

Issues to be discussed in the round table, as suggested by Ekko van Ierland, Wageningen University, October 2008.

- The relation between adaptation and mitigation: Even if mitigation policies will be implemented we need adaptation, because climate change will already lead to an increase in average global atmospheric temperature of 2 degrees Celsius.
- If we fail to coordinate mitigation at the international level, much more adaptation measures will be required in the future and more damages will occur.
- A national adaptation strategy needs to be based on consistent climate scenarios, relevant to the region in question. The scenarios need to include estimates on temperature change, precipitation in the various seasons, expectations about extreme weather events and sea level rise.
- Consultation of stakeholders and experts provides a relatively low cost opportunity to make an inventory of existing knowledge and to obtain a list of adaptation options for further screening.
- Detailed cost benefit analysis is required for assessing the various adaptation options in detail.
- Responsibilities for climate adaptation need to be clearly defined and a clear distribution of tasks between the private and the public sector needs to be made.
- Adaptation in developing countries needs to be financed by those responsible for causing climate change, according to the polluter pays principle.