

# Monitoring Climate Change and Adaptation

Radhika Dave  
ABCG Workshop  
July 20, 2011

CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL



# Presentation Outline

What is monitoring and evaluation?

Why is it important for adaptation?

What are some of the challenges inherent in monitoring climate impacts and adaptation responses?

Three themes that need to be considered within monitoring for climate change and adaptation .

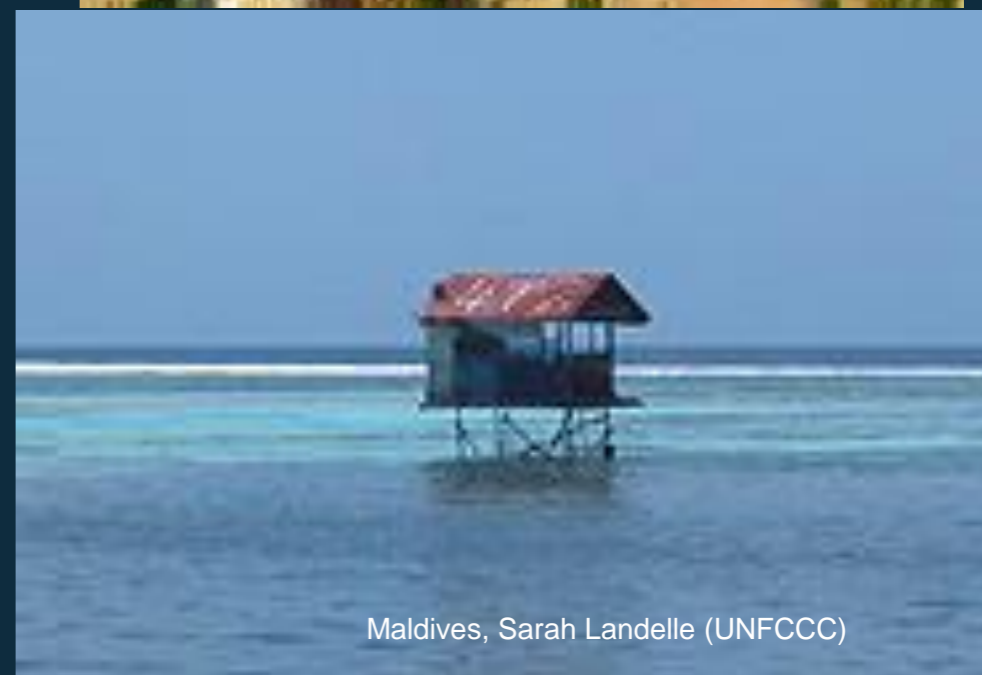
Questions for Discussion Group



# What is Monitoring and Evaluation?

**Monitoring:** Routine tracking of key elements of project/program performance through record keeping, surveillance systems and regular reporting.

**Evaluation:** Periodic assessment of change in targeted results that can be attributed to the project. Evaluation of the links between particular output /outcome and the project activities.



Maldives, Sarah Landelle (UNFCCC)

