Connecting Research and Policy
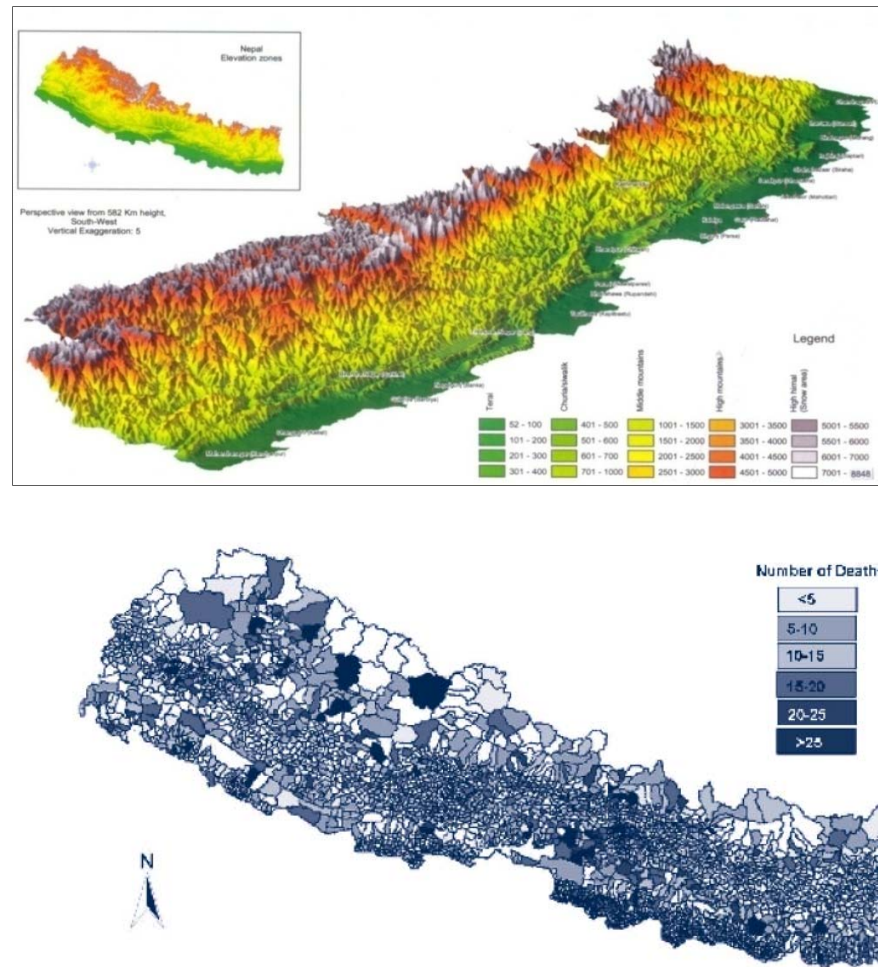
Climate change policy making: Case study of Nepal's LAPA

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During consultation of NAPA, suggestion came to localise the process

VDC-Wise distribution of deaths due to natural disasters as depicted in DesInventar Adapted from Global Assessment of Risks Nepal Country Report (2009)

LAPA (Local Adaptation Plan of Action) framework as shared Conceptualization (approved in 2012)

