

Building civil society voices on climate change

Asia-Pacific Climate Change
Adaptation Forum **2014**

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Rationale

- ◆ The community has their own way of adapting with the local climate changes, but limited understanding about how their life is affected by the global CC.
- ◆ Adaption was based primarily on new agricultural techniques, including irrigation, and upon disaster preparedness.
- ◆ Most adaptation projects are done through extension of agricultural techniques, but had lost connection to CC.
- ◆ Technical programs also sometimes distract people from the underlying issues.
- ◆ Agricultural sector related to CC appears to receive more technical inputs from the agro business, which encourage for more chemical fertilizer and spray use.

The strategy

- ♦ A well-informed and empowered population with a collective voice to address climate change issues **so that environmental sustainability is increased and marginalised people have stronger control over their lives and livelihoods**

Knowledge

- ◆ Awareness raising for civil society is an important factor for civil society on climate change, its impacts and adaptation measures
- ◆ Capacity building to empower local community to be able to raise their concerns and demand addressing climate change and other livelihood related issues
- ◆ Institutional/organizational building of local community's groups, as well as local NGOs, have seen a better approach for sustainable and long term empowerment

Research

- ◆ Research provides evident based information and data,
 - ◆ linking the local and indigenous knowledge and scientific findings
 - ◆ revealing the truth about what is happening at the ground
 - ◆ Showcasing options or alternatives for better adaptation
 - ◆ convincing policy makers and decision makers

Sharing

- ◆ Knowledge sharing/transfer within civil society's groups, which:
 - ◆ helps to raise awareness and improve knowledge for better decision at grassroots level and policy level
 - ◆ maintains continuous and sustainable human capital within community and the country
 - ◆ creates platform for discussion and exchange of knowledge, expertise, experience and practice in local and countrywide adaptation with different stakeholders
 - ◆ building networks and alliance among communities' themselves

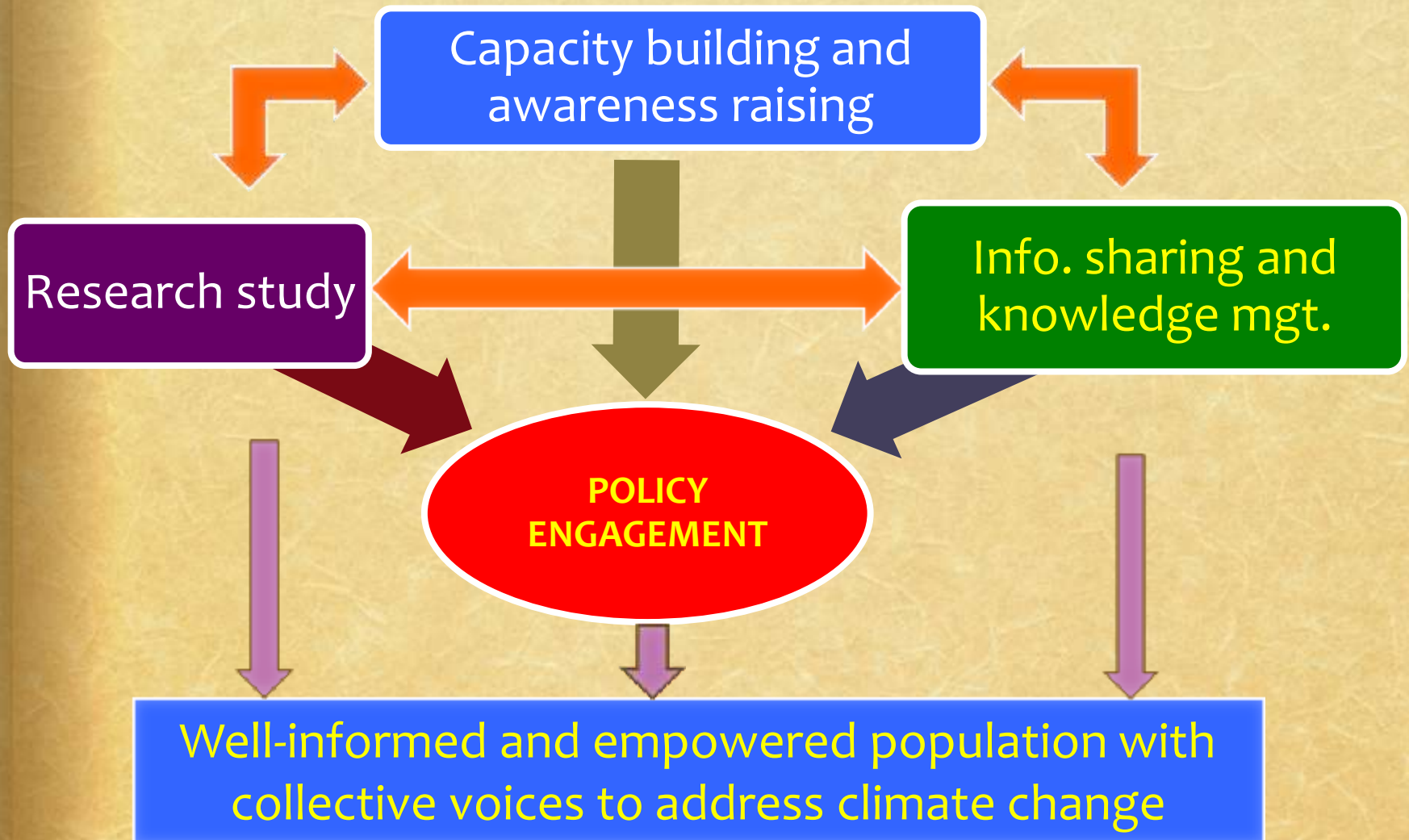
Policy engagement

- ◆ Policy engagement provides opportunity for local community to:
 - ◆ send their message across levels
 - ◆ interact with external communities to convey their demand and concern, including NGOs, academics, private sectors, development partners and policy/decision makers
 - ◆ contribute to the development of policy and planning
 - ◆ exercise their roles in local good governance

An example

- ♦ **Joint Principles for Adaptation (JPA)**, under the coordination of **Southern Voices Programme** of Care Denmark (www.southernvoices.net), include:
 - ♦ Participatory and inclusive planning
 - ♦ Public funds for adaptation
 - ♦ Responsibilities and appropriate resources of all government sectors and levels of administration
 - ♦ Local adaptation plans - through community-based approaches are a core element
 - ♦ The resilience of women and men
 - ♦ Balance between the investment in physical infrastructure and the building of skills and capacities
 - ♦ Plans respond to evidence of the current and future impacts of climate change

Summary



Thank you!



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