

FutureWater

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SESSION 2.1:

Role of climate and disaster risk assessment in investment decisions

Regional Workshop on Climate and Disaster Risk-Informed Investments

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June 2023











310 million people USD 3.2 trillion economic exposure



Earthquake



of ASEAN population exposed



359 million people USD 2.9 trillion economic exposure



Tsunami



of ASEAN population exposed



5 million people USD 87 billion economic exposure









146 million people USD 7.6 trillion economic exposure



Volcano



of ASEAN population exposed



238 million people USD 2 trillion economic exposure









17 million people USD 332 billion economic exposure

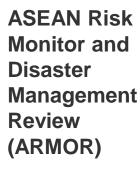




of ASEAN population exposed



134 million people USD 1.8 trillion economic exposure



(June 2022)



A summary of the ASEAN region's population and economic exposure to natural hazards shows that:

- earthquakes, tropical cyclones, and volcanoes pose the highest threat to its population.
- floods—the most frequent disaster in the region, pose the highest threat to the economy.

A comparison of ASEAN RISK assessments between 2019 and 2022 shows a general decrease in resilience in the ASEAN region.

Contents

- > How to assess risks?
- > Upstream- versus project risk assessment
- > Dealing with uncertainty
- > Dealing with system-level dependencies
- > Dealing with the dynamic nature of risk



MentiMeter questions

Code: 5265 8243



a. What is the purpose of performing a Climate and Disaster Risk Assessment? To inform:

- a) investment and adaptation planning
- b) scoping and siting of a project
- design of an investment project
- d) all (answer a, b and c)



What is Risk? A function of three dynamic factors



> Hazard:

physical phenomena that can cause impact on people and property.

> Exposure:

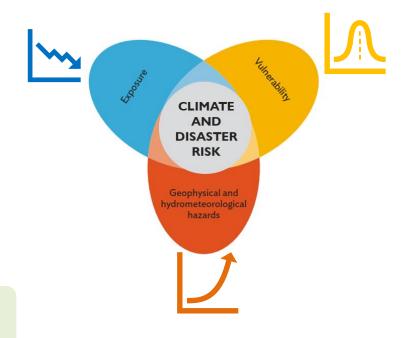
 location of people, properties and activities in relation to hazards.

> Vulnerability:

Susceptibility to harm from a hazard (resilience).

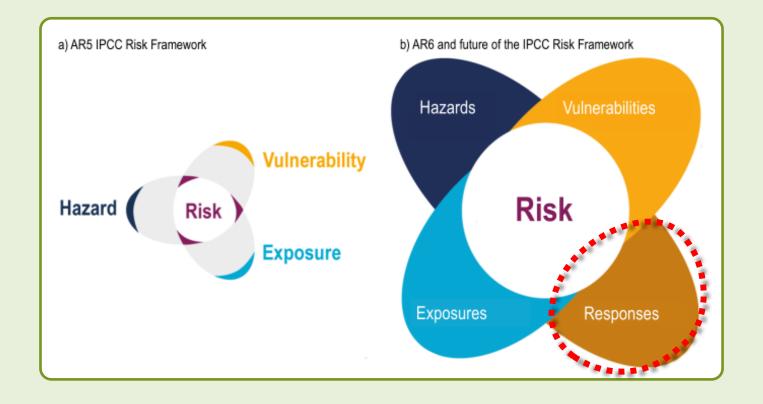
> Risk:

 potential losses triggered by natural hazards over exposed elements.



