Struggling to mainstream climate issues?

Lessons learnt from CDKN's knowledge brokering experience

CDKN
Climate & Development Knowledge Network

Challenge 1

Key stakeholders lack sufficient information about the significance and urgency of climate change

CDKN alliance partners

SOUTH SOUTH NORTH
TOWARDS CLIMATE RESILIENCE

futuro latinoamericano
diálogo, capacidades y desarrollo sostenible

ICLEI
Local Governments for Sustainability
SOUTH ASIA

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About the contributors

This document was written by Lucia Scodanibbio, CDKN Learning and Knowledge Brokering Lead. The experiences summarised in this series refer to the collective work of a much larger team of CDKN colleagues and partners, who generously shared their knowledge brokering lessons and approaches to mainstreaming climate change issues through interviews and joint learning sessions. Thanks to the following colleagues for their contributions and insights: Arsema Andargatchew and Robi Redda (Ethiopia); Chris Gordon, Prince Ansah and Amanda April (Ghana); Edna Odhiambo (Kenya); Margaret Angula and Cecil Togarepi (Namibia); Revocatus Twinomuhangi (Uganda); Claudia Martinez and Patricia Velasquez (Colombia); Gabriela Villamarín (Ecuador and Latin America); María José Pacha (Latin America); Sandra Isola and Jessica Huertas (Peru); Nivedita Mani (India); Kamal Devkota, Kaustuv Neupane and Geeta Sandal (Nepal); Bedoshruti Sadhukhan (South Asia); Lisa McNamara (Global).

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Cover Image: Herminha, a Red Cross staff, briefing evacuees from Buzi on the Praia Nova beach. Climate Centre via Flickr

Design and layout: Ink Design Publishing Solutions, Cape Town, www.inkdesign.co.za

Pedestrian traffic in Nairobi, analysed as part of non-motorised transport study. *CDKN and Tribesman Pictures*

Introduction

Background

Since 2010, the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) has supported decision-makers in designing and delivering climate-resilient development in focal countries in Africa, Latin America and South Asia through a combination of knowledge, research and advisory support. Our approach has been to facilitate locally owned and led processes, working in partnership with governmental and non-governmental actors at multiple scales.

Through this work we have become aware of the important, often invisible, role that 'intermediaries' or 'brokers' play in linking knowledge producers with knowledge users, and in managing complex processes for effective decisions and actions on climate change. In 2018, we shifted our attention to focus on knowledge brokering to help accelerate and amplify climate action. We work closely with stakeholders to promote evidence-based decision-making by fostering learning, collaboration and leadership through capacity strengthening and integrating diverse types of knowledge.

Along the way, CDKN has sought to document our learning and that of our partners to better understand how knowledge and evidence of climate change can inform and translate into policy and action. This reflection process has investigated different tools and approaches for enhancing the use of knowledge in decision-making, the barriers encountered in facilitating change, and the lessons that may be useful for others who are navigating similar challenges.

The lessons showcased in this document initially emerged during a series of learning exchanges that brought together CDKN's partners in Asia and Africa to discuss the ways in which they had sought to mainstream climate issues in decision-making processes. They identified core challenges that they had come across during these processes and brainstormed different solutions and approaches to overcome them. A series of detailed interviews with CDKN's different focal country partners followed, to identify, document and share some of the strategies and approaches they had used.

As a result of this learning work, we identified seven **challenges** to mainstreaming climate issues across governance scales and sectors, including with national to local government decision-makers and community members on the ground. These seven challenges have been used to structure this series. Each challenge has a number of **pathways** and **case studies** that demonstrate the knowledge brokering approaches that were used, as well as **key takeaways** that exemplify the main lessons learned in each of the case studies. This series is not intended as a definitive guide about climate mainstreaming, but we hope that others may gain some tips about knowledge brokering approaches and tools that could help as they seek to integrate knowledge about climate issues into their own contexts.

~~SPECIFICALLY,~~ IT IS HOPED THAT THE LESSONS PRESENTED HERE CAN:

- Influence researchers and decision-makers about the importance of knowledge brokering
- Enable learning exchanges with other knowledge brokers in the global South
- Encourage donors to think differently about the design of future programmes, to ensure sufficient time for impact and openness to being adaptive as new demands emerge

What is knowledge brokering and who are knowledge brokers?

Knowledge brokering is the process of moving knowledge into action. Knowledge brokers link producers of knowledge and users of knowledge to facilitate the generation, dissemination and eventual use of that knowledge.[1] The range of activities they are involved in can be understood along a spectrum that goes from working with information flows to seeking to bring about systemic change (see figure below). Whilst knowledge brokers have often focused on making knowledge more relevant and accessible (the left-hand side of the spectrum), the scale and urgency of the climate crisis today calls for knowledge brokering practice to move towards innovation brokering (on the right side of the spectrum).[2]

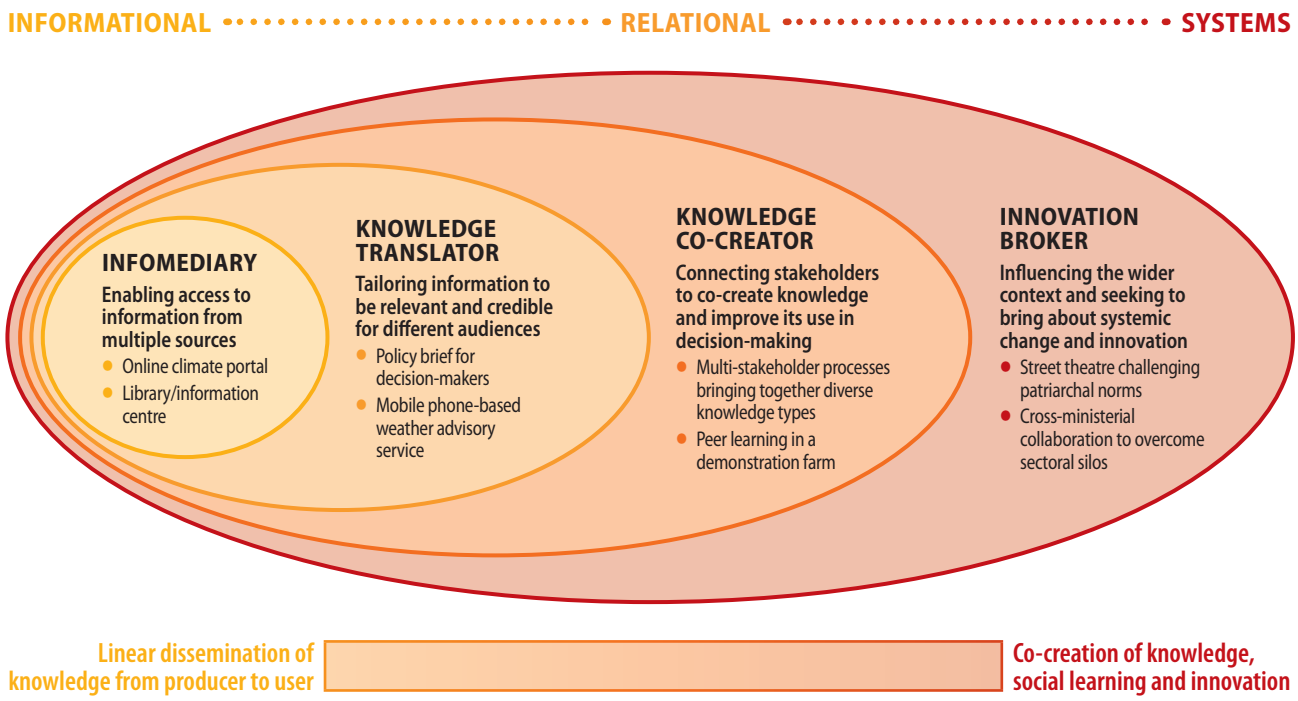


FIGURE 1 Spectrum of knowledge broker roles, adapted from Harvey et al. (2012)[3] and Shaxson et al. (2012).[4]

This series is structured as follows:

CHALLENGE 1 **Key stakeholders lack sufficient information about the significance and urgency of climate change.**	To respond, knowledge brokers need to build a critical mass of tailored and accessible knowledge, highlighting the extent of climate change impacts on different sectors or groups. Knowledge, however, is not sufficient by itself, and needs to be combined with a range of engagement strategies, including to collaboratively develop responses to the challenges being faced.
CHALLENGE 2 **Climate change is not sufficiently high on political agendas or part of institutional mandates.**	To respond, knowledge brokers need to invest time and effort in understanding the governance landscape. They also need to be creative at finding different ways of aligning their messages with government policies, visions and mandates.
CHALLENGE 3 **Climate change issues are mostly considered environmental ministries' responsibility and collaboration across sectors is rarely seen.**	To respond, knowledge brokers can assist by creating or building on existing platforms for different stakeholders to discuss climate issues and strengthen relationships.
CHALLENGE 4 **Subnational governments lack guidance and support to implement climate change related legislation and policy set at national levels.**	To respond, knowledge brokers can provide support through existing vertical government and governance structures; they can mainstream climate issues into other related, better-decentralised sectors; or they can collaborate with strategic institutions to advance the climate mainstreaming process.
CHALLENGE 5 **Limited capacities and resource allocation prevent the integration and implementation of climate change policy.**	To respond, knowledge brokers need to think carefully about the medium of knowledge transfer beyond outputs. They can do this by co-organising training and engagement activities jointly with stakeholders and promoting learning and understanding about climate resilience from on-the-ground experience.
CHALLENGE 6 **Gatekeeping and bureaucracy can act as bottlenecks and delay progress on projects.**	To respond, knowledge brokers need to know their context well, using multiple tactics while maintaining flexibility. They also need to work both with government actors with continuity in the system and in partnership with other key actors to overcome challenges.
CHALLENGE 7 **Local communities lack sufficient support to integrate climate issues into their actions.**	To respond, knowledge brokers can assist by connecting local groups to different sources of knowledge and to intermediaries that can enhance access to specific resources.

