

Regional cooperation and disasters

Ajaya Dixit
Executive Director
ISET-Nepal

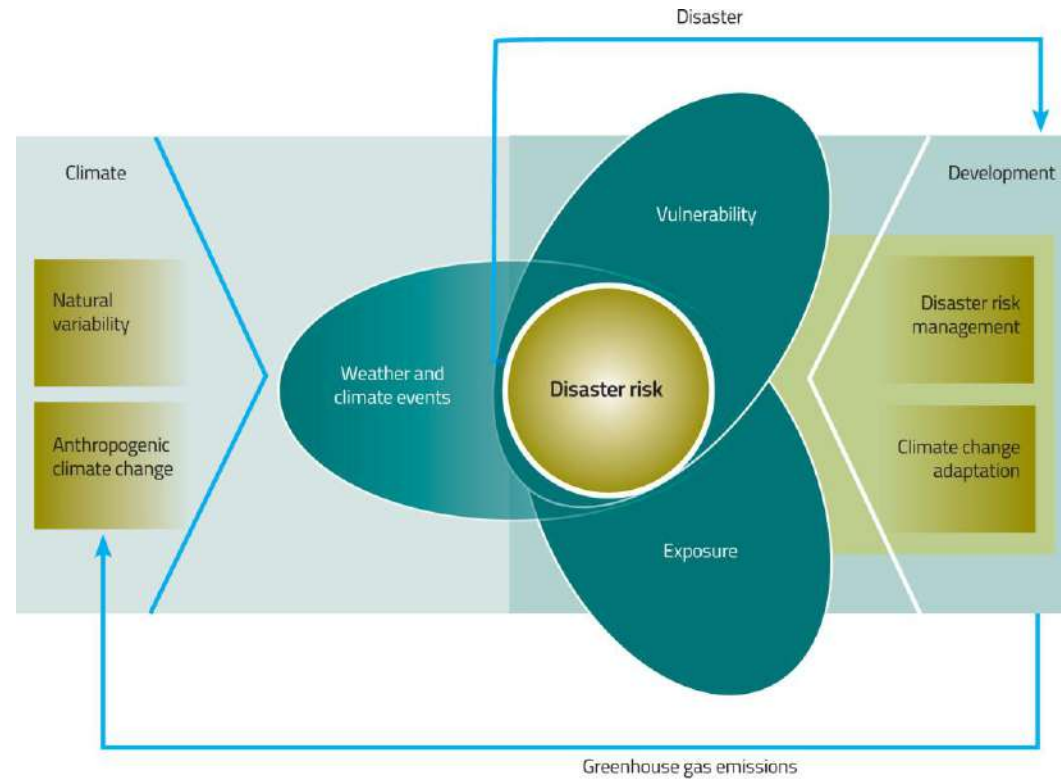
Deepening Economic Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development
in South Asia

Planning Commission Nepal, Ministry of Commerce and SAWTEE
14-16 November 2017
Hyaat Regency
Kathmandu

STARTING POINTS

Disasters research since early 1950s

Disaster outcome of hazards,
vulnerability and risk



Source: Lavell et al. (2012)

