

Learning from a capacity-based approach to adaptation monitoring and evaluation

Johanna Wolf, PhD
8th Northwest Climate Conference
Tacoma, WA
9-11 October 2017

Assessing adaptation is tricky



Long temporal horizon

Shifting baselines

Uncertainty

Measuring risks avoided

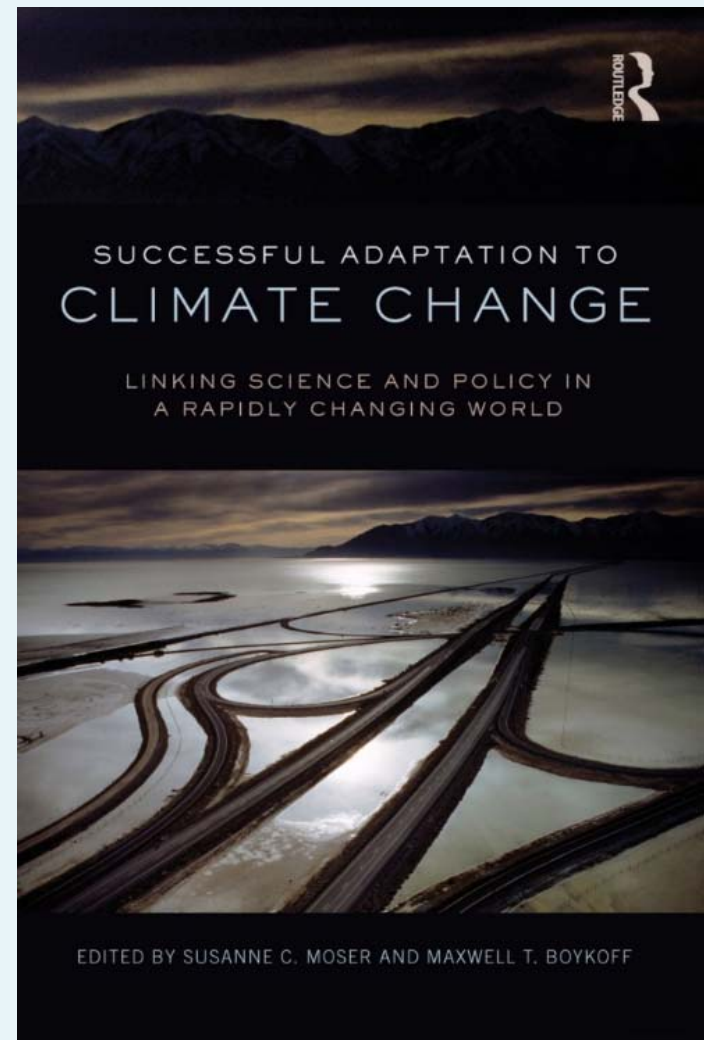
Universal indicators inappropriate

Contribution \neq Attribution

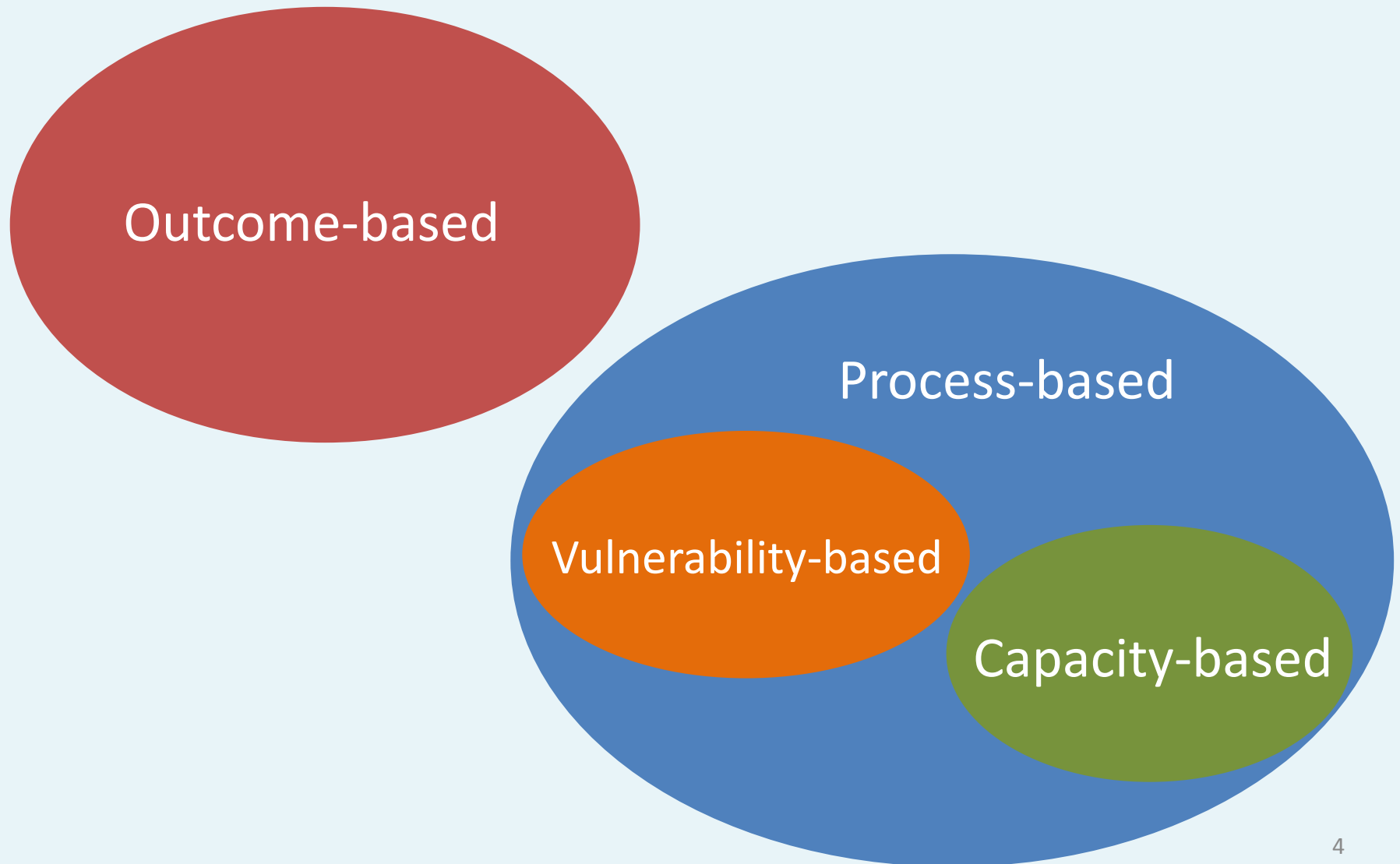
Lack of universal definitions

Adaptation Monitoring & Evaluation

- Tracking progress
- Assessing effectiveness, success



