

National information needs: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Assessment in Bangladesh

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Context of DFID climate change work:

- Poverty reduction at risk
- ‘Walking the Talk’: Policy coherence
- Political impetus from UNFCCC
- Environmental screening work
- Low levels of awareness
- Disaster risk reduction imperative

DFID internal climate change work:

- Understanding poverty- cc linkages
- Awareness raising: Keysheets
- Disaster management & risk reduction
 - Self-critical rather than responsive
- Portfolio risk assessment

First Step: Find likely targets

- Develop with in-country staff
- Avoid hurdle mentality
- Keep it simple and short
- Appeal to current activities
- Resource the follow-up

Risk assessment: Information needs

$$\text{Risk} = \text{Hazard} \times \frac{\text{Vulnerability}}{\text{Coping Capacity}}$$

- Hazard data by sector / region
- Vulnerability by poverty proxy
- Limited local data

Checklist approach

- **Hazard based only**
- **Awareness raising / thinking**
- **Aims to (gu)estimate**
 - **Potential exposure**
 - **Existing risk management**
 - **‘Probability of high risk’**

Checklist approach

- **In climate sensitive sector?**
- **Previously disaster affected?**
- **Potential hazards**
- **Existing risk management**
- **Classification for follow-up**

What does it demonstrate? We need answers...

- **Resource neutral? Absolutely not!**
- **Disaster risks good but not enough**
- **Tech-based adaptation retains appeal**
- **Tackling vulnerability > screening**

What does it mean? What should we do now?

- **Maintain momentum and awareness**
- **High level buy-in**
- **Learn by doing – risk assessments**
- **Outreach – eg disasters, social dev**
- **Tech-based adaptation where appropriate**