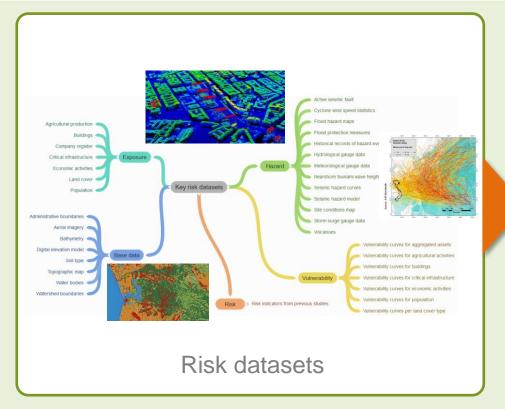
Risk is dynamic

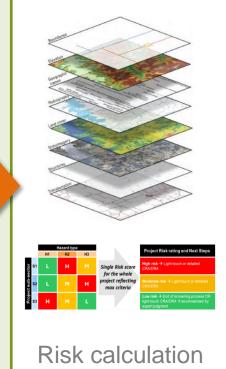




How to assess risks

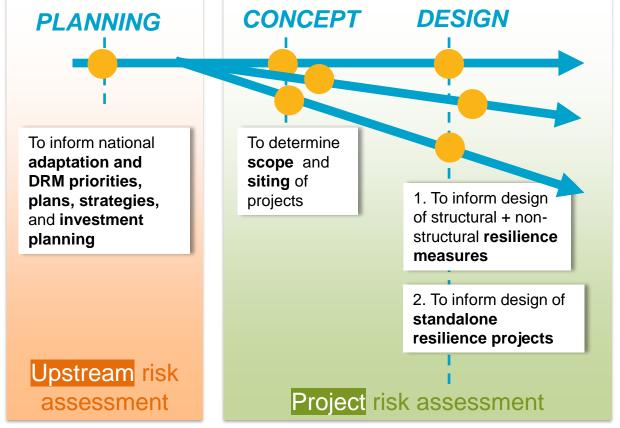












Different flavours depending on stage in project cycle

Upstream vs. project-level risk assessment



> Differences

- 1 Scope and scale
- 2 Timeframe
- 3 Decision making
- 4 Granularity (level of detail)

> Examples:

- Bangladesh;
- Uzbekistan presented earlier
- Kazakhstan; Waste Water Treatment

Upstream vs. project-level risk assessment







> 1. Scope and Scale:

- Upstream: broader risks and opportunities associated with climate change and disasters across an entire sector or multiple sectors, and across a larger region, or national-level.
- Project: project vulnerabilities, exposure to climate hazards, and potential impacts on project objectives, design, construction, and operation.





> 2. Timeframe:

- Upstream: potential impacts over decades. It involves projecting future climate risks, and adapting investment strategies to capitalize on climaterelated opportunities over the long term.
- Project: specific timeframe of a project's lifecycle. It assesses short to medium-term risks and incorporates climate projections and disaster risk considerations into project planning, design, and implementation stages.

Upstream vs. project-level risk assessment







- Jecision-Making:

 Upstream: guides high-level decision-making processes, such as setting

 climate-related investment priorities, allocating resources
 - Project: decisions on project design, site selection, engineering considerations, risk management measures, and adaptation strategies.

> 4. Granularity:



 Upstream: higher level of abstraction, focusing on broad risk categories, geographical regions, and sectors. It may involve utilizing climate risk indices, conducting sectoral vulnerability assessments, and evaluating systemic risks.



Project: site-specific vulnerability assessments, considering localized climate projections, evaluating exposure to specific hazards, and developing project-specific risk management plans.

Upstream Risk Assessment: Bangladesh

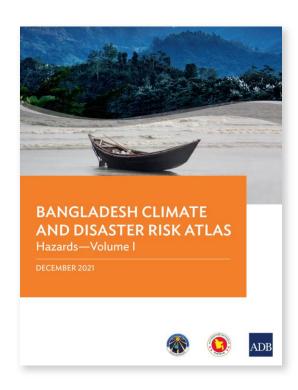
- > Bangladesh Climate and Disaster Risk Atlas:
- > Hazards—Volume I
- > Exposures, Vulnerabilities, and Risks— Volume II

