



Measuring the Progress of Adaptation Made by State Agencies in Washington

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*Climate Science in the
Public Interest*

Motivation

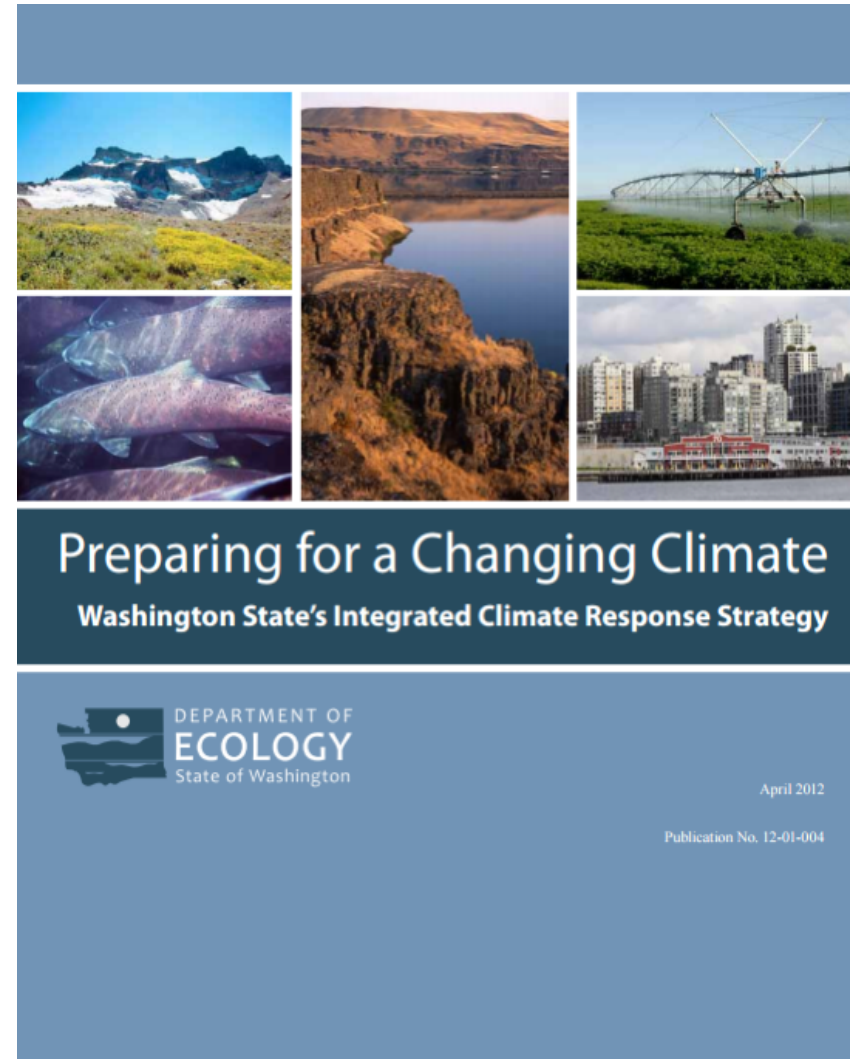
- Late 2015 meeting of the Interagency Climate Adaptation Network (ICAN)
- Questions arose:
 - Are we making progress in managing climate risk?
 - Are we collaborating when it makes sense to?
 - What do we need? What are our big cross-agency asks?

Our Project Team

- **Dani Ziff** – grad student, UW School of Marine and Environmental Affairs (SMEA)
- **Nives Dolšak** – Professor and Associate Director, SMEA
- Extensive input from ICAN, especially **Lynn Helbrecht** (WDFW) and **Dan Siemann** (WA DNR)

Specific Project Outputs

1) What has been done to implement the 2012 Integrated Climate Response Strategy?



