

**Everyday mobility and  
changing livelihood  
trajectories: implications for  
vulnerability and adaptation**

**Mark Tebboth (UEA), Chandni Singh  
(IIHS), Di Spear (UCT), Adelina  
Mensah and Prince Ansah (both  
from University of Ghana)**



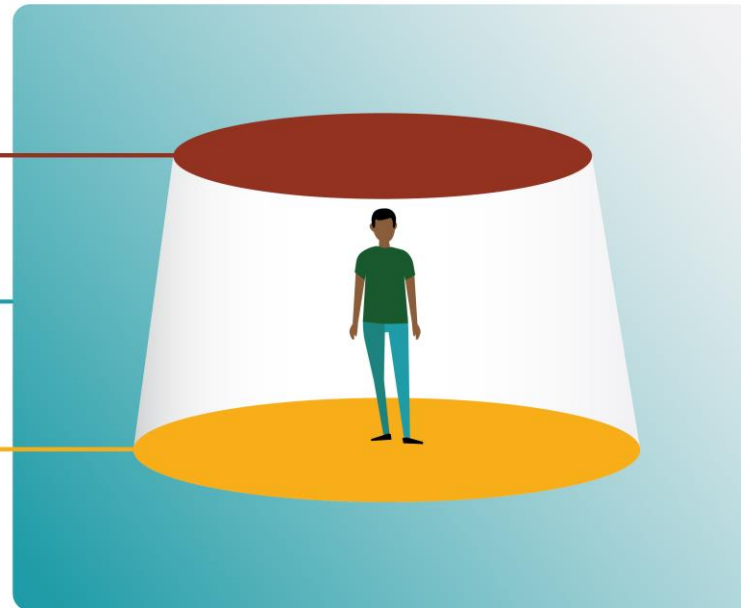
# Adaptation option space

## ADAPTATION OPTION SPACE

RISK SPACE

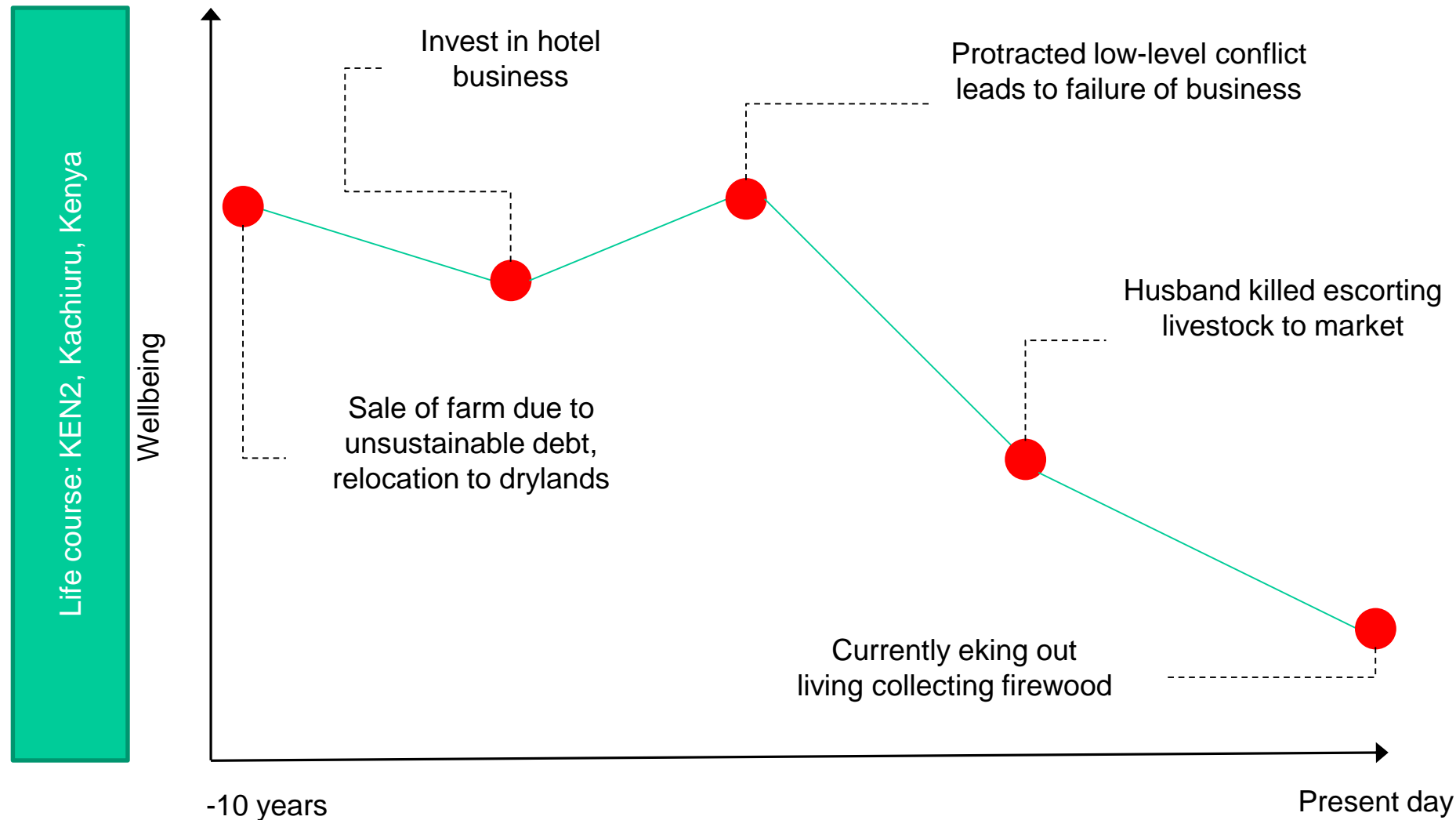
CONTEXTUAL  
VULNERABILITY

RESPONSE SPACE



