



# Climate change in perspective: global drivers of change in fisheries

**Edward H. Allison**  
**The WorldFish Center**  
**Penang, Malaysia**

PICES/ICES/FAO International Symposium:  
*Climate Change Effects on Fish and Fisheries*,  
Sendai, Japan, April 2010



# Outline

How will climate change impact fishery systems?

What else drives change in fisheries?

How can science guide policy and management at different scales?

# CC impact-pathways on fisheries and aquaculture

Global warming

Ocean currents  
ENSO  
Sea level rise  
Acidification  
Rainfall  
River flows  
Lake levels  
Thermal structure  
Storm severity  
Storm frequency

Effects on:

Production  
Ecology

Fish & Aq  
operations and  
governance

Communities  
Livelihoods

Wider society &  
Economy

Impacts on:

Species composition  
Production & yield  
Distribution  
Diseases  
Coral bleaching  
Calcification

Safety & efficiency  
Infrastructure  
Resource access

Loss/damage to HH assets  
Risk to health & life  
Displacement & conflict

Adapt. & mitigation costs  
Market competitiveness  
Food security

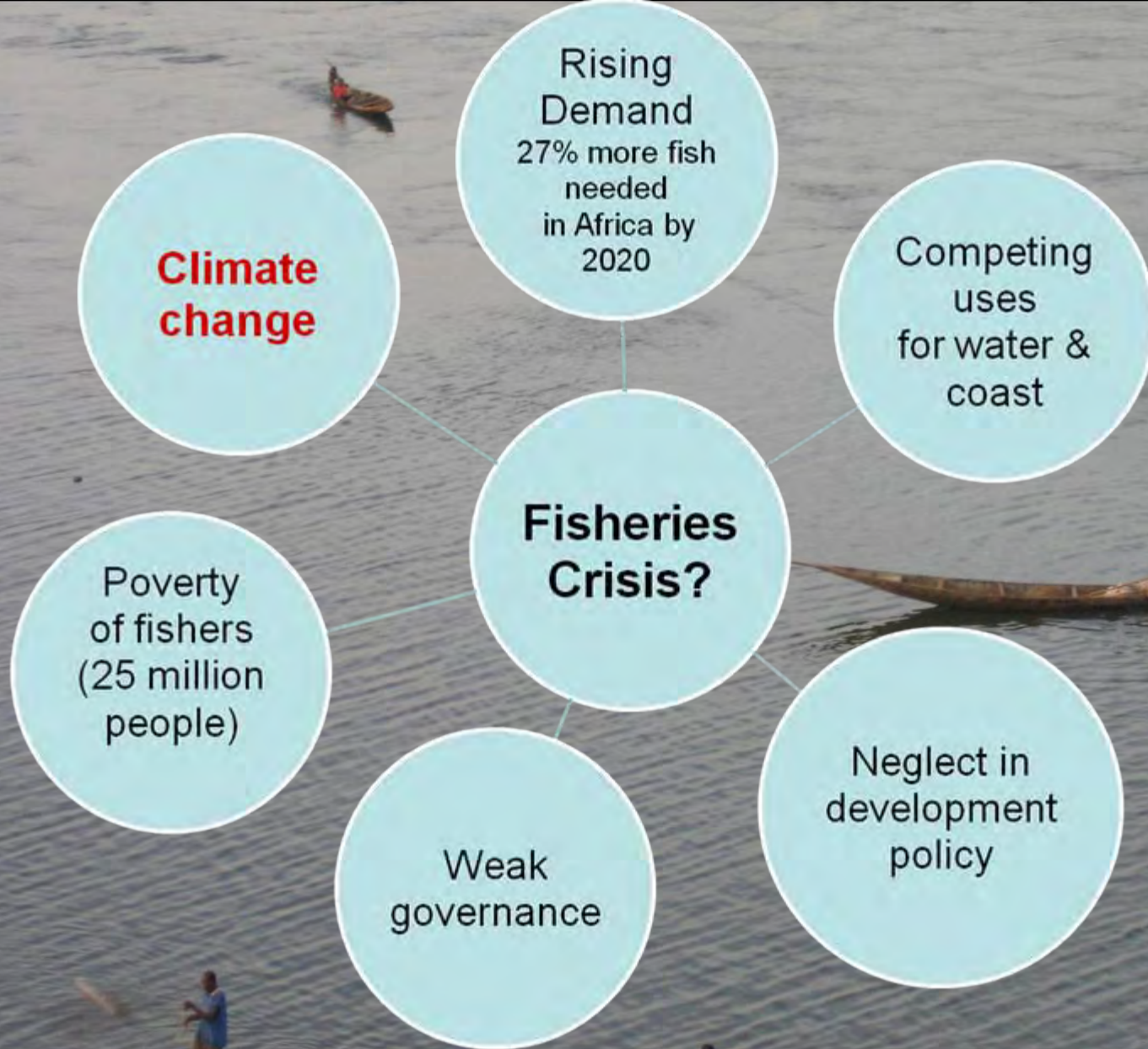
Adapted from Badjeck *et al* 2010 *Marine Policy*



How will climate change impact fishery systems?

