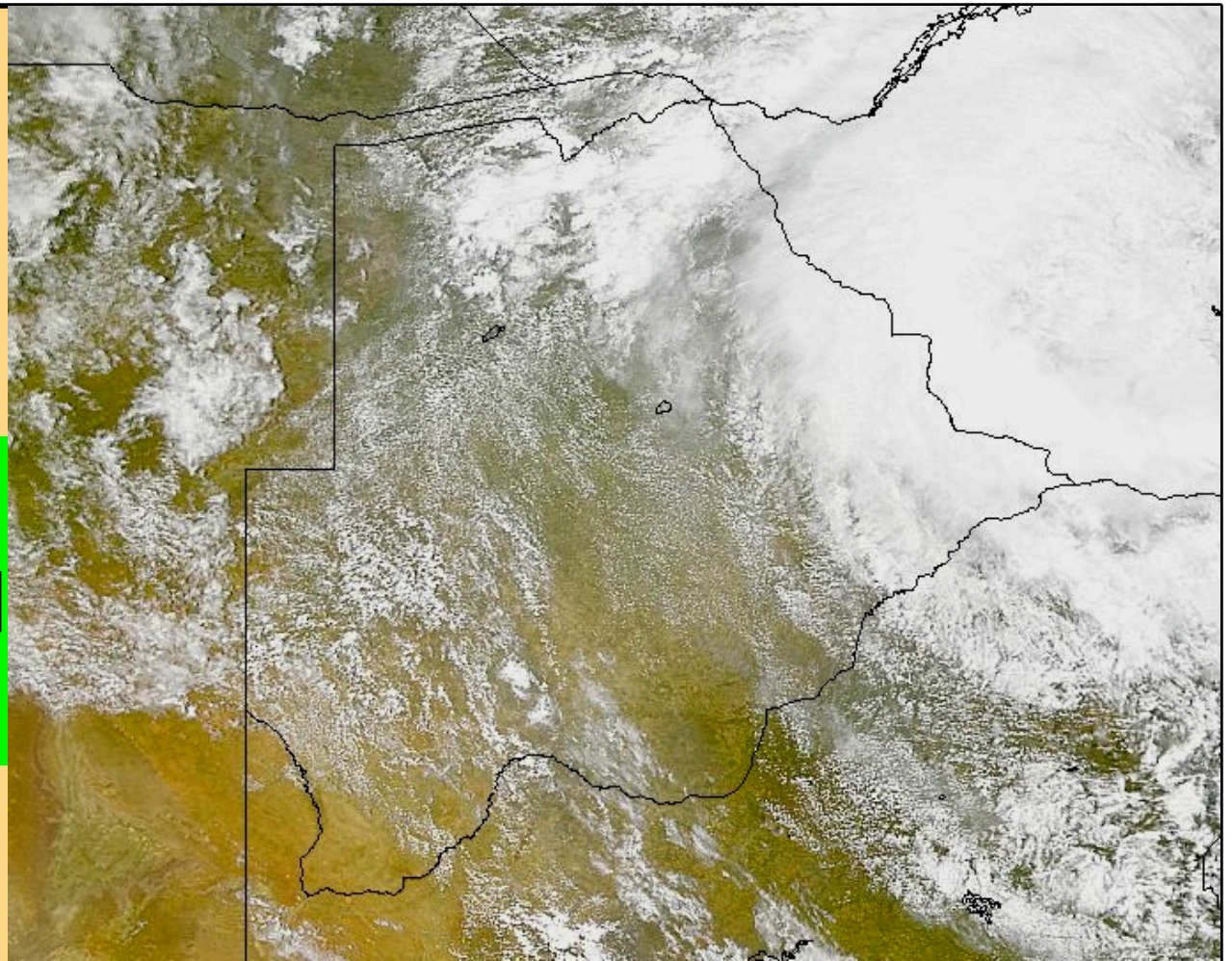


**Session :
Adaptation and
Development**



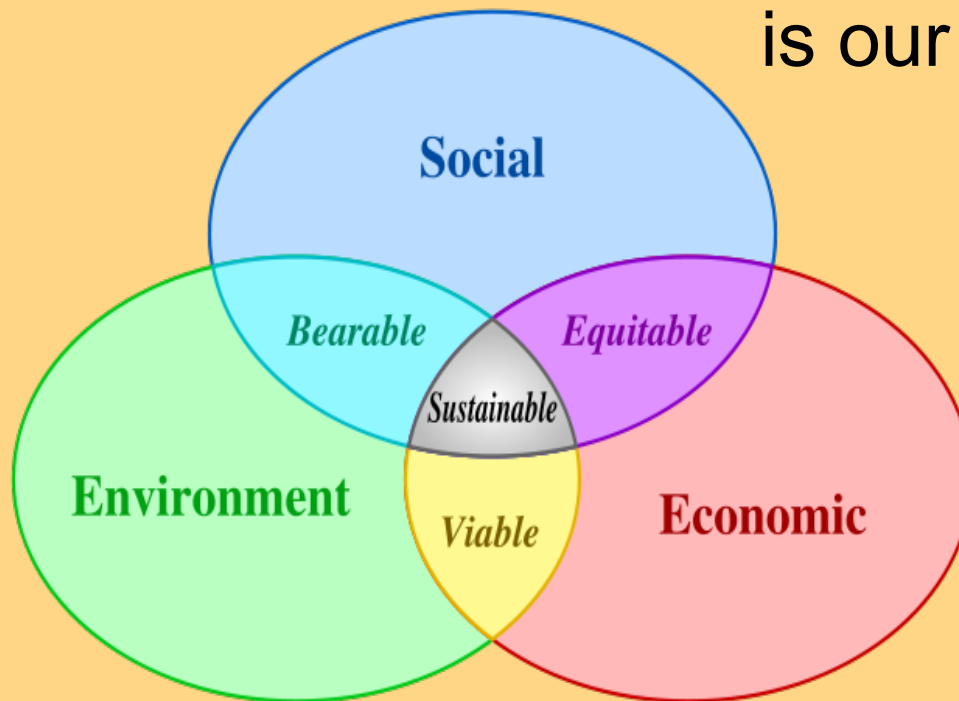
**Climate Change and Sustainable
Development in Botswana**

