



**BRAHMATWINN**  
**Coping with flood risk  
by improving adaptation  
strategies: integrating  
scientific and local  
knowledge, enabling  
stakeholder  
participation.**

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FEEM  
Venice, 19 January 2012

## Outline

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1. BRAHMATWINN
2. Integrated Indicator Table
3. Responses to cope with flood risk
4. Gap analysis
5. Conclusions
6. Current research

# 1.

## BRAHMATWINN

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- FP6 research project, June 2006 – December 2009
- enhance capacity to carry out a harmonized integrated water resources management (IWRM) approach as addressed by the European Water Initiative in headwater river systems of alpine mountain massifs already impacted from climate change
- establish a transfer of professional IWRM expertise, approaches and tools based on case studies carried out in twinning European and Asian river basins

<http://www.brahmatwinn.uni-jena.de/index.php?id=5314&L=2>

## 1.1

## Case studies

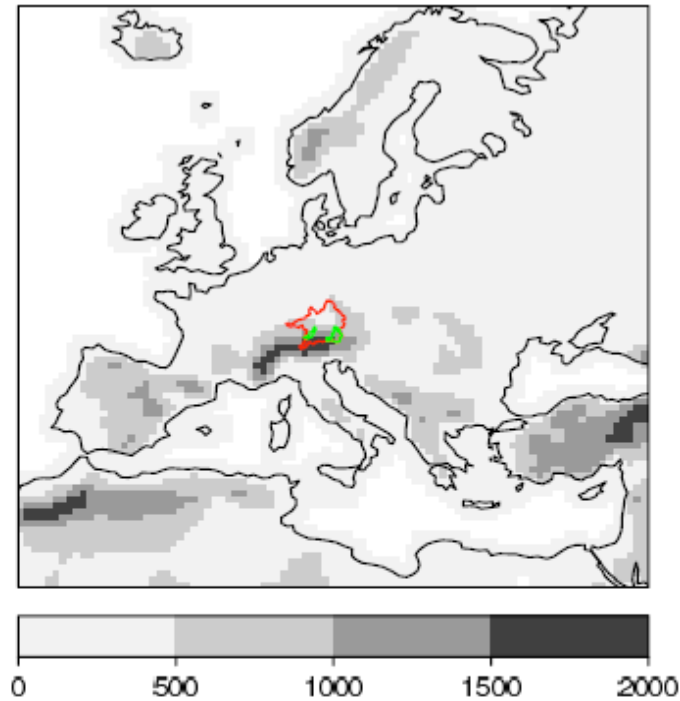


Figure 1: Orography (m) used for the regional climate simulations with the CLM. The colored areas denote the Upper Danube (red), the Lech (left), and the Salzach (right) river basins.

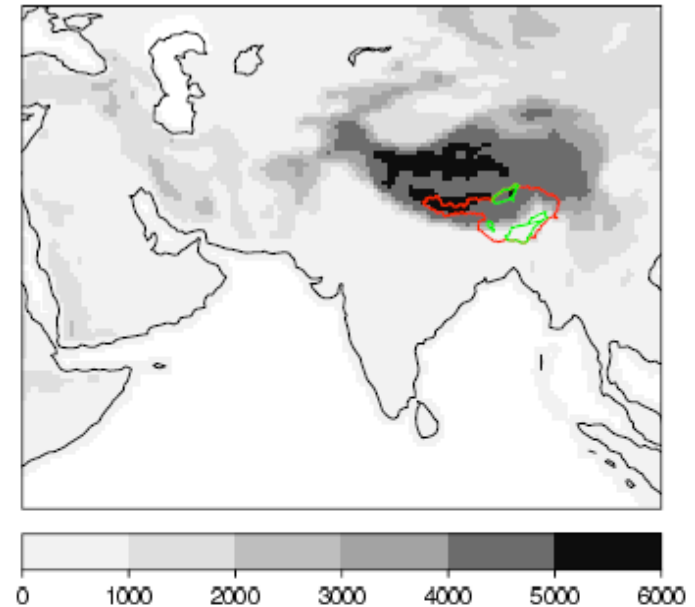


Figure 2: As for Fig. 1, but for the South Asian computational domain with the Assam region (bottom right) and the Upper Brahmaputra (red), the Lhasa (top) and the Wang-Chu (bottom left) river basins.

## 1.2

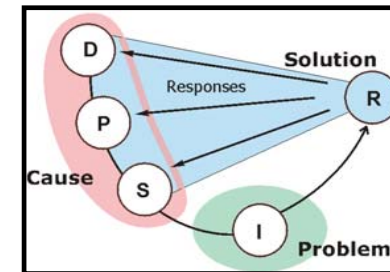
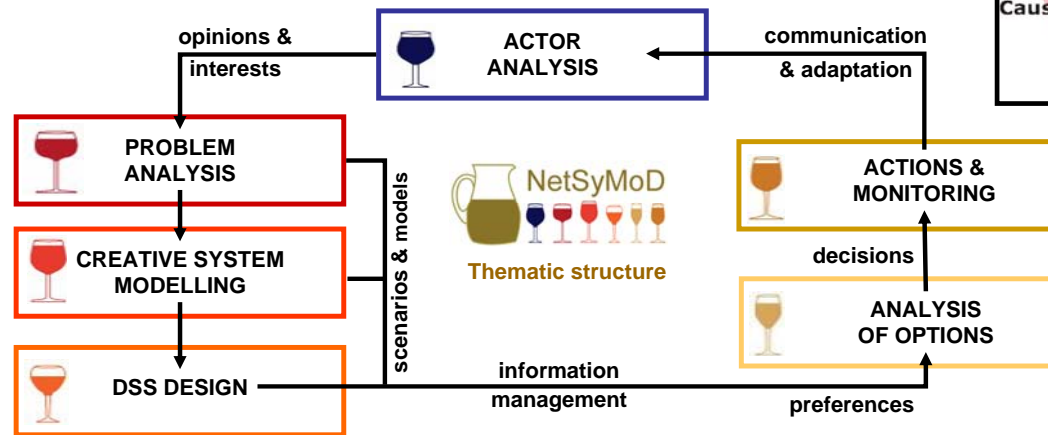
## Research consortium

