

PROVIA

PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH ON
CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY,
IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION

(The Global **P**rogramme of **R**esearch **O**n Climate Change **V**ulnerability,
Impacts and **A**daptation)

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What is PROVIA?

- PROVIA is a global initiative aimed to provide direction, coherence, and capacity-building at various levels for research on vulnerability, impacts and adaptation (VIA)
- Parent organizations are UNEP, WMO, UNESCO; Secretariat currently at UNEP; component of the WCP
- PROVIA responds to the need to mobilize, synthesize and communicate the growing knowledge-base on VIA
- Underlying is the recognized need to provide framing that encompasses centralized assessment guidance as well as specific, often sectoral or place based approaches

PROVIA OBJECTIVES

- Interface between research community, decision makers, practitioners on multiple scales – agenda setting
 - Advance policy-relevant research on VIA
 - Coordinate and facilitate dissemination of VIA knowledge
 - Identifying VIA Research Gaps
 - Capacity building: **PROVIA** Young Scientist Forum

PROVIA focus also:

- supporting UNFCCC NAPs processes: **PROVIA** Guidance and work with GSP
- Working on scientific basis for measuring monitoring and evaluation of adaptation to CC
- to contribute to the GFCS namely by fostering synergy among four components of WCP, i.e. providing a social science perspective to the modelling and research of WCRP

Research Priorities Process

- **Experts:** Gap analysis (incl. links with EG and Bridging Gap approaches – supported by NL/UNEP)
- **Policymakers:** International Policymaker meetings
- **Integrated:** Policymaker and Expert, Communities of Practice



PROVIA Guidance on assessing VIA – a “living” process

- **Key concepts**, available methods and tools – participation, decision trees, evaluating alternatives;
- **Technical guidance** that combines science with user needs at local, national and international levels;
- **Inform plans and decisions** to reduce vulnerability;
- **Engagement and moderation platform** for researchers, adaptation practitioners, planners and policy-makers



2014 Third Adaptation Futures Conference, Fortaleza, Brazil



Co-hosted and convened by the Earth System Science Center of the National Institute for Space Studies (CCST-INPE) and PROVIA) attended by 498 participants from 50 countries

Challenges in adaptation decision making in the face of uncertainty

High level international workshop on Drought Policies on Arid and Semiarid Lands – by the Government of Brazil, World Bank, WMO, UNCCD and FAO - cohosted by CCST- INEP and PROVIA

PROVIA Activities 2014-15

‘Research Priorities on Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation: Responding to the Climate Change Challenge’ (UNEP, 2013)

<http://www.unep.org/provia/Portals/24128/PROVIAResearchPriorities.pdf>

- A. Research activities: advancing policy-relevant research on VIA**
- B. Engagement activities: coordinating and facilitating dissemination and practical applications of research**
- C. Development and training activities**

PROVIA Activities 2014-15

A. Research activities: advancing policy-relevant research on VIA

A.1 Monitoring and evaluation: Indicators/proxies of adaptation and impact; gauging levels of vulnerability (people in flood plains) and progress in adaptation and resilience (houses insulated, councils in adaptation planning – UNEP Live link – data overlay)

A.2 Limits to adaptation: Where “best practice” no longer works: impacts exceed adaptive capacity (incremental/transformational change) – VIA thresholds and tipping points; hotspots; no surprises

A.3 Historical case studies: Past interventions as a guide to the future, climate stresses and governance response (individuals, civil society and the different tiers of government)

PROVIA Activities 2014-15

B. Engagement activities: coordinating and facilitating dissemination and practical applications of research

B.1 Biennial PROVIA **Climate Adaptation Futures** conference:

B.3 **Policy/user briefs** - e.g. annual/semi-annual Climate Change VIA Compendium on new and emerging science and concepts for practitioners in accessible language.

B.4 **VIA Dialogues**: Regional and national science-policy-society

B.5 **Advisory role**: Provide guidance and scientific information to the UNFCCC, NAP, others e.g. UK DECC on country-level impact studies

B.6 **Liaise and co design** with partners/platforms including

UNFCCC, WCRP, GCOS, UK DECC, EU Horizon 2020, Future Earth, realize co-benefits

PROVIA Activities 2014-15

C. Development and training activities

C.1.1 Extension of activities on **PROVIA Guidelines**: 2 regional consultations in 2014 (Washington, South Africa) – e-Guidance

C 1.2. **MOOC MocUp** of Guidelines for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) UNEP GRID Geneva (to be continued)

C.2 **VIA-related training workshops**: Co-organize workshops for developing country scientists and practitioners, in cooperation with e.g. START, APN etc.

