ASSESSING COMMUNITY-BASED FLOOD RISK COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS FOR PERSUASIVE RELOCATION:

A CASE STUDY OF WEIJA-GBAWE MUNICIPALITY

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OUTLINE

"What do decision-makers in policy and communities of practice need to know about Planned Relocation to support communities in making just and timely mobility decisions related to climate change?"

Introduction

Background and Context

The Project and Study Area

Perennial Flooding and Measures

PRIMED Project

Emergent Study

INTRODUCTION

Discuss Planned Relocation from 3 Perspectives
In the Ghanaian Context

Not yet formalized

Policy

Practice

Community
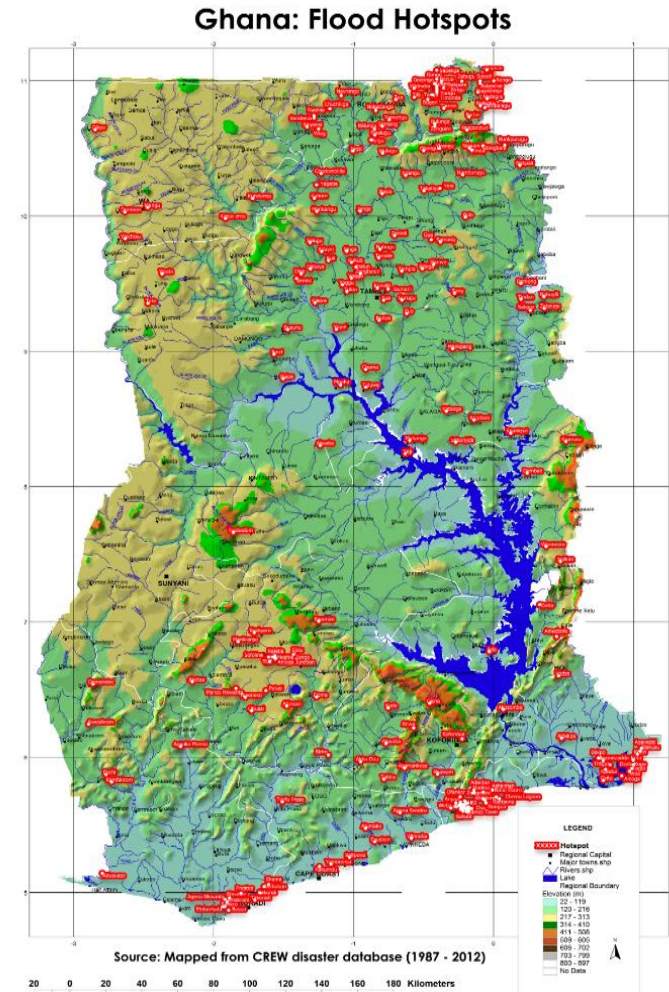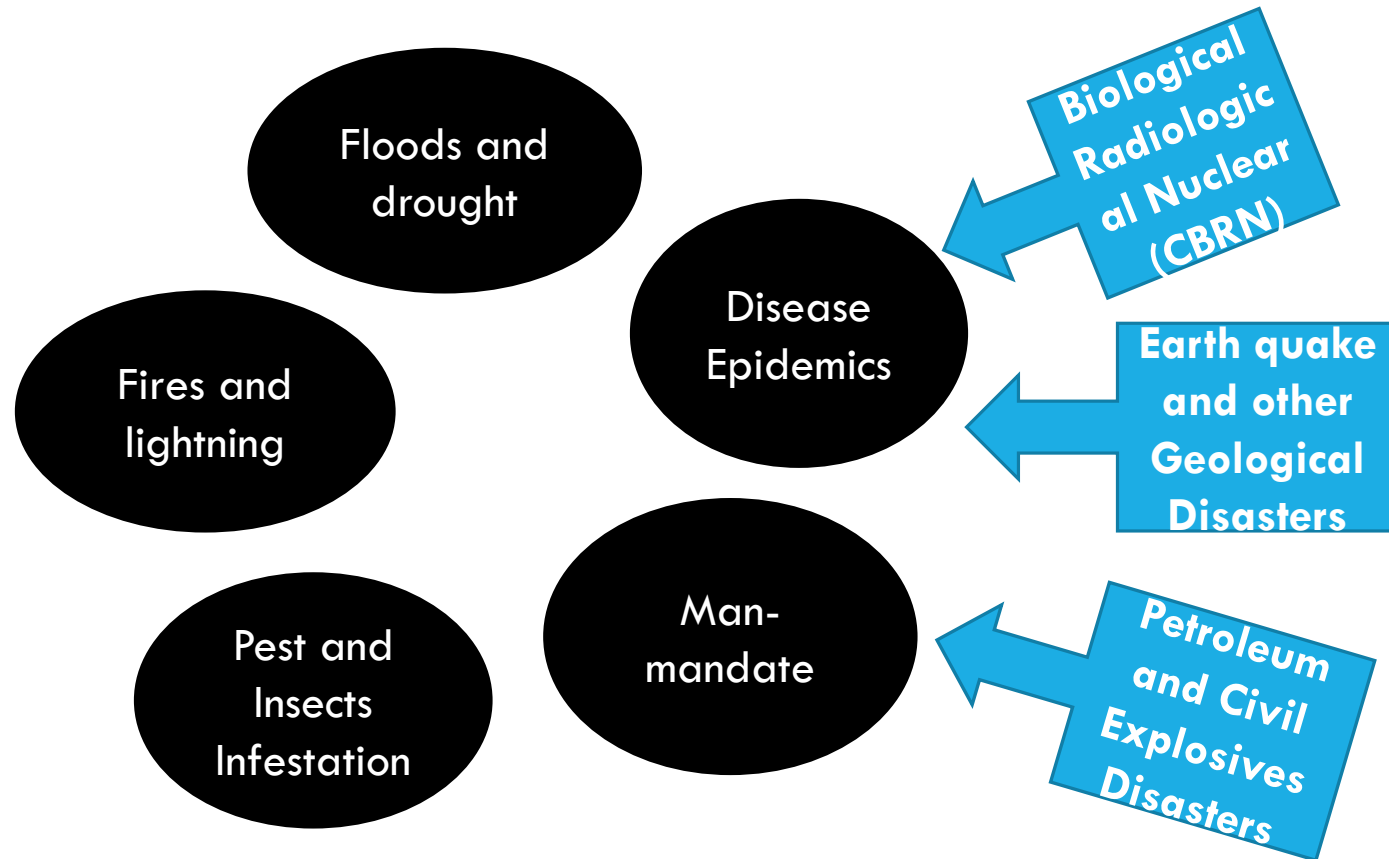
Urban Transformation and DRM reasons
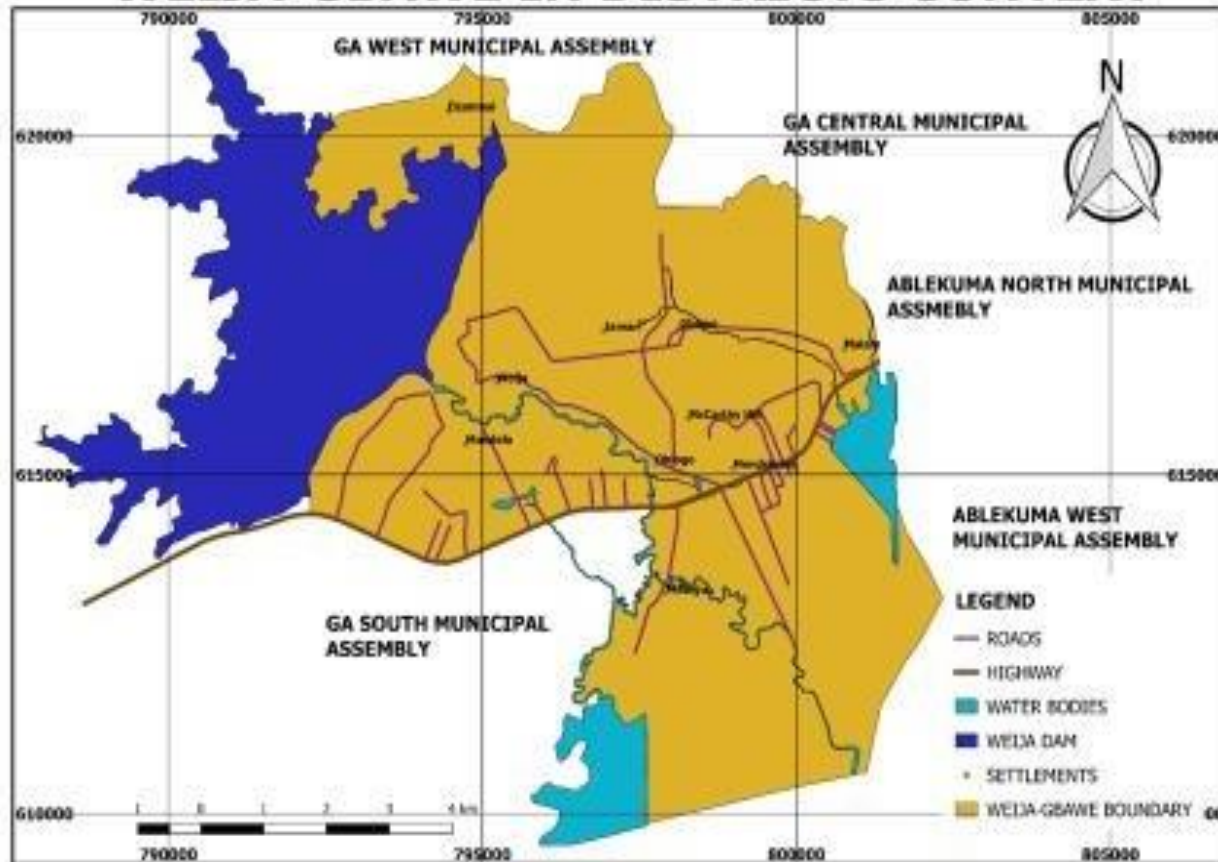
Project and Research

