Climate Governance in Africa

Chukwumerije Okereke

University of Oxford –SSEE





Climate change governance in Africa: What are the specific challenges?



Governing Adaption in Water and Agriculture

- What are the key experiences so far?
- What are the research needs and gaps?
- What should be the priorities for action?



Outline

- ☐ Key Aspects of Governance
- Conceptual Framework
- Experinces and Reserch Needs
- Priorities for Action
- Conclusion

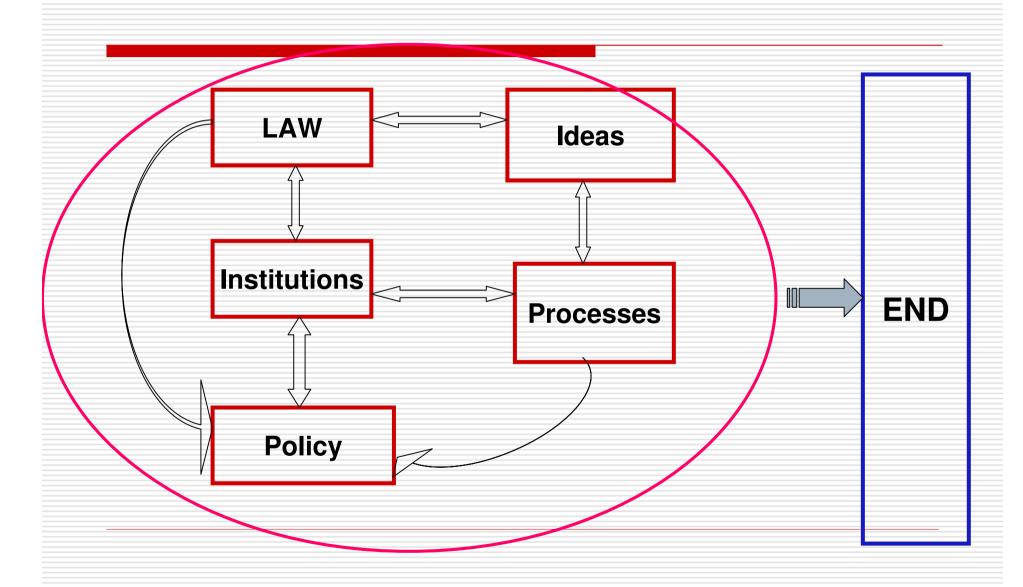


Key Aspects of Governance

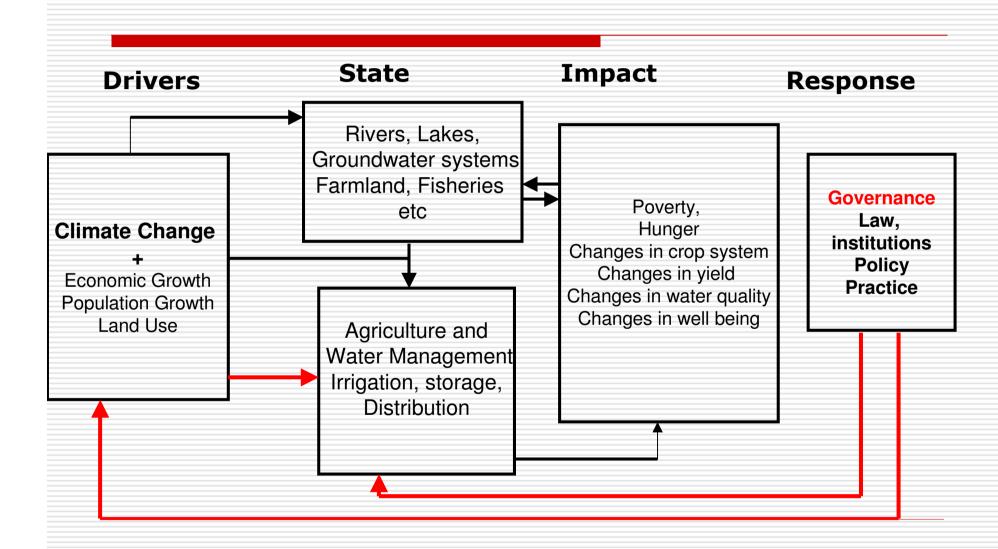
- □ Law
- Institutions
- Policies
- Processes
- □ Ideas



