

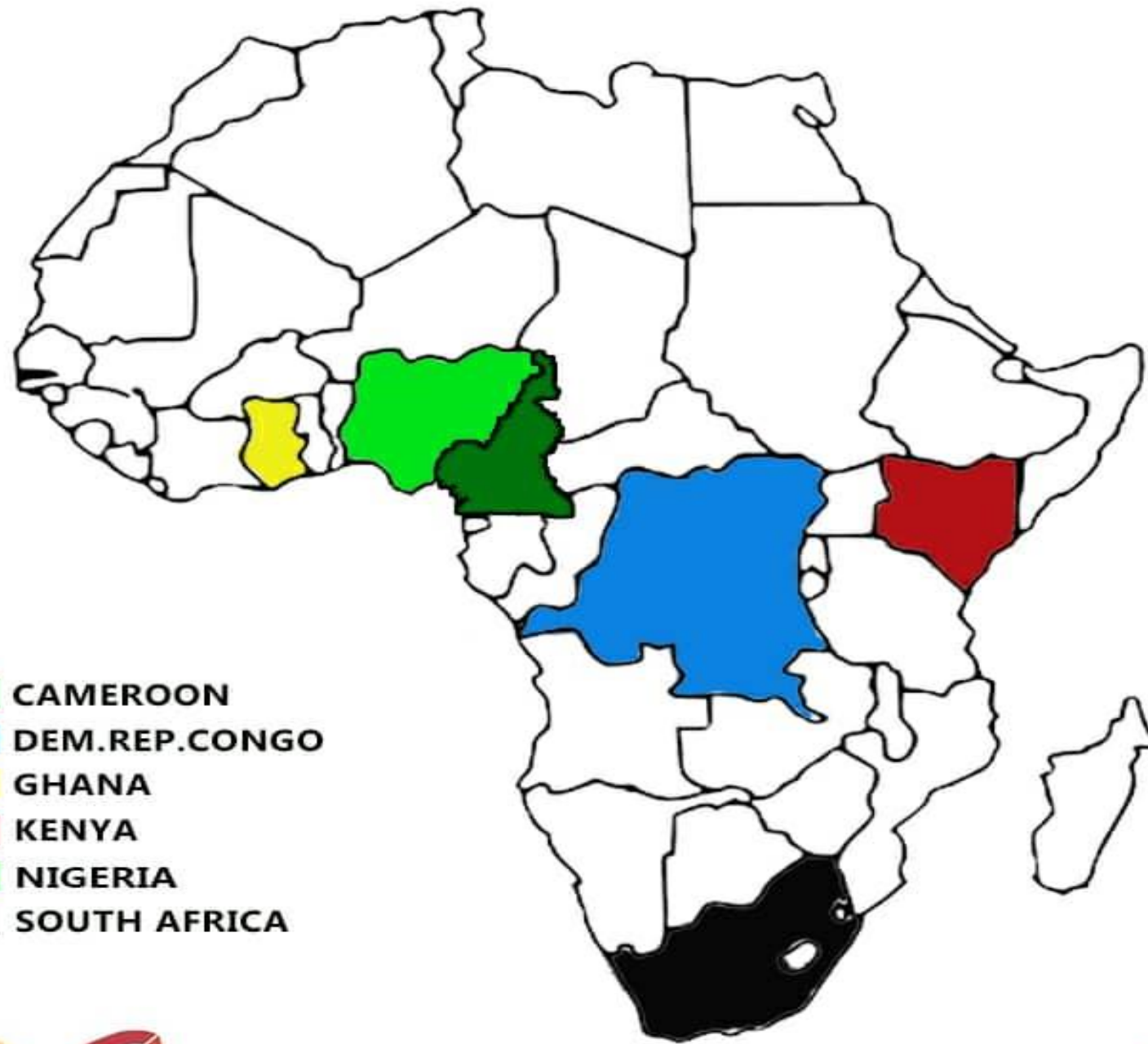
Knowledge co-creation in building community resilience to extreme events: Experience from the PALM-TREEs Project in Nigeria

Grace Oloukoi
Mayowa Fasona
Abiodun Babatunde
Vide Adedayo



Participating Countries and Work Packages

A PAN-AFRICAN AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY LENS IN THE MARGINS: TACKLING THE RISKS OF EXTREME EVENTS



- CAMEROON
- DEM.REP.CONGO
- GHANA
- KENYA
- NIGERIA
- SOUTH AFRICA



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PALM-TREES



A PAN-AFRICAN AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY LENS IN THE MARGINS : TACKLING THE RISKS OF EXTREME EVENTS

Inter-Connected Work Packages :

- 1 Social impact of climate extremes
- 2 Physical drivers of extreme events
- 3 Climate-resilient solutions
- 4 Capacity strengthening of ECR & stakeholders

Expected outputs :

- Reduced barriers to sustainable knowledge networks
- More equitable relationships between communities, practitioners and researchers
- Transferable methodology to deal with multidimensional compound extremes
- Sustainable change

