

ESPA Inception Meeting, London, 15-16 January 2014

***EcoPoor*: Institutions for urban poor's access to ecosystem services: a comparison of green and water structures in Bangladesh and Tanzania**

## Background, Framing and Programme of Work

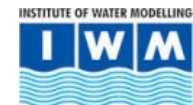
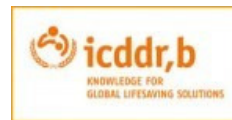
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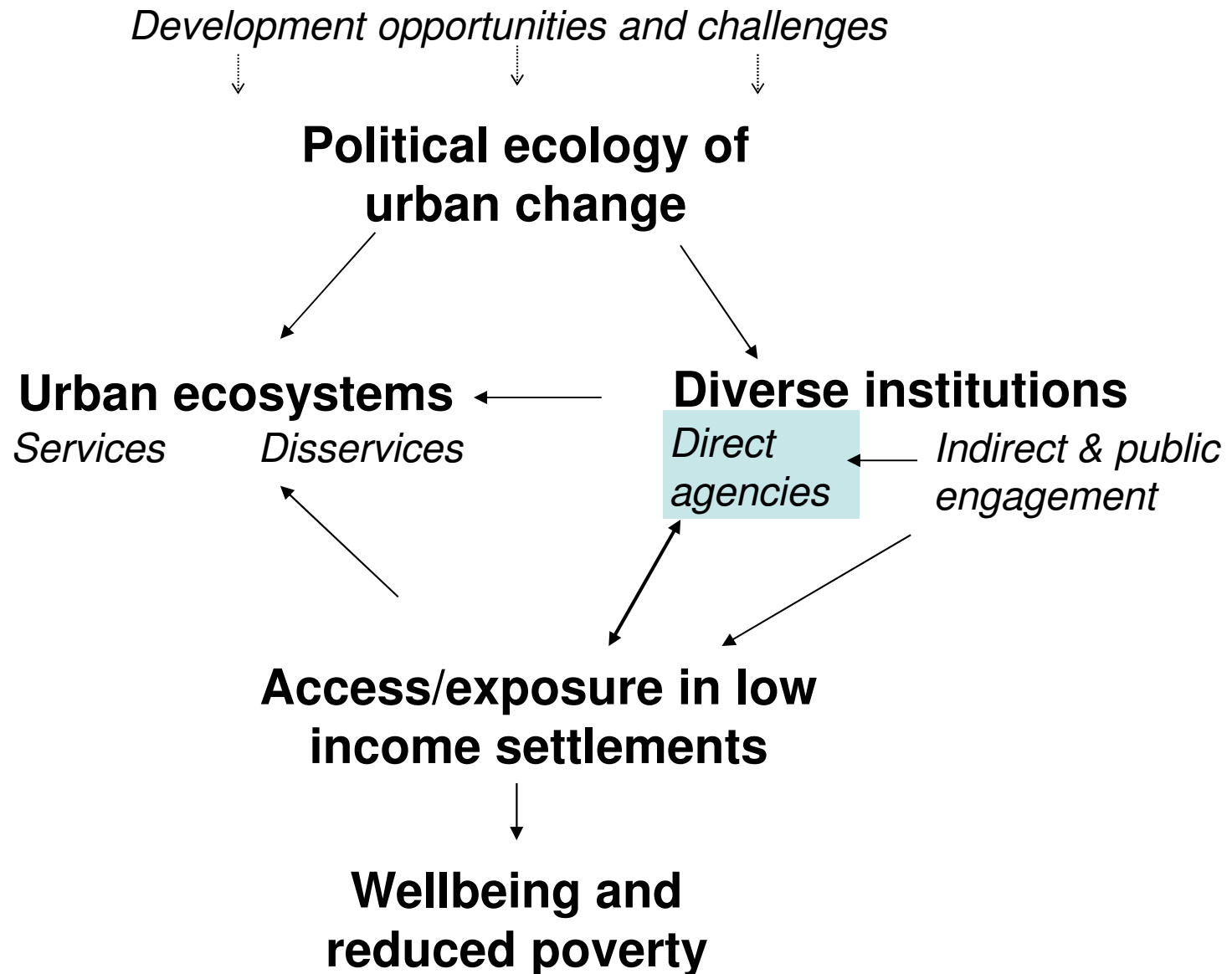
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# Outline

