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Environmental-induced migration in Mexico: a conceptual and empirical approach

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Barrera que impide el cause del río (1 m aprox.).

Reducción del cause del río por la acumulación del material (2.5 m aprox.)

Content

1. Climate-induced migration
2. Migration from Mexico to USA
3. Migrant route
4. Children alone
5. Dual vulnerability
6. Risks, threats & disasters in the river Yautepec
7. Socioeconomic factors
8. Social Vulnerability Index
9. Adaption without migration?

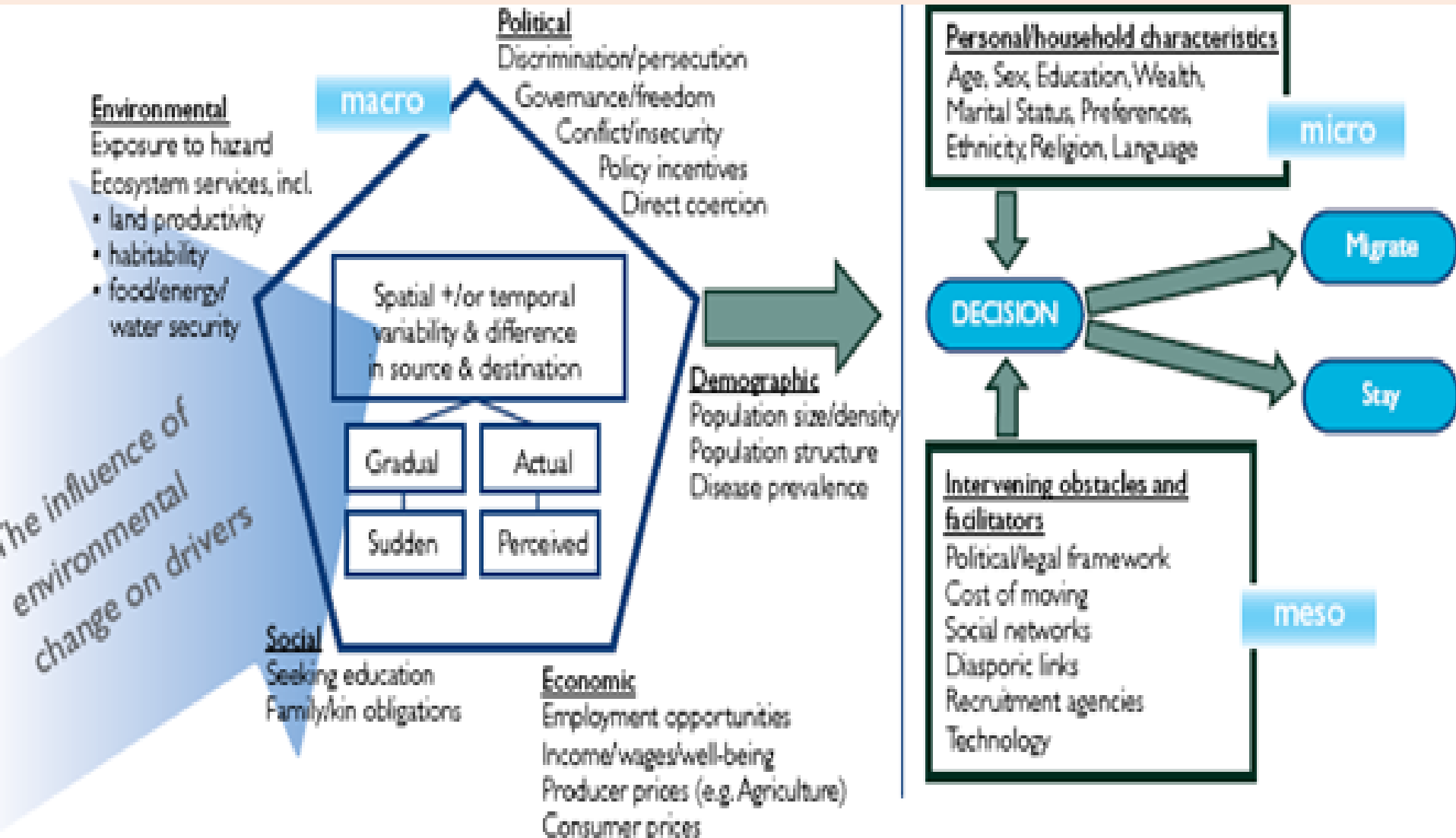
A photograph showing a flooded area at night. In the foreground, there is a large, dark, muddy area of water. A concrete walkway with a yellow metal railing runs across the middle ground. Several people are standing on the walkway, some looking towards the camera. In the background, there are buildings and streetlights. The overall scene suggests a flooded urban area.

2. Climate-induced migration

Controversial theories on environmental-induced migration: environmental and climate induced migration as a complex phenomenon

- “Environmental migrants are persons or groups of persons who, for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad” (IOM, MC/INF/288 2007: 2).
- *Why forced or induced?*
- *Why not refugee?*

