

# **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT, MIGRATION AND CONFLICT – VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION.**

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# WILL THIS TRIGGER MIGRATION?



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# CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

- Population mobility is probably the demographic process that has received the most attention within the field of population-environment studies in recent times (Adamo, 2008).
- Three basic responses to climate change:
  - Adaptation
  - Migration
  - Death
- Migration is said to be the mode of response to climate variability in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Environmental forced migration is an issue that has not received much attention in Ghana

# CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

- Two school of thought:
  - Climate change will lead to massive migration
  - Climate change may not be the major determinant of migration
- Estimated African Environmental Refugees from floods by Richter (1998) from 1973-1997 is 7 million or more
- However, Perch-Nielsen et al., (2008) notes that mass displacement (temporary homelessness) triggered by extreme events does not lead to large scale permanent mass migration



# CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION



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# CLIMATE CHANGE AND MIGRATION

- In my study migration was not mentioned as a conceivable option. Few households stated that they would leave the community in the event of severe flood or drought but would come back as soon as the situation is over (Abu., Forthcoming)
- People migrate for various reasons – economic, social, political and environmental issues
- The impact of climate related environmental events in explaining the decision to migration at the household level reduces when other reasons for migrating are controlled
- Whilst experience of flood or drought may trigger households in Buoku to migrate, households in Bofie-Banda will only migrate when there is frequent occurrence of both events.



# IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE - CONFLICT





# IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE - CONFLICT

## ○ Rural Area

- Drought and Floods caused deterioration of rural livelihoods – loss of income, hunger, malnutrition
- Conflict between Fulani headsmen/cattle owners and farmers
- Conflict over farm land

## ○ Urban Areas

- Urbanisation - creating slums encumbered by poor sanitation (Brockhoff and Brennan, 1998)
- Conflict between migrants and non-migrants
- Conflict over urban land

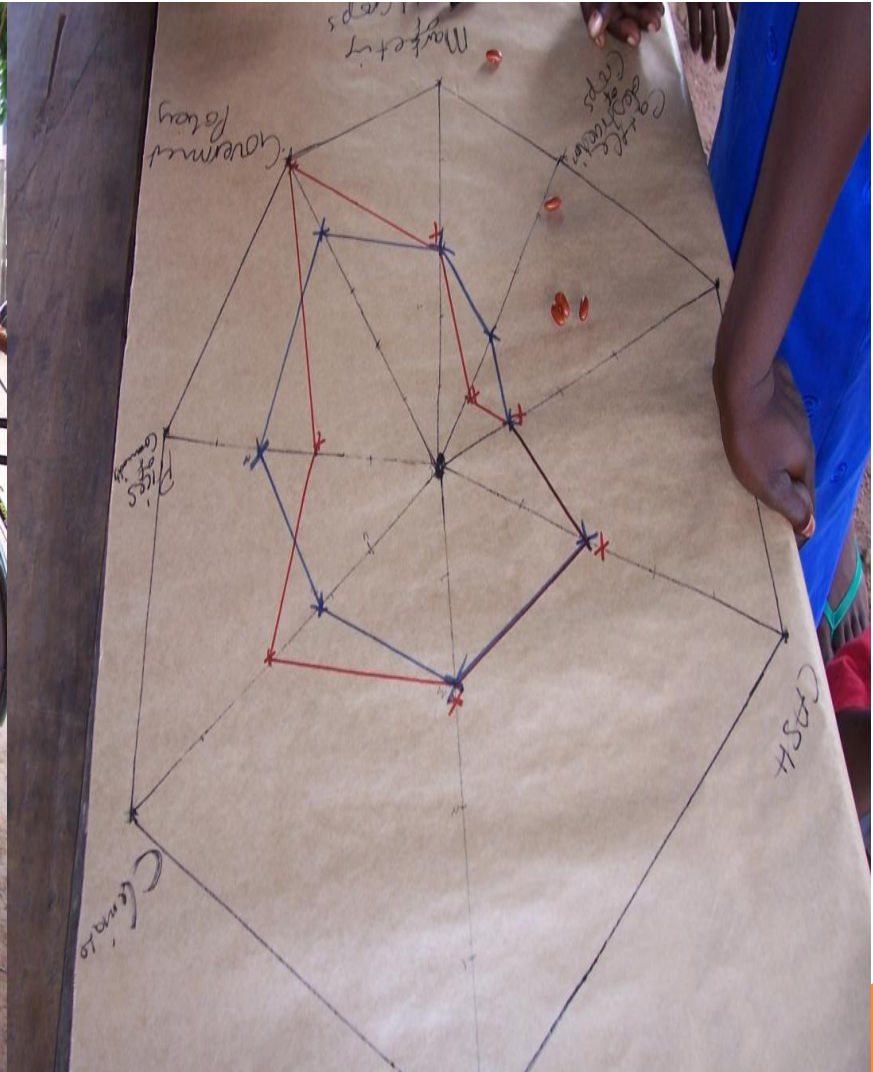
# IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE - CONFLICT



