



# **Adaptation in Practice**

## **Evaluating innovative approaches under the SCCF, LDCF and SPA**

***GEF Evaluation Office – Webinar***

***7 February 2011***



**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY  
EVALUATION OFFICE**

# Agenda



Introductory Remarks

*Rob D. van den Berg*

I

Adaptation to Climate Change at the GEF

*Sara Trab Nielsen*

II

Evaluating the Special Climate Change Fund

*Annie Bonnin Roncerel*

III

Challenges in Evaluating Adaptation

*Bjorn Conrad*

Discussion and Closing Remarks

*Anna Viggh*

*In recent years, adaptation to climate change has emerged as a top-priority on the international development agenda*

**Adaptation to climate change** is the process of reducing the adverse effects of climate change on human and natural systems. It refers to the *efforts made to cope with actual change* as well as of *adjusting to expected change*.



In practice, adaptation is climate-resilient development and natural resources management, which aims to decrease **vulnerability**, and build **resilience** within a given community or ecosystem.

**Vulnerability:**

The degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes.

**Resilience:**

Amount of change a system can undergo without changing state.



# GEF Involvement with Adaptation

As the financial mechanism of the UNFCCC, the GEF is the first entity to finance adaptation actions on the ground. It does so through **three different, yet complementary, trust funds** for which it acts as the secretariat.

## *Strategic Priority for Adaptation (SPA)*



- Mainstreaming climate change adaptation into GEF Trust Fund projects
- GEF guidelines approved in 2005
- All funding allocated

## *Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)*

- Activities complementary to the CC focal area of GEF
- GEF manages SCCF separately from GEF Trust Fund

## *Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)*

- Support to special urgent and immediate needs of 48 LDCs
- GEF manages LDCF separately from GEF Trust Fund

The GEF also acts as the interim secretariat of the **Adaptation Fund Board** established under the Kyoto Protocol

## *Adaptation Fund*



- Adaptation in developing countries party to the Kyoto Protocol
- GEF provides secretarial support to AF Board

	Least Developed Countries Fund	Strategic Priority for Adaptation	Special Climate Change Fund
<b>Purpose</b>	Financing preparation and implementation of <b>NAPAs for LDCs</b>	<b>Learning pilot</b> to generate lessons about increasing adaptive capacity	<b>Comprehensive fund</b> to address climate change; top priority adaptation
<b>Size*</b>	\$415 million from voluntary contributions	\$50 million from GEF Trust Fund	\$180 million from voluntary contributions
<b>Scope*</b>	47 projects	26 projects	35 projects
<b>Evaluation</b>	DANIDA/GEFEO, Sep 2009	GEFEO, Oct 2010	GEFEO, Nov 2011

### Further GEFEO activities on adaptation to climate change:

- Climate-eval, community of practice hosted by GEFEO since 2009
- Initial evaluation frameworks and M&E policies for adaptation programs

\* = as of 30 June 2011

# Examples of Adaptation Projects

- **Fund:** SCCF
- **Country:** Tanzania
- **Funding:** \$1,000,000
- **Objective:** Prepare water managers and users for changing climatic conditions and increase understanding of environmental, economic and social implications of different river flow scenarios

**Mainstreaming  
Climate Change  
Adaptation into  
the Pangani  
Basin Water  
Resource  
Management  
Project**



- **Fund:** SPA
- **Country:** Caribbean (several)
- **Funding:** \$5,000,000
- **Objective:** Mainstream climate change adaptation strategies into the sustainable development agendas of the small island and low-lying states of CARICOM

**Mainstreaming  
Adaptation to  
Climate Change**



- **Fund:** Adaptation Fund
- **Country:** Senegal
- **Funding:** \$8,619,000 (Direct Access)
- **Objective:** Contribute to the implementation of Senegal's National Adaptation Plan of Action on Climate Change (NAPA) and assist with the protection of coastal areas in Rufisque, Saly and Joal

**Adaptation to  
Coastal Erosion  
in Vulnerable  
Areas**



Adaptation activities are generally found to be no-regret **measures** and one of the GEF objectives is to avoid **maladaptation** at all times

### **No-regret adaptation:**

Adaptation options (or measures) that would be justified under all plausible future scenarios, including the absence of manmade climate change

### **Maladaptation:**

Any changes in natural or human systems that inadvertently increases vulnerability to climatic stimuli



# Introducing the SCCF

- Formally established at COP7 (Marrakesh) in December 2001
- Managed by the Global Environment Facility

## SCCF Portfolio

(as of 30 June, 2011)

