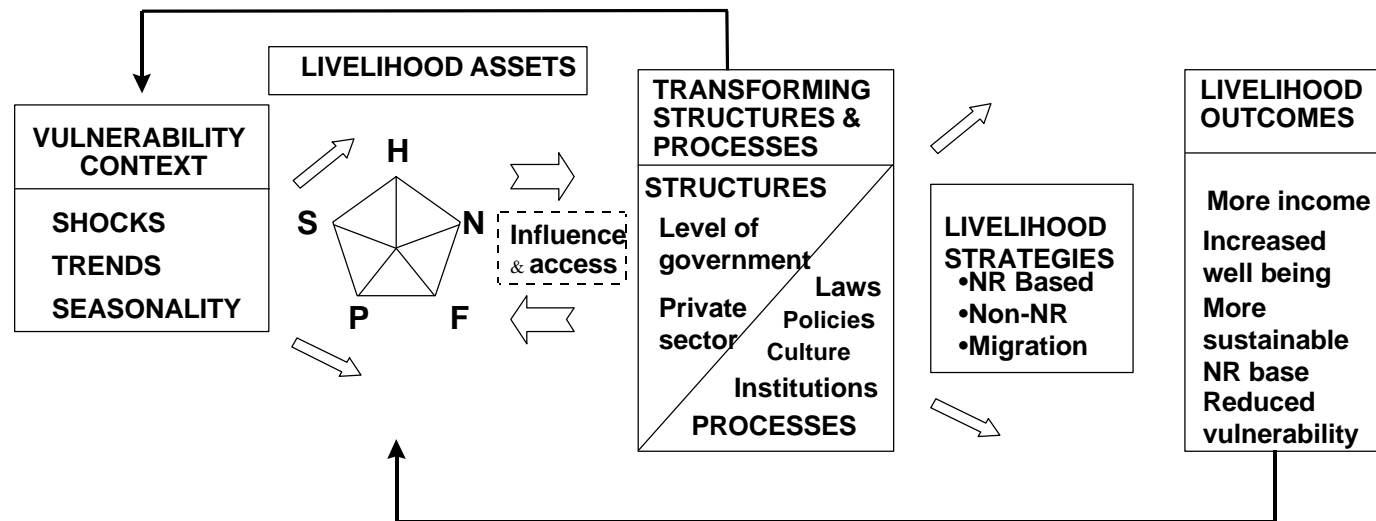


The Sustainable Livelihoods Agenda



What does it offer us?

What do we want from this research seminar?

- History & politics of the concept and framework
- The framework - key components & themes
- Where do ‘technology’, ‘intermediate’ and our mission fit in?
- Workshop: “How can it help us in what we do?”
- What will last and what will come next?

History

- ‘sl’ (small letters) has been around along time: Chambers 87 & 92
- ‘Livelihoods’ - people first, participation, more than money
- ‘Sustainable’ - Rio 92, sustainable development, environment focused
- ‘SL’ (capital letters) absorbs both - a coup

DFID Politics - White Paper

White Paper: 1997 commits to poverty reduction by promoting:

- a) sustainable livelihoods
- b) education & health
- c) natural & physical environment

A battle for the SL pie...first off the post was SRL

DFID Restructuring

Natural Resources scooped up:

- 1) Sustainable Rural Livelihoods
- (NRAC98, Key Sheets, SL Sheets Resource Centre)
- 2) Natural environment

Engineering

- (Sustainable) Urban Livelihoods
- Physical environment

Health & Education - OK

Economists? Social Development?