# VULNERABILITY



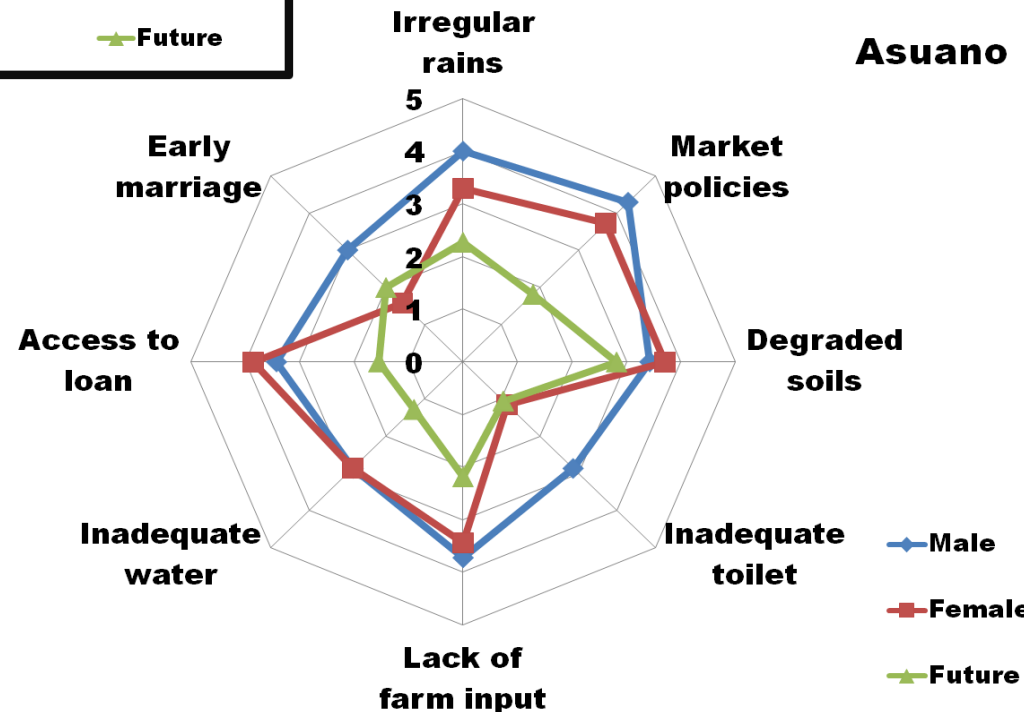
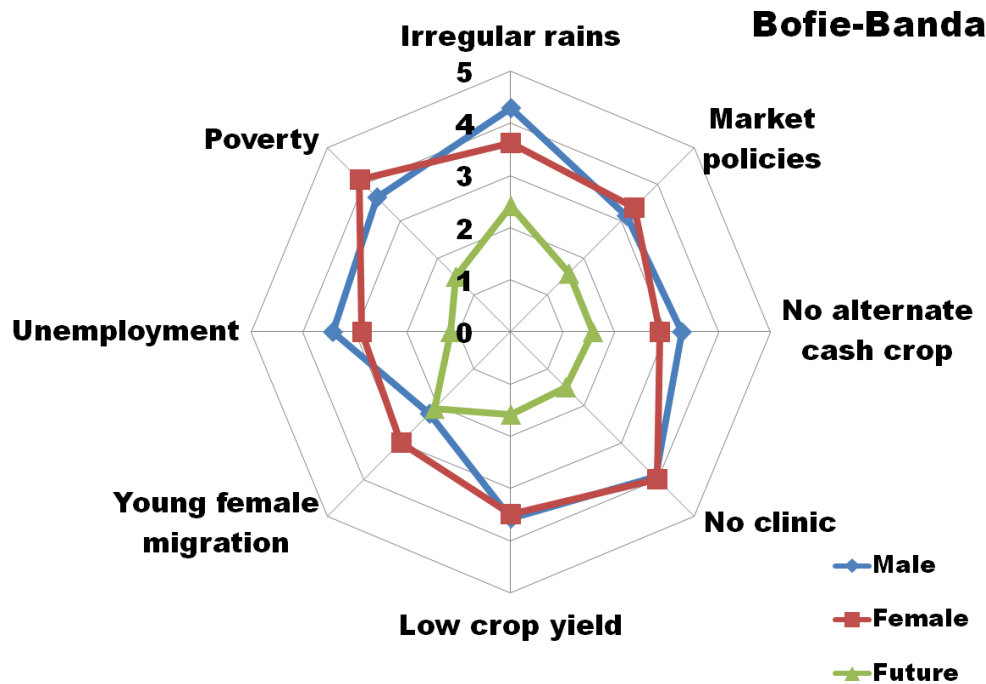
# VULNERABILITY MAPPING







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Pictures show measure of harm, vulnerability (0 – 5, increasing degree of harm) as indicated at household level

