

NAVARUN VARMA EARTH SCIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE DIVISION, THE ENERGY AND RESOURCES INSTITUTE

Major trends in Bangalore

- Population growth
- Growth in Urban sprawl
- Decrease in water bodies and vegetation
- Increase in Water demand
- Occurrence of Urban flood

- 1. Are there linkages among the trends?
- 2. Can we distinguish between drivers, impacts and responses?
- 3. Are we seeing them? Can such linkages even change?
- 4. How do we understand tradeoffs and respond?

Concepts of systems thinking and dynamics

- Stability and chaos
- No simple cause-effect for any outcome due to non-linearity
- Self organization through feedbacks
- Emergence of behavior

Vulnerability and adaptation in System- An ecological perspective



- Adaptive cycle
- Resilience
- Ecological resilience vs. engineering resilience

Panarchy



- Cross-scale interactions
- Hierarchy vs. Panarchy
- Systems may become rigid, vulnerable to surprise, chaotic
- Need for Balance

Adaptive Management



Systems approach

- Understanding of the unit of analysis as a coupled human-environment system or Social-Ecological system (SES)
- Appraisal of the linkages between society and ecology of a context in order to understand its vulnerable condition to risk(s) outside of it
- Recommendation for management of resilience

Soft systems approach-We look into a system systemically!



Modified from Checkland and Scholes, 1992

Group modeling

• Urbanization and land use

• Storm water and sewerage

 Demand for public services and infrastructure development

Example of conceptual model