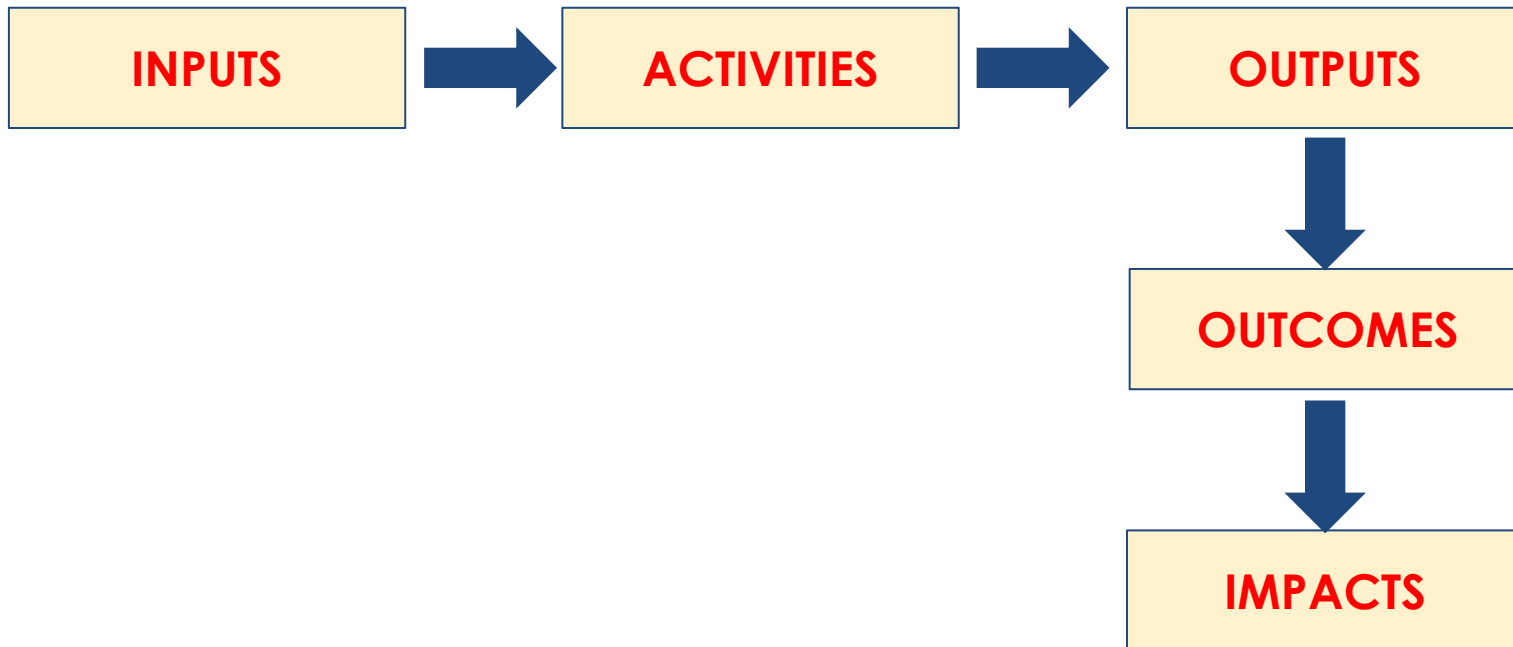
Specific Project Outputs

2) How do agency staff involved in adaptation work assess their progress?



