

# Building good climate services for adaptation: Lessons learned

**COP22, Marrakesh, 16 November, 2016**

**Panelists:**      **Katiuscia Fara – World Food Programme**  
                         **Graham Clarkson - University of Reading**  
                         **Amy Barthorpe – WeFarm**  
                         **Xolisa Ngwadla - CSIR**  
                         **Richard Jones - UK Met Office**  
                         **Sukaina Bharwani – Stockholm Environment Institute**

**Facilitator:**      **Aaron Atteridge – Stockholm Environment Institute**

# What are climate services?

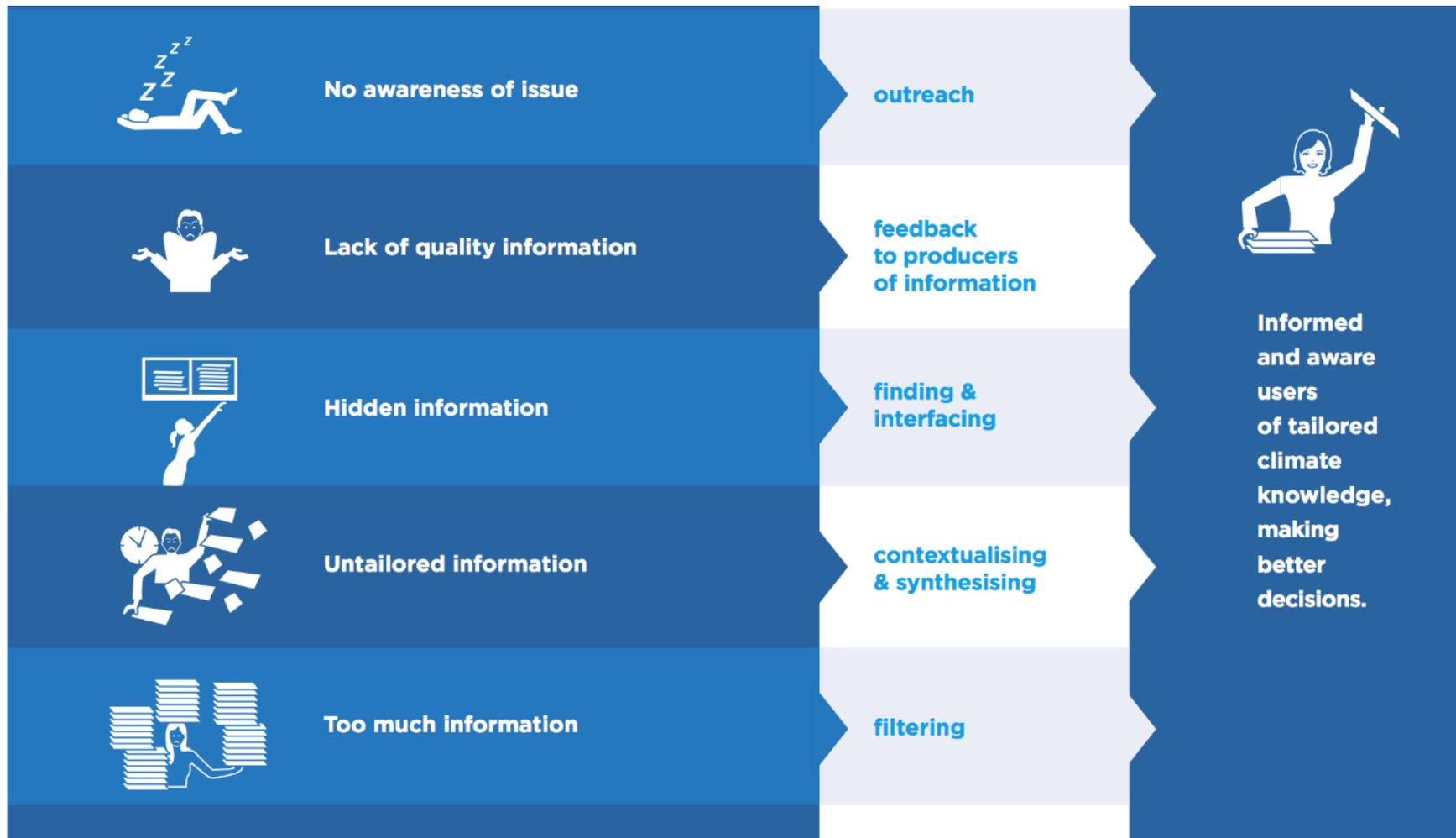
Climate services is an emerging field that aims to bridge the gap between climate science, policy and practice.

Involves the **timely production, tailoring, translation and transformation** of climate information

Packaging information to ensure that the **most relevant knowledge is effectively communicated, easily accessed and interpreted.**



# Response to various challenges



# Climate Service users



- national decision-makers
- technical advisors
- sectoral planners
- city and district-level authorities
- businesses (global to local)
- households
- farmers

# Heatwave Plan for England

- Public Health England wrote the plan for:
  - The NHS, local authorities, social care, and other public agencies.
  - Professionals working with people at risk
  - Individuals, local communities and voluntary groups
  - Heath-Health Watch System
  - 1 June-15 September



# Rapid urban growth in a changing climate

- **Decision maker:** Urban planner for a fast-growing city
- **Decision context:** Planning for big changes in development paths and climate trends with limited resources to address them.
- **Time-scale:** 5-40 years
- **Examples of information needed:**

How will climate change affect our city infrastructure?

Who and what will be most impacted, and how can I find out?

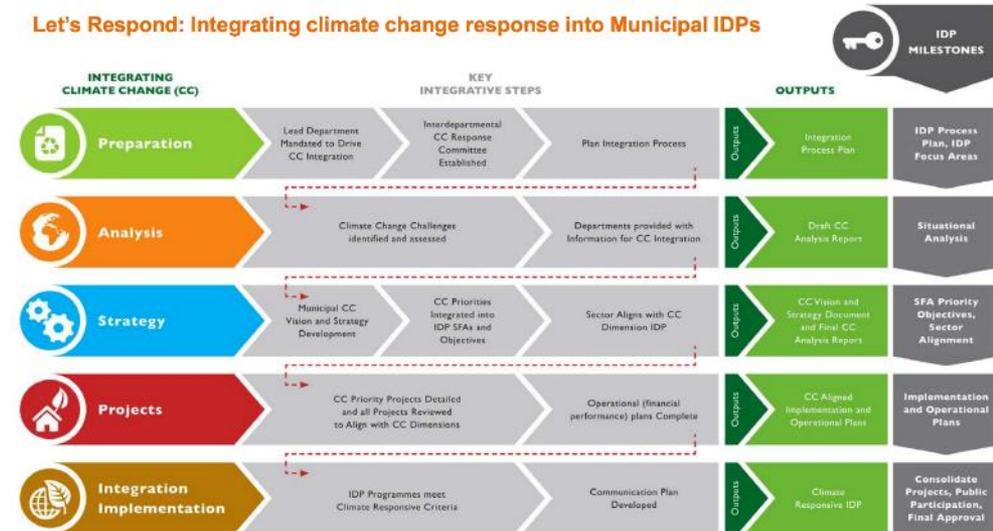
What will these changes mean for our current rates of growth and development?

