



Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Dilemma of Employment: A Case of Climate Shocks and Employment Malleability of Fishing Community in Southern Coast of Sri Lanka

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**Sri Lanka is Small island consist of 1 770 km coastal line
Contribute 530,920 metric tons (2016)**

- Marine 457 MT

- Inland 74 MT

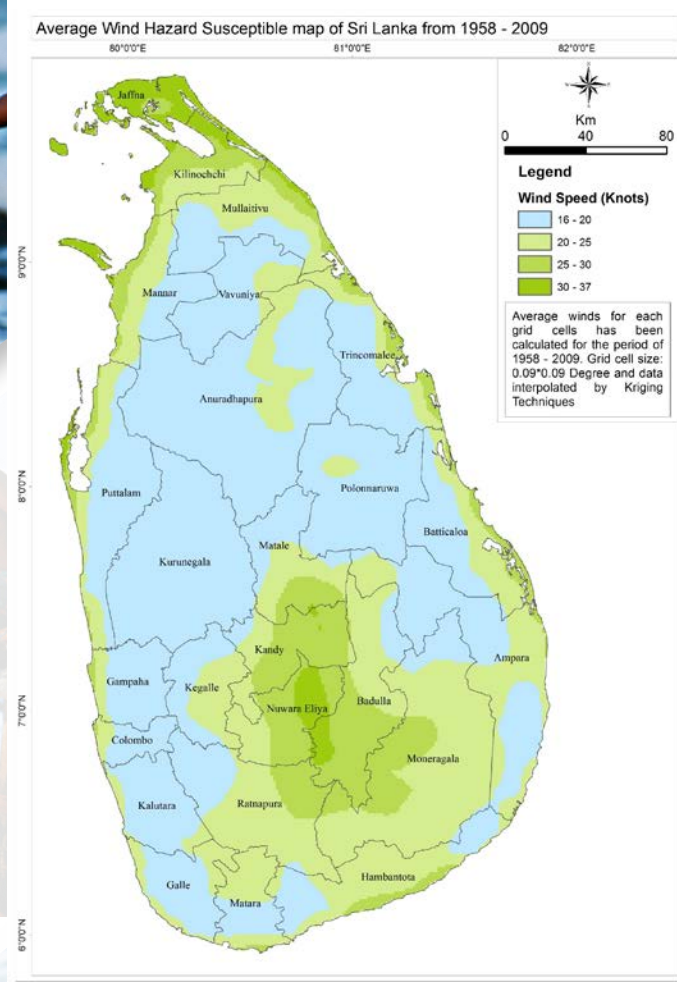
**Consist more than 14 deep sea fishing harbors
1.8% for the National GDP**

BUT..

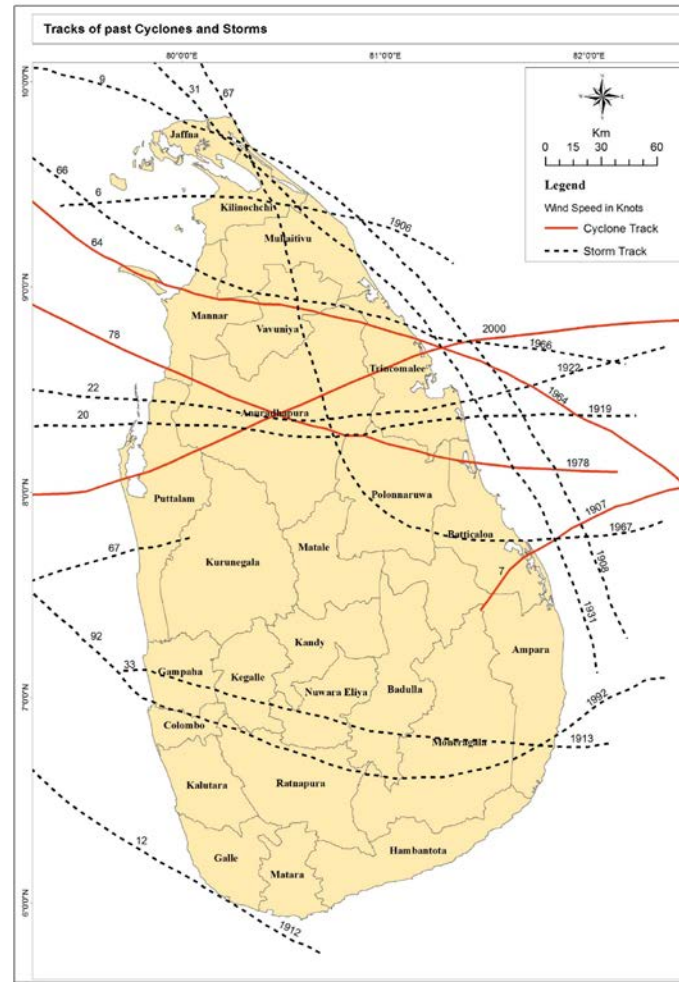
INTRODUCTION

- Extreme, **unpredictable weather** with heavy storms and changing rainfall patterns are common evils of damaging fishing communities in southern coast of Sri Lanka
- Global climate change has profound implications for marine ecosystems, economic and social systems while **coastal communities** in the frontline of it
- Based on the **changes of climatic conditions**, there are mainly two seasons, off season from **June to August** and peak season **October to February**

