

# MEL for Adaptation and SDGs

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# Outline

- What constitutes adaptation success?
- M&E challenges
- How can we address those challenges?

# What constitutes adaptation 'success'

## Purpose of adaptation is to secure human well-being in face of climate change

- Enable development objectives (e.g. SDGs) to be met despite climate change
- Reduce losses & damages resulting from climate shocks & stresses despite CC
- Secure improvements in health, economic well-being, etc

## Do this by reducing vulnerability, increasing resilience & adaptive capacity

- i.e. people's ability to anticipate, avoid, plan for, cope with, recover from, and adapt to evolving climate stresses & shocks, on a variety of timescales

To assess whether adaptation is really successful, we must ask

- Is **vulnerability** being reduced / **resilience & adaptive capacity** increased?
- Are **losses & damages** from climate shocks & stresses ~stable or declining?
- Is human **well-being** ~stable or improving (health, nutrition, etc.)
- **Measure using indicators representing these variables/constructs**

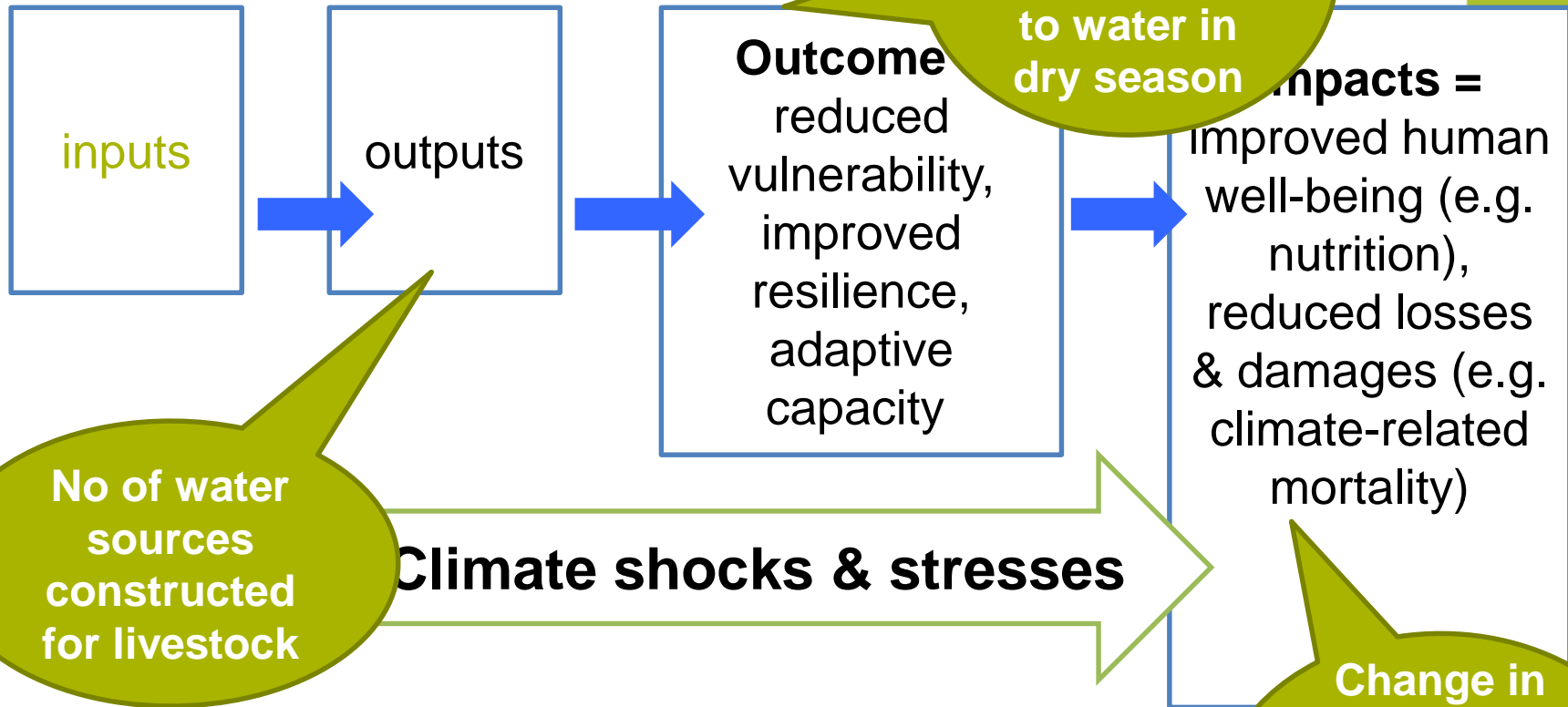
# Important to define terms before adaptation