Will the infrastructure investments we are making now withstand these changes?

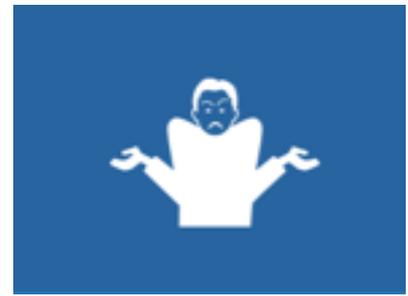
Who has the missing data I need to answer these questions?

How reliable is the data I already have?

## Let's Respond: Integrating climate change response into Municipal IDPs



# How do we deliver this?



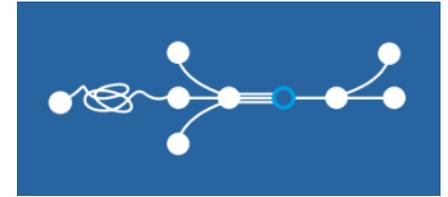
Ideally climate services draw on a **variety of sources** from scientific research, meteorological, hydrological and climate models, to practical experience and local / indigenous knowledge.

They should also involve the process of **co-producing** knowledge.

Building the necessary skills and **capacities** of different user groups to integrate climate information in their decision-making.

Using **intermediary organisations** or “**knowledge brokers**” to do the translating, tailoring, packaging and communicating....  
“adding value” to the information for users.

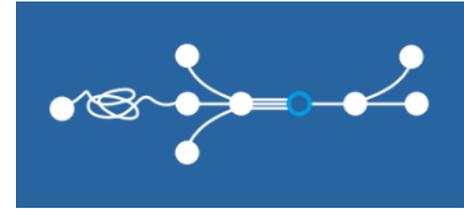
# SEI Initiative on Climate Services



## Major gaps

- Inability to identify and understand user needs
- Relationship-building and lack of feedback between users and providers
- Misinterpretation of climate information

# SEI Initiative on Climate Services



Taking an integrated holistic approach

Narrowing the “climate information usability gap”

- moving from “useful” → “usable” and “actionable” information  
and the processes required to do this.

- This will be achieved through research on the effectiveness of different methods of co-exploration and co-production, decision-making methods, communication and capacity building.

- E.g. innovative use of ‘learning labs’ to bring decision-makers and climate scientists together to **co-explore** climate information needs.

# SEI Participatory Framework for Climate Services (PFCS)



- A **research framework** will be developed for:  
the improved ***design, use and interpretation*** of climate services applying a **user-oriented, decision-driven and science-informed** approach.
- This will also be translated into online guidance with **training and capacity building** for **users, intermediaries and providers**.
- This is being supported by a community of climate services research and practice on weADAPT and its online space, “Using climate information” [www.weadapt.org/using-climate-information](http://www.weadapt.org/using-climate-information)

**Key**

Vulnerability to food insecurity

LOW

HIGH



**Sweden**  
SMHI, Rosaby Centre,  
Swedish Forest Agency,  
HazardSupport, Mistras-  
SWEICIA

**Burkina Faso**  
CDSF

**Nigeria**  
CDSF

**Zambia**  
FRACTAL, CDSF, CEEZ

**Malawi**  
FRACTAL, CDSF, City of  
Blantyre

**Namibia**  
FRACTAL, City of Windhoek,  
University of Namibia

**South Africa**  
FRACTAL, City of Cape  
Town, Durban and  
eThekweni

**Ethiopia**  
CDSF, ACPC

**Rwanda**  
ARCOS

**Kenya**  
City Council of  
Nairobi

**Tanzania**  
CDSF, Sokoine  
University

**Mozambique**  
FRACTAL, City of  
Maputo, University  
Eduardo Mondlane

**Zimbabwe**  
FRACTAL, City of Harare

**Botswana**  
FRACTAL, City of  
Gaborone

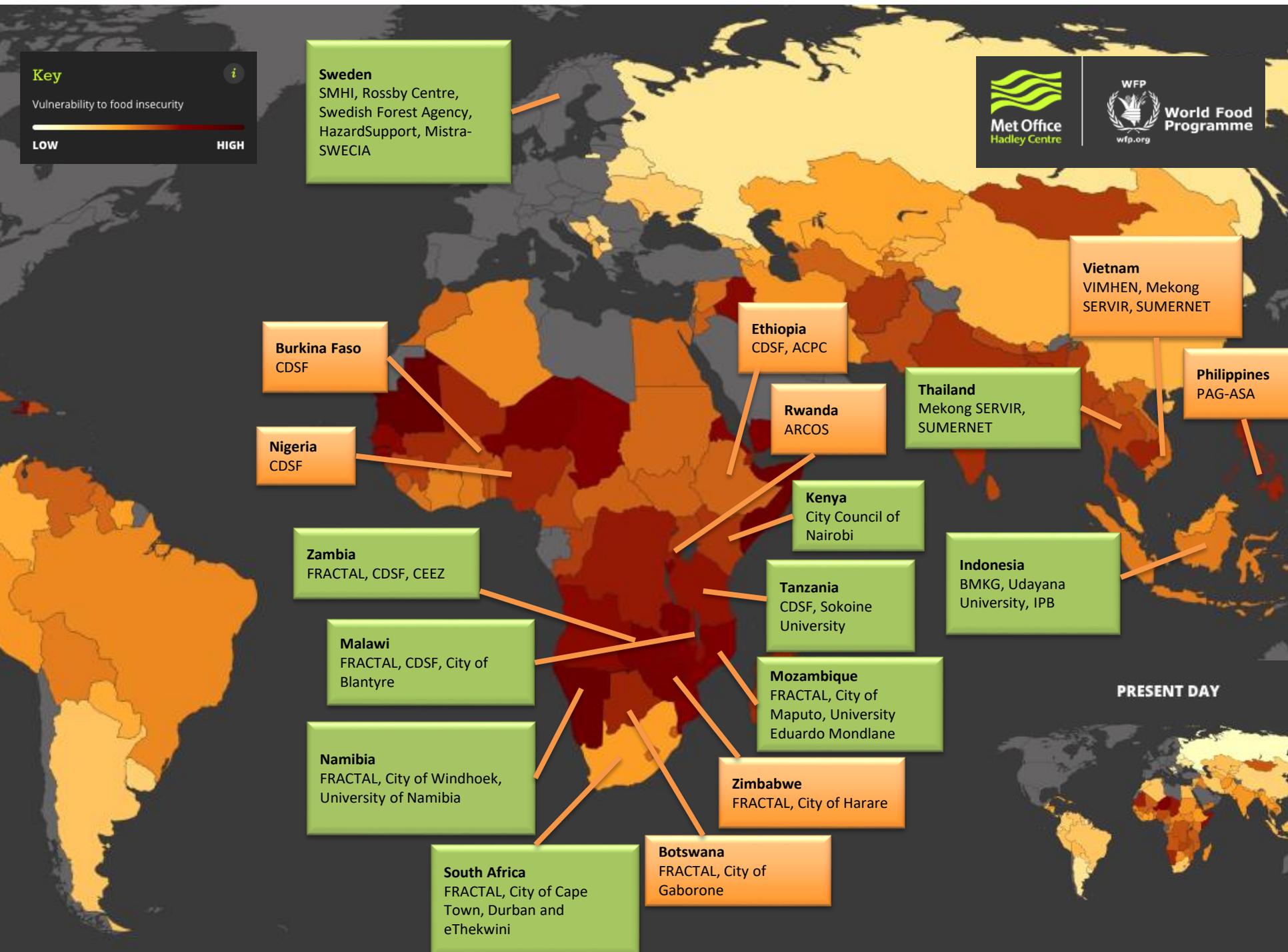
**Thailand**  
Mekong SERVIR,  
SUMERNET

