Preparation of adaptation action plan
4. Stocktaking of indigenous knowledge related to traditional practices for climate change adaptation through village level focus group discussions can be beneficial in adaptation planning.
5. Uncertainty in vulnerability analysis relating to hazards and climate change impacts are linked to a lack of availability of high-resolution climate data.
6. Potential of Nature-Based Solutions for climate change adaptation should be explored.

Learnings from breakout session two: mainstreaming climate adaptation

Session two facilitated the thematic discussion on '**Mainstreaming climate change adaptation planning**' in the development process. There was an overwhelming response from the state representatives in terms of participation and presentations in this thematic discussion. It included presentations from the following eminent speakers **Mr. Rizwan Uz Zaman** climate change expert speaking on behalf of **Mr. Sri K.S.P.V. Pavan Kumar (IFS)**, CEO, Assam Climate Change Management Society (ACCMS), Representative from office of **Ms. Jayanthi Murali**, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/ Director - Department of Environment, Tami Nadu, **Dr. Sessa Srinivas J**, Senior Scientist, Environment Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI) Telangana, **Dr O.K. Remadevi**, Consultant & Head, Centre for Climate Change, Environmental Management & Policy Research Institute (EMPRI), Karnataka and **Mr. Liviu Stirbat** from the Directorate General of Climate Action in European Commission.

Mr. Kirtiman Awasthi, Senior Policy Advisor- Climate Change Adaptation & Climate Finance Readiness, GIZ India was the moderator for the session. He initiated the discussions by sharing his experiences of working with various state governments for the preparation of State

Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCC). He stated that recent guidelines for revising SAPCC emphasis on the mainstreaming aspect as a way forward for its implementation.

There are five pillars for mainstreaming which include scientific evidence, decentralised approach, engaging with local government and communities, supporting capacity building and knowledge management. Mr. Liviu Stirbat stated that the new EU adaptation strategy has mainstreaming as the key component by focusing on climate data and integrating risk management practices into policymaking. In the European Union, it is proposed to improve knowledge management, reinforce planning and accelerated action by the deployment of innovations for adaptation.

Case study presentation from the state of Tamil Nadu highlighted the established linkages of climate change adaptation with marine biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Presentation from Telangana highlighted that 'Mission Kakitya' has helped in the revival of traditional tanks and along with climate change adaptation it helps address irrigation and



Figure 6 Sustainable Coral Restoration in coastal Tamil Nadu

farming sector challenges. The main objective of the mission is to enhance the development of agriculture-based income for small and marginal farmers through sustainable irrigation resources by accelerating the development of minor irrigation infrastructure. It also focusses on strengthening community-based irrigation management and adopting a comprehensive programme for restoration of tanks to adapt to changing climatic pattern i.e. reducing or irregular rainfall patterns.

The presentation from Assam highlighted the role of a comprehensive institutional mechanism for mainstreaming climate change adaptation. The state has a dedicated institution responsible for climate action initiatives in the state called 'Assam climate change management society' which is chaired by the Chief Minister and has a board including the Chief Secretary. Mainstreaming of climate change issues is the major goal of this society through capacity building, knowledge management and monitoring, and it is also responsible for revision of the State Action Plan on Climate Change.

The state of Karnataka explained their unique initiative known as ‘Green Index’ developed with the support of research institutes like IISc Bangalore to evaluate climate resilience of development plans of the state government with the help of a set of indicators. It also looks at the aspects of air pollution and sustainable use of water resources.

Green Indicators	Green Sub-indicators	Indicator Score			
		1	2	3	4
1. Energy Conservation (and Renewable Energy)	1. Mandatory provision or requirement for adopting Energy Efficiency standards or measures or appliances				
	2. Mandatory provision or requirement for adopting Renewable Energy technologies or measures				
2. Water Conservation and Recycling	1. Mandatory provision or requirement for water conservation or water harvesting or water recycling measures				
3. Waste Treatment and Recycling and Pollution Control	1. Mandatory provision for wastewater treatment				
	2. Mandatory provision for solid waste treatment and recycling measures				
	3. Mandatory provision for air pollution control				
4. Biodiversity Conservation	1. Mandatory provision for regulating tree felling and conservation of biodiversity (trees/fishes/wildlife/others)				
	2. Mandatory provision for promoting tree planting and conservation measures				
5. CO ₂ Emission Reduction and Carbon Sequestration	1. Mandatory provision for CO ₂ or GHG emission reduction measures or tree planting for carbon sequestration				
6. Adaptation to Disasters and Climate Change	1. Mandatory provision for adaptation activities to minimize damage or cope with any climate change or weather related impacts and disasters				

Figure 7 Indicators of 'Green Index'

Dr. Remadevi stated various applications of the ‘Green Index’ as follows:

- It would assist policymakers or government departments in enhancing the greenness of developmental programs by identifying the critical environmental concerns that need to be addressed in designing the programs.
- Helps in creating awareness within the government departments and among different stakeholders such as NGOs, communities and mass media about environmental considerations in the design and implementation of government programs or schemes.
- Helps in facilitating enhanced financial allocations and rewards to green and environmentally friendly programs and projects.
- It will empower the government, in a phased manner, to enforce use of renewable resources, conservation of resources, minimization of pollution, treatment of wastes, and regeneration of the environment.