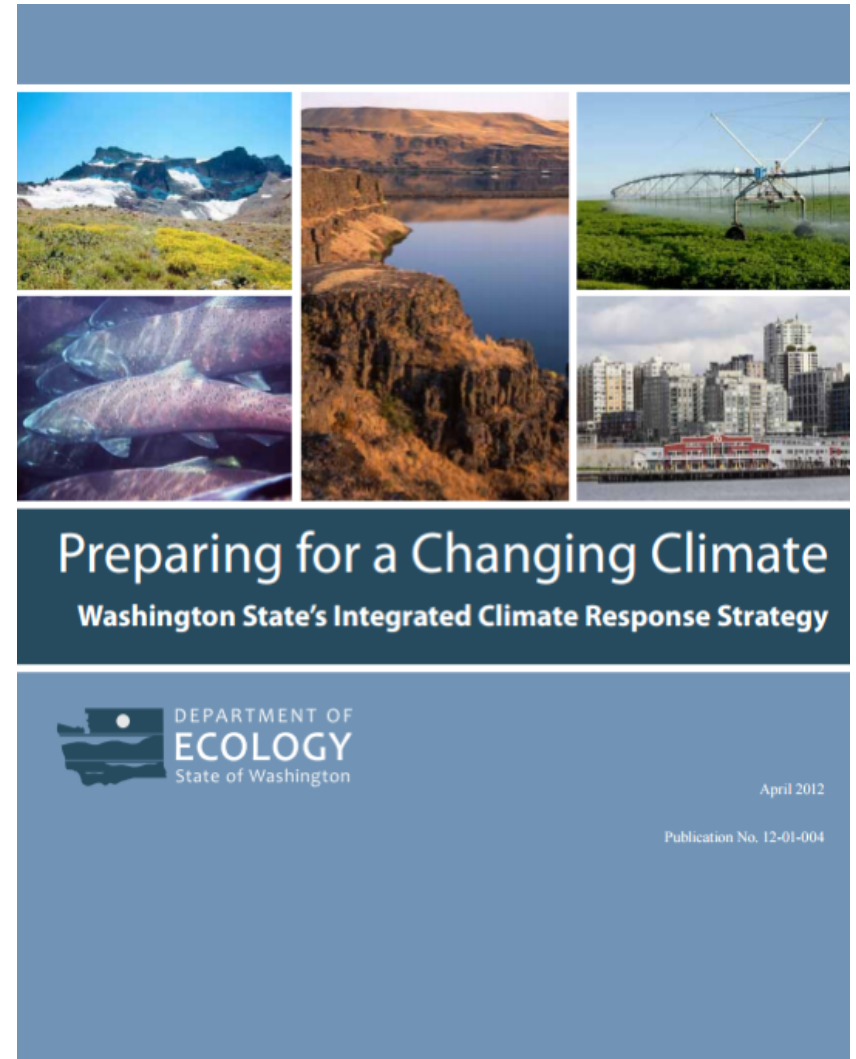
Specific Project Outputs

3) Can we provide a monitoring and evaluation framework that could be useful to state agencies?



The Integrated Strategy

- Issued in 2012 in response to legislative mandate (RCW 43.21M.020)
- 7 overarching goals; ~40 strategies; 217 separate actions



Integrated Strategy Example

- Reduce risk of damage to buildings, transportation systems, and other infrastructure
(one of the Big 7)
- Build capacity of the energy sector to respond to climate-related disruptions and meet potential increases in energy demand and changes in supply
(one of the 40 strategies)
- Adjust reservoir management to account for climate impacts
(one of the 217 actions)



Ross Dam; Seattle City Light
<http://www.seattle.gov/light/Skagit/>

Evidence for 140 of 217 actions

Conducted online search for documents. DID NOT evaluate “quality” of actions.

	Evidence of actions (<u>ev</u> found/total)	Multiple Agencies?
TOTAL (217)	140/217	x
Health	11/24	
Ecosystems	18/25	x
Oceans	19/30	x
Water	24/31	x
Agriculture	15/21	x
Forests	9/22	
Infrastructure	26/34	x
Research	6/10	
<u>Comms/Engagement</u>	12/20	x