**Indonesia**  
BMKG, Udayana  
University, IPB

**Vietnam**  
VIMHEN, Mekong  
SERVIR, SUMERNET

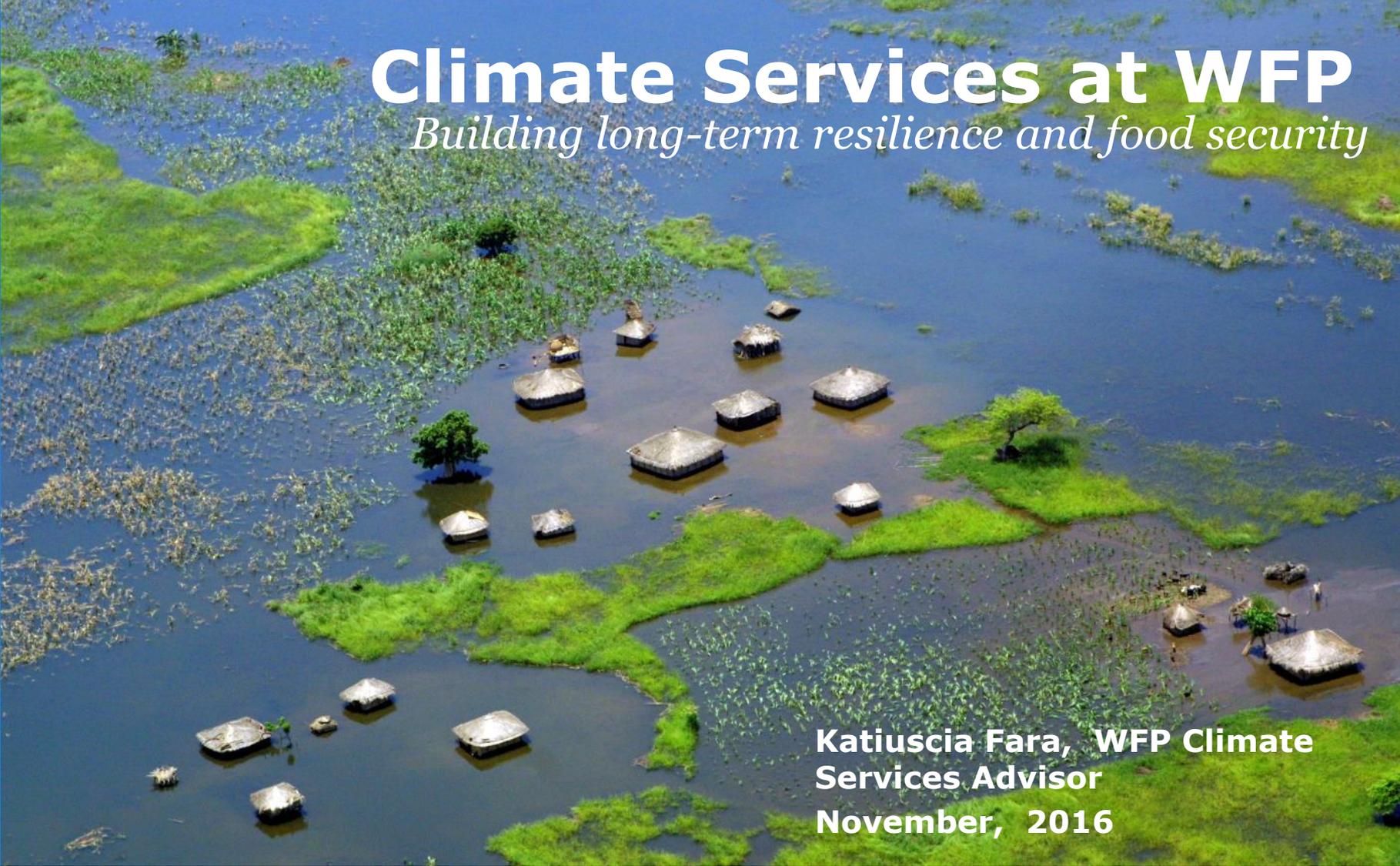
**Philippines**  
PAG-ASA

PRESENT DAY



# Climate Services at WFP

*Building long-term resilience and food security*



**Katuscia Fara, WFP Climate  
Services Advisor  
November, 2016**



**World Food Programme**

wfp.org

# WFP AND CLIMATE CHANGE

## WFP CLIMATE RESILIENCE INNOVATIONS:

Analyse the links between climate change and hunger for better policy and programming

Help people diversify their livelihoods

Protect assets, incomes and crops with insurance and savings

Improve access to markets

Help governments and communities make more informed decisions with better climate forecasts



IN 2015...

14.5

million people received WFP food as an incentive to build assets that reduce the risk of climate disasters and build resilience



IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS...

40

percent of WFP's operations included activities to reduce disaster risk, build resilience or help people adapt to climate change



IN THE LAST DECADE...

