OECD Policy Guidance on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation

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Presentation Outline

- Climate change and development
- Policy Guidance approach
- Key concepts
- National level
- Sectoral level
- Project level
- Local level
Climate Change and Development

- People living in poverty and poor countries are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
- Core development priorities risk being undermined.
- The achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) are compromised.
- Climate change impacts go beyond 2015 with increasing risks and challenges for development.
Context and Approach

- The OECD Policy Guidance represents joint work between Environment & Development Cooperation Directorates at the OECD.

- Formally targeted at policy makers and practitioners in both donor countries and developing countries.

- In line with *Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness*, the Policy Guidance seeks to align donor support with the strategies, institutions & procedures of partner countries.

- *Whole of government approach to integrating adaptation*, structured around hierarchy of existing decision processes in partner countries at national, sectoral, project & local levels.
Climate Change Adaptation

- Adaptation is the adjustments in human and natural systems, in response to actual or expected climate stimuli or their effects, that moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities.

- Adaptation involves both targeted policies and the integration ("mainstreaming") of adaptation measures into existing development processes and activities.

- Many development activities lead to adaptation benefits, while some may contribute to maladaptation.
Adaptation: An Ongoing Process

- **Step 1**: Identify current and future vulnerabilities and climate risks.
- **Step 2**: Identify adaptation measures.
- **Step 3**: Evaluate and select adaptation options.
- **Step 4**: Evaluate “success” of adaptation.
Key Concepts

- **“Entry points”**: points within policy cycle where climate change risks need to be considered & adaptation can be integrated

- **Applying a “climate lens” (national and sectoral levels)**:
  
  The extent to which:
  
  1. A measure could be vulnerable to climate risks.
  2. Climate change risks have been considered in formulating the measure.
  3. The measure could lead to increased vulnerability & maladaptation.
  4. Pre-existing strategies and policies being revised need to be amended in order to address climate risks and opportunities.
Addressing Adaptation at the National Level

- Improving access to national level climate information
  - Variety of resources available, but variable quality & depth

- Identifying & engaging key national actors
  - Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning, Coordinating bodies…

- Organising government structures to better address adaptation
  - Coordination of adaptation from centres of power in national government

- Building upon & reinforcing existing national mechanisms for DRR

- Modifying regulations & standards to reflect current & anticipated climate risks

- Enhance links between multilateral/regional commitments & adaptation
Sector Level

What do we mean by Sector Level?

- Bodies with policy & planning authority and functions within a given sector at the level of an entire nation

Importance of Sector Level?

- Vulnerability & response options highly sector-specific
- Adaptation tools & methods vary significantly between sectors
- Key economic sectors sensitive to climate: agriculture, health, energy, water, infrastructure, etc.
Integrating Adaptation at Project & Local Levels

Project Level:
- Complete project cycle approach
- Integration of adaptation in each step of cycle

Local Level:
- 3 reasons why local-level measures matter for adaptation:
  - Climate change impacts manifested locally
  - Vulnerability & adaptive capacity realised locally
  - Adaptation action best observed at local levels
- Integrating adaptation in urban & rural contexts:
  - Within rural & city development plans
  - Adjusting local regulatory, financial & service provision frameworks
  - Private sector & civil society processes
The Project Cycle

- Project identification
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Project appraisal
- Detailed design
- Undertake in-depth climate risk assessments
- Identify adaptation options
- Prioritise and select adaptation options

- Assess potential climate risks and effects on vulnerability

- Monitor and evaluate implementation of adaptation measures within projects
- For new projects: implement selected adaptation options
- For ongoing projects: carry out interventions of previous stages, then implement adaptation options

OECD (2009)
Local Level Challenges

• Awareness of climate risks

• Information

• Capacity of local governments and organisations

• Competing local (and national) needs

• Institutional structures that inhibit adaptation
URL & Contacts

www.oecd.org/env/cc/adaptation/guidance

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