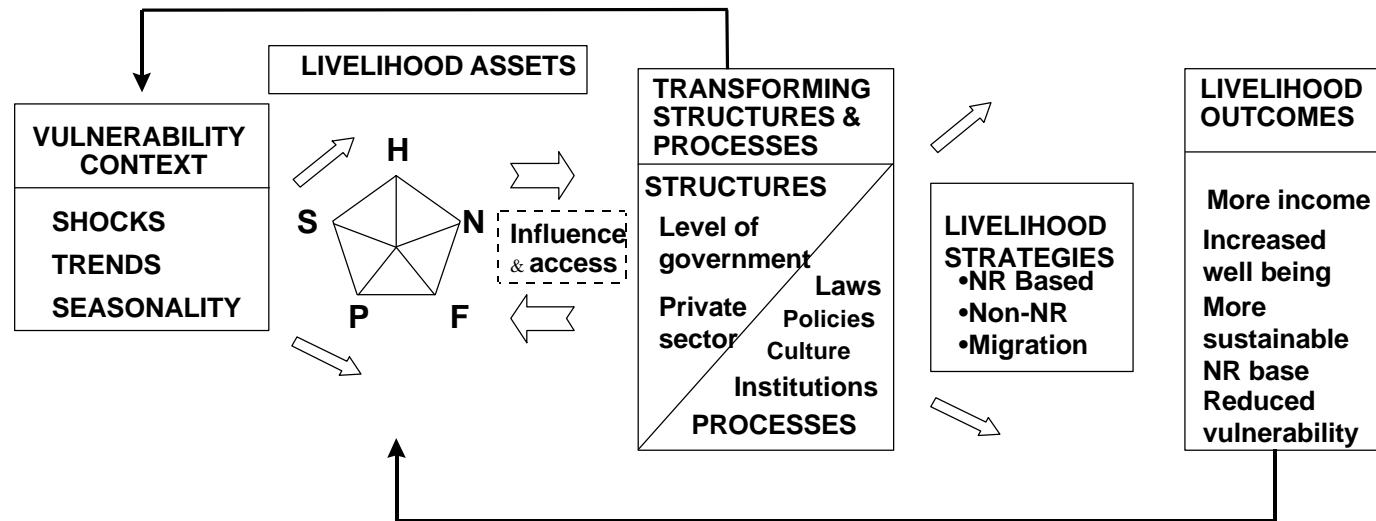
Political, but explicit, in the following language...

DFID SL Definition

- A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets and activities required for a means of living. (*poverty*)
- A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future, (*sustainability*)
- while not undermining the natural resource base (*environment*)

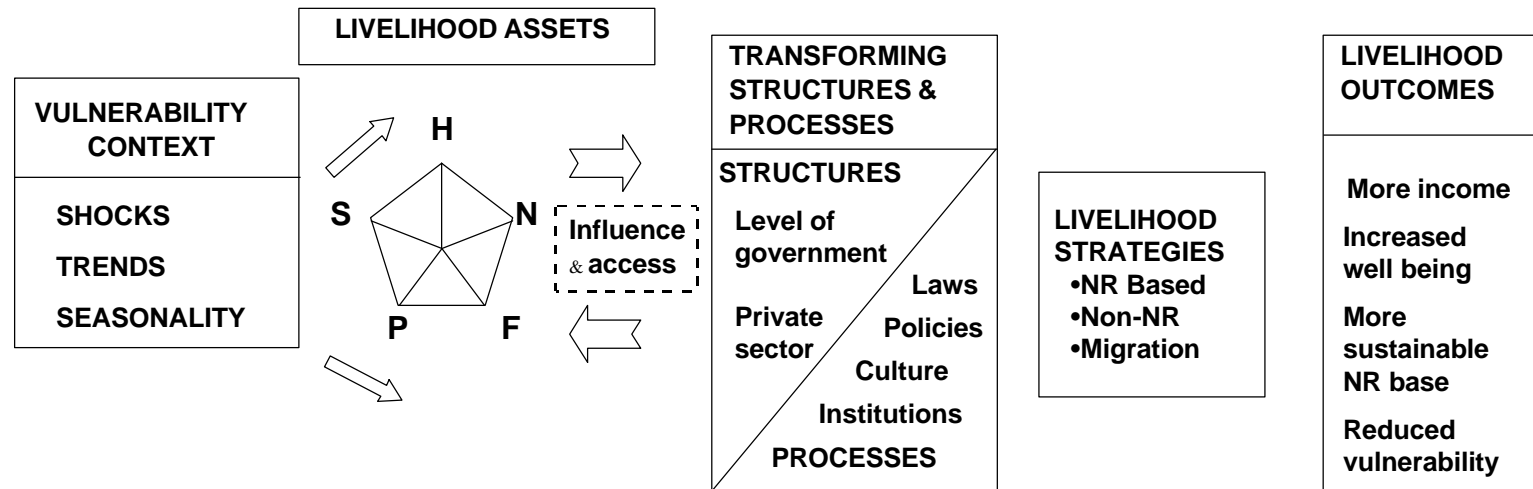
And a smart diagram to help us remember...

Sustainable Livelihoods Framework



Boxes and shapes, arrows and
feedback feedback loops.
Beginning, a middle and an end...