## **What else drives change in fisheries?**

How can science guide policy and management at different scales?





## **Some important drivers in fisheries**

demographic and cultural change

economic globalization

growth of aquaculture

environmental concern

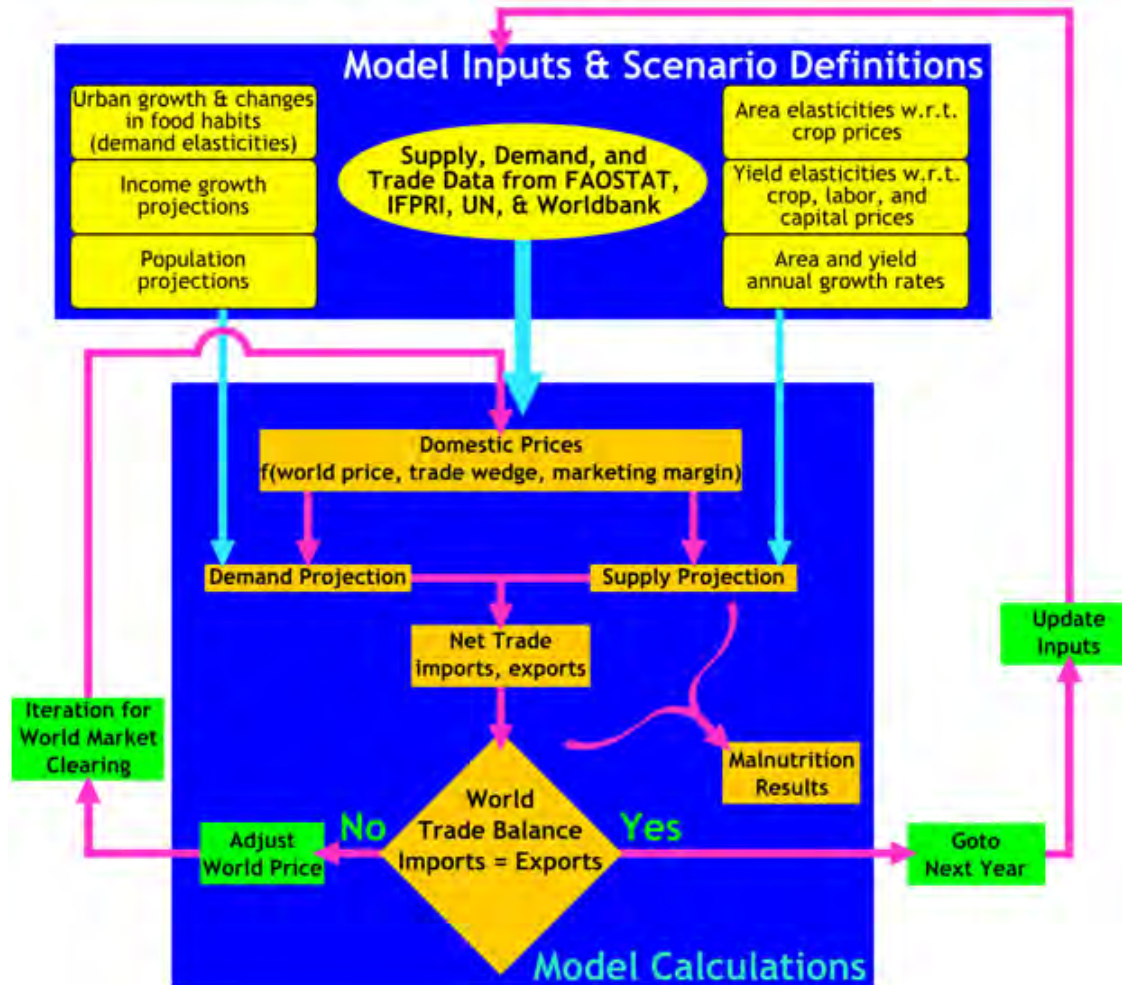
water scarcity

# Complexities...

Proximate and ultimate drivers



# International Model for Policy Analysis of Agricultural Commodities and Trade (IMPACT):



Delgado, C.L., Wada, N., Rosegrant, M.W., Meijer, S. and Ahmed, M. 2004. *Fish to 2020 supply and demand in changing global markets*. International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D. C.



