

OECD SIDE EVENT

December 1, 6-7:30 pm

CONTRE VENTS ET MAREES Les politiques de développement face au changement climatique



Contre vents et marées

LES POLITIQUES
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT FACE
AU CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE



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Bridge Over Troubled Waters

LINKING CLIMATE CHANGE
AND DEVELOPMENT

BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS Linking climate change and Development



A Development Co-operation Perspective on Mainstreaming Climate Change: Key Findings from OECD Work

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1. Why Development Co-operation Matters for Climate Change

- Routine official aid flows are orders of magnitude higher than any financing under the climate regime
- Such flows are often directed at many activities and projects which have implications for ghg emissions and/or vulnerability to climate impacts
- “Tweaking” of such investments to take climate change into account is likely to have a significantly greater impact than climate-centric funding

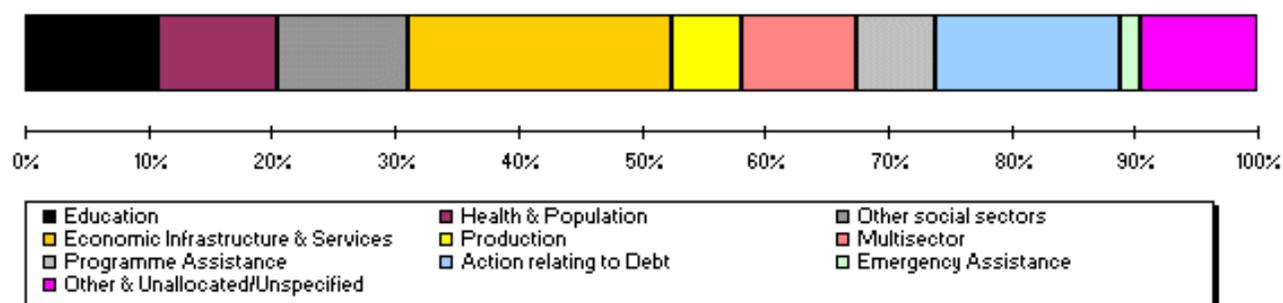
Bangladesh

Receipts	2001	2002	2003
Net ODA (USD million)	1 030	913	1 393
Bilateral share (gross ODA)	54%	56%	48%
Net ODA / GNI	2.1%	1.8%	2.6%
Net Private flows (USD million)	- 45	- 17	- 118

For reference	2001	2002	2003
Population (million)	133.3	135.7	138.1
GNI per capita (Atlas USD)	380	380	400