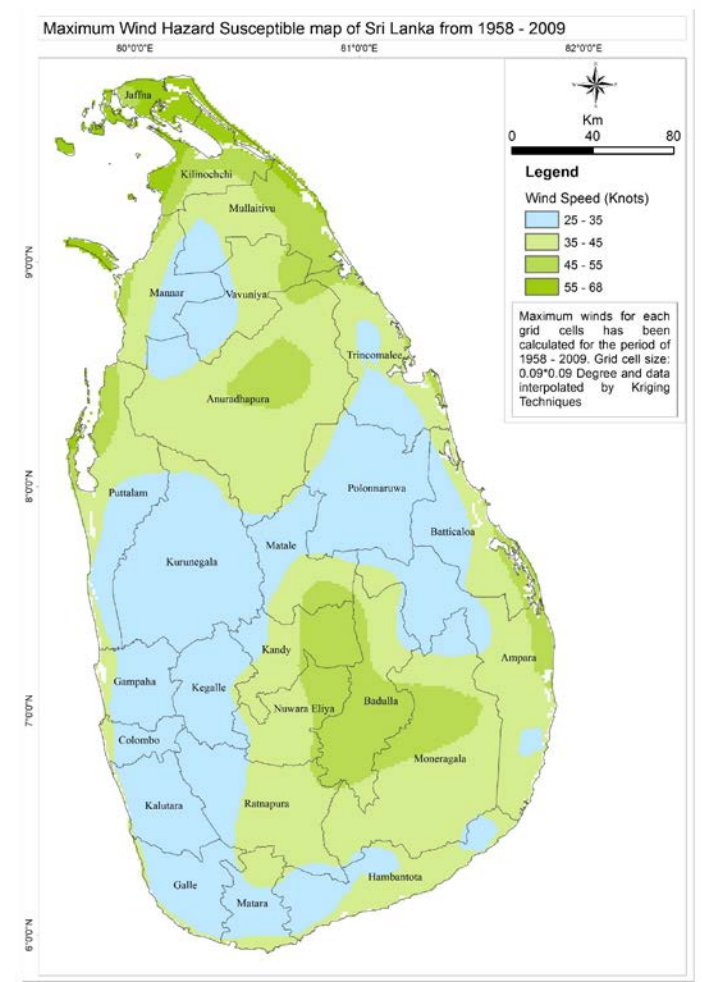
INTRODUCTION



Average Wind Hazard

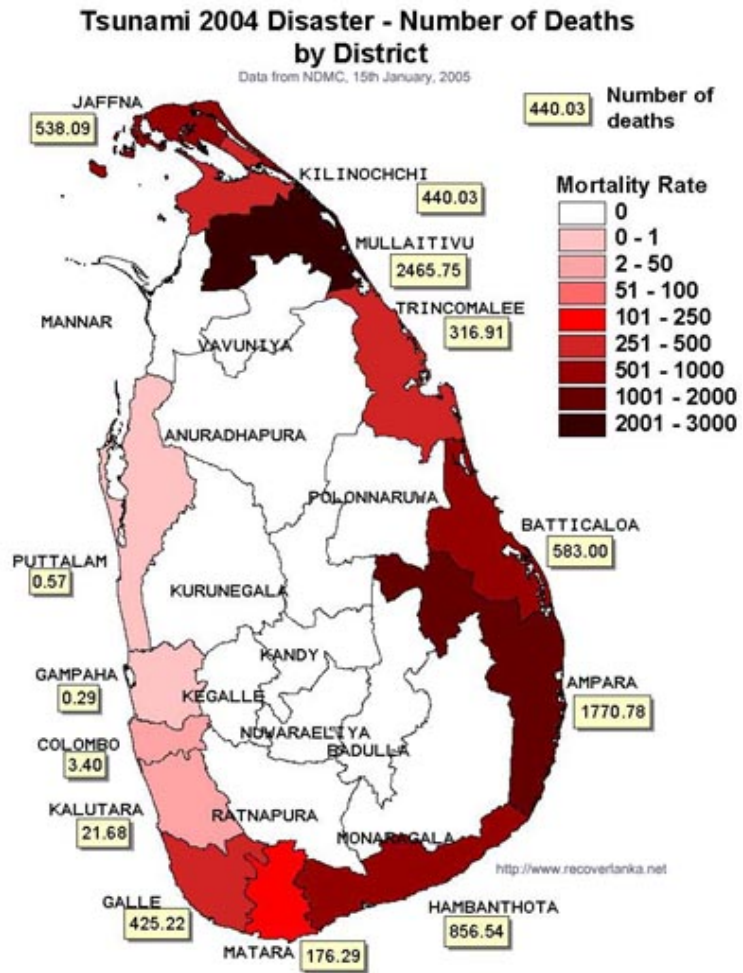


Tracks of Past Cyclones and Storms

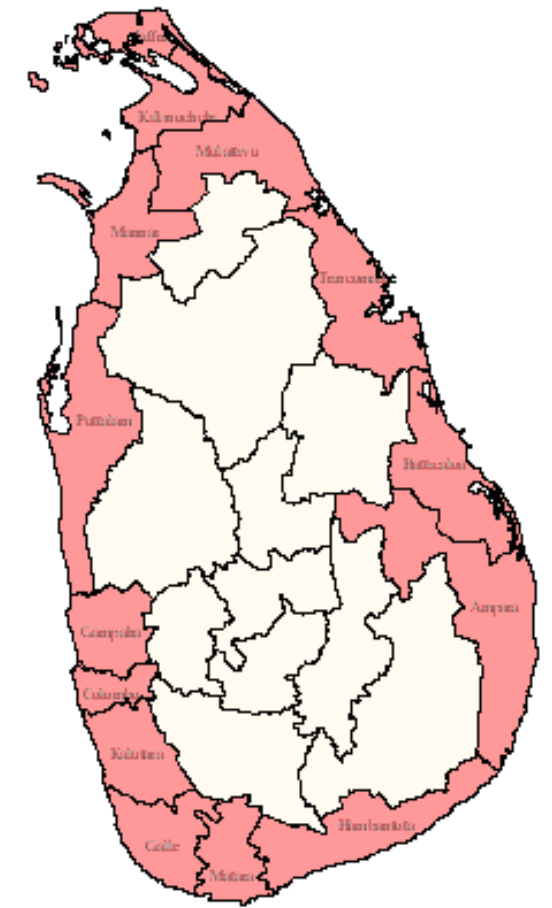