**Table 4.6 Total per capita consumption of food fish, 1973–97 and 2020**

Region	Total consumption (kg/capita/year)				Annual Growth rate (percent)	
	Actual		Projected		Actual	Projected
	1973	1985	1997	2020	1985–97	1997–2020
China	5.5	8.1	26.5	35.9	10.4	1.3
Southeast Asia	17.6	19.8	23.0	25.8	1.3	0.5
India	3.1	3.6	4.7	5.8	2.3	0.9
Other South Asia	6.2	5.4	6.0	6.1	0.9	0.1
Latin America	7.0	9.0	7.8	8.6	-1.2	0.4
West Asia and North Africa	3.4	6.2	6.2	6.4	0.0	0.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	9.0	9.2	6.7	6.6	-2.6	0.0
United States	13.5	18.5	19.7	19.7	0.5	0.0
Japan	70.2	61.5	62.6	60.2	0.2	-0.2
European Union 15	18.2	20.3	23.6	23.7	1.3	0.0
Eastern Europe and former Soviet Union	20.3	22.7	10.6	11.6	-6.1	0.4
Other developed countries	11.2	13.4	14.7	14.0	0.8	-0.2
Developing world	7.3	9.0	14.0	16.2	3.8	0.6
Developing world excluding China	8.1	9.4	9.2	9.9	-0.1	0.3
Developed world	22.6	24.3	21.7	21.5	-1.0	0.0
World	11.6	12.8	15.7	17.1	1.7	0.4

Sources: Actual data were calculated by authors from FAO 2002c; projections for 2020 are from the baseline scenario of IFPRI's IMPACT model (July 2002).

Notes: Actual data are three-year averages centered on 1973, 1985, and 1997, respectively.