1. Framing
2. Methods & tools
3. Work plan

# What we are interested in

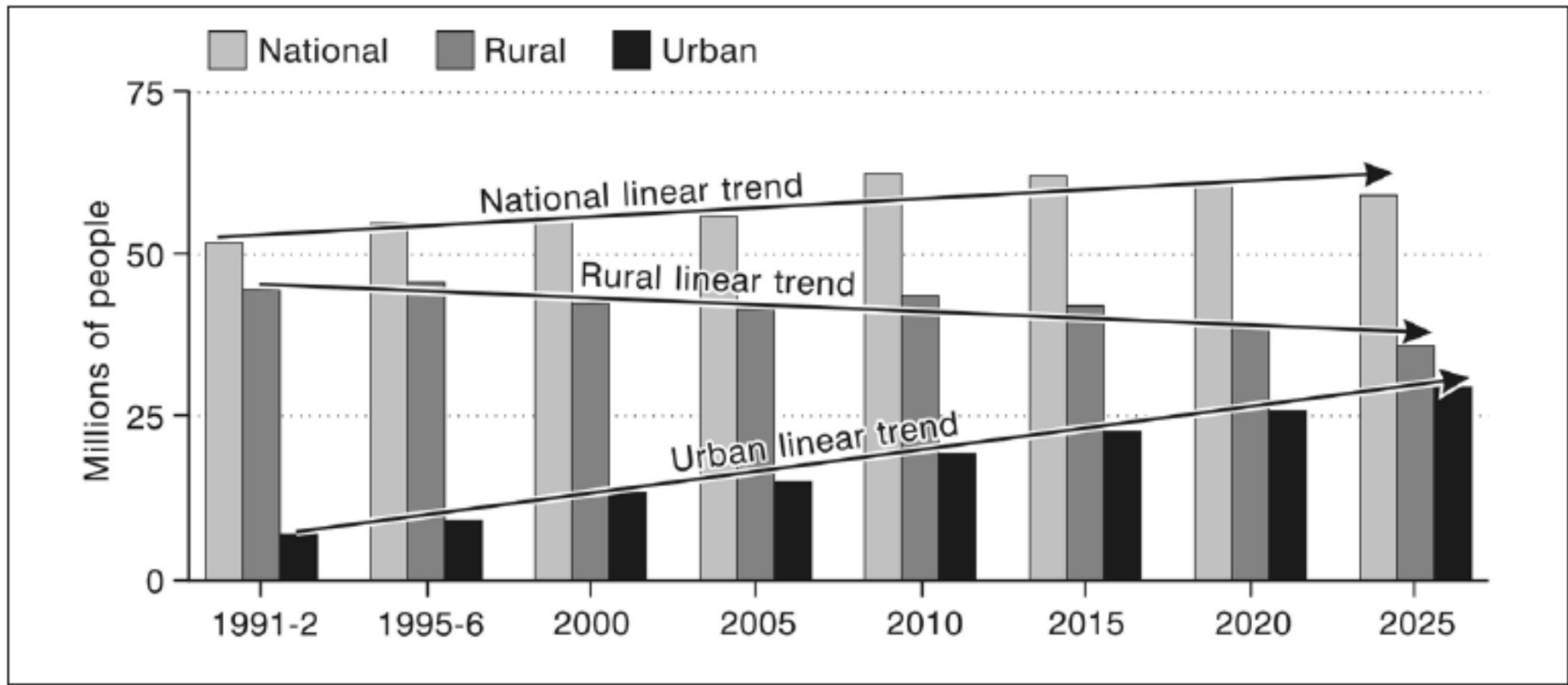


# Three underpinning considerations

1. Poverty has an **'urban future'** in many countries of the developing world
2. Low-income settlements are a **'landscape of disaster'** , induced/manifested by poor quality/absence of water and green structures
3. **'Dependency on diverse institutions'** is a way of low-income dwelling, but the existing institutional structures are rarely inclusive