Maximum Wind Hazard

INTRODUCTION



Death occurred by tsunami



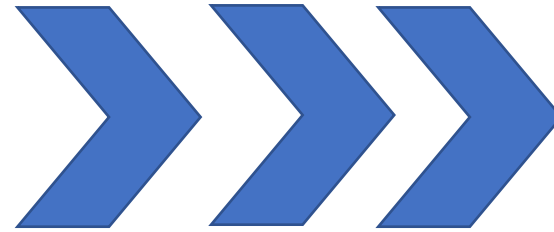
Districts Vulnerable to Coastal Hazard

Research Problem

Wind

Tsunami Cyclones
Monsoons
Monsoons

LOW PRODUCTIIVITY



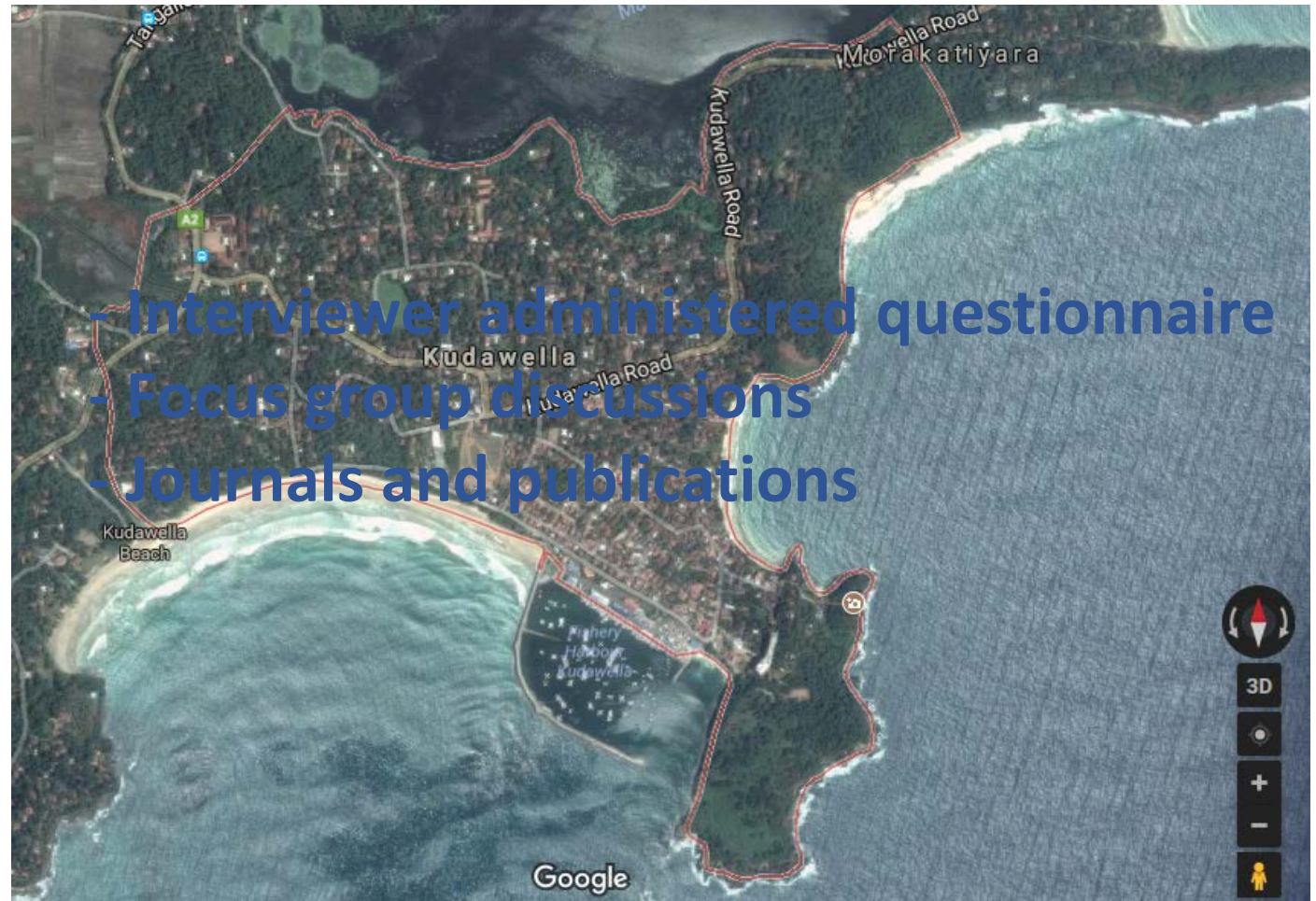
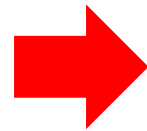
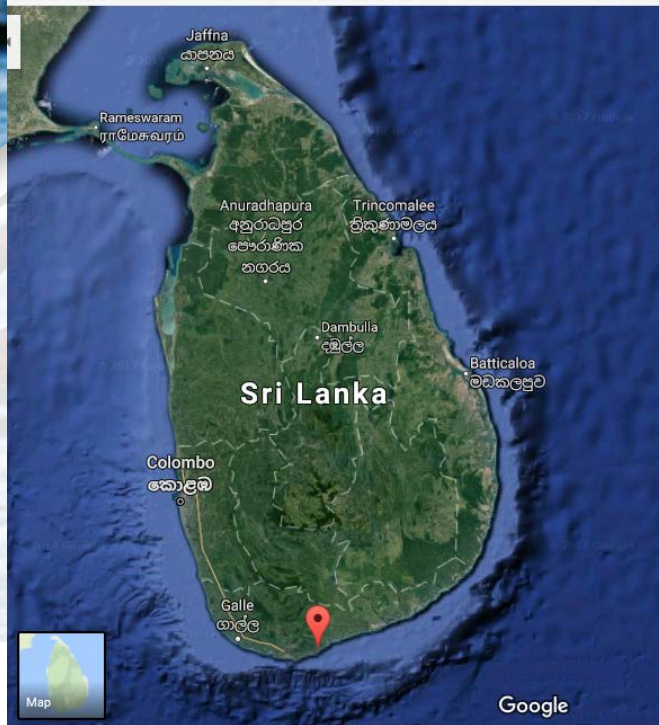
ISSUES



