

# Learning Indigenous Culture for Sustainable Water Consumption: Eliciting Knowledge on Adaptation to Climate Change in Yunnan

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# Main contents:

- Background
- Activities
- Outcomes
- Acknowledgment
- Reference

# Introduction:

## □ Background:

- Climate change
- Large-scale drought disaster
- Millions of residents
- Lack of drinking water
- Massive farmland dry-up

## □ Indigenous culture

- Cultural dimensions ignored

# Introduction:

## ☐ Yunnan Province

- Climatically vulnerable
- Geophysical fragile ecosystem
- Economically under-developed
- Geographically situated in remote area

## ☐ Yao'an County

- Mountainous area > 80%
  - Elevation ranged from 1840 to 2757 m.a.s.l.
  - **Yi People** (traditional ethnic minority) > 85%
  - Rich indigenous knowledge & culture
- has been largely ignored when tackling the drought

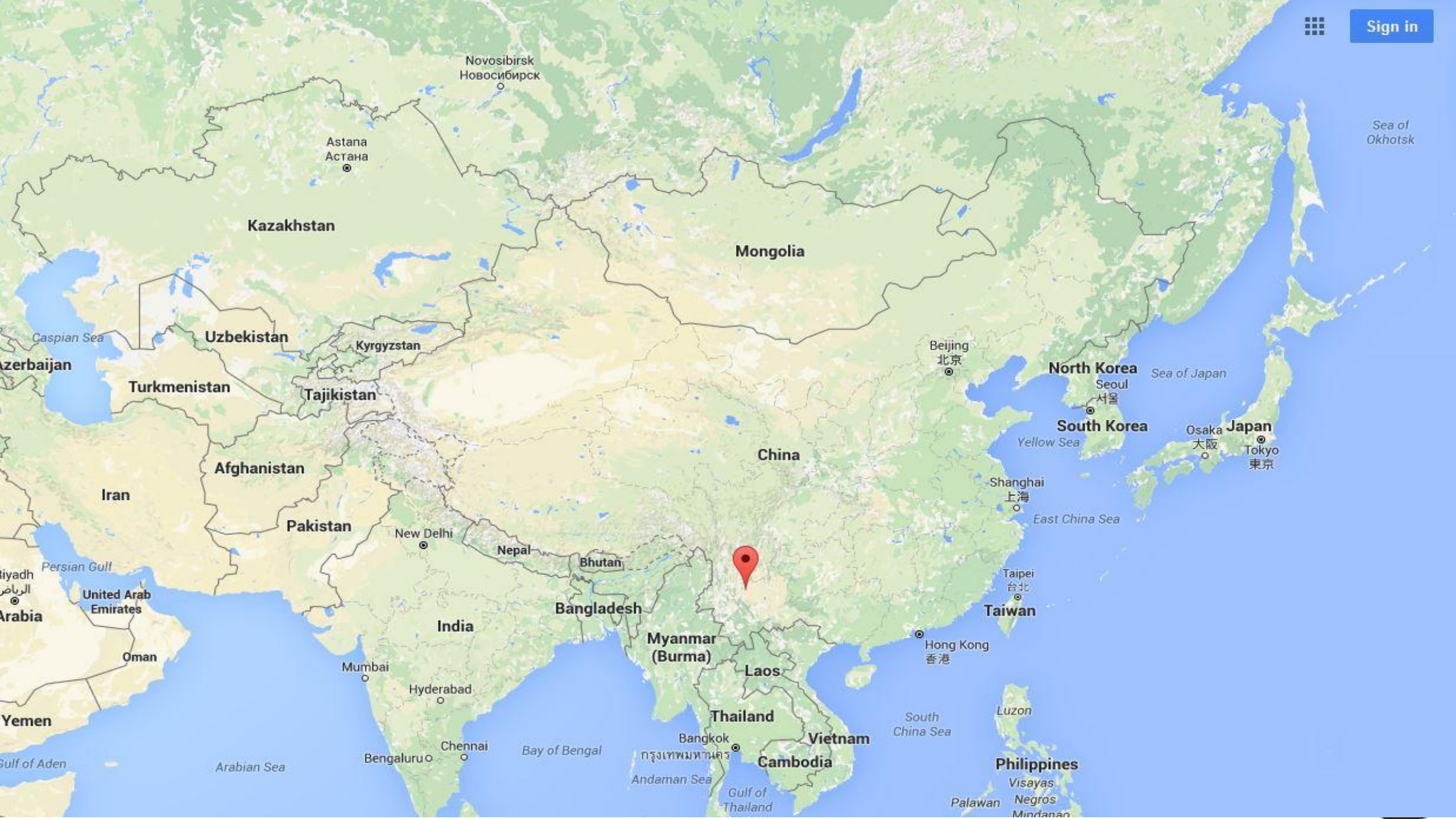








Sign in



# Activities:

- ❑ Study of three domains
  - Epistemology (cosmology)
  - Technology
  - Institutions
- ❑ Focal Points
  - 3 Yi communities in Yao'an
  - 2 demonstration sites
  - 1322 local households



