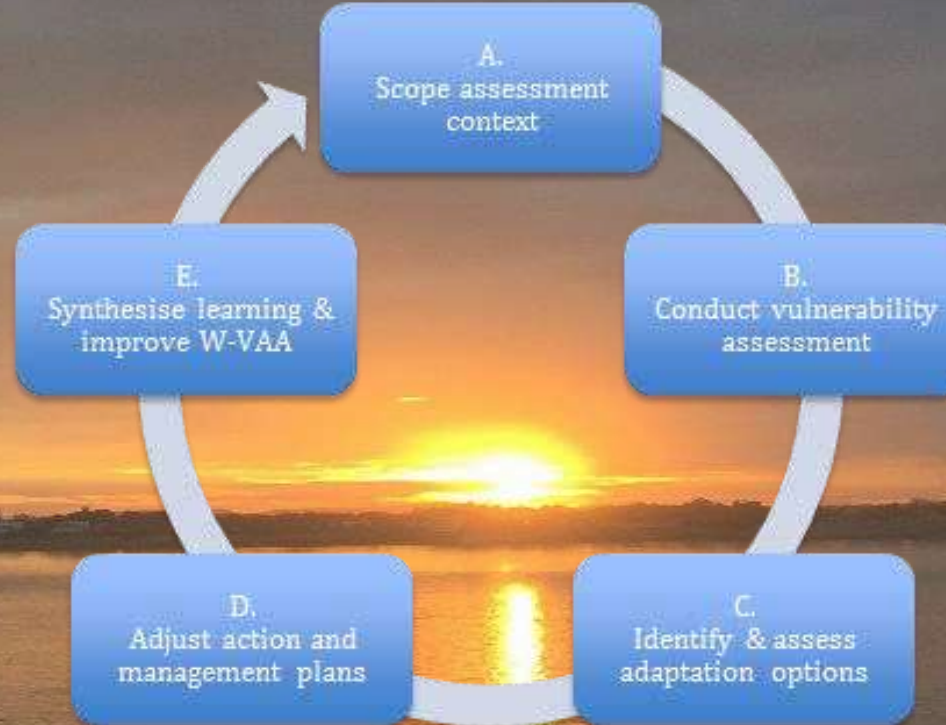


Albert Salamanca

Processes for Conducting Watershed-level VAAs





Principal Process Steps of W-VAA



Step A: Scope the assessment context

- **Purpose:** Gain an in-depth understanding of the bio-physical, socio-economic and governance related context, including the identification of key stakeholders.
- **Actions:** This step typically combines several types of activities.

Box 3.1: Key questions to ask in determining the scope of a watershed-scale vulnerability and adaptation assessment

- What decisions is the W-VAA aiming to influence? Who are the decision-makers?
- Whose vulnerability is the W-VAA trying to assess?
- What policies and plans are being or will be implemented in the watershed that may have implications in the long term?
- Who will be involved in the assessment process?
- What sorts of future change will be considered and how will predictions of change be estimated?
- What physical terrain will be considered by the W-VAA?
- Which ecological components of the system will be considered and how?

Step B: Conduct baseline vulnerability assessment

- **Purpose:** Develop the baseline assessment of climate related vulnerabilities.
- **Actions:** This step typically consists of four activities.





Step C: Identify, assess and prioritize adaptation options

- **Purpose:** Generate a list of adaptation options, and for each options produce an assessment of how vulnerabilities are likely to respond.
- **Actions:** With scientific and other baseline information in hand, and identification of vulnerabilities completed, adaptation options can be deliberated and agreed upon.

Purpose: Produce explicit and operational action plans.

Actions: Through the stakeholder engagement process, the results of the vulnerability assessment are revised into an action plan.

Step D: Integrate adaptation options into action plans and watershed management plans

Step E: Synthesize learning & improve W-VAA

- **Purpose:** Determine what lessons have been learned and apply them toward improving the W-VAA approach.
- **Actions:** The data are analyzed to reveal the effects of particular process steps and/or specific tools on the decision making and planning process. They are also used to identify the W-VAA's real-world outcomes on vulnerabilities.

7 Examples of Processes

- CHARL
- Mekong ARCC
- WACC
- AMICAF/MOSAIC
- Climate Resilience Framework
- Landform
- RDS