**What is Adaptation?:** Adaptation refers to the ability of a system to adjust to climate change.

**What is resilience?** the benefits of adaptation are improved resilience and reduced vulnerability. *i.e. capacity of a system to cope with a hazardous event by responding in ways that maintain its essential function.*  
*e.g.: climate proofing roads from floods can improve resilience or improve its capacity to bounce back in climate stresses.*

**What is vulnerability?** The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected. *Exposure, Sensitivity and Adaptive capacity.*

# A 'global' view of adaptation outcomes and impacts



*Theory of change: without the programme, beneficiaries would be less resilient to climate hazards; therefore performance of indicators (e.g. nutrition, deaths from climate-related disasters) would be worse*

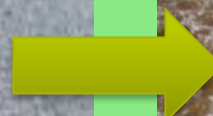
# Monitoring vs. Evaluation & Learning

## Monitoring

*Short term:  
tracking what we do*

## Evaluation

*Long term:  
Understanding the adaptation outcomes*



Has the road been rehabilitated and climate proofed?

Did the road rehabilitated and climate proofed **survived** the next flood?



**Are we doing  
the right  
thing?**

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# However measuring adaptation is not straightforward

Current focus on efficiency / outputs / coverage:

**“Current results frameworks on resilience are not outcome-oriented and risk emphasising spending over results.”**

*Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank  
(IEG, 2013)*

In large part due to challenges that are particularly pronounced in this context...

