



**PRISE**

Pathways to resilience  
in semi-arid economies

## Building climate resilience through rural out-migration – the case of semi-arid Pakistan

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Research for climate-resilient futures



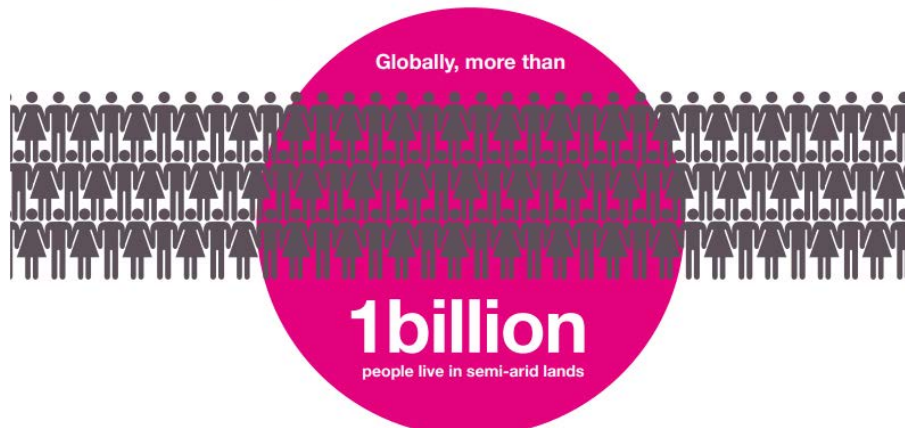
# Pathways to Resilience in Semi-Arid Economies (PRISE)

PRISE is a five-year, multi-country research project that generates new knowledge about how economic development in semi-arid regions can be made more equitable and resilient to climate change.

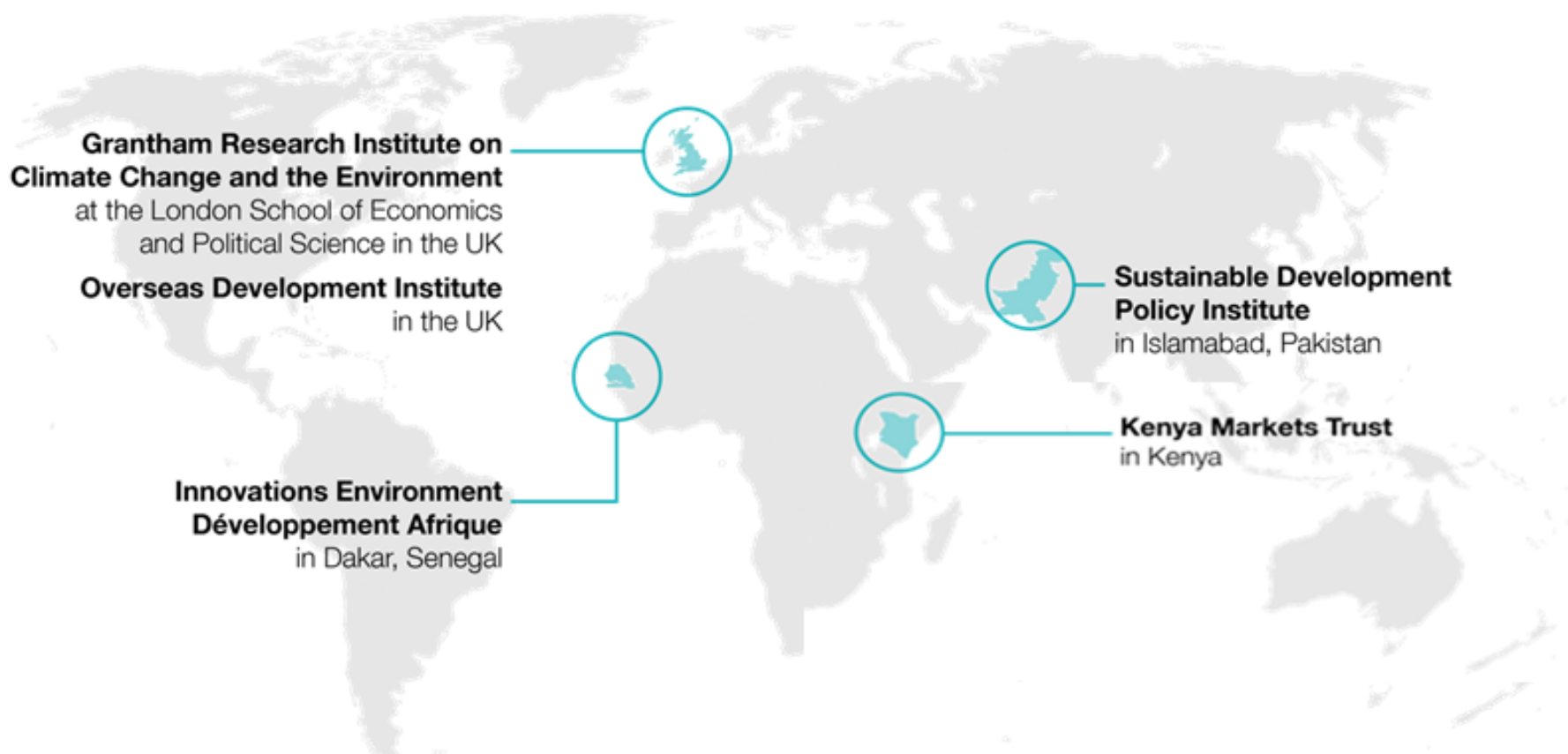
## Semi-arid regions are characterized by:

- High levels of poverty
- High level of dependence on agriculture
- Increasing climate change impacts

## Semi-arid regions



# PRISE is located in...



Migration  
Futures in Asia  
and Africa:  
Climate Change  
and Climate  
Resilient  
Economic  
Development



## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What role can migration play in introducing **new economic opportunities** (taking into account distributional effects especially for poor and women) for improving resilience in semi-arid lands in Pakistan?
2. What policy shifts/changes and institutional capacities are needed in semi-arid regions context to support **migration as an adaptation strategy** while reducing the social costs of migration?

# Methodology

## Livelihood Resilience Index

### Adaptive Capacity:

- Assets, Access, income and food security
- Strengthening and adapting livelihoods

### Anticipatory Capacity:

- Preparedness and planning
- Capacity, information and mobilization

### Absorptive Capacity:

- Saving and safety nets
- Substitutable and diverse assets and resources

(Bahadur et al., 2014)

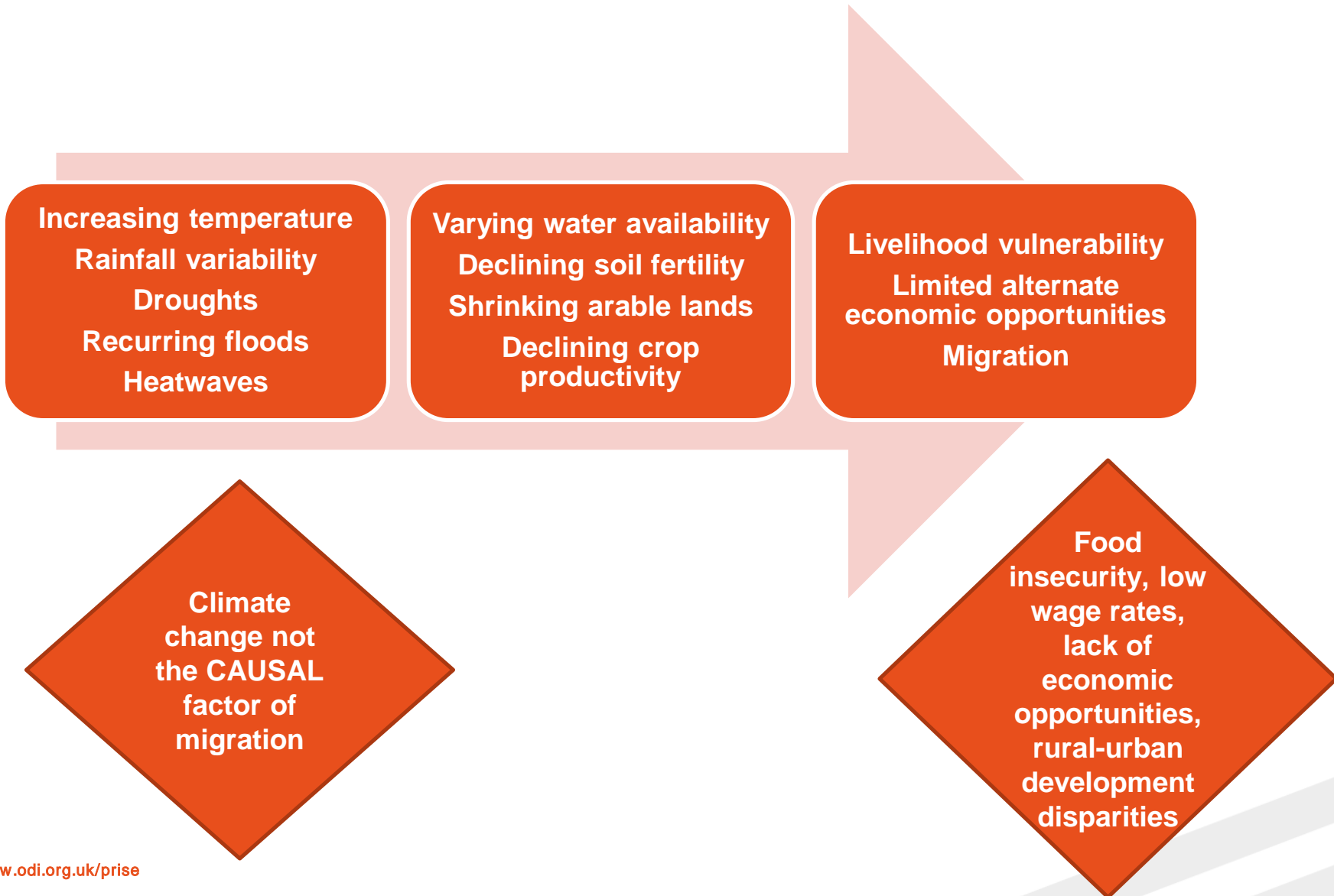
### Livelihood Resilience:

