

A group of people, including men and women, are working in a muddy field. They are bent over, engaged in manual labor, possibly planting or tending to crops. The field is wet and muddy, with some small plants visible. The background shows a flat, open landscape under a clear sky.

What is a Climate Proofing Approach? (And how is it changing?)

LEG Regional Training Workshop on NAPs
& NAP GSP for the LDCs
Vanuatu Nov 2014

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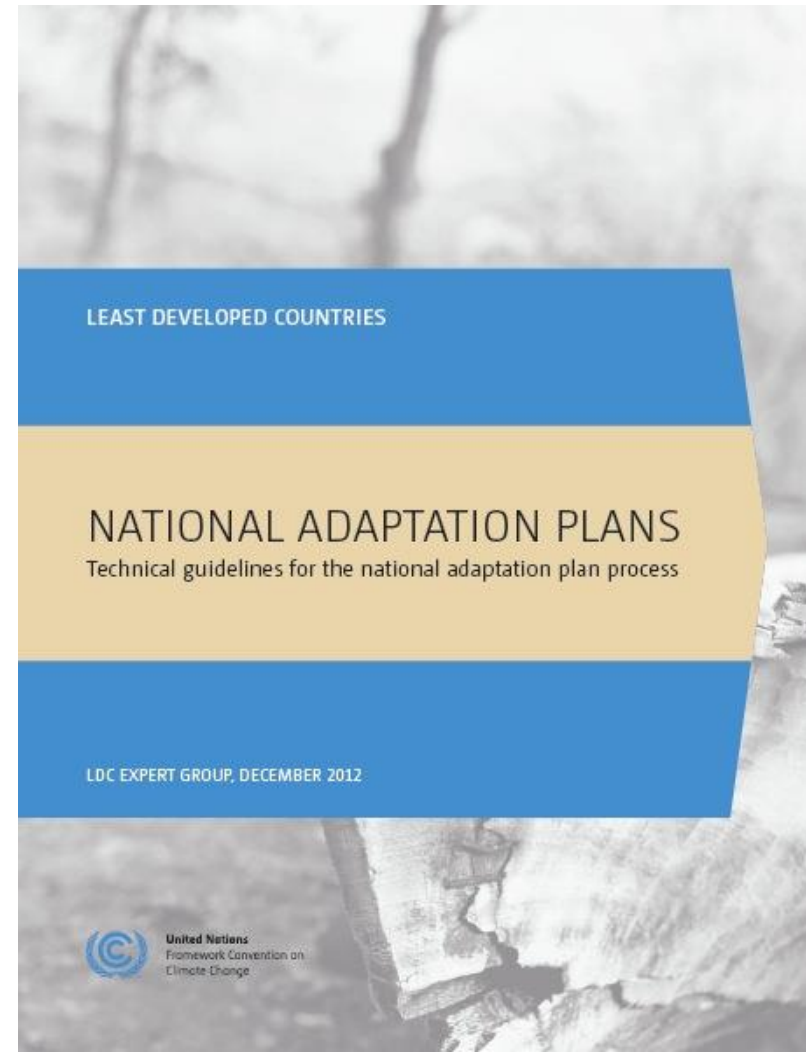
What is “climate proofing”

- “... modifying **existing activities** to make them more resilient to current, as well as future, climate change risks.”

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- An important step in the first element of the NAP process is to identify **aspects of current development efforts** that are most at risk from climate change and to climate-proof these aspects.

