



## CARIAA London Launch

*The Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA) is a newly established program supporting four research consortia in three different climate change hot spots in Africa and Asia. Semi-arid lands are the focus of two of the consortia: Pathways to Resilience in Semi-Arid Economies (PRISE), and Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR). A third, Deltas, Vulnerability, and Climate Change: Migration as Adaptation (DECCMA), looks at deltas, while the fourth, Himalayan Adaptation, Water and Resilience (HI-AWARE), examines glacier and snow pack-dependent river basins. This report covers highlights from the program's London launch event, held on June 19th, 2014. Further information about the consortia including a full list of collaborating institutions is available at <http://www.idrc.ca/cariaa>.*



CARIAA consortia members and stakeholders discuss common challenges during the roundtable session

### CARIAA in the context of the 5th Assessment Report (AR5)

Following CARIAA's successful Africa and Asia Regional Launch events in Nairobi and Katmandu, CARIAA was introduced to key stakeholders in London in June. Over 45 members of leading organizations in the field of climate change adaptation attended the event.

Presentations by the CARIAA program team and consortia representatives introduced participants to the program model and the consortia's approaches in the context of the key issues highlighted in IPCC Working Group II's 5th Assessment Report (AR5) on Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability, which was released in March.

- Bernard Cantin (CARIAA Program Leader) and Ken De Souza (DFID) **introduced** the CARIAA program model, which positions the program well to respond to the challenge of working across scales highlighted in AR5.
- Robert Nicholls (University of Southampton) **presented** DECCMA's research on migration and adaptation in deltas in the context of the IPCC's observation that changes in migration patterns can be both a response to climate change and an adaptation strategy.



- Anjal Prakash (ICIMOD) **presented HI-AWARE's** research on adaptation in Himalayan river basins, which addresses statements in AR5 regarding the relationship between climate change, glaciers and water.
- Martin Rokitzki (OXFAM) **presented ASSAR's** research on adaptation in semi-arid regions in the context of key points in AR5 that the consortium's research questions respond to. For instance, in response to the IPCC's observation that individuals adapt autonomously in the absence of governance barriers, ASSAR seeks to understand the

nature of these barriers across different scales.

- Tom Mitchell (ODI) **presented PRISE's** research on economic resilience in semi-arid lands in the context of the research gaps identified in the AR5 that this research will address. The consortium's third working paper on markets, for example, will address the gap in research on the impacts of climate change on food systems.

The table below presents a summary of the ways in which CARIAA consortia are addressing issues identified in AR5.

	IPCC observations in the AR5	CARIAA's strategy
PRISE	<p>Current policy responses for climate change mitigation or adaptation will result in mixed, and even detrimental, outcomes for marginalized people</p> <p>Evidence of systemic risks to breakdown of infrastructure networks and critical services due to extreme events</p> <p>Risk of loss of terrestrial ecosystem services</p> <p>Climate change over 21st century will have significant impacts on forms of migration that compromise human security</p> <p>Climate change impacts will slow down economic growth and poverty reduction, further erode food security, and trigger new poverty traps</p>	<p>Using a policy-first approach to advise policymakers on interactions between climate change and development, encouraging more focus on how climate change affects the economic opportunities of poor people</p> <p>Exploring links between climate risk and infrastructure choices. Designing options to improve resilience of infrastructure investments</p> <p>Examining market and social value of ecosystem goods and services essential to community livelihoods</p> <p>Generating primary data on migration fluxes in vulnerable areas. In-depth analysis of remittances. Offers policy support for planned migration as an adaptation</p> <p>Exploring the effect of climate risks on human development and insurance and social protection schemes for poverty alleviation</p>
DECCMA	<p>Risk of severe harm for large urban populations due to inland flooding</p> <p>Coastal systems and low-lying areas will increasingly experience adverse impacts of sea level rise</p> <p>Hundreds of millions of people will be affected and displaced by coastal flooding</p> <p>Climate change over 21st century will have significant impacts on forms of migration that compromise human security</p>	<p>Investigating effects of flooding, salinization and habitat destruction in urbanized deltas</p> <p>Adaptation options to sea level rise are explored based on vulnerability hotspot mapping</p> <p>Generating scenarios of abandonment, resettlement and adaptation under climate change</p> <p>Studying conditions and patterns of migration to promote adaptation policy for migration as a sustainable adaptation</p>
HI-AWARE	<p>Projections show continued mass loss from glaciers. In the Himalayas, dependence on glacier melt water are of serious concern when measured per head of population</p> <p>Risk of loss of rural livelihoods and income due to insufficient access to drinking and irrigation water</p> <p>Climate change will reduce renewable surface water and ground-water resources significantly, exacerbating competition for water among sectors</p> <p>Climate change over 21st century will have significant impacts on forms of migration that compromise human security</p>	<p>Proposing responses to combined impacts of climate and socio-economic changes on availability and demand of glacier-fed waters</p> <p>Analysing the impacts of climate and socio-economic changes on water availability and demand</p> <p>Addressing the institutional and governance dynamics of water use and cross-sectoral demand</p> <p>Studying how migration from mountains and the plains can be attributed to climate change and the impacts on those left behind</p>
ASSAR	<p>Opportunities to design and implement solutions that promote climate resilient pathways can also support development objectives</p> <p>Adaptation to climate variability and change across Africa is reactive in response to short-term motivations</p> <p>Individuals adapt autonomously without policy and government support. Barriers to adaptation across national to local scales constrain adaptation</p>	<p>Applying Transformative Scenario Planning to understand pathways for adaptation complementary to development objectives</p> <p>Generating evidence to support the development of policies that enable longer term livelihoods adaptation</p> <p>Analysing and improving upon current approaches to communicating climate change across regional, national &amp; local scales of governance</p>

## Collaboration: the way forward

Stakeholder participation in the event was kick-started with a Q&A session and stakeholder introductions. These helped pave the way for later brainstorming on the ways in which CARIAA consortia can collaborate with other institutions. This emphasis on knowledge sharing and collaboration was echoed throughout the day, and reflected in survey responses on the quality of the event (see box below).

