

The need for better science-stakeholder relations in policy and practice

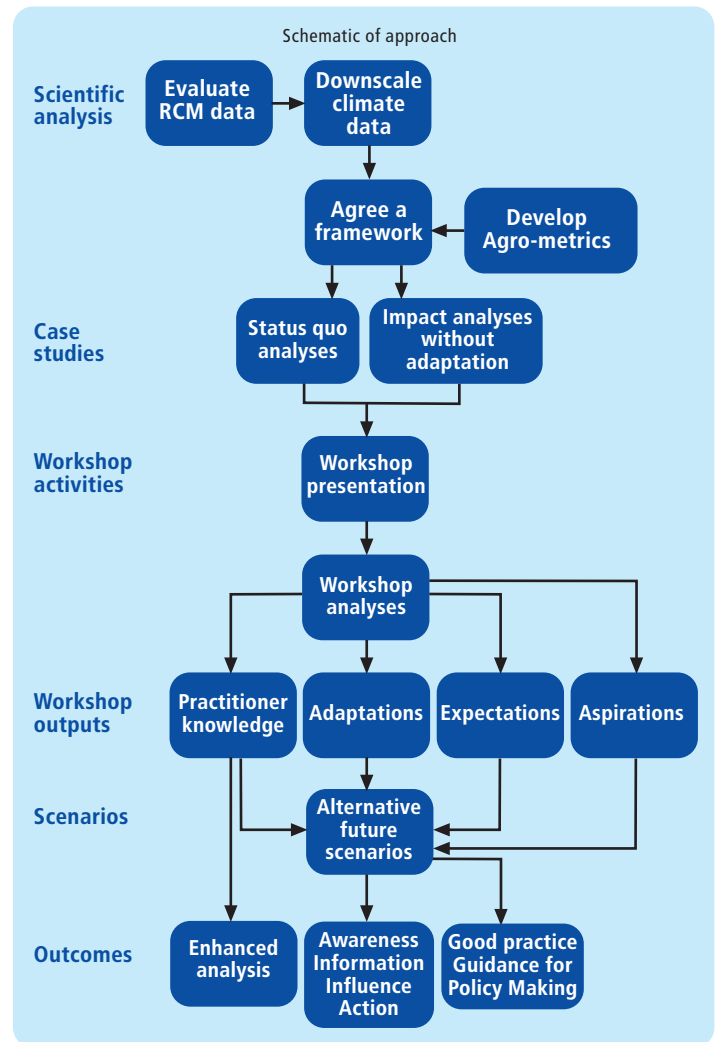
A shared understanding of the specific climate change challenges for a particular sector is vital to achieve support for changes to current policies and practices.

It is important to reduce the knowledge gap between researchers, policy makers and those responsible for implementing changes to encourage debate and discussion on possible climate change adaptation strategies.

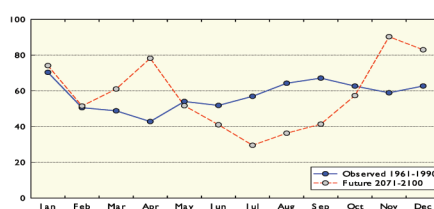
One method of reducing the knowledge gap and to improve awareness and understanding of the potential impacts of climate change is to show stakeholders illustrations of how climate change might impact on their own land management system. This is done within an agreed communication framework.

The illustrations help to communicate complex, contentious issues to stakeholders without a scientific research background and help land managers put forward suggestions on how they might adapt to climate change.

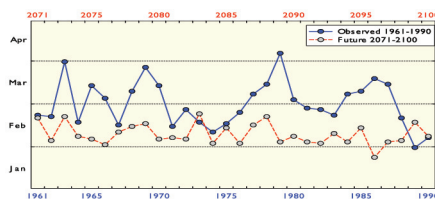
The success of the process depends on creating an inclusive interaction between stakeholders and researchers. Therefore a strong social learning based approach is recommended for any climate change research communication strategy.



Mean monthly precipitation (mm)



Start of field operations (Tsum200)



Beginning and end of field capacity