Lessons and Observations

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT: HAZARDS IN GHANA

Floods and drought

Fires and lightning

Pest and Insects Infestation

Disease Epidemics

Man-mandate

Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN)

Earth quake and other Geological Disasters

Petroleum and Civil Explosives Disasters

Ghana: Flood Hotspots

LEGEND
- Hotspot
- Regional Capital
- Major towns.shp
- Rivers.shp
- Lake
- Regional Boundary

Elevation (m)
- 22 - 119
- 123 - 216
- 217 - 313
- 314 - 410
- 411 - 506
- 509 - 605
- 609 - 702
- 703 - 799
- 800 - 897
- No Data

Source: Mapped from CREW disaster database (1987 - 2012)

20 0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 Kilometers

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT CONT.

PROJECT AND STUDY AREA
WEIJA-GBAWE MUNICIPALITY

Occupies a land area of approximately 502.31 sq. km with about 120 settlements.

Population:
213,674 (2021 PHC report)
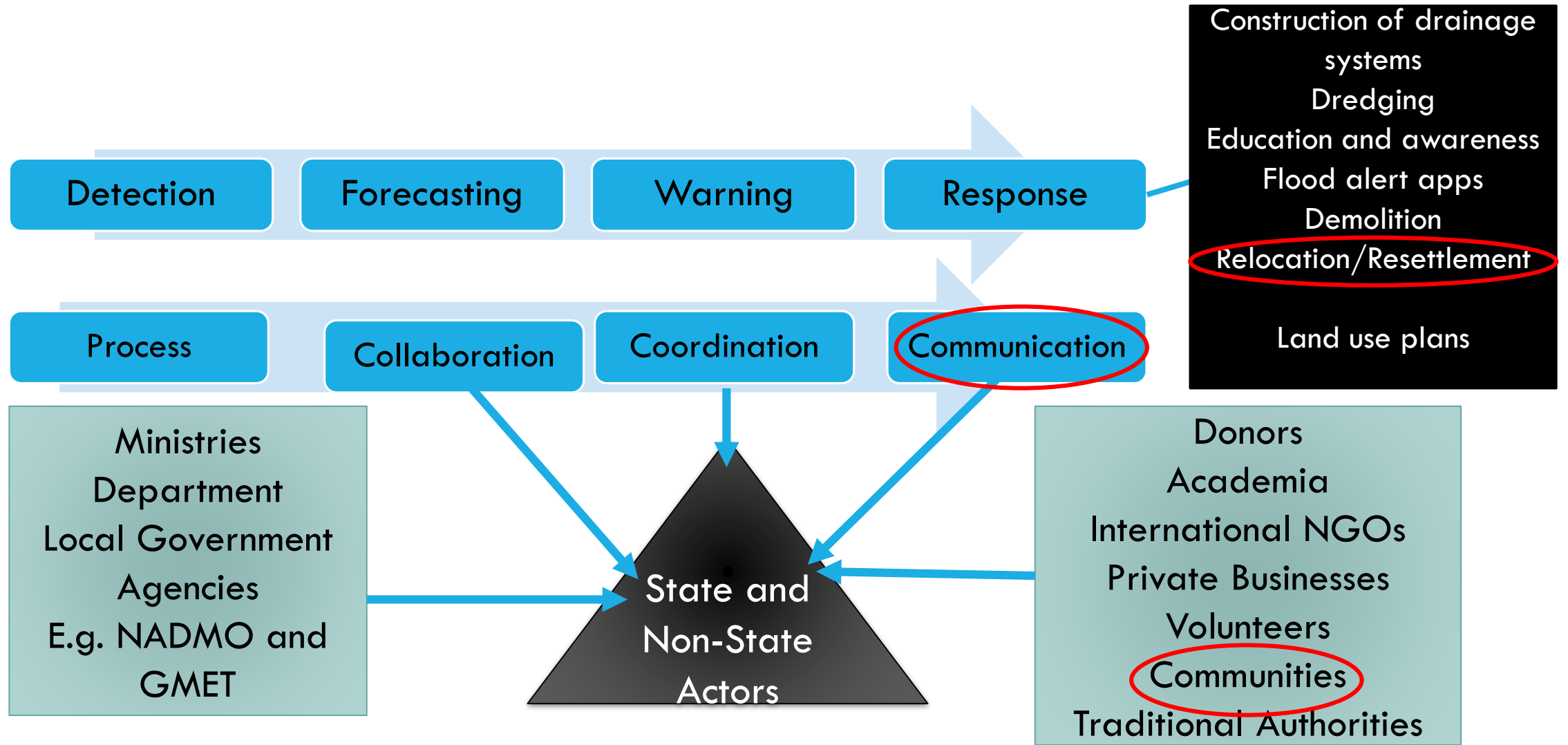104,910 MALES & 108,764 females

PERENNIAL FLOODING

Causes:
Spillage of Dam that supplies 80% of Accra's Water, lowland areas, building on water ways and sea level rise

Impact:
Displacement (E.g. 2000 people in 2023)
Loss of Properties
Loss of Livelihoods

RESPONSE MEASURES

THE PRIMED PROJECT

PRIMED

Partnerships for Resilience through Innovation and Integrated Management of Emergencies and Disasters

Partnership:
IESS/UG
NADMO
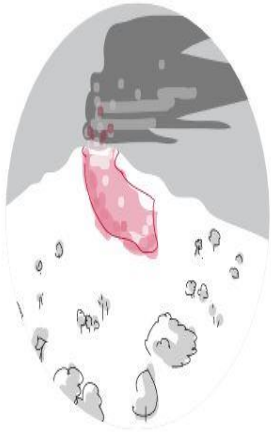Weija-Gbawe Municipality
Community