# Consideration 1

## Urban future of poverty in Bangladesh (Banks Roy Hulme, 2011)



## Consideration 2

**Low-income settlements a 'landscape of disasters'** (Gandy, 2008; McFarlane, 2008)

***Induced/manifested by green and water structures?***

- Unsafe and polluted water ✓
- Filthy local environment - poor sanitation, garbage disposal & drainage ✓
- Risky locations ✓
- Flooding and waterlogging are routine ✓
- Receptors of diffused pollution ✓
- Evictions & insecure tenure indirect
- Social and political exclusion indirect
- Drug abuse and violence indirect

## Implications for human wellbeing

### Example of health outcomes (Mitlin and Satterthwaite, 2013)

| Health outcomes  | Worst performing settlements | Best performing settlements |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Infant mortality rates   | >120/1000 live birth         | <3                          |
| Under five mortality rates   | >250/1000 live birth         | <5                          |
| Maternal mortality rates   | >1500/100000 live birth      | <10                         |
| Life expectancy at birth   | <20 years                    | >85 years                   |
| Prevalence of diarrhoea with blood in children                             | 13+%                         | 0?                          |
| % of children under five who are underweight or under height for their age | >50%                         | 0?                          |

## Examples of fundamental services & disservices of importance to low income people

|                               | Services  | Disservices  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Urban green structures</b> | Shelter, fuel, food, nutrition, protection from extreme weather, pollution retention etc. | Poor protection against shocks; initiating, intensifying & diffusing environmental pollution |
| <b>Urban water structures</b> | Safe & unpolluted drinking water, drainage, flood prevention etc.                         | Environmental enteropathy; flooding & waterlogging   |



## Location: a low-income settlement in Dhaka





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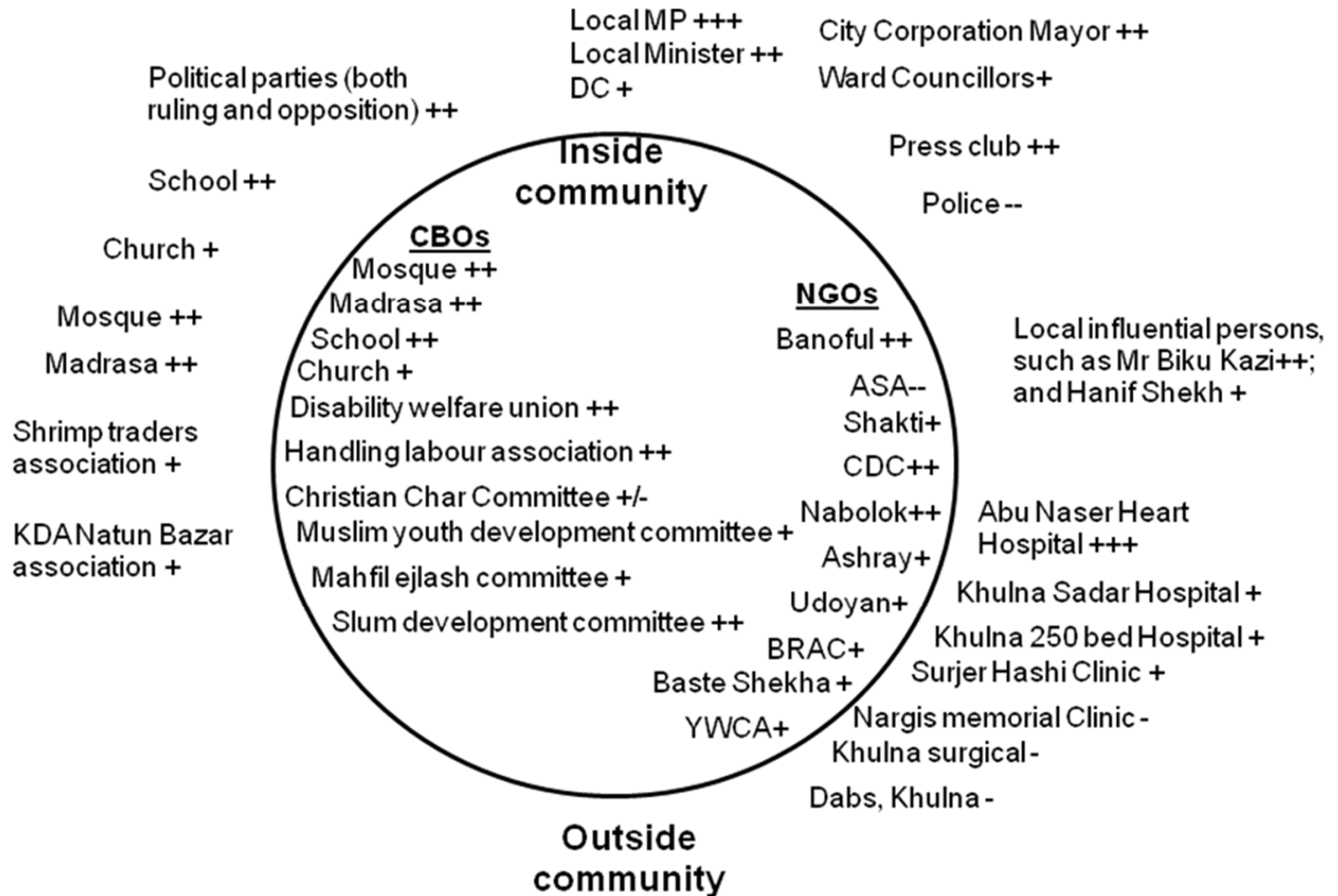
**Location: Dar es Salaam**





