

Can the LLA be a Vehicle for Transformative Adaptation? (Draft)

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Outline of my Talk

! LLA – the Context

! LLA & Transformative Adaptation (TrAd) $\rightarrow$ ET-C

LLA- the Context

- ! In dev engineering, organizing themes/principles keep changing; the latest accretions in climate change are Resilience, TrAd, LLA, decentralized climate fin, etc.
- ! Adaptation (Ad) was an afterthought in the UNFCCC, it gradually moved upward for some reasons we know
- ! Over the last decade Ad deficit continues to widen due to lack of leadership, capacity, finance & tech
- ! Centralized, top-down initiatives were not delivering
- ! Rich evidence established the efficacy of LLA & CBA, but locally-led actions yet are far from the mode
- ! So the GCA came up with
the tracks of LLA & NbS
- ! One theme of CAS 2021 was the LLA

My Argument

- ! Ad is inherently local or regional as CC impacts differ spatially & socially – across regions & socio-econ groups
- ! So Ad actions must remain bottom-up, with National govts providing a facilitative policy-instit framework
- ! But what is the reality? Can the mainstream model - unreformed - realize the LLA potential? A business unusual approach is needed
- ! What actually should we mean by LLA & TrAd?
- ! Under what conditions LLA can realize its potential?
- ! Argue for a need to reconnect local/space with power
 - a revaluation of space, with focus given both to
 - situating human artifacts in the natural world,
 - & , situating human relations within the hierarchies of political-administrative power
- ! Along this line, a 7-element Framework of LLA is proposed

What should we mean by LLA?

- ! LLA is regarded as a shift in Ad paradigm – meaning a shift in fundamental approaches & assumptions in existing practices
- ! Literature shows still overwhelming practices in Ad are driven not by local actors who experience first hand the CGLs, but by those living far away from those locale/space/places
- ! If we really mean a paradigm shift, we must ask upfront - Who, What, How & When, etc. & all this is related to power structure
- ! In LLA, the first 'L' should define what is local, what is its relationship with space or place; the 2

The Legacy is: Focus on Temporal over Spatial



Getting back Local as shaping the Global

- ! Locale/places change at a rapid pace due to modernization & globalization
- ! As a result, some scholars refer to the 'erasure of place' (Escobar 2001), 'non-places' (Relph 1976), or 'placelessness' (Auge 1995)
- ! Society, people's identity & places have become fluid (Bauman 2012)
- ! But Horlings et al (2020) while elaborating the EU SUSPLACE Program argue & I fully agree that place is more relevant than ever – it's not just a blank canvas, nor just a geographical entity, with varied resources, but embodies culture, values, ethos & relations
- ! We can look at a locale/place just as an administrative unit, but relationally oriented scholars point to actors/relations/processes, networks, i.e. connectivity that stretch beyond admin boundaries (Ingold 2008; Woods 2015; Massey 2005; Pierce et al. 2010)
- ! So



- ! Ref to Tr is in the SDGs preamble (“transformative steps [...] to a sustainable and resilient path”)(UN, 2018), in the GCF mandate (“paradigm shift towards [...] climate-resilient development pathways”)(UNFCCC, 2012), and in the Paris Agreement Article 7 (“greater adaptation needs can involve greater adaptation costs”).
- ! There is a growing academic Lit, but I define TrAd `as the end result of enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity on a sustainable basis against spatial & socio-econ vulnerabilities from current & future CCIs