Sustainable Livelihoods Framework



What we have to work with...

resources, risk, SWOT

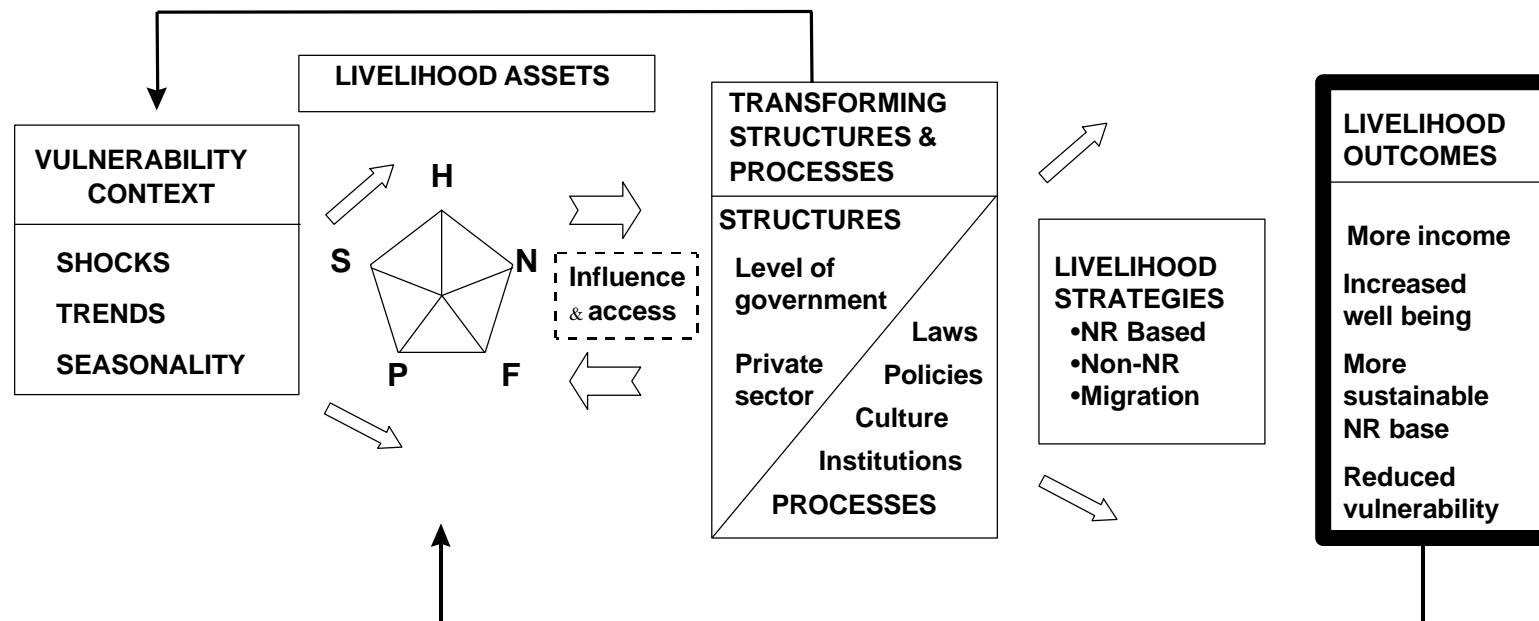


our influence?