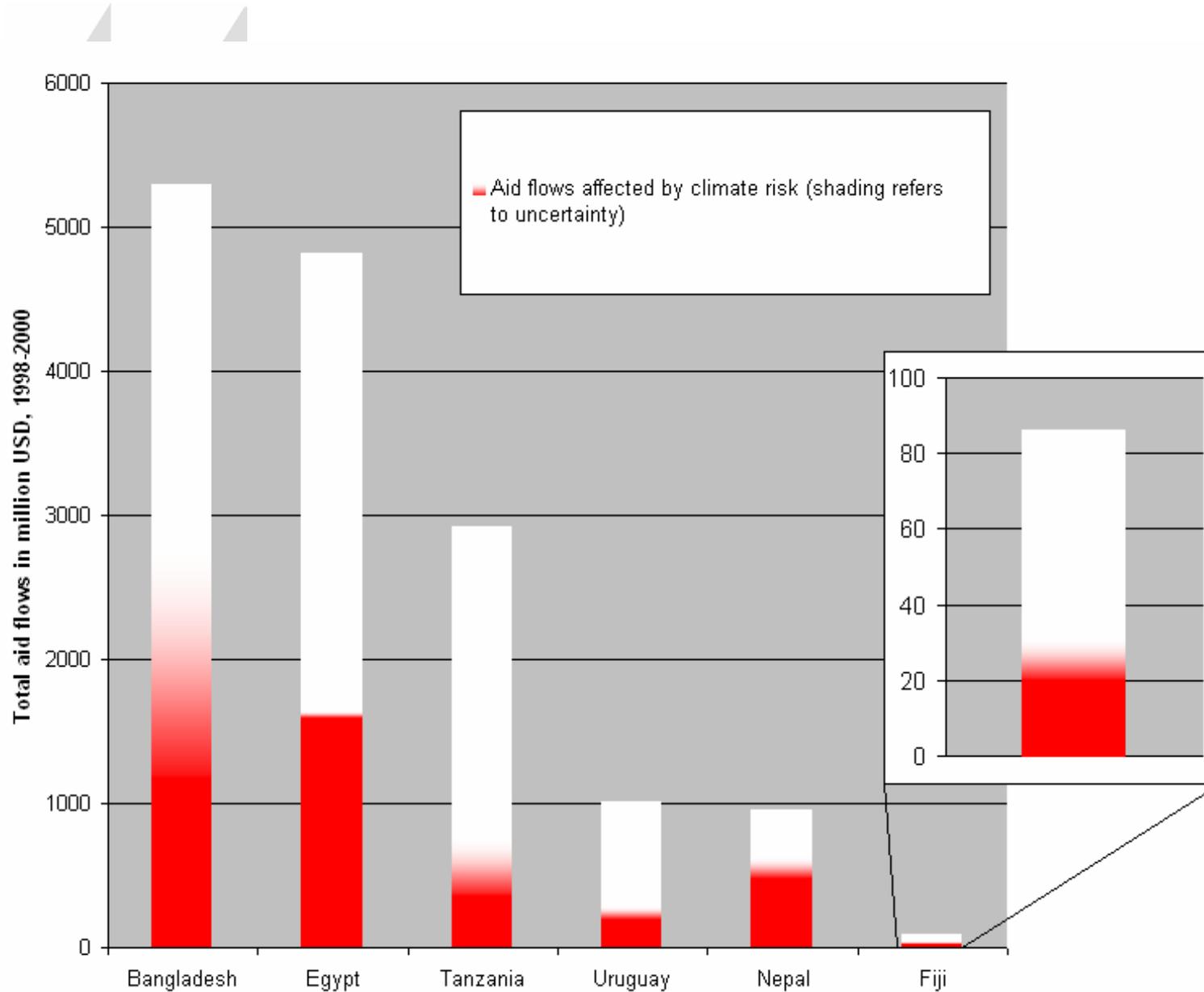
Top Ten Donors of gross ODA (2002-03 average) (USD m)	
1	IDA 410
2	Japan 262
3	United Kingdom 188
4	AsDF 175
5	United States 95
6	Netherlands 51
7	Denmark 41
8	EC 39
9	Canada 35
10	SAF & ESAF (IMF) 35

Bilateral ODA by Sector (2002-03)



Sources: OECD, World Bank.

2. Why Climate Change Impacts Matter for Development Co-operation



A Concrete Example from Nepal



Source: DHM, Nepal

Expansion of Glacial Lakes

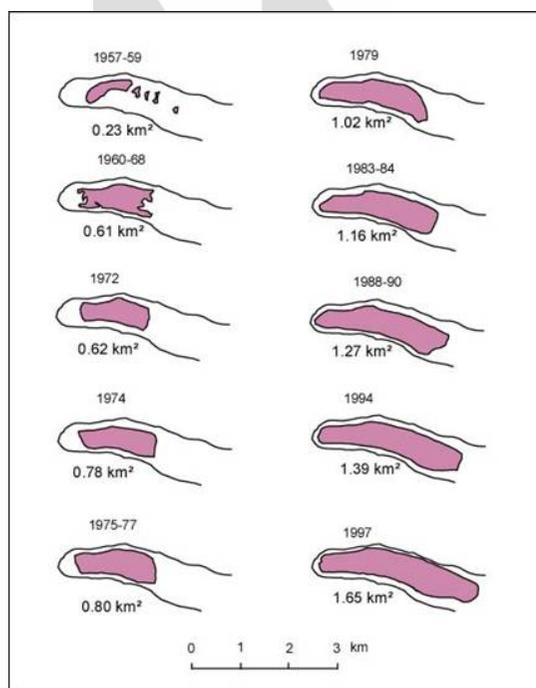


Figure 2



Source: DHM Nepal

Tam Pokhari Glacial Lake Outburst Flood, September 1998



Photo: Lakpa Gøeljen Sherpa 1998
(Source: Dwivedi 2003)



Photo: Lakpa Goeljen Sherpa 1998
(Source: Dwivedi 2003)



Nature Nov 17 2005

The long-range forecast

The Himalayas, roof of the world, are springing a leak. As the climate warms up, melting glaciers are threatening the livelihoods of millions. **David Cyranoski** reports.

The mighty Himalayas straddle many countries and are home to a host of ethnic groups. But all along the mountain range, local communities are finding that they have at least one thing in common: their way of life is being threatened by changes to their environment.

In Nepal, rising temperatures are swelling glacial lakes to bursting point. Across the mountains in Tibet, herdsman are struggling to feed their livestock on an increasingly deteriorating landscape. In recent years, the locals have begun to blame global warming for many of their troubles — and the data now being collected suggest that they may be right.

"Local people do not know much about climate change, but they can very clearly see that there is a change affecting them," says Lifeng Li, at the China branch of conservation group the WWF.

Billions of people rely on water that ultimately comes from the Himalayas. The range is home to the 14 highest peaks in the world, and the area's snowpack feeds the flow of several major rivers.

and declining water supplies^{2,3}. Future disasters could include floods, droughts, land erosion, biodiversity loss, and changes in rainfall and in the annual monsoon. As a result, scientists and conservation groups are monitoring the region and asking what can be done to help its inhabitants to adapt to the changes.

Swept away

Both sherpa mountain guides in Nepal and cattle herdsman in Tibet stand to benefit from these initiatives. Climate change can have an immediate and disastrous effect on their lives. In 1985, Nawa Jigtar, a senior monk in the village of Ghat in Nepal, heard a loud noise and rushed outside, only to watch helplessly as his cows were carried away by a deluge. "If it had come at night, none of us would have survived," he told the WWF in a recent documentary, *Meltdown in Nepal*.

That flood occurred when the Dig Tsho glacial lake burst its banks, wiping out more than a dozen bridges as well as a new hydroelectric plant. Studies by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

climate change forces the glaciers into an ever-faster retreat, the excess water floods into the lakes. Fragile moraine dams — piles of rock and debris left by the retreating glacier — are all that stand between the water and the communities downstream, says Shardul Agrawala, a climate-change administrator at the OECD. Earthquakes, landslides or slope instability can trigger the natural dams to collapse.

And the problem seems set to get worse. In March, a WWF team reported on how quickly the Himalayan glaciers are melting², and what consequences that might have for water supply in India, China and Nepal. Temperatures in Nepal have been rising steadily over the past few decades, and climate-change models predict that they will rise a further 1.2 °C by 2050, with a total increase of 3 °C by 2100. As a result, the glacial lakes are growing in both number and size.

"Most glaciers are in retreat, so glacial lakes have to hold more water," says Ninglian Wang, a glaciologist at the Cold and Arid Regions Environmental and Engineering Research Institute (CAREERI) in Lanzhou, China.

3. Do Development Activities Pay Attention to Climate Risks/Climate Change ?

- *Some* climate considerations are taken into account in many routine development practices.
- National Development plans, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, Donor Country Assistance Strategies, and project documents generally do not pay attention to climate change, or often not even to current climate risks.
- Climate change specific activities (assessments, action plans etc.) meanwhile generally not made the cross-over to “line Ministries” or national budgetary processes.
- There are however a small number of examples of cross-over engagement, e.g. World Bank Kiribati consultations which involve key government Ministries such as Finance.
- In general however policy coherence remains a major concern between climate change and development priorities

4. Barriers to Mainstreaming Climate Change

- Climate change is viewed primarily as a multilateral negotiations (and not a domestic policy issue) and is “ghettoised” within Environment ministries or one or two climate specialists within donor agencies

Location of UNFCCC National Focal Points (as of 2005)

- Environment	72%
- Foreign Affairs	14%
- Meteorology	8%
- Other/unknown	6%

Barriers to Mainstreaming (cont'd)

- Sectoral planners/development agencies already face a “mainstreaming overload” from agendas ranging from gender to sustainable development competing for inclusion.
- Many development projects are often envisaged for short term time horizons and may not be the best vehicle for long-term climate risk reduction
- Adaptation might also be less attractive than more visible investments such as disaster recovery where the urgency is more demonstrable.

Barriers to Mainstreaming (cont'd)

➤ *Diversity of donor criteria and expectations*

Nepal Example again on glacial lake risk reduction

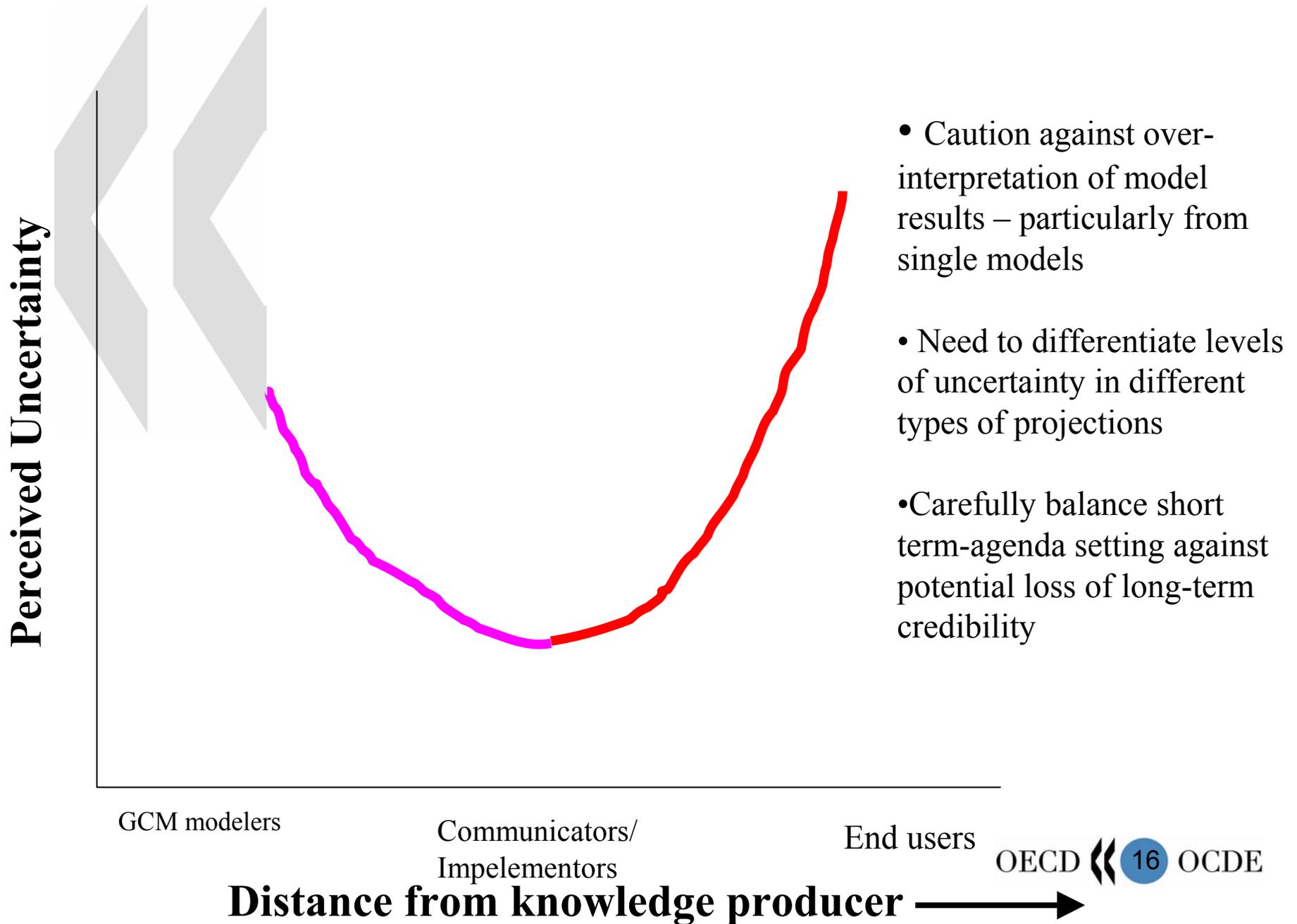
-Donor 1: “can you quantify the costs and benefits of anticipatory risk reduction ?”

-Donor 2: “how does it relate to our core goal of poverty alleviation?”

