



Climate change, agriculture and policy processes in Ethiopia: A Roundtable Discussion

Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa

11 November 2010



Aims for the day

- Forum for discussion of policy implications of climate change in the agricultural sector in Ethiopia
- Inform research design for case study in Ethiopia (2010-2011)
- Foundation for further policy dialogues and learning events



**Agriculture
is a key pathway
out of poverty**



www.future-agricultures.org



Future Agricultures Consortium



Established in 2005....

“to encourage dialogue and the sharing of good practice by policy makers and opinion formers in Africa on the role of agriculture in broad based growth”.

Through....

- Critical research and reflection
- Facilitating networking and partnerships
- Building a platform for policy dialogue

MISSION & OBJECTIVE

- Mission 
 - Our mission is to contribute to the fulfillment of the nation's vision for its citizens
- Objective:
 - To promote evidence-based policy dialogue on the future of agriculture & pastoralism
 - To contribute to better agricultural & pastoral policy making process



RESEARCH



- Core Themes:
 1. Policy Processes
 2. Agricultural Commercialisations
 3. Growth and Social Protection
 4. Science, Technology, Innovation
 5. Climate Change & Agriculture
 6. Future Farmers: youth and agriculture
 7. Pastoralism
 8. Land



- Cross-cutting issues:
 - Farmers' Organisations
 - Gender

- Countries
pipeline
 - Ethiopia
 - Malawi
 - Kenya
 - Senegal?
 - Zimbabwe?
- On the
- Ghana
 -
 -



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Policy processes on climate change and agriculture: Background

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Climate change theme coordinator, Future Agricultures Consortium

Roundtable discussion, Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa

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Why a Climate Change Theme in the Future Agricultures Consortium?



- Gaps in research and understanding of policy processes on climate change and agriculture
- A large number of ongoing climate change activities in FAC countries, with emerging climate change policies
- Building on strengths of the Future Agricultures Consortium and its networks

Climate change and agriculture: context



- Increased attention and funding to the agricultural sector in Africa and new policy developments (e.g. CAADP, AGRA)
- Growing focus on linkages between climate change and agriculture
- Country level adaptation and mitigation strategies (NAPA, NAMA)
- Future climatic change will add to other stressors and give increasing risks to food security, MDG achievements, and human wellbeing
- But also new opportunities?
 - Expected increase in funding for adaptation and mitigation (REDD+, adaptation funds)
 - Some argue that new attention to climate change – agriculture linkages (e.g. so-called ‘climate smart agriculture’) could become a driver for more sustainable land management and increased food security

1 Much work on what is needed (funding mechanisms, adaptation and mitigation instruments and options); less so far on how this might happen in practice

and

2 An increasing number of actors, with different starting points, interests and goals

From chair's Summary (*Roadmap for Action*) – some examples of identified policy requirements:



- “(...) Conducive institutional and policy frameworks, including science, technology, education and extension services (...)” to achieve “the ‘triple win’ of climate-smart agriculture (...)”
- “Sound legal, institutional and policy frameworks at all levels and good governance (...) to achieve climate smart agriculture”
- “(...) to mainstream adaptation and mitigation measures in national strategies and policies (...)”
- “improve grazing, including pastoralist-grazing, breeding and fodder management, and improved management and re-use of animal waste to reduce the carbon footprint of livestock and control water pollution.”
- “Agriculture and rural development should be integrated into green growth strategies as well as into other national political processes (...)”
- “appropriate land tenure systems for private and communal land (...) to promote climate-smart agriculture and improve access to land, especially for smallholders.
- “ an enabling environment for farmers’ organizations (...)”
- “(...) important that National Platforms on Disaster Risk Reductions are included in their country plans”
- “stronger coherence between adaptation, disaster risk reduction, food security and poverty reduction.”
- “Scaling up the level of investment in agriculture and rural development (...) CAADP countries commit to increase the proportion of their public expenditure on agriculture to 10% of the public budget.”

