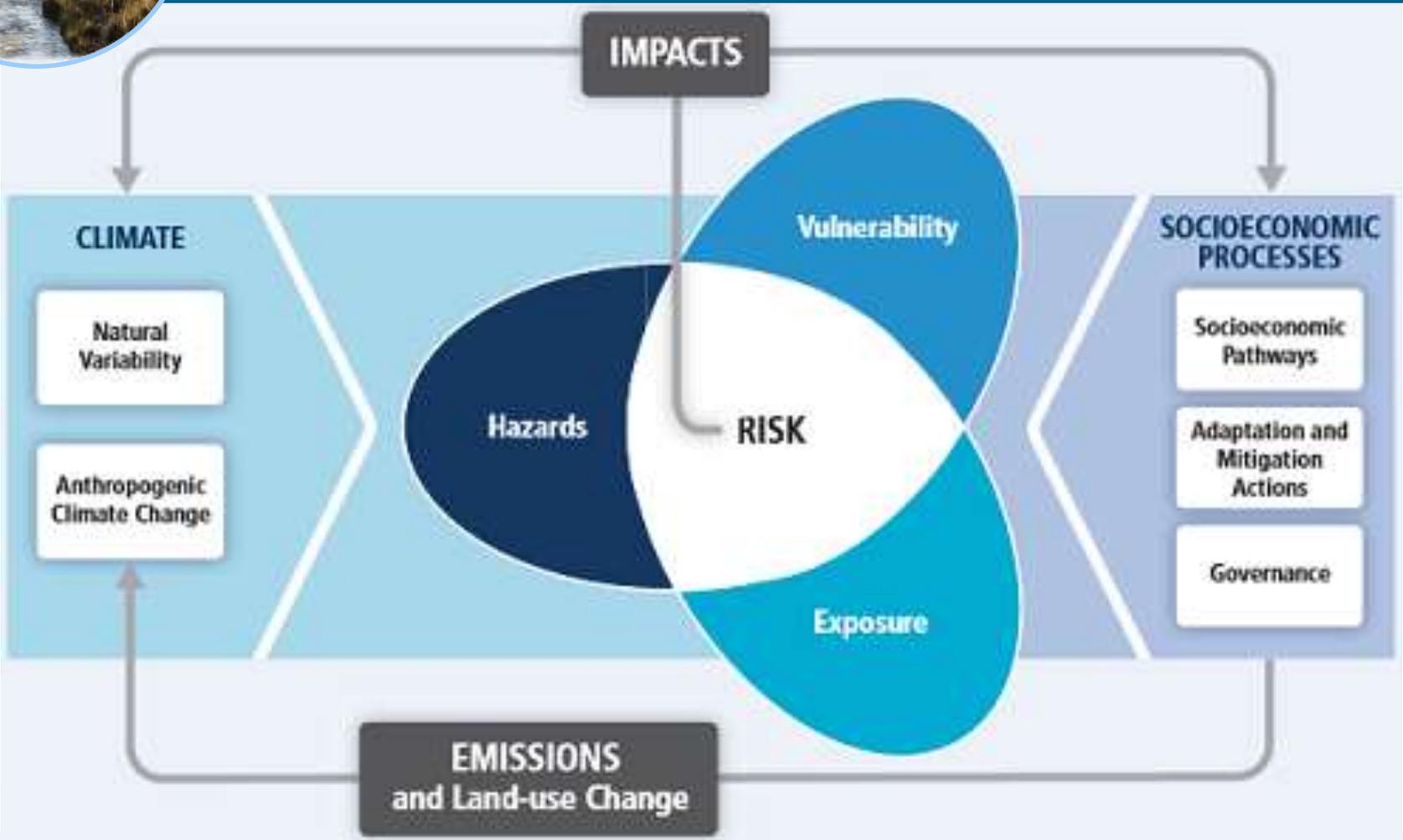


Analysing policy tools: Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA)

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Vulnerability in its context



Components of Drought Risk Management

$$\text{Risk} = \text{Hazard} \times \text{Vulnerability}$$

(natural event)

(social factors)

Meteorological Drought

Are there trends in exposure?

What factors affect social vulnerability?



Defining vulnerability

- Vulnerability is determined by social factors
 - population changes, population shifts (regional and rural to urban), demographic characteristics, technology, government policies, environmental awareness and degradation, water use trends, and social behaviour
- These factors change over time; vulnerability is likely to increase or decrease in response to these changes

Assessing vulnerability

- **Vulnerability Reduction Assessment (VRA): holds projects accountable to the communities that they are intended to serve, by providing information (collected during implementation) that can guide adaptive project management**

What is VRA?