Opha Pauline Dube
University of Botswana

- Climate change is the strongest signal ever that the global economic growth experienced since the 19th century has not been based on the principle of sustainable development.
- Market forces, globalization - led mostly by the private sector has been the main driver of this **(unsustainable)** economic growth

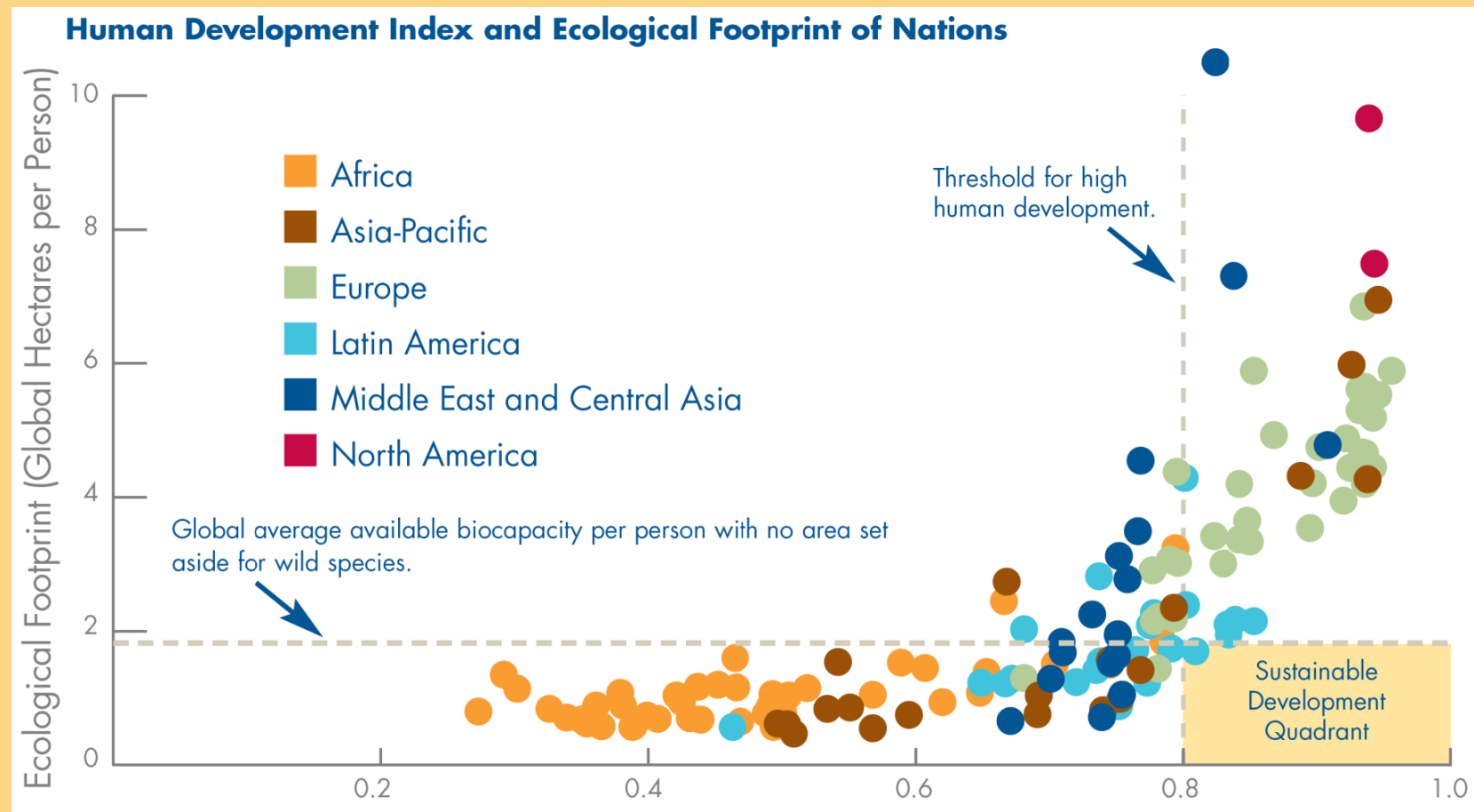
A well known global challenge is: How to come up with development pathways that address the three pillars of sustainable development

Within this - Environment is our economic opportunity



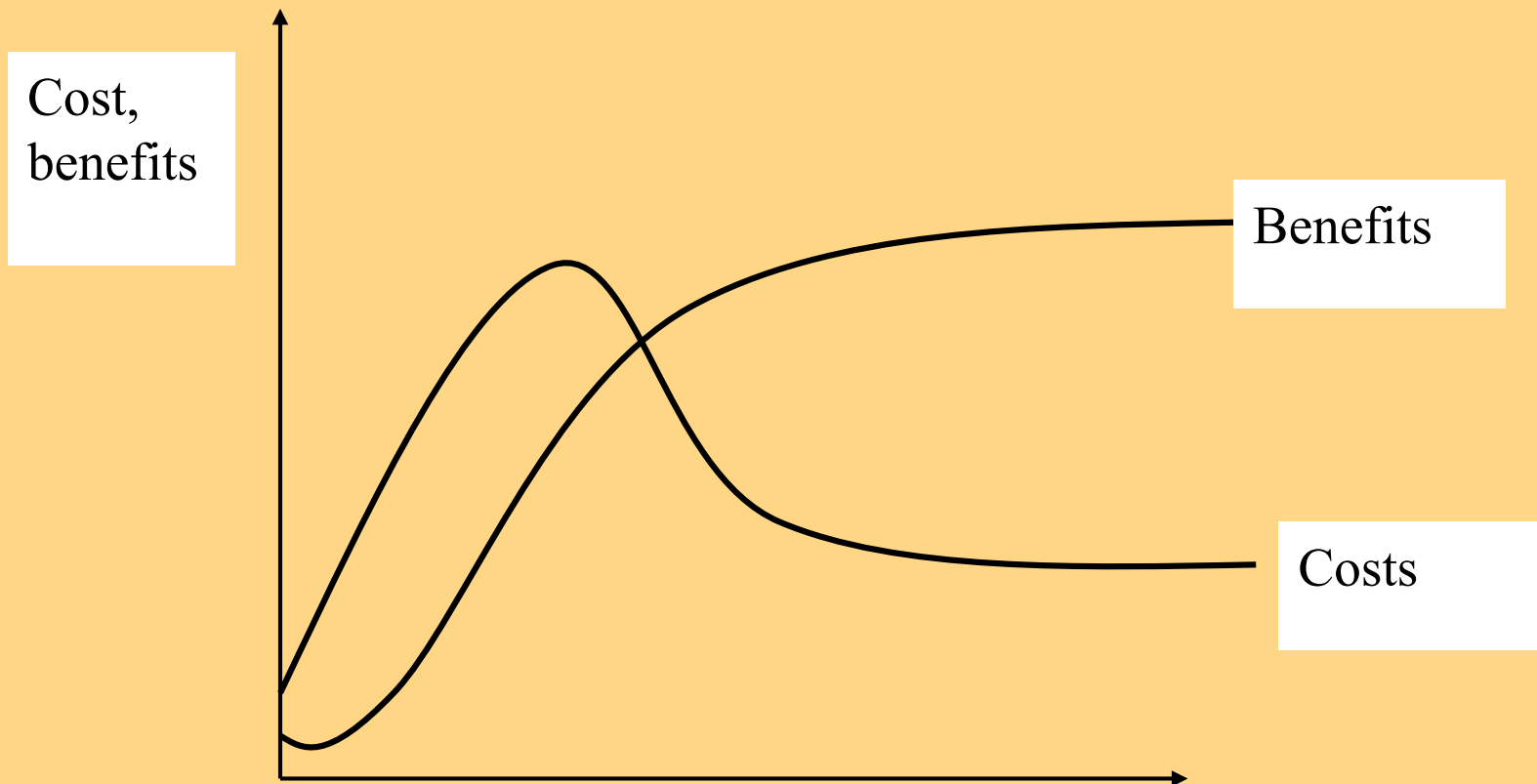
How might climate change challenges and opportunities influence sustainable development in Botswana?