Key Aspects of Governance



Conceptual Framework



Legislation - State

- The role of regulations and legislations are recognised but in most cases there are no overarching legal framework
- Existing ones are antiquated and inadequate
- Inconsistencies and contradictions in existing laws
- Multiplicity of sectoral laws create conflict and leave jurisdictional vacuum

Legislation-State

- Regulation needs spatial coherence: local, catchment, transboundary
- There is insecurity of water rights or unequal distribution on such rights in many areas; mismatch between formal legislation and informal practices



Legislation- Research Needs

- Need to support the development of good laws and regulations
- □ What are the barriers to enacting good laws; How can such barriers be overcome
- What help can be offered to politicians to help them develop effective regulations –Need to look into building capacity for effective legislation



Legislation – Research Needs

How can desirable outcomes be achieved effectively and sustainably especially given past failures (Thompson et al 2007)

Analysis of changes in water access suggests need for better understanding of contextspecific historical roots of the issues (Anand 2006)



Institutions

Key characters are:

- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- □ Resilience



Institutions –Research Needs

- Institutions are lacking; Existing ones are underfunded and understaffed
- Planning is poor due to lack of knowledge, political expediency, corruption
- Need to improve coordination/spatial coherence
- Suggested role of informal structures –"distributed governance" and informal structures to supplement formal structures



Institutions –Research Needs

- What forms institutions should take
- The needs of existing institutions-Effectiveness, efficiency and resilience of institutions
- How best to ensure accountability and transparency -need to insulate institutions from politics
- What forms –roles for distributed governance structures take; relationship with formal /authorities





Policy - State

- Competing needs create pressure for resource reallocation (e.g. from agric to industry)
- Water resource developments bring benefits but also have adverse effects
- □ The use of economic instruments/incentives (payments for services and conservation, taxes, subsidies etc) to instil value and promote stakeholder dialogue



Policy - State

- Installation of water rights to help reduce waste
- Large scale investments is needed 13 billion per year to supply low cost sanitation water. Research suggests investments in rainfed agriculture ..but rainfed innovation require complementary investments in infrastructure, market access, credit, farm diversification



Policy – Research Needs

- □ Need to determine how best to integrate; what are the direct and remote interactions between water (agric) policies and other sectoral policies
- What are the trade-offs; who pays and who benefits
- What instruments –licensing, privatisationproperty right regimes will work best





Process -State

The need for inclusivity in decision making process

Ideas of justice and equity



Policy – Research Needs

- How to use pricing to shift use; what role for enterprise
- Practical guidance on how schemes would work in various contexts; their environmental impact
- How to foot/minimise transaction cost; evaluation; the construction of stakeholder dialogue –innovative financial/incentive mechanisms
- How to attract investment, how to achieve balance in spend – infrastructure and institutions, how best to achieve returns without upsetting social systems, how to recognise issue of fundamental human rights

Process – Research Needs

- Discussions about what options there are; what process of coming to an agreement transparent and inclusive
- What are the best practical strategies for supporting and developing stakeholder dialogue, platforms and decision making processes; an how might they be best implemented (Mortimore and Anvell 2006).
- What ideas of justice and equity underpin decisions and policies; who gets to chose; role of underlying values (Okereke 2008)



Beliefs – Research Needs

- Relationship between beliefs and behaviour
- Which sets of beliefs and values help reduce vulnerability and which help increase it
- What are the historical roots of such beliefs; and
- How may change be engineered?



Beliefs and Values



Priorities

- Country/ Regional Specific
 - Power/Political Economy
 - Capacity for regulation
 - Institutions and Norms
 - Use of Economic Instruments
 - Justice, Equity and Rights
 - Investments
 - Participation



Conclusion

- Need to use existing research
- New Research should be
 - Demand Led
 - User Friendly
 - Focused
 - Integration Potential
 - Robust