Strategic approach to strengthen community preparedness and resilience

For disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change

Through harnessing community innovative systems and Participation

THEORETICAL REVIEW

Risk and the context of hazard, exposure and vulnerability

There is no such thing as a **natural disaster**, only **natural hazards**

We make **choices** as to where we inhabit, how we build and what research we do

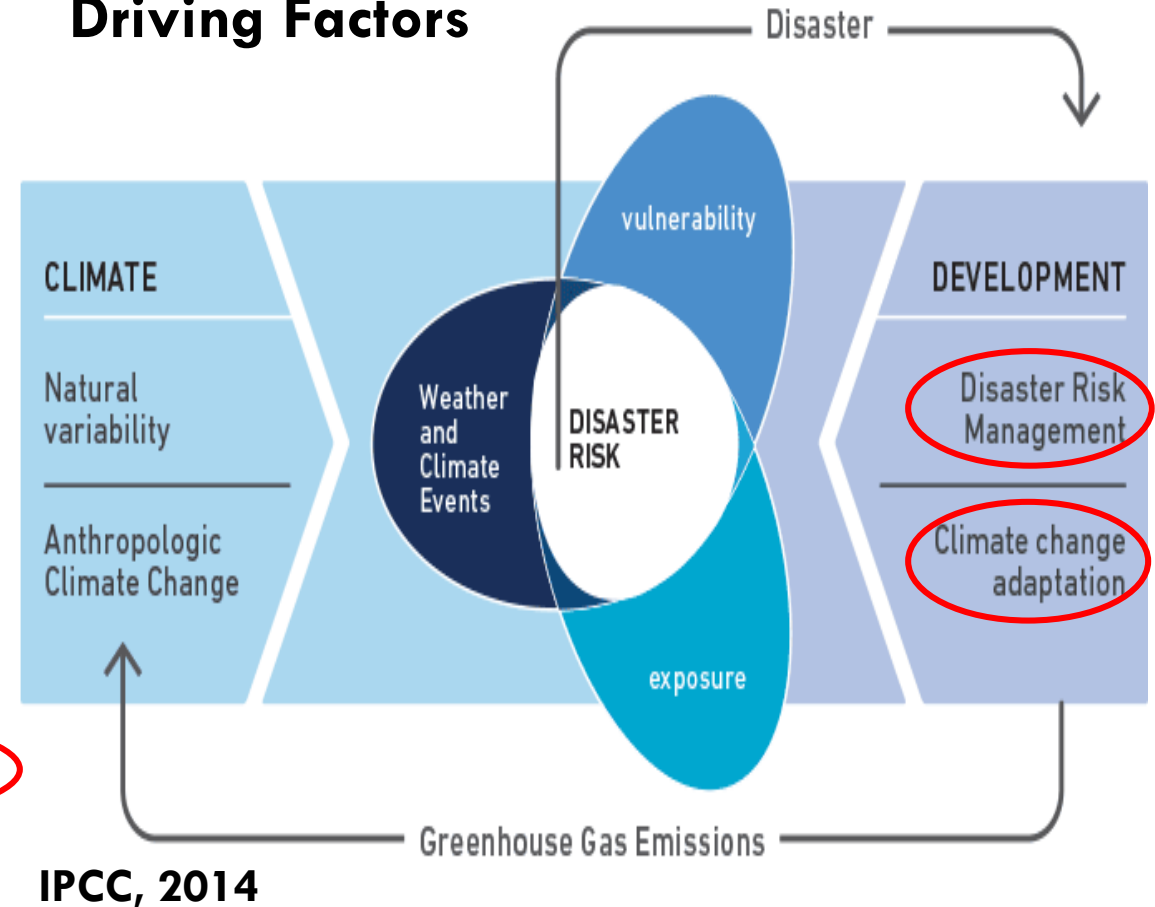Risk is the combination of **hazard**, **exposure** and **vulnerability**

Death, **loss** and **damage** is the function of the context of hazard, exposure and vulnerability

(Source: UNDRR 2019)

$$Risk = \frac{Hazards \times Vulnerability \times Exposure}{Capacity}$$

Driving Factors

Disaster

CLIMATE

Natural variability

Anthropologic Climate Change

Weather and Climate Events

vulnerability

DISASTER RISK

exposure

DEVELOPMENT

Disaster Risk Management

Climate change adaptation

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

IPCC, 2014

Conceptual Framework

Information sender

Information receiver

Needs and Concerns

Disaster Officers
Policy makers
Academia

Communities
Community Based
Organisation
(CBOs)
Volunteers

Needs related disaster information

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Planning Engagements

→ Partnership definition → IESS/UG NADMO HQ Weija-Gbawe LG

→ Formation of Project Team → Researchers Heads of Depts. Training and Technical Experts

Policy level engagements for executive buy-in

→ MDCE DG, NADMO Vice Chancellor → Researchers Heads of Depts. Training and Technical Experts

Stakeholder mapping and engagements

→ Chiefs, Landlords Association, media, NGOs, Volunteers, Opinion leaders, 'champions', private business, citizens

Methods → Focus Group Discussion

Semi-structured Interviews

Snowball Sampling

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS CONT.