The presentations were followed by a series of questions by the participants.

Key messages and recommendations from breakout session two:

1. A dedicated institution at the state level for capacity building, knowledge management, monitoring and review of climate action can be helpful in mainstreaming adaptation policies in development planning.
2. Revival of traditional water conservation structures can support climate change adaptation along with addressing water scarcity as demonstrated in Telangana.
3. ‘Green Index toolkit’ developed in the state of Karnataka may be scaled up to other states for assessment of the implementation of SAPCC.
4. Establishing linkages among climate change adaptation initiatives and ongoing biodiversity conservation efforts can facilitate achievements of co-benefits.
5. In the EU it is proposed to improve knowledge, reinforce planning and acceleration action by focusing on solutions and deployment of innovations for adaptation. The EU is introducing a labelling program for adaptation financing to direct financing to adaptation activities. India is part of the International Platform on Sustainable Finance.

Learnings from breakout session three: ensuring local ownership of gender sensitive climate change adaptation Solutions

Session three on the thematic topic ‘**Ensuring local ownership of gender sensitive climate change adaptation Solutions**’ was moderated by **Dr. Shailendra Dwivedi**, Senior Advisor, Climate Change, GIZ India and he initiated the discussions.

The session consisted of presentations from the case study of Kutch district by **Mr. Shwetal Shah**, Technical Advisor - Department of Climate Change, from the state government of Gujarat and experience sharing from the French National Climate Adaptation Planning process by **Dr. Marie Carrega** In charge of French National Adaptation Plan, French Ministry for an Ecological and Inclusive Transition.

Dr. Marie Carrega shared an overview of various climate change impacts in France and she explained the strategies adopted by the French government to spearhead climate action through National Adaptation plans and sub national level action plans. She explained that comprehensive stakeholder consultations are the unique pillar of National Adaptation Planning process of France. Empowering common people by facilitating the free climate data at the local level is also a key component in the national campaign of creating awareness about climate change in France.