Defined as 'the **capacity** of all people across generations to sustain and improve their **livelihood opportunities and well-being** despite environmental, economic, social and political disturbances' (Tanner et al, 2014)

### Case Studies:

1. What **induces** people to migrate?
2. What are the migrant's **destinations**?
3. The impact of migration on **left-behind families**
4. The role of **remittances** ?
5. The role of social **networks**?
6. Why **non-movers** do **not** migrate?

# Climate change and migration?



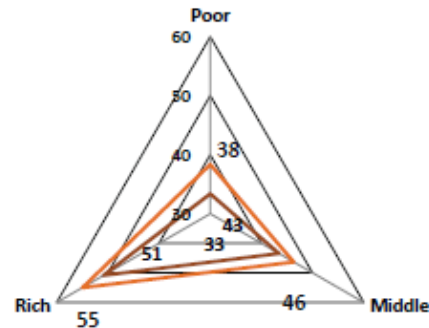


# Does migration help to build rural livelihood resilience?

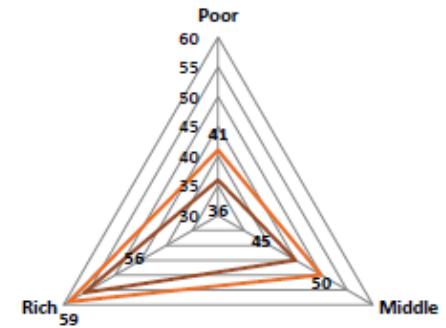
**Livelihood resilience** among migrant households is **better** than non-migrant households

- Means of **diversification** of livelihood opportunities
- **Remittances** improve household income and resource base i.e. economic status
- Migrants boost resilience through **innovations** in environmental initiatives and **diversification of the coping strategies**.
- Migrants establish new **social capital and networks** and connections

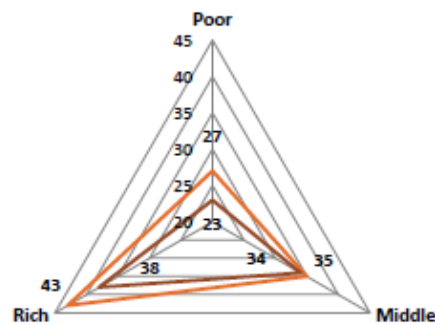
(a) Livelihood Resilience



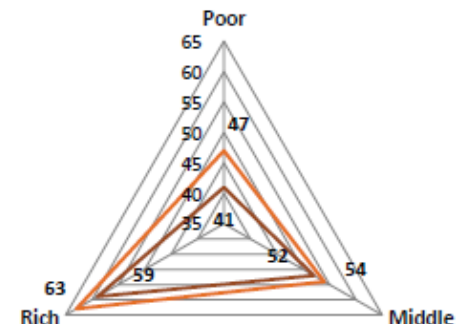
(b) Adaptive capacity



(c) Absorptive capacity



(d) Anticipatory capacity



— Migrant  
— Non-Migrant

Livelihood Resilience/ Determinants	Migrant's Score	Non-Migrant's Score
<b>Adaptive Capacity</b>		
Assets, Access, Income and Food security	0.526	0.462
Strengthening and Adapting livelihoods	0.467	0.401
<b>Anticipatory Capacity</b>		
Preparedness and planning	0.526	0.452
Capacity, Information, and mobilization	0.589	0.536
<b>Absorptive Capacity</b>		
Saving and safety nets	0.504	0.470
Substitutable and diverse assets and resources	0.211	0.146
<b>Resilience Index Score (Sum of Adaptive, Anticipatory and Absorptive capacities)</b>	<b>2.822</b>	<b>2.467</b>



# Who migrates and who doesn't?

Migration as a livelihood strategy is highly **gendered**:  
93% male vs. 7% female migrants

Young men (aged **14-35**)



## Why are some people not migrating?

- **Affordability**: migration comes with costs
- Lack of **social capital** in other areas
- **Do not want to be separated** from family and land

# WAY FORWARD

As the role of migration is emerging as a '*positive force*' or '*key intervening apparatus*' to reduce poverty and increase resilience So this study suggests:

- **Better management** of migration, instead of 'controlling' it.
- **Mainstream** migration and migrants in development goals, planning and allocation of funds e.g. Vision 2025, National Climate Change Policy, National Adaptation Plan etc.
- **District Development Plans** – alternate economic opportunities in villages

*Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies (SDG 10.7)*