

Co-exploration in developing countries



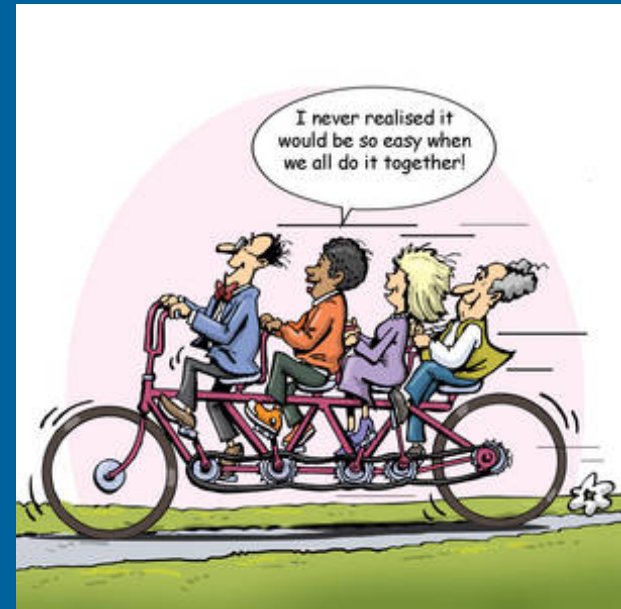
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Proof of concept

Approach has the following elements:

- ❑ Co-exploratory interaction
- ❑ Decision-making through the socio-economic framework
- ❑ Place-based
- ❑ Developing country based



Tested through workshops

- ❑ Series of workshops in the Berg Rivier Municipality – South Africa
- ❑ Dar Es Salaam 5 cities workshop: peri-urban focus
- ❑ Accra 2 cities workshop: urban focus



Thanks to CDKN for funding the second two workshops



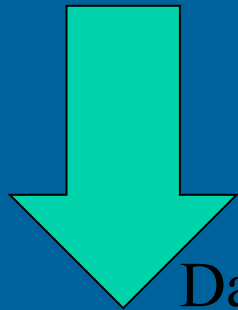
Matrix approach

STRESSORS →		THE STRESSORS ARE DEFINED AS:	THESE STRESSORS (OR GROUPS)	THESE STRESSORS OR GROUPS ARE DEFINED AS:	STRESSORS OR GROUPS WHICH ARE DEFINED AS:	THESE STRESSORS OR GROUPS
ELEMENTS ↓		I	II	III	IV	V
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	2	M ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	☸ — ☸	—	—
	3	L ☸ ☸	M ☸ ☸	—	—	L
<i>Infrastructure</i>	1	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸
	2	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	M ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸
	3	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	M ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸	M-H ☸ ☸
<i>Services</i>	1	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	L ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	L
	2	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸	☸ H ☸ ☸
	3	M ☸ ☸	H ☸ ☸	L ☸ ☸	L	M-H ☸ ☸



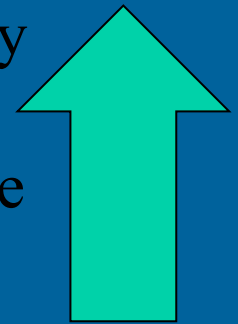
Why “co-exploring”

Current paradigms for using climate information in decision making are not optimal:



Data driven/impacts driven approaches are dominated by the science and are characterised by a disconnect between the science and context

User driven methods are stunted by “users” struggling to articulate needs in the framing of a discipline that is not their own



Why “co-explore”

“Here is some data on climate change impacts for your city”

“Thanks? I can’t use this in the decision I’m making”

OR

“Thanks! All our decisions should be driven by this data”

OR

“Thanks, I’ll add it to the pile of other reports that I’ll never have time to read”



Why “co-explore”

“You need to tell me what climate information you need”

“But what can you provide?”

“No, first tell me what you need, then I’ll tell if you we can provide it”

“Okay... I need to know if its going to get wetter in the future”

“Oh... dear, we can’t tell you that. Ask another one”

“Hello?”

“Anyone there?”



Co-exploration

- ❑ Similar to co-production but doesn't presuppose the production part
- ❑ A “critical” dialogue of equals
- ❑ Explicitly “directionless” (in some senses)



Co-exploration

- ❑ Uses data and tools to create new dialogue more than provide answers
- ❑ Extracts value/knowledge from the “science”

Very frustrating at times!



What did we learn?

The workshops confirmed a few key things previous work had begun to show:

- ❑ In many contexts non-climate stressors strongly dominate the decision space. Impacts led approaches are inappropriate?
- ❑ “Good” development often (but not always) aligns with climate resilience?
- ❑ The decision process is complex, nuanced, and often quite opaque
- ❑ Decision making tools are useful ways to generate dialogue and change perspectives
- ❑ Integrating valuable climate information into this process is not easy, much value is still lost



But we are also learning that...

- “User engagement workshops” are actually often extractive
- Once off workshops are very limited and potentially harmful. How do we *actually* sustain engagement?
- Learning in workshops has limited potential for uptake in the “real world”
- Long term engagement centred on real trust relationships are very powerful



Moving forward

- Intend to test the process further through “real” policy contexts

But.....





How do co-exploratory processes move from the workshop environment back into the workplace without the need for our continued involvement?



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