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Friedrich-Schiller University, Jena, Germany (Coordinator)  
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal  
Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, India  
The Royal University of Bhutan  
Institute for Tibetan Plateau Research, China  
Center for Agricultural Resource Research, China  
Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich, Germany  
Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt Main, Germany  
Z\_GIS, Universität Salzburg, Austria  
University of Vienna, Austria  
University of Southampton, United Kingdom  
University of Dundee, United Kingdom  
University of Oslo, Norway  
Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Italy  
H.G. Geodata Solutions GmbH (SME), Germany  
3Kon GmbH (SME), Germany  
Vodni Zdroje a.s. (SME), Czech Republic

## Context

- Climate change adaptation
  - glacier retreat and decreasing water availability
- Social-ecological system and IWRM
  - participatory process and knowledge integration
- Frameworks and tools:
  - DPSIR, NetSyMoD and mDSS



## 2.

## Integrated Indicator Table

Goal: establish a biunivocal relation between research outcomes and stakeholders' needs in the field of IWRM

BRAHMATWINN RESEARCHERS	Theme	Domain	Sub- Domain	LOCAL ACTORS	
				Issues	Responses
	Environmental				
	Social				
	Economic				
	Governance				

# 2.

## Integrated Indicator Table

2 12 12 11 4 9 = 49

Theme	Domain	Sub-Domain	ED	D	P	S	I	R	
Environmental	Basin description	Basin morphology					1		
		Ecosystem /Biodiversity					1		
	Land use / Land use change	Biodiversity					1		
		Land use					1		
		Glaciology					1		
	Forests	Permafrost					1		
		Forest management					1		
		Water quality					1		
		Water resources pressure			1				
	Water	Water resources state					1		
		Water resources impact						1	
		Water flow					1		
	Climate	Precipitation		1					
		Aridity						1	
Evapotranspiration							1		
Environmental hazards	Temperature		1						
	Vulnerability						1		
Social	Livelihoods/ Assets	Poverty			1				
		Water availability			1				
		Education /Information			1				
	Population	Population dynamics			1				
	Gender	Gender issues			1				
	Community structure	Age distribution			1				
		Morbidity and mortality						1	
	Health/ Sanitation	Sanitation system				1			
		Healthcare delivery				1			
	Settlements	Housing settlements				1			
		Urban settlements				1			
	Infrastructure	Access to infrastructure				1			
		Road infrastructure			1				
		Water infrastructure			1				
Economic	Wastes	Infrastructure pressures					1		
		Waste management					1		
		Energy consumption					1		
	Energy	Energy production					1		
		Agricultural production					1		
	Economic development	Service sector			1				
		Construction sector					1		
		Industrial production				1			
		GDP/GNP				1			
		Employment				1			
	Governance	Education	Capacity building						1
			Increase knowledge						1
		Institutional and legislative frameworks	Decision making						1
			Public Participation						1
Disaster preparedness								1	
IWRM /NRM								1	
International relations		General institutional and legislative frameworks						1	
Transboundary issues								1	

	S-d	Ind
<b>ENV</b>	17	83
<b>SOC</b>	15	50
<b>ECON</b>	9	34
<b>GOV</b>	8	23
<b>tot</b>	49	190





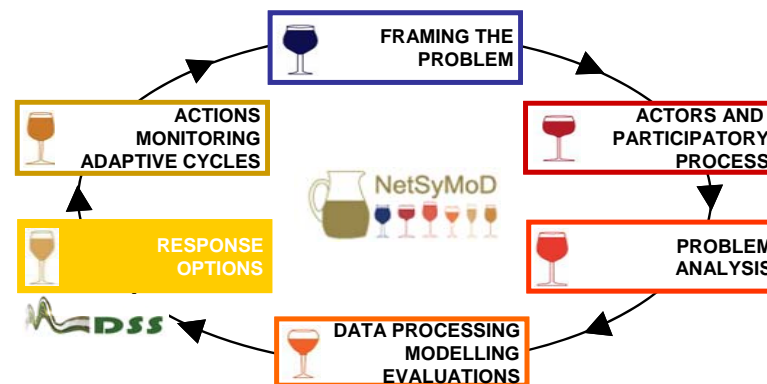
Theme	BrahmaT Winn PROJECT PARTNERS		Sub-Domain	STAKEHOLDERS	
	Domain	INDICATOR		definition	RESPONSE STRATEGIES
Education		Conduct of training programmes & short-term course	Measure of transfer of knowledge & requisite skill	Capacity building Develop capacity building and awareness plans for local communities and their leaders Increase awareness of the population on risks, conservation and WRM Training of employees and administrative people Strengthen traditional knowledge Reduce poverty	
		Environmental information	Measure of the ability for individuals / organisations to access accurate and comprehensive information, including environmental information.		Increase knowledge Integration and coordination among different sectors of research and decision making Increase knowledge on best practices and research on impacts of natural hazards Environmental monitoring  Flood modelling Dissemination of knowledge Educational policy
		IWRM information	Measure to assess degree to which relevant authorities are bound to collect and disseminate relevant information on IWRM and climate change.		
	IWRM information exchange	Measure to assess degree to which relevant authorities are bound to exchange relevant information on IWRM and climate change.			
Governance	Institutional and legislative frameworks	Stakeholders participation in decision making	Measure to assess degree to which stakeholders, including individuals, government organisations and civil society organisations, are able to participate in broader water and flood management.	Decision making Inclusiveness and empowerment in the decision making process Integration of research in decision making	
		Citizens consultation actively sought	Measure to assess degree to which stakeholders, including individuals, government organisations and civil society organisations, are able to participate in broader water and flood management.	Public Participation Improve Community involvement and foster participatory processes for decision making Foster livelihood practices based on conservation, rehabilitation and sustainability	
		Stakeholders participation in water and flood management	Measure to assess degree to which stakeholders, including individuals, government organisations and civil society organisations, are able to participate in broader water and flood management.		
		Early Warning System available per 1000m grid cell		Disaster preparedness Introduce adequate construction methods  Early warning systems (EWS)  Design policy for flood management Introduce flood insurance  Disaster risk management Protection of communities Hazard zonation	
		First responders	Distance to first responders (fire brigade, ambulance)		
		Emergency plan for flood & erosion mitigation Availability of risk zones and laws	Emergency measures for flood-fighting & erosion control round-the-clock Assumption that the availability of risk zones connected with laws leads to a protection of communities		
		Raised platform construction in rural areas	Emergency shelter for village people with minimum facilities during floods	IWRM /NRM River training works Multi-purpose dam construction  Control of GLOFs  Channel improvement  Agricultural practices  Soil conservation efforts Forest management Flood and erosion control Reservoirs Renaturation Watershed management Environmental Impact Assessment for new dams Interaction among science, governance and public Design and implement IWRM plans Design and implement relief and rehabilitation plans Land use planning Retention areas planning Town planning	
		IWRM extent	Measure to assess degree to which water management is consistent with the principles of IWRM		
		IWRM climate change obligations	Measure to assess degree to which water management is consistent with the principles of IWRM, and whether or not institutional obligations are consistent with this.		
		Flood risk planning	Measure to assess degree to which flood planning processes and systems take account of all relevant risk factors that may have an impact on flood management and mitigation.		
		Effective emergency alleviation	Measure to assess degree to which emergency response systems protect and alleviate damage and suffering.		
		Flood risk: water and land use planning	Measure to assess degree to which flood risk is taken into account in the decision-making processes with respect to broader land and water use management, and in the context of environmental impact assessments.	General institutional and legislative frameworks Accountability and transparency in government actions  Implement and enforce existing laws and design new and more effective laws Establishment of institutions  Resolve conflicts and strengthen coordination among institutions Avoid government crisis	
	Stream-bank erosion control plan	Well-planned engineering measures on holistic approach for erosion control in vulnerable areas			
	Rights to information	Measure of the ability for individuals / organisations to access accurate and comprehensive information, including environmental information.			
International relations		Civil society access to redress and remedy	Measure of the capacity of individuals and organisations to effectively access justice, redress and remedy.	Transboundary issues Inter-state coordination and conflict resolution, cross-boundary issues	
		Constitutionality of laws	Measure of the capacity of the ability for national / local legislation to be effectively consistent with national constitutions and international agreements.		
		Checks and balances on government	Measure of the capacity of the executive to be controlled by the legislature / courts.		
	Enactment of consolidation of land holdings Act	Administrative instrument to prevent fragmentation of land holdings of agricultural land	Note by UnivDu: Inter-state issues have been incorporated into all the governance indicators already, so this is already implicit in them.		