Integration and Implementation Sciences or I2S

Dr. Gabriele Bremmer
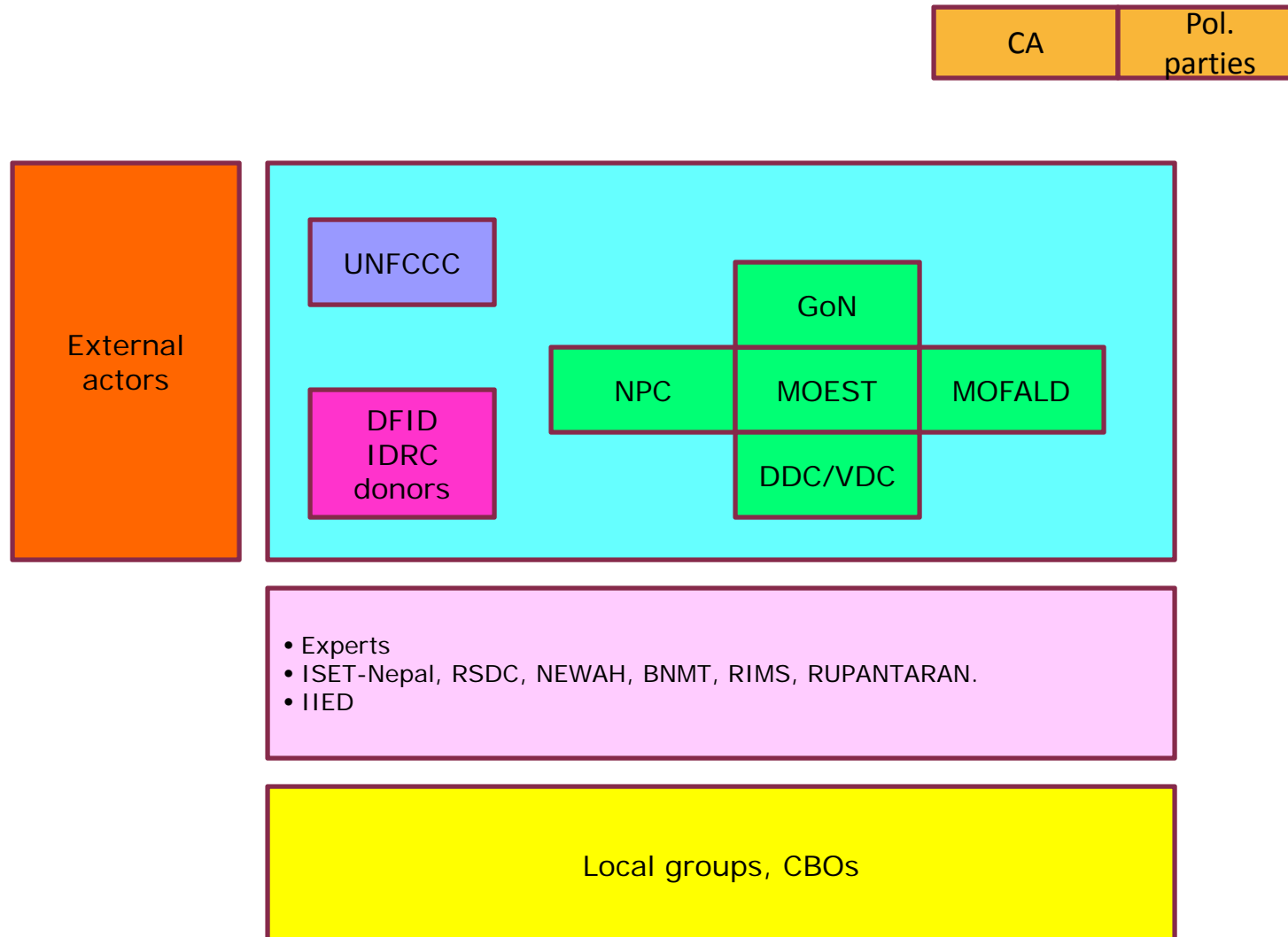http://epress.anu.edu.au/titles/disciplining-interdisciplinarity

1 For what

- Take advantage Nepal's experience of decentralised natural resources management
- Develop approach that will meet policy objective of reaching 80 percent resources to climate vulnerable
- Iinnovative approach to adaptation planning to achieve well-being

