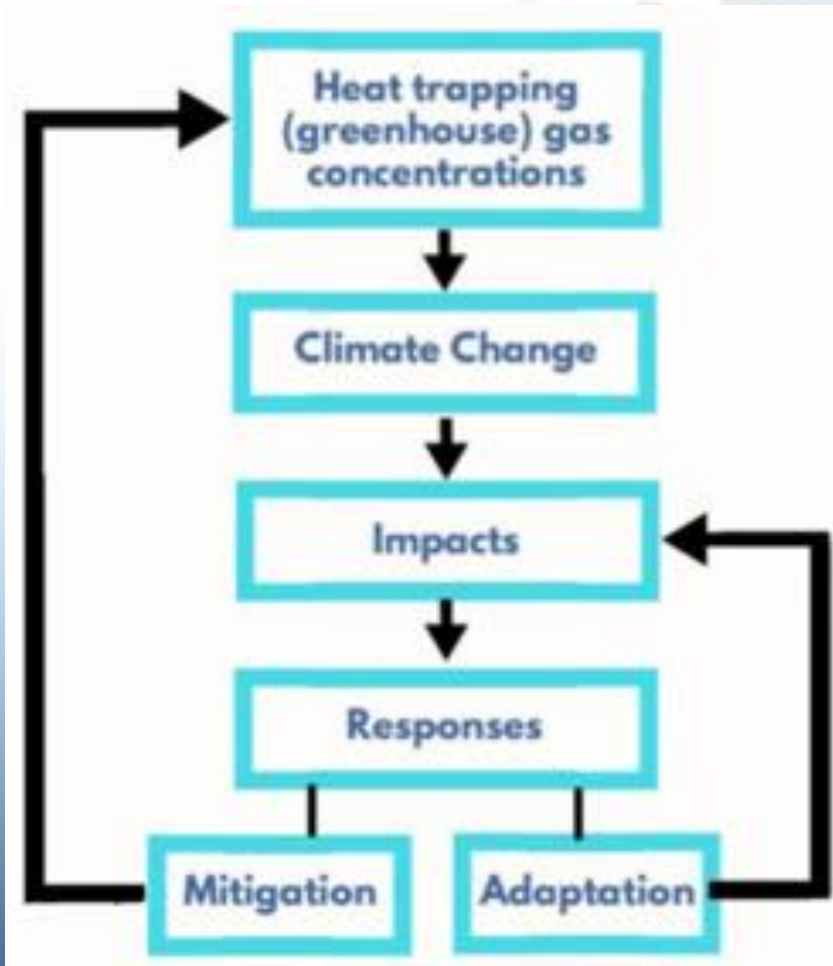


Adapting to climate change while remaking
the economy: communities own their stories
and shape their futures.

Simon Watts
Brighton Observatory of Environment and Economics

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Adapting to Climate Change..



best case '*Braking Distance*' about 50 years so Adaptation will be necessary anyway

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What our (old) Economy produces

‘Productivity Problem’

Productivity is poor and not getting better. Economy is creating some winners and a lot of losers:

- Increasing social inequity
- Decreasing social well-being

‘Capacity Problem’

Our commodity economy strips resources and damages environment:

- Exceeded environmental capacity
- Degrading environment

‘if you do what you always did, you get what you always got’

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..while Remaking the Economy.. (solutions)

There are specific solutions for each part of the economy.

Destroying the economy is not 'adaptation' nor is it good for the country.

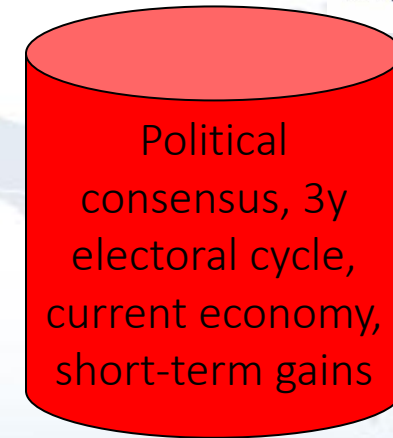
Guiding Ideas
Treasury Well-being Framework
The late Sir Paul Callaghan

Climate change itself will close down parts of the current (old) economy anyway.

Our Business Models must change.

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Adapting to Climate Change..



To adapt efficiently, economically, and compassionately requires change (always threatening). Adaptation is our greatest economic and social risk, as well as opportunity in this generation.

“...Let us become the nation we believe ourselves to be...”

