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SESSION 17: CLIMATE ADAPTATION FOR CRM

Maputo, Mozambique ▪ May 2017

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

DEFINITION OF TERMS

WHAT IS CLIMATE ADAPTATION?

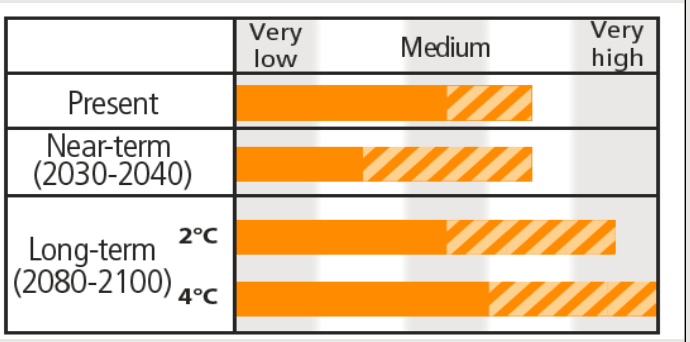
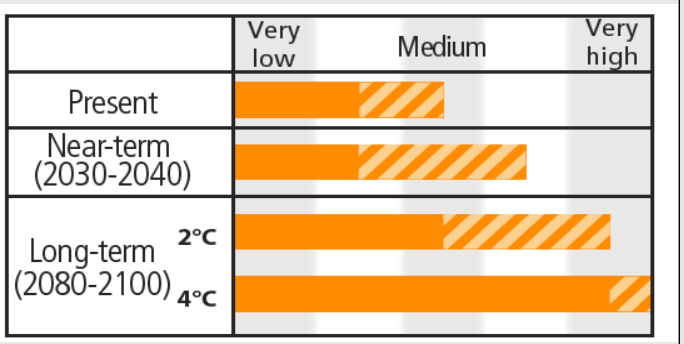
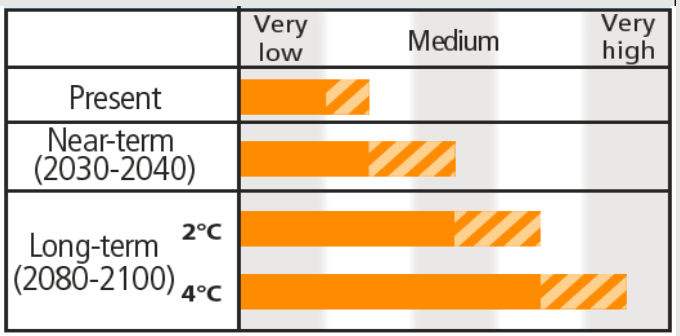
"Actions by individuals, institutions, corporate sector & governments to address the risks of climate change directly or indirectly through addressing factors that increase vulnerability."

The **goal** is to **prepare** for, and effectively **respond** to, the development risks of climate change.

Adaptation can be:

- Incremental: where the central aim is to maintain the essence and integrity of a system or process at a given scale.
- Transformational: focused on changes to the fundamental attributes of a system in response to climate and its impacts.

ADAPTATION CAN REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

Sectors	Adaptation Issues & Prospects	Time Frame, Risk, and Potential for Adaptation
Health	• Improve access to safe water and improved sanitation and enhanced public health functions • Vulnerability mapping and early warning systems • Coordination across sectors • Sustainable urban development	
Agriculture	• Technological and agronomic adaptation responses • Enhance smallholder access to credit and resources; diversify livelihoods • Strengthen institutions	
Water	• Reduce non-climate stressors • Strengthen institutional capacities • Sustainable urban development	

CHALLENGES TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION
GOVERNMENT READINESS

Ministries, departments may face challenges with:

- *Development, coordination and implementation of new policies and programs – within and across ministries.*
- *Use of M+E as an adaptive management tool.*
- *Human and financial resources, which may be insufficient for both response and prevention.*

CHALLENGES TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION

LACK OF TECHNICAL CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

High variability in the…

- *Availability of data*
- *Availability of reliable data*
- *Breadth and integrity of meteorological infrastructure*
- *Strength of local analytical capacity*

While at the same time, systems are not designed to…

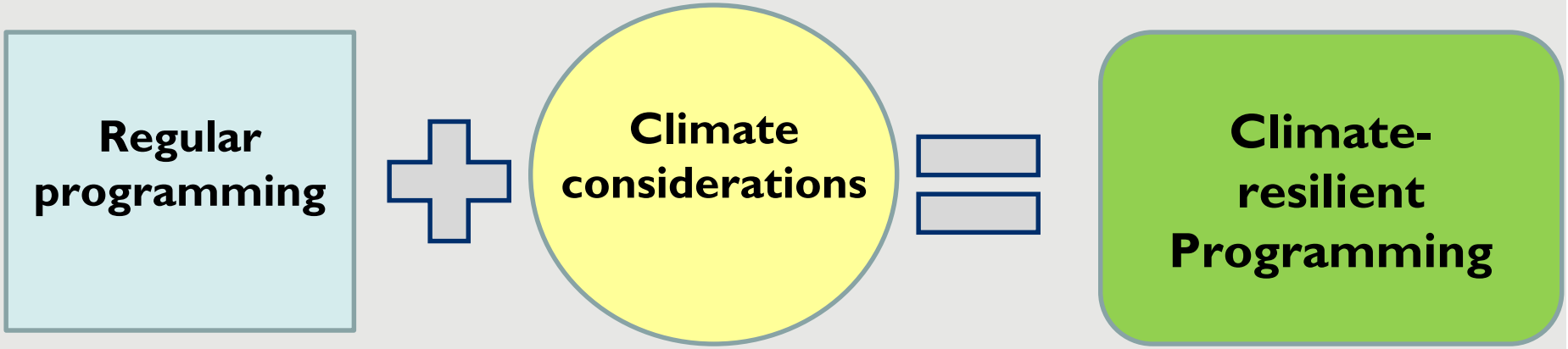
- *adapt to evolving situations*
- *incorporate new information into decision-making*

