

# **Adaptation: Community-based from Start to Finish Tools to Support Participatory Approaches**

**Adaptation Fund Climate Readiness Seminar  
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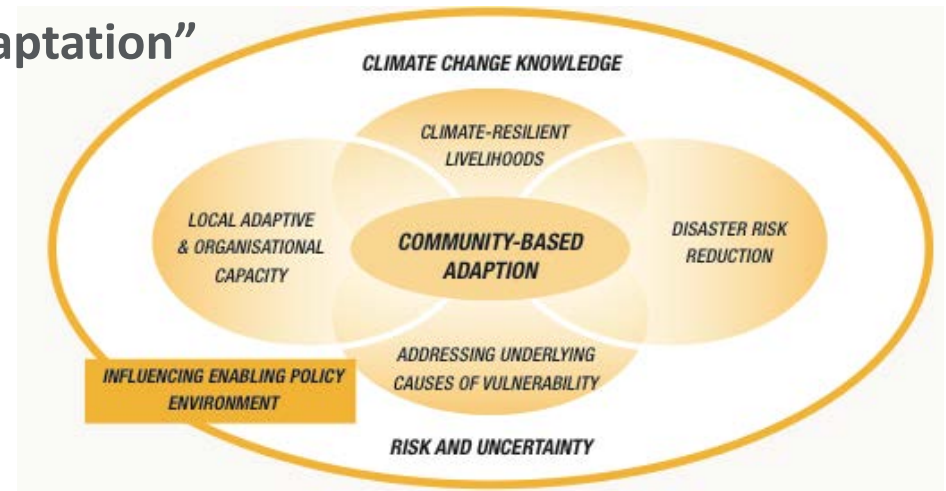
- **Why community-based?**
- **Tools to support participatory approaches**
  - Climate Vulnerability & Capacity Assessment
  - Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation, Reflection & Learning
- **Tools to support participatory approaches**

# Community-based adaptation and M&E



## The context: “Community-based adaptation”

- **Climate change challenges us all** to learn to live with on-going change and to make decisions in the context of increased uncertainty and risk.
- **Differential vulnerability** and capacity of different groups to respond to the impacts of climate change → requires tailored and equitable responses
- **Adaptation initiatives should empower people affected by climate change**
  - to play a central role in the planning and decision making processes affecting their lives
  - to understand and analyse how the climate impacts lives, make informed and forward-looking decisions and constantly adjust their strategies in response to new and uncertain circumstances
- **Effective climate change adaptation is a process** that avoids pre-determined solutions and brings decisions under control by those affected



# What does global adaptation work need to get better at?



## Review of global adaptation portfolios by major agencies (SEA Change 2014):

- **Adaptation programme design** needs to be better grounded in coherent analysis of how a dynamic climate change context interacts with socioeconomic vulnerability
- → **Need for a better understanding of context in adaptation M&E** – in particular understanding and tracking what influences a population’s vulnerability and resilience and how
- **Adaptation endeavours are stronger** when M&E provides hooks for real-time learning and isn’t just for reporting purposes
- **Resilience** has no fixed standards and cannot be effectively promoted by checklists

