

Building Boundary Chain Partnerships to Bridge Science and Policy in Ontario

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Background - GLISA



- Great Lakes Integrated Sciences + Assessments Center
- One of NOAA's 11 RISA climate service centers
- Outreach, climate science, and social science providing information for adaptation
- 8 US Great Lakes states and Ontario
- Established in 2009 - two decades into regional climate change adaptation discussions

The Challenge

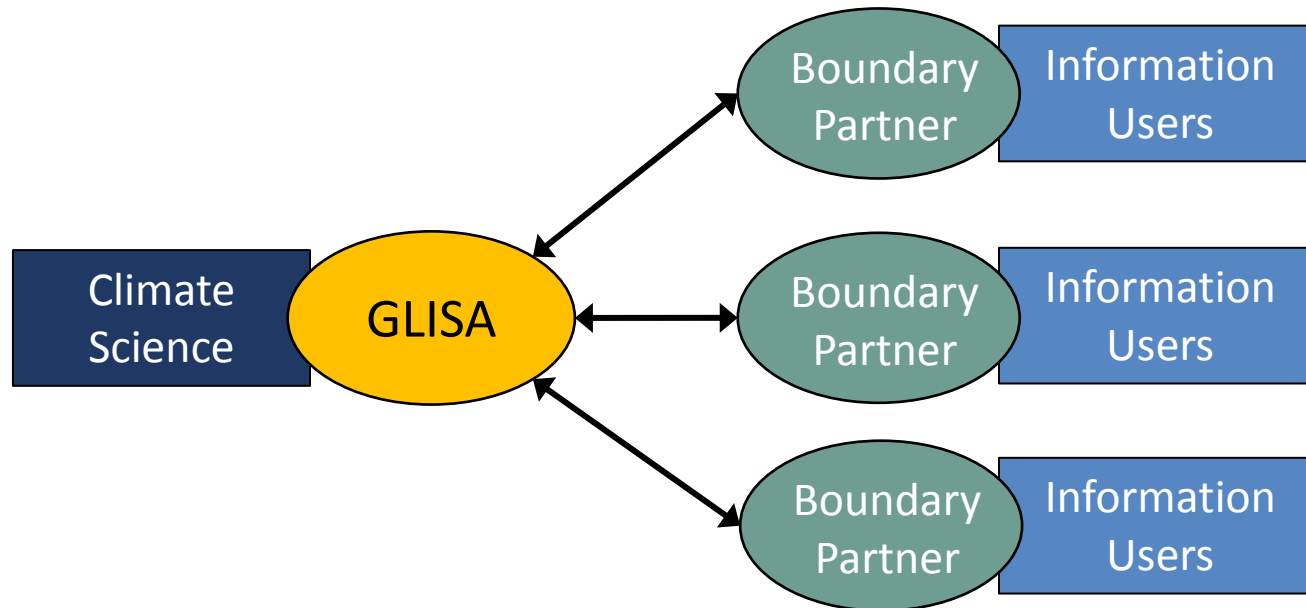
- Literature on climate and decision making shows climate data can be integrated into decision making
- Interactions build trust, translate terms, clarify misunderstanding, and identify potential opportunities for overlap
- Decision-support based on direct interactions between producers and users is highly resource intensive
- This work part of a larger challenge to “scale up” the development of usable information

Boundary Chains

- Boundary organizations span and protect the divide between producers and users
- Adaptive collaborations between two or more boundary orgs across a shared boundary
- Reduce transaction costs through sharing of resources and leveraging existing trust
- Allow for a high level of customization without sacrificing diversity

