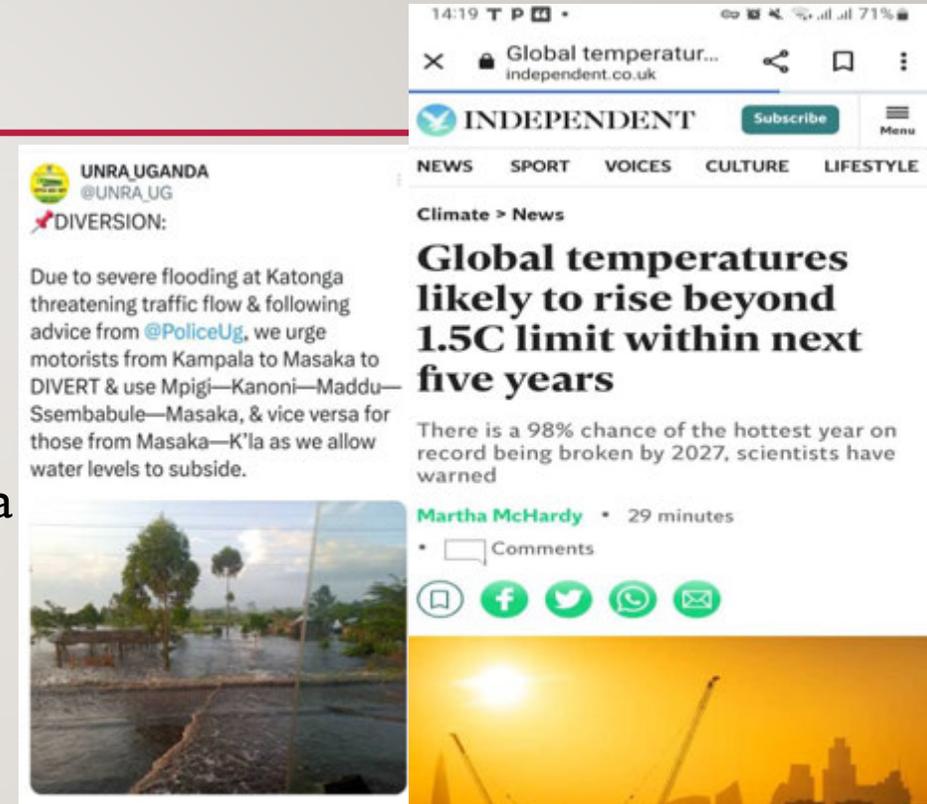


# Climate Change, Gender and Justice

- Introduction
- Climate change
- Drivers of climate change
- Climate change and Inequality: case studies from Uganda
  - ❖ The Buduuda Landslide Scenario
  - ❖ Climate change and women's work in Karamoja
- Climate Change and justice: what can the legal regime?
- Climate justice and gender
- Conclusion(s)



**Eria Serwajja | PhD.**  
MPhil: Norway  
PhD: South Africa  
Lecturer: Makerere University

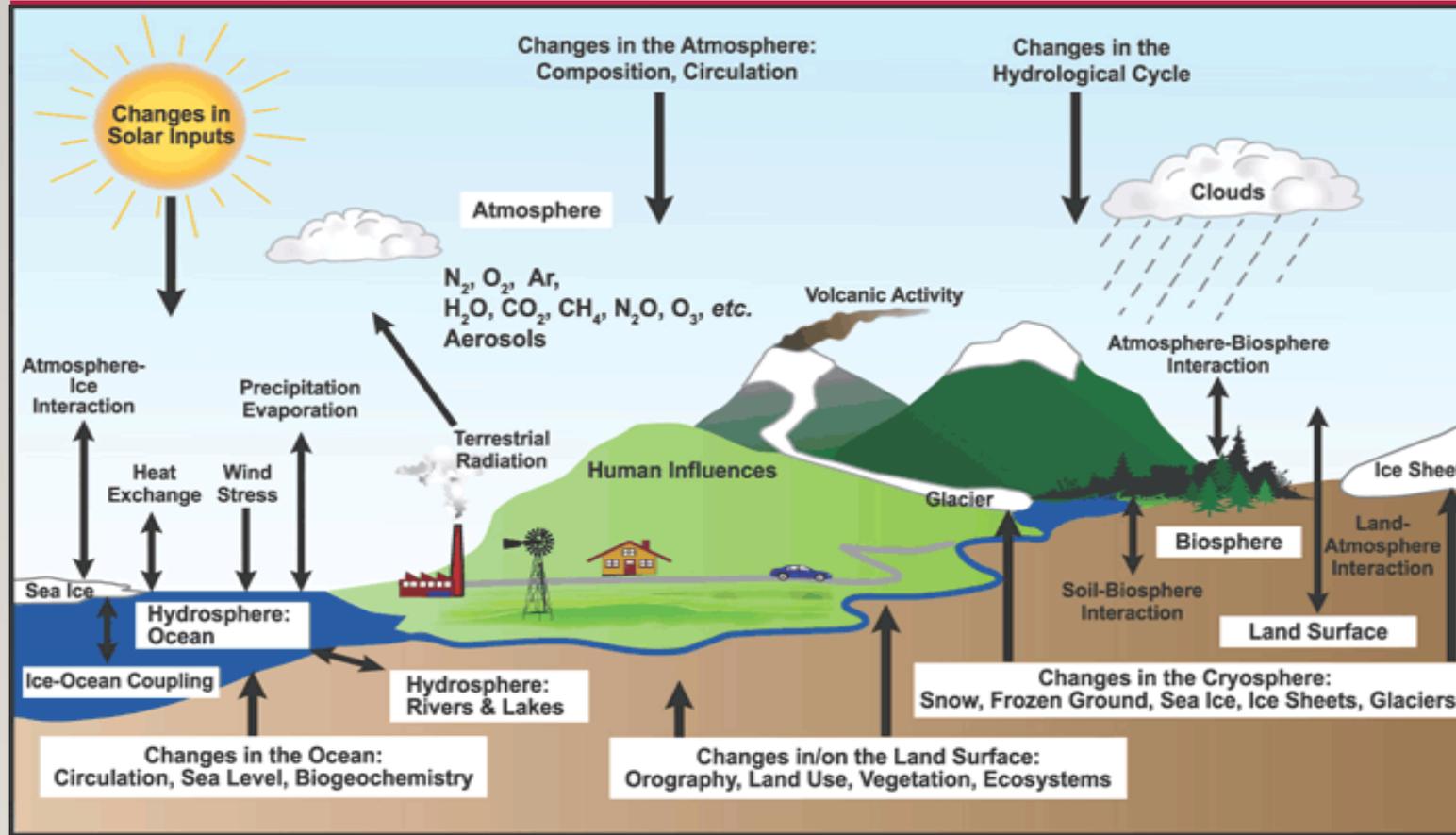
# Climate change

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**Climate:** Averaged statistical ensemble of all the weather elements over a long period of time usually thirty (30) years or more ( period defined by the World Meteorological Organization - WMO).

- ❖ **In a narrow sense:** Climate is the average weather.
- ❖ **Weather:** is the fluctuating state of the atmosphere around us.

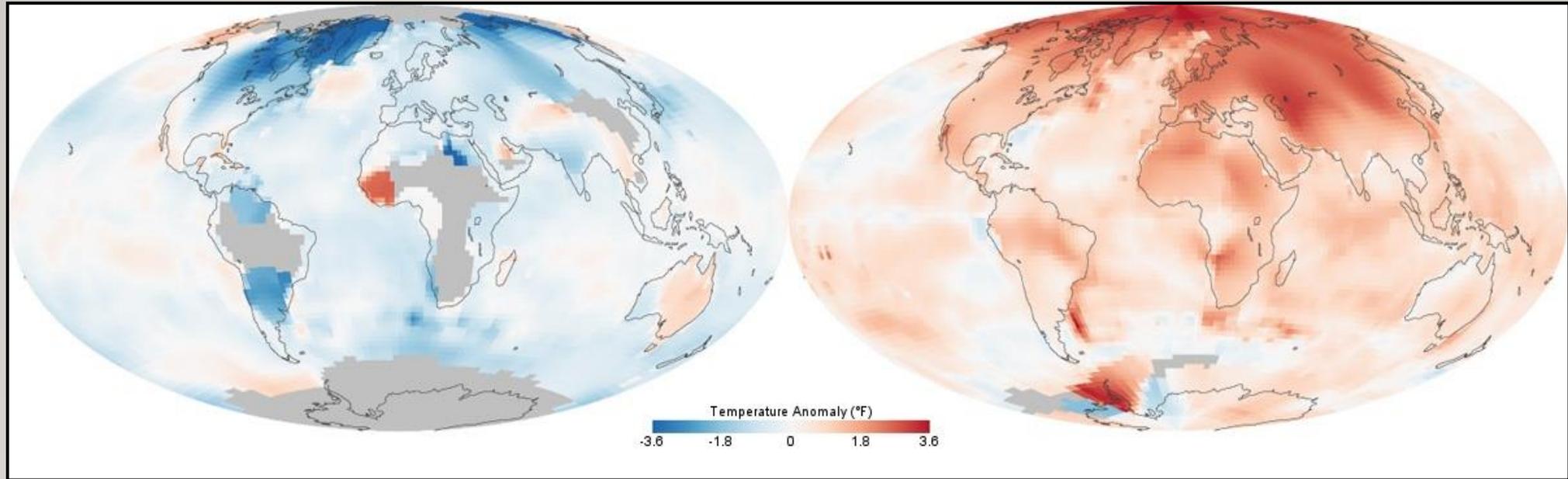
# Climate System



Climate System affected by:

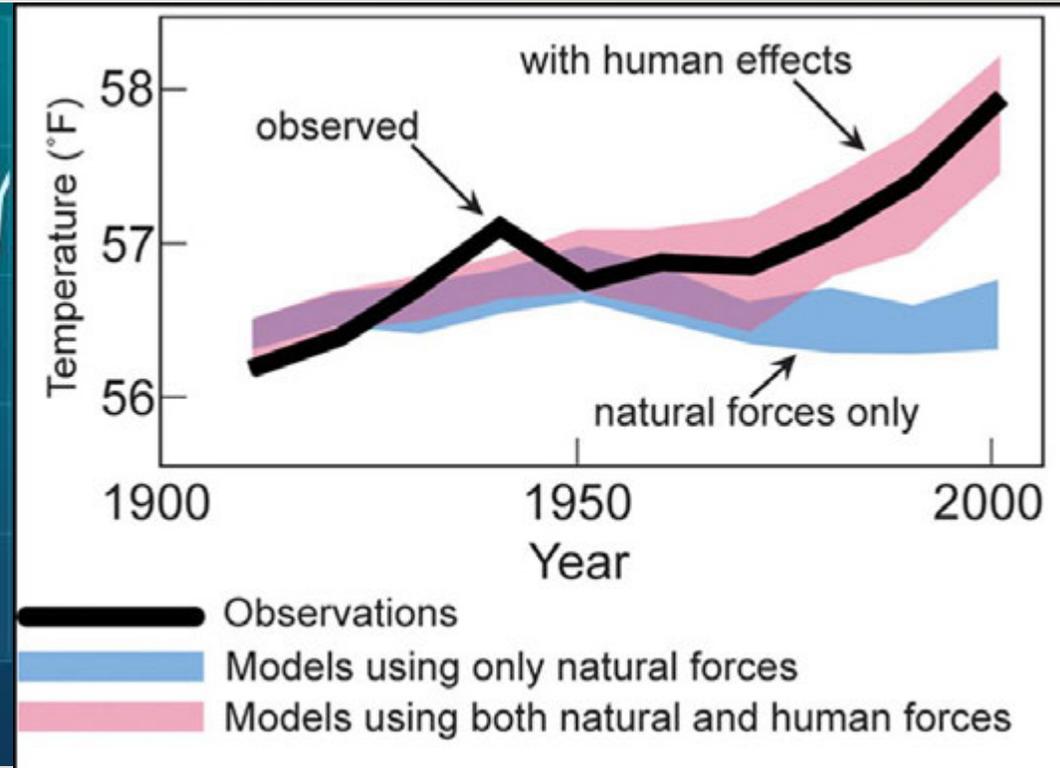
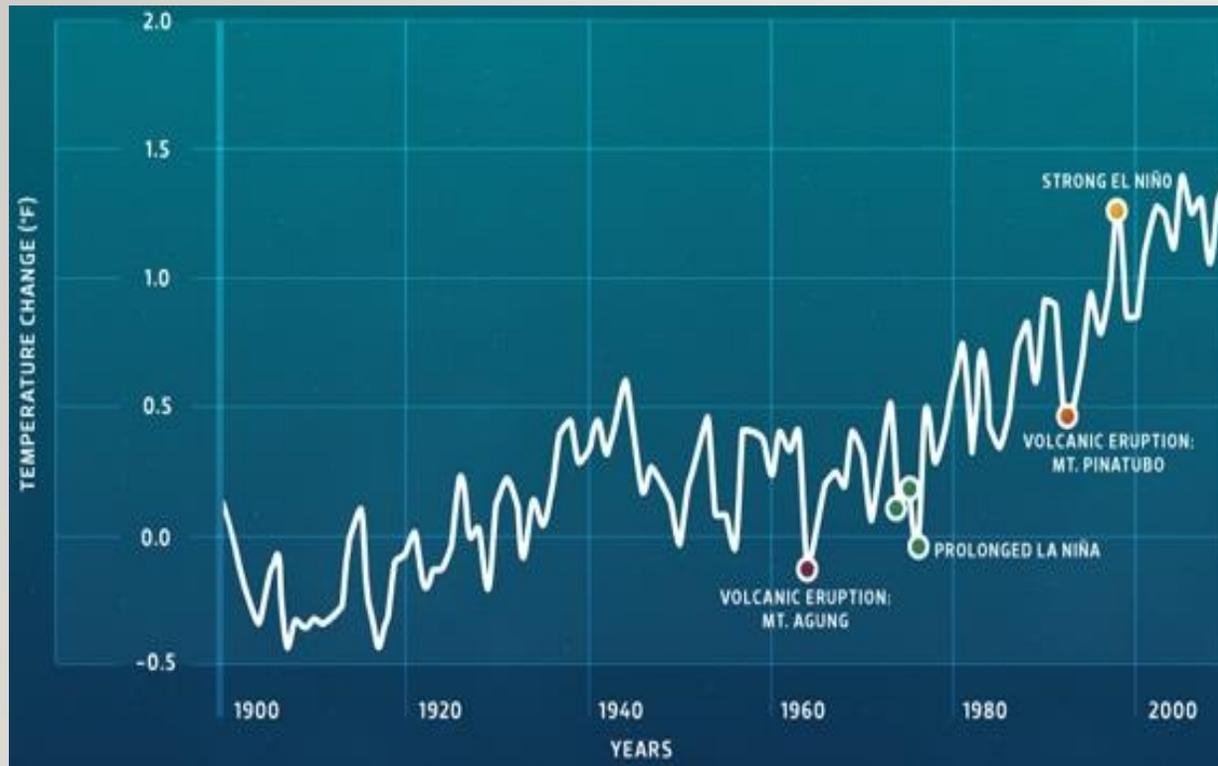
- Latitude and Longitude
- Terrain
- Altitude
- Nearby water bodies

