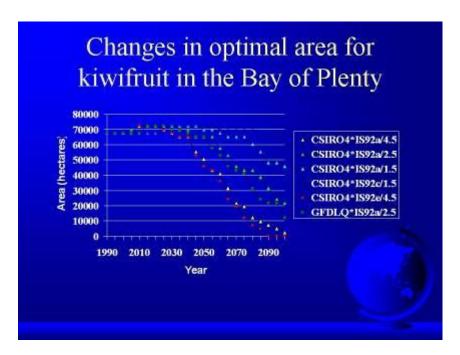
Is climate uncertainty an impediment to adaptation?

Are we talking about climate change model uncertainty or real climate uncertainty?



Do nothing



I'm dealing with climate uncertainty all the time

Peter Ombler, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand

What does current variability and vulnerability to climate change mean?





Because of the warming we don't see snows in the mountain ... if these mountains have no snow cover then the very essence of these mountains will be lost. We will be heartbroken if such things happen.

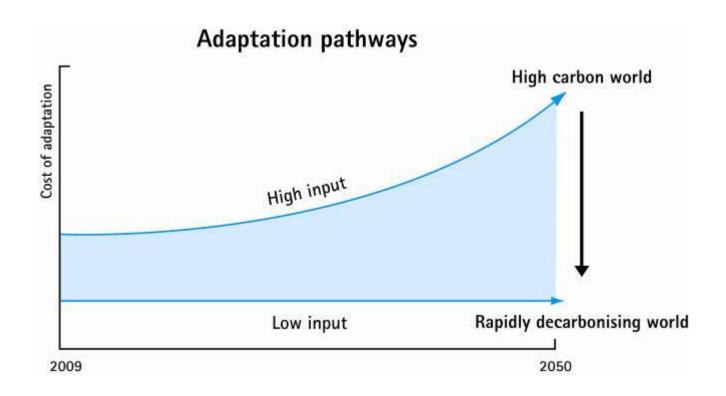
Tashi Dhindu Lama, Chame, Manang, Nepal

Aelan blong yumi, laef blong yumi

"Our islands, our lives"

Matching long-term vision with short-term priorities

What path are we on?



Matching long-term vision with short-term priorities

Adaptation or maladaptation?



Expansion of dairy farming into drier regions in New Zealand

Increased irrigation demand

Increased dependence on imported palm kernel



Expansion of irrigated agriculture in Egypt

Artesian wells are drying up
Increased pumping of deeper water

Matching long-term vision with short-term priorities

Crisis response or change management?



Agri-Nature Learning Centre, Maab Uaeng, Thailand

Do we understand enough about human behaviour in relation to uncertainty?





I think is better to show them than the talking ... you do it, show them, then they will follow it. Just the talking I think people doesn't trust now.

Michun Gurung, Manang, Nepal

The elders teach that growing one hundred trees is not as important as making one person change their mind. Miss Dao-Jai Siri, Huay Hin Lard Nai

Village, Chiang Rai, Thailand

Uncertainty is certainty

Thai Buddhist saying



At what point does the question of uncertainty become meaningless?

Key issues/priorities

- Scientific uncertainty is not an excuse for paralysis
 - but we need to know the path we are following
- Dealing with scientific uncertainty is vastly different from dealing with human psychology in relation to uncertainty and change
 - we need to focus a lot more on psychological/behavioural change
- A resilience approach
 - we need to be sure that we clearly understand what resilience means
- Work more closely with people on the ground who are already acting proactively

Key questions

- Are we talking about climate change model uncertainty or real climate uncertainty?
- Do we know what path we are on?
 - Adaptation or maladaptation?
 - Crisis response or change management?
- Do we understand enough about human behaviour in relation to uncertainty?
- At what point does the question of uncertainty become meaningless?