

Discussion of  
**Resilience to Natural  
Disasters in Sub-Saharan  
Africa**

Discussion for IMF-IIEP Forum

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# Resilience to Natural Disasters in Sub-Saharan Africa

- Uneven impact on macro economy in the short run
- Clear negative effect in the long-run
- Climate change increases vulnerabilities
- Need for cost effective adaptation methods
- International community can support

# Main Natural Disasters

- Droughts
- Floods
- Storms
- Some countries are affected by multiple disasters

# Structural Factors Affecting the Impact of Natural Disasters

- Weak adaptation capacity
- High dependence on rain-fed agriculture
- High Level of Absolute Poverty
- Limited financial sector development

# Question short-Term assessment

- GDP as a function of Drought, Epidemic, Flood and storm
  - I expect the inclusion of regional, country or agro-ecological settings
  - IPCC reports distribution of rainfall and flood different across places in SSA
  - Countries across SSA may not have the same adaptive capacity (need for indicator of adaptive capacity )
  - How can we understand country, regional or agro-ecological level vulnerability for the regression ?
  - Inclusion of other social variables (Failed state index)

# Question short-Term assessment

- EM-DAT reports frequency and intensity, which one did you take ? Do you have scale for the intensity and intensity, time span
- Which one did you pick for regression ?  
Number of people killed ? displaced
- How can these data compare across countries

# Long-Term Assessment

- The distinction in defining short-term and long-term data use is not clear
- Clarify use of data in both tables 3.1 and 3.2
- Inclusion of adaptive capacity, agro-ecology etc can change parameter estimates

# Question Table 3.3

- Temperature and rainfall affect GDP, there is also interaction effect and should have been included
- Generally models are so aggregated: better to see country specific effects
- At least aggregation across agro-ecology may give more picture



# General question

- What lessons do we learn from the regression results ?
- Policy options listed and recommendations reached appear familiar
- What are some of the autonomous and planned adaptation strategies in SSA countries ?
- What is your answer for those who deny climate change ?

*Thank you*