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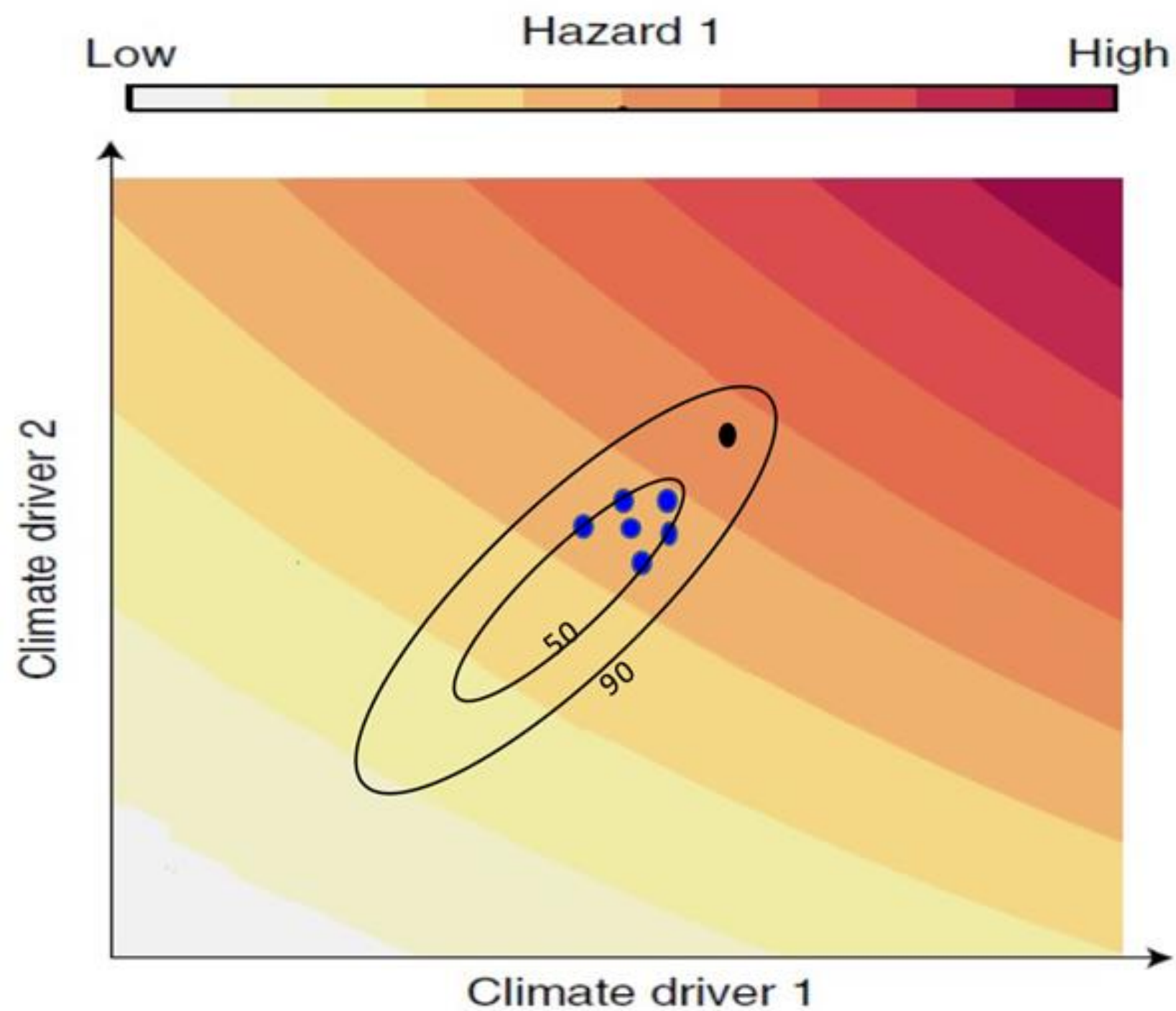


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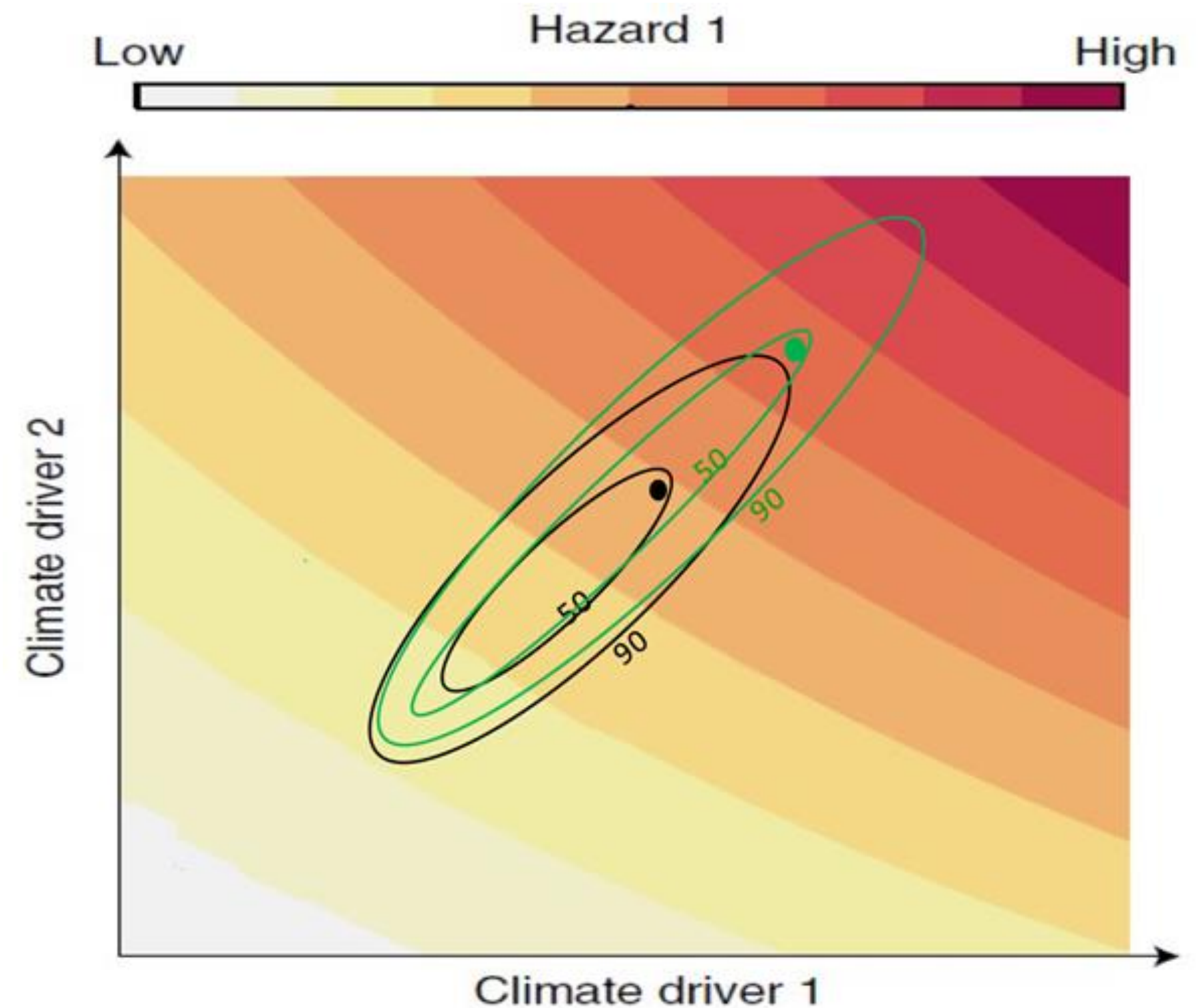
PALM-TREES Specific Objectives

