21st Century

Vs

Reporting globalisation

DownToEarth

Death of distance

- With every cabinet meeting, the geography shrunk a bit, but faster
- Headlines got wild: 1992-1997, 60% headlines on ‘globalisation’
- The dilemma was prominent: to cover Miss World or starvation in Kalahandi
- 1997: India’s second partition
- And, the story got a twist

Local stories, global plots

- More stories have local datelines; but investments drove the stories
- Length of story in proportion to size of investment
- The patronage just changed: incentives to corporate Vs subsidies
- New geography of media emerged

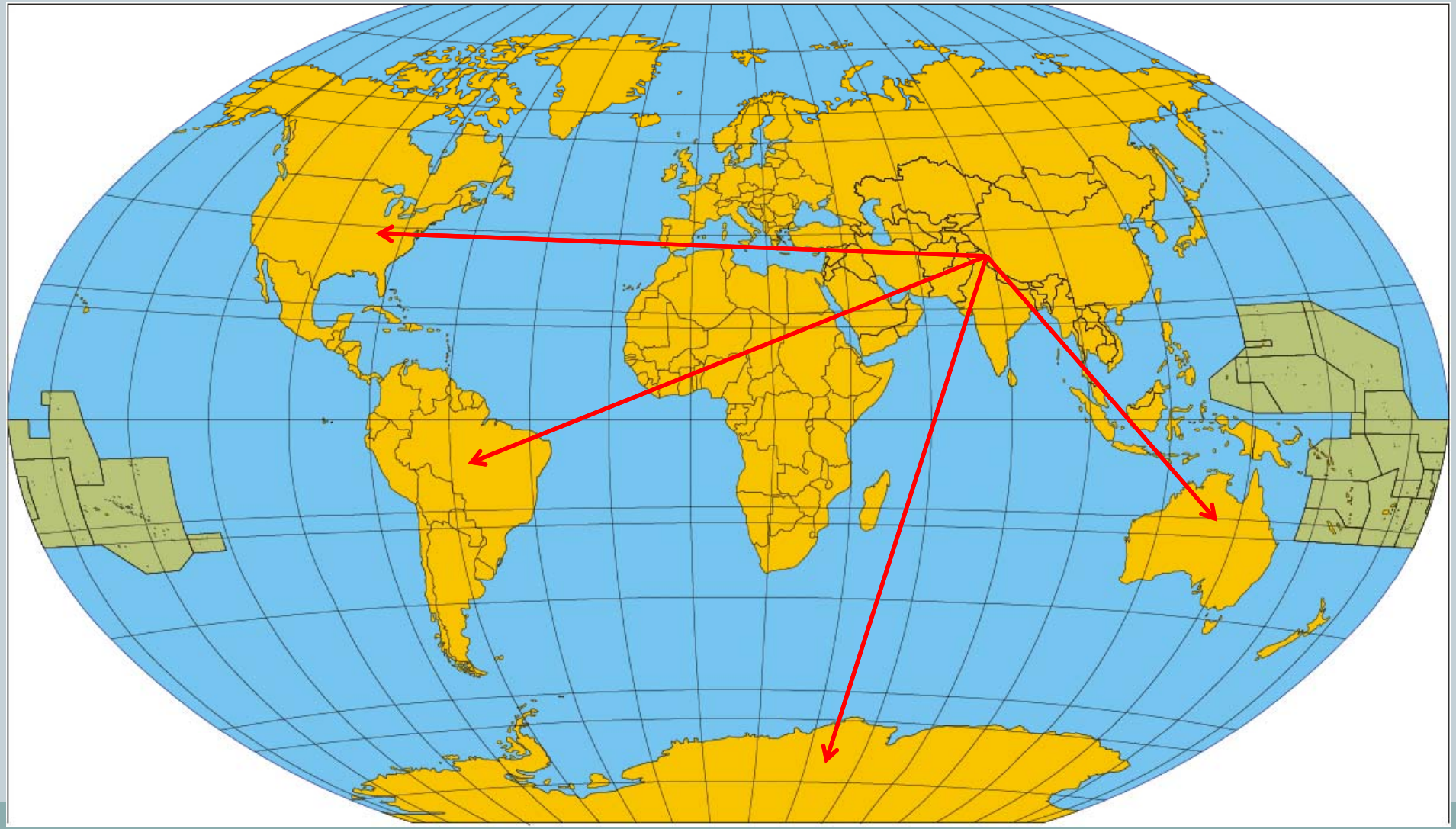
New geography of news

- By 2000, 30% headlines looked unusual
- Sighting of a Maoist, a MNC executive and a protesting community
- The media gets a partition: mainstream Vs off stream
- But the story gets another twist