Jacinda Ardern after the Christchurch Mosque Shootings

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Communities own their own stories

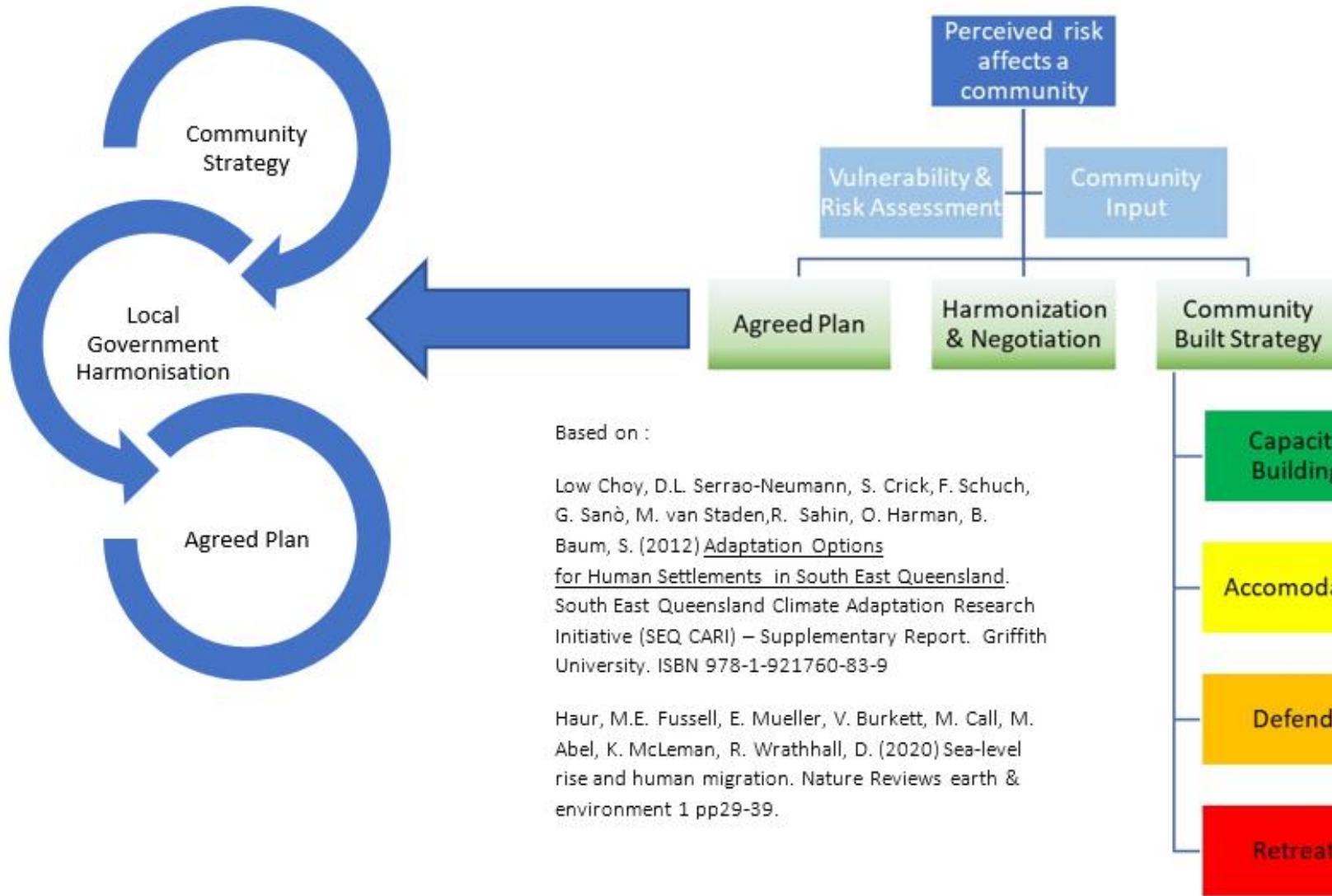
The places that Peoples and Communities live, not only shape their lives but in turn the people shape those places. The communities and where they live are intertwined, their histories joined.

Climate change will affect ALL communities, not *if*, but *when*. Most communities however are unaware or do not believe the scale of these impacts: *cognitive bias* and *unknown unknowns*.

- for example in this (coastal) area, it is likely that it is the inland communities that will face more hazards sooner than the coast.

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.. and shape their futures..



