

IHDP

**International Human Dimensions Programme
on Global Environmental Change**

SBSTA 24

UNFCCC Special Side Event

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Objectives of this Presentation

- Responses to the needs of the climate policy community at the international and the regional level, and
- Strengthening of developing country participation in climate change research

Overview

- IHDP Core Projects: Achievements and Outlook
- 6th Open Meeting Bonn, 2005
- Capacity Building Activities
- Re-thinking the IHDP Secretariat
- Conclusions for the way ahead

Core Projects



: a success story

- **LUCC** developed a standard land-cover classification system, reconstructed historical land-cover changes at a global and regional scale and charted hot-spots of rapid change.
- **LUCC** induced hundreds of case studies worldwide as well as comparative and meta-analyses on the major human causes of land cover change in different geographical and historical contexts.
- **LUCC** shed light on regional pathways of land-use change and the interactions between agents, management decisions & policies as well as learning & adaptation with biophysical dynamics at different scales.
- **LUCC** pioneered land-use change modelling; global and regional scenarios as well as the integration of natural and social science approaches.

Core Projects

- **GECHS:** Several human security research foci for 2006 (Gender and Human Security, Peace and Cooperation, Health and Human Security, Human Security and Climate Change).
- **IT:** Re-evaluation of research agenda. While research questions remain applicable, IT started to concentrate on rapid change in Asian countries. For 2006, the IT in Asia project is the most important research and assessment activity, with a number of workshops and meetings coming up.

Core Projects

- **LOICZ**: Inaugural Open Science Conference in NL, June 2005, completion of new Science Plan in 2005, increasing focus on human dimensions themes.
- New IHDP Core Projects: **GLP** (jointly with IGBP), and **UGEC** (Urbanization). Both have completed their Science Plans and are in the process of setting up a functioning structure of coordination/IPO.

