



Climate Resilience

Improving performance of climate
change responses

Overview

The threats posed by climate change are global and have the potential to reverse hard-fought development gains. We believe the transformative change needed to address these threats must be based on a robust understanding of what works and why.

Our services range from evaluating the programmes and organisations responsible for delivering climate resilience, to designing innovative monitoring and indicator frameworks to assess transformative capacity.

Climate change is with us now. Exacerbated by population growth and scarce resources it is the biggest single threat to the future of life on the planet. And it is the poorest and most vulnerable people of the world, those who have contributed least to its causes, who are most affected. We work to:

- Give those most affected by climate change a voice so that the unique knowledge they possess is heard and acted on,
- Define new frameworks to mainstream, monitor and capture the results of innovative adaptive and technological approaches to build resilience to climate change,
- Review and evaluate the performance of climate change projects, programmes and institutions so that lessons learned are fed back into future work and resources are allocated where they are most effective,
- Help everyone affected by and working to tackle climate change to plan, manage, and assess the impact of their work – development partners, policy makers, civil society, NGOs, philanthropic organisations, local communities.

We are at the forefront of climate resilience monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and contribute to a rapidly evolving body of knowledge and best practice. In a relatively short space of time we have enhanced our approach from one that framed climate change as a ‘stand-alone’ development issue based on a dichotomy between adaptation and mitigation to a more sophisticated

and nuanced method which aims to deliver ‘transformational change’ in the face of this complex, long-term and multifaceted challenge.

We help shape debate on the potentially critical role of climate resilience to keep development on track. In particular, how to better define, measure and report on improved climate resilience for poor and vulnerable people.

Within this rapidly evolving and expanding field our core services cover:

Strategic planning

We help those we work with to design strategies in a way that is evidence-based, coherent, has clear and measurable objectives and takes account of the way a development programme links with the rest of the world. We have particular expertise in theory of change based approaches.

Monitoring systems

We help develop innovative yet practical ways to measure the effects of development initiatives on climate resilience to provide the information needed to adapt and learn from experience.

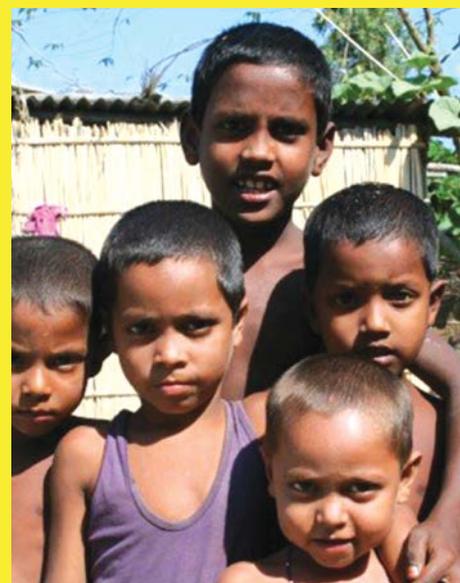
Evaluation

We conduct independent, evidence-based studies of the design, implementation and results of on-going or completed projects, programmes and organisations. Operating in complex and contested environments,

we have developed and adapted a range of methods to define and assess credible contribution (as well as direct attribution) to change. And we specialise in robust and reliable mixed-methods where we generate a mix of rigorous quantitative and qualitative data. We deliver our findings with pragmatic suggestions on how to improve performance.

Training and capacity building

We place strong emphasis on sustainably transferring skills and knowledge to those we work with, both through formal training and through more informal collaboration and knowledge sharing.



OUR PROJECTS



Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), End of Year 5 Evaluation

CDKN (www.cdkn.org) is a large and complex programme whose main purpose is to help decision-makers in developing countries design and deliver climate compatible development. CDKN does this by providing demand-led research and technical assistance, and channelling the best available knowledge on climate change and development to support policy processes at the country level. Itad is undertaking the Year 5 Evaluation of CDKN, which is being delivered by a Core Evaluation Team in collaboration with senior country counterparts and regional climate change advisors in India, Rwanda, Nepal, Kenya and Colombia. We are applying a mixed-method approach combining qualitative and quantitative methodologies including a relatively rigorous assessment of CDKN results. The essence of the evaluation is to validate five key Theories of Change (ToC) identified, establish CDKN's relative progress along them, and situate CDKN's Year 5 results progress within appropriate timescales.