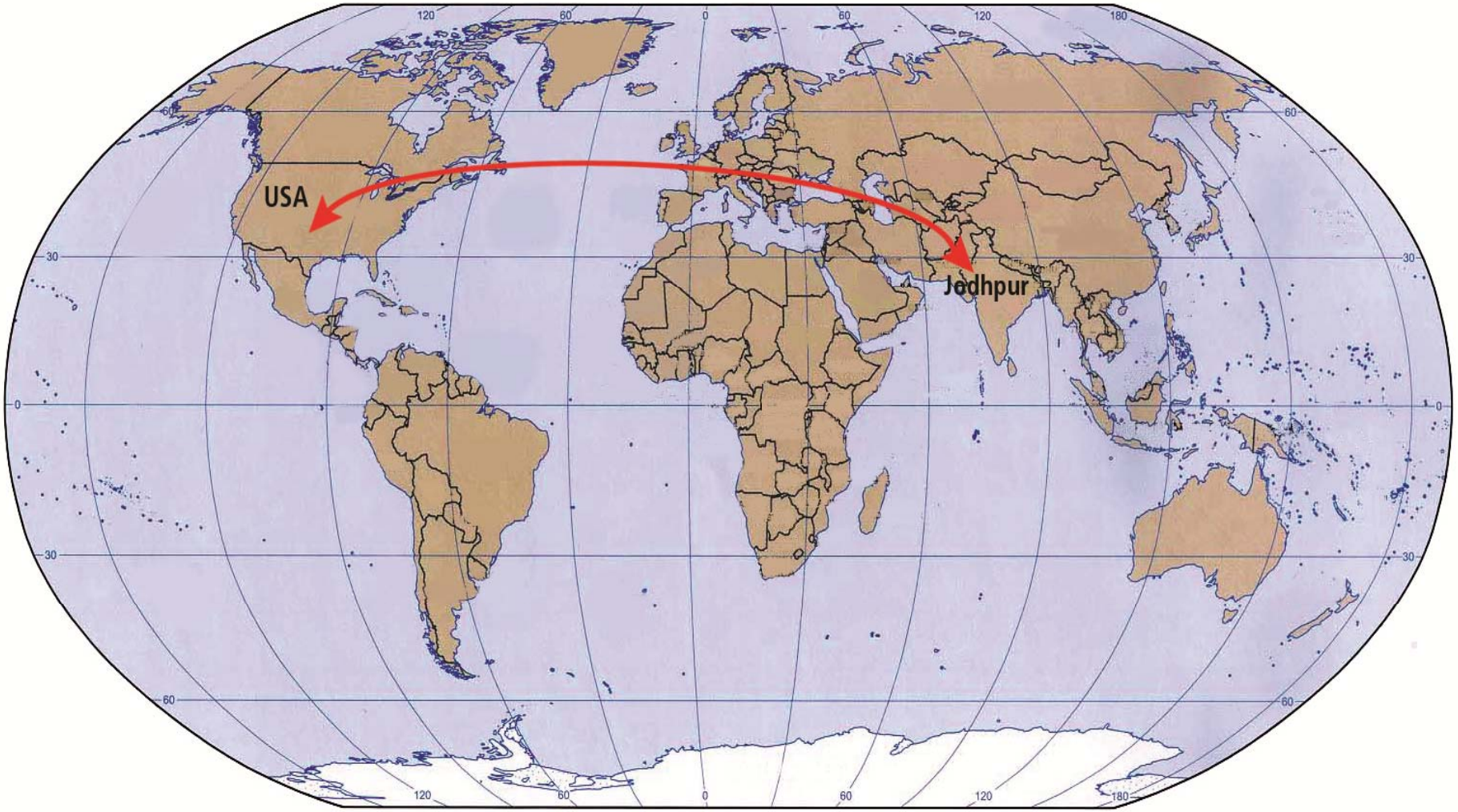
Local was already global

- Why a fossil in Himalaya such a global rage
- Why is *baraanaaj* a study of international concern
- Cluster bins in Rajasthan, energy crisis in US
- Deforestation in Africa, rising middle class in India
- Tribal struggle in Odisha, stock market in UK
- Economy of poor is rich's saviour

