# CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON WATER RESOURCES OF INDIA

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# Water resource development

Shall always remain one of the preferred options to cater to
 Inherent Spatial variability and
 Temporal variability of this resource
 Climate change impacts



# Implications of Development -(or Interventions)

- Water resource is finite (within natural variability)
- Any development big or small involves in moving the water around (more often upstream)
- Thus every intervention has an associated impact



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# What are the issues & concerns?

- No mechanism in place to arrive at tradeoffs between the competing demands
  - No mechanism to decide the extent of watershed management
  - Promoting rainwater harvesting without setting the limits
- Ignoring the environmental demand
- Ignoring the hydrological health (interaction between surface and ground water)
- Ignoring the water quality issues





## **Sustainability**

This brings us to the question of sustainability

- Which is about maintaining the hydrological and environmental health of the drainage system
- IWRM philosophy has been the scientific option available but seldom used
  - Watershed being the natural system where water balance can be resolved and thereby impacts of the manmade interferences quantified



# India's National Communications to UNFCCC

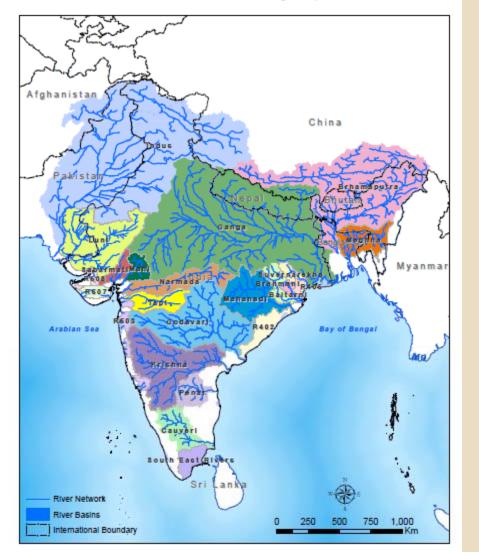
- Coordinated by MoEF
- The first communication was made in 2004
- It was a multidisciplinary effort
  - Work on water Resources was entrusted to IIT Delhi
- Second National Communication was made in April 2012 and IIT Delhi again lead the Water Resources work



## NATCOM – MoEF

Climate Change and its Impact on Water Resources of India

River Basins Modelled for Climate Change Impact Assesment

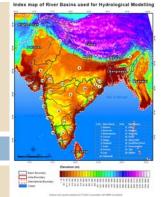


#### Tools used

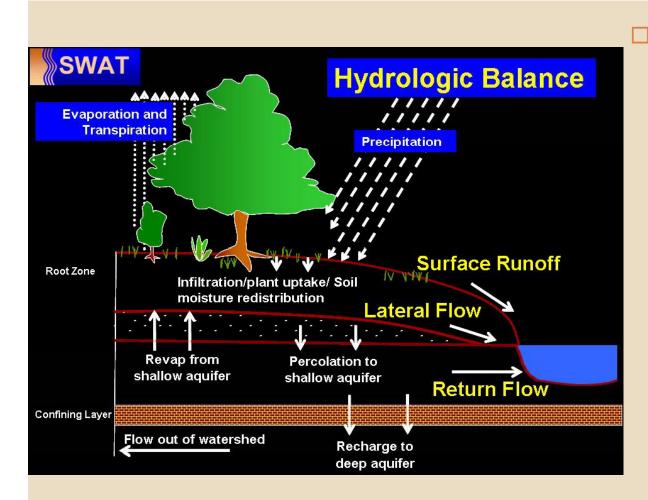
- Modelling: SWAT (Soil and Water Assessment Tool)
- GIS framework: acts as a pre-processor for the distributed modelling and for visualization of the outputs/results in terms of V & A
- Data used
  - Digital Elevation Model: SRTM 90 m
  - Land use: Global data, 1:2M USGS
  - Soil: Global data, 1:5M FAO
  - Drainage: 1:250,000
  - Weather: IPCC SRES A1B, A2, B2, Hadley Centre U.K. at a resolution of 0.44° X 0.44° latitude by longitude grid points obtained from IITM, Pune
- Impacts Studied
  - Impact on annual water availability
  - Impact on seasonal water availability
  - Impact on inter annual water availability
  - Regional Variability of Water availability