- Develop a nuanced understanding of differential impacts of climate extremes based on gender and other intersecting social identities
- identifying the underlying causes of climate extremes and assessing the accuracy of modeling tools, researchers can develop more accurate projections of future climate risks and inform the development of effective adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Use a trans-disciplinary and co-development approach to research and stakeholder engagement and develop strong local knowledge networks.
- Develop new climate information tools that support tailored, accessible, and useable climate information to strengthen the agency of marginalised groups and those providing and designing climate services.
- Influence climate risk policies and practices impacting those on the margins across regions,





Hypothetical distribution of climatic drivers and associated hazards. The contours show the statistically defined threshold for hazards (i.e., 50th and 90th percentile of the distribution). The black dot shows a government/institutional threshold of a hazard. The blue dots show the thresholds at which various margins are vulnerable to the hazard (Modified after Zscheischler et al, 2018).



Projecting impacts of climate change on climatic drivers and associated hazards. The contours show the hypothetical distribution of two climatic drivers for the present-day (black) and future climates (green). The black dot denotes an example of critical event that affect the margins in the present-day climate and the projection or scaling of the event the future climate. (Modified after Zscheischler et al, 2018).



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PALM-TREES in Nigeria

PALM-TREEs Targets

The PALM-TREEs :

- is a Pan-African and trans-disciplinary, with social and physical researchers
- Will create climate information that responds to local risk impacts
- Will co-produce new approaches
- Will strengthen the inclusive and equitable knowledge networks
- Will actively include those on the
- Will work with stakeholders and communities on policies and practices and co-produced climate information.
- We co-design better life for the margins



Nigeria Case Studies

Deconstructing the risk of extreme events from the perspective of the Margins

Focus on:

- **Lagos: Flood and Heat Stress – Led by LEAD CITY UNIVERSITY**



NISER to Coordinate Stakeholders and Policy Engagements for both



- **Middle-Belt: Flood and Drought – Led by UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS**