Engagement of Agency Staff

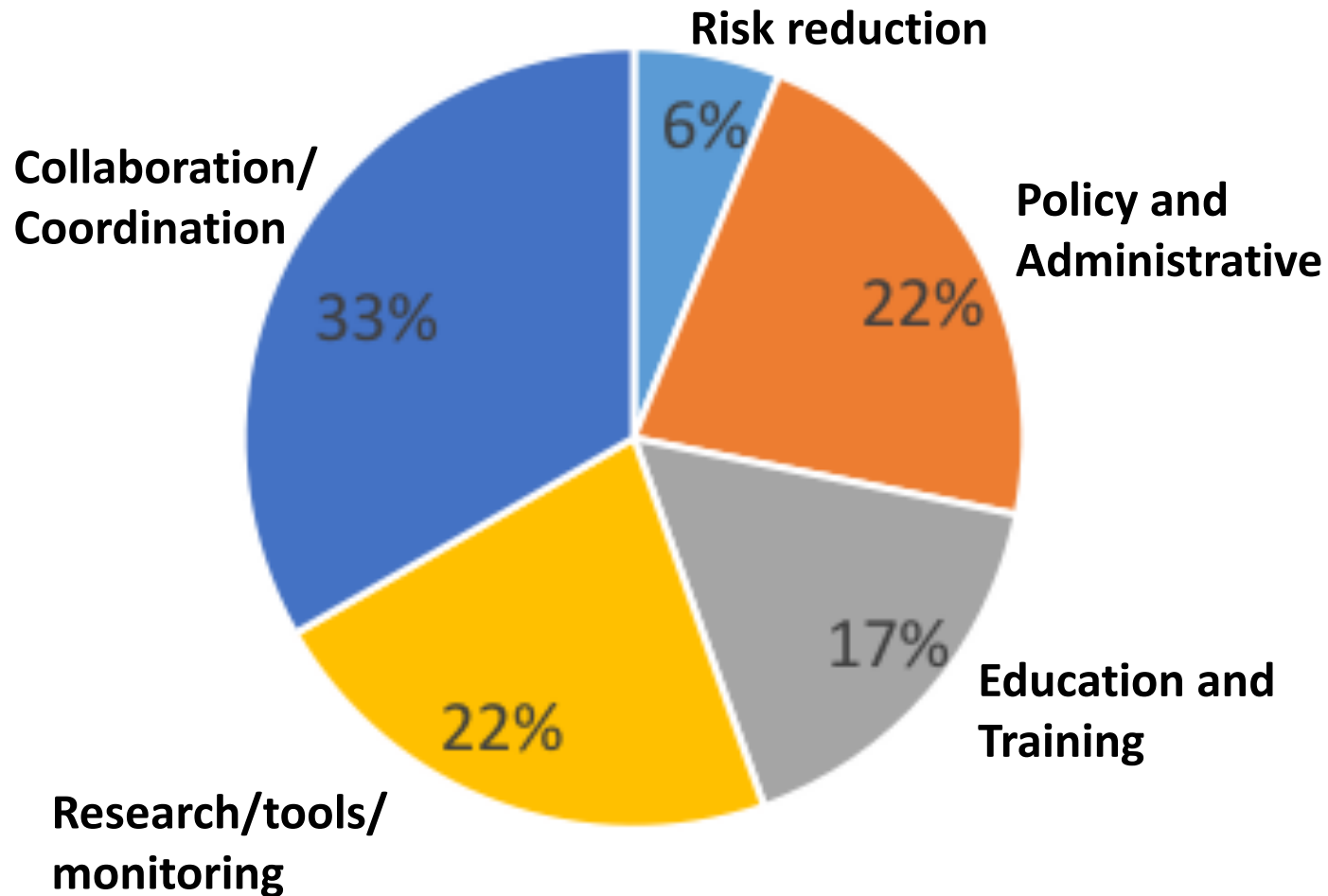
- Convened 90-minute focus group discussions
 - 61 staff participated
 - 13 sessions over 9 agencies
 - 2-8 staff from a single agency
- Developed a 7-question online survey for agency staff, and had access to Agency Adaptation Workshop survey

What did we hear?

- **Limited visibility/use of Integrated Strategy...**
yet still largely consistent with activities
- **Wide diversity** of agency missions, authorities, org charts, and capacities...**success hard to define**
 - Some agencies manage resources, others have regulatory authority, others primarily provide grants
 - Some agencies report to the Governor; others have their own elected leaders
- **Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) not present;**
but strategic plans can be important