# Effective adaptation, grounded in CBA principles



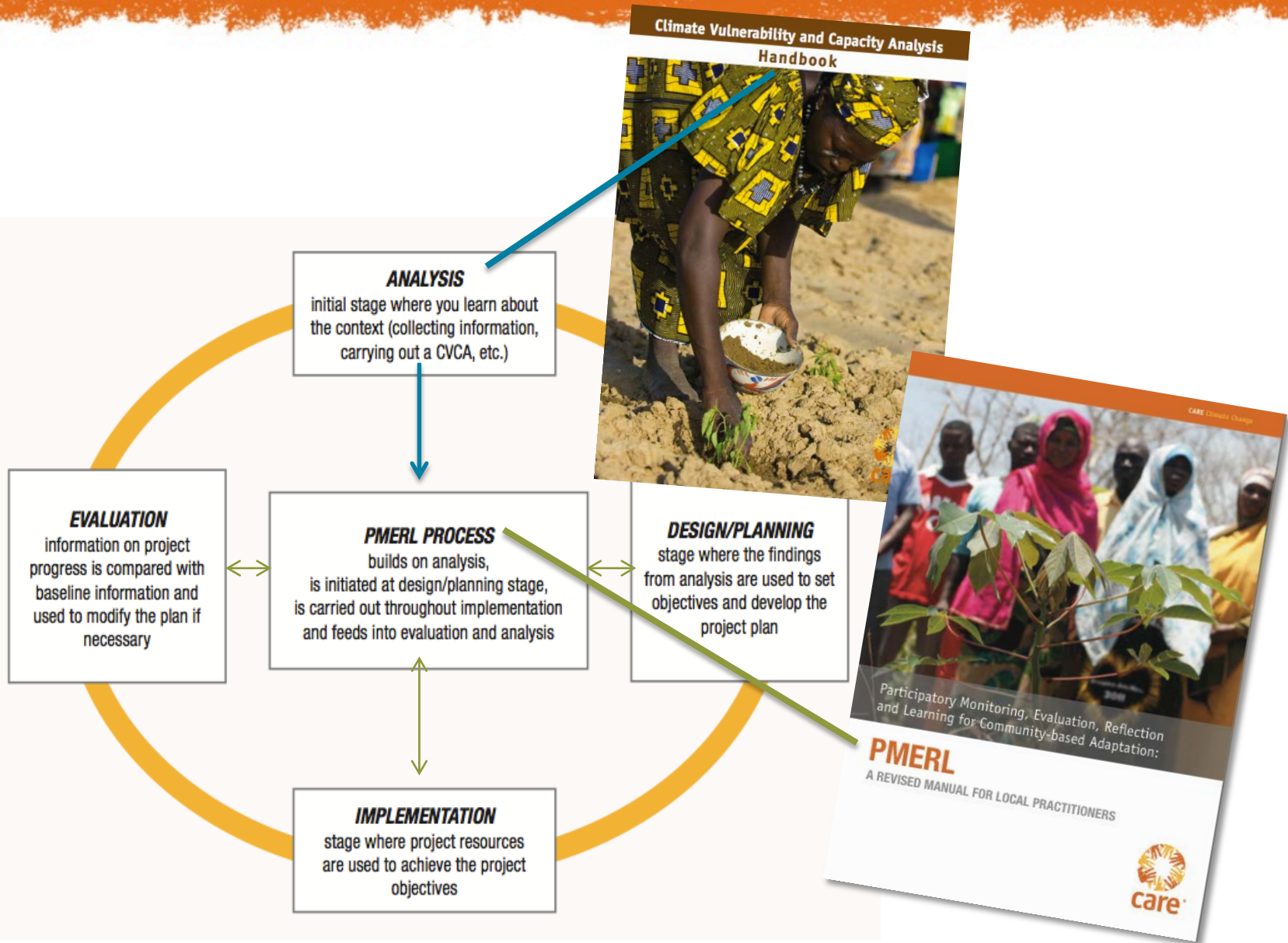
Our tools for adaptation are premised on the principles that...

- **managing uncertainty and ongoing change** requires a learning-by-doing approach
- **we are still learning** what successful adaptation looks like

They help us ensure that...

- **CBA is strongly rooted in participatory, process-oriented principles** which also need to be reflected in how progress on adaptation is defined and measured
- **CBA needs to provide a platform/ process for local stakeholders** to articulate their own needs, priorities and vision of change
- **people affected by climate change benefit** from being involved in monitoring and evaluation processes by gaining
  - an understanding of their own adaptation processes,
  - skills in observing change, and
  - capacity to analyse the impact of shift and changes in the climate on their own lives

# CVCA and PMERL: Tools for the adaptation project cycle





## Aims/objectives

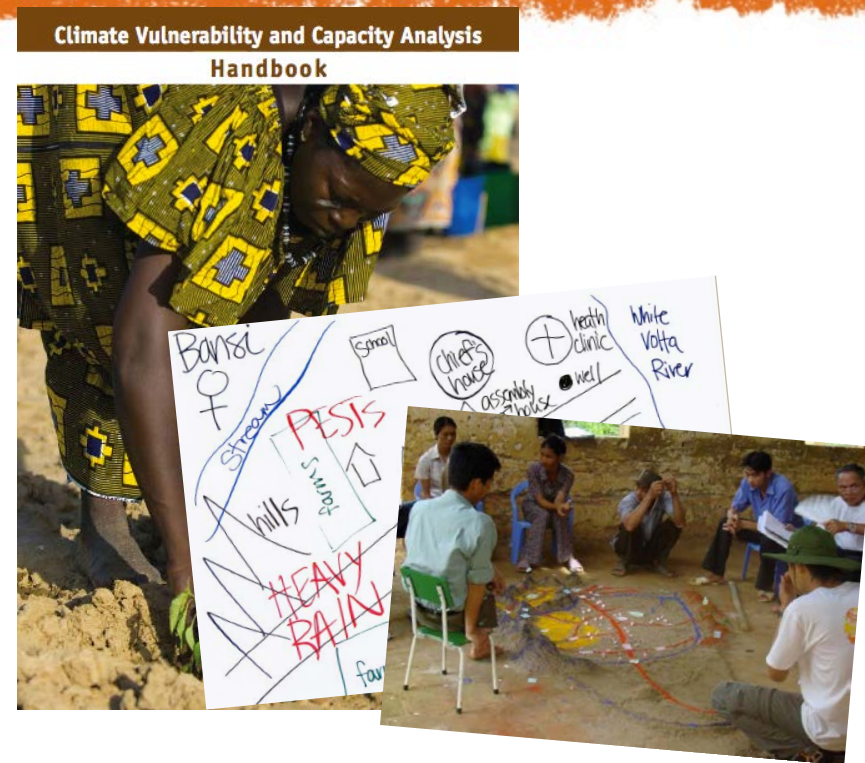
- Ensuring adaptation initiatives are grounded in an understanding of local and differentiated impacts of climate change
- Community level and -led analysis of climate vulnerability
- Bringing together locally held knowledge and climate info services
- Reflective community process
- Collaborative learning and dialogue between different actors