Extreme events – Floods and Droughts



# SWAT (Soil and Water Assessment Tool) - Model

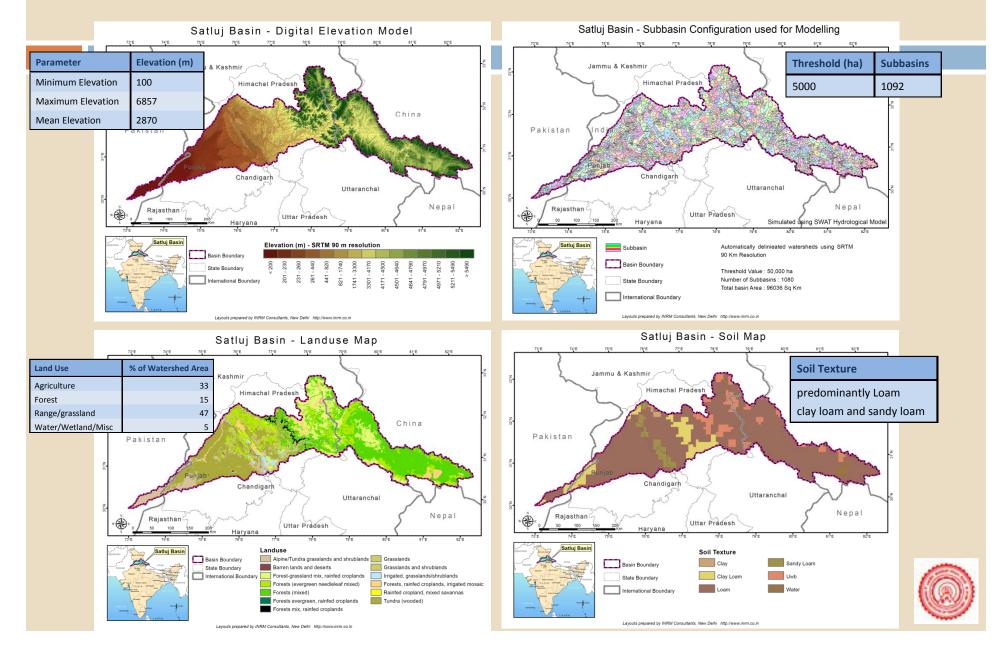


## Features

- Physically based
- Distributed model
- Continuous time model (long term yield model)
- Uses readily available data
- Used for long term impact studies



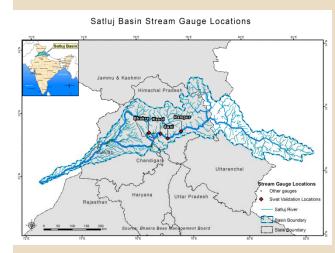
# **Basic Data layers for modelling**



# SWAT Model Performance for Satluj Basin

made using the observed data for the period 1976-2004 at monthly scale

from four stream flow monitoring stations upstream of Bhakra dam at Rampur, Suni, Kasol and Bhakra