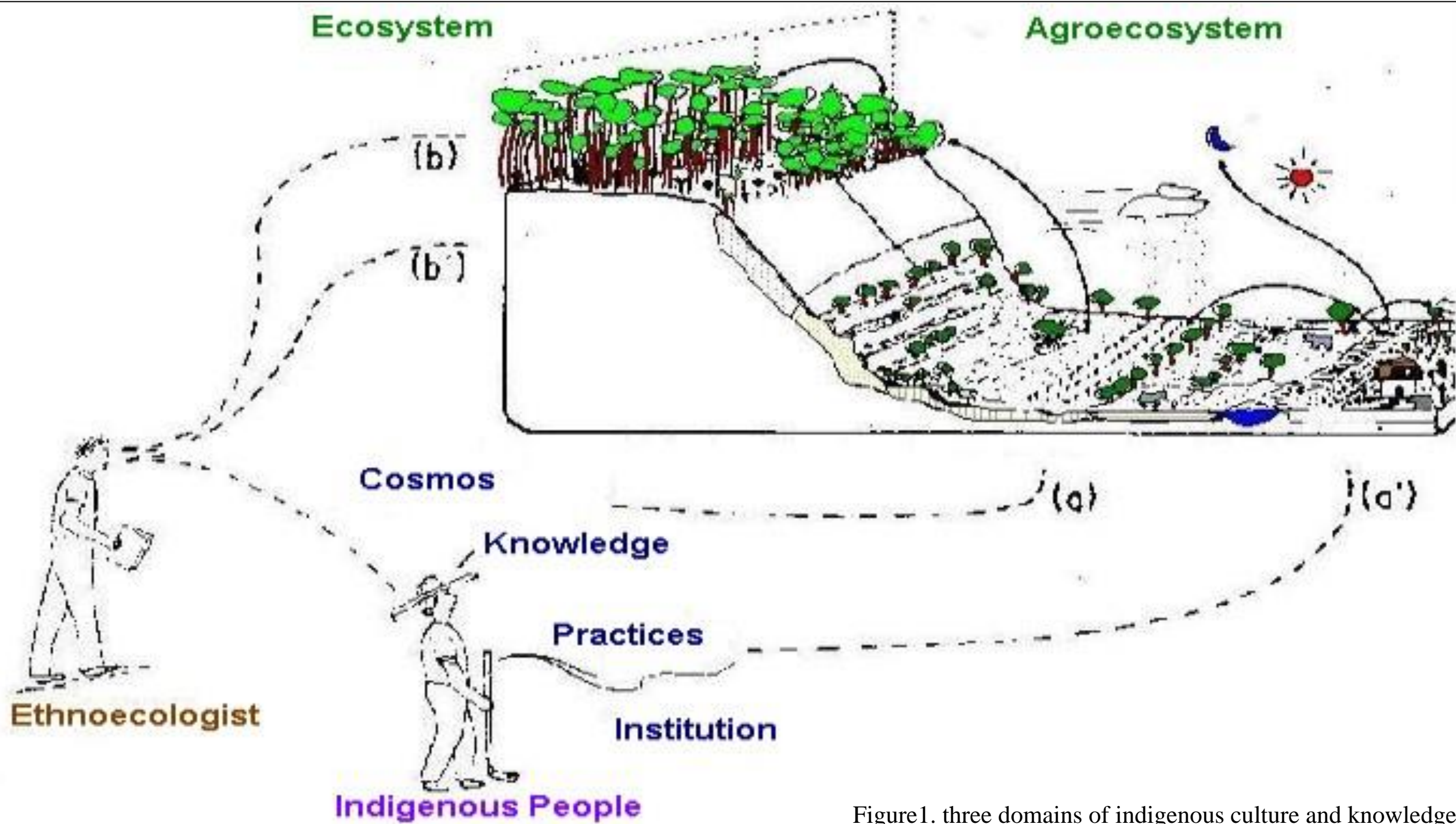


Figure1. three domains of indigenous culture and knowledge



