

Mainstreaming means and opportunities for climate change in Palestine

Enhancing the Capacities of the Palestinian Authority in Mainstreaming Environment and Climate Change in Palestine

Objectives and methodology for implementation

Objectives of the Assignment

- **Conduct a Capacity Assessment (CA);**
- **Looking at 3 key criteria of performance, stability and adaptability,**
- **Develop & recommend a CDP for CC adaptation based on the emerging priority capacity needs identified during assessment**

Methodological Approach

The implementation of the assignment followed a three-pronged approach:

- Phase I - Orientation:

- agreed on the list of institutions to be assessed.
- review background material, reports and other available documentation,
- list of interviewees,
- questionnaires and score cards

Methodological Approach

- Phase II - Capacity Assessment:
 - conduct the actual data collection
 - Investigate CC current situation in Palestine.
 - Assessment looked at institutional, technical, legislative and operational aspects

Methodological Approach

Phase III – Analysis & Preparation of a CDP

- Team analyse, synthesize, present, discuss & reflect on the results of the preliminary findings.
- A 2nd workshop to be organized.

Existing challenges & priority gaps; è Mainstreaming Means

- Vulnerability factors identify in relation to the three **key** criteria of:
 - Performance: how CC adaptation / mitigation measures were incorporated into or considered.
 - Stability: How adequate are the financial and human resources allocated.
 - Adaptability: What are the ongoing and continued research and development technology / techniques adopted.

1. Legal regulatory framework

1. Political status of Palestine/PA
2. Outdated Environmental Law (1997)
3. Environmental / climate change matters are not fully integrated in the current PA governance structure(s).
4. Legal status of EQA
5. Israeli Occupation and internal West Bank Gaza separation

2. Political Commitment to address CC Issues

- CC is a relatively 'new' phenomenon.
 - Adequate resourcing of a clearly identified lead agency on CC; (EQA and NCCC)
 - Limited opportunities to brief cabinet of the importance of taking urgent adaptation actions.

2. Political Commitment to address CC Issues

- CC agendas and targets not clearly stated;
- Addressing climate change in Sectoral versus National development strategies;
- Not a priority for the PA now.

3. Mainstreaming of CC

- Limited understanding on the recently promoted concept of “mainstreaming of CC”;
 - Reflection of CC in the NDP
 - Difficulty of PA officials to consider climate change as a development issue;

4. Lead agency arrangement

- Climate change is a cross-cutting issue.
 - When ineffective or marginalized, the link between policy (central government) and actions become weak and uncoordinated.

5. Organizational Structures

- Partners have multi-tier decentralize government structure & functions that involve wider participation; however such structure does not reflect at times efficient systems in place (uptight with problems).
 - well structured and positioned to deploy, develop, reach out and collaborate with local government units & communities.
 - coordinate and implement measures to enhance adaptation to climate change.
 - institutional framework an empty shell; CC unit not operational; CC needs to be better mainstreamed into planning and implementation processes

5. Organizational Structures

- Institutional weaknesses continue to undermine links between policy, budgeting & implementation
- Serious disconnect between central government
- Serious disconnect between central government and entities involved at local level governance i.e. villages, communities

6. Public awareness & understanding

- CC scenarios and impacts amongst government agencies is very low.
 - Officials not well informed of the links to global development issues and the gloomy outlook predicted by climate scientists.
 - Awareness needs to be raised.
 - Need to involve and support of media.

7. Coordination mechanisms

- Good coordination is important for a multi-stakeholder approach to addressing a complex and cross-cutting issue like climate change.
 - Entails having an lead coordinating agency and participation
 - *absence of NCC policies & strategies make coordination difficult, ad-hoc and project driven;*
 - *Absence of proper indicators to guide and monitor the coordination work on adaptation and mitigation;*

8. Participation & partnerships

- Far from being adequate.
 - *limited capacity of lead agencies;*
 - *limited understanding and awareness on climate change impacts*
 - *limited training opportunities;*