## Why is it difficult to assess adaptation?

### Challenges in assessing progress

Adaptation is context  
(space & time) specific

Adaptation and  
development integration

Uncertainty, thresholds &  
tipping points

Progress non-accumulative,  
shifting baseline

Attributing outcomes

Aggregating Outcomes

### Operational challenges

Multiple reporting  
requirements

Convening MEL capacity

Financing and sustaining  
MEL

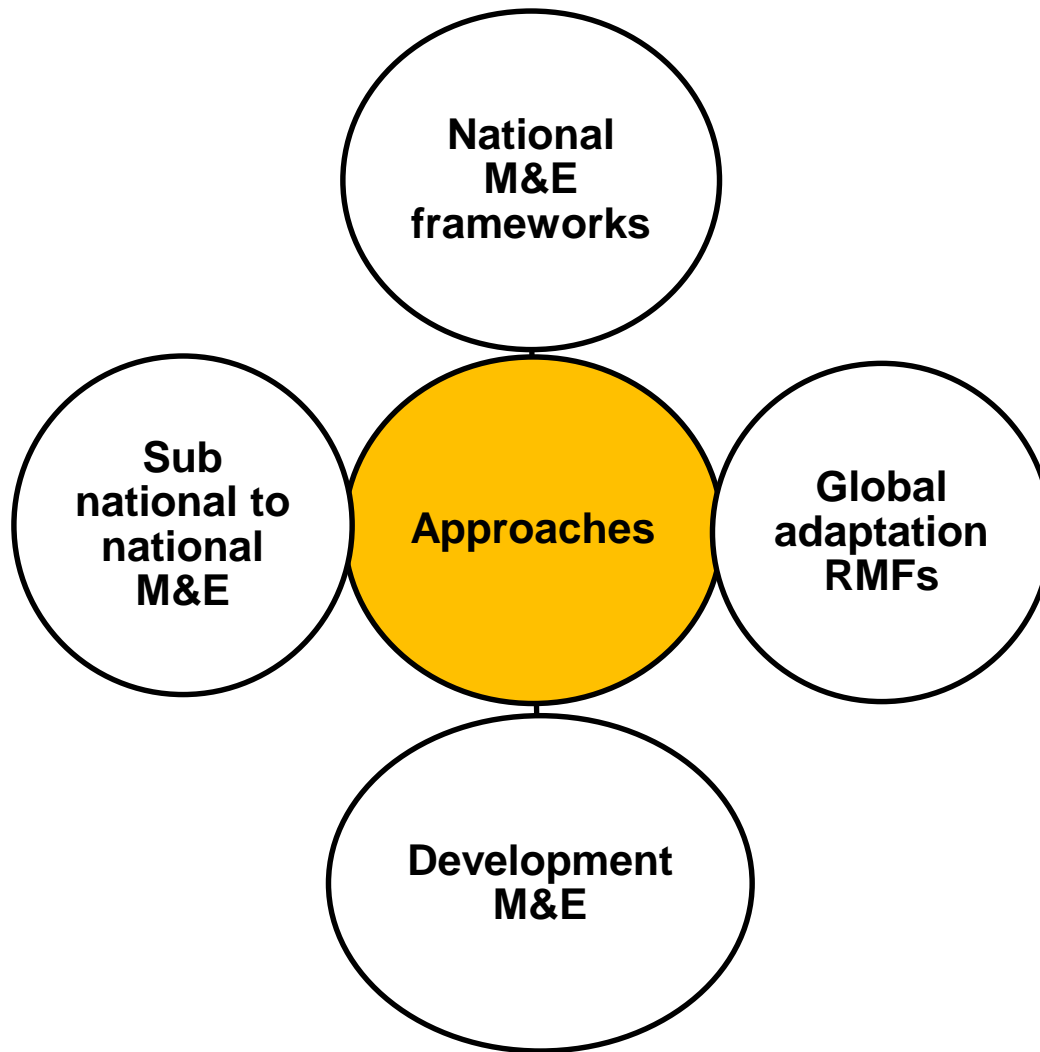