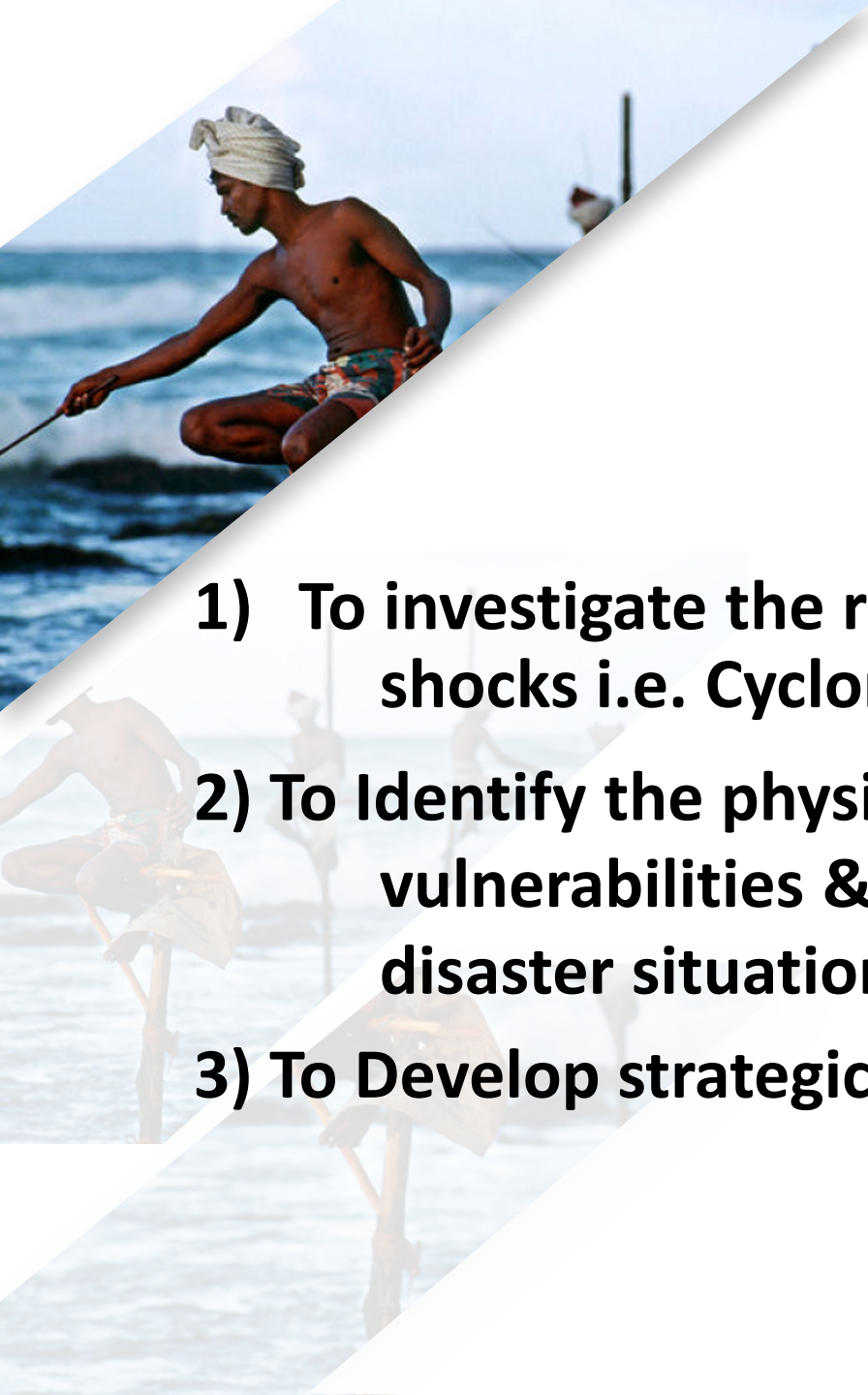
- Find out whether the fishermen are malleable or non-malleable in labor and whether they are engaging other income generating activity during the affected period and off season is more timely relevant with the huge impact of climate change

Research Location

Kudawella In Hambanthota District Southern province



- Interviewer administered questionnaire
- Focus group discussions
- Journals and publications



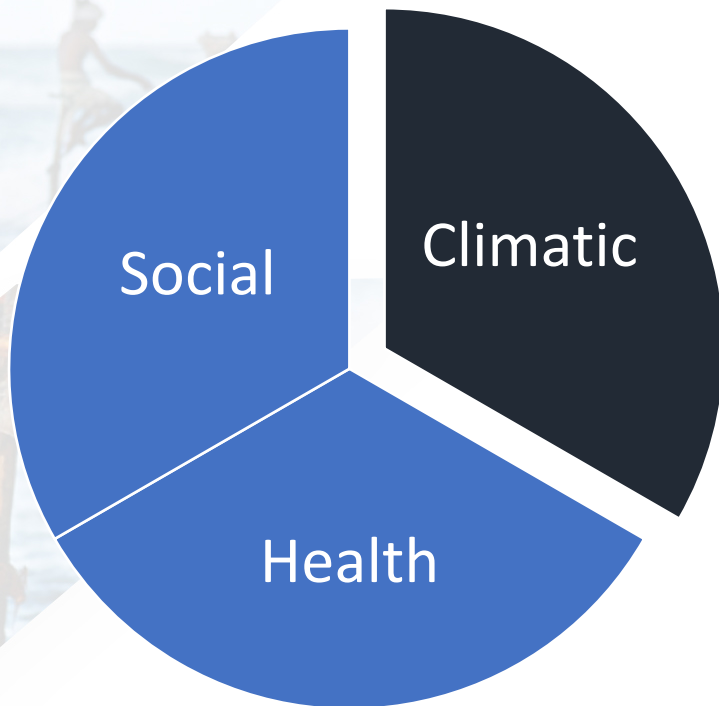
Objectives

- 1) To investigate the responses of fishermen and women on climate shocks i.e. Cyclones, Storms, Heavy rains**
- 2) To Identify the physical, social & motivational attitudes on vulnerabilities & capabilities of fishermen & women in a disaster situations.**
- 3) To Develop strategic intervention : Skill inventory of fisherman**