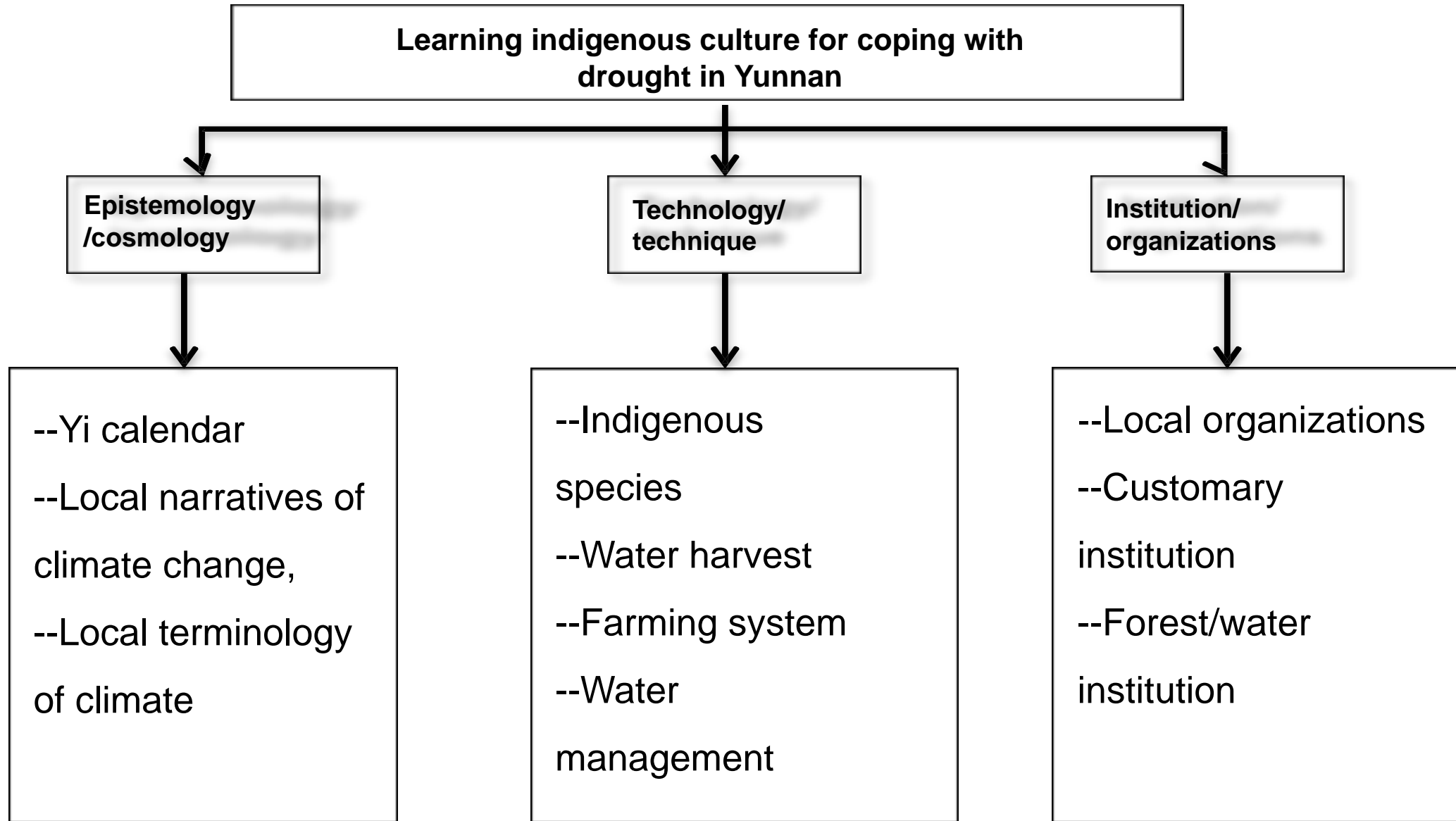


Figure 2. key elements to be examined under the 3 domains of analytical framework