Integration into  
development MIS

Data availability



# Some potential ways of addressing challenges

# Lets look at some examples:



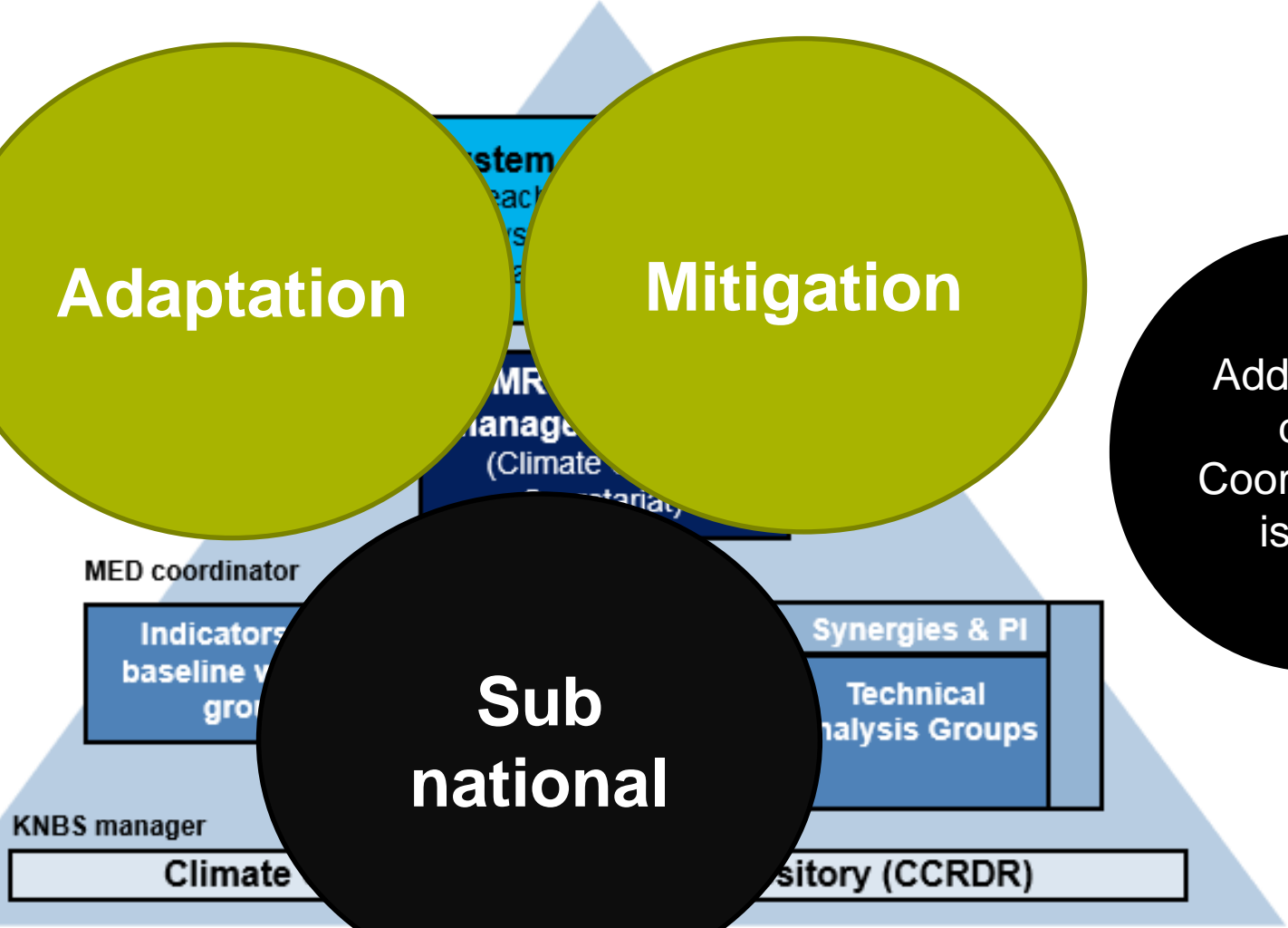
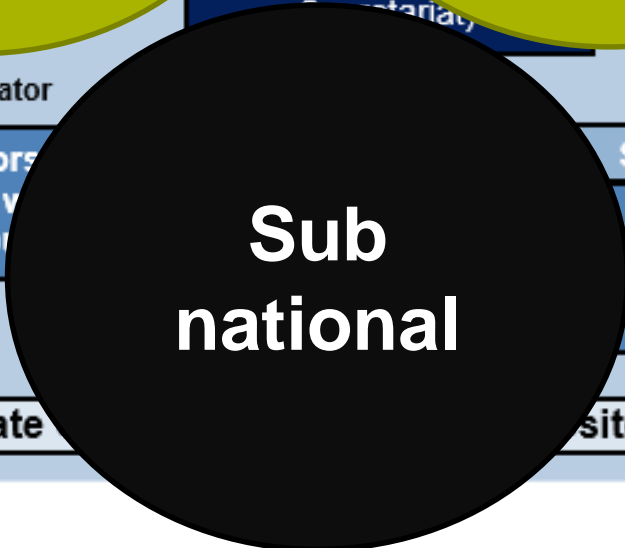
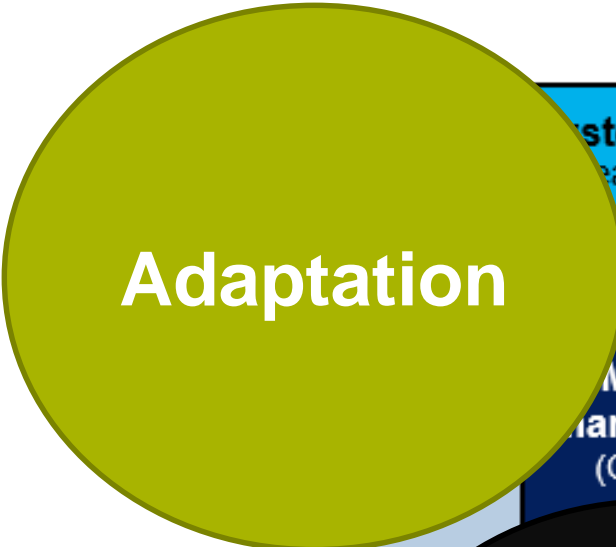
# MRV+ of Kenya: addressing challenges around

- Multiple layers of M&E by integrating: Adap + Mit
- Strong mandates: Act
- Data coordination – by obligatory decree, act and centralised repository.