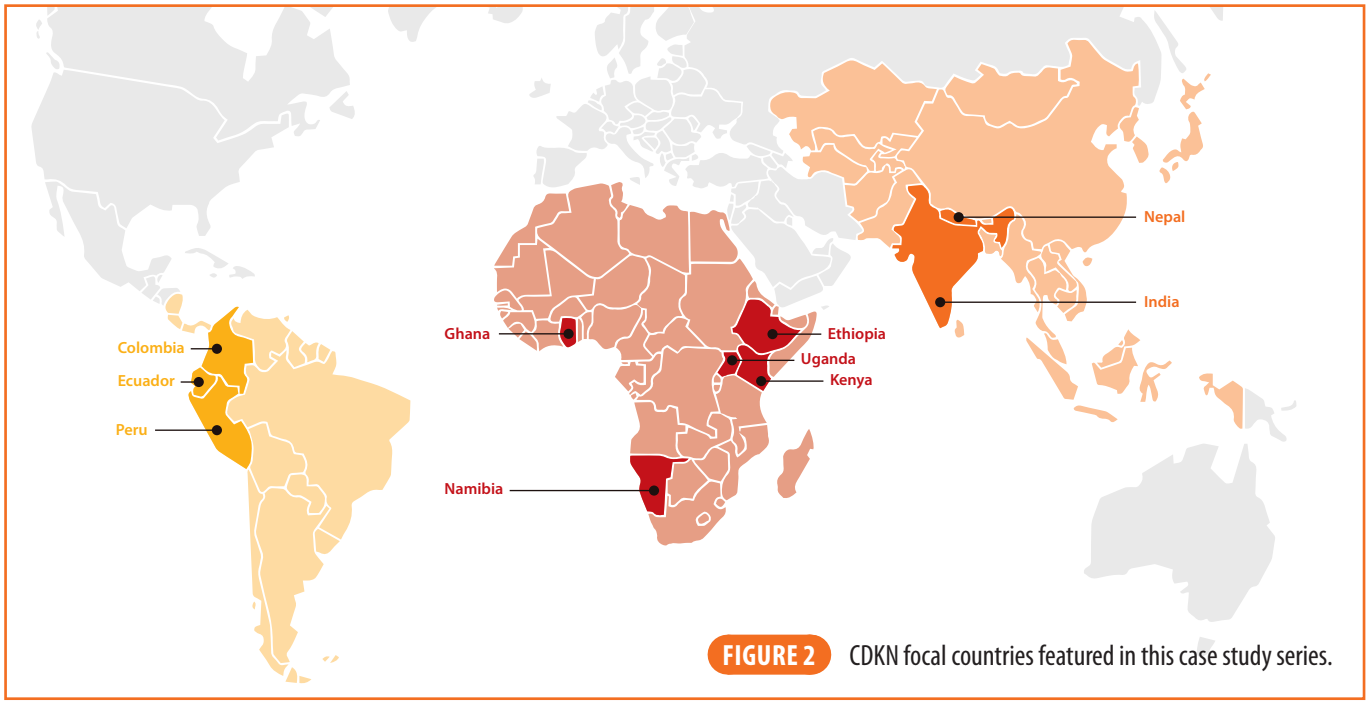


FIGURE 2 CDKN focal countries featured in this case study series.

Challenge 1:

Key stakeholders lack sufficient information about the significance and urgency of climate change

CASE STUDIES

PATHWAY A

Build a critical mass of tailored and accessible knowledge

GLOBAL
Making good science more accessible: **CDKN's IPCC initiative**

KENYA
Collecting and packaging scattered data to promote non-motorised transport in **Nairobi**

PERU
Co-producing a learning story with the Ministry of Environment in **Peru**

PATHWAY B

Highlight the extent of climate change impacts on different sectors or groups

UGANDA
Seeking to catalyse investments on adaptation through **Uganda's** economic assessment study

PERU
Analysing the differentiated impacts of climate change on **Peru's** Afro-Peruvian population ~~through inclusive approaches~~

PATHWAY C

Promote the use of ~~participatory,~~ practical tools to facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration to develop responses

NAMIBIA
Linking **Namibia's** 1.5°C portfolio of outputs to ~~solutions-oriented participatory engagement activities and action~~

NEPAL
Using the *Pani Chautari* approach to enable cooperative water resources management in **Nepal**

PATHWAY D

Combine credible knowledge with a range of engagement strategies for long-term change

REGIONAL
Linking knowledge products, capacity building and action on the ground for impact in **Latin America**

NEPAL
~~Using pre- and post-event engagement and accompaniment to result in longer-term impact: **Nepal's** experience~~

NAMIBIA
~~Using a range of engagement strategies to promote action to keep **Namibia's** temperature under a 2°C rise~~

A woman in Nepal cuts lemongrass to be distilled into essential oil. *Chandra Shekhar Karki, CIFOR via Flickr*

CHALLENGE 1

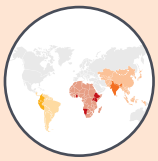
Key stakeholders lack sufficient information about the significance and urgency of climate change

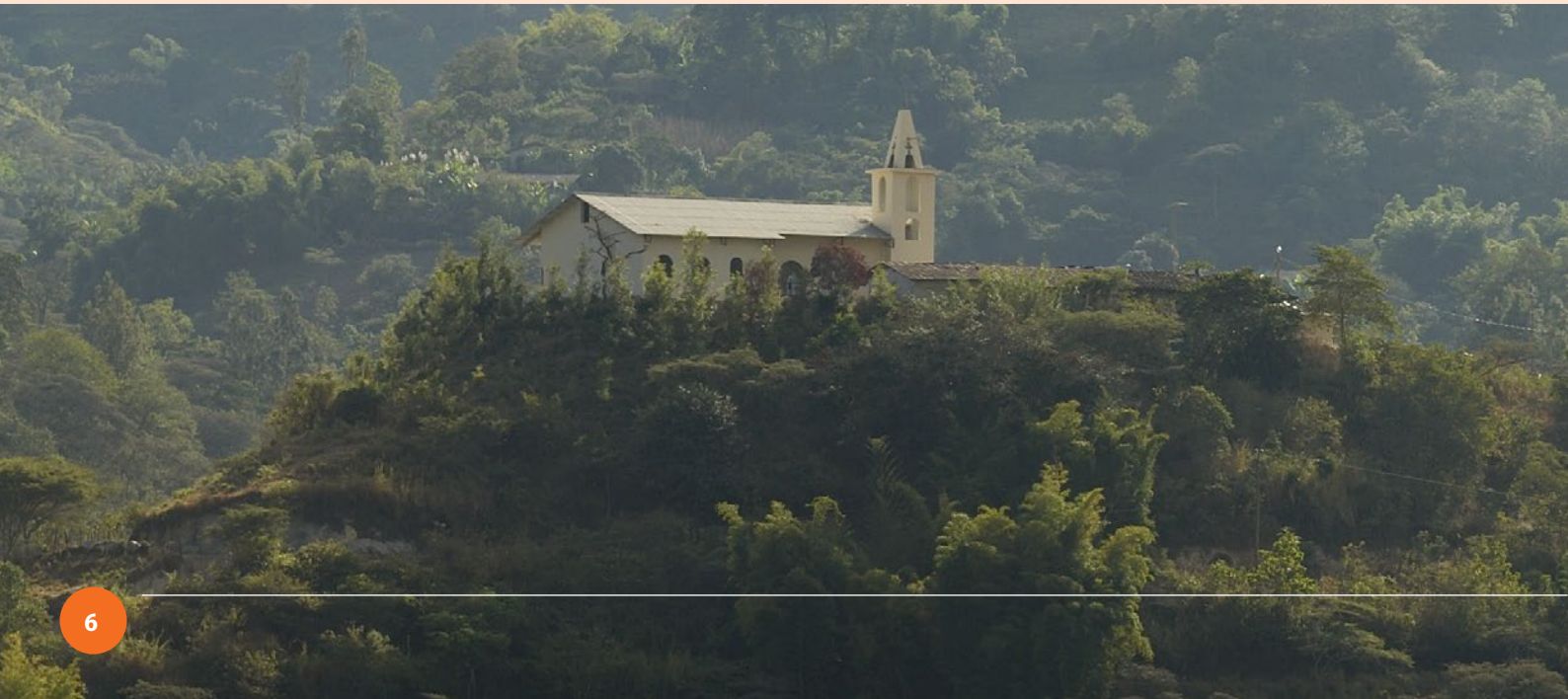
Although awareness of the need to act on climate issues has been increasing and progress is being made in a number of countries, many knowledge brokers report that several stakeholders – including government actors – still do not perceive the urgency or importance of addressing climate issues or integrating them into their planning, decision-making and implementation processes. In many cases, this is partly due to a lack of understandable, relevant and credible knowledge that addresses stakeholders' needs or knowledge gaps.

