


CASE STUDIES : ORCHID

Goals-Oriented Lens : Awareness Raising

Illustration:	Awareness Raising	GOALS-ORIENTED LENS
Tool:	ORCHID	
Case Study:	ORCHID: Mainstreaming Adaptation in Development Investments in the Water Sector in China	
Description:	<p>Summary: ORCHID is designed to be a light touch screening process for donors, development organisations and their partners to integrate risk reduction and adaptation processes into their programmes. The tool identifies a range of adaptation options for tackling unmanaged risks and exploiting opportunities for strengthening adaptive capacity. This research project developed a framework to assist with the assessment of climate change impacts and integration of adaptation in into development projects. A crucial role of this research project was to strengthen capacity and raise awareness by sensitizing experts to the systematic management of climate change impacts through adaptation.</p>  <p>Placemark Link</p> <p>Although the framework was applied post hoc rather than as an integral part of the design process, it is assessed to be a clear framework for prioritization, impacts analysis, examination of adaptation effectiveness and decision-making, and serves as a means to promote debate over how development investments in China in the water sector can integrate management of climate change impacts in the future.</p> <p>More information: The research highlights that there is significant experience of managing climate impacts in China, and that adaptation measures may require enhancing existing measures, as well as developing new ones. Adaptation requires a process of ongoing monitoring and assessment as understanding develops. Moreover, the cases analyzed (the Huai, Hai, and Shiyand river basins) highlight the wider implications of adaptation policies, including risk transmission and mal-adaptation.</p> <p>The screening framework comprises three phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) <i>The framing</i>: a rapid quantitative analysis helped identify the potential major problems posed to a development project by climate and/or socio-economic change; (2) <i>The analysis</i>: a semi-qualitative and quantitative analysis focusing on the impacts and adaptation options, and included a cost-benefit analysis of adaptation options to indicated economic efficiency; (3) <i>The decision-making</i>: an analysis to assess the suitability of adaptation options against a range of appropriate decision-making criteria to suggest the preferred option. <p>The multi-criteria analysis provided a useful means of informing decision-making process by providing a systemic basis to assist in evaluating the many aspects of adapting to future climate change. The research shows that the next steps include linking screening processes with formal planning, design and implementation processes to match the framework to decision making needs; there is also need to improved data on climate change scenarios and impact assessments across China to inform planning and decision making in the water and other sectors.</p>	
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Further Readings:	Mainstreaming Adaptation in Regional Land Use and Water Management, in Adaptation and Mitigation Opportunities in European Climate Policy, edited by Hulme, M. and H. Neufeldt, CUP, 2009.	