# Earth's Average Surface Temperature



- Earth's average surface temperature has increased almost by between 1.3-1.5°F during the 20th century.
- Temperatures across the world in the 1880s (left) and the 1980s (right), as compared to average temperatures from 1951 to 1980.
- The left-hand map shows that it was colder in the 1880's than the right-hand map which shows that it was warmer in the 1980s in most places of the Earth.

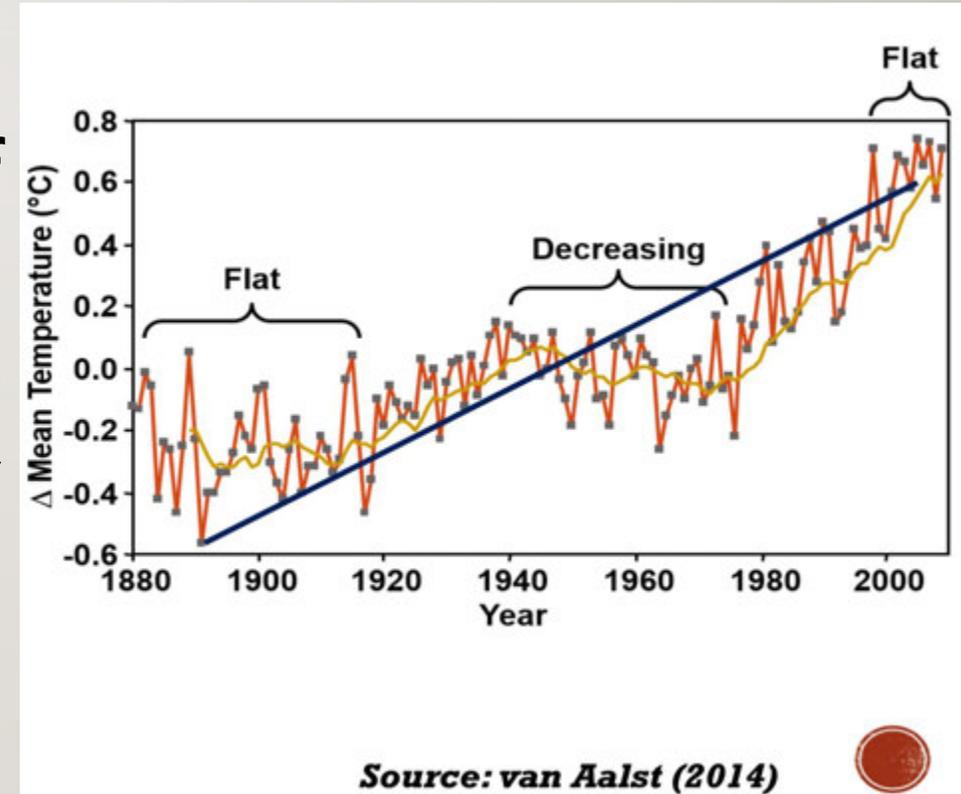
# Temperature Change - Historical



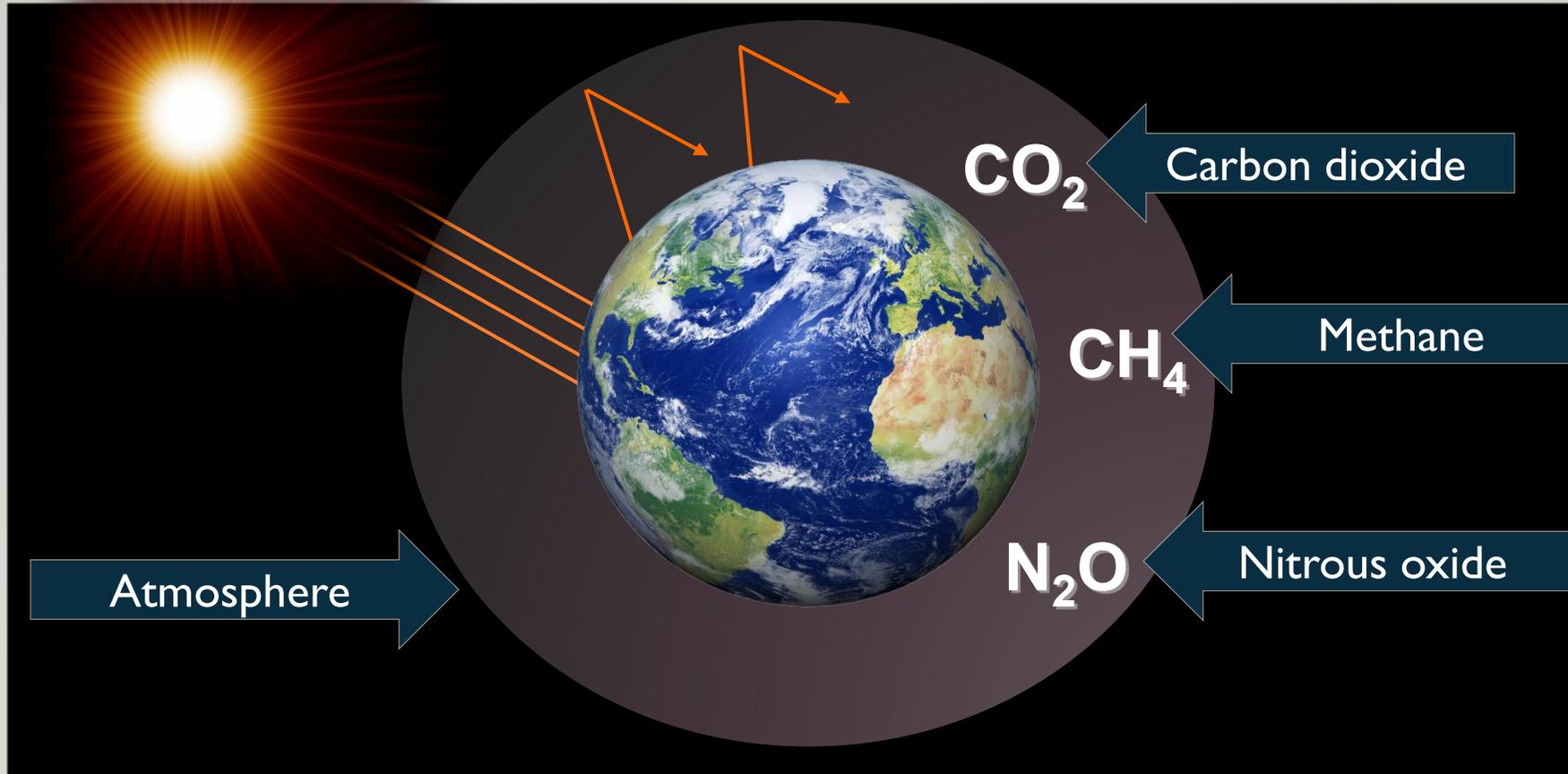
# 2 degrees,

## the tipping point

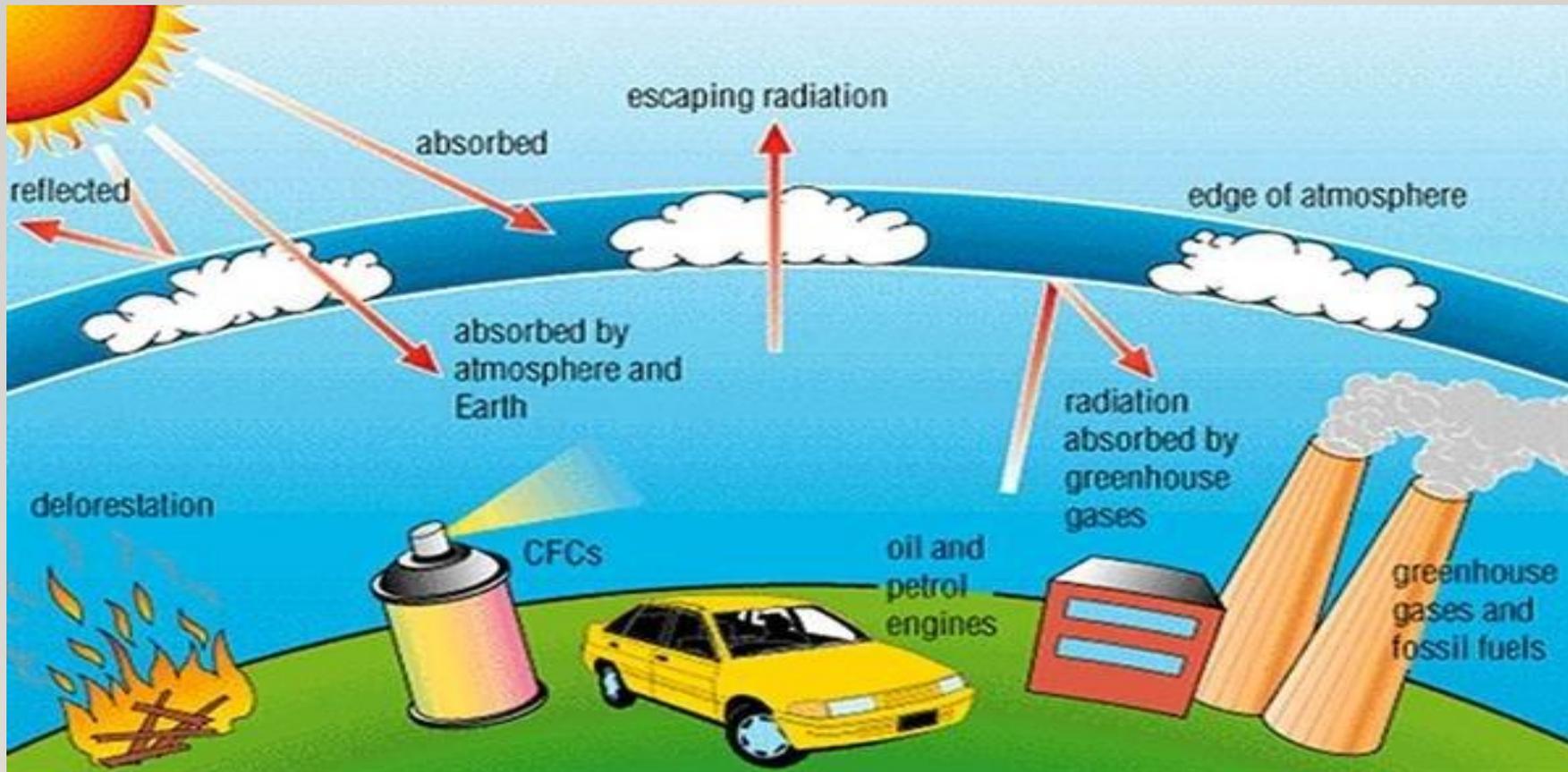
- Two-thirds of the warming has occurred since 1975, at a rate of roughly  $0.3^{\circ}\text{F}$ - $0.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  per decade.
- Over the last century, the average temperature in the Arctic rose by almost twice as much.
- The warming is attributed to the build-up of GHGs in our atmosphere



