

URAdapt

Managing Water at the **Urban-Rural** Interface: The key to climate change resilient cities

Policy and Institutional Study

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Introduction

Climate change has become one of the defining challenges of this century for policymakers, industry, and civil society, and it is a development, investment, economic, and social issue, which affects most sectors (Prasad et al., 2008)

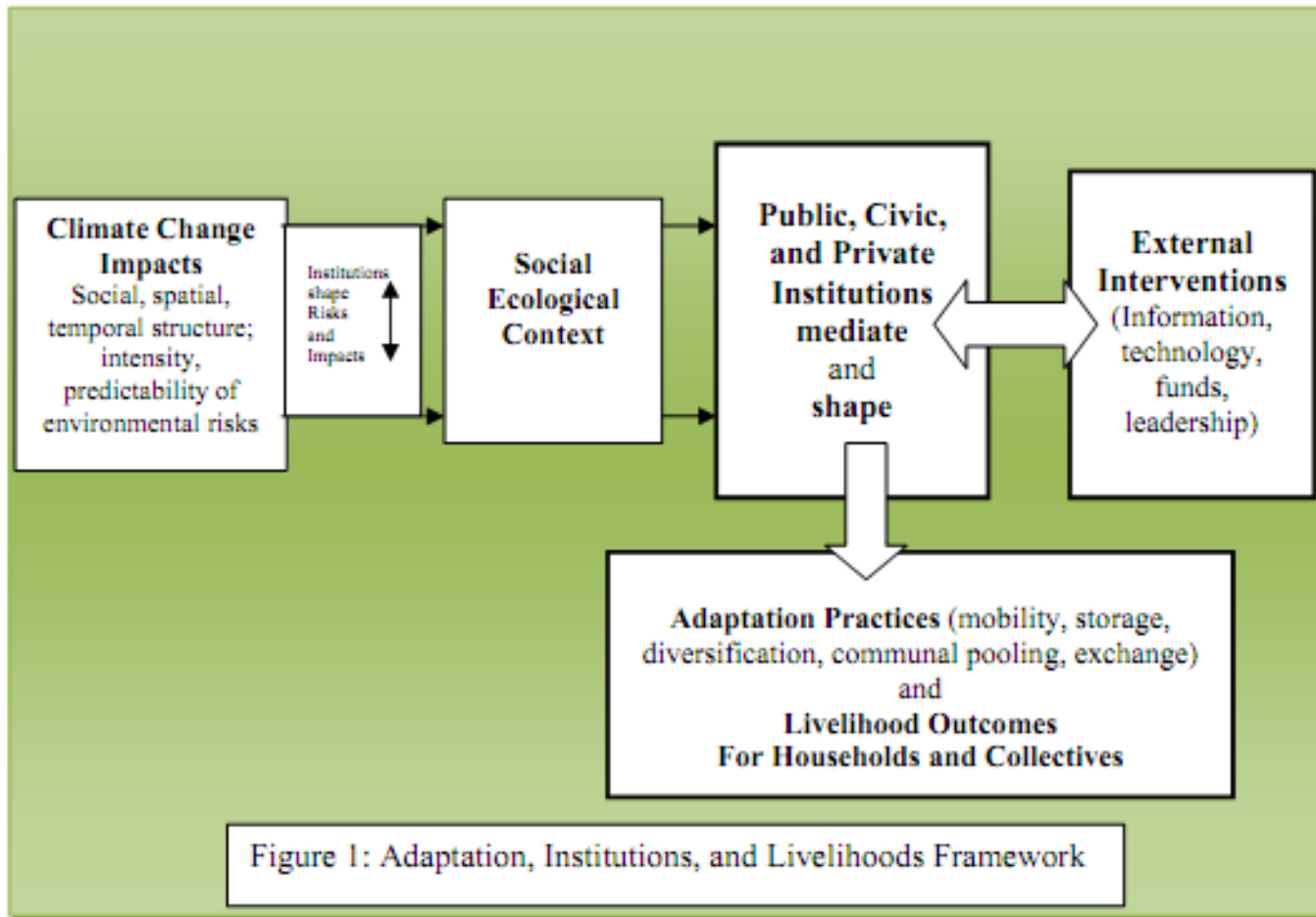
Institutions : the humanly devised constraints that structure human interaction. Rules, laws, constitutions, codes of conduct, customary norms etc (North, 1994)