...what we want to achieve

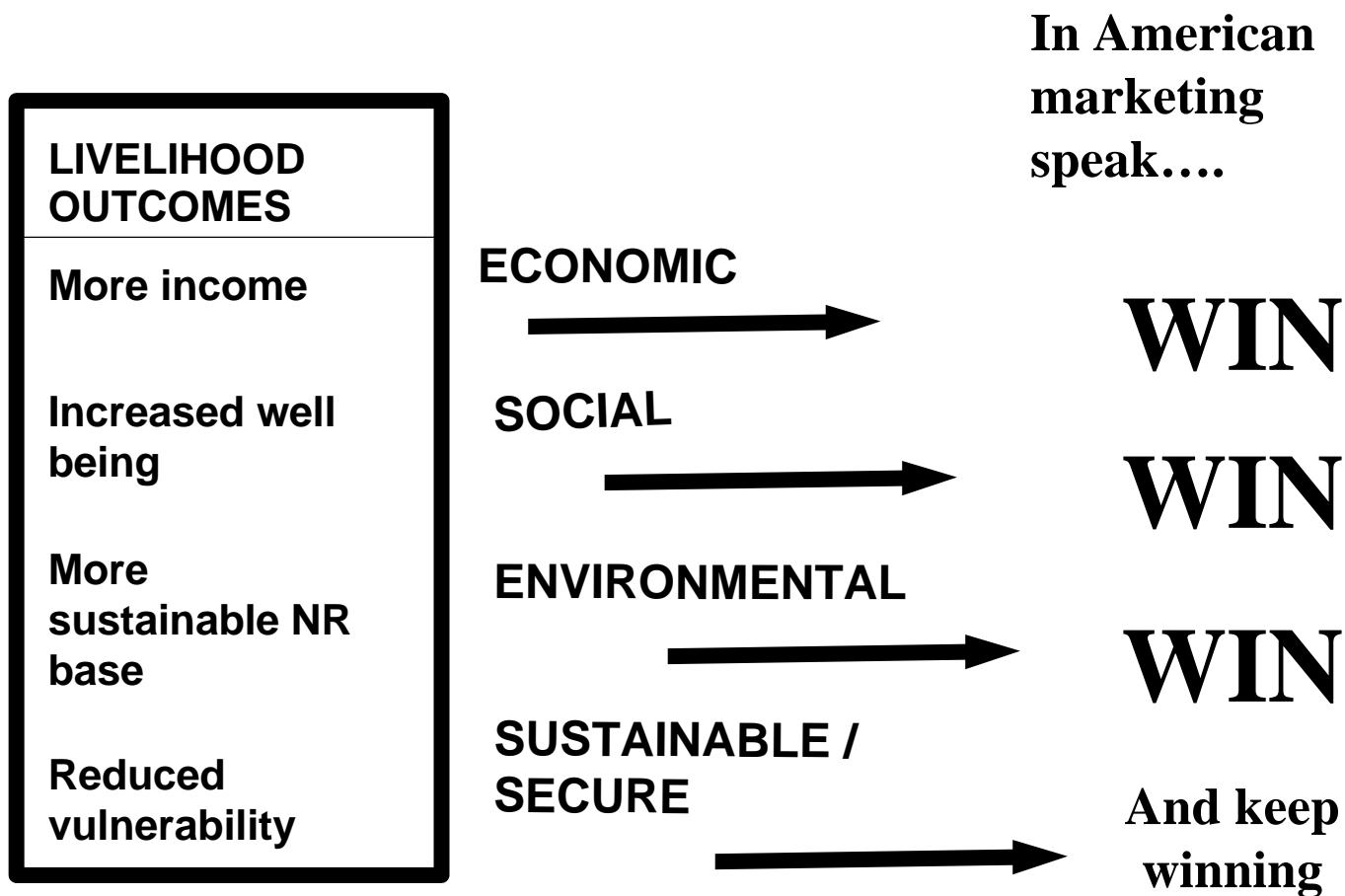
purposes, outputs and activities

‘Livelihood Outcomes’: What does a poor person want to see from a Sustainable Livelihood?



...what are poor people aspiring to?

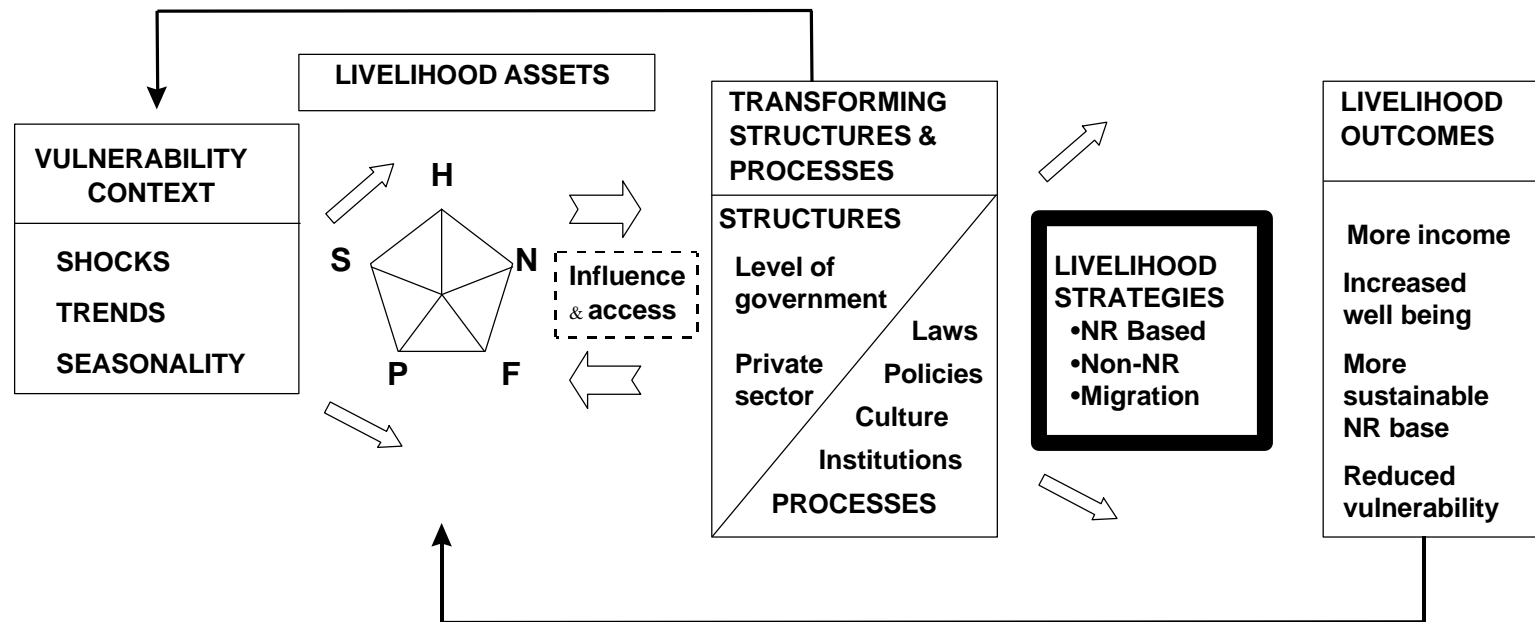
...what do they want from life?



