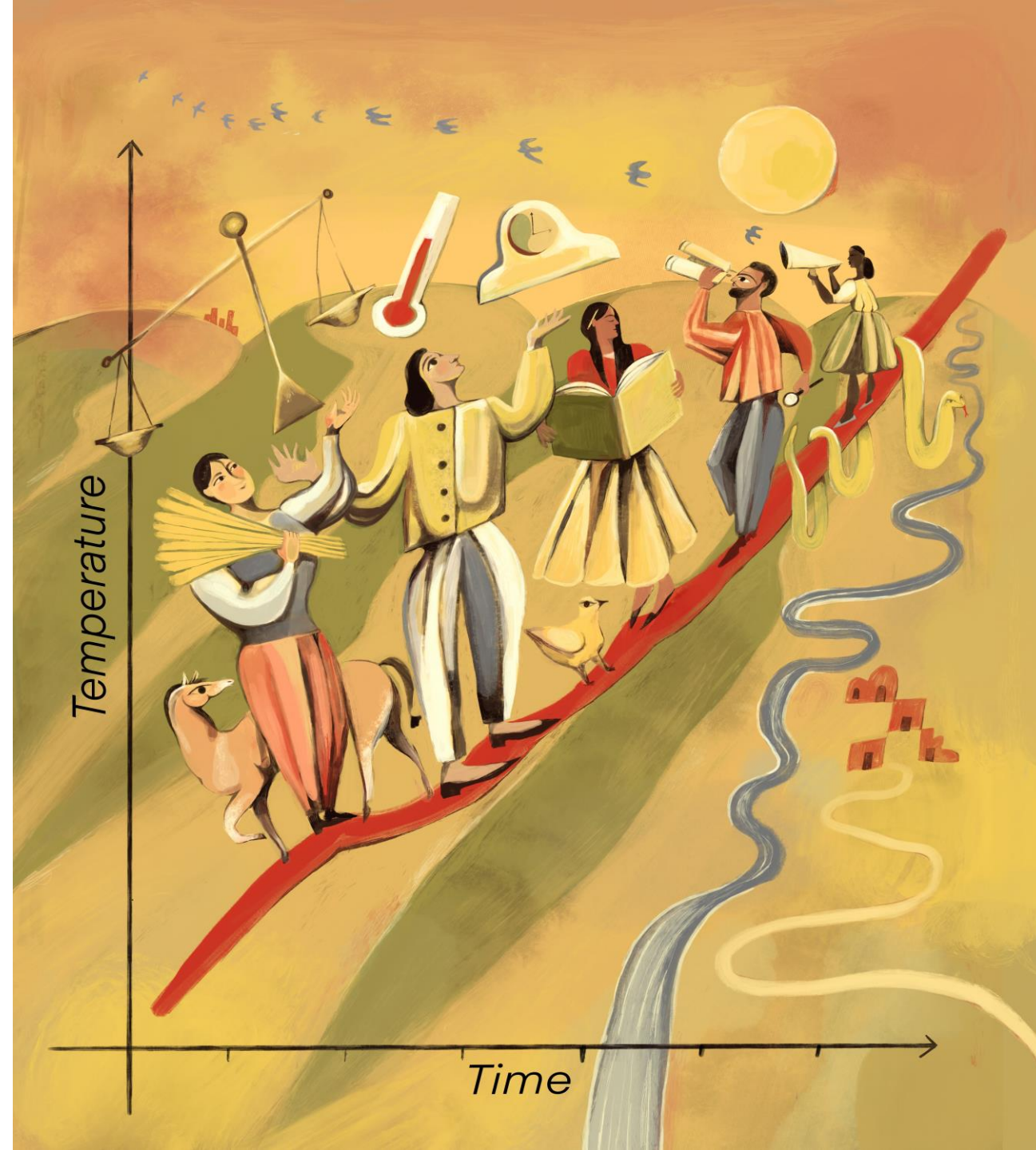


# Climate-smart programmes and humanitarian operations

(Handbook coming out in May  
2023!)



# What is in the Handbook?



What is climate-smart?