For whom

- Vulnerable Nepali households
- Groups engaged in resource management
- Government; develop capacity to meet needs of changing context
- Donors: more targeted, effective and relevant approach to adaptation planning
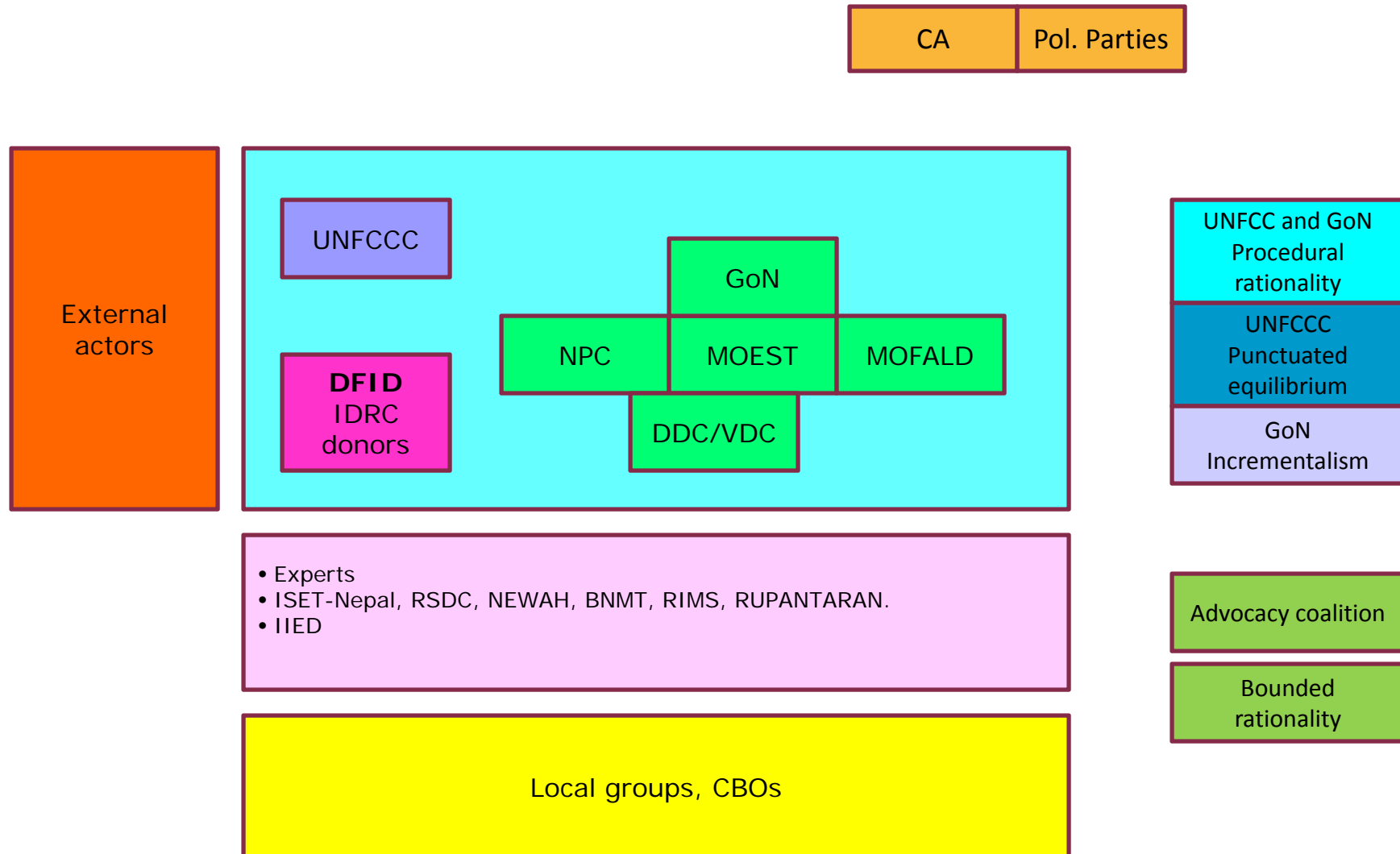
2) Of what

a) Thinking about system

CA	Pol. parties

External actors

UNFCCC

GoN

NPC | MOEST | MOFALD

DDC/VDC

DFID IDRC donors

- Experts
- ISET-Nepal, RSDC, NEWAH, BNMT, RIMS, RUPANTARAN.
- IIED

Local groups, CBOs

2) Of what

a) Thinking about system

| CA | Pol. Parties |

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DDC/VDC

UNFCC and GoN Procedural rationality

UNFCCC Punctuated equilibrium

GoN Incrementalism

- Experts
- ISET-Nepal, RSDC, NEWAH, BNMT, RIMS, RUPANTARAN.
- IIED

Advocacy coalition

Bounded rationality

Local groups, CBOs

b) Scoping

- How can NAPA be localized?

