

27-28 October 2010

Wednesday 27 October

- 11:30 Opening and welcome, Introduction – snake
- 12:00 Climate Change Modelling – Chris Jack
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:45 Newspaper energizer
- 14:00 Working with individuals, households and communities – Sandy Hoffman
- 15:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 15:15 Reflection and role play: My adaptation challenges.
- 16:00 Closing reflection.
- 16:30 *End of day.*

Thursday 28 October 2010

- 9:00 Reflection
- 9:30 Vulnerability, Adaptation and Resilience
- 11:00 *Tea/coffee*
- 11:30 Exploring vulnerability and adaptation
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:45 Energizer
- 14:00 CBA Facilitation and Tools
- 15:00 *Tea/Coffee*
- 15:30 Planning for action
- 16:00 Closure of the day
- 17:00 *End of day and workshop*

The Community Based Adaptation (CBA) Training workshop was held in the Colophone Conference Room at the Kirstenbosch Research Centre from 27-28 October 2010. It was attended by 27 participants from parastatals, government, academic institutions, non-government institutions, municipal officials, independents and community based organisations. It was facilitated by Bettina Koelle (indigo development and change) and Noel Oettle (EMG), supported by Donna Kotze, Lies Cloete and Wendy Annecke (Indigo development and change).

It was the second CBA workshop to be conducted (the first was run in November 2009). Its purpose was to give an update on climate science, deepen definitions on adaptation and present practical tools on adaptation. The approach was participatory.

Two presentations from the workshop can be found on the Indigo development & change website

- Climate Science and the usefulness of modelling – Chris Jack
- Factors to consider when working with adults in transition- Sandy Hoffman

These notes address the other sessions, namely

- Working with individuals, households and communities – Sandy Hoffman
- Vulnerability, Adaptation and Resilience - Astrid von Kotze
- Community based adaption facilitation and tools – Bettina Koelle and Noel Oettle

Adaptation challenges

Four groups presented role plays of typical challenges that they faced in their professional lives dealing with adaptation:

- the challenge of disinterest and inappropriate behaviour
- the challenge of preparing appropriately for your audience
- the confusion of multi- departmental planning for climate change
- the challenge of getting an interested audience to attend a meeting

All the challenges illustrated outsiders trying to get communities on board i.e. top down initiatives, and the challenge was how to win trust to be accepted, as well as how to deal with the endless meetings. One of the recommendations was to integrate adaptation into projects rather than start something new.

Comments and issues that were raised during the discussion were:

- How to listen better
- Translation and language and how deceptive they can be
- Being accepted and trusted by the community takes time
- Presenting the solution first is never a good idea
- Knowing when climate change 'will actually start'
- Dealing with miscommunication and suspicion when you find them
- Dealing with substance abuse and disruptions
- Asking the question - Who benefits from coming to meetings?
- Dealing with too little time and/or too little interest to come to meetings
- Definition of Adaption
- Corruption
- Acceptability
- How does development relate to climate change?
- How to maintain personal space and integrity.
- Perceived mismatch between climate change and community demands for resources
- Making decisions under conditions of uncertainty

Vulnerability, Adaptation and Resilience

This session was facilitated by Dr Astrid von Kotze who modelled the approach she was teaching. She both did and suggested the following steps:

1. Break the ice – get people to interact and open up
2. Build on what there is (and therefore first find out what is there – and sometimes the participants don't know they know!) and exercise that will enable people to share what they know
3. Once you know what people know and what they want, provide an input that will meet their needs – add new information, don't just have endless participation
4. Get the participants to work with the new information – apply it in a task, reflect on it, think about it, understand and internalise it
5. Review the process: name again, report again, what has been done, presented shared, achieved etc

In order to find out what the group knew already about key adaptation terms, participants were divided into groups which included at least three different languages, and asked to develop definitions of resilience, adaptation, risk, hazard, vulnerability

This is what the groups recorded :

Group definition of resilience

Cope
Hanteer, vermoë om te veranderas vervolg van stress en swaar kry
Mo tlholega go tlwaela phetegoya seemo
KISwahili – kujimunduu
Venda – u dowela tshaomala (?) ko ya mupo
Ability to adapt to stress and adversity (hard times)

Group definitions of adaptation

When you're in Rome do as the Romans do? / adapt or die
Aanpassing
Aanpasbaarheid
Ability to cope (prepare yourself)
Adjust/ment
Akklimatiseer
Acclimatize
To prepare for a for a foreseen event in order to prevent (disaster /harm /pain) or to reduce the risk etc
To establish a new level of equilibrium

Group definition of risk

English- Risk – is potential danger, opportunities, tension, lessons, uncertainty, threat, calculated risk, can be managed, potential loss, investment, risk vs return, fear of the unknown. Probability / potential
Afrikaans -Risiko
Xhosa –Ingozi
Shona – Ngozi

Group definition of hazard

Danger, warning, threat

Gevaar, bedreiging, ramp

Ingozi, isilumnkiso, isoyiriso (?)

