



Linking adaptation to climate change and disaster risk management for sustainable poverty reduction



The central theme of this EC-funded project is the linkages between disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, within the context of poverty reduction. The project team are focusing on disaster response, preparedness and building longer-term resilience to extreme climatic events, such as hurricanes, flooding and drought. The project will be based on case studies from Vietnam, Kenya and Mexico and the process will be reviewed through an international workshop.



The steering committee includes the World Bank, DfiD, UN-ISDR and the Red Cross Climate Centre and is being supported by other members of the Vulnerability and Adaptation Research Group. The project team is supported by in-country project partners and supported by collaborating institutions.



The project has two components:

1. technical illustration about drought on livelihoods of the poor in the District of Kitui, and Eastern Province (including examples of risk identification, assessment of how hurricanes will change in the future, what measures are in place now and options to improve coordination and planning);
2. Institutional analysis at a national scale for all weather-related hazards (including the current structures, institutions and policies, mechanisms and options to integrate disaster risk and climate change adaptation to climate change and the constraints or implications).



While the emphasis is on analysing current institutional capacity at the agency/government level, as a small scale project one of the key aims is to serve a demonstration role, providing illustration and perhaps guidance for national agencies on the process of assessing risks and capacities. In particular, to provide an assessment with stakeholders of the extent to which current national disaster management practices reflect future adaptation needs, and what changes may be required if such practices are to address future risks. It is essential that in-country experts are involved in building the risk assessment and the review process.

Project coordination Dr Roger Few (Overseas Development Group UK), and core team includes Dr Henny Osbahr (University of Oxford UK), Dr Laurens Bouwer (Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam) and Dr David Viner from the Climate Research Unit, UK). Drs Osbahr and Viner will be visiting Kenya to meet with key experts between 6-11th February. Further contact: Dr Henny Osbahr henny.osbahr@ouce.ox.ac.uk and Mr Victor Orindi v.orindi@cgiar.org