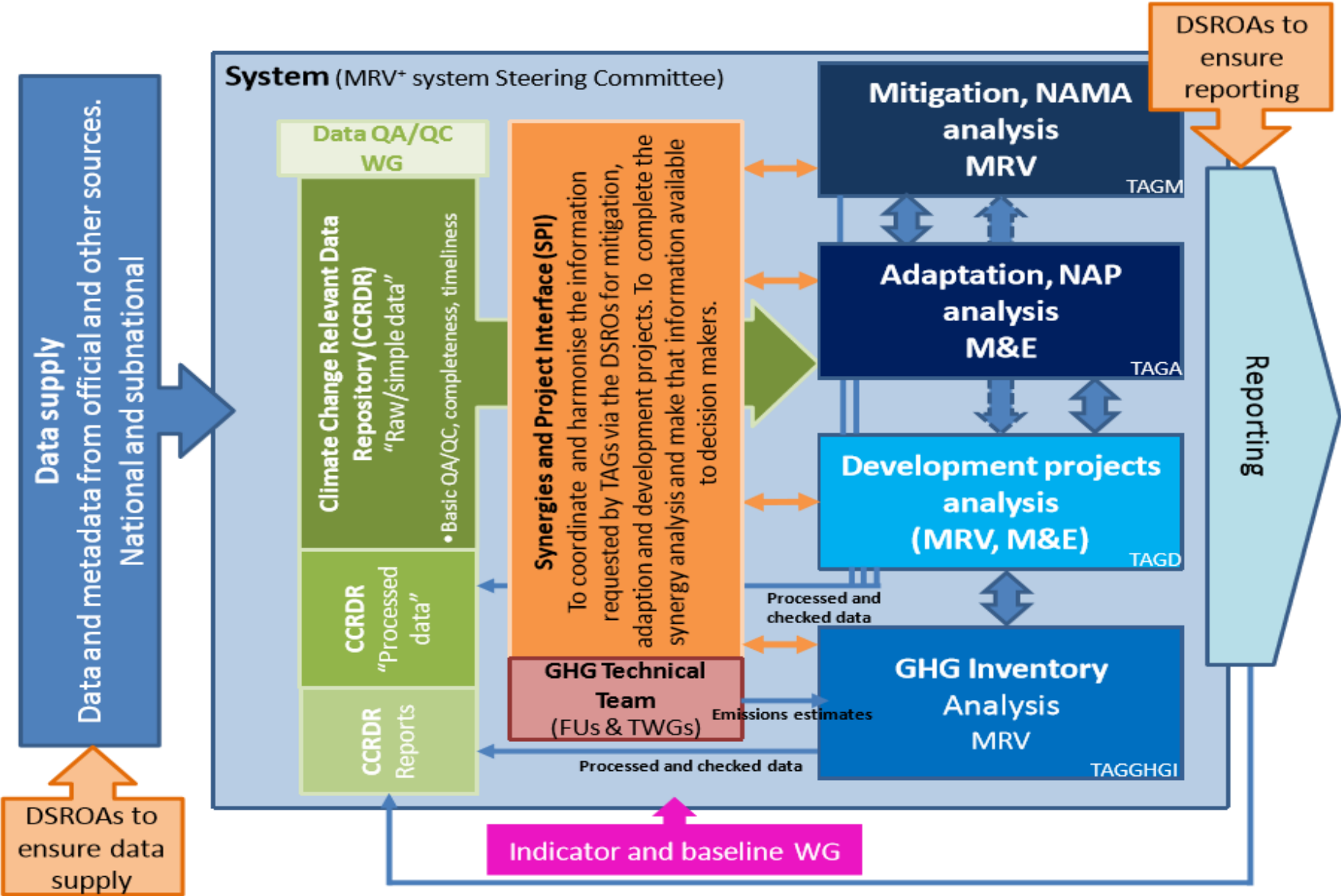
# Avoiding layers of M&E by integrating: MRV+ in Kenya



## Kenya's Climate Change Action Plan



# Avoiding layers of M&E by integrating: MRV+ in Kenya



# Sub national to national M&E: BRACED Mali and Senegal addressing challenges around

- Context specific indicators
- Aggregation, generalisation
- Longer time scales.

**BRACED:** Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters

Advocates countries to measure an indicator on “**number of people with improved resilience**”.

- **Suggests highly context specific resilience indicator** based on the key drivers of resilience for sub national populations.
- While the factors that drive resilience may be different across contexts, it is possible to aggregate the number of people with improved resilience (based on diverse metrics) across contexts.
- This approach has potential for application at national and global levels.
- Measurement of resilience is also an intermediate solution when long term impacts are difficult to measure.