The pathways in this challenge suggest raising awareness by building a critical mass of knowledge on key issues related to stakeholder priorities, including the impacts of climate change on particular economic sectors or vulnerable groups. However, if knowledge outputs are to result in long-term change, they need to be accompanied by a range of initial and follow-up engagement activities that strengthen relationships, capacities and partnerships, and help to translate ideas into concrete actions. Co-developing possible responses to identified challenges using inclusive and interactive tools can assist in ensuring solutions are jointly owned and contextually appropriate.

PATHWAY
A

Build a critical mass of tailored and accessible knowledge

CASE STUDIES	KEY TAKEAWAYS
 **GLOBAL** Making good science more accessible: **CDKN's IPCC initiative**	1. Empowering others to be climate communicators and equipping them with a range of communications tools to support their work advances knowledge brokering efforts. 2. Making information accessible and relevant to regional actors ensures uptake. This may include translating materials into local languages.
 **KENYA** Collecting and packaging scattered data to promote non-motorised transport in **Nairobi**	1. Engaging with key stakeholders to fill data gaps that they have identified is one way to ensure knowledge will be used. 2. Packaging information in a layered manner (e.g. separate newsletters, comprehensive report) and making information digestible (e.g. by including graphics) and easily reusable facilitate the uptake of knowledge. 3. Providing stakeholder-specific recommendations and indicating necessary follow-up responses make the knowledge actionable.
 **PERU** Co-producing a learning story with the Ministry of Environment in **Peru**	1. Undertaking a collective reflection process to document how gender was mainstreamed in Peru's Nationally Determined Contribution surfaced many lessons that have influenced several subsequent policy-making processes. 2. Working with government partners to produce tailored and evidence-based products can increase their legitimacy and credibility, as well as contribute to achieving greater use and scope upon their completion.



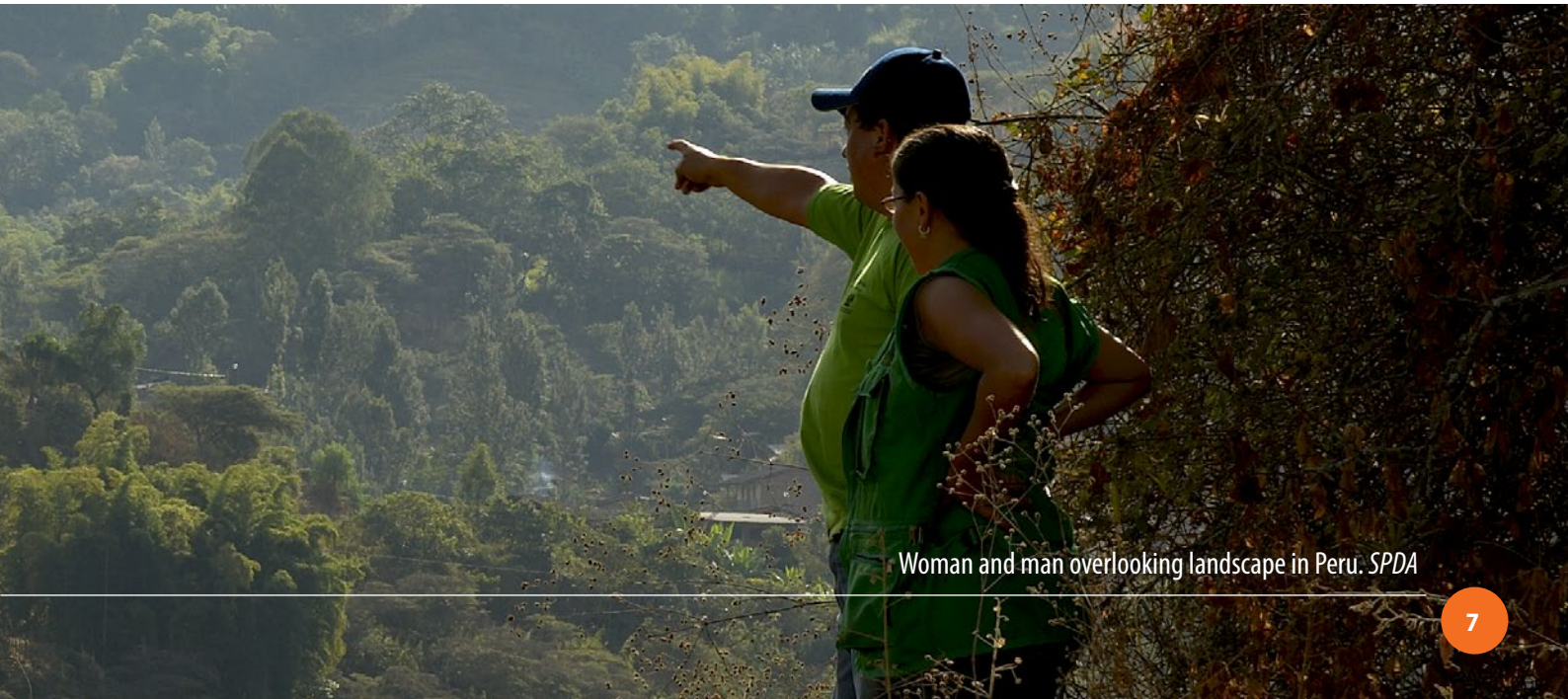
PATHWAY

A

Build a critical mass of tailored and accessible knowledge

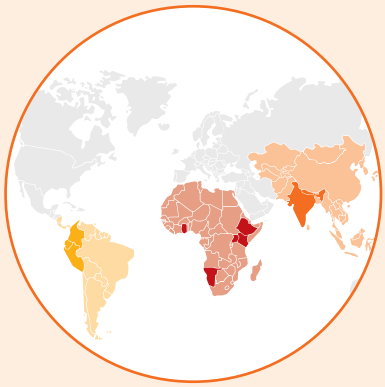
To raise awareness and build knowledge, issues need to be explained in an accessible way.[5] This may include explaining climate concepts pertaining to the latest science, issues that key stakeholders require more information about, or concrete practices that can be applied to address the climate challenge. In most cases, this involves collating, tailoring and translating existing information so that it is fit for purpose. In other cases, responding to specific gaps may require undertaking primary research. Some tips for tailoring and packaging information include:

- **Think about your audience and their needs and priorities**, including the formats they prefer and where they might access information.
- **Undertake a scoping exercise** to help tailor information to users' needs and **produce knowledge outputs collaboratively** with the targeted users or other intermediaries that will help to broker it, to encourage the use of this information.
- **'Layer' the message**. Start with simple, eye-catching headlines, and signpost more complex levels of information and analysis: 5-second read, 60-second read, 10-minute read, 30- to 60-minute read.
- **Produce diverse formats when the budget allows**. Where possible, tell the same story in multiple formats to increase engagement and accessibility for diverse audiences. For example, use text, pictures (e.g. picture galleries, photo essays), slide packs, films and animations, as well as multimedia products that combine all the above.
- **Make content easy to access, easy to use, easy to share**. Make sure content can be readily understood, applied and distributed by your intended audiences. Extensive review and consultation or co-authorship with other knowledge brokers, or the targeted users, can ensure that others are interested and empowered to share material.
- **Produce materials in local languages** to reach a wide variety of local stakeholders, while remembering to consider literacy levels.



Woman and man overlooking landscape in Peru. *SPDA*

GLOBAL



KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Empowering others to be climate communicators and equipping them with a range of communications tools to support their work, advances knowledge brokering efforts.
2. Making information accessible and relevant to regional actors ensures uptake. This may include translating materials into local languages.

CASE STUDY

Making good science more accessible: CDKN's IPCC initiative

Since 2012, CDKN has tailored the latest scientific assessments and special reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to make this information more accessible and relevant for regional actors in Africa, Asia and Latin America. This has entailed CDKN pulling out regionally-specific information dispersed throughout long technical assessments sometimes thousands of pages in length. For example, CDKN worked with IPCC authors from the African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI), to produce a series of factsheets that distil data, trends and analysis from the Africa Chapter of the IPCC Sixth Assessment report most relevant to the continent's five sub-regions: Central Africa, East Africa, North Africa, southern Africa and West Africa. This information is presented in 'communications toolkits' that include regional 'explainer' guides, factsheets, infographics, slide packs and images.[6] The toolkits are supplemented by case studies 'beyond the IPCC science' that contextualise information and share good practice from each sub-region.

▲ Ann Wanjiru shares the innovative work of the Mikoko Pamoja project in Kenya at the CDKN session on the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere at the Africa Climate Risks Conference in Addis Ababa in 2019. *IISD_ENB*

Translating material into multiple languages, including French, Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic, has been a core element of making climate science accessible since most IPCC information is only available in English. In addition to ensuring the reports are applicable to specific sub-regions, CDKN aims to empower climate champions (e.g. educators, journalists, civil society actors and decision-makers) with these communications assets so they can easily share the main IPCC messages. This enables these champions to be knowledge brokers and spread scientific messages even further.

Rather than the toolkits being produced in isolation, these knowledge products have often been accompanied by active outreach and engagement programmes. These aim to share the material through a range of regional events in partnership with national institutions, bringing IPCC scientists into direct dialogue with communications specialists, journalists, development practitioners, private sector investors, government, business leaders and civil society in selected countries.

Tens of thousands of views and downloads have been generated for these toolkits. They have been used by media, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), teachers and private sector organisations worldwide.

▲ A rural women's cooperative in Guinea harvests vitamin-rich Moringa trees, which support biodiversity and prevent soil erosion. *UN Women–Joe Saade*

KENYA

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Engaging with key stakeholders to fill data gaps that they have identified is one way to ensure knowledge will be used.
2. Packaging information in a layered manner (e.g. separate newsletters, comprehensive report) and making information digestible (e.g. by including graphics) and easily reusable facilitate the uptake of knowledge.
3. Providing stakeholder-specific recommendations and indicating necessary follow-up responses make the knowledge actionable.

