Climate and Development Knowledge Brokers Workshop

Workshop report

Bonn, Germany

18-20 May 2012

About this publication

This report summarises the key discussions and findings from the second Climate and Development Knowledge Brokers workshop, held from 18-20 May 2012. The workshop was jointly organised by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN). It took place at the GIZ offices in Bonn, Germany.

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For more information about the workshop, and the Climate Knowledge Brokers Group, visit: http://bit.ly/JE85Dq

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Information on funders

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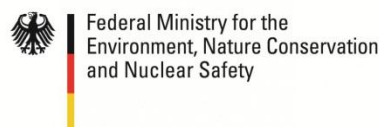
Disclaimer
This report summarises discussions held in an informal workshop setting. The views expressed are those of the individual participants who took part, and do not necessarily reflect those of their respective organisations or their funders.

Contents

Overview and key outcomes

Background

The Climate Knowledge Brokers (CKB) Group was formed in 2011 at an initial workshop held in Eschborn, Germany, to explore the scope for closer collaboration between online knowledge brokers working in the climate and development sectors. Convened by CDKN, GIZ and PIK-Potsdam, it brought together 35 participants from 21 leading regional and global web initiatives. The workshop proved highly successful. Delegates demonstrated a keen appetite for closer collaboration and generated a range of ideas on how to make this happen.[1]

The CKB Group is an informal network and an emerging 'community of practice' for organisations carrying out knowledge and information work on climate and development. The focus is primarily on online initiatives, and those that play an explicit knowledge-brokerage role, rather than being simply institutional websites. By design, it cuts across different sub-sectors within the climate sphere, so includes initiatives focusing on adaptation, mitigation, climate finance, energy and broader development issues. The aim is to encourage productive linkages across these different fields of activity.

2012 Workshop

The 2012 Workshop was held in Bonn from 18-20 May, during the middle weekend of the UNFCCC inter-sessionals. Once again it was hosted by GIZ and co-sponsored by CDKN and GIZ.

Thirty-six participants attended, representing 26 initiatives.[2] Twelve of these were new to the CKB Group, and 14 had participated at the earlier workshop. The group was slightly more diverse than last year. Among the new members were several organisations working with the media or operating as networks or communities of practice.

As before, the format was highly participatory. Participants were invited to prepare an overview presentation describing their initiative. However, rather than delegates individually running through them, they had been uploaded to the CKB shared web space prior to the workshop to create an on-going reference for participants and other interested parties.

Ahead of the workshop, an online survey was carried out to get participants' views on the main incentives and barriers to collaboration, and to assess the extent to which they already know about each other and are working together.[3]

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[1] A full report of the 2011 Workshop can be found on the CKB shared webspace.

[2] See Annex 2 for a full list of participants.

[3] See Annex 3 for the results of this survey.

Workshop objectives

The purpose of the workshop was to build on the momentum already created to forge closer collaborative links between knowledge brokers working in the climate and development area. Specific objectives were to:

- Report back on the collaborative work that has been undertaken over the previous year, including the new projects under way.
- Provide a space to engage with peers to discuss challenges and share ideas.
- Make progress on a number of specific collaborative initiatives.
- Take advantage of the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn to engage with a cross-section of information users in order to better understand their needs and constraints.
- Raise the profile of climate knowledge brokers, the role they play, and the services they provide.
- Agree an action plan for the CKB Group for the coming year.

The ultimate aim is to improve access to reliable information, robust methods and practical tools for those working in climate and development, particularly in developing countries, and to enhance their ability to share lessons and experience.

> *"Aim high, be ambitious. Forget about supply or administrative problems of working together - it's worth it. Our guiding principle for this workshop should be: who is the user of your service? Our challenge is to find a much simpler way for users to access simple, well-digested info which helps their decision making." Welcoming comments from Ari Huhtala (CDKN)*

Focus

1. Participants shared opinions on how the **climate and communication landscapes** have changed in the past year, and the implications for knowledge brokers.

2. An illuminating **user session** was held in which stakeholders from the Bonn talks were invited to join the workshop to share their perspectives as information users.

3. A space was provided to discuss **'hot issues'** for knowledge brokers, looking at opportunities and challenges, along with options for strengthening the knowledge infrastructure around climate and development.

4. A **'trading floor'** session was held for participants to share what they have to offer other initiatives and outline what they are seeking for themselves.[4]

5. A number of **specific collaborations** were agreed between individual initiatives, and many conversations that started a year ago were taken a stage further.

6. The **"knowledge map"** of CKB initiatives, created in 2011, was updated to include new members of the CKB Group. This map characterises initiatives based on their purpose,

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[4] See Annex 4 for a summary of the suggestions made during the trading-floor session.

content type, subject and audience focus, as well as on how they deliver editorial and technical information. It therefore provides a reference point to distinguish the 'niche' each one fills.[5]

Next steps

1. **Ambition:** There was a strong commitment to continue with, and build on, the momentum of the CKB Group. Delegates held the view that we should let the group develop organically for the next year before aiming for anything more ambitious.

2. **Discussion group:** We agreed to set up a CKB LinkedIn group as an on-going communication channel. This will be used for posting announcements, raising questions among peers and sharing ideas. Set up since the workshop, it has closed membership but is publically visible so people can request to join it.

3. **Projects:** The seven CDKN-funded collaboration projects will be pressing ahead in the coming year. These will use the LinkedIn group to report back on progress, and reach out for collaborators and volunteers to test out Beta versions.

4. **Discussion themes:** Proposals were made for four discussion themes over the next year:

   - Learning what works in online knowledge brokerage

   - 'Planning tools' as emerging service of climate knowledge brokers

   - User interfaces as a key to useful and usable information products

   - Options for formalising the CKB Group

5. **Steering Group:** Four new members agreed to join the informal Steering Group that coordinates the CKB Group, bringing its membership to 11.[6]

6. *Future meetings:* We agreed to meet again in a year's time. Scheduling the meeting around the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn seems a good solution, but the Steering Group is open to other suggestions. Holding side events at other international events, such as COP18, was also proposed. In addition, a possible Washington meeting in the autumn was mooted by the World Bank. The Steering Group will follow up on these ideas.

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[5] See Annex 5 for the updated knowledge map.

[6] See Annex 7 for a list of Steering Group members and information on how to contact the CKB Group.

Update on collaborative activities

Activities developed at CKB 2011

During the 2011 Workshop, participants identified a number of joint projects and discussion areas. The 2012 workshop was updated with the encouraging progress made since then:

Joint projects:

Topic	Lead(s)	Progress made
Linked open data	Florian Bauer (REEEP)	Webinar held in September 2011
	Sadie Cox (NREL)	Workshop held in January 2012 at the World Sustainable Energy Summit
Portal signposting	Blane Harvey (IDS)	Has developed into a funded project (see below)
Shared search facility	Florian Bauer (REEEP)	A number of sites are now using the Reegle.info search tool and glossary (including CDKN, ClimateTechWiki, and ELDIS)
Standards & metadata	GIZ and PIK	Initial discussion on standards held; Prototype for metadata developed

Discussion areas:

Topic	Lead(s)	Progress made
Communicating uncertainty	Michael Hoppe (GIZ)	Discussion held between GIZ, World Bank & Ecosystems Marketplace
		Discussed with stakeholders at Workshop in Mexico in Oct 2011 (GIZ / World Bank).
		Uncertainty being incorporated into training module being developed by GIZ and PIK
Usage and impact monitoring	Andrea Egan (UNDP)	Survey of current practices conducted
		Links made to similar work by the Knowledge Brokers Forum
		Summary posted on CKB web space
Breaking down silos between mitigation and adaptation	Dan Boom (ICIMOD)	Initial conversations held
		Need to break down silos has been factored into the design of several other initiatives.