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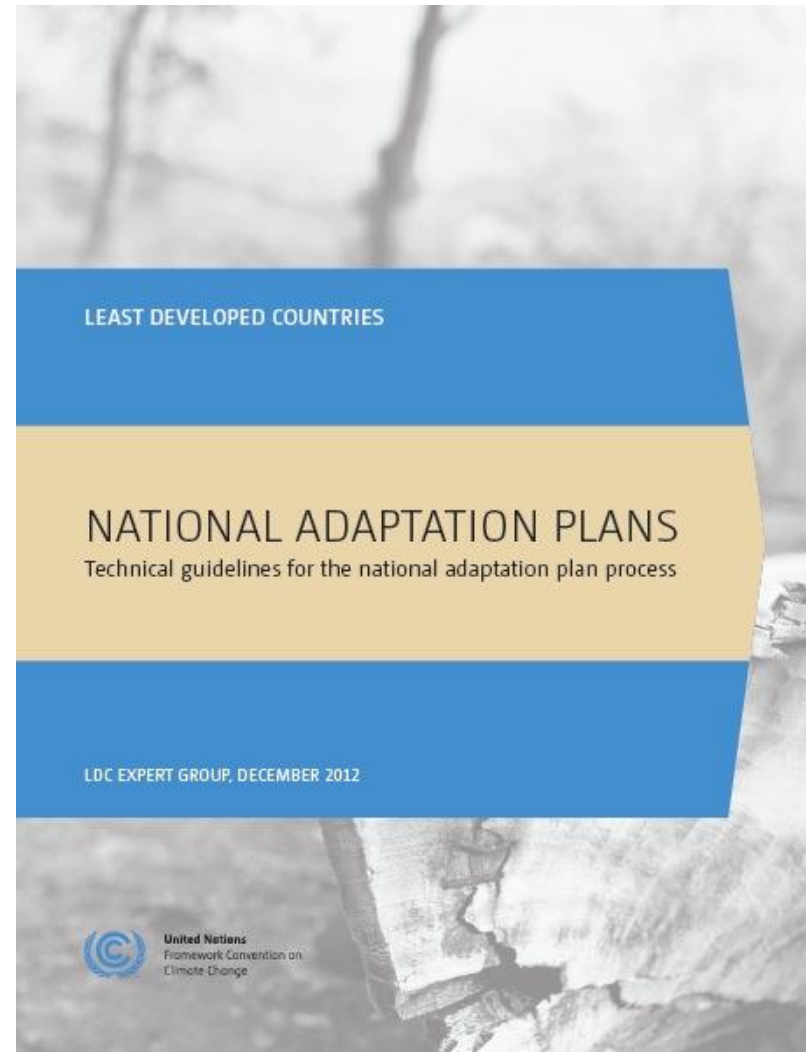
What is “climate proofing”