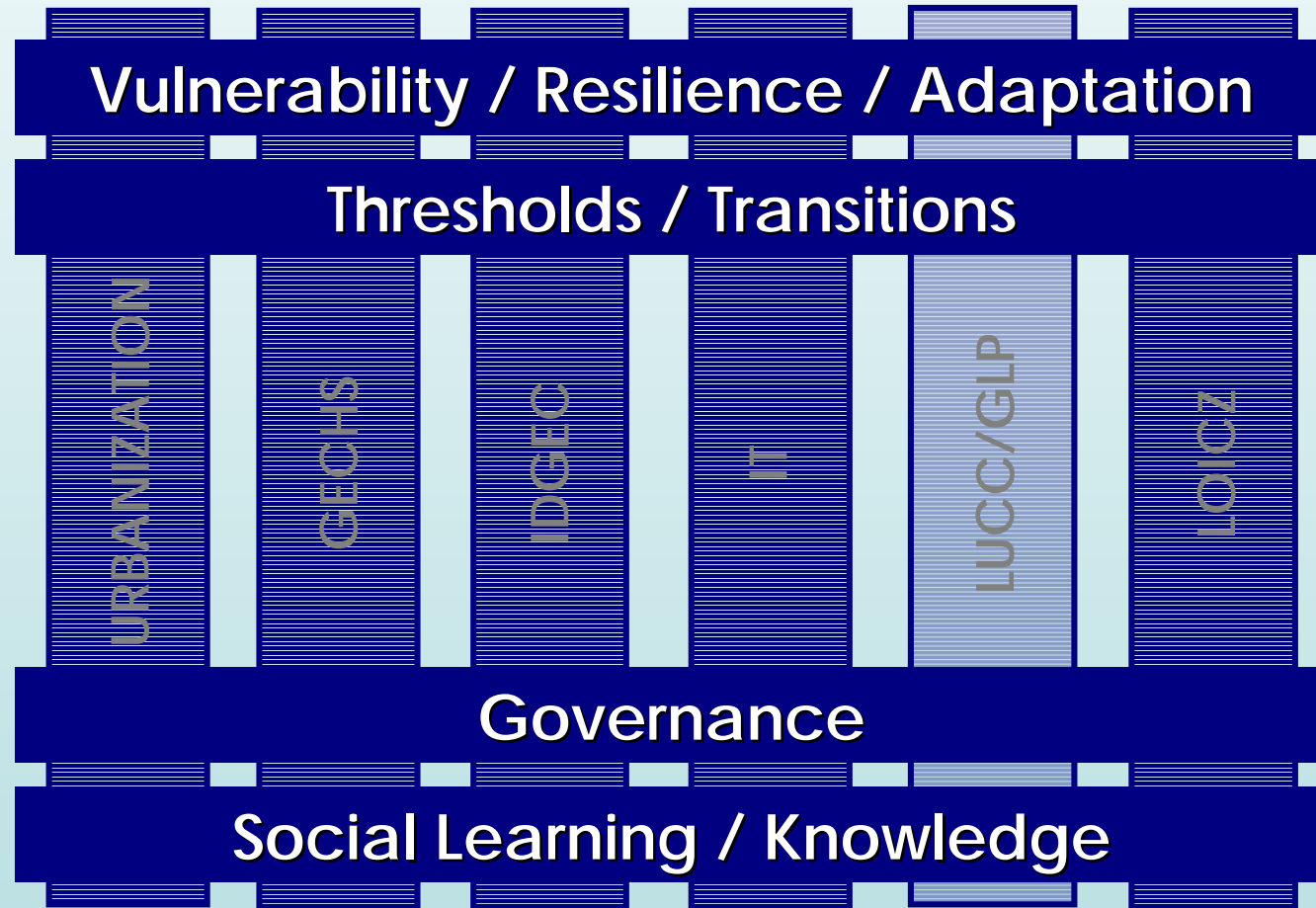
Core Projects

- **IDGEC:** has entered synthesis process after almost seven years of research – will culminate in IDGEC Synthesis Conference in Bali, Dec. 2006. While research in the project's flagship activities is ongoing, IDGEC has taken on new research foci: 1) Water management, 2) Trade and Environment, and 3) Water and Trade. IDGEC is also collaborating with IHDP in planning the next Human Dimensions Workshop on water, trade, environment (see point on capacity building).

IDGEC Synthesis Conference

- The Synthesis Conference „Institutions for Sustainable Development in the Face of Global Environmental Change: Questioning, Explaining, Demystifying (QED)“ will be held in Bali, Indonesia, 6-9 December 2006.
- The objectives of the conference are the following:
 - To harvest and disseminate scientific findings that relate to the IDGEC science agenda
 - To explore the policy implications of these findings
 - To identify cutting-edge concerns for the next phase of work in this field of study

Cross-Cutting Questions:



Vulnerability / Resilience / Adaptation

Group effort to synthesis knowledge on VAR and establish a platform for future development and application of the concepts.

- State-of-the-art papers
- Arizona Workshop
- Session at Open Meeting
- Special issue of „Global Environmental Change“ forthcoming

6th Open Meeting in Bonn



Open Meeting

- 6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of GEC Research Community (Bonn, Oct. 2005) has been the major event in 2005, and a very successful conference with more than 1000 participants and about 130 parallel sessions, reflecting the growing interest in and rising quality of human dimensions research. The parallel sessions were chosen in a competitive and two-tiered selection process.
- The daily morning plenary sessions addressed the policy relevance of human dimensions research, how to ground this research in present global realities, the weaknesses and benefits of interdisciplinary research, and a stock-taking of the human dimensions research to-date.

Capacity Building

- Prior to the 6th Open Meeting, four training seminars on methodological issues related to the human dimensions of GEC took place in Bonn.
- APN, IAI, ESSP Africa Network...
- Next International Human Dimensions Workshop/Training Institute on Institutional Dimensions of GEC with regard to water, trade and the environment will take place in Thailand, in October 2006.
- The last Training Institute was on Globalization and Food Systems (Costa Rica, Oct. 2004). Since 2004, the IHDP Training Institutes also comprise a Science-Policy Forum, inviting regional practitioners to interact with the researchers.

IHDW

- IHDP-APN 2006 **International Human Dimensions Workshop** on Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change: Water, Trade and Environment
- October 13-26, 2006, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research APN, other Partners: IAI, IFPRI, SIWI
- **Selection of topics to be covered during the workshop :**
 - Institutions and Governance
 - Global and Local Water Issues
 - Institutional Dimensions and Linkages of Trade, Water and Environment

National Committees

- IHDP counts 32 active National Committees (NC), 16 of which are Global Change Committees (GCC) linked to their IGBP counterparts. 30 National Contact Points (NCP) are active for IHDP within their countries. Total of 62 nations actively linked (as of December 2005) with more than half in developing countries and transition economies. Since the OM, interest from 6 additional countries (Benin, Ukraine, Mongolia, Armenia, Ecuador, Azerbaijan)
- Over 100 participants at 5th Meeting of IHDP National Committee Chairs and Representatives at Open Meeting 2005, made up of NC members, IHDP SC members, project (core and joint) SSC members, regional networks, interested OM participants
- Major Issues of Discussion at OM
 - How they mobilize GEC scientists at national level
 - Challenges of interdisciplinarity in GEC research
 - Establishment of partnerships at the regional level
 - Exploration of strengthening role of NC with regards to defining future IHDP projects and outreach to national funding agencies

