

Should Bangladesh become the Netherlands?

Governing hazard risks in a changing climate

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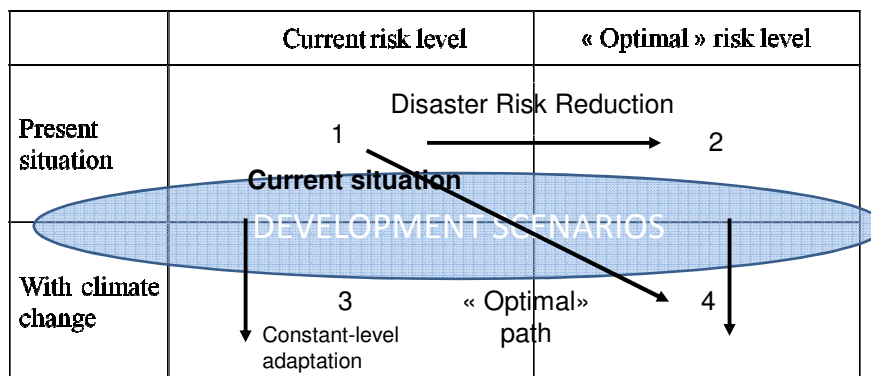
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1. Mainstreaming DRR and ACC

- Macroeconomic impacts of floods in 2004 : a fall by [3,7-4,5]% of income per capita (PRSP, GoB-IMF, 2006).
- Sea Level Rise and Change in rainfalls patterns influence flood risks
- Importance of a risk-resilient and a climate proof development

DRR and ACC : a common framework?



2. A governance policy

- DRR and ACC can be similar in substance : considering the hazards and their trends.
 - Natural Disasters are detrimental to development
 - Ultimately can lead to an increase in long term vulnerability
 - Climate Change is a trend affecting these different hazards
- In terms of governance, DRR allows to leave uncertainty for risk
 - A practical way towards adaptation
 - Increase engagement potential
- No regret strategies close the « time loophole » of Adaptation to Climate Change : today's costs vs. tomorrow's benefits

3. Testing adaptation and DRR mainstreaming

- Is this really a no-regret strategy?
- How is it implemented in practice?
- What are the consequences in terms of governance ?

Case study on bangladesh

- 6 major national policy papers screened
- Qualitative analysis of DRR- ACC mainstreaming in development
- Complementary investigation in donors report (bilateral and multilateral)

4. Bangladesh : an example of good practice...

- All the major policy papers do mainstreaming of DRR in development
- All of them consider within DRR, adaptation to climate change, often through the need of considering future trends
- DRR is one of the major issue of development
- Mainstreaming is done as advocated (and better done nationally)

Policies, Plans and Programmes						
	Identify explicitly Adaptation mainstreaming	ACC and Development mainstreaming	Mismatch Long Term / Short Term in objectives	Clear co- benefits	Clear conflict	
Policy measures in the category infrastructure of the Bangladesh CC Action Plan						
Repair and rehabilitate existing infrastructure (e.g., coastal embankments, river embankments and drainage systems, urban drainage systems) and ensure effective operation and maintenance systems	No	No	Yes but not a problem (retrofit)	Yes	No	Short Term action but relevant
Plan, design and construct urgently needed new infrastructure (e.g., cyclone shelters, coastal and river embankments and water management systems; urban drainage systems, river erosion control works, flood shelters) to meet the changing conditions expected with climate change	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Highly problematic decision if generalised
Undertake strategic planning of future						

In details major issues: - static approach (Dike mainstreaming), lack of signal construction, lack of structural adaptation into development (approach post)

5. ... but still regret!

- The dynamics of development, in space and in time) are not considered
- ACC is managed as a risk (no complexity, no uncertainty).
- Lead to a potential « mainstream » adaptation: a « no-regret » strategy that can still engage in a path dependent adaptation and lead to lock-ins
- Protection and high development in exposed areas
- No regret strategies in Bangladesh may lead to lock-ins in terms of flood protection and land-use planning

6. What is missing?

- How to « factor in » time and uncertainty?
 - Scenarios/visions of the world
 - « Limits to adaptation » and structural change
- Indirect and non-monetary costs and benefits are not addressed:
 - Well known issue for structural (hard) measures or criteria
 - Less commonly identified issue for « soft » measures or criteria, e.g., impact on governance

7. Governance as a channel

- Governance can be an important channel of retroaction between development, DRR and ACC.
- DRR and ACC can lead to governance improvements. For instance:
 - General improvement of institutions and legal framework
 - Peculiar role in property rights enforcement
 - Infrastructure planning
 - Financial risks and investors environment
 - Allowing social networks and community cohesion to play their role
 - Accountability issue
 - DRR as an important traditional mission of the State with strong elements of legitimacy

8. What is it to say?

- Yes, mainstreaming is probably and potentially positive
- Yes, no regret strategies should be preferred
- But...
 - Process, evolution, uncertainties are as important as the immediate outcome
 - Flood protection may lead to land-use lock-ins and large losses
- And...
 - Policy costs, information cost, learning cost, i.e transaction costs are potentially really high for adaptation (even though they never appear in global costing)
 - ... and resulting flexible governance have potential benefits
 - > this has to be investigated and better accounted for in plan and strategy selection (informing choice)

Preliminary conclusion

- Mainstreaming is mature. Its implementation now needs to be sophisticated.
- No-regret should not become no choice. A long-term vision is needed.
- Mainstreaming needs to account for governance aspects, such as costs, benefits and resilience of it

Further

- Contact : przyluski@centre-cired.fr
- Working Paper will be available during this month
- Improvement of conclusions in Bangladesh