# Consideration 3

## Dependency on diverse institutions in Bangladesh (Roy Hulme Jahan 2012)



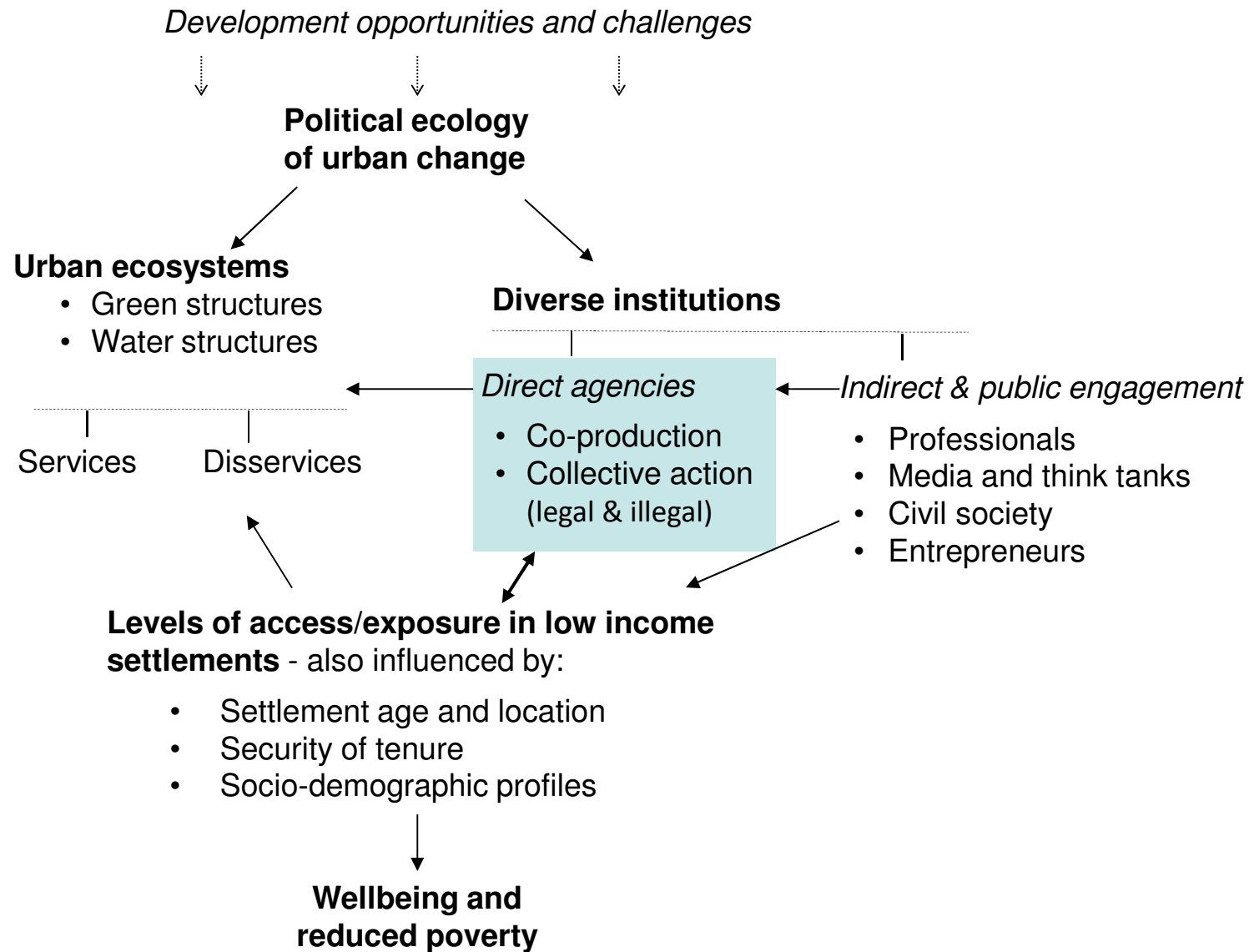
## What do the three considerations tell us?