ALMOST HALF

of WFP emergency and recovery operations were for climate disasters and had a combined budget of USD 23 billion

# Responding to the climate challenge



- Climate services are crucial to WFP climate resilience work
- better climate information for **planning, early warning** and informed **early action** are essential for achieving food security and building resilience
- WFP is both a producer and user of climate information
- Translation of complex climatic information into easy-to-understand information that is accessible and actionable to help governments and vulnerable communities

- WFP Seasonal monitor
- Early Warnings - short-term and seasonal weather hazard information to field staff
- Global and National level Analysis work
- **GFCS Adaptation Programme for Africa initiative** - in Tanzania and Malawi
- SAPARM - piloting the use of custom grazing maps developed through the LEAP platform in Ethiopia
- R4 – Rural Resilience Initiative
- **FoodSECuRE** - early action by using seasonal climate forecasts to trigger funding for community-level activities

# A Window into the Future

## Food Insecurity & Climate Change

### Future Scenarios

Emissions

● HIGH

Adaptation

● NONE

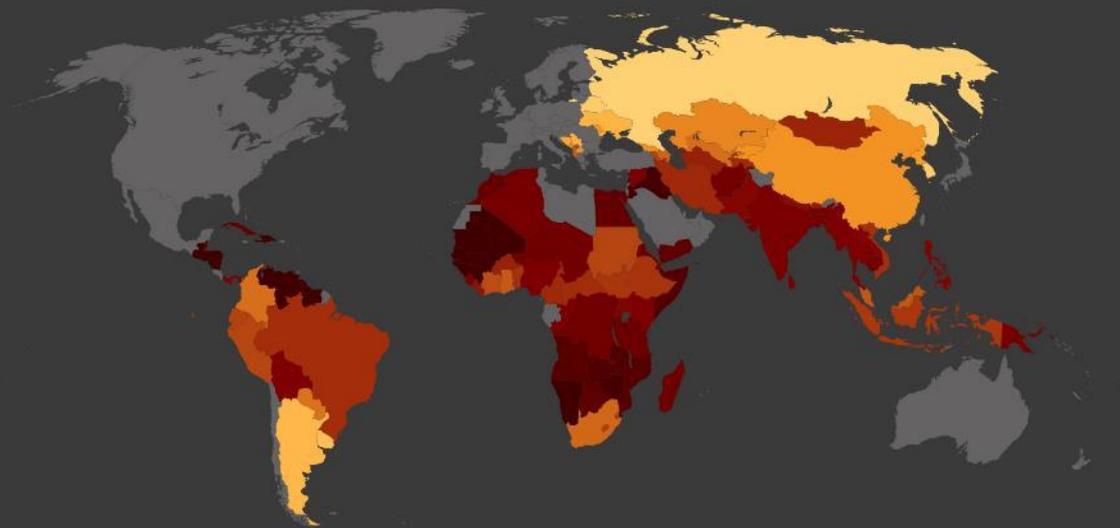
### Key

Vulnerability to food insecurity



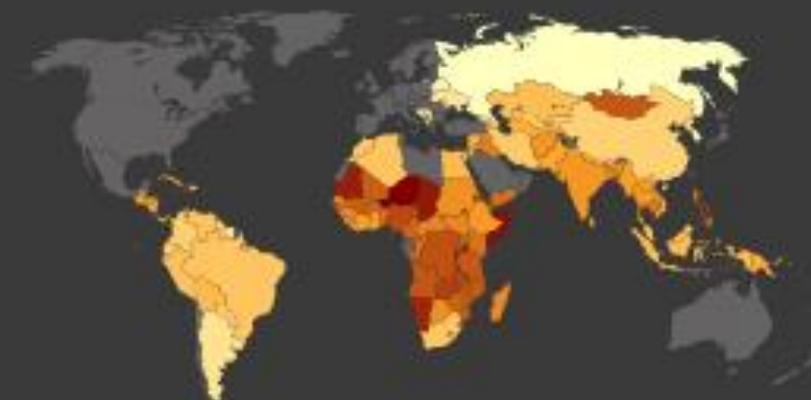
LOW

HIGH



2080s

PRESENT DAY





# FoodSECuRe – responding to El Nino

- Strengthening farmers resilience before climate shocks occur through early action



# WFP experience with climate services – Needs & lessons learnt

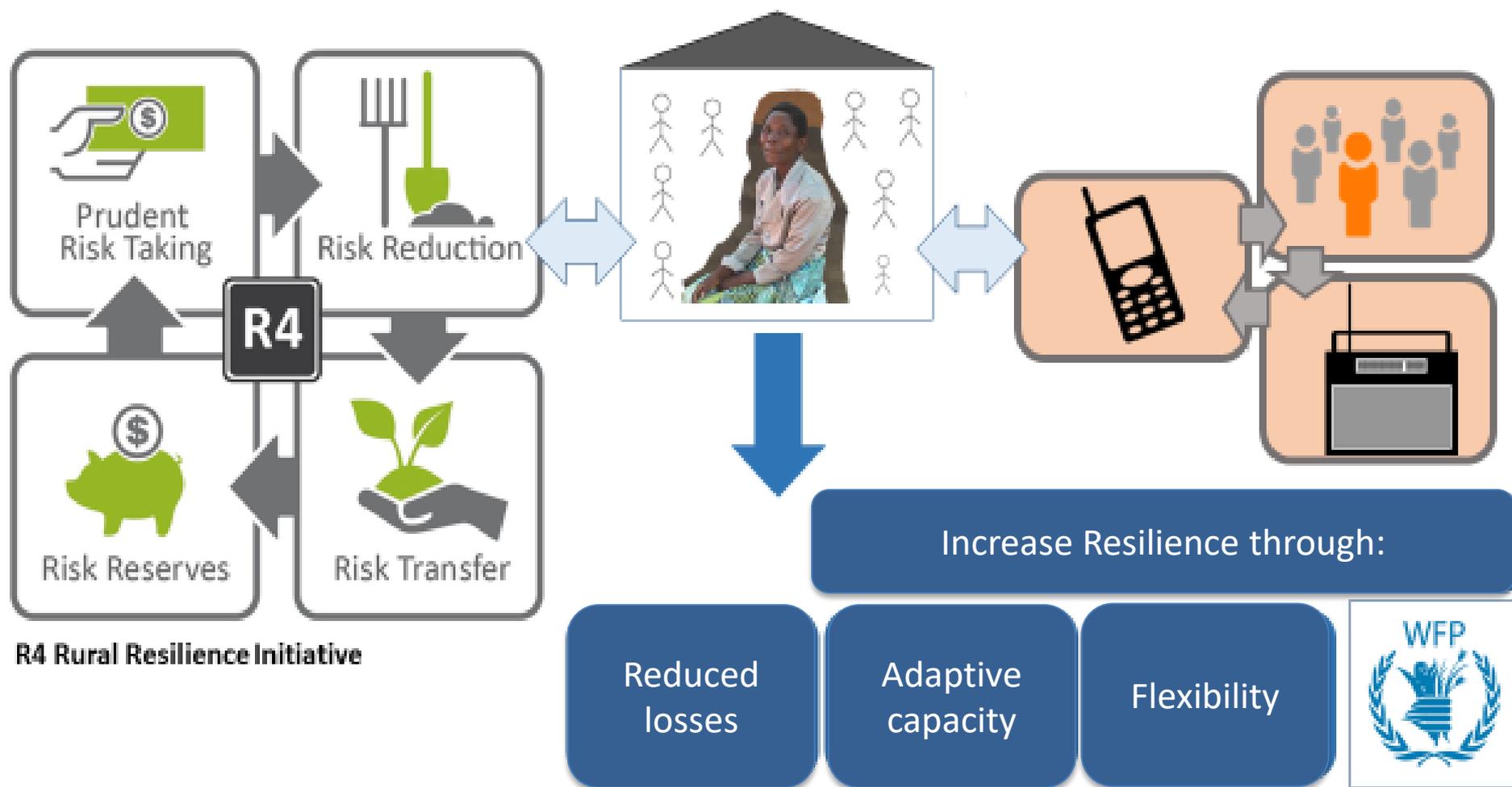


- Need to strengthen dialogue between the generators and users of climatic information
- Better understanding of climate change impacts on nutrition and food security
- Better understanding of users' needs - different users need different information and at different times/scale