# Mexico's national M&E framework; addresses challenges around

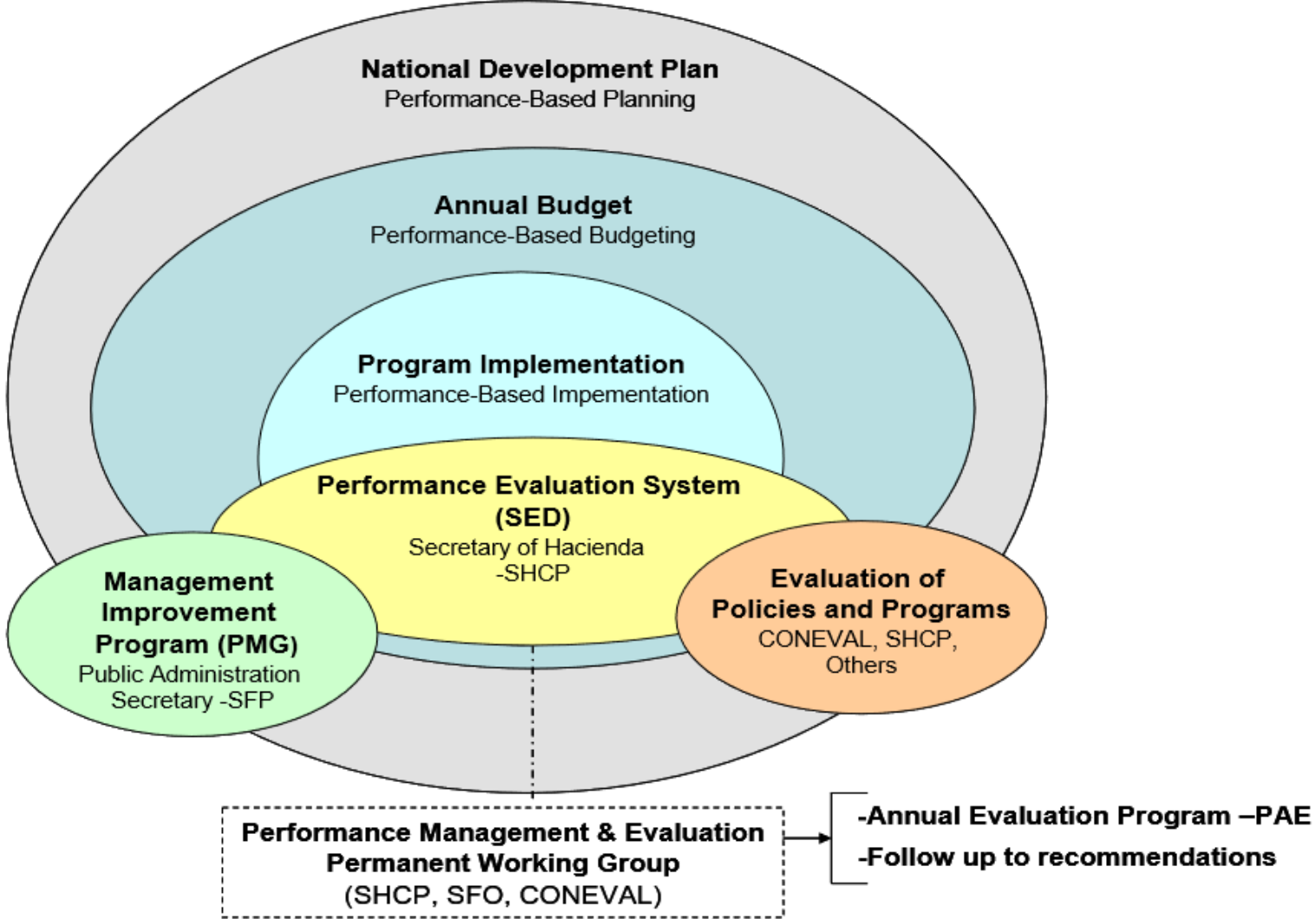
- Linking adaptation performance with development outcomes.
- Sustaining M&E systems by dedicated financing for an independent body.
- Scaling up from the sectoral to the national level



# Mexico's established national M&E system

- **Mexico** has made critical institutional reform to develop an M&E system for social policy.
- **Innovation and Highlights:**
  - **Independent technical body:** Establishment of a National Council for the Evaluation of Social policy (CONEVAL)
    - independence, technical capacities, and mandate.
  - **Backed by a law** - Social Development Law of 2004 which gives mandate
  - **High attention from federal government** and setting up a system for performance evaluation.
  - legislation has provided a modern budget framework, sound M&E tools and arrangements have been developed.
  - system relies heavily on a country-led strategy which increases the likelihood of long-term sustainability.