### 3.

## Responses to cope with flood risk

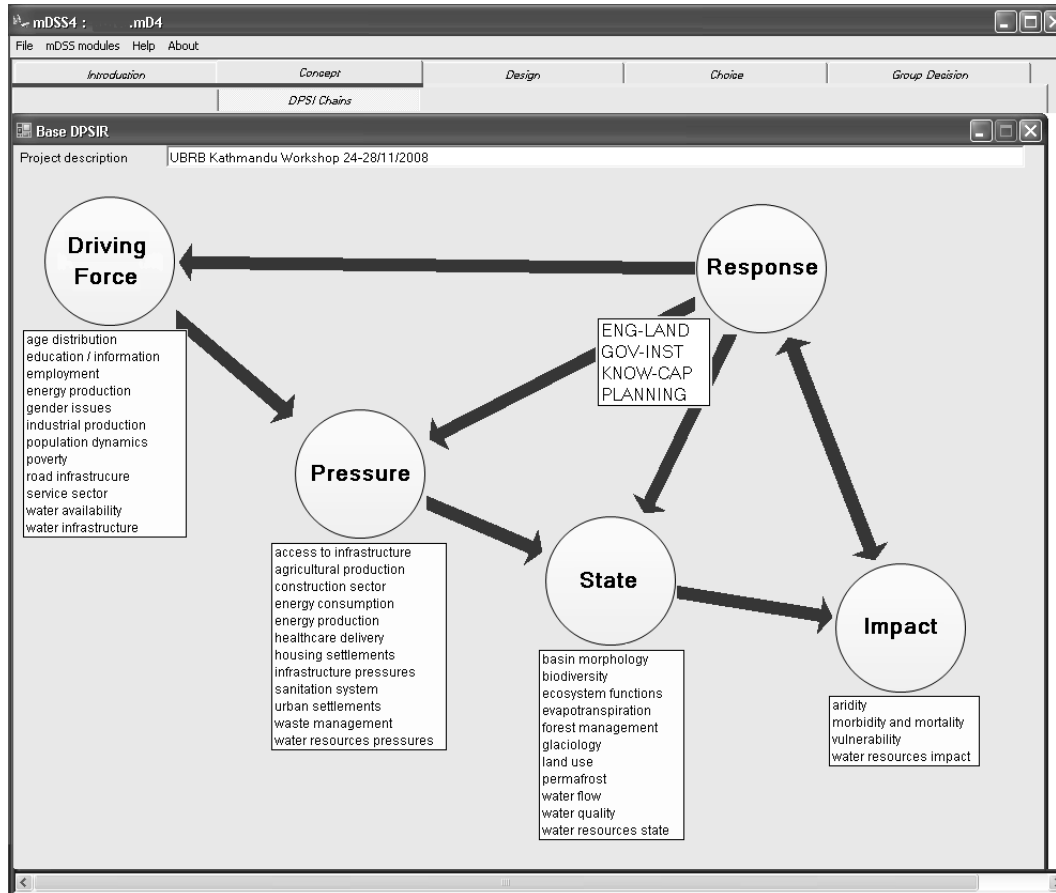
Goal: design IWRM responses to cope with flood risk

- NetSyMoD: DSS design
- Decision making process: mDSS
- Participatory setting: 2 workshops
- Stakeholders: end-users of BRAHMATWINN outcomes