View more **Kenya** case studies in Challenges ② and ⑥

CASE STUDY

Collecting and packaging scattered data to promote non-motorised transport in Nairobi

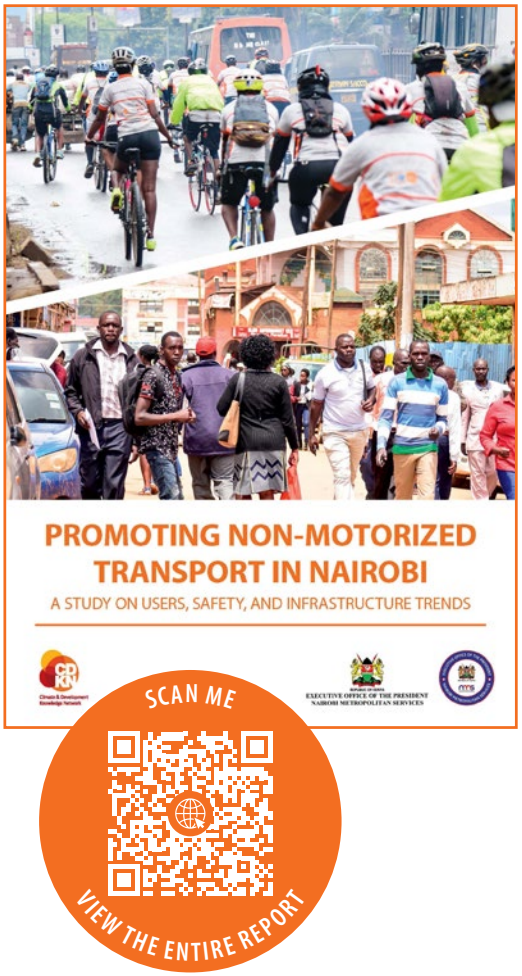
In Nairobi, nearly 50% of all daily trips are made by walking and cycling, particularly by low income earners. Such non-motorised transport (NMT) is challenged by several factors, including: pollution; congestion; poor infrastructure (e.g. limited footpaths, cycling lanes, green space); muggings; and traffic accidents. More than two thirds of fatalities in Nairobi's road accidents involve NMT users, the majority of which are male. Half of these fatal accidents occur on just ten roads in the city.

Between 2020 and 2021, the CDKN team in Kenya collaborated with and assisted the Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) to build a credible and robust evidence base on NMT. In 2022, the functions of the NMS and responsibility for NMT in the city were transferred to the Nairobi City County Governmenty. To fulfil Nairobi's vision of 'making walking the mode of choice', data was urgently required to aid decision-making on where and how to increase NMT facilities as well as to increase accountability of the different government agencies involved.

The CDKN team assisted in filling such data gaps through primary research (e.g. undertaking a survey of users, analysing police crime reports, street design manuals) and synthesising scattered information

▲ Pedestrians cross the road in Nairobi. *Ben Welle, via Flickr CC*

from existing, under-utilised reports. This data was packaged initially as a **series of five short newsletters** focused on specific topics (e.g. air quality, infrastructure, user safety). It was then brought together into one **comprehensive study** that acts as a reference guide. It examines NMT trends and challenges, and provides recommendations targeted at the specific agency mandated to address each issue. Infographics, graphs and tables make the information digestible, easy to share and reuse (e.g. by NMS in their own presentations). The knowledge provided is actionable. It provides a decision-support tool indicating, for instance, the top deadly corridors and when and why most fatalities occur. This gives a clear indication of what needs to happen to make NMT safer.



Given the overload of online information circulating during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the team opted to distribute printed copies of the newsletters to 20 key NMT stakeholders' homes. These were also sent electronically, by email and on the Kenya Transport Research Network WhatsApp group, which has 200 participants from diverse sectors, including key transport government agencies.

The Director General of the NMS hosted the launch of the report in June 2021, which was attended by all directors of the key road agencies in Kenya. The report clearly showed the urgency of the issue and what was needed next. Given its actionability, discussions centred around immediate next steps and implementation.

▲ Lunga lunga Road , Nairobi. *CDKN and Tribesman Pictures*

PERU

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Undertaking a collective reflection process to document how gender was mainstreamed in Peru's Nationally Determined Contribution surfaced many lessons that have influenced several subsequent policy-making processes.
2. Working with government partners to produce tailored and evidence-based products can increase their legitimacy and credibility, as well as contribute to achieving greater use and scope upon their completion.

View more **Peru** case studies in Challenges 2 3 4 and 6

CASE STUDY

Co-producing a learning story with the Ministry of Environment in Peru

Mainstreaming gender in the Peruvian Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was a unique, iterative, learning-by-doing process, which happened concurrently with many other activities tied to developing the NDC. To ensure that this process could be recognised, captured, shared and learned from, the Ministry of Environment and CDKN reflected on how a cross-cutting gender perspective was integrated into the development of Peru's NDC (see this **CDKN Inside Story**).

Internal reflections among the core team about what had worked were accompanied by several interviews with five of the sectoral ministries that contributed to the NDC. These interviews revealed how the process led to improved understanding, better interpretation and the application of new knowledge. They also recognised the value of working inter-sectorally, which strengthened capacities on gender and climate issues, as well as on the process of collaboratively developing the NDC.

▲ Participants in gender training undertaken as part of designing a mainstreaming methodology for gender, intercultural and intergenerational approaches in the NDC. *Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM)*

▲ Indigenous women participating in "Let's talk about the NDC" participatory dialogue process, which convened more than 1,500 key actors to discuss different aspects of Peru's NDC. *Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM)*

INSIDE STORY

Climate & Development Knowledge Network

March 2021

Key messages

- Peru is making significant progress in integrating gender approaches in the country's climate change adaptation and mitigation activities. It is doing so via a participatory process involving five government ministries that play a priority role in climate action: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, and Ministry of Energy and Mining.
- Between 2014 and 2019, progress was made through four distinct stages, each with its own complexity in terms of practical application. Each stage also required capacity-building for the various professional teams responsible for each task.
- As a result of this effort, 58% of climate change adaptation measures now include a gender perspective and have action plans and roadmaps. The next step involves the effective implementation and reporting of these measures in each sector.
- The challenge going forward is to include gender approaches in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation actions at regional and local levels. There is also a need to keep generating data at these levels in a way that supports timely feedback.

Authors:
Jessica Huertas Campoverde, Nadia Alanya Vilca, Gabriela López Sotomayor and Sandra Isola Elías.

Editing and review:
María José Pacha, Gabriela Villamarín, Mairi Dupar and Lisa McNamara (CDKN).

Integrating gender in Peru's Nationally Determined Contribution

This inside story describes how Peru incorporated a cross-cutting gender perspective into the development of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). It highlights key steps in the process and lessons learned.

Gender equity in Peru

Gender equity is not only fundamental for the development of societies and their respective economies, it is also a matter of human rights and social justice.

In 2019, Peru ranked 66 (out of 153) on the Global Gender Gap Index.[1] This index measures the parity between men and women in economics, education, health and politics. A score of 1.0 would signify total parity between the sexes, and 0 signifies total lack of parity. The higher the number, the higher the gender equality in a country. Peru progressed from a gender equality score of 0.66 in 2006 to 0.71 in 2020. Nonetheless, there are still areas where significant further progress is needed, namely in economic participation and political empowerment.

Nationally, awareness has increased about the inequalities faced by women in Peru today. Thus, the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI) has published a Gender Inequality Index in Peru (on a scale from 0 to 1) that explores the relative situation of women compared to men. This indicator is based on three areas: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.

Contrary to the Global Gender Gap Index, for this Peruvian national index, the higher the value, the more inequality and, therefore, the greater the loss for human development. The Gender Inequality Index for 2017 was 0.386.[2] Although it has gone down compared to the year 2000 (0.526), there is still much room for improvement in each area.

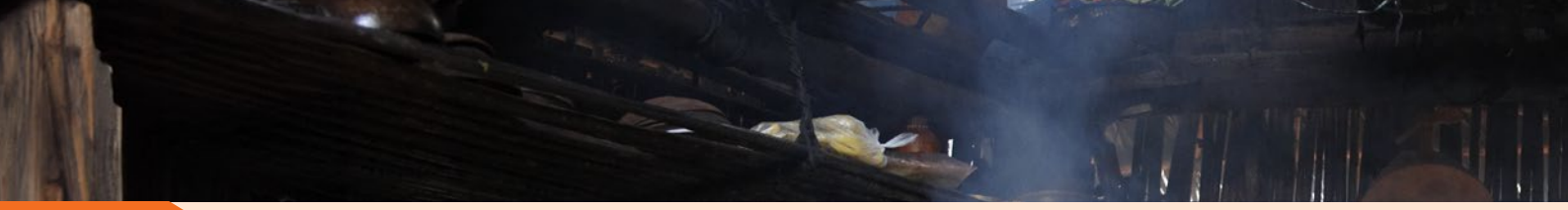
Specifically, it appears that the participation of women in the labour market has experienced rapid growth, which makes it possible to foresee that gender gaps in this area will diminish. However, it remains true that women are paid less for a working day than men. In addition, the study indicates high labour participation of rural women in economic activity (70.6%), especially in subsistence agriculture, but with no labour rights or benefits. With regard to the illiteracy rate, the gap between men's illiteracy (7.4%) and women's illiteracy (16.9%) in rural areas remains

SCAN ME

VIEW THE ENTIRE CDKN INSIDE STORY

Not only was this learning and documentation process critical as a legacy for the Ministry of Environment, but it also had important national and regional consequences. The 2021 revision of the National Climate Change Strategy drew heavily on these experiences and lessons, as did the **National Policy for the Afro-Peruvian Population**, which was developed by the Ministry of Culture and seeks to increase inclusivity across gender, cultures and generations. Regionally, neighbouring countries seeking to mainstream gender and climate issues were eager to learn from Peru's experience and a **peer learning event** was organised between the Ministry of Environment specialists in 2019.

