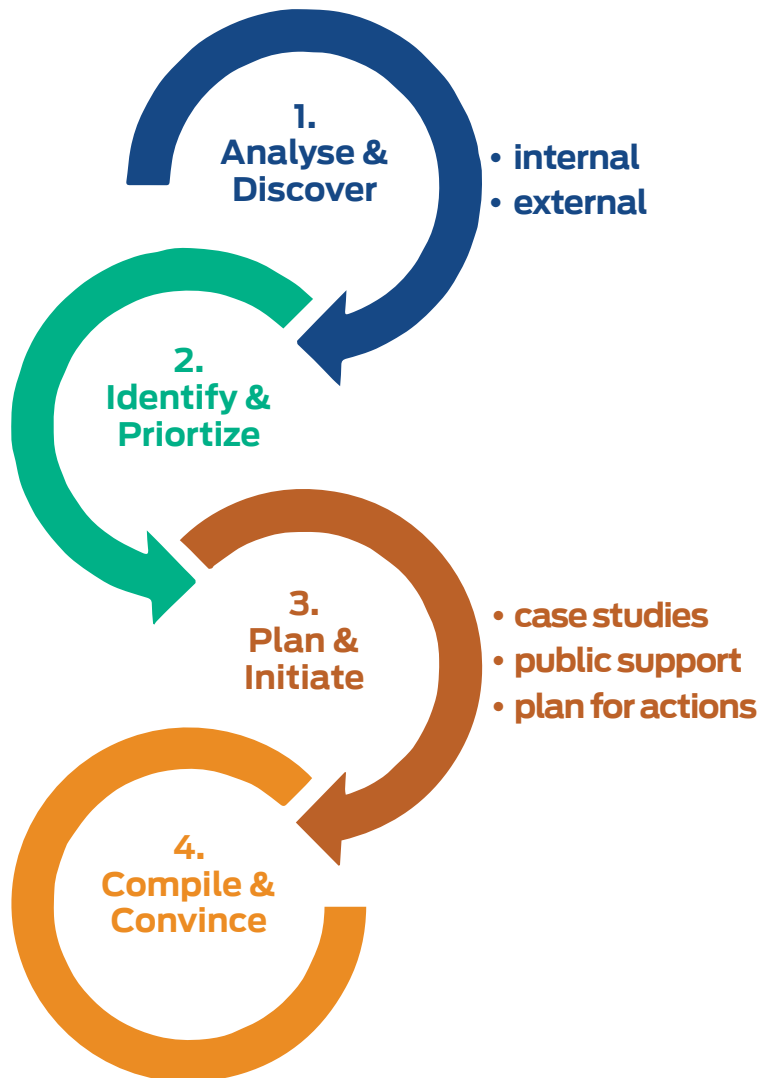


What fire ants know...

A participatory monitoring & planning tool for adaptation to climate and environmental change



This monitoring and planning tool is mainly meant for NGO and (local) government workers to inspire and give some hands-on ideas on what fire ants already know, namely if we want to adapt towards a changing environment we need to work together. The tool is actually a katogo or mix of some carefully selected, already existing, participatory methods, spiced up with some extra ingredients which will allow you to analyse the current adaptation capacity towards climate and environmental change of the community you are working with. Moreover will this participatory process give you a clear understanding of how all this relates to what you are doing or plan to do in the area.



A

A: Implementing partners develop a Theory of Change — partners visualise the thinking behind the program.



B

B: Stakeholders explore the most pressing issues — To assure a bigger relevance of the discussion in the next steps an expert is involved and the participants are taken through a set of activities to get familiar with and more knowledgeable about the theme.



C

C: Stakeholders identify most suitable interventions — By going through a series of carefully selected exercises, stakeholders are able to identify the most pressing challenges and come up with suitable interventions.



D

D: Monitoring teams collect in depth data — Local monitoring teams collect in depth information on the current situation of the identified interventions and prepare a comprehensive and attractive presentation on their findings.



E

E: Stakeholders discuss shared findings — Both the findings of the monitoring teams and the non-overlap with the Theory of Change are discussed with the relevant stakeholders and action plans are developed.



F

F: implementing partners compile marketable report — All collected information is put together in a marketable report and shared with the community and other stakeholders for both advocacy and monitoring purposes.





« It's a perfect game for helping the local communities understand what activities take place in their catchment and also how each activity influences the other and the selection of activities to do, how they might bring in resources, but at the same time damage the environment. [...] It helped the participants to understand and analyse their own situation. » (Byamukama Michael, district water officer in charge, Kamwenge)



«I realised when you have a good intervention, other people may learn from you. » (Bahati Senduraka, secretary Kanto, Nyanza Nyakahama)

« It is very important to use the tool within the local context and to have ideas that are coming from the community, so that the parameters that we shall be monitoring in the future are really parameters that bring out the exact issues of the small holder farmers or the community.» (Byaruhanga Eriah , head of Agriculture and Enterprise Development Department, Jese)



« It helps the implementing partner and the community beneficiaries to forge ahead and to develop strategies for future interventions. » (Angumye Rebecca, project officer, Jese)



«If people could use [the insights they got from playing the game and by going through the other activities] wisely, it would be very good!» (Wilberforce Turyagyenda, Head Teacher, Nyakahama Primary school)





« I am thankful that I don't need to go through the same process Protos has gone through [to develop the tool]. All I need to do is to now take advantage of the tool they have brought on board. » (Byaruhanga Eriah , head of Agriculture and Enterprise Development Department, Jese)



« I hope the tool will act as an advocacy tool that will empower communities to improve their development in a more strategic and focussed way. » (Hannelore Martens, Program Officer M&E, Protos)

Origin of the tool

The tool was developed in a quest for finding a way of demonstrating in which way Protos' interventions on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at household level actually contribute towards climate change adaptation capacities. During the process of the development of the tool, which was an Action Research process, the aim was further fine-tuned as it was realised that it would be more correct to broaden our scope towards environmental change and not only focus on monitoring, but combine it with planning.

Usage

Since the tool is made up of different steps, it can be used both as a whole and separately.

Acknowledgments

The tool is a product of an intense process of Action Research which was a collaboration with different stakeholders. Therefore Protos wants to acknowledge the contribution of all stakeholders who were involved in the development: JESE, Broederlijk Delen, Kamwenge District, Albert Water Management Zone, TSU 6, Mountains of the Moon University, Mpan'game Club, Hewasa, NRDl, Water for People, KRC, TBG, IDP and the members of the Belgian synergy group on Climate Change.



More information

Read and watch more: www.protos.ngo/en/news/action-research-uganda
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