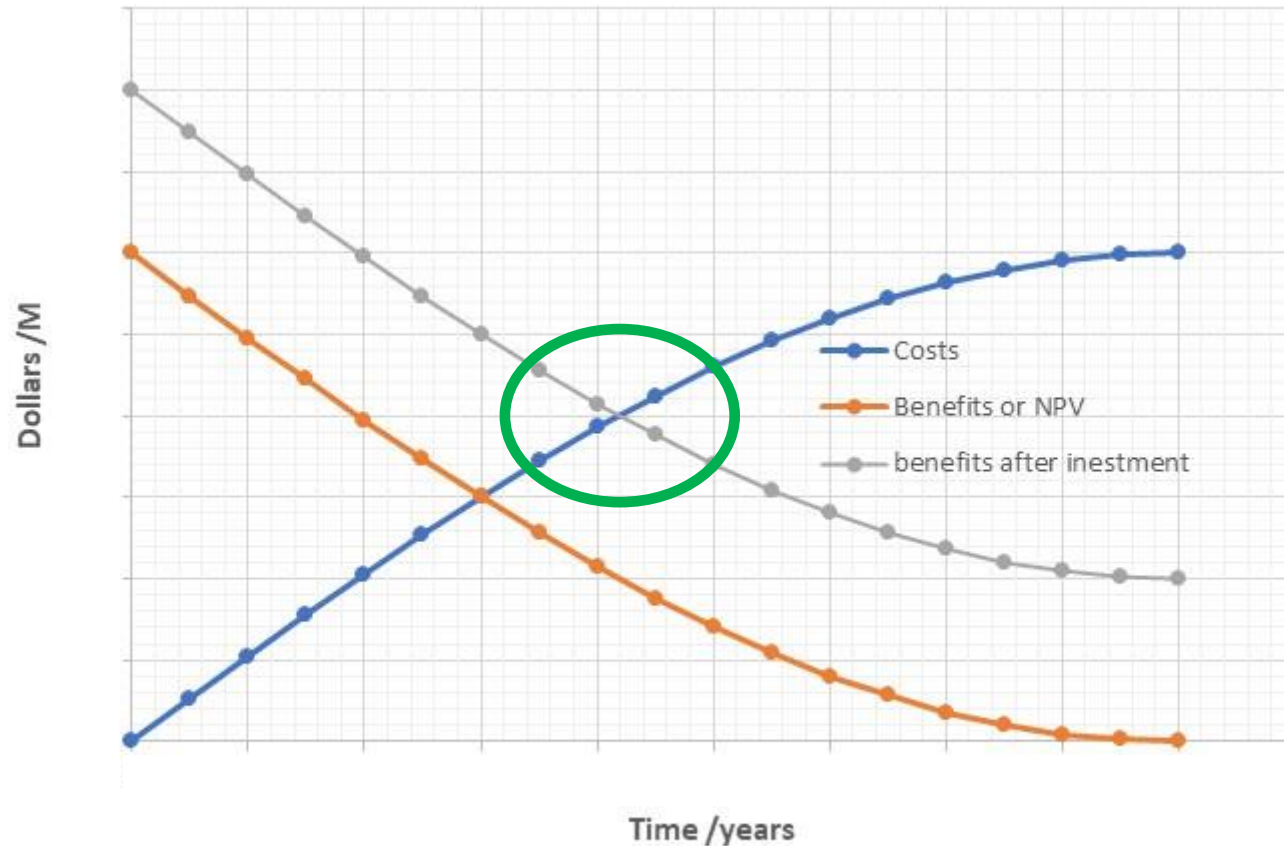
Based on :

Low Choy, D.L. Serrao-Neumann, S. Crick, F. Schuch, G. Sanò, M. van Staden, R. Sahin, O. Harman, B. Baum, S. (2012) Adaptation Options for Human Settlements in South East Queensland. South East Queensland Climate Adaptation Research Initiative (SEQ CARI) – Supplementary Report. Griffith University. ISBN 978-1-921760-83-9

Haur, M.E. Fussell, E. Mueller, V. Burkett, M. Call, M. Abel, K. McLeman, R. Wrathhall, D. (2020) Sea-level rise and human migration. *Nature Reviews earth & environment* 1 pp29-39.

Honouring sense of place and shared histories as well as economic realities means that communities must build their own strategies

.. and shape their futures..



Schematic Diagram Only

For communities, when benefits (all benefits) are outweighed by costs, (all costs) a tipping point:

- communities invest
- communities do not invest.

If benefits exceed costs, public pays, *e.g.* parks or roads. If this is a move decision, the community investment has extended the lifetime of their community, but at their own cost.

.. and shape their futures..

All communities and major infrastructure above the 10m contour:

- in 20 years? 😂
- In 200 years ? 😊

We will not recognize the world even in 100 years. Make decisions now that do not reduce options later.



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Questions

“...Judge a person by their questions, not their answers...”

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