



Climate Action in Financial Institutions

PRINCIPLES FOR MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE ACTION

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World Bank's Climate and Disaster Risk Screening Tool Helps Identify Short- and Long-Term Climate and Disaster Risks for Better Risk Management in Development

Principle

Related Work Stream(s)



Publication date: December 2015 – [Emerging Practice Document 2015](#)

Date Policy/Tool Established	How Established?	How Implemented	Additional Capacity Required (e.g., staff, resources, other)
The 17th replenishment of International Development Association (IDA-17) has policy commitments which require climate and disaster risk considerations to be integrated into strategies, plans and operations for IDA from July 2014.	To support this policy commitments, a suite of online Climate and Disaster Risk Screening Tools was developed at the national/policy and project (sector) levels. The tools are hyperlinked to the Climate Change Knowledge Portal providing distilled climate information through country dashboards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Portal system has this requirement flagged into the system. • Training for online screening tools offered biweekly to staff at HQ/ Country offices/Global Practices. • An internal system of compliance tracking for screening in place; Qrtly mgt reports on projects screened. 	Significant budget and staff resources were required to develop the tool, provide ongoing training to task teams and investment officers in all WBG offices. The screening tools have a help desk which provides support, advice as requested

Key Lessons

- The tools are a useful framework to consider climate and disaster risks at early stages of project development; and the dedicated sector tools provide a good basis to assess risks to key aspects of project design.
- The quick access to climate information at the national and subnational level is very helpful for the initial assessment of impacts.
- The option to work on the CRST as a team provides a collaborative, participatory way to bring subject matter expertise while screening and provides a better basis for managing risks from climate change.
- The tools inform further consultations and dialogue, and may help determine the need for further studies in the course of project design or planning at the national/sector level.

Introduction

In July 2014, climate change policy commitments made under the 17th replenishment of IDA (IDA17) became mandatory. These commitments required all IDA operations and Country Partnership Frameworks to consider short- and long-term climate and disaster risks in the early stages of planning processes.

To ensure timely and full compliance of the IDA commitments, the management set in place a focal point system within each client department to monitor, track and report on the progress. Clear roles, responsibilities, timelines was key to implementation. Institutional engagement across the WBG was necessary for this mainstreaming effort, and commitment by management and ownership by task teams was key. Critical to this process was the provision of regular training session of the online Climate and Disaster Risks Screening tools which were launched in time to kick start compliance to the IDA commitments.

Climate and Disaster Risk Screening Tools were developed by the World Bank to provide a systematic, consistent and transparent way of doing this. The tools include a national/policy level tool and seven project level tools. The National tool supports key planning processes (e.g., country and sector-wide strategies). The Project level tools cover 7 key sectors (agriculture, water, health, roads, energy, coastal) and a general tool which has a menu driven option covering a host of other sectors (education, social development, community based development). The tools are designed to walk users through a series of steps to understand the level of risk posed by climate change and other natural hazards at an early stage of planning and design and make data on climate change (historic, projected) available in an accessible manner. At the national/sector level, the tool includes an Institutional Readiness Scorecard (IRS), which provides a rapid assessment framework to assess client institutional and adaptive capacity. At the project level, the tools help users connect climate and development information to the project. Outputs from the climate and disaster risk screening process

include risk ratings that can help inform dialogue, determine the need for further studies during project design or planning at the national/sector level.

Development and Design

The development of the Climate and Disaster Risk Screening tool integrated an Exposure–Sensitivity–Adaptive-Capacity framework that incorporates elements of the risk analysis framework, and adapted from the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the framework for vulnerability assessment used by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), with some modifications.

The tools are linked to the World Bank's Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP) and the CCKP's Country Adaptation Profiles.² The risk profiles provide accessible climate data and projections and highlight key climate trends (historic, projected) and risks at the project location as well as regional, national and sector levels.

The climate and disaster risk tools are aligned with, and provide contributions to, the new operations risk management approach being introduced at the Bank. The tools took over a year to develop in consultation with sector specialists and experts who also helped in the design, evaluation and testing of tools. Consultation was also held with external stakeholders such as regional development banks and development partners that are developing or deploying similar tools and resources. The World Bank Group organized and cohosted two workshops with development banks and bilateral donor organization to facilitate sharing and learning on all available screening tools and methods.

Implementation

Online tools were made available to World Bank Group staff on July 1, 2014 and released to the public in April 2015. Since the tools were designed for use

² <http://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org>

by staff working on IDA operations, internal outreach has been critical to their successful implementation. As of September of 2015, more than 500 staff have been trained through in-person and web-based training sessions has helped build internal capacity to effectively use the tools to screen projects and development strategies for climate risk. They are also helping to raise awareness of the importance of considering climate risks and resilience in operations. While the use of the tools is mainstreamed across the Bank, a core team of climate experts is available for on-demand support and quality review.

Experience and Impact

Fiscal Year 2015 was the first year of full implementation. During this period several monitoring and evaluation and quality assurance processes were put in place. There was also strong engagement with teams applying the tools. The latest reporting to management (as of Sept. 2015) shows that the progress is very positive in the screening at the project level. All IDA operations have either been screened or are in the process of being screened. No IDA investments have gone to the Board without screening during this initial period, suggesting a 100% compliance from all sectors.

Overall, the tools have generated substantial interest internally and externally including from client countries and other multi-development banks. Since its launch, the tools have been used by 120 external users. Tailored training of client countries have included diverse ministries in Mozambique, Philippines, Nicaragua, Colombia, and Vietnam. The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) also expressed interest in utilize the tools for their own portfolio screening. Hence, a focused training to CDB staff was offered in May 2015. In addition, a training session was offered to a range of US Government agencies to support their national efforts in response to latest executive orders on climate change.