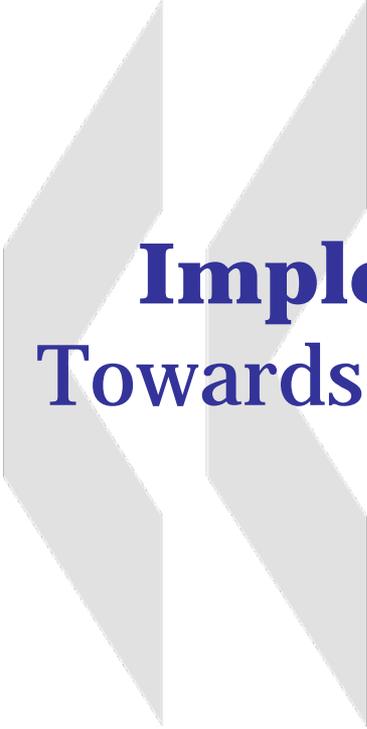




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Implementing Adaptation Towards a Programmatic Approach

Shardul Agrawala

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Outline

- **Why ?** Existing approaches to addressing adaptation and their limits. Potential for new opportunities.
- **What ?** Definition and key elements of a programmatic approach.
- **How ?** Towards operationalising programmatic approaches for adaptation

Assessing and implementing adaptation: The record so far

- Adaptation to climate change builds upon the long experience societies have in coping with climate variability. A wide range of responses are therefore already in place.
- Nevertheless, many (most) societies and sections within them remain poorly adapted even to current climate risks.
- Further, climate change will pose additional risks beyond the range of historical experience.

Assessing and implementing adaptation: The record so far

- **Climate change specific adaptation initiatives**, meanwhile have focussed primarily on the following:
- Impact, vulnerability and adaptation assessments [mostly at the national level]
 - On the ground stand-alone and “mainstreaming” projects [very limited, and still in very early stages of implementation]
 - National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) --- although NAPAs primarily only identify priority *projects*.

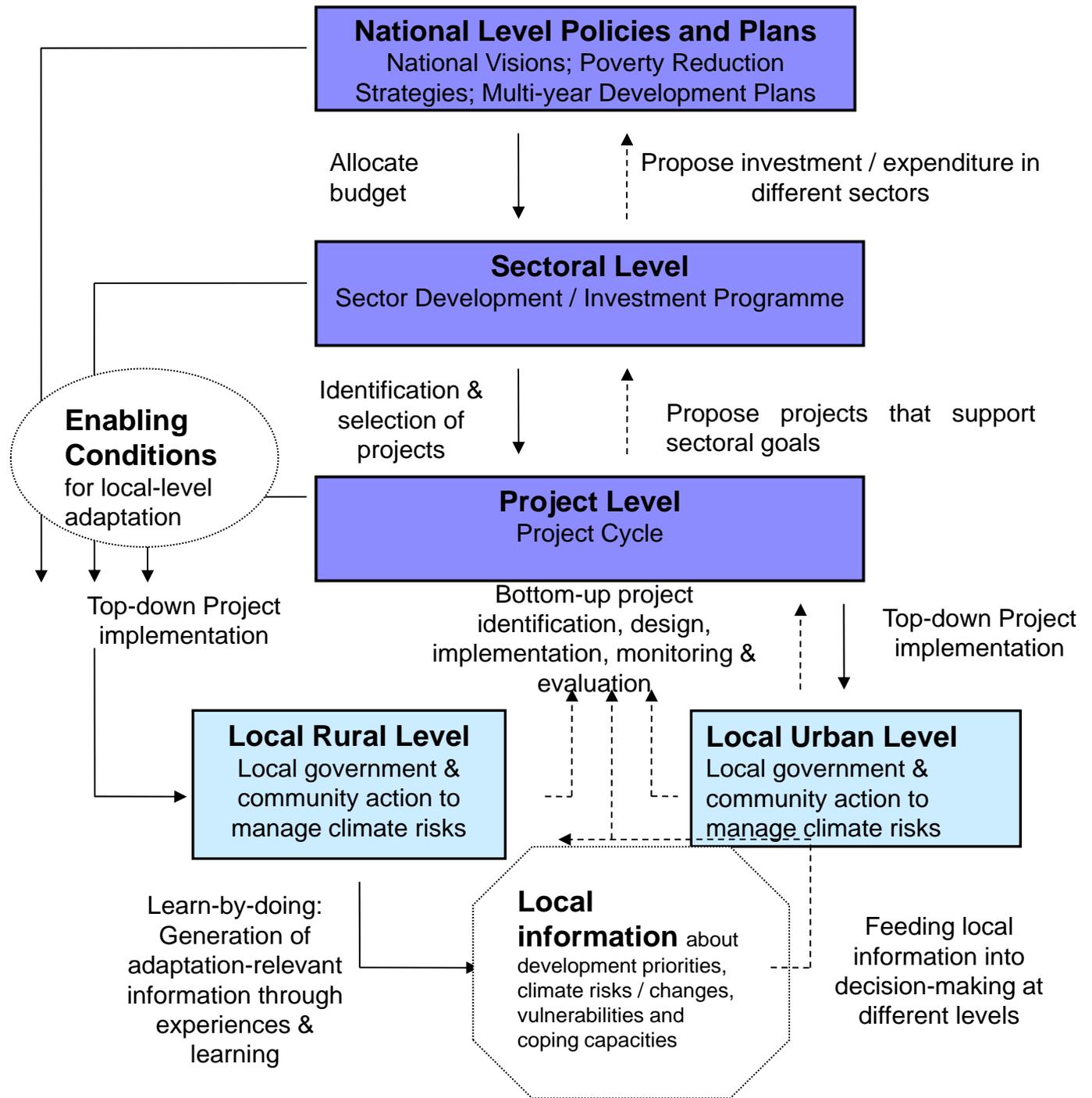
Why a programmatic approach ?

