

A conceptual framework for understanding adaptive capacity to climate change



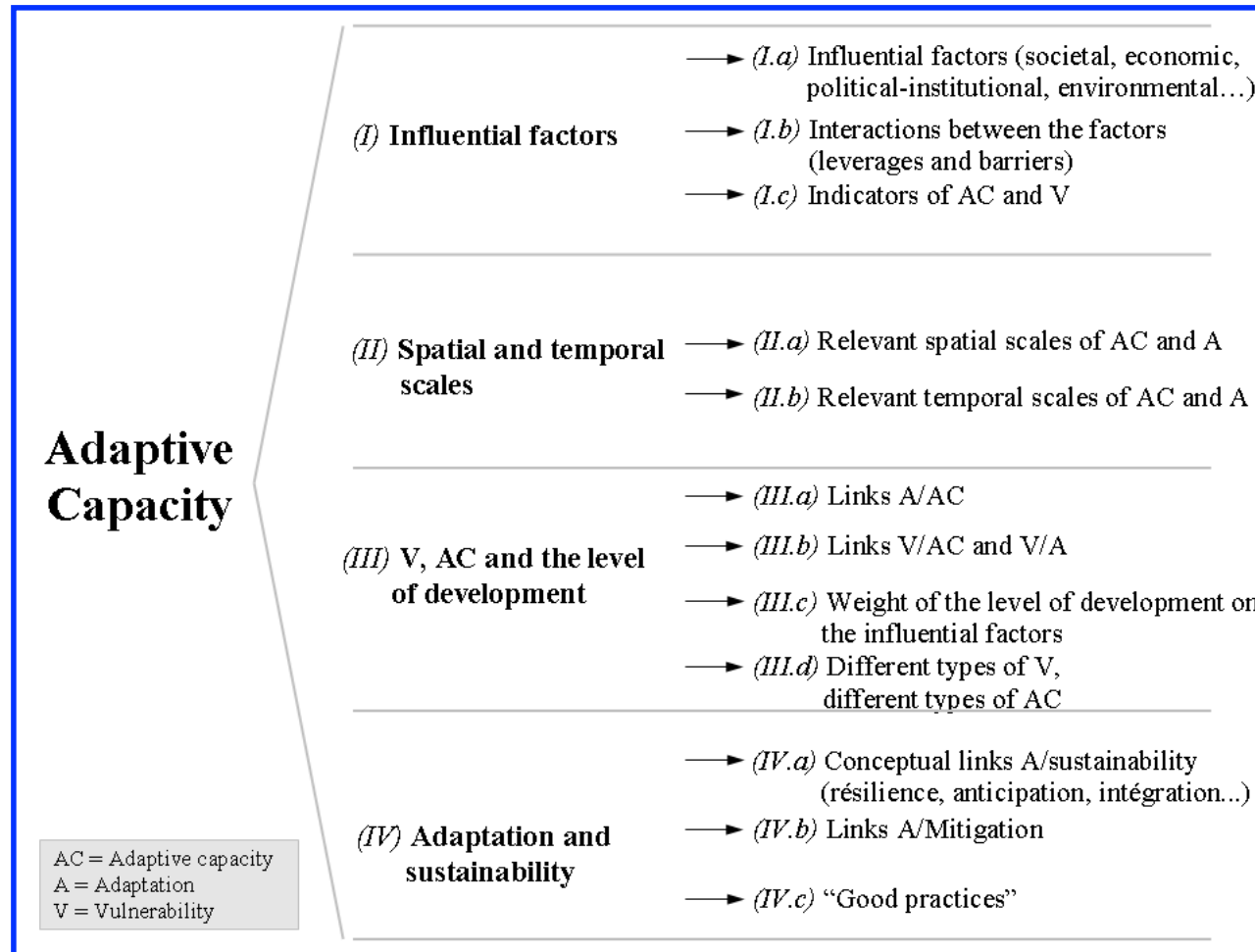
Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales
13 rue de l'Université
75 007 Paris (France)

Alexandre MAGNAN
Iddri - alexandre.magnan@iddri.org

A generally accepted misunderstanding: “poverty = low AC”

Need for a more nuanced conception

A research framework on Adaptive Capacity (AC)