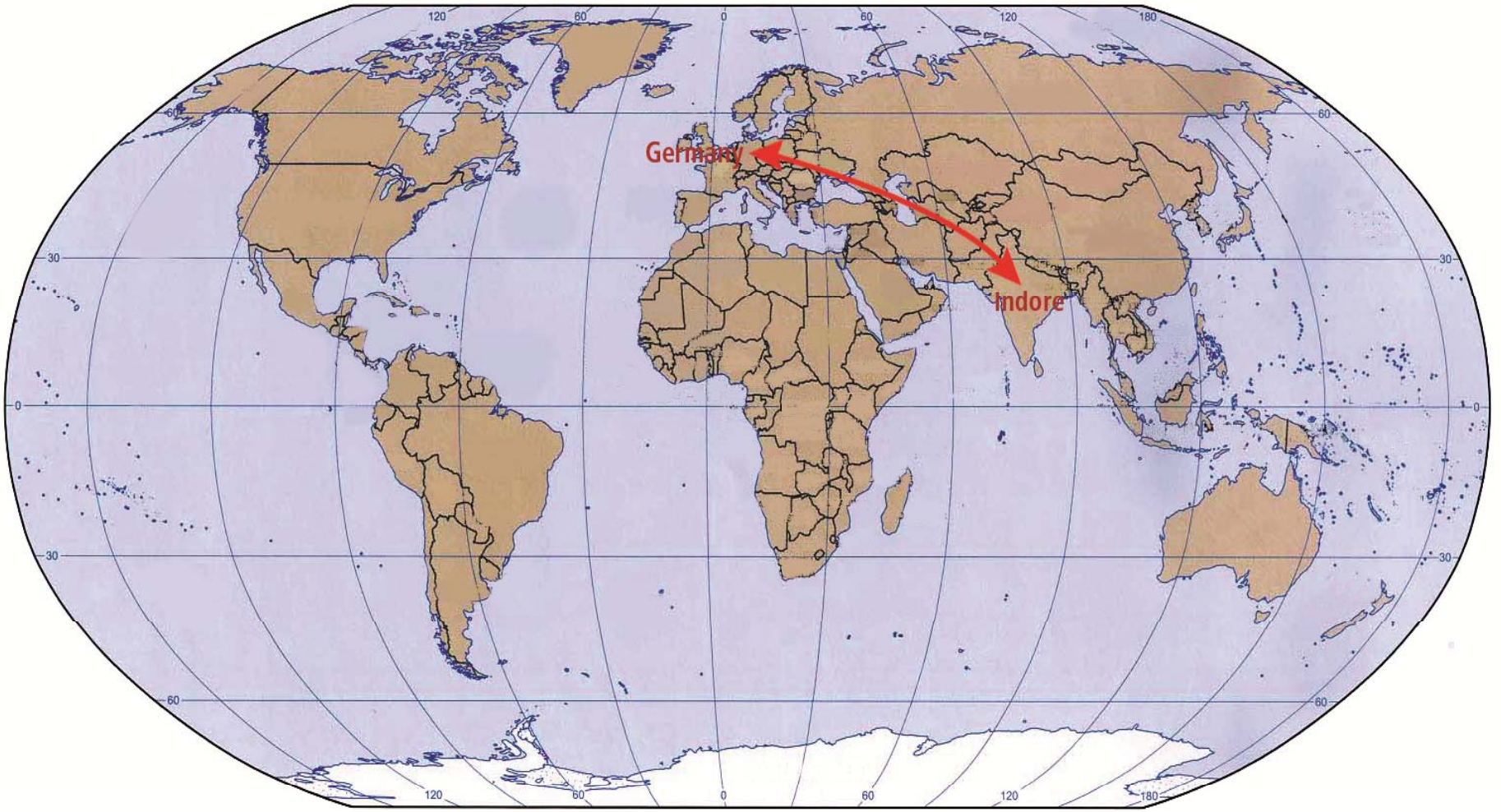
Himalaya and the world



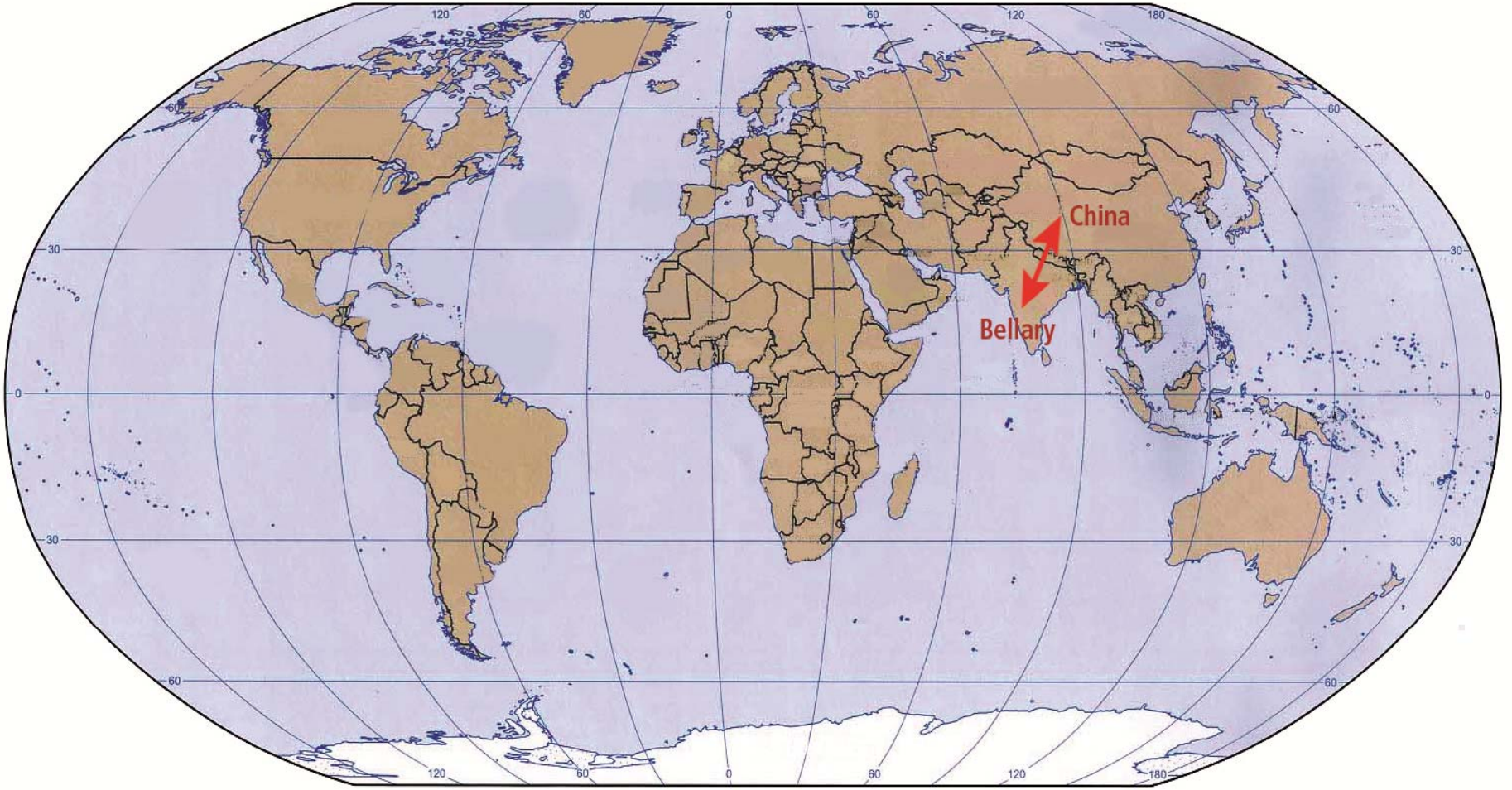
Guar and oil crisis



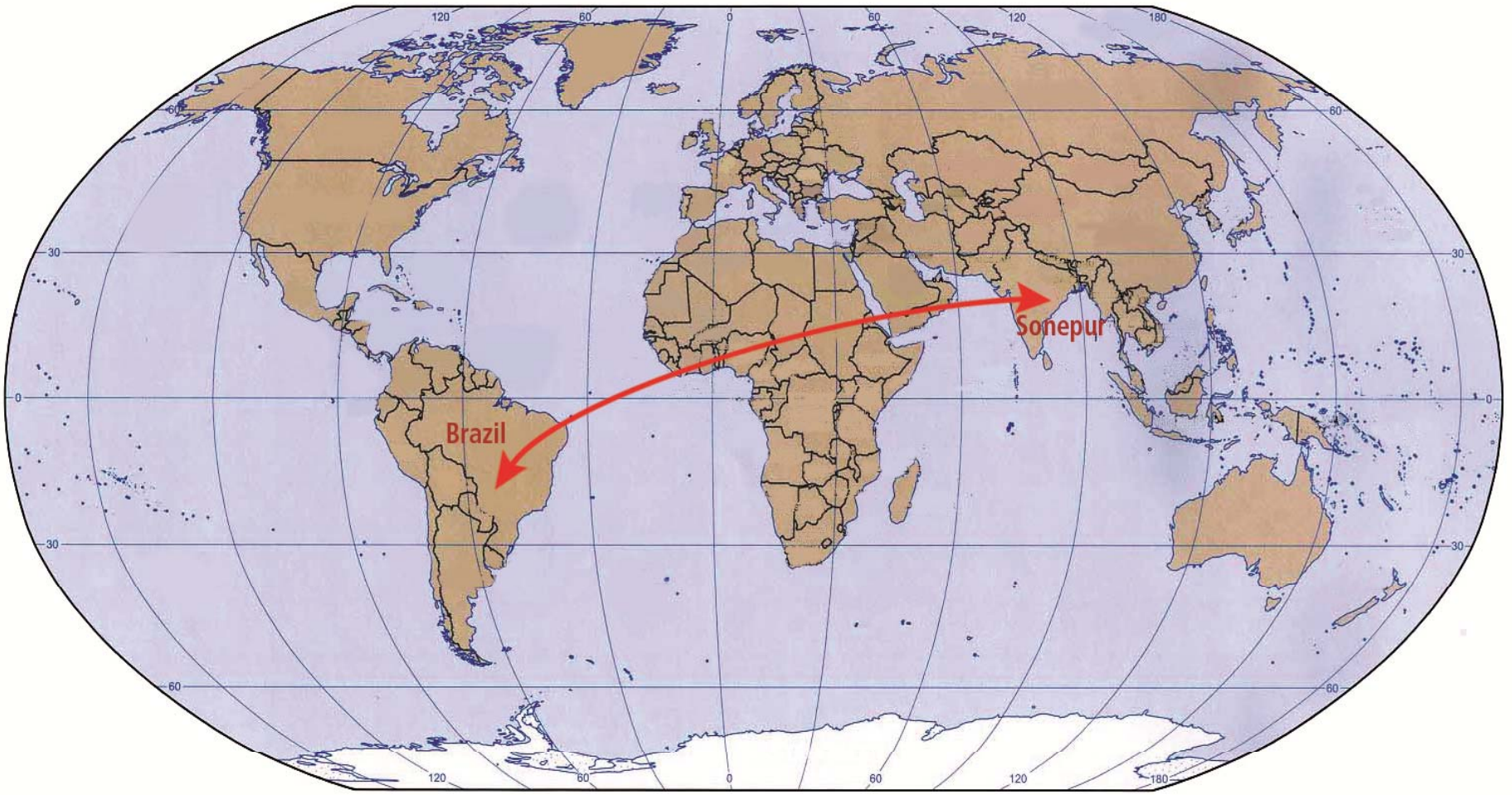
Poverty and drug trials



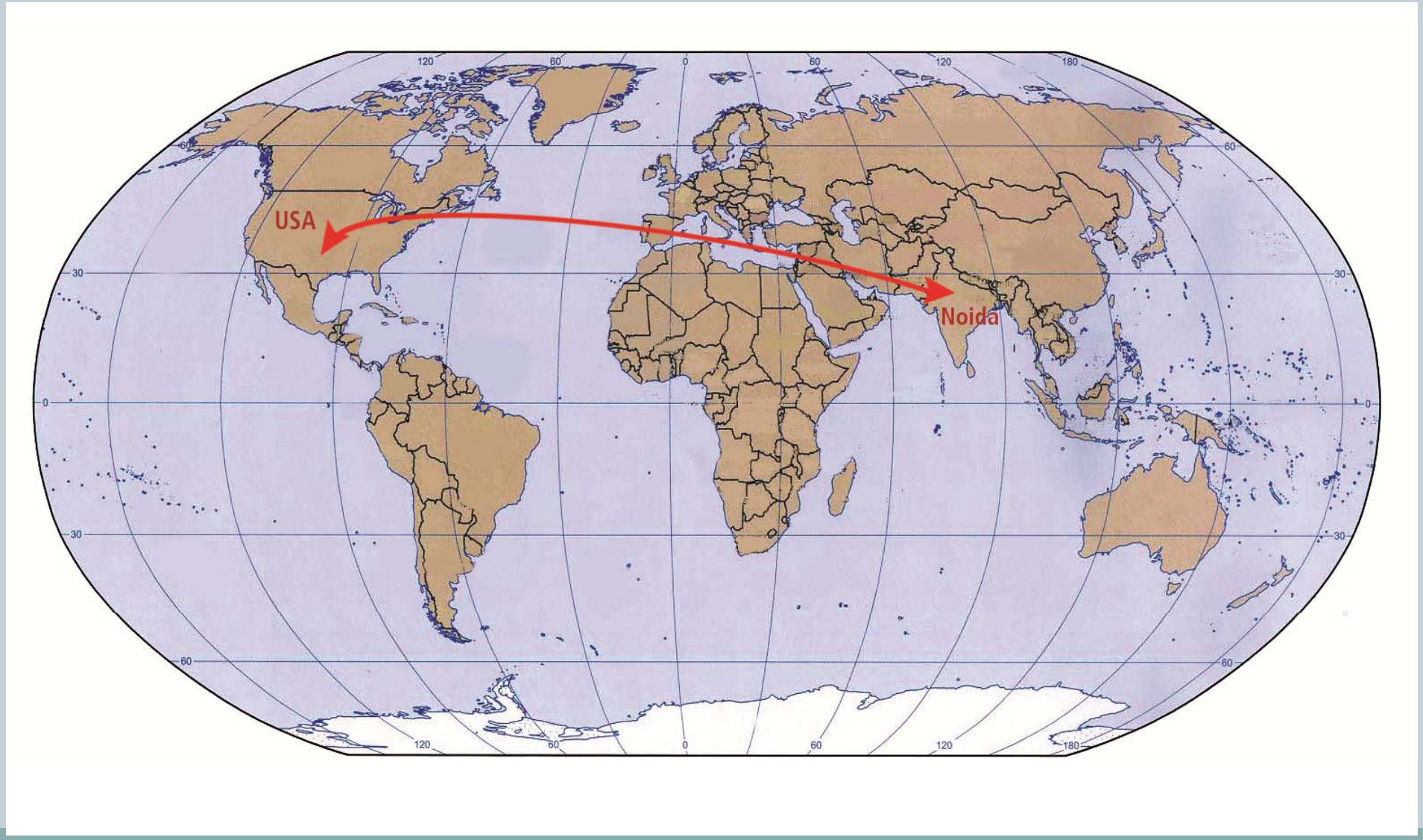
Local ecology, global mineral business



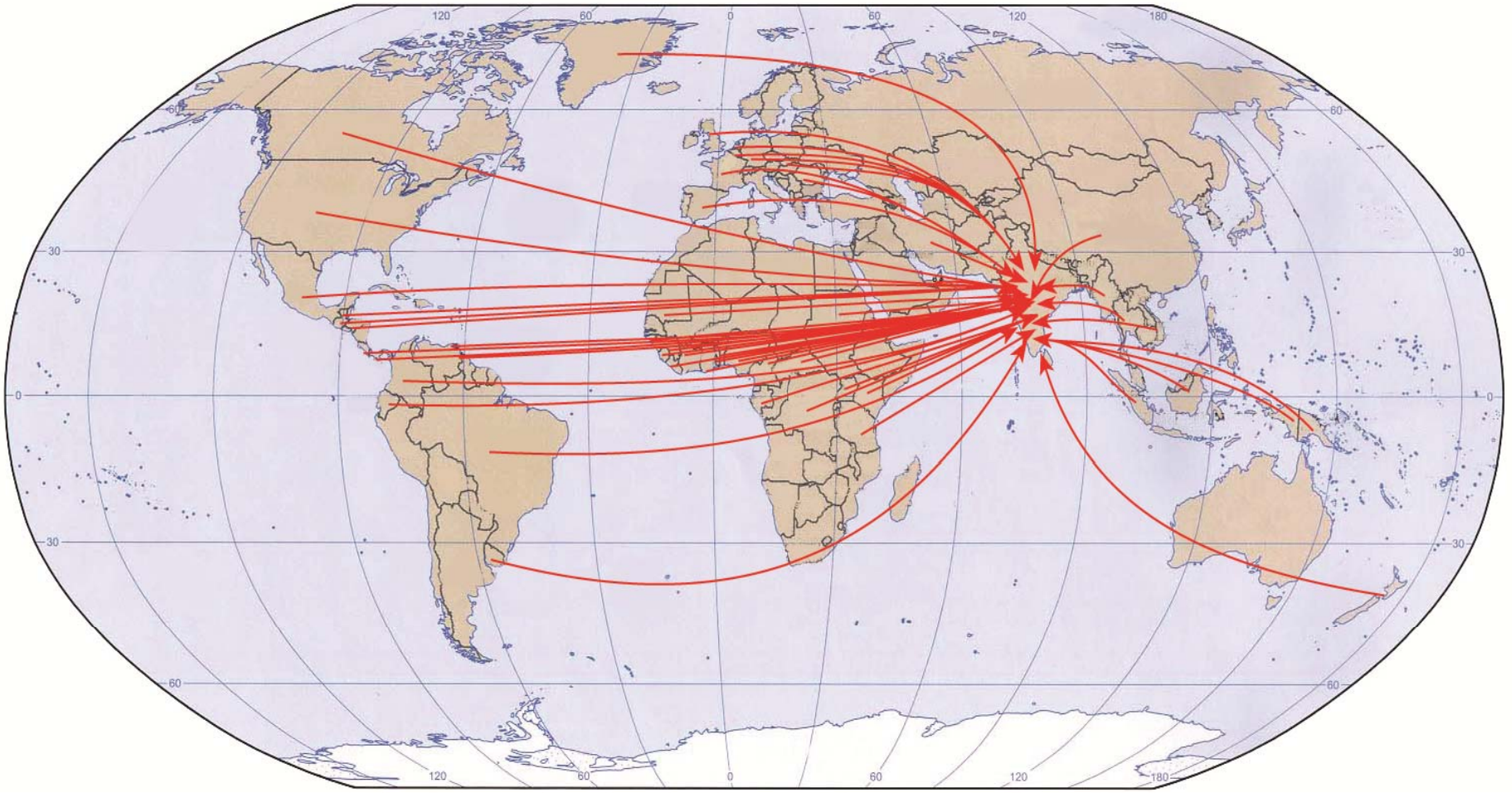
Anganwadis and global experience



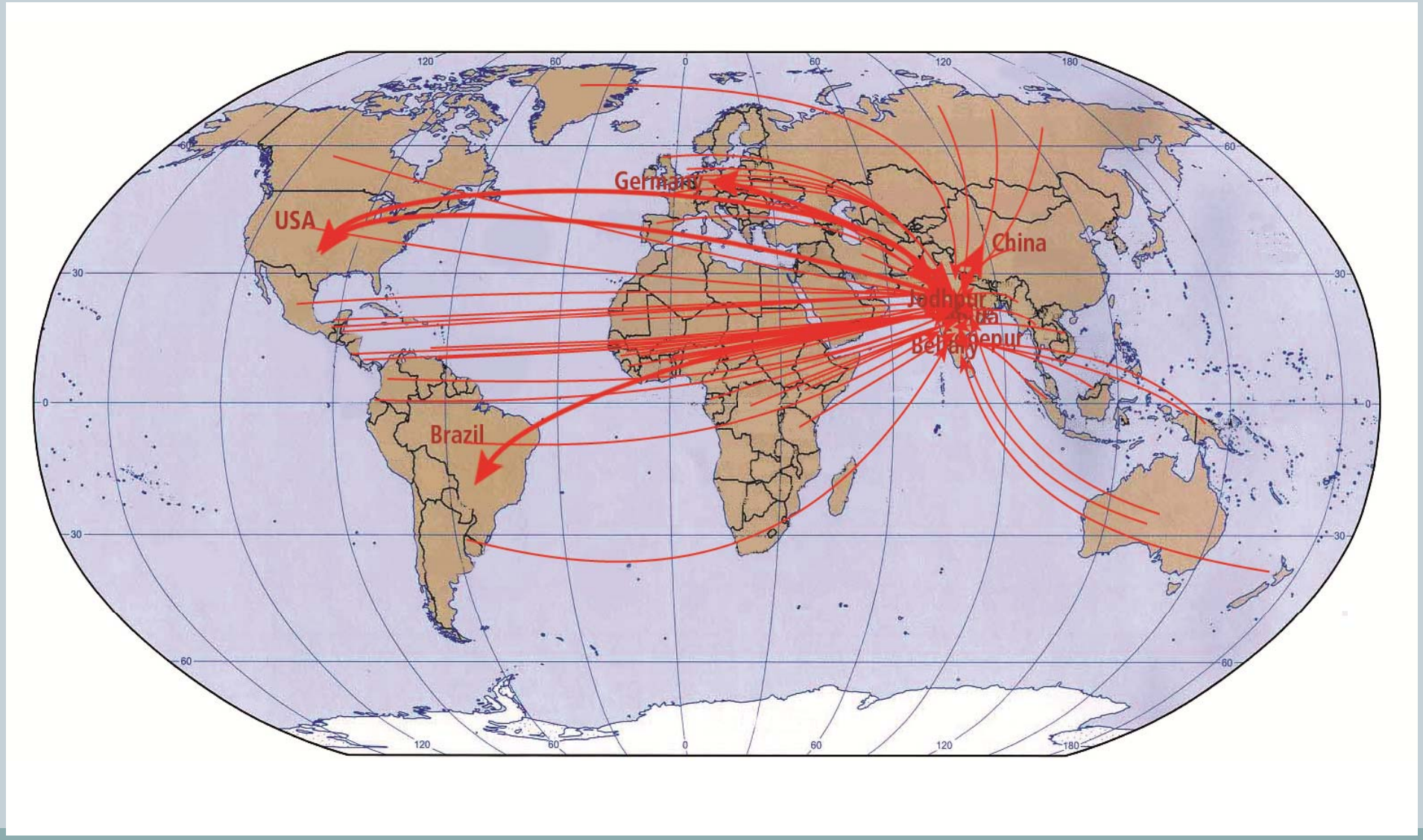