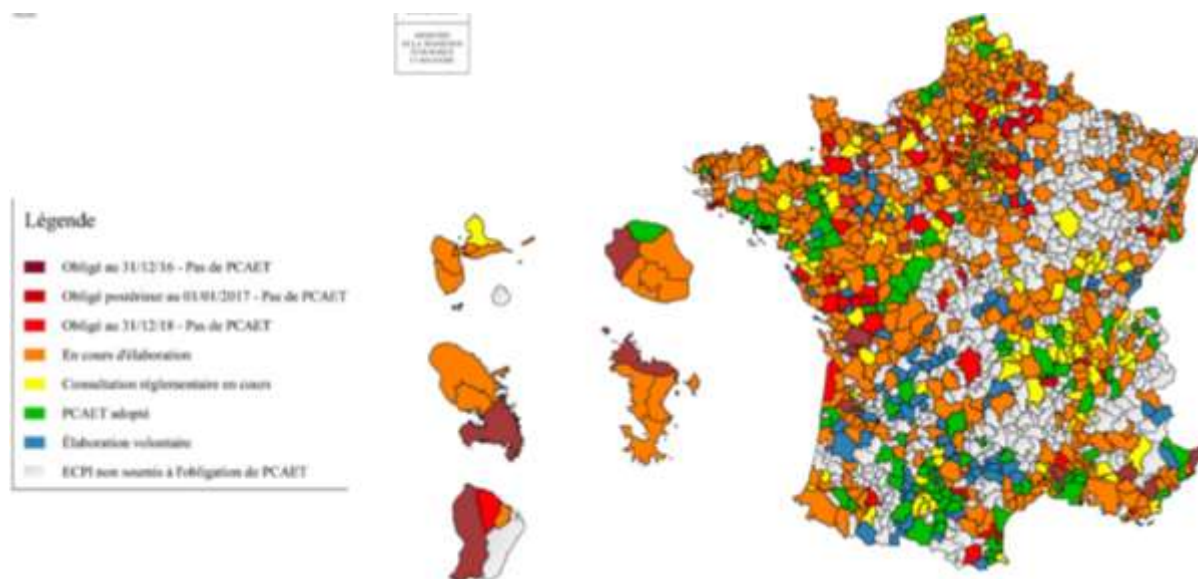


Figure 8 Regional level climate change vulnerability assessment in France

The case study presentation of Kutch district in the state of Gujarat was a perfect pilot scale example of community-based climate change adaptation following an ecosystem-based approach. Household level vulnerability assessment to identify the most vulnerable villages in the district was a unique approach taken by the Government of Gujarat. Challenges in gender mainstreaming in climate change adaptation initiatives is not limited to the state of Gujarat, therefore the strategies adopted by the Gujarat government has the potential to be replicate in other states with similar socio-economic circumstances. It includes promotion of women

Key messages and recommendations from breakout session three:

1. National Adaptation Planning process in France has a comprehensive stakeholder consultation framework and methodology with six working groups covering key sectors. This consultative approach for adaptation planning can be replicated in India as well.
2. Sub-national/Regional/Local Adaptation Plans based on the local level vulnerability assessment should be developed as implementation has to be done at the local level.
3. High resolution localised climate data availability in public domain facilitates academic research and scientific planning at local self-government level.
4. The State of Gujarat has established a network of Automated Weather Stations in addition to the weather stations operated by the Indian Meteorological Department which ensures better climate data availability. This approach can be replicated in other Indian states.
5. There is a need for creating livelihood opportunities for local communities through climate change adaptation and capacity building initiatives.
6. Specific interventions are required for ensuring gender sensitive adaptation planning and implementation. For example, involving women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in adaptation planning and implementation..
7. Democratic approaches like 'Local water committees' for ensuring optimum usage of water resources can be scaled up across all arid regions.

Plenary session: conclusions and way forward

The concluding session involved a brief presentation from breakout session representatives followed by open discussion. The key messages and closing remarks were shared by Mr. Edwin Koekkoek, Counsellor on Energy and Climate Action in the European Union Delegation to India based in New Delhi, including:

1. An important element for vulnerability assessments and climate adaptation planning is the availability of regional and local data, both from climate models and social-economic surveys. The information is crucial for vulnerability assessment and climate change adaptation planning. Measures like downscaling of climate models, using flood forecasting models and economic models with climate model outputs can help in informing adaptation policy and planning. Conducting surveys, studies and consultations for collecting local vulnerability data can be effective in informing better adaptation planning and implementation.
2. It is crucial to mainstream climate change adaptation in other policies. This requires however that there is awareness about the current and potential impacts, which is not always the case. For this awareness it is important to have the available data, giving insight in the local impacts and the fact that these impacts are already taking place. Often it is considered difficult to make a distinction between adaptation to climate change and the existing development agenda. For the mainstreaming and actual implementation, ownership of the adaptation agenda is very important, in other policy areas and at all levels, including national, state and local levels.
3. A consultative process at the national, regional and local level can contribute to mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in other policies. This will also improve ownership. Engagement of local and regional democratic systems for example in the area of water management establishment of water user committees have led to efficient water usage contributing to climate change adaptation. Ownership will take a lot of effort and time at different levels. Improving knowledge, reinforcing planning and accelerating action by focusing on solutions and deployment of innovations for adaptation should be the way forward.

This webinar was an initial step in a series of dialogues on 'Adaptation Planning' being planned under the EU-Strategic Partnership for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA) project. This webinar also facilitated the technical capacity building of state nodal officials in terms of engaging in the closed room panel discussions through the virtual platform of Microsoft Teams. Prior to the webinar two technical support sessions were arranged for the state representatives for ensuring the smooth conduct of the webinar.

Testimonials from participants

- **Dr. Satnam Singh Ladhar, Ph.D., Additional Director, Punjab State Council for Science & Technology, Chandigarh:** Congratulations for organizing a webinar on “India-EU Experience Sharing on Adaptation Planning and Implementation” on 30.06.2020. The programme was not only well-conceived, meticulously organized and diligently executed, but also very informative and useful for carrying forward issues to address climate concerns. I got the opportunity and privilege of peeping into all the three breakout sessions besides plenary sessions and found them very interesting. More such programmes would surely help in mobilizing institutions and public at large to actively participate and support environment conservation and protection programmes.
- **Dr. Mutaharra A W Deva, Nodal Officer, J&K Climate Change Cell:** I am happy to have attended the webinar. Hope in future also more such webinars will be organized!
- **Dr. John C Mathew, Environment Programme Manager, Government of Kerala:** Thanks for organizing the webinar!