# Activities:

Traditional knowledge and culture contents

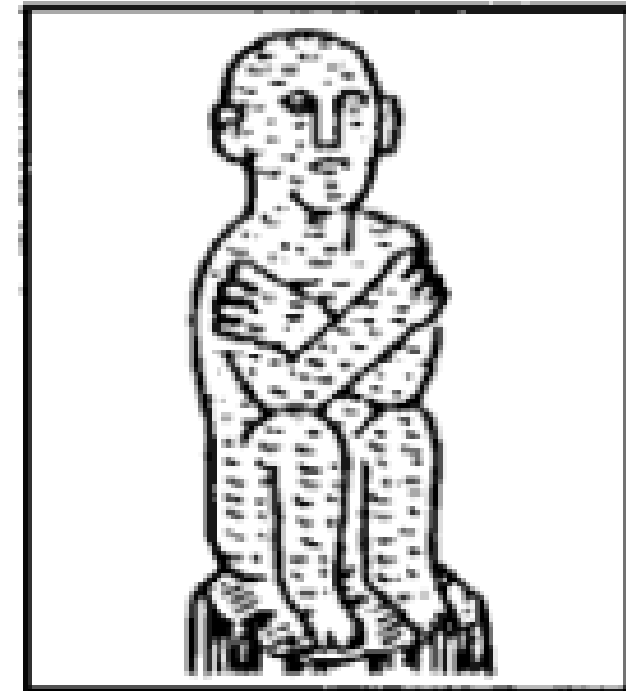
✓ **Message - information**



✓ **Practical technology**

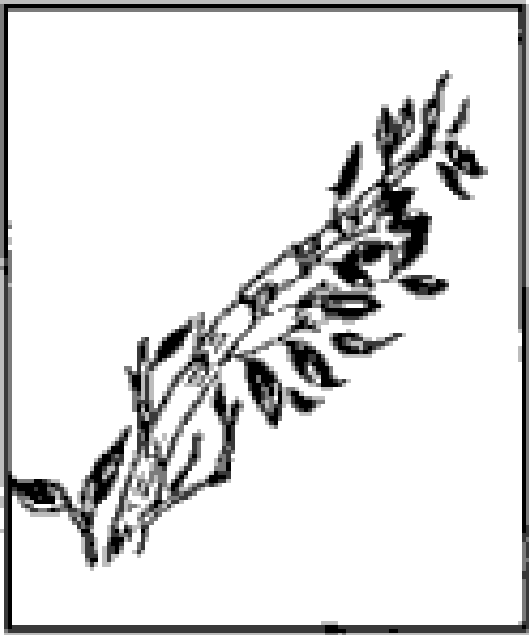


✓ **Religion - belief**

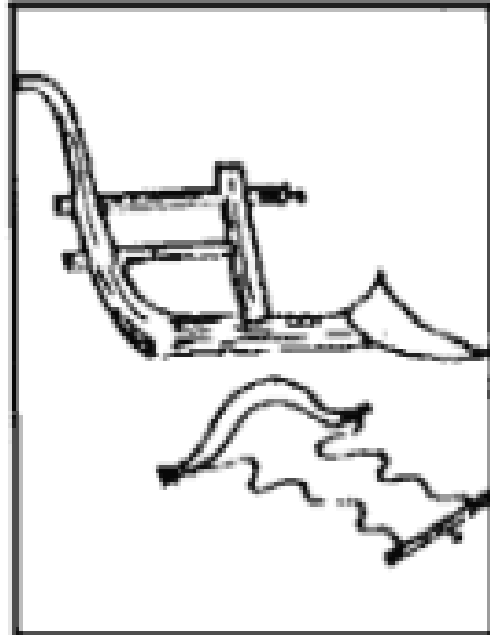


# Activities:

Traditional knowledge and culture contents



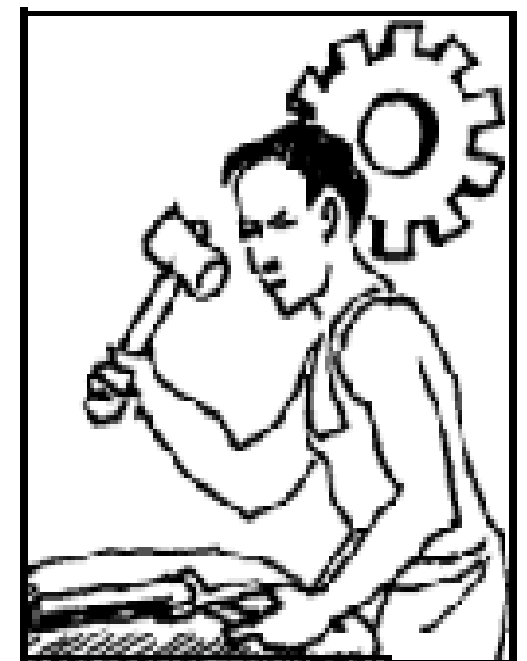
✓ Materials



✓ Tools



✓ Experiments



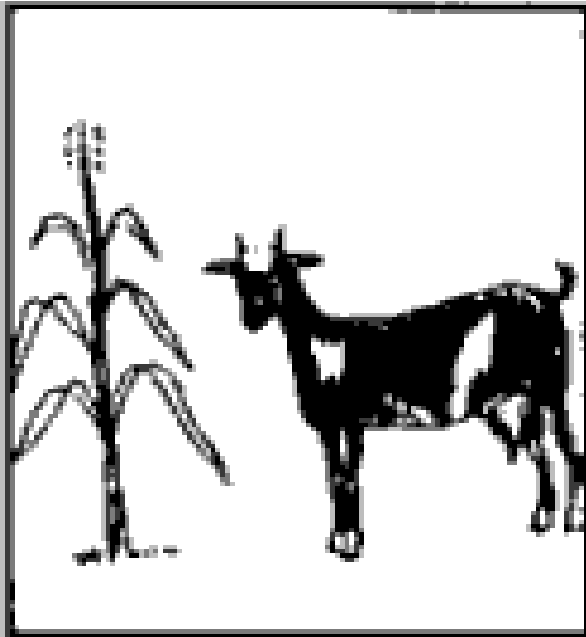
✓ Human recourse



# Activities:

## Indigenous Culture Contents

✓ **Biomass resource**



✓ **Education**

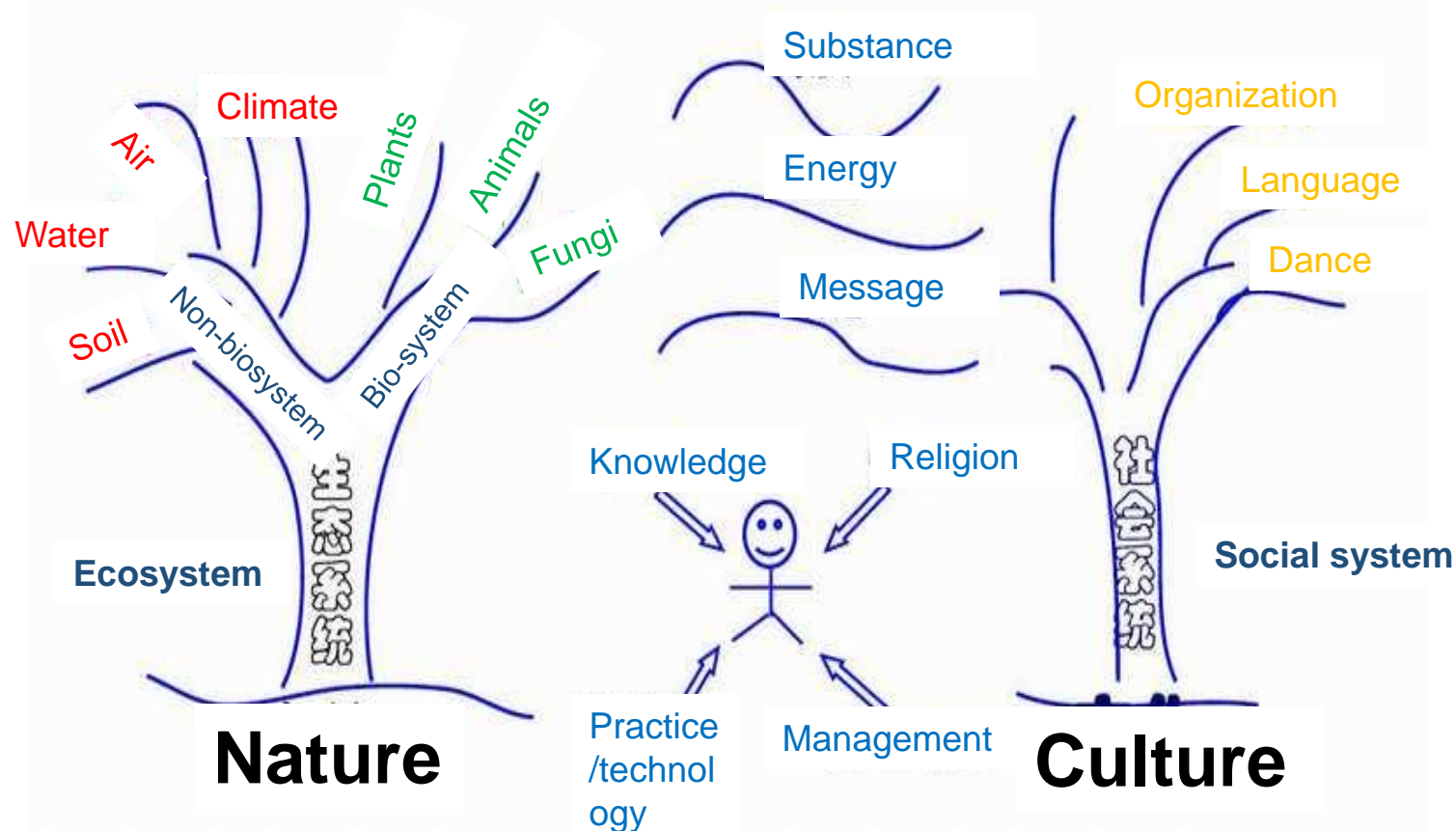


✓ **Communication**



# Summary:

Understand Climate Change



➤ It comes from the interaction of human & nature as well as human themselves

# Methodologies:

Research Contents	Methods
<b>Epistemology/cosmology</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yi calendar</li> <li>• Local narratives of climate change,</li> <li>• Local terminology of climate</li> </ul>	Review literature, PRA semi-structure interview visualization approach cognitive mapping, social mapping, etc.
