

▶ Cost – Benefit in Adapting to Climate Change

▶ DISCUSSION

- ▶ CIRCLE Clustering Workshop
- ▶ Bonn, 24 September 2009

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Workflow of discussion per unit

- general introduction
- assessment of facts and knowledge
- discussion
- summary (create “take home” message)

How can costs and benefits under adaptation to climate change be quantified?

Methods & ideas (1):

frame for methodology implementation:

- Continuum of methods required, depending on usage and scales of CBA
 - > accordingly structure discussion required, different approaches have to be taken into account
- Identification and prioritization of known and unknown factors necessary
- Standards need to be defined, including a design of guidelines
- Cost and time appropriateness of methodology has to be ensured

Methods & ideas (2):

methodology implementation:

- Gaps in data to be eliminated, harmonization of scenarios necessary
- Consider variety of baselines (economical, different adaptation options, ...)
- Appropriate methodologies for market or non-market based problems
- Consider quantification of „soft“ and arising unexpected impacts
- Discussion: Consider multicriteria analyses in all cases?
- Assessment: Identification of particular climate aspects in CBA?

Methodology of CBA:

**Various methods are described in literature
for a variety of cases**

Which role and relevance do cost benefit analyses have in “real life”?

Importance and acceptance

Relevant aspects:

- Visibility of presented case studies, experiences in the “real” world
- Their impact in “real” life
- Boundaries of acceptance
- Ways to improve acceptance
- Acceptance, special aspects: Uncertainty, reliability, legal aspects, ...

Summary:

- Distinguish between discussion partners and target groups for the results
- Assess societal behavior: reactions to CBA outcomes?
- Communicate: CBA is not a decision tool but provides its basis!
- Adequate communication of CBA results is mandatory! Avoid „misuse“ of results
- Involve stakeholders during the process, „institutionalization“ at relevant spots, integrative procedure, ...

Which best practices can be suggested for the performance of cost benefit analyses in the context of climate change adaptation?

Dos and don'ts:

- Take into account ensembles
- CBA not as the only basis for decision on adaptation measures
- Involve stakeholders during the entire process
- Ask the decision makers what they actually need
- Include flexible solutions/options to make results easier to process and handle

Research needs for successful and efficient CBA:

Topics in basic research:

- Fundamental analysis of baseline formulation in long term adaptation
- Elaborate adequate data base, enhance data quality, harmonize data, keep data up-to-date
- Develop methodologies for making data comparable
- Meta analysis of CB