**Fastest growth**



**Highest**



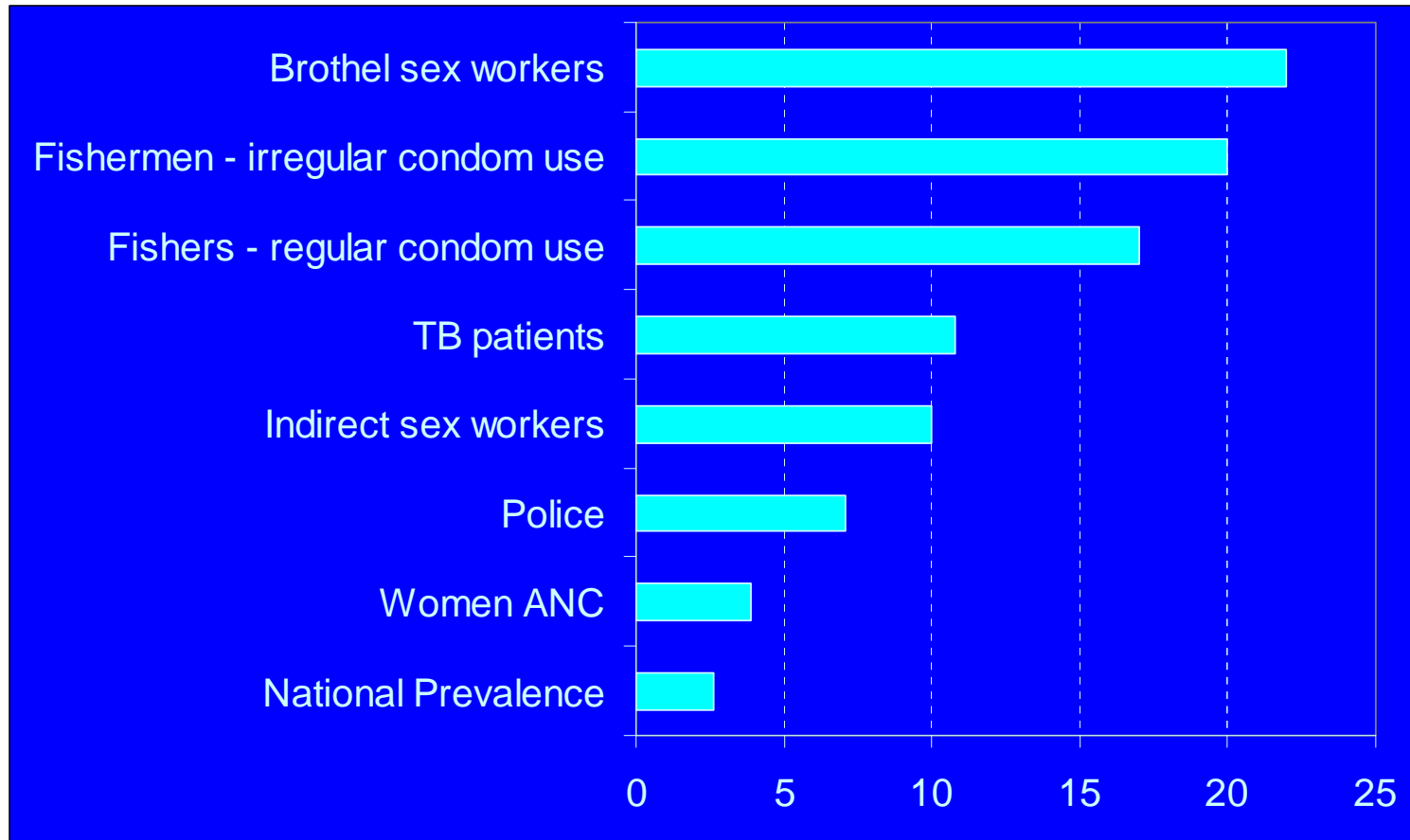
**Most dependent**



# Complexities...global drivers, local variability



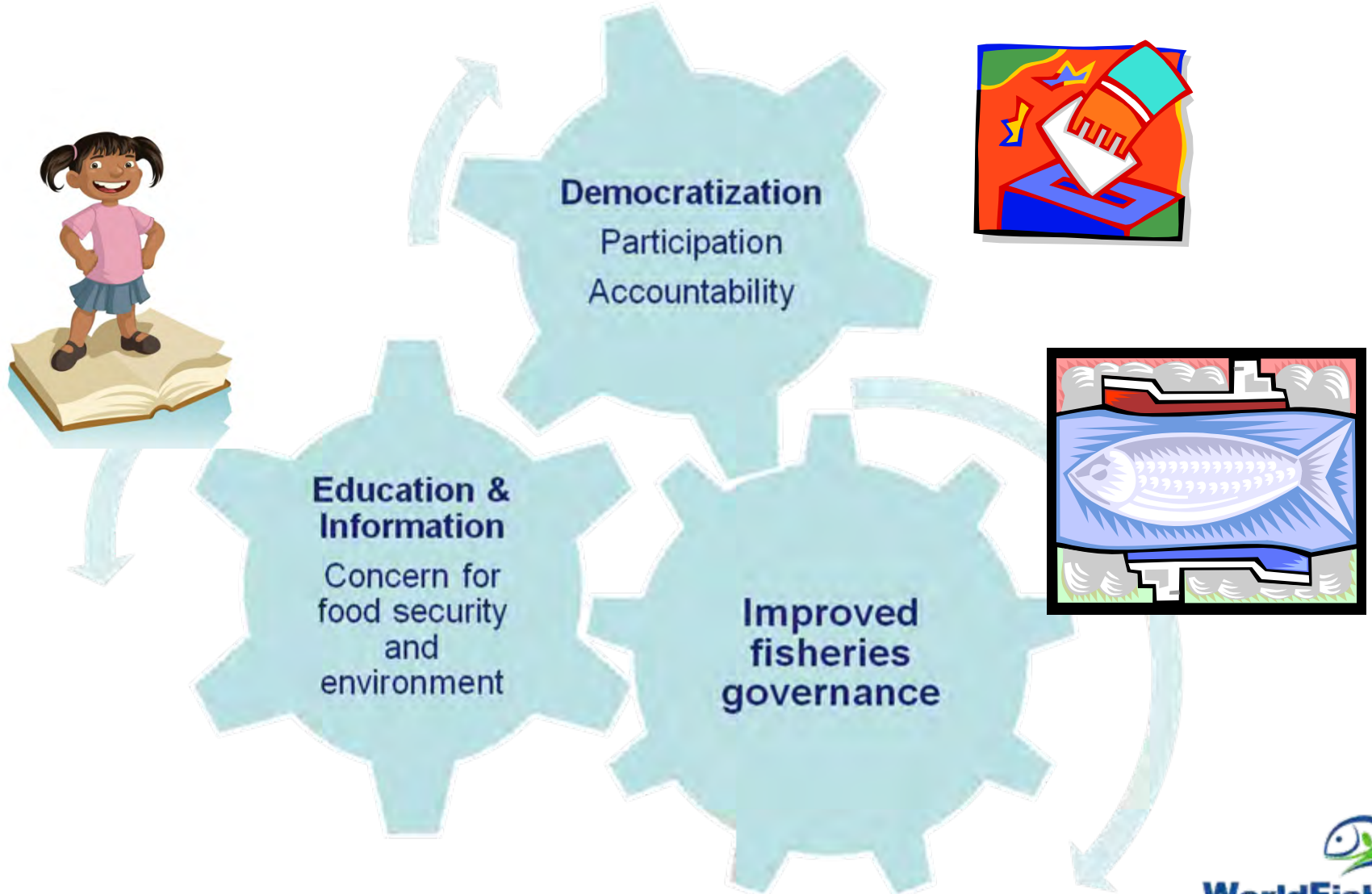
**HIV Prevalence (%) in Sihanoukville, Cambodia, 2000**



**Data sources:** Kim et al., 2000; Semang et al., 2000; UCSF AIDS Research Group, USA & UNAIDS epidemiology fact sheets

# Complexities...

Drivers interact - and can be positive





How will climate change impact fishery systems?

What else drives change in fisheries?