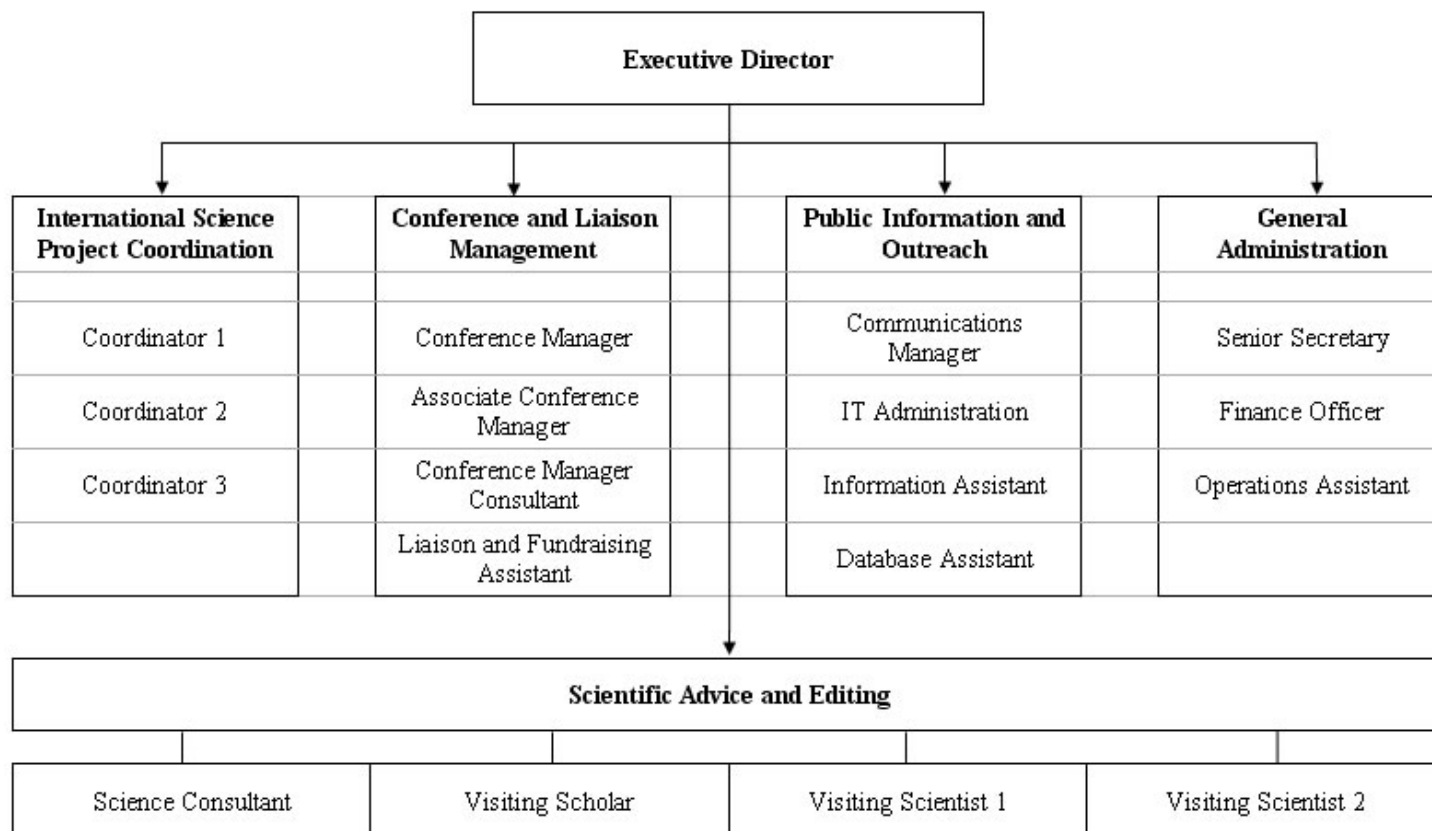
Seed Grant Initiative

- **40** Seed Grants (about 180,000 USD total) have been awarded since 1998
 - 19 National Inventories have been completed
 - 21 National Capacity-Building or Networking Workshops organized
- Strong link between IHDP capacity building activities and the Seed Grant Initiative.
- In 2003, the IHDP Secretariat began awarding larger amounts for the organization of IHDP-related workshops in regions where IHDP visibility is weak (between \$5-10K) and on themes of key relevance to IHDP's evolving agenda.
- Sole source of funding: UNESCO/ISSC
- Challenge: identify additional funds, funds awarded per year too small for truly effective activities and follow-up

Re-thinking the IHDP Secretariat

- Central project coordination unit: strengthening capacity and servicing functions for the core and joint projects/providing overall scientific advice
- Reinforcing the capacity building functions, NCs, outreach, fundraising, development community links and conference facilitation
- More proactive and professional communication strategy/ products
- Professionalising Administration, IT and support functions
- Creating space for „independent“ scientific advisors, visitors and science editors