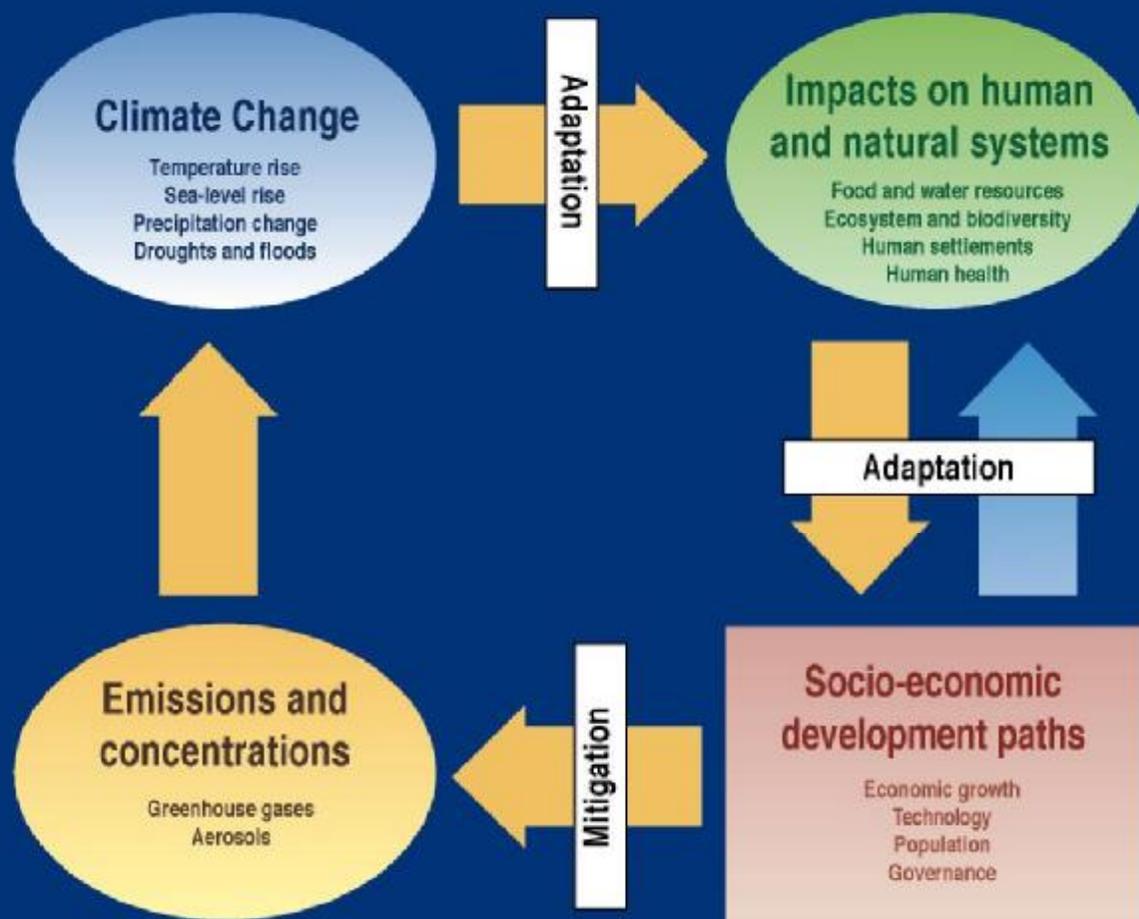
9. Knowledge Management

- *(Clifford Stoll) once said:*
 - *Data is not information, information is not knowledge and knowledge is not wisdom;*
- KM captures, documents and disseminates knowledge or the sharing of intellectual assets to enhance performance.
 - Basic environmental information and associated research is underdeveloped and, as a result, government and communities face significant impediments in addressing and responding to climate change impacts.

Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation

- Definition: is the iterative process of integrating considerations of climate change adaptation into policy-making, budgeting, implementation and monitoring processes at national, sector and local levels.
- Mainstreaming seen from two points of view:
 - actors inside institutions with a mandate to lead on an issue to be mainstreamed, and
 - development actors seeking to improve practice in a wide range of areas through programs and projects.

Climate Change - an integrated framework



SYR FIGURE 1-1

Building Blocks for mainstreaming

POLICY AND PLANNING BUILDING BLOCK

Policy frameworks

Financial frameworks

Institutional arrangements

PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS BUILDING BLOCK

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT BUILDING BLOCK

Political will

Information services

National Mainstreaming Approaches

1. Ensuring political will.

- It requires managing risks and taking decisions in an environment of considerable uncertainty, with limited and imperfect information.
- This uncertainty is not conducive to decision-making on the part of political leaders or government officials who are concerned with political cycles and short mandates.

National Mainstreaming Approaches

2. Raising awareness and building knowledge. CC is a complex issue with many links to development issues.

- This entails identifying the potential economic costs of climate change as well as the benefits of taking action to enhance adaptive capacity.

National Mainstreaming Approaches

3. Making the issue central in the government.

- Although the responsibility lies with EQA, it is critical to have the issue recognized as an economy wide issue.
- It is advisable that the process be coordinated with MOPAD for example.

National Mainstreaming Approaches

4. Meeting the implementation challenge of translating words into action requires persistence.
 - Create economic policy tools
 - Prepare and control funding flows,
 - Encourage and ensure private sector involvement

National Mainstreaming Approaches

5. Reinforcing inter-departmental coordination –
 - actively involved in mainstreaming climate resilience into development policies, strategies and related action plans

6. Capacity-building for stakeholders:
 - Education and provision of information for local development actors.

National Mainstreaming Approaches

7. Strengthening institutional and capacity sustainably at various levels.

- Institutionalizing is critical for the sustainability of such work.

8. Involving civil society and other stakeholders

- conducting advocacy work and promoting adequate consultation processes may increase CC resilience

National Mainstreaming Approaches

9. Optimizing access, supply and allocation of international funding

- Ø helping to establish national CC financing mechanisms

- Ø Provide support through appropriate financing tools to mainstreaming climate issues into local development strategies

Local Mainstreaming Approaches

There are also various mainstreaming strategies and approaches recommended at the local level, in particular:

1. Establishing climate profiling of areas in Palestine to assess vulnerabilities and opportunities

Ø Crucial for such profiling is the analysis of vulnerability risks and opportunities.

Local Mainstreaming Approaches

2. Aggregate local initiatives to broader frameworks for better national governance of actions

Ø provide more confidence in coherence that can eventually lead to improved national governance processes,

Local Mainstreaming Approaches

3. Strengthening participation by decision-makers, planners and citizens via awareness-raising actions

Ø Organizing information and training campaigns

Ø Best carried out during local climate profiling and early in planning processes (e.g. disaster risk management, programs changing community perceptions on risk, adaptation and mitigation, etc.)

Local Mainstreaming Approaches

4. Provide and mobilize funding for the elaboration and implementation of integrated approaches :

- ü *Various climate-specific and relevant bilateral and multilateral sources and donor channels*
- ü *Local public resources (state budget, tax income)*
- ü *Private sector resources (e.g. investment in programs, encourage microcredit institutions, etc.)*

THANK YOU!!