# 3.1

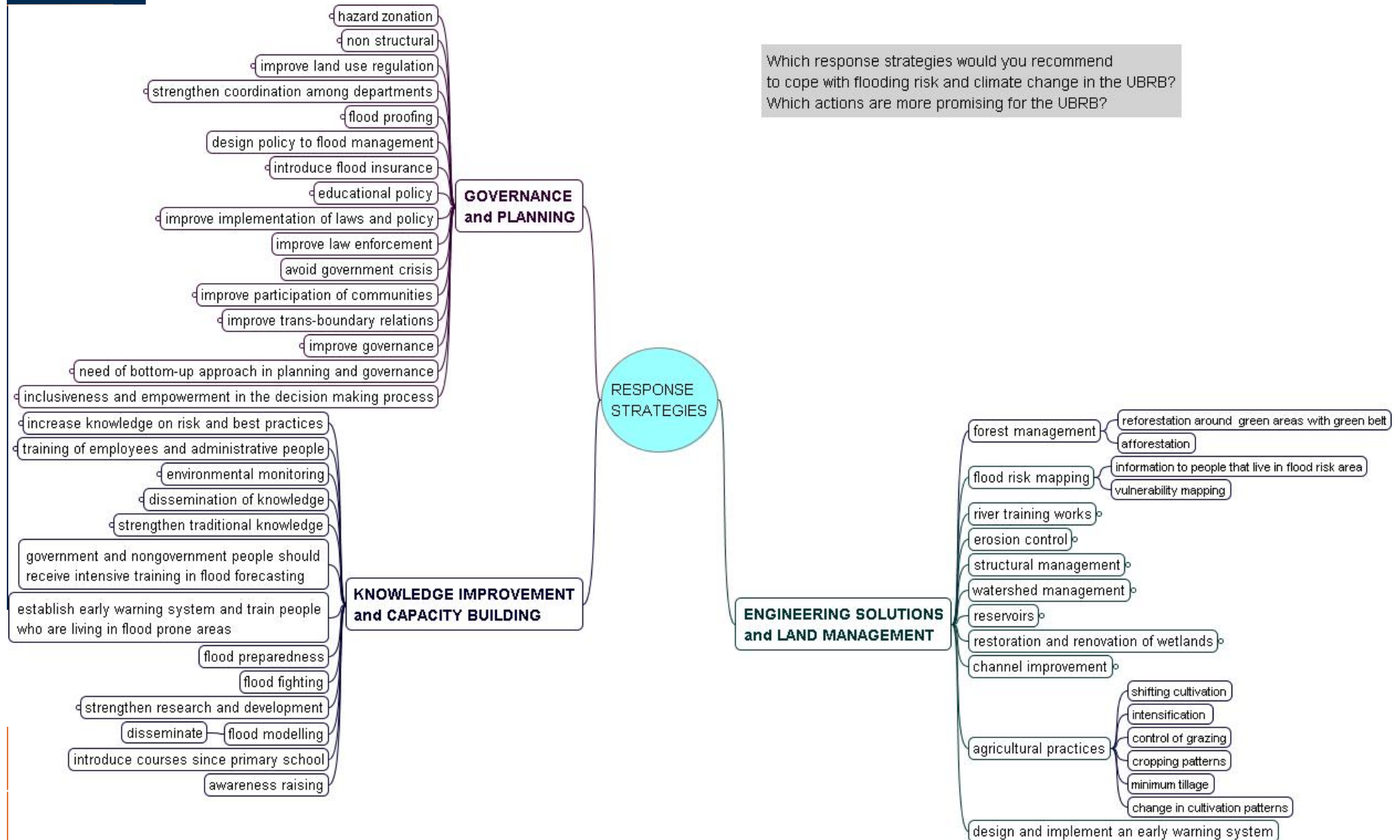
## mDSS: DPSIR



# 3.2

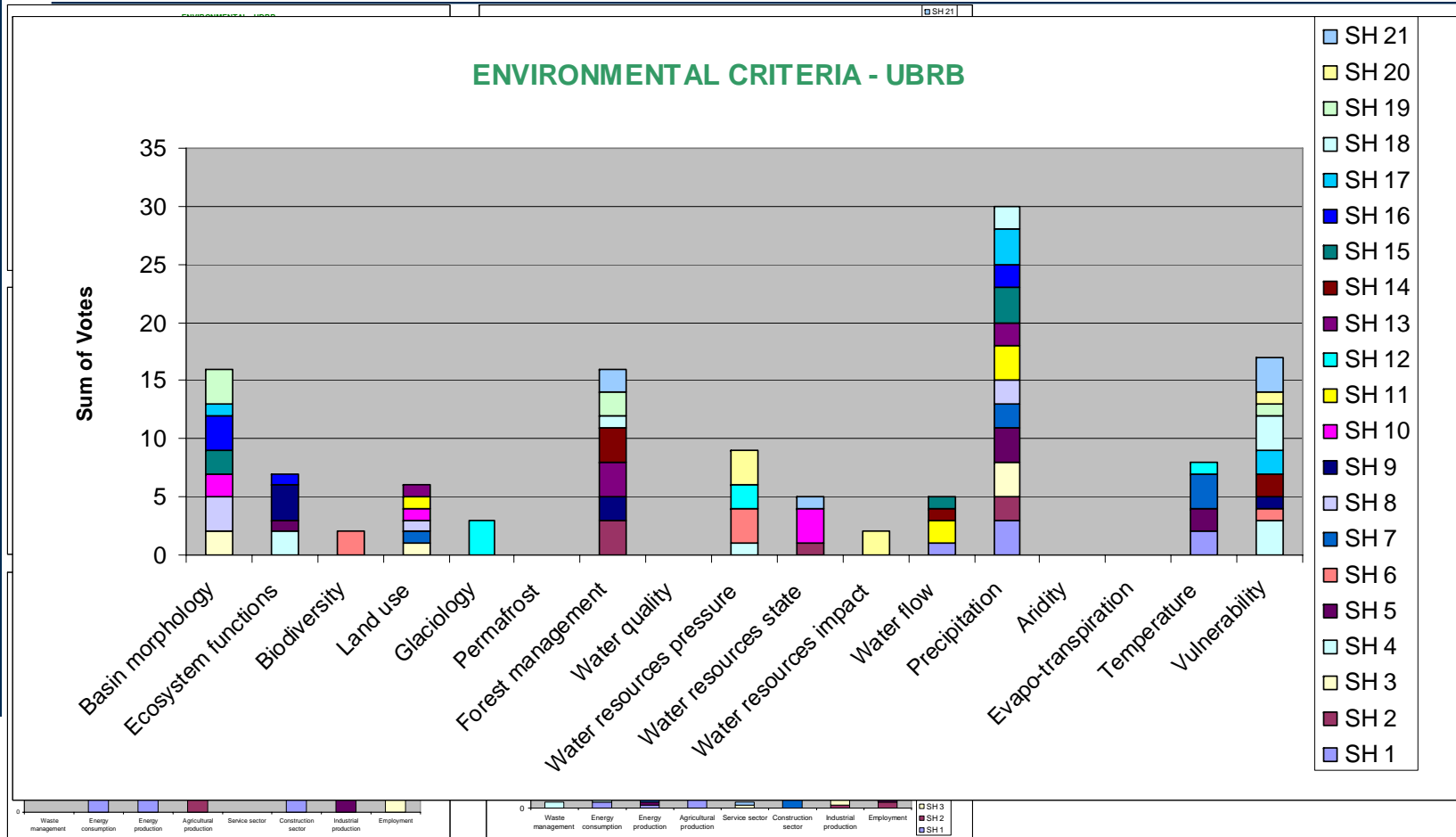
## Brainstorming

Which response strategies would you recommend to cope with flooding risk