## Primary target audience

- Project managers, field staff
- Local partners
- Communities

## The CVCA does NOT:

- quantify results
- provide results that can be generalised to national/regional levels



# What is PMERL for? [www.careclimatechange.org/tools](http://www.careclimatechange.org/tools)

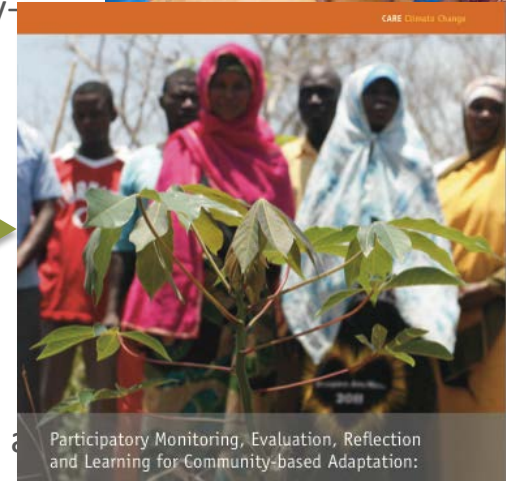


## What PMERL is for

- **Developing participatory strategies** that help different groups affected by, or involved in, a CBA initiative (project, action plan or similar) to assess their effectiveness in achieving objectives
- **Developing locally specific indicators** to measure success in community-based adaptation
- **Monitoring changes** in the local situation to inform CBA planning and use findings to improve project or wider community action planning

## The revised 2014 PMERL manual

- **A shorter manual** that helps build a participatory process to support project M&E, as well as reflection and learning on adaptation actions in a project context
- **Clarification on the scope and limitations of PMERL:**
  - PMERL does not replace a formal M&E process ;
  - PMERL focuses on bringing the “P” into “MERL”
- **Purpose before tools:** more emphasis on the process, less emphasis on tools





# What is PMERL for? cont.



## Use of the information generated

- 1. Informing and revising community adaptation planning processes**
- 2. Revising/ adjusting project planning**
- 3. Informing/ complementing the M&E system**
- 4. Evidence to inform broader learning, strategies and policy**

→ Feedback loops are important

→ budget line flexibility has been key for real-time learning and use of feedback

# Four Key Principles for Successful PM&E



- **Participation** means opening up the design of the M&E system to include those most directly affected
- **Negotiation** is an important dimension among initiative managers, implementers and community members to agree on what will be monitored and evaluated
- **Equity**: Ensure that negotiated outcomes do not merely reflect the views of the most powerful institutions, but in particular the marginalised groups or individuals
- **Flexibility** and learning from the process is essential as the number, role and skills of stakeholders and other factors change over time.

- Garissa background: ASAL, Somali, Muslim, traditionally nomadic pastoralists; currently pastoralist and agro-pastoralist
- **Gender sensitive** process: opportunities for complementarities and increased interaction among men and women
- **Vulnerability** to climate change is influenced by multiple, inter-connected factors- analysis must go beyond exposure and sensitivity to climate impacts
- **Informed, adaptive and forward-looking decision-making** is central to adaptive capacity - including on livelihoods diversification

- **‘Software’ is as important as ‘hardware’-**
  - facilitating access to information and the development of the skills and knowledge needed for adaptation,
  - working with institutions and policies to ensure an enabling environment for local adaptation efforts
- **Access to climate information** is critical for adaptive management of livelihoods - PSPs
- **Appropriate governance** is essential for sustainable management of resources and risk management at community level.

Thank you!

[www.careclimatechange.org/tools](http://www.careclimatechange.org/tools)

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# Additional Resources on CBA, Gender and Vulnerability Assessments



Adaptation Publications: <http://www.careclimatechange.org/publications/adaptation>

## Community-based Adaptation:

Brief: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CBA\\_Brief\\_nov\\_13.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CBA_Brief_nov_13.pdf)

Global Overview: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CBA\\_in\\_Practice.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CBA_in_Practice.pdf)

Gender: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/ALP2011\\_Gender\\_and\\_CBA.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/ALP2011_Gender_and_CBA.pdf)

## CVCA:

Handbook: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/CARE\\_CVCAHandbook.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/adaptation/CARE_CVCAHandbook.pdf)

Kenya Report: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CVCA\\_Kenya\\_Report\\_Final.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CVCA_Kenya_Report_Final.pdf)

## PMERL:

Manual: [http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CARE\\_PMERL\\_a\\_revised\\_manual.pdf](http://www.careclimatechange.org/files/CARE_PMERL_a_revised_manual.pdf)

## Kenya:

Adaptation Case Study: <http://c4d.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/2013-CaseStudy-CARE-Kenya.pdf>