

A scenic landscape of a mountain valley. In the background, there are dark, rugged mountains with patches of snow under a clear blue sky. The middle ground shows a lush green valley with a winding river. In the foreground, a town with many buildings is visible, surrounded by greenery.

Community Adaptation CC Case Studies

What This User is Looking For

*Cindy Pearce
Mountain Labyrinths Inc.
Revelstoke, BC*

Presentation 'Trail'

- Context for this work
- Why I use case studies
- My ideal case study includes....
- Observations about case study types
- Tracking case studies thru the 'Watch, Learn & Refine' steps



Action Context

- Advise on Canadian Forest Service adaptation methodology research
- Technical support on adaptation initiative with local governments in SE BC (cbtadaptation.squarespace.com; http://www.cbt.org/Initiatives/Climate_Change/?Adapting_to_Climate_Change)
- Tested approaches in rural communities
- Crafting a Guidebook for Canadian rural forest-based communities – moving to pilots (www.modelforest.net)
- Participating in forestry adaptation projects with community and technical adaptation roles



Why I Use Case Studies

We are at the beginning of this journey...

We need to:

- Share tips, tricks and uh ohs!
- Create new ways to motivate action
- Accept that science may differ from practice
- Learn rapidly about: communicating climate change, assessment/decision processes, adaptation action options



My Ideal Case Study has...

WHY?

What triggered this plan/process/action/etc.?

- Climate impacts?
- Extreme events?
- Champion(s)?
- Legislation?
- A long-term investment decision
- Funding available?
- Research project?
- ???????

Purpose/Objectives/Goals? Assessment +/- or action



My Ideal Case Study has...

WHO? Organizations, individuals & expertise

- Initiated
- Championed
- Lead & steered
- Participated
- Funded
- Climate expertise
- Technical expertise
- Really made a difference
- To contact for more info



My Ideal Case Study has...

HOW?

- Learning & engagement activities and materials
- Climate information & impact resources used
- Assessment & decision processes
(impact/risk/vulnerability? And criteria to select actions)
- Cost & workplan/timetable for the process



My Ideal Case Study has...

WHAT?

Action Plan

- Goals/Actions selected
- Who will implement/when
- How/when to monitor

What was learned?

- What worked?
- How to improve?
- Challenges & how to overcome them



My Ideal Case Study is...

Easy to grasp & use

- Posted swiftly
- Enough details to be useful
- Straightforward language

Easy to read/scan format

- Whitespace
- Tables, charts, visuals
- Short paragraphs
- Bulleted lists



Different Formats – 2 page Examples

- Helpful when scanning to see who's done what
- Not enough info for learning the important details
- Essential that full reports be referenced & available

Rural examples please!!



Process Case Studies

- Most useful for learning about the details
- **Why? Who? What? How?** Often not fully answered
- Not always swiftly posted
- If a well-written community development document - **easy to read**

Learning Histories

- **Target audiences** - academic more often than practicing adaptation facilitators
- **Why? Who? What? How?** Often not fully answered
- Not always **easy to read**



Even More Important...

'The proof is in the pudding!'

- Did the *climate scenarios* encompass the actual changes? What was missed?
- Were *impacts* accurately predicted?
- What *impacts* were overlooked or over-emphasized?



Even More Important...

'The proof is in the pudding!'

- What *actions* were implemented?
- What enabled *actions*? Was this expected?
- What barriers to *action* appeared? Was this expected?
- Were *actions* effective to reduce risks/vulnerabilities?
...to capture opportunities?
- *Who* should have been involved in the planning but wasn't? What was the consequence?



Tracking Rural Community Examples

- Local ownership is essential
- Essential to actively involve the professional doers – e.g. engineers, emergency services, etc.
- Delays due to staff changes
- Urgency is quickly forgotten without the topic regularly passing by the radar screen





***Thank you for the opportunity
to continue to learn!***

cindypearce@telus.net