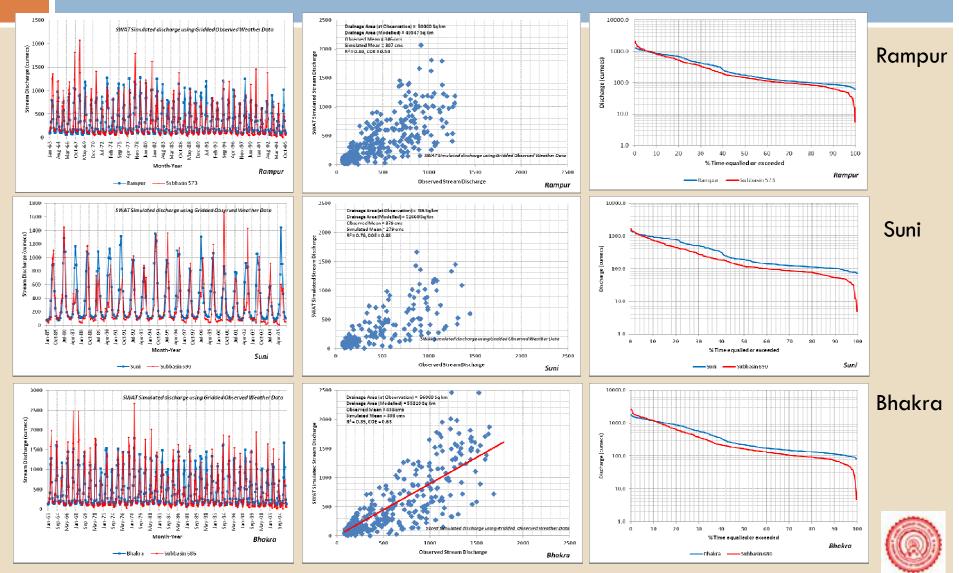
Gauge Site	Catchment Area*(Sq km)	Mean Flow*	Start Year	End Year	COE**	Correlation coefficient	Area Difference (%)	Flow Difference (%)
Rampur	50000 (49550)	345 (390)	1963	2005	0.42	0.83	0.09	-13.04
Suni	NA (51660)	427 (379)	1969	2005	0.52	0.78	NA	
Kasol	NA (52350)	417 (414)	1985	2005	0.62	0.84	NA	
Bhakra	56000 (55310)	458 (427)	1963	2005	0.67	0.87	0.12	6.77

