

Backgrounder

Climate change

Keywords:

Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMD), climate change adaptation, Ethiopia, resilience



Issue date

June 2014



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Testing TAMD in Ethiopia

Using the Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development framework to evaluate climate resilience

Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture, in partnership with IIED and Echnoserve, has been testing the TAMD approach in assessing and developing the country's climate risk management.

The current project has two aims. One is to assess TAMD as a way of understanding how a national climate adaptation programme — in this case the Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP-1 and SLMP-2) — is affecting local communities and how better evaluation can help the government improve the programme's ongoing implementation. The second is to look at how decision makers manage climate risk at local, regional and national levels.

The TAMD initiative has already been used to develop national frameworks for evaluating climate adaptation in countries including Kenya, Mozambique, Pakistan, Nepal and Cambodia.

Building a baseline to assess a programme

Local teams of researchers and members of the government's SLMP team have held focus groups within three woredas — Angacha, Assosazuria and Misrak Este. These discussions explored how SLMP interventions from 2008 to 2014 affected local development and peoples' climate vulnerability.

Discussions were held in kebele with and without SLMP interventions, and asked 'before' and 'after' questions to gauge the direct and indirect impacts of interventions. The groups discussed five different kinds of capital — financial, physical, natural, social and human capital.

As well as talking to communities and farmers, the research teams also organised focus groups with livestock, crop and natural resource experts from the woreda's

KEY TERMS

Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMD):

A framework that helps policymakers evaluate the effectiveness of ongoing efforts to support adaptation to climate change.

The twin track approach: TAMD uses two types of indicators. Track 1 examines institutional readiness and capacity to manage climate risk. Track 2 measures resilience and development in order to judge how well adaptation interventions are increasing climate resilience.

Ethiopia's Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP):

Phase one (SLMP-1) ran from 2008 to 2013 and was implemented within selected kebele (the smallest unit of local government in Ethiopia) across several woredas (administrative subdivisions, equivalent to a district). The programme improved security of land tenure and water management practices through rural land certification, and introduced management practices to rehabilitate degraded areas of 45 watersheds. A second phase of the programme (SLMP-2) is beginning in 2014-15.

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT

Ethiopia's agriculture, the mainstay of its economy, is highly vulnerable to rainfall variability — a common impact of climate change. Ethiopia has many programmes and policies working on building climate resilience, and policymakers need flexible and effective ways to assess how those support development progress in the face of changing climate risks.

Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture, in partnership with IIED and Echnoserve, is testing TAMD to see if it can perform this role in certain

Table 1. Crop productivity in Angacha woreda (quintal (100kg/hectare))

	Crop productivity, quintal (100kg)/hectare		
	Before SLMP	After SLMP	Increase
Major crops			
Wheat	30	64	34
Teff	18	35	17
Maize	26	60	34
Bean	16	30	14
Minor crops			
Sorghum	13	26	13

administration institutions. As woreda decision makers, these experts helped the assessors understand how flood risk is managed through SLMP and how this management affects communities.

As a qualitative research tool, the focus groups were useful in exploring local contexts of resilience within the TAMD framework. They also helped to evaluate vulnerability and development on the ground, as well as highlighting indirect development benefits such as improvements in schooling or health. It is clear from the study that progress on key development indicators has been achieved as a direct result of SLMP-1 (see Tables 1 and 2).

Assessing institutional capacity for climate risk management

Ethiopia is also using TAMD to explore its climate risk management processes and activities at local, regional and national levels. This work is identifying how government institutions integrate climate change into their planning processes.

Track 1 of the TAMD framework has several scorecards that examine institutional capacity. The scorecards assess eight areas of climate risk management — institutional coordination for integrating climate change actions into planning, budgeting and finance; institutional knowledge and capacity; how climate information is used; how planning addresses climate uncertainty; participation through high-quality stakeholder engagement in decision making to address climate change; and awareness among stakeholders.

The project team distributed scorecards to officials within national ministries and

Table 2. Water availability before and after SLMP-1 in Angacha woreda

	Hand well pumps in kebele		
	Before SLMP	After SLMP	Increase
Angacha	1	3	2

regional and local offices. At the regional and local levels, researchers sometimes used personal interviews to help officials fill in the scorecards if they were not written in the officials' first language. Each indicator has several related questions that can be adapted to the appropriate scale (national, regional and local).

Looking ahead

Testing and analysis of TAMD in Ethiopia is ongoing. Next steps include establishing a bespoke monitoring and evaluation system for SLMP-2, using TAMD to select and track the relevant indicators. Such a system should offer a reliable results-based framework to inform progress and follow project impacts. Workshops presenting the TAMD framework to national and regional experts (on monitoring and evaluation, watershed management, and measuring, reporting and verification) are being developed based on participants' needs, helping to focus TAMD to Ethiopia's specific context. In the longer term the government could scale up TAMD to use it for broader national M&E systems. TAMD offers a way to meet the urgent need to monitor and evaluate Ethiopia's growing number of climate adaptation policies, and its participatory approach can help Ethiopia make better decisions about its investments, strategies, policies and programmes.

national programmes. The pilot study is assessing how TAMD can use the data collected in the first intervention (SLMP-1) as a baseline for assessing the second phase of work (SLMP-2) and how TAMD can assess and support institutional capacity to manage climate risks.

SOUTHERN VOICES

We expect TAMD to highlight our successes and areas we need to improve, particularly in terms of poverty reduction, national development and climate resilience of smallholder farmers and local economies. We hope the framework will better guide us through SLMP-2 by improving our assessments of the effectiveness of local actions for climate resilience, especially in adaptation and capacity building of local and national technical staff.

Gebru Jember, senior meteorologist, TAMD team member



Knowledge Products

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FIND OUT MORE

Our work testing TAMD in Ethiopia is part of the Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development initiative run by IIED's climate change group, the research consulting company Echnoserve, and the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture. IIED's climate change group drives our efforts to identify, generate, share and employ new knowledge that can be used to shape policies, practices and programmes on climate change. For a broader introduction to TAMD, see IIED's briefing 'TAMD: A framework for assessing climate adaptation and development effects' at <http://pubs.iied.org/17143IIED>. Read more about TAMD at www.iied.org/tracking-adaptation-measuring-development.