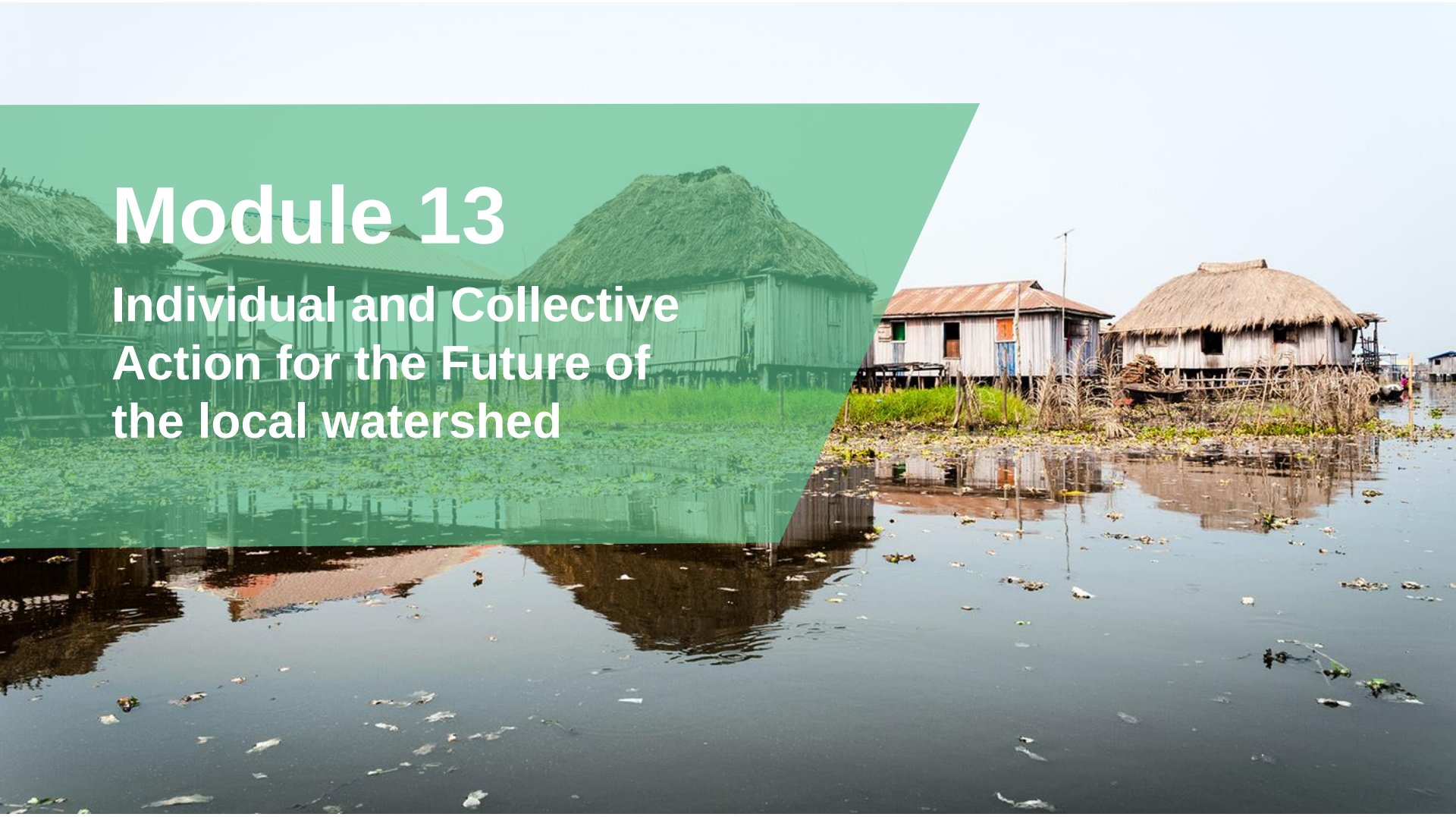
Theme 3

Adaptive Thinking and Committing to Action to Prepare for the Future

IISD
International Institute for Sustainable Development

Module 13

Individual and Collective Action for the Future of the local watershed



Introduction

- We have a wide range of interests in the room
- In agreeing to come here, each person agreed to represent one or more interests
- That carries responsibility
- We’re going to ask you to acknowledge and accept that responsibility

Key questions

- What is the agenda of the people and the institution you represent?
- What are the management goals for the local watershed that those people hold forth?
- What actions can you personally agree to undertake that will advance those goals?