Key Chain

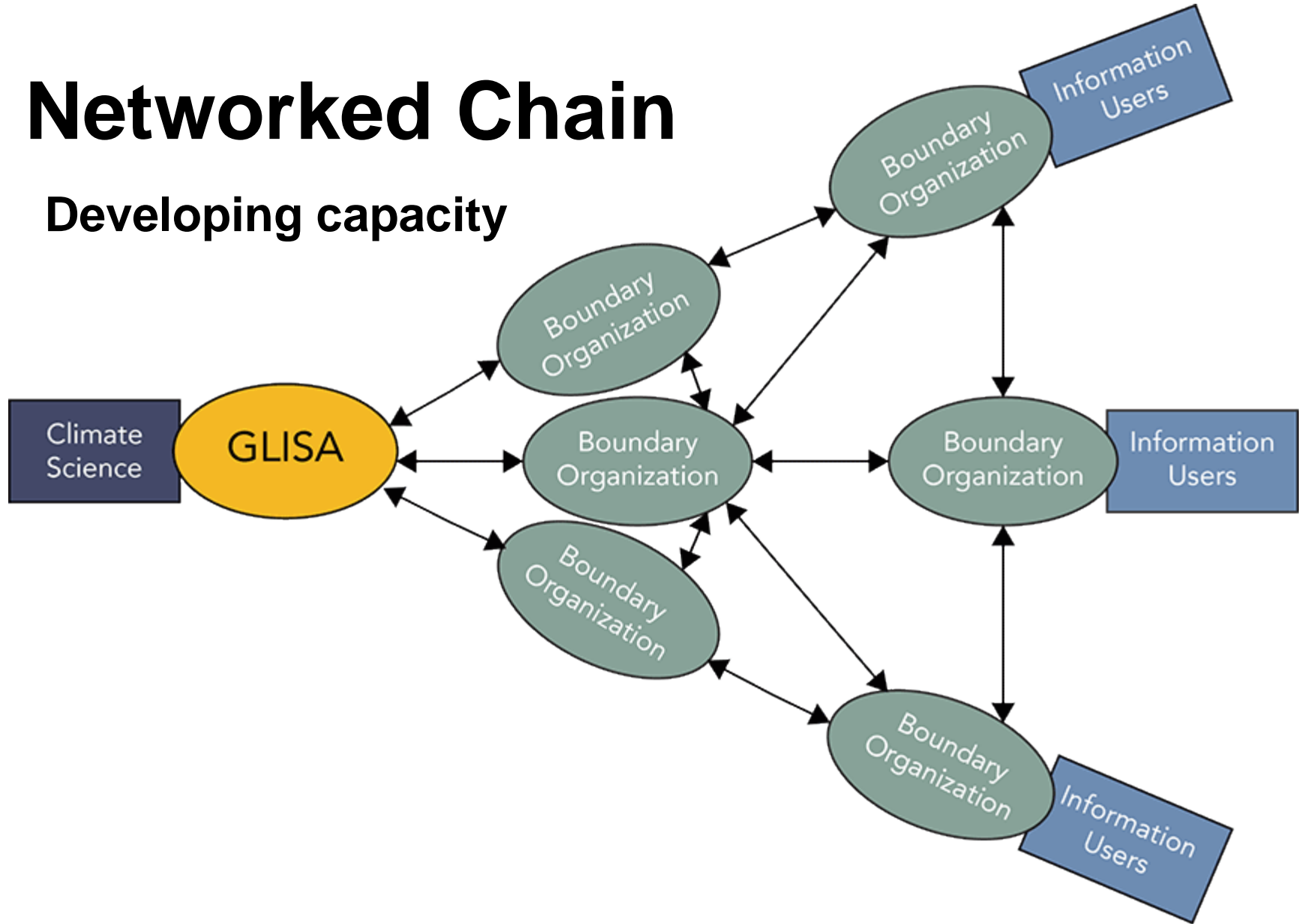
Broadening diversity



Annual Grants Competition

Networked Chain

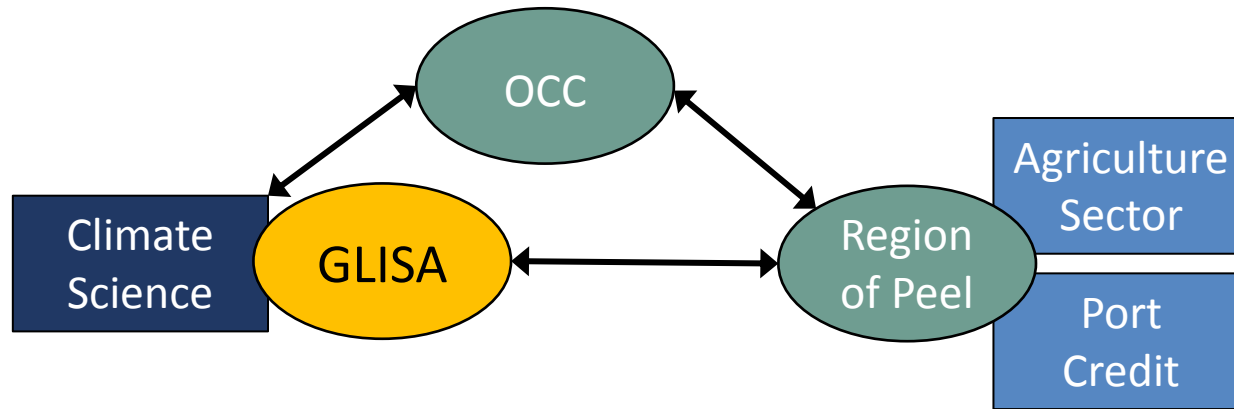
Developing capacity



Ontario in the Key Chain

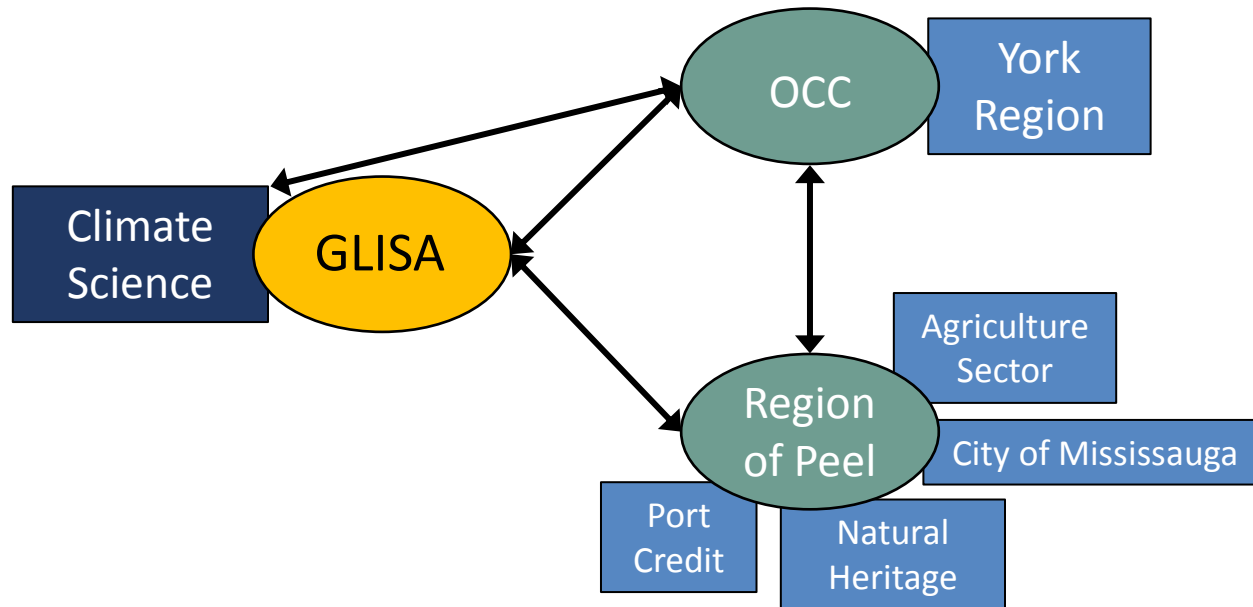
- One thing that makes GLISA distinctive is the opportunity to partner with Canadian groups
- During 2013 The Region of Peel won a grant from GLISA to develop case studies of vulnerability risk assessment
- Focused on Caledon's agricultural sector and critical services and infrastructure in Port Credit

Ontario in the Key Chain



- Region of Peel integrated direct stakeholder engagement with both groups, risk management analysis techniques and climate resources. OCC provided localized climate information.

Ontario in a Networked Chain



- OCC now a partner using Peel experience to support York
- Perhaps York can eventually become a partner and there can be a link from GLISA to OCC to the regions
- Peel has also been expanding into other decision contexts

Thank You

- For more information:

Lemos, M. C., C. J. Kirchhoff, S. E. Kalafatis, D. Scavia, R. B. Rood. 2014. “Moving climate information off the shelf: Boundary Chains and the role of RISAs as adaptive organizations.” *Weather, Climate and Society*. 6(2): 273–285.

[The Region of Peel’s Project Report](#) is also available.

Or visit <http://glisa.umich.edu>