Local failure, global reason



Booming India, African woes



Global *V* Local



Global story, village dateline

- Globalisation makes each story a global development
- Media remains segregated
- The missing links not explored
- Net result: stories remain stories
- The challenge: reworking the 'story'

Re-search, Re-work

How to search the global link?

- Look at the changing livelihood basket
- What are changing and why
- What are not changing and why
- Look at the play of market
- Dig out how it is impacting

Re-search, Re-work

Some fundamental questions?

- What are the reasons for change?
- Answer: usually fall of traditional systems
- Why fall of traditional systems: usually new governance
- What new governance: YOU HAVE THE BIG ANSWER

Re-search, Re-work

A basic tenet?

- Narrative is needed, but figure is essential
- Give the figure a human shape; demystify data with human stories
- Local data is not available; but local inference is equally right
- Pitch local inference against global/national data

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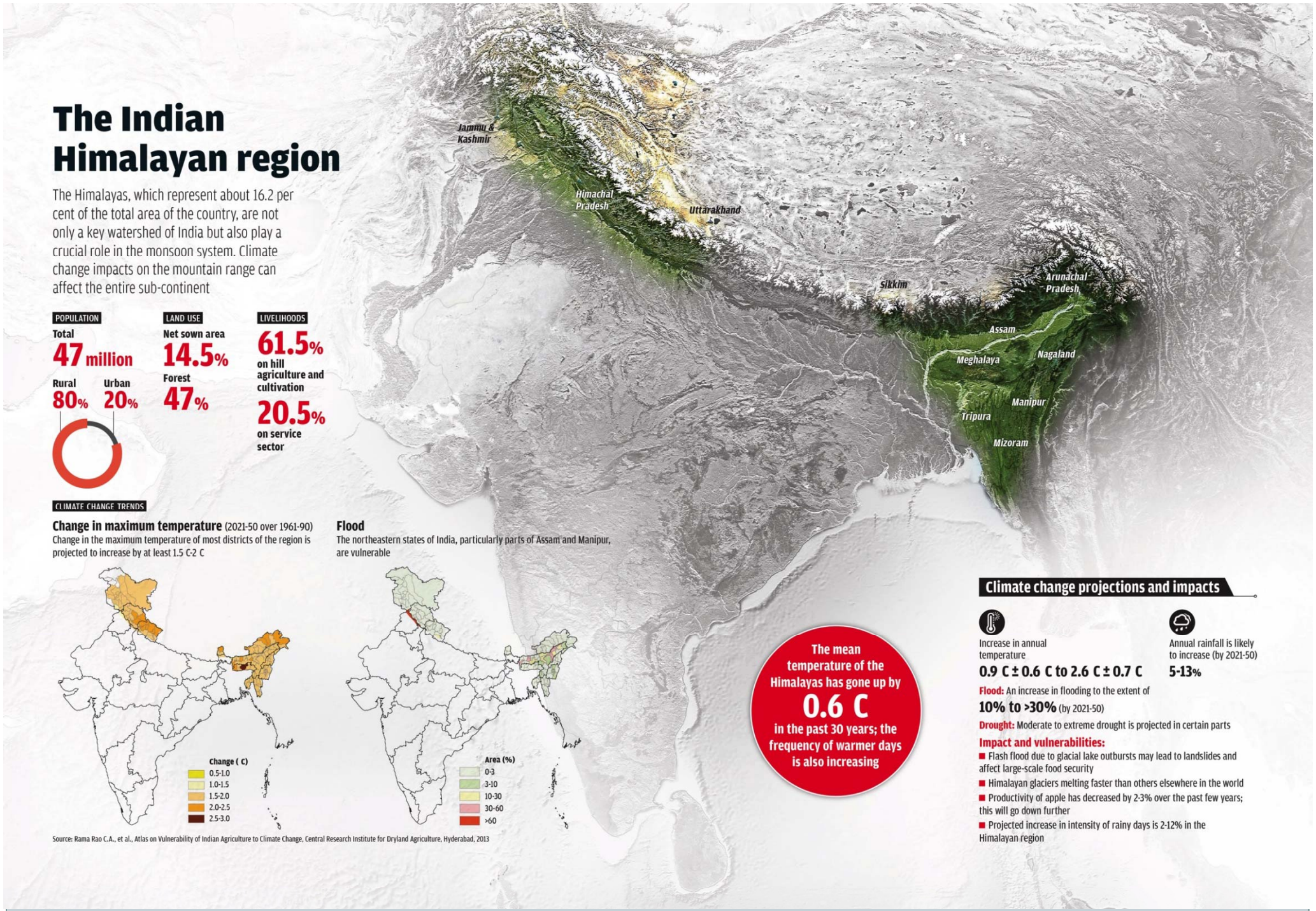
Thank you