- In spite of the presence of diverse institutions, why are low-income settlements a landscape of disasters?
- What is missing here? We argue that the problems lie with the institutional arrangements.
- While, collective action and co-production are viewed as essential building blocks of strong local institutions
- The complementarity between these institutional forms has rarely been studied in reg. to low-income settlements

# Co-production & collective actions – key distinctions

| Co-production   | Collective actions  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provisioning of public services through regular, long-term relationships between state agencies and citizen groups, with both making substantial resource contributions (Joshi and Moore, 2004)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The self-help mode of addressing basic concerns by low-income people (Mitlin, 2008)</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Usually facilitated by formal institutions</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mostly grassroots-led</li></ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Requires consensus</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can provide the basis for consensus building</li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Both are components of new institutionalism concept, that institutions are created by social actors engaged in struggles for political power.</li></ul>   |   |

# Revisiting our analytical framework



## **Main research question**

What institutional frameworks enable the urban poor to improve their wellbeing through improving their access to services and preventing urban green and water ecosystem disservices?



## Three related questions

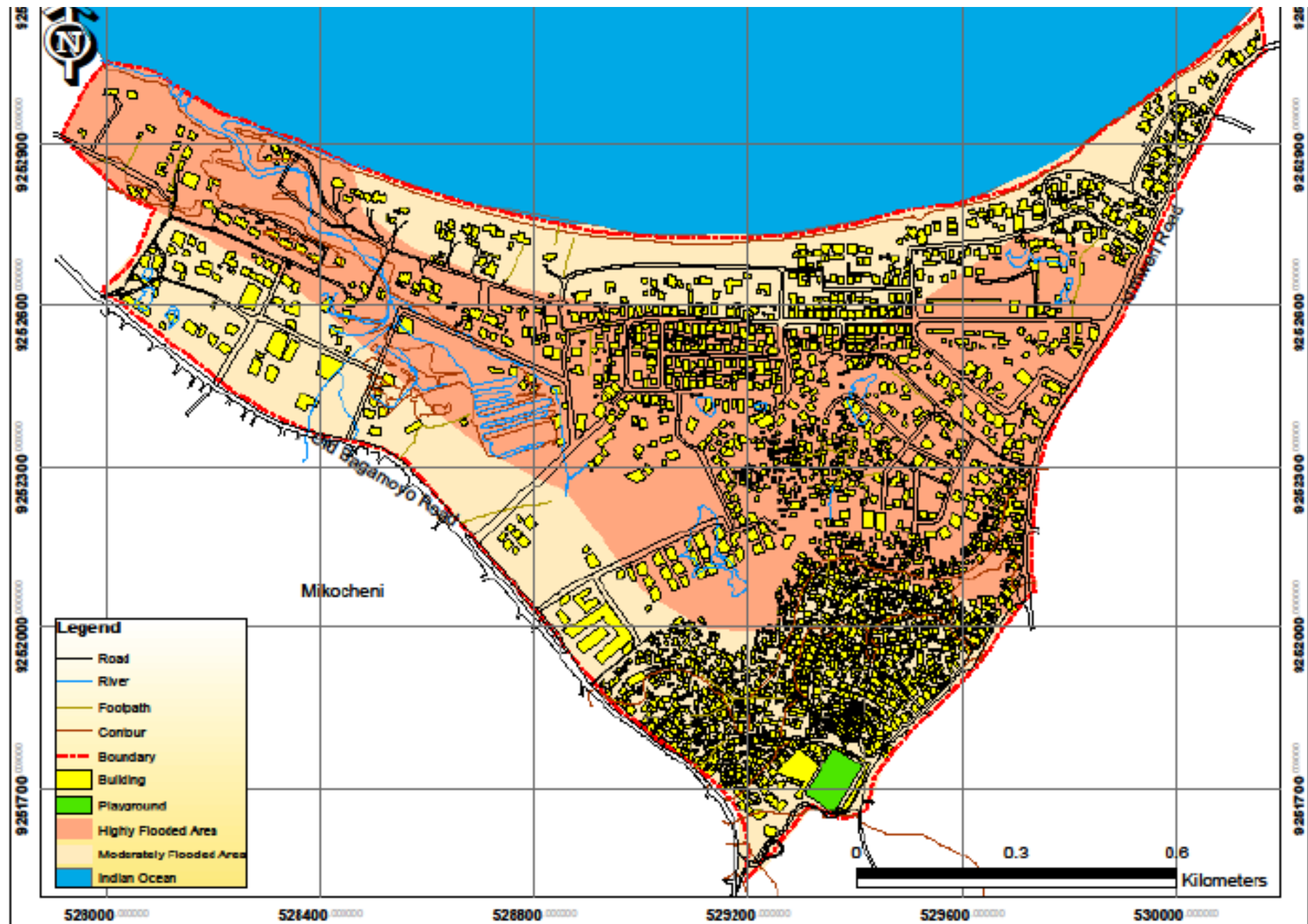
1. What access/exposure do the urban poor have to green and water ecosystem services/risks? [WP1]
2. What institutional arrangements structure their access at different levels? [WP2]
3. Do collective action and coproduction improve the urban poor's access to ecosystem services and create a basis for developing effective institutions? [WPs 3 & 4]

# Methodology and design

## Analytical emphasis

- (a) city-wide networks/corridors of green and water structures (spatial analysis/GIS)
- (b) In depth study of at least 4 low-income neighbourhoods located or connected to that network
- (c) Issues of interest include:
  - Level of access/exposure to services/risks [WP 1]
  - The mediating institutional arrangements [WP 2]
  - Wellbeing outcome classified by type (nutrition, sanitation; income & earnings; exposure to pollution, and social arrangements) and other structural (e.g. age & gender) and locational (city core v/s periphery) elements [WPs 3&4]

