

PPCR Pilot Countries Meeting
21-24 May 2018
Manila, Philippines
Session Summary/Takeaways

DAY 1

Theme 1: Linking Climate Science to Climate Policy and Practice

The session discussed the challenges as well as the opportunities for effective dialogue between climate scientists, policy-makers, and local communities.

Issues discussed include:

- recent developments in the field of climate change projections
- issues and challenges around access to climate information by decisionmakers from national to local level
- climate change information policy-makers and local communities need to enable the development of long-term resilience strategies while guiding current investment plans
- how to respond to the perceived wide range of uncertainty associated with climate change projections
- the need for incorporating climate science and traditional knowledge into programming
- Important to link land systems to land-use and emissions, and ecosystems and ecosystem services
- Entrepreneurship and innovation – a critical focus should be on young people and an action item is to create the enabling environment for innovators/entrepreneurs. One possible option for the PPCR is innovation challenge within PPCR countries using the PPCR programs as incubator laboratories
- Good climate decisions are premised by processes that yield explicit goals, provide a range of alternate options, give consideration to tradeoffs and use the best available science to understand potential consequences of actions
- Climate practice that is linked to science must assess action decisions from a wide range of vantages and views
- Countries are concerned that they lag behind IPCC scientific outputs

Examples of PPCR projects were presented to highlight the importance of climate information in making robust project design in view of potential impacts of climate change.

DAY 2

Theme 2: Building Climate Resilience with People and Communities

The session talked about how local communities around the world have long been exposed to the impacts of climate change. For many decades, these communities have had to adapt and enhance their resilience to these impacts. There is now a wealth of experience at local levels which can inform the nature and design of future adaptation efforts. The sessions discussed selected lessons learned from recent adaptation efforts undertaken by local communities around the world.

The session emphasized on:

- the need to work closely with communities, who are most deserving of knowledge and financial assistance, in identifying solutions to deal with the impacts of climate change.
- the importance of building the community capacity beyond the project period to ensure project is sustained in the future
- the need to blend community and scientific knowledge was emphasized again during the Day 2 sessions.

- Climate change is happening well beyond the capacity of communities to adapt, the importance of scaling-up climate actions and understanding time-scales of solutions were discussed.
- The need to getting better in adapting to changes and anticipating them.
- A lot of scope for knowledge exchange and learning between PPCR and other external initiatives such as BRACED by DFID, UK.

Examples of projects and initiatives from MDBs and PPCR countries were presented in to illustrate how gender-responsive adaptive social protection and disaster risk reduction operations can increase household and area resilience; enhance women's skills and participation in local adaptation planning and climate leadership; and enhance national approaches to resilience. Some of the points highlighted are:

- Gender-specific risks and vulnerabilities must be routinely identified and responded to in the context of climate action, while also working to support women's active participation as climate leaders. Projects discussed are doing this through a range of instruments, specific to project implementation, and in response to national policies supporting gender integration in climate and development efforts.
- Risk reduction can include the diversification of climate-sensitive livelihoods, and projects need to take a holistic look at the range of natural, physical, financial, and social resources and assets that can be developed to support resilient livelihoods for women in diverse contexts. A livelihoods focus helps ground project focus, while contributing to women's economic empowerment and voice.
- Country representatives (Zambia, Niger, Cambodia, Samoa) highlighted the importance of institutionalizing the norm of women's participation in adaptation planning, whether at the community level in the project context (as happened in all four country cases), or up through local and regional government levels where in the case of Zambia specific governance reforms with budgeting provisions for funding women-identified projects had helped institutionalize women's participation in planning going forward, even beyond the life of a single donor-supported project such as PPCR.

Ecosystem-based adaptation and examples including those from PPCR were also discussed and how EBA provides a viable alternative to adapt to climate change alongside or as a substitute to hard engineering measures.

Theme 3: Financing Climate Resilience

The session discussed the adaptation finance gap and the alternative sources of financing that can be explored to promote climate resilience. GCF made a presentation on the status of GCF portfolio and complementarity of GCF and PPCR adaptation programming. GCF also informed the participants of the specific criteria and elements they look for in adaptation projects.

Other sources of adaptation financing through domestic budgeting system, engagement with the private sector, innovative partnerships, and community-based financing were also showcased during the session. A number of case studies were highlighted to show examples of how vulnerable ecosystems provides opportunities for innovative financing arrangements to promote climate resilience.

Challenges raised included that national budget allocations for climate change do not necessarily translate into financial flows for sub national levels. Yet most climate impacts are experienced at the local level, necessitating empowered communities and local authorities.

Day 3

Theme 4: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning to Build Resilience

Through the PPCR country context and experience, the session covered various monitoring and report (M&R) and evaluation and learning (E&L) activities. Panel discussion focused on the use of programmatic approach as a distinct feature and primary delivery of the CIF to integrate adaptation and climate resilience in development planning and project implementation. The PPCR countries provided their insights on the initial findings and recommendations of the first recently completed evaluation of the CIF Programmatic Approach.

One of the parallel sessions afterwards highlighted the importance of developing a National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System in a context of increasing volumes of adaptation finance and activities. During the session, the new PPCR monitoring and reporting toolkit was launched.

The second interactive parallel dialogue session highlighted the CIF work under E&L initiative, including on transformational change and other E&L activities funded under Call for Proposals window that contribute to the transformational change-related effort. Various activities were presented by implementing entities, including representatives from Uganda, Honduras, Bhutan and participating MDBs, and a university. Participants provided their insights about the concept of transformational change and how specific activities in the PPCR transform communities and economic systems to become resilient to climate change. In other tables, participants discussed ongoing studies on the role of country leadership in PPCR and gender and equity.