**Adaptation** = adjustment of people + nature to the impacts of CC

# Importance within Climate Change Adaptation

**Adaptation is *learning by doing*.**

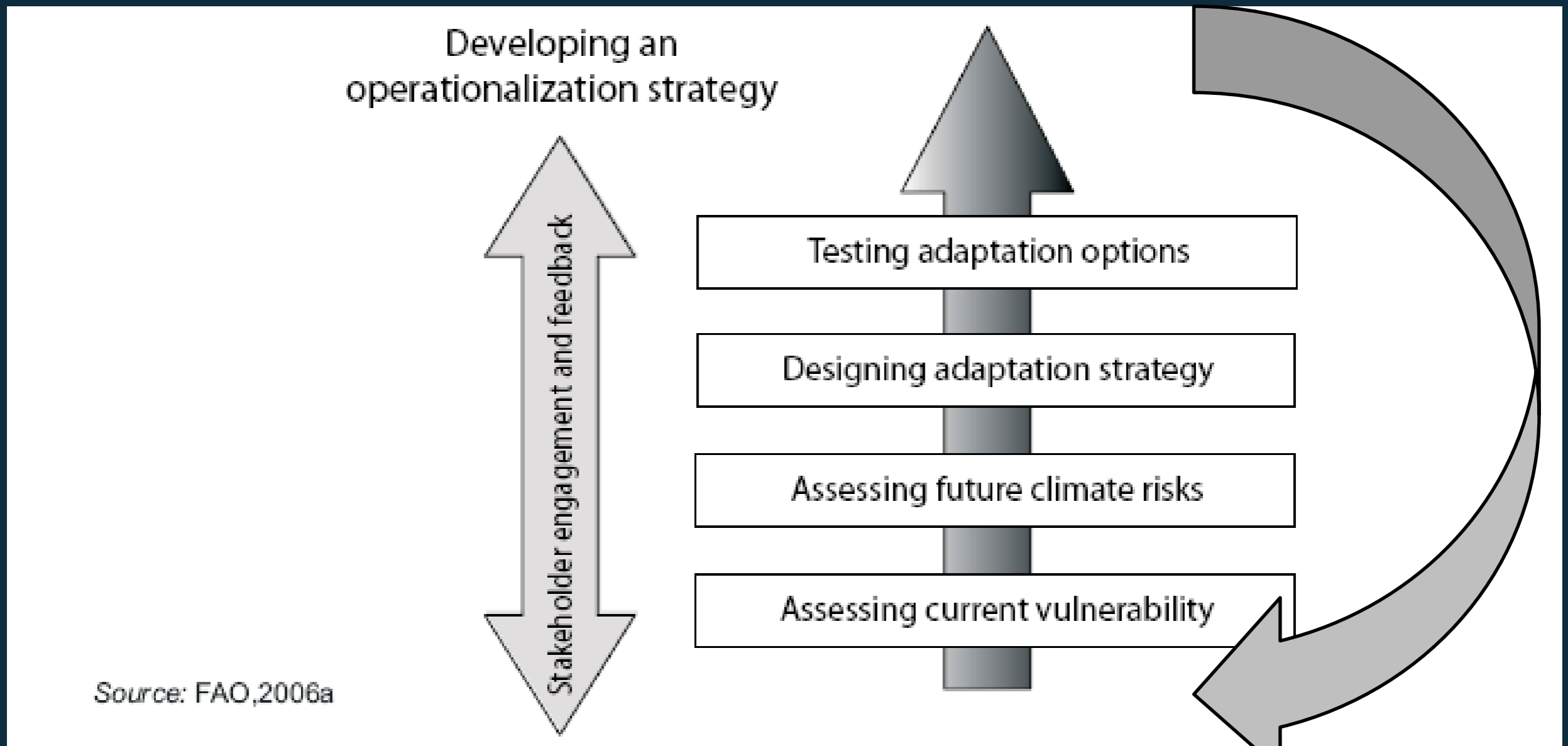
- Baseline climate information for most regions of the world is lacking
- Impacts of climate change on species, ecosystem services and ecosystem function lacking
- Some level of information on how people will be directly affected
- Lack an understanding of how projects impact adaptive capacity (of people) and support adaptive conservation

*Monitor not for the sake of monitoring but to truly incorporate it into the learning process of adaptive management*



# What is climate change adaptation?

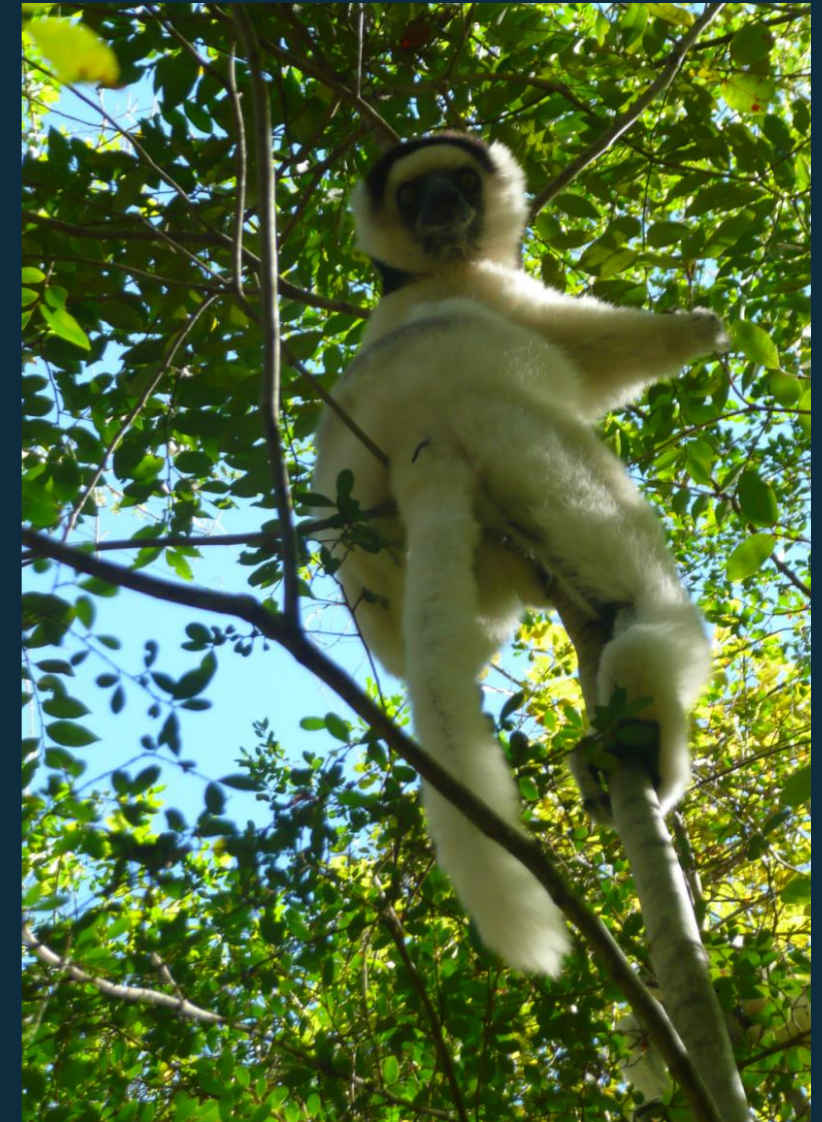
Adaptation is a process...