➤ To find more about this project visit www.itad.com/projects/climate-development-knowledge-network-cdkn-end-of-year-5-evaluation

DFID's Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) Programme

DFID's £140m Building Resilience and Adapting to Climate Extremes and Disasters (BRACED) Programme was launched in 2014 to respond to the changing magnitude and frequency of droughts, floods and cyclones and other climate extremes. The BRACED Programme aims to benefit an estimated 5 million people through grants to NGOs and their partners, to scale up proven technologies and practices in the Sahel and DFID focal countries at most risk. Working with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), Itad is leading the delivery of the M&E components for the BRACED Knowledge Manager (KM) and, with a consortium of global partners, helps BRACED deliver a sustained and transformational impact on people's resilience beyond the communities directly supported by funded projects. Itad is responsible for leading all KM monitoring and evaluation activities. Our role is divided into two components. First, we generate knowledge through supporting BRACED Programme grantees with project monitoring and routine results reporting. Second, we are implementing research and evaluation activities at the programme, project and thematic level. The global focus of our work means that DFID, their focal countries and international partners will have access to shared knowledge about what works to strengthen resilience to climate extremes.

➤ To find more about this project visit www.itad.com/projects/building-resilience-and-adaptation-to-climate-extremes-and-disasters-braced

We believe that the transformative change required to address these threats needs to be based on a robust understanding of what works and why.

Rockefeller Foundation Africa Agriculture Resilience Grant Portfolio Review

The Rockefeller Foundation seeks to help poor and vulnerable people benefit from fairer economic growth, and increased resilience whereby people, communities and systems survive, adapt, and grow in the face of changes, even catastrophic incidents. This grant portfolio evaluation covered two interrelated bodies of work: the African Agriculture Resilience (AAR) component of the larger Climate Change Resilience Initiative, and the Land-based Carbon Markets for Poverty Reduction (CPR) initiative.

Given their complementary nature the Rockefeller Foundation wished to learn from the experience of implementing the two components, with the possible intention of merging the two initiatives under one future initiative around Climate Smart Rural Development (CSR). The essence of the evaluation was to establish the feasibility and strategy for this as well as to assess and document the key results and lessons to have emerged from Rockefeller's funding of AAR and CPR. We used a mixed methods approach starting with a detailed desk-based analytical review of the portfolio followed by field visits to selected grants in 7 countries – Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and the US.

The grant initiative evaluation formed the basis of our on-going relationship with the Rockefeller Foundation. We have provided Rockefeller with a broad range of strategic advisory services in the fields of resilience and climate change adaptation covering M&E systems, theory of change development to support strategic planning, and indicator frameworks to help monitor programme progress and capture lessons and new knowledge.

➤ To find more about this project visit www.itad.com/projects/evaluation-of-the-rockefeller-foundations-african-agriculture-resilience-grant-initiative



CASE STUDY

World Bank Independent Evaluation of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)

Itad led the Independent Evaluation of the Development Grants Facility (DGF) Financed Track 1 of the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). Established in 2006, the GFDRR is a partnership of 41 countries and 8 international organisations committed to helping developing countries reduce their vulnerability to natural hazards and adapt to climate change. DGF-financed Track 1 responds to disaster risk reduction (DRR) needs at the global and regional levels in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) priorities. It is jointly run by the World Bank and the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to ensure the involvement of governments, the UN, multilateral development banks, regional organizations, and civil society partners. Itad evaluated the achievements of the UNISDR-GFDRR partnership, and particularly its impact on generating global and regional collaboration around DRR. The team applied a Contribution Analysis-based approach to establish a coherent set of partnership change pathways. The evidence to support these pathways was then assembled using an integrated qualitative and quantitative set of mixed methods, drawing on a standardised case study methodology.

- To find more about this project visit www.itad.com/projects/independent-evaluation-of-the-global-facility-for-disaster-reduction-and-recovery-gfdr



Other projects

- Evaluation of the Rockefeller Foundation's Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN)
- Monitoring and capturing the lessons from the Strategic Climate Institutions Programme in Ethiopia
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) of Ethiopia's Climate Smart Initiative
- Evaluation of PreventionWeb and related UNISDR information services for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Approaches to Support for the Environment in Africa
- Review of the World Bank infoDev Climate Technology Program
- Strategic Support to the Ecosystems Services for Poverty Alleviation Programme
- Review of CARE International's Climate Change Strategic Plan
- Monitoring and Evaluation of the DFID Forest Governance Markets and Climate Fund
- Organisational Evaluation of the Stockholm Environment Institute
- Capacity Development for Local Governments Climate Change Training Course for Swiss Development Cooperation Bangladesh

We have been involved in shaping the debate over the potentially critical role of climate resilience in keeping development on track. In particular, how to better define, measure and report on improved climate resilience for poor and vulnerable people.

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