- Effects and effectiveness of adaptation efforts at the project level that have been put in place remains unclear
- There is often no coherent approach to incorporate adaptation considerations upstream at the policy and regulatory levels. This can constrain – even offset the “success” of individual projects
- The likelihood of scaled-up financial resources for adaptation (via Adaptation Fund etc.) also offers a window of opportunity to invest in a coherent to adaptation planning and implementation.

Programmatic Approach Defined

- *A coherent approach to planning and implementing adaptation at strategic, regulatory, budgetary, and operational levels.*
- *Strategic* – e.g. long and medium term development plans, poverty reduction strategies, sectoral policies etc. *Needs to be more than keyword “beancounting”.*
- *Regulatory* [federal, state, local] – help establish incentives for internalisation of climate change risks by other actors (e.g. zoning regulations, valuation of ecosystems, taxes and tariffs, etc.)
- *Budgetary* – critical for financing changes from status quo
- *Operational* – infrastructure provision, social protection, projects

Elements of a Programmatic Approach



Approach to implementation

- ***Entry points***: points within existing decision cycles where climate change risks need to be considered

- **Applying a “*Climate Lens*”** to existing policies/programmes:
 1. Extent to which policy vulnerable to climate change/variability risks
 2. Extent to which climate change risks considered in programme formulation
 3. Extent to which policy could lead to increased vulnerability & maladaptation
 4. Pre-existing policies being revised: what changes needed to reduce climate risks?

Some Challenges to Implementing a Programmatic Approach to Adaptation

- *Programmatic approach is much more amorphous* – projects with discrete boundaries, time horizons and funding modalities are much more tangible to fund and assess.
- Specific information on how climate change might impact specific policy/programmatic objectives is often lacking, or sufficiently uncertain to inhibit change
- Economic case for adaptation is critical to operationalising a programmatic approach – but information on costs/benefits of adaptation measures is generally lacking
- A programmatic approach would often hit at entrenched interests who may not be receptive to changes in policies and regulations – far more difficult than putting a project in place.

Early National Experiences in Working Towards a Programmatic Approach – Bolivia, Mexico, Philippines, Rwanda, UK