Adaptation to Climate Change
Issues for South Asia

Overview

- Purpose
- Adaptation programmes in South Asia
- Role of multilateral cooperation
- Regional cooperation in South Asia
Agricultural adaptation

- The subcontinent has a wealth of knowledge and experience on coping with climate variability
- DPs connect farmers with scientists
- Vulnerable groups have received attention

1. Agricultural research
2. Provision for climate information
3. Improved risk management
4. Education and training
5. Water resource management
6. Institutional strengthening

Good practices

- Participatory assessment of local risks and adaptability
- Building on or reviving traditional practices
- Resource-sharing (co-op under LAPA)
- Community-based adaptation (CBA)
  - ActionAid, Practical Action
- Social networking, mobilizing the youth
- Formation of community based orgs.
Tidal river management

Role of multilateral bodies

- The most severe threats of climate change transcend national boundaries
- Financing at the multilateral level is still evolving
- Green Climate Fund: mobilize USD 100 bn, starting with USD 30 bn by 2012
- Concerns about multilateral funds
- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon established the High-Level Advisory Group on CC Financing
- The Kyoto Protocol proposed market mechanisms
- Bangladesh and the Maldives have established budgetary allocations to finance adaptation
Emissions by top emitters

Annex-I countries are mounting pressure on emerging economies to curb emissions too but India & China insist they need to meet their development needs.

Regional cooperation

- Concerns over depleting env resources and natural disasters led to SAARC Plan of Action on Envt 1997
- 2008: Dhaka Declaration on Climate Change and SAARC Action Plan on Climate Change formed
- Thimphu Summit: members agreed to form inter-gov initiatives and to take measures to expedite implementation of plans
- Progress in forming framework, bringing together leaders and complementing international efforts
Regional cooperation

- Criticized for inadequate response to CC
- CDM itself has come under criticism
- Contrast in region exhibits lack of coordination

Thank You
Any questions or comments are appreciated