Looking at
Himalayas

The Indian Himalayan region

The Himalayas, which represent about 16.2 per cent of the total area of the country, are not only a key watershed of India but also play a crucial role in the monsoon system. Climate change impacts on the mountain range can affect the entire sub-continent



POPULATION

Total
47 million

Rural **80%**
Urban **20%**

LAND USE

Net sown area
14.5%

Forest
47%

LIVELIHOODS

61.5%
on hill agriculture and cultivation

20.5%
on service sector

CLIMATE CHANGE TRENDS

Change in maximum temperature (2021-50 over 1961-90)
Change in the maximum temperature of most districts of the region is projected to increase by at least 1.5 C-2 C

Flood
The northeastern states of India, particularly parts of Assam and Manipur, are vulnerable

Source: Rama Rao C.A., et al., Atlas on Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change, Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad, 2013

The mean temperature of the Himalayas has gone up by 0.6 C in the past 30 years; the frequency of warmer days is also increasing

Climate change projections and impacts

Increase in annual temperature
0.9 C ± 0.6 C to 2.6 C ± 0.7 C

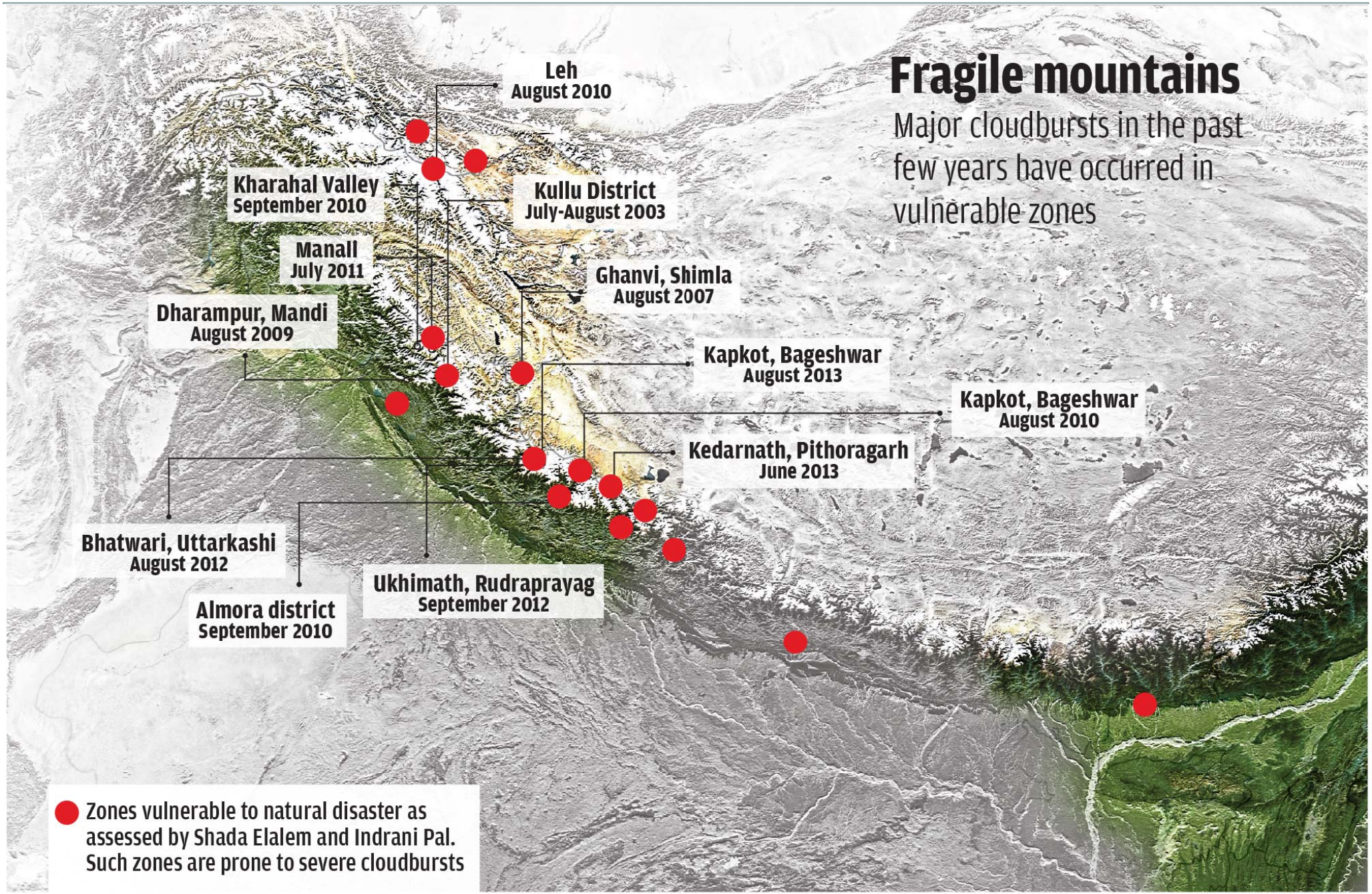
Annual rainfall is likely to increase (by 2021-50)
5-13%