and climate change in the UBRB? Which actions are more promising for the UBRB?



# 3.3

## Criteria selection



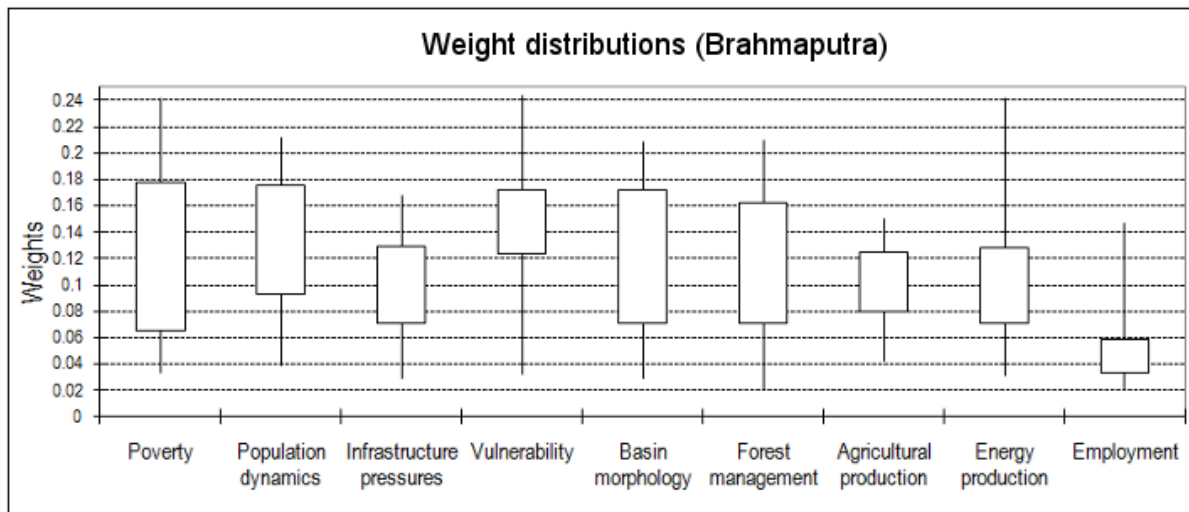
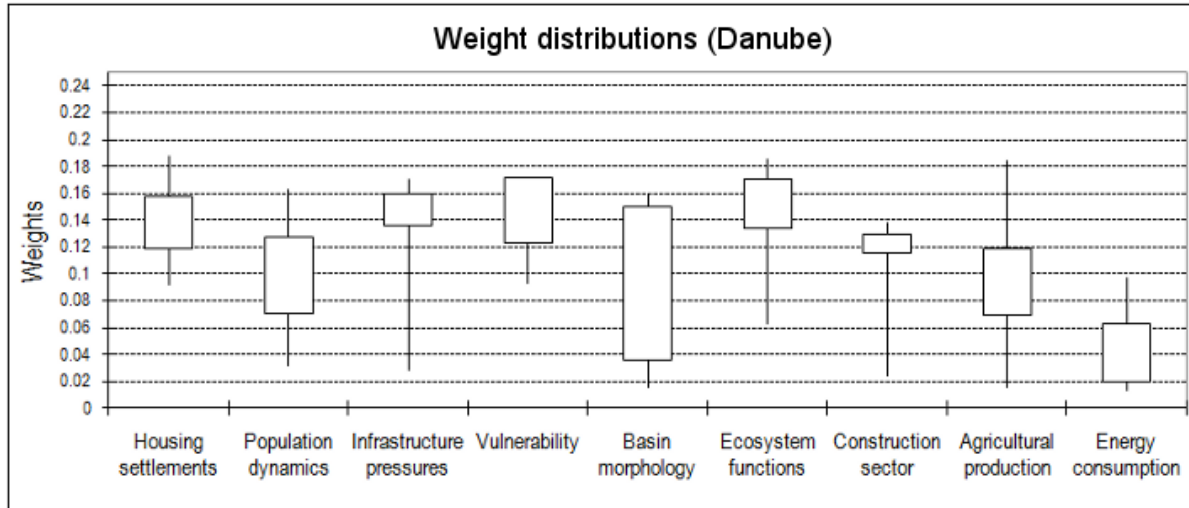
## 3.4

