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for Disaster Reduction

Integrating Climate Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction policy at different governance scales - Local Perspectives

Adaptation Futures 10-13th May 2016

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Start with an understanding of local realities of affected populations

Local realities for the majority of “at-risk” people..

- Complex, inter-connected risks (social, economic, environmental)
- Dynamic, fast-changing
- Uncertainty, unpredictability
- Poverty & Informality (low-income households most at-risk)
- Fragility, Insecurity, Conflict
- Small localised recurrent hazards cause the most losses
- Majority of “natural disasters” are climate-related

Policy frameworks must adequately reflect local realities

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Disaster losses are increasing in all countries: Some lessons learnt from implementing HFA 2005-2010....

- Implementation Gap: National Policy – Local Practice
- Disproportionate impact on particular countries and peoples'
- Policies often not appropriate to local realities
- Need for greater inclusion of “at-risk” people & local civil society
- Limited political commitment to invest in local capacities
- Fragmented policy silos across inter-related issues
- Shift emphasis from policies & legislation >> “all-of-society” approach
(Policies + behavioural / cultural changes)

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Understanding local approaches to deal with extreme hazards, shocks and disturbances....

Approaches



1. Holistic
2. Flexible
3. Build on existing capacities
4. Inclusive of high-risk groups
5. Locally owned and driven
6. Responsive to change
7. Medium to Longer term perspectives
8. Iterative, incremental (learn by doing)

Actions are designed to *protect and enhance* lives, livelihoods and assets.

Resilience Outcomes....

ABSORPTION CAPABILITIES

(Bounce-back-ability)

- Ability to anticipate and prepare for potential shocks
- Ability to respond and recover from the impact of shocks

ADAPTIVE CAPABILITIES

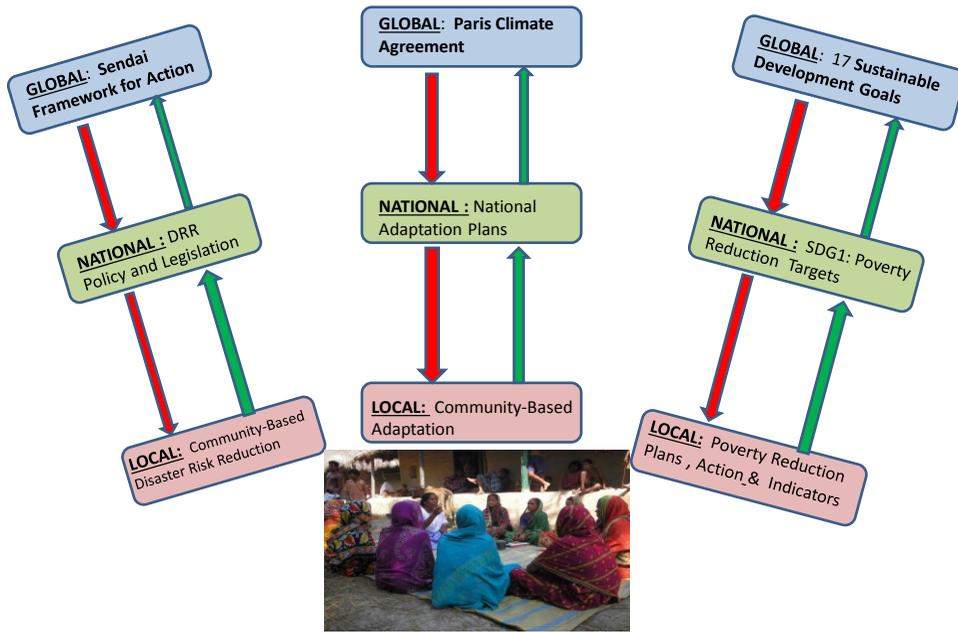
(Bounce-forward-ability)

- Ability to adjust to changing climate and circumstances

TRANSFORMATIVE CAPABILITIES

- Ability to change fundamentally when former strategies no longer viable

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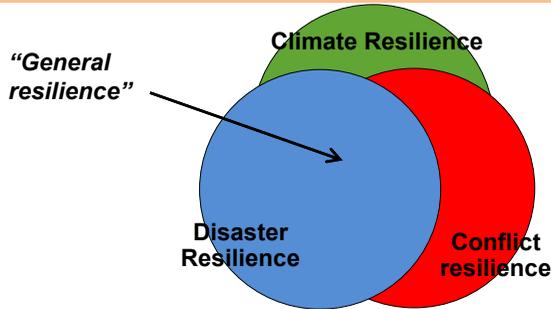


Local people understand climate change, disasters and poverty in a holistic way



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In complex uncertain risk landscapes “stand alone” actions have too high an *opportunity cost*



Develop shared understanding, guiding principles and holistic approaches to strengthen resilience to extremes of all kinds

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Recommendations: Integrating CCA – DRR

1. Learn from the implementation of DRR and other frameworks
2. **Inclusion of “at-risk” people - “People-centred” approaches**
3. Understand local context, including people’s understanding of risk
4. Build on & strengthen local capacities and indigenous knowledge
5. Enhance domestic accountability and transparency > increase political commitment (resource allocations)

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Recommendations: Integrating CCA – DRR:

6. Develop holistic approaches for multi-dimensional risk -
“**resilience**” as convening concept
7. Build coherence -based on mutuality and comparative advantage
(Reforms to institutional architecture ? - structure influences behaviour)
8. Strategic use of **external funding** mechanisms:
 - Promote “enabling policy environment”
 - Incentivise greater inclusion, collaboration and leverage
 - Gather, blend, share scientific & local knowledge and practices
 - Develop harmonised approaches, tools, methodologies

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