Inverting the construction of climate information for local-to-regional climate risk

2023 Climate, Environment & Economic Growth Conference
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There is a significant gap between the production and use of climate information that results in part from focusing on better data/models rather than better decision-making.
Challenges

“Top-down approach is inevitably driven by the climate scientists themselves and, as such, violates the core principles of co-production.”
Challenges

Traditional ways of producing aggregated climate information can leave climate scientists empty-handed for many regions of the world.

Yet there can be a wealth of local climate knowledge (e.g., Chapter 10 of IPCC AR6)
Challenges

“Climate change science tends to frame the scientific questions as singular, definitive ones by interpreting statistical significance in a dichotomous true/false manner and avoiding the articulation of multiple plausible hypotheses, which would allow a plural, conditional framing of uncertainty.”
Challenges

“Given the observed trends, and the climate models’ inability to adequately represent climate variability in so many regions of the Global South, can we afford to wait until we have more confident attribution statements to provide decision-makers with the information necessary to plan and adapt?”
Solutions

Inverting the construction of climate information

World Climate Research Program
Lighthouse Activity My Climate Risk
Climate change science has to break with the traditional research/assessment/policy paradigm and bring into existence a community of users and invert the construction of climate information for local-to-regional climate risk, building a bottom-up approach.
Solutions

Small is beautiful: climate-change science as if people mattered  
Regina R Rodrigues, Theodore G Shepherd

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“Each conditional statement can be singular, definitive, but together the representation of knowledge is plural, conditional.”
A mycorrhizal network sharing resources rather than competing for them.
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