# Greenhouse Gases



# People - Climate Change Nexus



# Causes of Greenhouse Gases

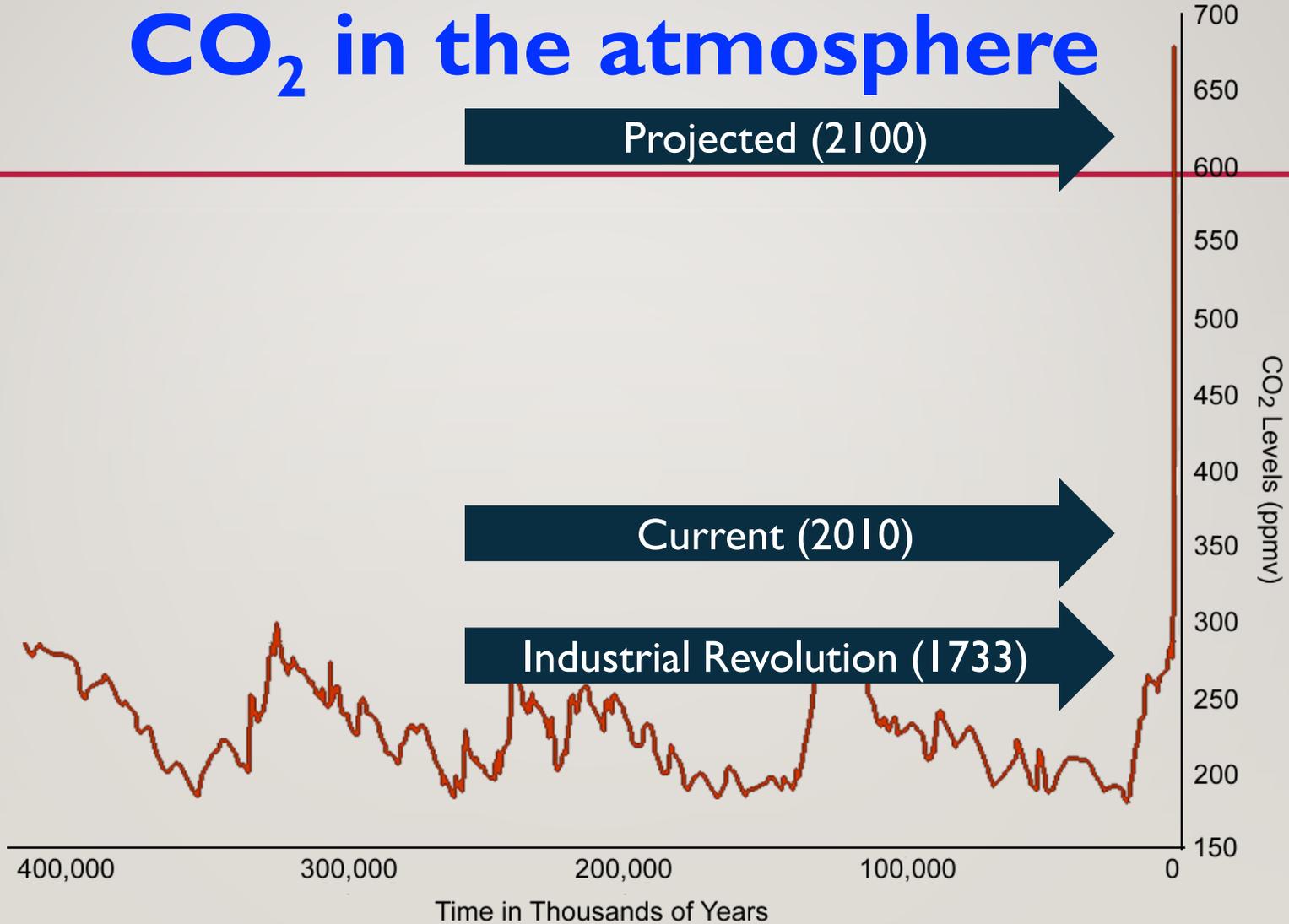


Burning of fossil fuels

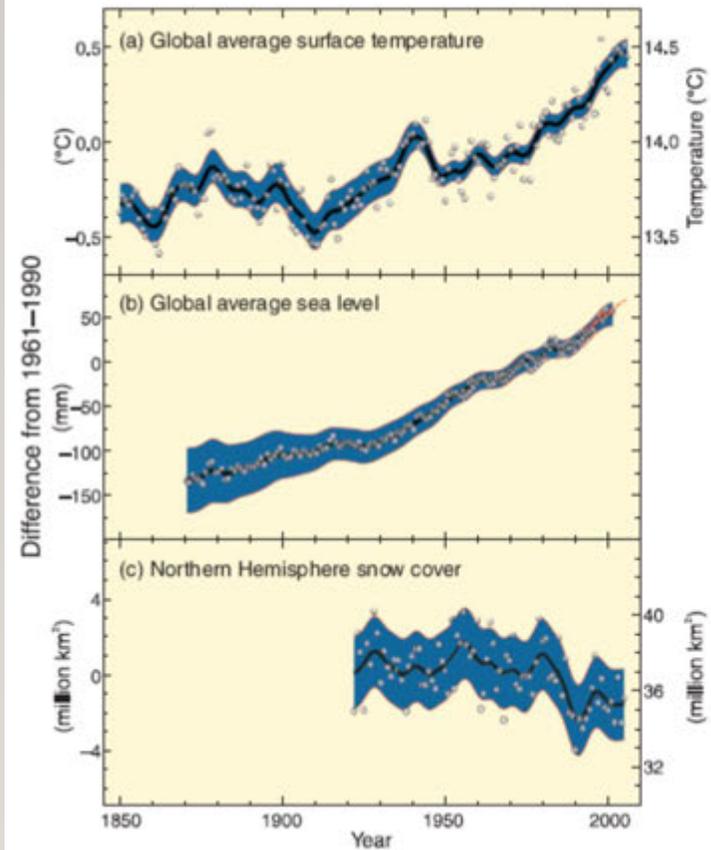


Widespread deforestation

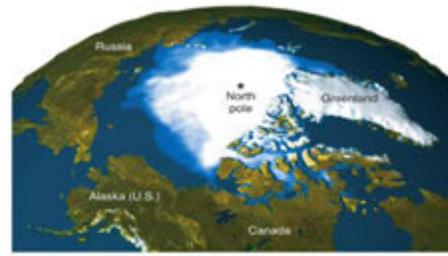
# CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere



# Evidence of a Warming Earth

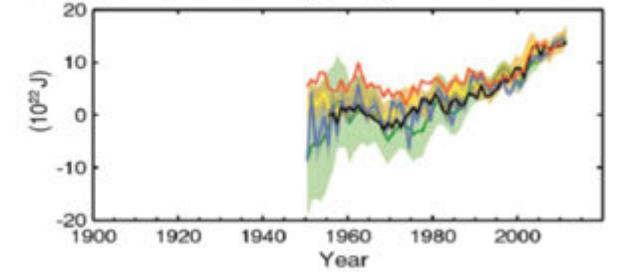


Average Drop in Arctic Sea Ice (1979-2005)