\* Model parameter is shown in bracket, \*\* Nash-Sutcliffe coefficient



## SWAT output comparison Locations and model efficiency parameters



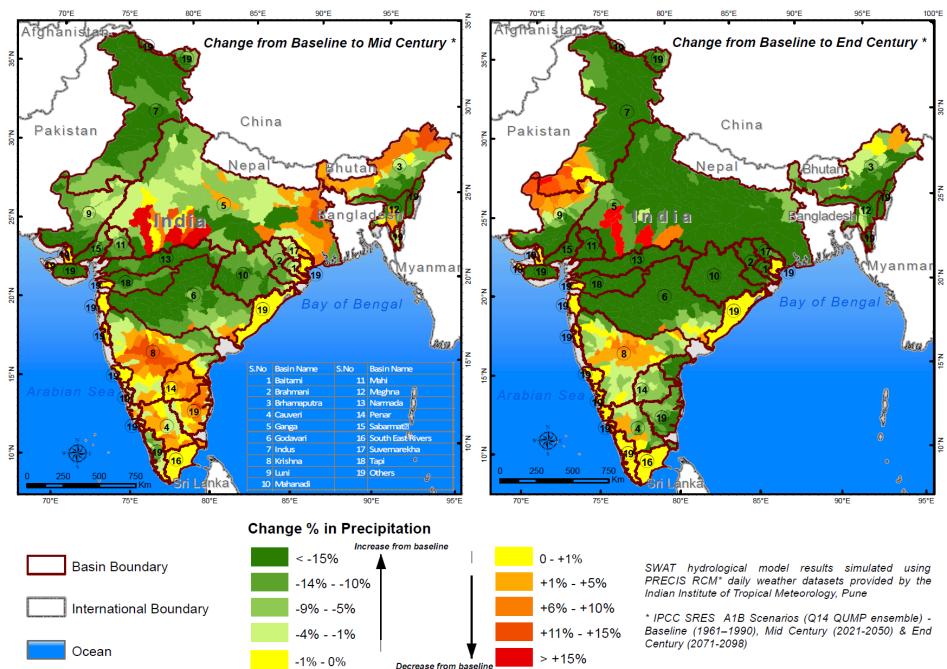


## **Vulnerability Assessment Procedure**

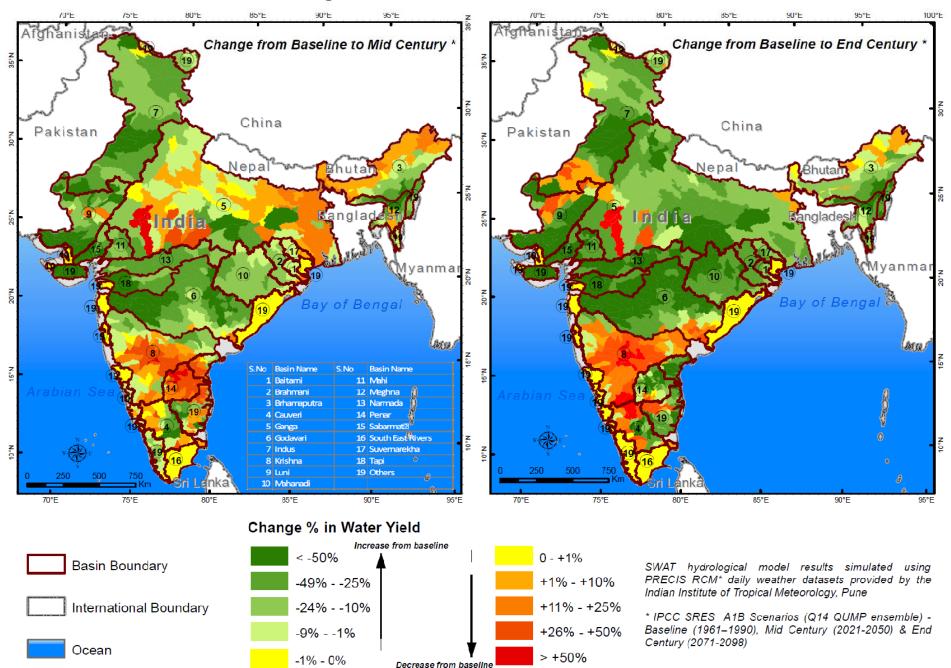
- Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) widely used index
  - incorporates information on rainfall, land-use, and soil properties in a lumped manner
- PDSI value
  - below 0.0 indicates the beginning of drought situation
  - A value below -3.0 as sever drought condition
- Soil Moisture Index to monitor drought severity using SWAT
  - output to incorporate the spatial variability



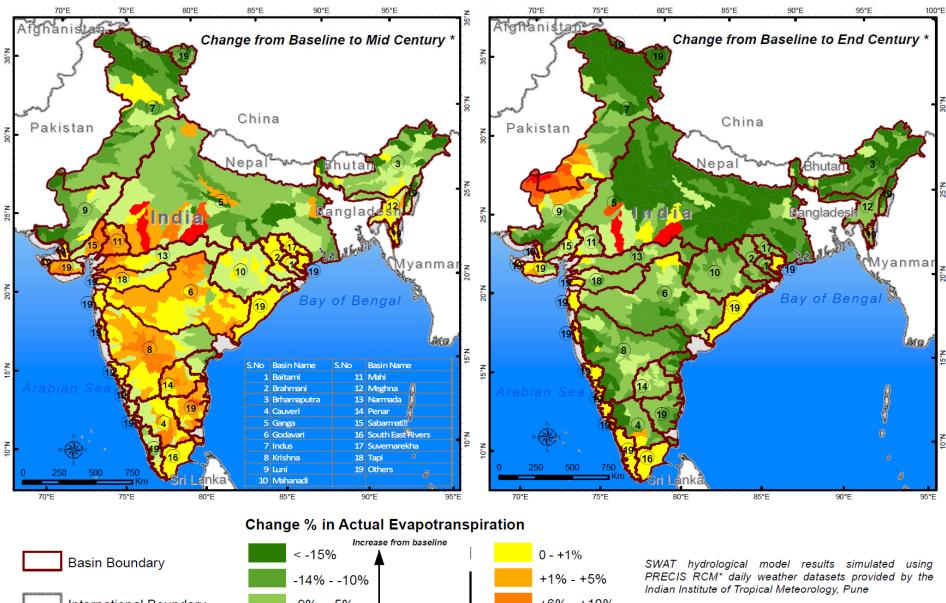
#### Percent Change in Precipitation across India