Complex factors & levels of environmental induced migration



Culture and traditions

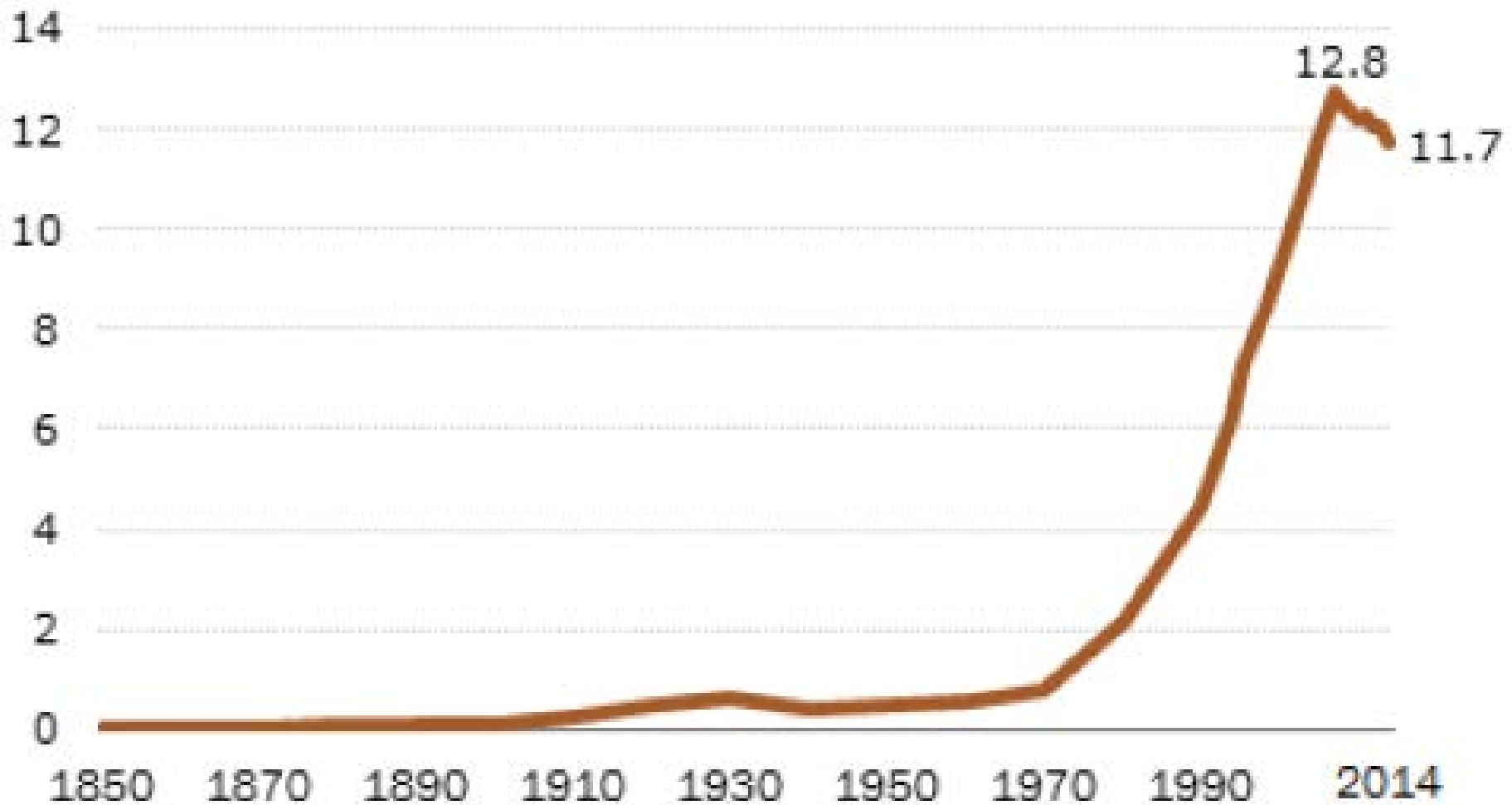


Migration from Mexico to US

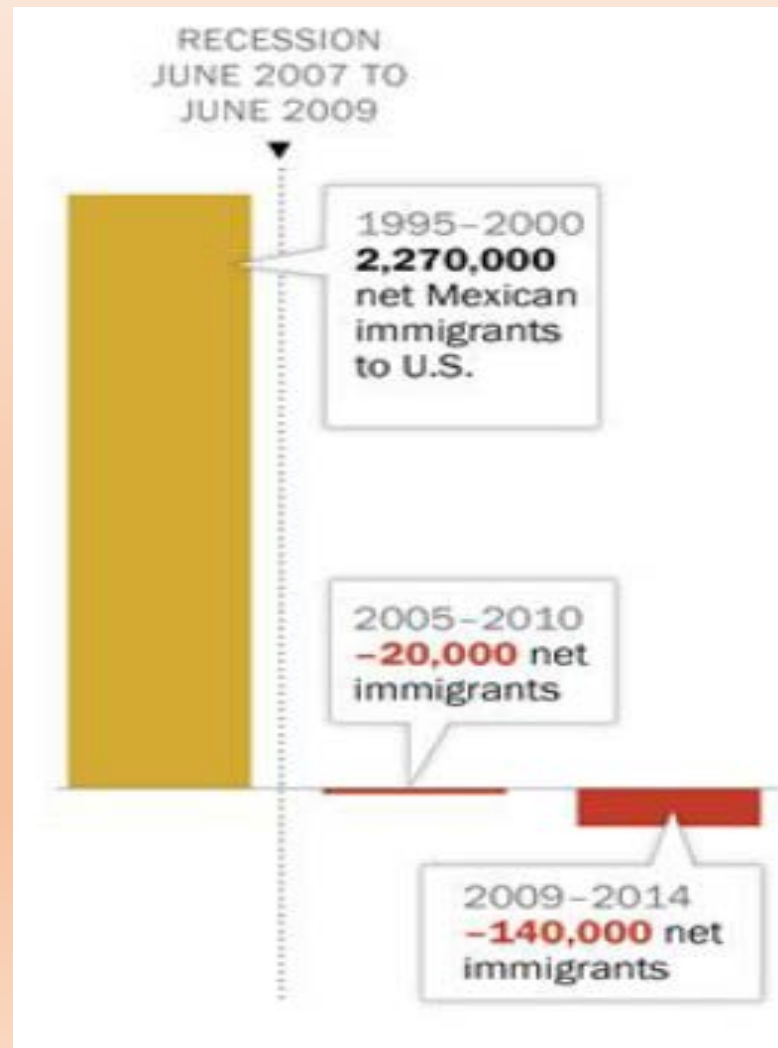
- The **abysmal socioeconomic differences**, environmental threats and public insecurity between both countries. Since NAFTA (1994), the number of Mexican migrants has increased since Despite the fence, a sophisticated electronic observation system including drones, until 2007: **450,000 to 500,000** Mexicans cross the border, now 150 to 200,000. During the Obama administration **2.3 million** people were expelled.
- Borders has been identified as a key concept for understanding contemporary **sociocultural processes**. The analysis of the "globalization" in both economic and symbolic aspects, refer to boundaries, edges, or areas of contact and conflicts.
- Since 1986, the legal status of Latin migrants in the USA has changed and now **most cross illegally**. Legal and physical obstacles have created **new conflicts** and the rejection of an immigration law in 2007 and the delay in 2014 by the US Congress has increased the vulnerability of the Latin migrants; today especially children.
- Often migration is linked to **organized crime** (drug, arms, human, women, human organs, oil, minerals, art, species in extinction trafficking, pornography).
- Migration is a **result of the neoliberal model with low growth rates** (below 2%), a corrupt privatization process with a high concentration of wealth, an inefficient education system and low investments in infrastructure, and a lacking policy to create jobs that pushed trained young people into illegal activities (500,000 are linked to drug gangs; AFI 2008; 2 million displaced by drug war). But also the demand for a cheap labour, drugs and pornography in the USA are drivers for illegal migration.
- Finally, **drought and lack of governmental support** in drylands have increased internal and international migration due to the **loss of livelihood** of rural people depending on natural resources, letting often women behind in charge of family, household and field.

Mexican migrants in US

In millions



Net migration from Mexico to US below zero (Pew Research Center, 2015)





