



ClimDev-Africa

Managing Loss & Damage: Climate Resilient Development & Adaptation in Africa

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Problem: Loss & Damage in the context of climate resilient development

Context:

- **Global change**, including increasing exposure to a variety of weather-related risks in Africa.
- **Growing exposures**, driven largely by socio-economic change.
- Science suggests that Africa will face **increasing frequency and intensity** of weather-related hazards (climate variability) related to climate change (IPCC 2007, Ch. 9)
- We are headed into a **period of greater uncertainty**, and also opportunities for Africa

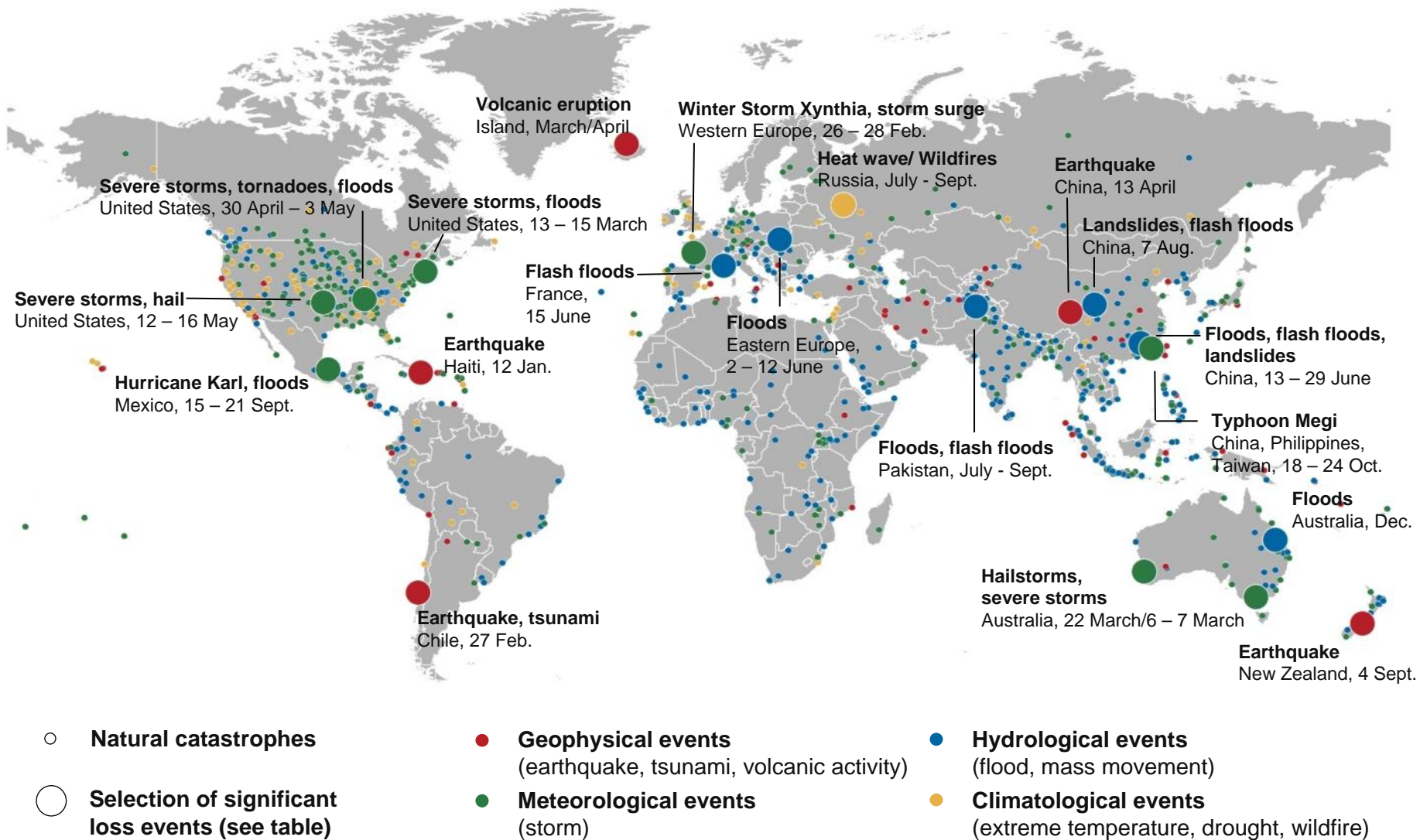
Why care about loss & damage when there are so many other issues?

