Identification of Priority Actions to Adapt to Climate Change in the Health Sector – The Gambia

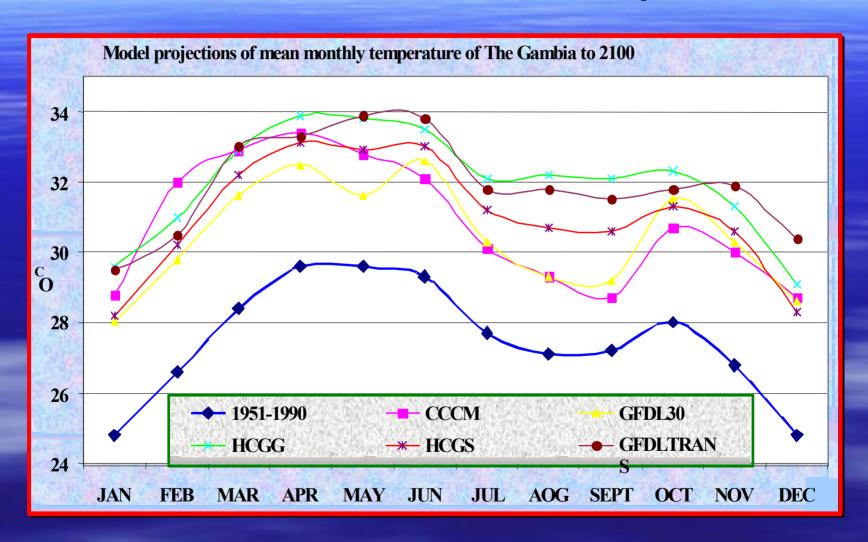
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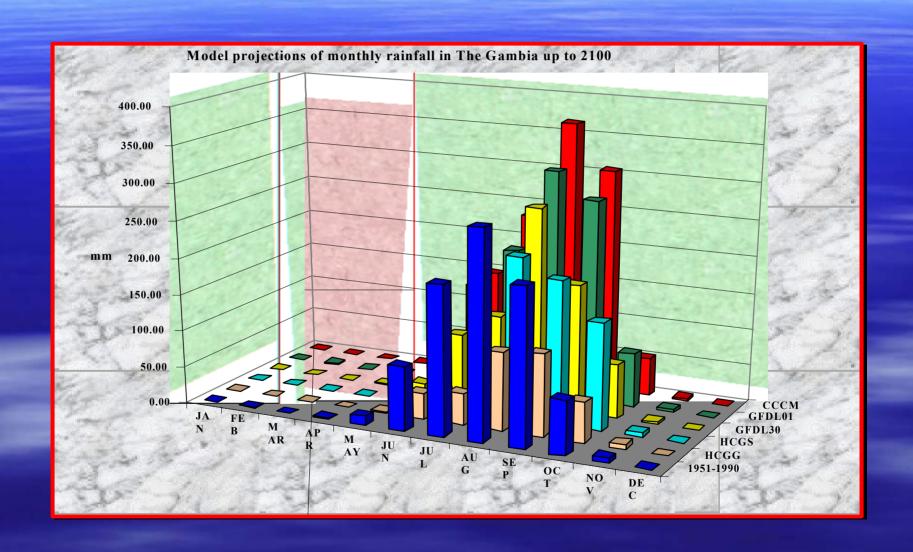
Overview

- Climate scenarios & status of health sector
- Adverse impacts of cc on health Malaria
- Identification of priority activities & devt of health project profiles
- Strengths of NAPA methodology
- Lessons, gaps & next steps