CDKN-funded collaborative projects

In autumn 2011, CDKN issued a funding call to encourage collaborative work between climate knowledge brokers. This resulted in support being given to seven projects, involving 15 different initiatives. These are now under way and cover a wide range of collaborative approaches. The workshop provided a chance to update colleagues on progress and to get feedback. A snapshot of the seven projects is provided below.

Title	Organisations involved	Snapshot
Climate & Development Knowledge Navigator	IDS (lead) with AKP, CCCCC & REEEP	Designed to address the problem of confusion over where people can go to access the specific information they need, amid a proliferation of climate portals, the Knowledge Navigator is an interactive online tool that guides users to the most suitable site for them. The Navigator will use open-source data on over 127 portals focused on adaptation and mitigation. It will be launched in September 2012.
Addressing the climate change knowledge gap through user analysis	IISD (lead) with IDS, AfricaAdapt & UNDP	'What do users actually want? And what are they willing to share?' Using interviews and surveys, four case studies will be built to help understand how people are already using existing platforms and to question critical assumptions about who those users are and how they operate. Lessons will be drawn from the case studies to develop critical success factors that will help platforms align better with their users' habits and preferences.
Automated tagging to make climate information easier to find	REEEP (lead) with SEI, IDS & OpenEI	While tagging information is already standard practice, there has been little work to ensure accuracy and consistency in the way portals use tags for climate change and clean-energy information. Developers at Reegle.info have built an Application Programming Interface (API) which extracts meaningful terms from resources and provides suggestions on tags along with a thesaurus of relevant terms. The tagging will be first used by Eldis, OpenEI and weADAPT, and the API will be available to the public in September.

Title	Organisations involved	Snapshot
Linking down-scaled climate information and adaptation analyses to community-based adaptation projects	SEI (lead) with CSAG & AfricaAdapt	Conducting robust and appropriate climate, vulnerability and adaptation analyses is challenging. While there is a proliferation of resources, information tends to be partial, fragmented, specialist and difficult to find and use. Although many organisations try to address this problem, few have the breadth of expertise to do it alone. Thus, this project will build on the strengths of different portals by developing closer links and integration between the Climate Information Portal, weADAPT and AfricaAdapt. The aim is to provide users with a more integrated experience targeted towards different user needs and expertise. This has been started through a hands-on user lab with all portals, including the organisations in the project below **'Linking stakeholders to integrated climate change data'** to optimise potential synergies and overlaps.
Linking stakeholders to integrated climate- change data	CSAG (lead) with UK Climate Impacts Programme & NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory	As climate change accelerates and impacts become increasingly apparent, there is a risk of a broken chain of information that undermines policy development and adaptation options. This project focuses on two priorities: integrating heterogeneous and globally distributed information sources, and tailoring data into relevant content that can be communicated in a way that allows stakeholders to find sector-specific knowledge.
InfoAmazonia Geojournalism Project	Internews (lead) with O Eco	The Earthjournalism Network consists of over 1800 journalists, mainly in the developing world. Whilst these journalists are eager to report on climate change, they frequently lack access to data to illustrate their stories, or the understanding of how to use complex and large open-source data sets. InfoAmazonia will put available research data about the Amazon region online, then geotag it and train journalists, primarily from Brazil, to understand how to use the data and create stories from it. The project thus intersects journalism, open data, data collection in the field and mapping.

Title	Organisations involved	Snapshot
Reporting on ecosystems markets in Latin America	Ecosystems Marketplace (lead) with SPDA	Ecosystems markets can provide a powerful tool in the effort to mitigate and adapt to climate change, but very few organisations currently provide the kind of free market data and information that journalists need to provide sound reporting on adaptation and environmental finance. This will be done through a network of journalists and media organisations in the developing world, focused on connecting existing knowledge broker initiatives to share information more effectively.

Title	Organisations involved	Snapshot
Reporting on ecosystems		

Changing landscapes

The climate agenda, and the information and communications-technology arena, are both fast moving. We wanted to share intelligence on what's changed since the group last convened and what the implications are for knowledge brokers. Dividing into groups we circulated around four pinboards, where participants pinned up comments under the following broad headings:

How has the climate agenda shifted?

> **"We're facing increased competitiveness within the knowledge brokerage sphere, which leads to the danger of creating conflicting messages." Bruce Hewitson (CSAG)**

- There has been a shift from a focus on climate change to green growth. Is this really a shift in our dialogue about climate and development or just a marketing issue? And does this distinction matter if it's a useful way to appeal to stakeholders beyond the usual suspects, such as the private sector?
- The Fukushima disaster has had a huge impact on policy making and public opinion around the use of nuclear power and renewables.
- There is a growing demand for practical examples, including at a sectoral level, in order to harvest the significant levels of experience now building up. We also noted an increased demand for visualisation of information, which also leads to the question of what to include and what to leave out.
- The global financial downturn continues to influence government decisions on climate and development, particularly among donors. This might, in turn, mean that ambitions for action on climate change in developing countries are not met.
- Some participants felt that while ministers of finance are starting to be more aware of climate change budgets, there still isn't enough 'joined up-ness' between them and environment ministries.
- The adaptation/mitigation discussion has matured, which has led to some changes in demand for knowledge. Many users are now thinking less in terms of what are the options for action and more in terms of 'how do I finance this?'
- Are climate issues going up or down on the public agenda? Knowledge brokers based in the Global North tended to be pessimistic, whereas those in the South found that climate awareness was still on the ascent.
- Governments are increasingly engaging with the Global Framework for Climate Services and knowledge brokers should take heed.

What changes have there been in communication technology and approaches?

> *"We need to look very closely at the questions we are searching for solutions for, rather than focusing straight away on the answers."*
> *Nana Künkel (GIZ)*

- There was general agreement that knowledge brokers are often one step behind their users in terms of Twitter usage.
- The use of linked open data was raised as an important development, although there was uncertainty as to whether journalists can deal with the challenges of misinterpretation - could training for journalists help mitigate this problem?
- Open tools and data-sharing models are becoming more popular and we need to be transparent with how they are presented.
- Webinars and live-streaming is on the increase, particular when we're all eager to reduce our own carbon footprints.
- Crowd-sourcing and hackathons are a novel development, and one many knowledge brokers are still getting to grips with. Jane Ebinger outlined how the World Bank has used hackathons to provide innovative solutions to information problems.
- As the range of data available on the web proliferates, there is a need for tagging to give an idea of quality of information as well as theme or geographical relevance.
- Although not a new development, participants noted the continuing importance of telling stories, as well as of presenting accurate information and using audio-visual formats to reach broader audiences with engaging messages.

Which new knowledge players have emerged?

> *"What percentage of our users are starting at social media sites, rather than directly at the portal?" Blane Harvey (IDS)*

- Google and Facebook are both massive players in the field of information sharing and shouldn't be underestimated. Participants agreed that it would be interesting to find out what percentage of users of our portals start on social media rather than directly on the site.
- The role of youth as knowledge players is important and expanding, encouraged by new platforms, especially in the South, and greater scope for exchanging information and opinions as awareness of climate change spreads.
- The Global Adaptation Network is a new player - a portal building on existing regional portals
- Climateplanning.org – another relatively new entry in the field.
- The importance of using different languages has increased exponentially.
- There has been a growth in collaborative initiatives since the advent of the CKB Group.
- The number of regional and national initiatives has been growing.

What other changes have there been in the landscape?