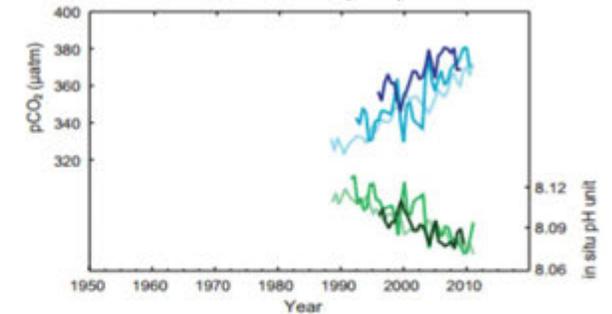


Melting of Alaska's Muir Glacier

Change in global average upper ocean heat content



Surface ocean CO<sub>2</sub> and pH

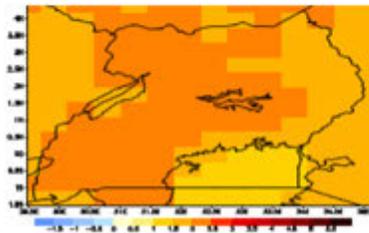


# Uganda's Temperature Projections

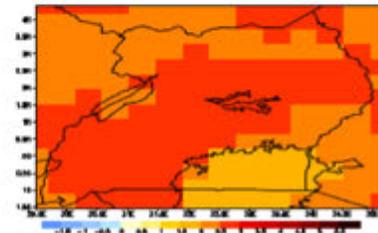
2046-2065

2076-2095

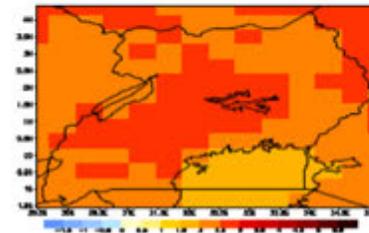
RCP4.5, MAM



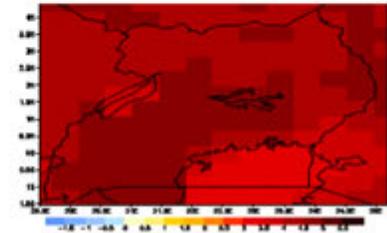
RCP8.5, MAM



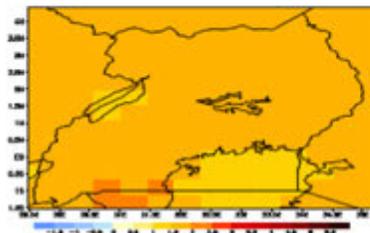
RCP4.5, MAM



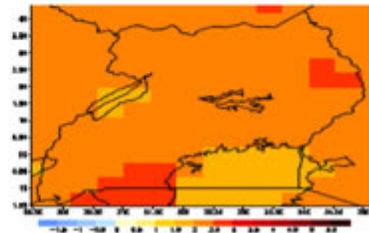
RCP8.5, MAM



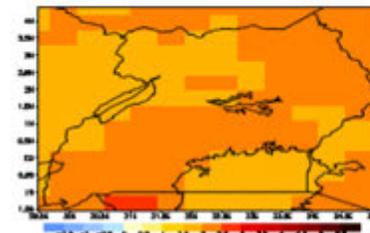
SON



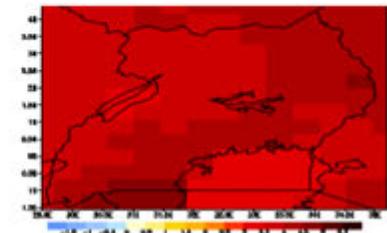
SON



SON



SON



# Uganda's Precipitation Projections

2046-2065

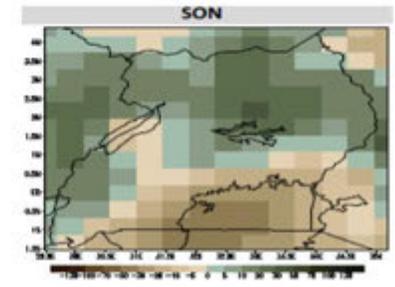
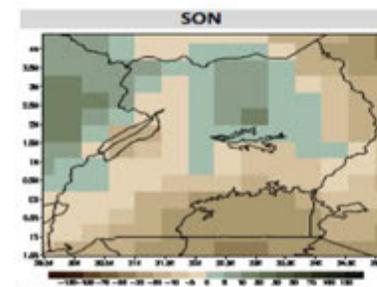
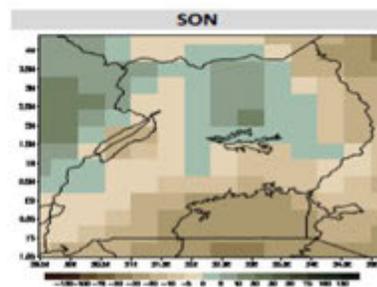
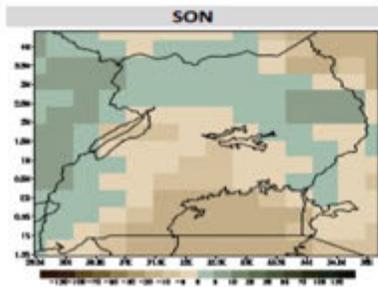
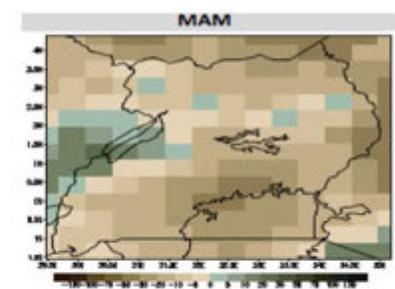
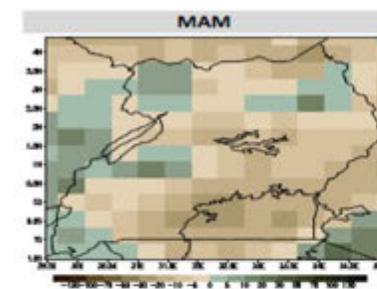
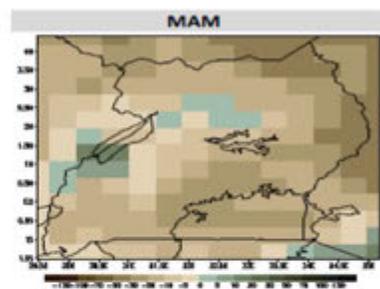
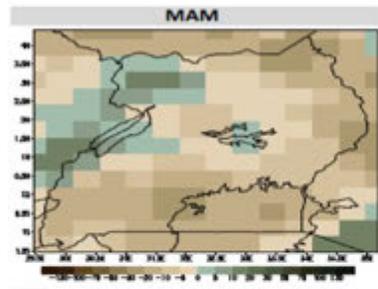
2076-2095

RCP4.5

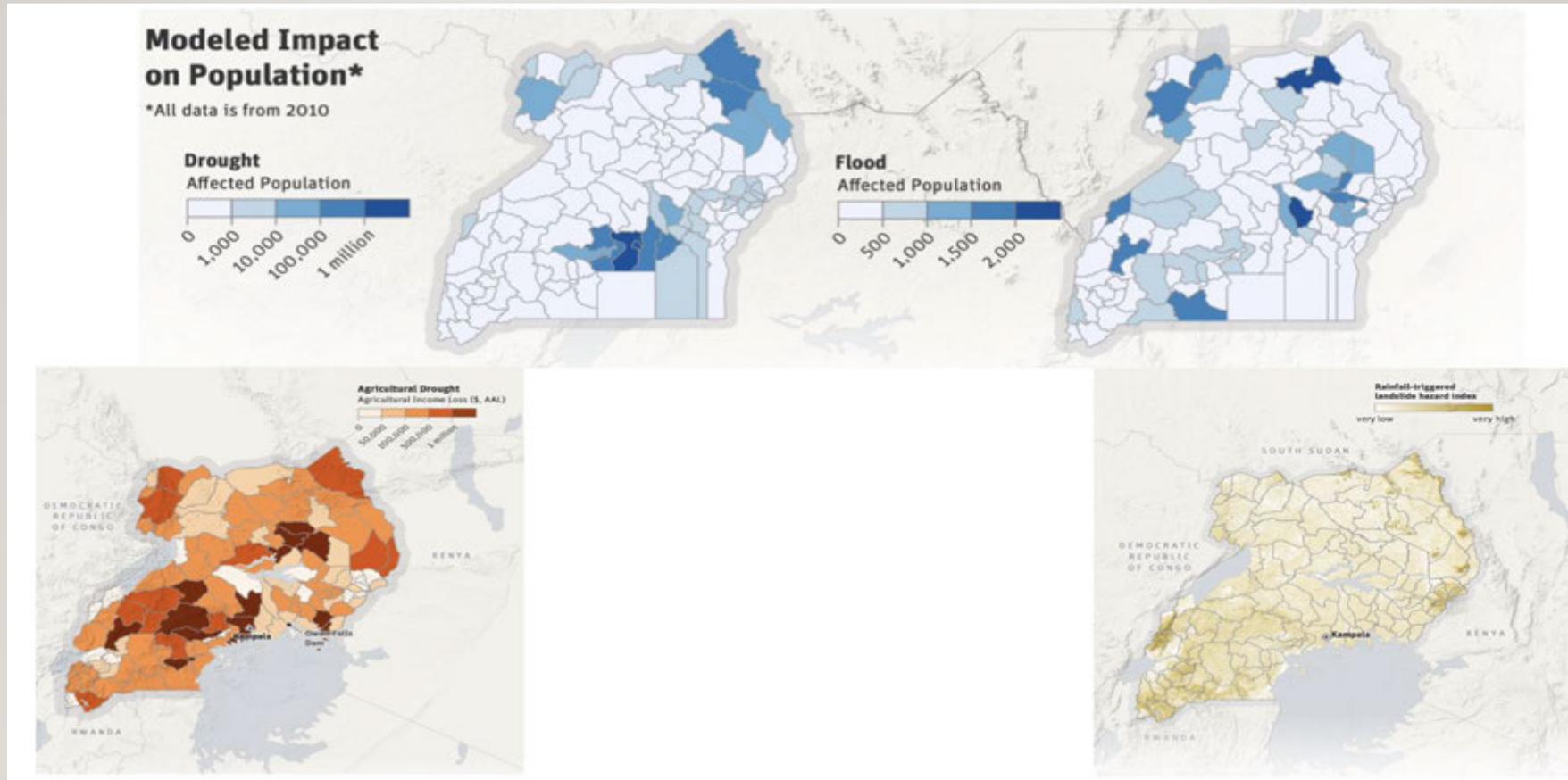
RCP8.5

RCP4.5

RCP8.5

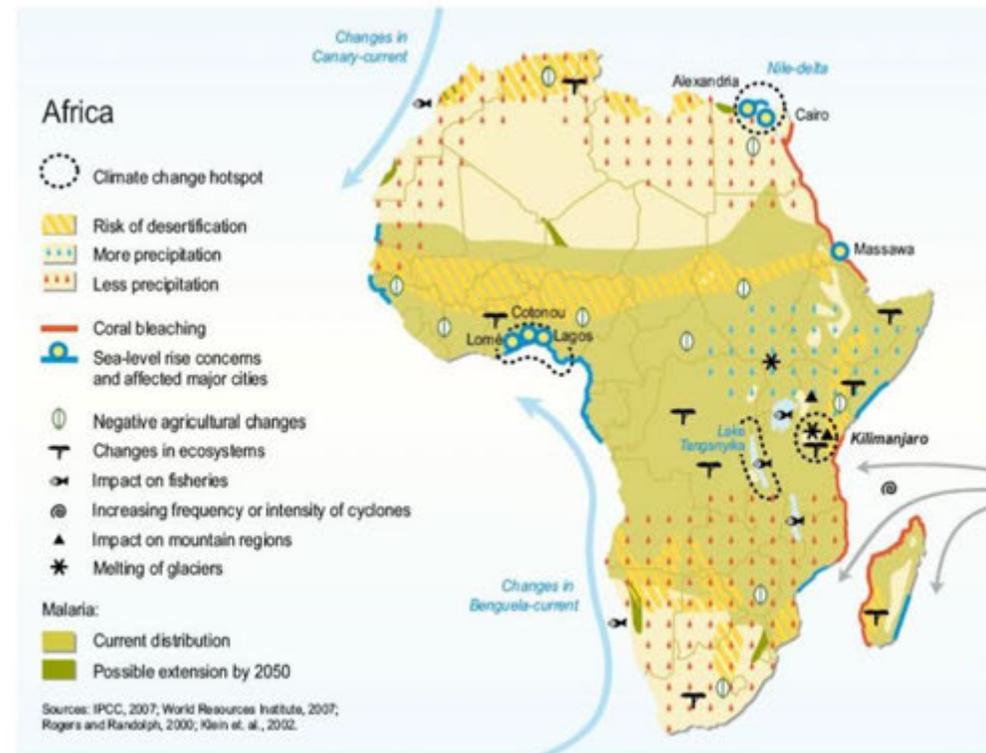
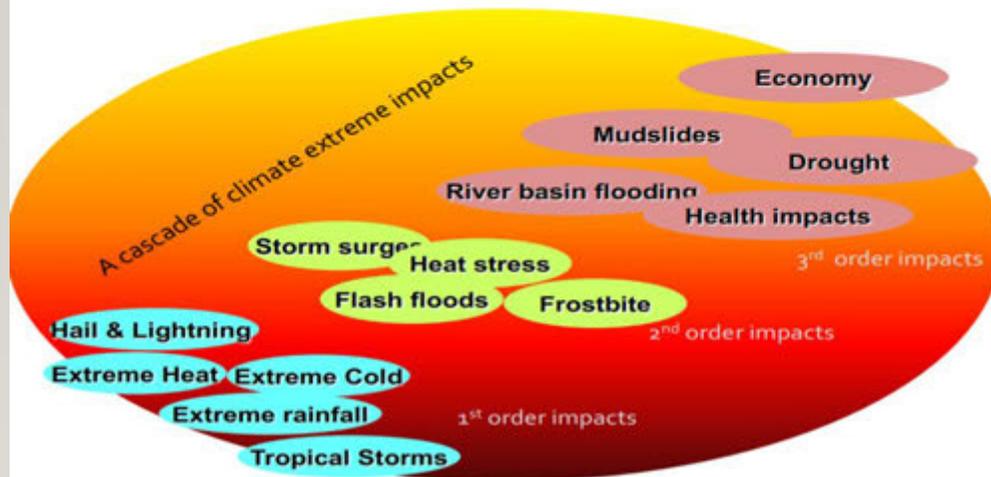


# Uganda's Risk Profile: Drought, Floods and Landslides



# Projected Impacts of Climate Change

- Many of the impacts of global warming have been well-documented.
- The precise extent is visible but difficult to predict.



Source: UNEP (2009), p32

# Impact Categories

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- Many of the impacts of global warming have been well-documented.
- The precise extent is visible but difficult to predict.



# Impact Categories

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- **1<sup>st</sup> order impacts:** changes in temperature, rainfall, humidity, wind and sunshine hours resulting into heat waves, droughts, floods, landslides.
- **2<sup>nd</sup> order impacts:** These are consequences of 1<sup>st</sup> order impacts e.g. impacts of droughts, floods on natural resources: water, soil, biodiversity, ecosystems
- **3<sup>rd</sup> order impacts:** These result from 2<sup>nd</sup> order impacts e.g. crop and livestock responses and effects on production
- **4<sup>th</sup> order impacts:** rural economies and livelihoods – interaction with other stressors and drivers of change

# Climate Change Impacts Across the World

Elderly people are particularly prone to heat stress



Warm and wet climates favour mosquitoes that spread diseases such as West Nile virus, malaria, etc



Smog is harmful to human health



Women have to find alternative livelihoods



Women have to shoulder extra responsibilities.