### Projects

- 27 country level
- 3 global, 3 regional
- 2 multi-trust fund initiatives

### Funding

- \$180m pledged
- \$142.6m approved
- \$843.5m co-financing

### Agencies

- UNDP: 16 projects, 38% of funding
- WB: 9 projects, 37% of funding
- Others: IFAD, UNEP, ADB, EBRD

### Status

- 2 completed
- 15 implementation started
- 18 implementation not started

### Windows

- Adaptation: 31 projects
- Tech. Transfer: 4 projects
- Sectors: no projects
- Diversification: no projects



# Understanding Climate Change

- SCCF projects make extensive efforts to overcome the lack of climate data and information on emerging climate risks and related adaptation issues
- Projects use a variety of sources of information: local climate variability data, comparison with similar regions, local experiences of affected communities and even produced downscaled results with climate models

## ***Example: Design and Implementation of Pilot Climate Change Adaptation Measures in the Andean Region (Regional, ID 2902)***

- ❖ Collection of available historic **climate variability data** and comparison with data from high mountain ecosystems in other world regions
- ❖ Installation of **glacier retreat monitoring stations** for additional data
- ❖ **Surveys** of threat perceptions and experience in project communities
- ❖ **Data downscaling using climate models** by leading research institutes in the beneficiary countries



# Local Participation

- Several SCCF projects stress participatory practices as a means to close the gap in available climate change data
- Projects gather local expertise on traditional coping mechanisms
- Some projects established a close working-relationship between affected communities and scientific advisors

## ***Example: Adaptation to Climate Change into Water Resources Management and Rural Development (China, ID 3265)***

- ❖ Extensive series of **workshops/surveys** in affected communities to collect local knowledge and preferences
- ❖ Establishment of **Mobile Expert Teams** of scientific advisors to collaborate with farmers in on-the ground experimentation
- ❖ **Water Users and Farmers Associations** created to organize the implementation of adaptation activities in affected communities
- ❖ **256 practical application** studies jointly conducted by scientists and farmers to determine the most effective adaptation activities



# Socio-Economic Development

- Most SCCF projects are highly relevant to national sustainable development agendas of beneficiary countries, contributing to socio-economic development goals
- Projects feature different activities to strengthen livelihoods in the light of climate change and variability
- Climate change considerations make a difference in project design compared to a standard development project

## ***Example: Coping with Drought and Climate Change (Ethiopia, ID 3154)***

- ❖ Project identified **population groups most vulnerable** to climate change (e.g. female led households) and focused activities accordingly
- ❖ **Climate specific** agricultural activities, for example use of eight drought-resistant wheat varieties
- ❖ **Diversification** of sources of income to supplement agriculture: honey production



# Replication and Scaling Up

- In general projects are well geared towards replication and up-scaling, yet follow-up is uncertain due to lack of funding
- Most projects are set up as pilot and demonstration projects with future replication as an explicit project objective
- Availability of resources for follow-up activities often not secure

## ***Example: Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on the Coastal Wetlands (Mexico, ID 3159)***

- ❖ Strategy for replication and scaling up **firmly embedded** into Mexico's *Special Program on Climate Change*
- ❖ Project designed as pilot to **demonstrate feasibility**
- ❖ Comprehensive system for **collecting, documenting and disseminating** project data and experiences
- ❖ Necessary **resources earmarked** by government



## LDCF/SCCF Council Decision

*Decision on Agenda Item 6, Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund (10 November 2011):*