▲ Participants in "Let's talk about the NDC" participatory dialogue process. *Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM)*



PATHWAY
B

Highlight the extent of climate change impacts on different sectors or groups

CASE STUDIES

UGANDA
Seeking to catalyse investments on adaptation through **Uganda's** economic assessment study

PERU
Analysing the differentiated impacts of climate change on **Peru's** Afro-Peruvian population ~~through inclusive approaches~~

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Producing a study that highlights the economic costs of action versus inaction on climate change adaptation is one way to generate interest and support from government, donors and civil society.
2. Posing the right research questions at the right time can encourage interest and support from government, donors and civil society for specific evidence to inform decision-making.
3. Engaging regularly with key political actors and decision-makers – including senior and mid-level technocrats – is needed to build trust and obtain buy-in for new knowledge and evidence.

1. Analysing specific, differentiated climate change impacts faced by distinct climate-affected groups – such as Afro-Peruvian populations in Peru – can equip public officials to better engage these groups in policy processes.
2. Using an inclusive approach to co-developing research, such as with the active role of Afro-Peruvian individuals in the data collection, contributed to their increased participation in other policy-making processes.

PATHWAY

B

Highlight the extent of climate change impacts on different sectors or groups

Analysing the extent of climate change impacts on different sectors and communities, such as those considered vulnerable, can help to create a sense of urgency. This should include economic costs. This analysis is particularly vital for stakeholders outside of the environmental sector (e.g. planning, development, finance sectors) who are likely to respond more readily to quantified economic costs or to impacts on sections of the electorate. Such analysis can prompt discussions on the responses needed, which may include: providing actionable solutions and driving investments to address actual or potential losses; addressing policy issues at national level; or undertaking local actions.

Women cooking on an open fire in Peru. *SPDA*

UGANDA

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Producing a study that highlights the economic costs of action versus inaction on climate change adaptation is one way to generate interest and support from government, donors and civil society.
2. Posing the right research questions at the right time can encourage interest and support from government, donors and civil society for specific evidence to inform decision-making.
3. Engaging regularly with key political actors and decision-makers – including senior and mid-level technocrats – is needed to build trust and obtain buy-in for new knowledge and evidence.

CASE STUDY

Seeking to catalyse investments on adaptation through Uganda's economic assessment study

Between 2013 and 2015, CDKN partnered with Uganda's Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) to support a study on the economic impacts of climate change. The aim was to build a case for incorporating climate change into national development policy and planning processes and increase resource allocation for and investment in climate adaptation. The study sought to generate evidence across four sectors of the Ugandan economy – agriculture, water, energy and infrastructure – and through five local case studies.

The **study's main message** was that the 'cost of inaction' on climate change in Uganda was 20 to 24 times higher than the cost of action and adaptation, which was estimated at US$273–427 billion. It also provided costs for not pursuing adaptation across different sectors.

The study process and results enabled the MWE to strengthen the case for mainstreaming climate change in the national development planning process. Owing to the evidence generated, deeper conversations were enabled with the Finance Ministry and the National Planning Authority, which at that time was preparing Uganda's Second National Development Plan (NDP II). In addition to informing NDP II, research from the study informed the country's intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) and a number of sectoral plans. The study results also informed the preparation of project proposals for accessing climate change finance from international agencies and donors. Furthermore, the MWE's climate change unit was transformed into a department.

Several enabling factors contributed to the study's success:

- The study coincided with national events tied to the development of the INDC and NDP, as well as the recent completion of Uganda's National Climate Change Policy. It helped the Climate Change Department strengthen the case for mainstreaming climate change in these plans, demonstrating how timing can be catalytic for raising interest in and support for an issue, especially if it coincides with major global and national processes and events.

- Both the CDKN country coordinator and the main international consultant appointed to carry out the economic assessment were based in Uganda and had ongoing access to key stakeholders (e.g. political actors, decision-makers). This facilitated continuous engagement, which helped to build trust, and gain high-level support and buy-in for the new knowledge and evidence.
- The MWE supported the project, which helped to sell the project idea and its results to other sectors.
- Packaging the results in user-friendly and accessible outputs (e.g. a high-level **summary booklet**, a **documentary**) was also critical to the uptake of the results, especially given the highly technical nature of the main consultant reports.

> Now with these costs in hand, I can go to the Ministry of Finance and make the case for programmes with genuine benefits. That is why it's important to do these studies."
>
> *– Hon. Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu, the then Minister of Water and Environment, Uganda, speaking at the COP20 Uganda side event*

▲ A restored water pump in Uganda. *Trust for Africa's Orphans, via Flickr CC BY-NC-ND 2.0*

PERU

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Analysing specific, differentiated climate change impacts faced by distinct climate-affected groups – such as Afro-Peruvian populations in Peru - can equip public officials to better engage these groups in policy processes.
2. Using an inclusive approach to co-developing research, such as with the active role of Afro-Peruvian individuals in the data collection, contributed to their increased participation in other policy-making processes.

View more **Peru** case studies in Challenges 2 3 4 and 6

CASE STUDY

Analysing the differentiated impacts of climate change on Peru's Afro-Peruvian population ~~through inclusive approaches~~

Peru's Ministry of Environment has prioritised working with and including the views of different interest groups in the development of national policies, plans and strategies related to climate change and adaptation. To achieve this, interest groups participate in the National Climate Change Commission. These include some better resourced interest groups, such as academic and private actors. They also include vulnerable groups such as Indigenous people, Afro-Peruvians, young people and women. These groups are impacted disproportionately by climate change due to their socio-economic, political, cultural or institutional marginalisation.

Of these groups, Afro-Peruvians were already recognised for having historical inequalities, alongside being excluded from and discriminated against with regards to access to services or the exercise of certain rights. However, the impacts of climate change on this population were neither obvious, nor documented. CDKN partnered with the Ministry of Environment, which leads the climate change agenda, the Ministry of Culture, which has the mandate to promote cultural diversity and support the country's different ethnic groups, and the Working Group of the Afro-Peruvian People, which is composed of 80 civil society organisations that ensure the participation of this group in public policy-making across the country. Together, they coordinated a study on the impacts of climate change on Afro-Peruvians. They also added a generational and gender lens to look at the differentiated vulnerabilities of women and the various age groups within this population.

As part of the study, focus group discussions and interviews were undertaken with and by Afro-Peruvians. The findings were analysed and represented in an **infographic**, which shows the heightened vulnerabilities and impacts faced by this group. Afro-Peruvians' involvement in the study, their increasing participation in the National Climate Change Commission and training on integrated climate change management have resulted in their empowerment in ways that extend beyond the climate change arena, including

▲ Women cutting reeds in Peru. *SPDA*

their playing a more active role in decision-making. For example, based on the study results and with the support of the Ministry of Culture, they have been providing elements to be included in the elaboration of the national policy for the Afro-Peruvian population. The group's views have also been sought and included in agrarian policy, because farming is the main economic activity for Afro-Peruvians and it is also under threat from the changing climate.

To further this process, a **methodological guide** on how to engage Afro-Peruvians in climate change participatory processes was developed to support public officials and regional authorities in subnational governments. The Ministry of Environment has mainly national-level offices and staff. They therefore work closely with regional governments to provide them with assistance, capacity and guidance on how to implement actions on the ground.

SCAN ME
VIEW THE ENTIRE INFOGRAPHIC

PATHWAY

C

Promote the use of participatory, practical tools to facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration to develop responses

CASE STUDIES

NAMIBIA

Linking **Namibia's** 1.5°C portfolio of outputs to ~~solutions-oriented participatory engagement activities and action~~