Climate scenarios - temperature

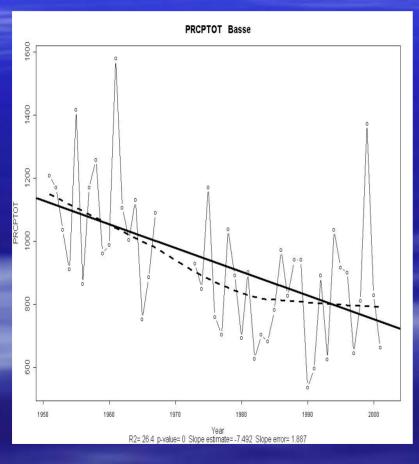


Climate scenarios - rainfall

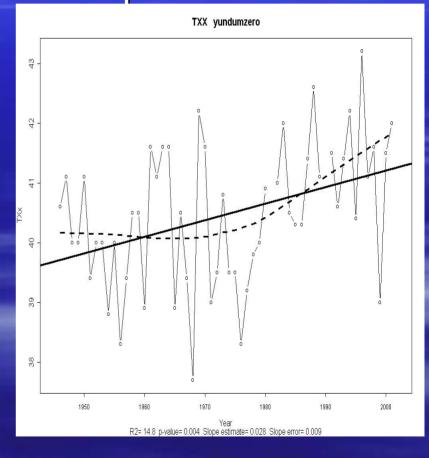


Which way – The Gambia?

Observed rainfall



Temperature



Current health status

- Population size: 1,384,145 (2003 census)
- Annual growth rate: 3.5%
- Urban Population: 38%
- Life expectancy: 58 yrs
- Total fertility rate: 5.1
- Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population): 46
- Crude death rate (per 1,000 population): 23
- Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births): 61
- Under 5 mortality rate (per 1,000): 75
- Population access to safe water: 62%

Current Health status cont...

- Primary Health Care (PHC) Strategy (1979)
- National Health Policy (1994)
- Main Elements of the Policy:
 - Safe motherhood
 - Family planning
 - Child survival
 - Proper nutrition
 - Control of common endemic diseases
 - Health promotion

Adverse effects of cc on health - Malaria

- Malaria is an infection caused by a parasite and carried from person to person by mosquitoes
- Endemic in The Gambia with marked seasonal variation,
 highest during rainy season (June to October)
- Leading cause of death in The Gambia, disrupts socioeconomic activities and fuels poverty
- Weaker environmental constraints for spread of waterbased and insect vector-borne infections

Identification of Priorities – NAPA

- Desk review of existing literature
- Validation in the 7 Local Gov. Authorities (LGA)
- PRA
- Priority thematic areas (04) per LGA
- Nature of the vulnerability
- Range of affected populations
- Types of physical impacts
- Scope of economic risks
- Urgency of the threat
- How does the current climate monitoring/prediction system enhance understanding of the stresses caused by the climate system
- Differentiated impact of climate change on men and women
- Adaptation Options: Ranking /Location /Stakeholders /Actors /Policy /Technology /Project
- Criteria for prioritisation of adaptation and coping strategies
- Prioritized criteria for selecting adaptation and coping strategies

Identification ... contd

- National stakeholder ranking
 - Use of MCA tool (selection of criteria & scoring of proposed adaptation options against criteria)
- Ranking as per national policy
- Reconciliation of stakeholder vs policy Selection of actions for intervention
- Project profile development (Environmental sanitation, screening programmes, provision of drugs & supplies, public awareness creation, training of disease surveillance personnel)

General	Sub-	Adaptation	Stakeholder	Policy
Objective	objectives	Options	ranking	ranking
Cutting down disease burden related to cc	Controlling spread of water-based diseases	Environment sanitation	6	1
		Vaccination programmes	11	5
		Improved water management	3	10
	Reducing temp- related disability	Public awareness creation	7	5
	Reducing respiratory diseases/ailment	Clean technology	9	1
		Public transport	8	5

Strengths of NAPA Methodology

- Stakeholder participation in identification of problems and solutions
- Awareness creation (stakeholders, policy)
- Entry point for streamlining cc into nat. policy
- Flexibility

Lessons:

Dynamism of adaptation to cc

Difficulty in prioritising across thematic areas

Need for combination of actions to achieve desired objective

Subjectivity of opinions by stakeholders

Gaps, next steps

Data gaps:

- socio-economic
- Climate
- Other stresses (extreme events, indirect effects, etc.)

Next steps:

- Hurdles in project profile devt (absence of Good Practices, etc.)
- Implementation bottlenecks (institutional framework)

Thank youl