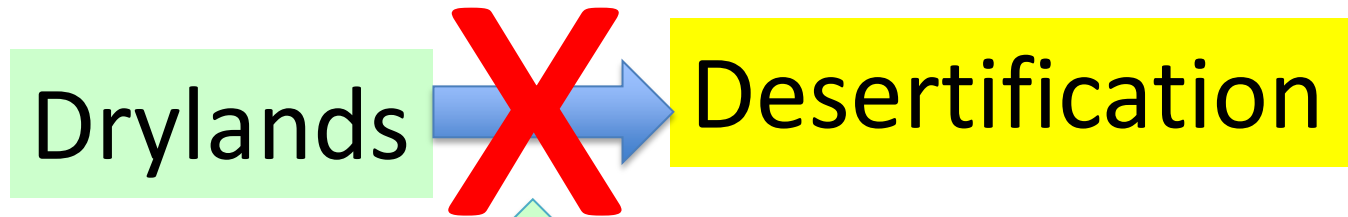


# The UNCCD and the D(D)D conference



The farmer

COPolicy makers

CST

The track of science

1. The UNCCD is commended for recognizing the need for “**translational science**”

2. Interfacing science is a science

3. Policy-making is a science

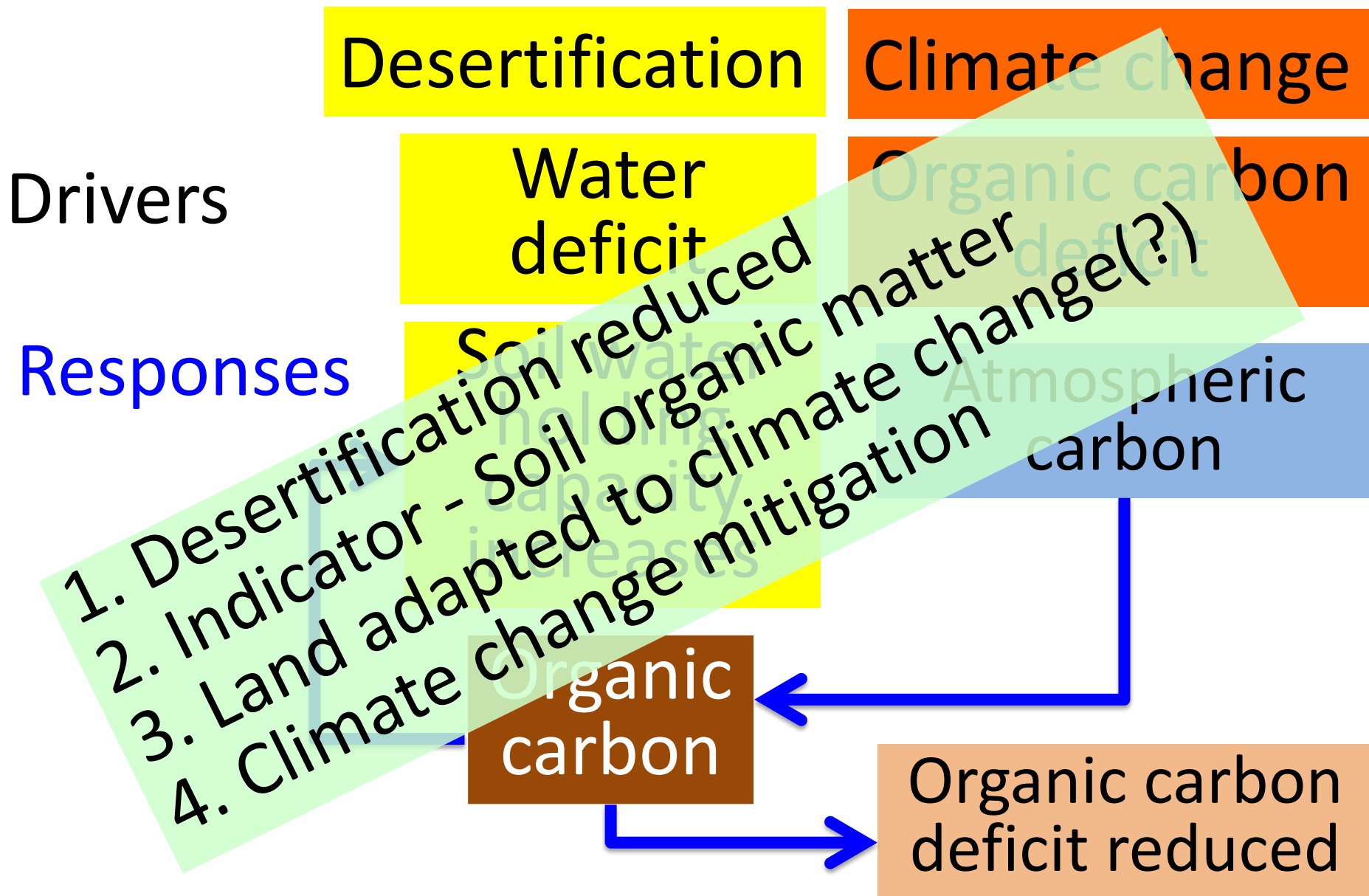
1. The farmer practices need to be further researched

2. Farmers need “**translational science**” too

# The UNCCD and the climate change issue

1. It is likely that whatever is done, attention to climate change remains stronger than to land degradation
2. This may be partly due to a common failure among public and even scientists to distinguish between, and fully comprehend the terms “adaptation” and mitigation
3. It seems likely that current land use practices that qualify as climate-change adaptations, i.e. being an additionally to conventional sustainable land use practices, will be hard to detect and recommend

# The UNCCD and UNFCCC indicators



# Some of the take home messages of the 5<sup>th</sup> Sede Boqer DDD conference :

1. Since (a) land degradation exacerbates climate change (high certainty) and (b) sustainable land management (SLM) reduces land degradation (medium certainty),

**SLM may be qualified as a climate change adaptation**

2. Existing knowledge has to be further scanned to detect adaptations to projected rather than current climate conditions

3. The already proposed and agreed land degradation indicators may be found not to be qualified as indicators for land-based climate change adaptation
4. Therefore an effort of exploring newly proposed indicators for specifically monitoring land-based climate adaptations may be useful
5. If the latter indicators are found to also indicate mitigation, it might be most welcome!

## 6. Finally –

The UNCCD process is commended for establishing a science-policy mechanism, but it needs to take note of the following:

- (a) Interfacing science is in itself a science
- (b) Policy-making is a science too, and
- (c) The direct land users, the farmers would greatly benefit from being interfaced with science also, and –
- (d) we scientists need their knowledge, to be interfaced with both science and policy