**How can science guide policy and management at different scales?**

indicator-based approaches      modeling      scenarios

# Vulnerability to climate change: Global assessment (Allison et al, 2009)

## Vulnerability

*'the degree to which a system is susceptible to climate change, and is unable to cope with the negative effects of climate change'*  
(IPCC, 2007)

**Which countries are most vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate change on fisheries?**

# Vulnerability analysis framework

(derived from IPCC 2001)

## EXPOSURE

Nature and degree to which countries are *exposed* to predicted climate change

## SENSITIVITY

Degree to which economies & people are likely to be affected by fishery-related changes

## POTENTIAL IMPACTS

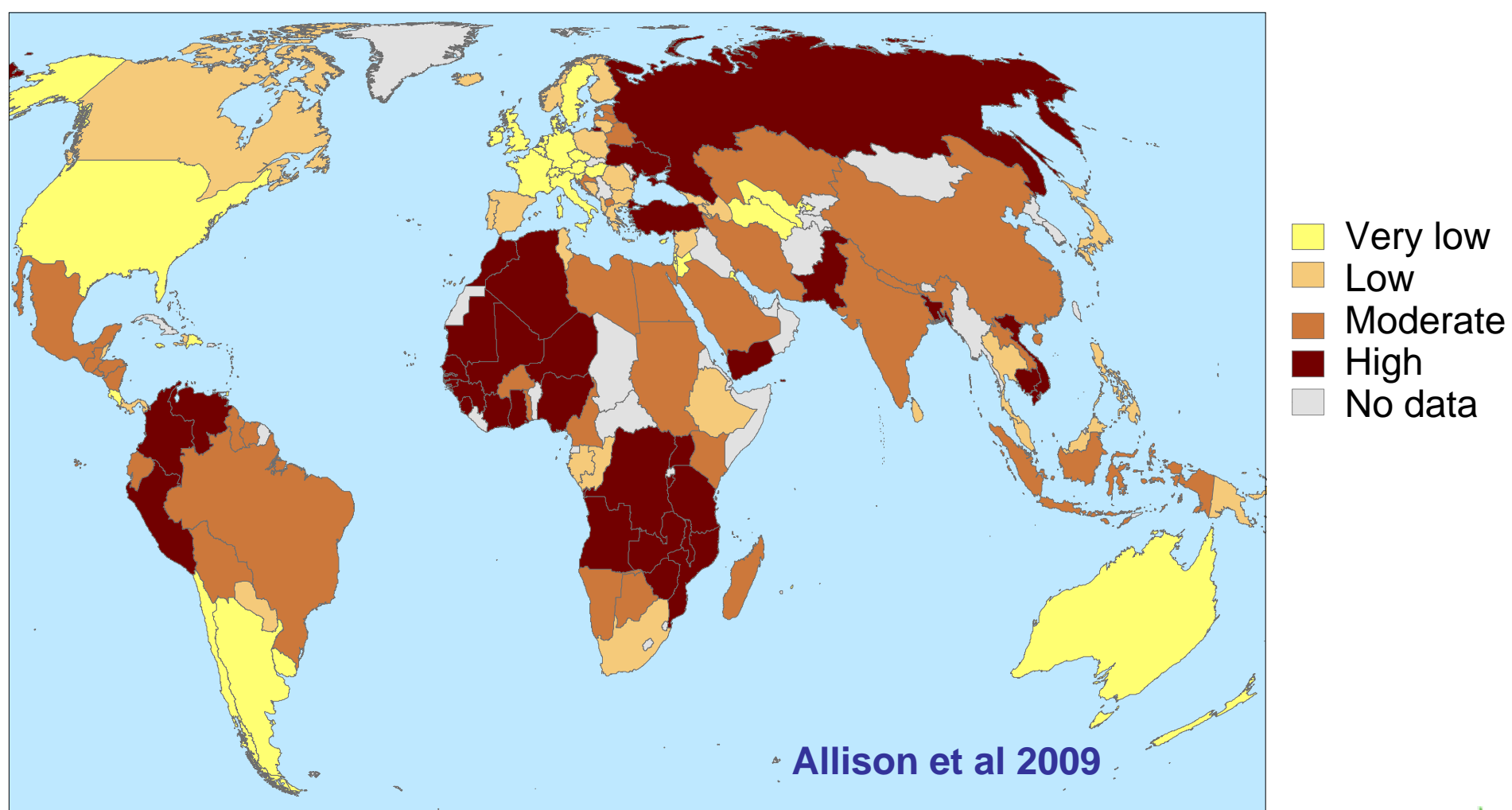
All impacts that may occur without taking into account planned adaptation

