

TE TAI ŌHANGA
THE TREASURY

**Wellbeing Virtual Seminar Series:
Dr Anita Chandra from RAND Social and Economic Well-Being
“Considerations for Building Resilience and Advancing Well-Being at the Community Level”**

The session will begin at 10.00 am.
Please mute your microphones and turn off cameras
when you arrive in the meeting

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4 August 2022



Considerations in Building Resilience and Advancing Wellbeing at the Community Level

Anita Chandra, Dr.P.H.

Vice President and Director, RAND Social and
Economic Well-Being

RAND Corporation

*Presentation to New Zealand Treasury Wellbeing
Series. August 2022*



Presentation roadmap

What has been happening in resilience with implications for wellbeing and vice versa



Key concepts

Integrative
resilience, equitable
resilience

Resilience levers

Community allostatic
load

Data, human
experience, and
narrative

New thoughts on
valuation and
measurement



Where to go from here

**The synergies
between
wellbeing
economies and
resilience
strategies not
being fully
leveraged yet**

Integrative resilience as a path to
integrative wellbeing

Dynamic connections of people
and place over time

Role of data, human experience,
and narrative

Public and private sector
measurement and valuation



1. Integrative resilience as path to integrative wellbeing

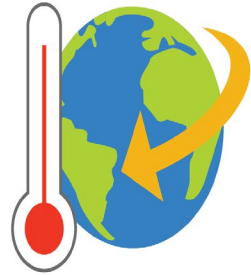
Resilience is especially important in communities with multiple and overlapping disasters



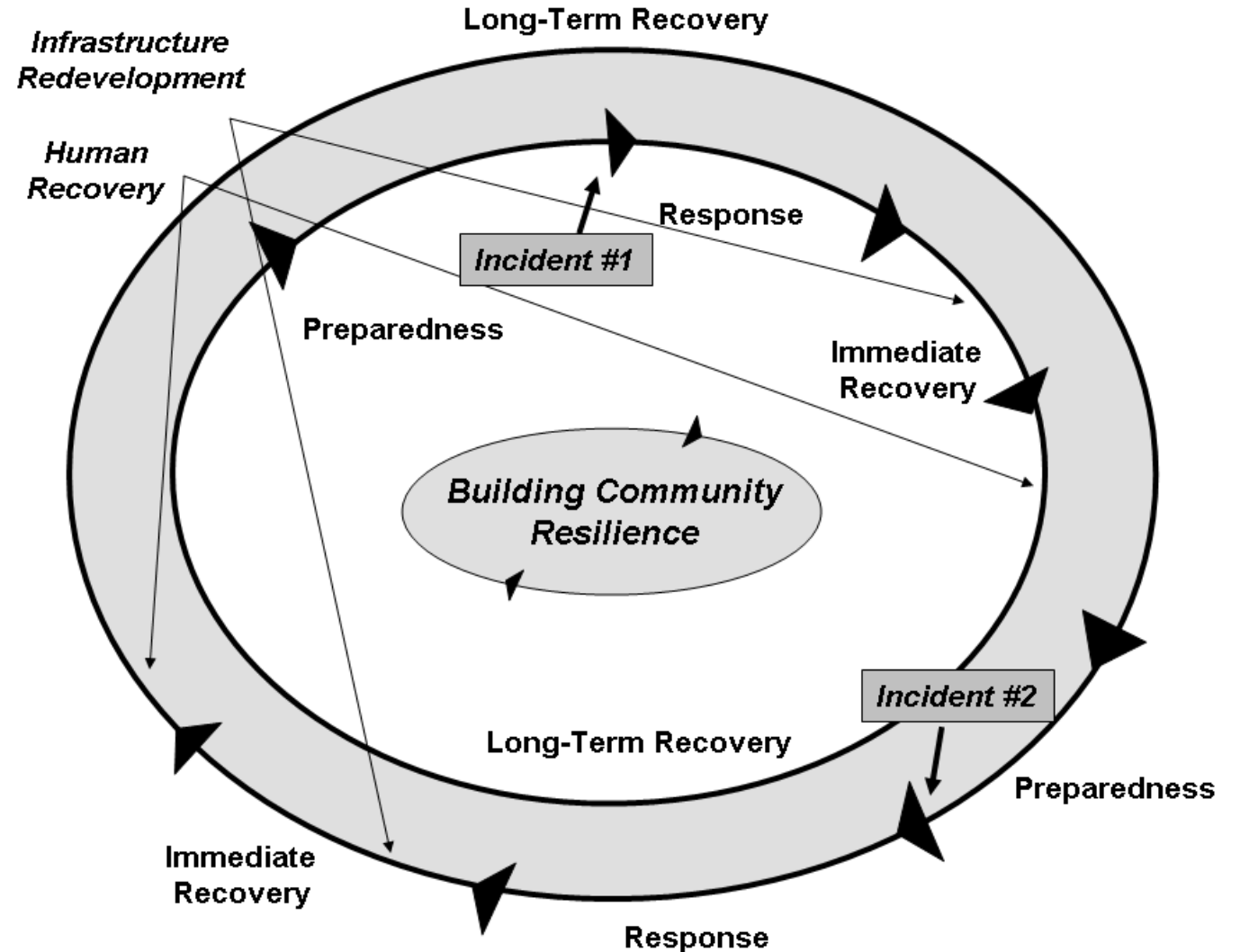
DISASTERS
MORE
COMMON



DISASTER
COSTS
INCREASING



NEW
DISASTERS
EMERGING



Community resilience has required building neighbor to neighbor reliance and organizational connection



Eight levers to build community resilience



From RAND, Chandra et al. 2011

See *Resilience in Action*, RAND for toolkits, resources



Engagement

- ✓ In what ways are populations historically underrepresented part of community plans?
- ✓ Are there ways of mapping where assets and risks in the community exist – both to acute emergencies and long-term challenges?

Partnerships



- ✓ How well are organizations connected and coordinated to share resources?
- ✓ Are there networks that can be used for long-term recovery, particularly for “sense of community” restoration?
- ✓ Are there short and long-term indicators on the quality and reliability of these partnerships?