- What lessons does Nepal's own efforts on decentralization offer?

- What are the needs, methods

- How will stakeholders respond?

- How to communicate with and use media?

- Where do resources come from?

- Who are friends and alliance members?

c) Boundary setting

- National

- Design and piloting

- About a year for piloting

d) Problem framing

National programmes do not get to local level for effective actions and hence will not reach the most vulnerable

Nepal most climate vulnerable country (4th)

e) Value difference

- State is and should be repository of all activities

- Guided by decentralized approach that began in 1970s: (forestry, drinking water, irrigation) people at the center of development.

- Users empowerment remains fundamental

- Targeting for equity and well being opportunities for   the poor and vulnerable

- Existing institutions need tinkering, build on innovative practices

- Help with new information and knowledge

3. By whom, when and how

a) By whom

Advocacy coalition (AC)
Others who were not part of the AC presented ideas, views
and perspectives

b) When

2010 to 2102: process continues

c) How

Method	Activities/Details
Testing technical and economic assumption	Design, lessons of past projects, in region and elsewhere. Pilot in selected VDCs: drinking water, health, micro finance, agriculture, forest, systems providing other services (energy, information etc.)
Communicating and outreach	Shared learning dialogues, field studies.
Building alliance	Local and some global
Lobbying	Discussions with gov officials,
Linking to global process	Bali Action Plan, Kathmandu to Copenhagen Meeting, Donors provided support for innovation
Using strategic openings	Take advantage of emerging knowledge on adaptation to CC in Nepal. Adaptation on longer poor cousin of mitigation
Seeking support of champions	Sympathetic actors in key positions, donors and government
Engaging local groups	Organised local groups, share knowledge and generate shared understanding

4 Context

- Higher temperature (trend and scenario) and erratic climate

- Natural resource dependent livelihood

- Limited local capacity to link to global

- Who benefits and who pays, and continues.

- Political system for new ideas and idealism despite prolonged transition

- Global resource commitment

- Disjunction among intent and actions

Legitimacy of researchers

Contribution to discipline, long service delivery and social commitment.
High level of professionalism.
Local rootedness.
Alliance brought legitimacy.

Barriers and facilitators

Lack of a model; approach had to be tested and evolve

• Intellectually open (developing an approach)

• Organizations endorsed the researchers

How responsive to research

When evidence presented GON approved the framework in 2012.

5 Outcomes

- NCCSP 70 LAPAs in 14 districts, other programmes also (CAPAs)

- Idea being used in Pakistan and other countries

- Conception of *systems* (and their services) as gateways used in LAPA   conceptualization being replicated in other research (Urban, Peri Urban and ecosystem)

Lessons

- Interdisciplinary research involving scientific and technological analysis, economics, political science, development, environmental studies will resonate with policy activities,

- Systemic perspective helps understand balance power, social differentials and put forth ideas and engage in constructive dialogue,

- Building alliance adds value and legitimacy, and

- Pluralistic approach is useful for policy integration.

Current status

- LAPAs implementation at very early stage
- Put plans in action, monitor, capture learning and revision for improved practices, policies and principles

Improving practices, policies and principles require effectively connecting research to policy (Recognise four Is)

Is	Government	Advocacy coalition	Private sector
Interest	Control; tested methods, in-house expertise	Societal benefits	Profit
Ideology	Minimise risk	Highlight high risk	Take risk
Information	Has to be registered	Charismatic boundary at work	Selective picking
Institutional structure	Hierarchic (Top down)	Every body is equal	Freedom to network

Thank you
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