Sensitization/Desk Review

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Situational Analysis

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Presentation and Validation of Findings

↓

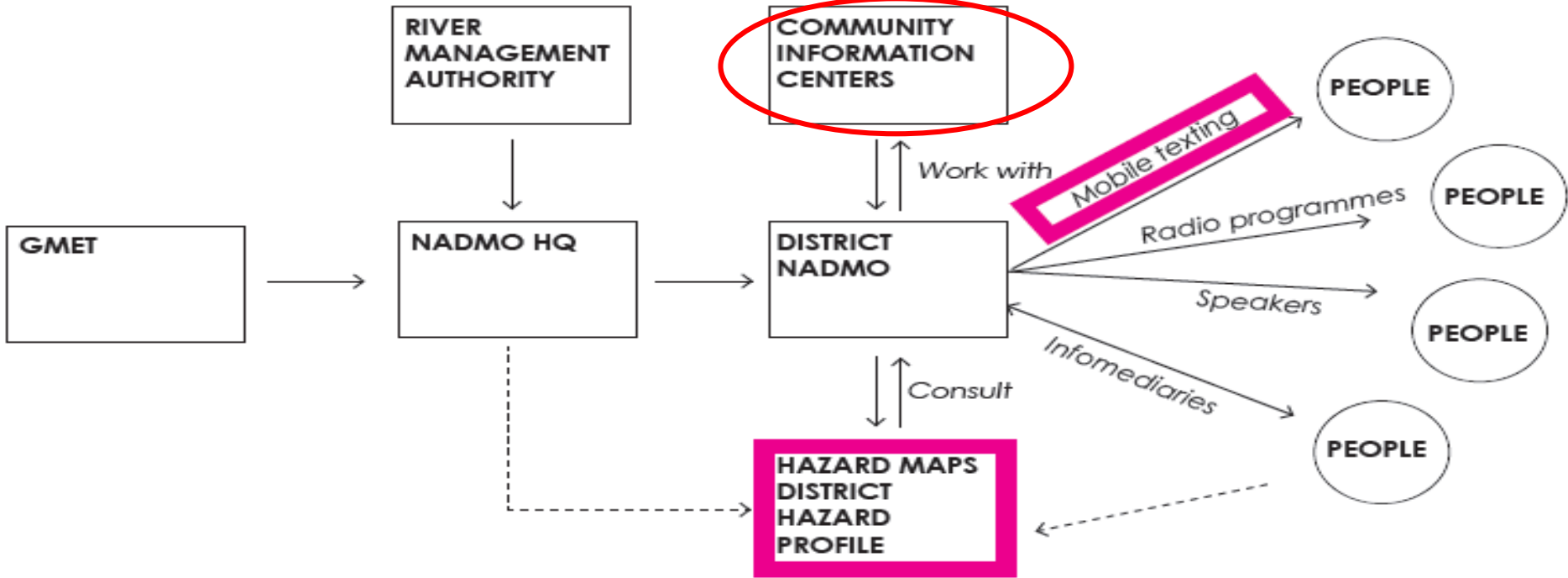Engagement on adaptation options

Improvement and Installation of C'ty Information Centers (CICs)

Signing of MoU CICs Operationalization Exist Plan

COMMUNICATION AS AN ADAPTATION TOOL

Synthesizing the Community-Based Communication Systems in Weija-Gbawe for Persuasive relocation

OPERATIONALIZING CICS WITH KEY MESSAGES

Understanding community vulnerability and risk levels thru' education

Risk = <u>Hazards x Vulnerability x Exposure</u> Capacity

Knowing the consequences of community actions

Integrating community cultural systems into flood risk messaging led by chiefs and opinion leaders