A move to integrative resilience-centering equity and transdisciplinarity

Common critiques of community resilience	How integrative resilience may address those critiques
Focus on 'community' can disguise intra-community differences in power and resources that shape disaster risk and its management (Bankoff & Hilhorst, 2009)	Takes into account the intersections and interactions of systems and people to understand and identify intra-community power dynamics (Acosta et al., 2017)
Potential for community-based approaches to place responsibility on local populations rather than risk producers, and in so doing to normalize the precariousness of the situation (Chandler, 2014; Gladfelter, 2018)	Elevates community voices to reach decision makers and brings historical and structural inequalities to intentionally plan resilience actions that promotes equity (Acosta et al., 2017)
Promoted discrete and localized interventions are ineffective at changing broader risk creating systems (Clark-Ginsberg, forthcoming)	Promotes alignment and use of common operating framework and principles across systems to account for dynamic and complex systems interactions create risk and inequity (Acosta et al., 2017)

See: https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR1683.html and <https://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PEA1118-1.html>

Integrative Resilience centers multiple dimensions of equity; same considerations in play with *Integrative Wellbeing*

Procedural elements of equity:

Do populations have fair access to services that support resilience and promote wellbeing?

Contextual elements of equity:

What are the historical conditions where "wellbeing amenities" are being placed?

Distributional elements of equity:

How are wellbeing amenities distributed, and particularly to address systems and structural inequities?

2. Dynamism of people and place:

Community allostatic load

To help leaders better contextualize and understand community stress and the impacts on the overall wellbeing of the community over time

How does collective stress influence not only a community's health and wellbeing but its ability to address enduring stress and handle emergent or "flashpoint" events?

How can measurement of community levels of allostatic load help decisionmakers, stakeholders and others?

Individual allostatic load

- Allostasis refers to the process by which an individual adapts and maintains stability in response to stress, and can be measured using biomarkers
- Response to stress is a complex interplay of biology, genetic makeup, and lived experience *intersecting* with social environment
 - Thresholds of acute stress response, or long-term stress degradation varies by these variables

Question: Is there a community counterpart to individual allostatic load?

Community resilience

- Disasters are comprised of acute shocks and long-term, chronic stresses
- Key factors that mitigate or promote effective disaster recovery include:
 - Social cohesion
 - Organizational alignment and coordination - between govt. and civil society
 - Self-sufficiency (at both individual and community levels)
 - Effective communication

Question: How does the resilience capacity of the community relate to its allostatic load?

Community trauma

- Communities can hold historical experiences in ways that define future policy choices
- Communities can be depressed, when single or multiple traumas create “psychic loss”
 - What was expected to be vs. what occurred
 - Life course projections of that community
- Community trauma also depends on how stress is interpreted, processed, and discussed

Question: How much is trauma part of allostatic load at the community level?

Community wellbeing

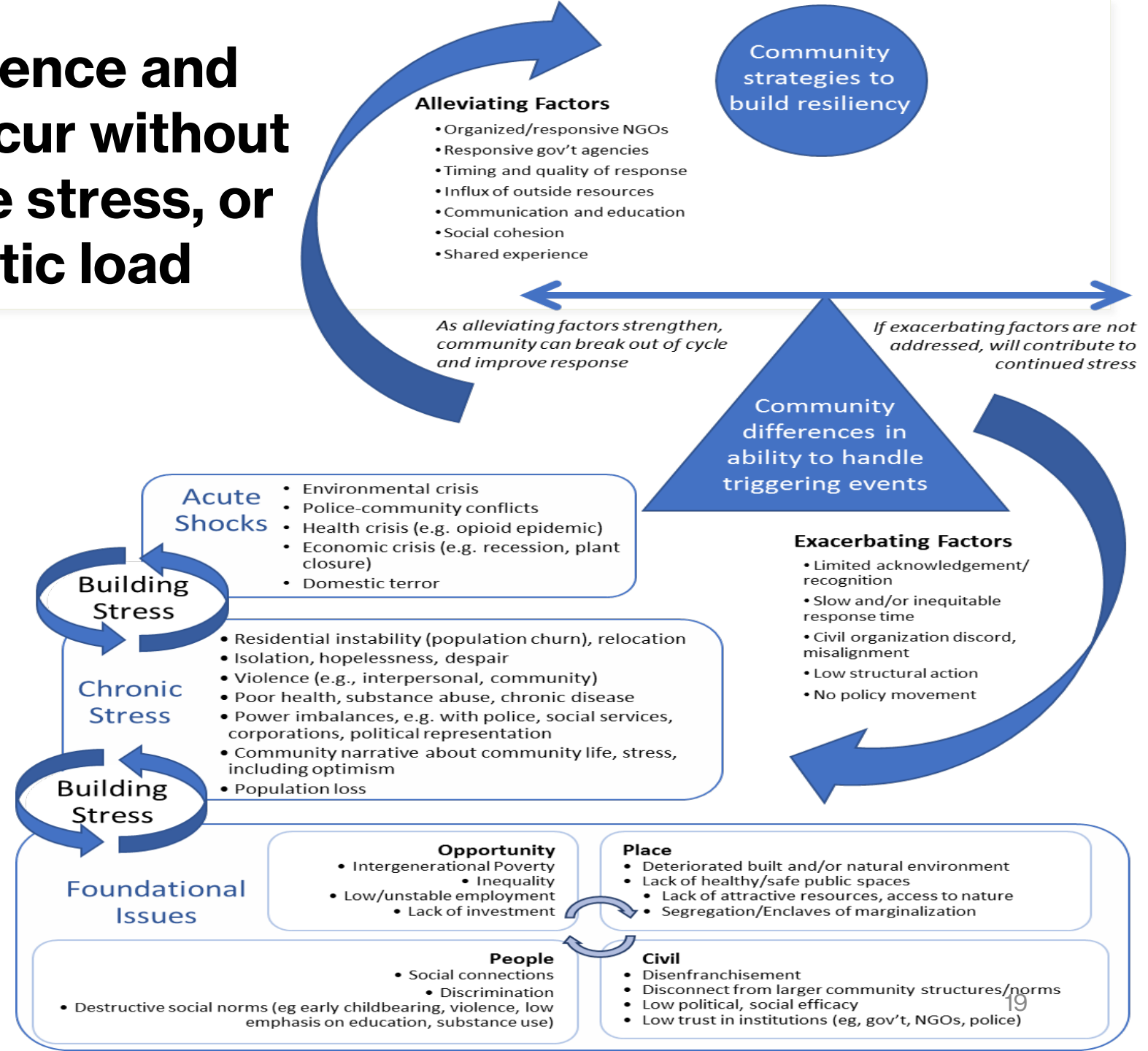
- Assets held at the community level can shape its ability to thrive and flourish
- Key domains often include:
 - Economic vitality
 - Capacity to support learning over lifetime
 - Physical, social, mental health
 - Sense of community
 - Quality and provisions in place (natural and built environment)

Question: Does investment in community wellbeing counter whether a community can “handle” stress accumulation?

