

Delegate Meeting:

Building Resilience through Exploring Linkages between Insurance & Climate Risk Management

13 November 2017; 1:30pm -3:30pm

Conference Room 2309, Langer Eugen, UN Campus, Bonn, Germany

1. BACKGROUND

The upcoming 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) from the 6-17 November 2017 is being hosted in Bonn, Germany. During this period, nations around the world will come together to advance the ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement and achieve progress on its implementation guidelines.

The world has been experiencing an increase in climate-related and extreme weather events, such as the recent hurricanes in the Caribbean, mudslides in Columbia, and the monsoon in Bangladesh. In 2015, there were 353 catastrophe events, with 198 of these being natural catastrophes, the highest ever recorded in one year, and up from 191 in 2014. Developing countries face significant financial constraints in responding immediately and effectively to these disasters. Long-term development prospects suffer as the government diverts public funding from social and economic development programs to fill the recovery gaps.

There is growing momentum across leading international policy fora, including the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework, the G7, and the G20, to harness the benefits of insurance as a risk management approach. However, a large-scale effort is needed to better understand the anticipated impacts, help strengthen management and adaptation capacities, and link it to the planning efforts of particularly vulnerable sectors in vulnerable countries.

This is the overall aim the project “Advancing Climate Risk Insurance Plus” of the overall programme “Promoting Integrated Mechanisms for Climate Risk Management and Transfer”. It collaborates with government authorities, the private sector and NGOs in Ghana, Morocco, China and Barbados to develop integrated climate risk management (ICRM) concepts in the agriculture, water, small-medium enterprise (SME), urban resilience, and renewable energy sectors, respectively. The project is being implemented by the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), funded under the BMUB’s International Climate Initiative (ICI).

In this context, MCII and GIZ are organizing a 2 hour Delegate Meeting to discuss linkages between climate adaptation, disaster risk management and insurance to find solutions that builds resilience. The meeting is hosted by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) at the UN Campus, Bonn, Germany.

2. CONCEPT OF THE MEETING

The meeting will bring together different government officials and planners from various national institutions involved in the different processes of climate and disaster risk management with a focus on developing countries. The main goal is to assess current benefits and challenges of integrating risk transfer and insurance into overall climate risk management strategies in developing countries.

2.1. Objective

By consulting government officials from developing countries and expert planners, this meeting seeks to:

- A. Engage delegates and experts to analyze the challenges and benefits of integrating climate risk insurance into their national adaptation strategies and disaster risk management plans.
- B. Discuss and gather different cross-disciplinary perspectives to ascertain where insurance could pro-actively contribute to other existing risk management measures in developing countries.
- C. Determine the value of government officials using a climate risk insurance toolbox for operations and planning across key departments in the agricultural sector.
- D. Provide networking and partnership opportunities for delegates attending COP23.

2.2. Expected outcomes of the meeting

1. Participants gain a sneak preview of the existing Toolbox on Climate Risk Transfer for developing countries and find an early copy after publication.
2. Delegates learn and share their experiences on national adaptation planning and disaster risk management from their respective countries.
3. Organisers gather valuable recommendations on how a Toolbox on Climate Risk Transfer for developing countries can be further developed as well as their inputs on the findings of the Toolbox testing in Ghana.

3. MEETING STRUCTURE¹

- ◆ **High-level welcome speech:** Participants are welcome to the meeting after the first refreshment.
- ◆ **Setting the scene and the need for climate risk management:** Providing a big picture analysis including the discussions on climate change (UNFCCC) and DRR (UNISDR) and their contribution to creating an enabling environment for comprehensive climate risk management approaches, including risk transfer and insurance.
- ◆ **Enabling climate-resilient development pathways:** Increasing the understanding on risk management measures portfolio including insurance, along the processes of the Disaster Risk Management Framework².
- ◆ **Developing an integrated climate risk management (ICRM) approach:** Presentation of a Toolbox for Climate Risk Transfer and Management in the Agricultural Sector for government officials. It explores key factors to be considered in order to assess risk, develop risk reduction measures, address residual risk, prepare for eminent disaster impacts, respond, and recover from disaster impacts.
- ◆ **Applying insurance as a tool to address climate risk:** Presentation of the findings from testing the Toolbox in the agricultural sector in Ghana.
- ◆ **Discussing how developing countries address climate change using insurance solutions:** Interactive engagement between participants on how to best integrate climate risk insurance as a component of comprehensive climate risk management strategies with a focus on countries' planning capacities.

¹ Detail Agenda will follow after confirmation of attendance.

² For more information, visit: <http://www.climate-insurance.org/projects/advancing-climate-risk-insurance-acri/>