Objective

- Understand the policy and institutional environment to better target recommendations from URAdapt.
- Appraise stakeholder perceptions on incentives and barriers to formulation and implementation of climate adaptation policies and strategies

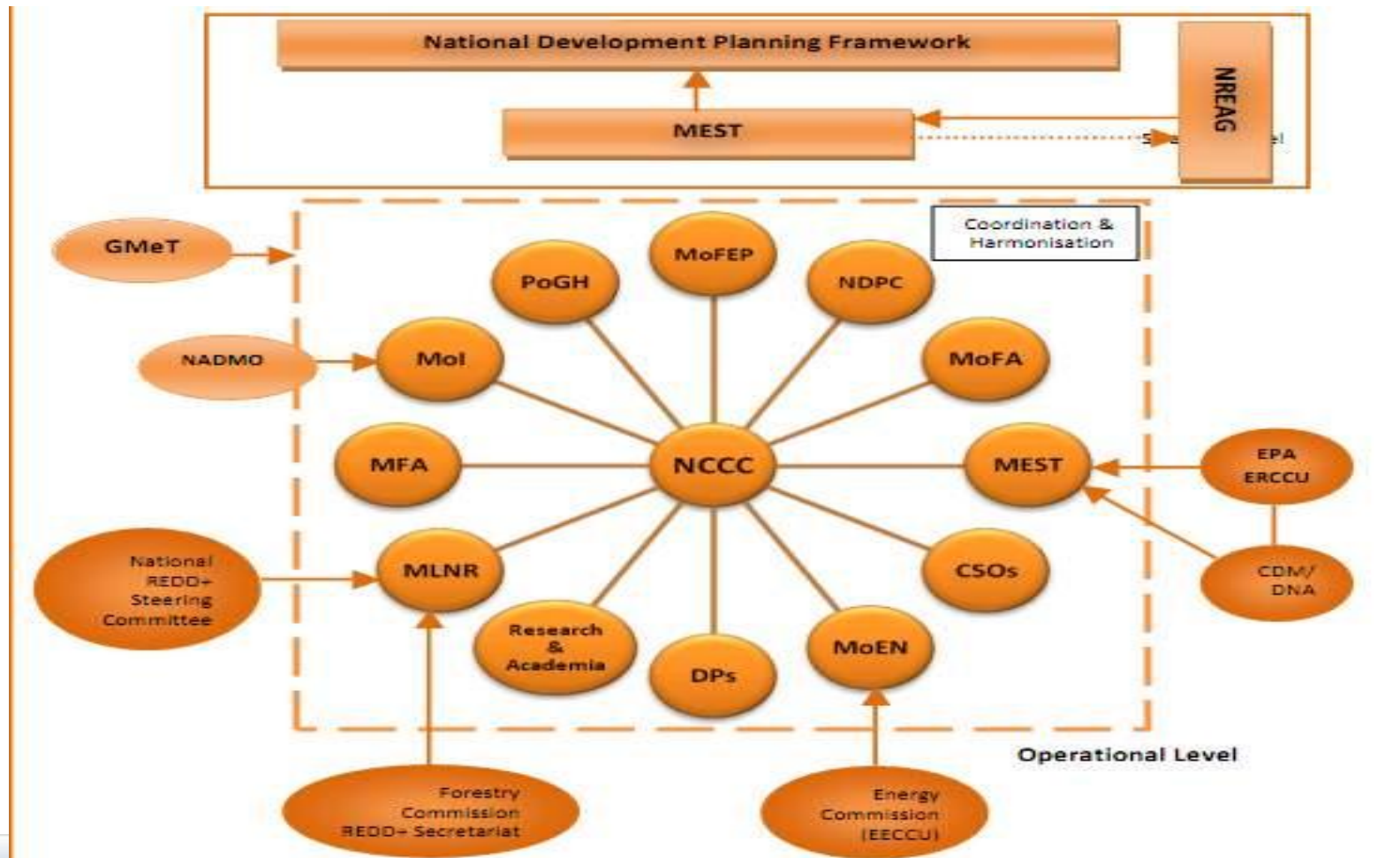
To bolster adaptation strategies at community city, and national level through designing the right policy and institutional options