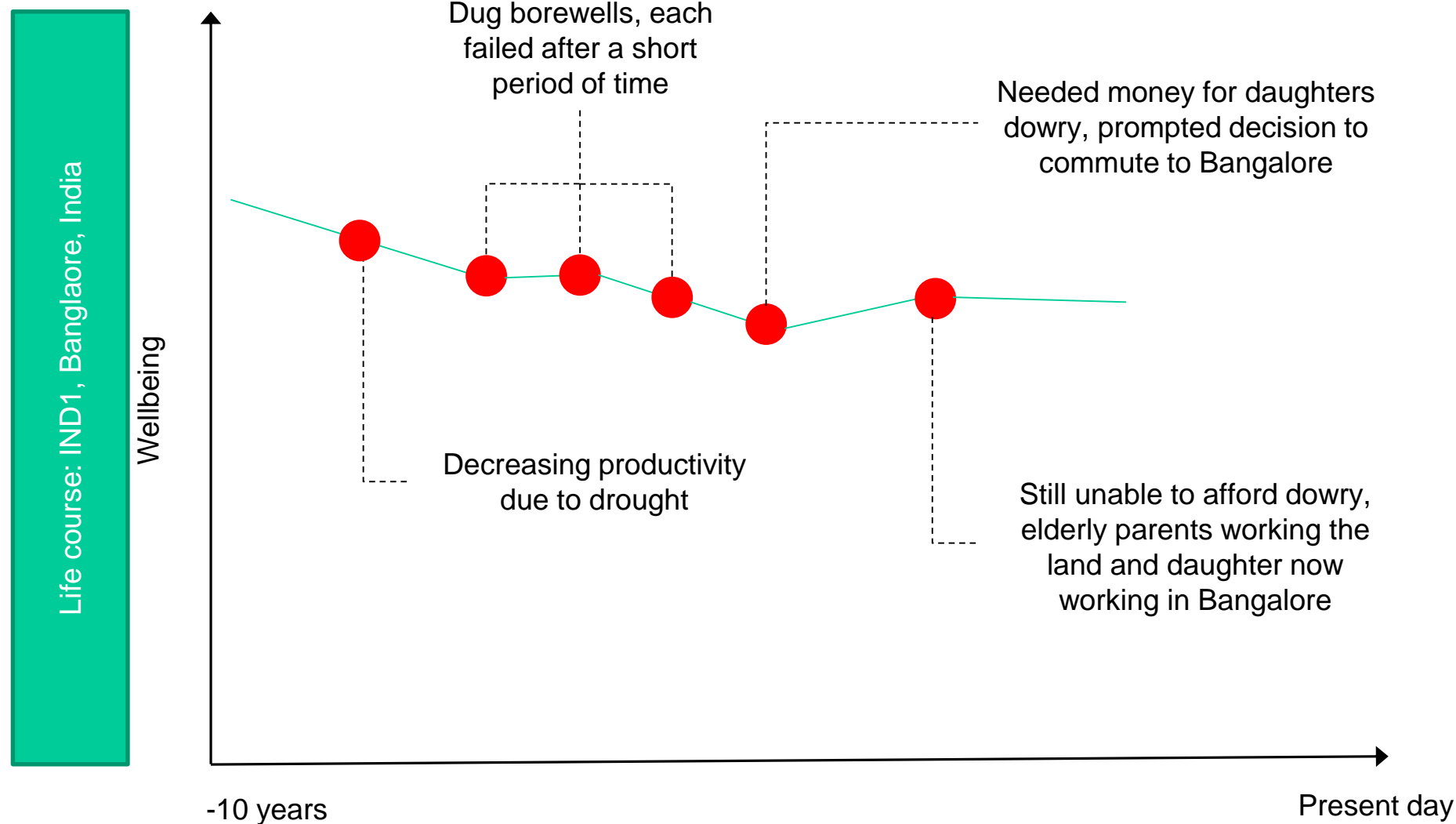
- ❖ Risk space
  - ❖ Response space
  - ❖ Linked through Adaptation Option Space
  - ❖ Explore people's trajectories
- Move independently of each other
- ❖ The risks can increase or decrease (drought, illness, failing crops etc. whilst the response space remains static =  $\downarrow$  AOS
  - ❖ Response space can increase as assets are accrued whilst risk space stays the same =  $\uparrow$  AOS

