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Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development
Institute



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH



Chameleon Research Group

Adapting Energy & Transport to Climate Change

Background

Adaptation to climate change has become a topical issue both in research as well as in the policy arena. Yet while the need for adaptation to climate change is generally accepted, adaptation research practice and the practice of implementing adaptations is still challenged by a number of difficulties. These are related both to conceptual, epistemological as well as methodological challenges. In particular, it is open how to decide on adaptation options today and to prioritize action in the face of uncertainty and scant resources.

In recent years a number of tools and methodologies have been identified and developed to guide and facilitate decision-making. The topics, actors and arenas that these methodologies address and highlight vary, with each methodology having different scope and limits. Some of the methodologies have specifically emerged in the context of adaptation to climate change while others have emerged from other areas. Although some of these “older tools and methodologies” are well established, transferring and applying them to ‘new’ problems like adaptation to climate change can lead to difficulties. One example is cost-benefit analysis, which typically excludes the informal sector and accordingly does not focus on those who are usually considered to belong to the group of most vulnerable people. For scientists and practitioners it is often difficult to assess the practical relevance of the different methodologies.

Aim of the workshop

Against this background, the workshop aims to discuss different methods to analyze adaptation decisions in terms of their practical implications by addressing the following main questions:

1. What kind of information is necessary, generated and highlighted by the different methodologies? What are their normative implications?
2. What are problems resulting from the application of ‘old’ concepts/methodologies for the analysis of ‘new’ problems like adaptation to climate change?
3. What are the problems arising from the application of particular methodologies and processes for prioritizing adaptation strategies and measures in different contexts, particularly rich and poor countries?
4. How can currently evolving methods for adaptation assessment be improved?

Programme

9:00	Arrival and registration
9:15	Welcome
	Epistemological framing of adaptation
	<p>What is adaptation to climate change and how should we approach the topic? Introduction and opening remarks reflecting on: Practical challenges related to the framing of adaptation, Britta Horstmann, DIE</p> <p>Translating adaptation to climate change: the politics of a travelling idea in developing countries, Florian Weisser, University of Bayreuth</p> <p>An Action Theory of Adaptation, Klaus Eisenack, University of Oldenburg</p>
	Influences on choice of adaptation responses. A case study from Kenya Serah Kiragu, University of Bayreuth
	Discussion
10:30	World Café
	What methods do you use for adaptation research?
11:00	Coffee break
11:15	Methods for prioritization
	Assessing adaptation priorities in an economic context – an overview and critical appraisal of methods and approaches Festus Luboyera, UNFCCC
	Limits and potential of using cost-benefit analysis to prioritize adaptation measures - case studies from South Asia Reinhard Mechler, IIASA
	Multi Criteria Adaptation Assessment in the Netherlands Karianne de Bruin, University of Wageningen
	<p>Discussants on presentation of CBA/ multi-criteria analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – using CBA and multi-criteria analysis in practice, experiences, advantages + drawbacks – how can CBA and multi-criteria analysis be improved? – role of and need for social science? <p>Ulrich Petschow, IÖW</p>
	Discussion

3. Workshop on Adaptation Research in Social Science

13:00	Lunch
14:00	Overview of results from World Café + Coffee
14:30	
	Integrated impact assessment tools - the example of land use Katharina Helming, ZALF
	Developing regional strategies for adaptation to climate change – using social science scenarios Stefanie Baasch, University of Kassel
	Discussion
15:30	Coffee break
	Short input on adaptation governance in Germany – overview of processes in decision-making in Germany Eric Fee, Umweltbundesamt Dessau
16:00	Synthesis and critical reflection: Decision-making in the context of adaptation to climate change
	Assessing adaptive capacities in decision-making – a further method for prioritization?! Torsten Grothmann, University of Oldenburg / Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
	Assessment of Adaptation Measures. How to appraise trade-offs and synergies? Christoph Görg, UFZ
	Discussion
17:00	End of Workshop Subsequently: interested parties will have space to discuss the continuation of the network on adaptation research in social science

Evening programme

Participants of the workshop are invited to join the participants of the PhD workshop for dinner, please see directions at the end.

The PhD workshop on adaptation research in social science (Sozialwissenschaftliche Klima-Anpassungs-Forschung, DocSKAF) **takes place on Tuesday, 28. September 2010 at DIE premises.** Please contact susann.trabert@uni-bayreuth.de or johannes.schubert@soziologie.uni-muenchen.de for further information.