- VRA is participatory rural appraisal, focusing on community perceptions of vulnerability to climate change and their capacity to adapt
- Four indicator questions, tailored to capture locally-relevant issues
- Data collection through community level meetings over project duration. Qualitative responses and numerical scoring provided during community meetings.
- Repeated evaluations of community perceptions of project effectiveness and climate change risks permits assessment of relative change in vulnerability

1. Assessing current vulnerability	Vulnerability of livelihood/welfare to existing climate change and/or climate variability	<i>What happens when there is drought? How does this affect you and your community?</i>
2. Assessing future climate risks	Vulnerability of livelihood/welfare to developing climate change risks	<i>What would happen if drought was twice as frequent? How would this affect you and your community?</i>
3. Formulating an adaptation strategy	Magnitude of barriers (institutional, policy, technological, financial, etc) to adaptation	<i>What stands in the way of adapting to increasing drought? What means do you or your community have to manage events occurring more frequently?</i>
4. Continuing the adaptation process	Ability and willingness of the community to sustain the project intervention	<i>Rate your confidence that the (project activity) will continue after the project period.</i>

VRA in the field

- VRA meetings should follow awareness raising activities among the project's local stakeholder community on emerging climate trends and future projections
- Format of meetings context-dependent, taking into account differing levels of education, literacy, pre-existing knowledge, and history of climate impacts
- Inclusive, participatory

<p>Reasons for negative response</p>	<p>Question written here</p>	<p>Reasons for positive response</p>
<p>Reason</p>	<p>Unfavourable score</p> <p>Favourable score</p>	<p>Reason</p>
<p>Reason</p>	<p>Very Bad Bad Moderate Good Very Good</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p>	<p>Reason</p>
<p>Reason</p>	<p>How could this score be improved?</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>Comment</p>	<p>Reason</p>

Figure 2: Sample blank H-form

Why BAD

not enough water for animals - grass
Water salty
Drought like "disease"
"no sleep at night"
Water levels dep.
Shortages of "food"

"BIRAS"

Not completely able to cope with CC.
③ No more live stock
④ Same as ②

NS 14,000

Vulnerability Reduction Assessment

VRA

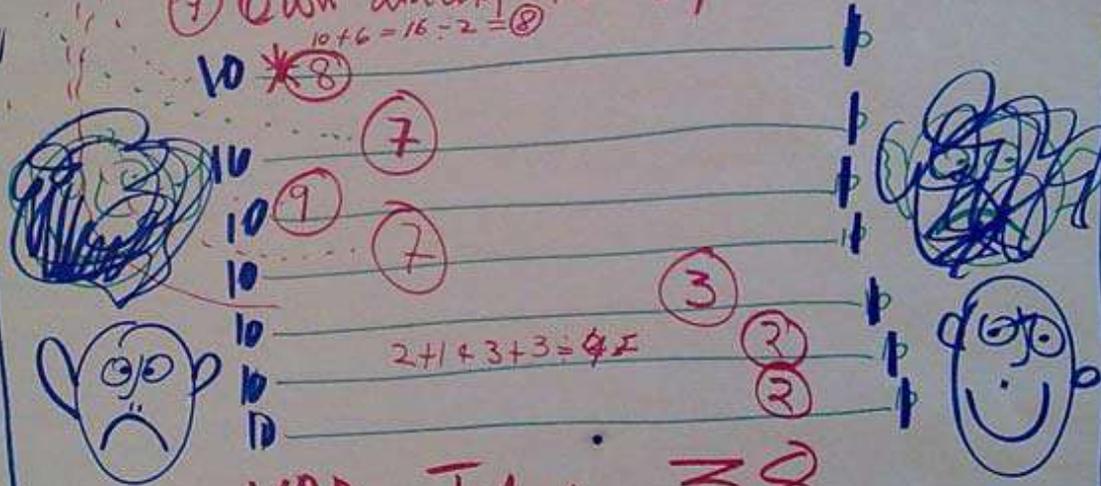
Why G

* Floods have benefits a
Lm

Risks Impact of drought, flood, soil erosion on your livelihoods

- ① Your ability to cope with these hazards
- ② Impact of these if double fold
- ③ how effective you will cope?
- ④ how the project will reduce risk etc.
- ⑤ Your Confidence
- ⑥ Own ability to cope.

$10 + 6 = 16 - 2 = 14$



VRA Total 38

* Support the community ability and thus have trust that project will risk.

* Com Fall

How improve?