## ADAPTIVE CAPACITY

Abilities and resources to cope with climate-related changes

## VULNERABILITY

# Relative vulnerability of national economies to potential impact of CC on their fisheries



2/3 of most vulnerable are Least Developed Countries

# Diagnosing Vulnerability: country level

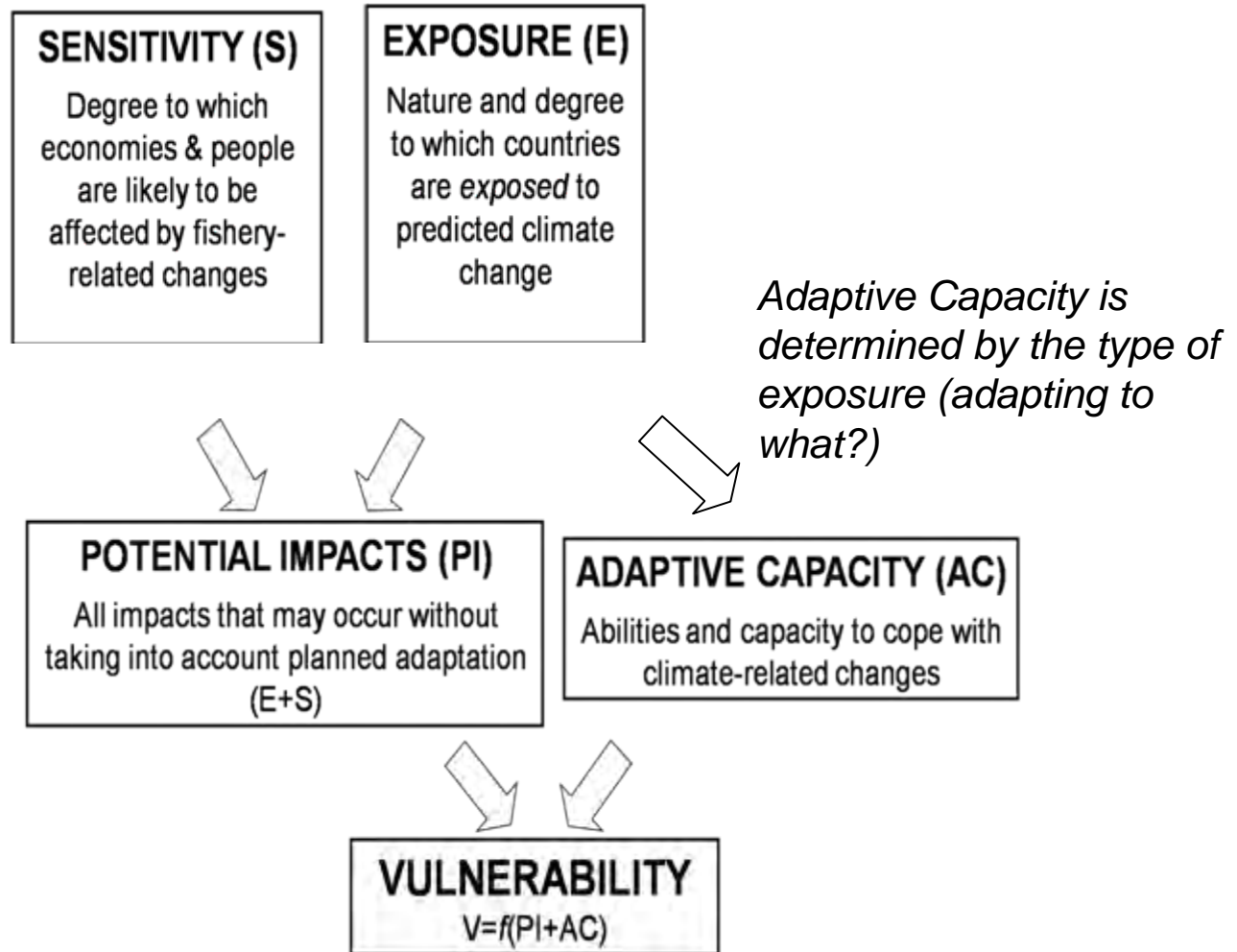
- Vietnam case study (World Bank, QUEST\_fish)
- At the national scale the unit of analysis is the province:
  - Which provinces are more vulnerable to the potential impacts of climate change on their aquaculture sector?
  - What do we mean by vulnerability in this context?





# Conceptual framework adapted to Vietnam aquaculture context

*Sensitivity conceptualized as dependency of a province on the aquaculture sector*



