

PROJECT INFO

United Nations Development Programme



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CHALLENGE

The Earth's climate is changing because of increasing greenhouse gas emissions stemming from the burning of fossil fuels such as coal and oil, deforestation and other human activities. Science shows that climate change will continue, and accelerate, in the years ahead, with significant impacts on everything from our health to water supplies, ecosystems, and other natural resources. Limits on emissions will not be enough to avoid all impacts of climate change. Adaptation efforts are necessary to reduce the cost and severity of both mitigation and climate change impacts for decades to come.

Although international action is essential, many important decisions about how to best manage climate change are made at national and local levels. The sooner a country adopts efficient policies and practices to adapt to climate change, the less expensive it will be. But first of all the capacities must be developed to enable science-based decision making.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The project has two main objectives. The first is to assess the capacity of national experts and institutions to estimate the economic value of climate change damages and the benefits and costs of adaptation measures.

The second is to measure potential climate change damages in the country based on the existing capacities and to provide recommendations for future action. Economic estimates of climate change impacts are being prepared in sectors such as hydrology, agriculture, energy demand and forestry, along with cost and benefits of adaptation. Key stakeholders will be provided with tools for improving climate change related research, planning and decision making.

EXPECTED RESULTS

This pioneering work will present a solid framework for valuing climate change damages and the costs and the benefits of adaptation in the country. It will also spur research in this field. By bringing together planners from ministries, technical staff from the private sector, civil associations and experts, the awareness will be raised for the need to adjust to a changing climate and to plan adequately ahead.

Four national expert teams have been set up and trained, under the overall supervision of an international consultant, to prepare assessments on climate change impacts and costs/benefits of adaptation options in the areas of hydrology, agriculture, energy demand and forestry. The assessments are built on existing national capacities. Recommendations are made to improve the analytical and institutional capacity to estimate the economic impacts of climate change and the benefits and costs of adaptation. Capacity improvements will benefit not only climate change assessments, but far more broadly a much wider range of natural resource planning and management activities within the country.

The final report will provide impetus for moving the adaptation planning agenda forward and will raise critical climate change issues that should be considered in the future. Empowered stakeholders and the consideration of national circumstances will guarantee sustainability of results

PROJECT TITLE:

The Economics of Climate Change Adaptation

PARTNERS:

Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Ministry of Economy, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Civil Society

BUDGET:

\$ 48,000

IMPLEMENTING PERIOD:

2010- 2011

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