

# Dialoge zur Klimaanpassung

Dialogues on Risks and Opportunities  
of Climate Change

## How to design a successful stakeholder dialogue on adaptation to climate change?

### Stakeholder Participation in the Development of Adaptation Strategies

- Adaptation to climate change is a cross-cutting issue that addresses a broad variety of actors
- Developing/implementing adaptation measures needs their involvement and coordinated action among them
- Stakeholder dialogues can support joint understanding of adaptation needs and the coordinated development of adaptation actions with shared responsibilities

### Stakeholder Dialogues in Germany

- Our analysis is based on experience with eleven dialogues accompanying the German Adaptation Strategy
- These dialogues were sector specific (e.g. energy, transport, chemical industry, insurance) or addressed cross-cutting issues such as standardization, risk management or vocational training for adaptation.
- Nine were commissioned by the Competence Centre on Climate Impacts and Adaptation (KomPass) at the Federal Environment Agency (UBA)
- Two were part of the Chameleon research project
- The assessment of the dialogue experience is based on stakeholder feedback at the end of the workshops and on observation of follow-up activities

The overall goals of the dialogues are to

- Sensitize stakeholders and decision makers
- Provide information for specific sectors and adaptation problems
- Work on recommendations for adaptation
- Identify good practice examples
- Contribute to the discussion of the National Adaptation Strategy and the National Action Plan on Adaptation

### Dialogue Design

- Acquisition of participants based on a review of key actors in the sector (or topic); invitation by e-mail and telephone
- One-day workshops with 25 to 35 participants
- Short presentations and discussions in small groups according to the “world café” method

### Experience with German Stakeholder Dialogues

All dialogues were able to support vivid discussions. Participants appreciated the information given, the intense discussions and the possibilities for networking. All documents (background paper, presentations from the workshops, documentation) were published online and downloaded also by others.

Sector-specific follow-up activities, such as further workshops or projects, however, only resulted from those dialogues that were already organized in cooperation with a key actor from the specific sector (e.g. a business association or a public authority).



### Recommendations for Stakeholder Dialogues

- ✓ Identify key actors for the topic or sector in advance and gain them for cooperation and/or participation.
- ✓ Carefully select participants and invite a mixture of representatives from administration, business, research and civil society.
- ✓ Identify good practice examples of adaptation measures and invite them to present their experience.
- ✓ Prepare a short introductory paper that summarizes main challenges and opportunities regarding the sector, and gives examples of adaptation measures.
- ✓ Develop a workshop design that includes short presentations and working group sessions with predefined tasks (e.g. based on “world café” discussions).
- ✓ Start with discussions on concrete sector-specific challenges in order to sensitize and raise awareness.
- ✓ Include discussions on potential adaptation measures in order to provide ideas on individual action and shared responsibilities.
- ✓ Provide a documentation of the workshop – for the participants and for the public.

More information on the chameleon project can be found at [www.climate-chameleon.de](http://www.climate-chameleon.de)



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