"Funding uncertainty (for knowledge brokers) is the elephant in the room in all our discussions." Geoff Barnard (CDKN)

- While there are new funders coming on the scene, competition within the sector is increasing, making sourcing funding more challenging.
- Knowledge brokers are under real pressure to measure their impact, in terms of value for money and accountability.
- There may be no cure for "portal proliferation syndrome", but there is a treatment via knowledge brokers talking to one another and sharing content, tools and users.
- We are failing to communicate for action with developed-country audiences who could be a powerful lobby for donor action against climate change. There's a need to focus on the 'hot topics' that overlap with public interest, such as the economy, because ultimately our success will depend on the level of commitment among decision-makers.
- While some business and economic journalists have become high profile in the media, the same hasn't happened for reporters working on climate and environment issues.

Dennis Bours (SEA Change) discusses the 'hot topics' identified by the knowledge brokers

Understanding demand

Rationale

This session built on the collaborative project on user needs analysis being led by IISD, and was facilitated by Anne Hammill (IISD) and Blane Harvey (IDS). Anne Hammill explained the rationale for the project: "Demand for climate information is growing – we think! But the proliferation of online resources is largely supply driven. As a result, we can experience missed opportunities, where we don't get the uptake we expect on a new site or resource. It's easy to respond by tinkering with the interface, in an attempt to make it more user-friendly, but knowledge brokers rarely get the opportunity to ask users what they want. The question the researchers set out to ask is: 'What do users want and what are they willing to share?'"

> *"Last year we pretended to be users in order to understand them better – but this doesn't challenge our assumptions and biases. We need much more concrete examples." Blane Harvey, IDS*

Objectives and format for the user session

To address this question, and give knowledge brokers a chance to interact with users first-hand, invitations had gone out via Climate-L and other routes to people attending the UNFCCC meetings, happening concurrently in Bonn. The objectives of the session were:

- To understand a range of users and their needs
- To look at whether current platforms are aligned with these users' needs, incentives and behaviour?

Small groups of knowledge brokers were paired with each 'user'. A series of questions were posed to illuminate 'a day in their life' as information users:

- Who are you?
- What do you need to find or do online?
- Where and how do you usually find it?
- Do you share what you've learned, and, if so, how?

The ten users who took part in the session[7] included a spectrum of people who many knowledge brokers would regard as key target audiences, such as a Bhutanese delegate at the UNFCC negotiations, and an Indonesian researcher at the University of Bonn, with close links to field work in his home country. There was also a strong turn out from individuals whose work involved knowledge management or communications, who are often a large secondary audience for knowledge-broker sites. In addition, some of the participants at the

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[7] See Annex 2 for a list of participants in this user session

workshop who felt more comfortable representing themselves as users than as knowledge-brokers in the discussion also took on this role.

What we learned

"I tend to delegate information- seeking to others -– what I'm interested in is expert opinion and political commentary on climate change. I want to get a sense of the zeitgeist -– what touches people and what makes change." **Mark Harvey, Internews**

"Karma (Tshering, NEC Bhutan) uses personal contacts to find information more than online sources. However he also distributes emails from key sources, such as the UNFCCC to experts in his department; – in this he's a knowledge broker too."

A group of knowledge brokers talk to a user

"Knowledge brokers need to get better at promoting their initiatives"

"Trust is so important – you need to know who to trust in a community to avoid spending so much time in the information jungle" **Phillipe Crahay, WFP**

"I only use Google and I use it a lot." **Tobin Timmerman, CGIAR**

"What I need is quality control – or at least enough transparency so that I can evaluate quality myself." **Sabina Reinecke, University of Freiburg**

After questioning their users, the knowledge brokers were asked to report back to the group on what had stood out for them. Here's a selection of their thoughts:

Users are diverse!	*Knowledge brokers need to get better at promoting their initiatives – some users were surprised to hear that a tool they felt a need for already existed.*
Google is very popular – we shouldn't neglect search-engine optimization or assume users can find our sites.	*Don't forget about other languages, especially sub-national languages - there are many knowledge needs in national languages that aren't being met*
Credibility is very important – the UN websites are trusted, but other sites need to be transparent about where information comes from so users can do their own quality control	*Users are knowledge brokers too – they pass information along to others.*
It can take a while for a new user to get up to speed on the climate information offerings – and knowledge brokers could facilitate this process	*Easy navigation and simple interfaces are important – both for ease of use and low-band-width challenges*
Linking community radio to online platforms might help reaching offline 'users'	*The UN came out as a top trusted source – but we need to get away from the idea that if information isn't on the UNFCCC site, then it isn't credible. We should be wary of privileging scientific information over local voices and testimonials.*
We shouldn't create an artificial divide between online and offline information-gathering activities.	*It is easy to get funding for new online features, but we shouldn't forget to cull those that are no longer relevant or useful (or used)*

It was striking how, for most of the users present, the majority of websites and portals present at the workshop were new to them. This underlines the work that needs to be done to publicise the online resources already available. A full analysis of the discussions will be available from IISD as part of their collaborative project: 'Addressing the climate change knowledge gap through user analysis'[8].

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[8] Available from Blane Harvey and Anne Hammill. See Annex 2 for contact details.

Opportunities and challenges for knowledge brokers

During day one of the workshop, participants were asked to identify what the hot issues are for them, and 'what are the topics you want to talk about with others in this room?' Ideas were pinned up on a board and adjusted over the course of the day to create clusters of topics. At the end of the day, we voted on our top three issues to be covered during day two.

Ideas were grouped to create two sets of parallel sessions, one on opportunities and challenges, and the other on strengthening the knowledge infrastructure.

Highlights from the rich discussions that ensued are summarised below, starting with opportunities and challenges.

Participants vote on their priority hot topics

Communicating uncertainty

When the issue of communicating uncertainty was first raised during day one, it evoked a strong response from participants. As knowledge brokers, our job is frequently to attempt to bridge the gap between climate science and policy-makers or practitioners, and we know it is rarely an easy task. Some knowledge brokers may find their work hampered by attacks from climate sceptics, or simply find they cannot communicate clearly with policy-makers when they try to incorporate all the shades of scientific uncertainty.

Bruce Hewitson (UCT), who led this discussion, said "Knowledge brokers need to understand uncertainty themselves – and the difference between uncertainty of accuracy and uncertainty of message." One way of communicating clear messages to do with climate science is to break the message into its parts, and first communicate the part you are clear about, or the overall message. This can be followed up by the information we're less certain about – and then the ranges if needed. Mark Harvey (Internews) emphasised that part of a knowledge broker's role is to communicate our trustworthiness, particularly in a context where many policymakers do not trust journalists. He added "we need to get away from news about polar bears, the negative stories that people don't engage with anymore".

The group also discussed different types of uncertainty – in scientific understanding, in the natural chaotic behaviour of climate systems and in mismatches between available information and the information we need. Knowledge brokers have a need to understand these different types of uncertainty, but not to necessarily communicate them, if they want to encourage change.

Using new and traditional media (and which ones for which audiences?)

This group asked itself how new media could be relevant to climate knowledge brokers. Peter Armstrong (One Climate) opened the session with a sobering message: "Business as usual for climate communicators may not be enough – both the climate sector and the planet are in deep, deep trouble." Peter described the evolution from libraries, print and television, to websites, search engines and portals, and finally to 'Web 3.0' – online communities and social networks.

We've seen increasingly impressive social media 'smash hits' such as the viral video 'Stop Kony'. This evolution begs the question of whether we can still expect to draw users to our sites, or whether we should now be focusing on being where the users are. Steve Zwick talked about his success building his site's readership by identifying key bloggers, or 'trust agents' and proactively building relationships via blogs and cross-posting. However, Kiran Dwivedi (CSE) reminded the group not to underestimate the resources needed to engage effectively on social media: although Twitter and Facebook are free, there is a large time cost involved in using them properly.

Peter Armstrong (OneWorld UK) and Steve Zwick (Ecosystem Marketplace) lead a discussion group

Eco-psychology and using emotion to change behaviour

This group was interested in the role of trust in knowledge-brokerage: how trustworthy knowledge brokers themselves appear and whether they can trust the person they are communicating with. Globalisation, email, video-conferencing, and online networks have made it easier to expand any individual's reach, but harder to build trust without face-to-face contact.