Some key questions and concerns:

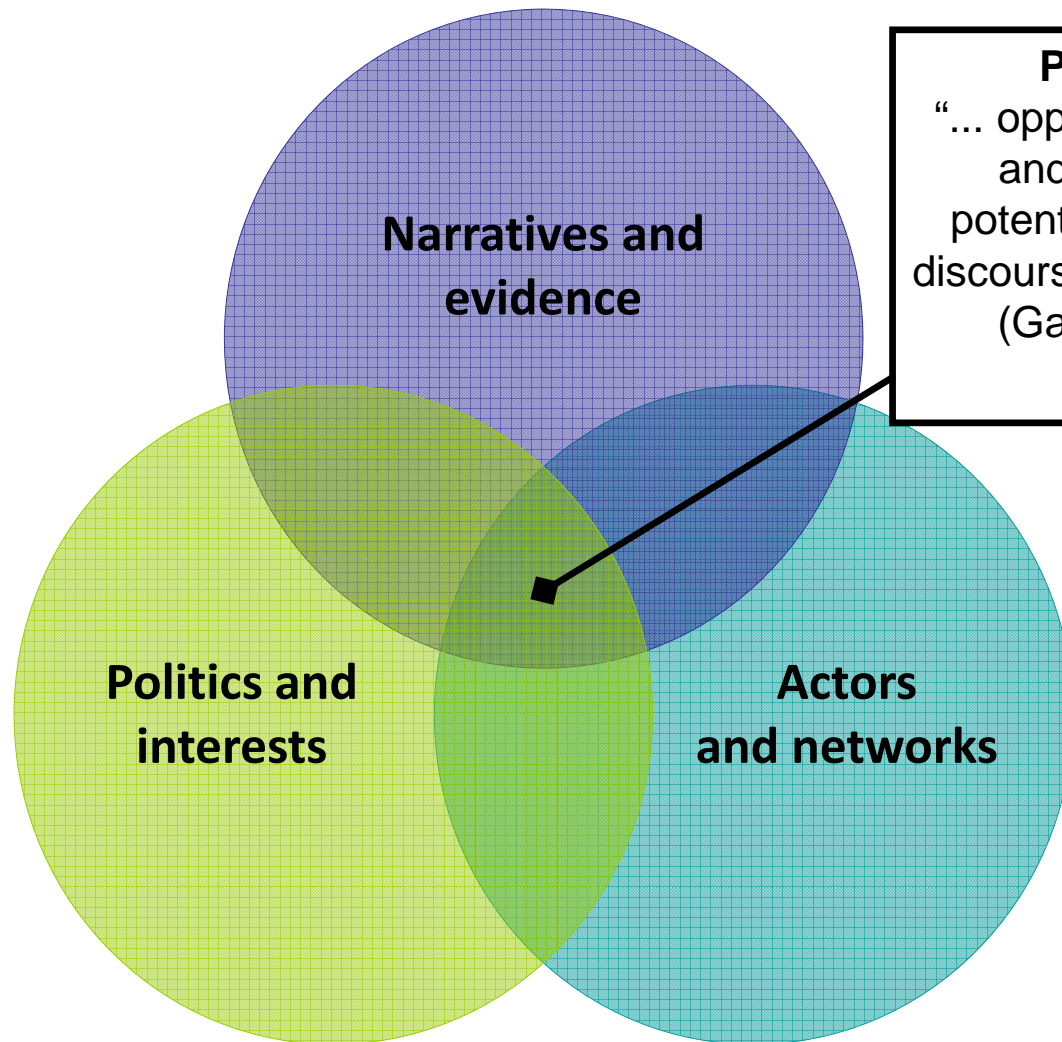


- How can governments meet and balance the many and varied demands?
- How are international policy developments playing out at the national level and in actions on the ground?
- To what extent are policies and strategies informed by research evidence? Are we using lessons from research over the past decades?
- What are the potential conflicting goals and priorities, within the agricultural sector, or between agriculture and other sectors?
- Who are the (government and non-government) actors, who are involved in the processes, and who are left out?