# Downward trajectories



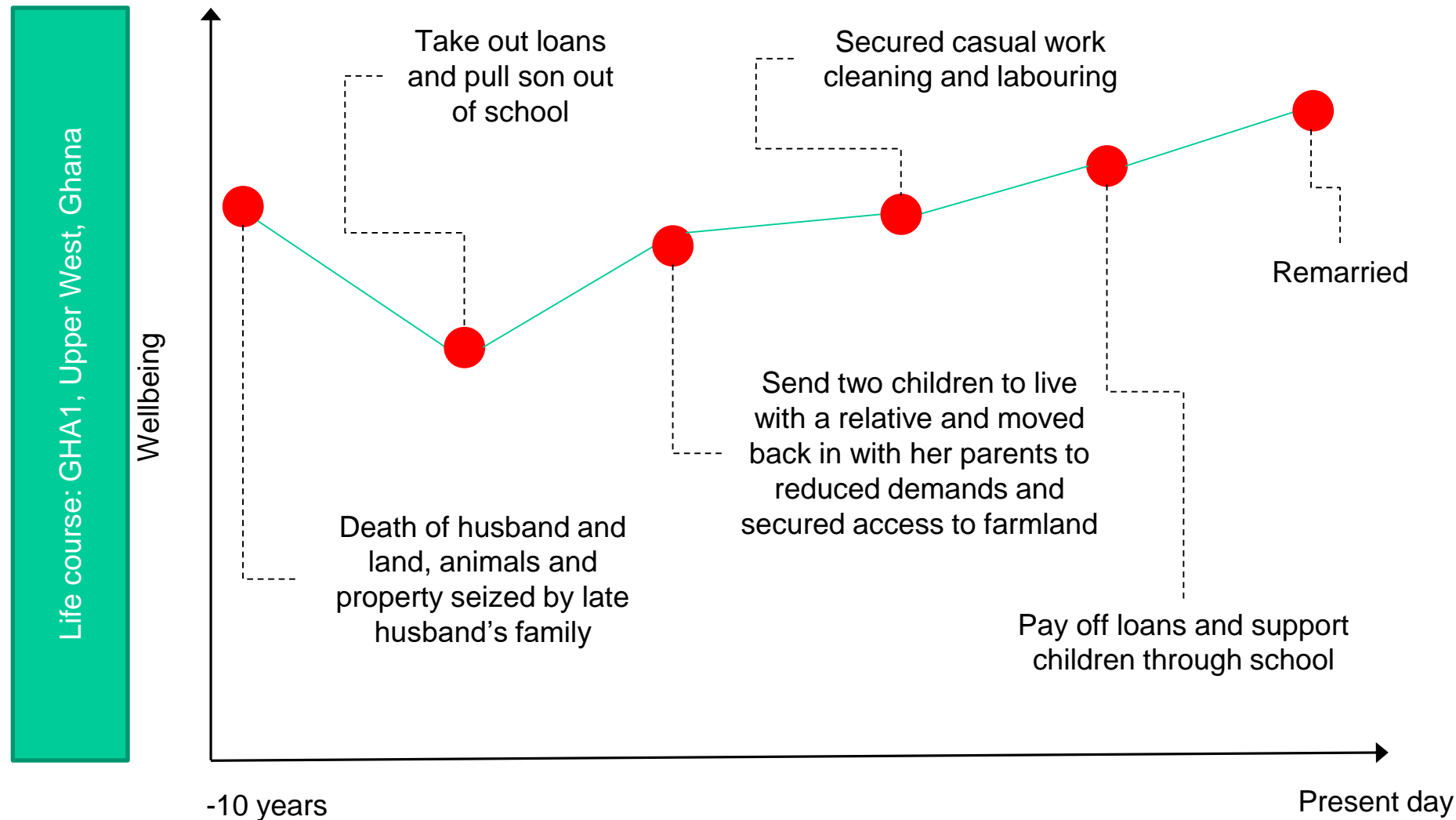
Within the cases of a downward trajectory a common feature is the way in which risks interact with each other and feedback on and limit the adaptation option space. This cycle of increasingly severe impacts of risk events allied to an ever-smaller adaptation option space locks people into a downward trajectory or cycle

