

# Definition of Vulnerability



“The propensity or predisposition to be adversely affected.” (IPCC,2014)

“Vulnerability encompasses a variety of concepts and elements including sensitivity or susceptibility to harm and lack of capacity to cope and adapt.”  
(IPCC, 2014)

# Lack of Adaptive Capacity



Lack of ability of populations  
to **access resources**  
and **basic services**

Lack of ability to **access**  
and **understand**  
**information** and  
**technologies**

# Definition of Vulnerability

A stylized illustration of a city skyline with various skyscrapers and buildings, rendered in a light orange color against the dark orange background of the top banner.

Passive  
e.g. physical  
exposure



Active  
e.g. ability to  
respond

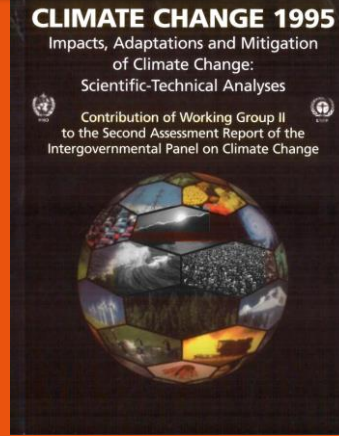
# Evolution of the Vulnerability in the IPCC

Determined by the combination of several indicators, such as **wealth, social status, and gender.**

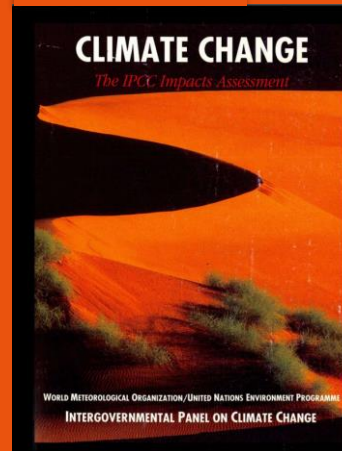


Vulnerability refers to threats to **human socio-economic well-being** (health, safety and food security)

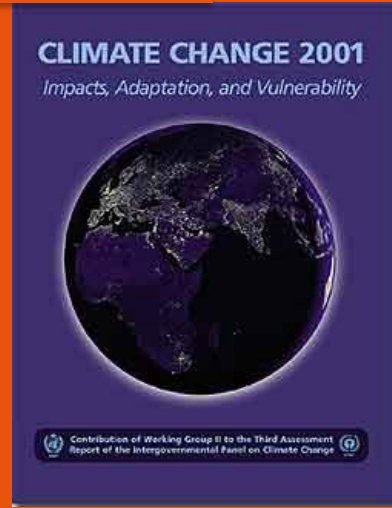
## 1st Report



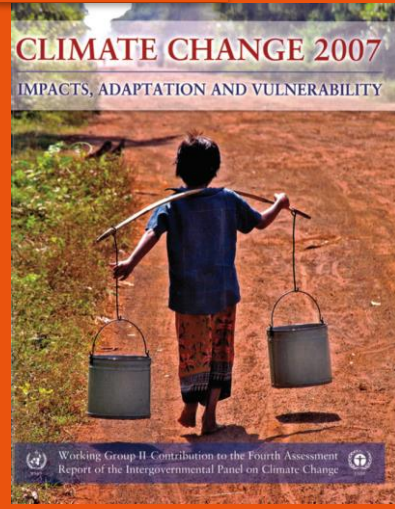
## 2nd Report



3rd  
Report

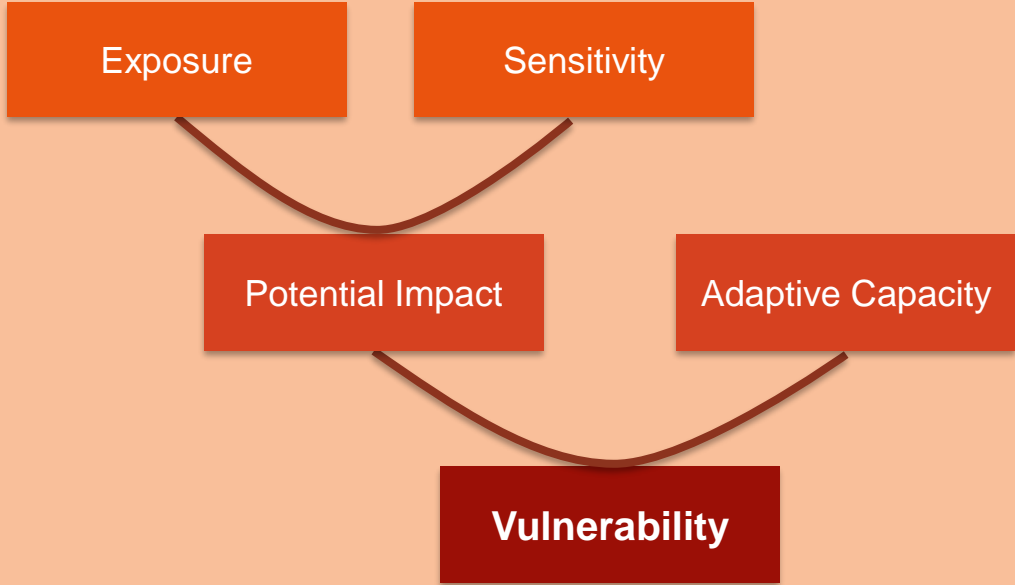


4th  
Report



The scope of vulnerability included  
**natural and social systems**



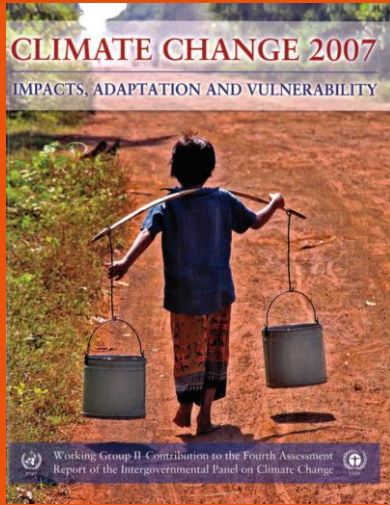


of natural and social systems and as understood in the **Climate Change (CC)** community