Approaches to Adaptation M&E



Approaches to Adaptation M&E

Outcome-based

Were adaptation outcomes accomplished?
Risks avoided?

Process-based

Were the processes for adaptation equitable, effective, efficient, legitimate, etc.?

Vulnerability-based

How is vulnerability changing?

Capacity-based

Were conditions that can enable adaptation strengthened?

Capacity for Adaptation

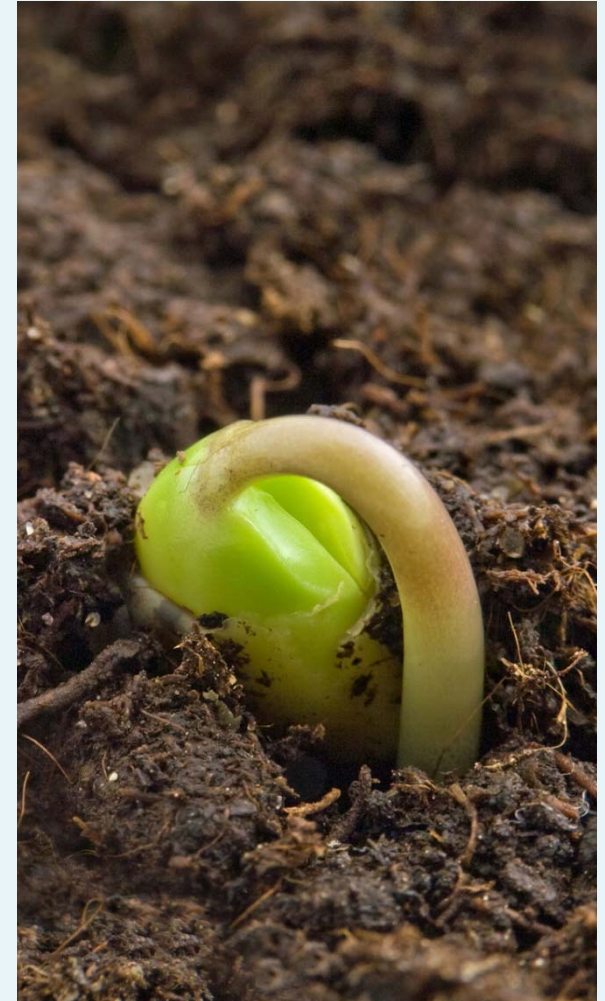
Adaptive capacity

- Hypothetical
- Indicates potential
- Complex relationship to implementation/action

