

Conference Deltas in Times of Climate Change

Rotterdam, 24 September 16,15-18,00

Workshop: Landscape level planning for community resilience



Key lessons from an interdisciplinary approach to disaster risk reduction

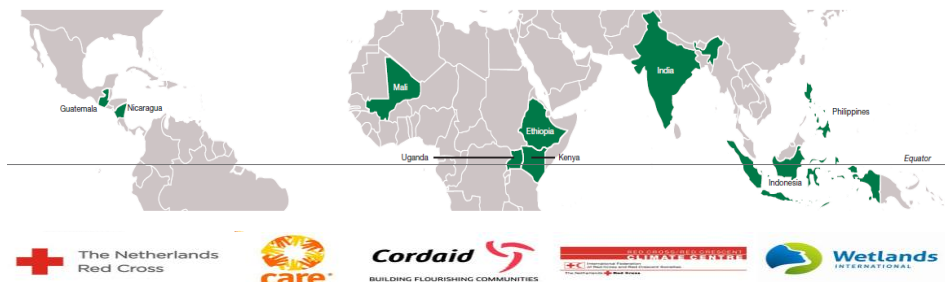
Bruno Haghebaert
Netherlands Red Cross

5 partners: Netherlands Red Cross, Red Cross Climate Centre, CARE NL, Cordaid, Wetlands International

9 countries: Mali, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

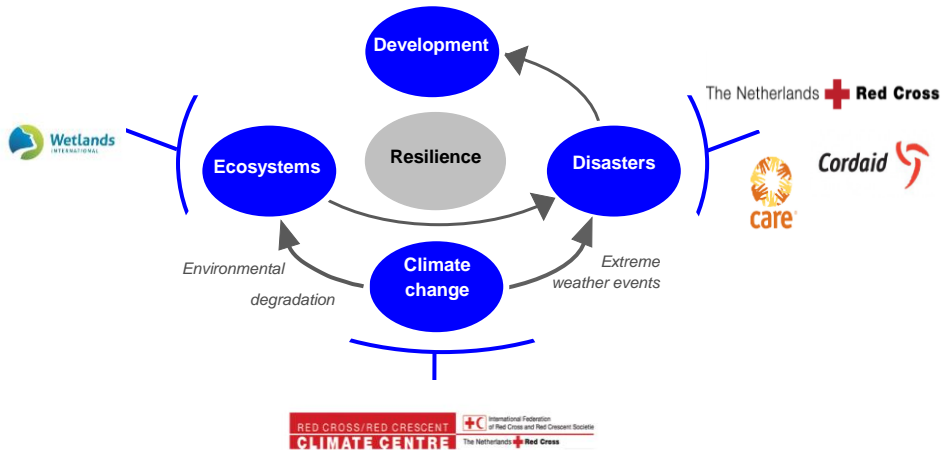
5 year: 2011 – 2015

40 million euro: large Dutch government grant



Overall aim

Reducing the impact of natural hazards on the livelihoods of vulnerable communities

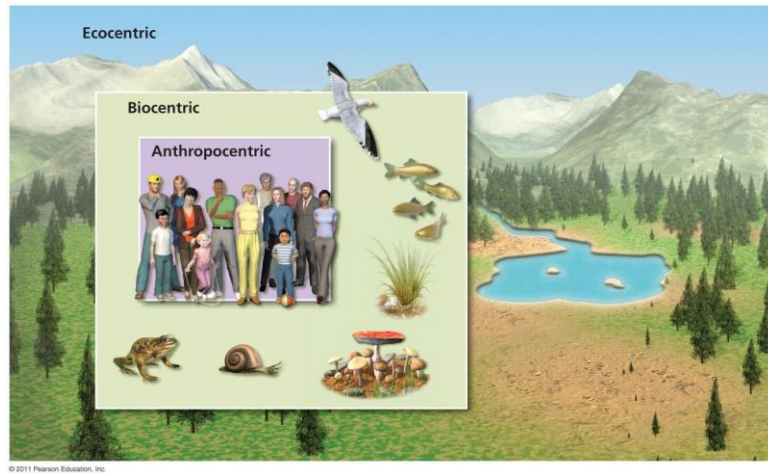


Inter-disciplinary approach

- **Added value for DRR:**
 - ability to effectively address environmental degradation and changing climate as underlying drivers of disaster risk.
 - the key role of healthy wetland ecosystems as a solution to strengthen community resilience and reduce vulnerability
- **Challenges:**
 - Need to work across spatial and temporal scales.



Changing the mindscape



Changing the mindscape: process

- Awareness ≠ understanding
- Understanding does not necessarily lead to engagement/ action.
- Inter-disciplinary action can have many forms





Inter-disciplinary work in action

- External conceptual input (workshops, trainings...) does not always lead to ability to act
- Inter-disciplinary action can have many modalities, which evolve along a continuum:
 - Environmental/climate organisation in country team, supporting partners in capacity building, development of joint tools (risk & vulnerability assessment tools incl environment & climate aspects) and policy/advocacy (joint lobby/advocacy strategy) .
 - Operational “in situ “ collaboration (e.g. planting mangroves):
 - Technical expert embedded within organisation



Changing institutional culture in favour of inter-disciplinary approach

- Need for strong buy-in from leadership
- Translation of inter-disciplinary approach into organisational strategies and policies
- Internal capacity building: incorporation of inter-disciplinary approach in manuals, communication materials, training events.

Conclusion: findings of Impact Study

1. Value of integrated approach highly appreciated by PFR partners.
2. Internalization varies per partner according to background, mandate and understanding.
3. Avoid using blue-print, need for tailor made solutions and flexibility.



Conclusion (2)

4. Incorporating inter-disciplinary approach into DRR requires:
 - Long term approach
 - Technical and operational partnerships
 - Institutional commitment
5. Integrated approach increasingly also getting recognition from external stakeholders: local and national government, other NGOs, donors..