



Women and Gender: Lessons Learned from SANREM

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Climate change

Increased mean temperature.

Melting and lack renovation of glaciers

Increase in survival of bacteria and pests

Increased extreme weather events

(drought, flood, freezes, hail)

Other changes

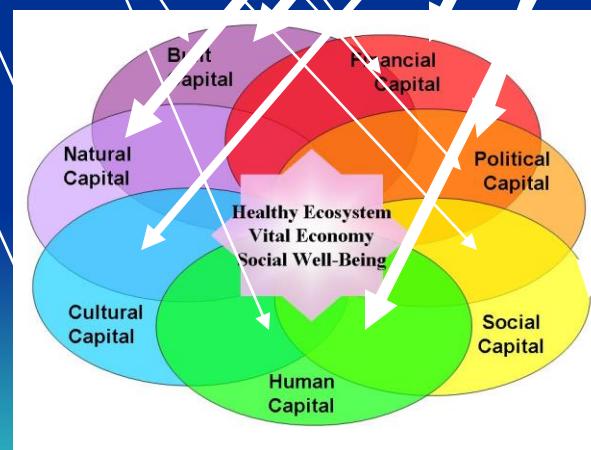
Globalization

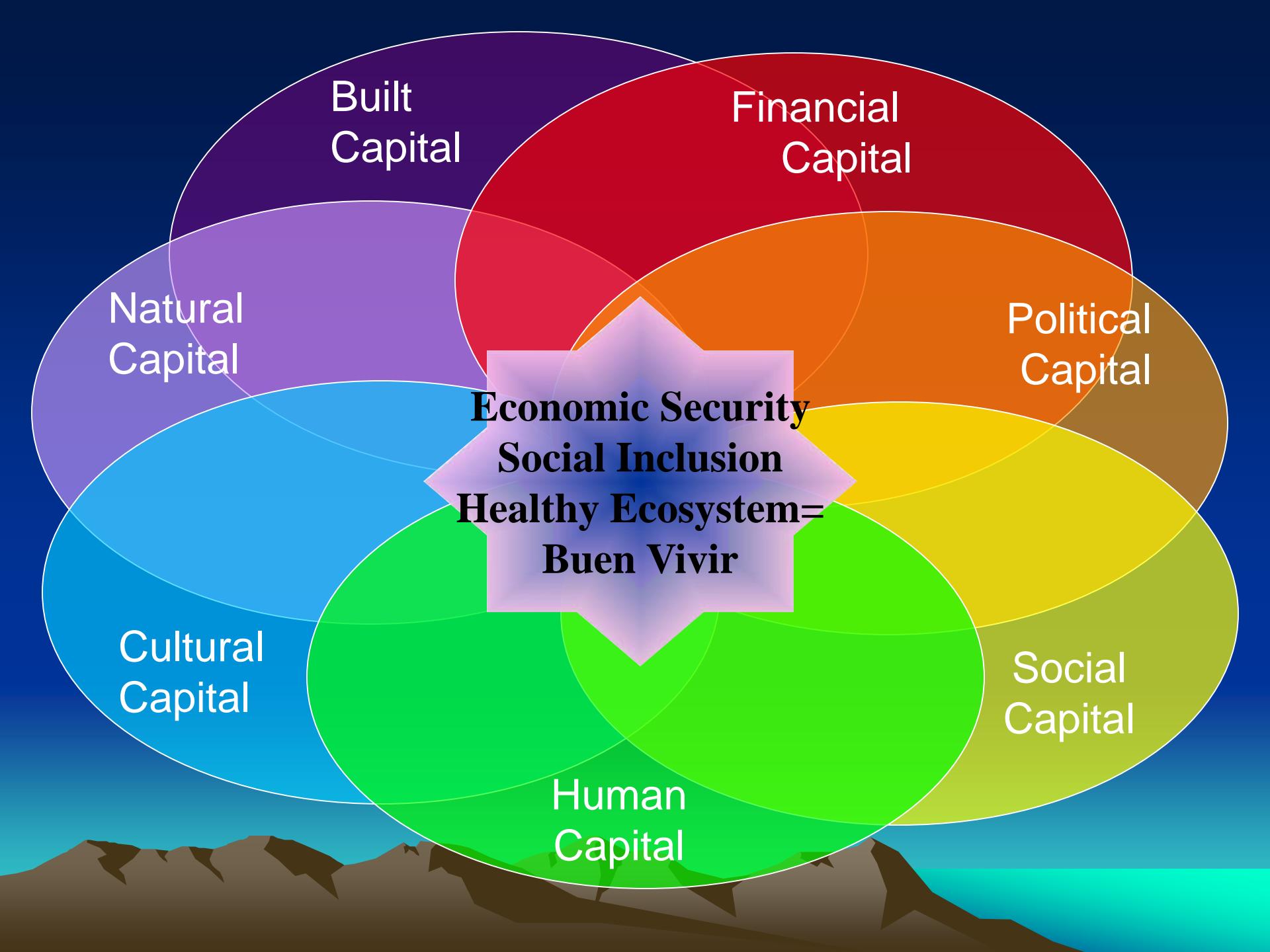
Changes in land use – land grabs

Changes in distribution of wealth and income

Changes in political regime

These all
are gendered





NATURAL CAPITAL



Women in vulnerable communities adapt to variable weather

- Save seed from diverse sources
- Plant differently according to the weather
(mix different varieties of a same crop in the same plot)
- Have complex and diverse agricultural systems
- Access variety of wild foods.
- Closely observe changes in flora and fauna and adapt their livelihood strategies to them.



CULTURAL CAPITAL

- Women closely observe changes in flora and fauna and adapt their livelihood strategies to them. Women are in charge of animal care, seed saving, and marketing in Andes and other settings.



HUMAN CAPITAL

- Young women have the same level of formal education as men, while older women are likely to be monolingual in an indigenous language and illiterate.
- As males migrate elsewhere as part of the family's strategies to adapt to climate change, women take over many productive activities that were traditionally performed by males.
- Advocacy Coalitions research teams encourage younger women in particular to take leadership roles.





SOCIAL CAPITAL

- Social capital has two dimensions: bridging and bonding. In rural settings, women's social capital tends to be bonding. There are barriers to women forming bridging social capital.
- Women form associations
- Women can create bonding social capital with technical assistance providers
- Advocacy Coalitions strengthen women's bridging social capital

POLITICAL CAPITAL



- Women's norms & values are not formalized into regulation. Women have little ability to influence the distribution of family, community or regional resources.