Floods

Note: Women are either directly or indirectly affected by each of the processes

# Impacts Of Climate Change Globally



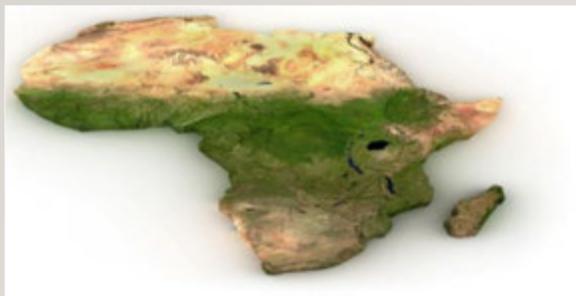
Changes in rainfall patterns



Warmer in northern regions



Damage in vulnerable areas

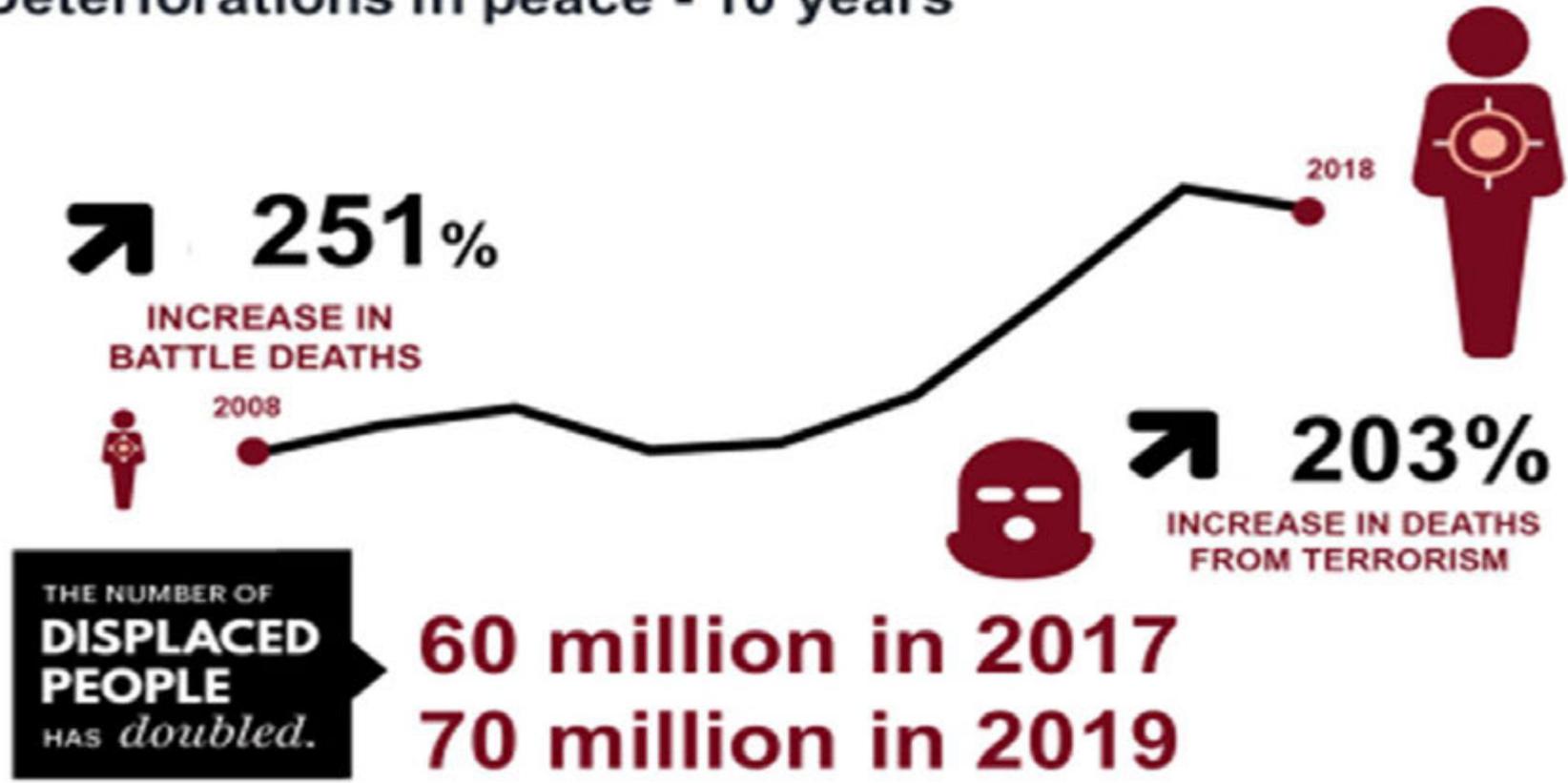


Incident of pest and disease

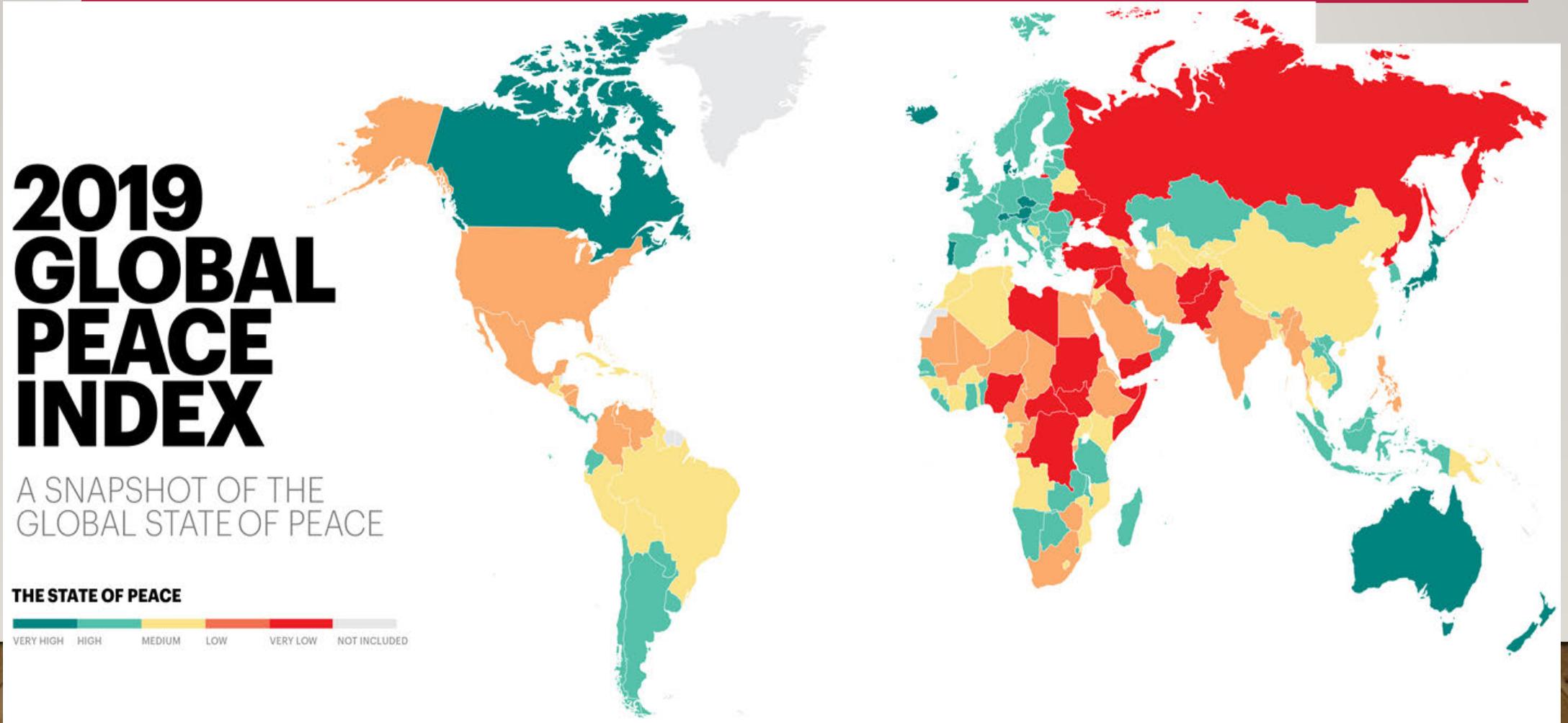


# Does Climate Change Cause Conflict?

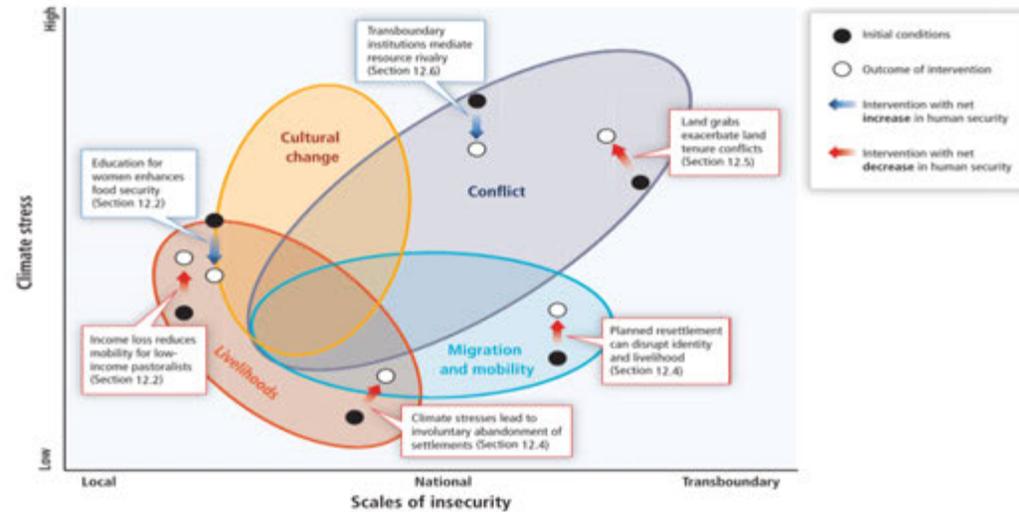
Deteriorations in peace - 10 years



# Climate Change and Conflict



# Climate change, Culture and Gender roles



## Gender roles based on the dictates of culture

- Reproduction
- Nurturing and caring
- Production

Identity markers and dimensions of inequality

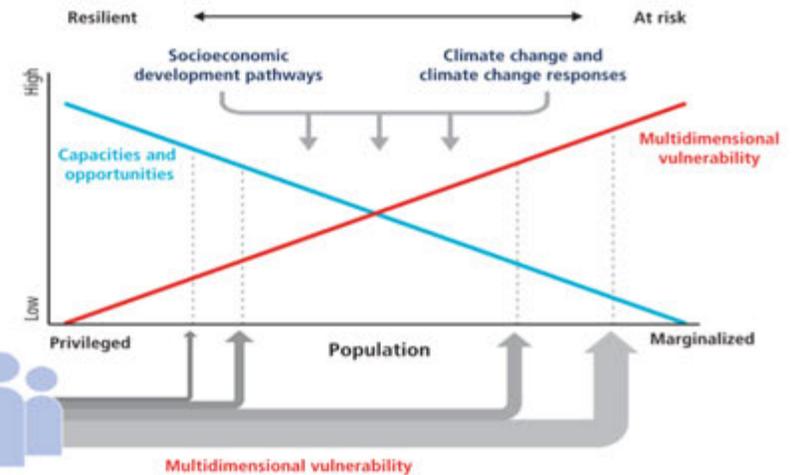
- Gender
- Class
- Ethnicity
- Age
- Race
- (Dis)ability

Intersecting dimensions of inequality



Multidimensional vulnerability

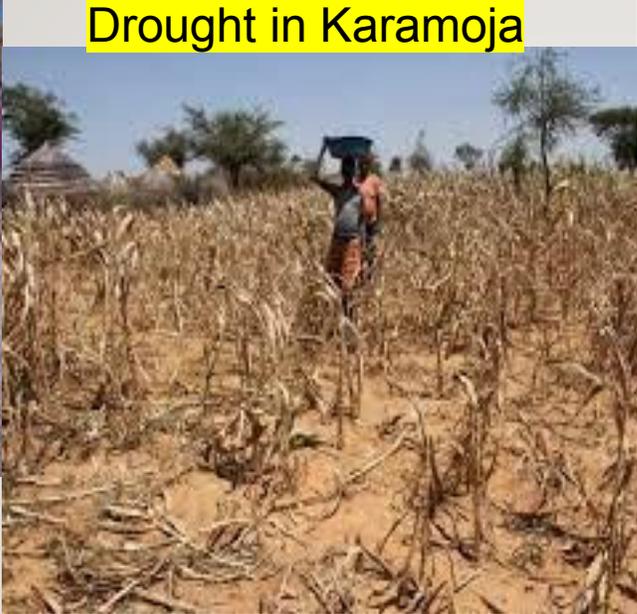
## Dimensions of insecurity, inequality & Vulnerability to Climate Change



# Gendered Impacts of Climate Change in Uganda



Livelihoods versus dignity



Drought in Karamoja



Livelihood versus education



Water availability and quality



Nature and care



Charcoal trade



Locust drying even when unsafe for humans



Firewood

# BUDUUDA 2010



- Several villages buried
- Displaced at least 3,500 people
- Destroyed houses and food crops in 20 villages





- **Women**
- **Children**
- **Youth**
- **Men**



# Resettlement Villages in Bulambuli District

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Multiple problems emerging in the resettlement villages



# WHAT WOULD THIS HELPLESS WOMAN REQUIRE AFTER DISASTER?

---

What do you think she has lost?

What do you think is in her mind right now?

How will she provide for the household when the household possessions have been buried?