- It starts with the users...how do they make decisions?
- Gaps in basic CS provision at community level – need for information that is reliable & easy to understand
- Traditional knowledge remains central for decision making, but it is becoming increasingly unreliable.  
**Farmers trust farmers first**
- Importance of taking into account gender, cultural norms

# You need an in integrated approach

WFP is working to help farmers, like Katalina, become food and nutrition secure



# .....more lessons Learnt



- Partnerships are key – it is not a one organization job
- Formal processes or mechanisms are needed to inform CS and enable a two-way dialogue
- Importance of co-production of knowledge and information: need to create space for this to happen
- Monitor and evaluate uptake and usefulness is crucial

# Thank you!

World Food Programme

<https://www.wfp.org/climate-change>



**World Food Programme**

# Participatory Integrated Climate Services for Agriculture

## PICSA

Graham Clarkson, Peter Dorward, Roger Stern

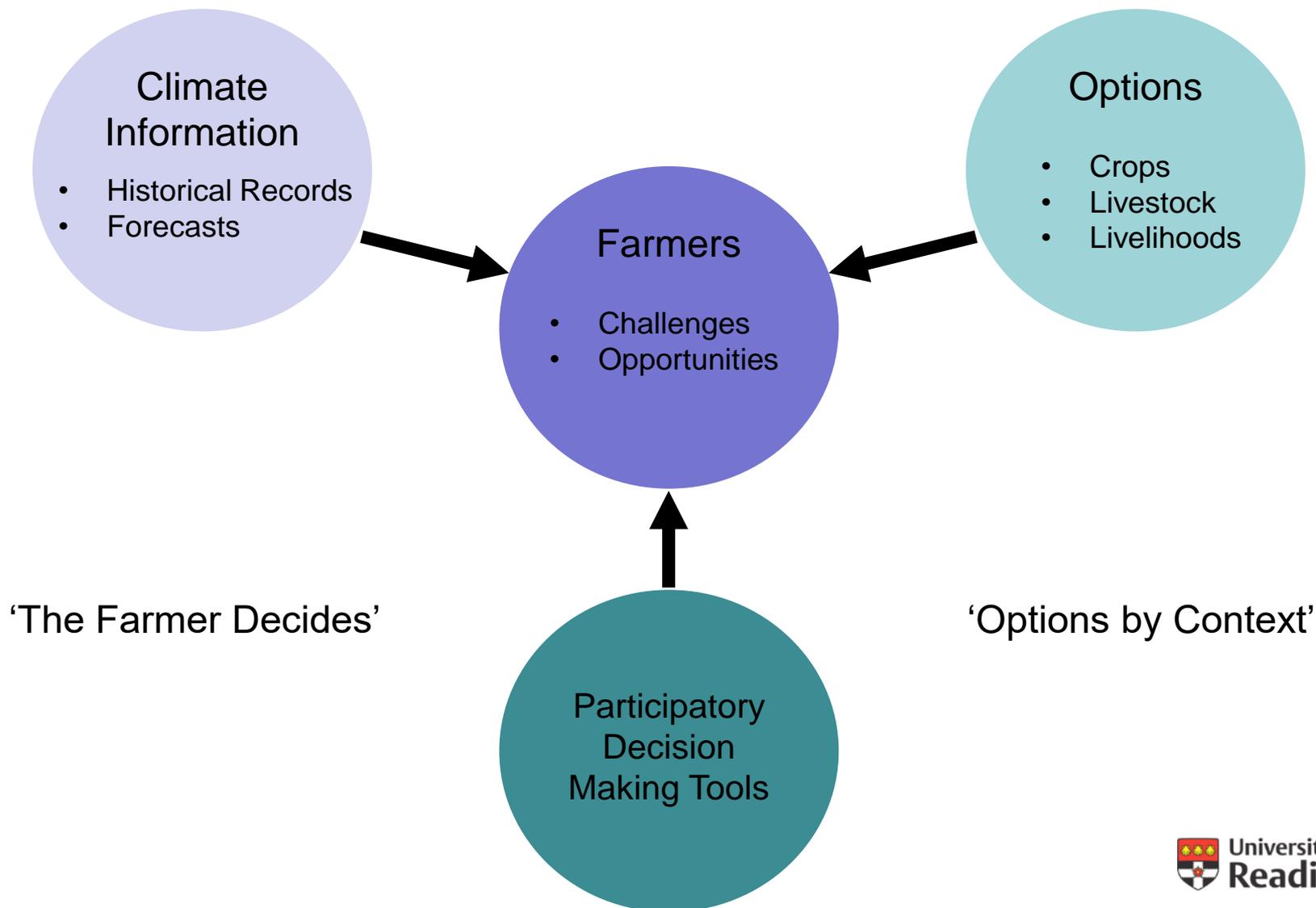


- Zimbabwe
- Tanzania
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Ghana
- Rwanda
- Lesotho