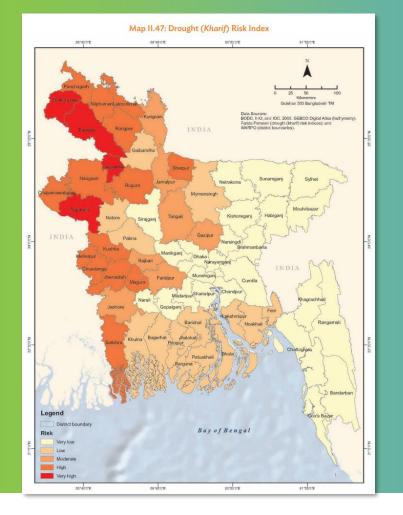
Conceptual Relationship of Components of Disaster Risk

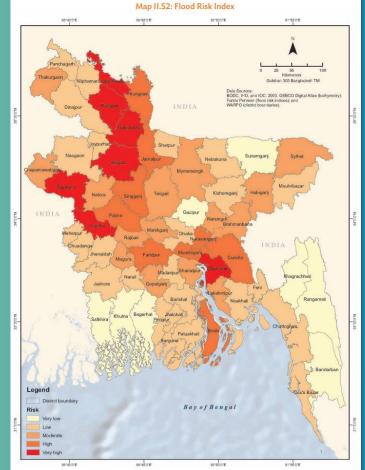
This study explored the relationship, risk $(R) = \int [\text{Hazard}(H), \text{Exposure}(E), \text{ and}]$ Vulnerability (V)]. Various formulae were tested and the resulting maps arising from different calculations were compared against the true conditions on the ground. The risk indexing formula that best reflects true ground conditions is

$$R = H \times (0.7E + 0.3V)$$

where R = risk, H = hazard, E = exposure, and V = vulnerability.

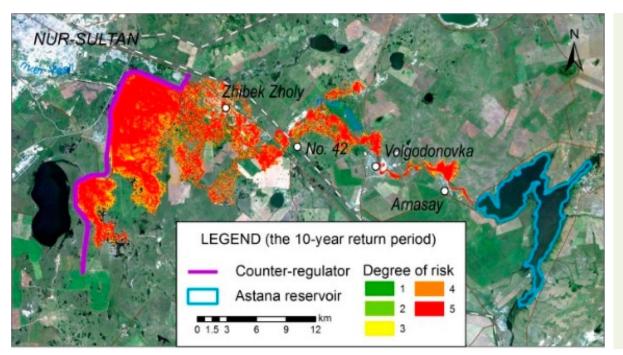






Project Risk Assessment (example Kazakhstan)





- Hazard map produced from the 10-year return period flow hydrograph.
- > Location: Nur Sultan
- Method: Hydraulic modeling of Climate impacts for Yesil (Ishim)
 River in Kazakhstan

Source: ADB. 2021. Climate Risk Assessment: Nur-Sultan: Kazakhstan Urban Infrastructure Modernization Program and Finance Facility

Detailed hazard modeling was deemed necessary

> If the project

- 1. .. has activities in a sector which are typically **sensitive** to climate (e.g. water supply sector)
- 2. ... is a relatively **large** project in terms of **budget**
- 3. ... has a high design life
- 4. ... has a high risk for **lock-in** (meaning alteration is difficult or costs are high). For example: degree of lock-in for a major new road or bridge which will enable urban development in a previously inaccessible area is high.
- 5. ... a high level of **precaution** is warranted. For example: the failure of flood defences may lead to severe and widespread damage and socio-economic impacts



Detailed risk assessments are required

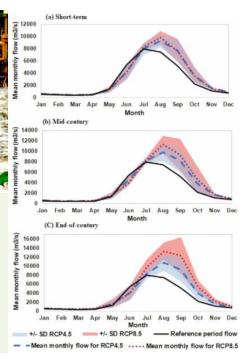
Project Risk Assessment (example Nepal)







- Multi-Hazard (erosion, landslides, glacial lake outbursts, flooding)
- > Hydrological modeling



Source: ADB / FutureWater. 2022. Climate Risk Assessment: Dudhkoshi HEP, Nepal

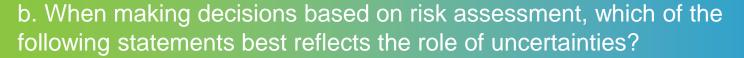
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- a) Uncertainties in climate change are too high: no effective decision-making is possible
- b) Uncertainties should be minimized by relying solely on scientific predictions and models.
- Uncertainties should be acknowledged and incorporated into decisionmaking processes.
- d) Uncertainties are irrelevant and do not impact the decision-making process.