- Approaches can be anticipatory or reactive
- Uncertainty needs to be considered in planning: 'no regret measures' are preferred

# Challenges for M&E Frameworks Addressing Climate Change and Adaptation

- Baseline information to set targets missing in many regions (social, biological, climatological)
- Timelines over which full scale of impacts felt are longer and in many cases unclear
- Adaptation responses are specific to the local context - potentially barring us from developing a common set of indicators for tracking.
- Various factors contribute to adaptive capacity – how do we attribute benefits to our interventions?
- Accounting for adaptation benefits of “non – adaptation” projects



Two focal areas:

Adaptation for human needs: Demonstrating and securing the role of ecosystems and ecosystem services within the range of adaptation responses possible – *ecosystem based adaptation approaches*.

Adapting conservation strategies: Understanding and revising conservation planning, practice and policy to maximize the ability of ecosystems and biodiversity to persist in the face of climate change.

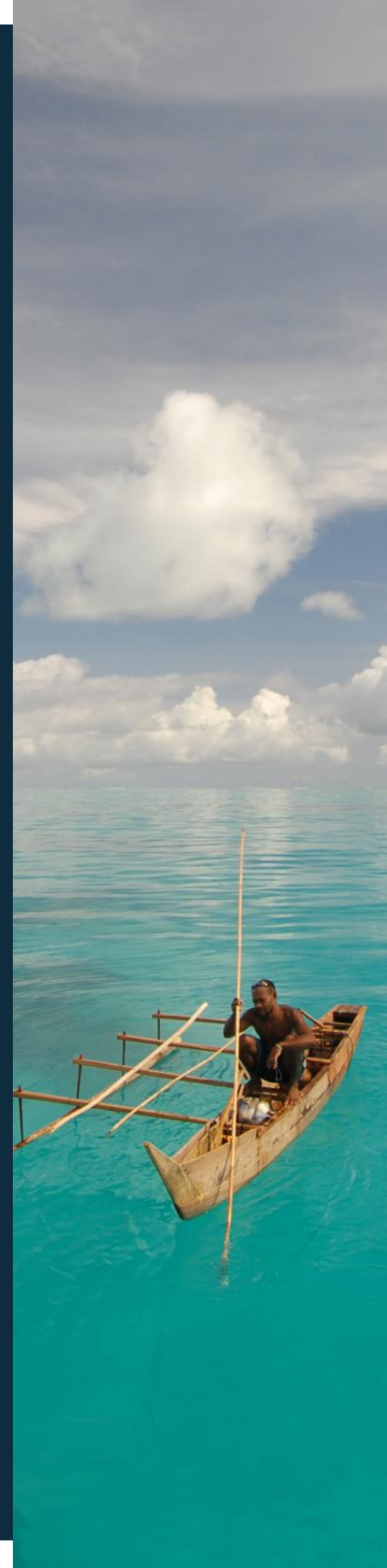
*3<sup>rd</sup> area: Impacts of adaptation responses on biodiversity, ecosystem services and ecosystem processes.*



# Three M&E challenges to focus attention

- Monitor climate variables to capture trends
- Monitor the impact of climate change on species, ecosystem services
- Monitor and evaluate project interventions to assess links with adaptive capacity and conservation results

*Link between second and third that needs to be demonstrated*





# Questions for Discussion

1. Do we have a common understanding of how we define success that we can then measure?
2. What is a minimum timeframe for M&E for adaptation?
3. Is it feasible to develop a common set of indicators which can help with comparative assessments (by project developers, donors, policy makers)?
4. Can we make recommendations for additional considerations that need to be addressed within conventional M&E frameworks to make these relevant for adaptation?

