



UNFCCC EXPERT MEETING ON ADAPTATION FOR SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

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COMMUNITY BASED ADAPTATION APPROACHES

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Community Adaptation Approaches!!!

- 👉 Approaches used by many countries now – community vulnerability and adaptation assessments;
- 👉 Tend to be qualitative and place-based (bottom-up assessments) supported by quantitative assessments (top-down assessments);
- 👉 Inserting climate change within a wider socio-economic context – livelihood analysis
- 👉 Using participatory approaches



Community Adaptation Approaches!!!

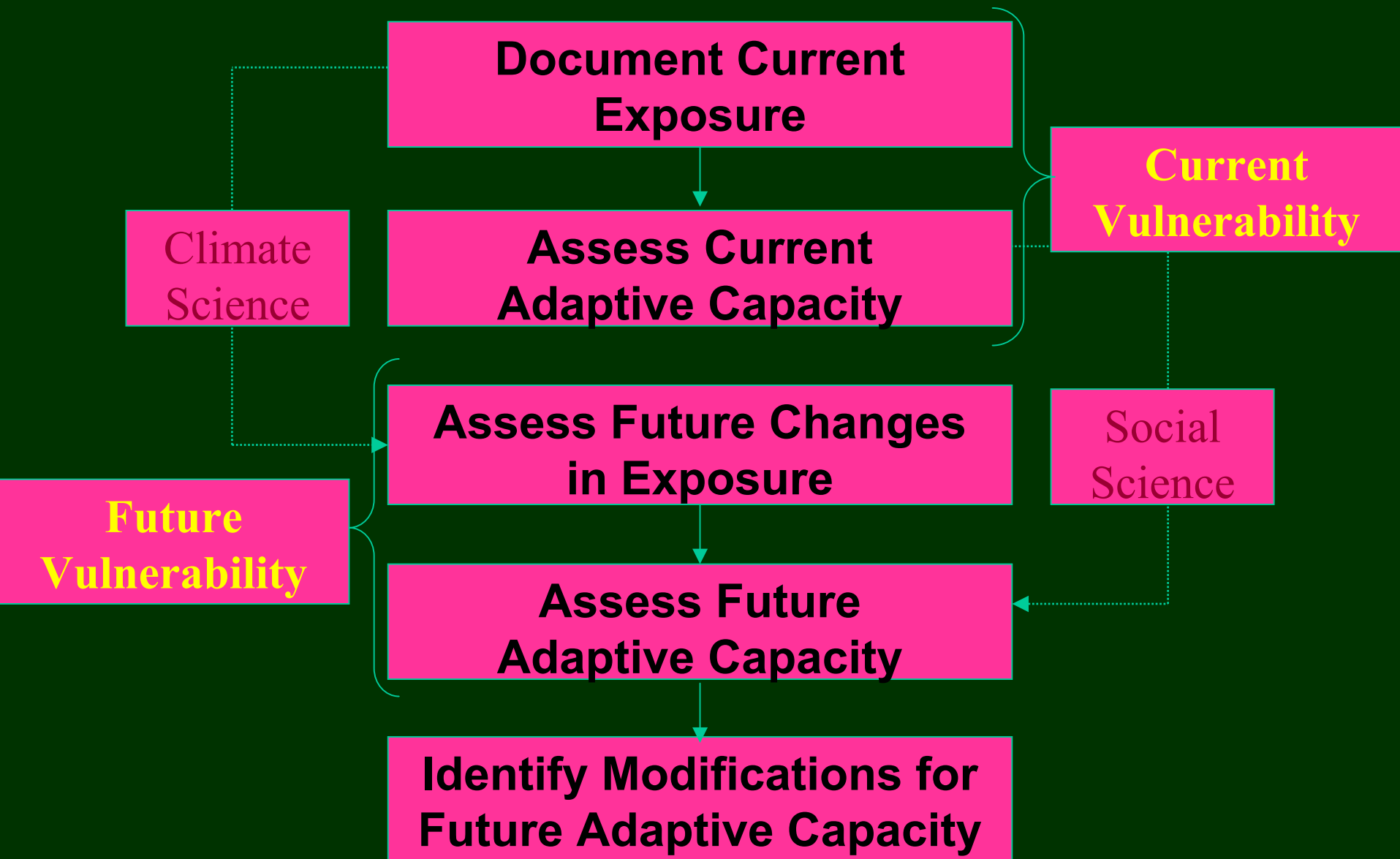
👉 **Under the Canadian funded and SPREP executed Capacity Building for the Development of Adaptation Measures in Pacific Island Countries (CBDAMPIC) project, we developed and implemented what was termed the Community Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment Approach (CV&A) in four PICs (Cook, Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu).**



Calls for a different way of doing business!

