# Ecosystem-based Adaptation in Marine and Coastal Areas





Relevance for Regional Seas

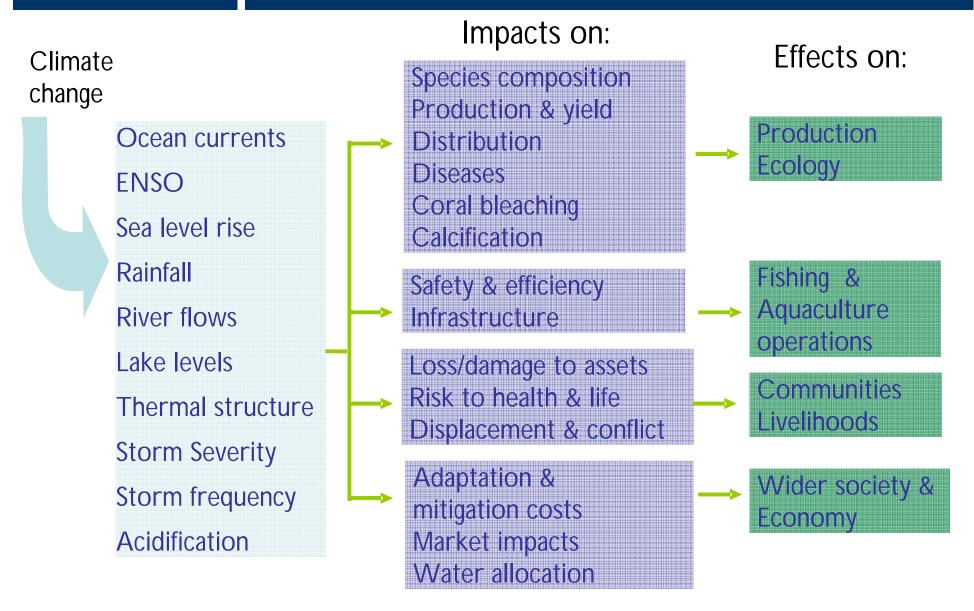


#### The climate hijack?

- GEO4: Environmental decline goes way beyond Climate change
- climate change is quite convenient for politicians both at a popular level but also at a political level
- a long-term issue so decisive action is always posited for some time in the future, at a time that can always be made yet more distant
- someone else can always be blamed: EU used to blame the US, the US would blame China and India, and developing countries would blame the entire developed west.
- "it's very easy to pass responsibility for failure somewhere else... and in the process of doing that, one is able to keep one's own credibility and record, with the appearance of being much more progressive and constructive."
- Certainly more convenient than tackling the issues that underpin everything else, the size of the human population and our unsustainable consumption of the Earth's resources.

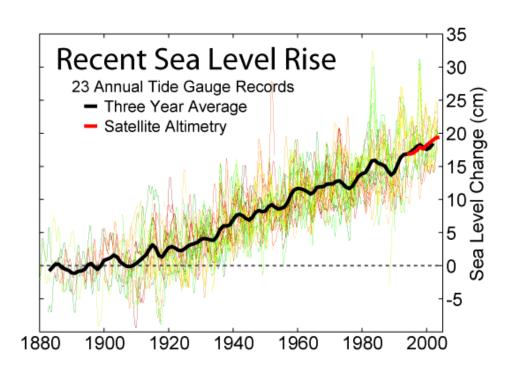


#### Climate change a threat





### Since IPCC...Scale of impacts is worsening



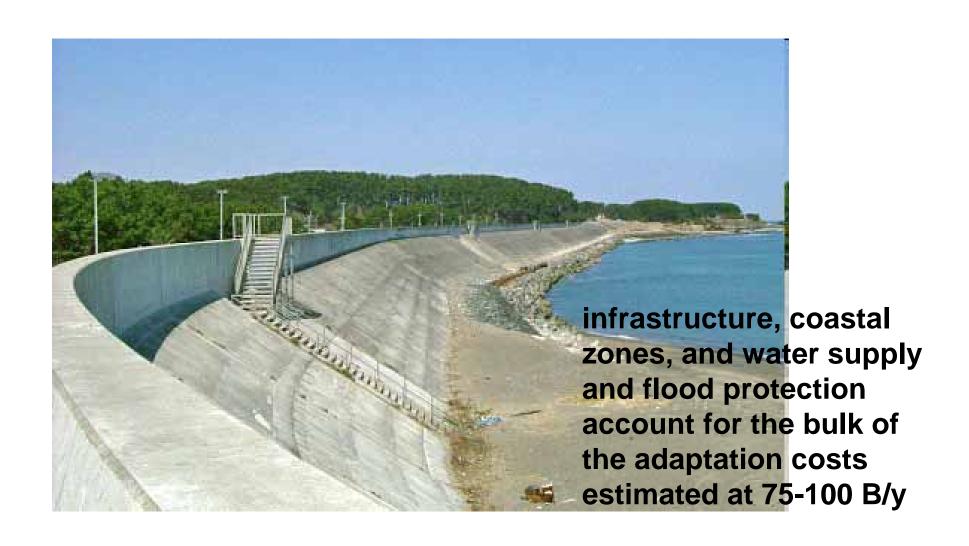
IPCC: SLR between 18-60 cm before end of century

No integration of ice sheets information

Current predictions are for a max between 1-2m



## Human response: an even bigger threat





### **Ecosystem-based** adaptation



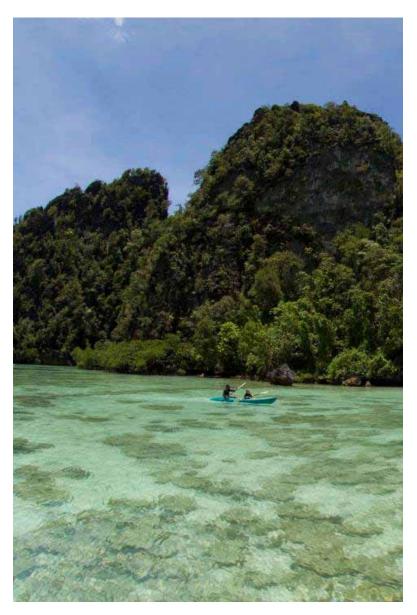
#### **PEOPLE LOSE**

Ecosystems
provide important
services that
need to be
maintained to
help us adapt to
climate change

Ecosystem-based adaptation as an important option in response to climate change



### Ecosystem-based adaptation



Ecosystem-based adaptation is the use of sustainable ecosystem management to support societal adaptation (CBD 2009)

Ecosystem-based adaptation aims to:

Conserve biodiversity and make ecosystems more resistant and resilient in the face of climate change so that they can continue to provide the full suite of natural services.

Preserve and restore natural ecosystems that can provide cost-effective protection against some of the threats that result from climate change

### What is Ecosystem-based Adaptation?

ntegrated into an overall adaptation strategy and a inable development strategy

