



Resilience from bottom-up. A community approach

Úrsula Oswald Spring

Regional Centre of Multidisciplinary Research, CRIM-UNAM

University of Chulalongkorn, Project: DGAPA- IN300213

21 October, 2013

Content

1. What is resilience?
2. How does resilience relate to adaptation and mitigation?
3. What are the local dangers?: disaster risk assessment
4. Why are the risks increasing local and more severe among women and girls?
5. How can local disaster risks reduction (DRR) be improved?
6. How are local and global DRR and DRM (management) related to resilience-building?

What is resilience?



Resilience

Resilience is the **social capacity** and **ability** to **anticipate, reduce, accommodate, and recover** from the effects of an extreme or a hazardous event in relatively **short term** and in **an efficient manner**. Often a resilient society is **better organized** and **prepared after** an natural event has occurred and can **anticipate future extreme** events with better **preparedness** and less **human, natural** and **financial losses**. Resilience manage better hazards and avoids disasters.

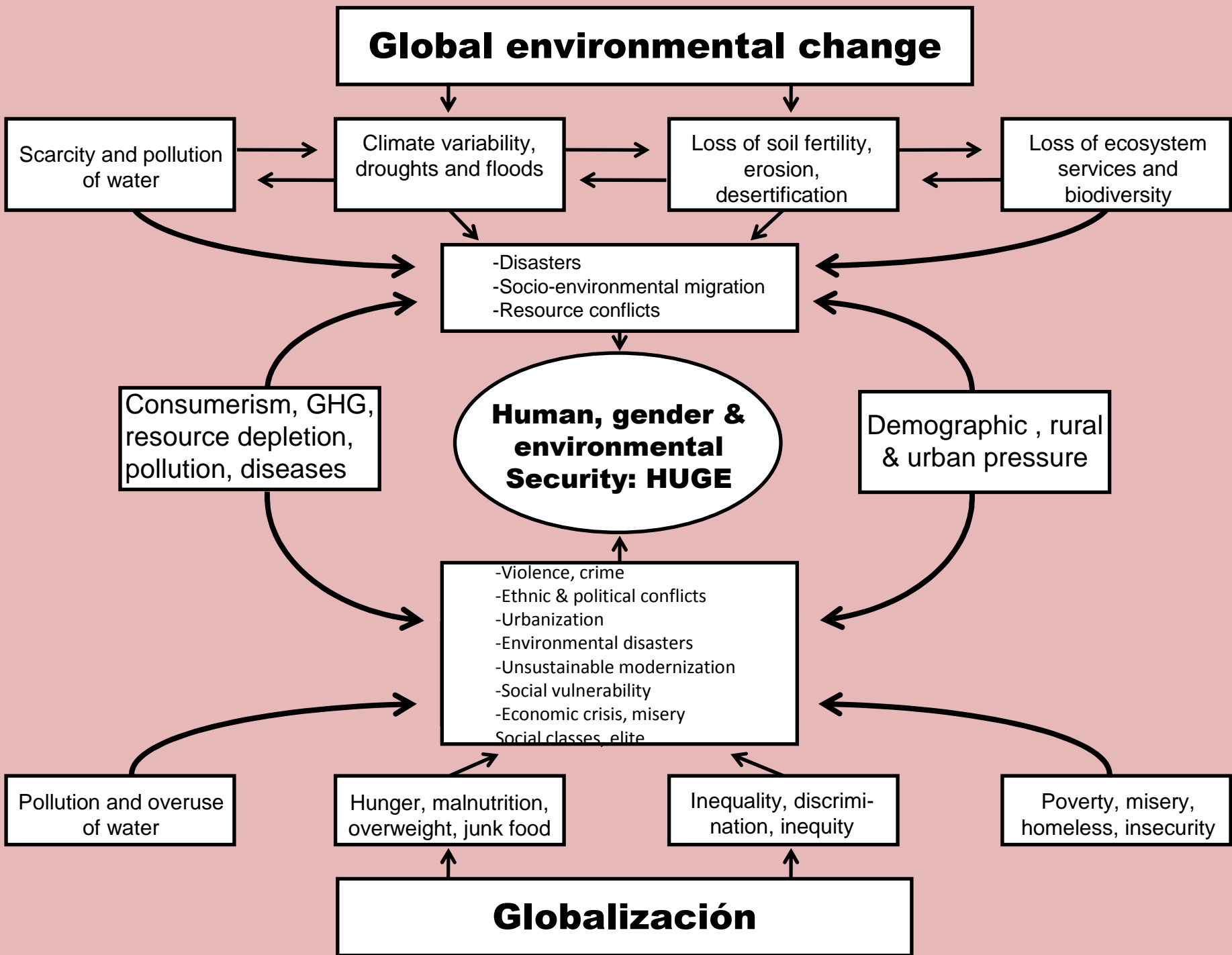
- Resilience means in Latin *resilio*, referring to “return from a leap, jump, rebound”, and in common acceptance “elasticity”.
- In physics it represents the capacity of a material to recover the same form after having been exposed to extreme pressures.
- In the social field it refers to the “human capacity which permits persons after having passed through adverse situations to be not only safe but also transformed through this experience”
- Gloria Laengle defines it as “the capacity of human being to overcome difficulties and at the same time learning from the errors”.
- Ángela Quintero refers to “the capacity of a family to adapt and reconstruct from the adverse situation.”
- Helena Combariza defines human resilience as the capacity of an individual or social system to live well and develop positively, irrespective of the difficult conditions that could oblige them to reinforce or transform such adverse conditions

A group of people, including women and children, are crossing a river that is heavily obstructed by a large log jam. The water is turbulent and white with foam. The people are using the logs and debris to create a path across the river. The background shows a steep, rocky bank with some vegetation.

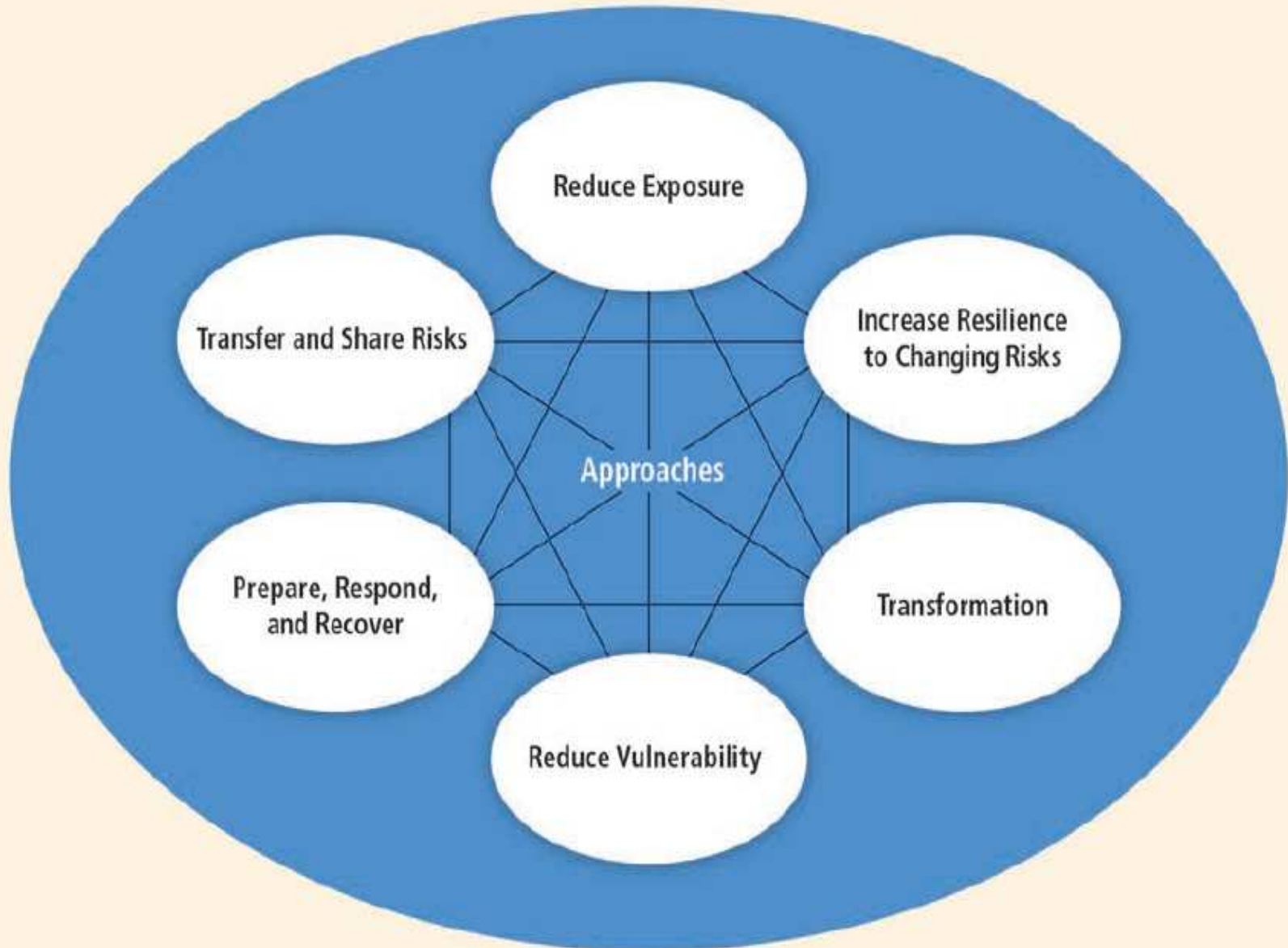
2. How does resilience relate to adaptation and mitigation?

Mitigation and adaptation

- Mitigation facilitate **human interventions and technology** to reduce the **sources or enhance** the sinks of greenhouse gases and therefore **prevent** negative impacts on the climate system and as an outcome more and severe hazards.
- Adaptation refers to the **adjustment** to actual or expected **climate impacts and its effects**, which are able to **moderate harm on natural and human systems**. It includes also the process of **prevention** and **adjustment** to adverse climate conditions.
- Adaptation and mitigation reduces especially the double: the environmental and social vulnerability.



Resilience, adaptation and mitigation



3. What are the local dangers?

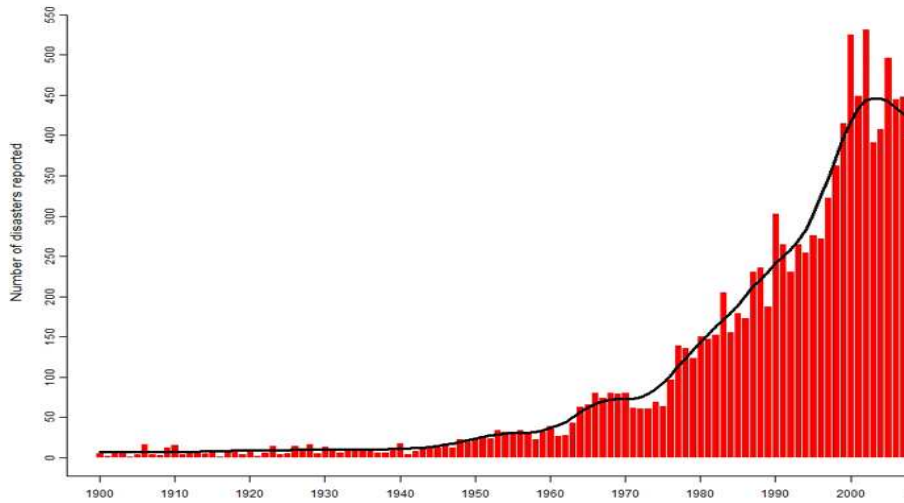


Biggest disasters in 3 decades

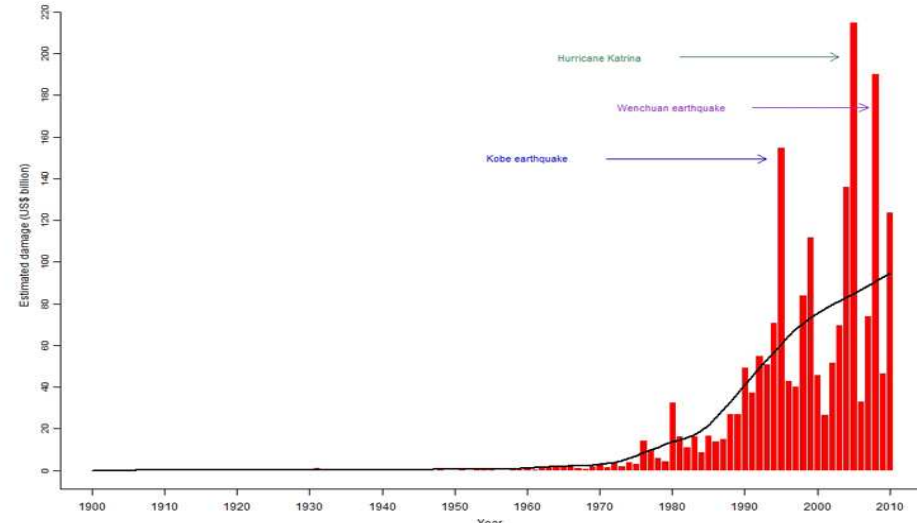


Disaster risks, death, affected and costs

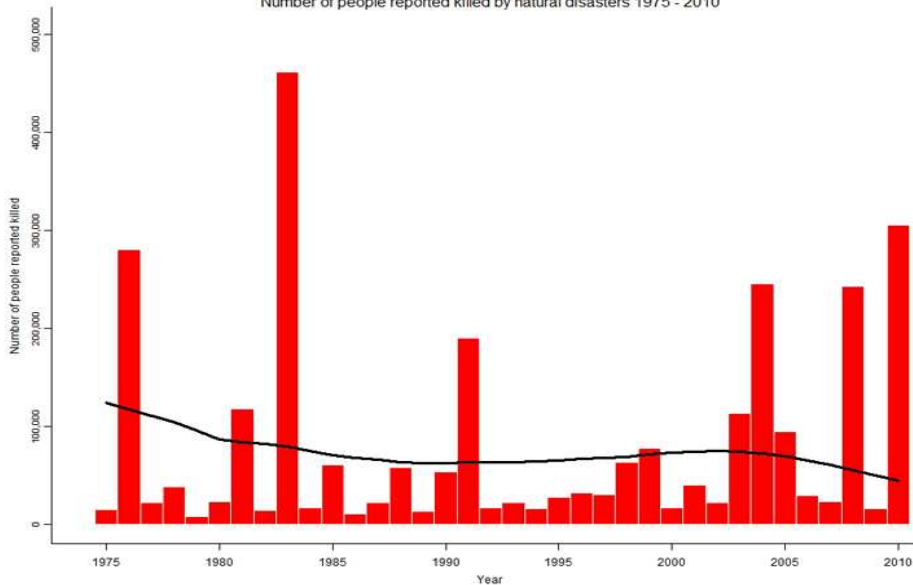
Natural disasters reported 1900 - 2010



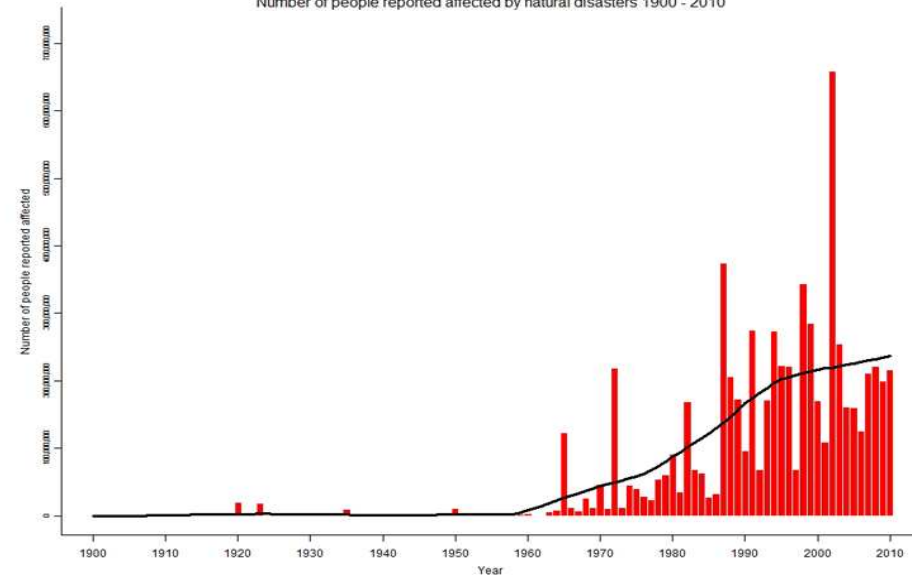
Estimated damage (US\$ billion) caused by reported natural disasters 1900 - 2010



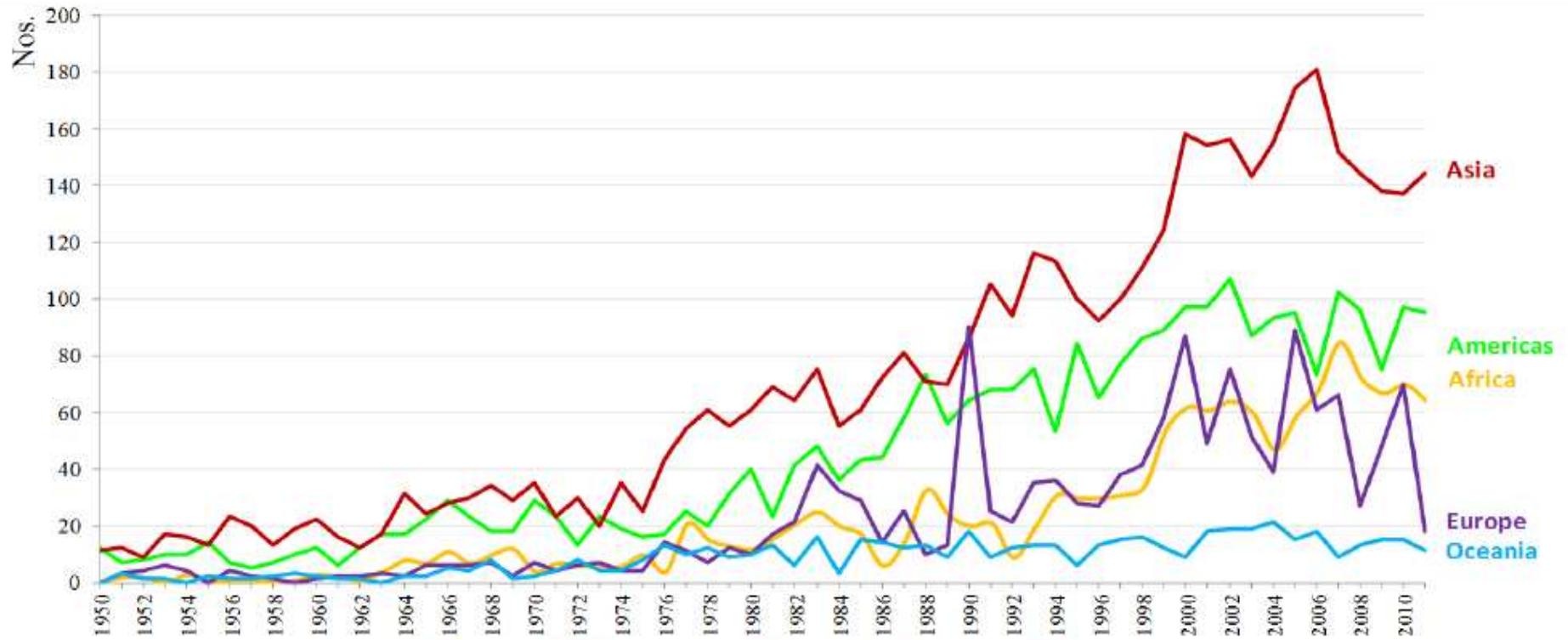
Number of people reported killed by natural disasters 1975 - 2010



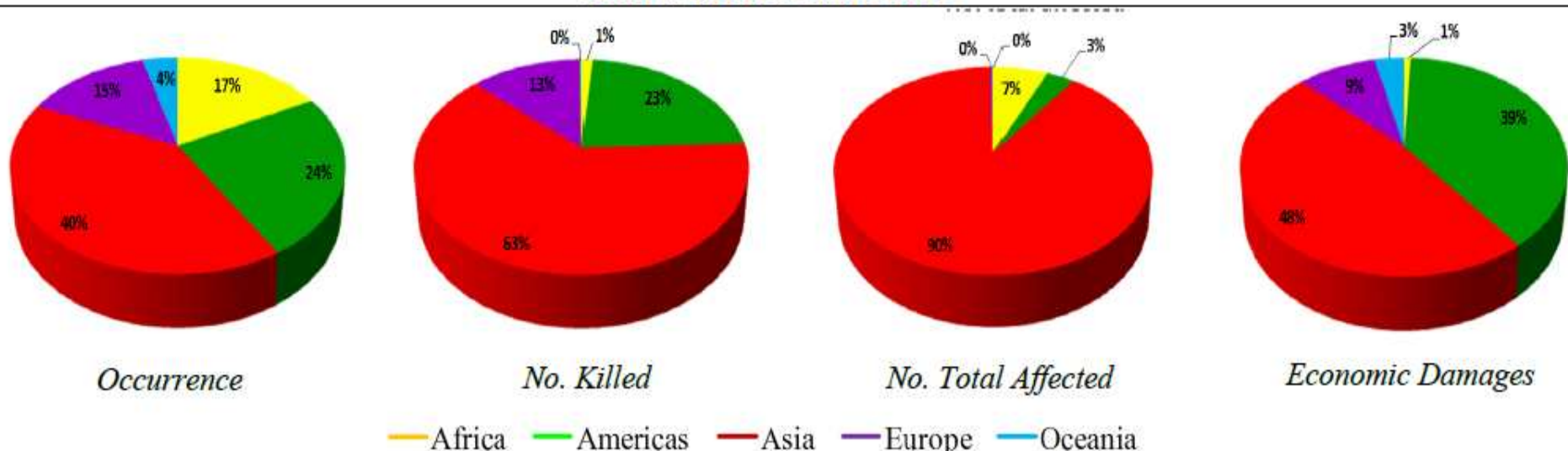
Number of people reported affected by natural disasters 1900 - 2010



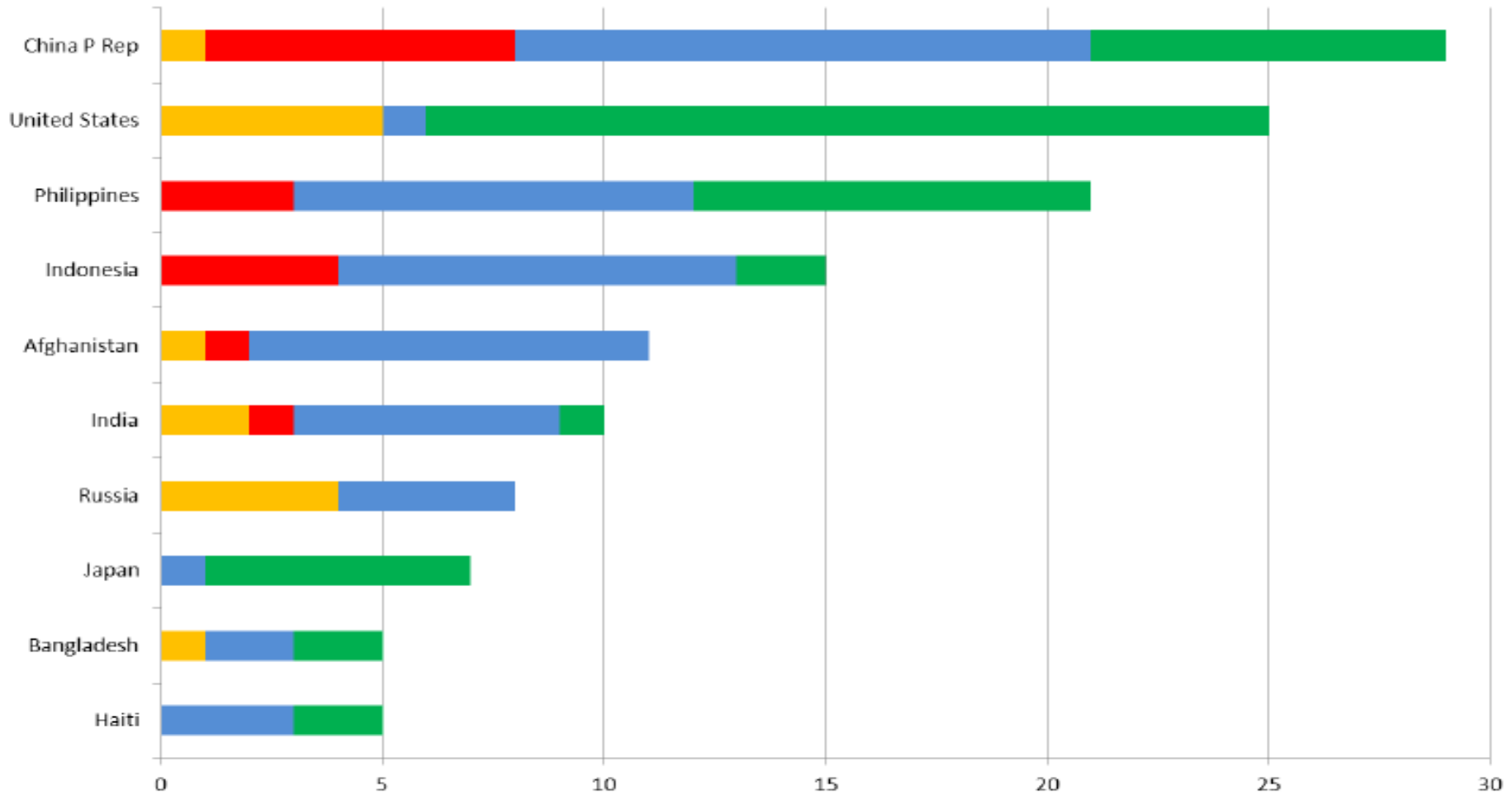
Occurrence of reported natural disasters by continent: 1950 to 2011



Asia's share: 2002-2011



Top ten countries by reported events in 2012



	Haiti	Bangladesh	Japan	Russia	India	Afghanistan	Indonesia	Philippines	United States	China P Rep
■ Climatological		1		4	2	1			5	1
■ Geophysical					1	1	4	3		7
■ Hydrological	3	2	1	4	6	9	9	9	1	13
■ Meteorological	2	2	6		1		2	9	19	8

Disaster	Date	No Killed	Disaster	Date	No Total Affected
Earthquake (seismic activity)	26-Dec-2004	8,345	Drought	Apr-2008	10,000,000
Flood	5-Aug-2011	813	Flood	5-Aug-2011	9,500,000
Storm	27-Oct-1962	769	Flood	10-Oct-2010	8,970,653
Flood	19-Nov-1988	664	Drought	Mar-2010	6,482,602
Earthquake (seismic activity)	Jun-1955	500	Drought	Jan-1999	6,000,000
Storm	3-Nov-1989	458	Flood	30-Jun-1996	5,000,000
Flood	10-Oct-2010	258	Drought	Feb-2002	5,000,000
Flood	3-Jan-1975	239	Flood	1-Aug-1995	4,280,984
Flood	1-Aug-1995	231	Flood	Oct-2002	3,289,420
Flood	20-Aug-2006	164	Flood	3-Jan-1975	3,000,093

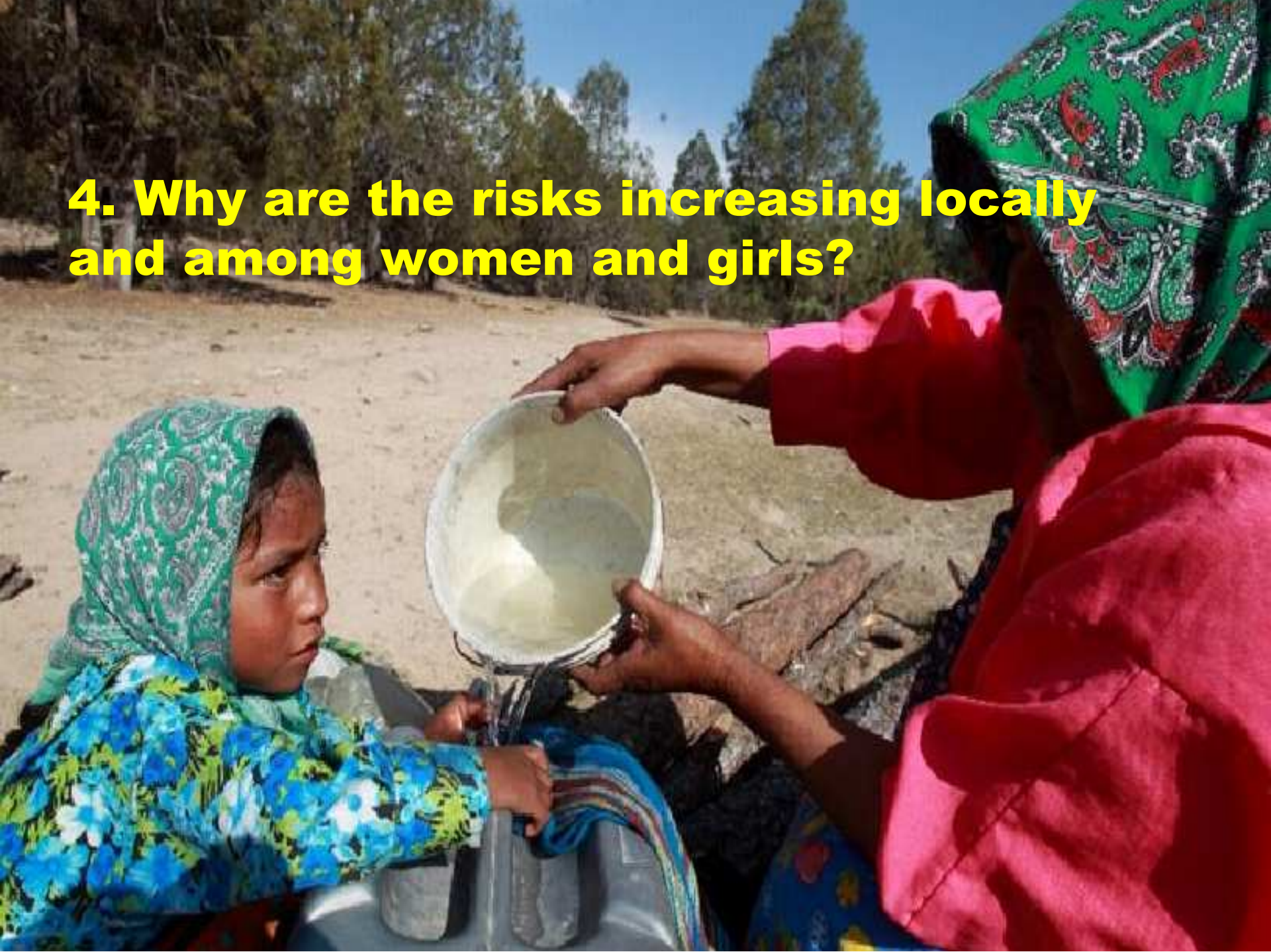
Disaster	Date	Dammage (000 US\$)
Flood	5-Aug-2011	40,000,000
Flood	27-Nov-1993	1,261,000
Earthquake	26-Dec-2004	1,000,000
Storm	3-Nov-1989	452,000
Drought	Jan-2005	420,000
Flood	Dec-1993	400,100
Flood	Aug-1978	400,000
Flood	19-Jan-1984	400,000
Flood	10-Oct-2010	332,000
Flood	31-Oct-1993	319,850

Main Disasters in Thailand: recent & CC-related

19 October 2011: 344% above mean (Water is shown in dark blue)

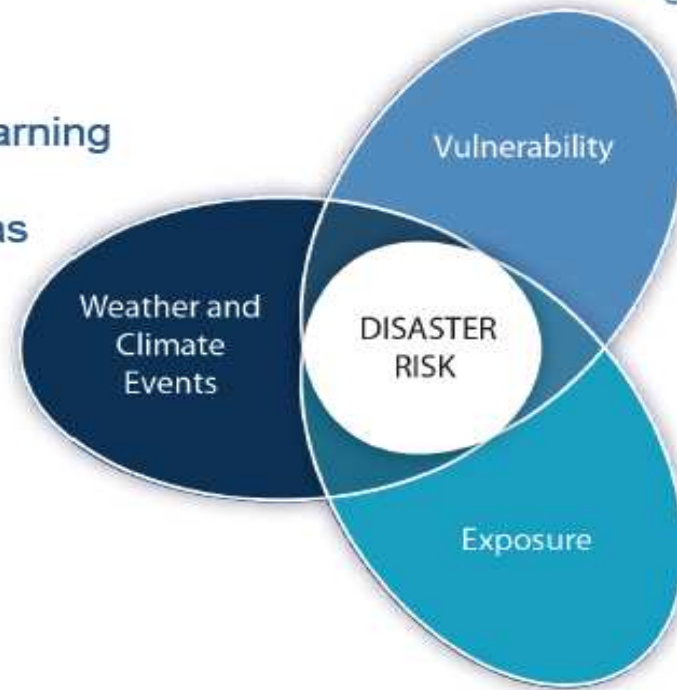


4. Why are the risks increasing locally and among women and girls?



Environmental & social vulnerability, exposure and disaster risks reduction management (DRRM)

- improved forecasting for warning systems
- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions



- poverty reduction
- better education and awareness
- sustainable development

- asset relocation
- weather-proofing assets
- early warning systems

Gender empowerment reduces social vulnerability and disaster risks

- Between **68-89%** of deaths occurs among **women and girls** due to long-term discrimination & self-identity of women to **care** for others
- **Information & training** on vulnerability, exposure, climate extremes, DRR, and resilience-building help people **reducing their risks** and getting prepared for **unknown and unpredictable threats**
- Integrated **water** management, sanitation and drainage improve health, wellbeing and reduce risks of **waterborne diseases**
- **Drought** forecasting, sustainable **farming** practices, drought resistant seeds and early warning reduce risks of hunger
- **Adaption** to changing climate conditions includes maintenance of draining systems, regional risk pooling, relocation from risky locations, early **evacuation** and **disaster risk reduction training**
- **Sustainable development** in the near term reduces longer term social vulnerability
- Managing risks now help **improve livelihood** and wellbeing
- Women maintain **social networks** during normal times and support communities and families during disasters

Economic losses from climate-related disasters have increased, with large spatial and interannual variation, but are higher in industrialized countries, while fatalities are higher in developing countries.

Managing the risks: cyclones and floods

Risk Factors

- population growth
- increasing property value
- higher storm surge with sea level rise



Risk Management/ Adaptation

- better forecasting
- warning systems
- stricter building codes
- regional risk pooling

Projected globally: *likely* increase in average maximum wind speed and associated heavy rainfall (although not in all regions)

Gender vulnerability and women's discrimination increase vulnerability of exposed communities: even non-extreme events can have extreme impacts in loss of lives and livelihood

Managing the risks: drought in the context of food security in the drylands

Risk factors

- more variable rain
- ecosystem degradation
- hotter days
- discrimination of women
- poor health and education conditions



Risk Management/Adaptation

- improved water management
- sustainable farming practice
- drought-resistant crops
- drought forecasting

ipcc

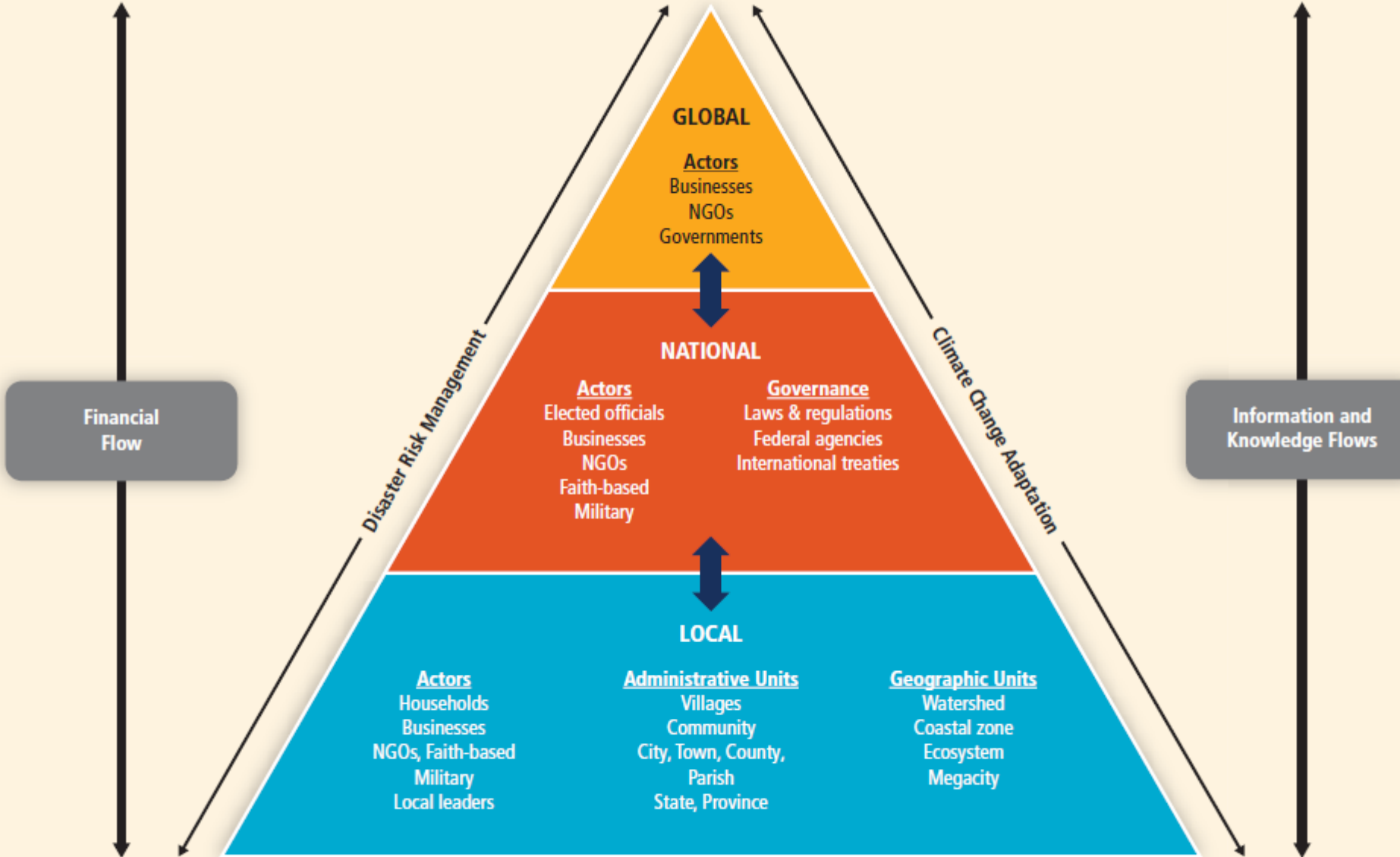
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change





5. How can local disaster risks reduction (DRR) be improved?

Linking local to global actors and responsibilities



Primary Actors

INTERNATIONAL

- Bilateral and multilateral partners
- Intergovernmental organizations

NATIONAL / SUB-NATIONAL

- National government and statutory agencies
- Civil society organizations
- Private sector
- Research and communication bodies
- Local government agencies

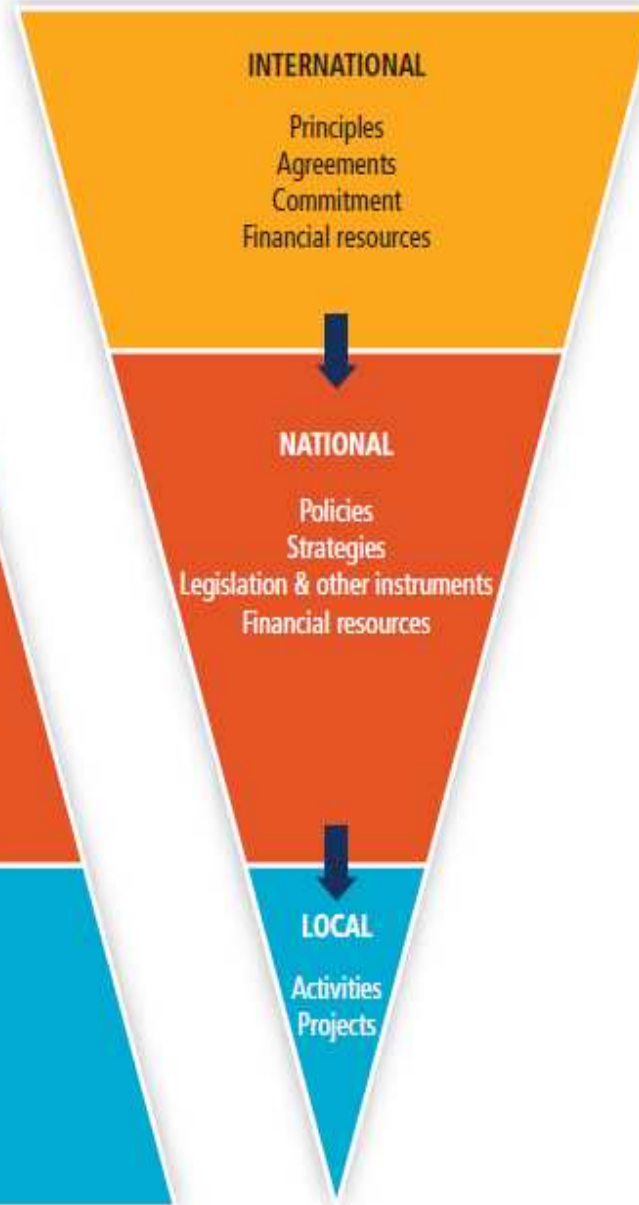
LOCAL

- Individuals, households, and communities
- Private sector
- Community-based organizations
- Faith-based organizations

"BOTTOM-UP" Functions



"TOP-DOWN" Functions

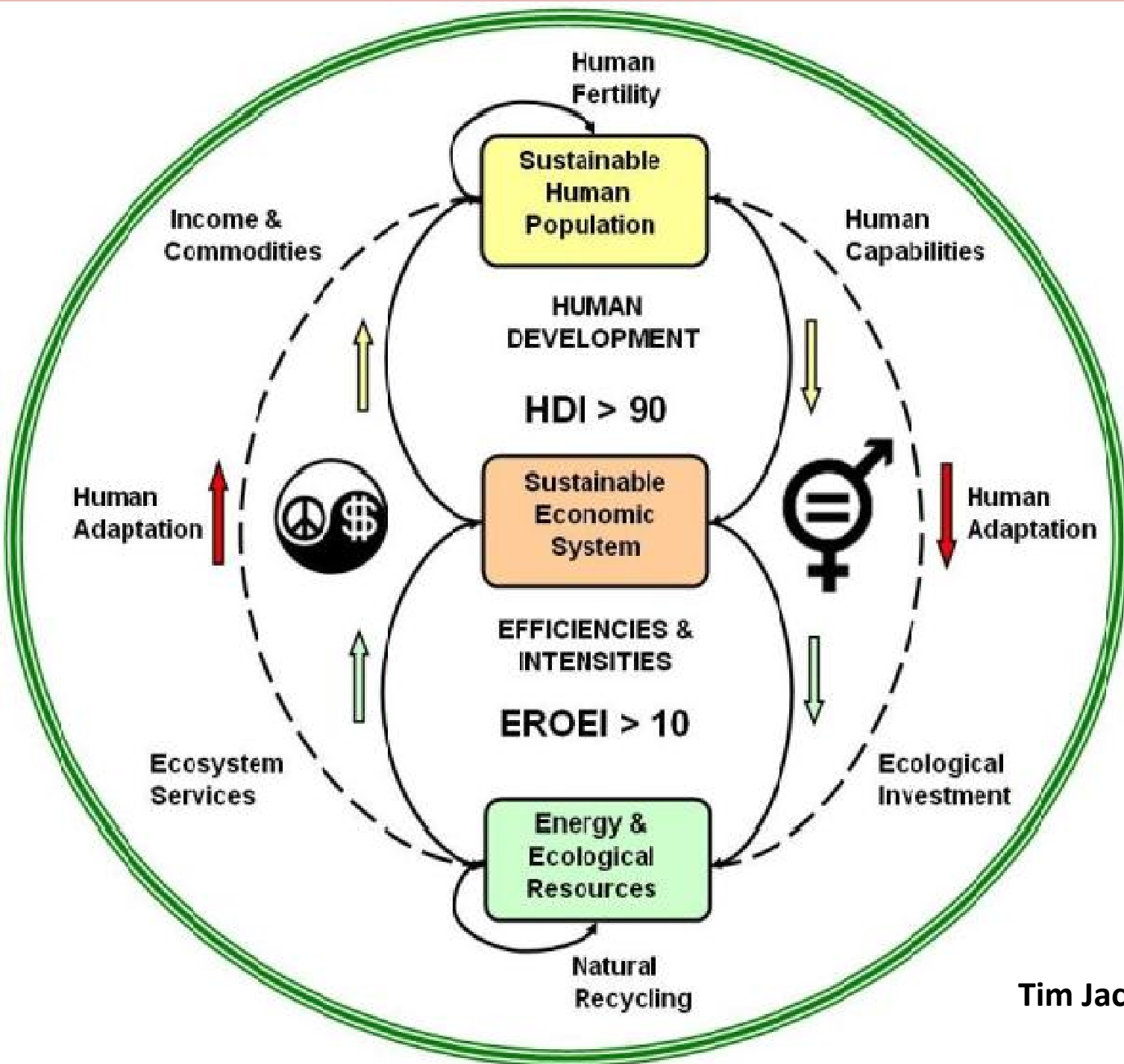


Global Climate Projections

Regional / National Climate Projections

Scientific and Local Experiential Knowledge

Vulnerability, Risk, and Adaptation Assessments

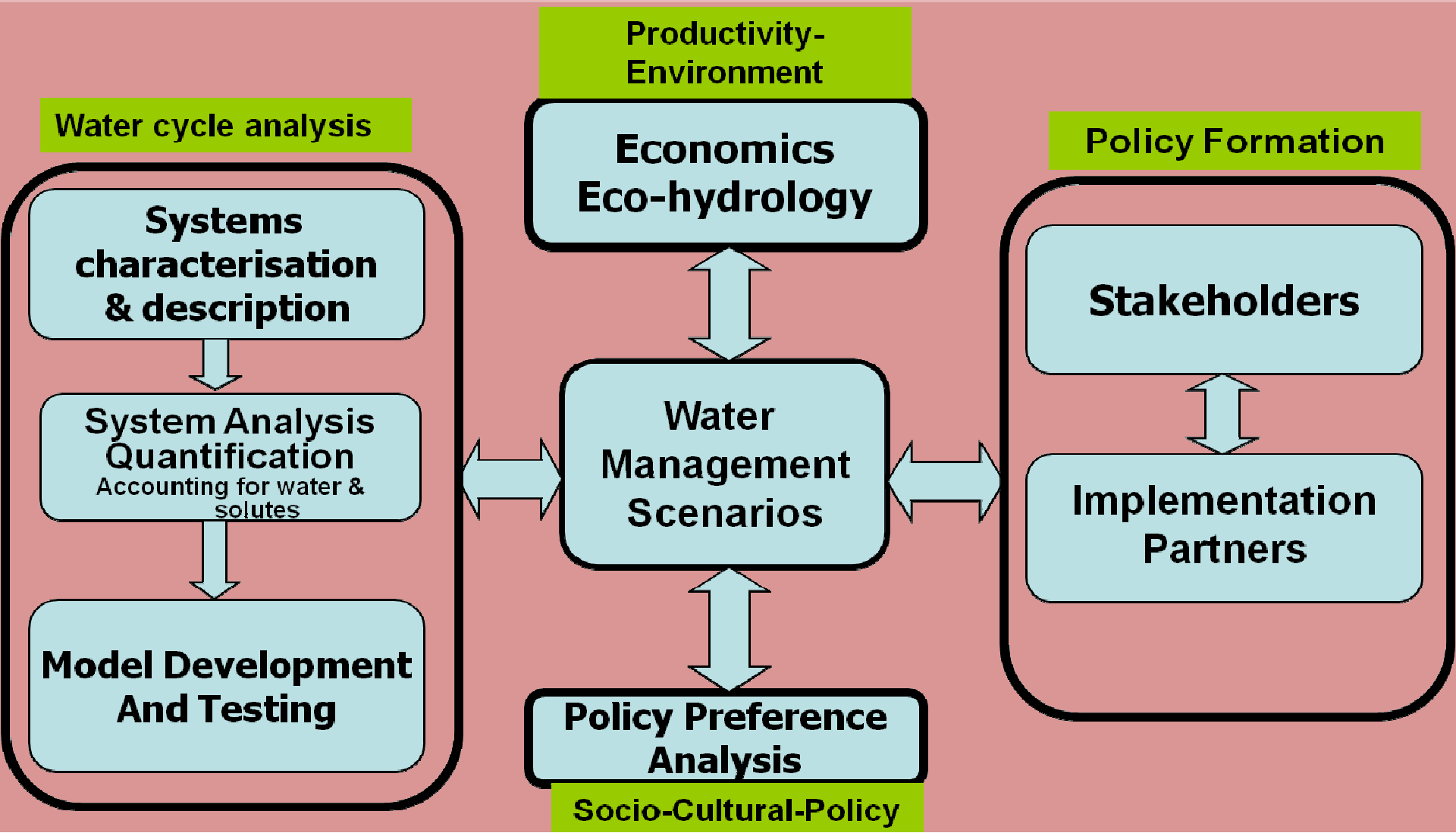


Adaptation to nature and new climate conditions with a gender perspective

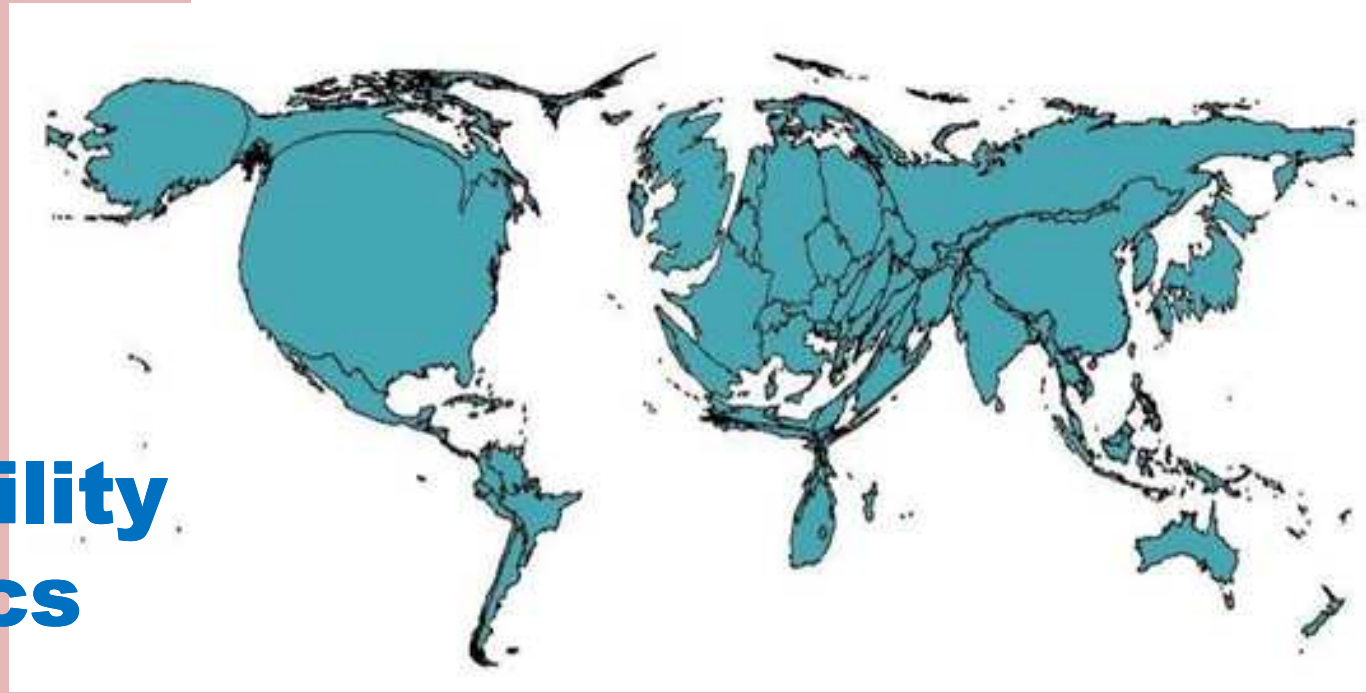
6. How are local and global DRR and DRM (management) related to resilience?



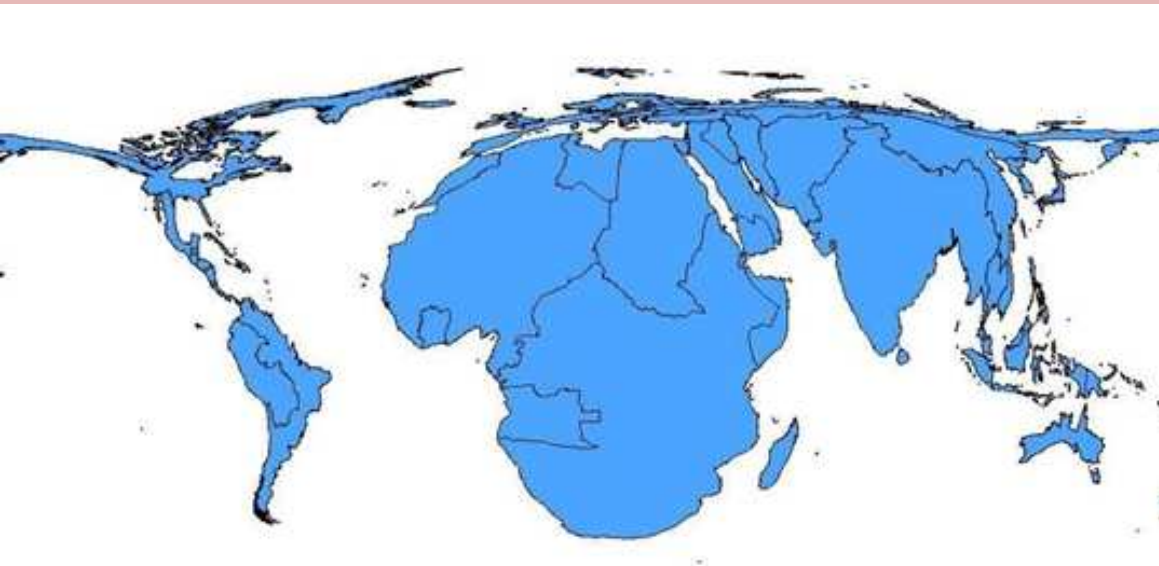
Environmental and water knowledge for decision-making