Considering Uncertainty: why it is important?



- Projects: contingency measures, selecting low-cost or non-regret measures
- > Investment planning: flexible and adaptive policies
 - better equipped to accommodate changing conditions, emerging scientific knowledge, and evolving societal needs.

- > Overall this assures that: decisions are **robust**, meaning effective under all (or most) plausible climate change scenarios.
- > Minimizes the costs on the long-term









Not all CCA/ DRM solutions are high-cost, they may simply require different approaches and improved planning.

'No-regrets/ low-regrets actions' prioritize activities which address existing climate/ disaster risks while also providing future benefits.

Low-cost solutions



Low-regrets solutions

e.g., more effective infrastructure siting, broadening beneficiary catchments, contingency planning, incorporating flexibility for future upgrade, local work-force capacity building.

Considering Uncertainty: why it is important?

> Enhanced public understanding: Communicating the uncertainties associated with climate change is essential for building public trust and fostering informed decision-making.





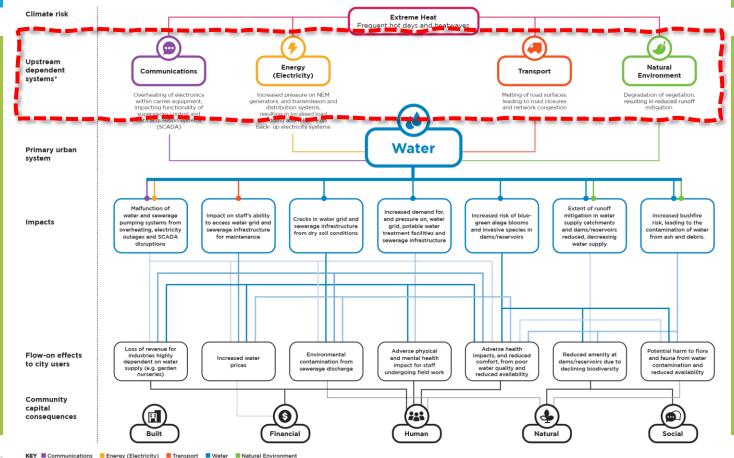
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Need for systems-level approach – interdependencies





Need for systems-level approach – interdependencies



> Physical interdependence

 For example: electrified rail lines require a secure supply of electricity.

> Information interdependence

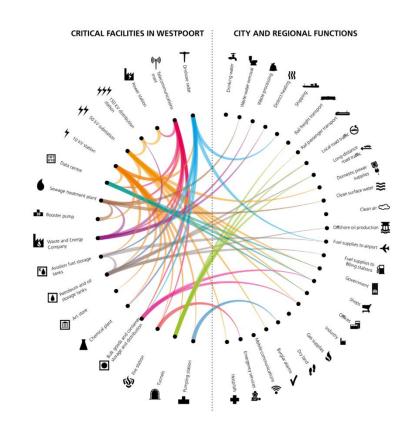
For example: information about electricity usage is needed to determine generation needs

> Geographic interdependence

 For example: project reliant on ecosystem services, water provision from glaciers, utility connections, etc