Objectives - 1

“Shock is an event that can trigger decline in well-being, which can affect individuals(illness, death), a community, a region, or even a nation (natural disaster, macroeconomic crisis)”

(World Bank, 2000-01)



Climatic Shock

Objectives - 1

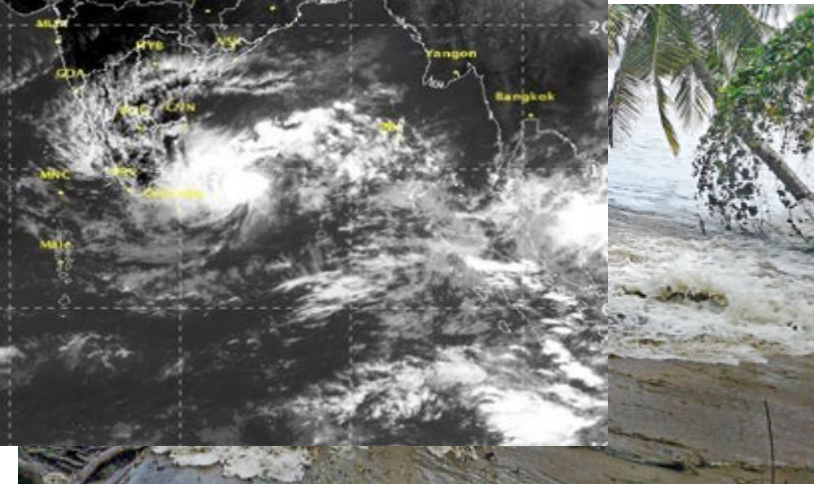
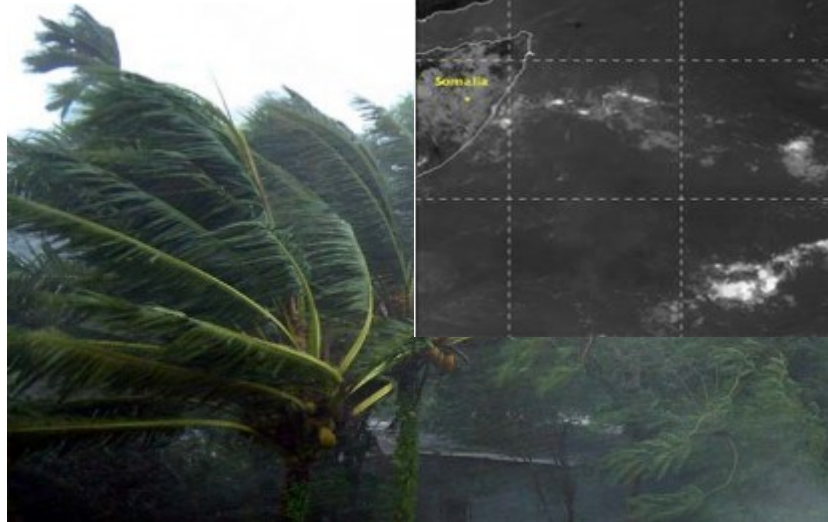
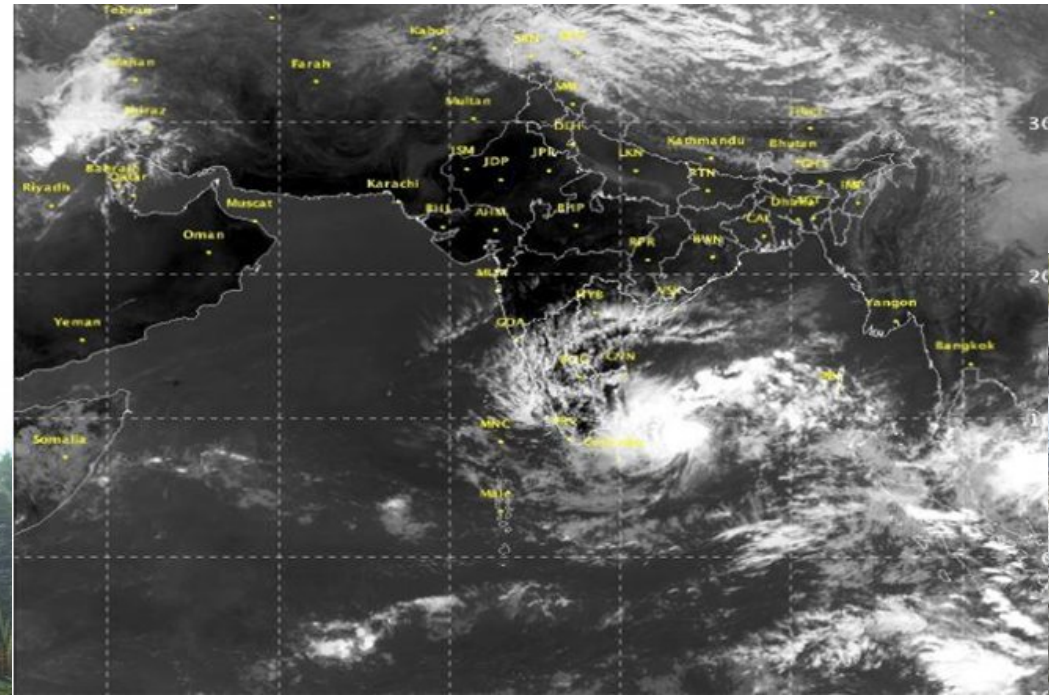
Major Climatic shocks for them