Flood: An increase in flooding to the extent of **10% to >30%** (by 2021-50)

Drought: Moderate to extreme drought is projected in certain parts

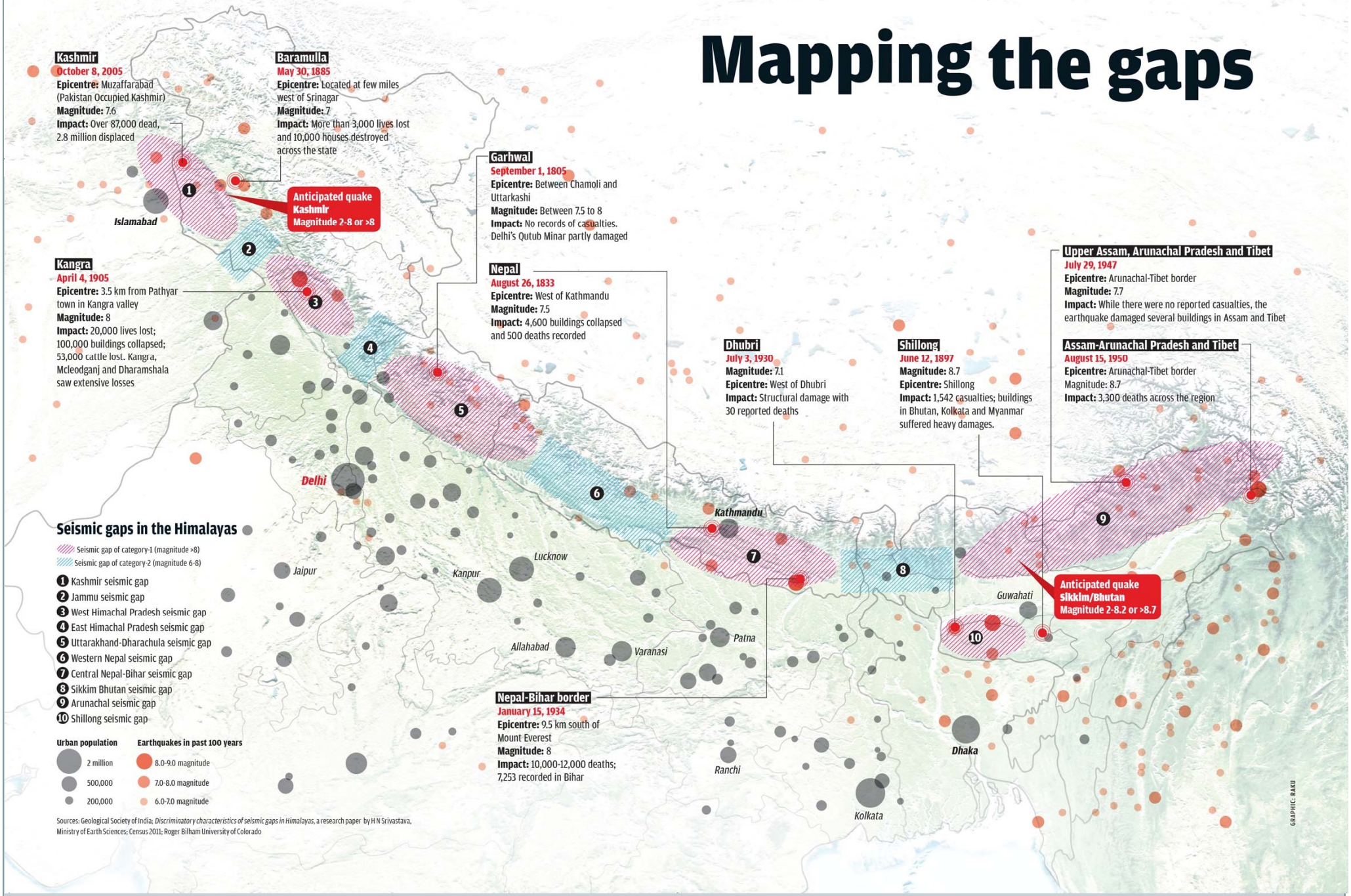
Impact and vulnerabilities:

- Flash flood due to glacial lake outbursts may lead to landslides and affect large-scale food security
- Himalayan glaciers melting faster than others elsewhere in the world
- Productivity of apple has decreased by 2-3% over the past few years; this will go down further
- Projected increase in intensity of rainy days is 2-12% in the Himalayan region



Source: Based on data from 1951 to 2003; vulnerable zones identified by Shada Elalem and Indrani Pal in *Weather and Climate Extremes*, June 2015, University of Colorado

Mapping the gaps



Sources: Geological Society of India; *Discriminatory characteristics of seismic gaps in Himalayas*, a research paper by H N Srivastava, Ministry of Earth Sciences; Census 2011; Roger Bilham University of Colorado

GRAPHIC: RAKU

Thank you