The group felt the concept of understanding human emotions in order to change behaviour was particularly relevant to combating climate denialism – we need to understand why some users trust climate deniers and distance the denial community from those who are genuinely seeking information. Mark Harvey suggested that one way to increase credibility of anecdotal climate change evidence was to use scientific methods when conducting and reporting on grass-roots interviews and focus groups. This could help connect human stories to climate science without deprioritising emotion, values or culture.

User analysis and impact monitoring

This group followed up on the user session by acknowledging this topic should be part of a much longer conversation about understanding our users. They kicked this off by defining some of the questions we should be answering: Do we understand who is using our services? Do we understand what their experience of engaging is, and what the impact of their engagement is? Once we have some answers to these questions, how should we use them? This last question is particularly important, because the group agreed that many knowledge brokers will already have plenty of examples of user case studies, but we have yet to begin sharing these effectively, or sharing how we are gathering our data. While there are interesting trends and good-practice recommendations emerging in terms of monitoring users and impact, we need to work harder on using the existing evidence base – which would also enable new knowledge brokers to navigate this learning curve more easily.

Strengthening the knowledge infrastructure

The second group of hot topics probed the question of how the knowledge infrastructure around climate and development could be strengthened. Geoff Barnard (CDKN) introduced this session by proposing a definition of knowledge infrastructure as the "mechanisms and channels whereby data and information on climate and development are accessed, communicated and stored, and knowledge is shared."

He recapped on some of the conclusions from last year's discussion on this theme:

- Collaboration between existing CKBs is a key way of strengthening the knowledge infrastructure.
- It can happen at many levels, from 'light-touch' collaboration to deep integration.
- Attempting to set up a 'one-stop shop' for climate information would be a mistake. It would be both impractical and undesirable, as it would suppress diversity that will be needed to serve multiple user needs and spark innovation.
- Too much collaboration could be detrimental - we need a degree of 'constructive competition'

Participants separated into three groups to discuss different aspects of the question:
"Where are we at with the knowledge infrastructure, and how can we strengthen it?"

Trains or ponds: pick your metaphor

Geoff Barnard offered two alternative metaphors for the work required to strengthen connections between climate knowledge brokers: building a rail network and constructing a pond!

A rail network is an example of a physical infrastructure. But it is more than just the tracks – we use all sorts of online and offline infrastructure to get us from A to B, from station coffee shops to online booking systems and price comparison sites. Travelling from London to Bonn by train is impressively easy and comfortable, but this infrastructure didn't appear overnight: it had to be built and when it comes to climate knowledge infrastructure the same is true.

An alternative metaphor is the garden pond – an environment that develops organically, but can be cultivated as well. This reflects the idea of a knowledge ecosystem, with multiple players involved, the evolution of the system, the balance of competition between the elements and symbiosis.

Later on in the workshop, Lawrence Flint from UNFCCC returned to the ecosystem analogy. "You could see the knowledge ecosystem as concentric circles that we need to work to link together."

Individuals may prefer the engineering or the ecosystem metaphor. Perhaps the reality is somewhere in between; a system where some elements can be designed, but others need to emerge. The question is what interventions are needed to create a more effective knowledge system where users can obtain information they need, and share their knowledge with others.

Making better connections

Some knowledge brokers are more active in networking than others; given the many different species in the 'knowledge pond' how can each broker play a more productive role to make a richer and more effective ecosystem. This could involve connecting the national and regional players better with the global players, or strengthening networks within regions and countries. The group's discussion cautioned that there isn't necessarily huge value merely in being better connected – only in some elements of connectedness. For example, knowledge brokers could have a lot to gain by bartering information and tools between members, to avoid 'remaking the wheel'. Victoria Maynard (ARUP/ACCCRN) said "we need to think about what we bring as well as what we take – none of us are the only players on the block, but we all have something to bring."

The conversation touched on the idea of decentralising the Climate Knowledge Broker model to regional initiatives. Some delegates questioned whether there was capacity in every region to bring together a similar group: regional and national initiatives may not yet identify themselves as knowledge brokers and would require capacity building as well as funding to organise regional meetings.

Translating knowledge into action

One of the core barriers knowledge brokers face is that, as Nana Künkel (GIZ) explained, 'even when we give users accurate information, it may not result in change, because there are hidden barriers that we don't know about.' Online and offline tools already exist that are designed to help users reach decisions and take action. However these may be, as Philippe Crahay (WFP) pointed out, inaccessible to regional staff due to language barriers, limited connectivity, capacity or data.

A starting point could be meta-analysis on how tools are already being used, to establish where extra support is needed for tools to fulfil their function, such as webinars or communities of

practice, and where tools simply aren't working as hoped, and need to be reconsidered.

Blane Harvey (IDS) pointed out that incentives to share failure are complicated, but we could have a much more honest dialogue if we can get them right. It was suggested that a template to record how a tool is being used (or not used) could help with sharing lessons from our own monitoring and evaluation, and make datasets more comparable for easier analysis. A concrete first step would be to map who is already sharing experiences on tool use, then developing a template and a way of making lessons and data shareable and accessible.

Lorena Rodriguez (IADB) sums up a discussion group.

What next?

Capitalising on the CKB Group

The focus of the final session was on how the Climate Knowledge Brokers Group can be used to best advantage. There was a clear appetite to build on the momentum that has been created, and to do more than meet up once a year to compare notes. But participants also recognised that time is precious and email inboxes are already overflowing. We need to be realistic.

The seven collaborative projects already under way can be relied on to help move the CKB Group forward. All are of interest, but three, in particular, have scope for wider impact:

- The **Knowledge Navigator** project being led by IDS aims to create a cross-platform tool to help users navigate between portals, and which can be added as a widget on other sites. This will be of value to users looking for the most relevant content, and to portal providers seeking to reach new audiences.
- Reegle.info's **Automated Tagging API** has good potential to be rolled out across other sites, providing a simplified and unified tagging approach based on a well-structured thesaurus of key terms. Combined with the Reegle.info search and glossary this provides a powerful set of tools that other sites can adopt. As they do so, they will be creating common standards that will aid data sharing between sites, based on modern linked open-access principles.
- The **User Needs Analysis** project being led by IISD will generate insights that will be of value to all knowledge brokers.

Level of ambition

How ambitious does the CKB Group wish to be over the coming year? To seed the discussion, Geoff Barnard (CDKN) sketched out three potential trajectories:

A. **Steady as she goes**: the group would remain as it is, with an informal steering group, an online discussion forum and an annual workshop.
B. **More ambitious:** the group would establish an identity, with an agreed mission statement, a logo, and perhaps some products on best practice. But it would remain a fairly low-budget operation so would not require a lot of fundraising.
C. **Most ambitious ('sky's the limit'):** the group would fundraise for a secretariat in order to become a formalised player with a strong brand and identity. This might enable it to provide a credible and unified voice in global initiatives and discussions, one that knowledge brokers are so far lacking. It could act as a lobbying vehicle, raising the profile of knowledge brokers and the importance of investing in the sector.

After a lively discussion, the general consensus was that the third option was too ambitious at this stage, given resource constraints. There was also a concern that formalising too soon might damage the group's strengths in creativity and innovation. While Blane Harvey (IDS) argued that, "if the next step is to start influencing the ecosystem around us, we do need to step up to the next level of formalisation", Steve Zwick (Ecosystems Marketplace) questioned "what value do we have by speaking in one voice? We'd do better to find out what we all do and develop our niches." Regarding the funding issue, Ari Huhtala (CDKN)

pointed out "you don't necessarily need formalisation to show funders that you are making efforts to avoid duplication and learn from each other".

