A synopsis of START’s current Capacity Building Actions
(with emphasis on Coastal issues)

International START Secretariat
SCORE, Breme, 16-18 aout 2010
START - An overview

• global change SysTem for Analysis, Research & Training
• works at interface of science, policy and development
• promotes application of scientific knowledge to reduce risks and inform policy responses

START achieves the above through:

collaborative research and assessment at regional scales in the developing world;

scientific capacity building (i.e., “research-driven” capacity building);

networks and forums to share and disseminate information; and

mobilization of financial, institutional and human resources
START Regional Centers/Secretariats

- Serve as the **information and coordinating center for its networks** of regional scientists and their collaborative projects.
- A number host the regional START secretariats that *serve the regional coordinating committee and collaborative research networks*.
- Manages and archives regional data and other information on global change research, including rosters of regional scientists and projects.
- Help identify **needs for capacity building and provide facilities for training** scientists and policy makers from the region.
- Provide a **multi-disciplinary setting** within which the results gathered from various disciplines and regional institutions can be synthesized into a policy-relevant regional framework.

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Underlying Principles of Capacity Building Programs START’s

- Human capacity building is much more than training
- Research-driven
- Emphasize active participation in long-term research initiatives with other scientists and international science programs
- Seek the multiplier effect with early / mid-career scientists

Modalities of Capacity Building

- Regional science planning
- Collaborative research networks
- Research workshops
- Institutional development
- Support of attendance at international conferences
- Partnering organizations
- Short-term fellowships
- Visiting scientists
- Visiting lecturers
- Dissertation / long-term fellowships
- Small grants programs
- Overseas affiliations
- Young Scientist opportunities

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START programs

• Integrated I, V, and A: Assessment of Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change (AIACC; ACCCA, etc. projects that built capacity and contributed to the IPCC)

• Primary productivity in terrestrial-marine systems: Southeast Asia Regional Carbon and Water Cycles Project (ended 2008)

• Climate risk communication: Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation (ACCCA)

• Science-policy communication: Integrating Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Development Planning

• Integrated Research on Disaster Risk:
  – Coastal cities and climate change: Asian Cities at Risk (Bangkok, Shanghai, Hanoi, Manila, Dhaka, etc.)
  – Select African cities (Lagos, Daressalaam)
  – Coastal zone management and disaster risk reduction? (potential effort might be developed if appropriate strategic partnerships could be mobilized)

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START’s work on climate change and coastal areas: CITIES AT RISK

Enhancing adaptive capacity for climate change in Asia’s coastal cities

- Review science and projections regarding climate related risks to coastal cities
- Examine potential vulnerabilities and current coping mechanisms
- Discuss actions - *in both the near and longer term* – to enhance capacity of cities to manage risks and vulnerabilities posed by climate change
- Investigate planning and governance mechanisms to better integrate science, planning, development and disaster management
- Consider means for improving networking and communication

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Cities at Risk…

• First workshop held in February 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand (80+ participants from 18 countries)

• Training will be held in late August 2010, for which the objectives are:
  – Development of capacity in climate change risk & vulnerability assessments and application to urban development planning and governance
  – Promotion of locally led risk & vulnerability research linked to user needs
  – Development of partnerships between researchers, planners, and policy makers that encourage “communities of knowledge”

• A ‘Cities at Risk II’ will be held in early 2011
• The ‘Cities at Risk’ program feeds into the IRDR…

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Integrated Research for Disaster Risk (IRDR)

- A new global inter-disciplinary program that aims at reducing disasters resulting from natural hazards
- Sponsored by ICSU, UNISDR and ISSC
- Will factor climate change into the disasters research
- Will span all natural hazards and be cross-cutting -- scope to feature and research coastal issues
- START is involved, and capacity building will be a cross-cutting theme

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The ACCC Program

Adaptation to Climate and Coastal Change in West Africa

UNDP/GEF-UNDP–UNESCO/IOC
Problem Analysis

Other factors

Identified problem

Coastal erosion

Sea level rise

Climate Change

ACCC Project

Impacts on ecosystems, populations and economies

Increase response capacities

Responses of systems

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Sites prioritaires : projet ACCC

Ile de San Antao
  Vile de Porto Novo
  Vile das Bombas

Ile de Maio
  Ribeira da Lagoa

Presqu'île du Cap-Vert

Nouakchott

Ile de Brava
  Vile de Eurna

Niayes
  Mboro
  Kayar
  Lac Orouaye

Delta du Saloum
  Differe à Palmarin
  Fimela, Niodor, Palmarin
  Sokone

Tanbi Wetland Complex
  Bald Cape à Cape Point
  Alfahine Delta à Bald Cape

SCORE, Breme - Janvier 2010
Mauritania

At site level: dune stabilization to fill the breaches
Sensitization
At national level: introduction of CC issues into the littoral law and the director schemes for the towns and national parks

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Senegal

• At site level
  – Mangrove restoration and dune afforestation

- Inclusion of CC into local land use plans
• At national level
  - the littoral law

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The Gambia

- At site level:
  - Building of an ecotourism camp
- At national level
  - Extension of the Sandwatch programme

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Cape Verde

• At site level:
  • remove invasive trees
  • Sensitization (5th of June)
  • Campaign for turtle protection
  • Integration of CC into local development plan

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Guinea Bissau

• At site level
  • Sensitization
  • Beach cleaning
  • Mangrove restoration and dune afforestation

• At national level
  • Integration of CC into tourism strategy

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Regional level

Capacity building
Communication: www.accc-africa.org
Regional cooperation
Transboundary activities (Sandwatch)

Creation of a network of parliamentarians and local decision makers for coastal states (APPEL)

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Training workshop on dune afforestation techniques (Mauritania)

Training on Sandwatch (www.sandwatch.org)