Acting in an integrated way: sustainable development – adaptation and mitigation

Renewable Energy

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Sustainable development/adaptation-mitigation synergies

Reducing vulnerability, strengthening adaptive capacity • Begins with focus on current variability • Local and multi-sectorial effort required for effectiveness • Subnational/global collaboration and ownership is necessary

Reducing GHG emissions, strengthening carbon sinks • Long-term focus to avoid future impacts • Global and multi-sectorial effort required for effectiveness • Local/subnational collaboration and ownership is necessary

Source: Center for Clean Air Policy
Example 1: Coca Codo Sinclair Ecuador

“Analysis of the vulnerability of hydroelectric plants to the effects of climate change”

The project seeks to contribute to the sustainability of hydroelectric plants by implementing climate change adaptation measures such as comprehensive natural resource management with a basin approach, ecosystem conservation, and improved coordination of operations, in order to preserve the State’s investment in hydro-energy projects.

Coca Codo Sinclair is the largest plant in the country and will generate 1,500 MW, which will reduce CO2 emissions by approximately 3.5 million tonnes a year.

- 36% more electric energy for the Ecuadorian population.
- 2.5 million dollars a day in savings for the State through decreased imports of energy and fuel for electricity generation.
- More jobs for Ecuadorians.
- Lower electricity rates. Will allow Ecuador to supply its own electric power.

Environmental sustainability (climate change and ecosystem conservation)
Why we have not adopted an integrated approach

- Different priorities for planning and implementation measures and policies.
- Tools created at the UNFCCC lack an integrated approach: Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs). The National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) were designed parallel to these.
- Specific options for adaptation and mitigation operate at different spatial, temporal, and institutional levels and involve a variety of actors with diverse interests, beliefs, value systems and property rights.
- Country priorities – more financing for mitigation.
- Opportunities to develop synergies are greater in some sectors (agriculture and forestry, construction and urban infrastructure) but limited in others (coastal systems, energy, health) – MRV
Benefits of an integrated approach

- Long-term cost effectiveness
- Avoid negative externalities
- Achieve sustainable development
- Participation of different sectors – transparency
Challenges of an integrated approach

1. Transition from a sectorial perspective to a systematic one.

2. International negotiations remain separated by topic.

3. Additional costs of activities (short term). In the case of renewable energy, high costs for patents.

4. Monitoring, reporting, and verification of synergies/benefits.

5. Linkage of and multisectorial/multilevel dialogue on both topics. Experts on just one issue.
Importance of including civil society in parliamentary dialogue on public policy design

- Economic – Politics
- Social oversight – Independent analysis
- Sustainability
- Integrated and inclusive approach
- Information generation as a resource for the creation of public policies. Offers innovative solutions in accordance with the context.
- Transparency – Legitimacy
- Effective and legitimate participation, accountability
Example 1: *Plataforma Climática Latinoamericana* (Latin American Climate Platform)

PCL (by its Spanish initials) is a space for **gathering, dialogue, and connection** between diverse actors committed to finding responses to challenges of radical change humanity is currently facing.
Example 2: Plan CC - Impacts

» Capacity-building: Build and strengthen mitigation capacity so that mitigation actions and measures can be planned, developed, and implemented.

» Increased political relevance

» Increased awareness: Systematization of knowledge and experiences.

» Institutional arrangements: Institutional configuration to ensure interaction between individuals with necessary skills and institutions with relevant powers.

» Concrete and precise information: Scientific evidence contributes directly to decision-making by the national government.