

Drought preparedness and climate change resilience in Brazil: applying an integrated approach to design, monitor and evaluate institutional change

Brazil has historically coped with drought, a phenomenon that especially impacts the semi-arid lands of the Northeast. To deal with the various impacts of a current multi-year drought (2010-ongoing), the Government of Brazil, led by the Ministry of National Integration, partnered with the World Bank (WB) on a non-lending technical assistance program (i.e., Drought NLTA) to foster proactive drought policy and management. The program works across sectors in relation to the outcomes and stakeholders it aims to achieve and influence, and through the integration of WB Global Practices and programs.



Drought NLTA key-components include: 1) helping the Ministry of Integration foster a national dialogue towards a National Policy; 2) building a Northeast Drought Monitor, a bottom-up process mainly led by regional multi-sector climate/meteorology and water agencies; 3) pilot drought preparedness plans for different sectors across Northeast (urban water supply, rural rainfed agriculture, and river basin). The program framework is based on three pillars of drought preparedness: 1) monitoring and early warning; 2) vulnerability and impact assessment; and 3) mitigation and response planning and management.

Lesson learned 1 – If a workshop is not an option, interview partners to collect perspectives to the intentional design

- Sample wisely: 21 interviews + 13 questionnaires was excessive; didn't result in a greater quality than a more targeted sample.
- Follow up with partners to check accuracy of change process for their group.

Lesson learned 2 – To obtain buy-in it may be useful to adapt terminology (Change Agents --> Partners) and display the change process in [Theory of Change framework/categories](#).

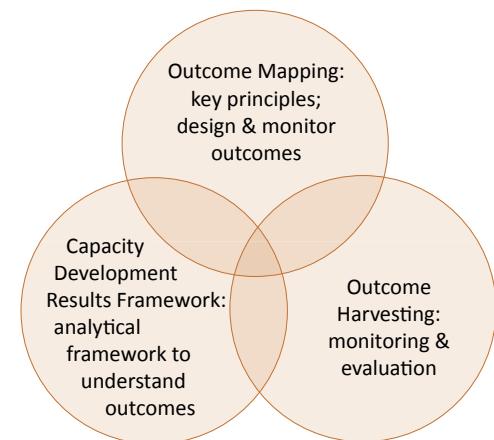
S.M.A.R.T. review on progress markers and indicators:

~~Diversity of stakeholders engaging in Drought preparedness activities~~
Diversity of participation can be assessed through progress markers

~~Use of Drought Monitor data and information for drought declaration and response. # of plans/policies/procedures that incorporate the Drought Monitor~~
May not be traceable until much after the intervention ends

Next steps: questionnaires and interviews will be used to...

- collect and substantiate outcomes (Outcome Harvesting)
- design long-term evaluation questions
- design indicators to track institutional change sustainability and contribution to long-term climate change resilience and drought management capacity



M&E approach: World Bank Institute pilot

OUTPUTS

- * Institutional and IT diagnosis of data and information services in Northeast states.
- * Institutional agreements around the design and implementation of the Drought Monitor.

ACTIVITIES

- * Training of stakeholders to collaborate with Drought Monitor
- * Training of professionals in successful Drought Monitor and Drought Preparedness models, technologies and processes in US/Mexico

Water, Climate and Agricultural agencies

Love to see

- * implementing integrated and coordinated drought preparedness plans, technologies and frameworks

Like to see

- * collaborating through established networks with defined governance rules

Expect to see

- * engaging in and promoting capacity development activities with multi-sector stakeholders
- * increasing knowledge, data sharing and cooperation