Roundtable discussions furthered the dialogue on key issues common to both the consortia and stakeholders. Selecting from crosscutting themes identified at the Nairobi and Katmandu launch events, participants reflected on challenges and potential solutions, and started to pinpoint ways in which they could work together. Of the five themes up for discussion—research to action, scaling up and out, communicating adaptation research, migration and economics, and capacity strengthening—communicating adaptation research, migration and a new theme, coordinating in-country stakeholder engagement, were chosen. These are explored in more depth below:

### 1. Coordinating in-country stakeholder engagement

**The challenges:** Programmes like CARIAA increasingly aim to engage with in-country stakeholders to promote uptake of their research. Consequently, there are growing demands on a relatively small and over-stretched pool of policy

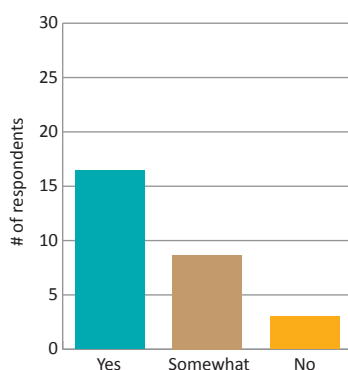
actors, raising real risks of “engagement fatigue” and potentially contradictory guidance from different organizations. At the same time, there are existing national and regional institutions and platforms in many countries, and we often fail to build on these when setting up new engagement processes or platforms.

**Potential solutions:** Coordination enables greater effectiveness, efficiency and economy. A comprehensive mapping of the programs operating in each country could be useful, beginning with a small number of programs and expanding over time. Depending on which stakeholders each program wants to reach, a common stakeholder engagement platform that builds on existing networks could be developed. The Climate Knowledge Brokers group and CLACC network serve as reference points and models of best practice. It was determined that CARIAA, CDKN, CCAFS and FCFA share considerable overlap in the countries where they are working (e.g. Ghana, Bangladesh and Pakistan), are at periods in their development that makes buy-in to this approach timely, and share common funding partners, making collaboration quite viable.

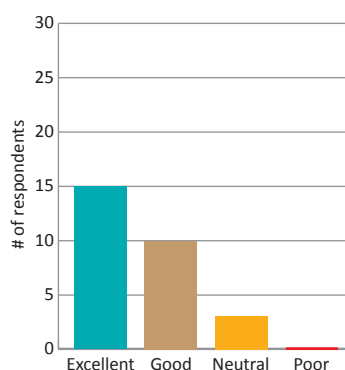
### 2. Communicating adaptation research

**The challenges:** The specificity of climate change adaptation makes it difficult to maintain broader public interest. For many, the issue is no longer urgent or attractive, and global warming has replaced climate change as the buzzword du jour. In addition, different audiences require different packaging of information and have varying

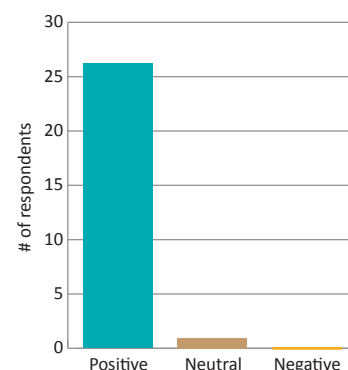
**Question 1:**  
Did you learn something new about CARIAA during the event?



**Question 2:**  
How would you describe the quality of the interactions between consortia members and stakeholders?



**Question 3:**  
How would you describe the event's impact on partnerships between consortia and stakeholders?



## Stakeholders' Assessments of the Event



Ken De Souza from DFID UK joins the roundtable discussions between CARIIA consortium members and stakeholders

levels of familiarity with the terminology used in research.

**Potential solutions:** The target audience, method of communication, and deliverer of information are all important factors in effectively communicating climate change adaptation research. Those who are in a position to make decisions should be targeted and engaged from the onset of a project. Where direct communication is not possible, translators or mediators can be used; identification of boundary partners and key influencers with the most contact can help to mitigate this obstacle, but maintaining neutrality is also important. Programs

should get to know their audience and coordinate with other programs; similarly, researchers can be trained to use audience-appropriate vocabulary, as well as to prepare media messages.

### 3. Migration

**The challenges:** Migration is a complex issue encompassing many sectors; this complexity makes it difficult to assess whether and when migration is a viable climate change adaptation strategy. Conversely, there is also little evidence demonstrating the specific impacts of climate change on migration.

**Potential solutions:** Given the complexity of migration issues, understanding them will require a multi-dimensional approach. The diverse drivers of migration should be addressed; these include social or traditional practices, environmental issues, institutional or policy factors, and economic issues and concern. Migration at different scales—from local to sub-regional to national and international—should be considered. Lastly, the varied impacts of migration should be studied: conflicts and security, health issues, changes to livelihoods.

*The London Launch is the last of a series of events through which CARIIA began stakeholder dialogues at the outset of the program. Information on other events is available on the CARIIA website. CARIIA is funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the UK's Department for International Development (DFID). The program aims to build the resilience of vulnerable populations and their livelihoods in three climate change hot spots in Africa and Asia.*