Level of development: Using the Human Development Index & Ecological Footprint of Nations (2002 data): **The lower right quadrant is where the minimum requirements for sustainability occurs**



From Africa's Ecological Footprint FactBook – **So far No country meets the sustainability requirements**

The cost of adaptation and mitigation will be high at the beginning but have long term benefits to meeting sustainable development



Botswana

- Botswana – a middle income country – with aspirations for high income bracket
- Population of roughly 1.7m
- **It has been recently ranked the most secure country in Africa – using the global security index!**
- The challenge of dealing with adverse effects to HIV/AIDs epidemic is leading to more aggressive resilience building policies e.g. Poverty eradication instead of poverty alleviation; youth empowerment; aggressive agriculture production focus to reduce unemployment

- Botswana – is vulnerability to climate change due to a multiple factors including high exposure to climate hazards

- Limited capacity to generate information for better understanding climate change risk

- An economy dependent on mining with limited diversification

- Limited human resource capacity - constrain effective governance

- Adverse effects to HIV/AIDs epidemic, poverty & unemployment.

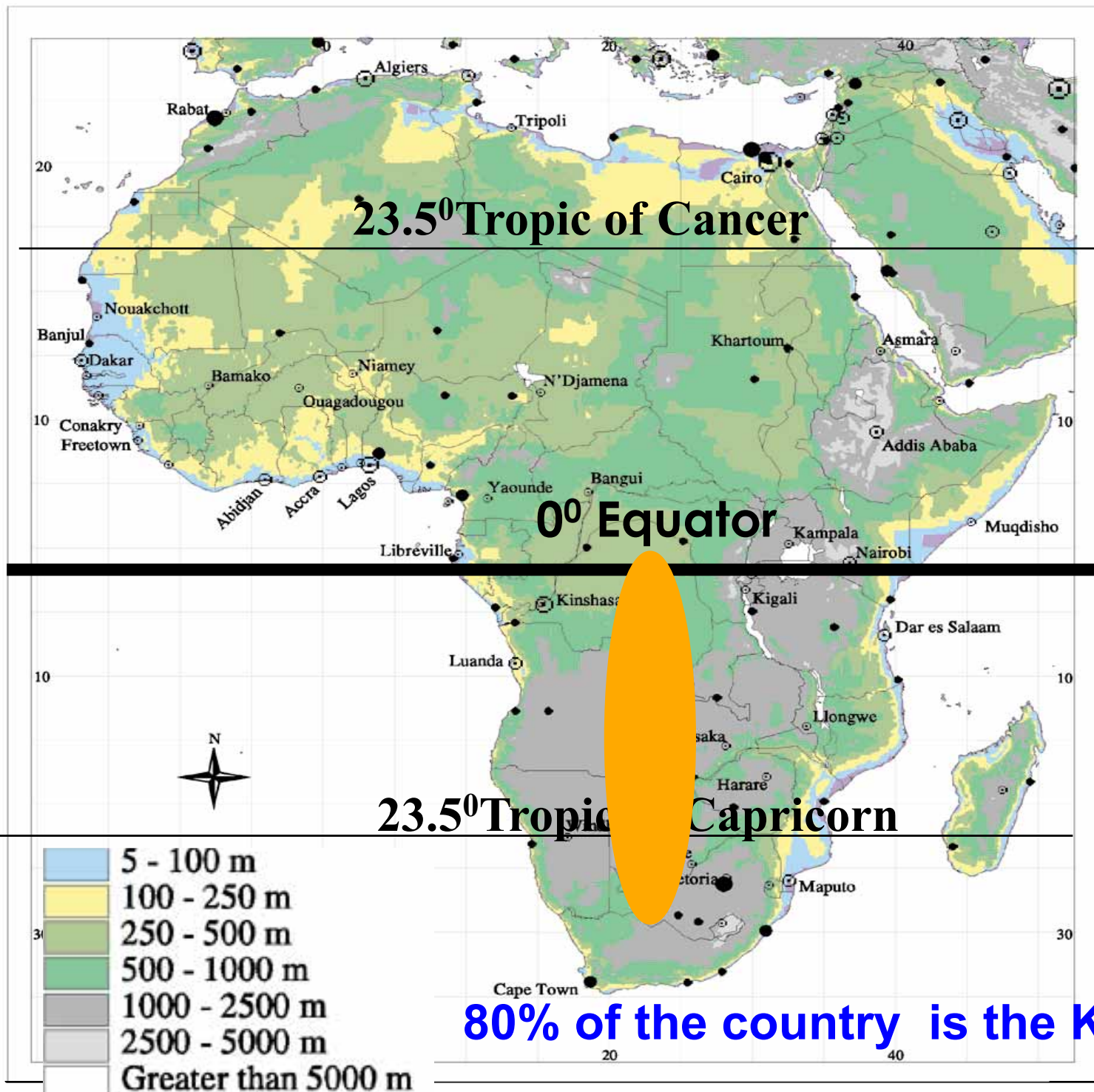
- Relies on food imports to meet food security