By the end of the session, the group had agreed they wanted to continue with the 'steady as she goes' option for another year, drawing in more initiatives and those who had attended in 2011 but weren't able to be present in 2012.

Setting up a discussion forum

Participants agreed that setting up an online discussion forum would make sense. This could be used as a way to continue conversations around collaboration, reach out for advice and assistance, and help with joint marketing and promotion. This needs to be something that is low-investment, easy access and doesn't require a great deal of facilitation. A Facebook or LinkedIn group was suggested and, after a show of hands, LinkedIn was chosen as the preferred channel.

This group has now been set up, and existing CKB members have been invited to join. It was agreed that the LinkedIn group should be visible to others, but that membership should be controlled in order to keep the group fairly tight so we can nurture the trust relationships that have now built up following two successful workshops. New members will be welcomed but the moderators will check to ensure they fit the CKB profile of being active practitioners involved in climate knowledge broker work. Any queries will be adjudicated by the Steering Group.[9]

The existing shared CKB web space hosted by OpenEI will continue to provide a document store and 'shop window' for the Group. This can be accessed at:

http://en.openei.org/wiki/Knowledge_Brokers_Workshop

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[9] The Climate Knowledge Brokers LinkedIn Group can be found at: http://linkd.in/MJW9zU

On-going discussion topics

Several discussion topics were proposed for the year ahead. These will be initiated via the LinkedIn group, but could involve conference calls, webinars and other modalities for engaging. These have been subsequently refined by the Steering Group, and are as follows:

Topic	Focus/Method	Leadership & timeframe
Learning what works in online knowledge brokerage	Building on our growing understanding of user needs, preferences and behaviours, this theme will provide an opportunity to share strategies for putting learning into action by: Evaluating the impact of specific platforms and knowledge-sharing initiatives Compiling best practices emerging from CKB initiatives and reflections Assessing the relevance of lessons and recommendations from other fields Discussing barriers to changing climate knowledge brokerage practice and ways to overcome them.	Blane Harvey (IDS)
'Planning tools' as an emerging service of climate knowledge brokers	This discussion theme will further the discussion around "planning tools" offered by knowledge brokers. It will look into trends and requirements such as "open tools", organizing peer-to-peer user exchange, and other topics that will be identified in a further scoping exercise. Links to the other discussion themes (on "impact of knowledge brokering" and "user interfaces") will be made.	Nana Künkel (GIZ)
User interfaces as a key to useful and usable information products	While relevant content is clearly the most important ingredient of useful information portals, we also need to take care that usability flaws do not get in the way of our users. The aim of this thread is to foster exchange within the CKB Group on issues of usability encountered in our field, to increase a common understanding on how usable our products actually are and where we can and should make improvements.	Markus Wrobel (PIK) September 2012

Options for formalising the CKB Group	Developing thinking on whether some formalisation of the Group might be advantageous in the future. To begin with a Steering Group conversation on the topic, then wider consultation.	Steering Group Begin in early 2013

This list is not intended to be exclusive. The LinkedIn group will be set up so anyone can begin a new discussion thread at any time.

Refreshing the Steering Group

The Steering Group is an informal structure that helps guide the development of the CKB Group. Conference calls are organised approximately every two months, and provide a forum to update each other on progress, agree plans for future meetings, and coordinate activities in between meetings.

Four new volunteers agreed to join the Steering Group, which now has 11 members.[10]

Future meetings

We agreed to meet again in a year's time. Scheduling the meeting around the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn seems a good solution, but the Steering Group is open to other suggestions. Holding side events at other international events, such as COP18 and the International Conference on Climate Services, was also proposed. A possible Washington meeting in the autumn was mooted by the World Bank, and the idea of holding regional CKB events raised. The Steering Group will follow up on these ideas.

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[10] See Annex 7 for a list of Steering Group members.

Final thoughts

The workshop finished with a vote of thanks to:

- *Participants for travelling long distances to attend and giving up their weekend.*

- *The Steering Group for organising a very successful event.*

- *GIZ for being such welcoming hosts, with particular thanks to Sissy Sepp for coordinating the logistics in such a friendly and efficient way.*

- *Jessica Sinclair Taylor for taking on the rapporteuring role and producing this workshop report.*

The workshop ended with agreement from participants that they wanted to continue to build the group's momentum, while allowing it to develop organically for the next year. So, more of a growing ecosystem than a high-speed rail infrastructure for now.

These logos show the organisations and platforms currently involved in the Climate Knowledge Brokers group. See Annex 6 for a list of web addresses.

ANNEXES

1. *List of acronyms*

2. *List of participants*

3. *Results of collaboration survey*

4. *Trading floor*

5. *Updated knowledge map*

6. *List of CKB platforms and web addresses*

7. *List of Steering Group members*

Annex 1 – List of acronyms

Acronym	Organisation
ACCCRN	Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network
AKP	Adaptation Knowledge Platform
ARCAB	Action Research for Community Adaptation in Bangladesh
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CDKN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
CKB	Climate Knowledge Brokers
CSAG	Climate Systems Analysis Group, at UCT
CSE	Centre for Science and Environment
DFID	UK Department for International Development
DGIS	Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
IDS	Institute for Development Studies
IISD	International Institute for Sustainable Development
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
NEC Bhutan	National Environment Commission, Bhutan
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
PIK	Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research
REEEP	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership
SEA Change	South East Asia Community of Practice for Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Interventions
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
SPDA	Sociedad Peruana por el Desarollo Ambiental
UCT	University of Cape Town
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WFP	World Food Program
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

Annex 2 – List of Participants

Name	Organisation	Contact
Peter Armstrong	OneWorld UK	petersanderstead@gmail.com
Geoff Barnard	CDKN	geoff.barnard@cdkn.org
Florian Bauer	REEEP	florian.bauer@reeep.org
Sukaina Bharwani	SEI (Oxford office)	Sukaina.bharwani@sei-international.org
Dennis Bours	SEA Change	dbours@pactworld.org
Verena Bruer	GIZ	verena.bruer@giz.de
Daniel Buckley	UNDP	daniel.buckley@undp.org
Alice Caravani	Overseas Development Institute	a.caravani@odi.org.uk
Jimmy Carrillo	SPDA	jcarrillo@spda.org.pe
Philippe Crahay	World Food Program (WFP)	philippe.crahay@wfp.org
Mairi Dupar	CDKN	mairi.dupar@cdkn.org
Kiran Dwivedi	Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)	kiran@cseindia.org
Jane Ebinger	World Bank	jebinger@worldbank.org
Christoph Feldkötter	GIZ	christoph.feldkoetter@giz.de
Lawrence Flint	UNFCCC	lflint@unfccc.int
Anne Hammill	IISD	ahammill@iisd.ca
Blane Harvey	IDS	B.Harvey@ids.ac.uk
Mark Harvey	Internews Europe	mharvey@internews.eu
Bruce Hewitson	UCT	hewitson@csag.uct.ac.za
Ari Huhtala	CDKN	ari.huhtala@pp.inet.fi
Nana Künkel	GIZ	nana.kuenkel@giz.de
Tomoo Machiba	IRENA	TMachiba@irena.org
Nadia Manasfi	GIZ	nadia.manasfi@giz.de
Victoria Maynard	ARUP/ACCCRN Network	victoria.maynard@arup.com
Vanessa Morales	SPDA	vmorales@spda.org.pe
Andrea Perlis	ICIMOD	aperlis@icimod.org
Fatema Rajabali	IDS	F.Rajabali@ids.ac.uk