Other themes

- **Marginalization and inequity**
 - Discrimination
 - Social exclusion
- **Stress narratives**
 - Social construction
 - Narrative salience and historical trauma
 - Public engagement
- **Institutional fabric**
 - Institutional dysfunction
 - Use of civil society institutions
 - Decisionmaking, governance

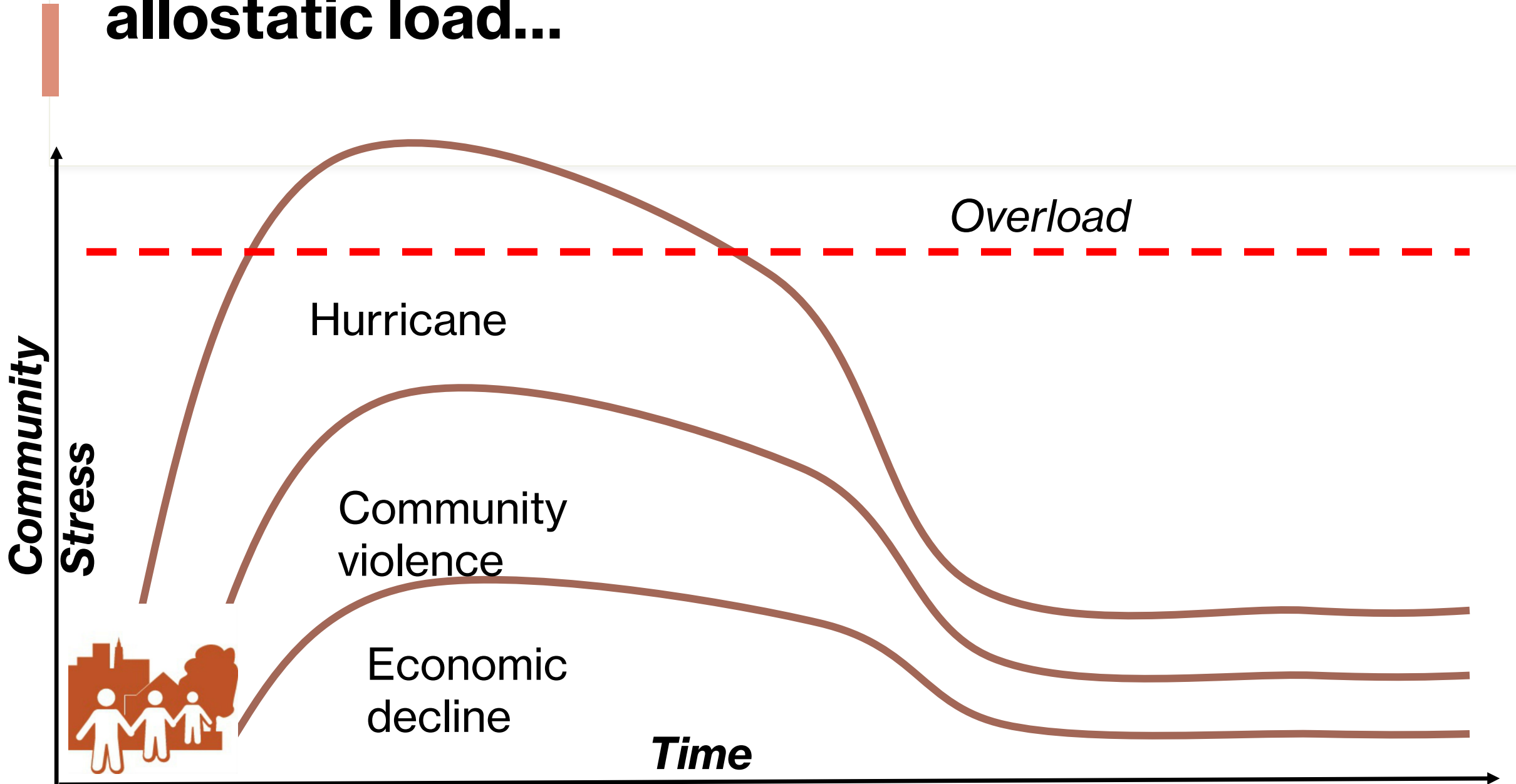
Understanding resilience and wellbeing does not occur without measuring cumulative stress, or community allostatic load



