

Worked Examples of CHES: Displacement



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Sustainability of what and for whom?



1. What major stressors are driving displacement?
2. How do we reconcile the unequal distribution of impacts from sustainability projects on locally impacted peoples?
 - i.e. Who are the winners and losers?
3. How can inclusive wealth models account for the loss of social and economic connectivity when implementing sustainable development projects?

Through the lens of displacement



The forced relocation of people via political, economic, environmental, and social stressors.

Predictions of displacement from climate change could be as high as 250 million people in this century.

Oliver-Smith, A. 2009. Nature, society, and population displacement toward an understanding of environmental migration and social vulnerability. Interdisciplinary Security ConnecTions.



Multiple Stressors

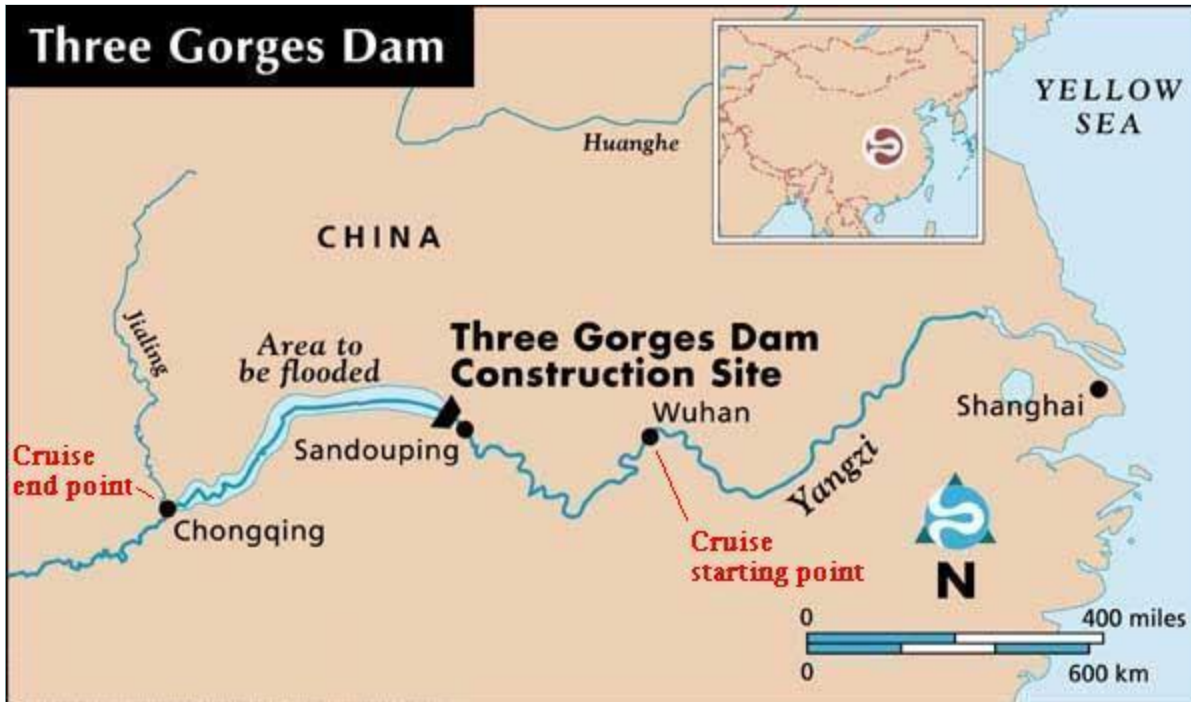


What major stressors drive the negative impacts of displacement?

Economic, Environmental, Social



Three Gorges Dam



Background: Sustainability project?

- ✦ Approved by National People's Congress in 1992
- ✦ Largest hydropower project ever
- ✦ Over 4 million people displaced
- ✦ 8 counties and 106 towns under water; 2 cities, 4 counties, and 34 towns partially inundated
- ✦ 1599 industries relocated

Three Gorges Dam



○ Economic:

- ✦ When moved, the displaced are likely to not be as well off as before.
- ✦ Compensation is limited and often delayed.
- ✦ Relocates are looked as obstacles to construction as opposed to victims of it.

Three Gorges Dam



- Environmental:
 - ✦ Flooding of fertile lands
 - ✦ Landslides
 - ✦ Relocation to steep slopes is bad for farming and the environment