The interests in the room (well, some of them)

Agriculture	Environment
Forestry	Municipality
Wildlife, fisheries	Industry
Water resources	Tourism & recreation
Regional government	National government

A plenary brainstorm (10 min)

- Help us revise that list
- We seek 8–10 predominant interests that represent decision making in the watershed

Free association (5 min)

Who do you feel you represent, or wish to represent?

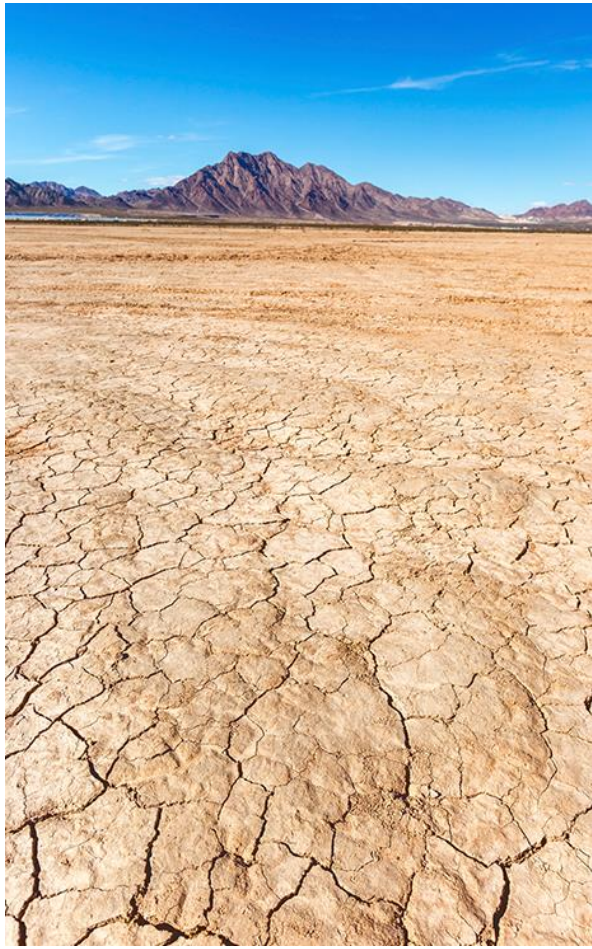
- Consider your interests, skills and responsibilities
- Select what you would identify as your primary and secondary interests from that revised table

Join others (3 min)

- Join others who have selected your primary interest
- If there are fewer than three people in your group, each person move to what you identified as secondary

The future of the local watershed (30 min)

- What climate conditions might occur here in 2050?
- How would those conditions influence your group?
- What might be done by your specific interest-group in 3–5 years to sustain choices for the future?
- Identify 2–4 things you personally might be willing and able to do in the next 12 months to advance those 3–5 year actions



Building community (15 min)

- Move to what you defined as your secondary interest
- Discuss potential actions from your primary interest that might be interesting in this new group
- Describe the 2–4 personal actions you might consider taking in the next 12 months

Accountability (15 min)

- Return to your primary group or stay with your secondary group, depending on where you feel strongest affinity
- Talk with your peers and understand what we are asking: *How will you accept responsibility for 1–3 actions you plan to take in the next 12 months to provide choices?*
- Identify any synergies in the group, people with common interests who might help you
- Identify 1–3 things you would offer as reporting variables 12 months from now

A plenary coming together (15 min)

- Groups report what we expect to be able to discuss 12 months from now