

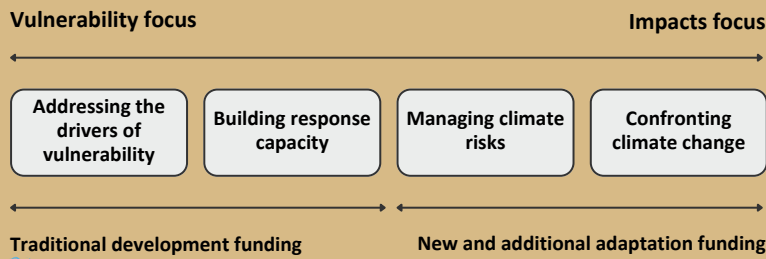
A Framework for Identifying and Fostering Livelihood Resilience and Equity in Adaptation Projects

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1

Development and adaptation
McGray et al. 2007



2

Generic adaptive capacity

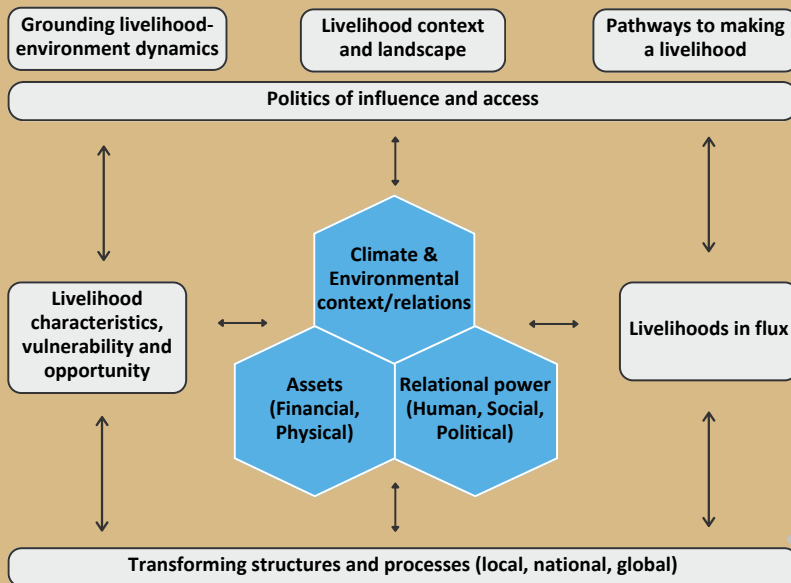
Specific adaptive capacity

Adaptive capacity
Lemos et al. 2013, 2016



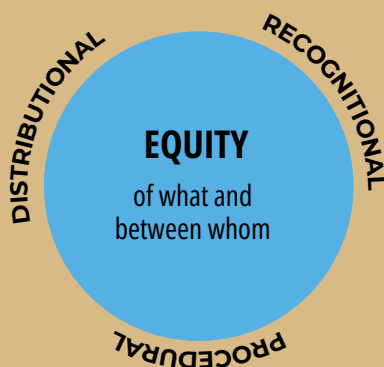
3

Livelihoods and Assets
Natarajan et al. 2022



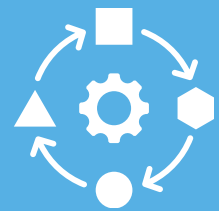
4

Dimensions of equity
Leach et al. 2018



Our aim was to link approaches to climate change adaptation with other key development themes - poverty, inequality, equity, and transformative change.

In order to do so, we combined elements from four frameworks indicated as 1 - 4 in the gold box (additional information on how they interlink is provided overleaf). Together, they help inform progress toward achieving the desired outcomes of transformative adaptation and resilient livelihoods (blue box).



TRANSFORMATIVE ADAPTATION

AND

RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS



More information on the framework and its application

For our study on how placed-based climate change adaptation interventions contribute, or not, to reducing climate risk simultaneously with poverty, inequality, and inequity, we drew on several existing concepts and frameworks as illustrated on the previous page.

Using this composite framework as scaffolding, we developed three research questions:

1. How do projects enhanced livelihood assets to build generic and specific adaptive capacity especially for vulnerable groups?
2. How have recognitional and procedural equity been included, or not, in the design and implementation of projects to strengthen fairness?
3. Whose livelihoods are made more secure and resilient (distributional equity)?

Answering these questions, provides information on how projects can reduce inequality/inequity, benefit and build the generic and specific adaptive capacity of marginalised members of communities, provide secure livelihoods, and progress towards more transformative, systemic change to enhance justice and fairness.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE RISK AND LIVELIHOOD RESILIENCE BY BUILDING SPECIFIC AND GENERIC ADAPTIVE CAPACITY THROUGH ENHANCING LIVELIHOOD ASSETS

Recognising that development and climate action need to be synergistic to address existing vulnerabilities and ensure climate resilience, we drew on the framework put forward by McGray et al. (2007; see **framework 1** overleaf). These authors separate 'vulnerability to' and the 'impacts of' climate change along a continuum. The left-hand side of the continuum is orientated towards activities that address the drivers of vulnerability, which are essentially seen as related to broader development concerns, including poverty, structural inequality, social inequities and other non-climatic stressors that make people vulnerable. The right-hand side relates to activities that reduce risks and impacts of climate change. These two sides relate well to the notions of generic and specific adaptive capacity as conceptualised by Lemos et al. (2013, 2016, see **framework 2** overleaf). Specific adaptive capacity relates to the ability to respond to and manage climate hazards. Generic adaptive capacity is about having the assets and capabilities needed for a sustainable livelihood which many people vulnerable to climate change lack (see **framework 3** overleaf). Using this framing we were able to consider project activities from the perspective of whether they build specific and/or generic adaptive capacity through enhancing a range of livelihood assets, relational power, and climate/environmental relations (see **framework 3** overleaf) for those most in need.

INTEGRATING EQUITY INTO PROJECTS FOR JUSTICE AND TRANSFORMATION

Given the importance of understanding how climate change interventions integrate different aspect of equity we drew on the framework provided by Leach et al. (2018; see **framework 4** overleaf). Drawing on theories of justice (Schlosberg 2009, 2012) and earlier work by Fraser (1995, 2009), the framework by Leach and colleagues highlights three 'dimensions' of equity that need to feature in projects to ensure fair and just outcomes – distributional, recognitional and procedural equity.

- Distributional equity refers to how resources, costs and benefits are allocated or shared amongst people and groups.
- Recognitional equity refers to acknowledgement of and respect for identity, values, practices and knowledge and associated rights.
- Procedural equity highlights how decisions are made, and the extent to which different people and groups can influence these or have their perspectives represented or incorporated. This concept relates closely to political inequity and to broader debates on power and voice and the ways these operate through both formal and informal institutions and spaces at local, national, and international scales.

While recognitional and procedural equity are overlapping, the former is concerned with social recognition and the latter with fair participation in project and other processes. Procedural equity thus links back to one of the core elements of the livelihoods framework – namely relational power (see **framework 3** overleaf). We used this framing to explore how projects built on local knowledge, practices and institutions, how participants/stakeholders were included in project processes and decision-making, and how participants (beneficiaries) were selected and how they benefitted.

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