Addressing common questions

Targeted for the Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies

**A handbook for practitioners**

Enabling conditions to work with climate information across timescales

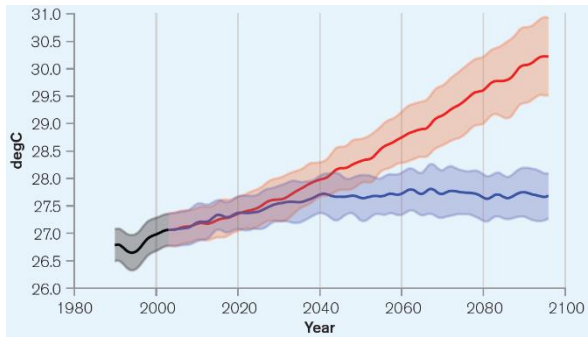
3 easy steps for National Societies (with links to existing tools and approaches)

# **What is climate-smart?**

***Using climate information across timescales both short-term weather and seasonal forecasts and long-term climate projections in designing, adjusting and implementing activities***

*to ensure that they contribute to reducing long-term risks and vulnerabilities, including likely unprecedented climate-related extreme events.*

# What does it mean: working with climate information across time scales?

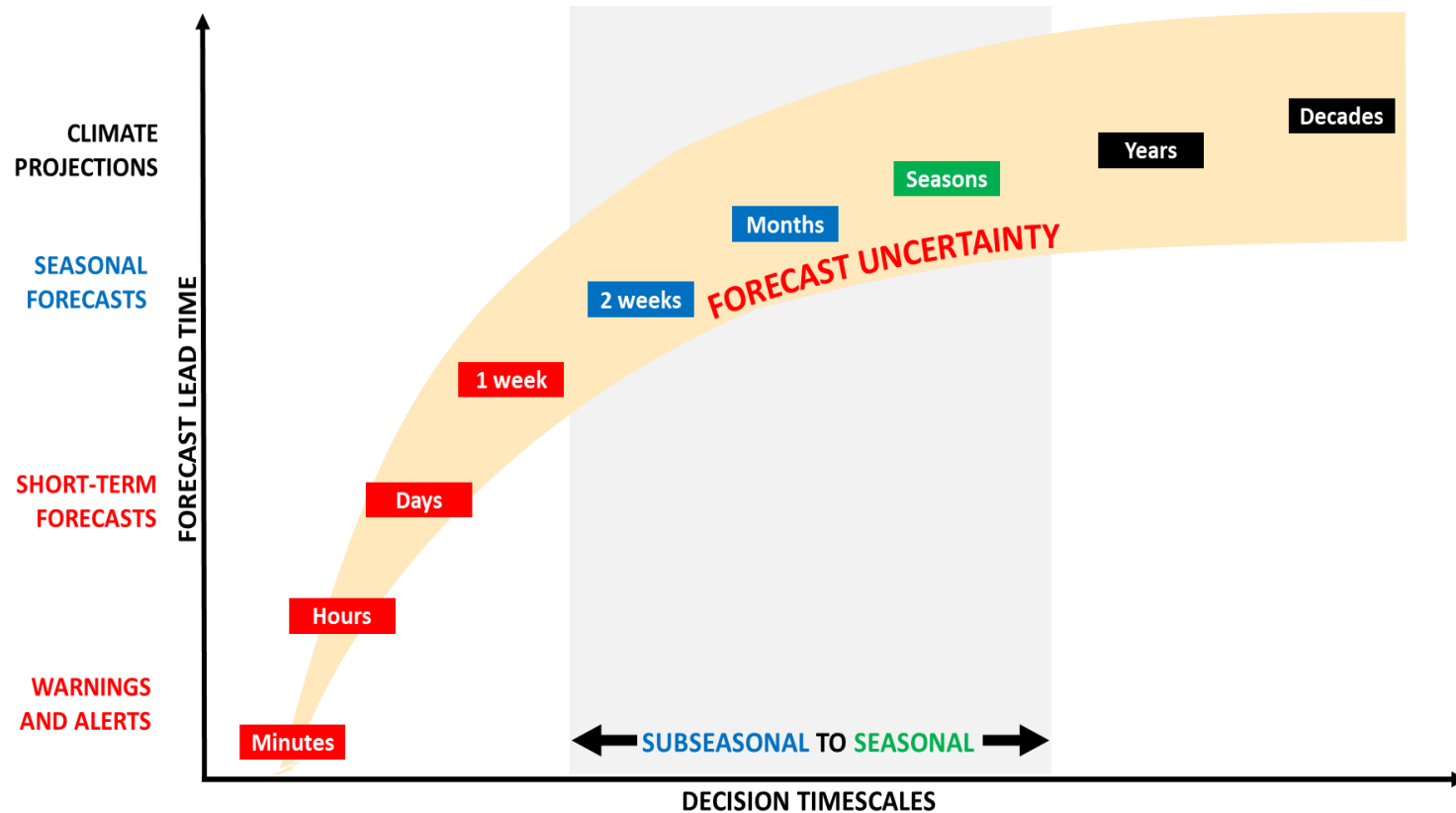


More specific information

More time to reduce risk



# Using climate information across timescales



## Sector examples at different time scales • • • •

### Water resources and WASH

- ☐ Emergency WASH interventions, local solutions and Emergency Response Unit deployment in case of an imminent disaster
- ☐ Pre-emergency distribution of water purification tools and ERU units in case of potentially upcoming heavy rainfall
- ☐ Plan for equitable safe water access and allocation during drought or flood in case of a potentially erratic season.
- ☐ Plan for rising water stress: Invest in landscape-scale solutions to ensure water availability through improved water efficiency and the conservation, restoration, and/or sustainable management of watersheds and aquifers, based on long-term projections of projected prolonged drought episodes
- ☐ Build capacity at local RCRC branches, institutions and communities to expand green and grey local water storage infrastructure

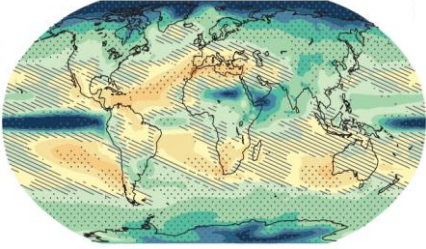
Source: Adapted from *Next generation earth system prediction*: <https://nap.nationalacademies.org/read/21873/chapter/5#44>



**Using climate and weather information in  
collaboration with the communities we serve**

# Essential: collaboration with your HydroMet agency and other service providers

Collaboration is key to ensure the optimal use of climate and weather information, to inform priorities, design and decisions in programmes, operations, plans and strategies, *for example*:



Weather agencies can help interpret climate information and its implications in your region



Weather agencies and flood modellers can help identify likely new at-risk zones for your disaster preparedness planning, early warning and WASH programmes



Ministries, extension services and NGOs may help identify good/promising livelihoods practises, including relevant crop types, water conservation methods etc.

# CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT in all HUMANITARIAN SECTORS

## CLIMATE IN HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMMES AND OPERATIONS



### Disaster management, DRM, & DRR

More **frequent** and **extreme** weather-related **disasters** & increasingly erratic **seasons**.