11 September

Some caveats

- ❑ It is important to communicate explicitly to communities that participation of the entire community – particularly women, young people, and all livelihood groups – is required.
- ❑ Communities may not be immediately forthcoming with their perspectives
- ❑ Communities may downplay the significance of threats
- ❑ Communities may reserve judgment until they see something tangible

Discussion

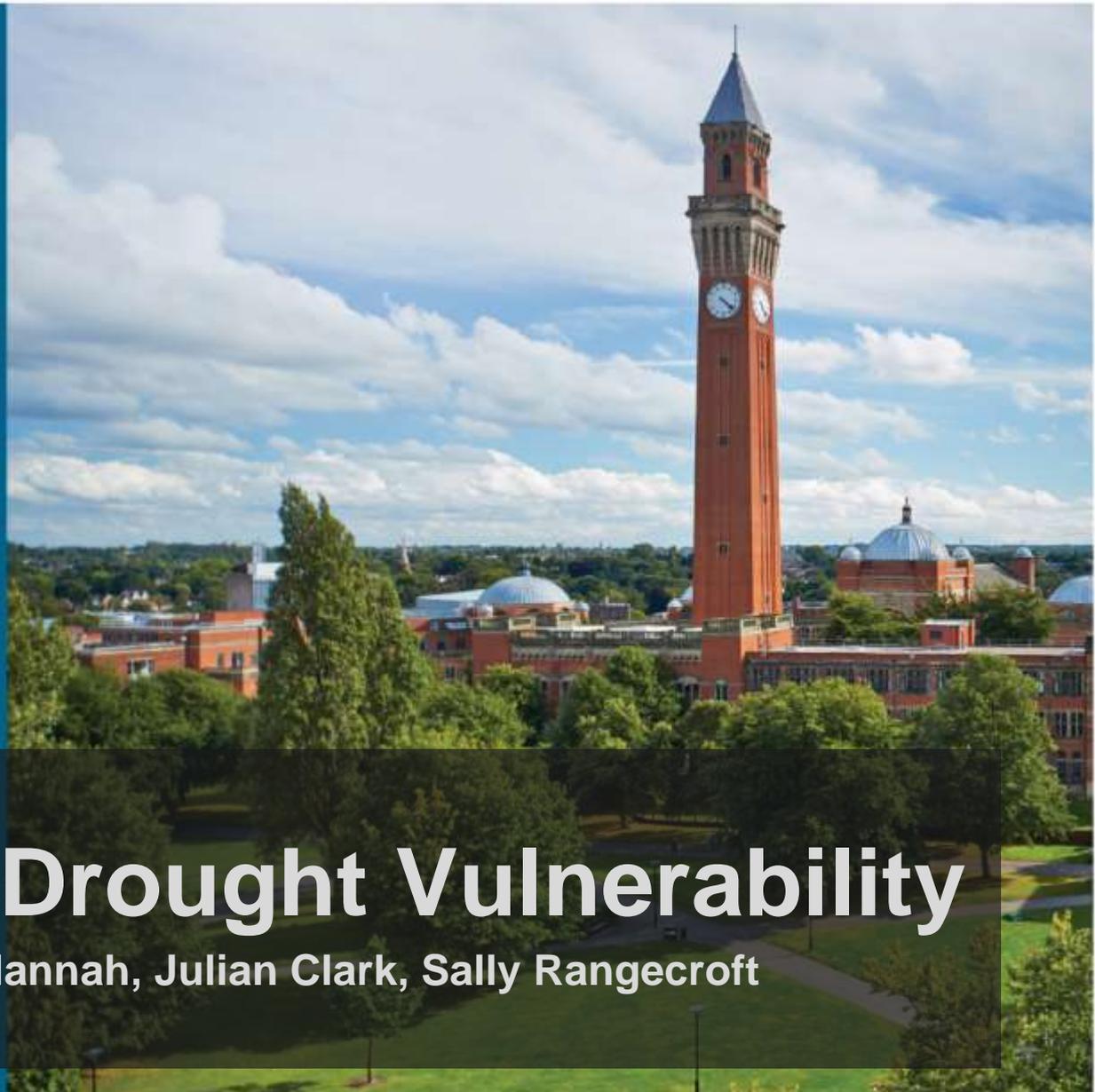


- Based on your experience, could VRA compliment quantitative indicators to assessing drought vulnerabilities?*
- What vulnerability stressors impact drought in your case example?*

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para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura



Workshop Drought Vulnerability

Anne Van Loon, David Hannah, Julian Clark, Sally Rangelcroft