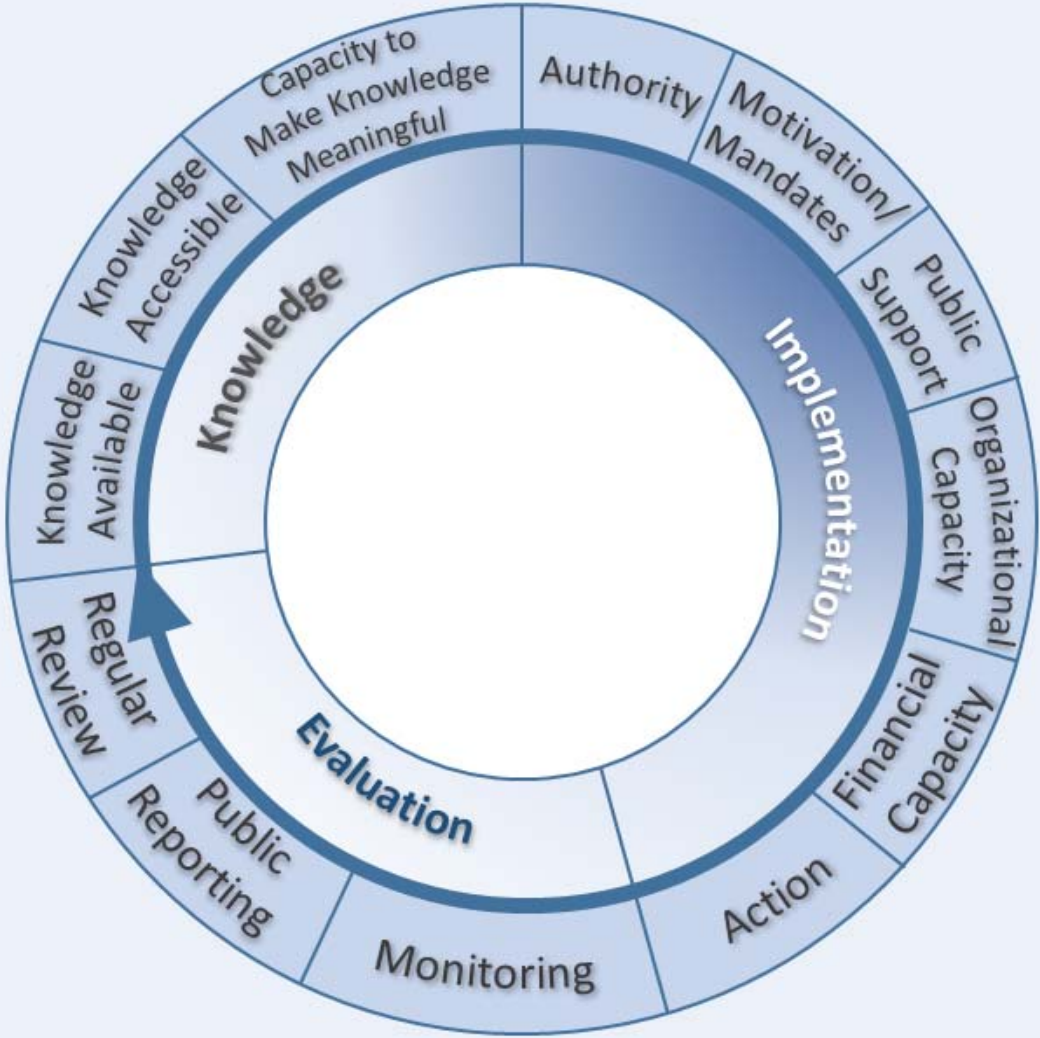
Pre-conditions

- Enabling factors
- Evidence-based
- Learned
- Aim to tackle adaptation barriers