****Impacts of climate change permeate across all geographical & socio-economic scales but**

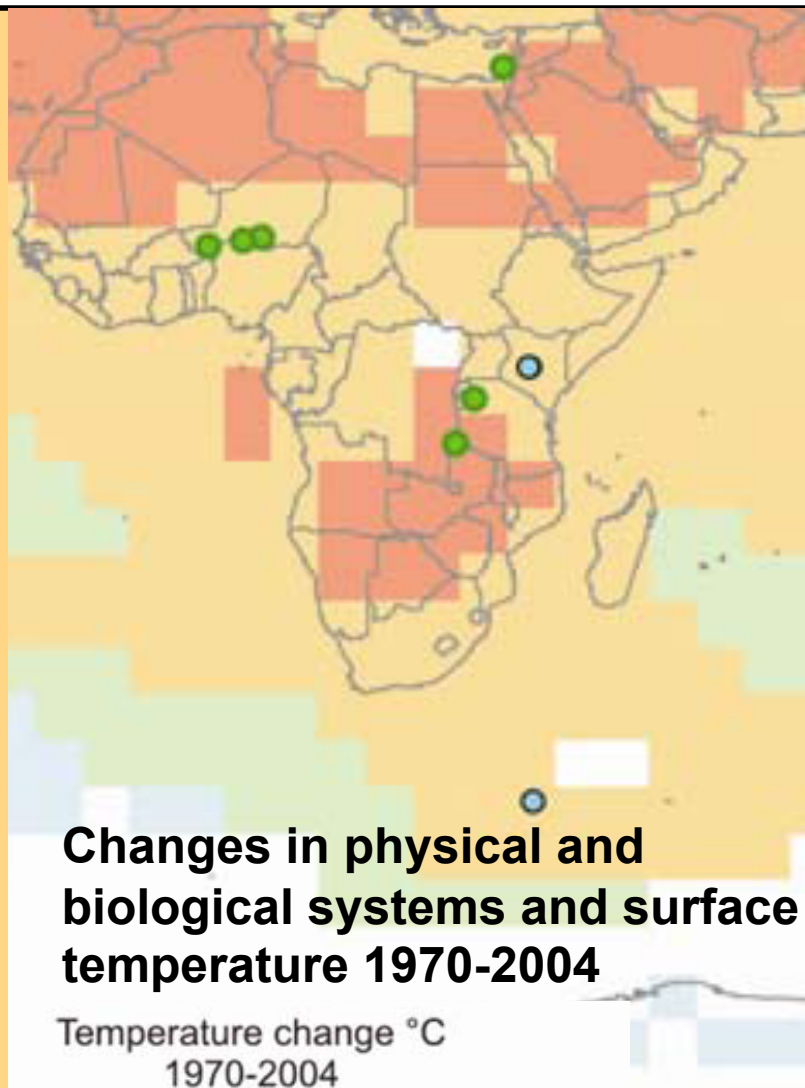
- ***Botswana is yet to draw its adaptation strategy***
- ***A national climate change policy and strategy are required to guide climate change mitigation and adaptation in line with national development goals.***
- ***The political pathway for this to happen has recently been made available through Presidential Directive – the manpower to put this in practice is lacking***

Options to use climate change mitigation to address climate change adaptation need to be assessed

- Adaptation to climate change should be part of sustainable economic growth to lead the country to a high income bracket
- Being already semi-arid most adaptation measures required will serve current needs e.g. Water conservation, diversification of the agricultural sector in terms of drought resistant crop or livestock breeds etc
- Developing rural industries, build upon past community coping strategies will reduce migration to cities leading to high population concentration & vulnerability etc

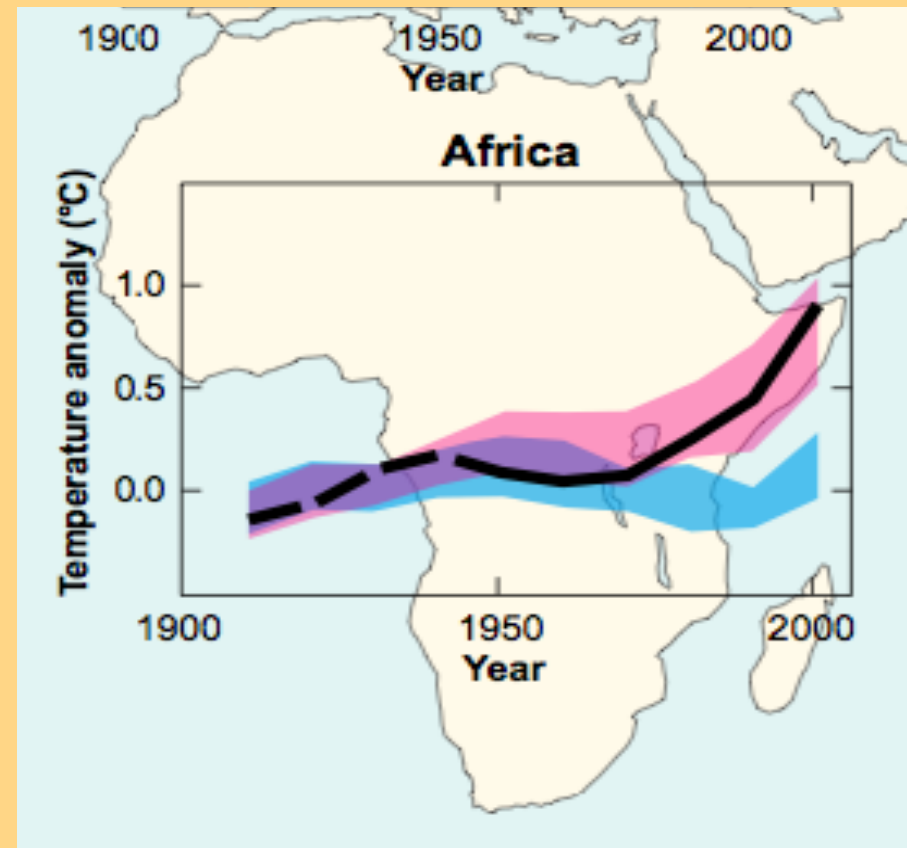


↑
**Tropical
Zone**
↓



Observations

- Physical systems (cryosphere, hydrology, coastal processes)
- Biological systems (marine, freshwater, and terrestrial)