## Criteria weighting

UDRB WS		UBRB WS	
criteria selected	weight	criteria selected	weight
<b>Vulnerability ENV</b>	<b>0.144</b>	<b>Vulnerability ENV</b>	<b>0.145</b>
Housing settlements SOC	0.138	Forest management ENV	0.113
Ecosystem functions ENV	0.143	<b>Population dynamics SOC</b>	<b>0.132</b>
<b>Infrastructure pressures SOC</b>	<b>0.133</b>	Poverty SOC	0.125
<b>Agricultural production ECON</b>	<b>0.111</b>	<b>Basin morphology ENV</b>	<b>0.125</b>
Construction sector ECON	0.099	<b>Agricultural production ECON</b>	<b>0.103</b>
<b>Population dynamics SOC</b>	<b>0.097</b>	Energy production ECON	0.101
<b>Basin morphology ENV</b>	<b>0.091</b>	<b>Infrastructure pressures SOC</b>	<b>0.100</b>
Energy consumption ECON	0.043	Employment ECON	0.056

## 3.5

# Criteria weights distribution



# 3.6

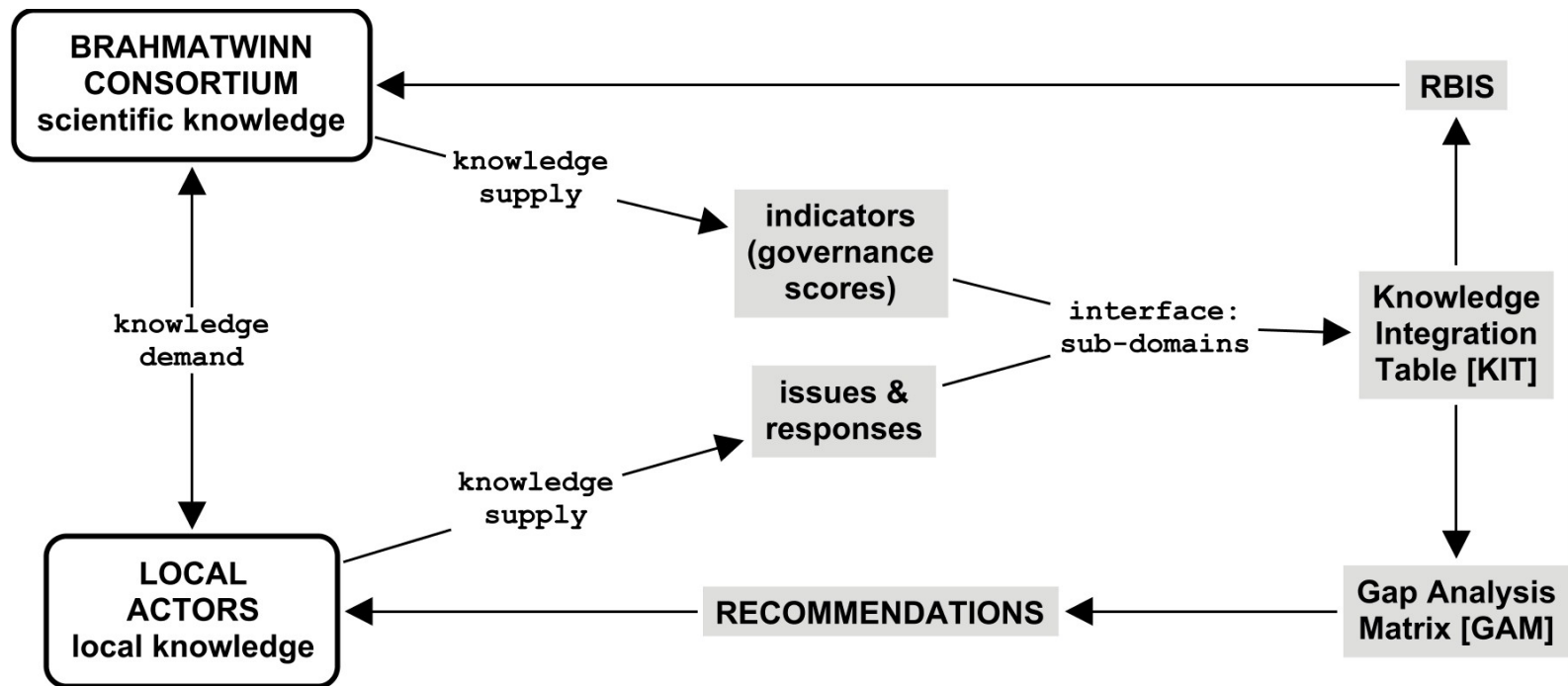
## Preferred Response

The screenshot shows the ELECTRE software interface. On the left, the 'Weights' section has 'Independent' selected and 'Normalise' button. Below are sliders for eight criteria: employment (0.056), poverty (0.125), population dynamics (0.132), agricultural production (0.103), energy production (0.101), infrastructure pressures (0.100), and basin morphology (0.125). The 'Thresholds' section has 'P', 'Q', and 'T' buttons, with 'P' and 'Q' set to 0.051 and 0.05 respectively. On the right, 'Responses for Electre' shows two outranking tables. Both tables have 'RANKS' and 'OPTIONS' columns. The 'Descending outranking' table shows ranks 7, 2, 2, 2 for options PLANNING, ENG-LAND, GOV-INST, and KNOW-CAP. The 'Ascending outranking' table shows the same ranks and options. At the bottom are buttons for 'P. C. W.', 'Hierarchical weighting', 'Swing weights', 'Load the weights', 'Save the weights', and 'Run ELECTRE'.



