

Is there a difference between MRV and M&E?

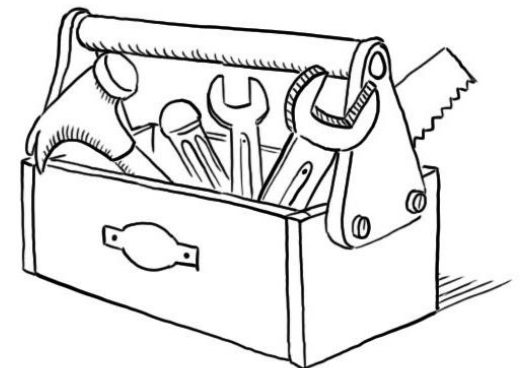
PATPA Annual Retreat, 7 September 2017, Georgia

Timo Leiter, GIZ Climate Policy Team

On behalf of



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development





Outline

- **Origins of MRV**
- **A closer look at the “V”**
- **Characteristics of adaptation and mitigation and their implications for measurement**
- **MRV or M&E of adaptation?**





Measurement, Reporting and Verification

- First mentioned as part of the Bali Action Plan (2007)
- Originated in a **mitigation** context
- Types of MRV:



EMISSIONS



Total GHG emissions
at a **national level**

Total GHG emissions
at an **organization
level**

Total GHG emissions
at a **facility level**



MITIGATION ACTIONS (e.g. NDCs)



GHG effects, i.e.,
change in GHG
emissions, due to
mitigation actions

**Sustainable
development
effects**, i.e., changes
in environmental,
social, and/or
economic conditions,
due to mitigation
actions

**Progress
made toward
implementing
mitigation actions**



SUPPORT



**Support provided
by donor countries**

**Support received
by countries**

**Results and impact
of support provided
or received**

Source: WRI (2016)



Rationale for verification

What does verification refer to?

- ensuring that the reported data is correct and accurate
- Avoiding false claims, no double counting etc.

Why is it relevant?

- Atmosphere is a **global common good**
- Behaviour of one country impacts another
- Need to verify whether emission reductions actually materialize
- Contributes to **trust** and (hopefully) further ambition
- Facilitates calculation of emissions gap to 1.5°C or 2°C goal





Role of verification for adaptation

Is it relevant?

- Benefits of adaptation are largely local or national
- Failing to adapt in one country has limited effect elsewhere, except:
 - Markets and global supply chains
 - Risk transfer (e.g. insurance)
 - Migration & human security

What does it mean?

- Verification to funders is needed (accountability → M&E)
- **BUT: Verification to the global community much less important**

→ This is a key difference between MRV and M&E



Characteristic	Mitigation	Adaptation
Ultimate outcomes to be measured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in global average surface temperature • GHG emissions • GHG concentration of the atmosphere 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoided negative impacts of CC • reduced climate vulnerability • increased climate resilience
What is being measured?	Physical conditions	Combination of socio-economic and physical conditions
Can it be objectively measured?	Yes , the underlying units (°C and tons of CO ₂) are based on objective scales .	No , vulnerability and resilience depend on the definition and operationalisation.
Is the unit of measurement specific to a certain place and context?	No , one ton of avoided GHG emissions has the same global effect no matter where it was avoided.	Yes , adaptation of a particular population group at a particular place is not directly comparable to another place.



Implications for adaptation M&E

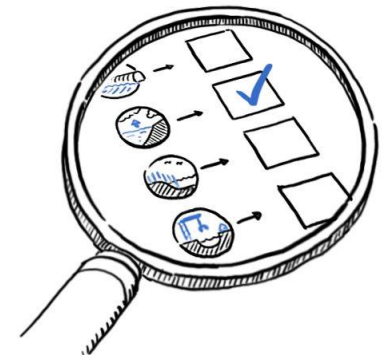
Adaptation is context-specific

- **No common metric** for adaptation¹
- Need to define what counts as adaptation

There is no one-size-fits-all approach

- Different purposes for M&E
- Different planning systems and policy contexts
- Different climate risks and vulnerabilities
 - **M&E systems need to be context-specific**

¹ Leiter & Pringle (2017): Pitfalls and potentials of measuring climate change adaptation through adaptation metrics. Adaptation Perspectives Series. UNEP-DTU.





