Climate Adaptation – Tools and Practices
Community of practice and online platform for sustainable climate risk management

Advancing the know-how and implementation of strategy for sustainable solutions against climate impacts

Webinar / Platform for exchange
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25 May 2020
14:00 - 16:00 CET

Organized by
ETH Zürich (Weather and Climate Risk Institute for Environmental Decisions), Frankfurt School of Finance and Management (FS) and the United Nations University (UNU-EHS)
Frankfurt, Germany
1. **Context**

**The Climate Crisis:** In changing climatic conditions, humans and communities are facing new challenges every day. Expected climate changes present not only a serious threat to vulnerable countries and communities but have already become a global reality with a significant increase in the number and frequency of hazardous events. The loss of life, infrastructure and ecosystems is unprecedented and presents us with the challenging tasks of managing the current as well as future expected impacts of natural disasters due to climate change.

**Unlocking Climate Finance:** While measures exist to adapt to an ever changing environment, decision-makers on all levels – from multinational organizations, sovereigns, sub-sovereigns, cities and companies down to the local community – need the facts to identify the most cost-effective instruments, they need to know the potential weather and climate-related impacts over the coming decades, to identify measures to manage these risks – and to decide whether the benefits will outweigh the costs. Beyond climate analytics, a fact-based monetarization of climate impacts and measure of is a decisive entry point towards unlocking climate finance.

**Bridging the Gap:** Bridging between finance, climate science, the private sector, governments and communities requires to increase the pace and reach of their collaboration from all actors. Recognising this, ETH-Zürich, Frankfurt School and UNU-EHS are joining forces to launch an international network on climate analytics for adaptation and climate finance. This network will foster comprehensive and quantified climate risk assessment, highlighting its use for climate risk management including risk transfer. The platform would support practitioners in their efforts to better evaluate and manage their climate risks using the latest probabilistic analysis tools.

The Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA) methodology represents one of these tools. It provides decision-makers with a fact base to answer these questions in a systematic way. It enables them to understand and quantify the impact of climate change and to identify actions to minimize that impact at lowest cost. The application of a worldwide consistent, yet locally specific methodology to strengthen climate resilience therefore allows integrating adaptation with economic development and sustainable growth. CLIMADA (CLIMATE ADAPATION) - the open-source and -access global platform for probabilistic risk modelling and options appraisal underpins the ECA approach by using state-of-the-art probabilistic risk modelling and options appraisal.

2. **Objectives**

This webinar aims at bringing stakeholders together and at bridging between finance and analysis to trigger climate action. Particularly, ETH-Zürich, Frankfurt School and UNU-EHS look forward to enhance interactions within the various stakeholders working with the latest probabilistic analysis tools such as the ECA methodology and CLIMADA. To do so, the following activities are foreseen:

1) Present CLIMADA and the ECA methodology;
2) Introduce the CLIMADA Community of Practice hosted by ETH-Zürich;
3) Present the concept for a ECA Network online platform hosted by UNU-EHS and discuss focus for its further development;
4) Highlight examples of ongoing ECA Studies
3. Tentative Agenda

• Introduction and Scope (5min, ETH/FS/UNU)
• Presentation of CLIMADA (10min, ETH)
• Best practices in the “Value Chain” of ECA Studies (10min, FS)
• Presentation of ECA methodology
• Presentation of Concept for a ECA Network online platform (10min, UNU)
• Open Discussion and Next Steps (30min, ETH/FS/UNU)

  Parallel sessions and plenary (using Zoom)
  
  o Collecting first feedbacks (various methods, e.g. slido)
  o Interest and intended contributions (slido)
  o Suggestions on future agendas
  o Next steps

• Closing (5min, ETH/FS/UNU)

4. Guiding questions for the webinar and establishment of the Community of Practice

• What is the Economics of Climate Adaptation (ECA) methodology?
• How does CLIMADA work in essence?
• How exactly do ECA and CLIMADA relate to each other?
• What does it take to run an ECA – and what to use CLIMADA?
• What’s currently available on the CLIMADA platform, what’s the development plan?
• What should be the hosting method for a Community of Practice?

5. Moderators

David N. Bresch (Professor for Weather and Climate Risks, ETH Zürich)
Annette Detken (Head of InsuResilience Solutions Fund, Frankfurt School)
Maxime Souvignet (Team Lead ECA, UNU-EHS)

6. Participants

Practitioners and users working in active in the field of development and climate finance interested in quantified climate risk analysis, management and cost-benefit analysis by means of ECA (Economics of Climate Adaptation) and CLIMADA (CLIMate ADaptation), e.g.

• International organizations
• Governmental organizations
• Local and international project partners
• Donors and donors’ agencies
• Multilateral, regional and national development banks
• Insurance sector representatives
• Academia
• Active user base and partners of ECA methodology and CLIMADA platform, local and international project partners and public sector organizations
7. Background material

CLIMADA and ECA

CLIMADA

ECA methodology and case studies

ECA guidelines for practitioners handbook

Swiss RE Website for ECA

Financing Climate Actions

InsuResilience Solutions Fund (ISF) Website