Adaptive Capacity

(I) Influential factors	→ (I.a) Influential factors (social, economic, political-institutional, environmental...)
	→ (I.b) Interactions between the factors (leverages and barriers)
	→ (I.c) Indicators of AC and V
(II) Spatial and temporal scales	→ (II.a) Relevant spatial scales of AC and A
	→ (II.b) Relevant temporal scales of AC and A
(III) V, AC and the level of development	→ (III.a) Links A/AC
	→ (III.b) Links V/AC and V/A
	→ (III.c) Weight of the level of development on the influential factors
	→ (III.d) Different types of V, different types of AC
(IV) Adaptation and sustainability	→ (IV.a) Conceptual links A/sustainability (résilience, anticipation, intégration...)
	→ (IV.b) Links A/Mitigation
	→ (IV.c) "Good practices"

AC = Adaptive capacity
 A = Adaptation
 V = Vulnerability

Influential factors

- Societal cohesion
- Activities diversification
- Political-institutional structuring
- Living conditions
- Environmental features?

Interactions between the influential factors

Assessment grid (indicators & criteria) Monitoring of AC level

Adaptive Capacity

- (I.a) Influential factors (societal, economic, political-institutional, environmental...)
- (I.b) Interactions between the factors (leverages and barriers)
- (I.c) Indicators of AC and V

- (II.a) Relevant spatial scales of AC and A
- (II.b) Relevant temporal scales of AC and A

- (III.a) Links A/AC
- (III.b) Links V/AC and V/A
- (III.c) Weight of the level of development on the influential factors
- (III.d) Different types of V, different types of AC

- (IV.a) Conceptual links A/sustainability (résilience, anticipation, intégration...)
- (IV.b) Links A/Mitigation
- (IV.c) "Good practices"

AC = Adaptive capacity
A = Adaptation
V = Vulnerability

Adaptive Capacity

- (I) Influential factors
 - (I.a) Influential factors (societal, economic, political-institutional, environmental...)
 - (I.b) Interactions between the factors (leverages and barriers)
 - (I.c) Indicators of AC and V

- (II) Spatial and temporal scales
 - (II.a) Relevant spatial scales of AC and A
 - (II.b) Relevant temporal scales of AC and A

- (III) V, AC and the level of development
 - (III.a) Links A/AC
 - (III.b) Links V/AC and V/A
 - (III.c) Weight of the level of development on the influential factors
 - (III.d) Different types of V, different types of AC

- (IV) Adaptation and sustainability
 - (IV.a) Conceptual links A/sustainability (résilience, anticipation, intégration...)
 - (IV.b) Links A/Mitigation
 - (IV.c) "Good practices"

AC = Adaptive capacity
 A = Adaptation
 V = Vulnerability

Links between:

- A & AC
- Vulnerability & AC
- Weight of the development level

Different vulnerabilities
Different ACs

Adaptive Capacity

- (I) Influential factors
 - (I.a) Influential factors (societal, economic, political-institutional, environmental...)
 - (I.b) Interactions between the factors (leverages and barriers)
 - (I.c) Indicators of AC and V

- (II) Spatial and temporal scales
 - (II.a) Relevant spatial scales of AC and A
 - (II.b) Relevant temporal scales of AC and A

- (III) V, AC and the level of development
 - (III.a) Links A/AC
 - (III.b) Links V/AC and V/A
 - (III.c) Weight of the level of development on the influential factors
 - (III.d) Different types of V, different types of AC

Conceptual links

- Resilience
- Anticipation / Precaution principle
- Integration
- Innovation

Uncertainty

(IV) Adaptation and sustainability

- (IV.a) Conceptual links A/sustainability (résilience, anticipation, intégration...)
- (IV.b) Links A/Mitigation
- (IV.c) "Good practices"

Adaptation & Mitigation (synergies, conflicts)

"good principles" rather than "good practices"

AC = Adaptive capacity
A = Adaptation
V = Vulnerability

Adaptive Capacity

AC = Adaptive capacity
A = Adaptation
V = Vulnerability

- (I) Influential factors**
 - (I.a) Influential factors (societal, economic, political-institutional, environmental...)
 - (I.b) Interactions between the factors (leverages and barriers)
 - (I.c) Indicators of AC and V

- (II) Spatial and temporal scales**
 - (II.a) Relevant spatial scales of AC and A
 - (II.b) Relevant temporal scales of AC and A

- (III) V, AC and the level of development**
 - (III.a) Links A/AC
 - (III.b) Links V/AC and V/A
 - (III.c) Weight of the level of development on the influential factors
 - (III.d) Different types of V, different types of AC

- (IV) Adaptation and sustainability**
 - (IV.a) Conceptual links A/sustainability (résilience, anticipation, intégration...)
 - (IV.b) Links A/Mitigation
 - (IV.c) “Good practices”