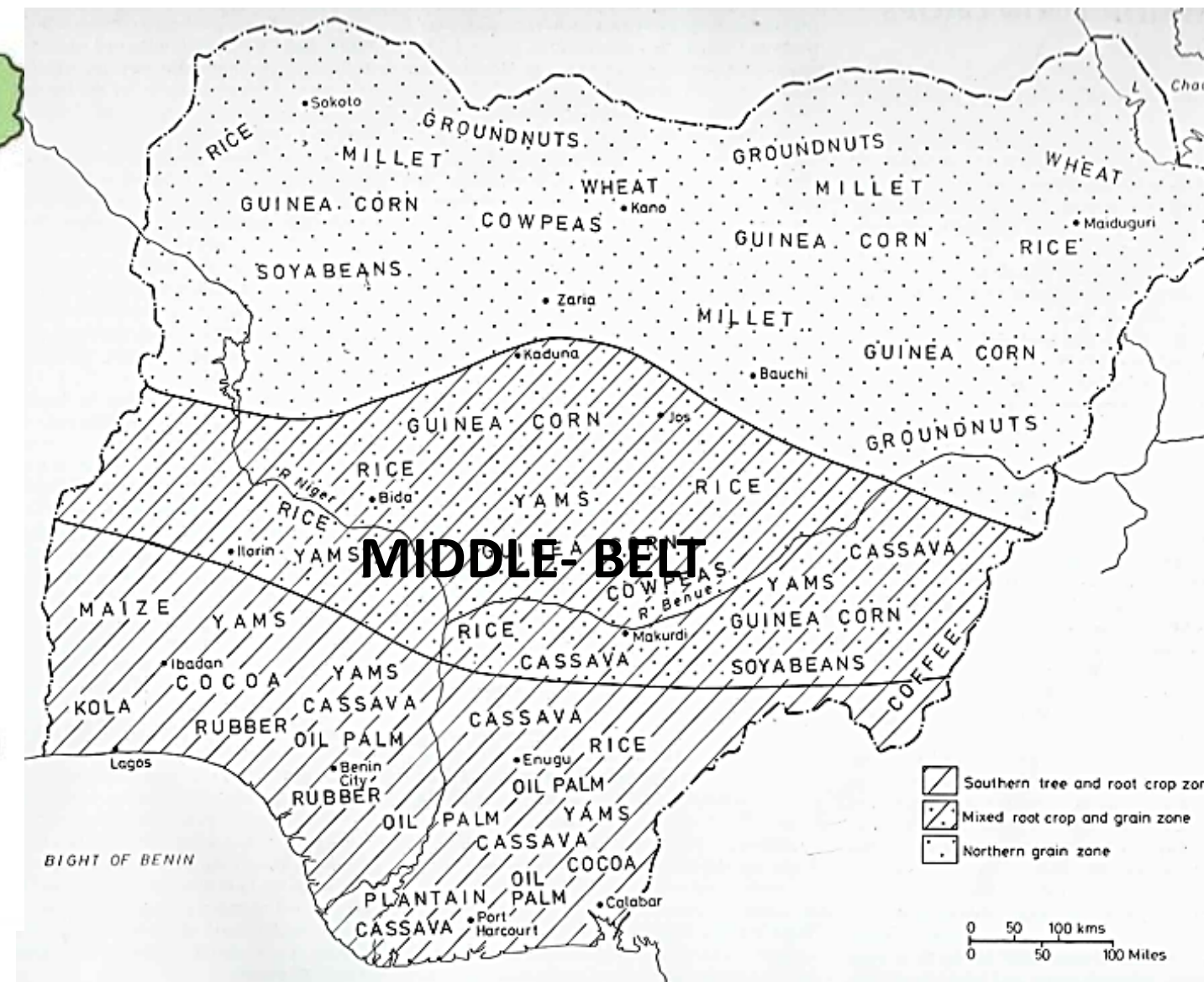
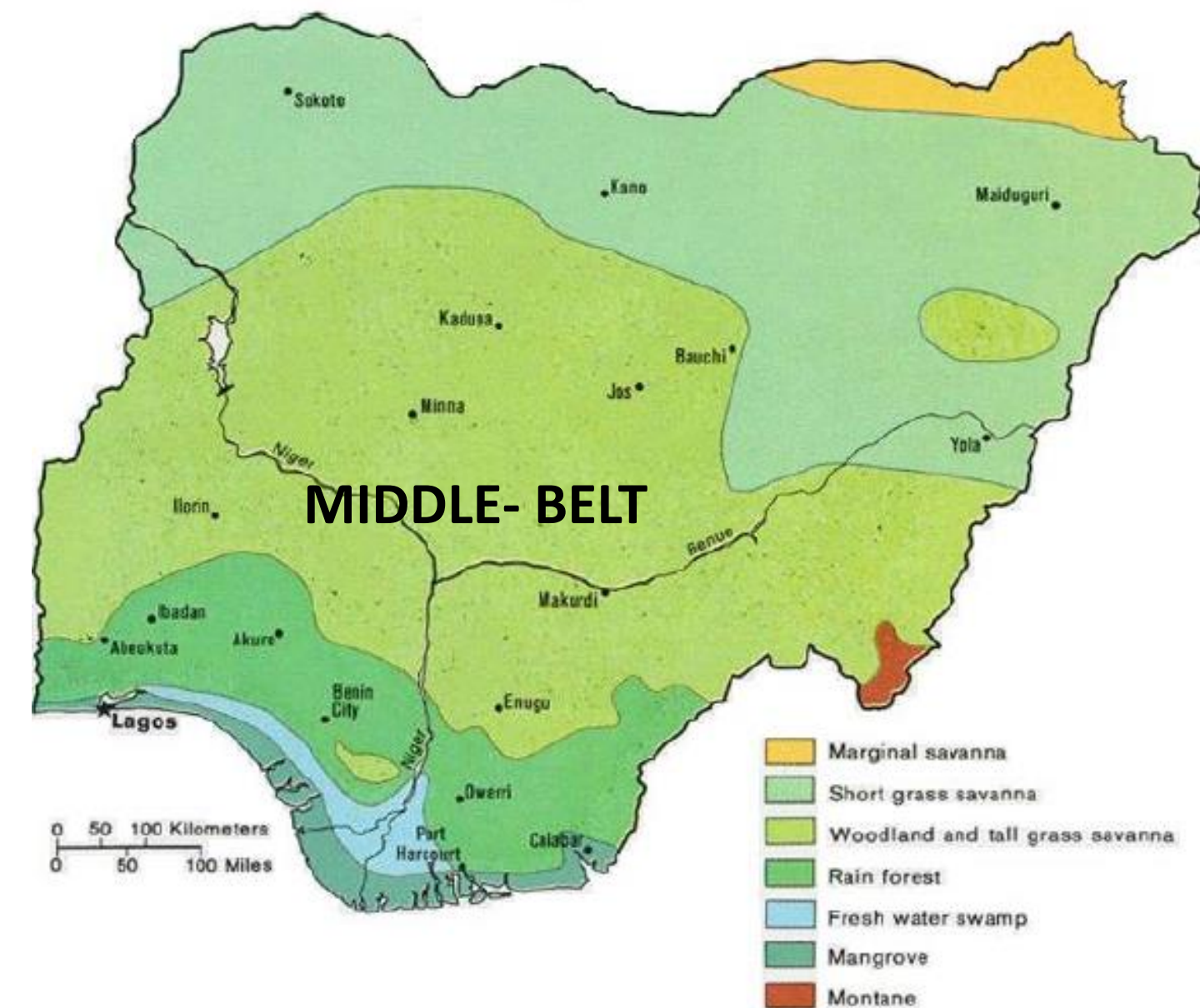






Middle-Belt of Nigeria (focus on Kwara State) –

- Large agrarian population - smallholder farmers
- Ranked poorly on the indices of poverty, hunger, and child malnutrition
- Highly vulnerable to annual flooding from the Niger River and its local tributaries –
- Agricultural and Meteorological drought cause loss of scarce resources on seeds and cultivars



Research Questions

- 1) What is the nature of denominated impacts of, and response to, flood, drought, and heat stress conditions among differential civil/social groups in Lagos and the Mid-belt of Nigeria?
- 2) How much does differentiated flood, drought and heatwaves impacts on health, livelihood, human security, land resources, and access to social services and support systems of the vulnerable and marginalised groups – women, children, PLWD, IDPs, orphans, widows, etc.
- 3) How does the people on the margins prepare, adjust, and adapt to extreme events.
- 4) How does the insights from i, ii and iii above helps in constructing ‘extremeness’ of climatic events from the lens of the people and communities on the margins?
- 5) How does the insights from i, ii and iii above helps in framing climate risk and vulnerability from an interdisciplinary perspective - combining both the hard physical data and social lived experiences of the marginalised people?
- 6) How well can transformational interventions including training and life skills, livelihood capacity empowerment, social adaptation advocacy, land capacity improvement training, etc. contribute to strengthening resilience of the people on the margin.