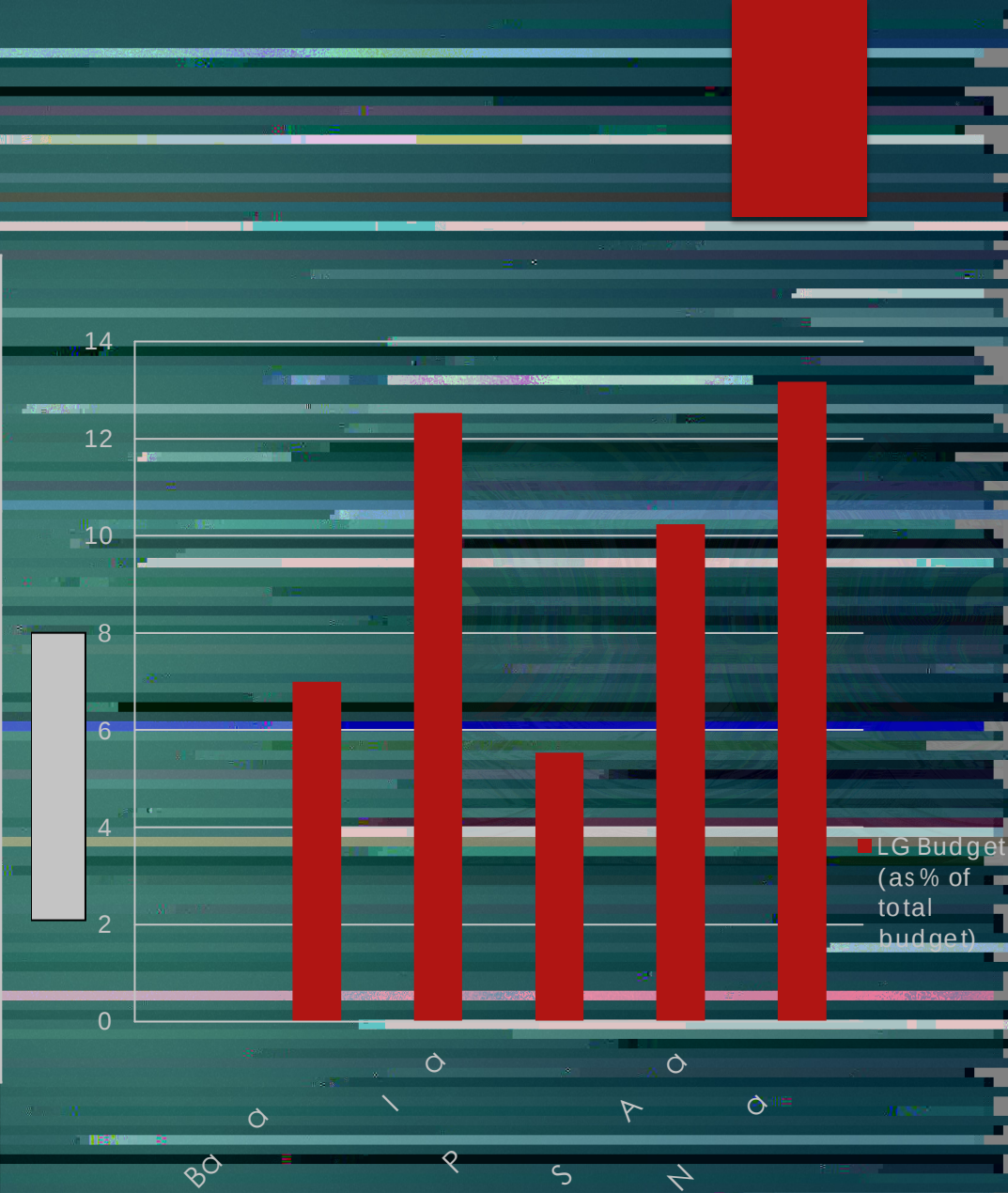
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Mismatch bet Global Calls & Reality in Funding?

- ! GCA's flagship report, "**Adapt Now**" calls for increasing decentralised funding to LGs, CBOs .. to identify/prioritize, implement & monitor CC Ad
- ! LDCs target under **Vision 2050** - 70% of CF down to local level
- ! This is now more important as local communities on the frontlines face quadruple distresses - COVID-19, env & climate crises & poverty
- ! But under the Grand Bargain 2016 on humanit assist, direct funding flows to local level remain small – 4.7% in 2020 against a target of 25% (ODI)
- ! <10% from global CF from 225 (C 0 79.16666 0 2/TT5d1TQ(0.14jEO Q, 24.350T r2

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			5.53%



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