Can't speak to effectiveness but gauge enabling environment - Readiness

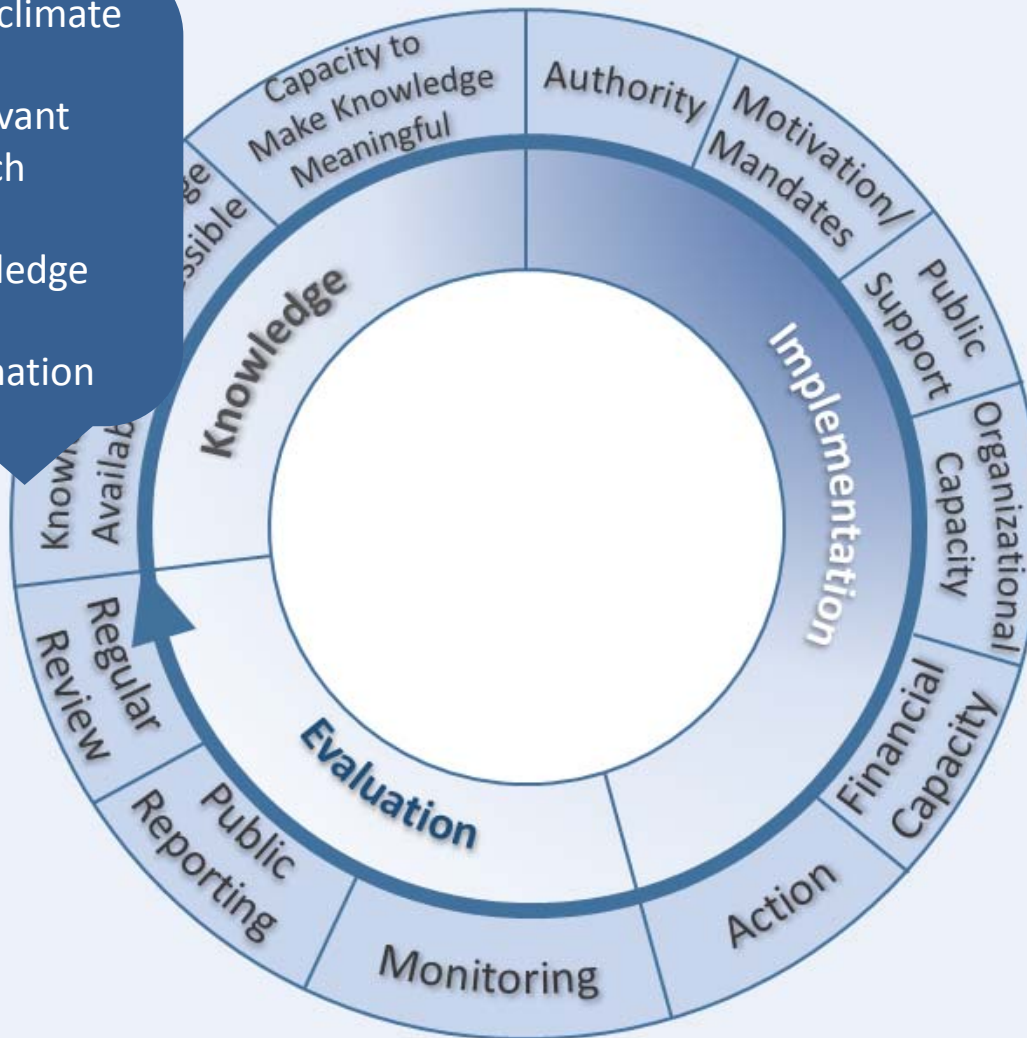


Readiness Framework



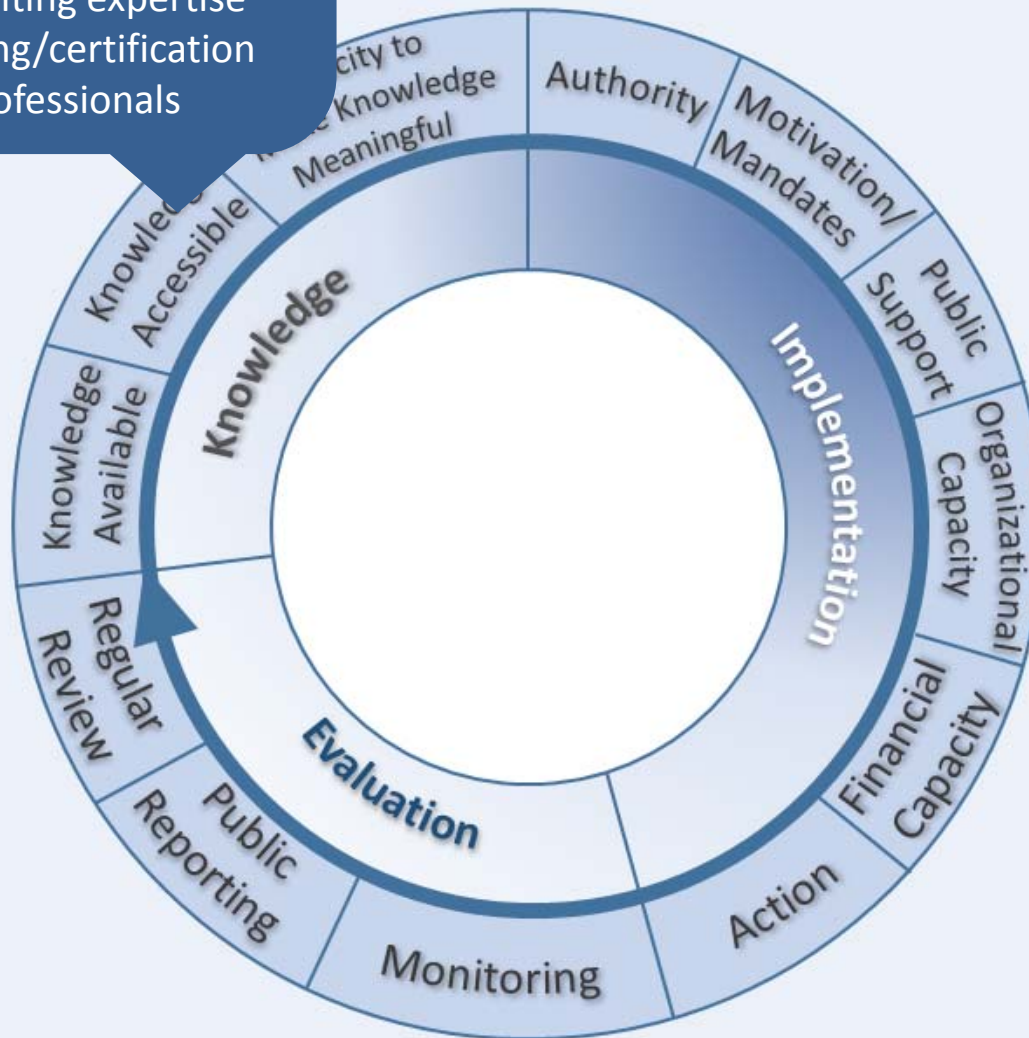
Measures of Readiness

- Local/regional climate data & vintage
- Regionally relevant climate research