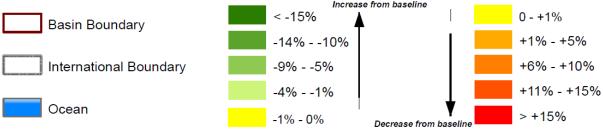
### Percent Change in Water Yield across India



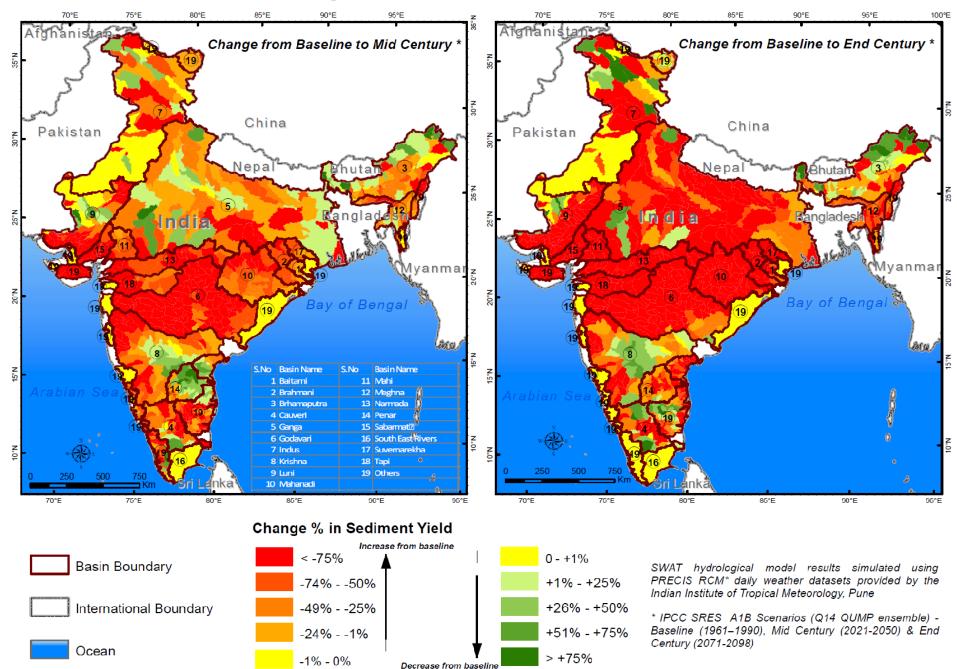
#### Percent Change in Actual Evapotranspiration across India



\* IPCC SRES A1B Scenarios (Q14 QUMP ensemble) -Baseline (1961–1990), Mid Century (2021-2050) & End Century (2071-2098)