...if poverty alleviation is a poor person's purpose, then these are the outputs

but there are trade-offs between economic, equity and environmental goals

What 'Livelihood Strategies' do we see in rural areas to achieve this?



...what are poor people actually doing to survive?

What are the key *productive* activities in rural areas?

- On-Farm (Agriculture)
- Off-Farm (Livestock, forest, CPR)
- Non-Farm (IGAs / Enterprise)
- Migration & wage labour

What are the key *reproductive* livelihood strategies in rural areas?

- Care and maintenance of household
- Caring for children
- Collecting and preparing food, water, fuel
- Healthcare
- Education
- Entertainment
- etc.

What other activities are important for Sustainable Livelihoods?

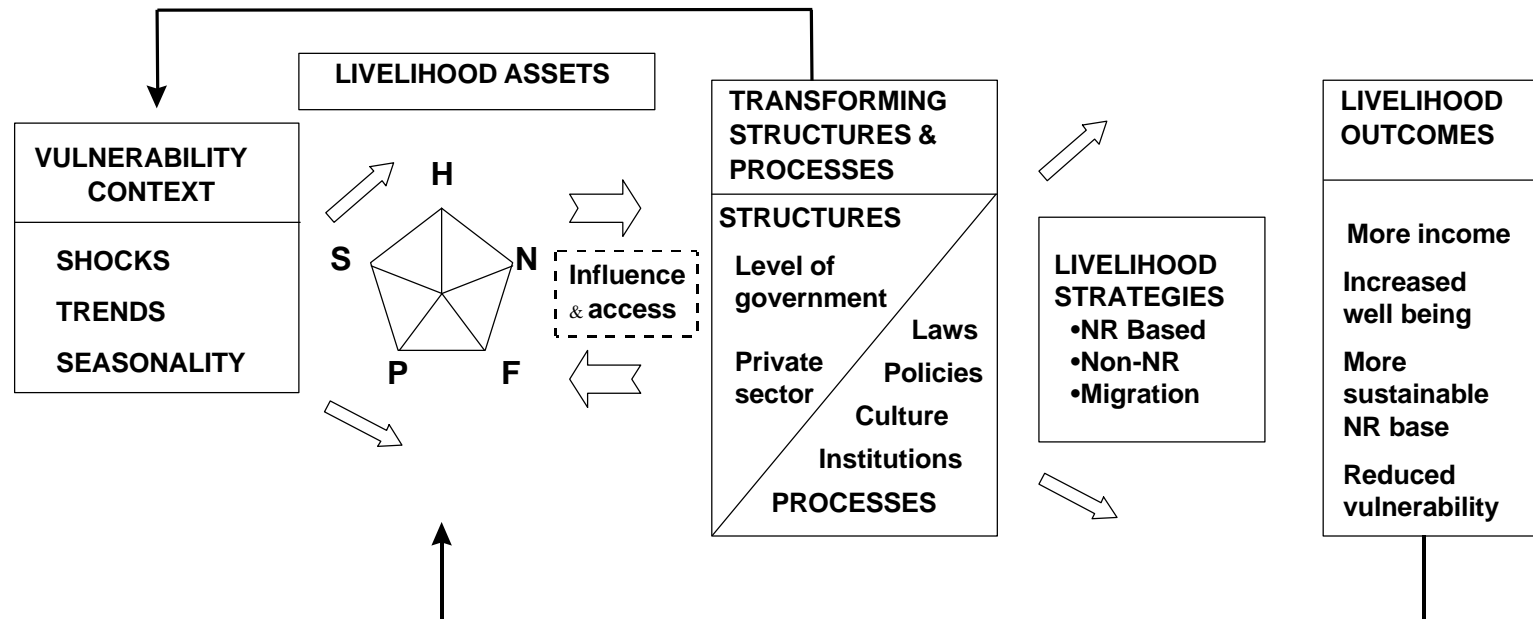
Community Work (in Caroline Moser speak):

