

## Day 1 Review

- Capacity building should include the sharing of experiences, as climate change is not a threat but a reality for SIDS and the Arctic. There is a need to bring international pressures to bear on the large emitters, so that they become accountable for their actions. Island issues must be kept at the forefront of the international debate (Deputy P.M. John Briceño).
- Use current relatively high level of awareness to make case to international community. The main emitters are also reneging on their ODA commitments, which makes it more difficult for SIDS to allocate resources for adaptation. Partnerships among private sector, civil society, Governments academia important (Ken Leslie)
- Arctic a barometer of what will happen to the world as a result of climate change, even though the source of the problem is south of the Arctic. Climate change is a human issue, and the changes are unlikely to be linear. The concern is that many projected impacts are now occurring more rapidly and sooner than were projected. But Arctic peoples do not see themselves as powerless victims, as local unity, traditional knowledge about survival, and clarity of purpose are important assets for adaptation. Climate change is not a theory, but a reality. The fate of the Arctic is not pre-ordained (Patricia Cochran).
- Arctic communities are vulnerable, but have a long history of adapting; current situation is one in which an entire way of life is being disrupted and being placed at serious risk. Highlighted the CAVIAR project, which is interdisciplinary and people-centred, and uses a bottom-up approach. It is locally-based and community-centred. Importance of recognizing that multiple stressors are acting together, thus making the challenge more complex. The communities define the focus of the study, and emphasis is placed on traditional knowledge for managing changing conditions. (Grete Hovelsrud, CICERO).
- We were informed of progress in the UNFCCC Secretariat on the implementation of NAPAS and the Nairobi Work Programme, as a contribution to the implementation of adaptation programmes. These seek to engage multiple stakeholders, recognize the importance of science for making informed decisions about adaptation, and fosters enhanced cooperation among Parties. The New Delhi Programme focuses on education, training and public access to information. (Paul Desanker)
- Important to recognize linkages with other MEAs and use these as additional leverage for advancing our work. Must seize opportunities through other conventions to raise adaptation and mitigation issues, because these can be mutually supportive. (M.J. Mace).
- Approach by the Caribbean has been based on the identification of current risks, building capacity, developing region-specific scenarios and establishing partnerships. Identified some challenges including resources, funding and difficulty of accessing some baskets of funds. Emphasized that in seeking funding for adaptation, we must put a case for funding of the entire adaptation process, not just specific components. (Neville Trotz).

- Stressed the need for allies and the building of partnerships, as the severity of the problem may already be in conflict with the objectives of the UNFCCC. Suggestion that we should consider engaging support for (1) amending the Convention (2) Make use of international law on human rights (3) Consider environmental refugee situations, whose lessons can be a potent force in advocacy (4) Focus more on governance issues. (Terry Fenge).

**Adaptation Practice** (Taito, Peter Larsen, John Hull, Simon, Darcie, Inger, Nick, Joe, Jyotishma, Teresa)

- Capacity building and empowerment of communities critical for Pacific island states, where there is an emphasis on using local solutions to build resilience, and a recognition that multiple stressors are combining to exacerbate the situation. Highlighted the importance of documenting current exposure using different tools. Lack of costings for adaptation for infrastructure was highlighted as an issue in the Arctic. Need to develop methodologies for valuation and costing, as policy makers often wish to have dollar values. Building of local capacity and resilience in tourism through exploring sustainable alternative opportunities for revenue generation. Development of tools for decision making (e.g. web-based toolkit used by the Pacific Tourism Organization). Noted that there are low-cost initiatives that can be implemented (e.g. employment of graduate students in research and implementation). Importance of protecting intellectual property rights and preserving and using traditional knowledge frameworks. Communities must be brought into projects right from the design stage. Noted the importance of pursuing energy-efficient technologies, even though Arctic and SIDS are low emitters of GHGs. Building partnerships and collaboration are crucial for advancing adaptation in vulnerable communities with low adaptive capacity.

- CLIMAP project in the Pacific has demonstrated that risk-based approaches to adaptation is a useful methodological tool. Adaptation requires a favourable enabling environment, and that both top-down and bottom-up approaches can be combined in an effective manner. 'Climate-proofing' is a concept that other vulnerable communities might want to consider in the future.

- Building a constituency of local voices, with linkages to international group and advocates can be an effective way to proceed. The main focus of adaptation programmes should be sustainable livelihoods and building resilience through advocacy.

### **Some Common Themes**

- Climate change is not a threat or theory, it is a reality for the Arctic and SIDS
- Adaptation is not only about the future, but is also about our current exposure and risks (Barry Smit and others).
- Focus on the communities ; people-centred; sustainable livelihoods

- Capacity building, training and awareness raising as inputs to adaptation
- Partnerships, collaboration and engagement of multiple stakeholders
- Identification of knowledge gaps
- Use of traditional knowledge as a basis for decision making
- Development of appropriate approaches, tools and methodologies

### **Some Guiding Principles for Consideration**

- Must be clear about who are being targeted as the beneficiaries of the programme, and why?
- Realistically achievable goals and objectives
- To the extent possible and feasible, we must set timelines for achieving these objectives, given the urgency of the challenge at hand
- Mechanism for strong citizen and political advocacy to ensure that MSV's interests are heard at the highest level in the international fora. This will ensure that Plan of Action and views would be heard by all concerned.
- Accountability from agents of the problem – e.g. countries that are large emitters; private sector companies that exhibit little or no social, ethical or moral responsibility in their actions
- Building capacity, particularly in the management of the energy sector, since this is the most critical sector with respect to emissions, which is the source of the problem (Al Binger). Regrettably, the UNFCCC process has not focused sufficiently on this area, even though the science identifies energy to be the most important sector with respect to attribution.
- Functional mechanism for information sharing and exchange, and for the coordination of advocacy, so that we can “feed” on each other's strengths.
- Cooperation for mobilizing resources for our common goals. We must be pragmatic and recognize that that some countries, entities and institutions have (a) greater skill in leveraging resources for action (b) greater access to resources. We must exploit these skills for the common cause.