



Principles and enabling factors that guide sustainable, community-based adaptation

An overview of Community Based Adaptation (CBA) at CARE

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- ◆ Why tackling climate change is critical for CARE
- ◆ The climate change adaptation ‘problem’
- ◆ The community-based adaptation (CBA) ‘solution’
- ◆ CARE’s CBA framework
- ◆ Examples of what works well in practice from Africa and Latin America
- ◆ A summary of principles and enabling factors for effective CBA

Why tackling climate change is critical for CARE



1. It threatens everything that CARE does...

- Increasing the severity and frequency of disasters
- Reversing development gains
- Increasing social inequality
- Undermining CARE's vision and mission to eradicate poverty and injustice

2. It is one of the greatest social injustices of our time

- The impacts are most severe for those with the least responsibility for causing the problem
- Current climate impacts, coupled with global political/economic inaction, are exacerbating social inequality and marginalisation

The climate change adaptation ‘problem’



- **Climate change challenges us all** to learn to live with on-going change and to make decisions in the context of uncertain future risks.
- **Different vulnerabilities,** and capacities to respond to the impacts of climate change, exist within all societies, requiring tailored (context-specific) and equitable responses.

“There are known knowns; there are things we know that we know. There are known unknowns; that is to say there are things that we now know we don’t know. But there are also unknown unknowns – there are things we do not know we don’t know”

Donald Rumsfeld



The community-based adaptation (CBA) ‘solution’



- **Community-Based Adaptation initiatives can support those most affected by climate change;**
 - to play a central role in the planning and decision making processes affecting their lives
 - to understand and analyse how the climate impacts their livelihoods, health, security and social relationships
 - to make informed and forward-looking decisions and be able to continuously adjust their strategies in response to future circumstances

