Rural India and Climate Change Challenge

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Rural India

- Rural India houses around 70% population and more than 80% poor of the country
- Hunger and malnutrition prevalent among rural children
- Agriculture and the exploitation of natural resources have privileged but not necessarily predominant sources of income and occupations.
- Nearly 90% of India's rural population is dependent on biomass for meeting its cooking and heating energy requirements
- Highly dependent on natural resources and weather-dependent activities
- Relative lack of access to information, decisionmaking, investment and services.

Expected climate change in India by 2030

Warmer

- Avg. temp rise: 2.0 deg C predicted
- 1.0-4.0 deg C at extreme ranges

and wetter - increased annual precipitation, but

Iower frequency of rainy days; increased intensity

Cyclonic disturbances

- lower frequency; increased intensity
- increased risk of storm surges

Sea-level rise

1.3mm/year on average

Source. Cupta, 2011

Expected effects (of expected climate change) for India: examples (INCCA 2010)

Agriculture

- Up to 50% reduction in maize yields
- 4–35% reduction in rice yields (with some exceptions)
- Rise in coconut yields (with some exceptions); reduced apple production
- Negative impacts on livestock in all regions
- Consumption reduction for poor: 18%

Fresh water supply

- High variability predicted in water yields (from 50% increase to 40-50% fall)
- 10-30% increased risk of floods; increased risks of droughts

Forests and natural ecosystems

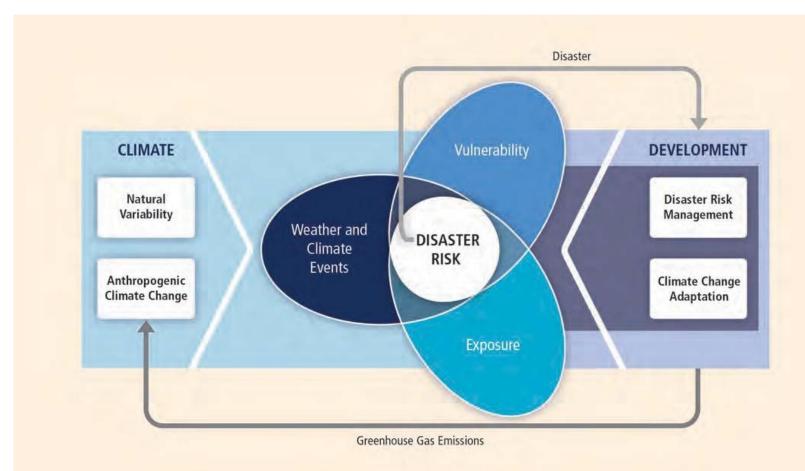
• Shifting forest borders; species mix; negative impact on livelihoods and biodiversity

Human health

- Higher morbidity and mortality from heat stress and vector/water-borne diseases
- Expanded transmission window for malaria

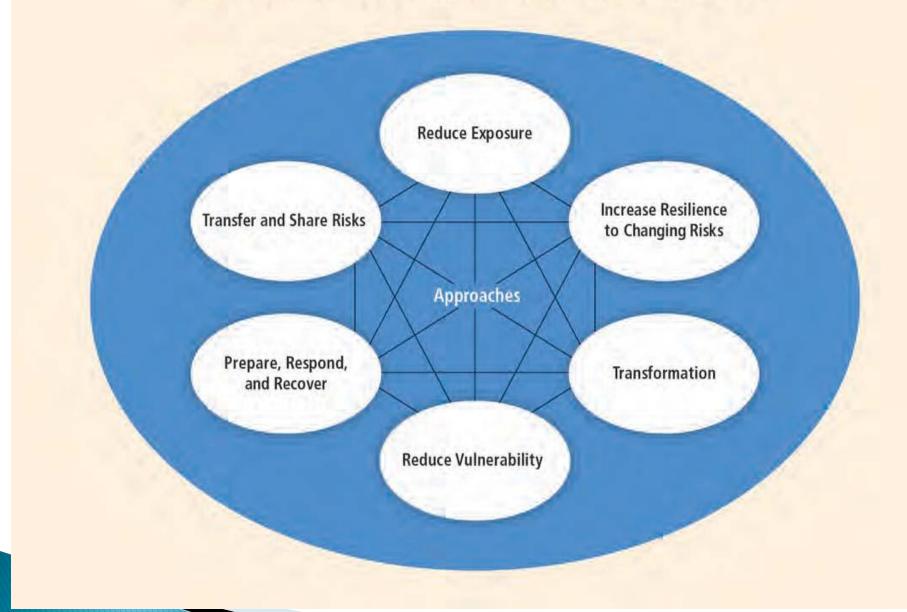
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Climate Change, Disaster Risks and Sustainable Development



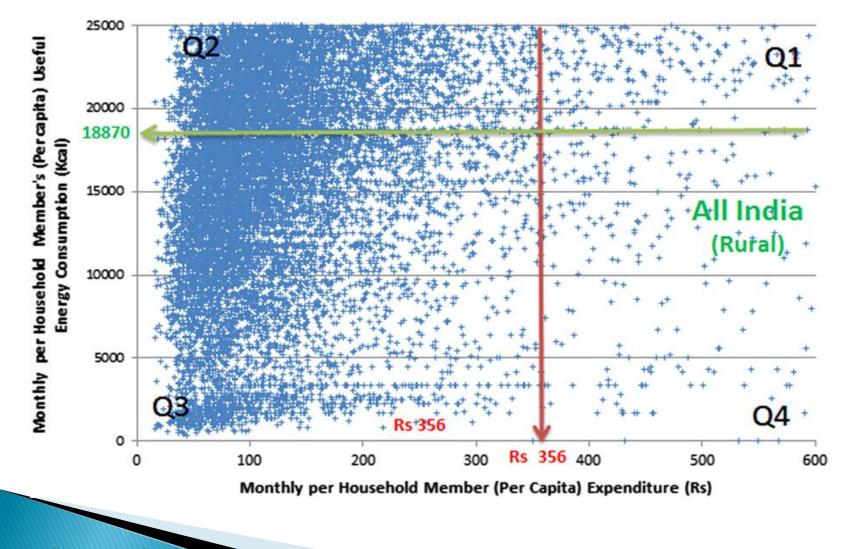


Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management Approaches for a Changing Climate





Income and energy poverty across rural household



Source: Srivastan, et al 2012, Energy Policy

Thank you very much !

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