# Mexico's established national M&E system

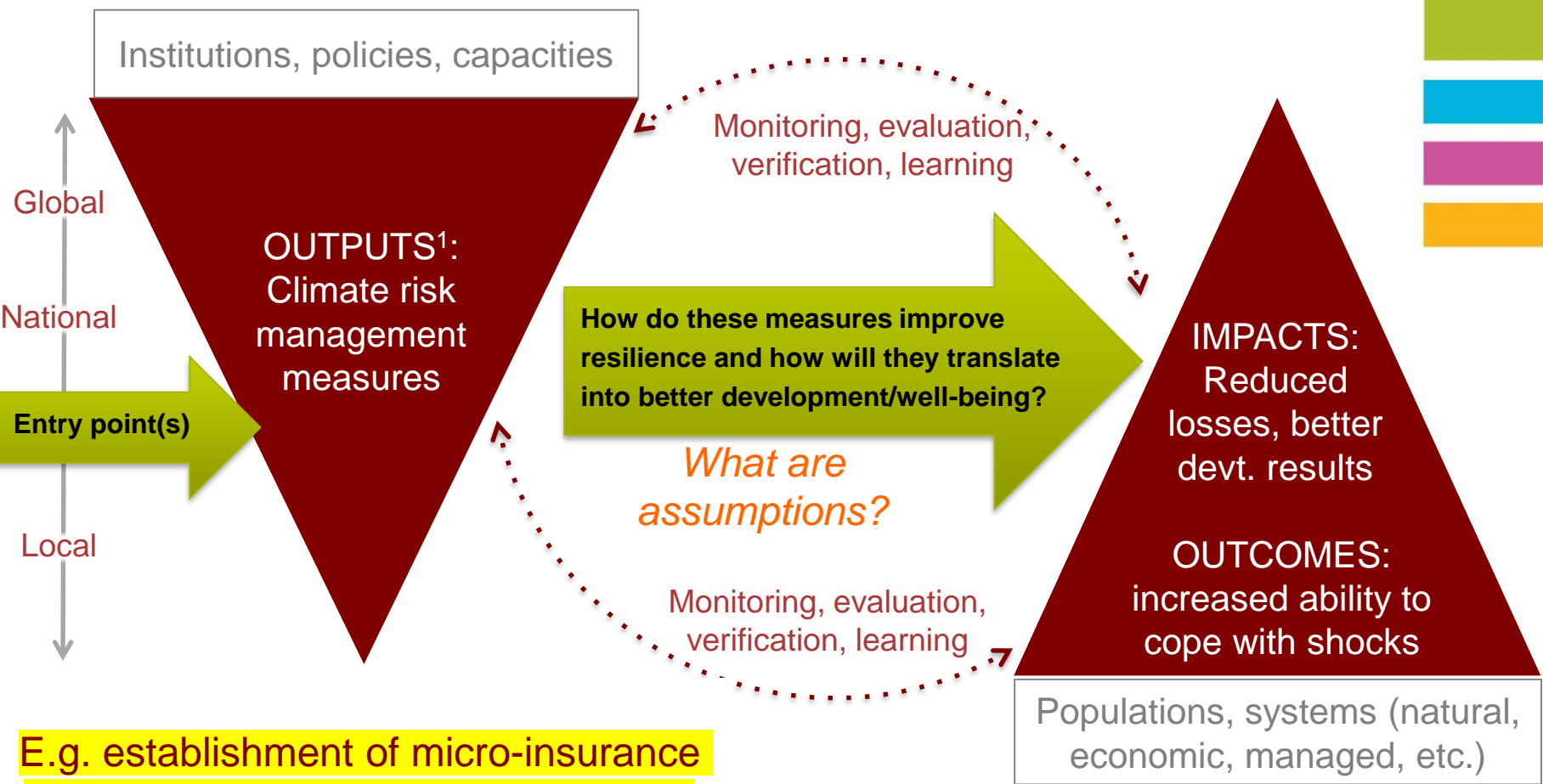


# Tracking adaptation and measuring development

Going beyond output indicators to measure processes, outcome and impact indicators

Assessing contribution than attribution

# Using TAMD for programme/project design



E.g. establishment of micro-insurance & forecast systems in certain districts

E.g. greater ability to anticipate rainfall & recover if seed lost in germination phase;  
Reduced crop losses, increased productivity & incomes; reduced poverty & malnutrition

# Indicator framework/Pathway

National



Sectoral



TRACK 1

National

Institutional readiness indicators (PROCESS)