Cyclones

Storms

Heavy Rains

Rough Sea



Objectives - 1

Climatic Shock

Fishing Community

Do Nothing

97%

Working
Through Others

- Develop partnerships
- Get external support

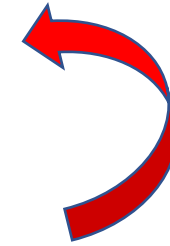
Establish Own
Strategies

- Own business
- Processing

Objectives - 1



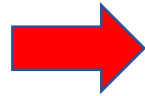
**Borrowing
Money**



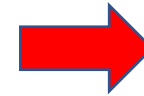
- **NO MONEY FOR FOOD**
- **EDUCATION**
- **BASIC NEEDS**



Do Nothing



**NO
INCOME**



**No enough money for
meet their living
expenses**



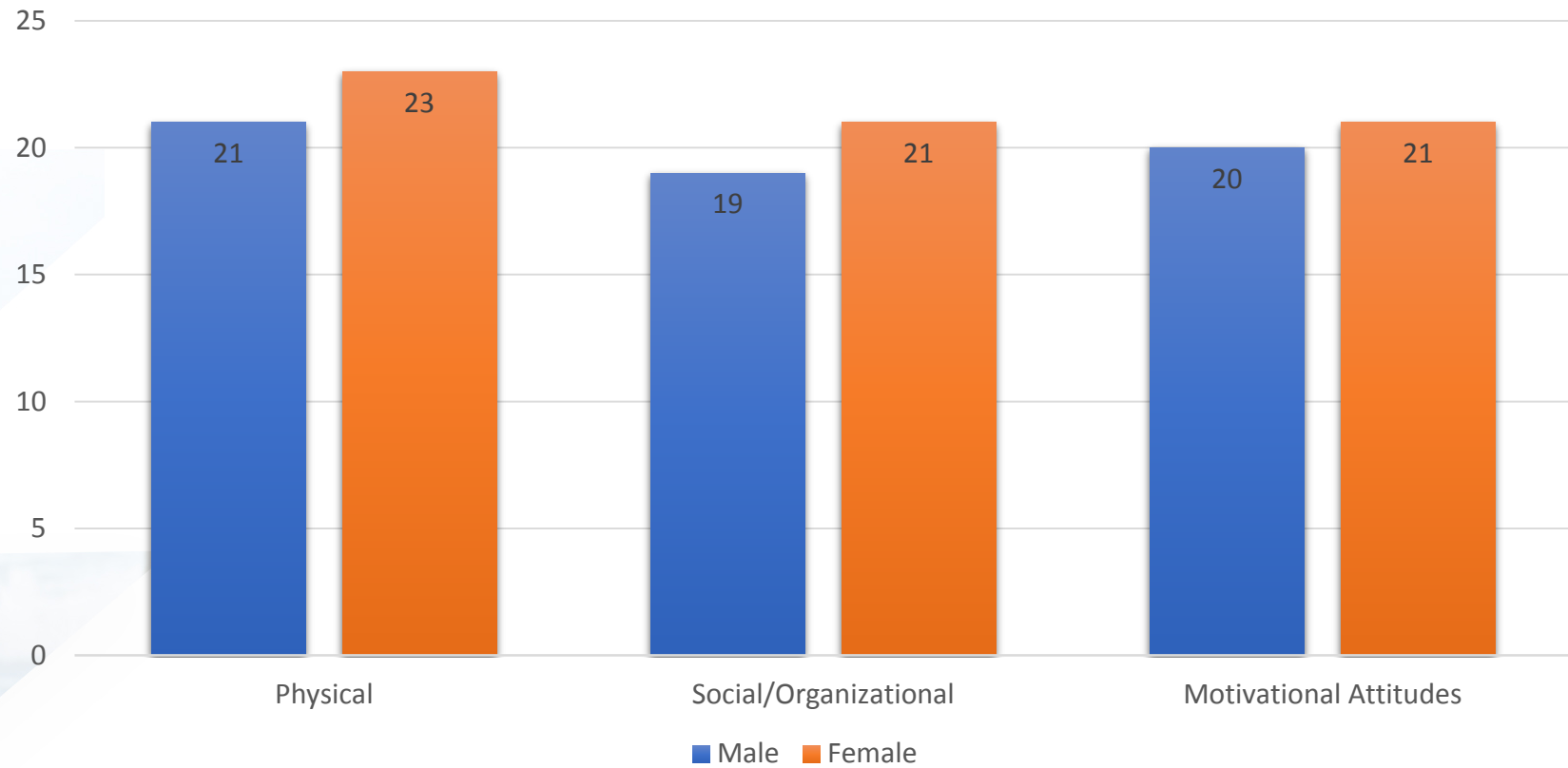
Objectives - 2

What are,
Vulnerabilities...??
Capacities...??

Used a scoring system to identify the levels

Objectives - 2

Vulnerabilities



Objectives - 2


Capacities



Objectives - 2

- Males are less vulnerable to climatic shocks due to their Physical, Social/Organizational & Motivational Attitudes
- Their **capabilities are higher than vulnerabilities**
- **But the capabilities not use for any productive work**
- Females are more vulnerable and less capacities compare to men

Objectives - 3

- 
- Fishing community have more capabilities other than their main income source