Focus largely on hazards

Climate related

- Temperature and heat
- Extreme rainfall
- Floods and droughts
- Landslides

Earthquake

Events/hazards

Human induced

- War
- Conflict
- Closure
- Strikes
- Blockade

Biological

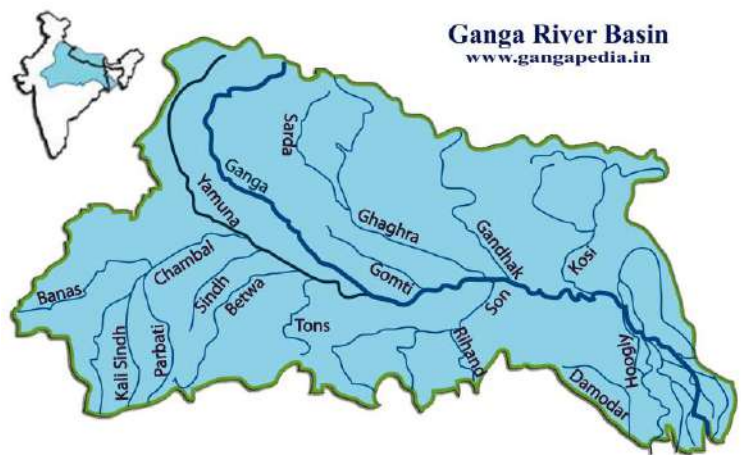
- Diseases
- Pandemic

Technological

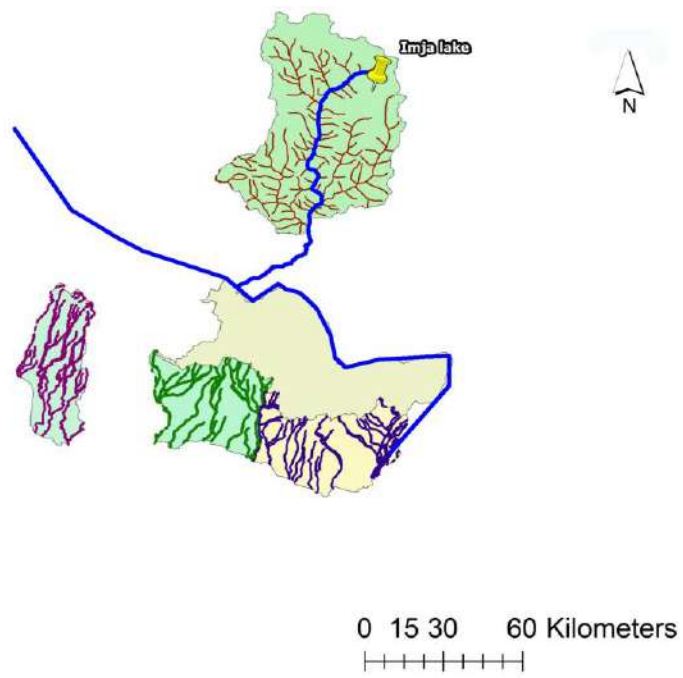
- Fire
- Industrial accidents
- Air and road accidents
- Pollution

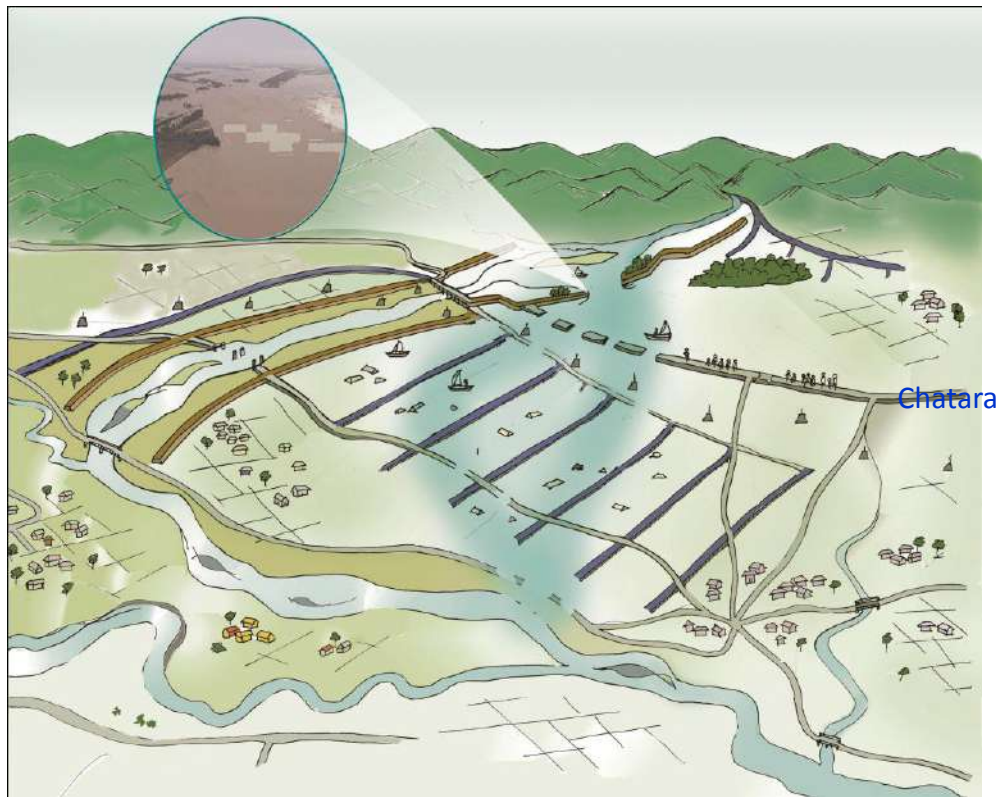
Scale question

Slow and rapid onset events



Sources: State boundaries (ML Infomap 2009), basin boundaries, rivers and catchments (IWM 2009), other administrative layers (World Bank 2010), water quality monitoring stations data (Central Pollution Control Board 2010).





