Initiative for Climate Action Transparency - ICAT

Stakeholder capacity building workshop:

ICAT Adaptation in South Africa - Framework and reporting tool for M&E of Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems

Deliverable 3.3a

Location: MS Teams

Date: 21 February (9am – 12pm)

Prepared for:

UNEP CCC

Compiled by:

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DISCLAIMER

PREPARED UNDER

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), supported by Austria, Germany, Italy, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation and the ClimateWorks Foundation.

The ICAT project is managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

ICAT Stakeholder capacity building workshop:

ICAT Adaptation in South Africa - Framework and reporting tool for M&E of Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems

Present[1]:

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR): Sasha Naidoo, Tirusha Thambiran, Daleen Lötter, Juanette John, Gert Wessels

Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE): Delani Mathevula

Ethekwini Municipality: Malcolm CanHam

National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC): Rebone Tau, Jennifer Kolokoto, Pumeza Tyali, Bongeka Mpinke

Western Cape Government: Nceba Kwela, Lonwabo Luthango, Darron Isaacs, Lwandile Nokoyo, Janine Winder, Schalk W Carstens

Overberg District Municipality: Reinard Geldenhuys, Shané Summers

Apologies:

Tlou Ramaru (DFFE), Alinah Mthembu (DFFE), Jess van Schalkwyk (Western Cape Government)

1. Welcome and introductions

Dr Sasha Naidoo welcomed participants to the meeting. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), in partnership with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE), has developed a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework and Excel-based reporting tool for South Africa as part of the ICAT Adaptation project in South Africa. The purpose of the meeting was for the project team to present the key findings of the needs assessment and approach to the development of a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) M&E Framework and provide training to participants on the use of the Excel-based reporting tool.

[1] Appendix 1 – Agenda; Appendix 2 – Details of workshop participants

2. Overview of the ICAT Adaptation project in South Africa

An overview of the broader Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project was described to stakeholders by Dr Sasha Naidoo in terms of funders, country partners, overarching goals and main activities. The ICAT project in South Africa was described in terms of the approach used, the focus areas and the relevance of the project outcomes to the country. An outline of the outcomes of the project were described as an introduction to the technical presentations that followed.

3. Needs Assessment and approach to the development of a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) M&E Framework

Dr Tirusha Thambiran gave a presentation on the MH-EWS M&E framework developed. Stakeholders invited to the meeting had been consulted as part of previous meetings and forums to discuss the project outputs at various stages of development to inform the refinement of outputs. The focus of the presentation at this meeting was to provide a recap and summary of the work from inception to completion, as well as introduce any new stakeholders attending to the scope of the work that was undertaken. The need for the M&E framework was therefore discussed followed by a description of the key steps and approaches that were used to develop the M&E framework. The key findings of implementing the framework through the use of case studies was presented.

4. Demonstration of Excel-based reporting tool and case-study

Training was provided to stakeholders through the demonstration of the Excel-based reporting tool and through the use of data from the case study to demonstrate the utility of the tool and its various features.

To begin with, the tool has a built-in guidance document. This guideline was used to explain the different steps that a user of the tool would take when using the tool to complete an evaluation of a MH-EWS. Thereafter the example of the Garden Route District Municipality (GRDM) was used to show the stakeholders how they would go about scoring the different indicators using the key features within the tool. Each of the different 'worksheets' that contain the indicators for the three key elements of the framework were shown. Different indicators within each of these elements were illustrated, with examples of how the project team scored the indicator based on the information from the case study. The functionality of the tool which automatically calculates the weighted scores and provides the summarised values according to the robot system classified was demonstrated.

(Note: Presentations outlined in Section 2,3 and 4 were uploaded to MS Teams to a shared folder accessible by UNEP CCC).

5. Discussion

Google Jamboard was used to get inputs from stakeholders on four questions related to the tool.

The four questions were:

1a. What are barriers to the successful uptake of the tool?

1b. How can we overcome these barriers?

2. Can you think of any training needs in terms of capacity building for monitoring and evaluation?

3. Do you have any recommendations of how role players can be further involved to ensure uptake of the reporting tool and its continued use?

The link to these questions was sent to attendees: https://jamboard.google.com/d/183kvvFuSag8G2bPtoM42vYbXLEwRPmVxm_orV4-ccmA/viewer

The presenter's screen was shared and after ensuring that everyone could access the link, the questions were briefly discussed and questions for clarification invited. The attendees were then given about 30 minutes to respond to the questions using the electronic post-its. This was followed by a discussion session during which responses were clarified and expanded on. Given that not everyone who was invited was able to attend the session, the link was shared to everyone invited to try and solicit more inputs.