# Climate Change, Women and Work

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# Climate Change in the Karamoja Region

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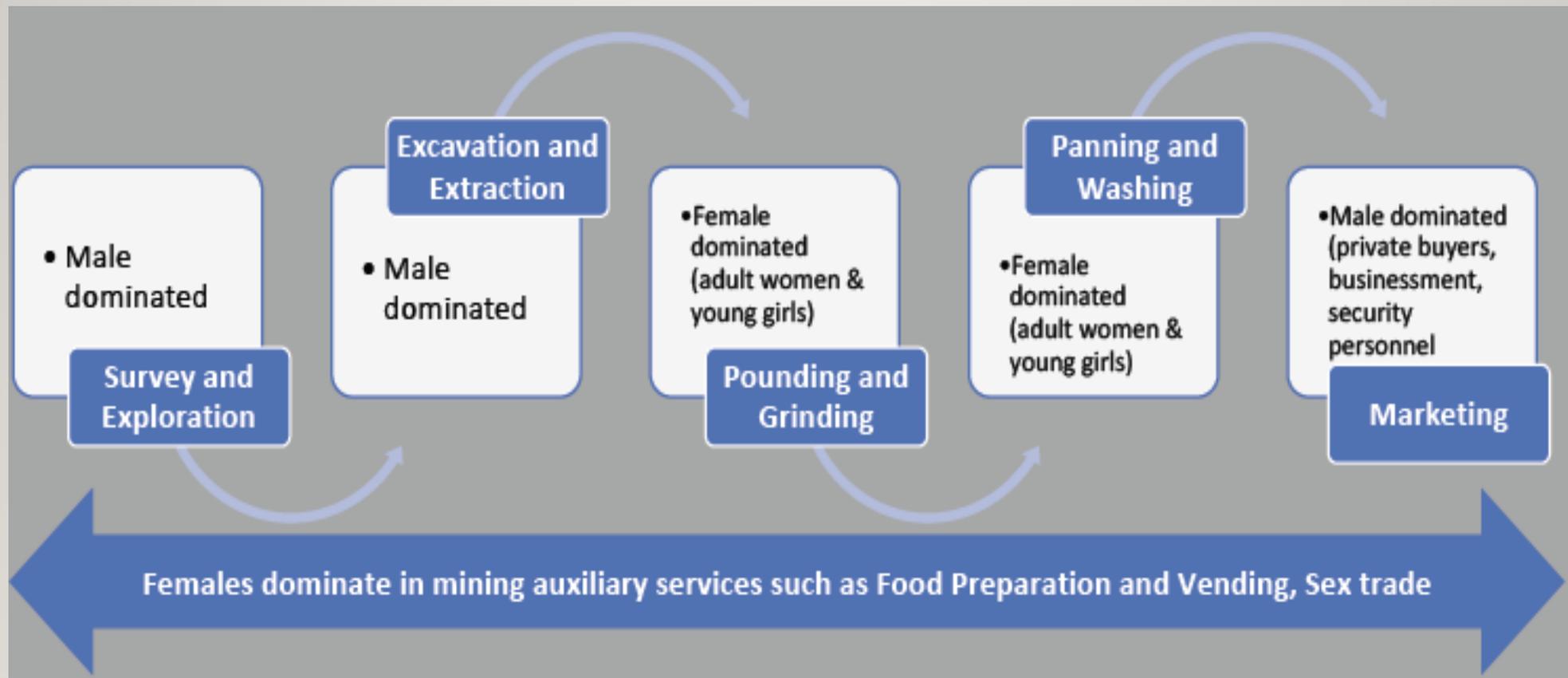
- Gradual but progressive increase in temperature for the last 25 years
- Heavily dependent on rain-fed agriculture
- Characterised by intermittent and unpredictable weather patterns
- Impact on food production, nutritional security and livelihoods
  - ❖ One meal a day for most households
  - ❖ Many sleep on empty stomachs
- Women are responsible for food production and provision
- What alternative livelihoods are available for Karamajong women in a region that is highly vulnerable to climate change?
- Do the available livelihood options lessen or amplify the burden and suffering of women in Karamoja?

# Climate Change, Women and Work

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# Artisanal Mining in Karamoja and Dominant Actors



# Positions of Women in Mining in Karamoja



# Implication For Women In Karamoja

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## **Pounding, grinding and panning/washing (90% women)**

- ❖ **Pounding:** food preparation process in the home
- ❖ **Grinding:** food preparation process in the home
- ❖ **Panning:** winnower to free grain from the lighter particles of chaff and dirt
- ❖ **Washing:** an everyday activity for women in the domestic sphere

## **Key lessons**

- ❖ Women restricted to activities outside of the mining pits but closer to their everyday domestic responsibilities
- ❖ Less-rewarding and poorly remunerated activities reserved for women.
- ❖ Core and most lucrative activities reserved for men
- ❖ Secondary support work activities

# Add Culture in Climate Change

---

**‘Gold disappears when a woman enters or jumps over the mining pit. It is most critical when the woman is in her menstrual period. If a woman is to enter the mining pit, she must be naked’**  
(Interview, Lolung mine, 11/12/2018).

## Key messages

1. Women most affected by climate change due to socio-cultural roles.
2. Women will continue to occupy the margins whether in agriculture, mining etc.
3. Address the root causes of climate change and socio-cultural rigidities.
4. Climate change is amplifying the existing gender inequalities.

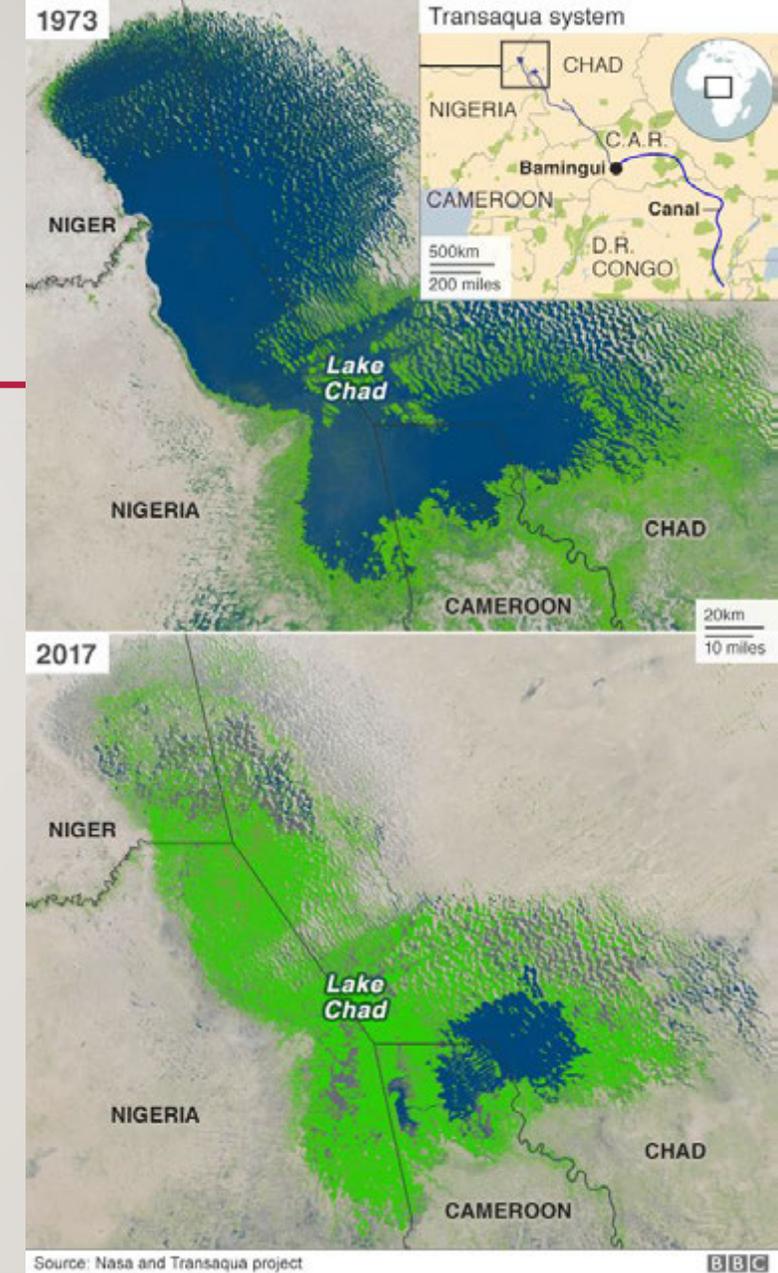
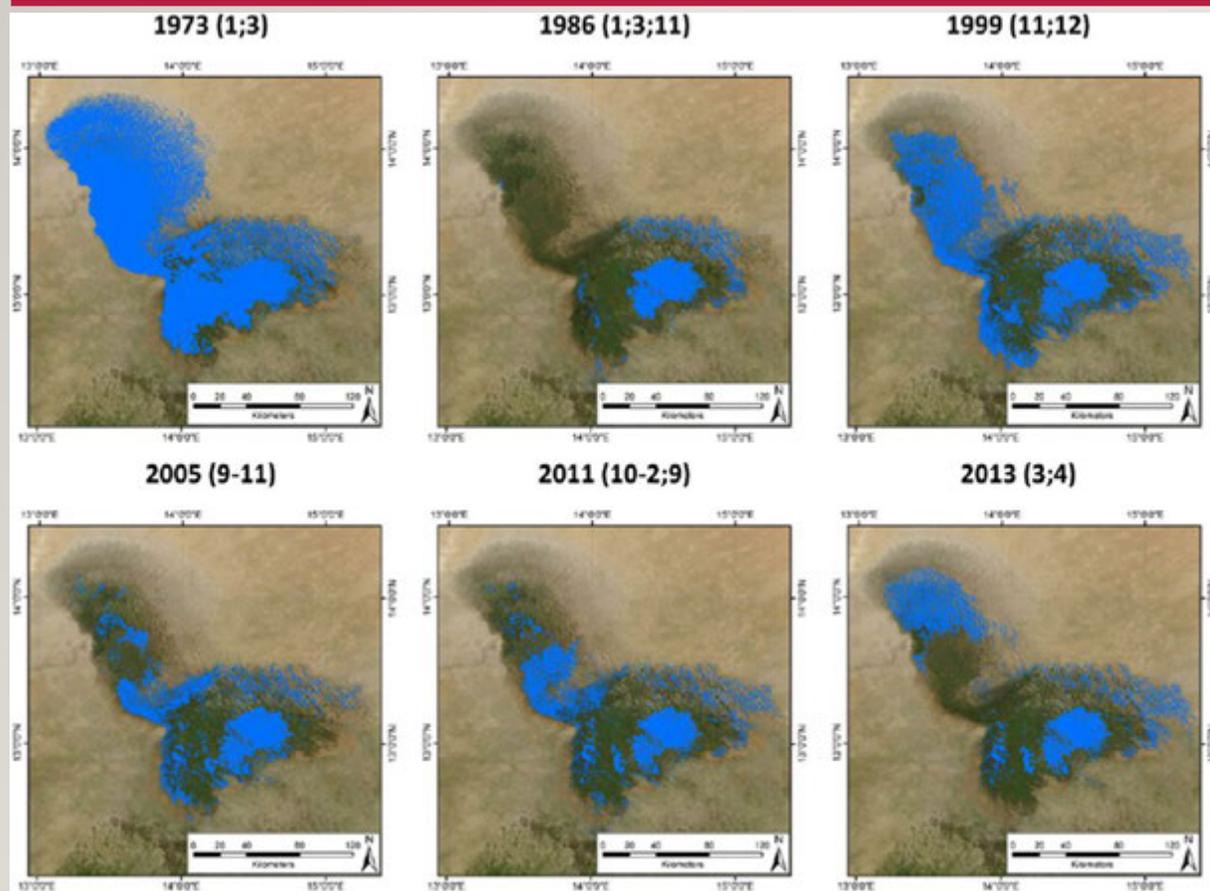
# Climate Change and Climate Justice