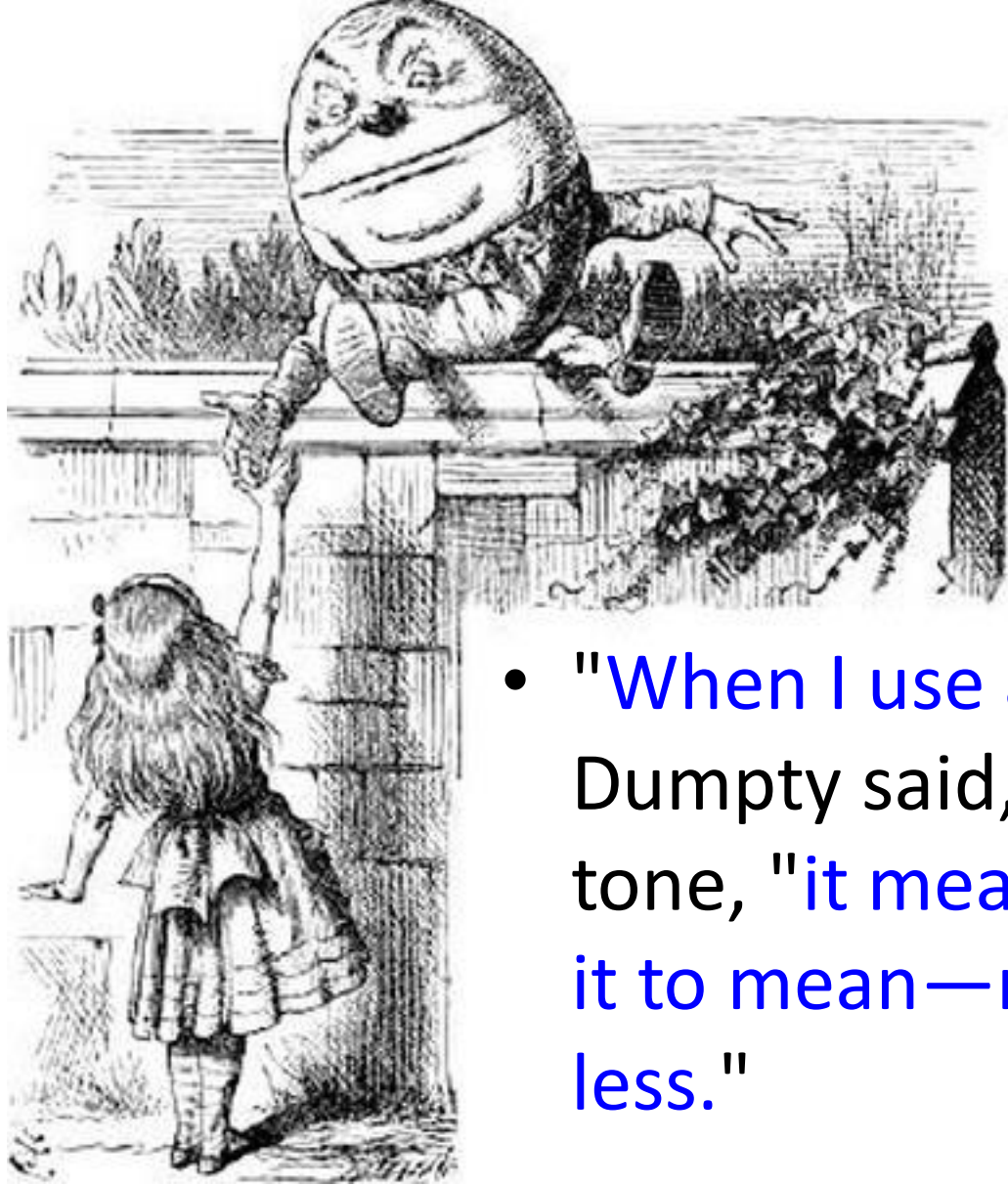
We can never climate proof

- Enhance? Improve?

But the term is in common use;

and readily grasped by non-experts in climate change.





- "When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in rather a scornful tone, "it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less."

“Climate Proofing”

- Focusing during the risk assessment phase,
- on developing risk management and response plans
- to improve the resilience of the target
- population / infrastructure / program
- to climate risk events

Climate proofing depends on ...

Understanding the

- Which partners can assist
- Planning processes
- Institutions and stakeholders that need to be engaged
- National decision making and budgetary processes
- Wider political factors affecting the decisions

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LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS
Technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process