- participation in social events and services
- local political activities
- social contact and entertainment

Thoughts on the right:

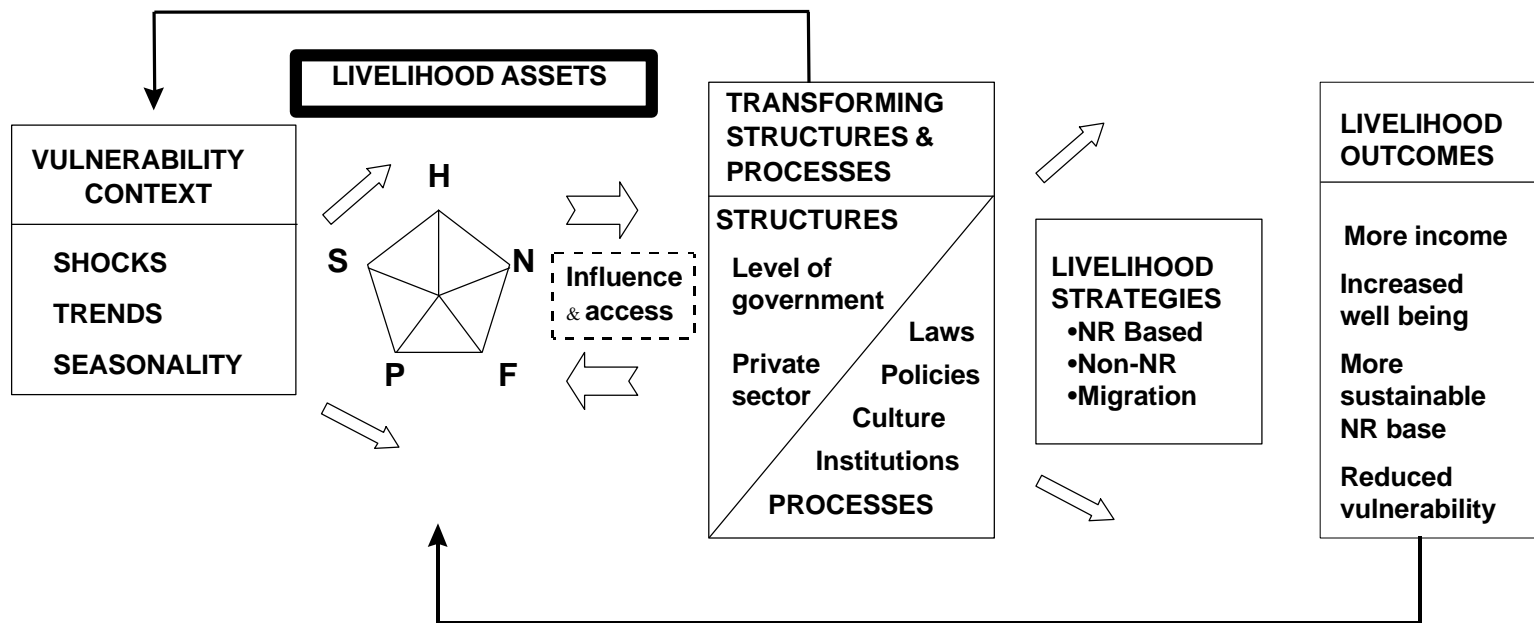
- Whose goal, purpose, outputs and activities
- Diverse and differing range of activities that make up different people's 'lives' - analysis reveals impact of sector approaches
- A livelihood strategies = strategic choice of activities - there are trade-offs and
- Are certain activities entry points, can we sequence?
- Are there similarities, or clusters of similar people's with similar strategies?

Sustainable Livelihoods Framework



What do we have to work with...

What are the key assets available to the rural poor?