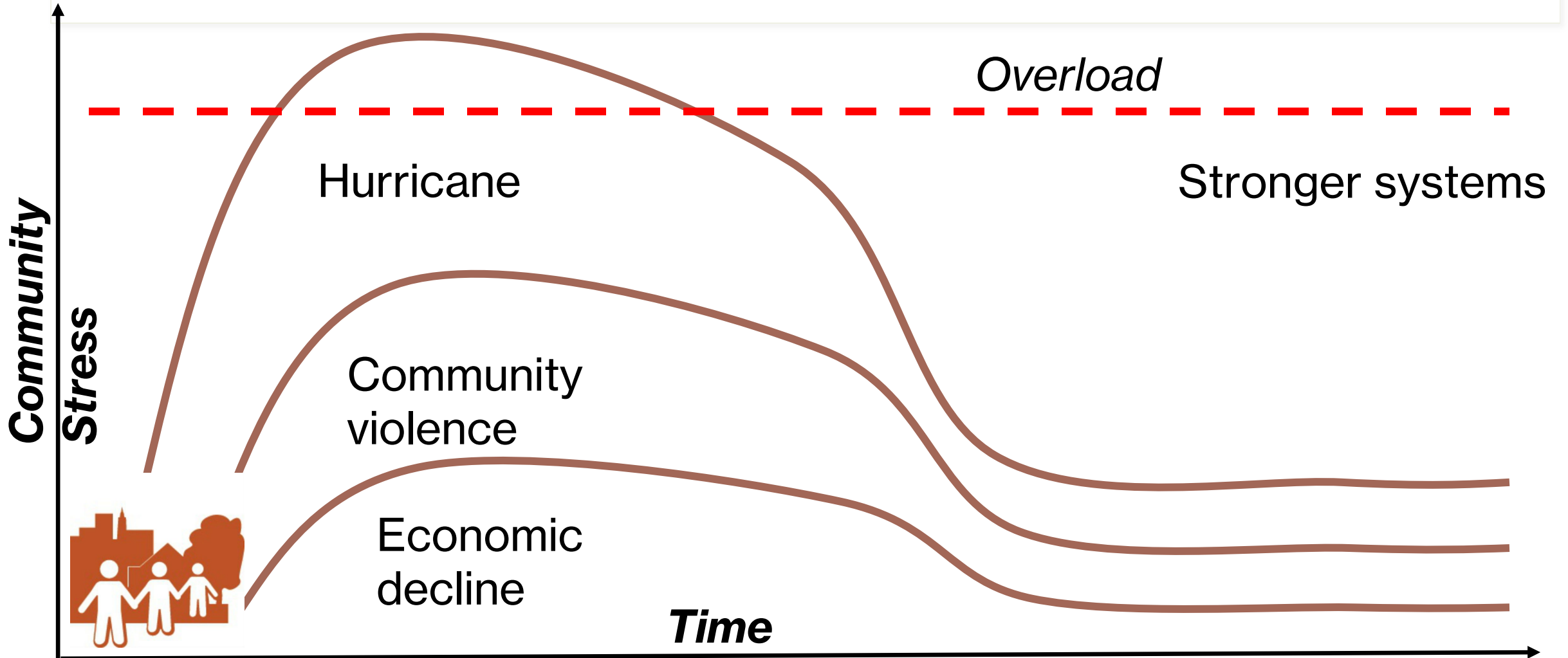
For more information, see report:
https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2559.html

And brief:
<https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2018/09/measuring-community-stress.html>

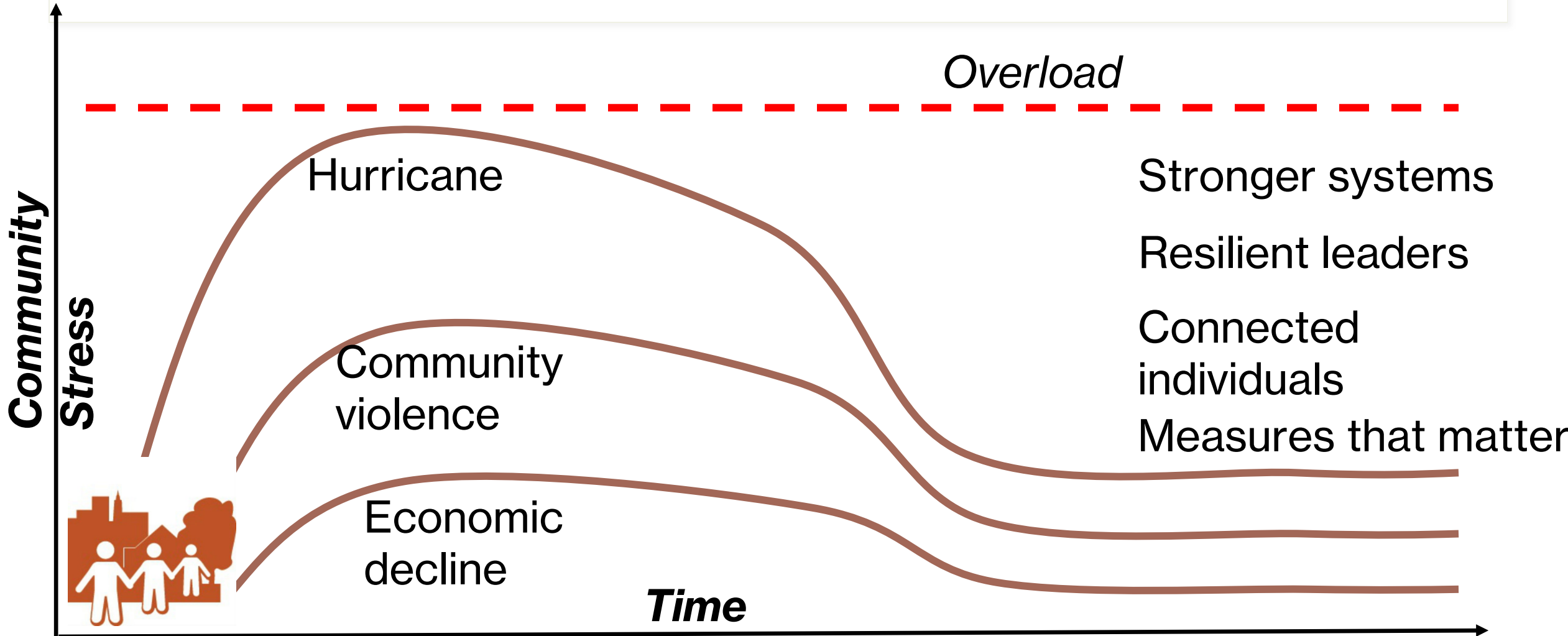
Another way to visualize...Community allostatic load...



Community allostatic load...



Community allostatic load...



What does not usually get measured in communities to track community stress, or allostatic load?