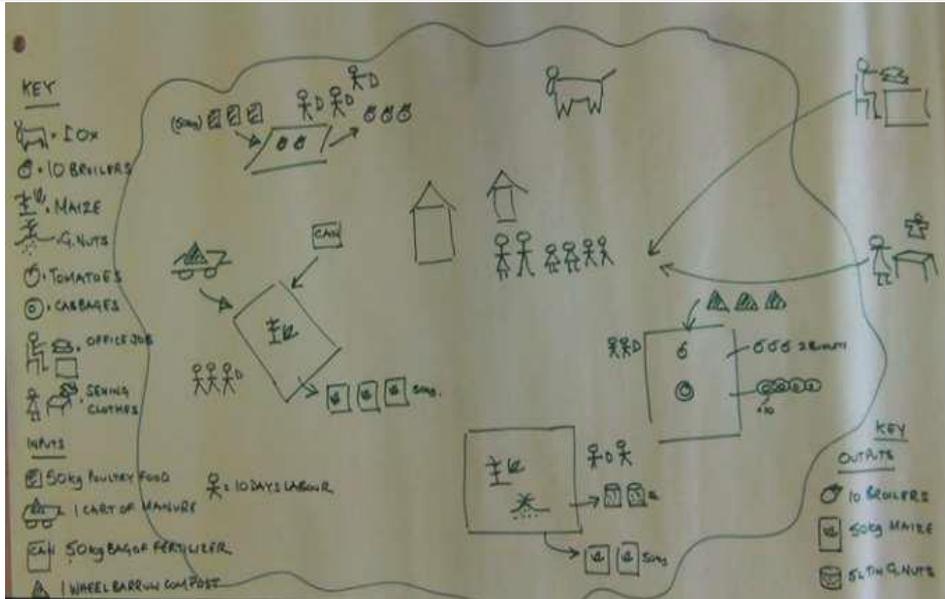
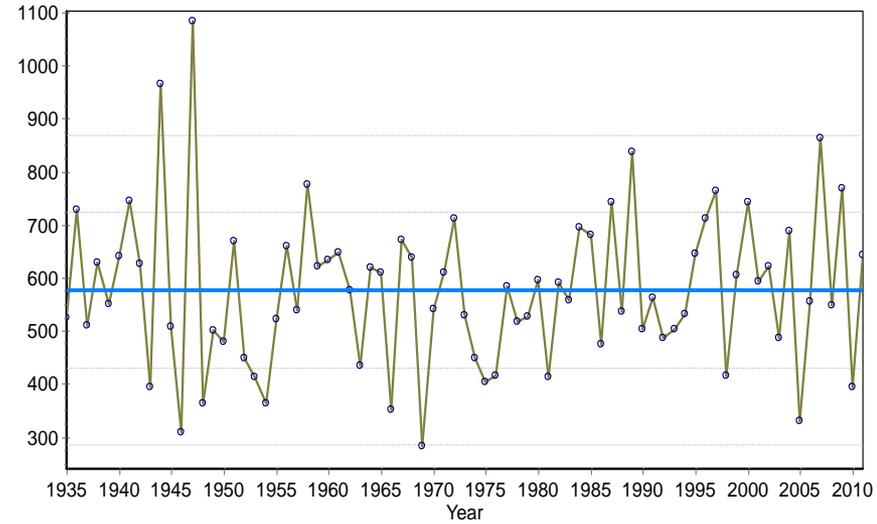
RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security







Dodoma: Annual Total rainfall



PRACTICE	WHO DOES IT? ♀/♂	BENEFITS AND WHO BENEFITS ♀/♂	PERFORMANCE V/OK/X LOW MED HIGH RF RF RF	INVESTMENT H/M/L	TIME TO START OF BENEFITS (MONTHS)	RISKS/ DISADVANTAGES
	♂♀	♂♀	OK OK OK	H M L	0	•
	♂	♂	OK OK OK	H H H	1	
	♂	♂♀	OK OK OK	H H M	3	
	♀♂	♀♂	X OK OK	H H H	1	•
	♂	♂♀	✓ OK ✓	H M L	0	•
	♂	♂	✓ ✓ ✓	H H M	0	•



- In Ghana 97% of farmers had made changes in either their crops, livestock or livelihood enterprises
- In Rwanda 97% of female farmers stated that they felt better able to cope with 'bad seasons' following the training
- In Balaka, Malawi, 88% of trainees had shared the PICSA training with their fellow farmers
- Continuing to learn and adapt approach

- Through qualitative work farmers are able to describe impacts such as:
  - Paying for children's school fees
  - Enough food for the family all year
  - Animals are healthy
  - Increased income
  - Able to look after myself and not rely on others
  - Invest profits in agriculture, livestock and livelihood
  - Able to store food to cover for the next season
  - Improved social status in household and community
  - My family is happier

Thank you

Graham Clarkson  
g.clarkson@reading.ac.uk



**500 million smallholder farmers  
worldwide**



The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of parched, cracked earth in shades of brown and tan. The cracks are irregular and deep, creating a textured, fragmented appearance. The lighting is somewhat dim, emphasizing the dry and brittle nature of the soil.

**Remote, isolated & highly  
susceptible**

to the effects of climate change

**2 problems**

Reach & Communication

# Until WeFarm...



Using SMS to harness the **power of the crowd**

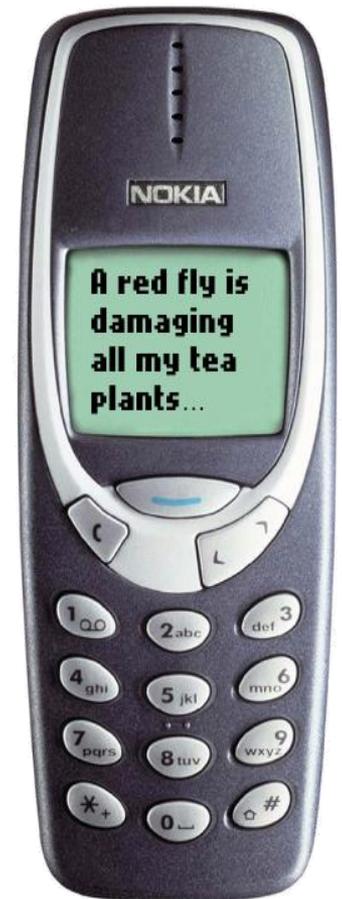
# This is Victor

His tea farm is being  
attacked by a pest he's  
never seen before



He sends a  
**SMS free**  
to the WeFarm number ...

WeFarm's smart, crowd-sourcing  
technology gets his question to  
other WeFarm users that can help





# This is Doris

A tea farmer in Uganda who receives the question  
She's dealt with this pest for  
20 years.

Who better to share useful  
advice?