 - Borat repairing
 - Carpentry
 - Taxi driving
 - House building contracts
 - **But** most of the time in off season they spend time without any productive work

Objectives - 3

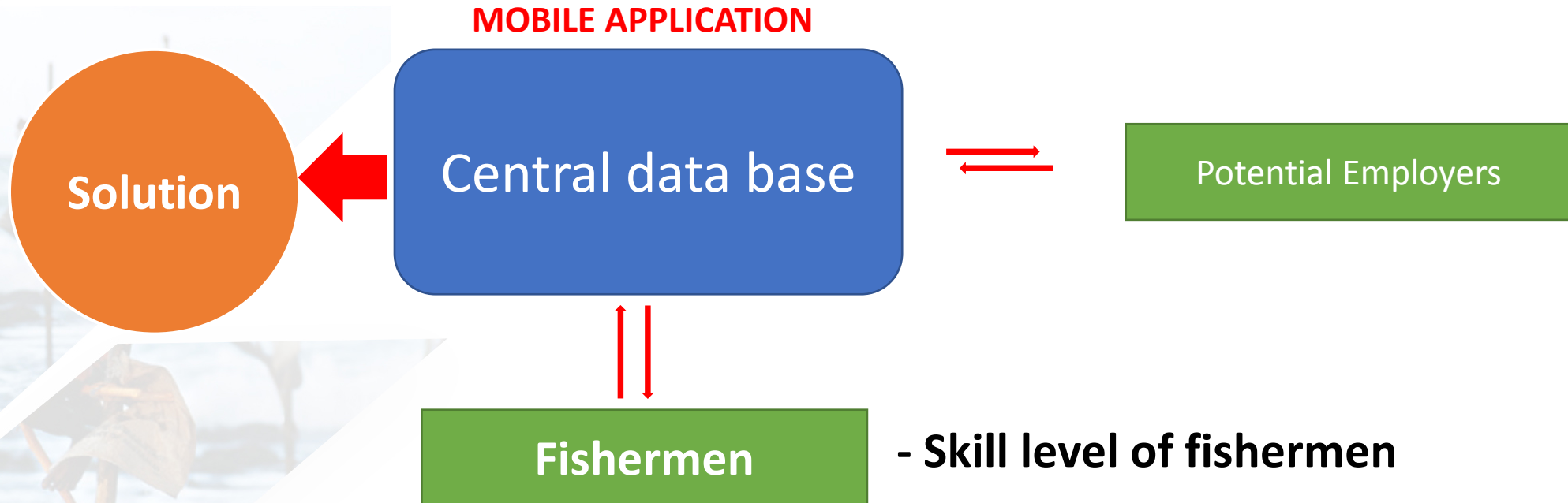
- **Main reason**
 - Lack of knowledge & information – Part time / Seasonally jobs
 - Not willing to do a job



- **Developing a Skill Inventory** can be use as a solution to find jobs

Objectives - 3

Mobile application with a central data base



Conclusion


- **97%** of fishermen are not using other strategies to overcome the effect
- Females are higher malleable in labor than men.
- Males are less vulnerable than females
- Males have higher capabilities than females
- Developing a skill inventory make a open connections between potential employer and fishermen.



Recommendations

- **Develop a prototype to test it practically.**
- **Further it can generalize after prototype installation.**
- **Further the mobile application can be developed as a disaster alert system**
- **Disaster preparedness level can be influenced by more trainings and workshops**

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Thank You!