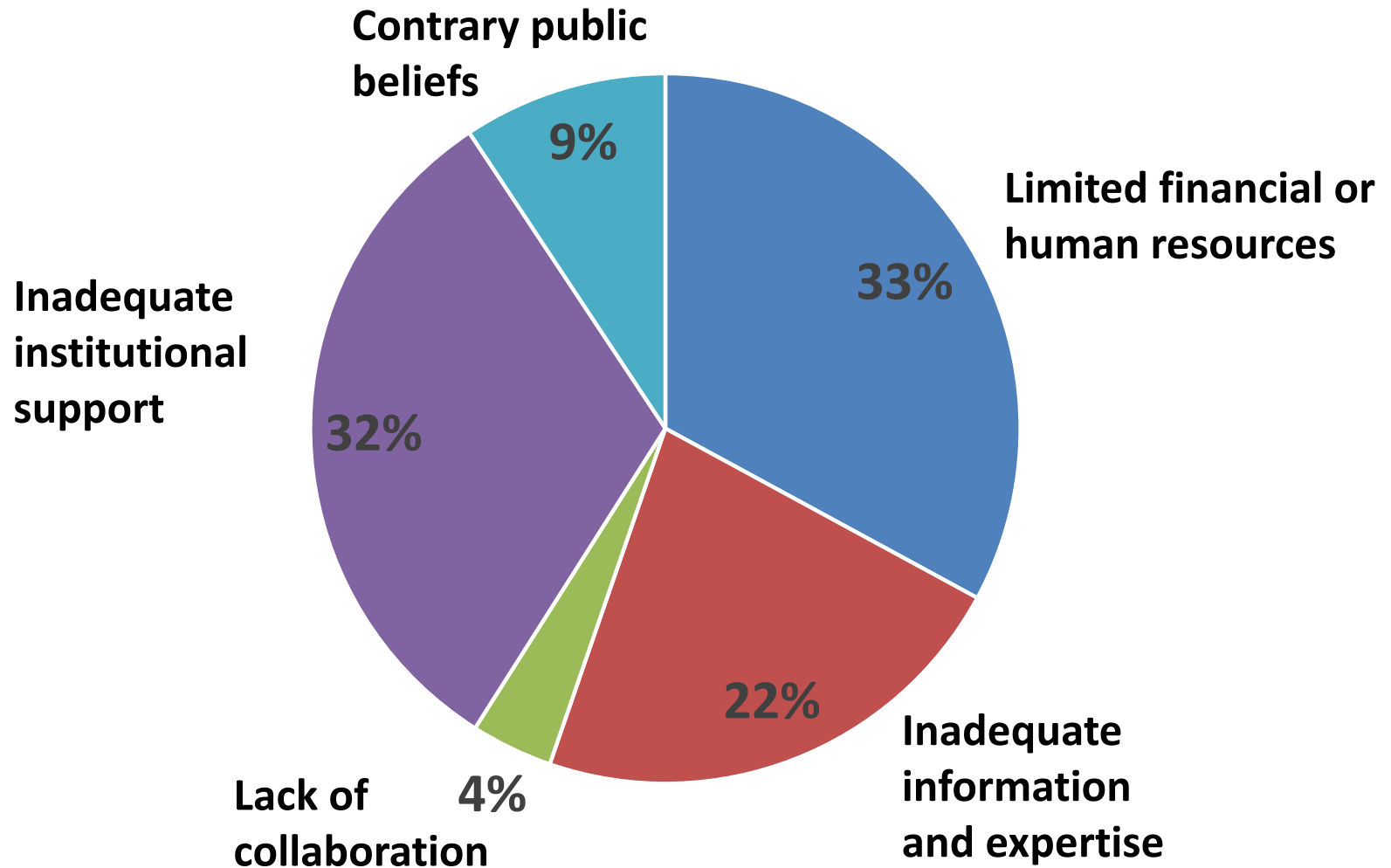
What are the priority activities?

