Introduction

No place like Addis Ababa, Ethiopia!!!

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NASA IDS: Seasonal Prediction of Hydro-Climatic Extremes in the Greater Horn of Africa (GHA)

The First Participatory Research Workshop and Project Meeting

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Motivation

- Improved performance and application of seasonal forecast is a critical no-regrets climate adaptation strategy

- But in many parts of the world including GHA:

  (1) many forecast systems perform poorly,

  (2) forecasts are not always tied to user needs, and

  (3) there is a lack of systematic forecast evaluation and comparison

- There is also a need to understand how forecasts influence the outcomes they are designed to predict

The Cycle of Disaster Management

Source: D. Wilhite
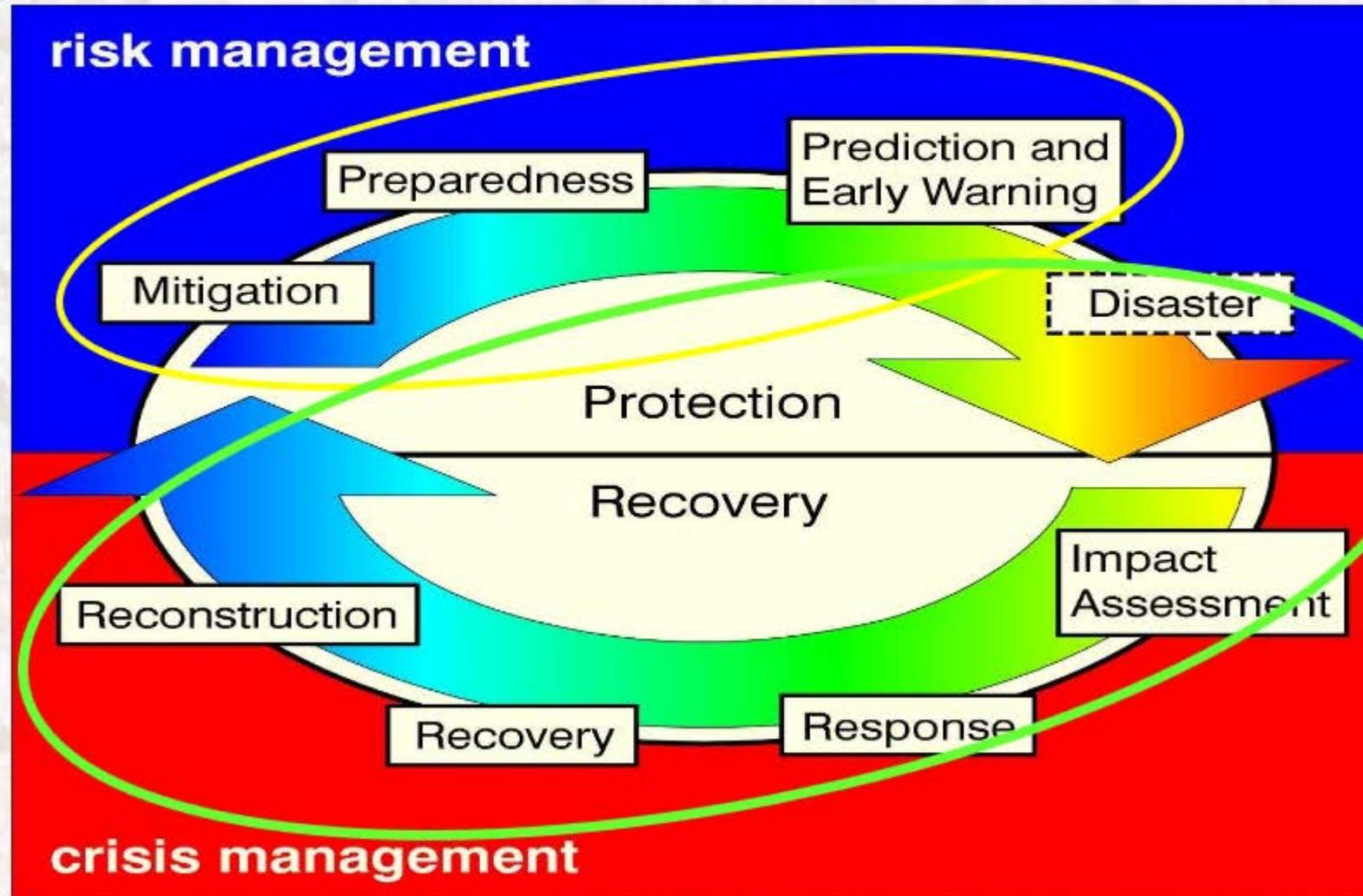
NASA GHA Project Goal