Barriers to Mainstreaming (cont'd)

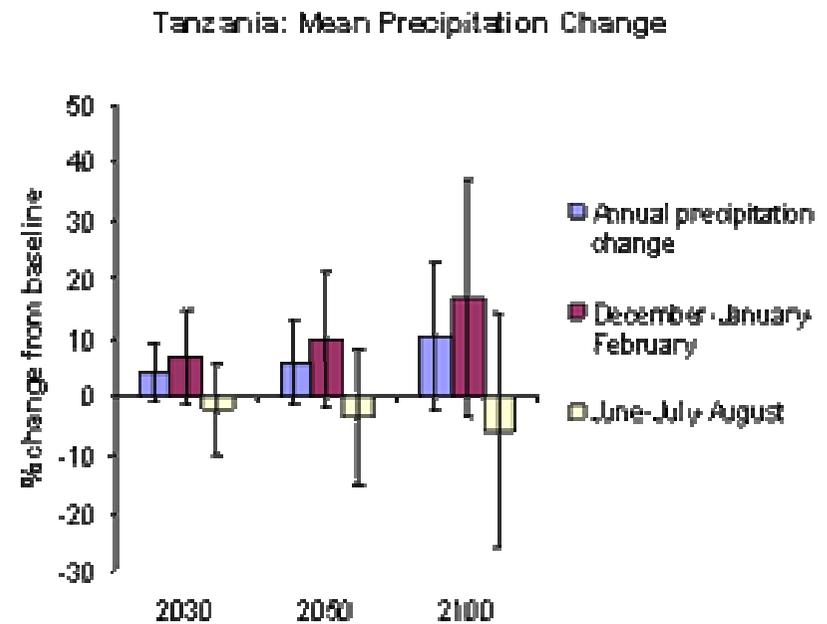
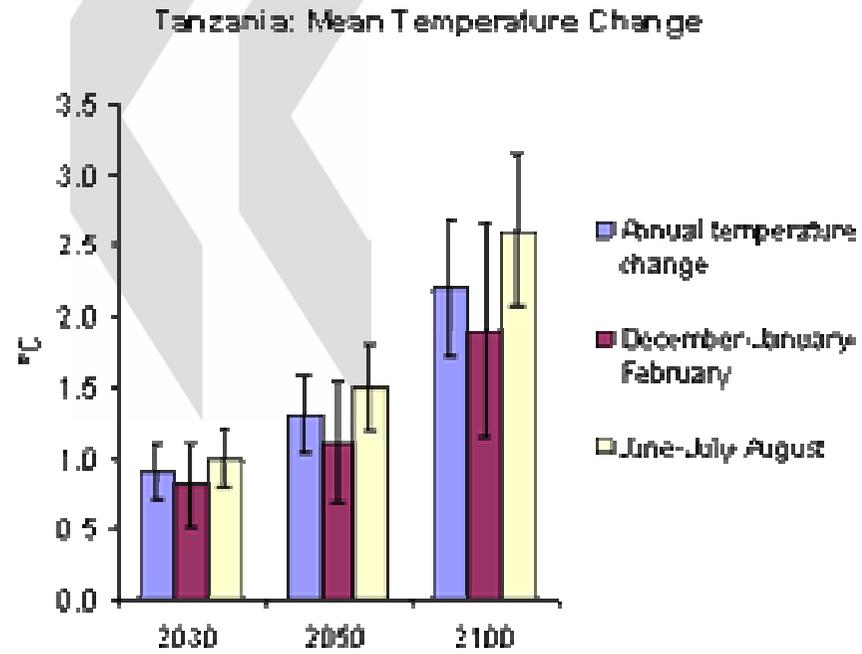
- *In some cases there might be genuine trade-offs between climate and development priorities*
 - Diversion of scarce resources from more pressing priorities
 - Inclusion of climate considerations in projects might be viewed as one more “checkbox”, complicating operating procedures and raising costs
 - There may also be downside risks associated with making decisions based on uncertain climate projections

Inadequate/Improper Communication of Reliability of Climate Projections



Uncertainty: An Example from Recent OECD Work

(comparing spread of projections from 17 climate models)



6. Some Priorities for the Way Forward

- *Get mitigation and adaptation on the agenda for Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers and other development strategies.*
- *Making climate information more relevant and usable*
 - Multi-model projections, clear articulation of uncertainties
 - Need national / regional priority rankings for action

Some Priorities for the Way Forward

- *Developing and applying climate risk screening tools*
- *Identifying and using appropriate Entry Points for factoring in climate considerations in development activities [budgetary processes, EIAs, PRSPs, etc.]*
- *Better information costs/benefits of adaptation*
- *Greater emphasis on implementation, as opposed to the formulation of new plans*