

Community Vulnerability in the Elqui River Basin, Chile



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Elqui River Basin, Chile



Community Case Studies

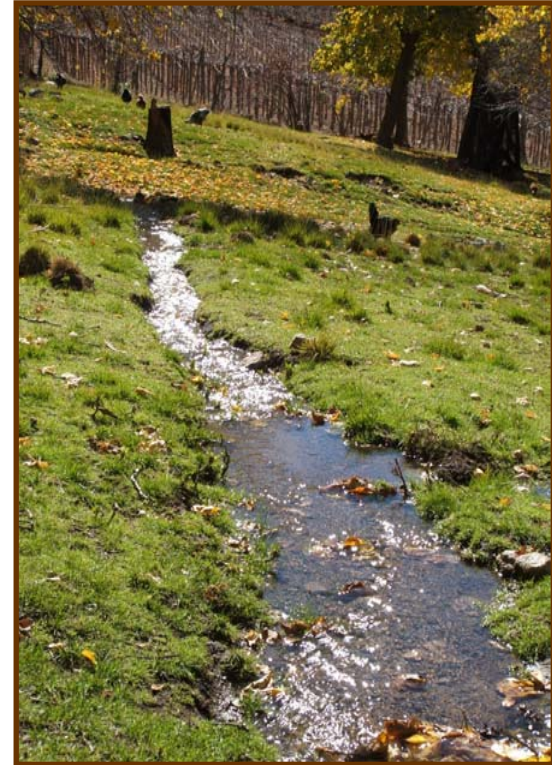
Elqui
River
Basin



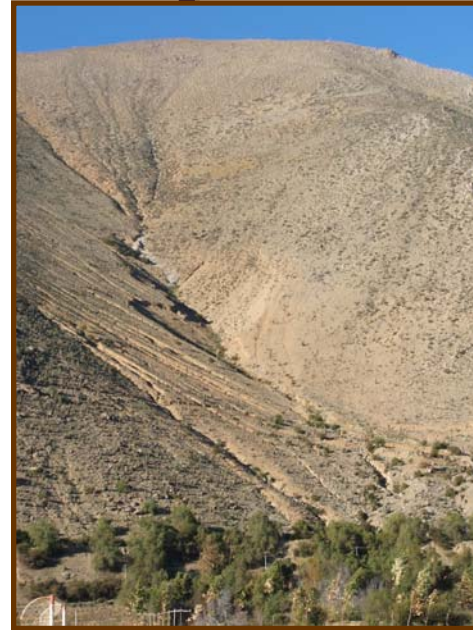
Water Source and Distribution System



Irrigation



Community Exposures



Community Exposures



Community/Individual Adaptations

“Here in Chile we adapt to everything” – Resident of Diaguaitas

- Take Precautions
 - Reinforce homes, buy extra food and batteries
 - Barrels full of potable water
- Migrate
- Women working for wages
- Technology
- Taking advantage of subsidies
- Neighbours help each other

Institutional Adaptations

- Protective Structures
- Education (radio announcements and bulletins)
- Subsidies
- Reduce Water Supply
- Water Delivery

Institutional Adaptation



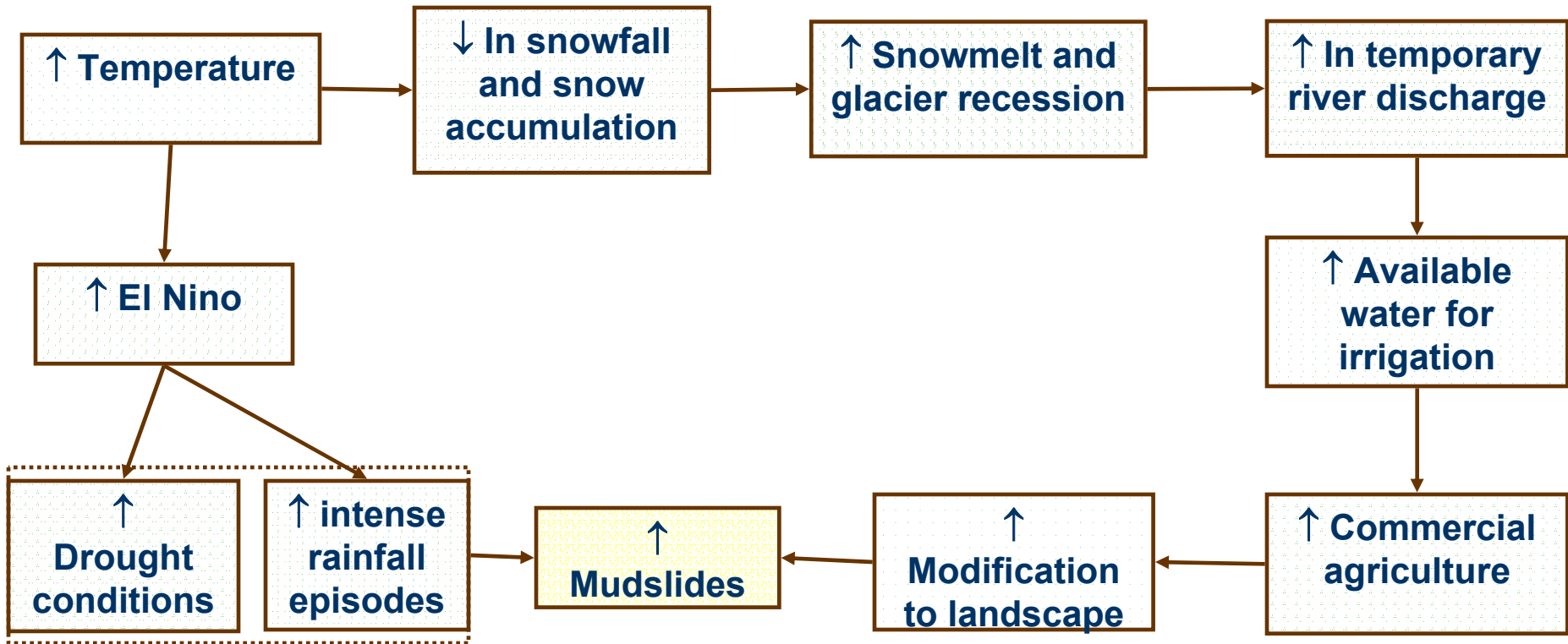
Constraints of Adaptive Capacity

- “There is no institutional capacity” – employee of a water governance institution.
- Lack of institutional coordination
- Short-term planning
- Limited information and resources
- Little community organization
- Community segregation/tension

Climate Change & Future Exposures

Climate-Related Risk	Expected Change in Future
El Nino	↑
Drought	↑
Average Precipitation	↓
Temperature	↑
River Discharge	↑ Short-Term ↓ Long-Term

Climate Change & Future Exposures



Summary of Research

- Exposures stem from multiple scales and influences.
- Although Diaguítas is a dryland area, water-related exposures were not strongly identified.
- Vulnerability varies between communities and community members.
- The role of institutions with respect to adaptive strategies appeared weak at the community level.
- Future conditions are not a strong concern for the community, agri-business and institutions.