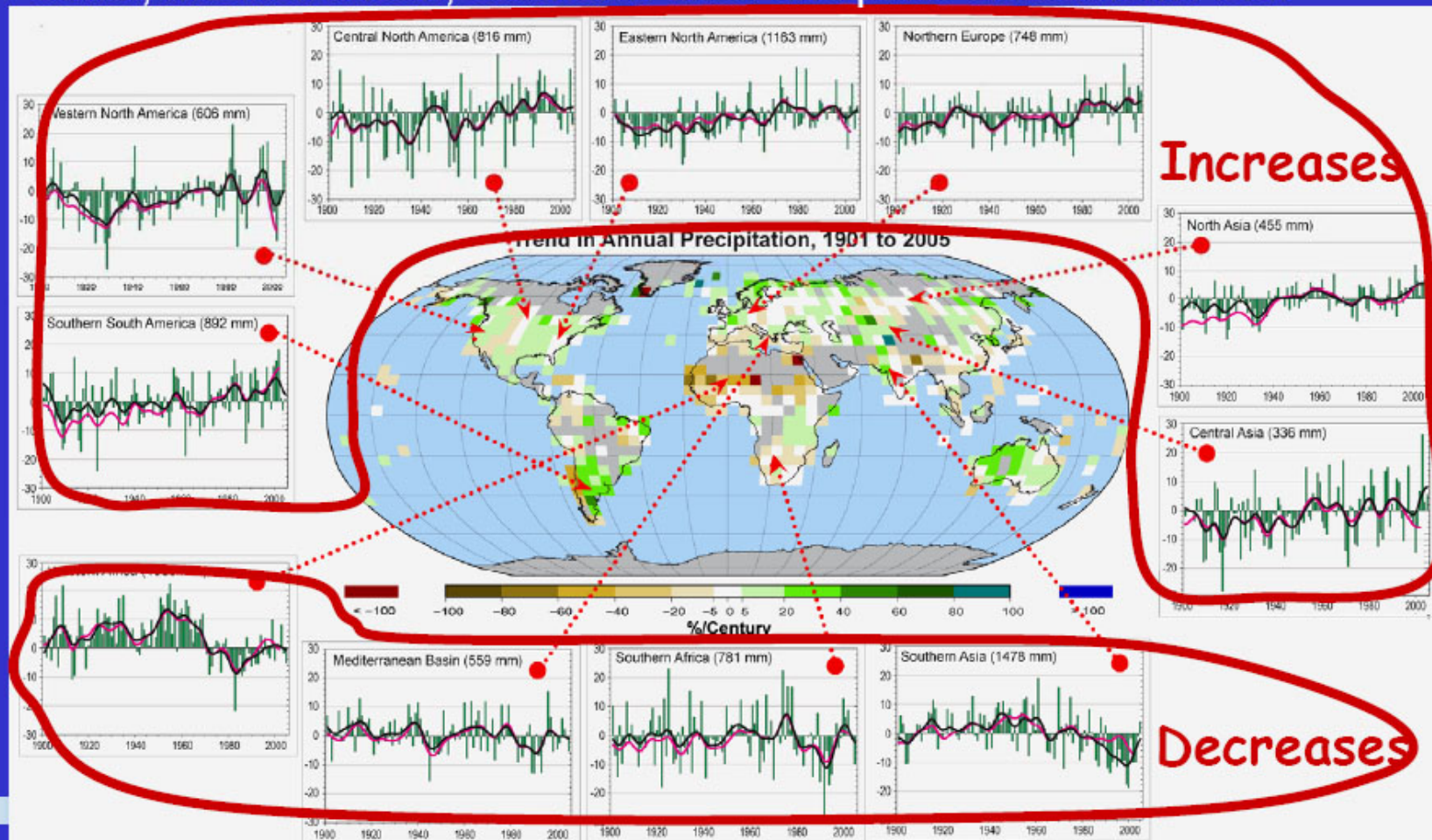


Observed continental-scale changes in surface temperature:
Blue = natural: Red = due to anthropogenic forcing: Black line = Decadal averages of observations (1906–2005)

(4th IPCC WGI & II SPM, 2007)

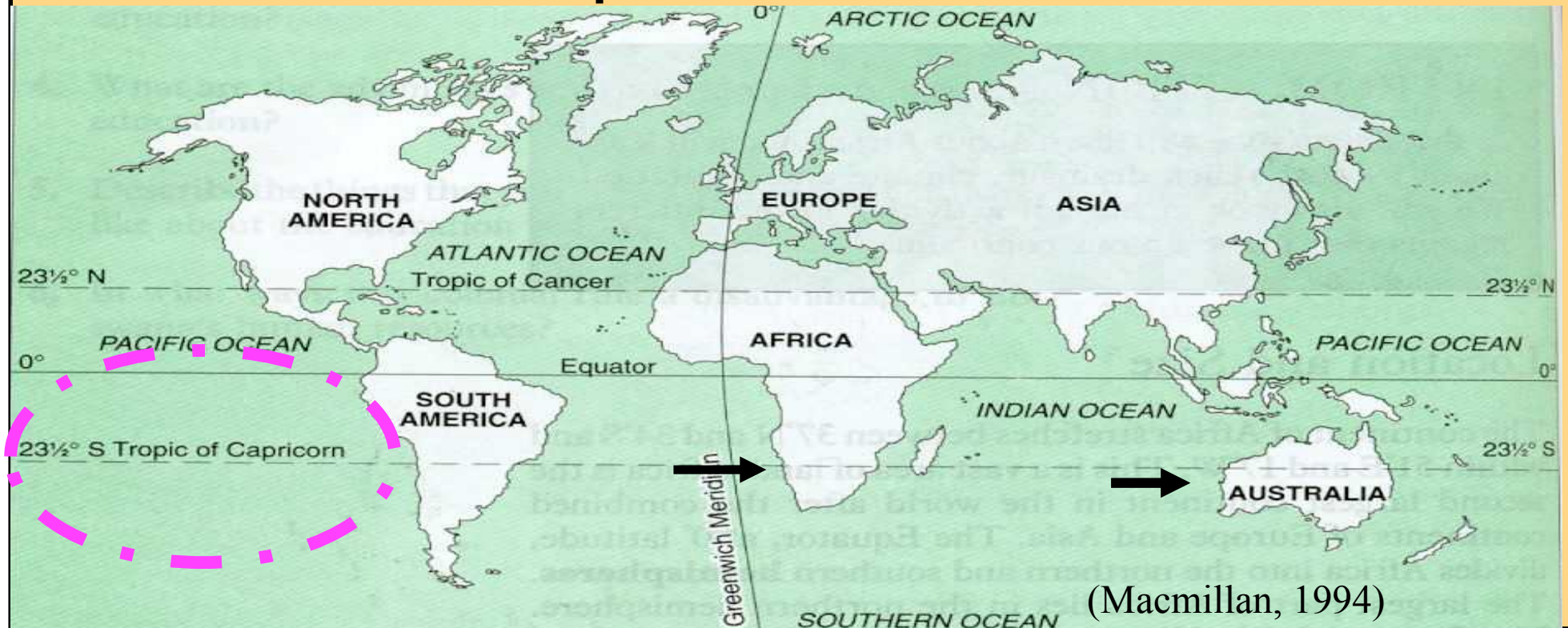
Precipitation (rain & snow) is variable – but there is evidence for systematic change