Specific Objectives for PALM-TREES Nigeria

1. Determine the pattern and drivers of floods and drought conditions in the study area - *hotspots analysis for flood, drought and heat stress conditions*
2. Explore the nature of denominated impacts (exposure and sensitivity) of drought, flood and heat stress among differential civil/social groups – *impacts on livelihoods, health and human security, land resources, and access to social services and support systems etc*
3. Analyse the responses (adaptive capacities) to flood and drought conditions among vulnerable and marginalised groups - *how they prepare, adjust, and adapt to extreme events*
4. Determine the pattern of vulnerability of the people and communities in study area - *combining both the physical data and social lived experiences of the people people*
5. Construct 'extremeness' of flood and drought events from the from the lens of the people and communities on the margins – *from lived experiences of the people on the margins*
6. Implement transformational interventions including nature-based solutions and livelihood and life-skill trainings and capacity empowerment to improve resilience – *strengthen resilience of people on the marginalized through life skills empowerment and social adaptation advocacy, training, etc.*

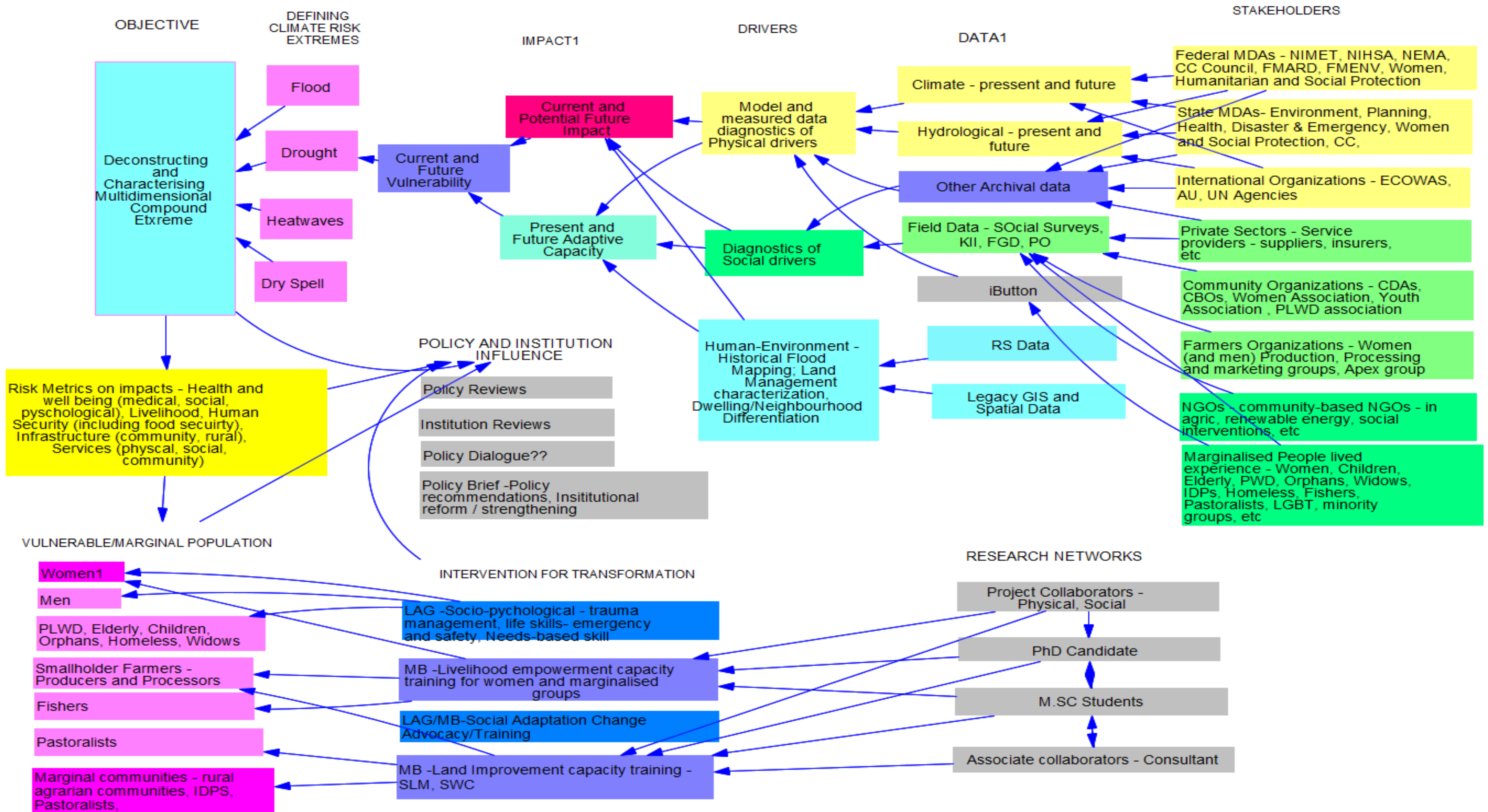


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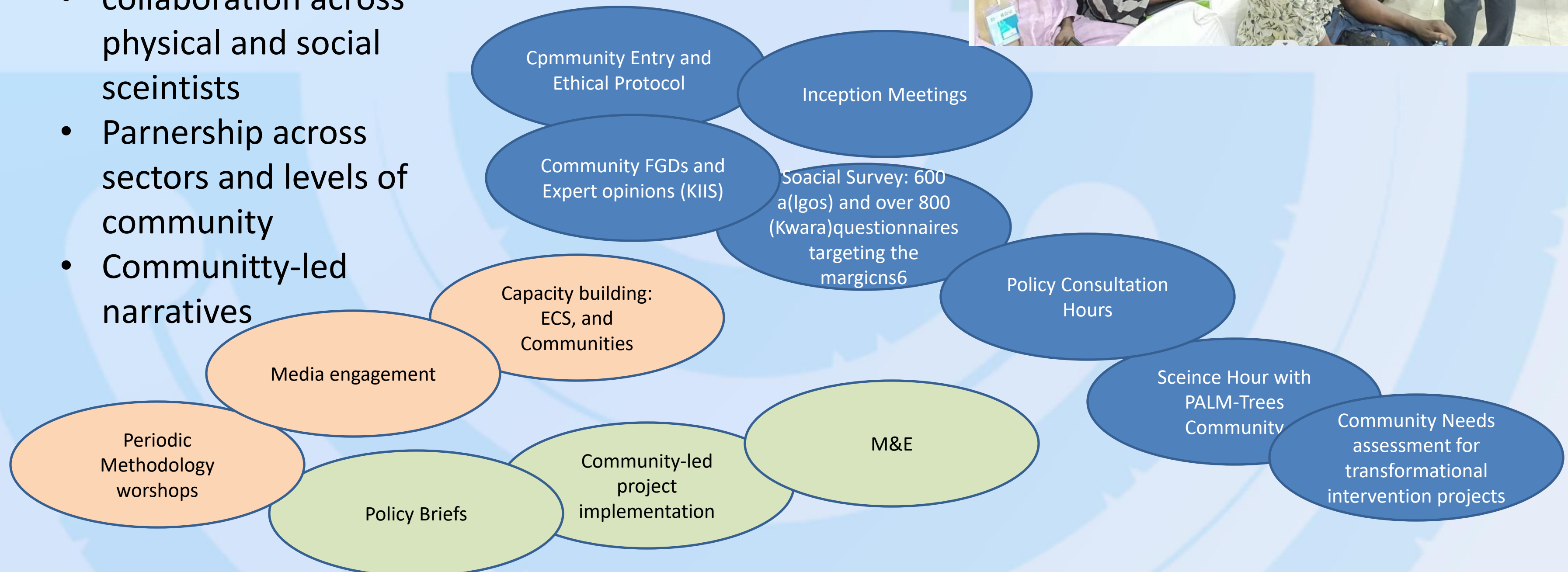
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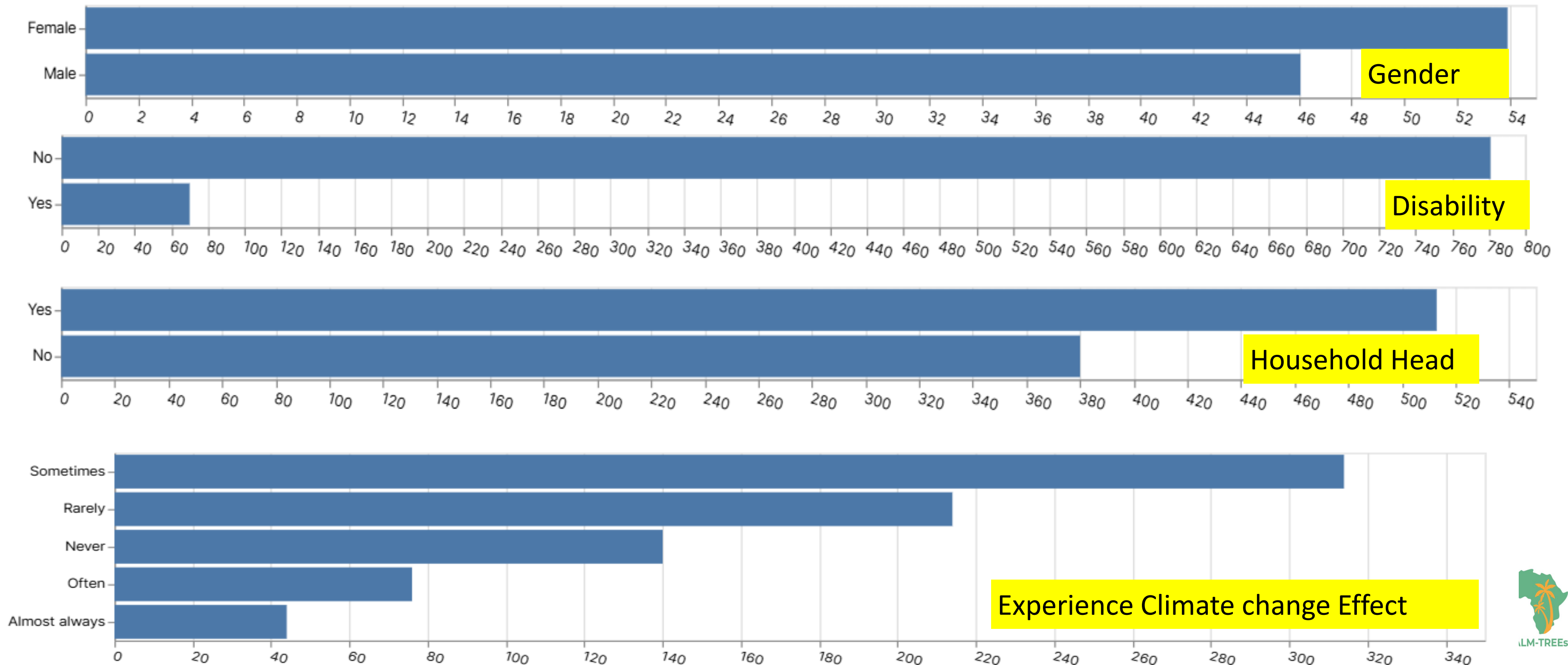
Our Adopted Co-Creation Process

- Institutional partnership building
- collaboration across physical and social scientists
- Partnership across sectors and levels of community