- Organizational planning knowledge
- TEK
- Systems information

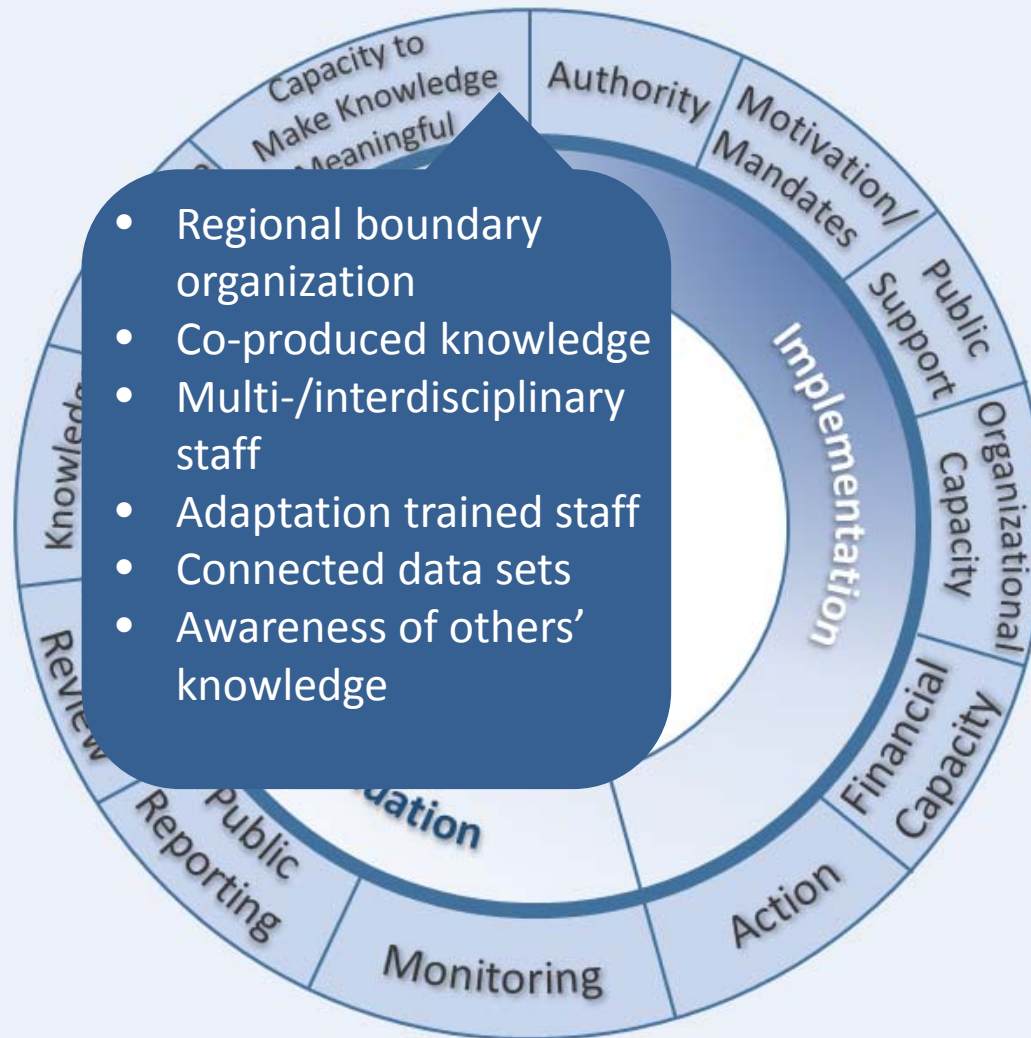


- Public, free data sets
- Accessible language data
- Knowledge clearing houses
- Consulting expertise
- Training/certification for professionals