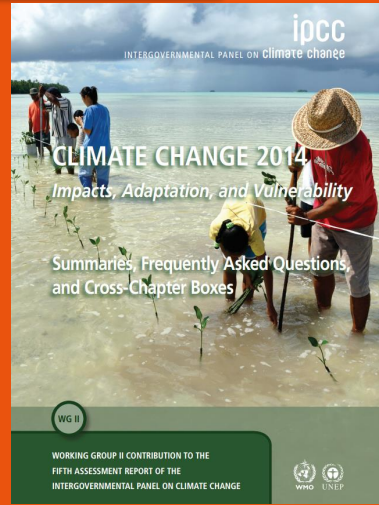
**IPCC AR4**



## 4th Report



## 5th Report



Focus on **human systems** was reintroduced





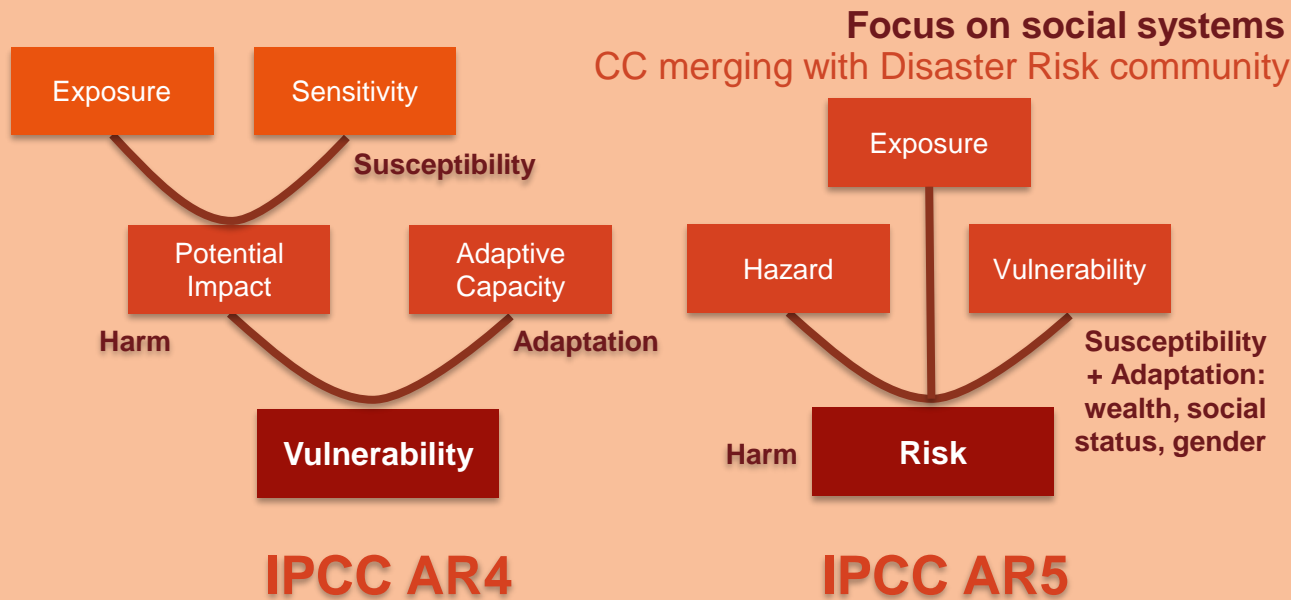
Climate Change  
Vulnerability

FINDING COMMON  
GROUND

Disaster Risk  
Management



# Evolution of the Vulnerability in the IPCC





Risk-hazard approach

biophysical vulnerability

Political economy approach

distribution of power and  
resources for adaptation

Pressure-and-release model

vulnerability as process

Integrated approaches

hazard of place

Resilience approach

disaster response and recovery,  
learning, self-organization

|   | Internal Socio-Economic | Internal Bio-physical | External Socio-Economic | External Bio-physical |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Risk-hazard approach<br>(Turner, et al. 2003)                   | -                       | X                     | -                       |                       |
| <b>Political economy approach</b>                               | <b>X</b>                | -                     | <b>?</b>                | -                     |
| Pressure-and-release model<br>(Blaikie, 1996)                   | X                       | X                     | -                       | -                     |
| Integrated approaches e.g.<br>hazard-of-place<br>(Cutter, 1996) | X                       | X                     | X                       | X                     |
| Resilience approach<br>(e.g. Klein, et al., 2003)               | X                       | X                     | ?                       | ?                     |

Risk-hazard approach  
(Turner, et al. 2003)

Political economy approach

Pressure-and-release model  
(Blaikie, 1996)

Integrated approaches e.g.  
hazard-of-place  
(Cutter, 1996)

Resilience approach  
(e.g. Klein, et al., 2003)



**Social Vulnerability**