3. Migrant route from Central America and Mexico by train: La Bestia

Children are the new migrants



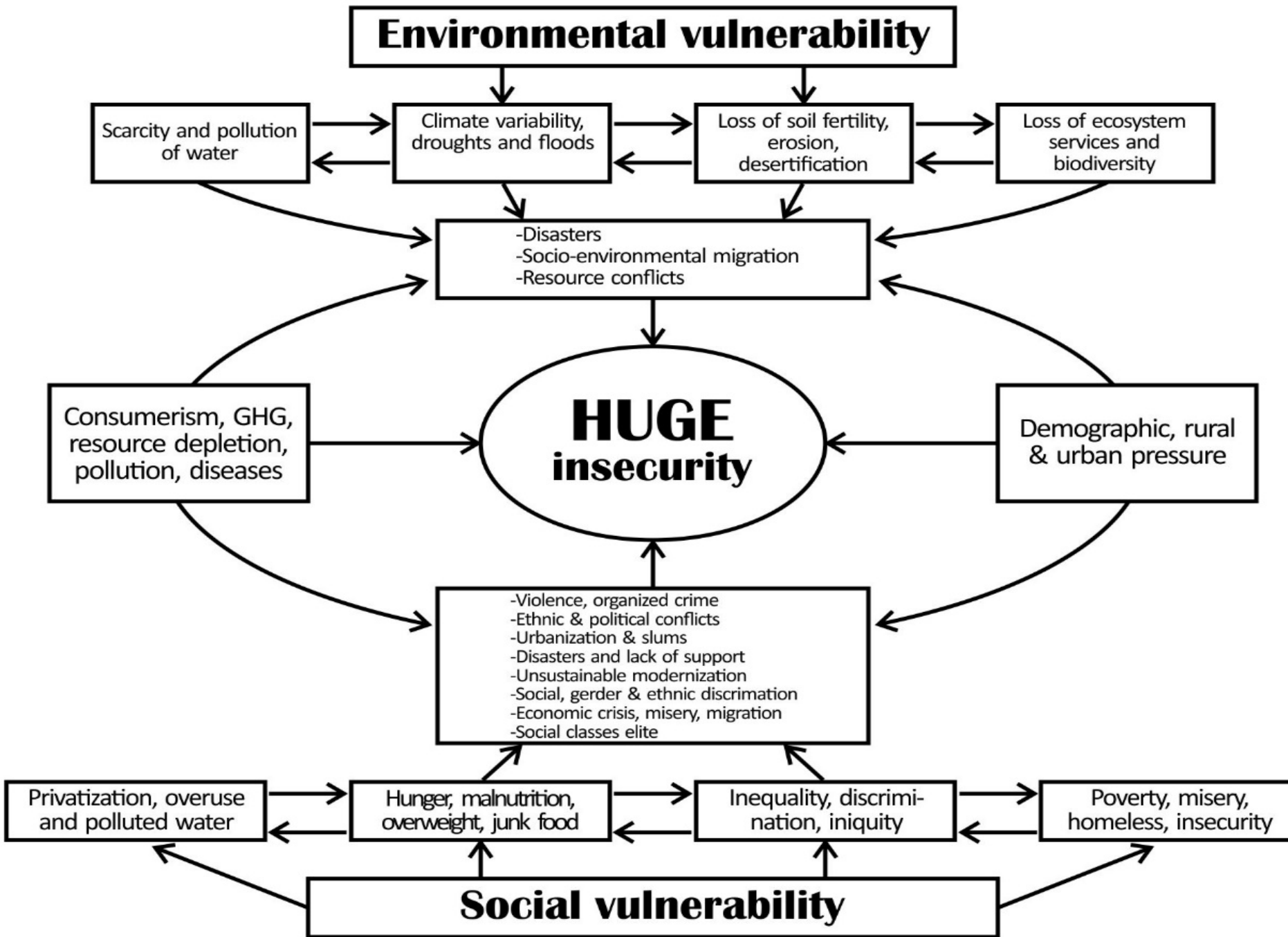
4. Children alone: new migrants

- During the last nine months (November 2013) 52,000 children or adolescents have crossed the border to US without documents. Estimations for 2014 will be 95,000. Obama speaks from a humanitarian crisis.
 - Economic crisis, neoliberal model, public violence and drug war obliges children to cross alone the dangerous border. Result of **neoliberal policy promoted by US, IMF, WB** through free trade agreements, **military cues, contra war, child soldiers** and the support of **dictators**: without finishing secondary school: 27% in Guatemala, 40% in Honduras, 41% in El Salvador; 8 million “ninis” (no school no job in Mexico: 60% of adolescents don't go to school).
 - ACNUR: migrant children from El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras ask for asylum in US; from 2008 number increased **757%**, most are repatriated where they left.
1. In US, 21% of children have a father born outside (FIFCFS, 2007: 8). 27% of migrants in California live in «**mixed**» **families** with legal and undocumented members (30% of children). Half of children in San Diego are from mixed families.
 2. Children: a) live with parents in US; b) continue in US when parents are deported; c) children expelled want to return to US to join family, school or job; d) **children threatened in Mesoamerica** due to organized crime, disasters, and lack of school and job opportunities.
 3. Children alone on the border because they were **expelled with parents or family** o travel alone to join parents in US. Often they try several times to cross, on behalf the physical and legal obstacles.

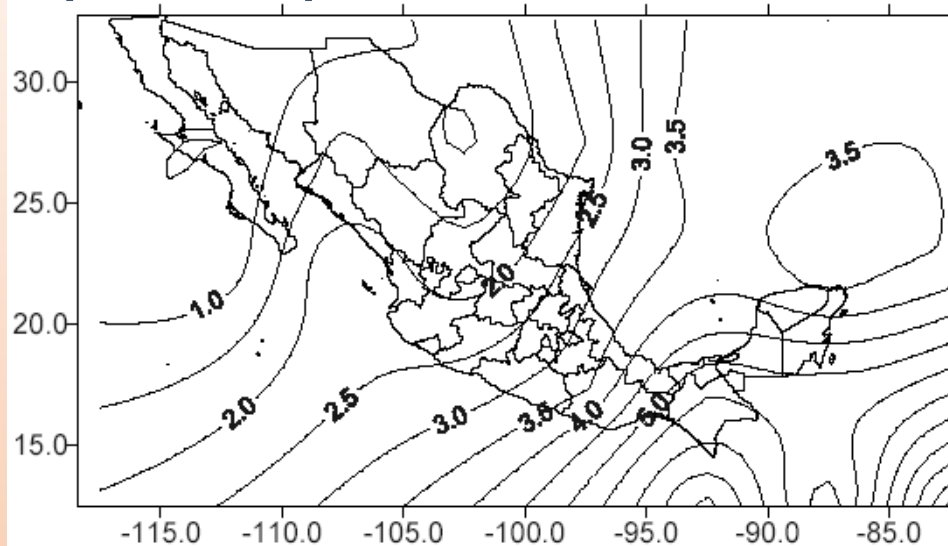


5. Dual vulnerability

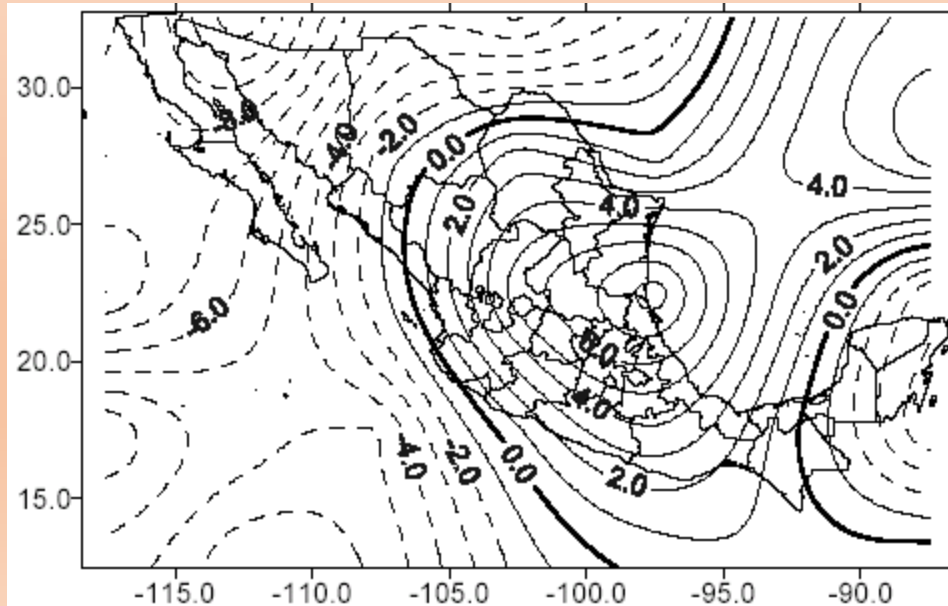




Potential changes in annual precipitation in Mexico for 2050



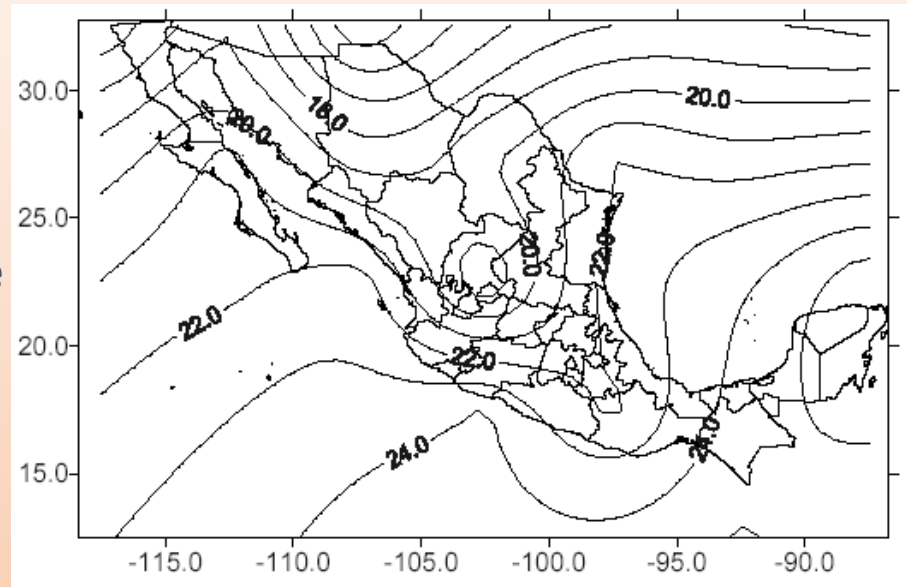
Scenario base (1961 – 1990) of average precipitation/year annual (mm/day)



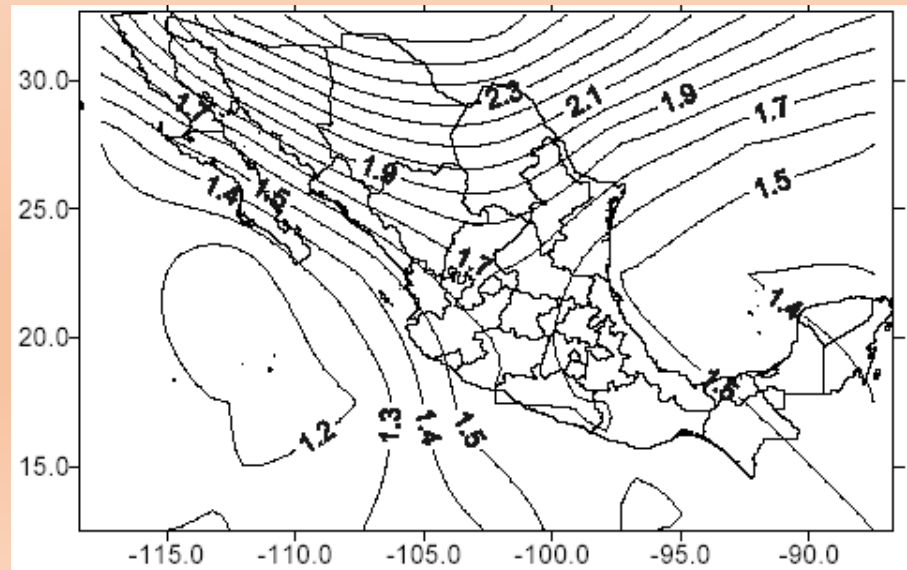
% of changes in average annual precipitation depending on medium sensitivity. The interrupted lines represent decrease. Model ECHAM4

Potential changes in annual temperature 2050

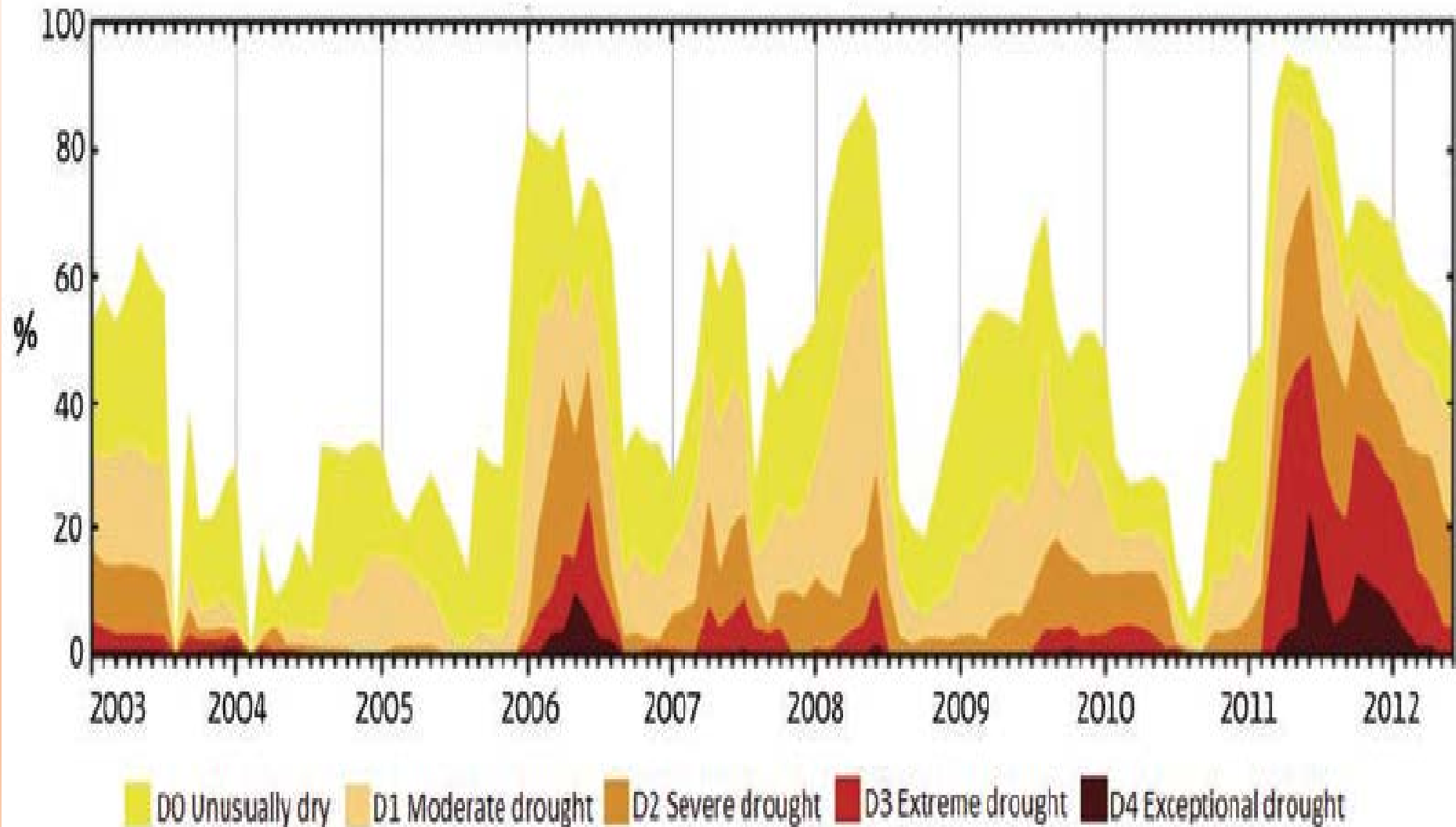
Scenario base (1961 – 1990) of annual average of temperature



Increase of medium annual average temperature (°C) in 2050. Model ECHAM4

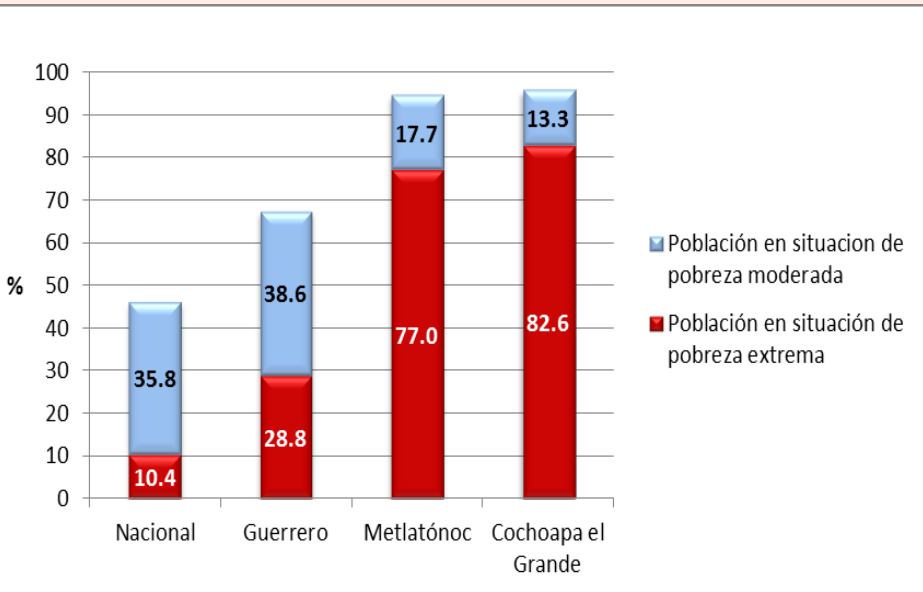


Droughts in Mexico

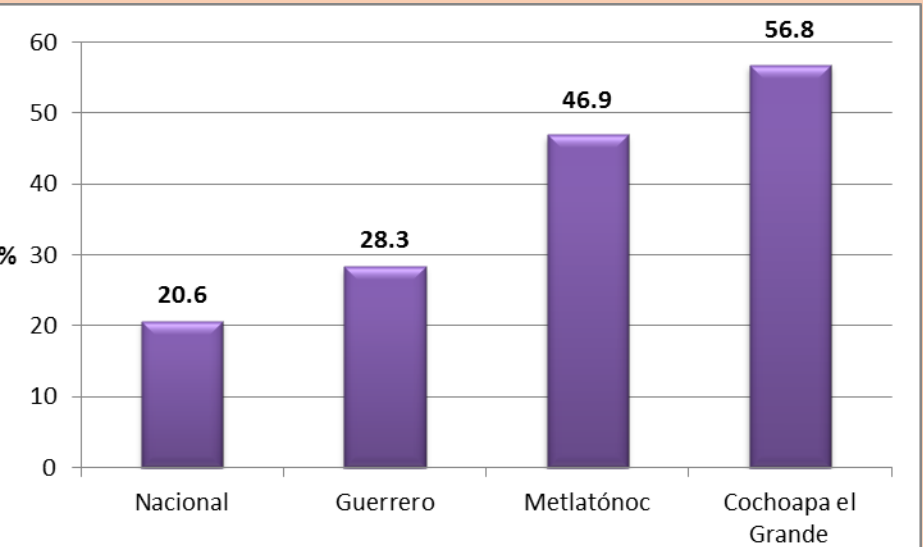


Affected surface (%) in Mexico due to the drought from 2003 to 2012

Economic deadlocks in Cochoapa



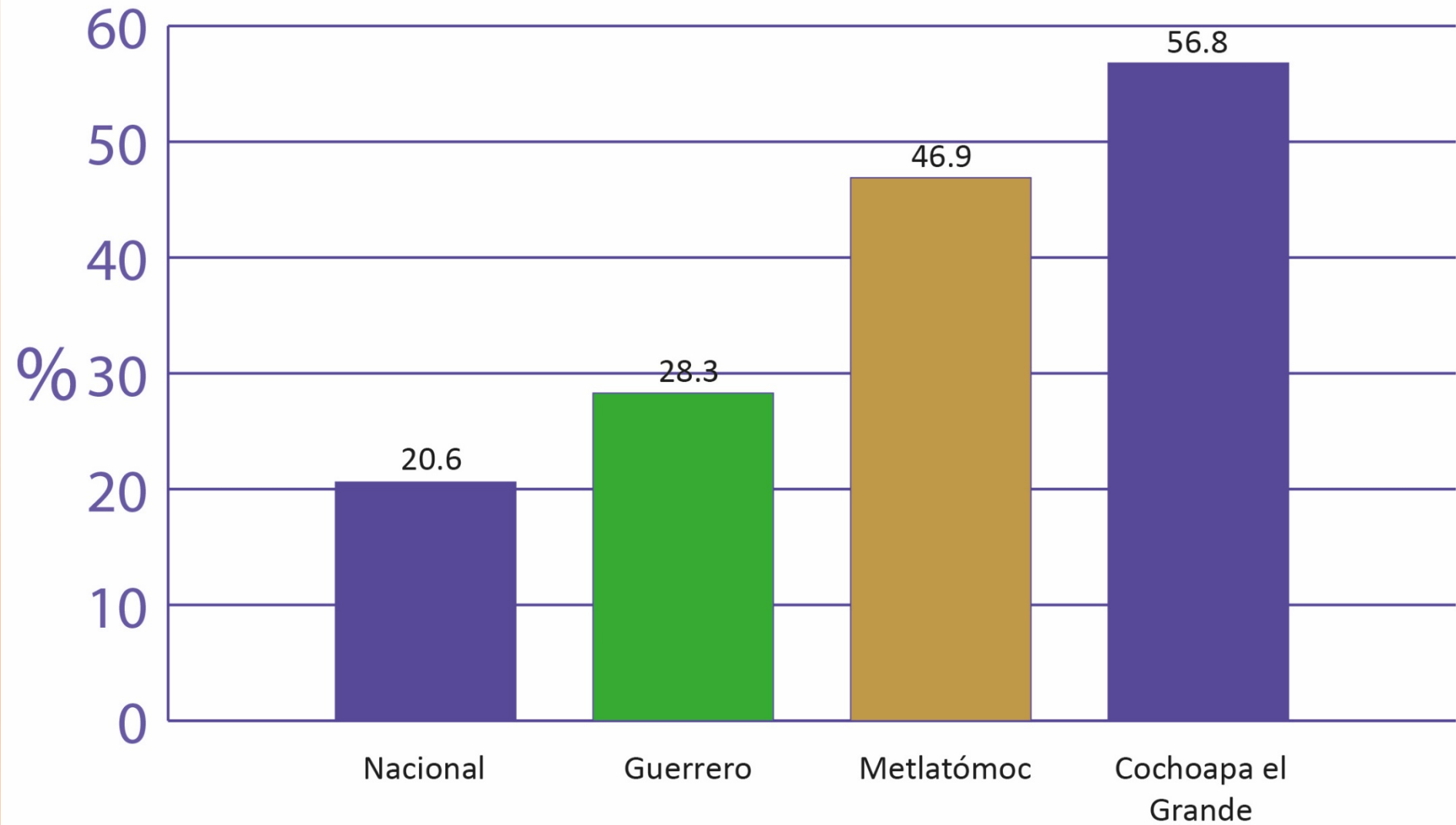
Without school training



1. Poorest municipality in Mexico
2. 82.6% extreme poor
3. 98% indigenous
4. 56.8% analphabets
5. 70% of women without school
6. Studying prevents marriage
7. Girls at 12 years are sold for marriage
8. Temporary and permanent migration: Day laborers & family in the fields with toxic pesticides (including children)

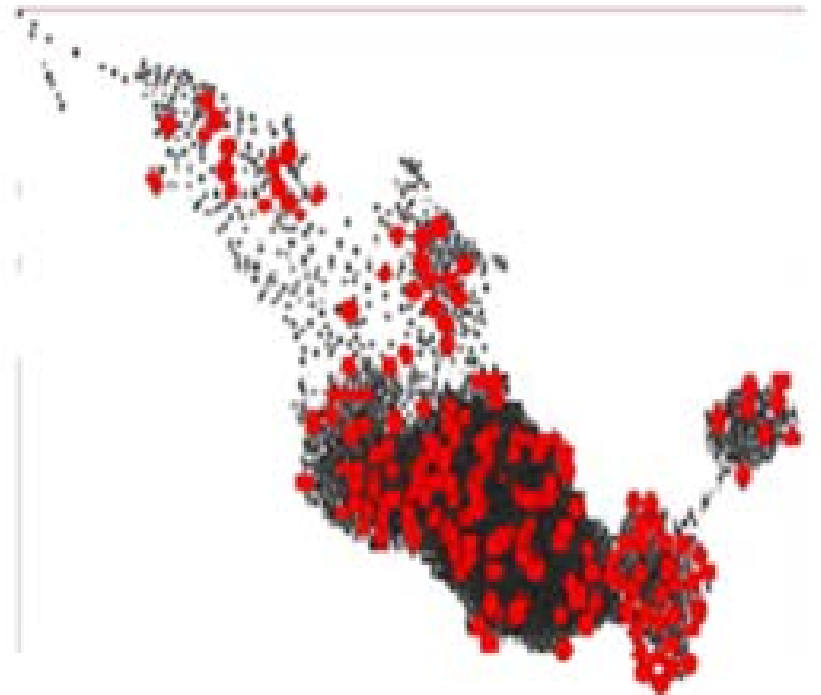
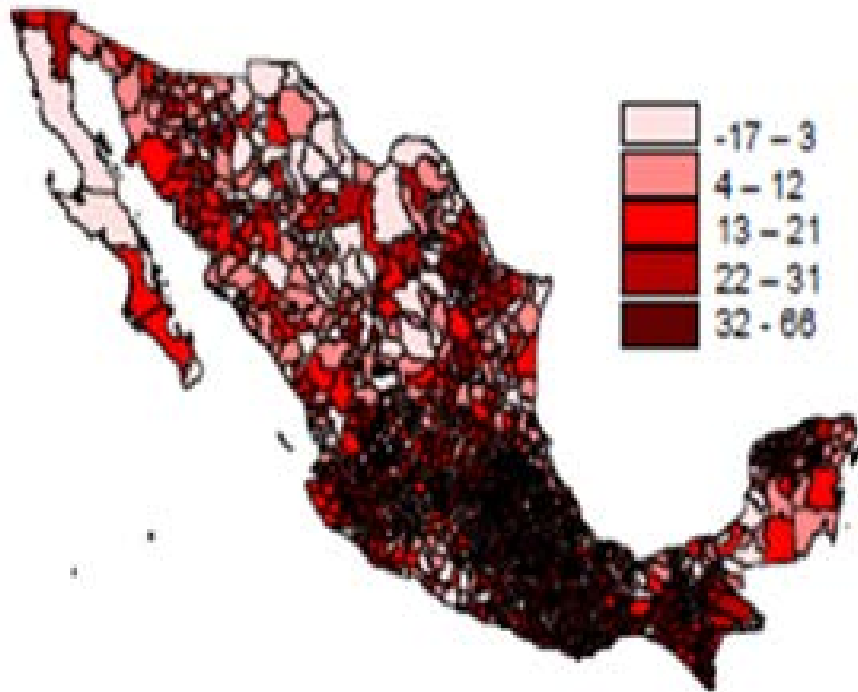
Discrimination: Poor, woman, indigenous and migrant

Educational backwardness



Dual vulnerability: poor and exposed to extreme events transformed into disasters

Left: income less 2 US\$/day; right: Disaster costs over 500,000US\$





6. Risks, threats and disasters in a river basin in Central Mexico

Floods: 1986; 1998; 2010;
2011; 2012; 2014, 2015

Droughts: every year

Cholera epidemics: 1992

Dengue fever: from 2005 on
increase of 600%

Chikungunya fever, 2014-2016
epidemic

What more? Sika?

Distrito Federal

México

Threats

1. High altitude from Popocatepetl to Yautepec: 5452m down to 1200m in 27 km
2. High speed of water with rocks and trees
3. Complex hydrology: with a lot of small rivers, often dried out and eroded
4. Deforestation, also in national parks
5. Soil erosion (80%)
6. High sedimentation in river bed
7. Extreme rainfalls
8. Large drought periods
9. Invasion of the river basin
10. Lack of infrastructure
11. Waste in the river
12. Lack of municipal planning
13. Initial cooperation among the three levels of government
14. Few participation of citizens

Morelos



Complexity of river tributaries: all eroded and from high altitude

Location: Centre of the country



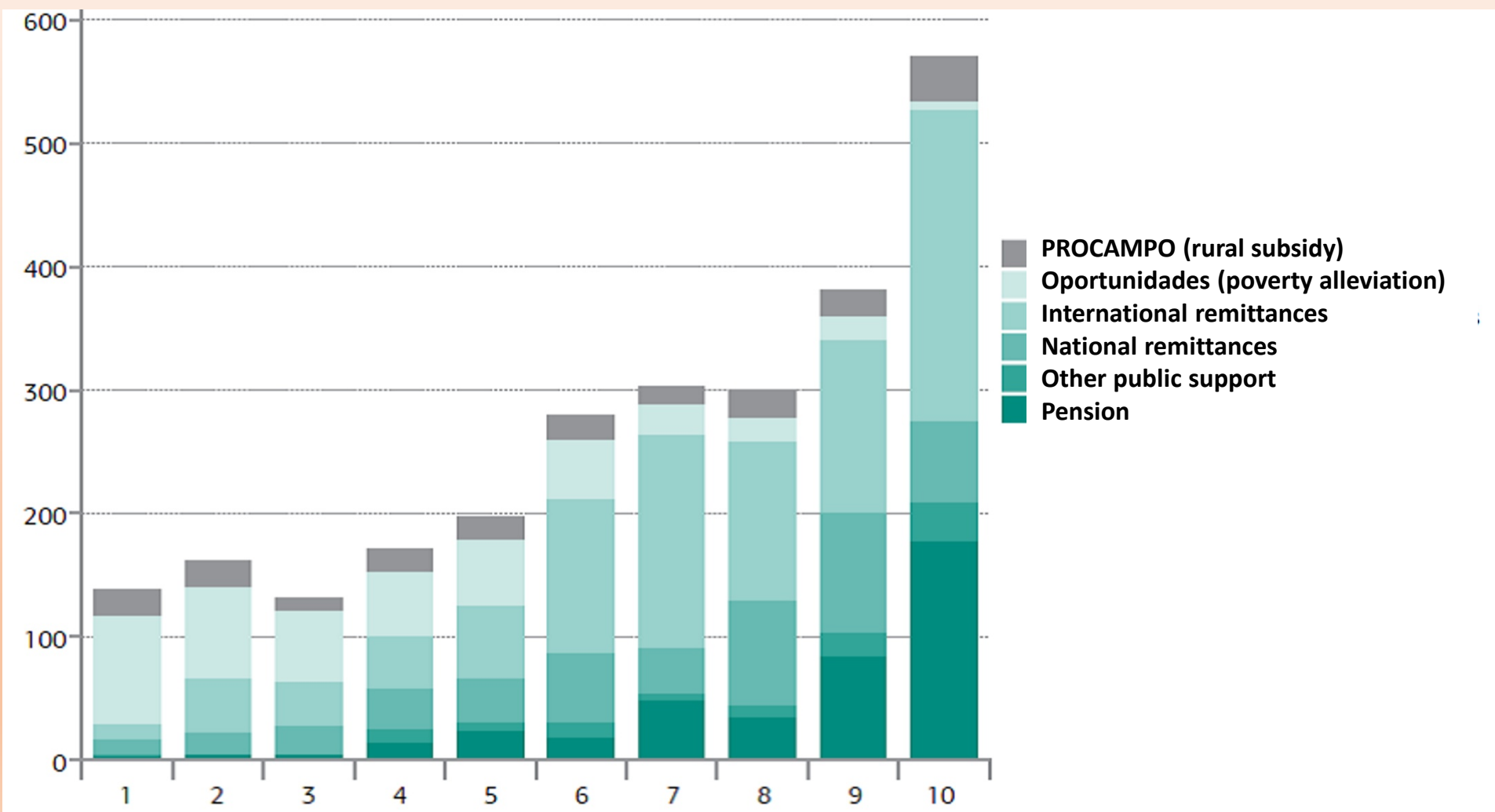
**Transect from volcano
Popocatéptl (5,452 m) to the Sierra
Madre del Sur**



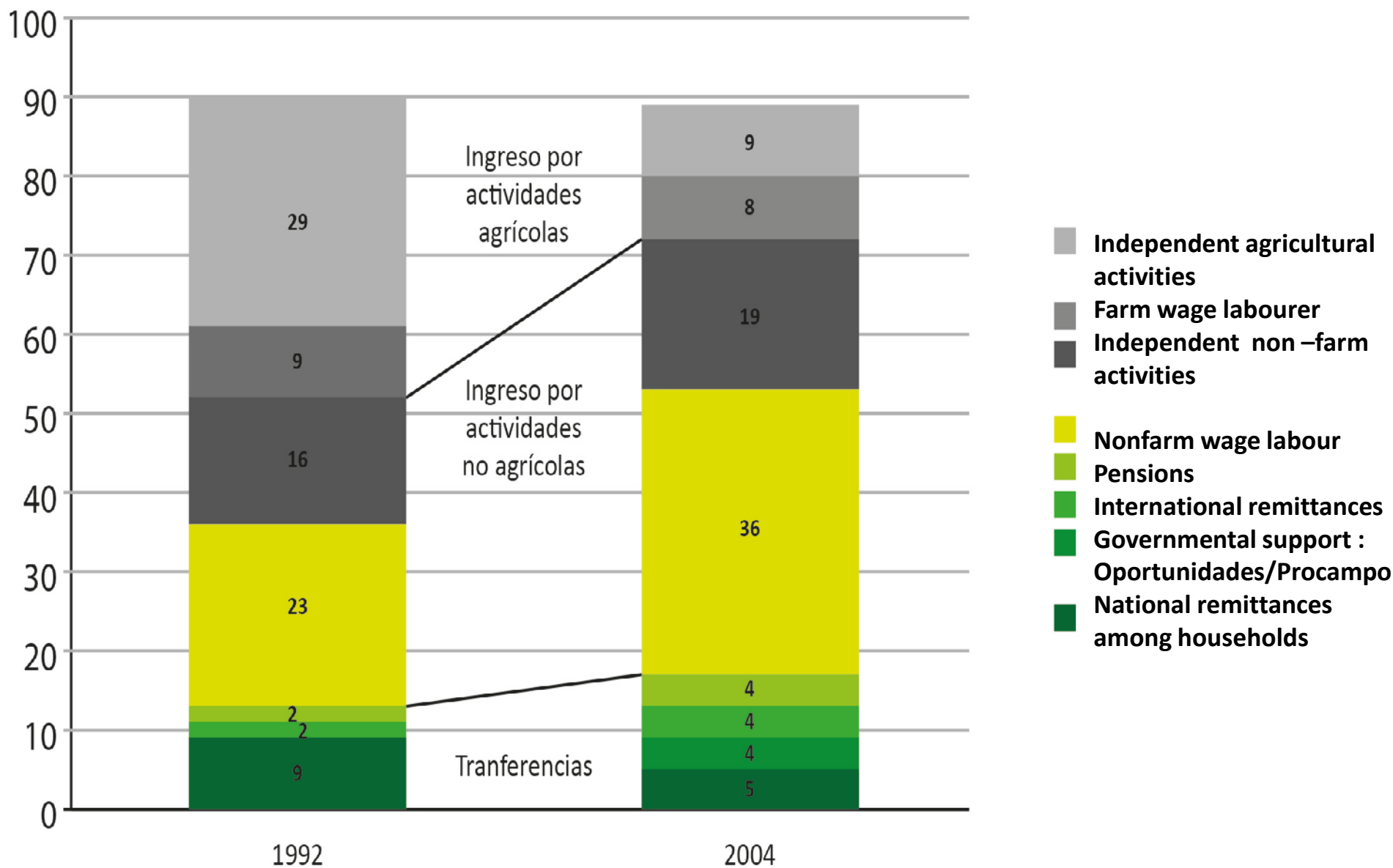
7. Socioeconomic factors



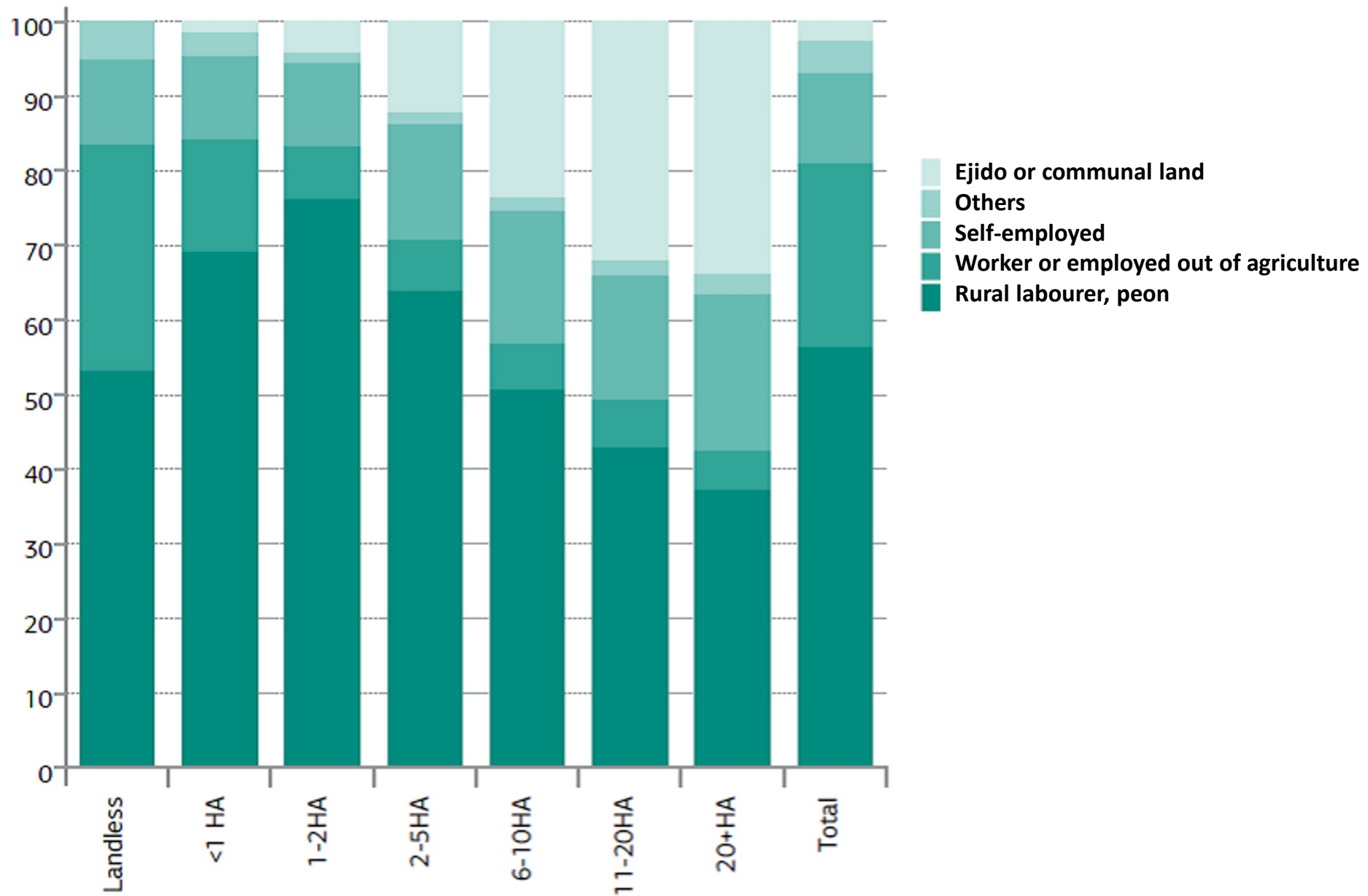
Complexity of economic incomes



Nonfarm incomes dominates



Land tenure





8. Social Vulnerability Index

Environmental perception

	Environmental understanding
Lorenzo Vázquez	62.6%
Villa Nicolás Zapata	75.8%
La Cañada	59.0%
El Pañuelo	56.3%

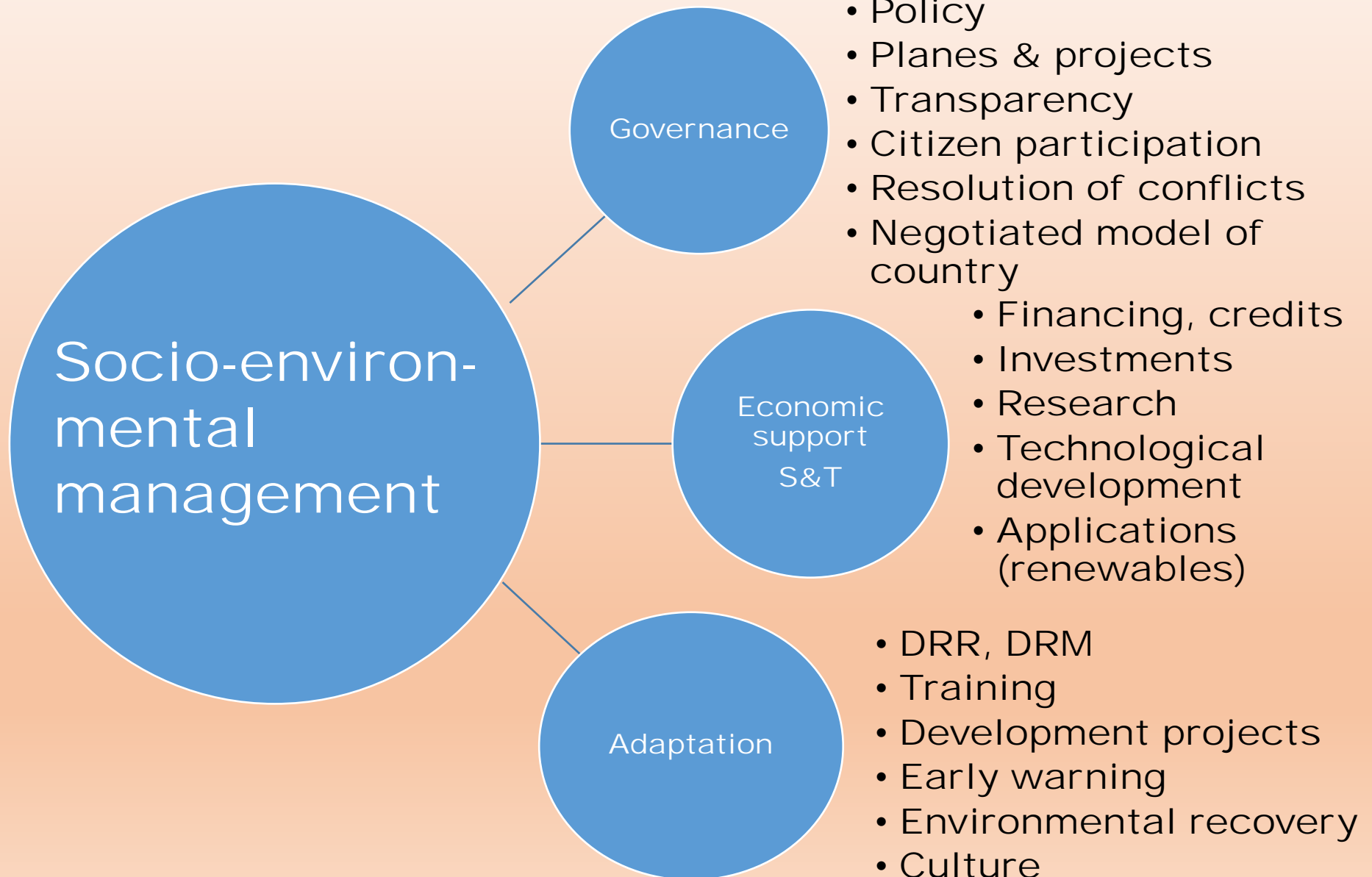
Index of social and environmental vulnerability