IHDP Secretariat Organizational Chart



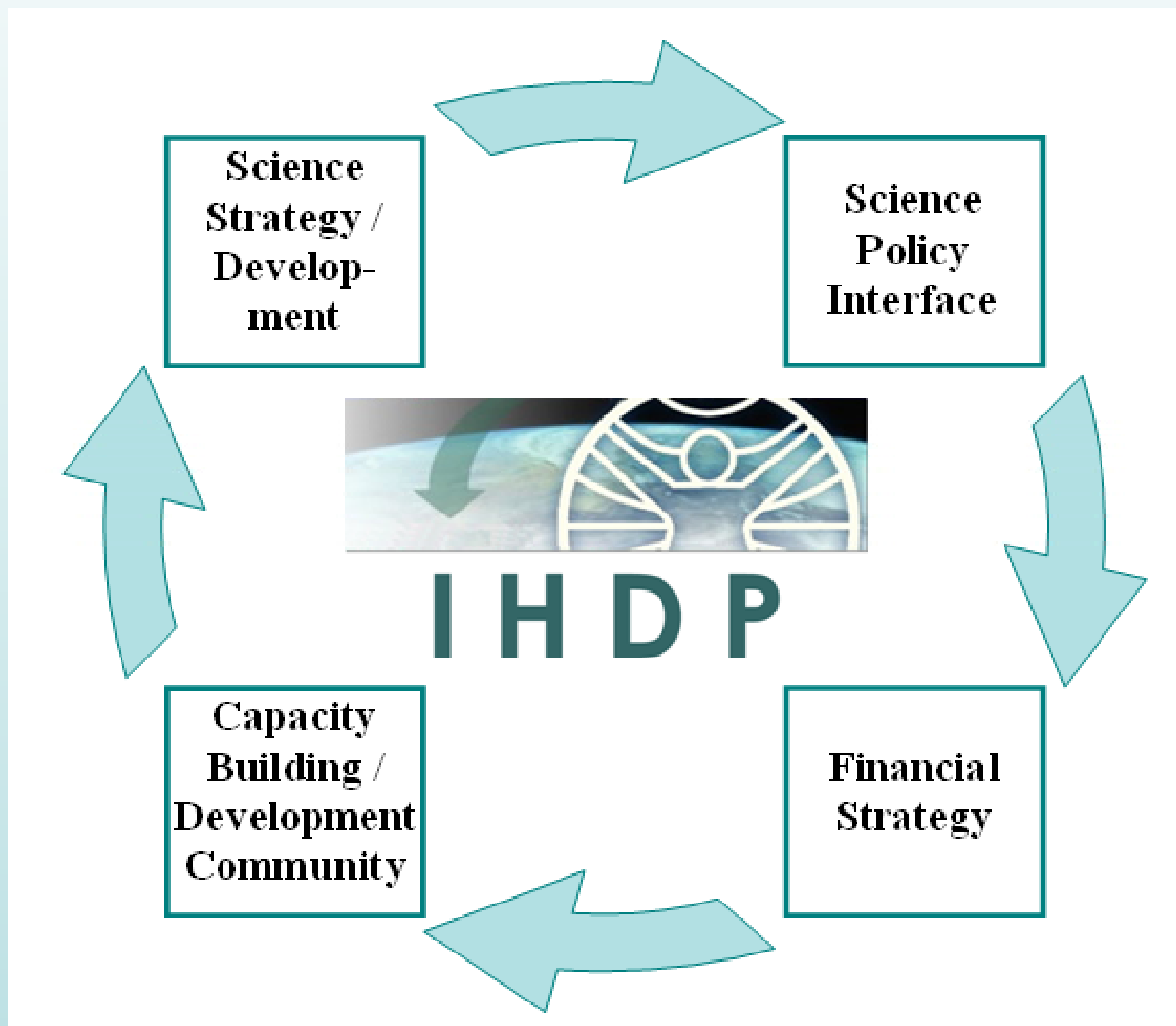
The Road Ahead - IHDP Phase II: 2006 – 2015

- Development of a Strategic Plan 2007 – 2015 (complying with Major Events such as the MDG process)
- Creation of SC working groups on:
 - Science Plan Development
 - Science policy/practise interface
 - Capacity-building, development agenda and outreach
- Overhauling the IHDP Financial Strategy
- Going for policy relevance

- Strengthening capacity-building activities
- Reaching out to new agendas and communities, e.g. Sustainable Development
- Communicating and delivering IHDP products and statements in a broader, more visible and relevant way
- Re-thinking IHDP policy towards and within ESSP
- New Strategic partnerships and alliances, e.g. UNU
- Re-frameming the Secretariat

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Thank you!

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