# ADAPTATION



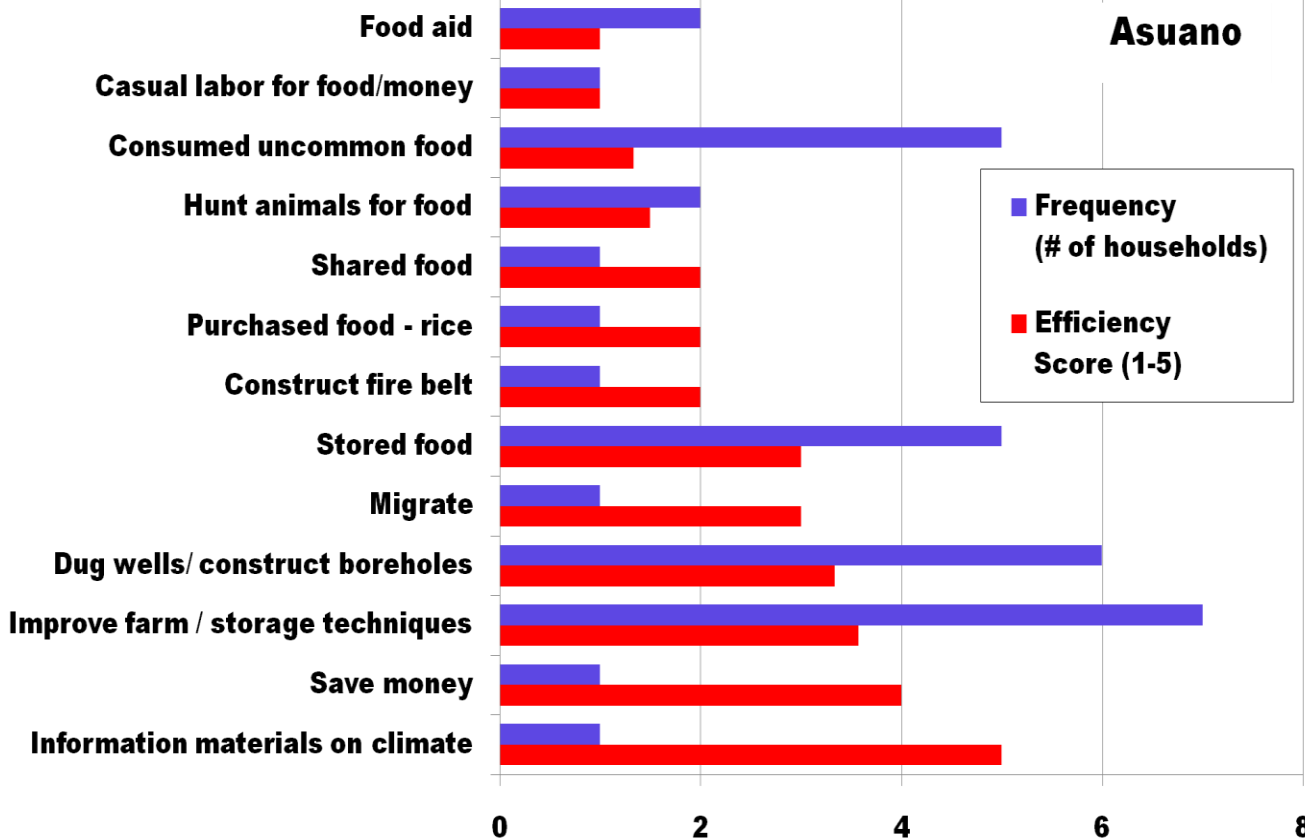
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**Climate Change Learning  
and Observatory Network, Ghana  
“Learn to Live with Climate Change”**



**Adaptation to Past and Future Climate Extremes  
(Droughts)**

**Asuano – Wenchi District**



**Coping and Adaptive  
Strategies to Drought.  
Reference = 1983/84**

- Frequency – Number of households that used and/or would use strategy in the future.
- Efficiency – Indicates the usefulness of a strategy when used.

# CURRENT ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

## ○ Bofie-Banda

- Cultivation of cashew
- Female migration
- Cultivation of new yam varieties
- Cultivation of cassava

## ○ Buoku

- Cultivation of tiger nuts
- Male migration
- Animal rearing



# CONCLUSION

- Climate change is a development issue that requires attention of all sectors of the economy
- Adaptation is key to addressing the issue of climate change impact
- Migration is an adaptation option and should not be seen entirely as something negative
- Making climate change information available to the population will help in developing better adaptation options.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) grant #CCP 07 08, Advancing Capacity to Support Climate Change Adaptation (ACCCA) Pilot Project on Food Security and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Afram Plains of Ghana
- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) grant # EEM-A-00-06-00014) for the Climate Change Learning Observatory Network in Ghana (CCLONG) Project
- The Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) Programme of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) grant # 105814, Climate Change and Health in Accra

**THANK YOU**