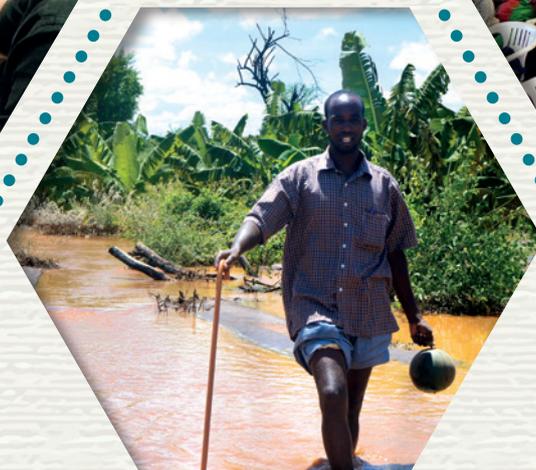


Co-production
in African
weather
and climate
services





The building blocks of co-production

Ten principles for good co-production



Ensure value-add for all involved

- Value of engagement and time and effort spent needs to be demonstrated
- Need to co-identify value during project development
- Ensure that all benefit – this will increase odds of deep and continued engagement of actors and sustainability

Participants at a Raising Risk Awareness workshop, hosted at the Climate Change Directorate campus in Nairobi, Kenya. (Source: C. Mathieson, 2016)



CDKN RAISING RISK AWARENESS PROJECT

Drought events were co-identified as the focus of country case studies in Kenya and Ethiopia. Drought attribution is complex, especially when seasonal variability is large. However, drought analysis is more valuable to local project partners and actors than heat waves which are easier to attribute.

Communicate in accessible ways

- Package and present for specific audiences' needs
- Choose communication channels together
- Consider what language and terms are appropriate for audience
- Shared understanding of key terms to avoid misunderstandings

WISER WEATHER WISE PROJECT

Working with local radio stations to produce more climate and weather stories and paying for better equipment to incentivise the time investment in attending training courses.



Climate journalists and scientists successfully co-produce a 30 minute radio programme on the impact of climate change on pastoralists in Tanzania (Source: B. Mackay, 2019)

Support conscious facilitation

- Create a safe space
- Diffuse power dynamics and hierarchies to allow different knowledges and experiences to be equally heard
- Recognise multiple world views

BRACED GENDER WRITESHOP

Efficient and inclusive facilitation ensured every participant could provide their view and opinion. Conscious framing process enabled participants to review each others' writing in honest and rigorous, yet respectful way.



Participants of the BRACED 'Writeshop' in London (Source: V. le Masson, 2016)

Keep flexible

- Need flexibility because co-production is an emergent process
- Refine products and processes
- Extend activities or stakeholders involved

FCFA UMFULA PROJECT

The initial co-exploration process identified interest in the increased occurrence of extreme events, but did not define the critical threshold for such events. A separate process was required to facilitate the co-defining of metrics.



Meteorologist Yobu Kachiwanda, of Malawi's Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services, displays the co-produced climate briefs to members of the public and school children on World Meteorological Day 2018. (Source: DCCMS, 2018)

Improve transparency of forecast accuracy and certainty

- Foundational knowledge of scientific skill and probability needed
- Helps define the possibilities and limitations of weather and climate services



Mapping flood hazards in Mozambique (Source: D Decremmer, 2019)

FATHUM PROJECT

FATHUM researchers have calculated the probability of flooding in different rivers in Africa when there is a seasonal forecast of above-normal rainfall. In Togo, the probability of the forecast NOT resulting in flooding was more than 50%. Therefore, humanitarians have decided to use these seasonal forecasts only for awareness raising, but not for delivering goods to at-risk populations.

Tailor to context and decision

- Address identified user needs
- Co-exploratory processes between producers and users to understand the decision that the climate service can address
- Workshops or surveys can be useful co-exploratory processes

WISER WESTERN PROJECT

Investigating user decision contexts led to the production of a daily weather forecast for fishermen in the Lake Victoria area, Kenya, to inform decisions around when to fish.



Fishermen on Lake Victoria (Source: Thomas Stellmach from Flickr, 2012)

Deliver timely and sustainable service

- Determine the timeframes needed for producers and users and if there are conflicts
- Manage expectations and agree on a feasible timeframe for delivery
- Think about sustainability, work with more than one actor

WISER SCIPEA PROJECT

Co-production determined that the timing of seasonal forecasts was too late to be useful to farmers resulting in the forecast being made available earlier. The communities that embrace these kinds of initiatives see a substantial improvement in crop yields.



An agro-pastoralist in Garissa, Kenya, reading climate advisories (Source: CARE ALP/E. Aduma, 2014)

Build trust

- Shared understanding of co-production process
- Sustained collaboration to build trust and longer term relationships
- Agree the most effective interaction styles

FCFA UMFULA PROJECT

Held meetings early on in the project with partners and stakeholders to determine their level of interest in the project and communication preferences (medium and frequency). One page update on progress issued every 6 months by email to key partners, highlighting their areas of interest.



UMFULA team collaborates with Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services, Malawi (Source: K. Vincent, 2017)



Enhance inclusivity

- Inclusion of different users, including marginalised groups
- Inclusion of different knowledge, including non-scientific
- Safe space for open dialogue
- Use less jargon
- Take gender, disability and social equity into account

FCFA AMMA-2050 PROJECT

In Senegal, AMMA-2050 used Theatre Forum to enable space for dialogue between actors across disciplines, sectors and decision-making levels. The piece explored respective roles in addressing evolving climate risks.



Theatre Forum organised in Senegal with Kaddu Yaraax group. (Source: A. Barnaud, IRD, 2018)

Embrace diversity and respect differences

- Inclusion of different people, sectors, disciplines and decision-making levels
- Effective communication amongst all partners that respects differing value and knowledge systems

FCFA FRACTAL PROJECT

Deployed 'embedded' researchers in decision-making environments. This created improved understanding and empathy, allowing insights into how decisions are made to develop effective climate services.



Lusaka 5th Learning Lab (Source: R. Jones, 2017)

The information presented in this poster is drawn from a Manual on Co-production in African Weather and Climate Services. To access the digital version of the manual please scan the following code or find it on the website – <https://futureclimateafrica.org/coproduction-manual>



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