



Heatwaves and Livelihood -Asia Pacific

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Context- Asia Pacific

- **Different Climatic and livelihood zones:**

Climate: From Arid/ Semi Arid to Tropical/ Sub Tropical (Humid dry) to Dry.

Livelihood zones: East Asia & Pacific (Agriculture, Pastoralism, fishery, and urban farming), South Asia: (Agriculture, Fishing and Urban farming), Southeast Asia: Mekong river lower basin (Agriculture and Fishing).

- **Climate variability- Heatwaves- Impact on Livelihood:** increase in temperature by one or few degrees leads to loss of crop productivity/ reduced fish catch/ Livestock morbidity and disruption of market, loss of human productivity

- **Who are affected most:** Women Headed HHs, Small Farming HHs, Fishers & informal sector workers in urban areas.

Context cont...

- ❑ **Heatwaves in India and Livelihood:** A study reported that India lost 75 billion hours due to heatwaves in 2017 and out of which 60 billion hours is from agriculture sector
- ❑ **Vietnam:** A study by Vietnam Red Cross & German Red Cross in 2019 in 12 urban districts and 1687 wards prone to heatwaves revealed that slum dwellers and outdoor workers were affected most.
- ❑ **Bangladesh** is already experiencing heatwaves and increasing summer ahead.
- ❑ More than 68 percent workforce in Asia Pacific regions are in Informal sector. Majority are in agriculture (which is outdoor) and can not escape heatwaves.

Impact/ Cost: **Human cost-** Loss of life and productivity

Social & Psychological cost: Migration, displacement, poor living condition and stress

Economic cost: Low GDP of an Economy, Increasing poverty/ vulnerability of Urban informal sector workers, reduced income of small holders due to disruption in livelihood sources

Livelihoods Asset and Heatwaves impact

Human Capital: Skill on Motor repair, Mechanical, Marketing, Crop management, cultivation