# Location: Dar es Salaam



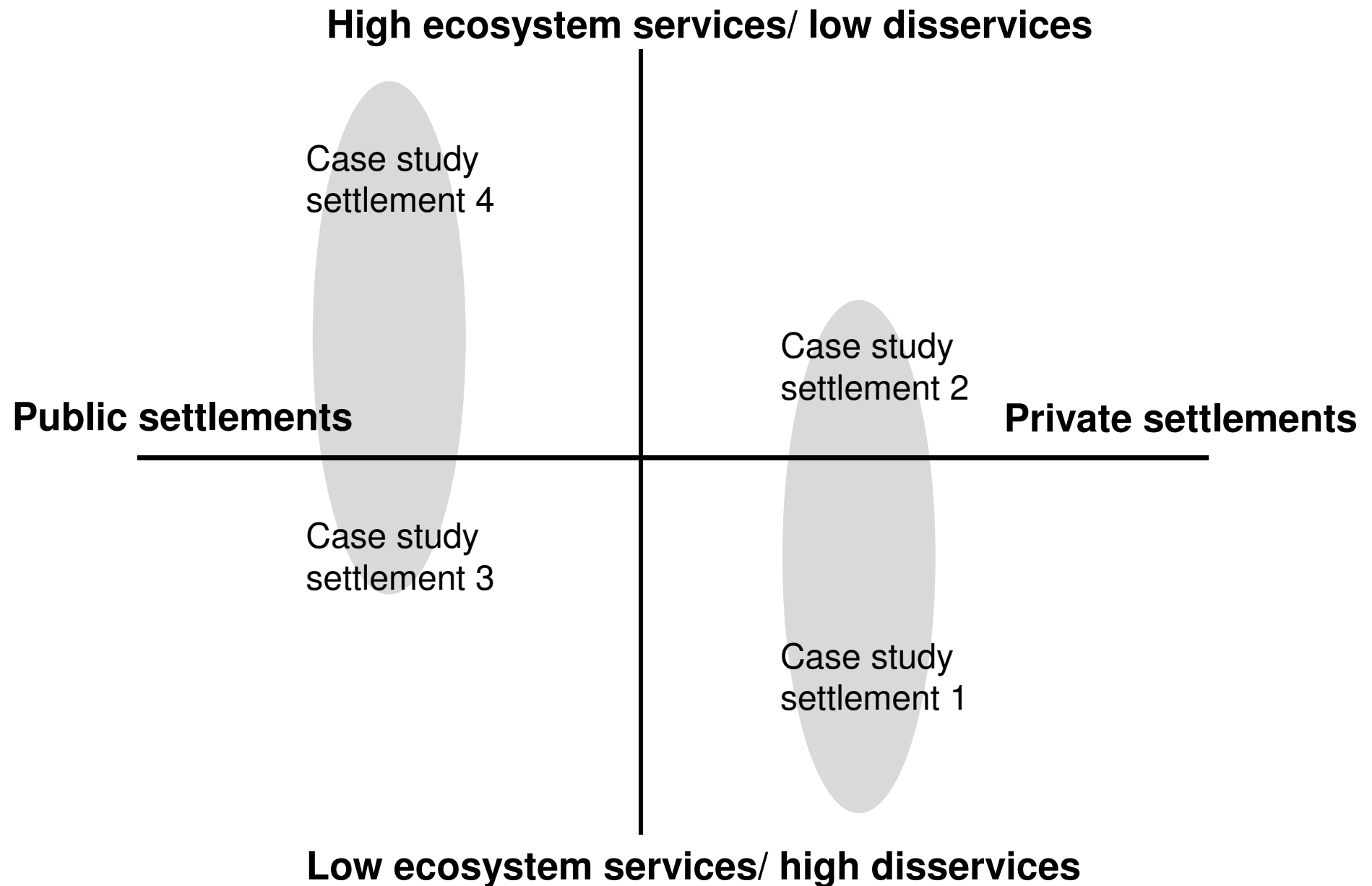


**Location: Dar es Salaam**





# Case study selection



# Key data

## 1. Levels of access/exposure to services/risks

- Existing
- Historic

## 2. Process of changes to these services/risks

- Nature of changes
- Factors contributing to the changes
- Actors promoting/constraining the changes

## 3. Consequent wellbeing gain/loss

- Basic material for good life (nutrition, livelihoods, shelter, goods)
- Health (clean air, water, neighbourhood; contamination-free food)
- Education
- Security (personal safety, security from disasters)
- Social relations
- Freedom of choice and action

