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Enhancing Planning, Institutional Frameworks and Capacities on Adaptation and Resilience

Date: 8th February 2024 | **Time:** 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (90 minutes)

Venue: Magnolia, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road New Delhi

Background

More than forty percent of India's population lives below the lower-middle income poverty line. Many of them also deal with the effects of climate change and other shocks. For example, coastal regions are highly exposed to climate hazards that include cyclones and sea-level rise, bringing floods and erosion, which in turn inflict a great loss of lives and livelihoods, especially among the mostly impoverished coastal communities. Sea-level rise leads to saline intrusion, which affects the groundwater needed for drinking and agriculture, exacerbating water and food insecurity. Recently, global shocks in trade and finance markets have rippled through food prices, and interest rates to harm the poor. This further strains resources in impoverished communities. The compounding negative impacts that these shocks have on development gains are likely to get worse. In this scenario, building resilience becomes a development imperative.

Institutions need to be fully equipped to address climate resilience issues coherently and comprehensively including through various processes designed around the State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCCs). Many agencies work in silos, and the lack of planning and inter-institutional collaboration has been a compounding challenge. To build system resilience, institutions will need to be strengthened, for example, by improving the collection and sharing of data, factoring in new sources of risk in spatial planning, environmental regulation, adopting state-of-the-art technologies for systems monitoring and forecasting, and enhancing crisis management capabilities through a multi-sectoral approach.

Integrated planning is essential for building climate resilience. In urban areas, spatial planning enables municipal governments to mitigate climate hazards by locating critical infrastructure in low-risk areas. In coastal areas, integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) helps address long-term coastal challenges, including climate change. ICZM promotes a long-term, strategic, and adaptive approach to coastal zone management, contributing to coastal areas' ability to withstand shocks.

Objectives

This session will bring together key stakeholders from government, non-government, and development agencies engaged in strategic planning for resilience. It will emphasize the role of integrated planning and institutional frameworks for climate adaptation and building systemic resilience. Lessons from various planning processes, including SAPCCs will be discussed.

The session will also show how a multi-sector planning framework enables a systematic introduction of nature-based solutions to build climate resilience at scale and in a cost-effective manner. Integrated coastal zone management planning can bring green natural capital at the core of resilience planning. Doing so enables the delivery of global public goods, including biodiversity protection and carbon mitigation, alongside safeguarding livelihoods through people-centric development that considers natural capital-based job creation and income diversification.

The session will cover questions on the following topics:

- Good practices
- Planning tools and policy instruments
- Governance frameworks
- Sub-national planning
- Tracking and implementation
- Community participation

Key Questions

1. What are the good practices when it comes to adaptation and resilience especially in the context of nature-based solutions and coastal zone management?
2. What are the key planning tools and policy instruments can assist governments and communities in building resilience to and adapting to climate change?
3. How can governance frameworks within State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) be strengthened to support effective climate change adaptation and resilience?
4. How can community participation be enhanced for planning and execution for climate adaptation for climate-resilient housing?
5. What adaptive strategies should be employed to ensure the mainstreaming effective and impactful climate policies and finance programs?

About the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making 'sustainable development' a globally shared goal. The only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment, based in the Global South, WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions for the benefit of global communities by assembling the world's most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform. The 23rd edition of the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)—the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)—will be held from 7-9 February 2024 in New Delhi. The Summit deliberations will focus on the umbrella theme: Leadership for Sustainable Development and Climate Justice.