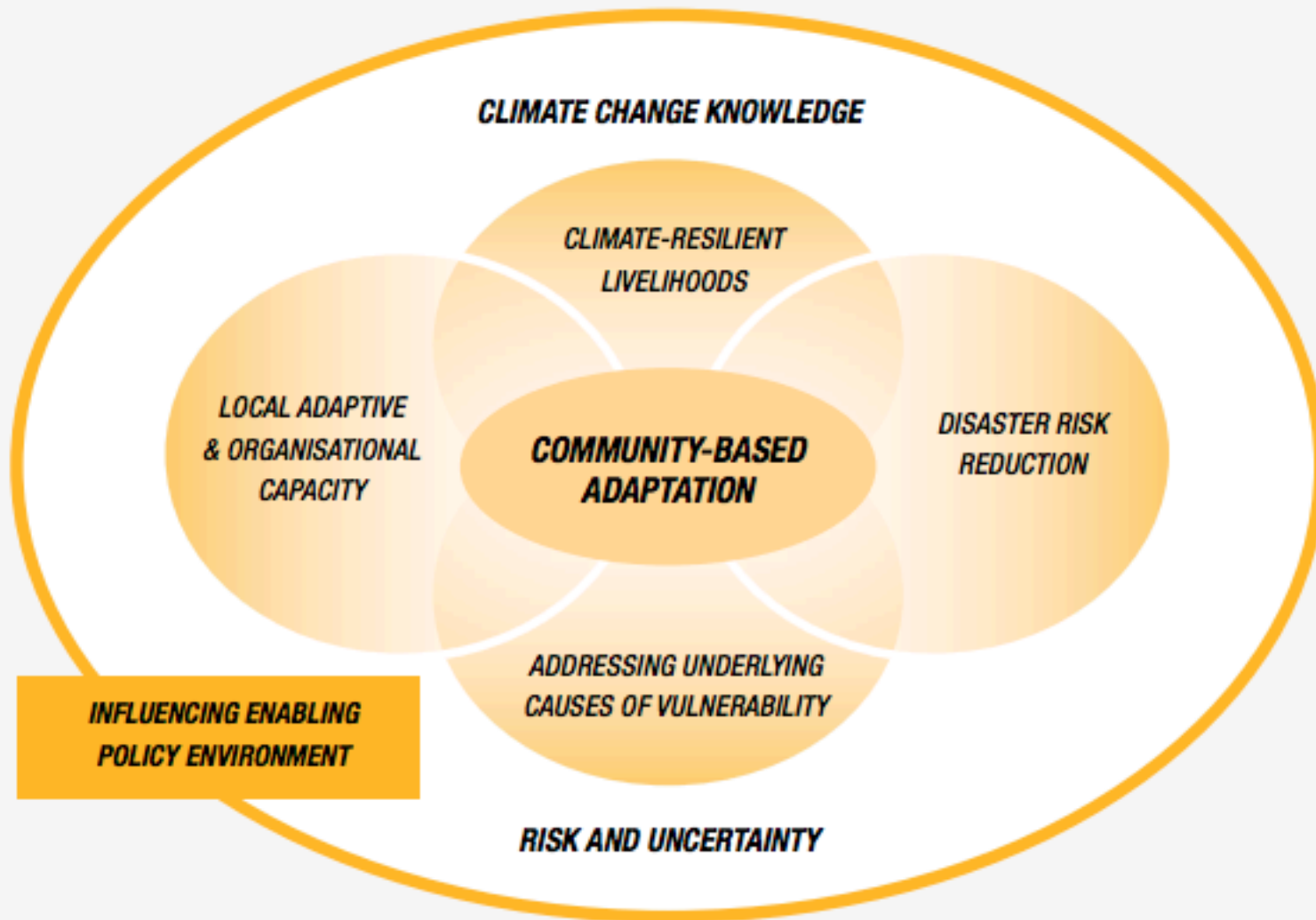


CBA meeting on boat run by Shidhulai. Natore, Bangladesh.

Photo: G.M.B. Akash/PANOS

- **Important:**
 - Community-Based Adaptation is an on-going *process* that avoids short term, or pre-determined ‘solutions’ e.g. a technology-focused response
 - “CBA” is not limited to the community level. In fact, CBA necessarily entails linking local to national/regional level planning platforms and processes.

CARE's CBA Framework



Africa: Integrating CBA into DRR and Early Warning Systems in Niger and Ghana



Africa: Participatory Scenario Planning In Kenya



Africa: Integrating community adaptation plans into local government planning processes





Latin America and the Caribbean: Preparing for glacial lake outbursts in Peru



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October 7, 2014

School children practice their emergency response in Carhuaz, **Peru**.



Latin America and the Caribbean: Protecting high mountain wetlands in Ecuador



Students from Papallacta learning how to grow and tend vegetables used in school lunches to improve nutrition. © Silvia Vallejo / CARE



Restoration of Páramo native vegetation near Papallacta, Ecuador. © Andrés Cordova / CARE

CARE Climate Change programme initiatives: 28

Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu, and Vietnam



Thailand: School children learning about mangrove planting techniques

CARE's CBA in practice report



CARE has recently published a learning report, showcasing global good practice in **Community-Based Adaptation to climate change**.

The report presents 16 case studies, including all of the above examples, to illustrate how CARE's CBA framework has been integrated into a variety of projects around the world.

www.careclimatechange.org

Summary of main principles and enabling factors for effective CBA...



- Building adaptive capacity and resilience requires a **coordinated approach**, which goes beyond stand-alone adaptation actions, to integrate adaptation into local and national-level development planning, disaster risk reduction, and ecosystem management
- Allowing vulnerable communities **to play a central role in planning and decision-making** processes is critical
- The **different levels of adaptive capacity and vulnerability** must be taken into account to design effective responses
- **Climate information** must be communicated in an accessible and useful manner
- CBA must involve a **multi-level and cross-sectoral approach**, and **involve a range of stakeholders**
- Community-Based Adaptation depends upon, but also adds new dimensions to, good development practice- ensuring that interventions are decided and designed in response to an **understanding of current and future impacts of climate change**

Thank you!
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