

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL FEEDBACKS SESSION (and a plug for PIA...)

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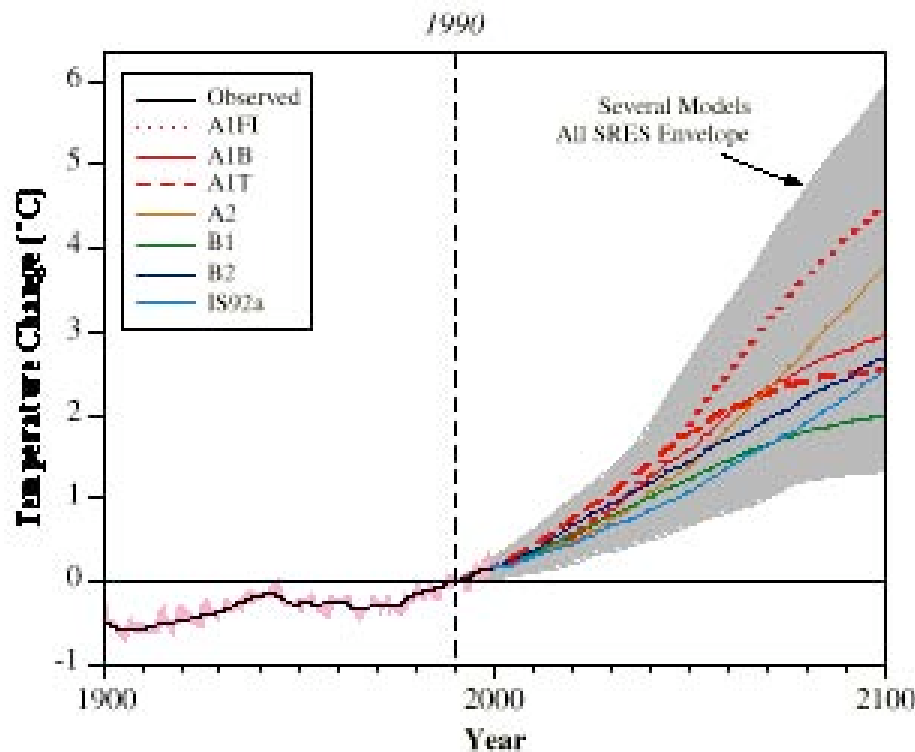


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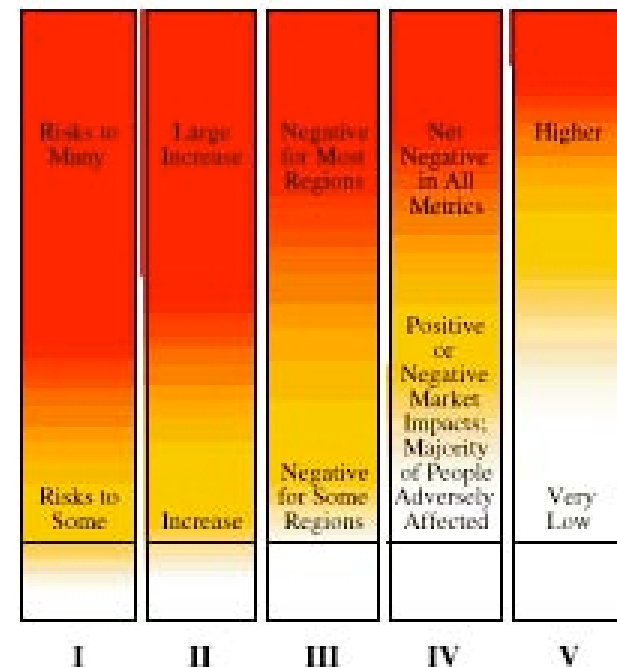


Reasons for concern about projected climate change impacts

(IPCC, (2001)WGII Summary for Policymakers)



Reasons for Concern



- I Risks to Unique and Threatened Systems
- II Risks from Extreme Climate Events
- III Distribution of Impacts
- IV Aggregate Impacts
- V Risks from Future Large-Scale Discontinuities

Impacts of climatic change on future scenarios for Aklavik (Aharonian, 1994; in MBIS Interim Report #2)

Impact	Continued reliance on subsistence activities	Greater reliance on wage economy & economic development
Greater flooding	-	-
Muddy road conditions	0	-
Insulation of buildings	+	+
Easier water delivery	0	+
Less time waiting out cold conditions	+	+
Outdoor meat storage	-	-
Uncomfortably hot in summer	-	-
Increased summer insects	-	-
Shorter winter road season	0	0
Longer water shipping season	0	+
Mode of transport	0	0
Infrastructure of camps	-	0
Location of camps	-	0
Changes in wildlife habitat	-	0
Increased sediment loading	-	-
Thinner ice	-	-
Greater snowfall	0	-
Variability in timing & consistency of break-up & freeze-up	-	-
Longer ice free season	0	+
Shoreline erosion & lowland flooding	-	-
Greater variability in decisions/perceptions	-	0

How to be more integrative...?

- Create opportunities for ‘shared learning’
 - Recognize and support stakeholders’ regional and global roles
 - Stakeholders must be able to see themselves in the research
 - Contribute to framing the research agenda
- Participatory Integrative Assessment (PIA)
 - This is a research model, not just project administration

Panel on Social Feedbacks Research within Interdisciplinary Studies in the Arctic

- How to address linkages between climate change and future development of Arctic communities and regions?
- How to integrate various forms of knowledge together...?
- How to cross the scales between global forces and local context?