Heatwaves negatively impact the productivity and income

Social Capital: Family, Kinship, Clan, Social groups, Networks

Heatwaves- migration, displacement leading to poor social network

Natural Capital: Land, Water bodies, Tree, Grazing land, Fisheries, Dairy

Overall impact is low productivity

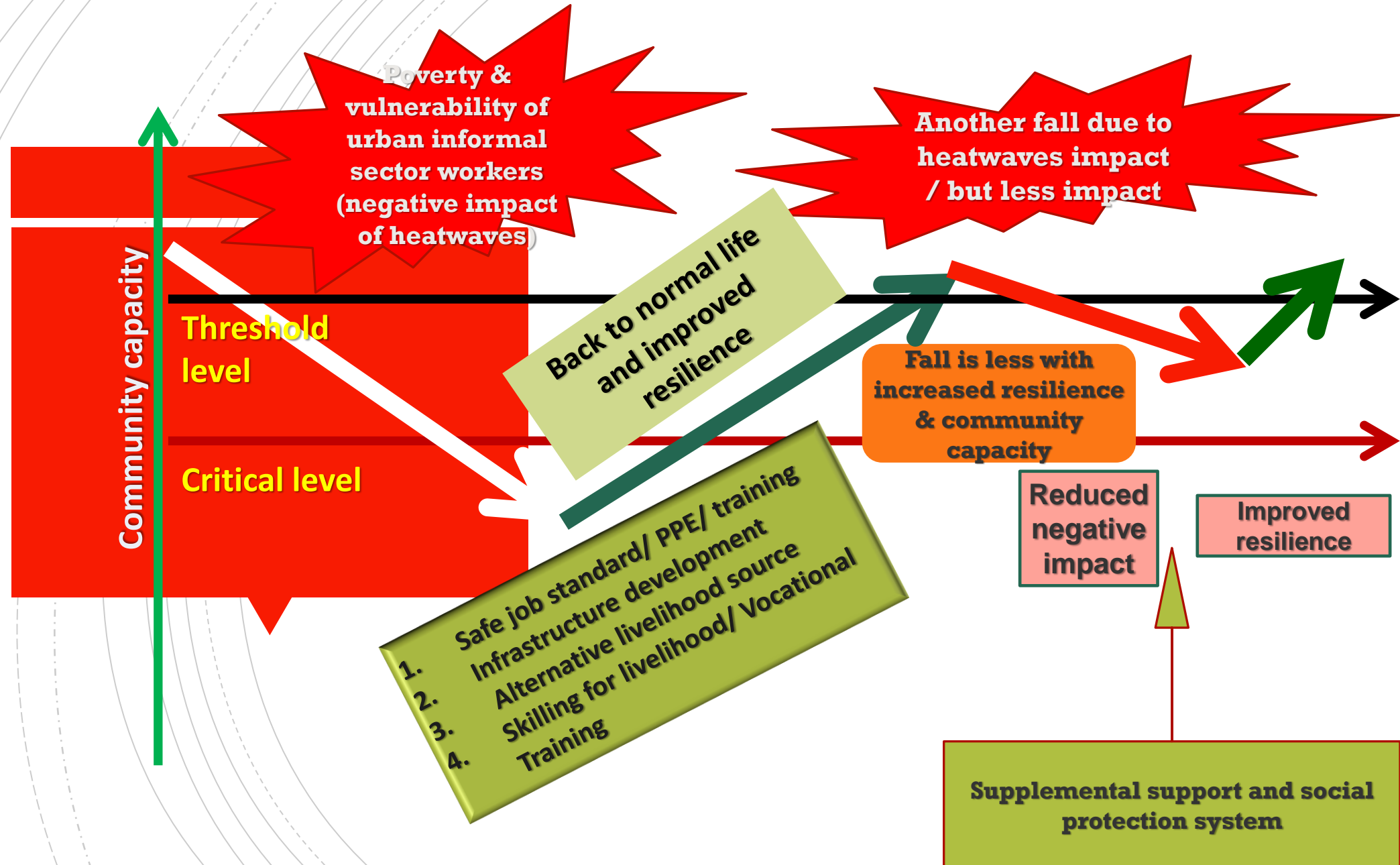
Financial Capital: Income, Savings, Loan given to other, remittance, etc.

Heatwaves impact- low income, low saving and Economic shocks

Physical Capital: Road, Livestock, Seed, Agricultural tools and other equipment which supports the people to generate livelihoods and income.

Poor infrastructure

What should be done/ durable solutions model



What should be
done? To stabilize/
durable solutions
Unpacking the model

1. Capacity building & Influencing

- **Awareness building** and knowledge development through sharing of information on Heatwaves and its impact.
- **Risk assessment-** Heat waves risk assessment (make it more regular). Expand the scope to rural.
- **Training and Capacity building inputs on risk management-** Safe work standard/ avoid being exposed to health risks (heat stroke, energy exhaustion), Climate Smart practices, improved agriculture, livestock management.
 - To whom: **Urban-** Vegetable vendors, auto repair mechanics, cab drivers, construction workers, police personnel and persons engaged in open factories, **Rural-** Small holders (agriculturists, livestock keepers, pastoralists)
- **Community based disaster preparedness-** contingency plan to face heatwaves negative impact on livelihood
- **Influencing through advocacy to Government:** for labour standard, safe job, use of PPE, contingency fund creation to respond any emergency situation

What should be
done...cont...