"To understand and, where possible, extend the predictive time horizons for extreme drought and flood in the GHA given the challenges of an evolving climate baseline and diverse information needs to support mitigation strategies."
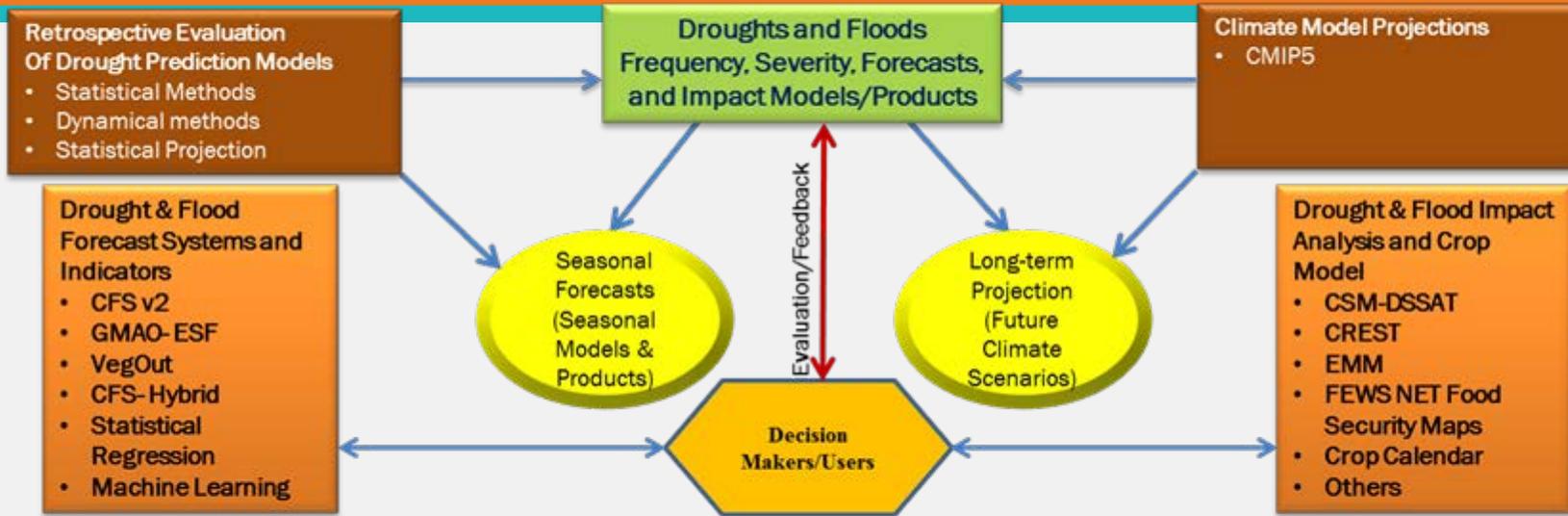
NASA Theme: Understanding Earth system Vulnerabilities to Climate Extremes

Characterize the value of existing systems and identify key time horizons, prediction targets, and uncertainties relevant to decision makers

Schematic diagram of the project

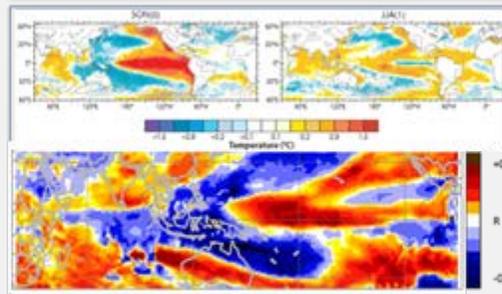Predicting Climatic/Hydrologic Extremes in the GHA under Evolving Climate Conditions
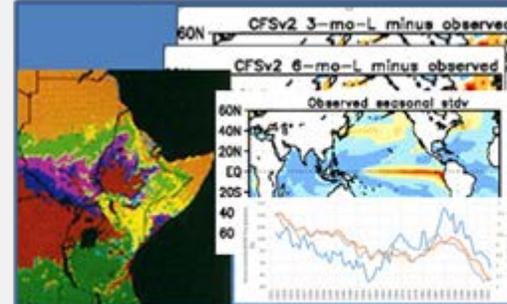
Investigators

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B. Wardlow (UNL)
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The First Participatory Research Workshop and Project Meeting Goals and Objectives (rationale):

- To present the scope of the project, engage the decision makers in our assessment of information requirements and use their feedback to reorient the prediction models to address their needs. This includes learning about existing forecasting methods and decision-making processes in various sectors within the GHA.

- To initiate dialogue between managers and scientists on how to make hydro-climatic models' predictions more useful in the GHA and on how to deliver the information for easy use.

- To identify stakeholders that would use the information we produce and work with us over the next 2-3 years. This includes recruiting at least 20 decision makers and/or their advisors representing the local (private, governmental, and NGOs), regional, and international organizations in the GHA.