# WP 1: Levels of access/exposure to ...

## Services

- **Availability by type of ecosystems**
  - Quantity and location (within people's reach)
  - Bundle of service units produced
- **Accessible to case study population**
  - Demographically differentiated
  - Associated trade-offs, rules, politics, practices

## Risks/ disservices

- **What are the harmful properties**
- **Multiple ways people are exposed to these risks**

## WP 2: Changes to ...

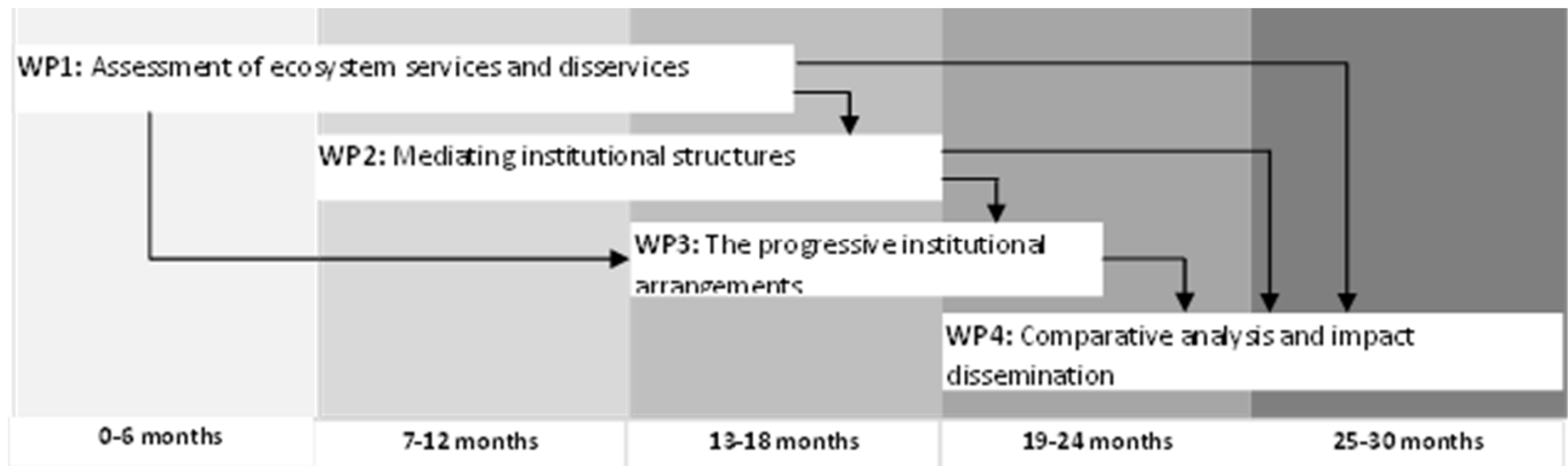
- **Nature of change (functions, quantity, quality)**
- **Factors contributing to the change**
  - Urban/land-use/policy change
  - Pollution loading, reception
  - Ecosystem connectivity/break-ups
  - Disrupted nutrition cycling
  - Loss of bio-diversity/ evasive species
- **Actors promoting the changes**
  - Direct and indirect agencies
  - Their actions/inactions/mal-actions

## WPs 3 & 4: Wellbeing consequence

- **Gains and losses**
- **Differentiated – spatially, temporally, demographically, tenure-based, collective action/coproduction**



# Work packages



## Where we are and the next steps

- Country meetings held in November (Dar) & December (Dhaka) 2013
- Dhaka and Dar Research Framework Development Exercises – March 2014
- Methodology paper – May 2014
- Fieldwork starts: in both cities – June 2014

# Acknowledgements

- Thanks to ESPA
- Builds on two successful recent/ongoing projects
  - ClimUrb (ESRC-DFID funded); visit:  
<http://www.bwpi.manchester.ac.uk/research/climurb/>
  - CLUVA (EU FP7 funded); visit:  
<http://www.cluva.eu/>
- Bangladesh and Tanzania collaborators

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