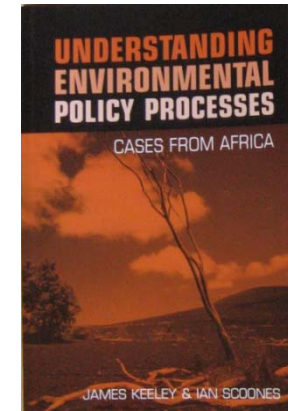
=> Gap in understanding of *processes of policymaking* on climate change and agriculture

Conceptual framework

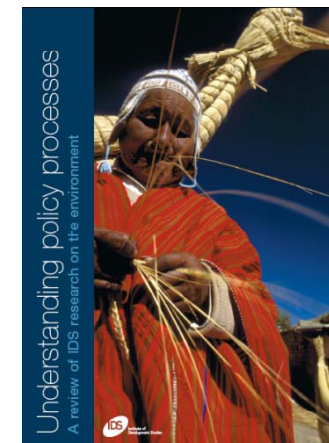
- *Policy processes* as non-linear and “messy”
- Three *lenses* to help understand policy processes
- Focus on *policy spaces* as entry points for influence



Policy spaces:
“... opportunities, moments and channels (...) to potentially affect policies, discourses and decisions ...”
(Gaventa, 2006: 26)



Keeley & Scoones 2003



IDS/KNOTS 2006

Understanding policy processes on climate change and agriculture: two initiatives

1 “Research to Policy for Adaptation” (RPA)

(DFID/IDRC CCAA programme)

- Aim to increase the ability of Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) programme partners in East Africa to understand climate change adaptation policy processes at local and national level
- Case studies in Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi
- Policy analysis and engagement strategies



2 Climate Change Theme, Future Agricultures Consortium

(DFID)

- Building on the RPA project, aims to understand how international policy developments on climate change play out in the agricultural sector at national and sub-national levels
- Case studies in Ethiopia and Kenya
 - National level policy actors and processes on climate change and agriculture Berhanu Adenew, Ethiopian Economics Association
 - Research and policy analysis, stimulating debates and further work across the agricultural sector





Thank you

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Adaptation – IPCC Definition



‘Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.’

(IPCC TAR, 2001)

Key distinctions:

- Anticipatory v. Reactive Adaptation
- Planned v. Autonomous Adaptation

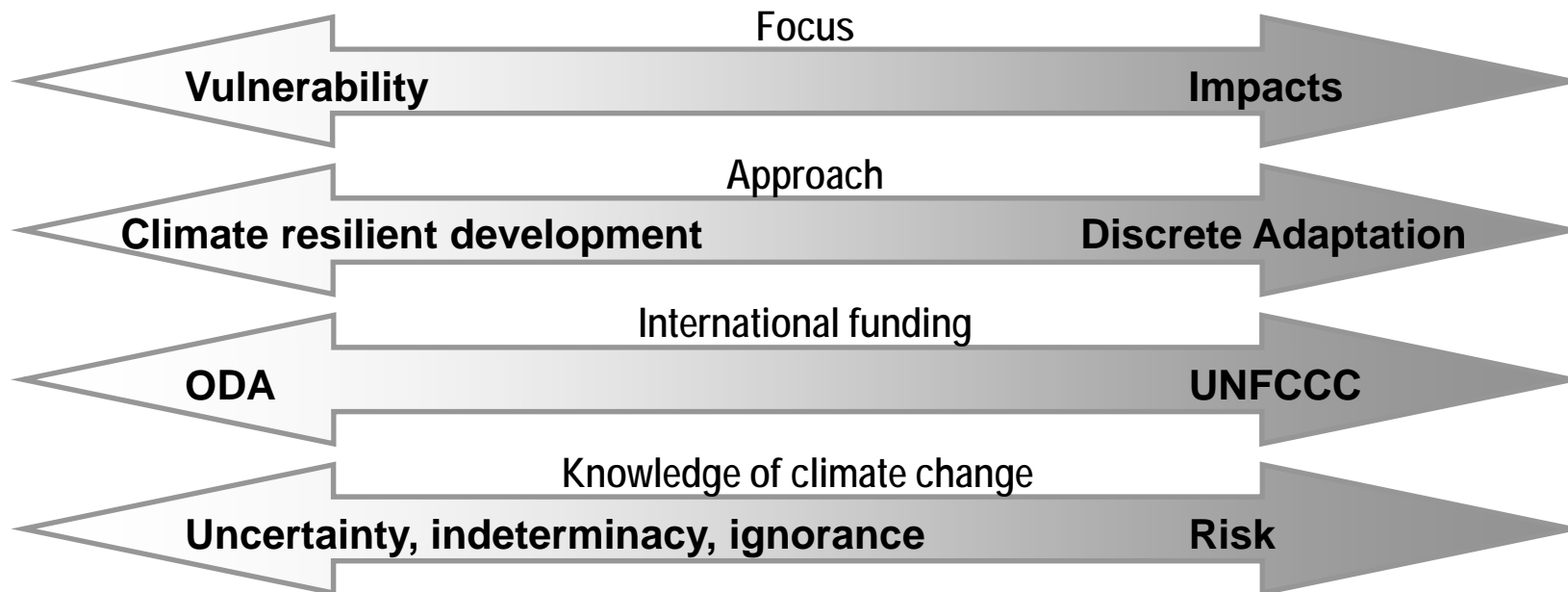
Vulnerability

- **Vulnerability** is a component of:
 - Biophysical exposure
 - Sensitivity
 - Adaptive capacity: “the ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences.”

- **Adaptive capacity** improved by factors such as -
 - Wealth
 - Access to technology
 - Stable and effective institutions
 - Systems for disseminating information
 - Equitable distribution of power
 - Well-functioning social systems

Adaptation and development: A continuum

| Addressing the Drivers of Vulnerability | Building Response Capacity | Climate Risk Management | Confronting Climate Change |
|--|---|---|--|
| Improving fundamental factors to reduce vulnerability to poverty and harm, with limited direct attention to climate factors, e.g. health, education, women's rights, accountability. | Building robust systems for problem solving for both climate and non climate related activities, e.g. communications and planning processes, weather monitoring, and natural resource management practices. | Integrating climate information into decisions to reduce negative effects on resources and livelihoods, e.g. disaster management, drought-resistant crops, "climate-proofing" infrastructure. | Focusing almost exclusively on climate change impacts, typically targeting climate risks that are outside historic climate variability, e.g. tackling sea level rise or glacial lake floods. |

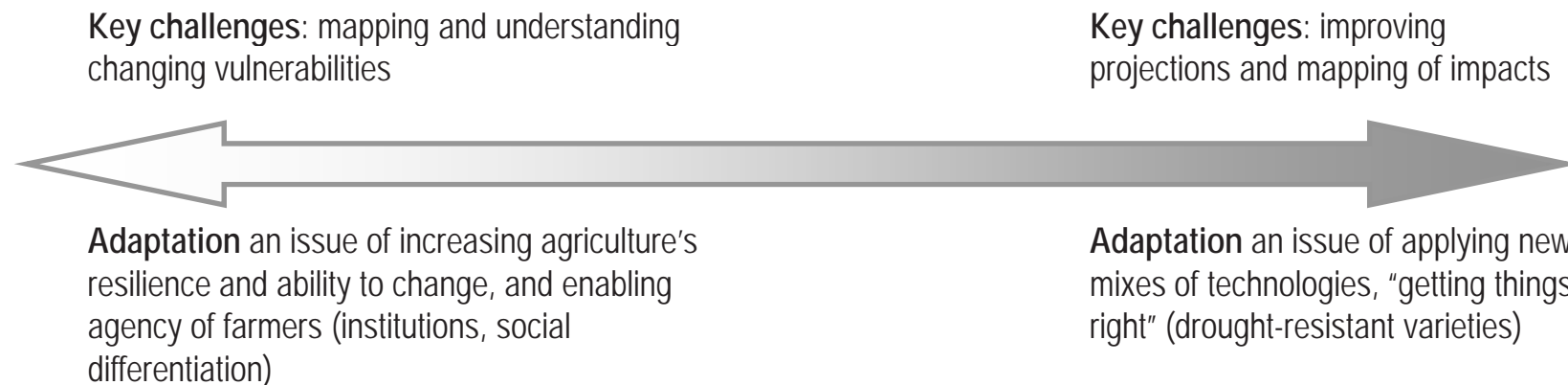


Tanner and Mitchell, 2008; McGray *et al* 2007

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Different narratives, with different actors and interests:



Research questions



Main research question: How do international climate change policy processes play out in national and sub-national agriculture sector contexts?

Sub-questions:

- Which international policy developments set the premises for agricultural adaptation?
- What are national governments 'room for manoeuvre'? What are the key policy spaces?
- Which are the key narratives and actors underlying climate adaptation? How do these relate to national development goals?
- To what extent does adaptation research influence national level policy making?
- To what extent does local experience and practice inform policy at the national level?
- What are the main actors and their interests in the production and use of climate information, and what are their roles in policy formation?