

Adaptation Decision Matrix (ADM)

Description	The ADM uses multicriteria assessment techniques to evaluate the relative effectiveness and costs of adaptation options. Users are asked to specify criteria that will be used to evaluate options and weight the criteria. Scenarios of current climate and climate change can also be used. Users are asked to give a score (e.g., 0 to 5) on how well each criterion is met under a particular scenario for each option. The scoring can be based on detailed analysis or expert judgment. Scores can be multiplied by weights and summed up to estimate which options best meet the criteria. The scores can be compared to relative costs to assess cost-effectiveness.
Appropriate Use	This approach is useful when many important benefits of meeting policy objectives cannot be easily monetized or expressed in a common metric. However, detailed research and analysis are needed to provide a basis for the evaluation; otherwise the scoring may be mainly subjective.
Scope	All locations; all sectors; national or site-specific.
Key Output	Relative cost-effectiveness of alternative adaptation measures.
Key Input	A ranking of how well policy objectives are met using alternative strategies; estimated costs of adaptation measures.
Ease of Use	Relatively easy to apply; more rigorous results require more analysis; only basic computer skills are needed.
Training Required	A user with an understanding of key policy objectives could achieve proficiency in 1 to 2 days; however, additional training may be required to develop skill in estimating costs of adaptation measures.
Training Available	Contact Stratus Consulting for more information (see Contacts below).
Computer Requirements	IBM-compatible 286; Lotus 1-2-3 or Excel spreadsheet software helpful.
Documentation	Benioff, R. and J. Warren (eds.). 1996. <i>Steps in Preparing Climate Change Action Plans: A Handbook</i> . Washington, DC: U.S. Country Studies Program. USCSP. 1999. <i>Climate Change: Mitigation, Vulnerability, and Adaptation in Developing Countries</i> , U.S. Country Studies Program, Washington, DC
Applications	Used by participants in the U.S. Country Studies and UNEP assistance programs (e.g., Kazakhstan, Cameroon, Uruguay, Bolivia, Antigua, Estonia, Pakistan and Barbuda).
Contacts for Tools, Documentation, Technical Assistance	Joel Smith, Stratus Consulting, P.O. Box 4059, Boulder, CO 80306 USA; Tel: +1.303.381.8000; Fax: +1.303.381.8200; e-mail: jsmith@stratusconsulting.com ; website: http://www.stratusconsulting.com/ .
Cost	No cost for documentation or diskette with template of the decision matrix.
References	Mizina, S.V., J.B. Smith, E. Gossen, K.F. Spiecker, and S.L. Witkowski. 1999. An evaluation of adaptation options for climate change impacts on agriculture in Kazakhstan. <i>Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Climate Change</i> 4:25-41.