**Climate**

**Climate change**

**Climate change adaptation**

**Climate change mitigation**

**Global warming**

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG)**

**Weather**

**Preparedness**

**Risk assessment**

**Risk management**

**Risk**

**Recovery**

**Disaster Mitigation**

**Hazard**

**Forecast**

**El Niño-Southern Oscillation**

**Exposure**

**Disaster risk reduction**

**Disaster risk management**

**Disaster risk**

**Disaster**

**Climate proofing**

**Capacity**

**Vulnerability**

**Coping capacity**

**Early warning system**

**Environmental impact assessment**

**Risk transfer**

**Livelihood**

**Climate Hazards**

**Climate variability**

**Climate Risks**

**Climate risk management**

**Climate Impacts**

**Epidemic**

**Health**

Environmental degradation

The probability of harmful consequences or expected loss (e.g., death, injury, loss of livelihoods, reduced economic productivity, environmental damage) resulting from interactions between climate hazards, exposure to these hazards and vulnerable conditions (Adapted from United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction [UNISDR], 2009).

The systematic approach and practice of using climate information in development decision-making to minimize potential harm or losses associated with climate variability and change (Adapted from UNISDR, 2009).

A potentially damaging hydro-meteorological event or phenomenon; they can be events that have an identifiable onset and termination, such as a storm, flood or drought, as well as more permanent changes, such as shift from one climatic state to another (United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 2005).

Variations (ups and downs) in climatic conditions from long-term means on time scales beyond that of individual weather events. Variability may result from natural internal processes within the climate system (internal variability) or to variations in natural or anthropogenic external forcing (external variability) (Adapted from IPCC, 2001).

The effects of climate hazards and climate change on natural and human systems (Adapted from IPCC, 2012).

The ability of people, organizations and systems, using available skills and resources, to face and manage adverse conditions, emergencies or disasters

The set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information to enable individuals, communities and organizations threatened by a hazard to prepare and to act appropriately and in sufficient time to reduce the possibility of harm or loss.

The reduction of the capacity of the environment to meet social and ecological objectives and needs.

Process by which the environmental consequences of a proposed project or programme are evaluated, undertaken as an integral part of planning and decision making processes with a view to limiting or reducing the adverse impacts of the project or programme.

The process of formally or informally shifting the financial consequences of particular risks from one party to another whereby a household, community, enterprise or state authority will obtain resources from the other party after a disaster occurs, in exchange for on going or compensatory social or financial benefits provided to that other party.

It is the weather averaged over a long period of time, taking account of the *average* *conditions* as well as the *variability of these conditions*.

A significant change in measures of climate (such as temperature, precipitation, or wind) lasting for an extended period (decades or longer). This can result from both natural changes (such as changes in the sun’s intensity or oceanic circulation) and human activities.

"Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities." The definition recognizes that humans can adjust to past ("actual") climate change and its impacts, or prepare for projected future ("expected") climate change and its impacts.(IPCC Definition)

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Actions that reduce the sources of greenhouse gases, or enhance [carbon sinks](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/resources/glossary.html#carbon_sink).

Examples include using fossil fuels more efficiently for industrial processes or electricity generation, switching from oil to natural gas as a heating fuel, improving the insulation of buildings, and expanding forests and other sinks to remove greater amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. ([UNFCCC](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cas/resources/glossary.html#UNFCC))

The progressive rise of the earth’s surface temperature thought to be caused by the enhanced greenhouse effect.

Naturally occurring and human-made gases that trap infrared radiation as it is reflected from the earth’s surface, trapping heat and keeping the earth warm.

Is the set of meteorological conditions – wind, rain, snow, sunshine, temperature, etc – at a particular time and place.

The conditions determined by physical, social, economic, environmental and political factors or processes, which increase risk and susceptibility of people to the impact of hazards.

Modification of existing and future projects so that they are resilient to impacts from climate change and/or do not contribute to increased vulnerability of the projects goals (Klein et al., 2007)

The combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within a community, society or organization that can be used to achieve agreed goals.

The ability of people, organizations and systems, using available skills and resources, to face and manage adverse conditions, emergencies or disasters.

A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.

The potential disaster losses, in lives, health status, livelihoods, assets and services, which could occur to a particular community or a society over some specified future time period.

The systematic process of using administrative directives, organizations, and operational skills and capacities to implement strategies, policies and improved coping capacities in order to lessen the adverse impacts of hazards and the possibility of disaster.

The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events.

A complex interaction of the tropical Pacific Ocean and the global atmosphere that results in irregularly occurring episodes of changed ocean and weather patterns in many parts of the world, often with significant impacts over many months, such as altered marine habitats, rainfall changes, floods, droughts, and changes in storm patterns.

People, property, systems, or other elements present in hazard zones that are thereby subject to potential losses.

Definite statement or statistical estimate of the likely occurrence of a future event or conditions for a specific area.

A dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage.

The lessening or limitation of the adverse impacts of hazards and related disasters.

The restoration, and improvement where appropriate, of facilities, livelihoods and living conditions of disaster-affected communities, including efforts to reduce disaster risk factors.

The combination of resources (natural, human, physical, financial, social, and political), activities, and access to these, that together determine how an individual or a household make a living (Adapted from Ellis, 2000).

The combination of the probability of an event and its negative consequences.

The systematic approach and practice of managing uncertainty to minimize potential harm and loss.

A methodology to determine the nature and extent of risk by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.

The knowledge and capacities developed by governments, professional response and recovery organizations, communities and individuals to effectively anticipate, respond to, and recover from, the impacts of likely, imminent or current hazard events or conditions.

Refers to an increase, often sudden, in the number of cases of a disease above what is normally expected in that population in that area.

It is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

**Adaptive Capacity**

**Vulnerability to Climate Change**

The degree to which a system is susceptible to, or unable to cope with, adverse effects of climate change, including climate variability and extremes

The ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities, or to cope with the consequences.