BUT HERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY:
PROBLEMS MAY BE OLD AND FAMILIAR

- Many development risks of climate change are not new.
- Climate change adaptation is just a new form of risk management.

PHOTO: STIG NYGAARD, FLICKR

ADAPTATION GOALS
WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?



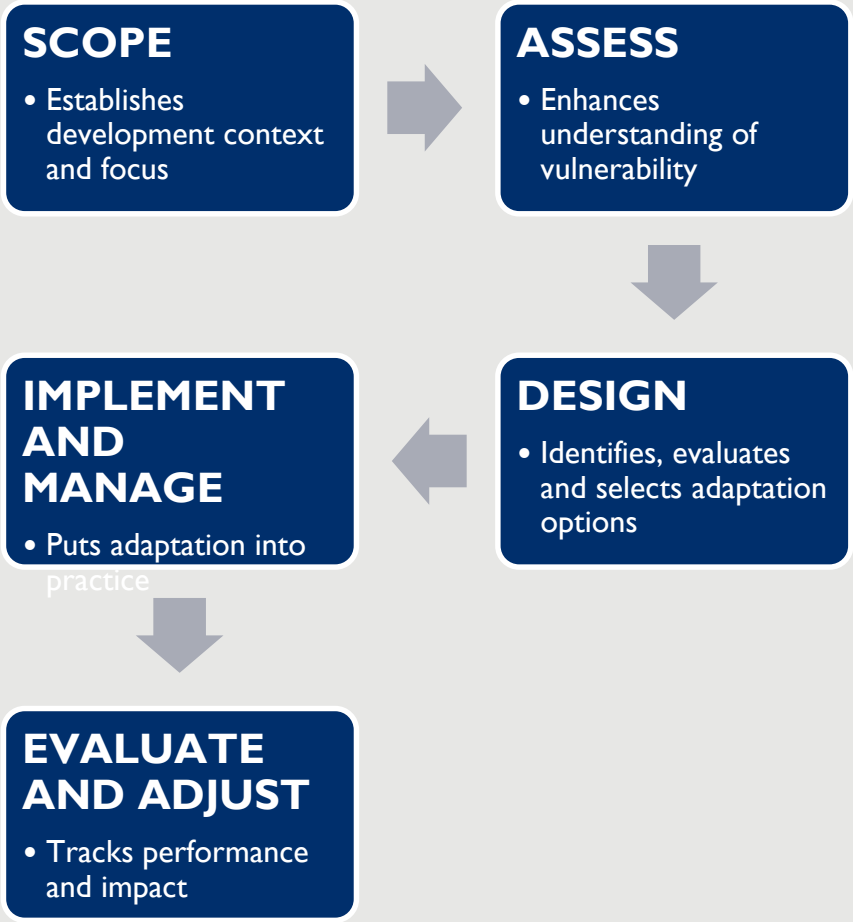
Robust systems meet these goals:

- Have resilient communities that anticipate risks;
- Reduce vulnerability to those risks;
- Prepare for and respond quickly and effectively to threats; and
- Recover faster, with increased capacity to prepare for and respond to the next threat.

ADAPTATION GOALS INTEGRATED INTO A WELL-MANAGED PROGRAM CYCLE

- Evidence-based decision-making
- Integration of climate considerations across the portfolio
- More creative, effective partnerships
- Adaptive management of the dynamic context

Remember, CRM is iterative…



Based on USAID's Climate Resilient Development (2014).

ENTRY POINTS FOR ADAPTATION STRATEGIES: AN EXAMPLE FROM FOOD SECURITY

How can we reduce **impacts**?

Climate change impacts = A combination of exposure and sensitivity

Adaptive strategies include:

- Diversify crops and/or livelihoods
- Select crops that are more climate-resilient
- Improve land use practices to maintain fertility of soils
- Improve financial risk management options

How can we strengthen **adaptive capacity**?

Adaptive capacity = Ability of a system to adjust to climate change

Adaptive strategies include:

- Improved use of science
  - Invest in climate-relevant research on impacts and innovation
  - Use climate predictions in planning and decisions
- Improved governance
  - Improve decisions around priorities
  - Improve planning of resources
  - Strengthen extension services and other relevant platforms

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- Effective adaptation reduces the risks of climate change.
- Common challenges to climate change include: weak planning systems, governance readiness, and lack of technical resources and capacity.
- Adaptation adds the climate risk management layer to other risks we are already managing, but the actual implementation may be things we already know how to do.
- We need to add effective monitoring, evaluating, and learning systems to ensure that our adaptation interventions are having the impacts we seek.

QUESTIONS?

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PANEL:

CLIMATE INTEGRATION LEADS

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