The Role of Institutions in Climate Change and Adaptation (Source Agrawal, 2008)



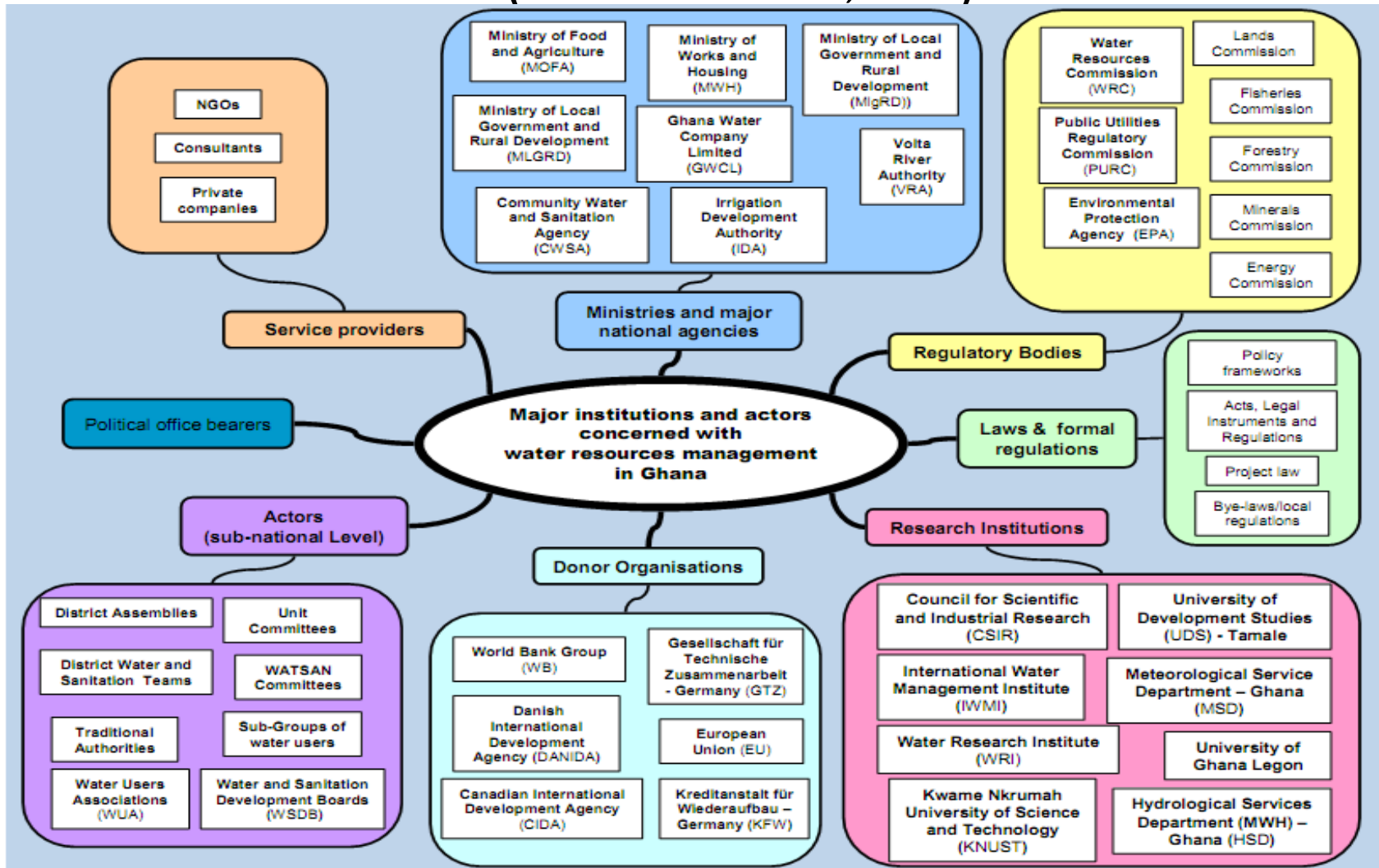
Institutional Arrangement for Coordinating Climate Change Activities in Ghana

