



Reducing Vulnerability of the Rural Poor Through Adaptation and Mitigation

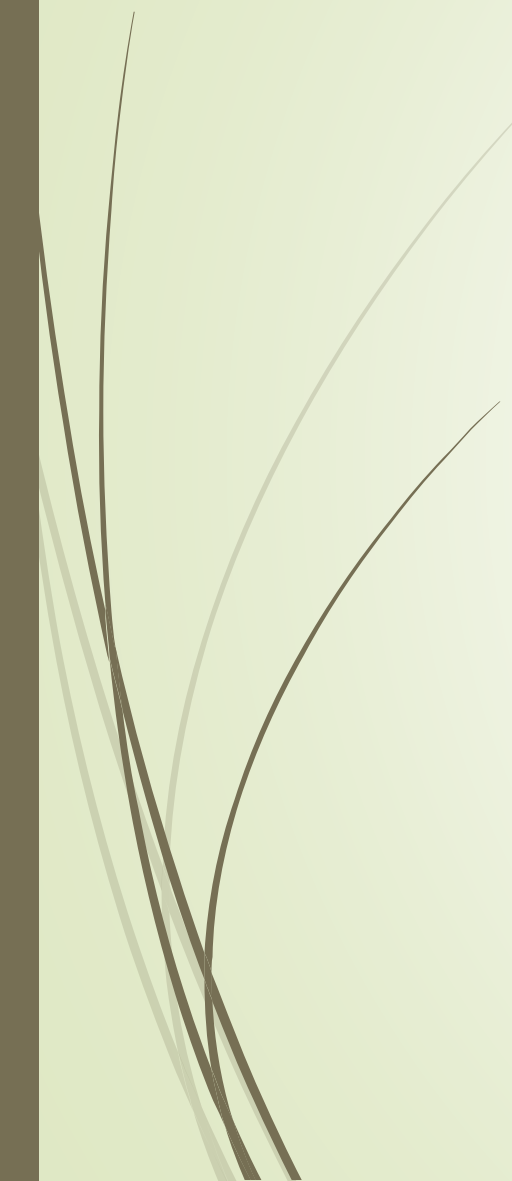
By



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OUTLINE

- Introduction
 - Vulnerability in the context of climate change and poverty reduction
 - Adaptation and Mitigation: Best practices
 - Conclusion and policy recommendation
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Introduction

- ▶ Agenda 2030: Commits to eradicate poverty (goal 1.1 & 1.2)
 - ▶ Definition of the poor
 - ▶ \$1.90/day; 10% of global population
 - ▶ Mostly rural dwellers-climate sensitive activities
- ▶ This paper:
 - ▶ Address vulnerability through adaptation and mitigation
 - ▶ Focus is on best practices and lessons

Vulnerability in the context of climate change and poverty Reduction

- Anticipate and mitigate; cope and recover
- Disproportionately affect the poor
 - Combination of socio-economic factors
 - Livelihood options & productive assets
 - 75%-subsistence rain-fed agriculture- huge poverty perpetuation risk
 - At least 25% climate related damages
 - Up to 80% losses-disrupted rainfall
- Empirically validated
 - Cyclone in Madagascar: poverty by 7.8% (Andrianarimanana, 2015)
 - Hurricane in Nicaragua : 1.65m joined extreme poverty group; 18% loss (Herera et.al., 2018)
 - Flood in Mumbai: 3 times losses for the poor (FAO, 2018)



Vulnerability in the context of climate change and poverty

Reduction Cnt'd

- ▶ Poverty is not the same as vulnerability though closely linked
 - ▶ E.g. poor with increased capacity to mitigate and adapt is less vulnerable to climate change shocks than a wealthier person who is not prepared
- ▶ Contrary trends in most developing countries: poor least prepared and highly vulnerable
- ▶ **Adaptation and Mitigation**
 - ▶ Starting point is stratification of the poor: livelihoods etc vis-à-vis common known hazards and strategies that are currently working and scale them up

Mitigation: best practices

- ▶ Reducing gravity of the shock/hazard
 - ▶ Early Warning System: Mozambique
 - ▶ Lessons
 - ▶ Community involvement
 - ▶ Regional cooperation
 - ▶ Climate Smart Agriculture
 - ▶ Mozambique: Massingir Dam
 - ▶ Malawi: Small Holder Crop Production and Marketing Programme (2007-2013)
 - ▶ Not all measures for poverty reduction have an impact on vulnerability
 - ▶ Lessons
 - ▶ Should be intentionally tailored to address both