Images of the post-it responses to the questions are shown in Appendix 3. A summary of the responses are summarised below:

1. What are barriers to the successful uptake of the tool and how can it be overcome?

i. Inadequate capacity (human resources, plans)

Barrier:

- Lack of dedicated personnel on the climate change/disaster work to interact with the tool frequently.
- Limited capacity especially at Local Municipal level - Lack of trained and educated SAQA registered Disaster Management (DM) Staff at Municipal Level.
- Limited capacity in municipalities for implementing disaster management plans - Some municipalities lack Disaster Management plans.
- Municipalities are mostly capacitated by non-DM officials and they only take this task as an ad-hoc.

Suggestions to overcome these barriers:

- By ensuring dedicated Disaster Management personnel to implement the tool personnel in municipalities.
- Provide training/ a ‘crash course’ to Disaster Management personnel to ensure that they can be able to utilize such tools.

ii. *Lack of capacity related to reporting tools*

Barrier:

- Lack of know-how to populate the tools. Complex template often affects uptake.
- Lack understanding of the main objectives of the tool, lack of understanding of the reporting purposes thereof and the end use of the information contained in these tools
- Lack of understanding of the template and what it entails.

Suggestions to overcome these barriers include:

- General capacity in terms of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) capabilities which would enable accurate assessment.
- Inter-related tools/programs which can combine information and data across various disciplines.
- Undertake local-level workshops to provide training workshops to ensure that users can utilize available tools.

iii. No assessment of whether adequate capacity is available to ensure compliance.

Barrier:

- The NDMC does make an audit of capacity at the Provincial sphere when doing compliance assessment. Provincial Disaster Management Centres (PDMCs) ought to do the same for the Municipal Disaster Management Centres (MDMCs) and provide feedback to NDMC.

Suggestion to overcome this barrier:

- Recommendation that NDMC does audit of capacity at National, Provincial, Municipal level. Normally based on the disaster management legislation, they do compliance assessments with the provincial disaster management centers, part of the tool that we use for compliance assessment. It includes the staff within that particular disaster management center. The NDMC has a compliance assessment tool that quarterly monitors issues of compliance in implementing disaster management legislation. The template for this assessment was developed by the GIS section who was unfortunately not present at the workshop. They do an audit within each provincial sphere using the

KPI's key performance areas of the National Disaster Management Framework. Normally feedback is also obtained from the provincial disaster management centers in terms of collating data from their municipal disaster management centers to enable a national holistic perspective in terms of compliance with implementing the Disaster Management Act. This tool includes various indicators and it will be useful and important to compare the two tools to see if they complement each other.

iv. Working in silos

Barrier:

- A need for one centralized system putting together different key role players to enhance a good community of practice across different professions and organizations.
- The Disaster Management and Climate Change structures are working in different streams.
- Lack of National Disaster Management Plans at a National Level. This is due to the lack of implementation of Disaster Management Act.

Suggestion to overcome these barriers:

- Encourage a community of practice to ensure collaboration between stakeholders.

2. Can you think of any training needs in terms of capacity building for monitoring and evaluation?

i. *Early warning systems and M&E*

- Establishment of effective Early Warning Systems (EWS).
- Training on all aspects of EWS and M&E and establishment of effective EWS before M&E can be undertaken.
- The inclusion of EWS as a module to the DM-Training courses will play a crucial role in monitoring and evaluation including aiding capacity constraints.

ii. Training on legislation to ensure compliance

- Section 2b of Disaster Management Act-stipulates that each entity should look at their own legislation to ensure that they comply.

iii. I*dentification of focal points and responsibilities*

- Different departments/sphere of government need to have a focal point - to appoint disaster management officials - needs to be in place to ensure effective disaster management.
- Disaster Management Centres have line functions
- Deputy director to attend forums – there is however no checking of whether feedback is given to HoD to close the loop. Should be part of their KRAs
- If there is no focal point, it is difficult for Disaster management to assess. Compliance with legislation on different issues need to be implement at local level; important for M&E
- Identify who is responsible for different functions – prevention, humanitarian aid, shelter etc.

