



World Bank Climate Change Portal

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Abstract: Currently, much produced relevant climate information -"not just data"- is underutilized because it is difficult to find and/or assimilate. Thus, practitioner communities in key development sectors have not yet begun to incorporate climate risk management into their programmatic activities. On the other hand, many climate service providers do not provide information on scales that are relevant to policy and management decisions, or that can be easily incorporated into their decision-making and evaluation process. Several observations are not optimal for climate adaptation and impact assessment because they are developed for other purposes or because their planning was not integrated with other systems (e.g., research vs. operational). The implementation of climate risk management should largely improve the engagement and communication between communities regarding climate variability and its impacts, and the lack of investment to foster these critical interactions. Climate information should be driven by user needs, and these needs should help inform and guide research and service priorities. It is important to note, however, that users might not fully understand their own needs in complex situations as the issue of adapting to a changing climate. An iterative process between users, intermediaries, and producers of climate information is critical to evaluate needs and ensure positive feedbacks. As a first attempt to improve access and use of climate information at global scale, the World Bank has developed a Climate Change Knowledge Portal. The portal intends to integrate the best available climate and climate-related information to support different users; and thus, their efforts to facilitate learning, sharing, and evaluation of different risks and impacts, in a more intuitive and comprehensive manner. Through a WB and IFC partnership, the tool will further integrate private sector needs by considering information gaps for decision making of different user groups.

Summary: The World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal has been developed to integrate the best available climate and climate-related information to support different users; and thus, their efforts to facilitate learning, sharing, and evaluation of different risks and impacts from a changing climate. Through a WB and IFC partnership, the tool will further integrate several sector needs by bringing into consideration information gaps relevant for decision making of different user groups.