Case of flooding

Most flood-related literature consider floods as “natural” disasters.

Social sciences consider floods as a social category.

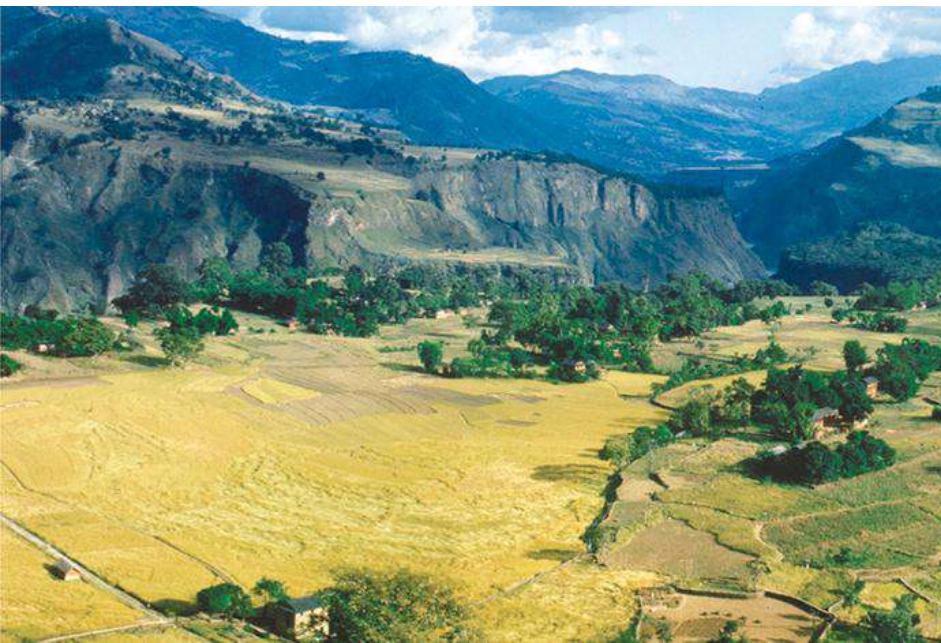
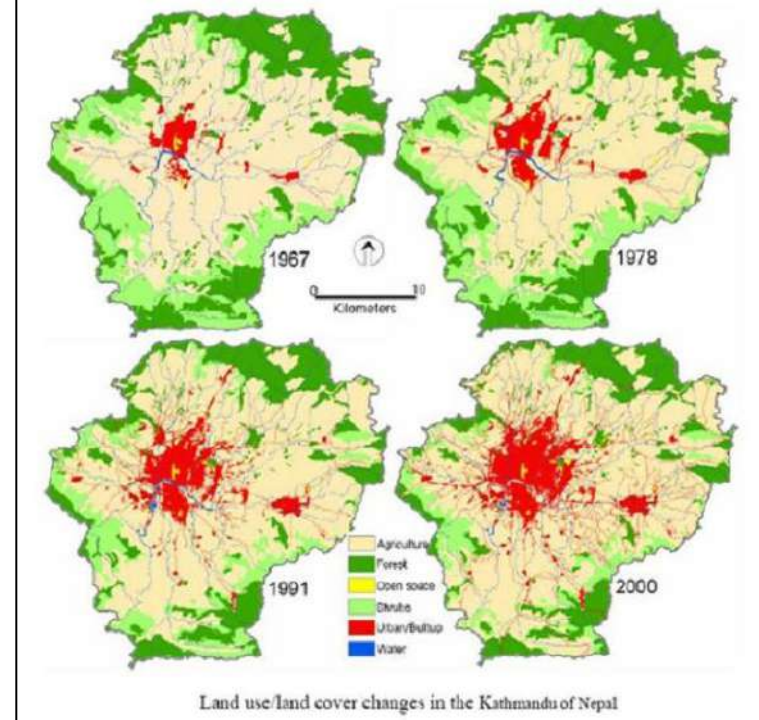
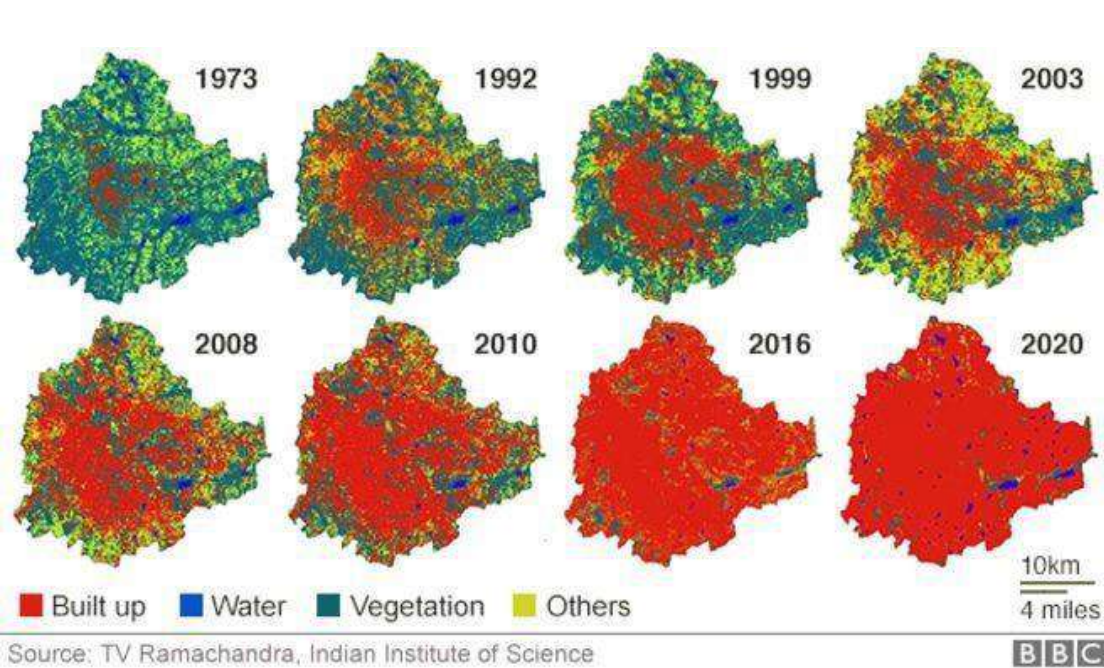
Flood: links nature, and society.

