



# Does institutional incompatibility lead to Maladaptation to impacts of climate change?

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#### Learning to Govern Pastoral dynamics

- Ever increasing economic and political importance of the drylands/pastoralists
  - Carbon sequestration capacity of ranges
  - Biofuel and high value industrial crop demand
  - Technological progress
  - Right, governance and voice
- The pastoral sector in Ethiopia is witnessing climate induced livelihood transitions
  - Frequent drought and destabilization of the system
  - High security risk...international boundaries





#### Learning to Govern Pastoral dynamics

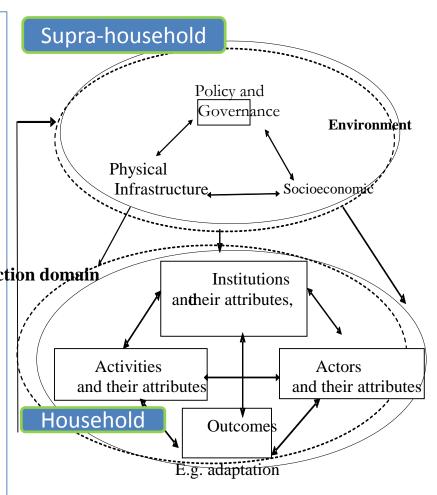
- To smooth the transition and mitigate effects various initiatives have been in place.
- However, it is quite unknown as to what 'incentives', 'choices' and 'outcomes' motivate human behaviour to comply with the policies
- The interlinkage between those 'initiatives' and 'practical adaptation practices as well as their 'consequences' is less clear in indigenous pastoral communities' context.





#### Methods

- Multiple stressed, Hamer in South Ethiopia
- Multistage study, peoplecentred approach/institutional analysis
- Case study to understand the incentives that motivate human behaviour
- Assuming volitional pragmatism



IAD framework adapted from Johann et al., 2009





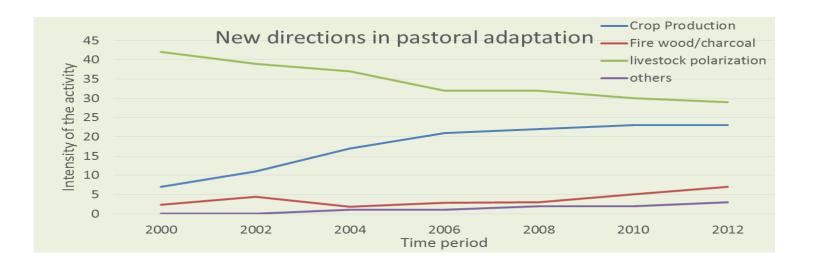
### **Findings**

## Policies opted for 'settlement/farming oriented',

- Natural resource development
- ☐ Marketization,
- ☐ Institutional capacity building
- Upward nested institutions
- technical, than people-centered approach
- Obscured property rights

#### Pastoral adaptation practices

- Livestock and rangeland based adaptation
- Determined by incentives embodied in 'traditional rites of passage'.
  - Group grid position influence choices
  - Local discourse, dominate power relationship!







#### **Key Findings**

- This institutional incompatibilities become apparent when formal rules of adaptation fail to conform to communal norms, .....so that 'opportunistic behavior' emerges (Knight, 1999, Theesfeld et al., 2010).
  - These discrepancies, have a high inefficiency and implications of long term mistrust between policy makers and pastoralists.
- The mistrust is leading the pastoral communities with short term, survival oriented, and costly, reactive actions prompted by lack of viable alternatives.
  - Maladaptation





#### Conclusions/Recommendations

For efficacy of adaptation policies, Panarchy of interventions, don't often fit, doesn't serve the purpose.

policies, interventions need to consider heterogeneity among actors.

The incompatibility mainly emanates from large 'social distance' between policy makers, and final agents.

- Lack of proper Representation!
- Cognitive and affective bias matters!
- Therefore, the institutional architecture and communication practices need to be designed in a way that actually supports decision-making to climate change and sustainable economic development to fit in indigenous pastoral context.