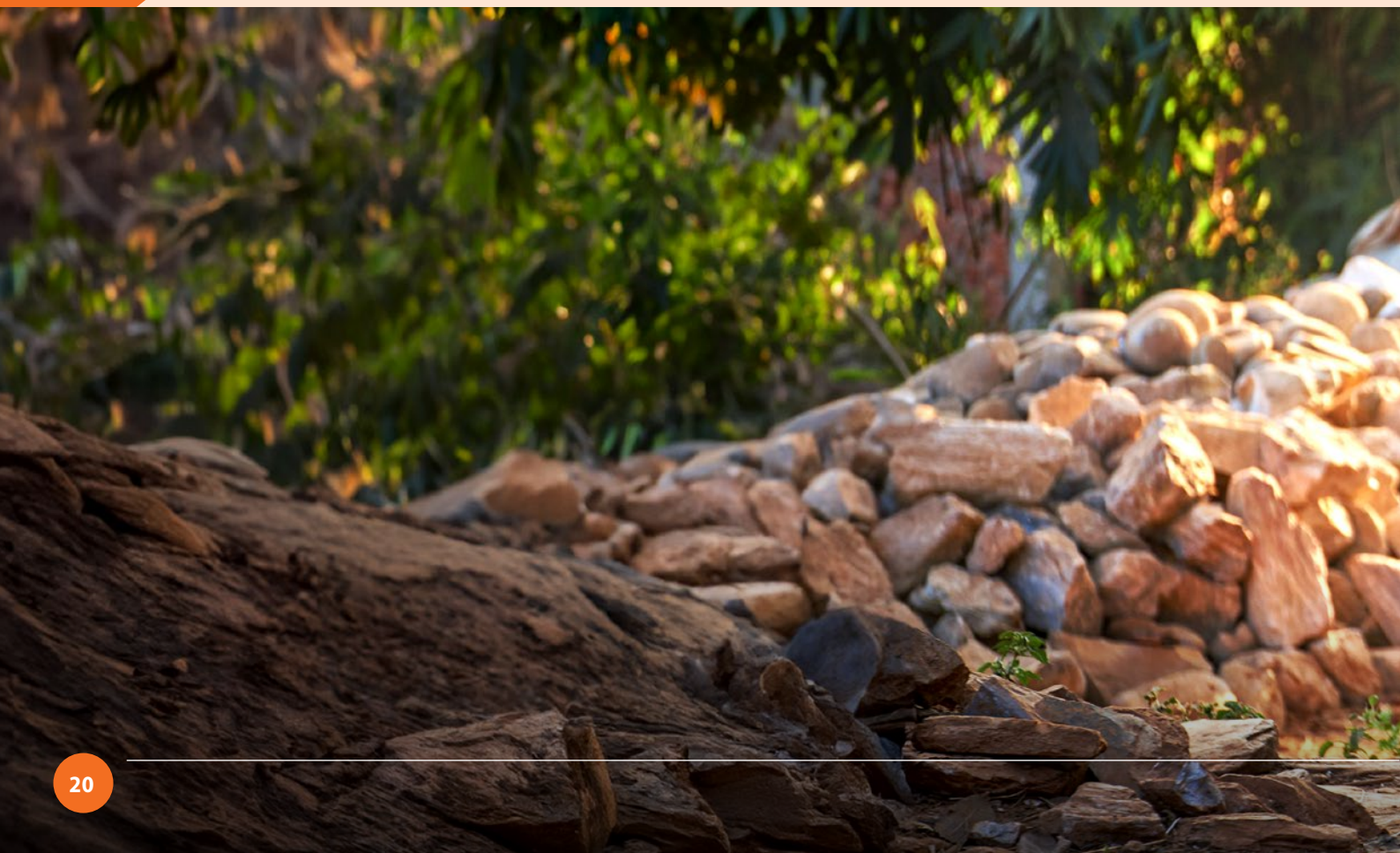
KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Combining knowledge outputs with participatory tools aimed at developing inclusive, climate-resilient responses to climate change challenges is critical to bridging the knowledge-to-action gap.
2. Using vulnerability and risk assessments (VRAs) in an intentional way can help to shift power dynamics by providing a platform for traditionally unheard voices. Such platforms can lead to changed perceptions of the value of different knowledge types, an increased sense of agency by marginalised stakeholders and a shift in the way decisions are made.
3. Using VRAs strengthens relationships and networks across scales, but to be sustainable, the workshops need to be part of a longer-term process that helps to take the issues forward.

NEPAL

Using the *Pani Chautari* approach to enable cooperative water resources management in **Nepal**

1. Establishing platforms for multi-stakeholder, evidence-informed dialogues like the *Pani Chautari* in Nepal, holds great potential for a diversity of knowledge types and actors to explore interventions that can address shared challenges.
2. Holding informal discussions with the Dhulikhel municipality about the value of using research for improved policy processes and demonstrating the benefits of a co-creation platform like the *Pani Chautari*, showed the value of institutional, process-focused solutions, as a complement to engineering infrastructural ones.



PATHWAY

C

Promote the use of participatory, practical tools that ~~facilitate~~ multi-stakeholder collaboration ~~to develop responses to challenges~~

Knowledge alone does not lead to changes in decisions or actions. Once a sense of urgency has been established, through a critical mass of relevant knowledge, responses to the challenges faced should be developed in inclusive, interactive, collaborative ways. Numerous participatory formats and tools exist to facilitate engagement of different sectoral actors (e.g. government, civil society, private sector) and knowledge types (e.g. traditional, experiential and academic). Bringing together varied perspectives can lead to the co-development of more apt solutions, along with strengthened ownership and relationships between actors.

Nepalese woman carries huge wicker basket on her back on a Bandipur street, Nepal. *AdobeStock*

NAMIBIA

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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View more **Namibia** case studies in Challenges 2 4 and 6

CASE STUDY

Linking Namibia's 1.5°C portfolio of outputs to ~~solutions-oriented participatory engagement activities and action~~

In Namibia, the Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR) project sought to understand the factors that make people vulnerable to climate change, and the barriers to and enablers of more effective and sustained climate change adaptation. A team of researchers and practitioners joined forces to research and explain the impact of a 1.5°C or warmer world on different national resources and productive sectors. The key findings indicated that Namibia's temperatures are rising faster than the global average, causing reduced and more erratic rainfall and more extreme weather events. This has impacts on water supply, agriculture, health and biodiversity.

A series of targeted outputs aimed at different audiences were produced to disseminate the findings. The University of Namibia developed an initial **brief** in English (targeted at central government stakeholders). It was translated into **Oshiwambo** (for subnational government actors) and then simplified as an **infographic** and made available as a poster in both languages and put on display in several subnational government offices for a broader audience to access. An **animation** of the graphic was also produced, focusing on the impacts of 2°C global warming on Namibia's different economic sectors, particularly due to the threats to water security.

The brief has had significant ramifications, opening the door for dialogue at multiple levels and showing all stakeholders the urgency of responding swiftly. While its results were immediately used as a justification for urgent climate action in numerous funding proposals, their uptake in policy and action required the project team to undertake a range of follow-up activities that are still ongoing. In addition to simplifying and tailoring the evidence for a range of different audiences, these have included intensive engagement with actors from national to local levels.

One of the most powerful tools that the team used was the **vulnerability and risk assessment** (VRA). With the ultimate objective of making planning and decision-making more equitable, the VRA seeks to increase the agency of those whose voices are traditionally not heard in such processes.[7] In the format of a two-day workshop, the VRA helps participants from different governance levels develop a common understanding of the main hazards and issues affecting different social groups in a particular geographic area, to identify opportunities and responses to increase resilience and well-being. Through a participatory process, stakeholders identify and prioritise current and future vulnerabilities, risks, capacities and ambitions, while proactively proposing ways to move forward.

The process brings together different knowledge types and enables diverse voices to be heard through different participatory approaches that include a combination of plenary and small group discussions, and the establishment of an atmosphere of mutual trust. It increases an understanding of the local context from multiple perspectives and helps to narrow power differentials.[8] For example, an agricultural sector official at a VRA workshop in northern Namibia was surprised at how knowledgeable and competent local farmers were. Such shifts in perception can open up avenues for new ways of interacting and taking decisions, as well as give marginalised stakeholders a sense of empowerment.

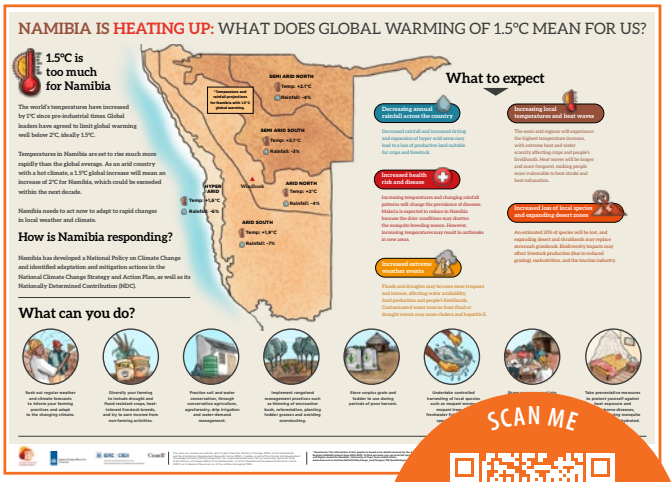
Convening diverse stakeholders through a process that fosters collaboration and an understanding of each other's points of views means that solutions that are jointly developed are more varied than those traditionally proposed to address development challenges. Inevitably, given the participation of vulnerable groups, collaborative processes are inclusive and often address issues that were previously unknown. VRAs can create a safe and informal space for discussion, which builds relationships, networks and an enhanced appreciation of issues across scales. To be successful, a VRA needs to be part of a longer-term process that can advance the issues raised in the workshop and continue strengthening the relationships developed.

In Namibia, the project team trained the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPESW) staff in the use of the tool to assist them to include climate considerations in the income generating projects they foster and to identify the most vulnerable as beneficiaries of their grants for such activities.

In northern Namibia, the VRA was used to promote action and collaboration between community members and regional and local scales of government as they jointly brainstormed inclusive measures to reduce risk and enhance adaptation for different regions. Combining the VRA with capacity strengthening on climate issues for regional-level stakeholders and workshops to develop climate-resilient pathways, opened the door for stakeholders to develop tailored climate-resilient responses that considered the vulnerabilities of different social groups and strengthened their adaptive capacities.

