1. **What are the session key findings? What are the new Lesson(s) learned / Scientific progress (since AR5 release, if relevant)?**

There should be much stronger attention given to the longer term information available from archaeological, historical and paleo-ecological archives that are becoming increasingly resolved and more precisely dated (and hence relevant) across the East African region. As there is increasing interest in the concepts of resilience, that at its' core has a temporal element, then one must look through time to frame this. Using a short temporal frame to establish ‘baselines’, based entirely on observational records, limits understanding of the relationships between different processes and how they respond across different temporal scales.

2. **What are the major knowledge Gaps and Research Needs identified in the session?**

We can learn from the past, but we need to better identify how and under what circumstances this dynamic interaction between communities and their environment has enabled specific adaption mechanisms that have the potential to enhance resilience under future climate change. For this potential to be realised the archaeological, historical and palaeo-ecological archives must be accessed and commuted into fora where the insights can be applied.

We still need develop analytical frameworks that allows us to better link archaeological, historical and palaeo-ecological perspectives in away that can communicate directly to current development issues such as the SDGs.

3. **Did the session discuss/identify promising approaches in the fields of Adaptation and Mitigation, or both?**

Both - but largely from a past perspective.
4. Are there take-home messages from the session?

Climate change and ecosystem response in East Africa is a constant, as are people’s responses to this change. Climate change is not new but the pace of change has significantly intensified over the last fifty years especially. Socio-ecological systems that developed in the past have been transformed by diverse national, regional and global political and economic processes. These changes have enhanced the ability of certain groups to adapt to climate change, while radically disadvantaging others – perhaps the bulk of the rural population in East Africa. Historical and archaeological studies are critical to tracking these changes and for documenting how peoples and societies have responded to climate change in the past. The results of palaeo-ecologicla studies must be integrated with these studies so as to provide a fuller understanding of human-environment interactions and entanglements over centennial and longer time scales.

5. Are there Important Quotes from the session?

6. Please include any other remark that you might have.