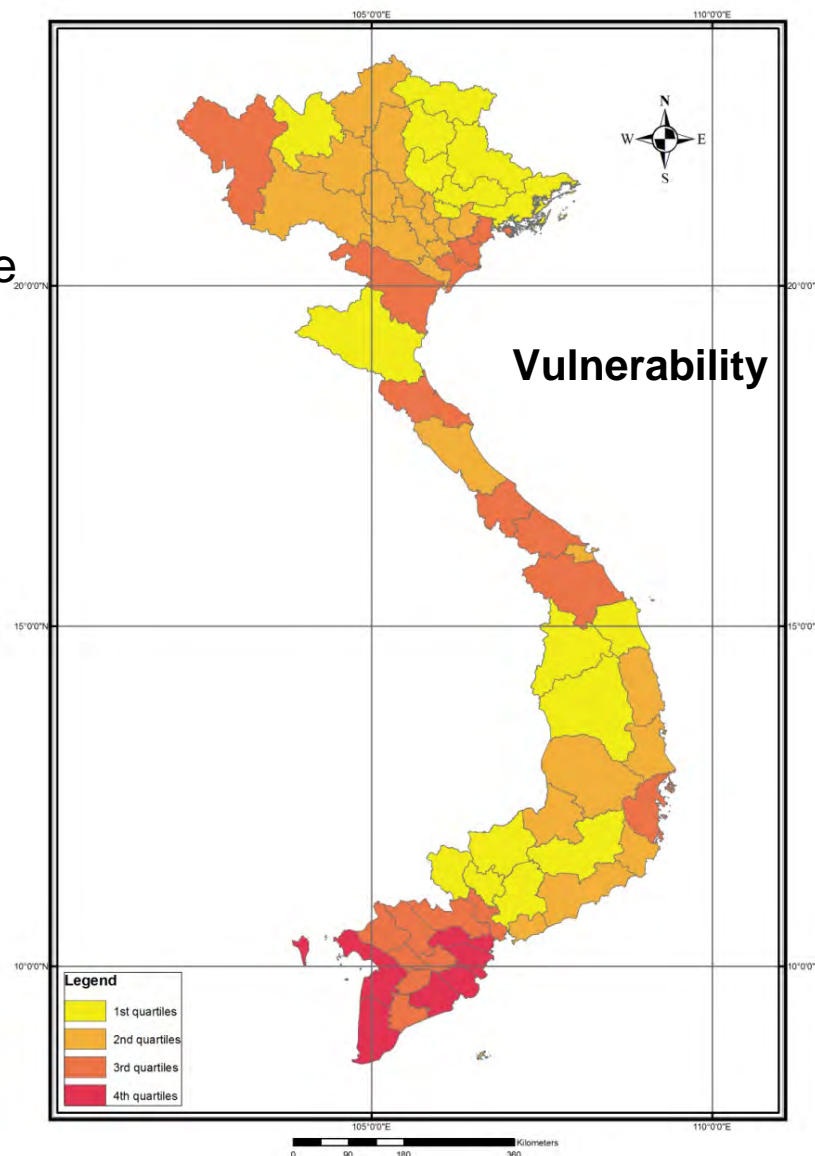
Adapted from Allison et al. 2009, QUEST\_Fish project conceptual framework

# Vulnerability of aquaculture in Vietnam

Dominated by coastal shrimp ponds  
And catfish (*Pangassius*) in Mekong Delta

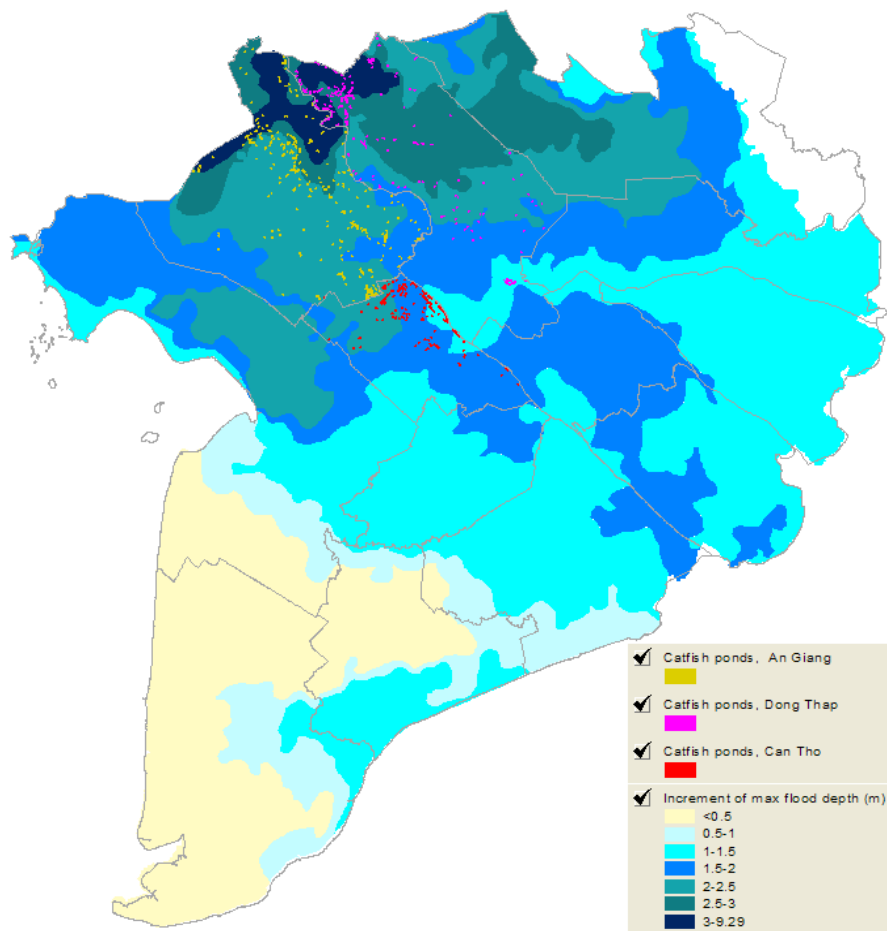
-Storms, sea level rise, temperature increase