<b>Technology/technique</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous species</li> <li>• Farming system</li> <li>• Water harvest</li> <li>• Water management</li> </ul>	Review literature, PRA semi-structure interview visualization approach cognitive mapping, social mapping, etc.
<b>Institutions/organization</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local organizations</li> <li>• Customary institution</li> <li>• Forest/water institution</li> </ul>	PRA semi-structure interview visualization approach questionnaire survey



# Communities:

**Table 1. Basic background of the three selected communities**

<b>Village</b>	<b>No.of Household</b>	<b>Elevation (M)</b>	<b>Agricultural practice</b>	<b>Major crop</b>
<b>Xiao He</b>	280	1870	Upland agriculture, Terrace	<b>Corn, potato, paddy rice</b>
<b>Xing chu</b>	470	2080	Upland agriculture	<b>Corn, potato, Upland rice</b>
<b>Xing ming</b>	572	2290	Upland agriculture	<b>Corn, Potato,</b>

# Outcomes:

- Water management practice:
  - Watershed forest conservation
  - Subsidize matter
  - Water tank building
- Change of forest:
  - Convert the monoculture eucalyptus plantation to walnut
  - Drought upland convert
- Converting paddy field to dry farmland
- Rotation soil preparation
- Non-timber forest products
- Water infrastructure
- Crop rotation
- Working migration
- Cooperation with neighbor



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# Conclusions:

- Understand water policy
  - Understandings Yi culture
  - Understand ecological agriculture practice
- 
- Improve stakeholder interactions
  - Improve policy implication
  - Platform for further research
  - Advocacy

# Acknowledgements:

- Organizations:
  - Sida (Swiss): sponsor
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  - Dr. He Jun
  - Dr. Craig Watters
  - Dr. Stoodely Scott



# Reference:

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- M. Schoenberger-Orgad, M. Toledano. (2011). Strategic framing: indigenous culture, identity, and politics. *Journal of Public Affairs*, 11 (4), 325-333.
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# Queries...

## Any questions?

# Thank you!

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