# 4.

## Gap Analysis



# 4.1

## Governance scores

Theme	Domain	BRAHMATWINN RESEARCHERS			Sub-Domain	LOCAL ACTORS	
		indicators	Score [%]				responses
			law	imple- mentation			
GOVERNANCE	Education	(1) Availability of environmental information to the public where requested, including actual copies of the documentation containing or comprising such information.	84	60	Increase knowledge	Integration and coordination among different sectors of research and decision making; Increase awareness and knowledge on best practices and research on impacts of natural hazards; Environmental monitoring; Flood modelling; Dissemination of knowledge; Educational policy.	
		(2) Clear and coherent roles and responsibilities for the effective collection and generation of information related to IWRM and Climate Change.	52	68			
		(3) Clear and coherent roles and responsibilities for the effective exchange of data and information relevant to IWRM and Climate Change.	49	40			
	Institutional and legislative frameworks	Public Participation	(4) Rights of stakeholders established and maintained, including civil society organisations, and disadvantaged or underrepresented groups to participate in decision-making	77	43	Public Participation	Improve community involvement and foster participatory processes for decision-making, policy-making and implementation of laws; Foster livelihood practices as long-term practices, based on conservation, rehabilitation and sustainability.
			(5) Consultation of citizens actively sought by government institutions on policy issues, budgetary priorities and development decisions	80	63		
			(6) Effective participation of all stakeholders, including civil society organisations, in water and flood management	43	20		
		IWRM /NRM	(7) Water management conducted in accordance with IWRM	25	18	IWRM /NRM	Establishment of institutions; Resolve conflicts and strengthen coordination among institutions; Protection of communities; Early Warning systems; River training works; Multi-purpose dam construction; Control of GLOFs; Channel improvement; Agricultural practices; Relief and rehabilitation.
			(8) Clear rights and obligations in relation to IWRM and Climate Change	33	15		
			(9) All relevant risks are taken account of and mitigated in flood planning	17	9		
			(10) Effective emergency alleviation and response system that limits risk and protects people, property and environment?	61	38		
			(11) Flood risk taken into account in broader land / water use management and environmental impact assessment	24	8		
			(12) Enforceable and adequate rights of access to information (including environmental information)	97	70		
		General institutional and legislative frameworks	(13) Civil society access to redress and remedy	94	49	General institutional and legislative frameworks	Accountability and transparency in government actions; Implement and enforce existing laws and design new and more effective laws; Inter-state coordination and conflict resolution, cross-boundary issues.
			(14) System to challenge a law on the basis that it violates international law or the constitution	88	70		
			(15) Checks and balances between different branches of government	88	70		

## 4.2

# Gap Analysis Matrix (GAM)

BRAHMATWINN RESEARCHERS	Theme	Domain	Sub-Domain	LOCAL ACTORS	
indicators				issues	responses
	environmental				
	social				
	economic				
	governance				

BRAHMATWINN governance indicators		LOCAL ACTORS responses
law	implementation	

## 4.3

# Allocation of indicators to responses

BRAHMATWINN RESEARCHERS: governance indicators																LOCAL ACTORS: responses
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)		
			X	X	X							X			Community involvement in decision making	
									X						Early Warning System	
								X	X						Protection of communities	
									X	X					Relief and rehabilitation	
						X	X	X							IWRM	
X	X			X	X							X			Awareness of the population on risks, conservation, and WRM	
						X									Establishment of institutions	
			X	X											Policy making and implementation of laws	
							X			X				X	Coordination among institutions	
			X	X	X	X				X	X				Long-term vision and measure VS. short-term engineering solutions	
		X				X							X		Inter-state conflict, cross boundary issues	

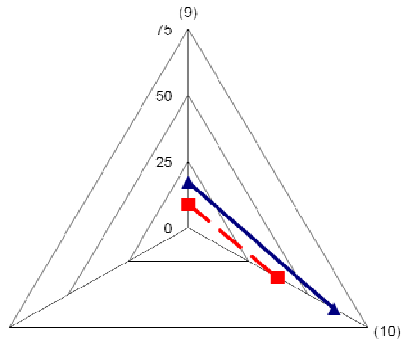
## 4.4

## GAM: results

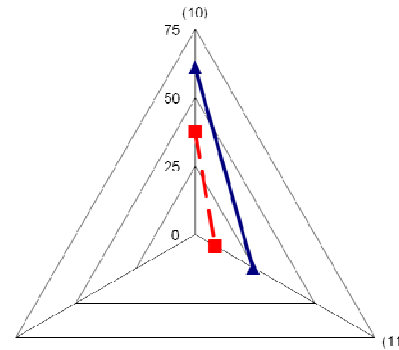
BRAHAMATWINN RESEARCHERS: governance indicators				LOCAL ACTORS: responses
law [%]	implementation [%]			
73	44		Community involvement in decision making	
61	38		Early Warning System	
39	23		Protection of communities	
43	23		Relief and rehabilitation	
25	14		IWRM	
70	52		Awareness of the population on risks, conservation, and WRM	
25	18		Establishment of institutions	
78	53		Policy making and implementation of laws	
48	31		Coordination among institutions	
58	37		Long-term vision and measure VS. short-term engineering solutions	
54	43		Inter-state conflict, cross boundary issues	

# GAM: results

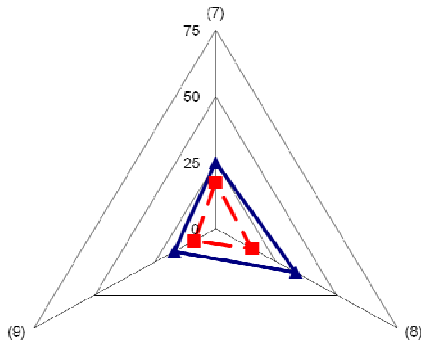
protection of communities



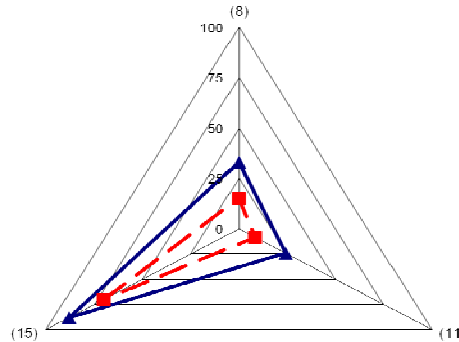
relief and rehabilitation



IWRM



coordination among institutions



**Qualitative governance indicators:**

- (7) Water management conducted in accordance with IWRM
- (8) Clear rights and obligations in relation to IWRM and Climate Change
- (9) All relevant risks are taken account of and mitigated in flood planning
- (10) Effective emergency alleviation and response system that limits risk and protects people, property and environment
- (11) Flood risk taken into account in broader land / water use management and environmental impact assessment
- (15) Checks and balances between different branches of government” as all other governance indicators relative to the Sub-domain