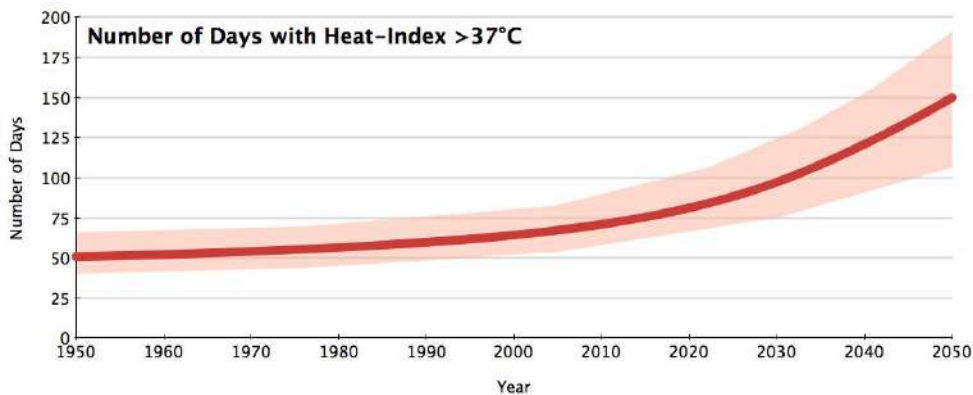




Emerging social, economic and political complexity:

Examples: urbanization and energy





- Rise in global average temperature
- Erratic and extreme rainfall: flooding and droughts
- Shrinking ice and snow deposits, north, south and third pole
- Sea level rise
- Increasing moisture and heat

More effective organizing structure than currently exists

- Multi functional warning and communication systems, local preparedness and capacity
- Decentralized energy systems
- Code of practices
- Elevated points of refuge during floods
- Restored wetlands and open space

Cooperation and disasters

- Examine historical context and underlying conditions that makes natural, or human triggered events result in large scale social, economic and human losses.
- Understanding of disaster related phenomena: Theoretical, methodological, and empirical
- Addressing many old questions that have not yet been adequately examined and ask new questions
- Multiple locations with continuous and iterative engagement
- One key challenge: investment (modest) who and how?

Thank you

adbaluwatar@ntc.net .np

<http://isetnepal.org.np/>