From 231 excerpts

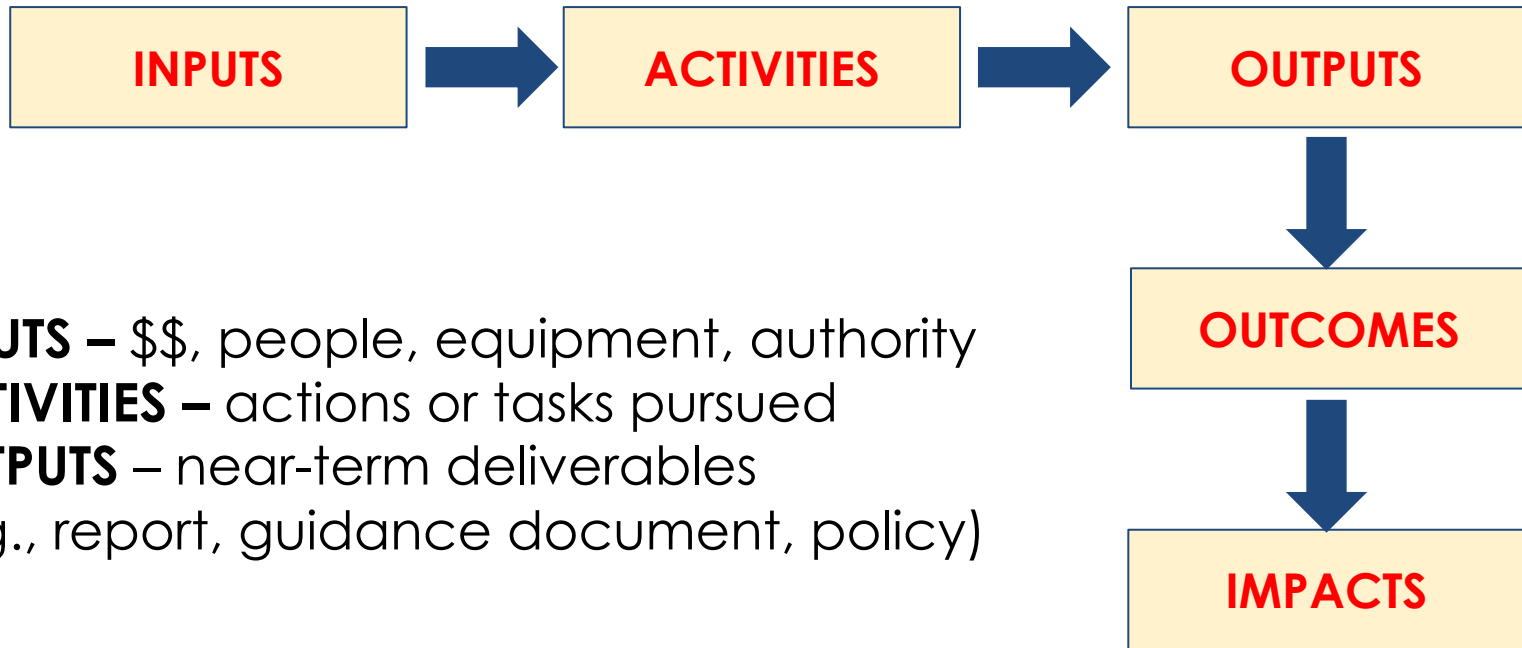


Barriers to Adaptation

From 161 excerpts



Monitoring and Evaluation Framework



INPUTS – \$\$, people, equipment, authority

ACTIVITIES – actions or tasks pursued

OUTPUTS – near-term deliverables
(e.g., report, guidance document, policy)

OUTCOMES – consequence of deliverables
(e.g., greater efficiency, bolstered capacity)

IMPACTS – long-term change in the world

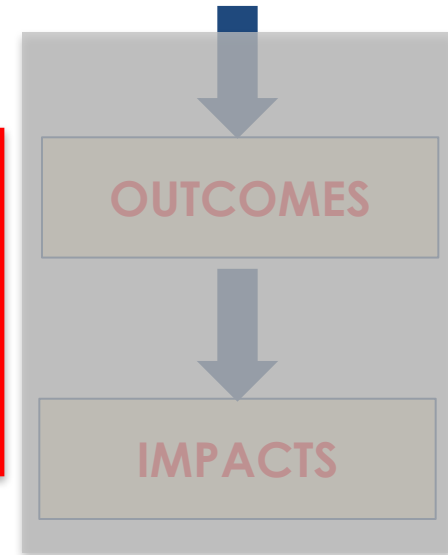
Monitoring and Evaluation Framework



Agencies can control, monitor, and measure

INPUTS – \$\$, people, equipment, authority
ACTIVITIES – actions or tasks pursued
OUTPUTS – near-term deliverables
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OUTCOMES – consequence of deliverables
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IMPACTS – long-term change in the world



Agency/Program could assess progress by “reversing” framework



Build capacity of the energy sector
meet potential increases in energy demand
and changes in supply

OUTCOMES

Reduce risk of damage to buildings,
transportation systems, and other
infrastructure

IMPACTS

Take Outcomes/Impacts from Strategy... examine Outputs...