Stabilization & Recovery

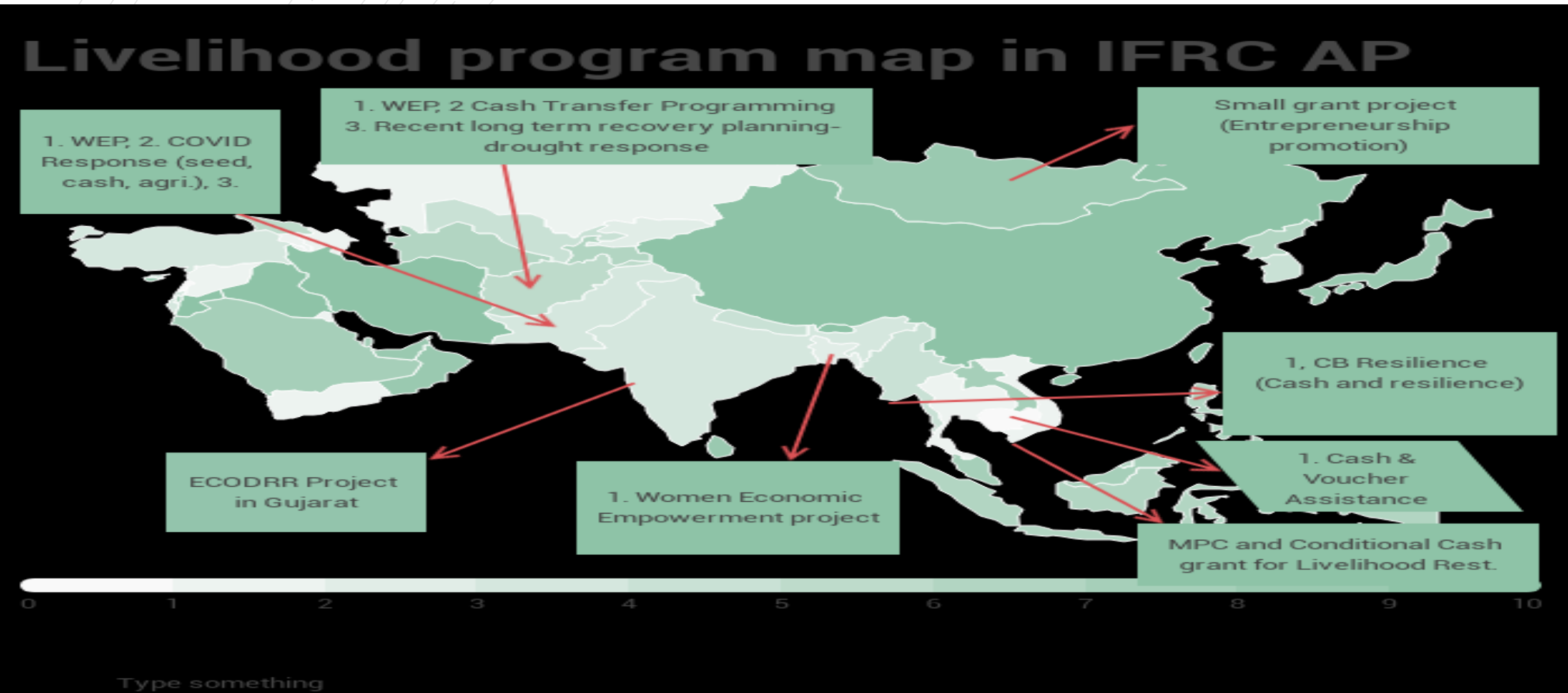
- **Food security interventions** for displaced persons and those with job loss
- **Infrastructure development**- shelter and transit house for urban construction workers, migrants, pastoralists and small livestock keepers
- **Social protection: safety net creation** through cash transfer; e.g. for women construction workers and informal sector workers can be protected through supplements
- **Skill development training** for displaced workers so that they restart their livelihood

What is IFRC doing on Heatwaves- Livelihood

- IFRC works in 38 countries across East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and Pacific.
- In 2020, IFRC responded to more than 26 new climate crisis across Asia Pacific.
- IFRC strategy 2030: Strategic Priority 1 focuses on: Responding to Climate and Environmental crisis
- In around 10 to 12 countries, it works on livelihood programming to address climate and economic vulnerabilities
 - Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Lao, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Mongolia

YET WE HAVE NOT STARTED INTEGRATION OF LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMMING TO RESPOND HEATWAVES IMPACTED COMMUNITIES

Livelihood program map IFRC & National Societies Asia Pacific



Way ahead- Heatwaves and Livelihood program

- 1. **Innovation/ Demonstration & Pilot and Scale up** (as per livelihood zones)
 - Index based insurance for drought affected farmers in Afghanistan
 - Livestock insurance in Pakistan
 - Micro finance- Prudent Risk-taking project in Bangladesh
- 2. **Advocacy and influencing:**
 - Government for labour standards (safe job)
 - Skill development program (Private Sector)
 - Social protection of migrants and informal sector workers
- 3. **Capacity building inputs** (Training and awareness raising)



Questions &
Answer