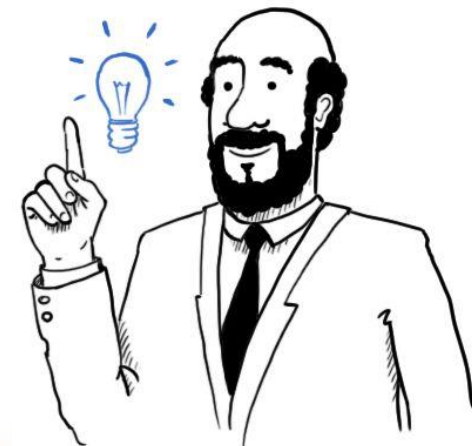
M&E or MRV of adaptation?

- **“MRV” is associated with mitigation**
 - Measurement of mitigation and adaptation differ
 - Details of MRV framework may not fit to adaptation
- **Verification of adaptation progress to global community arguably less relevant and more difficult to do**
 - Adaptation cannot be easily compared due to a lack of a global reference metric
- **Assessment of adaptation progress is very important**
 - It needs to be advanced, irrespective of terminology.
 - Most purposeful rules/methods etc. need to be promoted.



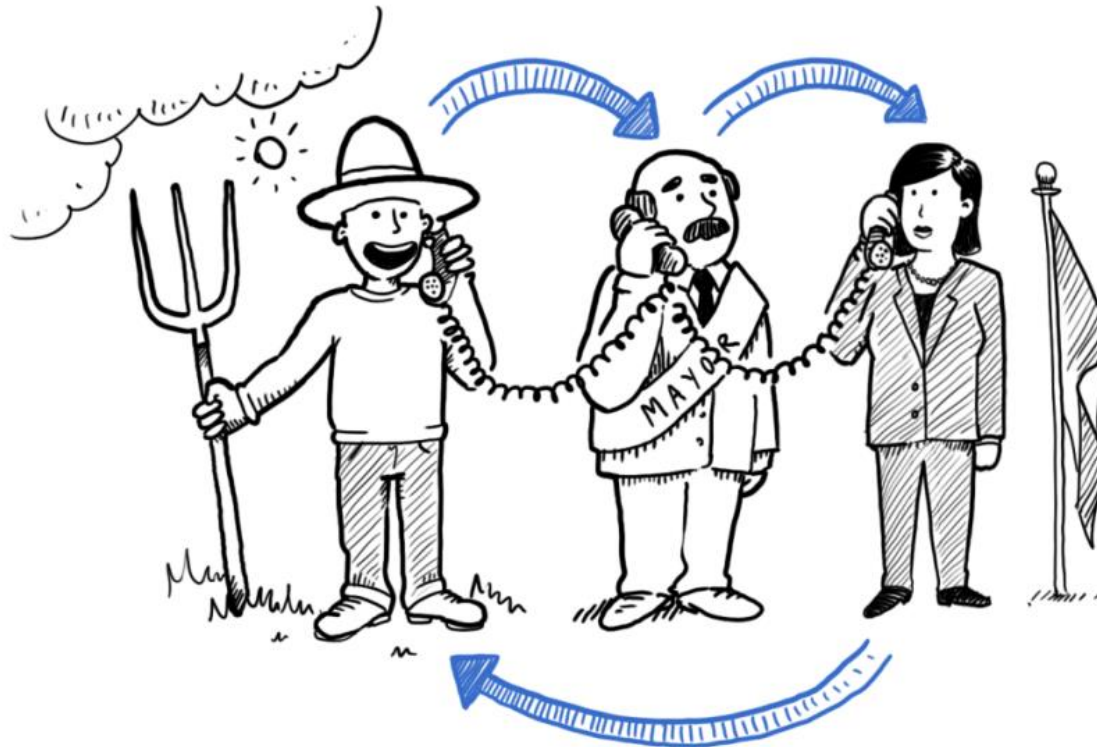
Key messages

- ✓ Irrespective of terminology, always clarify: monitoring/reporting of what and for what purpose?
- ✓ **The difference between M&E and MRV could be seen as semantic, but**
 - ✓ **Verification** of adaptation does not have the same relevance internationally than verification of emission reductions since adaptation is less of a global good
 - ✓ The term MRV is associated with mitigation
- ✓ The **characteristics of mitigation and adaptation differ significantly** and so does their measurement
- ✓ Therefore **different labels useful: MRV for mitigation** and **M&E for CCA**





Questions & answers





UNEP publication on „Adaptation metrics“

To be published by end of 2017.

- **Pitfalls and potentials of measuring climate change adaptation through adaptation metrics** (Leiter, T. & Pringle, P.)
 - How does measuring mitigation differ from adaptation?
 - Why is there no single global metric for adaptation?
 - Which pitfalls of using adaptation metrics should be avoided?

- **Assessing results of CCA projects in practice: learning from German Technical Cooperation** (Leiter, T.)
 - What approaches are available to assess adaptation projects?
 - How can they be used in practice?
 - How can an institutions strengthen M&E of adaptation?



Policy briefs and Adaptation M&E Toolbox

Climate Change Policy Brief
Synergies in monitoring the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the Sendai framework
August 2017

This policy brief ...

Opportunities and limits of connecting the monitoring of the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction are explored. The policy brief provides recommendations for complementary national and global monitoring and reporting towards their objectives in regard to adaptation to climate change.

Connecting the monitoring systems of the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the Sendai Framework offers synergies, but should seek complementarity rather than substitution