- Rural women's organizations are often not officially recognized. Women generally participate very little in organizations managing natural resources & are not comfortable around powerful people control them. Their strategic interests are not part of the natural resource management agenda.
- Advocacy Coalitions, because they are participatory, are a point of departure for removing many of these deficits.

FINANCIAL CAPITAL

- Women are often the traders and “dominate in economic activity”. Their value chains are different than those of men.
- Women process fiber , grains, and root crops
- A grassroots focus on climate change can highlight and further integrate marketing into family and community livelihoods strategies.



BUILT CAPITAL

- Poor rural women have little access to infrastructure which could decrease their domestic work or increase their productive efficiency. Inappropriate technology has negative impacts on natural and human capital.
- Women have increased the use of cell phones (their use has grown strongly in recent years) to access information, mostly about prices, volumes and possible markets.
- Collaborative approaches such as Advocacy Coalitions can begin to change these patterns.



Conclusions

- Traditional communities, especially women, are very vulnerable to climate change
- Women's cultural capital, combined with bridging and bonding social capital, result in adaptation in areas where there has not been a strong presence of global resource extraction. It is more difficult when there is petroleum and other mineral extraction and industrial agriculture, which greatly marginalize women.



Conclusions (continued)

- While it is easy to fault vulnerable communities for not adapting to climate change, government and donor programs combined with market incentives that encourage risky livelihood strategies provide perverse incentives to vulnerable communities not to adapt, but to cope, further disadvantage women.
- Enhancing and building upon women's capitals are key to adaptation and mitigation