- Social:
 - ✦ Disconnected from social networks

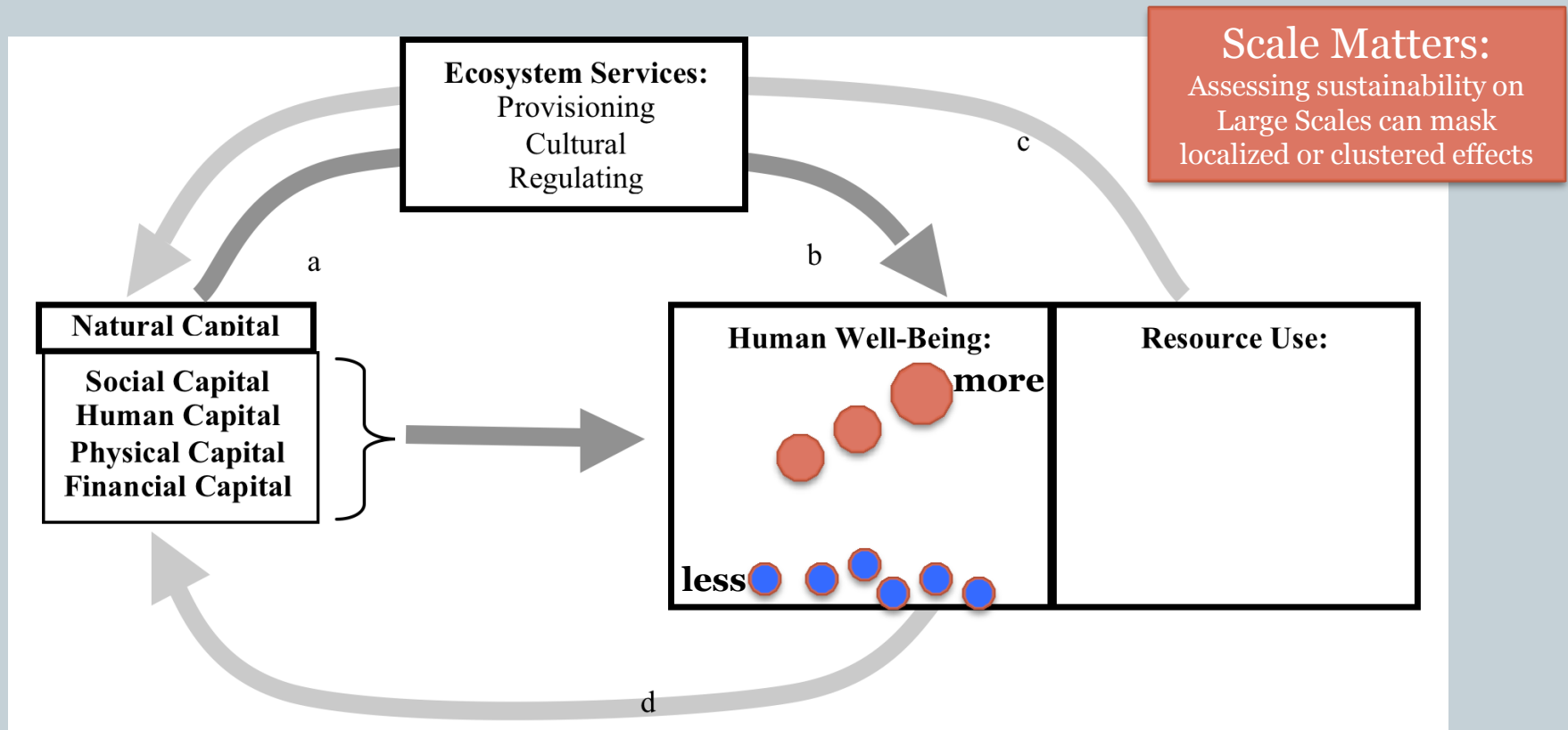
Sustainability for whom?



Winners	Losers
<p>International Financial Institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citizens: flood protection & clean energy• Manufacturers & shippers• Some urban migrants• Counties: redevelopment funds• SEZ: East Coast & Hong Kong company• Global beneficiaries of cleaner energy production?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Farmers & Fisheries: dam-related changes• Rural migrants• Some urban migrants• Some counties where migrants were relocated• Children of Migrants (future?)• Local area residents: loss of social ties; competition for resources

How do we aggregate well-being of different groups?

- Clusters of Well-beings (not randomly distributed)



Themes Identified



- All Capital is not equal:
 - 1) Measuring different scales of group aggregate well-being
 - (family, socio-economic, locality of origin)
 - 2) Groups:
 - ✦ leverage social & political capital on a multi-scale level: better outcomes
 - (local, regional, national, international)
 - 3) Groups: less social and financial capital pre-displacement
 - ✦ are more vulnerable and less resilient
 - 4) Processes of displacement: socially and spatially clustered well-being outcomes: are asymmetrically distributed
 - ✦ disadvantages: heavily skewed toward poor groups with less vertical social and political capital

Connectivity



- How can inclusive wealth models account for the loss of social and economic connectivity when implementing sustainable development projects?
 - ‘When’ versus ‘prior to’
 - How do we measure:
 - ✦ Local ecological knowledge?
 - What education-base is lost upon displacement.
 - ✦ Identity and sense of place?
 - ✦ The importance of a CHES?
 - Examples:
 - ✦ Farmers being transplanted to new region don’t understand the requirements of the land.
 - ✦ Indigenous tribes/peoples don’t have the social networks or capital required for urban life.

Topics for discussion



- Is the primary limitation determining value and/or shadow price?
 - Yes: Who has the capacity to place a value on a culture?
 - ✦ How does an inclusive wealth model begin to quantify the value of a culture?
- Are some things priceless?



Topics for discussion



- What other barriers might lead to these costs being ignored or discounted?
 - Lack of connectivity to the power structure that is driving displacement.
 - ✦ i.e. the decision makers at the top are not engaged in discourse with the culture/peoples in question.

Sustainability: Other examples of displacement



- **Hurricane Katrina/New Orleans**
- (Katz 2008, Reuveny 2008, Elliott et al 2010, Freudenburg et al, 2008)
 - Evacuation
 - Return/Diaspora



- **Displacement of Coastal Afro-Columbians & “Sustainable” Palm Oil Production**
- (Oslender 2007)
 - Displacement/Forced Relocation
 - Return/Diaspora