Province Name	Region	Vulnerability Index
Sóc Trăng	Mekong River Delta	100.0
Cà Mau	Mekong River Delta	91.7
Kiên Giang	Mekong River Delta	87.3
Bến Tre	Mekong River Delta	77.9
Trà Vinh	Mekong River Delta	77.7
Tiền Giang	Mekong River Delta	76.7
Thái Bình	Red River Delta	69.7
Hà Tĩnh	North Central area & Central coastal area	61.6
Cần Thơ	Mekong River Delta	61.2
Bạc Liêu	Mekong River Delta	60.2



# Potential Impacts in the Mekong River Delta

Areas subjected to increments of maximum flooding depths during the rainy season (for 50-cm SLR scenario), superimposed with catfish pond areas in An Giang, Dong Thap & Can Tho provinces



Increment of max flood depth (m)	Affected catfish pond area, ha (%)					
	An Giang		Dong Thap		Can Tho	
<0.5						
0.5-1						
1-1.5			178	13%	273	26%
1.5-2	163	8%	89	6%	509	48%
2-2.5	1,236	62%	211	15%	286	27%
2.5-3	394	20%	497	36%		
> 3	210	10%	402	29%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,003</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,376</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>100%</b>

Dr. Kam Suan Pheng

# Scenarios to explore alternative futures (Quest\_Fish, U.K. NERC)

The present



The path



The future



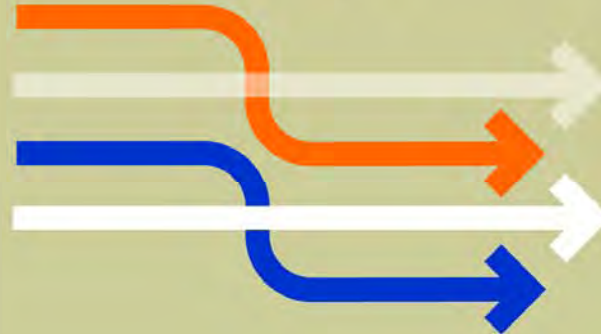
**Forecast**

Tends to remove discussion of uncertainties

Current realities (mental maps)



Multiple paths



Alternative futures



**Scenarios**

Critical Uncertainties addressed

*Adapted from Shell 2050 vision*

# Scenarios West Africa

- Senegal, Ghana and Mauritania (ZMT/GTZ/IDRC)
- In total 27 experts surveyed to identify major drivers of change
- Scenario building workshop 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2010
- Debates about possible futures of fisheries and discussed critical issues and uncertainties faced by the sector
- Identification of strategies that could address uncertainties related to drivers including climate change



# Scenarios West Africa

Sub-regional/ Local

**Food Security Focus**

Poverty reduction objective  
Meeting nutritional requirements  
Regional integration

**“Fast” Development triggered by sub regional markets**

High sub-regional demand  
Sub-regional competitiveness  
Harmonization of fishing policies

**Intensive Medium and Large**

Markets

Aquaculture

**Extensive Small Holders**

**“Local” Development triggered by global markets**

Rural Revolution, IAA  
Rural “professionalization” => small entrepreneurs  
Valuing local resources, value-added products for export  
Recognizing the value of traditional knowledge

**“Fast” Development triggered by global markets**

Modernization, technology  
Fast increase in production  
Foreign investments  
International cooperation  
Renewable energy biofuel

**Globalization Certification Import/Export**

partnership • excellence • growth



# Scenarios West Africa: youth and arts

- Youth from Kayar (Senegal) fishing community involved in identifying drivers of change through visual arts (with NGO Mundis Maris)
- Important to involve marginal group such as youth in discussions about vulnerability to climate change and future of the sector



# Synthesis

An aerial photograph of a tropical island. The island is covered in dense green vegetation, including many palm trees. The water around the island is a vibrant turquoise color, indicating a shallow reef flat or lagoon. The background shows deeper blue water.

- **Climate change is not a distraction from strengthening fisheries governance**
- **Most adaptive responses to climate change have ‘no regrets’ for both environment and development**
- **The ICES/PICES/FAO group has a large and impressive toolkit with which to advise decision-makers on responses to climate change**





**Thank you**  
Marie Caroline-Badjeck  
Kam Suan Pheng  
Quest\_Fish team  
Partners in West Africa and Vietnam  
UK NERC, World Bank, GTZ FAO/PacFA