Erin Roberts	ARCAB	roberts.erin@gmail.com
Lorena Rodriguez	IADB	lorenar@iadb.org
Sissy Sepp	GIZ	sissy.sepp@giz.de
Jessica Sinclair Taylor	CDKN	j.sinclairtaylor@odi.org.uk
Adriana Valenzuela	UNITAR	adriana.valenzuela@unitar.org
Felice van der Plaat	UNEP	Felicitas.VanderPlaat@unep.org
Anuradha Vittachi	Oneworld UK	anuradha.vittachi@gmail.com
Markus Wrobel	PIK	wrobel@pik-potsdam.de
Steve Zwick	Ecosystems Marketplace	szwick@ecosystemmarketplace.com

User session participants

Name	Organisation	Contact
Irenda Radjawali	Uni Bonn & EI-INDO	irendra.radjawali@zmt-bremen.de
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Hyun Jung Park	UNFCCC	Hpark@unfccc.int
Sabine Reinecke	University of Freiburg	Sabine.Reinecke@ifp.uni-freiburg.de
Carina Waidhofer	UNCCD	cwaidhofer@unccd.int
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Karma Tshering	NEC Bhutan	ktshering@nec.gov.bt
Torben Timmermann	CGIAR	t.timmermann@cgiar.org
Terhas Hiagos	The Bretton Woods Partnership	terhasina@gmail.com
Adriana Valenzuela	UNITAR- UN CC:Learn	adriana.valenzuela@unitar.org

Annex 3 – Results of collaboration survey

Prior to the 2012 Workshop, an online survey was conducted of CKB Group members to look at incentives and barriers to closer collaboration, and assess the degree to which initiatives already know about each other and are working together. 17 responses were received, which is roughly half the Group. Comments received on incentives and barriers are reproduced below.

What are the strongest incentives for you to collaborate with other knowledge brokers?	*What are the biggest barriers to collaboration from your perspective?*
Information exchange, networking and wider outreach through other knowledge brokers. Learn from their knowledge, best practices and experiences. Identify regional content partners for the India environment portal.	Intellectual arrogance and the cultural attitude. Lack of space for collaboration within the institutional framework (due to financial and administrative reasons - e.g. insufficient funds/grants may be holding several knowledge brokers from making commitments).
Avoid duplication and increase complementarity.	Resources and development for concrete actions at the local level.
Sharing information and knowledge. Opening pathways for others types of collaboration.	Multiplicity of stakeholders.
To avoid duplication of effort and confusion/ proliferation. To provide value in sharing knowledge of urban climate change resilience where there is benefit in collaboration.	At the moment the challenge is in identifying appropriate partners to collaborate with (assuming they exist) and then in building a trusting / mutually supportive relationship.
Increasing user audience.	Somewhat of a niche effort. UN status requires neutrality.
Potential complementarities and similarity of objectives/goals. Existence of budget lines to support the collaboration. Good relationship between persons involved.	Conflict of interest: although having similar objectives, partners in such collaborations sometimes have different interests. To preserve and maximize these interests, involved partners prefer to work alone and continue seeing the likeminded initiatives as competitors. Very often the different initiatives were designed (share of tasks, share of budget, share of responsibilities, etc.) without any provision of collaboration with other initiatives, so that it is difficult to find a window to squeeze any other

	initiative at a later stage. Donors tend to discourage collaborations and are sometimes acting as competitors.
Seeing other practices and knowing capability of online platform.	Competition. Different data format.
Latest information.	Information overload.
Knowledge sharing and dissemination.	Time.
Sharing knowledge and making knowledge accessible. Improving the information flow we have.	Language.
Improved coordination of work and consequently avoidance of overlaps in initiatives. Establishing state-of-the-art of knowledge on climate change.	Lack of knowledge of existing initiatives. Engagement of members/audience.
To make sure we do not duplicate work.	Short term funding of these networks. They need to put too much time in scrambling for their next half year of funding, which takes away time from actively managing the network.
Sharing data (using linked open data principles). Joint projects (like the CDKN knowledge broker collaboration fund).	Lack of knowledge what others do and what they are planning. Restrictions on data sharing (licenses).
Working in joint projects to research, collect, compile, curate, maintain and disseminate collections of relevant climate change information and links. Creating qualitative information and getting it out. Enhancing/extending our network. Monetary incentives if applicable.	Autopoiesis - multiple-purpose of projects and embeddedness in bigger organizational structures. Generalizations and lack of a practicable detailed definitions of what will be collaborated upon (e.g. which information in detail is to be shared?). Lack of inter- and inner-organizational processes on a human level to do exactly that.
Training. Create effective channels for the exchange of information. Create new media products. Learning from other experiences.	Lack of an effective channel for learning and sharing of knowledge.

Annex 4 – Trading floor

In this exercise, we went around the room and asked participants to briefly summarise what they can offer to other knowledge brokers, and what they are most looking for from others.

Name	Platform	Offer	Need
Victoria Maynard	ACCCRN	Practitioner examples of adaptation/resilience projects - evidence base	Knowledge about other networks in focus countries and region
Erin Roberts	ARCAB	Stories from the groups they work with	Portal or databases that houses data that can be used in risk assessment in LDCs
Mairi Dupar	CDKN	RSS feed, coverage on our site to introduce new resources, sharing policy briefs and guides to CCD. Overall willingness to be engaged in cooperative efforts.	Continued involvement in this group, exchange of M&E best practice, interest in evidence on use of social media tools in influencing policy. Continued collaborative time and effort from all groups
Kiran Dwivedi	Centre for Science and Environment	Research and environmental issues on India and South Asia Good space to showcase events - good place to reach Indian audience. Training programmes for South Asian on digital literacy.	Wants a place where best practice is showcased.
Alice Caravani	Climate Finance Updates	Quantitative and qualitative info on financial flows in CF, and database to search for donor countries and funds	Collect info on experiences of projects funded by C funds they track
Steve Zwick	Ecosystem Marketplace	Organisation and tool case studies to profile and write about. Four sub-portals	The stories! Data for sub-portals

Fatema Rajabali	Eldis	Climate change and development resources - over 2000 in open access, introductions to hot topics. Expertise on knowledge brokering	Looking for others to curate information for them
Verena Bruer	GIZ	Access to information on mitigation strategies and activities, with the purpose of informing decision makers	Updates for project database Inspiration for how to process knowledge and documents in a user-friendly way.
Nana Kuenkel	GIZ	Access to users	Help with filtering information to users, and knowing how not to confuse them with a large number of resources.
Lorena Rodriguez	IADB	Set of methodologies for capturing key findings, from project design to implementation and wrap-up	Support in best practices in successful dissemination and outreach strategies
Andrea Perlis	ICIMOD	Wide range of info from scientific evidence to bottom-level stories on mountain ecosystems	Everyone to include mountains on their agendas, plus creative ways we could help users find the info they need quickly
Blane Harvey	IDS	Support those who want to work on research and impact in communicating climate change	Needs partners to work with! Your initiatives as case studies
Anne Hammill	IISD	Lessons in developing methodology to understand users accessing and applying knowledge	Inputs to user research - stats, observations about your own users

Mark Harvey	Internews	Access to networks of journalists, resources for journalists on climate change, REDD/REDD+, data visualisation (in Portuguese), climate comms day with IIED	Interested in partners working with us on theories of change in how info and communications fits into developing resilience. Building capacity in emerging economies on energy/energy efficiency/energy management (China, Middle East, Brazil).
Tomoo Machiba	IRENA	Connecting climate change community to other environment/energy communities	More inclusion of energy field in other sectors
Peter Armstrong	OneClimate	Range of widgets - video galleries, live blogging, live streaming, google mapping and new ones coming - FREE	News of what you're doing that we can showcase
Markus Wrobel	PIK	Initiative to proceed on user-needs working group	Contributions to this discussion
Florian Bauer	REEEP	Tools and services available on Reegle.info - API, thesaurus, LOD	Need for CKB Group to prevent overlap between platforms and tools and to market tools
Dennis Bours	SEA Change	Offer support on publications and at conferences, webinars	Members to add to the group in a structured way, and examples of decent/ less decent M&E
Jimmy Carillo	SPDA	Actualidad Ambiental - can share events and info	New partners to debate with and share ideas, and alliances for the future
Daniel Buckley	UNDP/World Bank Climate Finance Options	Examples of climate finance in action to showcase	Advice on engaging with climate private sector funds

