Climate Adaptation Goods

A Focus on Agriculture

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May 8, 2025

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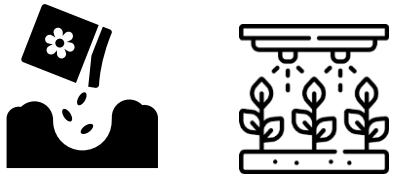
Adaptation Goods

Goods used to reduce the negative impacts of climate change

Examples – Final goods



Drought-resilient seeds and **water efficient irrigation** technologies for use in drier conditions

Desalination technologies to ensure freshwater supplies in the face of sea level rise

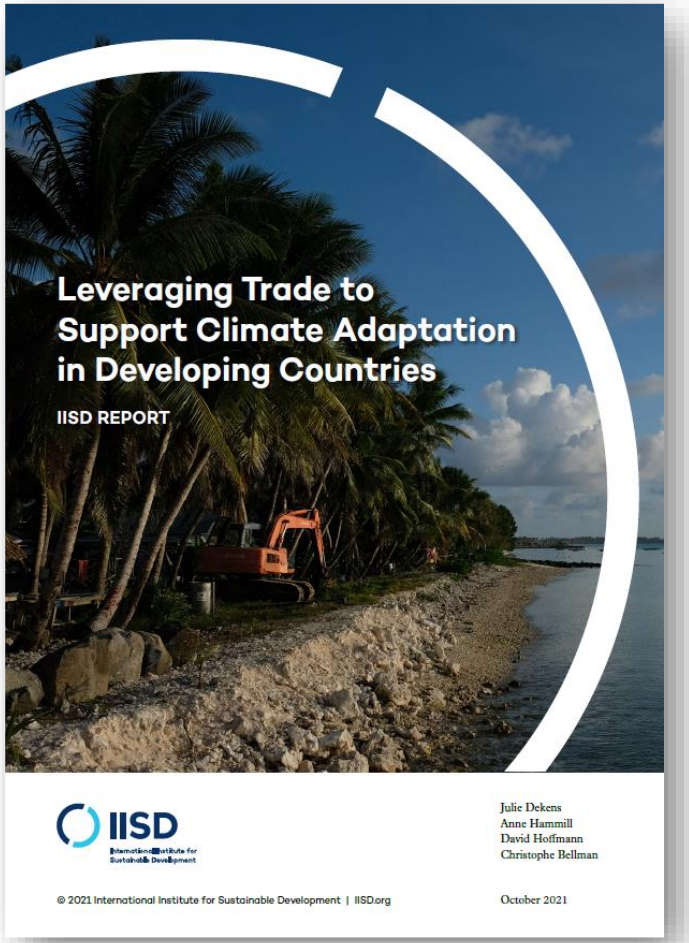
Early warning systems in context of more extreme events

Intermediate goods: Machinery, spare parts, technologies needed to produce abovementioned final goods

The Challenge of Defining "Adaptation Goods"

The case against a static “checklist”

- Adaptation priorities vary by region (e.g., drought resilience vs. flood management), making universal categorization difficult
- Climate conditions and projections may shift, entailing a shift in adaptation priorities and needed goods
- Goods that reduce vulnerability in one sector or location may increase it elsewhere or for different social groups (maladaptation)



Towards “Robust” Adaptation Goods

1. Prioritize local risk assessment and planning

- Use national risk assessment and planning processes – like the NAP process, or the TNA – to identify adaptation goods
- Regularly re-assess climate risks, projections and adaptation priorities

2. Choose low-regret and do-no-harm options

- “Robust” adaptation goods are those that can perform well across a wide range of uncertainties due to climatic and non-climatic shocks and stressors
- They may not be optimal in any particular context, but are “low-regret” and “do no harm” options

“Robust” Adaptation Goods in Agriculture

Based on WTO developing country member’s adaptation priorities

- **Climate-Resilient Crop Varieties**: Drought-tolerant, flood-resistant, or heat-resilient seeds (e.g., submergence-tolerant rice, drought-resistant maize)
- **Agroforestry Seedlings**: Drought-resistant tree species intercropped with staple crops to improve soil health and microclimate
- **Early Warning System Hardware**: Soil moisture sensors, weather stations, and automated alert systems for extreme events
- **Biofertilizers and Soil Amendments**: Organic fertilizers and biochar to enhance soil fertility and water retention in degraded soils

Thank you

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