es of Readiness

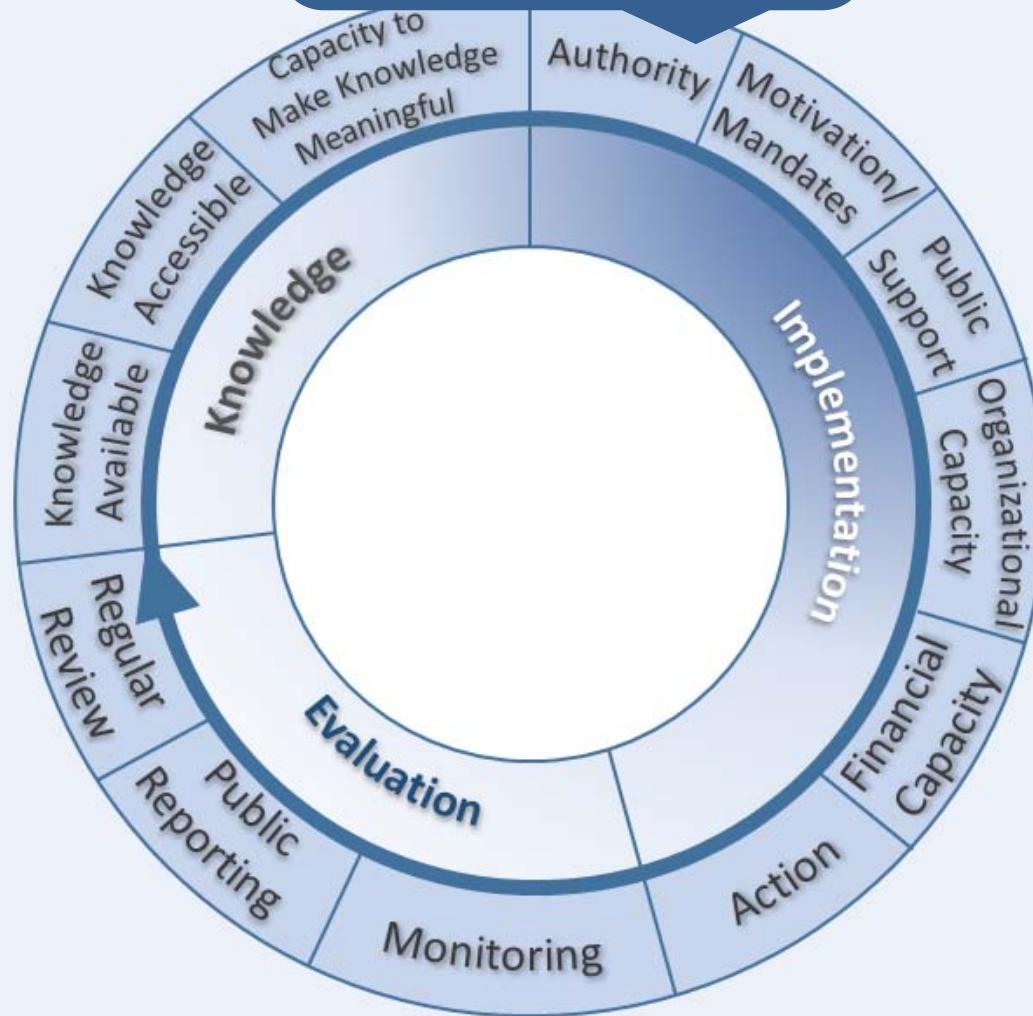


Measures of Readiness



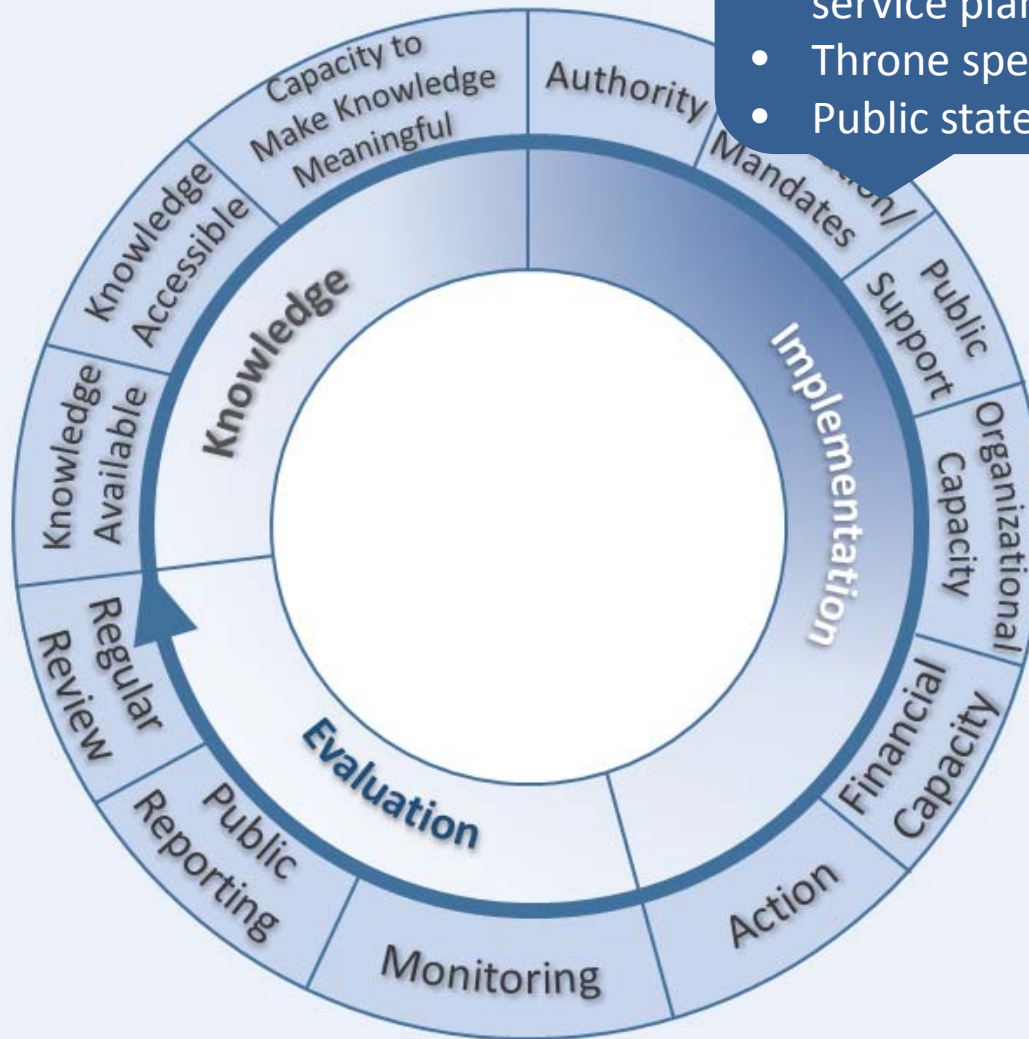
Measurement of Business

- Ability to act/decide without additional permissions
- Appropriate jurisdiction



