

Understanding Climate Change



Vrutti livelihoods Resource Centre
29th Oct'07

It is all about.....

- ◆ Increase or Decrease in Temperature
- ◆ Increase or Decrease in Rainfall
- ◆ Rise in Sea level

Expected to happen slowly;
Scientists estimates, that it is already happening

Increase in Temperature.....

Would result in...

- ◆ Present housing designs unsuitable to stay
- ◆ More evapo-transpiration
 - Some crops cannot be grown
 - More requirement for Irrigation
 - Finally, drought
- ◆ Glaciers would melt leading to flooding of rivers flowing from Glacier belts

Decrease in Temperature...

Would also result in...

- ◆ Unsuitability of present design of houses to stay
- ◆ Some crops will not grow

Increase in Rainfall....

Would result in flooding in low lying areas leading to:

- Loss of crop
- Loss of life
- Loss of property

Decrease in Rainfall....

Would result in drought leading to ...

- ◆ Loss of Crop
- ◆ Loss of Livelihoods
- ◆ Finally, loss of life

Rise in Sea level....

Would lead to flooding of coastal areas...

- ◆ Loss of Life
- ◆ Loss of Property
- ◆ Loss of Crop

Who are going to be affected....

Those who

- ◆ Stay in vulnerable (disaster prone) places
- ◆ Depend on Agriculture
- ◆ Reside in unsafe houses

They are....

- ◆ Poor
- ◆ Vulnerable
- ◆ Small and Marginal Farmers
- ◆ Agriculture Wage Earners



However,
Climate Change would not distinguish between rich and poor;
Rich would also be affected

Is it any thing new....???

We are used to managing...

- ◆ Flood
- ◆ Drought
- ◆ Cyclone

It is right...but now...it would be:

- ◆ More frequent AND
- ◆ Even permanent



Resulting in Agrarian Crises – No Food;
Finally affecting Human Civilization

Are We doing anything about it???



More Confusion than Clarity

We are lost in....

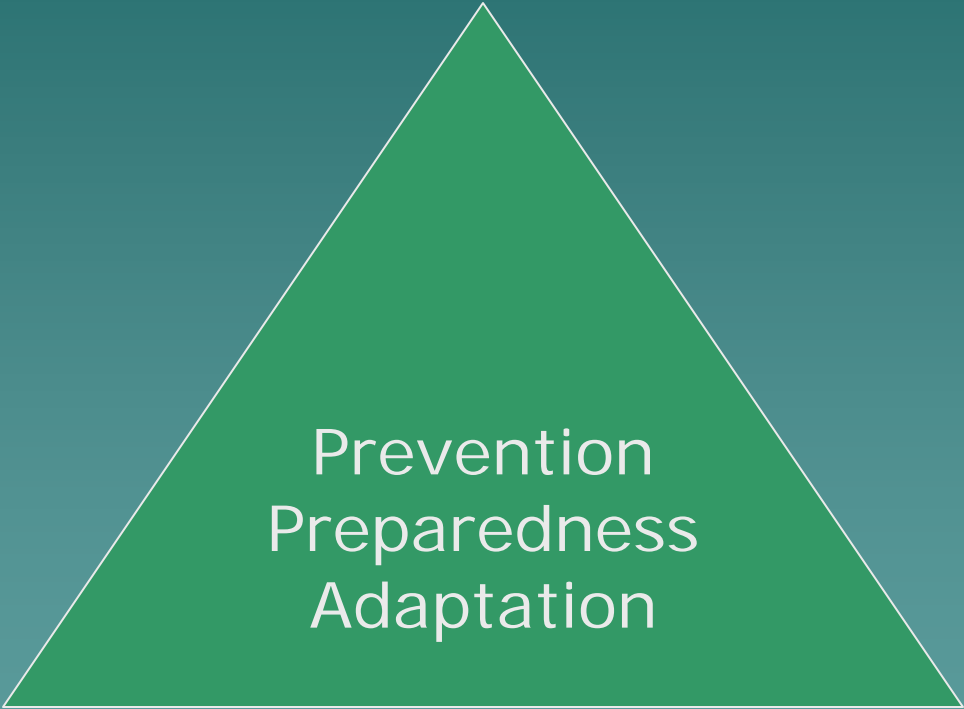
- ◆ Arguing each other, if Climate Change is going to happen AND
- ◆ Relating everything in day to day life to Climate Change

So far We are....

- ◆ More searching for reason/cause for Climate Change THAN getting prepared to face it
- ◆ Implication of Climate Change is seen more from technical perspective THAN social perspective
- ◆ More searching for Macro solutions (like Carbon Trading) THAN local solutions



Need for holistic interventions...



Prevention
Preparedness
Adaptation

Way forward...

- ◆ Prevention through....less emission of green house gases
- ◆ Preparedness through overall disaster risk reduction....
mainstreaming to on going Livelihood Promotion Efforts
- ◆ Adaptation.....Living with disasters...
change in design of houses, Flood and Drought Management

Should we still believe Climate Change....

Some of us have started feeling that...

- ◆ Recurrence of frequent drought
- ◆ Heat wave
- ◆ Frequent Cyclone
- ◆ Water logging (Flood) in cities like Mumbai
- ◆ Heavy rainfall for few days followed with dry spell
- ◆ Merging of seasons – no major distinction between seasons
- ◆ Short winter season

Are nothing BUT symptoms of Climate Change



It is up to us...

Should We Wait OR Act ?

thank u

