

Envisioning Resilience

A creative approach for policy dialogue on adaptation

Given their participatory and iterative nature, National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes represent a key opportunity to facilitate the meaningful engagement of diverse actors in adaptation decision making. However, challenges remain in facilitating inclusive, participatory NAP processes.

Envisioning Resilience was developed in collaboration with

Lensational

A non-profit social enterprise that aims to elevate the voices of women from underrepresented groups and communities using visual storytelling

GirlsCARE

A young women-led feminist climate activist movement seeking to support young women and girls through mentorship to enhance their capacity to support and lead in climate action

Over the last 2 years, the NAP Global Network has been working with partners in Africa and the Caribbean to create Envisioning Resilience, an initiative that aims to amplify underrepresented women's voices in climate change adaptation planning.

Together, we have tested and refined a creative approach for policy dialogue on adaptation that involves 4 key steps:



Training

The trainees participate in a training program that enables them to develop visual stories that document their lived experience with climate change and their visions of resilience. The training program includes the technical aspects of photography, photojournalism principles and approaches, and techniques for effective storytelling, as well as learning about climate change.



Development of visual stories

Over the course of the training program, the trainees build their skills in photography and iteratively develop the concept for their adaptation story, with ongoing mentoring and input from the training team. At the end, each trainee has developed an individual story, and the group has collaborated to create a collective story to be shared with adaptation decision-makers at the policy dialogue.



Policy dialogue

The policy dialogue brings the trainees together with adaptation decision-makers from inside and outside the government. The collective visual story provides a basis for the dialogue, which aims to develop a shared understanding of the effects of climate change on the trainees' lives and the adaptation priorities for their communities.



Income generation

Another unique aspect of the approach is the income-generating opportunity presented by the sale of the photos on the Lensational website. The proceeds from the sale of the photos are shared between Lensational and the individual photographers.

Photos: Training: Jik-Reuben Pringle (2023). Development of visual stories: Brian Siambi (2022). Policy dialogue: Jik-Reuben Pringle (2023). Income generation: Dennis Nipah (2021).

Envisioning Resilience is just getting started. We are looking forward to working with new partners and in different contexts to expand the collection of visual stories available while continuing to tailor and refine the approach and maintaining the focus on influencing conversations around the NAP process.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE READ OUR BRIEFING NOTE:

[Envisioning Resilience: What we're learning about creative methods for policy dialogue on adaptation](#)