...Natural, Human, Social, Financial, Physical

Capital assets and resources

- Each person has a portfolio
- Assets are often about entitlement and access
- Assets can sometimes be traded, substituted or transferred
- Assets can play off against each other
- SWOT - Strengths and Weaknesses

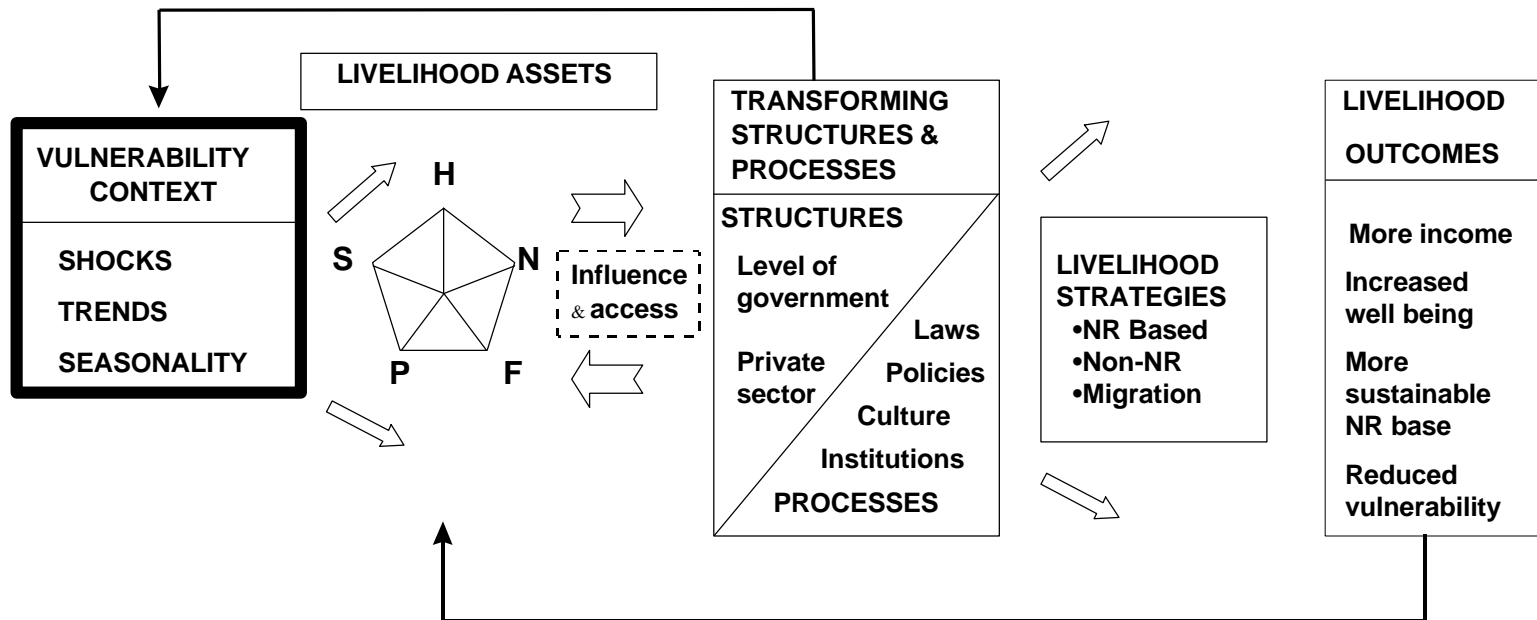
Strengths and Weaknesses:

- What assets are strong and provide livelihood opportunities?
- Which provide most opportunity to the poor?
- Which provide opportunity for use by the rich, hence depriving the poor?
- What assets are scarce and compromise rural energy services?

Capital Assets - opportunities & threats for rural energy

Capital	Opportunities for Rural Energy Services	Threats for Rural Energy Services
<i>Natural – Agricultural land</i>	Agricultural residues for cooking & process heat	Conversion can places pressure on common resources
<i>Natural – Livestock</i>	Provides dung cakes for cooking, if not needed as soil improver	Livestock grazing in common property can compromise sustainable management
<i>Natural – Forest, shrub, CPR</i>	Key source for firewood, dead fall, off-cuts or harvesting	If management too strict, sustainable use compromised Foreign species plantations vulnerable to drought
<i>Natural - solar</i>	For PV	
<i>Human</i>	Labour for scavenging firewood seasonally plentiful	Awareness of new options can be low
<i>Social</i>	Community cohesion can support joint management of NR or schemes	
<i>Financial</i>		Credit and secure wage work scarce
<i>Physical</i>		Markets, Services & supplies scarce

And what is the vulnerability context...



...affect of shocks, trends, seasonality on energy services?

The vulnerability context...

