

Title: Climate and Development Knowledge Network

Background

The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) is an initiative designed to support developing countries to make well-informed decisions in successfully building resilience to climate change, enable low carbon growth and tackle poverty. To identify the best opportunities and create practical policies, decision-makers need access to the best available information, research and advice, such as basic climate impacts data and cost-benefit analysis of adaptation approaches.

CDKN is managed by an Alliance of organisations led by Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP (PWC), and including Fundacion Futuro Latinoamericano, LEAD Pakistan, the Overseas Development Institute and SouthSouthNorth.

Themes

Climate Negotiations - In September 2011, the UK government announced the launch of an initiative to support developing countries in international climate talks. This is being managed by CDKN through the Climate Window of the Advocacy Fund.

CDKN's vision is that international climate change processes and agreements should reflect and respond to the positions and challenges articulated by the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries. CDKN helps the leaders and negotiators of these countries to become informed, skilled, active, networked and influential actors in the international climate change talks.

Disaster Risk Management (DRM) - Climate change is already affecting the frequency and severity of heat waves, droughts, flooding events and storms in many parts of the world. Amplified by increasing levels of exposure and persistent vulnerability, the increasing hazard risk is resulting in higher human and economic losses from disaster events. The impact of losses is felt by governments and communities alike.

Unless climate-related DRM is integrated into plans for economic growth, expanded agricultural production, urban settlements and infrastructure for example, countries will face ever more serious economic and livelihood losses and interrupted development progress. Efforts to make countries more resilient to climate-related disasters and to scale up short- and long-term DRM strategies are urgently needed.

CDKN is committed to enhancing the effectiveness of DRM in climate compatible development (CCD) policies and practices, from local to international scales. In support of this goal, CDKN funds a large body of research, technical assistance and knowledge management work on different aspects of climate-related disaster risk management, across Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Climate Finance - Developing countries need an estimated US\$100 billion per year in climate finance by 2020 to adapt to the negative effects of climate change and help them shift toward low-carbon development paths. Although this target was agreed by the international community in the 2009 Copenhagen Accords, the funds are still only partly committed by governments and only partly available on private markets. There is often a long lag before the committed money is disbursed.

CDKN's vision is for an international climate finance system that is 'fit for purpose' – i.e. that will support the delivery of climate funds urgently needed by developing countries in the medium term, as well as meet commitments made in the UNFCCC context in the long term. Individual countries must be able to access those funds effectively. They need the skills and institutional capacity to qualify for them, and must have systems in place for allocating the

funds transparently among projects and programmes. The very significant potential of the private sector to provide investment capital for low-carbon development and climate adaptation projects must be unlocked if the world is to reach these ambitious climate finance targets and the underlying emissions reductions goals.

In support of this vision, CDKN seeks to influence the evolution of the international climate finance architecture so that it benefits developing countries, disseminates best practices and catalyses innovative partnerships among private sector actors and government decision makers in support of climate compatible development, strengthens developing countries' institutions and processes for gaining access to climate finance, allocating climate monies fairly, and monitoring and reporting accurately on climate investments.

Policy and Practice - Developing countries range from large, rapidly-growing economies such as China, India and Brazil to small, very low-emitting economies. For the first of these, embracing CCD means adapting to climate change and improving human development while reducing the carbon intensity of economic growth. In smaller, more vulnerable economies, adapting to climate change and reducing poverty are at the heart of CCD. But there are also opportunities to avoid emissions by identifying low-carbon development paths.

To transition to a low-carbon, climate-resilient future, developing countries need strong policy, institutional and financial frameworks, as well as a good evidence base and technical skills. CDKN's vision is to see national frameworks for CCD that are fully driven and supported by a wide range of stakeholders – frameworks based on long-term commitment, and with well-prioritised areas for action.

Local Context

CDKN work across a number of countries but has deeper engagement in 13 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

What is being done?

DFID is providing up to £101.6 million (plus an additional £18.3 million from the Dutch Government and £5.7 million from NORAD) to the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN).

CDKN has worked in 74 countries and has contributed to policy and programme change at national and subnational level in 29 countries. CDKN helps decision makers in developing countries by providing support in five areas:

- Research – identifying research gaps and priorities and commissioning new research;
- Technical assistance – integrating climate change thinking into policy making and building institutional capacity;

- Knowledge sharing – filling knowledge gaps and connecting to existing initiatives;
- Partnerships – providing access to the best available expertise in climate change and development;
- Climate window of the advocacy fund – providing training and capacity building.

Expected Results

Key results expected in the 13 deep engagement countries are as follows.

Africa

- **Ethiopia:** Increased sectoral and sub-national implementation of climate change policies including improved climate finance readiness.
- **Kenya:** Implementation of the National Climate Change Action Plan (within Kenya's Medium-Term Plan) and leveraging of public and private sector investment.
- **Rwanda:** Climate mainstreamed at the sub-national level and business cases developed for private sector investment in adaptation and low carbon energy.

- **Uganda:** Implementation of the national Climate Change Policy and enhanced risk assessments of poverty and growth policies.

Asia

- **Indonesia:** Sub national climate policies designed and investment mobilised for implementation.
- **Bangladesh:** Improved climate and development evidence base for national planning and increased climate finance readiness.
- **Pakistan:** Implementation of a disaster risk transfer mechanism to improve the resilience of the vulnerable.
- **Nepal:** Mainstreaming climate into agriculture, water and energy plans. Effective chairing of the LDC group in the climate negotiations.
- **India:** State action plans implemented, particularly at district and city level. Disaster Risk Management integrated into development planning.

Latin American and Caribbean

- **Caribbean:** Climate mainstreamed into national policies and plans. Risk management in water, energy and land use improved in selected countries.
- **Colombia:** Finance strategies implemented. Implementation of climate risk planning for poor and vulnerable people within the agriculture and transport sectors and sharing of lessons internationally.
- **El Salvador:** Finance leveraged to improve climate risk management within the agriculture, water and health sectors and lessons shared internationally.
- **Peru:** Peru's international leadership on climate supported to host a successful COP. Consolidation of existing investment in the implementation of Peru's economic and strategic plans.

Links to Further Info

- [Development Tracker information including annual reviews](#)
- [CDKN website](#)