---

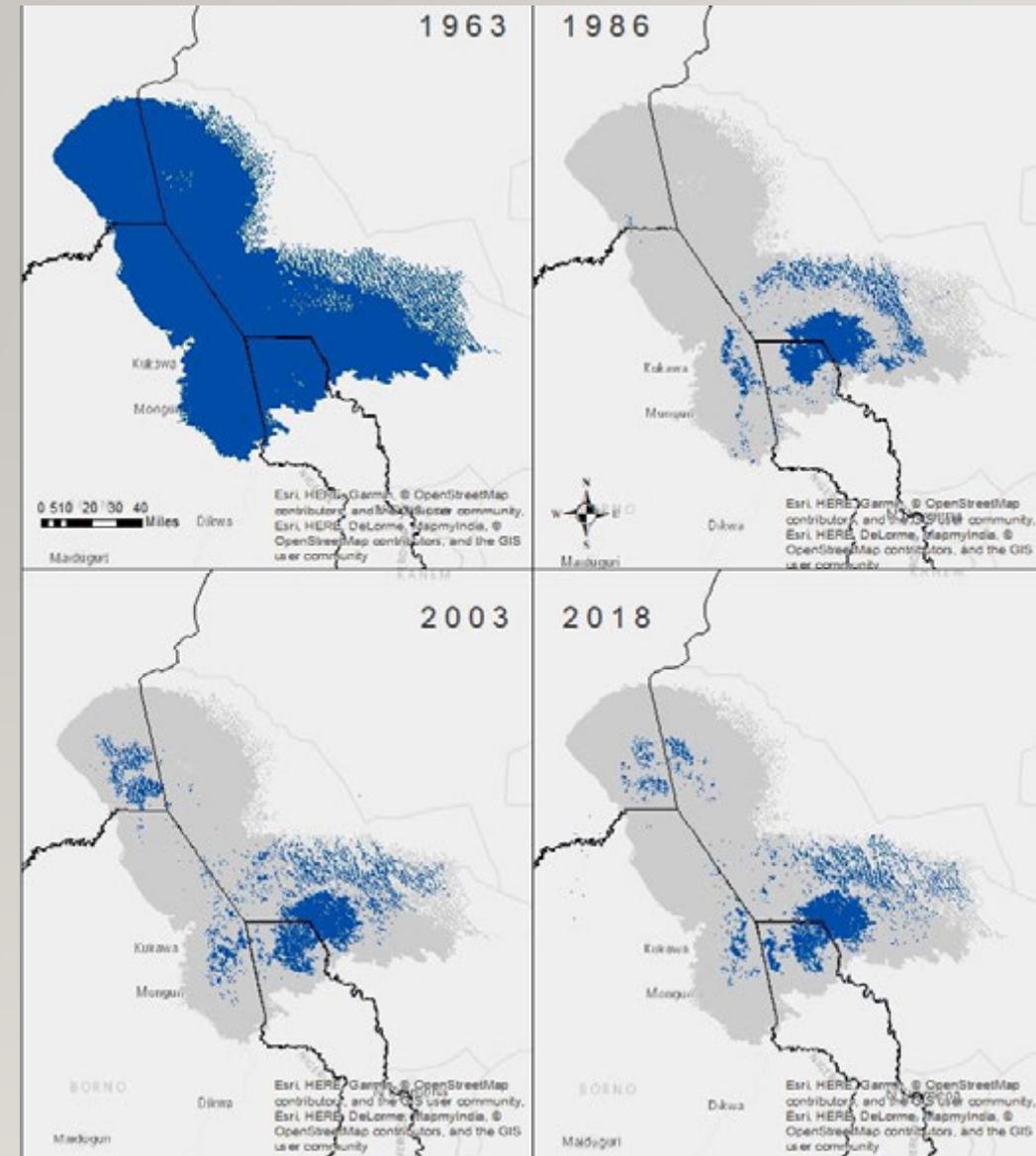
- A reality that State and its extensions cannot escape.
- Most vulnerable countries are those with youth population
- 7 out of the 10 countries most at-risk are in the Global South
- Everybody and every state arm of the State has a role to play
- Assess individual cases versus awareness of consequences of judicial decisions
- **Climate justice**: Prevent and address the impacts of climate change in a fair and equitable way

# Vanishing Water Bodies and Migration

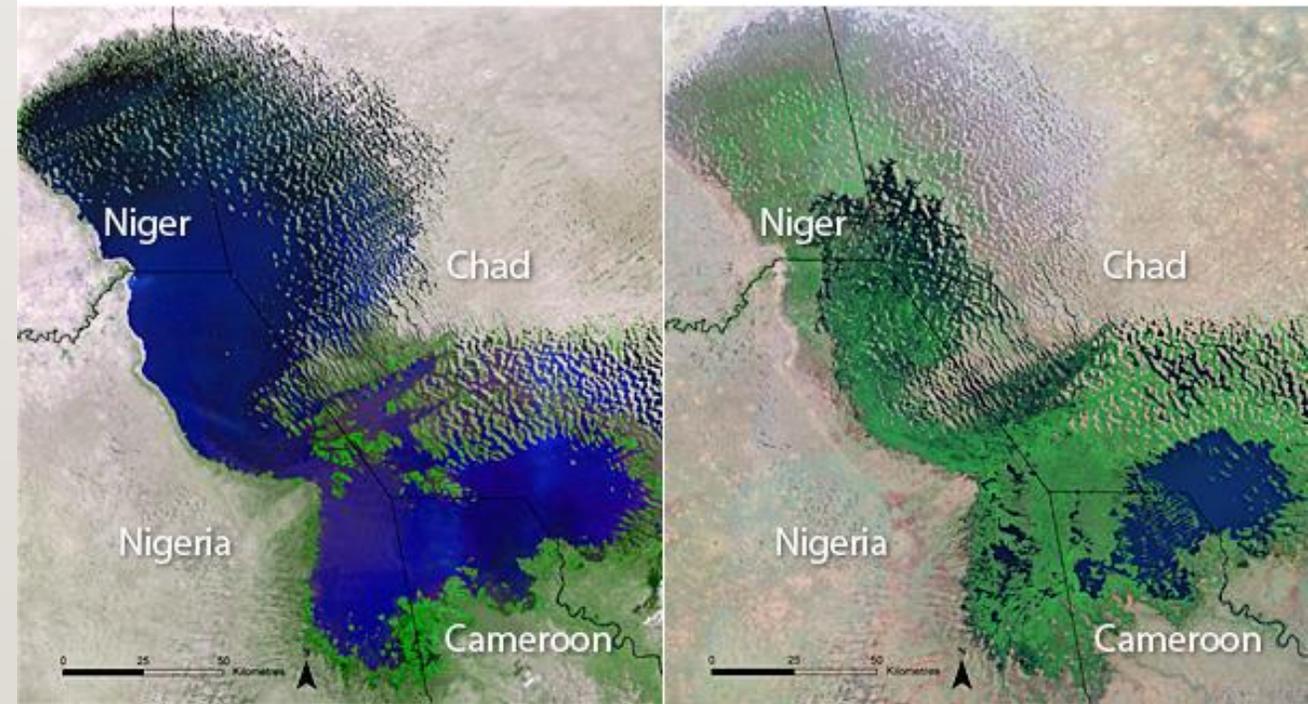
## How can the judiciary dealing with climate migrants?



# Lake Chad Recession: How can the Judicial system deal with climate migrants



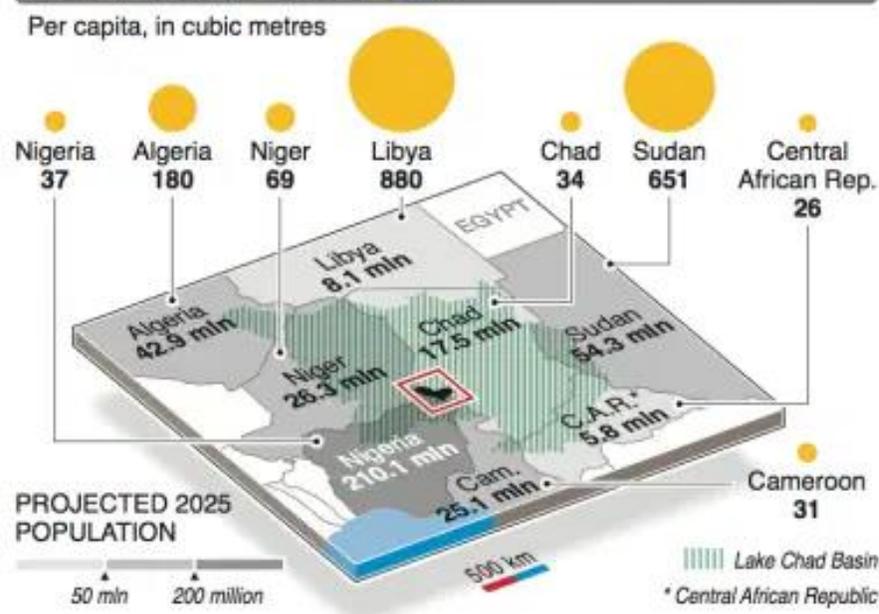
Lake Chad 1972 / 2007



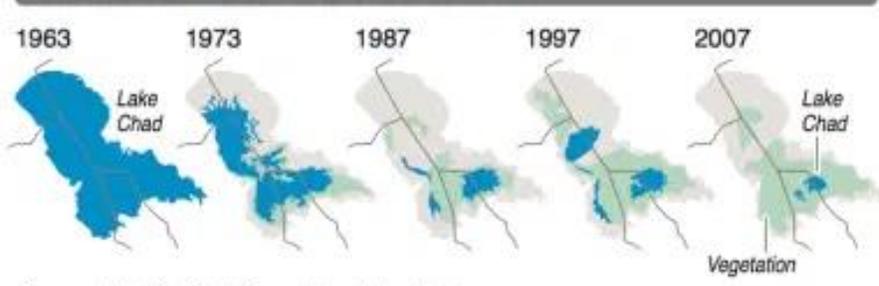
# AFRICA'S LAKE CHAD BASIN

Scientists say changing weather patterns, along with growing populations and the construction of dams, are to blame for the shrinking of Lake Chad, which provides livelihoods for about 30 million people in surrounding countries

## ANNUAL WATER WITHDRAWAL



## CHANGES IN LAKE CHAD'S EXTENT



Sources: Lake Chad Basin Commission, International Commission of Irrigation and Drainage, UNEP

REUTERS



Lake Chad:

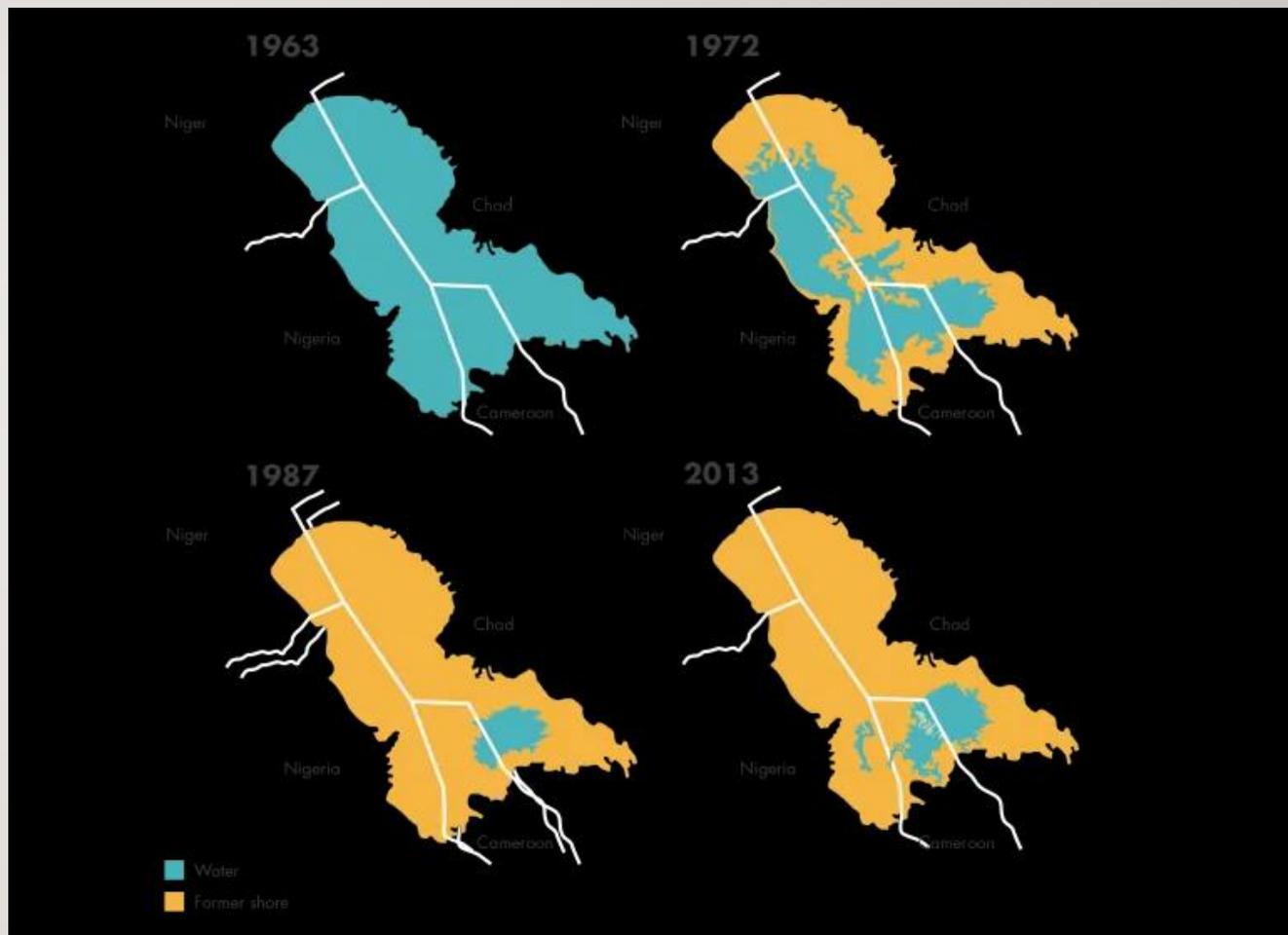
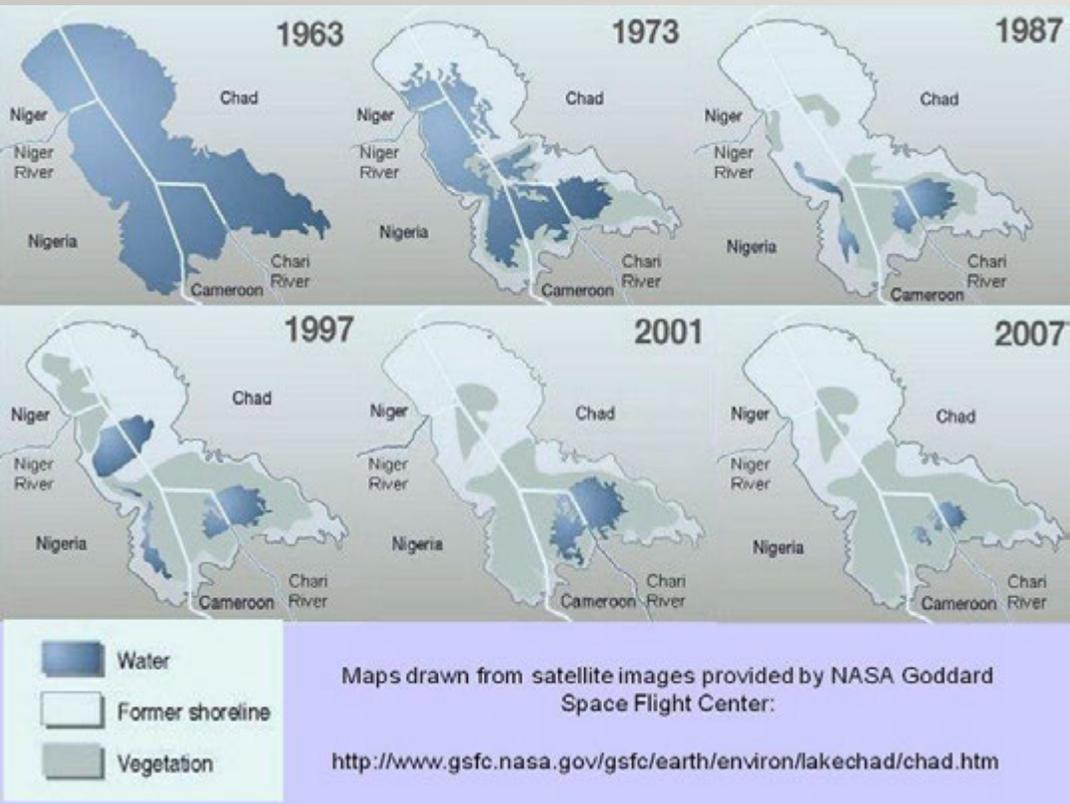
- regularly flooded areas (open water and marshland)
- irregularly flooded areas

Conventional basin

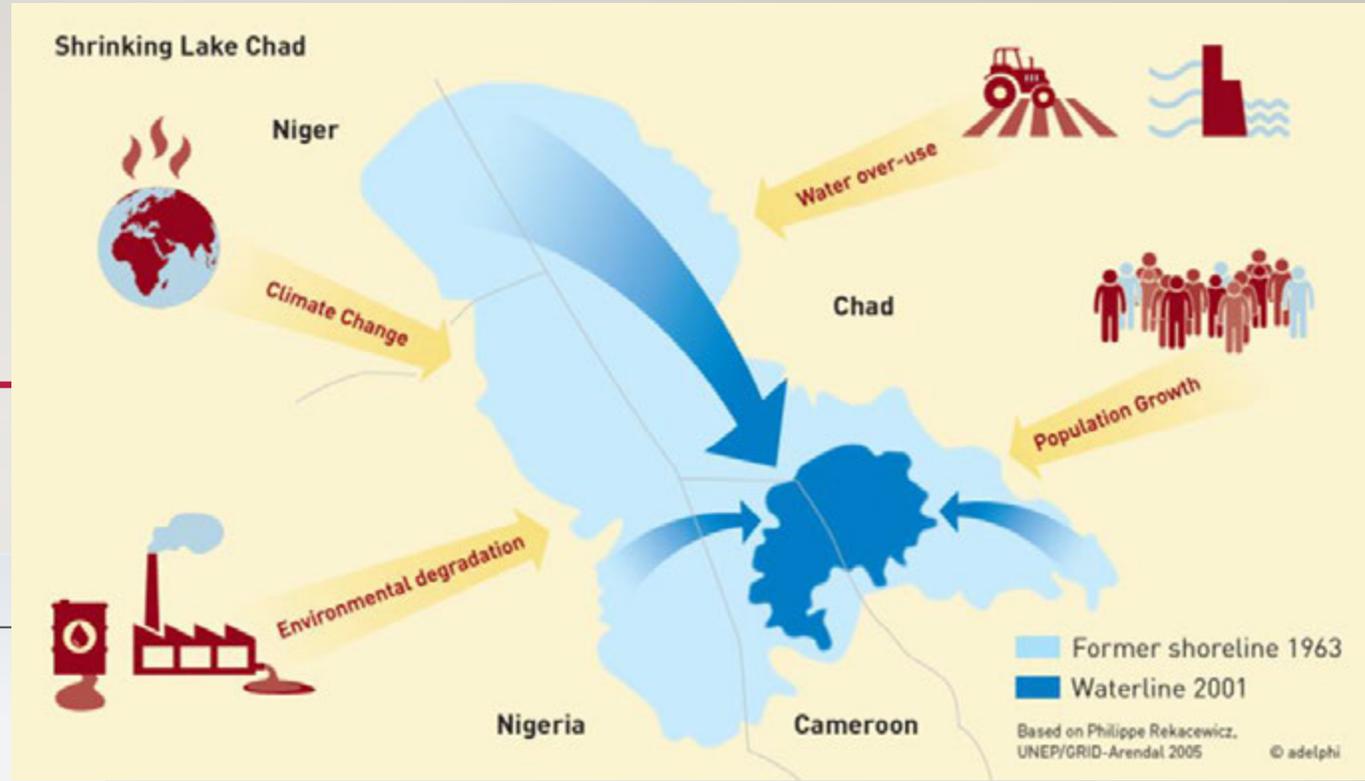
Hydrographic network

Main towns:

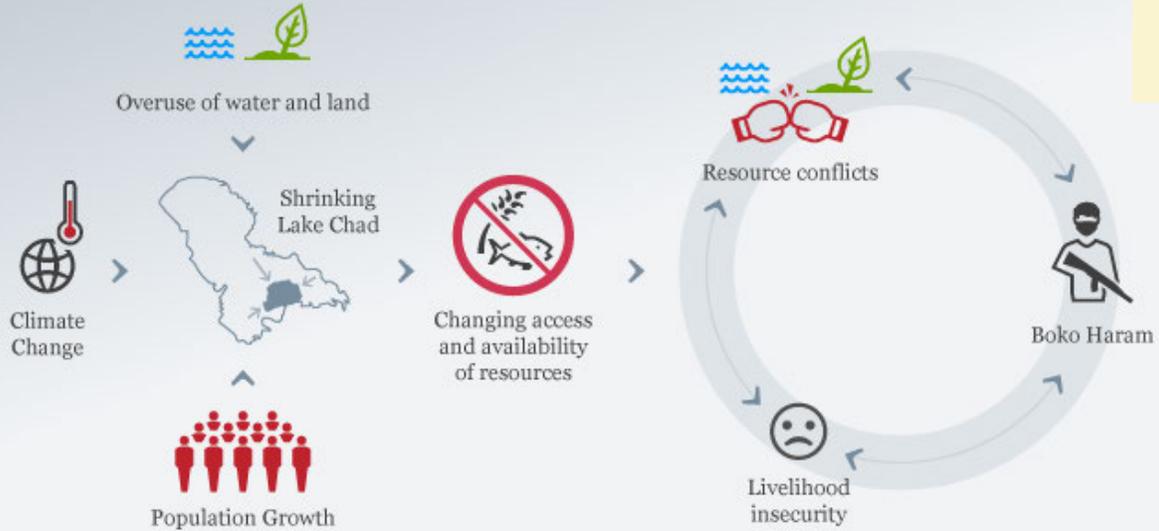
- > 1.5 million people
- 0.5 to 1.5 million people
- 0.1 to 0.5 million people
- < 0.1 million people



XX



## Factors fueling conflicts in Lake Chad



Source: adelphi

© DW

## Lake Wamala

- A man looks at the original boundaries of Lake Wamala where a cow is grazing. People have settled and built homes in the buffer zones of the lake hence threatening its extinction.



# Climate Change :The Role of the Judiciary

❖ The decisions have to be fair, transparent, and inclusive regardless of **gender, age, class, religion, origin, nationality**

- Provide equal access to justice
- Determine but not defer climate change claims and cases
- Uphold the rule of law
- Promote environmental values and putting a price tag on them
- Reasoned and evidence-based decisions
- The **benefits** and **impacts** are [un]**equally shared**



# What can the Judiciary do?

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- **Recognise climate change victims**

- ❖ A dedicated day for climate victims
- ❖ Legal remedies for climate change



- **Indigenous peoples**

- ❖ occupy over 20 percent of the Earth's territory
- ❖ custodians of 80 percent of the planet's biodiversity
- ❖ Yet, account for 15 percent of the very poorest

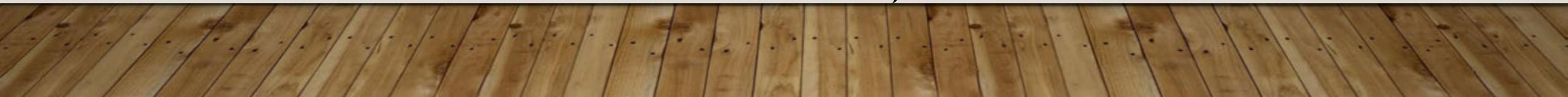


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- **Reinforce human rights**

- ❖ Climate change impacts on human rights
- ❖ Do the existing laws and legal regime in Uganda cover these violations?
- ❖ Climate change is new and laws have not been adjusted to include climate change
- ❖ There is not much change needed but there is need to change some laws

- **Hold corporations to account**

- ❖ Pollution and carbon accountability
  - ❖ Companies must respect human rights violations [local and international]
  - ❖ Carbon emissions must be accounted for; from the source to the last mile
- 

# Putting Measures in Place to Combat the Effects of Climate Change

- Respect and Protect Human Rights
- Support the Right to Development
- Share Benefits and Burdens Equitably.
- Ensure that Decisions on Climate Change are Participatory, Transparent and Accountable
- Highlight Gender Equality and Equity
- Harness the Transformative Power of Education for Climate Stewardship
- Use Effective Partnerships to Secure Climate Justice



Clean Energy



Responsible consumption



Shop local, & Sustainable

# Climate Justice and Gender – Women as Agents of Social Change

---

- Women are most affected by climate change due to socio-cultural roles.
- Women will continue to occupy the margins whether in agriculture, mining etc.
- Address the root causes of climate change and socio-cultural rigidities.
- Climate change is amplifying the existing gender inequalities.

❖ Ongoing research in Muhokya camp and Bunambutye resettlement [Sex for fist In Muhokya camp]

# Climate change and gender justice

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Gender should be treated as a substantive issue and not 'add on'.

- Affirmative action through education and sensitization
- Women sensitized on climate change and gender issues at all levels.
- Yes, some women have access to resources such as land but not much can be gained with climate change.
- Engage women in climate change debates and discussions
- Local, national and international participation, representation and recognition

**SDG**



**SDG**