Cumulative Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2002



Global responsibility and ethics

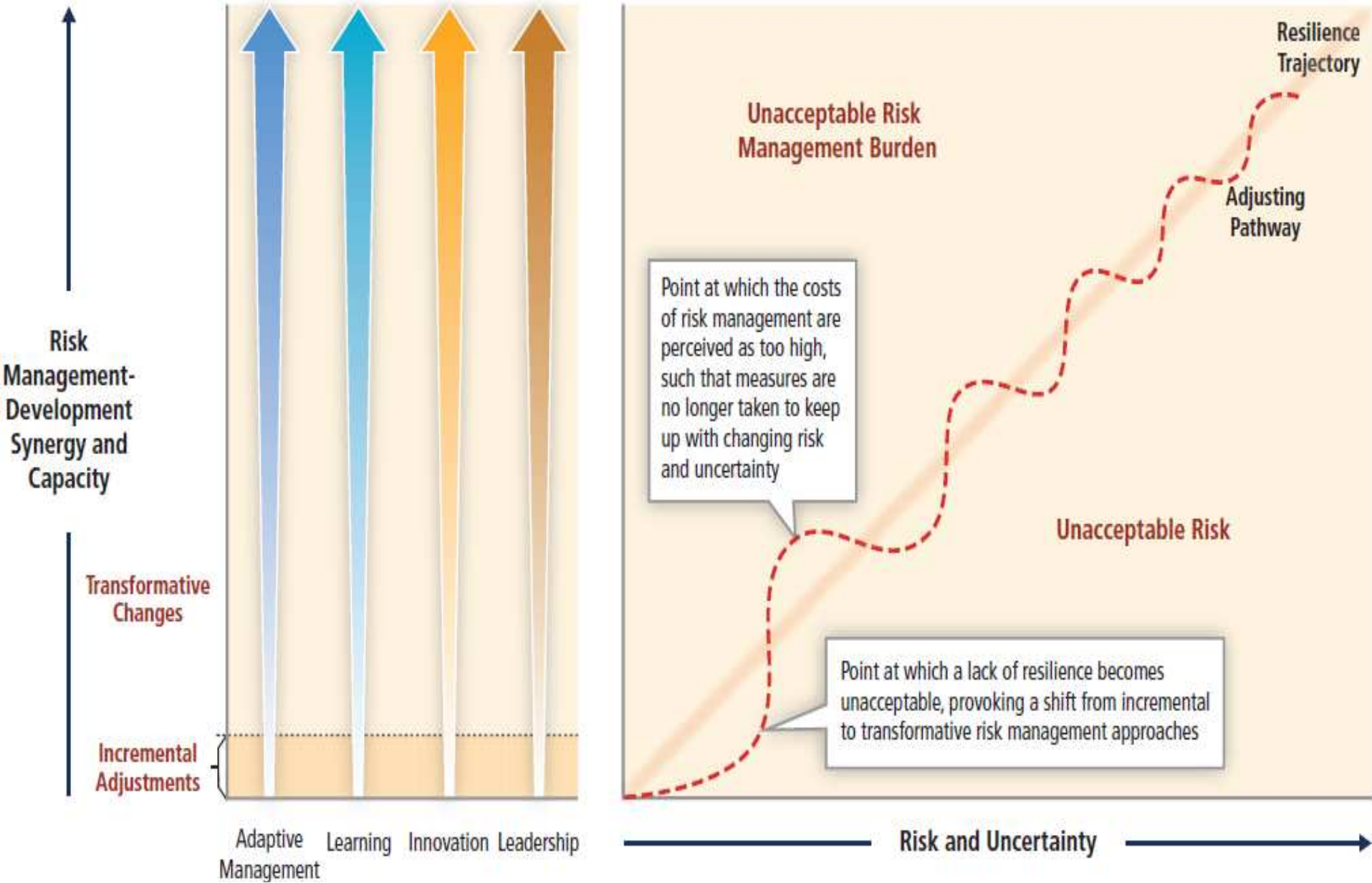


Patz et al., 2007

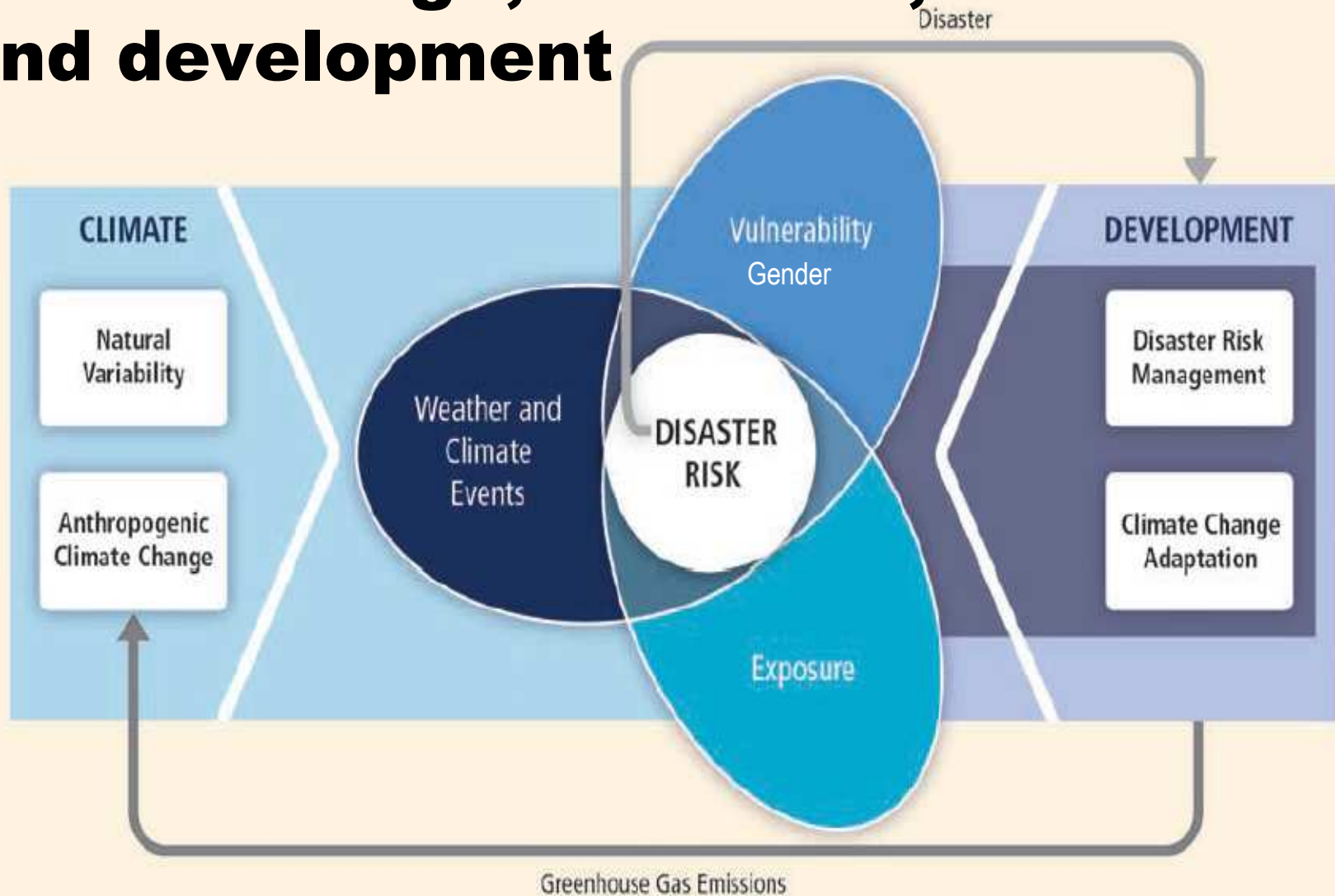


Mortality rate attributable to climate change, 2000

Incremental & transformative pathways to resilience



Climate Change, disasters, vulnerability and development



FLOODS

An increase in extreme weather will lead to higher winter river flows, runoff and flooding.



HYDROELECTRIC POWER

Changes in flow decrease clean power generation.



SNOWPACK

A 25% reduction of snowpack will change water supply.



RIVER FLOW

Changes in river flow impacts water supply, water quality, fisheries, and recreation activities.



DROUGHT

Higher temperatures and changes in precipitation will lead to droughts.



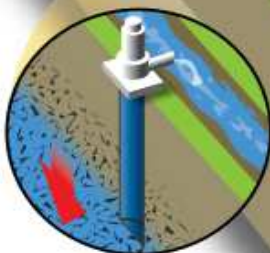
AGRICULTURE

Increased demand for irrigation.



GROUNDWATER

Lower water tables due to hydrologic changes and greater demand cause some shallow wells to go dry.



WATER USE

Demand for agriculture, urban and environmental water will increase.



DELTA LEVELS

Sea level rise will threaten Delta levees.



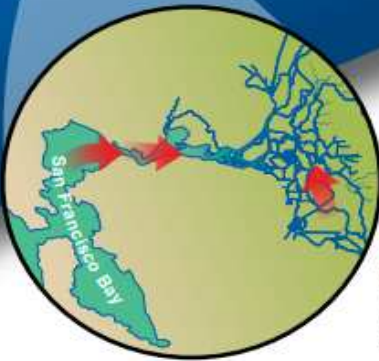
HABITAT

Warmer river temperatures stress cold-water species such as salmon.



WATER QUALITY

Salt water intrusion from rising sea levels will affect the Delta and coastal aquifers.



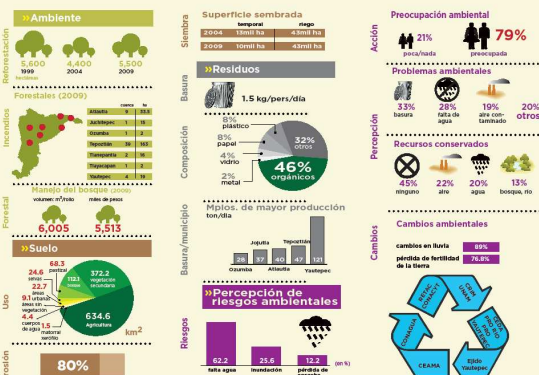
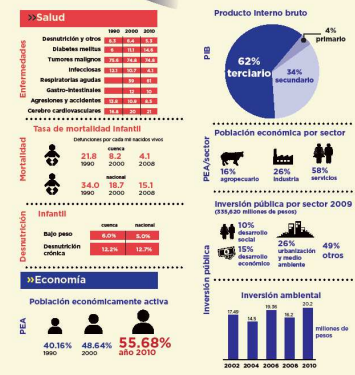
Mi Río Yautepec

Niños, niñas y adultos de 13 municipios de los estados de Morelos y México construímos el futuro de nuestro río para hacer de este pequeño territorio un lugar seguro de trabajo, educación, agua limpia, bosques y selvas.

2 Pueblos Mágicos



Gestión ambiental (al final del primer año)	Gestión ambiental mediano plazo (4 años)
Inversión \$ 350 millones	Inversión \$ 950 millones
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 presas rompempicos y derivadoras 13 actualizaciones de planes de ordenamiento urbano y ambiental 1 modelo matemático de riesgo hídrico 1 PTA Yautepec rehabilitada Reubicación y ampliación de colectores 1 Asociación de Usuarios del Río Yautepec 2 viveros y un centro de germoplasma 15 millones de árboles reforestados 3 centros de acopio de desechos sólidos 3 mercados con separación de desechos 1 centro de producción rural sustentable 13 limpiezas del río 50 escuelas con educación ambiental 3 jagüeyes recuperados Mil hectáreas de producción rural sustentable Manejo integral del manglaral Hichilate y resolución del conflicto comunitario 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 presa Morelos 1 1 cauce de alivio en barranca La Nopalera 2 viveros con 15 millones de plantas nativas 60 millones de árboles reforestados 4 jagüeyes y 6 manantiales recuperados 3 programas de desarrollo ecoturístico Construcción de colectores 13 planes de ordenamiento urbano y ambiental 15 centros de acopio 13 compostas de residuos orgánicos comerciales 1 relleno intermunicipal 5 mil ha de producción rural sustentable Escuelas con cultura ambiental Inventario de flora y fauna nativa 2 mil micro empresas Programa de ecoturismo
Planeación ambiental (10 años)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social: Educación socioambiental, Abatimiento de pobreza, Integración de ONG's, Vínculo entre y con Ayudantías, Consejo comunitario desarrollo rural sustentable, Capacitación nutricional, Combate a diabetes, Prevención de embarazos en adolescentes, Medicina y curaciones tradicionales Ambiental: 7 áreas contra inundaciones, 150 millones de árboles reforestados, 20 mil ha de suelos recuperados, 1 centro de cultura ambiental, 3 rellenos sanitarios intermunicipales, 1 ordenamiento integral de la cuenca, 5 mil ha de riego eficiente, 500 ha de árboles frutales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Económico: 10 mil empleos, 10 mil ha de agricultura orgánica, Mercado Justo, Pago por servicios ambientales, 1 centro de encadenamiento productivo, 5 mil microempresas, 5 mil huertos domésticos, 5 mil manejo forestales, Ecoturismo cultural Político: Justicia ambiental, Legislación ambiental, Vigilancia ciudadana, Tribunal ambiental ciudadano, Seguridad humana y ambiental, Equidad de género, Derecho de niños, Contraloría ciudadana



Peasants, traders, micro-entrepreneurs, business people, social movements, NGO's, citizens, scientists, people affected by disasters, women, children, teachers and the three levels of government developed an integrated basin management of the River Yautepec for reducing risks increased by climate change and are promoting a transition to sustainability from local niches.

PTA: Planta de Tratamiento de Aguas Residuales
Créditos: Ursula Oswald, Angel Paredes, Ariana Estrada, Alejandro Morales, Hilda Cruz
Informes: robbaquis@gmail.com

Conclusions

1. Complex social networks sustain humans in normal times. **Human vulnerabilities** during change, hazard, disaster or conflict are usually a matter of disruption or failure of these networks.
2. Future research and policy on resilience building during extreme hydro-meteorological events helps to improve theories, data and concrete training about the impacts of climate, disaster, and other disruptions. Existing data overlooks social vulnerability and does not account for gender identity during normal, let alone in crisis situations.
3. Gender analysis will lend a more nuanced understanding of women as social beings aligning in networks of family and community.
4. More accurate understanding and training will facilitate to support networks that underlie a resilient society, where women educate, care and reproduce the historical memory and the cultural background, but increasingly generate also the material family sustain and the food.
5. Active female participation opens the possibility to reduce gender related social vulnerability, improve hazard resilience, and increase the survival of the whole communities frequently affected by hydrological disasters, but reduce also gender violence and insecurity before, during and after disasters.

Thank you very much for your attention
uoswald@gmail.com
http://www.afes-press.de/html/download_oswald.html