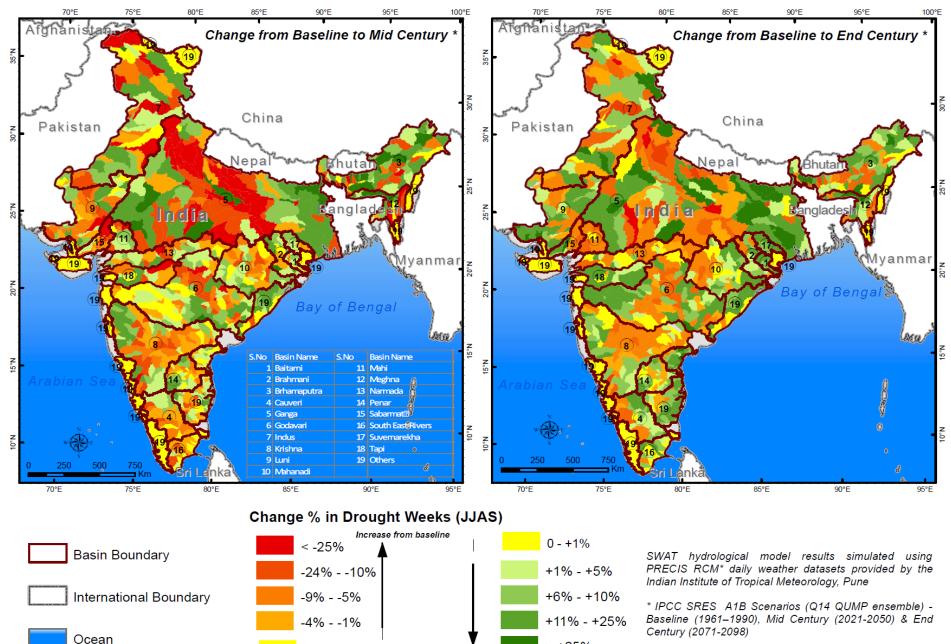


#### Percent Change in Sediment Yield across India



#### Percentage Change in Drought Weeks (JJAS) across India

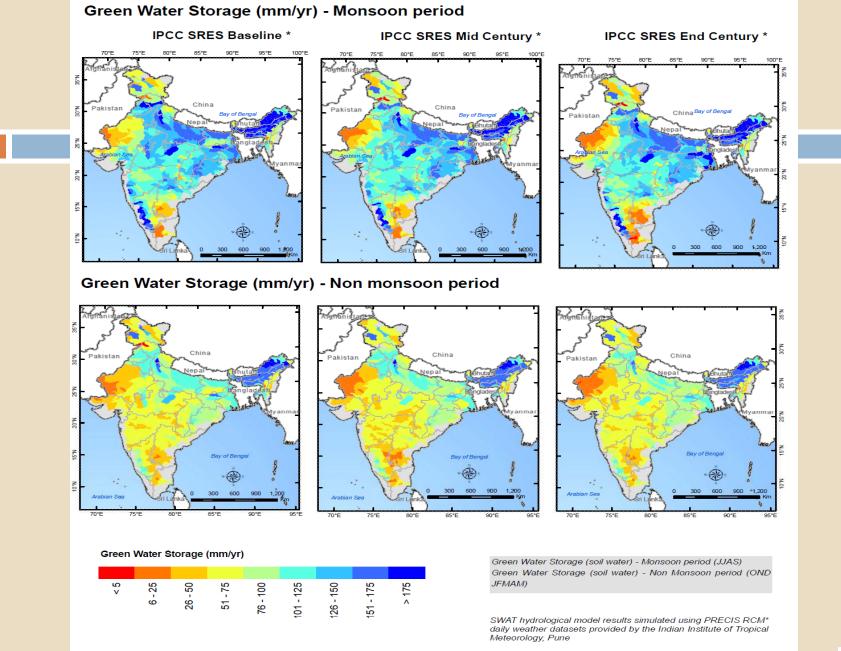
Based on Agriculture Drought Index ranging from -2 to -4 (moderate to extreme soil moisture stress during critical growth stages of crops)



Decrease from baseline Analysis and Layouts prepared by IIT Delhi in association with INRM Consultants

