



SPOTLIGHT ON PUBLICATIONS: ADAPTATION IN SEMI-ARID REGIONS



Community-based responses to climate change build the capacity of populations to adapt in the face of increasing climate variability. This selection highlights some key publications related to Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) in Latin America. The first publications offer [Practical Tools and Resources](#) for putting CBA into practice, and the second set focuses on [Latin American Case Studies](#).

PRACTICAL TOOLS AND RESOURCES

► [Community-Based Adaptation Toolkit](#)

The Community-Based Adaptation Toolkit, published by the international NGO Care, offers a practical 'how-to' guide for designing and implementing CBA projects. Presented online in an interactive format, the Toolkit presents concrete and practical resources to help with all stages of the project cycle, including monitoring and evaluation. The easy-to-use tools and resources will be useful for South Asian and African programme implementers seeking to learn from best practice as they design and implement CBA projects.

Full Citation: CARE. 2010. *Community-Based Adaptation Toolkit*. Published online: http://www.careclimatechange.org/tk/cba/en/Open_Toolkit.html.



► [Community-based Adaptation in Practice](#)

This edited volume analyses CBA experiences through a case study approach, including not only Latin America but Africa and South Asia as well. It describes specific experiences but also pulls out commonalities across contexts, such as the impact of marginalisation and social networks, as well as practical questions concerning scaling-up and the role of the development community. The publication will be useful for both practitioners and policymakers, as it describes policy frameworks as well as their application in practice.

Full Citation: Ensor, J., Berger, R. 2009. Conclusion: Community-based Adaptation in Practice. In: *Understanding Climate Change Adaptation: Lessons from Community-Based Approaches*. Practical Action Publishing, Rugby.

► [A Toolkit for Designing Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives](#)

The UNDP Bureau of Development Policy published this toolkit for designing climate change adaptation initiatives with small budgets (US\$10,000 – US\$1 million). It provides step-by-step implementation tools, backed by expert knowledge and experience. It is aimed at governments and civil society practitioners alike, and will be useful for CBA design and implementation in Africa and South Asia.

Full Citation: UNDP. 2010. A Toolkit for Designing Climate Change Adaptation Initiatives. UNDP, New York.

LATIN AMERICAN CASE STUDIES

► [Enhancing Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change: The Case of Smallholder Farmers in the Brazilian Semi-arid Region](#)

Climate change adaptation in rural semi-arid regions has many links to conventional development planning. However, it also includes specific climate change components such as rainfall data collection, education and the dissemination of drought-adapted production systems. This article discusses adaptation theory and practice applied to a community-based project in semi-arid Brazil. The project idea, components and preliminary results are presented to give a comprehensive overview of possible strategies for project implementation. This publication may particularly interest development practitioners working with community adaptation in other regions.

Full Citation: Simões et al. 2010. Enhancing Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change: The Case of Smallholder Farmers in the Brazilian Semi-arid Region. *Environmental Science & Policy*(13)8: 801-808.



▶ [Linking Local Vulnerability to System Sustainability in a Resilience Framework: Two Cases from Latin America](#)

This publication depicts the potential trade-offs between reducing vulnerability of smallholder farmers and their transition to more sustainable futures. Focusing on coffee farmers in Mexico and soybean producers in Argentina, Eakin and Wehbe show how individual or farm-level responses to environmental and social change can in fact have negative implications for sustainable agriculture. For example, expanding soybean market opportunities are important for regional development, but at the same time may exclude smallholder farmers. These case studies and the conclusions reached can offer interesting reflections on adaptation policy design and project implementation for development actors in other regions.

Full Citation: Eakin, H., Wehbe, M., 2009. Linking Local Vulnerability to System Sustainability in a Resilience Framework: Two Cases from Latin America. *Climate Change* 93:355-377.

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