- **Current & expected weather-risk impacts in Africa** pose an obstacle to sustainable development
- **Climate resilient develop requires a risk management perspective:** Need to identify, assess, price risks and help support decision making across a broad range of adaptation options and sectors.
- **Managing weather risk must be part of national adaptation planning & sustainable development processes!**



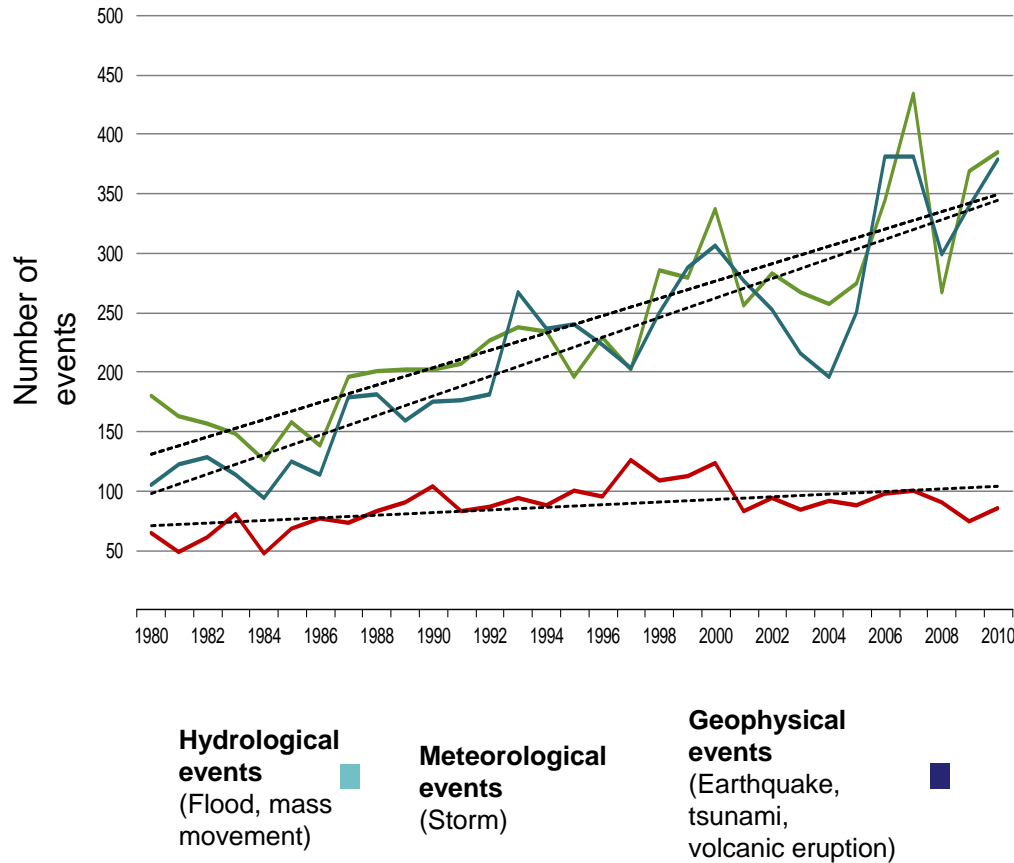
Significant natural disasters in 2010 (>29.000 events)

Source: Munich Re NatCatSERVICE



Natural catastrophes worldwide, 1980 – 2010

Number of events by peril with trend



Human contribution to more-intense precipitation extremes

Seung-Ki Min, Xuebin Zhang, Francis W. Zwiers & Gabriele C. Hegerl

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding authors](#)

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“... Here we show that human-induced increases in greenhouse gases have contributed to the observed intensification of heavy precipitation events found over approximately two-thirds of data-covered parts of Northern Hemisphere land areas. ..Changes in extreme precipitation projected by models and thus the impacts of future changes in extreme precipitation, may be underestimated because **models seem to underestimate the observed increase in heavy precipitation with warming**”.



4 climate change pathways will affect African development

1. Intensified acute weather-related hazards that contribute to temporary and permanent social disruption or change;
2. Competition for natural resources that contribute to local-level conflict, which in turn may fuel societal disruption and population displacement.
3. Intensified drought and desertification that adversely affect food security and livelihoods
4. Rising sea levels that inundate coastal areas and will be particularly harmful to low lying deltas and island countries.