- Community-led narratives



Progress _Social Science

Feedback on physical science, social science and transdisciplinary accomplishments; insights on initial results/findings; completed and proposed papers – number and topics; experienced and emerging challenges, lessons learned, collaborations with other projects, institutions, academics.



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Feedback on physical science, social science and transdisciplinary accomplishments; insights on initial results/findings; completed and proposed papers – number and topics; experienced and emerging challenges, lessons learned, collaborations with other projects, institutions, academics.

KWARA STATE:

- Inception Meeting - May 15, 2025
- Researchers' Meet to Connect - February 21, 2024 Methodology Workshop - 20-21 June, 2024

Proposed Schedule for Field Survey

- Training of Enumerators – 28 January 2025
- Pilot Survey: 29 – 30 January 2025
- Main Field Survey for Questionnaire Administration – 03- 15 February 2025
- Needs Assessment – July-September, 2025

Inception/stakeholder engagement

Summary on the who, what, where, how, how many, experienced and emerging challenges, key insights, lessons learned

KWARA STATE:

- Inception workshop for Kwara- 22 May 2024
- The number of attendees recorded during the event was 110.
- Stakeholder audience – communities' members, policy makers (Government MDAs), Practitioners (NGOs), Researchers, and the Press.
- A press interview session was conducted and press release made to disseminate the purpose of the PT

Accomplishments –

- High Influence stakeholder – MDA and Press were present
- Wide reportage of the proceeding of the inception workshop