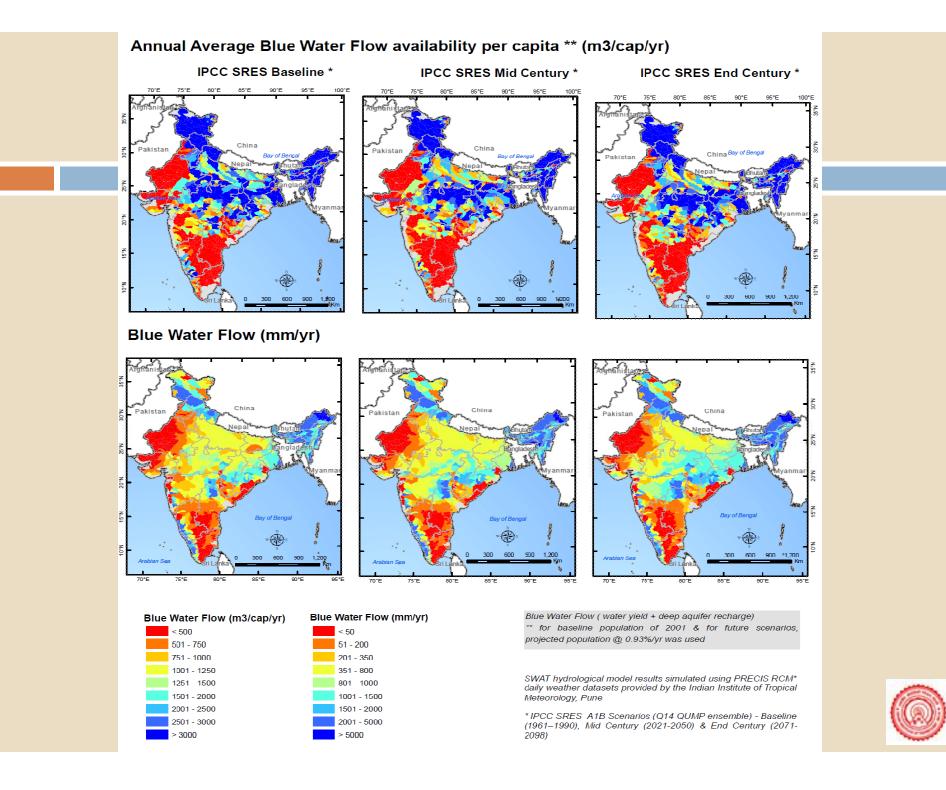
-1% - 0%

> +25%



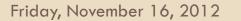
\* IPCC SRES A1B Scenarios (Q14 QUMP ensemble) - Baseline (1961–1990), Mid Century (2021-2050) & End Century (2071-2098)





## Possible adaptation options

- Enhanced efficiencies
- Surface water Interventions different scales
  - Big projects Reservoir or runoff the river scheme
  - Medium & Minor schemes
  - Watershed level check dams
- Ground water exploitation
  - Shallow wells
  - Deep tubewells





# Interventions have implications

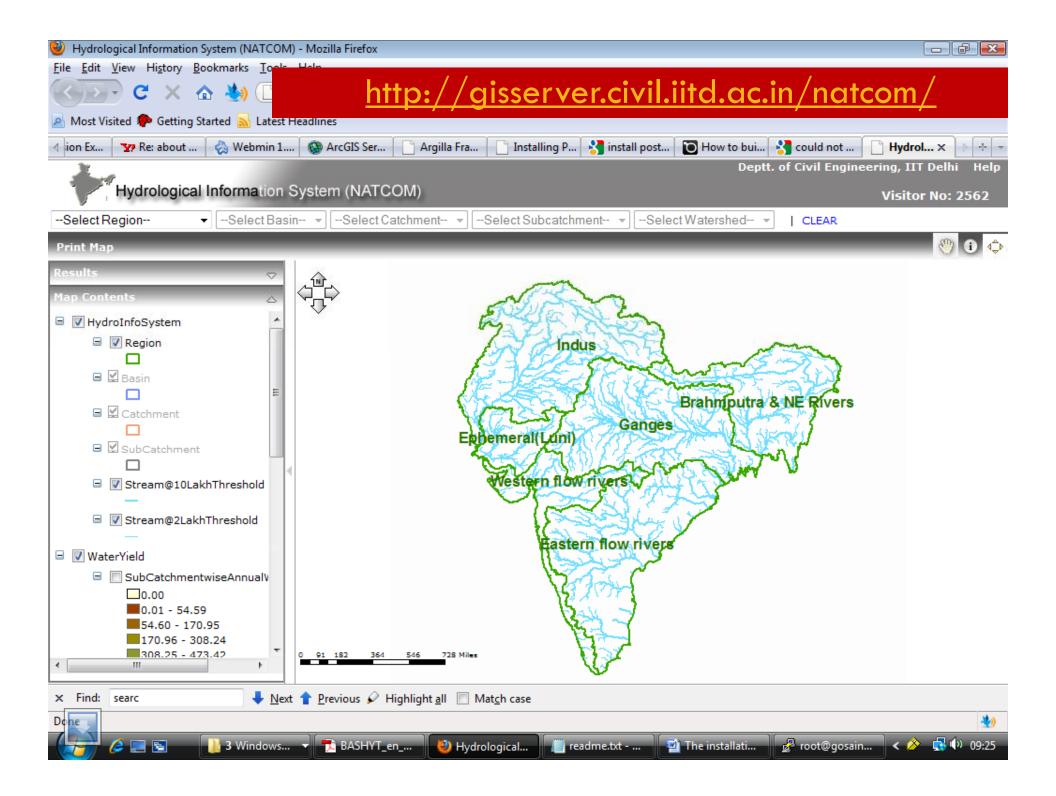
- Every intervention big or small has associated impact
- Integrated Watershed philosophy was the scientific option suggested
  - Watershed being the natural system where water balance can be resolved and thereby impacts of interventions quantified
  - Integrated' implies consideration of all possible usage and interest of all stake holders

