

Funds will be obtained by ~~the state~~ after the break **WHEN**

Mickey Jantz ①  
Opening Remarks to The  
Summer Colloquium

9:20

opening statement

① MOST PEOPLE HERE DO NOT KNOW MOST PEOPLE

② WE COME FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES, COME FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

③ WE HAVE DIFFERENT EXPERIENCES. THIS IS WHAT THE WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED TO SHARE.

"A Systems Approach to ENSO"  
20 July - 1 Aug 97

AFTER THIS MORNING SESSION, I HOPE THAT WE CAN BE INFORMAL HERE.

④ IT HAS BEEN MY DREAM FOR A LONG TIME TO HAVE A WORKSHOP ON ENSO IN SEA HERE IN ~~VIENTIANE~~ <sup>Cuba</sup>

⑤ NOW IT IS HAPPENING THANKS TO ~~NIWA~~ <sup>Fajardo, Lino Naranjo, Pedro Cardenas and</sup> (cered) AND unep <sup>Peter Walker Mexico UNMET</sup>

PEOPLE REFER TO EL NINO AND TO ENSO (EL NINO AND THE SOUTHERN OSCILLATION)

EL NINO HAS FIRST USED TO DESCRIBE WARMING OF SSTS OFF THE COAST OF PERU AND ECUADOR

THE SOUTHERN OSCILLATION WAS USED TO DEFINE A CHANGING IS PRESSURE AT DIFFERENT POINTS ACROSS THE PACIFIC BASIN (USING DARWIN, AUSTRALIA AND TAHITI)

THESE PHENOMENA ARE LINKE CLOSELY BUT ARE NOT THE SAME THING

ONE IS LOCAL, THE OTHER IS BASIN-WIDE

BUT PEOPLE, SOME SCIENTISTS, THE MEDIA HAVE COME TO USE THE WORDS INTERCHANGEABLY

WHAT WE WILL BE TALKING ABOUT HERE FOR THE MOST PART IS THE BIGGER PHENOMENON ACROSS THE EQUATORIAL PACIFIC.

purpose of workshop

I WROTE AN ARTICLE RECENTLY CALLED :FORECASTING EL NINO: sCIENCE'S GIFT TO THE 21ST CENTURY. I BELIEVE IN THAT TITLE. I DO NOT KNOW HOW MANY OTHERS REALLY BELEIVE IT.

FOR DECADES THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY HAS PROMISED MANY THINGS

SOMETIME THEY HAVE DELIVERED WHAT THEY PROMISED.

OTHER TIMES NOT.

Summit Translations  
Tends to  
make Wkshp  
more formal  
That it should  
be.

Go Show  
Agenda  
10:45

HERE IS WHERE I THINK THEY CAN DELIVER.

EL NINO INFORMATION (NOT JUST FORECASTS OF IT) CAN UNDER THE RIGHT CONDITIONS HAVE VALUE TO THOSE WHO USE IT.

IT CAN BE USED TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF EMES, IF NOT HELP US TO ADAPT TO THOSE IMPACTS AND IN SOME CASES PREVENT THEM FROM OCCURRING.

SOME PEOPLE HERE ARE EXPERTS IN EL NINO.

IT HAS BEEN THEIR RESEARCH LIFE.

OTHERS ARE EXPERTS IN ~~EDUCATION AND TRAINING~~ *Disaster Preparedness and Response to Cx Variability and Cx Δ.*

STILL OTHERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

STILL OTHERS IN POLICY MAKING AT SOME LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT

THE OVERRIDING GOAL IS FOR US TO SHARE THAT EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE SO THAT WE CAN IDENTIFY WAYS INFORMATION ABOUT EL NINO MAY BE USED TO BENEFIT SOCIETY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

NOW, SOME OF US MAY NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT EL NINO.

THAT WILL NOT BE THE CASE AT THE END OF THE MEETING.

HOPEFULLY WE CAN PRESENT ENOUGH INFORMATION TO DETERMINE ITS UTILITY IN DIFFERENT CONTEXTS, GIVEN EXISTING SCIENTIFIC UNCERTAINTY THAT CONTINUES TO SURROUND THE PHENOMENON.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE SCIENTIFIC UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDING EL NINO?

QUESTION; TO WHAT EXTENT IS THAT UNCERTAINTY A HINDERANCE TO USING EL INO INFORMATION IN DECISIONMAKING?

QUESTION; HOW MUCH SCIENTIFIC UNCERTAINTY CAN WE LIVE WITH; IN OTHER WORDS WHEN CAN WE FEEL CONFIDENT IN USING EL NINO INFORMATION?

utility of the notion of usable science

*Who are the "mythical users"?*

i thought that it would be best to open the meeting with a general discussion about "usable science".

Roger has been researching this notion for some years.

i thought he might present some of his thoughts about usable science to the workshop. what in essence we are trying to do is to decide just how usable EL NINO information is to decisionmakers.



mickey's questions about usable science:

USABLE BY WHOM?

PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT INTEREST,  
ORGANIZATIONS HAVE DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS.

WHAT IS USABLE TO ONE PERSON MAY NOT BE USABLE TO ANOTHER.

USABLE BY WHEN?

ONE COULD SAY THAT ALL SCIENCE IS USABLE AT SOME TIME IN THE  
FUTURE.

ONCE IT HAS BEEN PRODUCED, SOMEONE IN SOCIETY WILL FIND A WAY TO  
USE IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE

BUT THOSE WHO FUND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CANNOT SEEM TO WAIT  
PATIENTLY FOR RESULTS (eg, some research output that they can use  
for their benefit)

HOW CAN WE ADDRESS THIS ISSUE?

scientists need time to do their research, to improve reliability  
of their information, to build credibility in the info  
(eg, FCSTS)

social scientists need time to find appropriate applications/uses  
for the info

WE MUST ADDRESS THIS; WHEN IS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH READY FOR USE?

WE MUST CONVINCe BOTH SCIENTISTS AND DMS ABOUT WHAT SOCIETY CAN  
REASONABLE EXPECT FROM EACH OTHER.

*Where will it be useful: research in Country A may not benefit A but others in B, C. etc.  
we're members of global community?  
- Policy makers are concerned*

who decides what is useful?

well, right now, it's the ones who hold the money for research.

they are the ones we must also educate about how science works  
and what they should reasonably expect... and when?

DMS OFTEN WANT TO SEE SIGNS OF VALUE OF RESEARCH?

IT IS NOT SO EASY TO MEASURE VALUE

DID A FORECAST REALLY INFLUENCE BEHAVIOR? THIS IS ONE OF THOSE  
DIFFICULT PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY WHEN DEALING WITH NATIONAL DMS!!!!

Q qqqq: IS THE NOTION OF USABLE SCIENCE USABLE???????

what are the region's hazards?

IN THIS SESSION

IDENTIFY A LIST OF HAZARDS FROM THE SOLICITATIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

SORT OUT CLIMATE RELATED FROM NON-CLIMATE RELATED

~~CAN WE PRIORITIZE OR CATEGORIZE THEM AS MOST IMPORTANT AND LESS IMPORTANT???~~

neville nicholls can open with comments on the SO (atmosphere)

mark cane can open with comments on EN (ocean)

mickey and others can address TX.

WHAT ARE TX?

HOW ARE THEY IDENTIFIED?

PHYSICAL OBSERVATIONS

STATISTICAL ASSESSMENTS

ANECDOTAL INFO

WISHFUL THINKING

!!!!end monday session!!!!!!

250  
6  

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1500  
225