▲ A collaborative stakeholder workshop in Namibia. *Birgit Ottermann, ASSAR*

> "I used to think my ideas weren't worthwhile. Now I think I can make changes in my life and I know it is possible."
>
> *– Elderly basket weaver participant in VRA*



NEPAL

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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View more **Nepal** case studies in Challenges 2 5 6 and 7

CASE STUDY

Using the *Pani Chautari* approach to enable cooperative water resources management in Nepal

In recent decades, many Himalayan towns in Nepal have suffered from water scarcity due to rising urbanisation and development that is the result of increasing land use change, tourism and service activities. Dhulikhel, a small hill town about 30 km from Kathmandu, has faced rising conflict with rural upstream communities as water supply in the Roshi River catchment has become threatened by a combination of declining precipitation levels, and increasing water demand due to population growth and economic development.

In this highly contested environment, decisions were being taken based on partial knowledge and prejudices guided by stakeholder interests and positions. The city's first response to water scarcity was to develop infrastructural engineering solutions. However, recent years have seen an increasing realisation that these measures are costly, energy intensive and often only bring short-term relief.

In this context, the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS), which was interested in undertaking action research in the area, began to engage the city leadership through meetings, discussions and joint visits to other projects, including to India. During these, they informally discussed how research could contribute to the policy process, and how Dhulikhel could become a shining example of managing water through institutional solutions.

Between November 2016 and February 2020, SIAS, in collaboration with the Dhulikhel municipality, undertook a series of multi-stakeholder evidence-informed dialogues called *Pani Chautari*. The *Pani Chautari* sought to find solutions to Dhulikhel's water challenges. It was formed as a platform for collaborative urban water management that enabled government leaders, water users, researchers and the private sector to be involved in discussions and dialogues aimed at influencing the policy process and addressing water-related challenges.

The **Pani Chautari** comprises a series of four steps. It starts with the identification of water-related issues. These may include: problems faced by water users; challenges the water management bodies confront; issues identified through the SIAS research; or the vision and priorities of the local government.

The second step involves generating knowledge or evidence on identified issues. Literature reviews, field visits, interviews and analyses at multiple levels can provide a range of scientific quantitative data and evidence on water availability and access, as well as on water governance aspects, such as contestation over water sources. In Dhulikhel, the evidence generated from research by SIAS provided stakeholders with an understanding of the root causes of water scarcity.

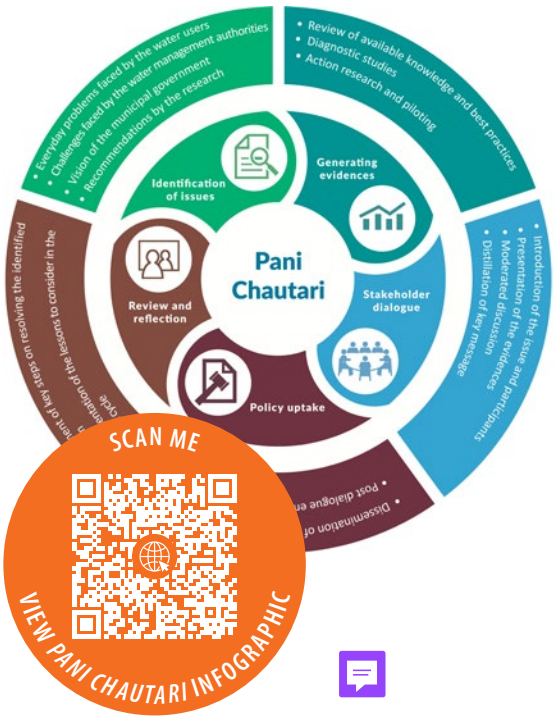
These causes include the impacts of climate change, changing agriculture patterns and rapid urbanisation on water management in the town. Studies included the assessment of the potential for groundwater recharge in Dhulikhel, and an estimation of the change in precipitation patterns and stream flows, which has resulted in prolonged dry spells and led to the depletion of local springs.

Once the research is compiled, the third step becomes critical. Evidence is shared at a multi-stakeholder dialogue: the *Pani Chautari*. Research results are presented in a simple and visual way, using several vernacular languages, and are packaged in various formats to improve the effectiveness and engagement strategy with participants. Bringing together varied stakeholders with multiple sources of knowledge (e.g. scientific, experience-based), raising awareness through sharing best practices from other cities and identifying action points based on discussion, were some of the strategies adopted in Dhulikhel to strengthen stakeholder engagement. Several participatory tools, such as different formats of group work ranging from panel and round-table discussions, to group activities, help stakeholders broaden their understanding and views of the issues, so that joint solutions can be reached collaboratively. These may include the identification of low-cost, alternative solutions to hard infrastructure.

The fourth and final step involves disseminating the outcomes through well-documented dialogue reports, the news media, joint press releases (issued by the municipality and SIAS), blogs and opinion articles. More importantly, post-event engagement and follow-up with stakeholders to prioritise the issue and discuss different policy options was a critical factor in the success of the *Pani Chautari* process in Dhulikhel. This was made possible through individual discussions and formal and informal meetings with related stakeholders, particularly the municipal authorities and those who would benefit from a potential policy change.

Through all these activities, the town leadership gradually reached common ground with the researchers, seeking technical input and advice on the issue of water management and strategic planning. They jointly conducted various consultations and identified local solutions such as the protection of local water resources, recharge of groundwater and other collaborative approaches to develop a robust water security plan for the region. The municipality also started investing its own resources in producing quality research and requested different studies to make informed decisions. At the same time, the researchers became increasingly committed to the city's issues and policy processes, moving beyond the purely academic exercise of pursuing published knowledge.

▲ Field visit of farmers Nepal. *LI-BIRD*



▲ A Water Forum in Dhulikhel. *SIAS*

PATHWAY
D

Combine credible knowledge with a range of engagement strategies for long-term change

CASE STUDIES

REGIONAL

Linking knowledge products, capacity building and action on the ground for impact in **Latin America**

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Approaching training activities as part of a more holistic engagement process that includes follow-up actions can pave the way for longer-term change.
2. Providing seed funding to selected participants of a climate communications course strengthened their capacities and led to concrete action on the ground, multiplying the impact of their activities as they reached diverse publics.

NEPAL

~~Using pre- and post-event engagement and accompaniment to result in longer-term impact:~~ **Nepal's** experience

1. Ensuring the success of multi-stakeholder platforms can take many forms. Holding pre-workshop meetings can help participants reach a common understanding about issues to be addressed and build rapport and trust so that different types of stakeholders feel comfortable to voice their concerns in the actual events.
2. Organising post-workshop meetings with strategic stakeholders helps implement the decisions made during a workshop.
3. Holding informal engagements is as important as organising formal meetings and paves the way for relationship building.
4. Co-producing outcomes of meetings with stakeholders enhances ownership and a sense of responsibility.
5. Encouraging the media to report on success stories increases the recognition of local efforts and stakeholders.

NAMIBIA

~~Using a range of engagement strategies to promote action to keep **Namibia's** temperature under a 2°C rise~~

1. Using a range of different stakeholder engagement activities builds on the momentum created by credible and relevant knowledge products and ensures follow-up action occurs. Activities can range from local to national levels, targeting a breadth of stakeholders and taking on several different formats and approaches.
2. Raising the awareness of parliamentarians on climate change issues can influence budgetary allocations and action on these matters.

PATHWAY

D

Combine credible knowledge with a range of engagement strategies for long-term change

The examples above demonstrate how user-friendly outputs that present salient, credible evidence are critical to attract the attention of key stakeholders and raise awareness of climate issues and their potential solutions. However, unless outputs are accompanied by actions aimed at helping to disseminate the knowledge and assisting key stakeholders to respond to the issues, they can remain unused. For long-term change, continual engagement is needed with government and other stakeholders at different levels, both national and local. This is achieved through formal and informal conversations, participatory activities aimed at developing solutions, capacity strengthening and technical input. These approaches can illustrate how climate change impacts broader government objectives and how to integrate climate factors in decision-making. Networking, advocacy to get issues across and tactical partnerships are all elements of a broader knowledge brokering strategy to promote the mainstreaming of climate issues.

A woman on a boat in Pokhara, Nepal. *AdobeStock*

REGIONAL

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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View more **Regional – Latin America** case studies in Challenges 4 and 5

CASE STUDY

Linking knowledge products, capacity strengthening and action on the ground for impact in Latin America

CDKN's **practitioner guide for communicating climate change** shares the experiences of CDKN's partners in the global South on how best to communicate climate issues. Topics covered include: understanding and engaging with target audiences; framing issues adequately and creatively; using partnerships for impact; and ensuring a variety of voices are heard. In 2020, following the guide's translation into Spanish, CDKN's Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA) team partnered with a number of regional networks working to enhance knowledge for climate action. The partnership aimed to deliver an online **course on climate change communications**, based on the contents of the guide.

Although the course was a success, with the seven weekly modules attended by an average of 500 people from 28 countries, the FFLA team was convinced that capacity strengthening alone is insufficient for change and needs to be part of a holistic engagement process that includes follow-up actions. A seed fund of US$ 2,000 was therefore made available to five participants (out of 100 applicants) to implement a climate communications strategy in their work areas, applying the learnings from the course. In addition to strengthening the capacities of small organisations on the ground, the seed funding also contributed to creating more locally meaningful and impactful actions and reached several diverse publics. After the successful implementation of these five projects, FFLA decided to provide additional funding of US$ 5,000 to scale up the work in 2021.

In Chile, a local NGO interviewed children and teenagers living in a marginalised, industrial area on the impacts of pollution on their lives, with the idea of increasing their voice and participation in climate policy issues. As a result of the interactions with the children, which were informed by experts on infancy issues, **three videos** – using puppets – were produced based on these stories. At the launch of this advocacy tool, which brought unheard voices to the fore, the impact of environmental health issues on children was presented for inclusion in local decision-makers' agendas.