Challenges –

Social inclusion due to religious and cultural barriers – attendance: 84m/26f



Inception/stakeholder engagement

Summary on the who, what, where, how, how many, experienced and emerging challenges, key insights, lessons learned

LAGOS INCEPTION

Inception Workshop: 23 April 2024

- The number of attendees recorded during the event was 69.
- Stakeholder audience – communities' members, policy makers (Government MDAs), Practitioners (NGOs), Private sector participant, Researchers, and the Press.
- A press interview session was conducted and press release made to disseminate the purpose of the PT

Accomplishments/outcome –

- created awareness and aligning all stakeholders on the project goals, objectives and deliverables
- High Influence stakeholder – MDA and Press were present
- Wide reportage of the proceeding of the inception workshop

Challenges –

Social inclusion – attendance **43m/26f**



LAGOS Policy Consultation Hour / stakeholder engagement+

Summary on the who, what, where, how, how many, experienced and emerging challenges, key insights, lessons learned

- January 23, 2025

Purpose: To mine stateholders perspectives on climate-related policies (decision-making processes, communication, implememntation and feedbacks)

- The number of attendees recorded during the event was 43
- Stakeholder audience – communities' members, policy makers (Government MDAs), Practitioners (NGOs), Private sector participant and Researchers.
- Approach: A Systestemic Group Intergration Model (SGIM)
- Needs Assessment for Intervention projects (Phase 1(8 communities in Lagos and 10 communities in Kwara) (July-Septemeber 2025)



PALM-TREEs Overall Outcome

- *Reduced barriers to sustainable knowledge networks:* improved understanding of barriers to sustainable local knowledge networks and strategies to support them better.
- *More equitable relationships between communities, practitioners, and researchers to facilitate knowledge exchange:* build better feedback mechanisms and engagement in questioning discriminatory norms and power hierarchies for more sustainable transformation in these relationships.
- *Sustainable change:* New partnerships built during the project that will carry forward methodologies and research developed.
- *Transferable methodology to understand and respond to 'multidimensional compound extremes':* develop transferable and well-contextualised tools, and engagements reproducible in other contexts, especially in Africa.



Implications

Stories of realities during
extreme events are shaped
by social identities
(Intersectionality)

Multidimensional drivers
vs
Adaptation is contextual.

Collaboration across
sectors and across levels of
governancer

Communication barrier is
broken
Social media as a platform
for feedbacks etc.

Disaggregated Data Collection

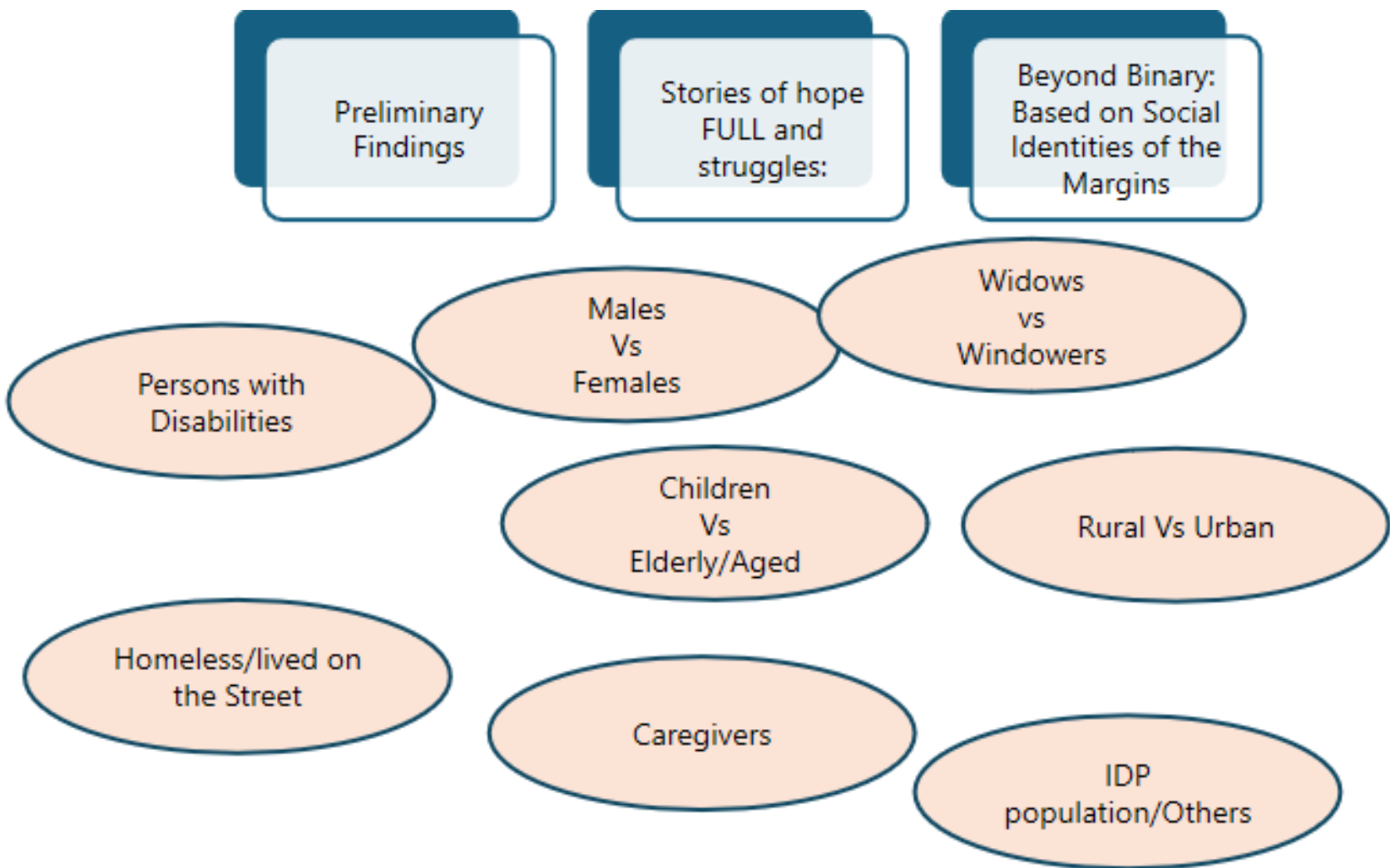


Understand user needs

Collect data on gender-specific usage patterns and preferences.

