The Evolution of Vulnerability: A Methodology to understand Vulnerability in Socio-Ecological Systems

Introduction
- Within India, arid and semi-arid regions constitute more than half of the geographic area.
- Climate sensitive forms of livelihood practiced by people within semi-arid regions makes them especially sensitive to the effects of climate change.
- Vulnerability assessments are useful tools to identify points of intervention to increase resilience to current and future risks from climate change, environment degradation and other stressors.
- Indicator based case study was used as a starting point to identify the main factors that define the vulnerability of a system.

Conclusion and discussion
- There are a multitude of frameworks to study vulnerability few provide legitimate answers to the dilemma of how to address the root causes of vulnerability.
- We propose to frame the region in a socio ecological setting using political ecology framing, introducing the “Law of minimum” to study resource thresholds.
- This framework addresses the close relationship between natural and socio economic process. This is especially pertinent for agricultural systems.
- This framework is a starting point to build on, particularly for resource focused intensive methodologies.
- This framework will be operationalized for the SDG Research component in the Moyar Bhavani region.

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