In Colombia, the organisation ClimaLab produced a series of **visual portraits of the countryside**, looking at women of different ages to create a documentary that shows the imperative role of farmers in ensuring food security for urban areas and the gendered impacts of climate change on their activities. A shorter version of the documentary was shortlisted among the top 10 out of 500 entries in an international film festival, bringing recognition to the often-forgotten role and plight of vulnerable farmers. A second phase has focused specifically on **coffee-producing women farmers**.

In Argentina, a group of female researchers bridged the science-policy gap and brought attention to the role of women in research. They increased the accessibility and understandability of **different studies** that aimed to add a gender and climate-compatible lens to local river basin management, which had to date been ignored. This was done using different infographics, user-friendly reports and communications tools that presented personal stories alongside the academic results, as well as workshops and direct engagements, which sought the commitment of decision-makers on the issue.

Curso Comunicando el Cambio Climático de manera efectiva

Comunicando el cambio climático: Una guía para profesionales
Perspectivas de África, Asia y América Latina

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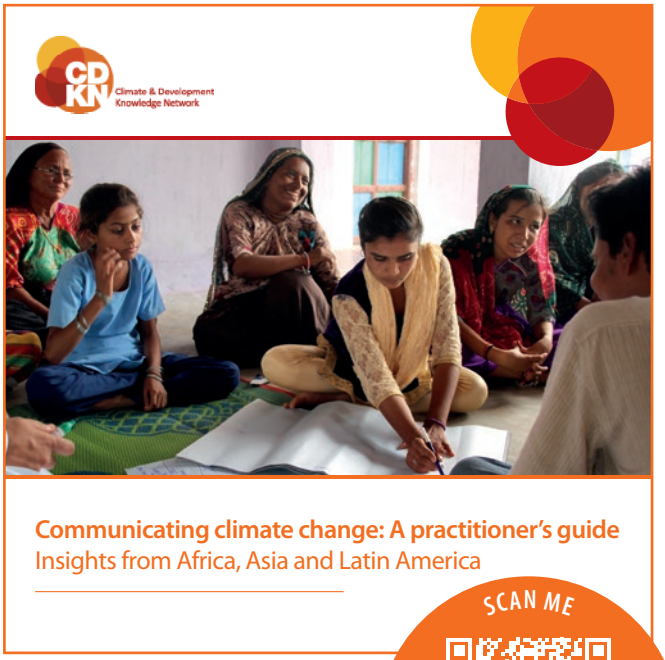

Communicating climate change: A practitioner's guide
Insights from Africa, Asia and Latin America

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ALSO AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

NEPAL

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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2. Organising post-workshop meetings with strategic stakeholders helps implement the decisions made during a workshop.
3. Holding informal engagements is as important as organising formal meetings and paves the way for relationship building.
4. Co-producing outcomes of meetings with stakeholders enhances ownership and a sense of responsibility.
5. Encouraging the media to report on success stories increases the recognition of local efforts and stakeholders.

View more **Nepal** case studies in Challenges 2 5 6 and 7

CASE STUDY

Using pre- and post-event engagement and accompaniment to result in longer-term impact

Pani Chautari workshops would normally conclude with a decision on a particular action intervention, in the practice or policy domain. This would require follow-up meetings with those responsible for the implementation of such measures (e.g. deputy mayors, engineers). Also, to adequately plan the *Pani Chautari,* determine the issues to be discussed during the dialogues, as well as ensure quality engagement from different stakeholders, the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) conducted several informal meetings with key actors including municipal authorities, NGOs, research institutes, etc. SIAS also conducted a number of pre- and post-*Pani Chautari* meetings in Bidur and Dhulikhel to inform key actors about important issues and insights from the research and to realise the ideas discussed in the forums, given that often people can be quiet and formal in such events, leaving issues unaddressed.

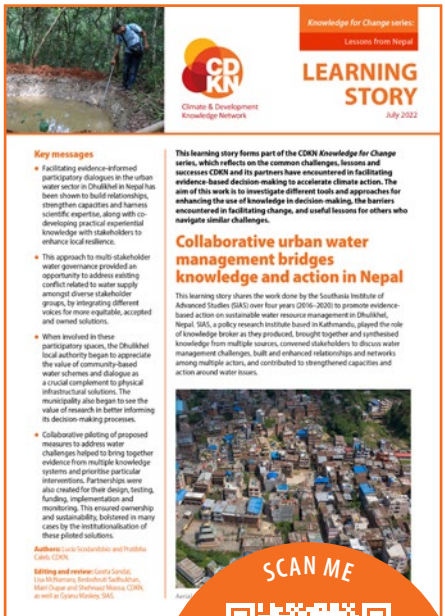
▲ Mayor of Dhulikhel Municipality presenting his remarks during Dhulikhel Water Forum- Series VI. *SIAS*

▲ A review and reflection meeting in Dhulikhel as part of the *Pani Chautari* process. *SIAS*

These customised meetings were successful in building understanding and rapport with stakeholders and making them comfortable enough to participate in the larger dialogues. SIAS also ensured that suggestions and issues raised during these pre- or post-event meetings were addressed or raised during the *Pani Chautari*. Such gestures helped in building trust among different stakeholders as well as eliminating biased approaches and mindsets. Many of the meetings were of an informal nature, such as drinking a cup of tea together while discussing issues and devising ways to bring the solutions discussed in the *Pani Chautari* to life.

Stakeholders were also involved in co-producing knowledge products such as publishing articles and policy briefs that improved the quality of engagement as well as built a sense of responsibility among the stakeholders. Detailed proceedings, reports and policy briefs outlining key messages and proposed solutions were outlets to disseminate the insights, lessons and recommendations targeting different audiences and seeking to result in policy uptake.

The involvement of local media was an effective strategy to ensure that stakeholders, especially local community leaders and decision-makers, got recognition for their efforts. For example, SIAS commissioned **a video** about the *Pani Chautari* process that was disseminated on Nepali national television and brought attention to the successful measures being undertaken in the town to address climate-resilient water management.



NAMIBIA

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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2. Raising the awareness of parliamentarians on climate change issues can influence budgetary allocations and action on these matters.

View more **Namibia** case studies in Challenges 2 4 and 6

CASE STUDY

Using a range of engagement strategies to promote action to keep Namibia's temperature under a 2°C rise

In Namibia, the team used a portfolio of methods to yield results depending on the target audience. They prioritised **participatory tools**, such as the VRA, and they developed a range of engagement strategies encompassing both communications and capacity-strengthening activities. These included: radio shows to make full use of available research findings and disseminate these to a wider public; training and collaborations with journalists to ensure appropriate coverage of research results; a range of awareness raising activities that included innovative experiential learning tools designed for low literacy environments or youth; and a school competition for students to come up with climate-resilient measures at community level. A wide range of actors were engaged, and a broad constituency for support and action was built through these diverse tools.

In August 2021, the team undertook to raise the awareness and understanding of two of Namibia's **parliamentary standing committees**: Management of Natural Resources, and Economics and Public Accounts. Through a short course, parliamentarians learned about the implications of a 1.5°C rise for the country's productive sectors, what responses are required and what Namibia has committed to through international climate change agreements. Attracting the National Assembly's attention via the Executive Director of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism helped to obtain more buy-in for the course, which successfully created a new appreciation of the diverse impacts of climate change and the urgent need to act. It is hoped that in the long term, engaging these parliamentary committees will influence budgetary allocations to climate issues as well as critical decisions about projects that may have detrimental impacts on the environment and carbon emissions.

▲ Namibian parliamentarians attend a climate training course. *UNAM*

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6. All toolkits are available on the CDKN website and are free to use under a Creative Commons licence. See: **www.cdkn.org/ar6-africa** (2022); **www.cdkn.org/landreport** (2020); **www.cdkn.org/oceanreport** (2019); **https://cdkn.org/ipccs-fifth-assessment-report-whats-it** (2014); and **www.cdkn.org/srex** (2012).

7. Morchain, D., Spear, D., Ziervogel, G., et al. (2019), 'Building transformative capacity in Southern Africa: surfacing knowledge and challenging structures through participatory vulnerability and risk assessments', *Action Research*, 17(1): pp. 19–41. doi: **10.1177/1476750319829205**

8. Ibid.

THIS SERIES IS STRUCTURED AS FOLLOWS:

CHALLENGE 1 Key stakeholders lack sufficient information about the significance and urgency of climate change.

CHALLENGE 2 Climate change is not sufficiently high on political agendas or part of institutional mandates.

CHALLENGE 3 Climate change issues are mostly considered environmental ministries' responsibility and collaboration across sectors is rarely seen.

CHALLENGE 4 Subnational governments lack guidance and support to implement climate change related legislation and policy set at national levels.

CHALLENGE 5 Limited capacities and resource allocation prevent the integration and implementation of climate change policy.

CHALLENGE 6 Gatekeeping and bureaucracy can act as bottlenecks and delay progress on projects.

CHALLENGE 7 Local communities lack sufficient support to integrate climate issues into their actions.

ABOUT CDKN

The Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) works to improve the well-being of the most climate-affected people in the global South, especially marginalised groups, through transformative climate action. CDKN is managed by SouthSouthNorth, in partnership with Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA) and ICLEI South Asia, and co-funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

We work in partnership with public, civil society and private sectors to mobilise knowledge, leadership and capacity in the global South in support of locally-owned and -led climate action.

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