In 2015, three major international agreements with high relevance for climate change and sustainable development were adopted. Each includes provisions to regularly monitor progress towards achieving its objectives. They also acknowledge the interconnectivity of their policy domains. As their global monitoring frameworks are taking shape and countries begin to develop respective national monitoring and reporting systems, potential arises to exploit synergies and foster joint implementation. Specifically, data sources, indicators and institutional arrangements may be shared to reduce the reporting burden, particularly for least developed countries. Several countries like Cambodia, the Philippines and Finland are already exploring the linkages between monitoring adaptation progress and SDG achievements. Nevertheless, being closely related but also distinct, the specific content of the three agreements and the subsequent differences in their monitoring provisions need to be considered. For example, under the Paris Agreement countries are setting nationally determined contributions (NDCs) whose achievement cannot be monitored by the narrow set of global SDG indicators on climate. Hence, countries should seek opportunities to connect the monitoring of the three agreements without expecting they could substitute each other.

Adaptation, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development are closely linked

Three important agreements shaping the global response to climate change and sustainable development were adopted in 2015: the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) and the SDGs.

Each of them acknowledges the interconnections between addressing climate change and achieving sustainable development. For instance, the SFDRR states that 'Disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and which are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development'.¹ A special report

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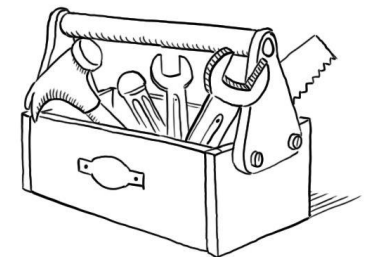
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Policy briefs on adaptation M&E

- Country-specific CCA M&E systems
- Adaptation metrics
- Links between monitoring the Paris Agreement, SDGs & Sendai Framework
- Vulnerability indices

Adaptation M&E Toolbox

- ✓ National M&E
- ✓ Project M&E
- ✓ M&E Training



Available under „M&E“ at:





Thank you very much for your attention!

Timo.Leiter@giz.de

 [@TimoLeiter](https://twitter.com/TimoLeiter)