Sectoral



**Indicator 1:** Status of dev. of national CC policies/strategies/ action plans.

**Indicator 2: CC** Climate Integration into planning: NSDP/PIP

**Indicator 3: Coordination:** Establishment and functionality of a national coordination mechanism.

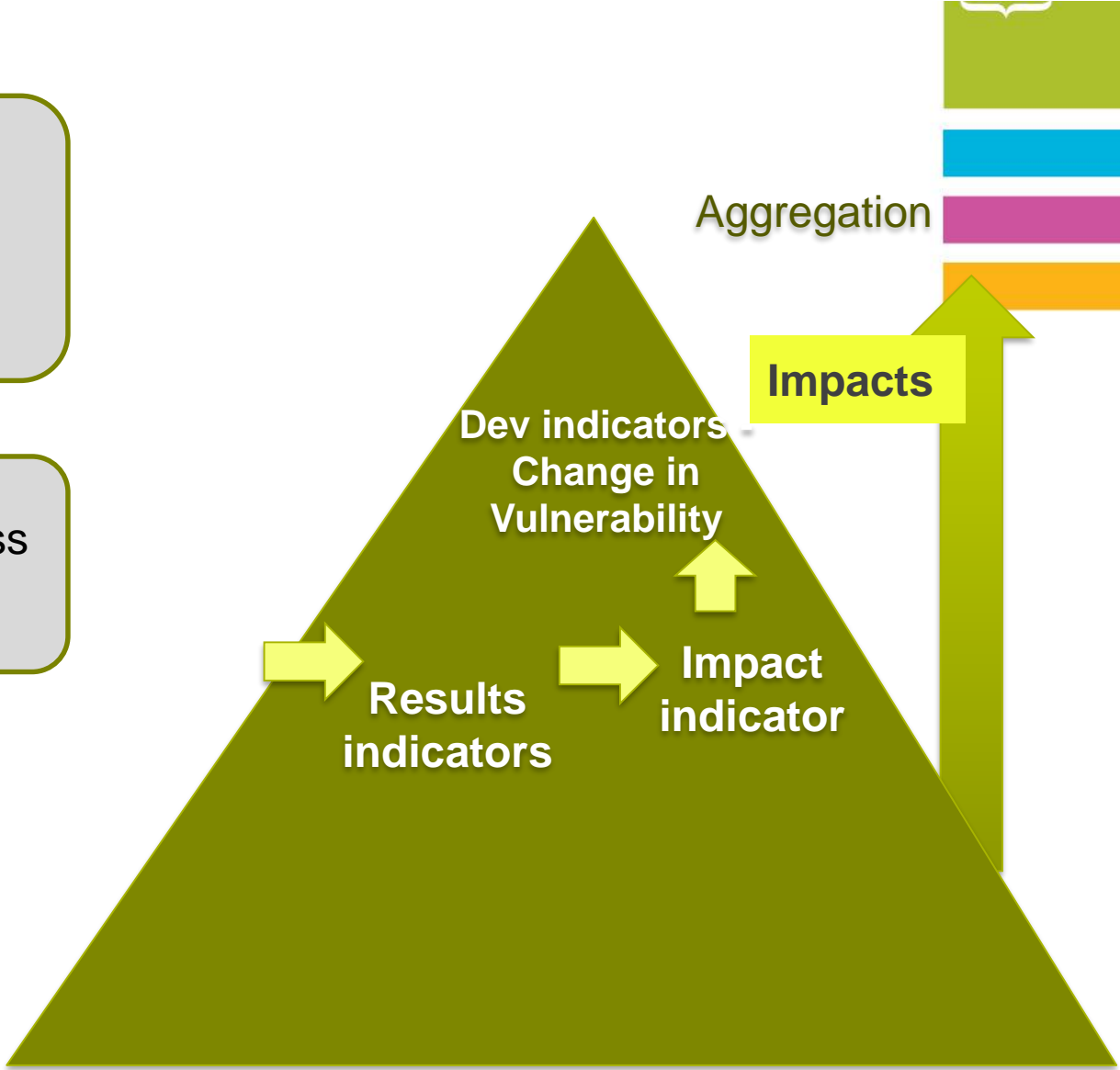
**Indicator 4: Climate information:** Production, access & use.

**Indicator 5:** Climate Integration into financing.

# Track 2: Development Outcome and Impact Indicators

**Indicator 1:** Vulnerability Index

**Indicator 2:** Damage and loss from extreme climate events



# Learning

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# Lessons learnt

- Country specific bespoke approaches have government buy-in, which is crucial.
  - Application at different scales is effective-National, local, subnational
  - Important to measure in two directions – adaptation to development, development to adaptation
  - Aggregation is not the solution but can be context specific.
  - Mandates, acts, decree can support institutional sustainability of M&E systems
  - Building on national systems and linking up with development plans can enable assessment of adaptation outcomes as well as SDGs.
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# Thank you

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