



Climate Change and Security

The Defence Component

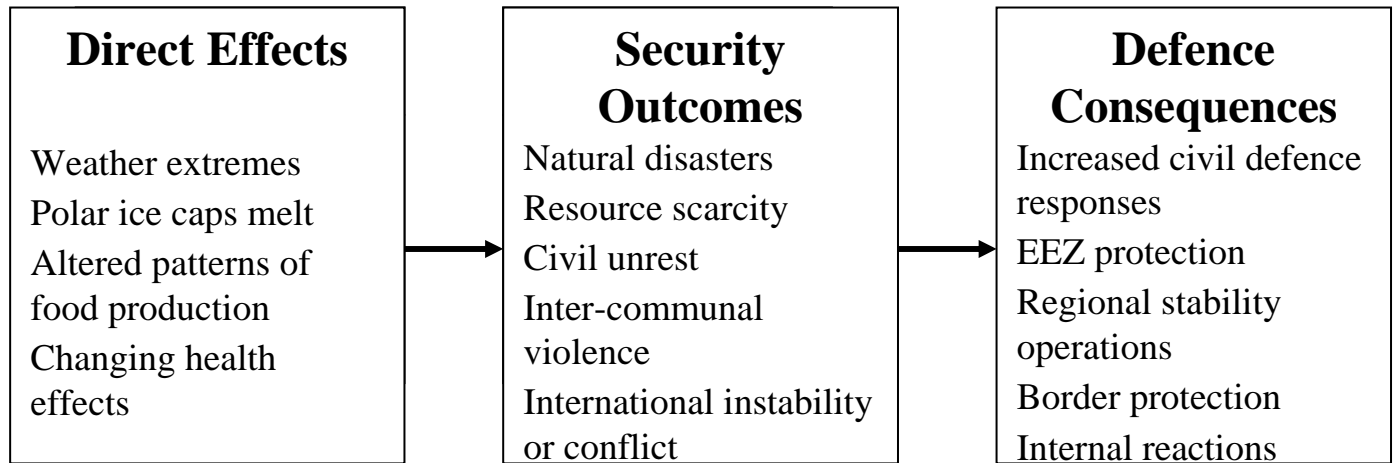
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A Policy Problem

...a diabolical policy problem...harder than any other issue of high importance that has come before our polity in living memory...a new kind of challenge...uncertain in its form and extent,...is long term rather than immediate...

Effect and Outcome





First Order Effects

- Extremes of weather
- Rising sea levels
- Eco-systems at risk
- Changing patterns of food production
- Changing health outcomes



Second Order Effects

- Natural disasters
- Civil unrest
- Competition for food and resources
- Changing boundaries and loss of habitat
- Displaced populations
- New crime patterns
- Inter-communal violence
- Water shortages/wars
- Exacerbate situations in failed and failing states
- Hydrographical data out of date



Third Order Effects: reactive

- Increased civil defence commitments
- Border protection
- EEZ protection
- Hydrographical efforts
- Support for failed and failing states
- Responses to interstate conflict
- New tactics and/or capabilities



Third Order Effects: pre-emptive

- Act as a good corporate citizen
- Reduce carbon footprint
- New technological capabilities
- Wider response capabilities



Conclusions

- Limited new roles for defence
- Limited new capabilities in the short-term
- Possibly altered priorities