Felice van der Plaat	UNEP Climate Change Adaptation Kenya	Regional networks with linkages to grassroots organisations and research institutes	Funky stuff - widgets, interest factor for the sites
Lawrence Flint	UNFCCC		Join partnership database via Nairobi Platform
Bruce Hewitson	University of Cape Town	Data methods and tools to develop scaled methods, plus training on understanding, interpreting and applying data.	How do we easily and efficiently understand a users' threshold of vulnerability.
Sukaina Bharwani	weADAPT	A 3D Google Earth interface used for sharing adaptation projects and lessons learnt.	Structured way to collect lessons learnt
Philippe Crahay	WFP	Knowledge centre on resilience, food security & nutrition – resources, policy & practice, e-discussions and other media	Beta version launched in June - comments welcome. Looking for collaboration opportunities.
Jane Ebinger	World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	Offered to host a CKB meeting in Washington DC	Coordination from the group - deep dive on strategy and technical side.

Annex 5 – Updated map of knowledge brokers

Introduction

A 'Knowledge Map' of Climate Knowledge Brokers was created during the 2011 Workshop as a way of positioning CKB initiatives in relationship to one another, and understanding the specific niches they fill. This has been updated as new members have joined the CKB Group, and more entries were added during 2012 Workshop.

Six sets of criteria are used to describe knowledge initiatives. These cover:

- Purpose of the initiative
- Content type
- Subject focus
- Audience focus
- Editorial approach
- Technology/delivery approach

Under each heading, initiatives score themselves on a 0 to 3 scale according to a set of criteria, with scores represent:

— = not relevant to us/we don't do this

❶ = we do some of this

❷ = we do a lot of this

❸ = this is the most important aspect for us – it's a defining characteristic

These scores are presented in the six tables below. Links to the respective CKB websites are provided in Annex 6.

1. Purpose

Initiative	Improving access to information	Helping people make sense of and apply information	Supporting knowledge sharing and debate	Promoting more informed policy making	Advocating for specific changes	Other	Specify
ACCCRN	1	1	2	3	3		
Actualidad Ambiental	2	–	2	3	2	3	Providing news products
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	2	2	3	2	–		
Africa Adapt	2	1	3	1	–		
African Adaptation Programme	2	2	3	2	2		
CCCCC	3	2	2	2	2		
ci:grasp	3	2	3	2	–		
OpenEI	3	3	2	1	–		
CDKN	2	2	2	3	–		
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	3	3	1	1	–		
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	3	3	2	3	–		
Climate Finance Options	3	3	1	2	–		
Climate Funds Update	3	3	1	1	–		
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	3	3	1	1	–		
ClimatePrep	1	3	3	1	1		
CRISTAL	–	1	3	1	–		
Ecosystem Marketplace	3	3	1	1	1		
Eldis	3	2	2	1	–		
Global Adaptation Nework	3	3	2	2	1		
ICIMOD	2	1	2	2	1	1	Utilization follow up
India Environment Portal	3	2	3	2	2	3	Providing info on envt. & devel. in India & S.Asia
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	2	3	3	1	–		
MAPS	2	2	3	3	3		
reegle	3	3	1	1	–		
SEAChange	2	2	3	1	–	2	Build bridges between knowledge silos
WeADAPT	3	2	3	2	–		

2. Content type

Initiative	Numerical data	Research findings	Case studies/ project info	Government policy documents	Expert commentary/ opinion	News & Events	Experts/ personal profiles	Multi-media content	Multilingual content	Other	Specify
ACCCRN	–	2	2	–	1	2	–	1	1		
Actualidad Ambiental	–	2	2	–	3	3	1	3	–		
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	–	1	3	2	–	1	–	2	1	3	Lessons & climate profiles
Africa Adapt	–	3	3	–	1	2	2	2	2		
African Adaptation Programme	1	1	3	1	–	1	2	2	3	2	Decision tools
CCCCC	1	2	3	2	1	1	–	2	1	3	Down-scaled climate models
ci:grasp	3	3	3	–	–	1	–	1	–		
OpenEI	2	2	2	2	–	2	–	1	2	2	Software, tools, program info, training tools
CDKN	–	2	3	–	2	1	2	2	2	3	Import content from partners
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	–	3	2	3	1	3	–	1	2	2	Media kits
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	3	3	3	2	–	1	–	–	–	3	Decision support tools
Climate Finance Options	1	1	3	2	–	1	–	1	–	3	Lessons learned
Climate Funds Update	3	1	2	–	2	–	–	2	–		
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	3	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		
ClimatePrep	–	–	2	–	3	1	1	2	1	3	Lessons learned, personal experience
CRISTAL	–	2	3	–	1	1	–	–	2	3	Resources relating to the CRISTAL tool
Ecosystem Marketplace	3	3	1	1	2	3	1	1	1		
Eldis	–	3	2	1	1	2	1	2	1		
Global Adaptation Nework	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2		
ICIMOD	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	Modelling, learning
India Environment Portal	2	2	3	3	3	3	1	2	1		
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	2	1	2	1	2	2	3	2	–		
MAPS	–	3	2	1	–	2	3	–	–		
reegle	2	2	2	2	–	2	–	1	1	3	Sources, glossary, country profiles
SEAChange	2	2	2	1	–	3	2	2	–		
WeADAPT	–	3	3	1	–	–	2	2	1	2	Adaptation decision tools & guidance

3. Subject focus

Initiative	Climate adaptation	Mitigation/ low carbon growth	REDD	Disaster Risk Reduction	Climate finance	Wider development issues	Other	Specify
ACCCRN	3	–	–	1	1	1		Indigenous knowledge
Actualidad Ambiental	2	1	1	2	1	3	3	Conflict related to environmental issues
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	3	–	–	2	–	1		
Africa Adapt	1	2	2	–	1	–		Indigenous development
African Adaptation Programme	3	–	–	1	1	1	3	Decision making
CCCCC	3	2	1	2	1	1		
ci:grasp	3	3	–	1	–	1		
OpenEI	1	3	1	–	1	1	3	Energy
CDKN	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	Climate compatible development
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	3	–	–	1	1	–		
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	3	1	–	2	–	2		
Climate Finance Options	2	2	2	2	3	–		
Climate Funds Update	2	2	2	2	3	1		
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	1	–	–	–	–	–	3	Climate projections/ scenarios
ClimatePrep	3	–	1	1	–	–		
CRISTAL	3	–	–	2	–	1		Project planning at local level
Ecosystem Marketplace	1	3	3	1	3	–	3	Payment for ecosystem services
Eldis	2	1	1	2	1	3	2	Southern produced resources , gender
Global Adaptation Nework	3	1	1	1	2	1		
ICIMOD	2	1	3	3	1	3		Payment for ecosystem services
India Environment Portal	2	3	2	2	3	3		
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	–	3	2	–	3	1		
MAPS	–	3	–	–	–	2		Scenario modelling
reegle	1	3	–	–	1	1	3	Energy
SEAChange	3	2	2	2	–	1	3	Monitoring & evaluation
WeADAPT	3	1	2	2	1	2	3	Decision making tools for adaptation