# More stable trajectories



In the case of IND1, attempts were made to increase adaptation option space that ultimately proved unsuccessful leaving him vulnerable to drought. As a result, IND1 elected to diversify by working in the city as a gardener ensuring that the family have at least one source of income that is relatively insulated from the impacts of drought in rural areas.

# Upward trajectories



In this case the shocks on GHA1's livelihood did not recur over a number of years. As a result, GHA1 was able to increase her adaptation option space by contracting her risk space her and her family well placed to respond and cope with future challenges as and when they occur

# Elastic relationship between risk and response space

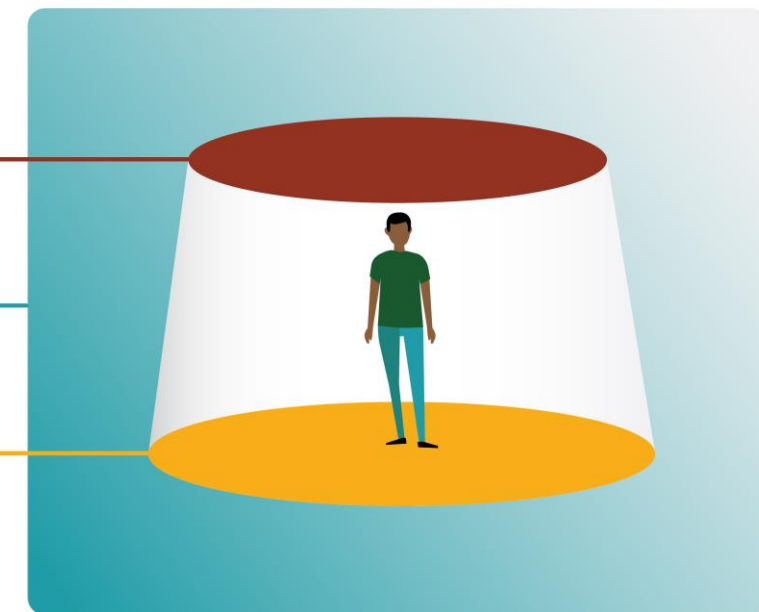
- ❖ Both spaces change over time and this change is a result of people's agency and from the dynamic (structural) environment around them (Osbaahr et al 2010; Langevang 2008; Few & Tebboth *in press*).
- ❖ In some cases downward trajectories and the compounding shocks is suggestive of tipping points
- ❖ Temporal (trajectories) insights are incredibly valuable and offer a crucial advantage over more static approaches to understanding people's lives (Thor West 2013; Haddad and Frankenberger 2003).

ADAPTATION  
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