- Unpredictable: Shocks - disasters, bumper harvest, pests, war, prices changes
- Predictable: Trends and seasonality - changes with government, season, week
- Links with Transforming Structures and Process - except less influence, more *external*
- SWOT - Opportunities and Threats

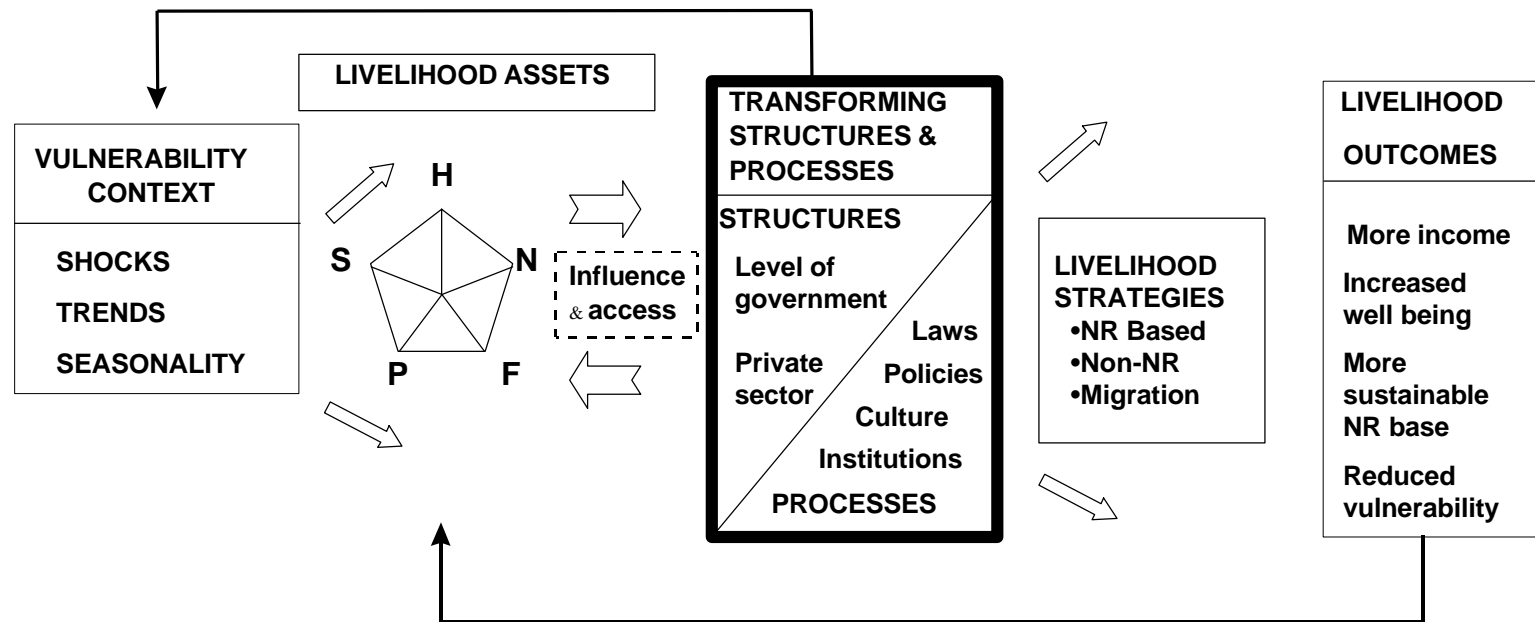
Vulnerability context in rural energy...

- Seasonality of NC - forest off-cuts & agricultural residues seasonally available & scarce
- Seasonality of HC - families may be too busy to collect wood in season, but out of season migration may compromise investment in new technologies
- Trends - political promises of electrification may undermine investment in stand alone solutions
- Shocks - changes in policy may change price of fossil fuels

Thoughts on the left side:

- Desegregation - each pentagon is a different person; people centred
- Focuses on resources, builds on strengths
- Explores negative affect of other's assets
- Acknowledges change, diversity
- Analyses interplay between external environment and internal resources - SWOT

The Middle



Is this where DFID, ITUK or others should influence?

Transforming Structure and Process

Determine:

- Access (to capital, decision making bodies etc)
- Terms of exchange (between capital)
- Returns (on livelihood strategy)

Via

- Structures (hardware)
- Processes (software)

Structures

- Private sector (informal and formal, trade bodies)
- Public (local and central, judicial, legislative)
- Civil society (including community based?)

Processes

- Policies
- Legislation
- Institutions (markets, rules of game, access regulation, entitlements)
- Culture
- Power relation between age, class, gender

Cross Cutting themes:

- Systems approach, holistic
- People centred, diversity of activities, choices, different for everyone
- Building strengths and opportunities, not defining activities, inclusive and open ended
- Trade-offs between choices - long term vs short term?

- Internal / external, Macro-micro links, influence of institutions on society?
- Efficiency, effectiveness through partnerships, collaboration
- Long term, sustainability, partnerships and collaboration

Sustainable Livelihood Framework

