

## Opening

- I would like to complement both authors for thought-provoking papers and thank OECD for enabling me to attend the workshop and learn from the excellent presentations over the last two days.
- However I must say that having spent the last few months deeply involved in the COP and policy process, I feel that there is a significant disconnect between the science of global change and the policy process, as John showed. Often it appears that the two processes have their own dynamics, which are at times decoupled
- That said, I think that there is real interest at least in the policy community to be informed – what I think we have to ensure is that we are also prepared to engage with them in ways that they will find relevant.

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## Henry's paper

- Excellent review of a range of areas in benefit estimation and the ways in which information could be used to inform policy, and I think he presented a very compelling argument for a suite or cascade of indicators
- I think he has also identified a critical gap in the literature in terms of indicators – one of the characteristics also has to be measurability, because we would want this indicator to tell us something about effectiveness of policy
- I like the emphasis on a framework, or on ways to use benefit (avoided damage) estimates, rather than directly generating aggregate measures.
- I also like the notion of what is appropriate in terms of detail and disaggregation, and that there is a balance between detail and specificity
- The real question is perhaps not whether we use benefit-cost analysis or not, but rather what is the correct role it could (or should) play in influencing the rather contentious and complex negotiation process at various levels which leads to policy formulation

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## John's paper – 1

- Presents an interesting perspective and approach for Integrated Assessment
- A diversity of approaches for integrated assessment are recognized in the IA community – model-based integration (through IAM's) is only one approach, although it is a common and popular approach
  - The Mackenzie basin impact study is an example of using a region as a basis of integration. One could also think of other routes for integration.
- John presented an interesting alternative for integration, which in a way focuses on the process of assessment and policy formulation, and which I think might be useful for strengthening the science-policy interface

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## John's paper – 2

- Perhaps more important than the model or assessment is the creation of a science – policy interface
  - This interface is really what is lacking in developing countries
  - It is not clear, for example, where the real benefits lie – are they in the creation of a model (CIAM) or a system that enhances capacity?
  - Does the IAM give you insights that you would not have got otherwise? In a sense focus on model-building is thus in exploring potential “emergent properties”
  - What is the route for integration? I can think of three dimensions:
    - Through people (just like people are carriers of technology)
    - Through activities where we all have a stake
    - Need for organic growth (can of course be facilitated by top-down)
- Lessons from non-traditional institutions / structures – open source software
  - Open source software development is an activity that has been able to address problems of incentives, co-ordination, learning and productivity. In that sense it is an interesting alternative model which may have important lessons for IA
  - Development, use, availability of technology

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## General comments

- Who is the policy-maker?
  - Is there a global decision-maker who is going to make a decision based on optimization of a global welfare function (focus on the decision)
  - If the policy is going to emerge out of a messy negotiation process, how can we improve the quality of that process (focus on the process)
- What is climate policy?
  - Mitigation and adaptation
  - Adaptation policy can be thought of as the management of climate risk (certainly related to development, but with a particular focus)
  - Decisions that are either affected by, or can affect climate risk are being made right now. What can we do to inform this process?
  - Can we institutionalize, in some way, the process of adaptation?

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## What is the role of assessment in the policy process?

- Does assessment precede action?
  - Do we do analysis and produce an answer and then figure out how to communicate, or do we do something else?
- Is there an implicit linear model, in terms of science – analysis / assessment – policy?

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## What can we do with climate change impact assessment?

- Climate change impact assessment is perhaps more important not as a tool for informing a global decision-maker, but rather as a tool for better understanding and managing climate risk
  - Has implications for the nature of the assessment, approach and outputs
  - Disaggregated representation might actually convey both process understanding (in what way are systems actually sensitive to climate hazard), and thereby allow for identification of points of intervention.
  - Need to measure the benefits of adaptation policy automatically requires being able to link vulnerability and adaptive capacity
  - Process vs. outcome indicators

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## Final thoughts

- Need for transitions and experiments
  - Go beyond assessments
  - Learning by doing
- My suspicion is that these are easier tried in rapidly changing, dis-equilibrium conditions, if that is the case, then we really need to think of developing countries, where we are in the process of building out energy, transport and urban infrastructure
  - For example, can Annex-1 countries fund learning and driving costs down by funding the innovation and adoption process in developing countries?

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