Climate conditions that threaten to impact people and ecosystems, or sustainability/ livelihoods/ long term survival , well being

Group definition of vulnerability

Vatbaar, kwesbaarheid, weerbaar

Verletzlichkeit, zerbrechlich

Susceptible, fragile, injurable, weak spot(s) in armour,

Verwundbar, sentife,

Unprotected, sensitive

In relation to something – context, eg a threat is different from ‘weak spots’

Defn: weak spots, prone to damage in relation to some threats

Group definition of mitigation

Utslippskutt

Lewenstyl verandering , natuur liefde, inheemse kennis, vermindering van klimaat skade, vermindering van koolstof in die aarde in plante en in die see

Reducing the cause of emissions of climate gases and increasing carbon sinks

Dr van Kotze used these definitions to develop the rest of the session on reducing vulnerability and developing resilience. The new information (Step 3) presented was a formula for identifying communities or groups who are most at risk: $R = V/C + H$

Community based adaption facilitation and tools

Bettina Koelle and Noel Oettle facilitated the sessions on community based adaptation and tools.

Bettina started by providing some resources which she had found useful especially Climate Change Adaptation by Niel Leary and the Earthscan Reader Adaptation to Climate Change.

Others included:

www.undp-adaptation.org (on CBA, case studies and tool kit)

Risk + vulnerability atlas: www.rvatlas.org

www.cap.org.za (Climate Action Partnership)

www.rvatlas.org SA Risk + Vulnerability Atlas

www.emg.org

CBA facilitation and tools

- There was discussion about the purpose of different energizers and the need to provide a **safe space** for all participants in a learning process. There are many ways to create a safe space – and this will depend strongly on the group you are working with and your personal skills.
- **Visioning** - (the eagle's eye-view 5-10 years) It is important for adaptation to ensure a clear vision, to have a clear and positive goal for adaptation action.
- **Timelines** – can be useful to ensure there is a collective shared memory. This might be a strong basis for positive collective action.
- **Venn diagrams** (e.g. water affairs, dept of health, men, church, councillors)- can be useful to reveal networks and thus ascertain structures that are possibly able to assist and organisations that should be drawn closer to support the adaptation process. It is important
- **Core problem and objectives tree** – identify a key problem, then explore the causes of the problem (place where the roots are and discuss and place cards for the possible results of the problem. After the tree is completed discuss what causes we could possibly change to ensure that the problem can be addressed and some of the negative effects can be eliminated. The discussion and learning process is really the most important part of this process.
- **There are many other participatory tools that can be used in adaptation** – the tools might vary according to groups and frame-conditions you are working within. The most important is to be listening so as to understand what might (or might not) be appropriate.

What is Participatory Action Research?

Noel Oettle presented a short input on participatory action research.

Participatory

- actively involves all relevant players (esp. the marginal).

Action

- it is about action to **improve** the situation.

Research

- - Knowledge is developed
- - problem solving is enhanced.
- - theory is critically reviewed in an on-going process of action and reflection.
- The research agenda is open, and is developed collaboratively.
- Values are explicit (+not just assumed)
- It is not extractive!!
- Data is gathered and analysed in ways that are inclusive.
- Responsibility for the **process + outcomes** is shared by all.
- Research process is opened to influence + (if necessary) redesign by all participants.

- PAR explores the relationship between the individual and the social.
- People gain deeper understanding of how we are formed + reformed (as individuals + in relation to others).
- PAR is emancipatory (you should be able to feel it!)
- PAR aims to transform **theory + practice** (neither is regarded as pre-eminent)
- Climate calendars (sharing experienced weather + responses and limitations).
- Sharing of weather data (rainfall and min/max temp.). Climate diaries.
- Inputs or reports on topics of interest (response to requests).
- Seasonal forecasts and discussions of possible responses.
- Activities, Interaction, Fun.
- Meeting a range of our needs in a synergic way.

Resource: Max Neef, Human scale development

Evaluation & Closure

To close we reflected on our practice and closed with an interactive exercise...

Suggestions from the evaluation for a future CBA training workshop:

- To include more case studies and practical examples next time
- To present a CBA toolkit focussing on methods and tools
- To extend a training workshop to 3 days
- To have an in depth session on tools for CBA
- To create a space to share the experience of the group and to learn from each other