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The Insurability of The Impacts of Climate Change

Nick Silver and Andrew Dlugolecki

Giro Conference Edinburgh October 2009

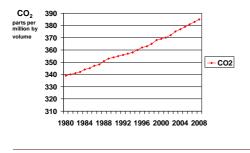
Overview

- 1. Outlook for climatic risks
- 2. Are climatic risks insurable?
- 3. Motivation for risk transfer mechanisms
- 4. Proposed mechanisms
- 5. Role of the private sector

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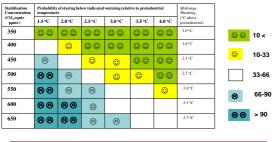
Atmospheric carbon dioxide:

global levels 1980-2008





Risk of exceeding temperature levels , for a given GHG concentration level





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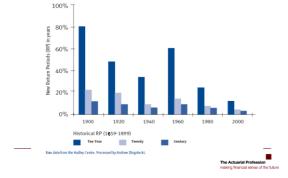
Climate Change Impacts (Source IPCC)

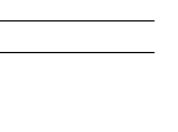
Temperature rise °C wrt global average 1980-99 0 1 2 3 4

	0 1	2	3	4	5
Water	Less water mid Hundreds of mi				
Eco- systems		30% of spec at risk	ies	> 40% of s extinct	
Food	Subsistence c	Subsistence communities adversely affected>		>	
	Tropic	al cereals yi	elds progre	essively declin	e>
Coast	More floods and	d storms			>
			Signific	ant land loss	>
Health	Increasing d	isease and i	Ilness		>
			Health s	services stretcl	hed ->

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Trend in actual return period for different level of hot months in Central England (CII (2009))





Are climatic risks insurable?

- 1. Uncertain but peaky loss distribution
- 2. Massive scale-up (< 20% losses covered)
- 3. New customers: poor, vulnerable
- 4. New assets insured: eco-systems and livelihoods
- 5. Inadequate distribution system
- 6. New risks: sea-level rise, exotic species
- 7. New time frame: long term rather than annual



Three examples

2 Inevitable loss e.g. submergence of low land



3 Surprises ! e.g. disease, heat stress, vulcanism, infertility etc



1 Loss of natural assets

e.g. carbon stored in forests



no futur

Forestry Insurance

1 Non-monetised values Cost of damage control Cost of replacement



2 Monetised values incl carbon Investment - loss of asset covered with cat bonds Forestry products - loss of income with micro weather derivatives

- Preconditions damage control system low political risk
 env^{tal} due diligence



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All risk parametric insurance

Tightly defined products will exclude losses e.g. cat bonds Losses may be indirect or gradual e.g. loss of pollinators or coral

Solution

- define a 'trigger' e.g. SLR, associated with progressive C.C.
- take expert opinion on the possible losses as trigger rises
- calculate contributions
- establish a fund to collect and pay out
- more akin to life/pensions than a fire/motor policy

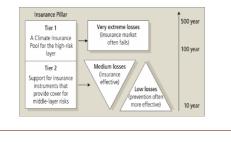
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Proposed mechanisms

- Successor to Kyoto Protocol
- Negotiated in December 2009 by approximately 150 countries
- · "Insurance" to be part of the treaty
- Two main proposals tabled
- AOSIS
- MCII

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MCII Proposal



AOSIS Proposal

CHANGE IMPACTS MULTI-WINDOW MECHANISM BOARD					
1. Insurance Component	2. Rehabilitation / Compensatory Component	3. Risk Management Component			
To address climate-related extreme weather <u>events</u> such as hurricanes, tropical storms, floods and droughts, which result in loss and damage	To address progressive negative impacts, such as sea level rise, increasing sea and land temperatures and ocean acidification, that result in loss and damage (e.g., land loss, coral bleaching, impacts on potable water availability, reduction in fisheries, desertification, etc.)	To promote risk assessment and risk management tools and strategies at all levels; to facilitate the implementation of risk reduction and risk management measures			
Triggers – e.g., might include precipitation, wind speed, storm surge	Parameters ⁸ – might include sea level rise, temperature increases, loss of land, damage to coral reefs, loss of fisheries, salinisation of aquifers, or use an all-risk parameter				

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AOSIS Proposal

With respect to Insurance	With respect to	With respect to Risk	
Component:	Rehabilitation/Compensation	Management Component:	
 Provides advice and guidance to	Component:	 Provides advice to countries	
countries on types of available	- Works with countries to establish	on risk management techniques	
instruments	baseline parameters in local context	in the context of climate change	
 Advises on best, practices and innovative approaches for identified needs Provides technical support for the establishment of appropriate risk sharing and risk transfer schemes as requested (e.g., risk pooling arrangements); indexed insurance mechanisms such as catastropine bonds, weather actastropine bonds, weather derivatives; reinsurance schemes; public private partnerships etc.) 	 Verifies when parameter thresholds exceeded Considers means to graduate parameters to reduce basis risk 	Facilitates collection of weather data and analysis (e.g., that can support development of insurance tools) - Identifies hazards and provides support to risk assessments - Recommends appropriate investments in risk reduction - Assists in building capacity for managing risk and reducing risk exposure	

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AOSIS Proposal

With respect to Insurance Component - Inables/administers/supports - Inables/administers/supports - Insurance - Insurance - Inances - Insurance - Insurance	With respect to Rehabilitation(compensation Component - Accumulates funds from - assessed Annex I Party contributions, preferably trough the proposed Convertion Adaption Fund based on (capacity) - other done sources - Paps out whom parametric threshold crossed	With respect to Risk Management Component - Fund measures to support risk reduction and risk management measures -e.g., data collection, hazard mapping, risk assessments)
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