

People-Centred Governance

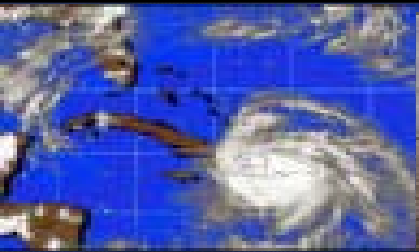
Reducing Risk for People who are Poor and Excluded

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WCED Kobe January 2005**



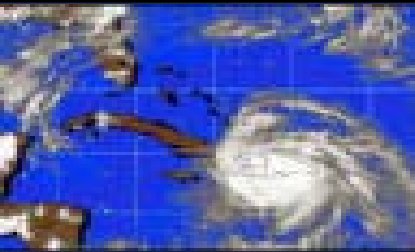
Governance is key

- Disaster risks are highest for poor people
- Invisibility, discrimination, denial of human rights is behind poverty
- The failure of governance that results in poverty is mirrored in disaster risk reduction and response



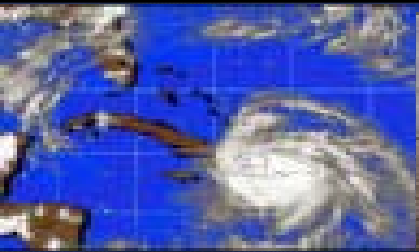
People-Centred Governance challenges conventional 'Good' Governance

- 'Good' Governance agenda has been captured by market and capital friendly governance advocates
- People-Centred Governance has a bias and responsiveness to the poor and marginalised
- A decent floor of social protection, insurance and income



Governance Failures Kill

- The 'good governance' of structural adjustment in Malawi and Honduras left people more vulnerable to disaster
- Problems compounded by weak, unaccountable and corrupt states
- Poor excluded from risk reduction measures, lose social protection, benefits captured by powerful and promises broken



8 Policies to Promote People-Centred Governance

1. Participation
2. Accountability
3. Decentralisation
4. Freedom of, and access to information
5. Legally enforceable obligations
6. Access to justice
7. National cooperation and coordination
8. International cooperation and coordination



Priorities for WCDR

- People-centred governance should be at the core of disaster risk reduction and for the translation of the framework for action 2005-2015
- The eight key policies for people-centred governance should be incorporated into the conference outcome

