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Reframing adaptation?

- responding to indirect impacts of climate change

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Agenda items

- The current framing of adaptation
- Indirect impacts of climate change - conceptualization
- The Swedish forestry example
- Implications

The current framing of adaptation



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Adaptation as

“adjustments in ... systems in response to ... climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts”

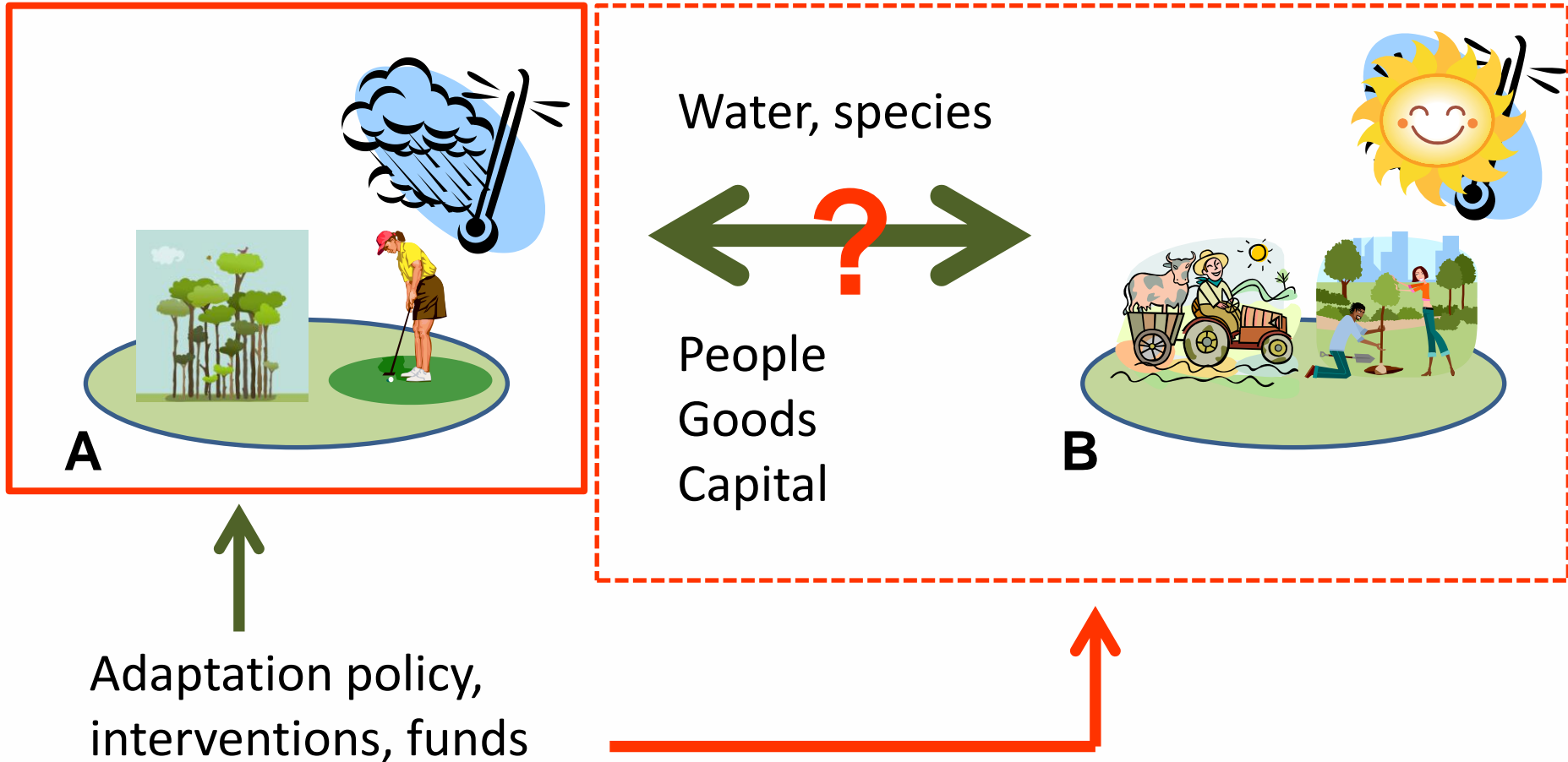
The *effects/impacts* and the *needs to adapt* occurring in the same location

A dominating view in both reserach and policy.

Indirect impacts of climate change - conceptualization



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The current framing of adaptation:



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- i) Does it adequately capture the decision making situation on the ground?

- ii) Does it lead to sub-optimal policy responses, since not all relevant climate change impacts are accounted for?



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Swedish forestry sector example

- Covering 60% of Sweden, 10-12% of industrial employment, 3-4% of total GDP
- Ownership shared among 350 000 individual owners (50%), private companies (25%), national state (25%)



Sources

		Indirect impacts on forestry mentioned?	Indirect impacts on forestry analyzed?	Indirect impacts affecting conclusions, recommendations?
1	Swedish Forestry Bill 2007/08:108 <i>A forestry policy in line with the times</i>	No	No	No
2	<i>Sweden facing climate change - threats and opportunities</i> (2007)	Yes	No	No
3	<i>A National Research Agenda – for the Swedish forest-based sector</i> (2006)	No	No	No
4	<i>Swedish Forest Sector Outlook Study</i> (2011)	Yes	Yes, briefly	Yes
5	<i>European Forest Sector Outlook Study II</i> (2011)	Yes	Yes	Yes, but not explicitly
6	EC Green Paper; <i>Preparing forests for climate change</i> (2010)	No	No	No
7	<i>Forest Products, UNECE/FAO Annual Market review</i> (2009-2010)	No	No	No



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Swedish forestry sector results

- Documents providing advice or regulatory change strictly limited to forest management issues
- Analyses that do address indirect impacts find climate change itself to be less important than many other change processes (e.g. market development, climate and energy policy)
- No common approach to analysing indirect impacts



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Implications

Research:

- relative importance of direct and indirect impacts of climate change, on different time scales
- identifying decision making situations that merit analysis of indirect impacts

Knowledge provision:

- exploring what value better understanding of indirect impact would bring

Financing adaptation: who to pay, and for adapting to what?

Thanks!

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