

Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation to Climate Change: Lessons and Experience from German Dialogue Processes



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Outline



- 1. Background**
- 2. Projects and processes under study**
- 3. Categories of analysis**
- 4. Findings**
- 5. Recommendations**

Background (1)



- **German Adaptation Strategy (2008)**
 - “a medium-term process which will progressively ascertain action needs and develop and implement adaptation measures in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders”
 - Basic principle: Openness and cooperation
- **German Adaptation Action Plan (2011)**
 - Pillar 1: Providing knowledge, informing, enabling
 - support dialogue, participation and the building of networks among actors

Stakeholder dialogue and communication are important building blocks

Background (2)



- **Study commissioned by Federal Environment Agency**



- **Objectives:**
 - Present and evaluate the German participation process for adaptation to climate change
 - Develop recommendations for the German adaptation process and for participatory processes in adaptation policy
- **Methodology:**
 - Document analysis, interviews with selected project managers, own experience

Analyzed Processes/Projects/Events



- **Federal Environment Ministry and Agency Events/Projects, e.g.**
 - National Dialogue, Stakeholder Dialogues
 - Research Conferences
 - Regional Conference
 - Expert Hearing on the Draft Adaptation Action Plan
 - Competition „Tatenbank“
- **Federal Ministry for Education & Research**
 - 7 KLIMAZWEI-Projects
 - 7 KLIMZUG-Networks
- **Federal Ministry for Transport, Bulding & Urban Planning / BBSR**
 - 8 KlimaMORO Model regions

Examples of Stakeholder Participation



National Dialogue



Stakeholder Dialogue (World Café)



Award-Ceremony „Tatenbank“

Categories of Analysis



- **Objectives of stakeholder involvement and institutional setting**
- **Dialogue design and degree of participation**
- **Central adaptation problems addressed**
- **Stakeholders involved**
- **Outcomes and experience**
- **Follow-up processes**

Different Approaches



- **Science-based**
 - Deepening the understanding of a specific problem by integrating and combining stakeholders' knowledge bases
 - Reality check for research results
- **Policy-based**
 - Development of policy measure
 - Support and acceptance of policy measures

Welp et al. 2005, *Global Environmental Change*

Degree of Participation



- **Communication**
 - One-way flow of information
- **Consultation**
 - Stakeholders are asked for their opinions and views on proposals, two-way flow of information
- **Co-production**
 - Integration of stakeholders into the processes of knowledge production
- **Co-decision**
 - Integration of stakeholders into the process of decision-making

Hage et al. 2010, *Futures*

Sectors



- **(almost) all sectors from the German Adaptation Strategy covered**
- **Focus on:**
 - Water
 - Agriculture
 - Biodiversity
- **Addressed only by a few events:**
 - Trade and industry
 - Financial services industry
 - Fishery

Involved Stakeholders



- **Strongly involved**
 - Administration
 - Science and research
- **Moderately involved**
 - Business associations
 - Companies
- **Scarcely involved**
 - Politics
 - Civil society (NGOs, trade unions, religious organizations, citizens)
 - Media

Approach and Degree of Participation



- **Both policy-based and science-based approaches**
 - Often mixed and not clearly communicated
- **Degree of participation**
 - All 4 degrees found
 - Predominantly communication und consultation
 - Partially co-production (e.g. Dynaklim scenario workshops, thematic working groups on vulnerability KlimaMORO)
 - Sparsely co-decision (e.g. KWU workshop series, Klaranet regional panel)

Recommendations for the German Process



- **Better coordination among different initiators**
- **Clear separation between science-based and policy-based approaches**
 - Clear expectation management
 - Research can not replace policy
- **Integration of sparsely involved groups**
 - Companies/SMEs: Combine with other challenges
 - Policy: Stronger link with other policies

Recommendations for Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation Policies (1)



- **Climate adaptation as a knowledge-intensive subject needs science-based and policy-based stakeholder involvement**
- **Definition of goals and according choice of stakeholders, degree of participation and methods**

Recommendations for Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation Policies (2)



Degree of participation	Approach	Objectives	Type of stakeholders	Experience/ knowledge of stakeholders	Methods	Example(s)
Co-decision	Policy-based	...	...	...	...	...
	Science-based	...	...	...	...	...
Co-production	Policy-based	...	...	...	...	...
	Science-based	...	...	...	...	...
Consultation	Policy-based	...	...	...	...	...
	Science-based	...	...	...	...	...
Communication	Policy-based	...	...	...	...	...
	Science-based	...	...	...	...	...

Recommendations for Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation Policies (3)



- **Goal:** Combination of knowledge; dealing with uncertainty and value conflicts (science-based co-production)
- **Stakeholders:** Experts from politics, administration, companies, NGOs (expert knowledge on local/ sectoral vulnerabilities, local constraints and potentials for action)
- **Methods:** Interactive vulnerability assessment/scenario development; group model building; workshop series integrated in the research process

Recommendations for Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation Policies (4)



– **Preparation**

- Conduct a stakeholder analysis
- Involve key actors and multipliers
- Prepare introductory material

– **Conducting**

- Use different methods, provide room for exchange of experience
- For policy-based approaches: Close ties to policy process
- Create ownership

– **Documentation and Follow-up**

- Inform about results and follow-up processes

Forthcoming Further Information



Maja Rotter, Esther Hoffmann, Jesko Hirschfeld, André Schröder, Franziska Mohaupt, Laura Schäfer (forthcoming):

**Stakeholder Participation in Adaptation to Climate Change –
Lessons and Experience from German Dialogue Processes.**

Federal Environment Agency, Dessau/Germany.

Thank you!

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