LDC EXPERT GROUP, DECEMBER 2012



WEATHERING THE STORM
Options for Framing
Adaptation and Development

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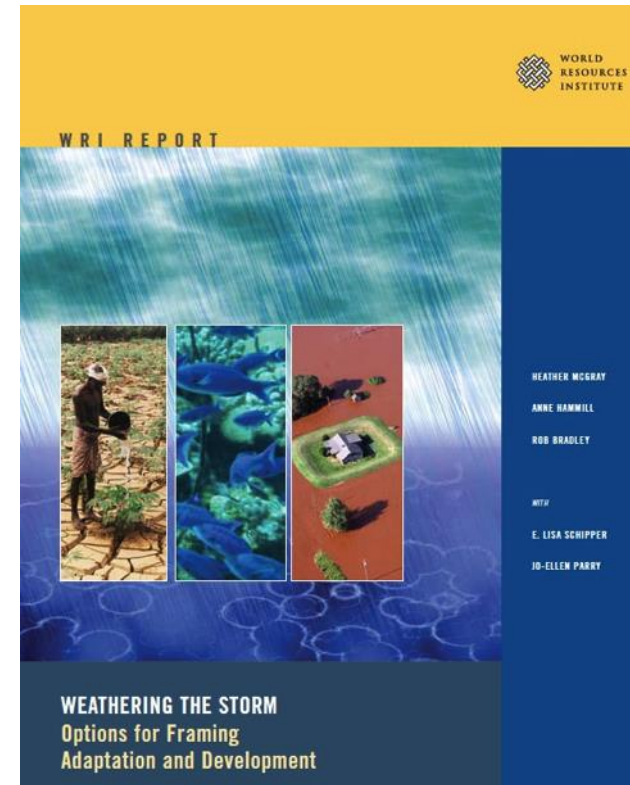
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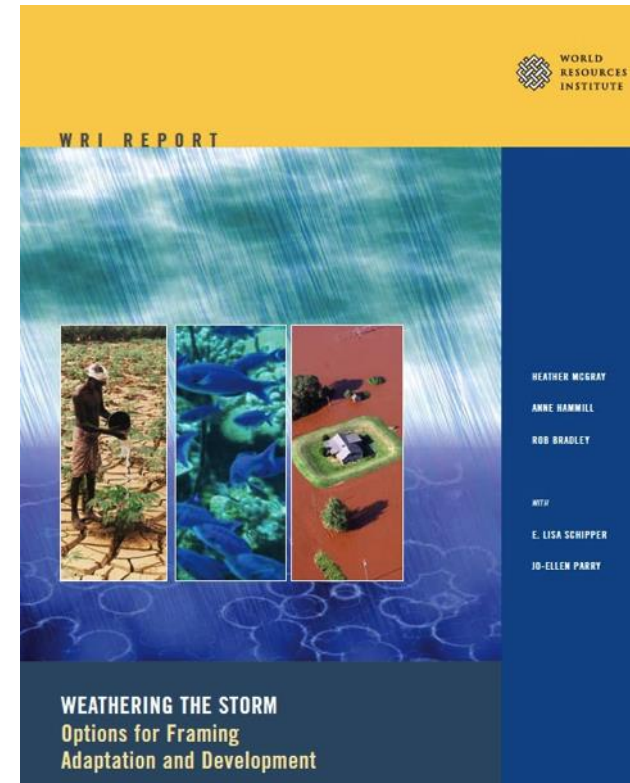
The adaptation to development continuum

- 3. **Discrete Adaptation**: Activities undertaken specifically to achieve climate adaptation objectives.
- 2. **Climate-Proofing** of Ongoing Development Efforts: Activities added to an ongoing development initiative to ensure its success under a changing climate.
- 1. **“Serendipitous” Adaptation**: Activities undertaken to achieve development objectives incidentally achieve adaptation objectives.



The adaptation to development continuum

- 3. **Discrete Adaptation**: Activities undertaken specifically to achieve climate adaptation objectives.
- 2. **Climate-Proofing** of Ongoing Development Efforts: Activities added to an ongoing development initiative to ensure its success under a changing climate.
- 1. **“Integrated” Adaptation**: Activities undertaken to achieve development objectives **incorporating** adaptation objectives.



Timeframes

The strategy set out to:

- Identify and define possible long-term climate impacts for Germany and its regions;
- Identify and communicate dangers and risks, by quantifying and making transparent their probability, damage potential, uncertainty factors, and time components;
- Create and raise awareness among stakeholders;
- Provide a basis for decision-making that enables the various stakeholders to take precautions and to gradually incorporate the impacts of climate change into their private, business and public planning and activities;
- Indicate options for action, coordinate and define responsibilities, and draw up and implement measures.

WARNING!



Climate proofing Risk aversion & Project scale

- Boat shed and launch ramp



Long term

- Sea level rise – c. 0.5 m

Medium term

- Storm surge – c. 10 to 20%
- Storm tracks – possibly many metres



House – rain water capture

House life time – 20 to 50 years

Plastic Tank life time -- <10 years

But greater rainfall
variability

Greater household
demand thus
more tanks
needed

How much space
for tanks?

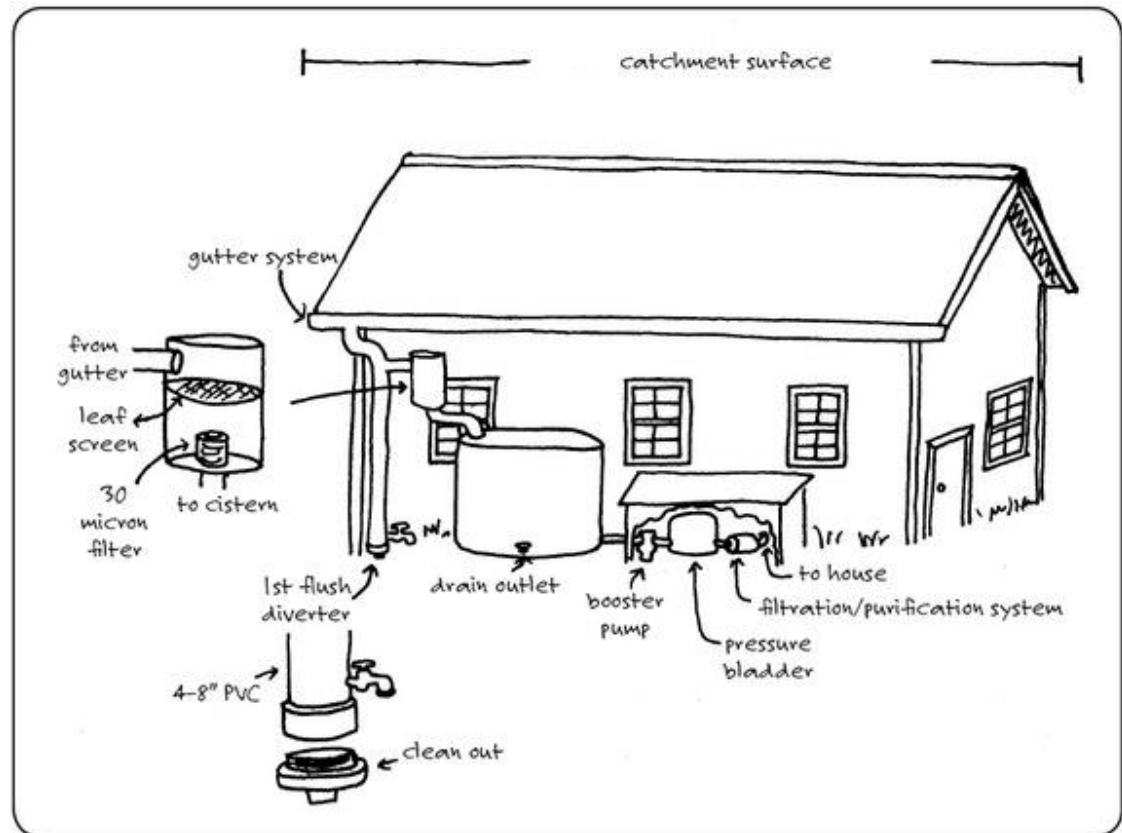
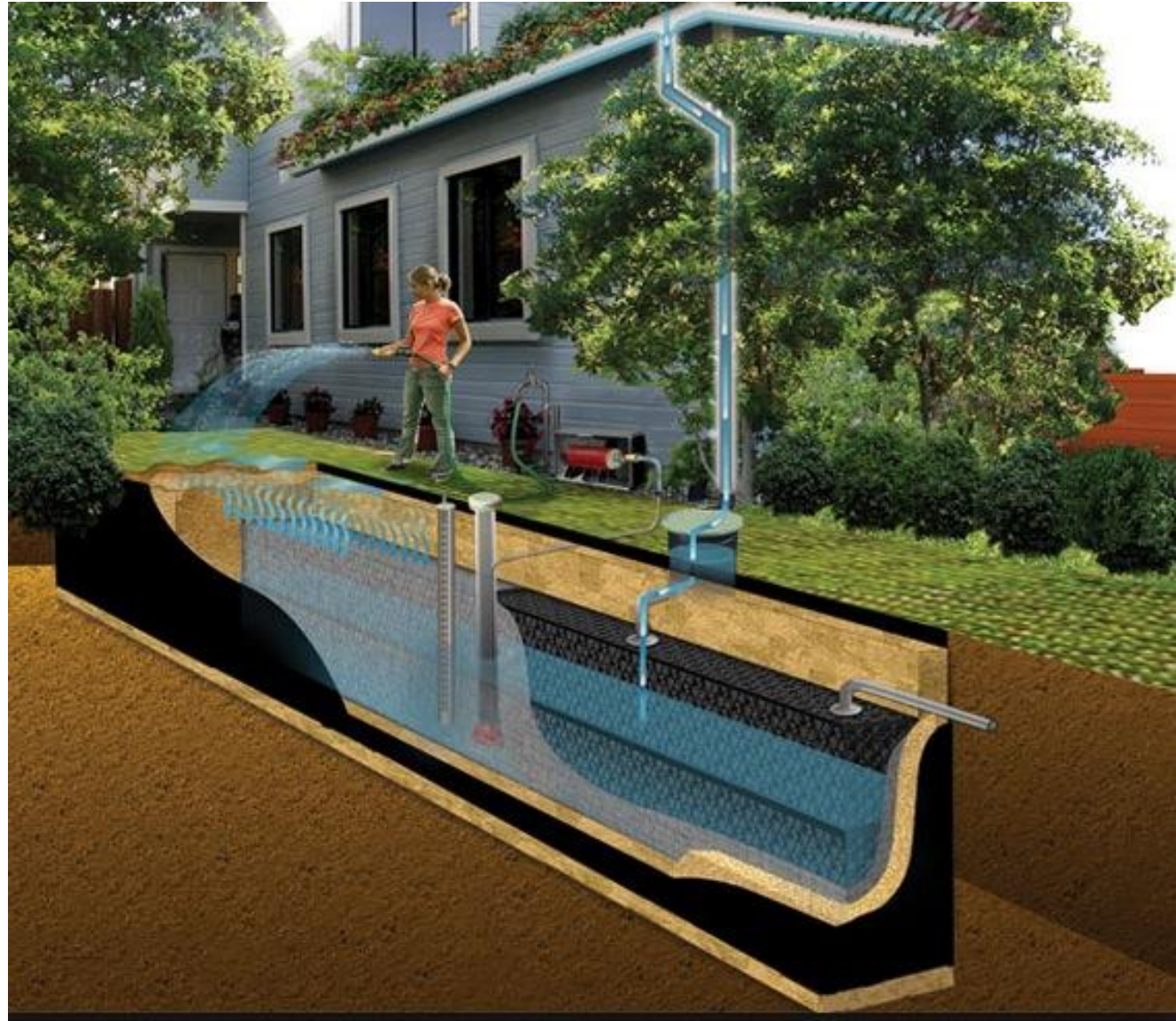


FIG. 8.2. Typical components of a whole-house rainwater harvesting system.

Rethink the problem – based on a longer time frame and as part of house replacements

Can also incorporate passive cooling







Climate
proofing at
scale

Program
level

Full redesign and upgrade of waste and storm water drainage systems taking projections of climate change over planned lifetime into account

But do we have the fine scale data?



Beyond climate proofing

- ‘Incremental adaptation’ -- actions where the central aim is to maintain the essence and integrity of the existing technological, institutional, governance and value systems.
- E.g. through adjustments to cropping systems via new varieties or more efficient irrigation.

Beyond climate proofing

- ‘Transformational adaptation’ -- seeks to change the fundamental attributes of systems in response to actual or expected climate and its effects.
- Involves substantial changes in activities
- E.g. changing livelihoods from cropping to livestock or, by migrating to take up cropping elsewhere
- ‘Transformational adaptation’ -- also involves changes in our perception and paradigms about the nature of climate change, adaptation and their relationship to other natural and human systems
- ‘Transformational adaptation’ – does not mean big \$\$\$ projects

Ultimately ingenuity wins