(Source Tutu Benefoh, 2010)



Institutions and Actors in WRM in Ghana

(Source Fuest *et al.*, 2005)



Institutional study

- Policy review – water, agriculture, urban development, environment and health
- Review of relevant legislation particularly wrt water, local government, environment, planning, housing and buffer zones
- Selective about the organisations and structures studied – AMA, Densu Basin Board, WRC, EPA, Town and country planning, NADMO, GWCL, MOFA, MEST, MWRWH

Climate policy environment in Ghana

- Various ongoing and completed processes viz
- National CC policy framework
 - developed 2010. Follow up weak, delivery system inadequate, not effectively linked to sectoral planning or resource allocation
- National CC adaptation strategy
 - Draft available. Process was not inclusive, strategy lacking in vision. Collection of proposals/projects with no links to sectoral policies.
- Also various (donor driven) projects

Climate Policy environment - challenges

- Processes of consultation ad-hoc perhaps bcos
- Inadequate co-ordination and structure
- External tech assistance requires clear articulation of needs
- Multi-donor budget support not yet in place
- MEST lead ministry but level of influence at cabinet questionable (in contrast MoFEP has convening powers)

Climate Policy environment – challenges (contd)

- EPA understaffed and lacks capacity
- NCCC cross-sectoral comprising official representation from other agencies, but lacks dedicated core capacity, and expertise.
- Sector policies (water, agriculture, urban development) do not yet address climate change adequately or specifically. Mainly responding to climate variability.
- Inadequate understanding of issues and problem formulation

Opportunities for mainstreaming

Recognition of the intertwined nature of climate change to national development at the national level (GOG, 2010).

- The GoG hopes to integrate CC issues at three levels:
 - National
 - Sector
 - District
- Outcome of the meeting in Koforidua – sector strategies to be developed after launch of the Ghana Climate Policy

Politics and Policy

“...what is very key to the politician is to let the technical people developing the policy convince them [that] it has gone through a thorough stakeholder consultation and contribution. That is what they look out for; not what is even there...they also have their fears...” Ben Ampomah (WRC)

“...what you need to do to attract the attention of politicians is to talk numbers. Numbers in economic terms, numbers in terms of budgets and numbers in terms of votes...” MOFEP Director

“...I am sorry, we are not doing well because we do not even understand the issues. The government has got its priorities wrong when it comes to the issue of climate change...” Delali Dovie

Local level implications for flood risk management

- AMA and TCPD rated themselves as institutionally weak to respond to flood incidents and risk management, **and thus need strengthening.**
- NADMO performs well overall as per perceptions of communities, **but their responses were short term measures** that did not necessarily build the resilience of communities.

Local level implications (contd)

- Community members must actively participate in the development planning process of the Metropolitan Assembly.
- Community Action Plans are critical in ensuring that the problems of communities are systematically addressed.
- Community Watch committees that protect drainage systems and waterways from unauthorized constructions and dumping, could also play a major contributory role to minimizing flood damage.

Local level implications (contd)

- Local government should make spatial and land use planning a priority on its development agenda
- AMA should enforce building regulations and bye-laws dealing with dumping of refuse into the drainage facilities.
- Waste management which is critical for the prevention of flooding incidents, should be high on the local agenda
- .

Local level implications (contd)

- Promote community involvement in infrastructural planning and spatial and land use planning. This empowers, and gains commitment
- Integrate local knowledge into flood risk mapping and early warning systems
- Local government should explicitly address flood risk management in the MTDP

Rejuvenating the Densu Basin Board: IWRM for urban water management

- Coordination in the basin is critical
- Water conservation by users upstream of Nsawam critical for Weija water supply.
- Composition, capacities, skills, resources critical
- Knowledge base and decision support tools and models
- Handle water allocation decisions and give advice on licensing to WRC

Thank you

THE MINISTER FOR WATER ON THE PHONE



VEGETABLE FARMERS RUNNING OUT OF WATER? I CAN ASSURE YOU WE ARE RIGHT ON TOP OF THE PROBLEM!

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