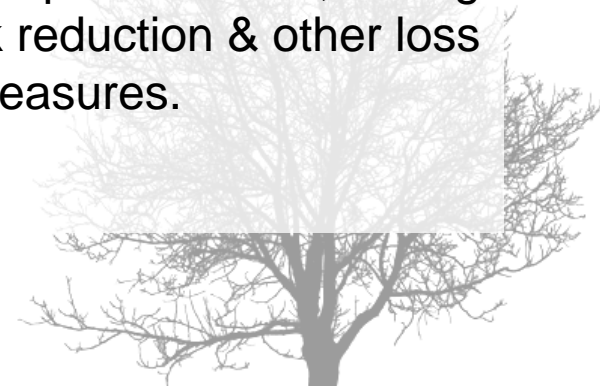
20 years of discussion on loss & damage in climate negotiations

1992 – ca 2007

- 1992: AOSIS proposal for insurance
- Included to counterbalance the negative expected consequences of climate change.
- First 15 years of the discussion dominated by theme of “environmental liability” and “if you don’t mitigate, you pay”

2007 – present

- 2007: Release of the IPCC 4th Assessment Report
- 2007: 13th COP in Bali, Bali Action Plan firmly established work streams on adaptation
- new risk management proposals (AOSIS, MCII)
- Technical (& less political) approaches to risk management, feasibility & implementation, linking disaster risk reduction & other loss reduction measures.



Loss & Damage: Opportunities to promote climate resilient development after COP16/Current situation

- Cancun Adaptation Framework
- SBI Work Program on Loss & Damage
- Adaptation Committee
- National Adaptation Planning (NAP)





Advance unedited version

Draft decision -/CP.16

Outcome of the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention

25. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen international cooperation and expertise to understand and reduce loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events³;

26. *Decides* to hereby establish a work programme in order to consider, including through workshops and expert meetings, as appropriate, approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

27. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to agree on activities to be undertaken under the above-mentioned work programme;

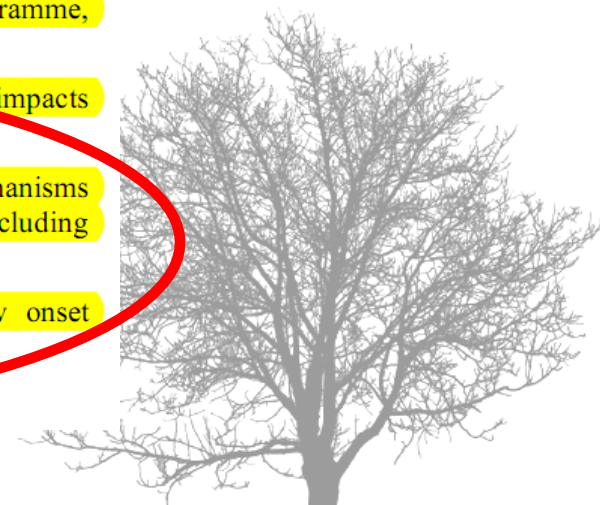
28. *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 21 February 2011, views and information on what elements should be included in the work programme, including the following:

(a) Possible development of a climate risk insurance facility to address impacts associated with severe weather events;

(b) Options for risk management and reduction; risk sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance, including options for micro-insurance; and resilience building, including through economic diversification;

(c) Approaches for addressing rehabilitation measures associated with slow onset events;

(d) Engagement of stakeholders with relevant specialized expertise;



5 tasks for African leadership

- 1. Multiply adaptation**—this is the most important point. Where possible, multiply ways for people to engage in their livelihoods and process of development. Where necessary, find alternative livelihoods, and transformative ways of thinking about social stability.
- 2. Promote disaster risk reduction and conflict mediation** strategies while strengthening humanitarian responses. Invest today in resilience building strategies designed to preempt uncontrolled crisis. Invest in humanitarian responses to natural hazards and conflict.
- 3. Support the best of African science** to expand the knowledge base on specific interactions – like desertification, rainfall variability, disaster occurrence, coastal erosion – with human mobility.
- 4. Create a blueprint for African adaptation information support systems**, with other relevant stakeholders in the UN family & expert communities: standards around weather observation, data & information collection & management to improve risk management
- 5. Design & implement demonstration & implementation activities** around risk management, risk reduction, & risk transfer in Africa -- articulate African needs and invite stakeholder input through the UNFCCC process



Thank you

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