KEY LESSONS AND OBSERVATIONS

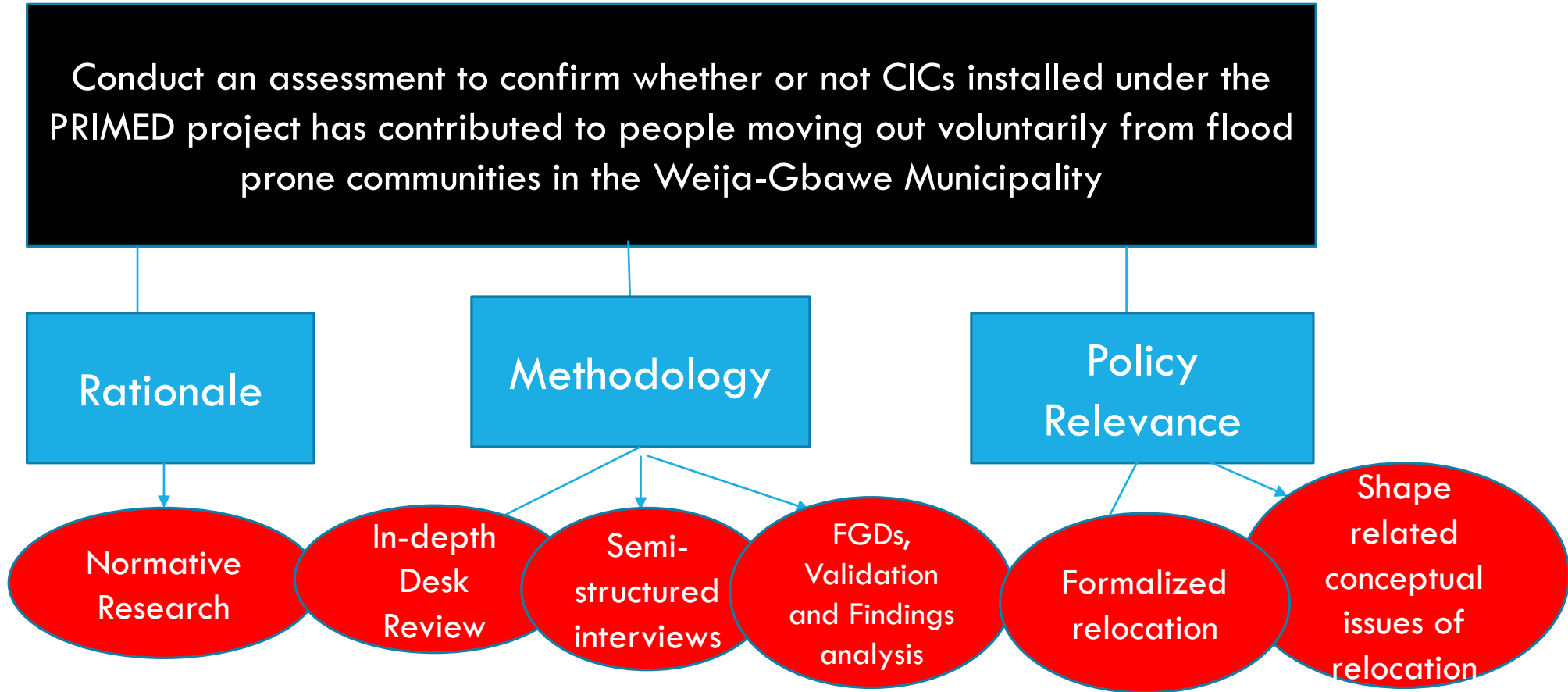Evacuation taking place in Weija early 2023

People moving out voluntarily

Traditional norms incorporated into communication

Communication platform for participation

Improved early warning communication

NEXT STEPS

Conduct an assessment to confirm whether or not CICs installed under the PRIMED project has contributed to people moving out voluntarily from flood prone communities in the Weija-Gbawe Municipality

Rationale

Methodology

Policy Relevance

Normative Research

In-depth Desk Review

Semi-structured interviews

FGDs, Validation and Findings analysis

Formalized relocation

Shape related conceptual issues of relocation

CONCLUSION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION