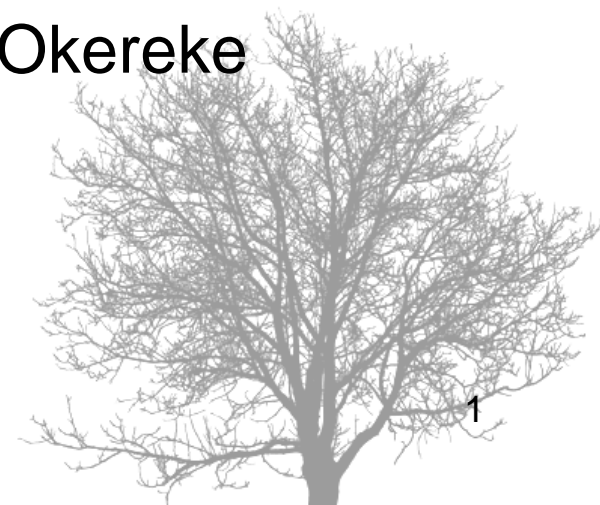




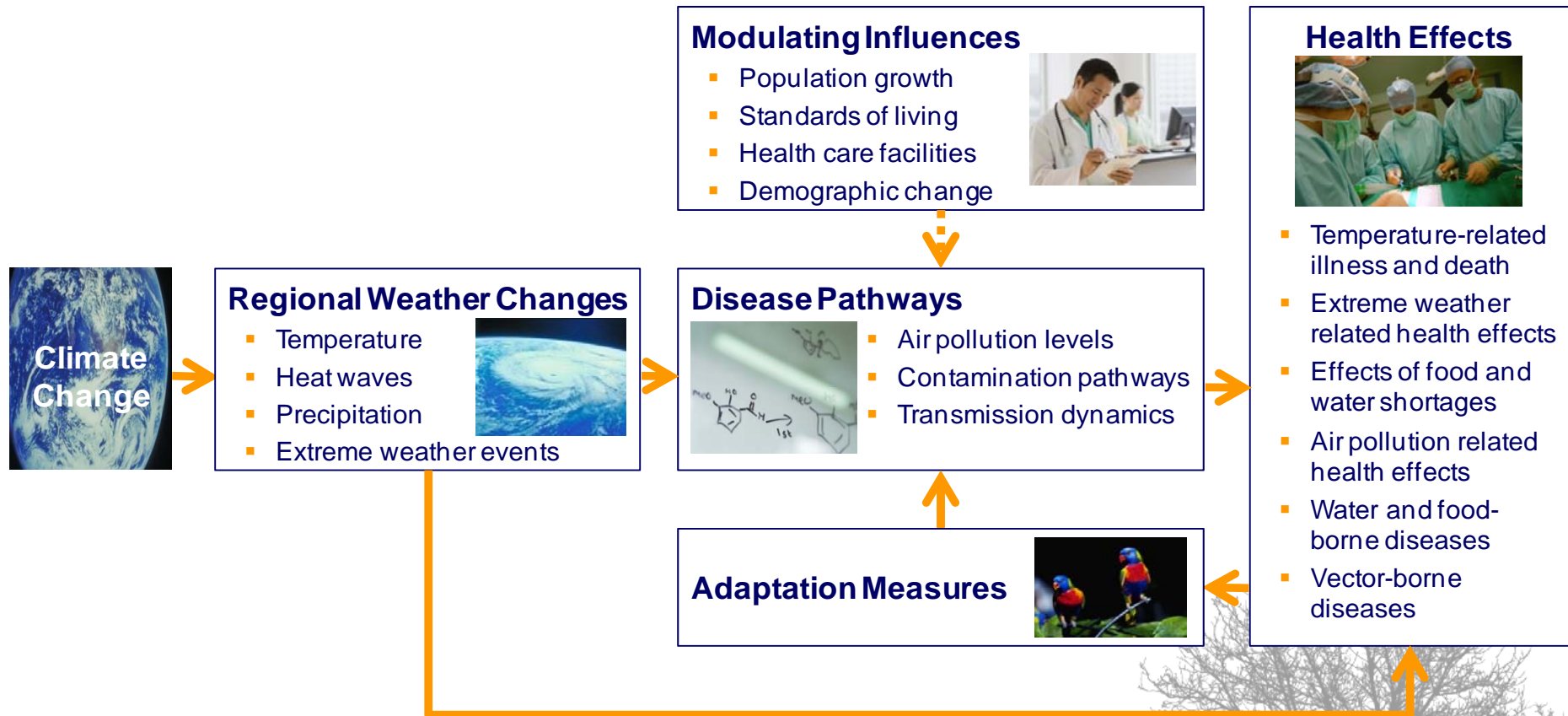
ClimDev-Africa

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH: CRITICAL ISSUES AND OPTIONS FOR AFRICA

Jeremy Webb and Judy Omumbo
Owen C. Owens, Chukwumerije Okereke
Miriam Musa



Climate change and health



Climate change and health

Policies

Courses of action or principles for guiding decisions – informed by the Libreville Declaration

Plans, programmes, legislation, and administrative processes

Climate adaption and mitigation

- Migration
- Changes in agricultural and land use practices
- Changes in urban design
- Changes in infrastructure and housing

Development and underdevelopment

- Food security and nutrition
- Water supply and sanitation
- Housing
- Energy, transport and roads
- Livelihoods, education and employment
- Medical facilities

Climate vulnerability

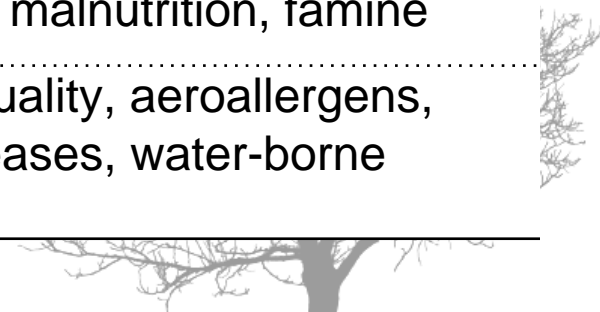
- Susceptibility to the effects of:
 - increased precipitation
 - decreased precipitation
 - climate variability
 - flooding or drought
 - changes in the timing of seasons

Health

- Life expectancy at birth
- Incidence and prevalence of communicable diseases
- Incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases
- Malaria, meningitis, malnutrition, mental health, injury, and gender related health impacts

Direct and indirect impacts

	Climate Changes	Health Impacts
Direct	EWEs	High levels of mortality and morbidity, change in disease prevalence and patterns
	Temperature	Thermal stress, skin cancer, eye diseases
	Air quality	Cardio-respiratory diseases, allergic disorders
Indirect	Temperature	Food availability, malnutrition, famine, infectious diseases of migrants, droughts
	Precipitation	Water-borne diseases, vector-borne diseases, droughts, food and water availability
	EWEs (+ rainfall + temperature + ecosystem)	Diseases of migrants, conflicts, food and water availability, malnutrition, famine
	Ecosystem composition and function	Food yields and quality, aeroallergens, vector-borne diseases, water-borne diseases



Policy implications

Gaps in knowledge:

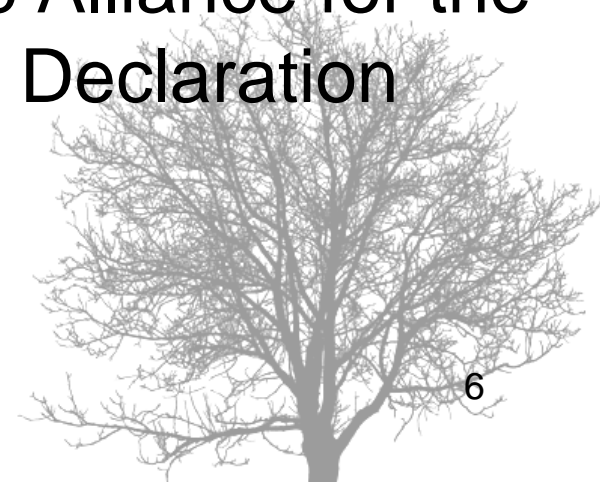
- Climate change (uncertainties in models and projections)
- The links between climate change and health and their mechanisms (a lack of science)
- How society will develop, respond, and adapt
 - Socio-economic development will have a profound affect on health outcomes, including those health issues related to climate
 - Some of this will be adaptation, some of this will be development

A key policy question:

- What should be done differently to address health concerns across Africa given what we expect in terms of climate change?
 - In some cases it may be more of the same (e.g. the use of mosquito nets and other measures to prevent malaria)
 - In other cases effective preparation or response may require completely different approaches to health care across the continent

Africa's Health Sector's Policy Response

- Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa (Libreville, 2008)
- Africa Ministers of Health and Environment Joint Statement on Climate Change and Health (Luanda, 2010)
- Health and Environmental Strategic Alliance for the Implementation of the the Libreville Declaration (Luanda, 2010)



“Climate and Health in Africa:10 Years On” Workshop

Addis Ababa, April 4-6, 2011

Defining a ‘road map’ for demand-driven climate services for Africa and recommendations moving forward from COP17 and beyond.

Over 100 participants including:

- Climate and health policy makers
- Adaptation practitioners
- Researchers
- Media
- Donors
- Providers and users of climate information across sectors.



Summary of recommendations

POLICY: support existing policies and bridge gap between policy and practice e.g. integrated health surveillance and climate observation and processing systems able to anticipate adverse effects of climate.

PRACTICE: integrate climate risk management into adaptation practice across all societal sectors.

DATA & SERVICES: tailored information services, enhanced quality control, standardization, seamlessness across sectors & needs-driven according to defined health/climate priorities as defined by African countries.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION: Ensure that climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies are informed by multidisciplinary research. Enhance capacity building, knowledge transfer and strengthen health/climate partnerships.



Thank you



Contact:

judyomumbo@gmail.com

jwebb@uneca.org

