



# How integrated planning can build resilient communities

Bryce Wilde



Work at multiple scales

Holistically address causes not symptoms

Engage broadly & build social capital first

Adapt & learn

Triple bottom line outcomes



# Resilience thinking in NSW natural resource management

- NSW recently developed 11 Catchment Action Plans using resilience thinking
- Moving from assets based approach to integrated systems based approach with triple bottom line focus
- Each CAP has been developed by integrating social-economic and biophysical knowledge.
- Most are built from the bottom up
- Focus on sub regional landscapes

*“NSW approach to CAP development is leading the way in NRM”*



# Why resilience – *a new lens to solve old problems*

## Resilience helps planners understand:

- Complexity & change
- Linkages
- What matters most & where to intervene in the system
- How to be pro-active & adaptive

*“it has given us something tangible. I now have those critical thresholds in the back of my mind when I am making decisions”*

Local Govt. rep.



## What are the regional visions?

- *“Sustainable communities, profitable industries, resilient landscapes”* **Southern Rivers**
- *“Rural communities adaptive capacity and diversity is strengthened to buffer against future social, economic and environmental shocks”* **Border Rivers**

## Put simply from a community perspective

- *“Without water, we would not have a community”* **Griffith resident**
- *“You have to be in the black before you can be in the green”* **Harden resident**
- *“To create vibrant communities we need a strong sense of belonging and connection to our landscapes”* **Tumut resident**



# Community development requires accessing diverse capitals

- Natural capital (water, soil, biodiversity, climate regulation)
- Human capital (health, knowledge, skills, motivation)
- Social capital (networks, trust, schools, voluntary groups)
- Physical capital (bridges, telecommunications, transport networks)
- Financial capital (shares, cash, on-farm, off farm income)

Change the mix of capital investment to meet local *and* long term needs



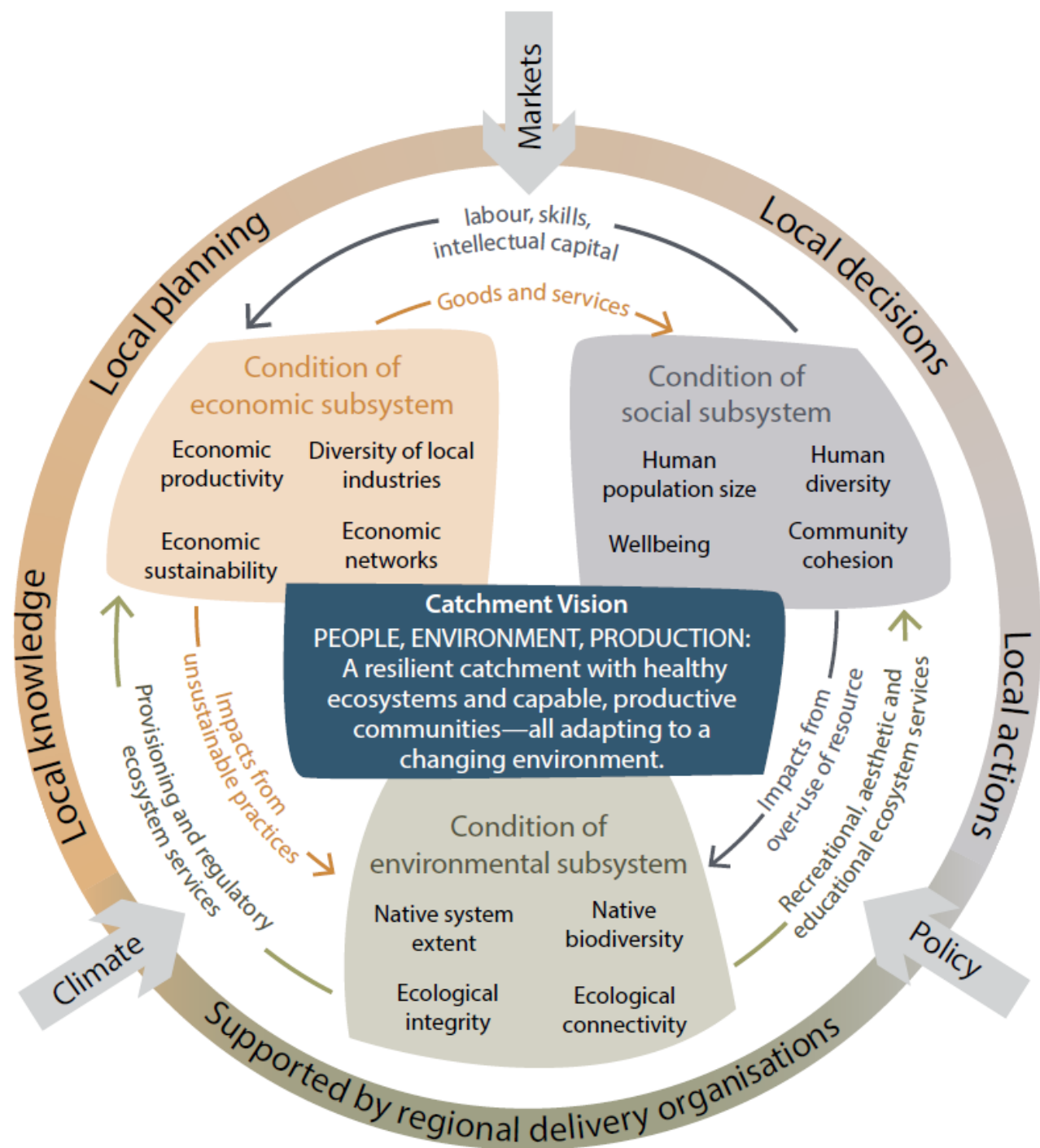
# Getting planning right

Community strength and resilience is built WHEN PEOPLE:

- Feel 'heard', where there's trust and good communication
- Feel empowered & are driving decision making
- Connect with others in the community for a common purpose
- Participate in activities aimed at measurable change
- Can see their targeted small changes contribute to large-scale change
- See there's will & resources to implement the plan



# Murray CAP interactions



# Emerging achievements from new Catchment Action Plans

1. Increased community participation
2. Improved knowledge
3. Sub-regional identification of issues
4. Improved partnerships
5. Increased regional capacity
6. Increased adaptability



# Communities, change and connections

*“The world is changing fast and is increasingly unpredictable...NRM will not be business as usual in the coming decades, because it cannot be, because the world will be different. What will determine the effectiveness of NRM in these changing circumstances will probably be the numbers and social influence of people who shift the way they think about NRM to a new and better paradigm and CMAs ... are well placed to affect this”*

**Nick Abel, CSIRO and technical reviewer**