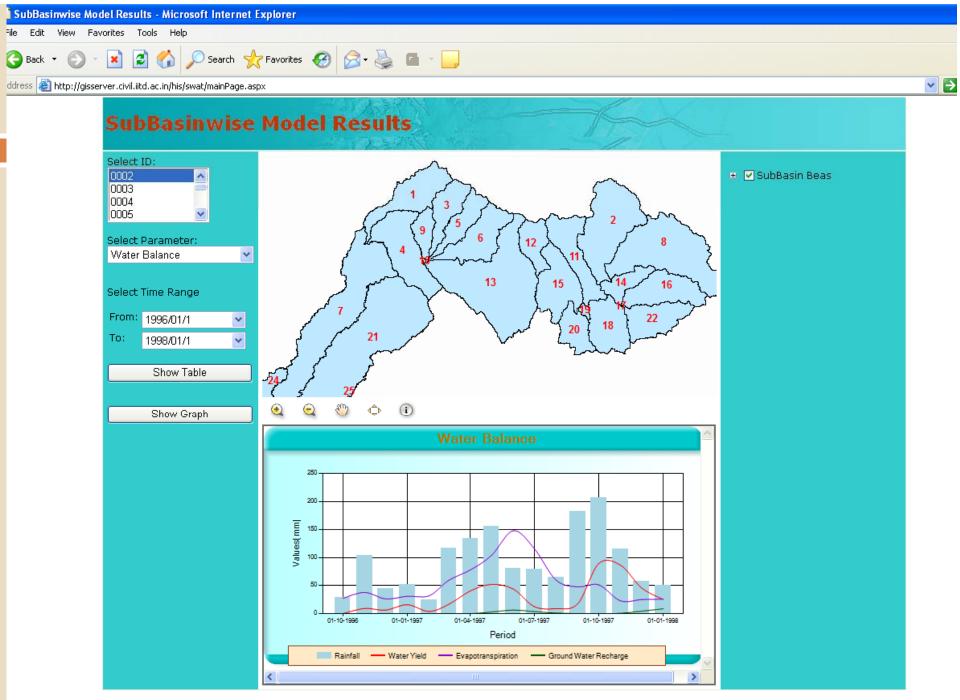


## The major concern

- Evaluate the implications of climate change by incorporating the baseline
  - Adaptation shall require enhanced level of interventions through line departments
    - A common framework is required to provide an integrated information base
    - Procedures for scenario generation and evaluation







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🥖 Hydrological Information System (NATCOM) - Windows Internet Explorer								
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Ganges Print Map	MODEL RESULTS VULNER	ABILITY ASSESSMENT CLIMATE CHANGE ANALYSIS ADVANCED ANALYSIS MOdel Results: Chambal 20322						
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Map Contents	© BL Condition	○ HadRM3 Baseline (BL) (1961-1990) 1971 ▼ 1991 ▼						
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# Conclusions

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- Integrated water resource development and management framework is required to be adopted
- Creation of sharable information is essential for sustainable use of water resources
- This shall be a good way forward for selecting meaningful adaptation options to development and climate change impacts

http://gisserver.civil.iitd.ac.in/natcom/



# THANK YOU

