Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment **Rob Verheem Aalborg 2010**

Guidance on IA & climate: from confusion to synergy

Examples and challenges





Topics to discuss

- Is current guidance on climate tools effective for EIA and SEA practitioners?
- There are many tools and guides: how to avoid confusion, achieve synergy?
- Can we harmonize?



Some examples of guidance

- Advisory note on SEA & climate change adaptation
 OECD DAC SEA task force, 2008
- Climate Risk Screening and Assessment Tools
 OECD DAC-EPOC Task Team on Climate, 2010
- Adaptation tools for the water sector

 NCEA, CPWC, Knowledge for Climate Program (Ludwig/Swart) 2010



Or: in short

- OECD SEA task team guide
- OECD climate task team inventory
- Dutch adaptation tool kit



Potential sources for confusion

- Different objectives
- Different applicability
- Different target audience
- Different framework for analysis
- Different terminology



OECD SEA task team advisory note

- Objective: how to apply SEA to mainstream climate issues
- Applicability: all sectors, strategic planning, development cooperation
- Target audience: SEA practitioners + sector specialists, donor community
- Format: checklist of questions per step in SEA process



OECD SEA task team advisory note

1.1 Assess the need for climate change considerations in the SEA

- Which key national development priorities, geographical areas and/or sectors are likely to be particularly affected by climate change?
- What are the *main climate trends*?
- What is the level of awareness of climate change and associated risks among planners and society at large?
- For specific sectors, *what are the main risks from climate change*? (*e.g.* loss of coastal systems for tourism, reduced runoff and recharge for water, increased rainfall variability for agriculture, expansion of disease vector ranges for health)
- Etc



OECD Climate task team inventory

- Objective: overview of main climate screening and assessment tools
- Applicability: all sectors, project and strategic level, development cooperation
- Target audience: development community, both donor and developing countries
- Format: analysis and short description of tools, indication of usefulness per decision making step



OECD Climate task team inventory





Dutch adaptation tool kit

- Objective: overview of tools to assess and evaluate climate impacts and adaptation options
- Applicability: water and water-related sectors, developed & developing countries, project & strategic
- Target audience: practitioners in developing countries, both local and donor
- Framework: analysis and short description of tools; usability per decision making phase







How do EIA & SEA relate to climate tools?





Our challenge

- Objective: to help EIA & SEA practitioners to quickly find the right guidance for their context
- Applicability: all sectors, project & strategic level, national & local level
- Target audience: practitioners in developing countries, both local and donor
- Framework: analysis and short description of available guidance; continually updated and supported (help desk)



To be discussed

- 1. What are the **needs** of EIA / SEA practitioners in developing countries for guidance on climate issues?
- 2. What are key opportunities for **harmonizing** this guidance?
- 3. What role could **IAIA** play in both of the above topics?