- Chronic stress and intersection with acute events
- History of stress response
- Role and response of civil society organizations
- Discussion and characterization of stress

See report for measures ideas



3. Data, human experience, and narrative

- Creating a civic well-being index with new data and community engagement
- Advancing wellbeing narratives

New forms of data must merge with meaningful community engagement and narrative





THE WELLBEING PROJECT

WORKING TOGETHER *to*
DEFINE, MEASURE,
and actively **IMPROVE**
Wellbeing
IN SANTA MONICA

Civic Wellbeing Framework

Outlook

Life Satisfaction, Flourishing, Happiness, Autonomy

Community

Strong Local Networks
Civic Engagement
Community Identity

Place & Planet

Built environment
Natural environment
Mobility and access

Learning

Learning Status
Access to Learning
Learning Behaviors

Health

Physical & Mental
Health Status
Access to Resources
Healthy Behaviors

Economic Opportunity

Affordability
Opportunity
Business Diversity

Sample Measures

Voter participation
Public safety
Volunteering

Public & active transit use
Green space access
Use of City resources

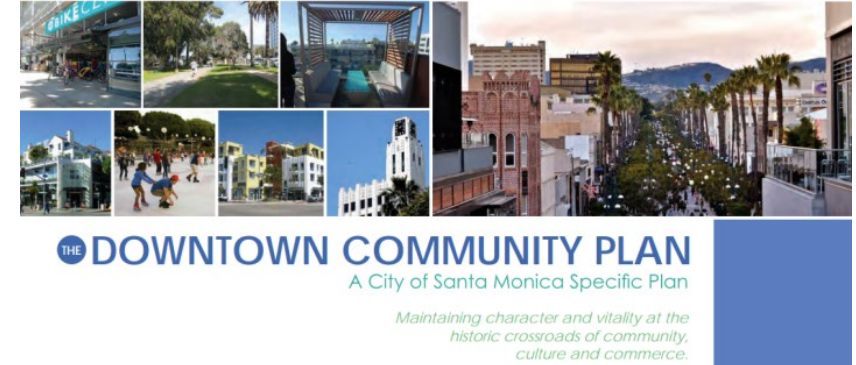
Service usage
Graduation & literacy rates
Sense of accomplishment

Chronic disease rates
Physical activity
Work-life balance

Income & employment
Business diversity
Sense of economic
security

Index populated with 100 data points from: city administrative data, non-city data (county, state, federal), resident wellbeing survey and social data

Using the Civic Wellbeing Index



ervation will retain historic fabric.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

A SUSTAINABLE CITY OF WELLBEING

FY 2017-19 ADOPTED BIENNIAL BUDGET

- COMMUNITY
- PLACE & PLANET
- LEARNING
- HEALTH
- ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
- GOVERNANCE

The Civic Wellbeing Framework was a much about narrative and action, as it was measurement

- Began to address data ecosystem locally, with a focus on parsimony and signal value
- Leveraged local allies to advance the wellbeing narrative
- Embraced new forms of information
- Fostered a local wellbeing “action culture”

Wellbeing narratives can help change the terms of discussion

- Connecting academic/policy maker “talk” with grassroots organizations

- First report is here:

www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP68712.html

- Second out soon!



WHAT IF PROGRESS MEANT WELL-BEING FOR ALL?

U.S. innovators use global insights to shift the narrative and surface opportunities ahead



Metropolitan Group
the power of voice



4. Public and private measurement and valuation:

- Resilience dividend
- GDP2



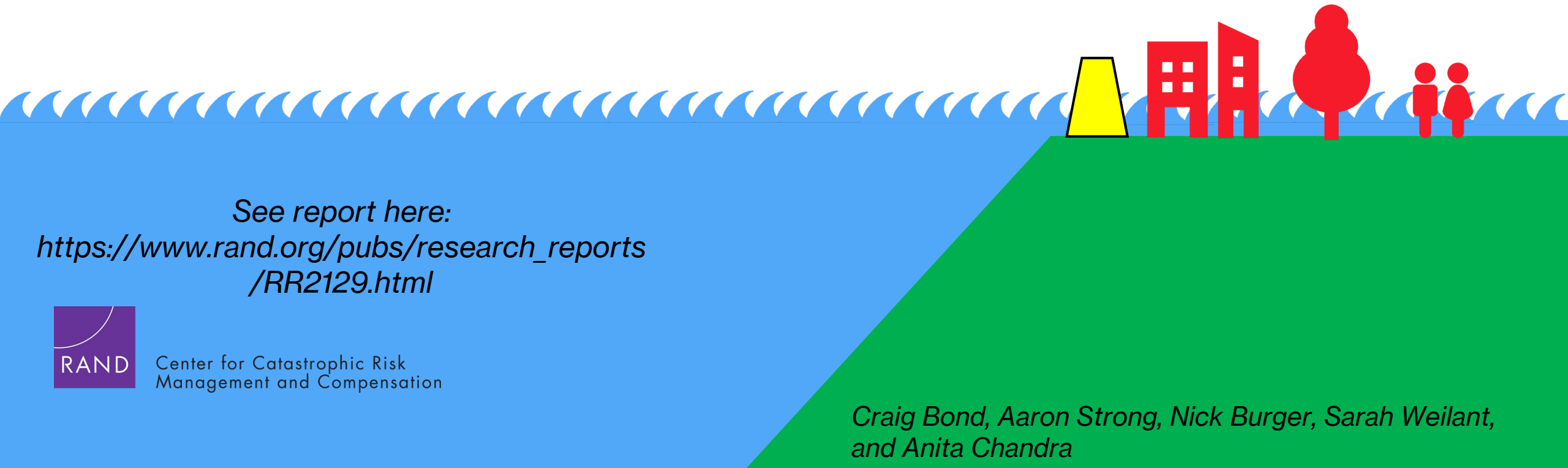
A Model for Calculating Dividends From Resilience Projects

See report here:

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2129.html



Center for Catastrophic Risk
Management and Compensation

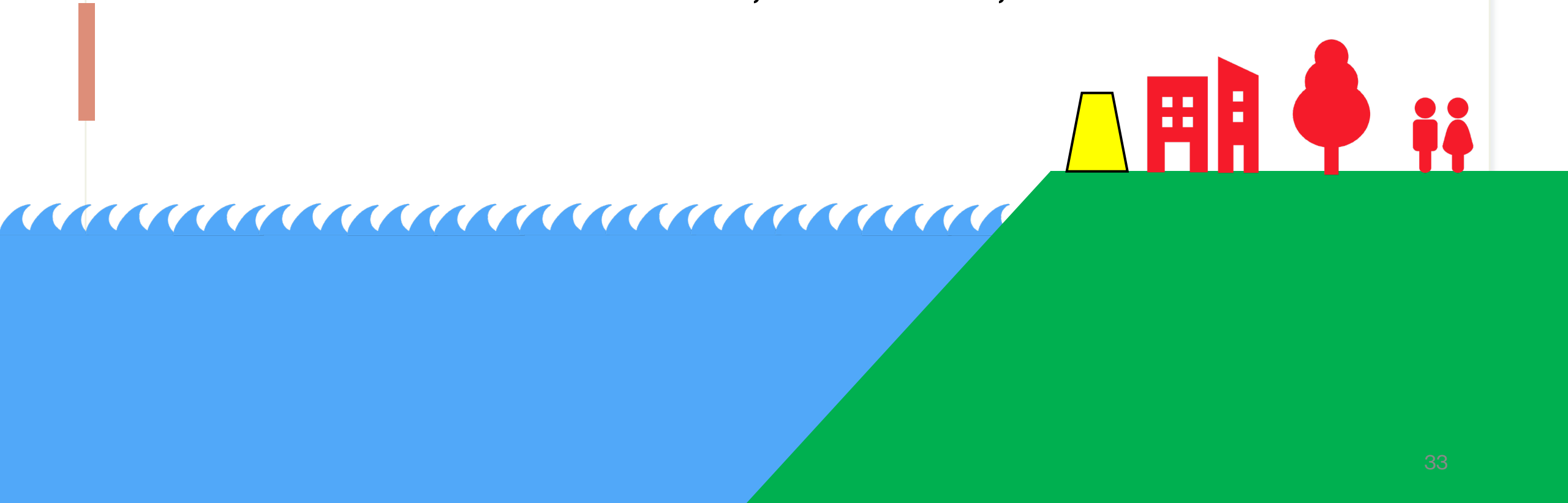
A stylized illustration of a coastal town. The foreground is a green hillside. On the left, blue waves represent the ocean. On the right, a yellow lighthouse stands on the shore. Next to it are two red buildings, a red tree, and two red human figures. The background is white.

*Craig Bond, Aaron Strong, Nick Burger, Sarah Weiland,
and Anita Chandra*

The Resilience Lens

An approach to investment and recovery that accounts for both risk of loss from a shock or stressor as well as other benefits that flow from resilience projects.

Co-benefits can be economic, environmental, or social.



What is the Resilience Dividend?

Damage Reduction

Change in system benefits
(reduced costs)
during and after shock

+

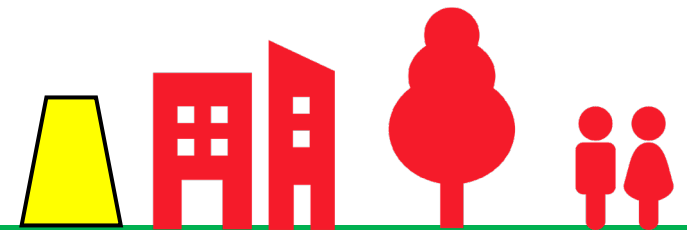
Co-benefits

Change in benefits
during normal times

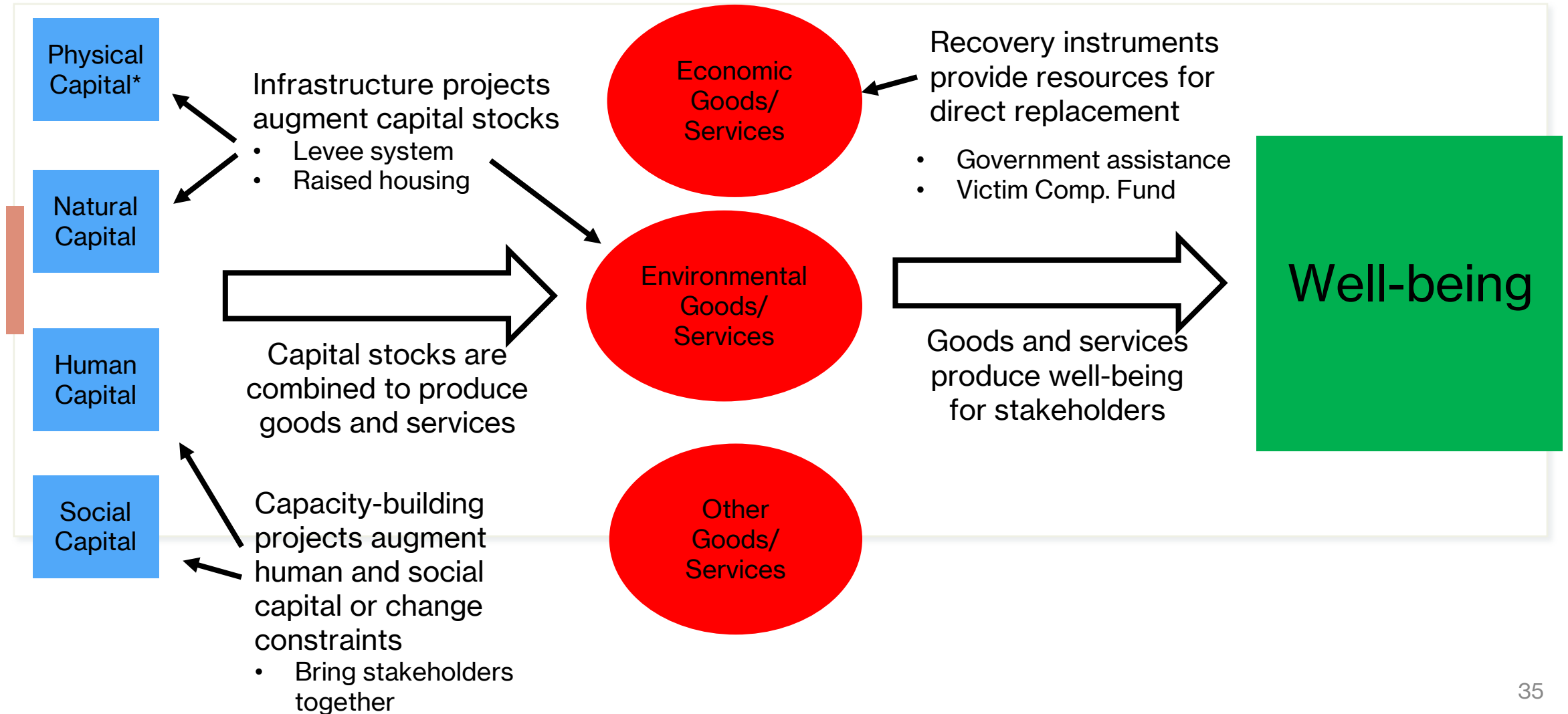
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Resilience Dividend