Training needs:

- Training on:
  - Development of Disaster Management Plans
  - Early warning
  - Monitoring and Evaluation
  - Legislative requirements
- Disaster management system – should enable understanding of interactions between different role players and entities to improve cross-department collaboration/ action.
- Increased capacity can allow 'specialisation' and thus allow specific focus to the tool. Familiarity with such systems and regular practice is key.

3. Do you have any recommendations of how role players can be further involved to ensure uptake of the reporting tool and its continued use?

i. Workshops and training

- Demonstrate the benefits through workshops/training of undertaking M&E; which is to enhance EW capabilities to save lives.
- Role players to be educated and the importance/ benefits of the EW tool be workshopped.

ii. Marketing through usual platforms

- Role-players can add value to this process by advocating and marketing its importance via their usual platforms such as advisory forum meetings, HOC meetings, etc.
- This can be included as an Agenda item at the Disaster Management Advisory Forums at all levels.

iii. Formalised process that cuts across disciplines

- It should be a formalised reporting system via the (DMAF and PDMAF).
- Inter-related tools/programs which can combine information and data across various disciplines.

6. Closing comments

Delani Mathevula (DFFE) provided closing comments to the workshop. She highlighted the relevance of the ICAT project outcomes to South Africa and its value addition in terms of contributing to the M&E systems in the country through enhancing the efficiency of M&E and supporting the implementation of early warning systems in the country since disaster risk management is a key area in which urgent action is needed to ensure lives are protected.

Delani thanked the ICAT project team for work done on identifying the two focus areas, identifying the gaps and challenges in adaptation tracking and transparency at a national level, as well as capacity barriers and resource barriers that impact M&E, and institutional barriers that call for collaborative efforts across all spheres of government. She highlighted the need for overcoming information barriers and noted the relevance of a centralised database to support M&E of the impacts of disasters. Given that we are now transitioning towards the enhanced transparency framework the identified gaps challenges and the institutional barriers will form part of this reporting platform.

It is hoped that stakeholders will engage with the two frameworks and reporting tools developed in the ICAT project. This will assist with the systematic recording of human and economic loss data arising from climate change or the disasters experienced.

Recommendations raised by workshop participants will support enabling the effective uptake of the developed tools as well as the guiding framework that the team has come up with in this project. In closing, she expressed the hope that everyone involved will actively start responding to identified issues, whether it be at policy or implementation level and this engagement will lead to continued interaction and collaborative efforts to take this work further.

7. Meeting Adjourned 12:00

Appendix 1: Agenda – 21 February 2023

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Touching lives through innovation

AGENDA

ICAT Adaptation in South Africa
Framework and reporting tool for M&E of Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems
MS Teams
21 February 2023, 9:00 – 13:00

Purpose of meeting:

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), in partnership with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE), has developed a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework and Excel-based reporting tool for South Africa as part of the ICAT Adaptation project in South Africa. The project team will present the key findings of the needs assessment, approach to the development of a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) M&E Framework and provide guidance on the use of the Excel-based reporting tool.

Topic	Responsibility	Time
1. Welcome and Introductions	Sasha Naidoo	09:00 – 09:15
2. Overview of the ICAT Adaptation project in South Africa	Sasha Naidoo	09:15 – 9:45
3. Needs Assessment	Tirusha Thambiran	09:45 – 10:15
4. Approach to the development of a Multi-hazard Early Warning System (MH-EWS) M&E Framework	Tirusha Thambiran	10:15 – 10:45
5. Comfort break	All	10:45 – 11:00
6. Demonstration of Excel-based reporting tool and case-study	Tirusha Thambiran	11:00– 12:00
7. Discussion	Juanette John	12:00 – 12:45
8. Closing comments	DFFE	12:45 – 13:00

Appendix 3: Google Jamboard screengrabs

2. Please list any training needs in terms of capacity building for monitoring and evaluation

3. Please list any recommendations of how role-players can be further involved to ensure uptake of the reporting tool and its continued use

Demonstrate the benefits-through workshops/training of undertaking M&E; which is to enhance EW capabilities to save lives.

3. Role Players to be educated and workshopped on the importance/ benefits of the EW tool.

3. Role-players can add value to this process by advocating and marketing its importance via their usual platforms such as advisory forum meetings, HOC meetings, etc...

3. This can be included as an Agenda item at the Disaster Management Advisory Forums at all levels.

It should be a formalised reporting system via the (DMAF and PDMAF).

Inter-related tools/programs which can combine information and data across various disciplines.