

	<b>Issue 8. Risk assessment, adaptation planning and evaluation</b>
<b>SC 8.8</b>	<b>Adaptation pathways and maladaptation</b>
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### **Towards a (re) conceptualizing of maladaptation in policy and practice**

**Lindsey Jones, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), United Kingdom**

In the last few years maladaptation is becoming more considered in academics and policies. But the definition is unclear. To make maladaptation more clear a framework for maladaptation has been developed by using five areas of clarity and four types of adaptation. The framework should be based on the dimensions; climate risk, risk of diminished wellbeing, time and distribution. If in any dimension is a negative impact there could be considered maladaptation.

At the moment it is not important to quantify the framework. The communication towards decision makers, to think in time and well-being is important.

### **Building capacity for livelihood adaptation pathways in coral triangle**

**James Butler, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research organisation (CSIRO), Australia**

An adaptation pathway can help the decision making. By taking into account climate change impacts, responses and the future uncertainty there is a need for no regret strategies to avoid maladaptation and maintain option space (adaptive management). The main question is "how do you operationalize adaptation in situations of low decision maker capacity and weak planning processes." There have been a three comparative studies sites. In the case studies the pathways have been tested. It is based on learning, awareness and to get three level of stakeholders( provincial, sub-district and local population) working with each other. During the workshop process there has been taken into account the drivers of change on likelihood which create scenarios. This is used to find out what the adaptive capacity of the livelihood is and how they could become resilient in 2090. Together with these stakeholders a compatible develop plan could be developed which includes no-regrets strategies, partners and decisions.

### **Envisioning robust climate change adaptation futures for coastal regions**

**Tom van der Voorn, Institute of Environmental Systems Research, Germany**

At the moment deltas and coastal regions are vulnerable due to climate change. Policymakers are facing a lot of uncertainty about these effects and impacts of climate change. Still there is a need of robust long-term water management strategies. The use of BackCasting Adaptive Management (BCAM) methodology could be used as a climate change adaptation planning tool. The BCAM consists of 6 steps. As first a strategic problem orientation will be conducted. When the problem has been identified the shared future vision will be developed. For example; in 2090 we would like to become resilient towards climate change. When the shared future vision has been realized there steps need to be taken back towards the present day. Because the reality is not always ideal different pathways could be developed and switching points could be used to switch from pathways.

For the development of the pathways participation and engagement of different stakeholders is important for the development of visions.

### **Adaptation pathways plotting a course to an uncertain future**

#### **Rohan Hamden, Rohan Hamden & Associates, Australia**

Sea level rise is already noticeable at small island communities. On these small islands there is limited room to move. Local solutions have been implemented but have failed and some islands are already flooding during high tide. This research is conducted at the Torres Strait, an area which consist of alluvial mud deposits islands. On these islands the communities are governed by governing groups and elders. Together they form an group where decision are made. To provide information and advice to these governing groups and elders a pathway map is realized. In this pathway a climate change resilient plan is depicted in such a way that every community member could understand it. In this pathway map sea level rise has been depicted on top. Measures that could be taken to adapt, such as accommodate, defend and retreat, are depicted when these should be taken at a certain sea level rise. On the bottom of the pathway map the benefits of each measure is depicted.

A big remark for adaptation in these kind of cultures is their focus on re-adaptation. This means go back what we used to have and used the best of the past to embrace the future.

### **Development pathways as a lens to understand maladaptation and maldevelopments**

#### **Chandni Singh, Indian Institute for Human Settlements, India**

Maladaptation and maldevelopment in developing countries is already important. These countries are still shaking off the legacy of past developmental trajectories which continue to shape current vulnerability. In Bangalore, a rapidly growing city in India, build a lake network to support the growing settlement. These lakes where used for religious costumes, water provisioning and ecological value. Due to the rapid growth of the population the city needed to expand. The lakes and green spaces got taken by the urbanization. The connection started to disappear. This case study is not articulated as adaptation but are locking the system into a pathway that will enhance the vulnerability and lock out certain adaptation options. Decisions that have been made in the past can have maladaptation implications in the present. Pathway approach helps to define who the winner or losers are and what the consequences are.