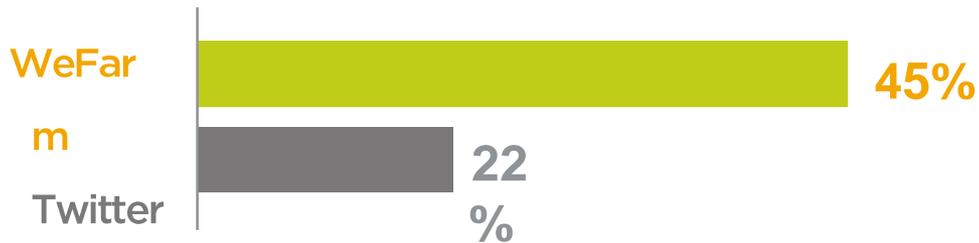
105,000 users

15 million interactions since

2015



# Monthly Active Users



# Questions Answered



# 90 Day Retention



# Resilience through grassroots innovations El Niño Case Study



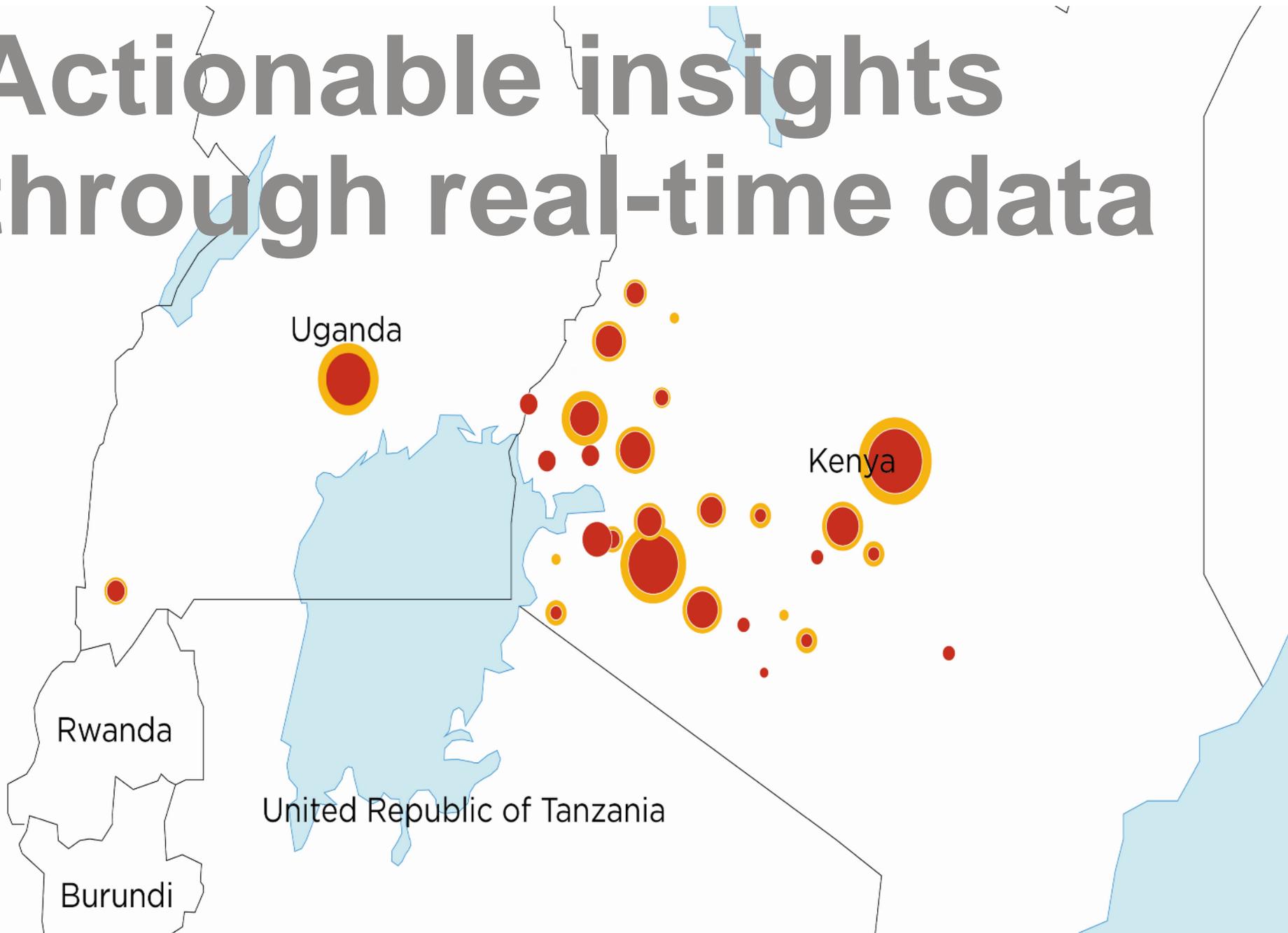
“Construct boreholes to harvest excess water which we can use during dry season”

**Michael**

“Terrace their land so as to guide their soil against soil erosion.” **John**

“Plant short term crops e.g beans, peas that do well in heavy rains” **Rosemary**

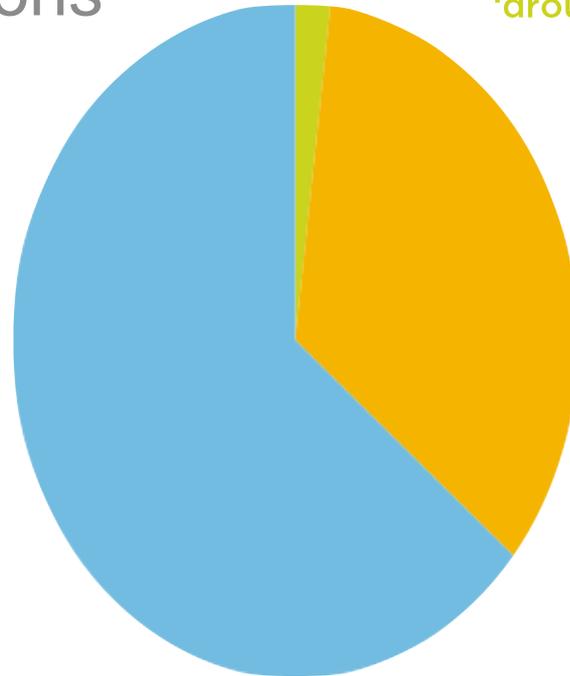
# Actionable insights through real-time data



# What are farmers already talking about

Farmers as information providers: over 90% of our weather related questions are proactive