Both indexes	Lorenzo Vázquez	Nicolás Zapata	La Cañada	El Pañuelo
Index of social vulnerability	253.12	263.8	202.58	290.11
Index of environmental perception	273.4	286.6	220.3	307
Diferences in % between both indexes	8.01	8.64	8.75	5.82

9. Adaption without migration?



Obstacles to a dignified livelihood without migration



Glocal

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

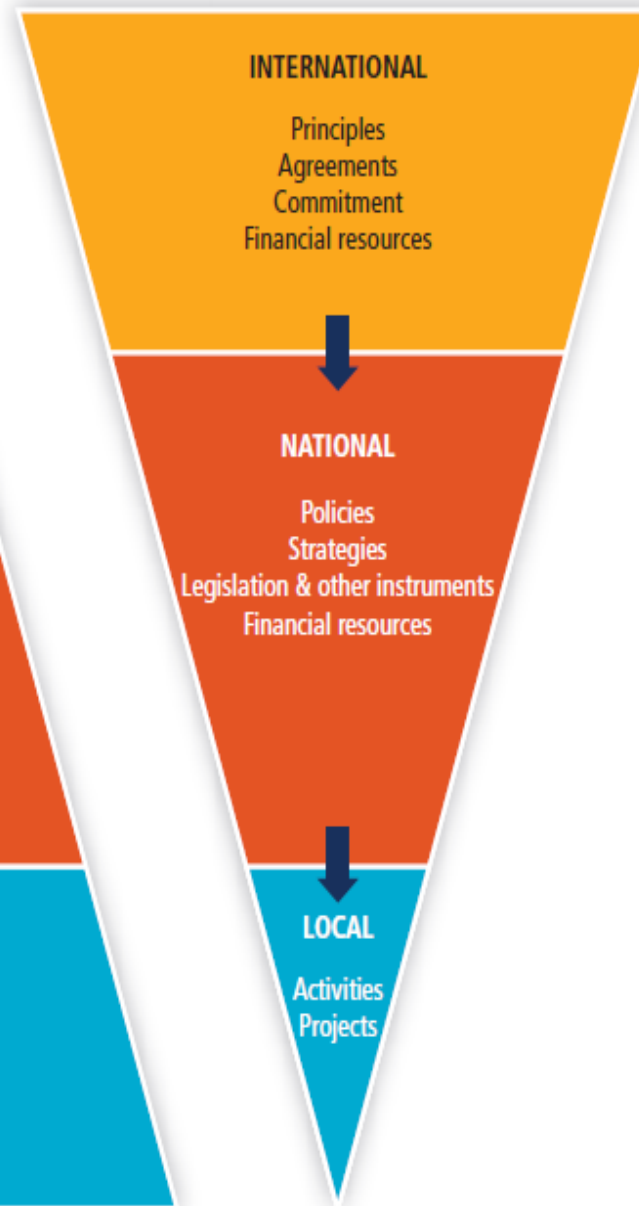
LOCAL

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

"BOTTOM-UP" Functions



"TOP-DOWN" Functions

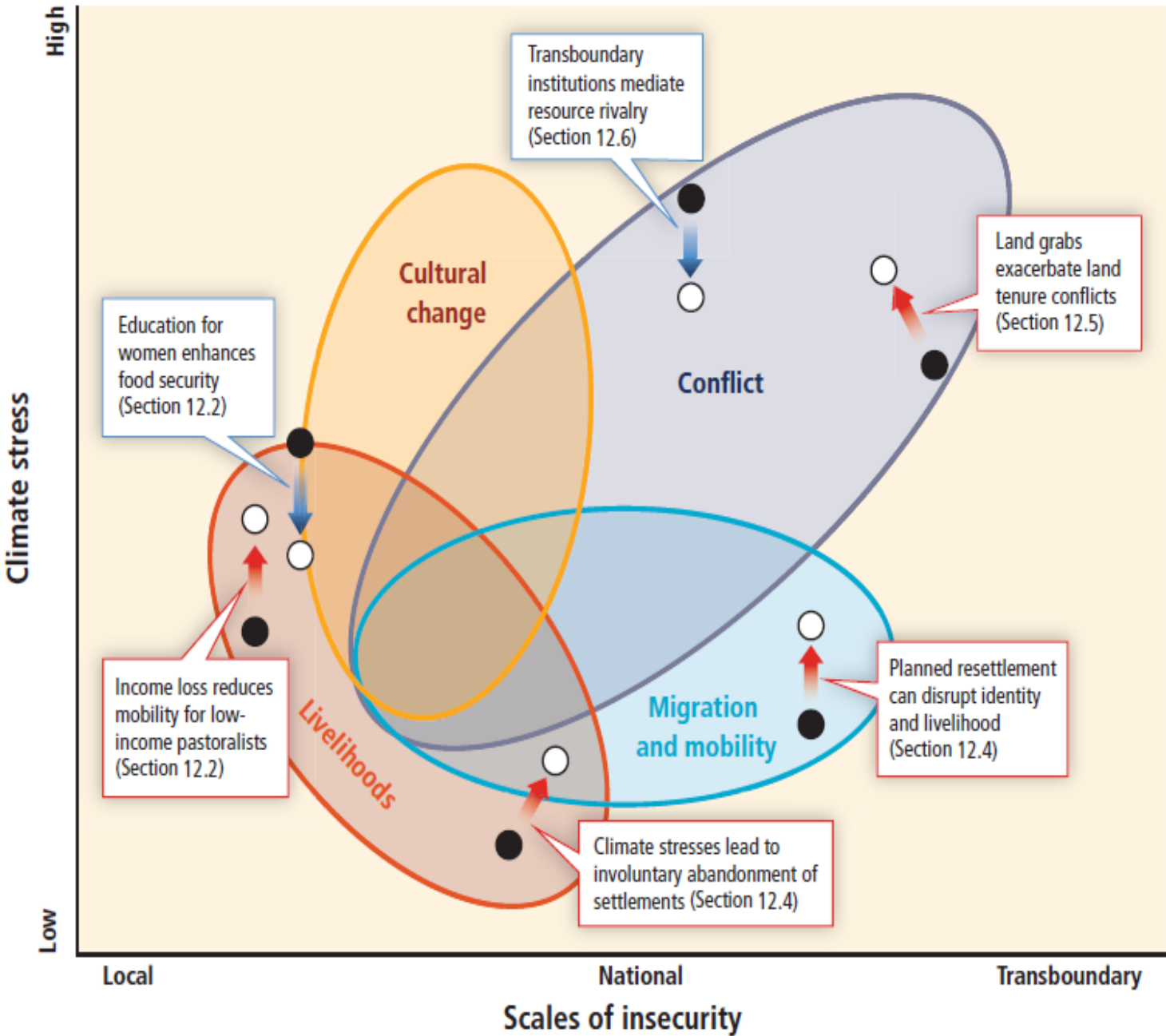


Global Climate Projections

Regional / National Climate Projections

Scientific and Local Experiential Knowledge

Vulnerability, Risk, and Adaptation Assessments



- Initial conditions
- Outcome of intervention
- ← Intervention with net increase in human security
- ← Intervention with net decrease in human security

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