Analyze sp

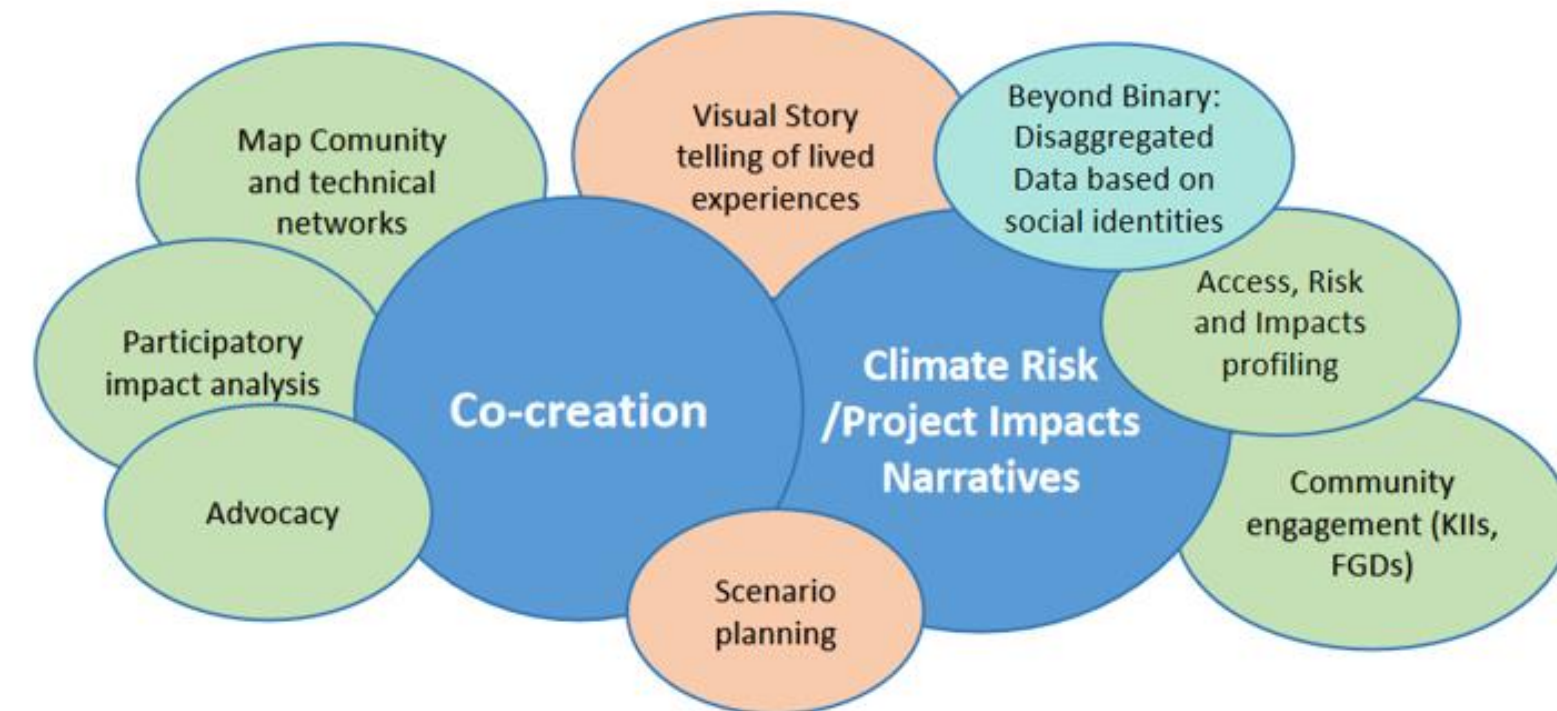
Identify location-based and gender-based disparities in the risks, impacts and adaptive capacities



Develop gender-responsive adaptation and resilience strategies.

Empowering Communities' Voices

- Increased Representation of all Groups
 - Recognised interconnectivities of stakeholders and their responsibility jurisdictions.
 - Story telling was used.
 - A Shared understanding of climate resilience and programmes that are working in each context
 - Inclusive Design
 - Incorporating community needs and perspectives
- Collaborative Approach
 - Breaking communication barrier. Consensus building and feedbacks through social media engagement with our stakeholders
 - Increase community's ownership of intervention projects- They are the real managers



Visual story telling

- ..I am happy that you are relating directly with us. Most often, we are not in the knowing of many government agenda. We have no one to represent us. Even when we are not comfortable with the decision, we had no voice...

A female resident at Ajegunle, Lagos

We have been living together over the years. We don't trust the public agencies. Most of their solutions during floods leads to displacement. We don't want to leave our place. This is our portion. They can help us without moving us from our ancestral homes. An household head at Epe, Lagos

I cannot count the loss. My properties are gone. My credentials and everything I have worked for. We don't know the cause of this disaster. We wake up on the early hour of August 3, 2025 and there is water everywhere. This is not like the annual flooding during dam openings

I am limited with locomotion. But my intellect is not limited. I am into vegetable farming during dry season. I also provide radio repair services and shoe making to my communities.
A PwD in Omupo, Kwara



01

Distrust based on past experience of the communities

There were initial repulsive attitude from Local communities based on past experiences and failure of integration of agreed plans on some projects

02

Gate Keepers Creating Barriers

During Community FGDs, some Gate keepers are found to connect with their allies and not the real margins..

03

Data sharing form public agencies is not easy

Availability of data does not translate to accessibility. This limit the validity possibility of some information that were provided by the communities

04

Contextual risk mapping is tied to people's realities

It is difficult to convince the communities of the risks because of fear of eviction and their attachment to their space. Social inclusion during meetings is still low social inclusion –e.g. attendance 33m/20f

Observed Challenges





Grace Oloukoi, PhD

Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Management,
Department of Urban and Regional Planning,
Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria

oreofeadeniji@yahoo.com; graceoloukoi@gmail.com



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