> Organisational interdependence

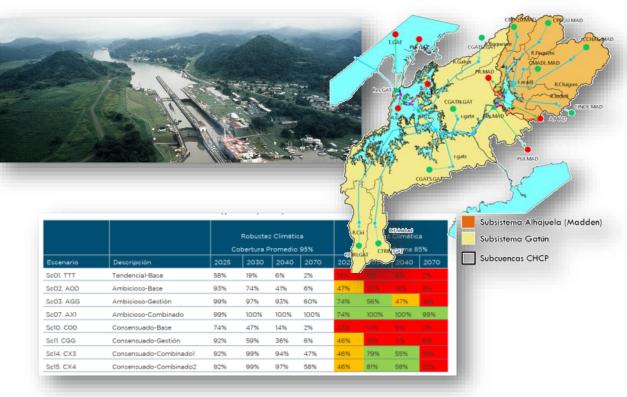
 Institutional and legal connections among thirdparty organizations or stakeholders



Why a system-level approach? - Example



- Panama Canal:
 investments are
 dependent on
 ecosystem services and
 land-use upstream in
 the catchment
 - Scenario analysis
 - Robustness analysis
 - Adaptation pathways



Source: IADB 2022, Prospectiva: Tendencias y Escenarios de la Disponibilidad de Recursos Hídricos en la Cuenca Hidrográfica del Canal de Panamá

Contents

- > What is risk assessment
- > Strategic vs project risk assessment
- Dealing with uncertainty
- > Challenges and limitations
- > Dynamic nature of risk

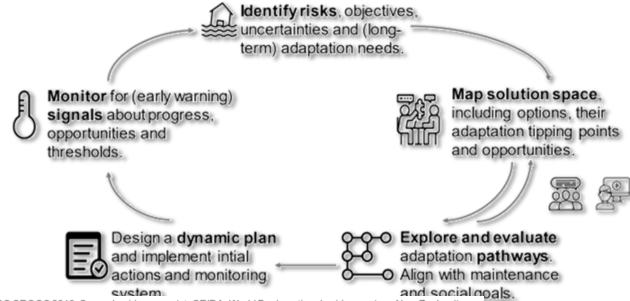


Dynamic nature of risk

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- > Risks: not static; change over time, e.g.:
 - Sea level rise may rise quickly or not
 - Precipitation may decrease or increase

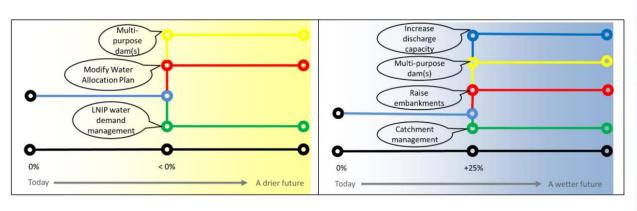
- > Thus:
 - Monitor
 - Adapt dynamically

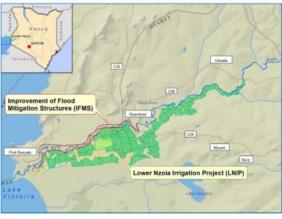


Dynamic Adaption Pathways

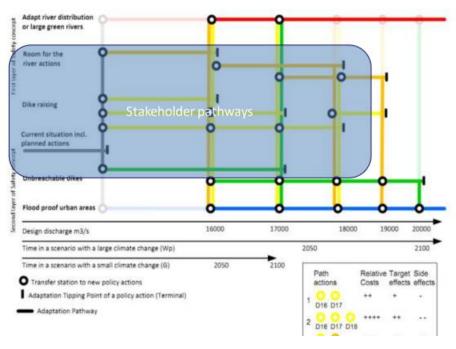


- > Adapt depending on dry or wet future
- > Monitoring rainfall trends and adapt accordingly





- > Adapt based on threshold or tipping points
- > Stakeholder-based pathways





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c. Do you believe there is sufficient capacity in your country for climate and disaster risk assessment?

- a) Yes, there is sufficient capacity
- There is quite some capacity, but it could be further enhanced
- There is moderate capacity, but it needs to be enhanced significantly
- There is poor capacity: considerable capacity building is highly needed.



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Thank you

