Reproducing Vulnerability Through Climate Change Adaptation? Policy Processes, Local Power Relations and Food Insecurity in northwestern Nepal

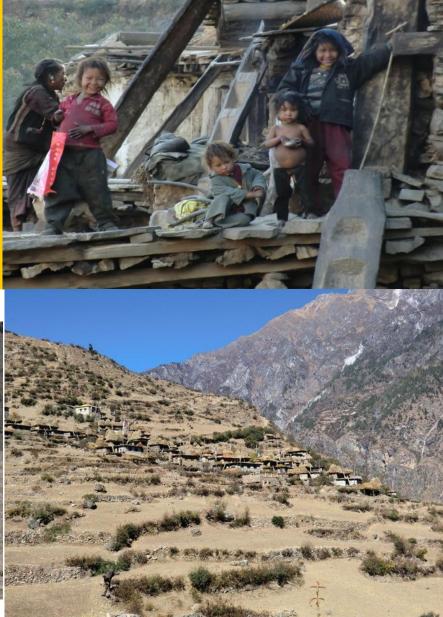
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The multi-dimensionel aspects of vulnerability



Research area: the Humla distict in Northwestern Nepal





Main Findings:

1. Social structures and power relations are key drivers of local vulnerability.





2. Humanitarian aid influences on preexisting social and power relations that shape vulnerability patterns



3. Mechanisms by which most vulnerable are marginalised in policy processes are sustained by apolitical approaches.



Discussion: What are the spaces for adaptation policies to truly address the power structures and inequities that drive vulnerability?

• <u>First</u>, all interventions take place in a complicated political space.

•<u>Second</u>, the concepts of "Local Participation" and "Community Participation" disguise the strong intra-community forces of discrimination and inequality that determine vulnerability.

• <u>Third</u>, Being neutral does not mean being a-political. We need to identify – and create - a real space for the transformation of the social structures that make people vulnerable.



Thank you