

From assessing to managing vulnerability to climate change

How can we assess and manage vulnerability to climate change?

A toolbox to assess climate vulnerability and the adaptive capacity of institutions to meet the challenges was developed in collaboration with communities in Sweden, South Africa and in the Baltic countries in order in order to guide organizations to make sound water management strategies in the light of climate variability and change.



Why is the toolbox useful?

It contributes to the understanding of adaptation processes and knowledge on the critical factors and driving forces necessary for effective sustainable adaptation implementation.

How is the vulnerability assessment process conducted?

It is based on a sequence of participatory exercises that facilitate a structured analysis of vulnerability across three dimensions: exposure, sensitivity and adaptive capacity.

What concrete outcomes does the toolbox enable?

- Identification of the key actors and their responsibilities
- Mapping of climatic and socio-economic stressors
- Identification of sensitive sectors, groups and hot spots
- Analysis of barriers and facilitating factors for improved adaptive capacity
- Synthesis of an integrated vulnerability assessment as a base for climate-smart water management.

Julie Wilk*, Karin André*, Eric Glaas*, Mattias Hjerpe*, Anna Jonsson*, Jan Ketil Rød**

*Centre for Climate Science and Policy Research/
Department of Water and Environmental Studies,
Linköping University, Sweden

**Norwegian University of Science and Technology

What is the main output from the toolbox?

The process culminates in a concrete action plan outlining steps for implementing strategic actions including delegation of responsible organizations and realistic time plans.



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