Are we
producing the
right **OUTPUTS?**



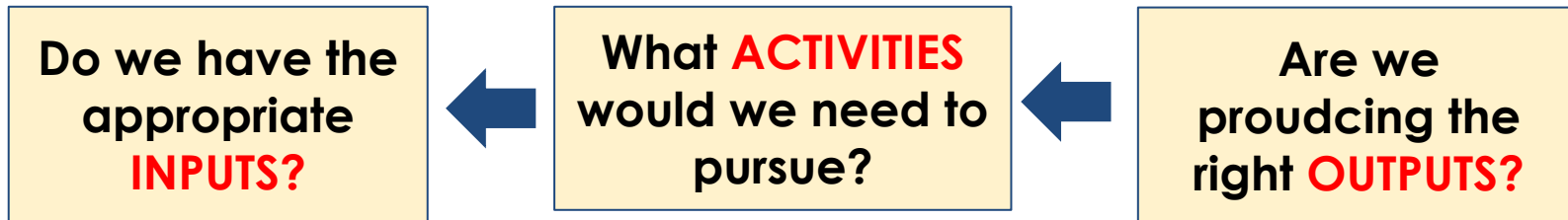
OUTCOMES

IMPACTS

Build capacity of the energy sector
meet potential increases in energy demand
and changes in supply

Reduce risk of damage to buildings,
transportation systems, and other
infrastructure

...then critique Activities and Inputs



Build capacity of the energy sector
meet potential increases in energy demand
and changes in supply

Reduce risk of damage to buildings,
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OUTCOMES

IMPACTS

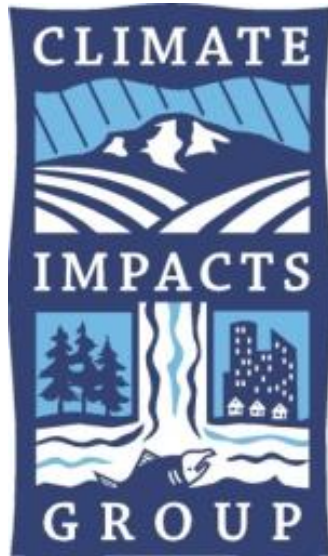
Summary and Takeaways

- Evidence of WA state agencies working toward Integrated Strategy goals
- Leadership within and across agencies is critical, as is sufficient bandwidth
- We suggest the application of a simple logic model for strategic planning
- Applying this framework across multiple programs/agencies?
- Interagency Climate Adaptation Network made this research happen

For more information

Ziff, 2017 (Master's thesis)
Climate Change Adaptation by
Washington State Agencies:
Implementation and Performance

https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/bitstream/handle/1773/40228/Ziff_washington_0250O_17357.pdf?sequence=1



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COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

- Indicative quotes??

1. [INPUTS, ACTIVITIES] Currently, what are some of the high priority steps (up to 3) your agency is taking to prepare for and adapt to the projected impacts of climate change?
2. [INPUTS] Do you use Washington's Integrated Climate Response Strategy when prioritizing, planning, or updating your agency's programs and policies? If yes, how? If no, what do you believe are the reasons you are not using the Strategy?
3. [ACTIVITIES] Would you offer one example of a climate adaptation activity your agency has collaborated on with one or more state agencies and one example of an activity your agency has undertaken on its own? How does your agency decide whether or not to collaborate?
4. [OUTPUTS, ACTIVITIES] What aspects of performance does your agency already track? How is climate adaptation progress tracked or measured within your agency?
5. [OUTPUTS, OUTCOMES] What would you consider a "success" story in climate change adaptation in your agency? What goal(s) or objective(s) were accomplished?
6. [Performance Measurement] Does your agency see a need for communicating your climate adaptation activities and successes to the public? If so, how?
7. [INPUTS, ACTIVITIES] What do you think are your agency's most significant barriers to greater consideration of climate change adaptation in daily decisions?