C.3 **Mentoring and Young Scholars Fellowship** program under initial development (first batch selection soon) – strong focus in 4th PROVIA Adaptation Futures Conference

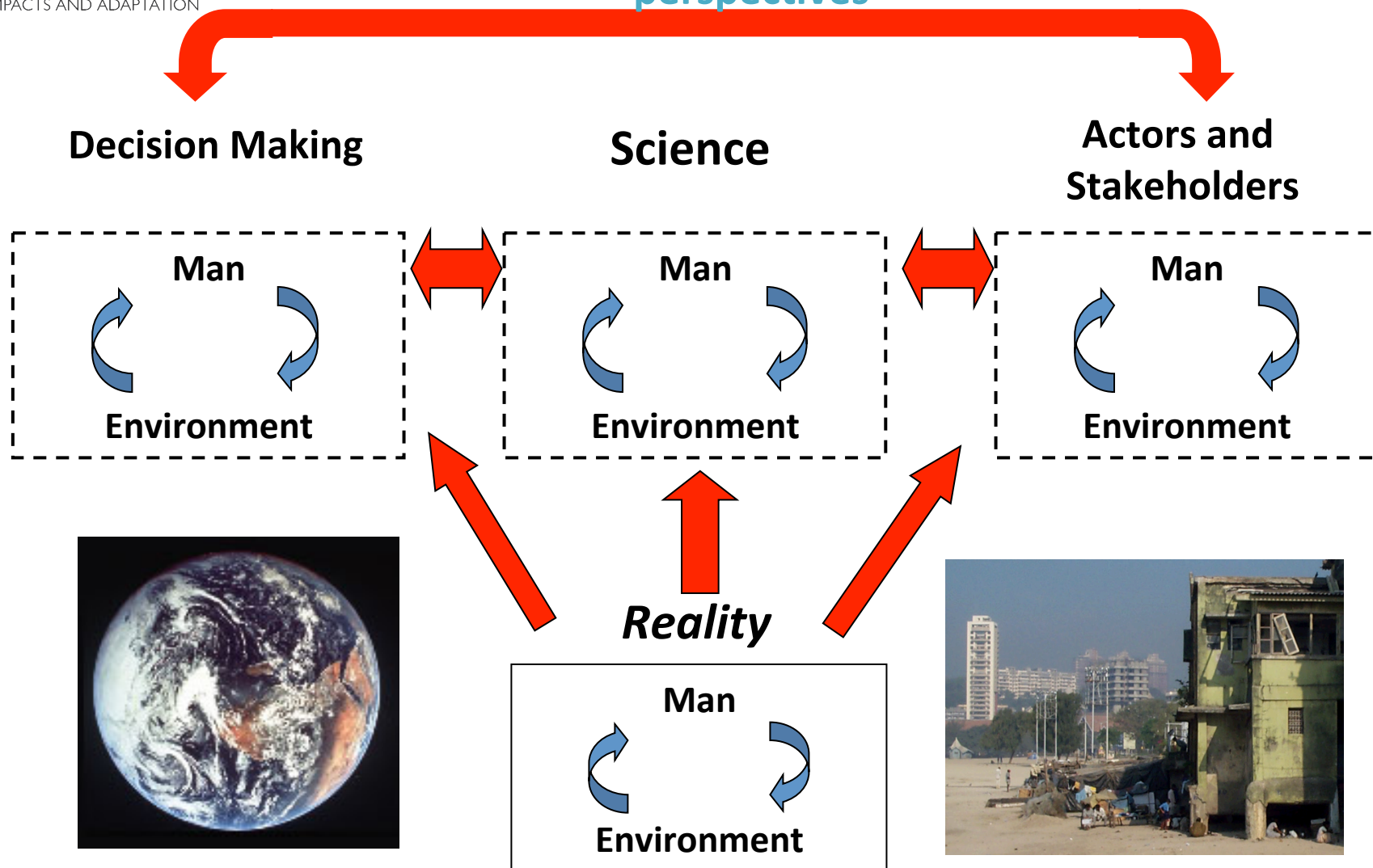


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A Co-designing approach bridging world views and adaptation

perspectives



PROVIA

PROVIA Future Activities/ Transition Challenges

- Explore a joint activity contributing to Warsaw Mechanism for Loss & Damages under the WCP
- Engage in emerging topics (Deltas in Times of Climate Change II – Sep. 2014)
- Build a robust VIA network of scientists (projects), practitioners and policymakers to promote VIA science – governance (done) – operational model – link with Future Earth
- Knowledge platform to improve the availability and accessibility of VIA knowledge to the people that need it – affiliated projects/activities portal – UNEP Live
- Consolidate and broaden secretarial support and branding – mobilize funding

4th International PROVIA Climate Change Adaptation Conference Adaptation Futures 2016: Practice and Solutions – Coasts and Cities

10-12 May 2016, Rotterdam (Netherlands)

Co-hosted by



Thank You