Change in overall
system benefits
from a resilience project

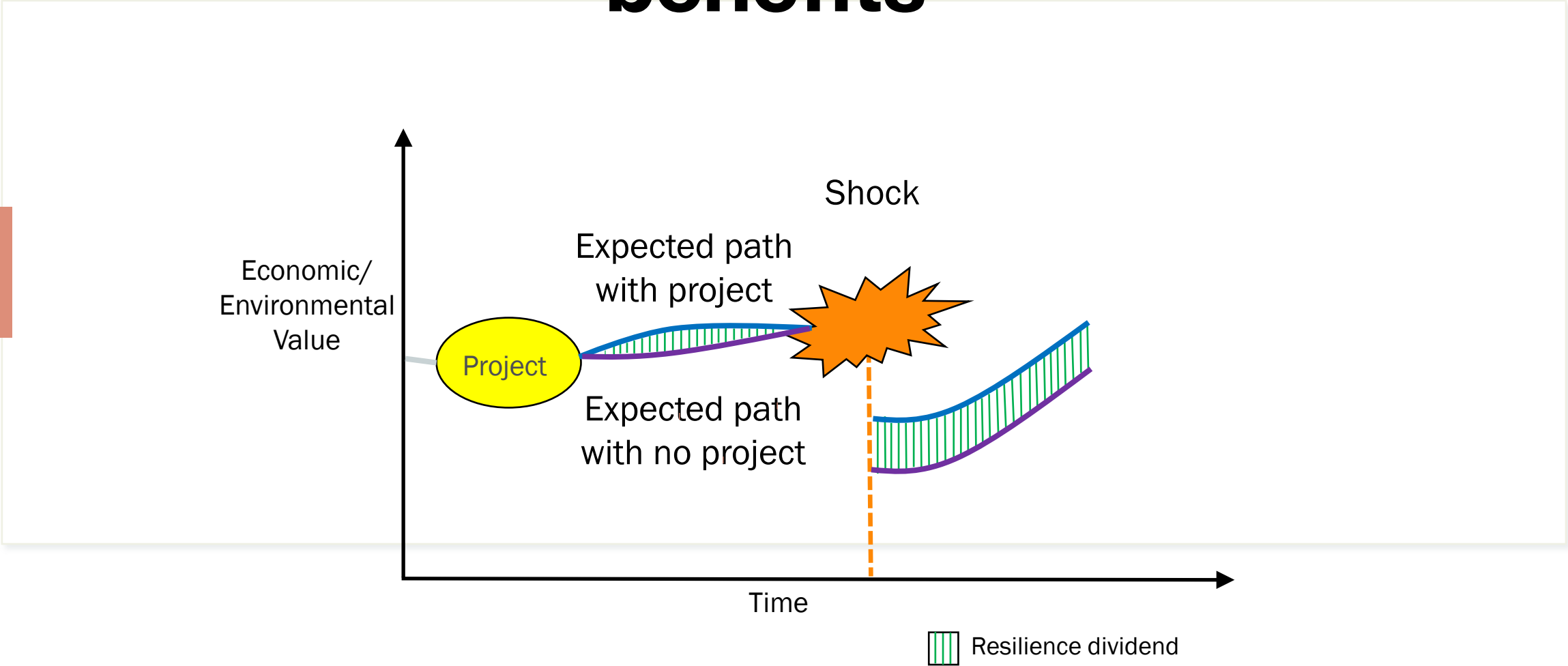


RDVM Framework used to value resilience projects



**Note, terms like 'capitals' have evolved since this initial work*

Holistic resilience project with co-benefits



Sample elements of resilience dividends

Easier to measure/Shorter term

More difficult to measure/Longer term

- **Direct benefits traced to changing capital stocks**
 - Storm protection from infrastructure
- **Direct benefits/costs traced to changes in production relationships**
 - Avoided costs from less recidivism (project changed behaviors)
- **Benefits traced to relaxed constraints**
 - Increased access to financial capital or social programs to purchase assets

Second and higher-order causal effects

- Better economic development opportunities
- Community of safety and security
- Long-run shifts in income-generating potential
- Changes in social capital

What developing the model revealed



Different investment strategies have different pathways to benefits

- Some are very direct, but limited in scope
- Others are indirect but can affect many sectors and stakeholders



The resilience of a system depends on behavior and constraints

- How rapidly can you restore or substitute the flow of goods and services?



Benefits can accrue even in the absence of a shock

- These co-benefits can be measured as part of the resilience dividend

Why create GDP2?