Adaptation: Best practices

- ▶ Ability to respond, adjust and learn
 - ▶ Social Cash Transfer Programmes: Conditioned/Unconditioned
 - ▶ Believed to be prone to abuse, however research provides contrary trends
 - ▶ Public Works Programme: Cash/food for work.
 - ▶ Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP): Ethiopia
 - ▶ Lessons
 - ▶ Very effective adaptation measure
 - ▶ But sustainability of benefits: Cash transfer generally not substantial for effective poverty reduction
 - ▶ E.g. PSNP: 15kgs of grains + pulses and oil/month or cash equivalent (US\$0.75)
 - ▶ Malawi social cash transfer: 2006 monthly stipend US\$14
 - ▶ Need to balance the goals, targets and resources
 - ▶ Explore sustainable financing modalities without risking aid dependency

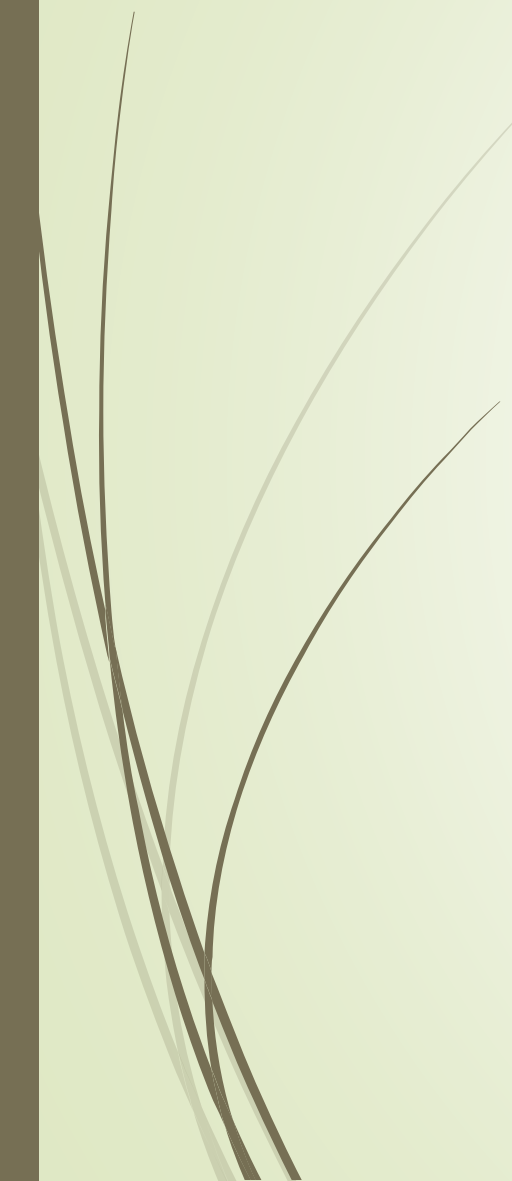


Adaptation cont'd

- ▶ Climate Risk Insurance: transfer the risk
 - ▶ Direct or indirect
 - ▶ Indemnity or weather-indexed
- ▶ R4 Initiative: Weather-indexed. Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Senegal and Zambia
- ▶ Kilimo-Salama: Weather-indexed. Digital operation, Kenya
- ▶ Lessons
 - ▶ R4: Self-sustaining and affordable, though can potentially marginalise the ultra-poor without labour
 - ▶ Public works programme can adopt R4 initiative focus of works that enhances community resilience
 - ▶ Kilimo-Salama: Viable digital approach for wider coverage. However, explore how the ultra-poor can be accommodated. One possibility, PPP.



Conclusion and Policy Recommendations

- ▶ Though closely linked, poverty and vulnerability are different. So some strategies can effectively address vulnerability with minimal (if any) contribution to poverty reduction.
 - ▶ Intentionally design safety nets to address both
 - ▶ Increase regional collaboration for early warning systems
 - ▶ Explore incorporating climate insurance into social protection programmes
 - ▶ Covers sustainable financing for climate change adaptation
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Thank you for your attention!