Initiative	4. Audience focus											
	Priority users									Geographic focus		
	Government decision makers	International development agencies	Scientists & researchers	Practitioners	Private sector	Civil society	General public	Other	Specify	National level	Regional level	International level
ACCCRN	3	3	3	3	2	2	1			1	3	3
Actualidad Ambiental	3	3	–	3	1	3	2	3	media	3	2	1
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	1	3	2	3	–	1	1	–		3	1	1
Africa Adapt	1	–	2	3	–	3	1	2	media	3	1	–
African Adaptation Programme	3	1	1	3	–	1	–	2	media	3	2	1
CCCCC	3	2	3	2	2	2	1	1	media	2	3	1
ci:grasp	3	2	2	2	1	1	1			2	–	3
OpenEI	3	3	2	3	1	2	3			3	3	3
CDKN	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	media	3	2	2
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	2	2	3	3	1	2	1	3	media	3	3	1
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	2	2	1	3	–	2	1			3	3	2
Climate Finance Options	2	–	2	3	2	2	–			2	2	2
Climate Funds Update	2	2	–	2	1	3	2			2	2	3
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			2	3	1
ClimatePrep	2	2	3	3	2	2	1			3	3	3
CRISTAL	1	1	–	3	–	3	–			3	1	–
Ecosystem Marketplace	1	2	3	3	2	2	1			3	1	2
Eldis	2	2	2	3	–	2	1	2		2	1	3
Global Adaptation Nework	3	3	3	3	2	3	2			2	2	2
ICIMOD	3	1	3	2	1	2	1	3	youth	2	3	1
India Environment Portal	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			3	3	3
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	2	1	2	3	2	1	2			2	3	1
MAPS	3	3	3	–	–	1	1			2	3	1
reegle	3	3	2	2	1	1	–	2	media & education	2	1	3
SEAChange	2	1	2	3	1	3	–			2	3	1
WeADAPT	3	3	3	3	–	3	1			3	2	1

5. Editorial Approach							
Initiative	Editor selects content	Users/ partners contribute content	Content organised by theme/ country/ topic	Introductions to topics/ concepts provided	Summaries/ abstracts of documents written	Synthesis products produced	Other	Specify
ACCCRN	3	–	1	2	–	2		
Actualidad Ambiental	3	–	–	–	1	2		
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	2	3	3	1	2	1		
Africa Adapt	1	3	2	2	2	2		
African Adaptation Programme	1	1	2	1	1	1		
CCCCC	2	2	3	2	1	1		
ci:grasp	3	2	3	1	1	1		
OpenEI	2	2	3	2	1	2		
CDKN	3	1	2	1	2	1		
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	media kits
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	3	–	3	1	2	3		Toolkits, models, library of links
Climate Finance Options	3	2	3	1	–	–		Library of docs, toolkits
Climate Funds Update	2	–	2	2	2	1		
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	3	2	–	3	1	–		
ClimatePrep	3	3	1	1	–	–		
CRISTAL	1	2	3	1	–	–		
Ecosystem Marketplace	3	–	2	1	1	2		Breaking news, features
Eldis	3	2	3	2	3	2		Key Issue Guides, print
Global Adaptation Nework	2	2	1	2	3	2		
ICIMOD	3	2	2	2	2	2		Media, press, global events
India Environment Portal	2	3	3	3	3	3		
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	2	3	2	3	1	–		
MAPS	2	2	3	1	1	1		
reegle	–	1	3	–	–	3		
SEAChange	2	3	3	1	2	–		
WeADAPT	3	3	3	–	–	–		

6. Technology/delivery approach

Initiative	Searchable database	Social networking platform	Visualisation & decision-making tools	Blogs	Maps	Email newsletter	Email discussion list	Facebook/ Twitter	RSS feeds	Face to face events	Other	Specify
ACCCRN	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–		
Actualidad Ambiental	2	3	2	–	–	3	1	3	3	3		
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	3	1	1	–	2	2	2	2	1	–	1	multimedia
Africa Adapt	1	3	–	1	1	2	–	2	1	2		
African Adaptation Programme	1	–	3	1	–	1	1	–	–	1	3	
CCCCC	3	–	3	–	2	1	1	–	2	3		by countries/ categories
ci:grasp	3	1	2	–	2	–	–	1	1	–		
OpenEI	3	–	2	1	3	1	–	1	1	1	2	open data, RDF, video
CDKN	2	–	–	2	1	2	–	2	2	2	2	video
Climate Change Adaptation in Asia & Pacific	3	–	–	–	3	3	1	–	3	3	3	linked open data coming soon
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	3	–	3	–	2	–	–	–	–	–		
Climate Finance Options	3	1	2	–	–	1	–	1	–	1		
Climate Funds Update	3	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–		
Climate Information Portal (CSAG)	–	–	3	–	3	2	–	–	3			
ClimatePrep	–	–	–	3	–	1	–	1	1	–		
CRISTAL	3	–	–	–	2	–	1	–	–	3		
Ecosystem Marketplace	3	–	2	2	–	3	3	3	3	–		
Eldis	2	2	1	2	1	3	2	2	3	2		Open API
Global Adaptation Nework	2	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	3		
ICIMOD	2	2	3	1	3	2	2	1	2	3		metadata
India Environment Portal	3	2	–	2	–	2	1	1	2	1		
Latin American Carbon Finance Portal	2	3	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	1		
MAPS	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		
reegle	3	–	1	2	2	–	–	1	2	–		open data RDF
SEAChange	3	–	1	–	–	3	1	2	2	3	3	Online webinars
WeADAPT	2	2	3	–	3	–	–	–	–	–		

Annex 6 – List of CKB platforms and web addresses

Platform	Web address
ACCCRN	www.acccrn.org
Actualidad Ambiental	www.actualidadambiental.pe
Adaptation Knowledge Platform for Asia	www.climateadapt.asia
Adaptation Learning Mechanism	www.adaptationlearning.net
Africa Adapt	www.africa-adapt.net
Africa Adaptation Programme	www.undp-aap.org
ARCAB	www.arcab.org
Asia Pacific Adaptation Platform	www.asiapacificadapt.net
CCAFS	ccafs.cgiar.org
Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre	www.caribbeanclimate.bz
ci-grasp	cigrasp.pik-potsdam.de
Climate and Development Knowledge Network	cdkn.org
Climate Finance Options	www.climatefinanceoptions.org
Climate Funds Update	www.climatefundsupdate.org
Climate Prep	www.climateprep.org
ClimateTech Wiki	climatetechwiki.org
Ecosystem Marketplace	www.ecosystemmarketplace.com
Eldis	www.eldis.org
Finanzas Carbono	finanzascarbono.org
ICIMOD	www.icimod.org
IISD Reporting Services	www.iisd.ca
India Environment Portal	www.indiaenvironmentportal.org.in
InfoAmazonia	infoamazonia.org
Internews	www.internews.org
IRENA	www.irena.org
MAPS	www.mapsprogramme.org
OneClimate	oneclimate.net
OpenEI	en.openei.org
PIK	www.pik-potsdam.de
Reegle.info	www.reegle.info
SEA Change	seachangecop.org
The REDD Desk	www.theredddesk.org
UN CC:Learn	www.uncclearn.org
UNEP Climate Change Adaptation	www.unep.org/climatechange/adaptation
UNFCCC	unfccc.int
weADAPT	weadapt.org
World Bank Climate Change Knowledge Portal	sdwebx.worldbank.org/climateportal

Annex 7– List of Steering Group members

Geoff Barnard – CDKN

Florian Bauer – REEEP

Dennis Bours* – SEA Change

Ana Bucher* – World Bank

Daniel Buckley – UNDP

Sadie Cox – NREL

Andrea Egan – UNDP

Blane Harvey – IDS

Mark Harvey* – Internews

Nana Kuenkel – GIZ

Steve Zwick* – Ecosystem Marketplace

*Joined in May 2012

To contact the Steering Group please visit
http://en.openei.org/wiki/Climate_Knowledge_Brokers_Group

or email Geoff Barnard on geoff.barnard@cdkn.org.