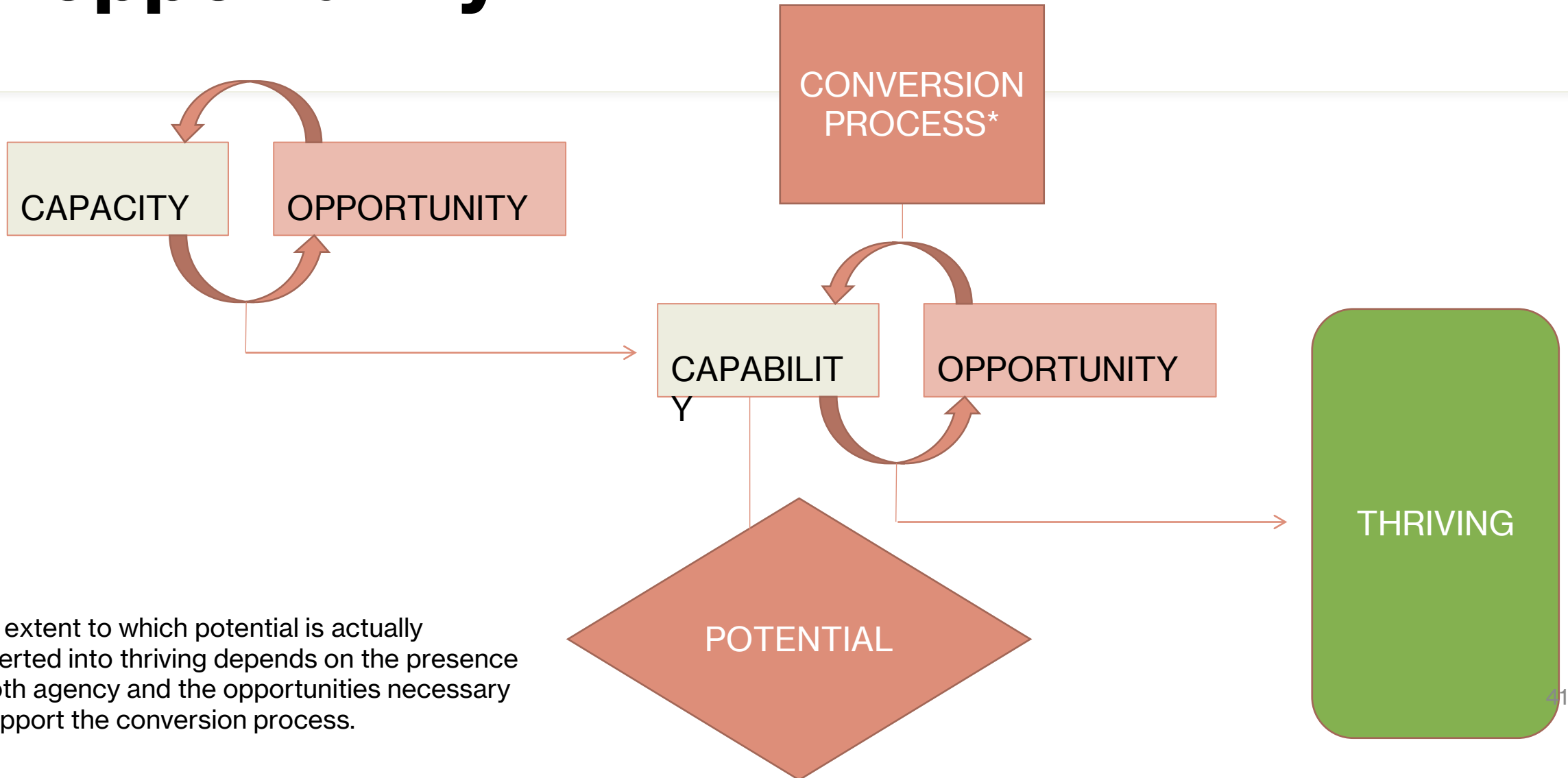
- Opportunity to complement narrow economic indicator
- Rapidly changing epidemiology of child health and development
- Major need to respond to deep drivers of inequities

What GDP2 measures

How human potential develops and how it creates the conditions of people to thrive

GDP2 is the first attempt to capture the potential of a nation by assessing the capability promise of its youngest cohort

GDP2 looks at potential and opportunity



*The extent to which potential is actually converted into thriving depends on the presence of both agency and the opportunities necessary to support the conversion process.

7 Core Developmental Capabilities



Health: living healthy lives

The ability to live a long and healthy life free from unnecessary suffering



Needs: satisfying basic human requirements

The ability to fulfill the fundamental human requirements of nourishment, shelter, clothing, safety, play, sexuality, and physical activity



Communication: expressing and understanding thoughts and feelings

The ability to express oneself and understand others through verbal and non-verbal communication of thoughts and feelings



Learning: lifelong learning

The ability to learn across the life course as an individual and in groups and to apply those learnings to new challenges



Adaptation: adapting to change

The ability to adapt to life's challenges, self-regulate behavior, and adjust to rapid social, cultural, and technological change



Connections: connecting with others

The ability to develop and grow relationships with family, friends, intimate partners, and the natural environment



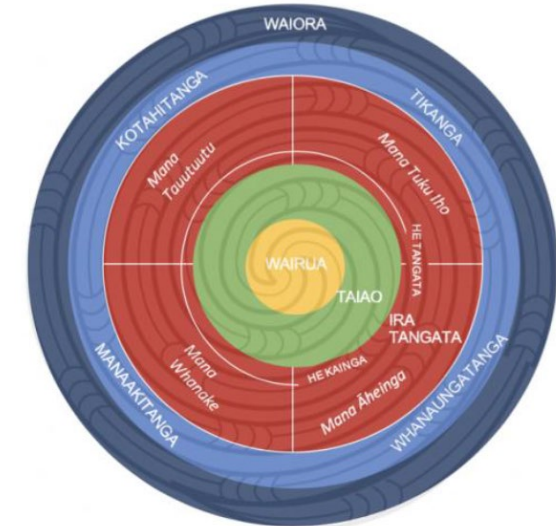
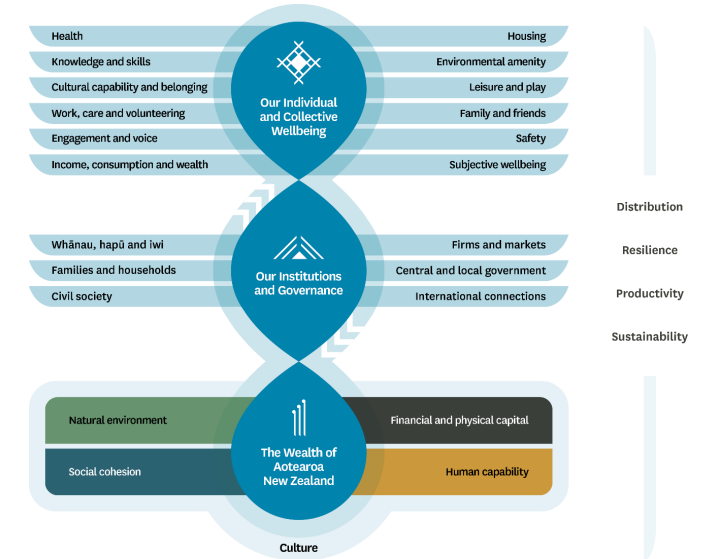
Community: engaging in community

The ability to participate as an equal in a democratic society and make political choices that govern community life

For more information:
<https://www.healthychild.ucla.edu/pages/gdp2>

Connections to Living Standards Framework

- Integrative resilience thinking lifts and centers considerations of the multidimensionality of equity
- Understanding "cumulative" stress and drivers of wellbeing is important to measure over time
- Localized action on wellbeing must bridge the social movement of narrative with measures and action
- Capability, co-benefits, and human potential frames can modernize wellbeing going forward



For any questions

Anita Chandra, Dr.P.H.

Vice President and Director | RAND Social and Economic Well-Being

Senior Policy Researcher | RAND Corporation

chandra@rand.org

www.rand.org/well-being