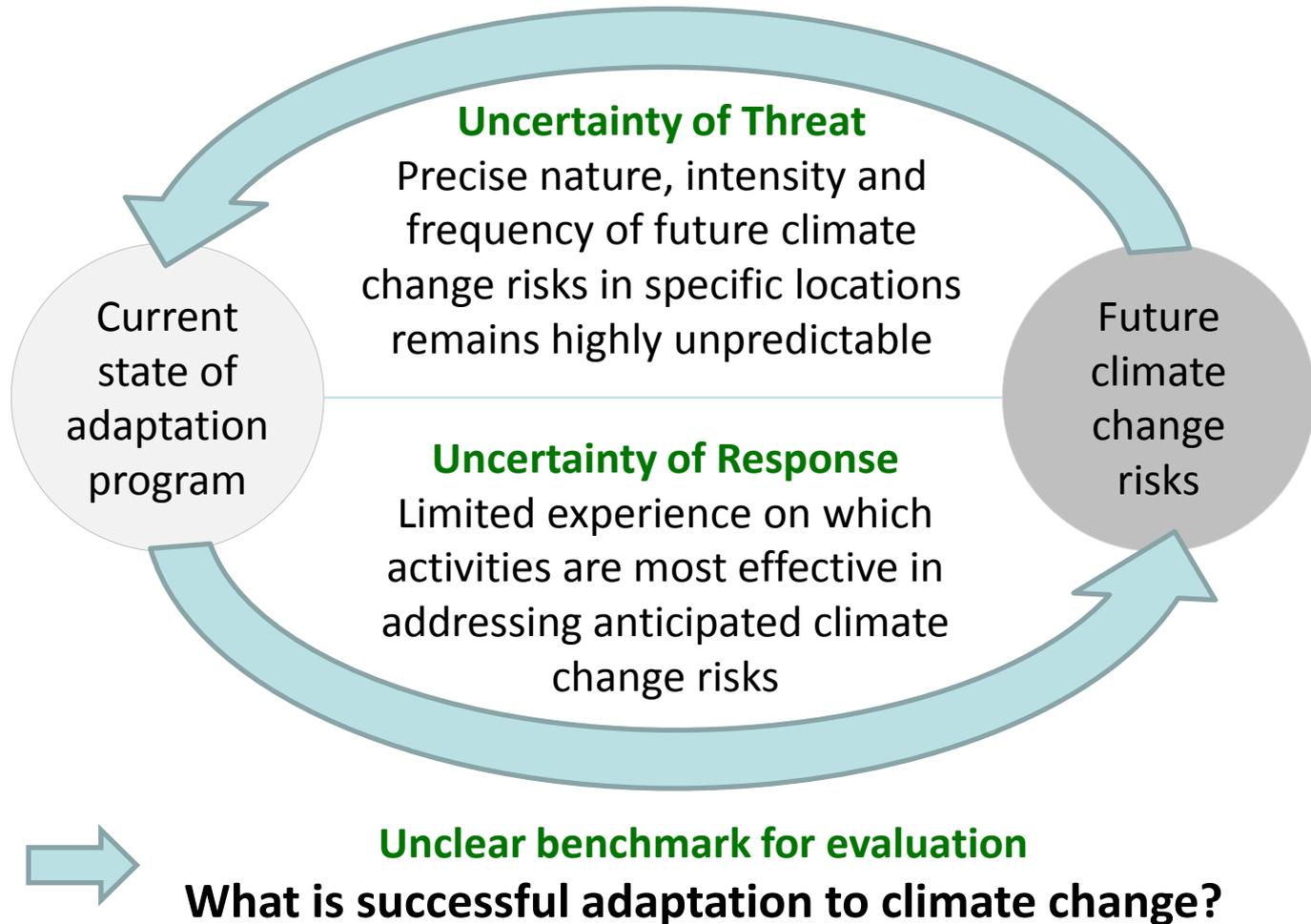
**The LDCF/SCCF Council, having reviewed the document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.11/ME/02, Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund, and document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.11/ME/03, Management response to the Evaluation of the SCCF, notes the conclusion of the impact of funding levels and the need for continued support.**

**The LDCF/SCCF Council requests the Secretariat to prepare proposals to ensure:**

- a) Transparency of the project pre-selection process;**
- b) Dissemination of good practices through existing channels;**
- c) Visibility of the fund by requiring projects to identify their funding source**



# Challenge of Evaluating Adaptation



### Factors for success:

#### Understanding climate change

How do projects bridge the uncertainty of available climatic information?

#### Adaptation reasoning

How thoroughly and consciously is future climate change considered in the project design?

#### Project flexibility

How do projects adjust to changing circumstances under high uncertainty?

### Key areas for inquiry:

Considering the processes and sources of information used for activity design → **source mix, community participation**

Considering the change that adaptation reasoning brings to the BAU project activities → **magnitude, selection, specifics**

Considering the provisions for using internal lessons learned and external changes of info → **adaptive mgmt, monitoring**

## Factors for success:

**Behavioral change**

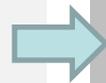
How do projects create a situation conducive to behavioral change in affected communities?



Considering efforts that motivate local communities to take risks  
→ **information, confidence in approach, monetary guarantees**

**Systemic change**

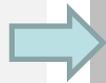
How do projects contribute to the systemic change necessary for increasing adaptive capacity?



Considering efforts to influence broader political/societal context  
→ **demonstration, awareness, policy/regulatory mainstreaming**

**Innovation and learning**

How do projects seize the potential for disseminating innovative approaches?



Considering efforts to systematize and share lessons learned and tested innovation → **databases, dissemination, cooperation**



# Thank you

Adaptation evaluation reports available at:  
**[www.GEFEO.com](http://www.GEFEO.com)**  
(under *thematic evaluations*)