**solid blue lines and triangles: law**  
**dashed red lines and squares: implementation**

## Conclusions

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- Methods have been developed and tested to operationalize IWRM and CCA
- Communication and exchange of information by means of **IIT**: interaction among researchers and stakeholders
- Participatory process to design **responses** and cope with flood risk using mDSS raised interest among SH
- **GAM** to define recommendations for IWRM governance improvement
- Stakeholders gave good feedback on processes

## Publications

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- Ceccato, L., Giannini, V., and Giupponi, C. (2011) Participatory assessment of adaptation strategies to flood risk in the Upper Brahmaputra and Danube river basins. *Environmental Science and Policy*, doi:10.1016/j.envsci.2011.05.016
- Giannini, V., and Giupponi, C. (2011) Improving water governance through science and stakeholder dialogue: experience from Assam (Northeast India). *CMCC Research papers RP0115*.
- Giannini, V. and Giupponi, C. (2011) Integration by identification of indicators, *Adv. Sci. Res.*, 7, 55-60, doi:10.5194/asr-7-55-2011.
- Giannini, V., Ceccato, L., Hutton, C., Allan, A.A., Kienberger, S., Flügel, W.-A., and Giupponi, C. (2011) Development of responses based on IPCC and "what-if?" IWRM scenarios, *Adv. Sci. Res.*, 7, 71-81, doi:10.5194/asr-7-71-2011.
- Giannini, V., A.A.Allan, C.Hutton, C.Giupponi, F.A.Johnson. (submitted) Adaptive IWRM responses to cope with "what if?" scenarios. IN: W.A. Flügel & N.Sharma (Eds.). *Applied Geoinformatics for Sustainable Integrated Water resources Management (IWRM). Results from the EU-project BRAHMATWINN*. The Netherlands, Springer
- Giupponi, C. & V.Giannini. Participatory Planning for Climate Change Adaptation in the BRAHMATWINN Project. Presented in: *International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software*, Ottawa, Canada (5-8 July 2010) *International Environmental Modelling & Software Society (iEMSs)*
- Giannini, V. et al. (2009) A participatory approach for defining response strategies to reduce risk and vulnerability from flooding in a changing climate. *IOP Conf. Ser.: Earth Environ. Sci.* 6 362005 [doi:10.1088/1755-1307/6/36/362005](https://doi.org/10.1088/1755-1307/6/36/362005)



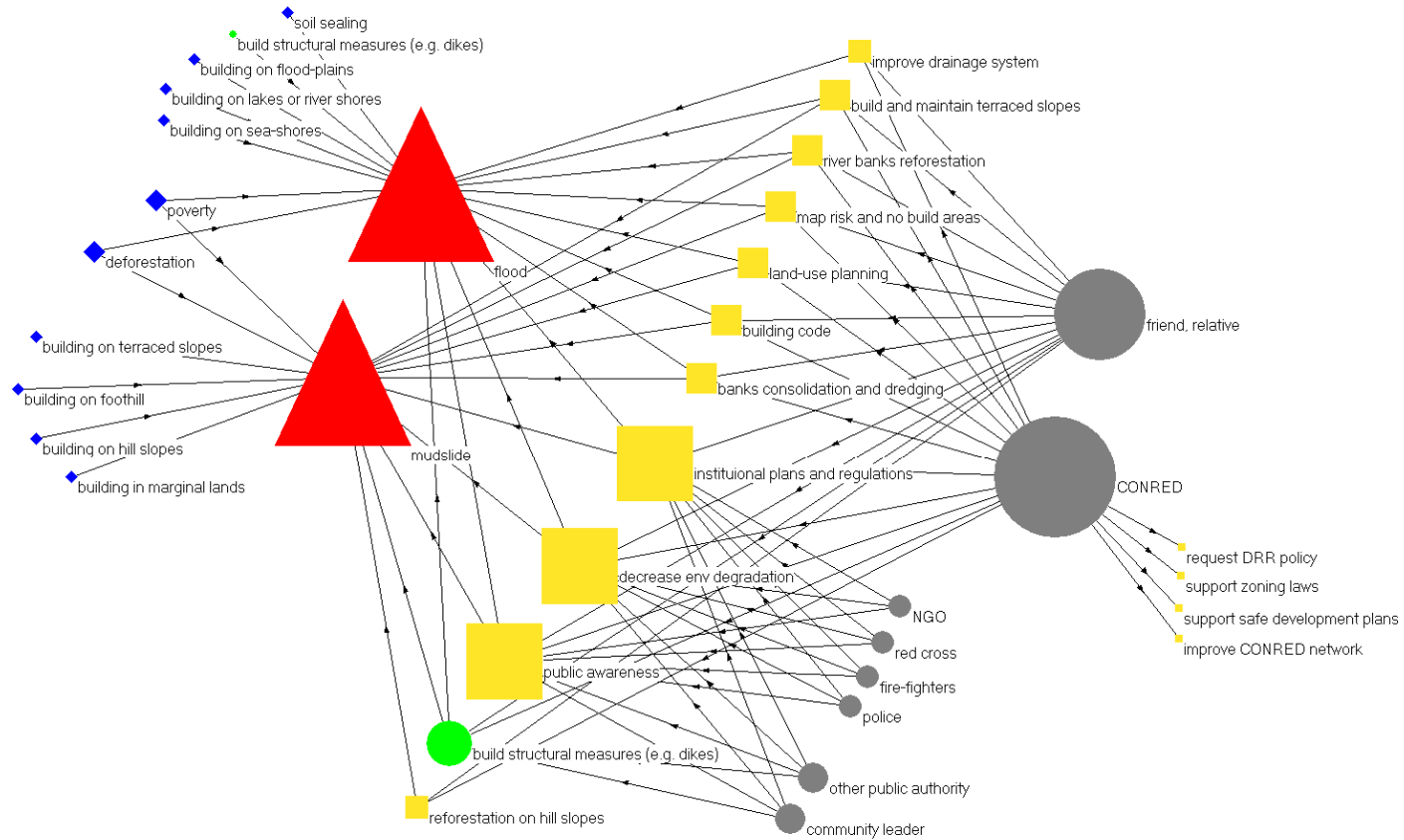
## Acknowledgements



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# 6.

## Current research







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