Precipitation has increased in eastern parts of North and South America, northern Europe and northern and central Asia – and decreased in the Sahel, Mediterranean, southern Africa and parts of southern Asia.



E.g. of interconnectedness: Influence of *El-Nino* Southern Oscillation Phenomenon

- Cyclic warming & Cooling of the surface of Central & Eastern Pacific Ocean – normally colder
- **El-Nino event:** Warming of the Central & Eastern Pacific Ocean results in heavy rain in **S. America** with droughts in **Southern Africa & Australia**.
- **La-Nina event:** Unusually cooler Pacific – Drought in South America & a wet period in **Southern Africa & Australia**



Rainfall:

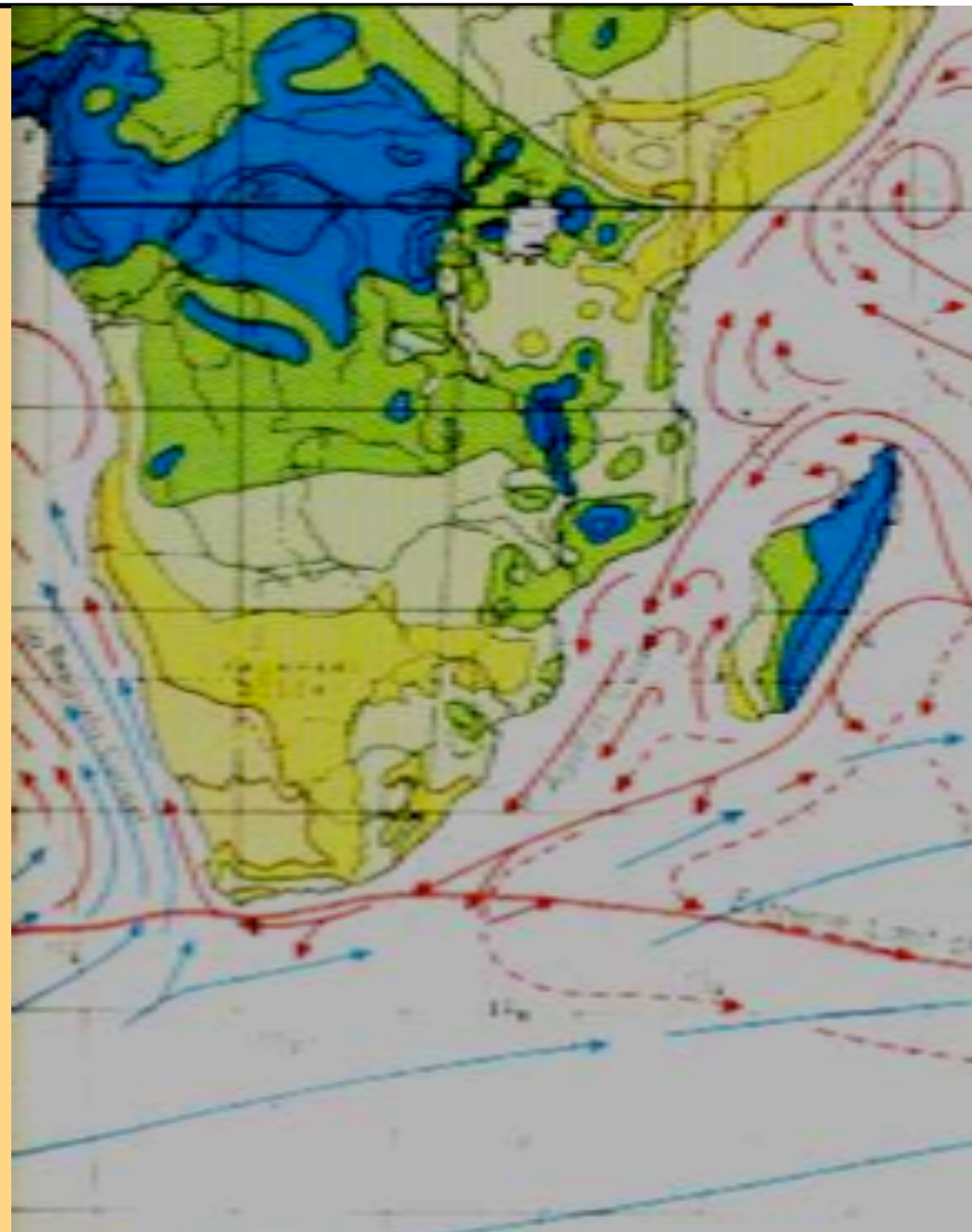
Mostly summer rainfall
influenced by

Ocean Currents:

A cold N-flowing, nutrient-rich
Benguela current on the W coast
&

Warm, S-flowing, nutrient-poor
Mozambique current on the East

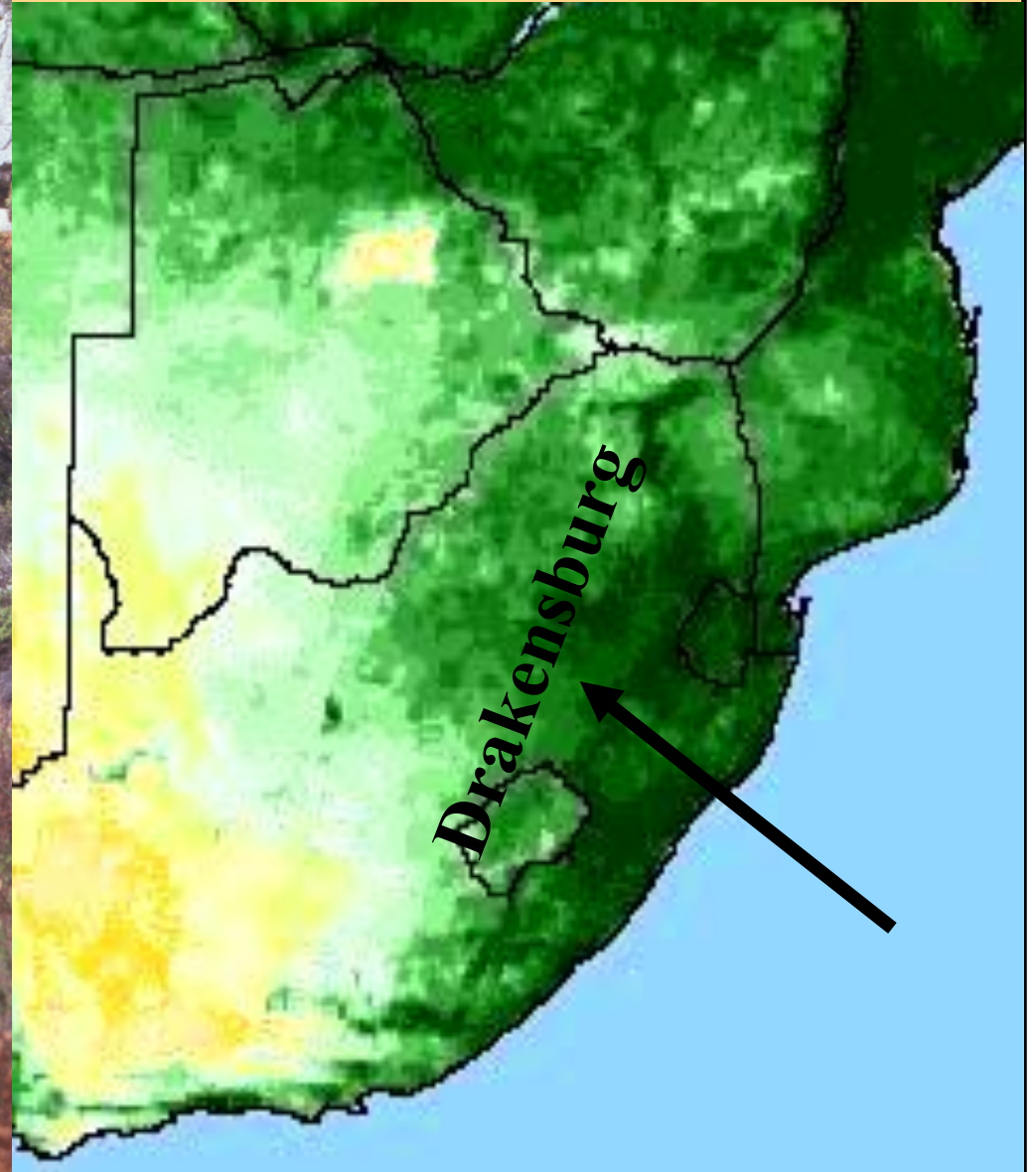
*Hence an East-West gradient of
increasing aridity*



Effect of relief



**Botswana is on a
rain shadow**



Rainfall in the northern part

ITCZ- dominates resulting
In high rainfall – *But some
years it fails to reach
Botswana*

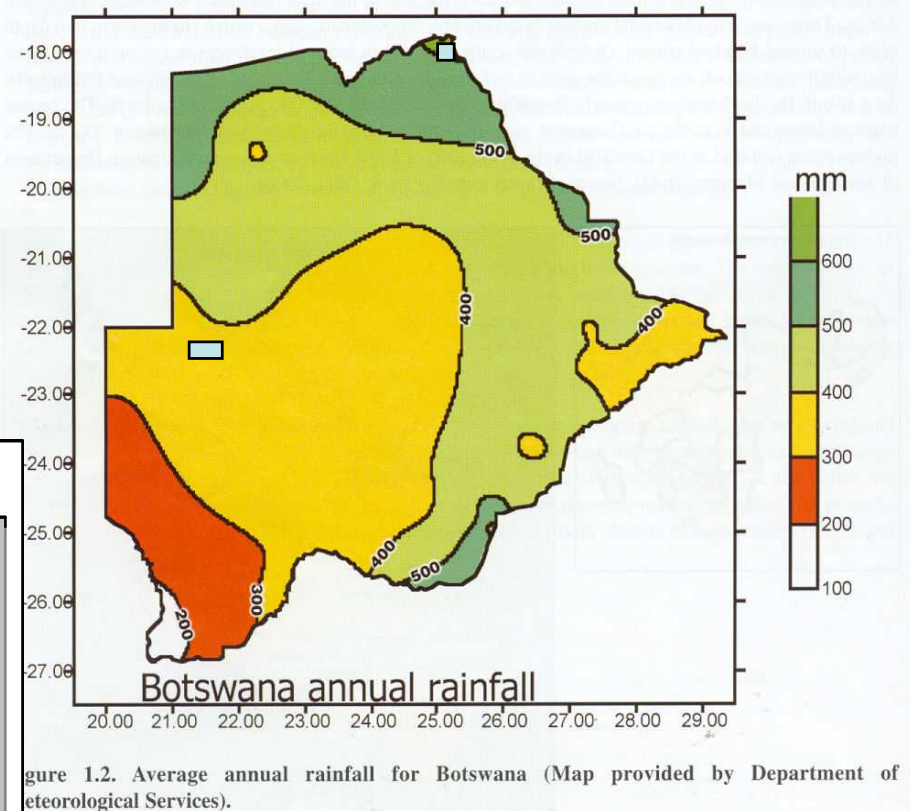
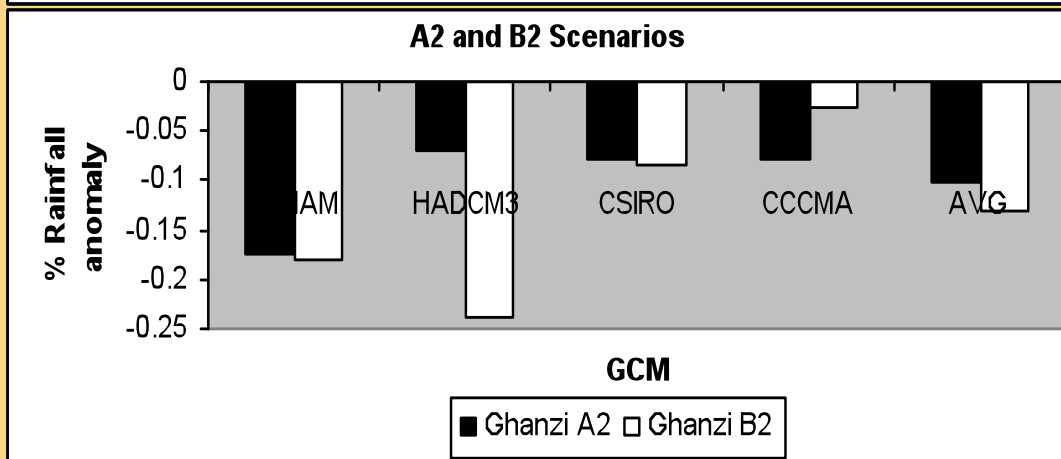
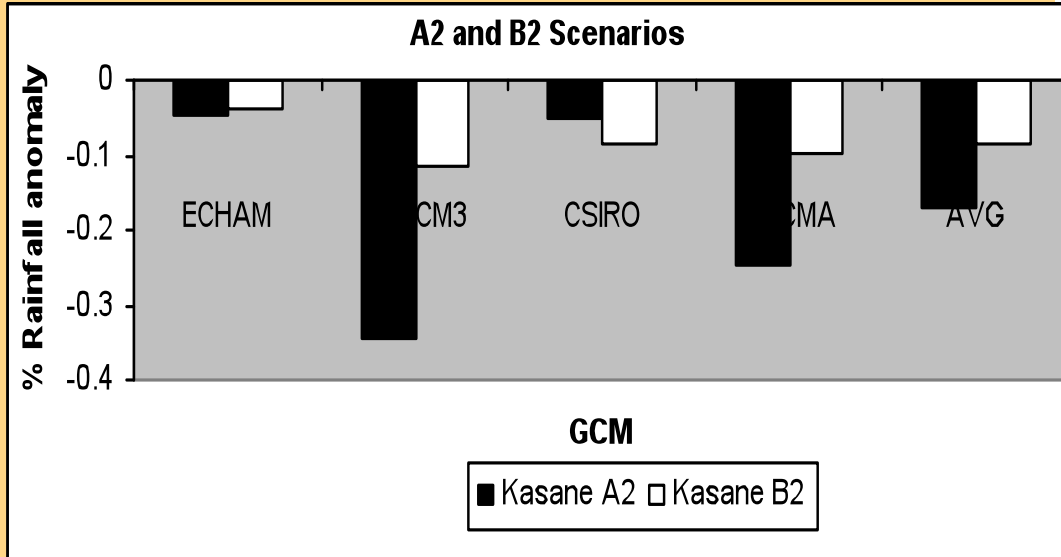
**High degree Of inter-annual
& inter-decadal rainfall
variability characterize the
climate.**



Variability & extreme events have increased since 1931
& as is the case with the intensity of extreme events
(Tyson et al, 2002).

**Rainfall records from 29 stations in Bots. over 65 years
show that drought conditions of different severity occurred
every 3-5yrs**

*** % annual rainfall anomaly**
2099: from 5 GCMs over
Botswana applied for 2 different
scenarios, A2 and B2 confirm
that aridity is most likely .



*More work is required
on the spatial patterns
of change in production that
are likely to occur*

A rough estimate of impact of drought in Botswana

- showed that depending on severity between 1983 and 2005 the:
 - cost of drought to GDP ranged from 0.39 in 1997 to 6% in 1983
- **Even under high uncertainty on level of impacts - increased ability to cope with current climate variability e.g. drought will contribute in reducing vulnerability to moderate warming.**

Water: Shortage of water affects all sectors of the economy & climate change will not make this better!

Ground Water Supplies ~ 80% of water needs – but this is fossil source (Scholes & Biggs, 2004)



- Major drainage systems of Botswana are shared
- ~ *About 94% of the total water flow in Bots. originates outside its borders*

Increased local conservation of water; water demand management; land use management in catchments ; water transfer schemes & trans-boundary water protocols are key adaptation focus as in the water sector

Food production:



- **Impacts will vary with type of *crop type e.g.:***
- **Maize** is highly vulnerable than **Sorghum** to projected climate changes:

An e.g. Kalahari Sandveld:

Temperature Rise (degrees Celsius)	Crop	Percent Reduction in yields
2 ^o .C	Maize	21.6%
	Sorghum	16.1%
3 ^o .C	Maize	35.8%
	Sorghum	25.6%

(Chipandzi et al, 2004)

****Impacts will depend on soil – sandveld more affected than hardveld**

Other factors act to increase vulnerability to climate change:

Lack of credit and access to new technologies, obtaining inputs such as fertiliser etc



- **Government has recently launched the** Integrated Support Programme for Arable Agriculture Development (ISPAAD) - **a major subsidy scheme to address lack of inputs -**

Some results: Yields increased from 30,000 to 90 000 metric tons (mt) last year

In conclusion effective governance is instrumental in responding to climate change as is the case for sustainable economic growth

- **This requires among others:**
- Political stability which as a country we have – but what of the rest of region?
- Flexible institutions & skilled human labour
- A strong civil society, the media and developed political parties to generate healthy competition the required for effective delivery of services
- An educated & informed public that can make informed decision, take advantage of opportunities & pressurize government to act
- A private sector that is up to challenges