



Information

PD Dr. Steffen Bender
Steffen.bender@hzg.de
+49 (0) 40 226 338 432

Partners

- Aspen Global Change Institute (AGCI)
- Ecologic/RADOST
- Duke University
- 60-80 Workshop participants from science and practice

Funding

- GERICS & Partners

Project Duration

- 2012 - 2014

Objectives

- to better understand the information needs of stakeholders and decision-makers for the purpose of improving climate services and science research on adaptation
- to develop an interface between bottom up and top down approaches to climate adaptation
- to identify barriers to regional adaptation to climate change

Milestones

- First Workshop in Hamburg (April 2013) product review (May 2014) (1st edition)
- Second Workshop in Aspen, CO, USA (August 2013)
- Publication of briefings (Beginning 2014)

CONTEXT

As the impacts of climate change become more immediate, adaptation to these changes is becoming a greater area of interest and concern among resource managers, planners, and other stakeholders at all scales. However, in spite of advancements in the scientific understanding of climate change, much progress is needed in developing, translating, and disseminating usable knowledge to inform both individual and collective actions, especially at local levels of decision making. As part of this, increased emphasis has been placed on fostering sustained engagement between research communities and users of climate information. Additionally, the documentation of case studies as well as the development of networks that include researchers, practitioners, decision-makers and stakeholders has been identified as helpful mechanisms to support a growing number of communities developing climate change adaptation strategies.

METHODS

- Science-practitioner workshops
- Publications (briefs; articles)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In view of these challenges, the Climate Service Center based in Hamburg, Germany, and the Aspen Global Change Institute based in Aspen, Colorado, initiated a series of dialogues between providers and users of climate information in selected regions and communities.

The diversity of institutions, cultures, political economies and biophysical and societal impacts included in these case study regions provide a unique opportunity for the cross-pollination of ideas and expansion of networks across institutional, disciplinary and national boundaries. After all, mountain and coastal communities face a number of immediate impacts of climate change from sea level rise on the shores to altered streamflow in mountain streams. The rationale of convening these regional communities therefore is to extract best practices, support the implementation of adaptation measures at regional and local levels, and promote the development, comparison and transfer of scientific and human approaches in areas where climate change is already and will continue to be a critical component of planning and resource management.

PRODUCTS

- Several short publications highlighting key takeaways from this effort that reach out to both science and user communities
- Sustained networks, e.g. transatlantic network engaged on climate adaptation
- An opportunity to inform the development of climate services products at the Climate Service Center through engagement with a diverse mix of user-communities