- The starting point is not GCMs and RCMs
- The assessment begins at the community-level and examines the conditions that give rise to vulnerability based on personal experiences and insights of local residents.
- The approach requires intensive participation of community members in order to identify **climatic conditions relevant to the community** and to assess the effectiveness of adaptive strategies.
- The questions are structured to generate information on how climate impinges on the livelihoods and well-being of the groups in the village.
- Primary source of data collection is the different social groups in the community.
- The ultimate objective is to identify opportunities to strengthen the adaptive capacity of the community to climate change.

Climate change vulnerability approach





Reflections

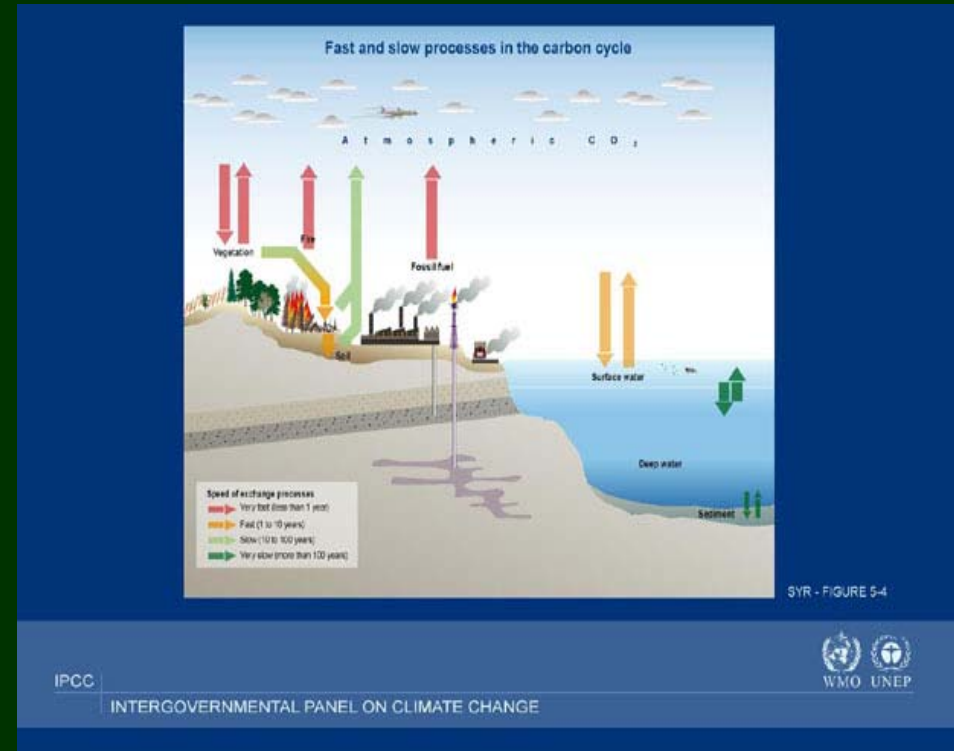
☞ There is a need to have a clear procedure in place whereby community V&A results are mainstreamed into governments development processes to inform policy decisions.

☞ Engaging communities from assessment to implementation is critical. Not only stopping on assessments. Can be counterproductive particularly to island governments.



Reflections

- ☞ There is a need to strengthen the scientific assessments and how it can be incorporated into the community vulnerability assessment processes. {Historical data...or models}
- ☞ This is to better inform the adaptation implementation options to be implemented.
- ☞ There is also a need to back-up qualitative participatory assessments with quantitative analysis of issues identified.





Reflections

☞ **Community participation and consultation on any adaptation activity is critical in the Pacific, as the majority of natural resources are community-owned. Their endorsement is vital for successful implementation.**

☞ **Working within the cultural context is an important principal to be taken seriously. Careful analysis of the V&A process ensure one conforms to the cultural norms without compromising the V&A process.**





Reflections

☞ **Community participation and consultation on any adaptation activity is critical in the Pacific, as the majority of natural resources are community-owned. Their endorsement is vital for successful implementation.**

☞ **Engaging communities at the outset of any adaptation process ensures ownership and sharing of resources. E.g. Saoluafata Sea Wall construction in Samoa. The people contributed about 68% of the total cost in way of materials and labour.**





Further support needed

☞ Funding from the GEF has enabled PICs to implement some community adaptation programmes. More Stage III funding support needed for PICs due different countries geographic/cultural/socio-economic features.

☞ The integration of top-down adaptation planning and bottom-up community level adaptation implementation needs further work in many PICs. KAP and CBDAMPIC projects have generates some lessons.





FURTHER SUPPORT NEEDED

CC Development overtime...!