### Health & care systems

**Human health impact** of stronger heatwaves, floods, droughts & changing disease patterns.



### Water, sanitation & hygiene

**Changing water availability:** too much or too little.



### Livelihoods & food security

Effects of warmer weather and more variable rainfall on **food production & businesses**.



### Shelter, housing & settlements

**Emergency operations** challenged by increasingly intense & frequent disasters.



### Migration & displacement

**Increasing displacement & livelihood loss** from climate change & disasters.

## EXAMPLES OF CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT



Preparedness, response, **early warning** - **early action**, & **Anticipatory Action** programmes.



**Scaling up** health programmes & strengthening **health system resilience**.



Enhanced water resource **management**, **innovative** WASH interventions & **awareness** raising.



Livelihood & crop diversification, research & capacity building for **long-term sustainable adaptation**.



More **complex emergency ops** & building shelter/housing in safe(r) locations (with **new extremes in mind**).



Guiding vulnerable people towards **safer areas**, assistance along routes and when settling, helping create new **livelihood opportunities**.

# Climate-smart screening of programmes and operations that are yet to start

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Likely climate risks	Review current practises and learnings			List climate-smart suggestions
1 List potential climate-related risks to manage in the intervention	2 Identify existing 'good practices' where climate risk is already considered	3 Identify potentially maladaptive practices	4 Missed opportunities in earlier interventions (if any)	5 Key recommendations to make this intervention climate smart

# Climate-smart screening of programmes and operations that are ongoing

Table x: Considerations for climate-smart programming and operations (CSPO) (adapted from [Watkiss et al. 2020](#))

Phase	CSPO considerations	Examples of CSPO
Design (decision made during the CSPO process)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do we need to change the location of our intervention to account for climate-related hazards?</li><li>• Do we need to change the design of our activity to reduce risk from climate hazards, in the short to medium and long term?</li><li>• Do we need to change the choice of material, technology, etc.?</li><li>• Need to change shelter/housing typology and resettlement options?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Moving a pond construction uphill away from river stream</li><li>• Changing sowing times</li><li>• Changing to crop seeds which are heat resistant</li><li>• Move away from coastal areas or on higher ground</li><li>• Build on stilts, or with construction methods that take weather patterns into account</li><li>• Move a shelter uphill and change the evacuation route</li></ul>

# **Climate-smart screening of programmes and operations (CSPO) Workbook and Homework!**