**64%**  
Water ('hail',  
'hailstorm',  
'wind',  
'windstorm',  
'storm', 'gust')

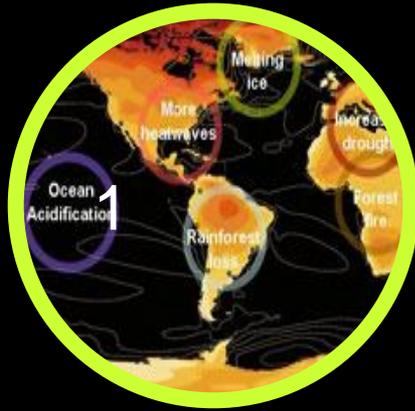


**2%**  
Storm ('wet',  
'flood', 'rain',  
'dry',  
'drought')

**34%**  
Temperature  
( 'temperatur  
e', 'hot',  
'heat', 'cold',  
'frost')



# Climate services and climate information for adaptation



Dr. Richard Jones

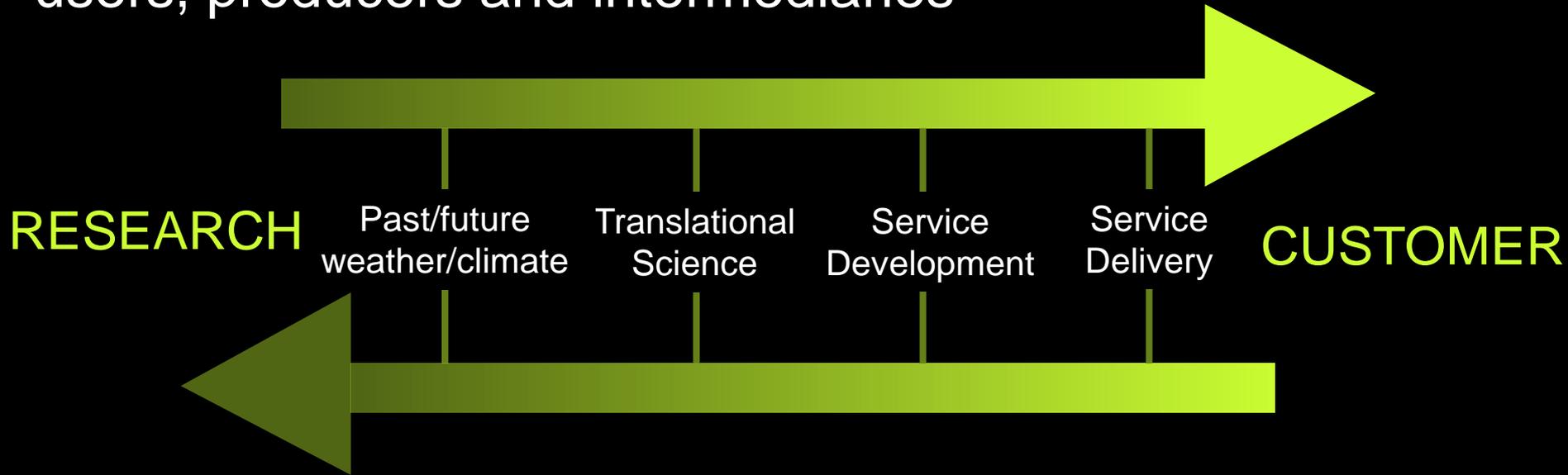
Science Fellow, Climate Information: Met Office Hadley Centre

Visiting Professor, School of Geography and Environment,  
University of Oxford



# Development and delivery, what have we learnt?

From Science to Service: A continuous dialogue between users, producers and intermediaries



This needs to happen at the scale relevant to the user  
– spatially from local to national to regional  
– temporally from daily to seasonal to multi-decadal

Building climate resilience in the Pyanj River Basin, Tajikistan – climate related disasters include heavy rain induced mudflows and floods

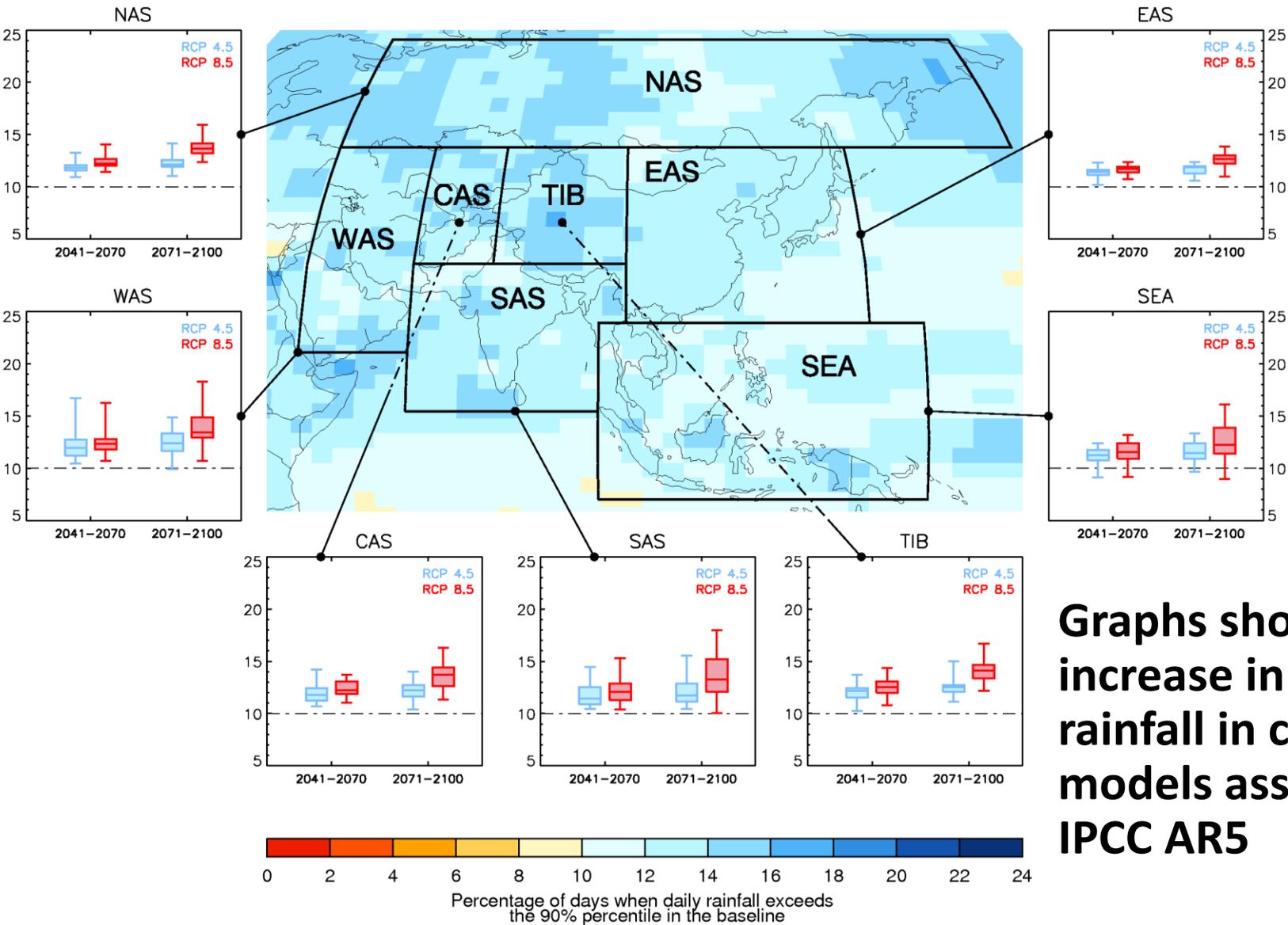
## Community-level vulnerability

Unstable hill-sides prone to mudflows and landslides



Land suitable for cultivation prone to flooding

# Predictions of increases in heavy rainfall used to justify adaptation funding in Tajikistan



**Graphs show range of increase in heavy rainfall in climate models assessed in IPCC AR5**



# Lusaka-FRACTAL dialogue to define city “burning issues”

Theme champions propose 8 city problem topics for discussion e.g. Greening Lusaka; Urban flooding; Institutions and practice



Participants from Lusaka and FRACTAL split into 4 groups for two sets of 1 hour discussions to unpack the proposed burning issue

Summary of relevant aspects of city issues: physical/institutional attributes; impacts; relevance of climate; entry points for action etc.

