Child-centred, community-based adaptation: An evidence-based process to understand project impacts Authors: Pia Treichel (Plan International Australia); Joanne Chong & Anna Gero (Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney)



What?

NGOs Plan and Save are implementing a childcentred community based adaptation (CC-CBA) project in the Philippines.

University partner, ISF, is helping to develop indicators to assess what successful "adaptation" looks like from the perspective of children, youth and their communities, and to assess how we can know if a climate change program has helped children and their communities adapt and become more resilient.

A **detailed guide** has also been developed for implementing agencies to systematically understand, collect, analyse and **communicate** evidence against the indicators.

Why?

Children are one of the most vulnerable groups to climate change, which affects health, livelihoods, education, disasters, and their full range of rights.



Children and young people have the potential to support adaptation efforts as members of their families, schools and communities, into the future as tomorrow's leaders.

The **Philippines is extremely vulnerable** to a wide range of climate change impacts. Adaptation is a priority at the local level where impacts are most keenly felt. However, it is very difficult to measure the success of adaptation interventions using traditional M&E methods, as impacts may not be fully felt until after projects conclude.



Indicators of effective adaptation:

Knowledge

Children's understanding of climate change science, impacts and adaptation measures

- Children's understanding of climate change science - Children's understanding of the impacts of climate change on their families, school and community

relevant to their families, schools and communities

Advocacy

Advocacy by children about climate change adaptation

- Children's communication to their families and schools about vulnerabilities, hazards and adaptation options relevant to their community, in ways appropriate to their audiences

- Receptiveness of families, schools and others in the community to children's voices on climate change adaptation

Policy and Practice

Influence of children on climate change adaptation practice and policy

- The influence of children's perspectives on climate change adaptation practices undertaken by themselves, their families, schools and the community. - Local leaders' (e.g. municipal, provincial, barangay &

village leaders; community leaders including religious, farmer and fisher groups) provision of opportunities for

- Barangay and LG officials' develop and prioritise of policies, ordinance and budgets, based on children's perspectives.

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- Children's ability to identify adaptation measures that are

 - children to participate in CCA planning.

How has this project been implemented?

The development of indicators was embedded within the project design from the outset.

The **research is practice-based** and explicitly learnings focussed. This is distinct from the conventional implementation of baseline studies or M&E missions focussed on accountability.

The partnership has been built around **new and** innovative approaches to learning and integrates research with practical implementation.

Who is involved?

Plan International, Save the Children, and ISF as university partner are implementing the CC-CBA project (funded by Australian Aid) across 40 barangays (villages) in the provinces of Aurora, Northern Samar, Eastern Samar and Southern Leyte.



Relevant national government departments, including the Philippines Climate Change Commission, Department of Interior and Local Government, and the Ministry of Education are also involved.





The project focusses on senior primary school children, secondary school children, out-ofschool youth, the wider communities, and local leaders and local governments.

