Setting the context: how do PPPs fit within the current trends and discourses on financing adaptation

11.04.24

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15 years of engaging the private sector in adaptation

- Decision at UN climate negotiations in Copenhagen (2009) on climate finance: mobilising US\$100 billion per year by 2020, from public and private sources
 - ... but close to zero experience with private finance for *adaptation* at the time

(not to scale)

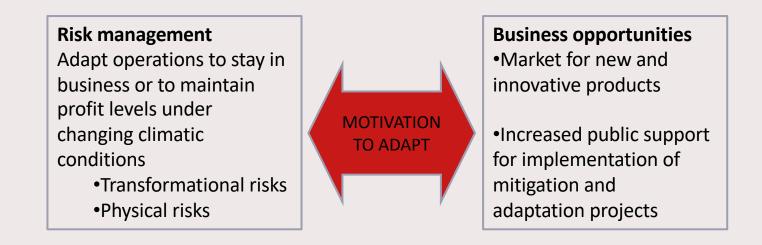
Mode 1

• What about accountability? Allocation? Effectiveness?



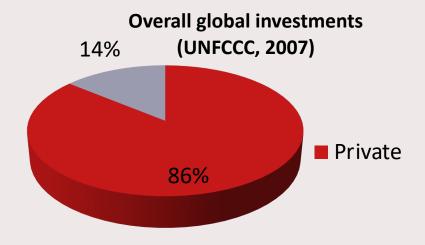
Private sector motivation to adapt to climate change

Public sector - cost narrative: liveable climate as a public good; Balance costs and benefits; balance economy-society-environment
Private sector - revenue narrative: reasonable, relatively quick and predictable returns, at acceptable risks → adaptation and mitigation mostly side-benefits



TU/e

Importance of the private sector



- In Africa, the private sector comprises almost 67% of the continent's investment, 75% of its economic output, and 90% of its formal and informal employment (AfDB 2013).
- SMEs of particular importance



Potential benefits and functions of PPPs

- 1. Leverage additional finance to support (developing) countries with adaptation
- 2. Leverage the knowledge of different stakeholders to enhance adaptation efforts
- 3. Contribute to **implementation on the ground**
- 4. Increase the legitimacy of adaptation interventions by widening the participation and cooperation of multiple stakeholders locally
- 5. Increase performance, e.g by bringing in sector-specific expertise and efficient management associated with the private sector
- 6. Set norms and procedures where these are lacking internationally and nationally (standards in construction, insurance, lending, etc.)

Risks of PPPs in adaptation

- Adaptation Paradox: Mobilizing partnerships has occurred systematically in the high-level and global political contexts of UN climate negotiations, but vulnerability is experienced locally, and adaptation is local
- Private investments will gravitate to opportunities with low risk-return ratios
- Low knowledge on effectiveness of private investments in adaptation. Adaptation is sometimes:
 - being done unconsciously
 - Being done with a narrow view of climate change risks
 - shifting vulnerability to others
- Climate change not taken into account in significant amounts of private finance, potentially leading to increased vulnerability in the longer term