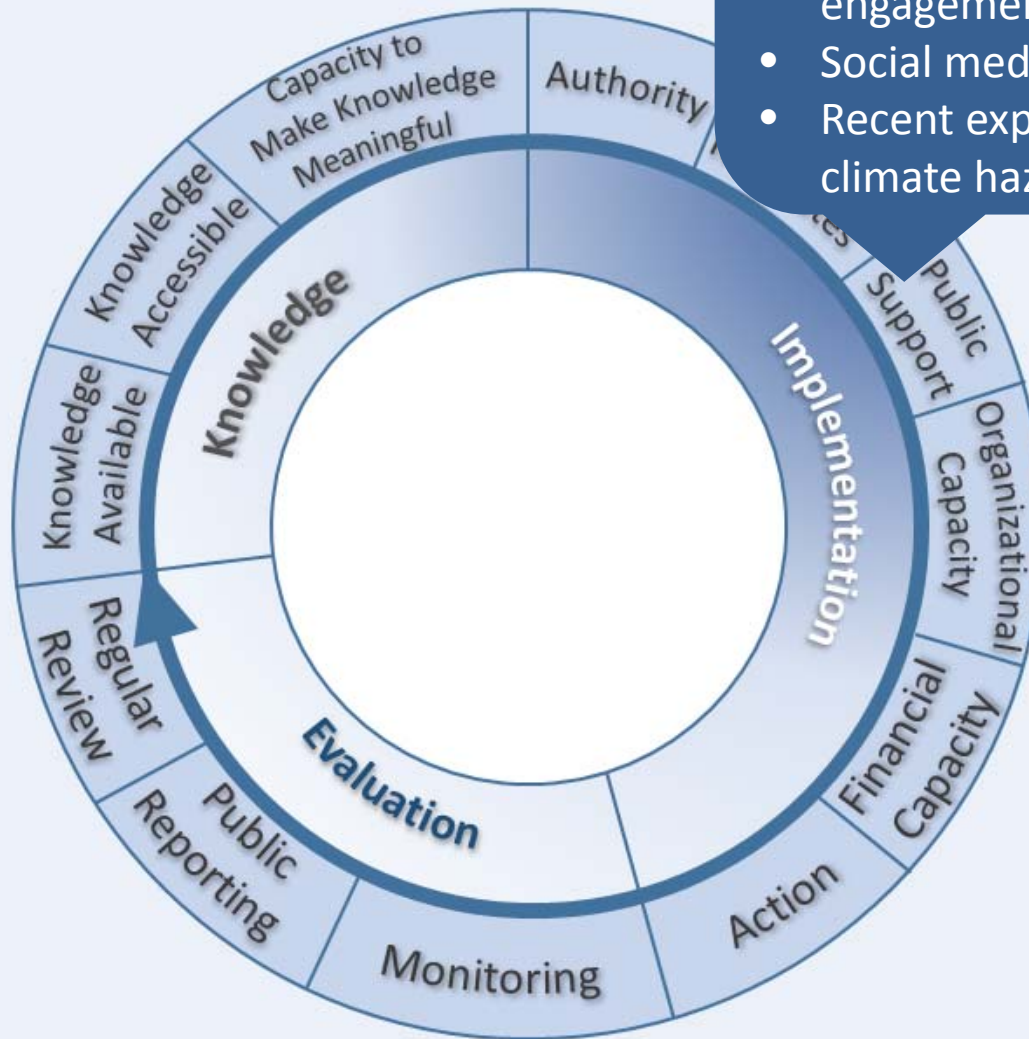
Measures of Re

- Written commitment (Ministry mandate letters, Ministry service plans)
- Throne speech
- Public statements

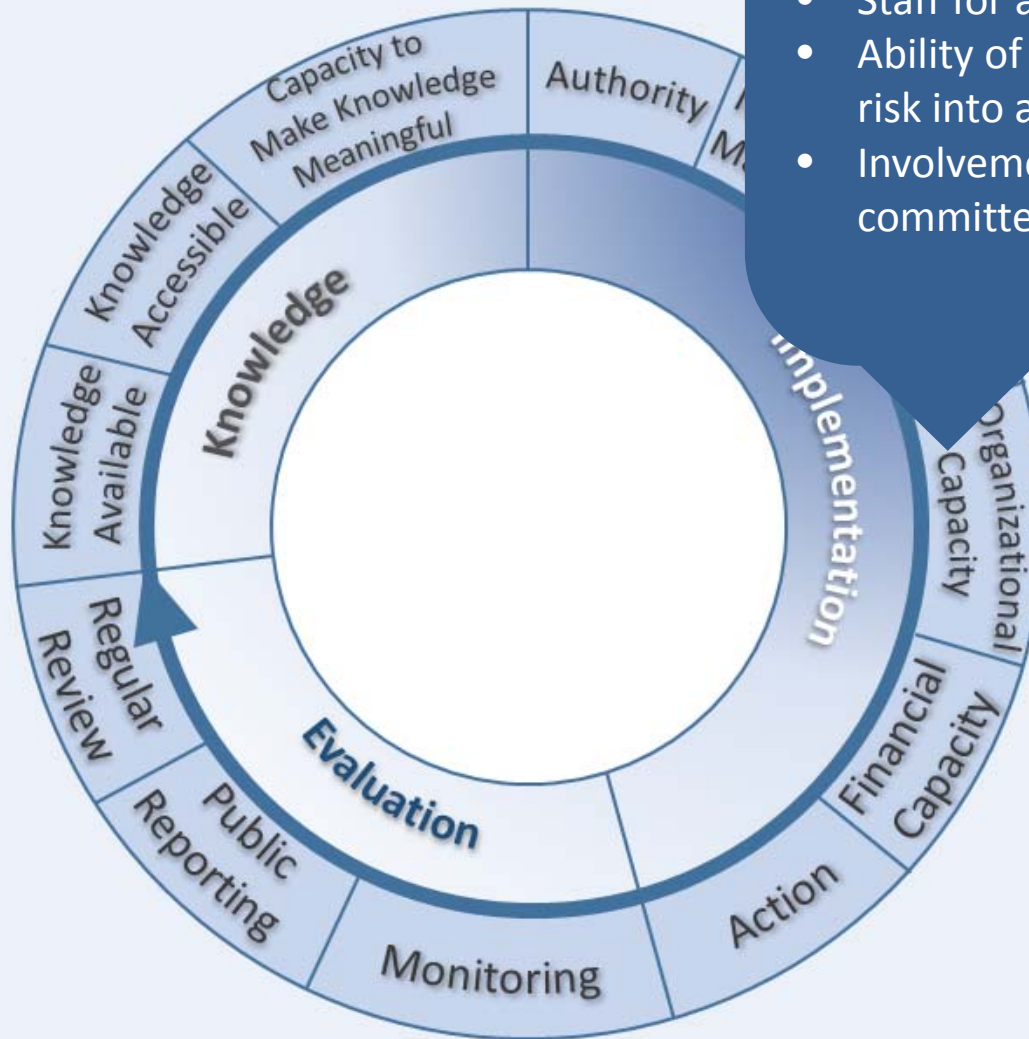


Measures of Resilience

- Public opinion surveys
- Media coverage of adaptation/climate impacts
- Tracked public engagement
- Social media presence
- Recent experience with climate hazard

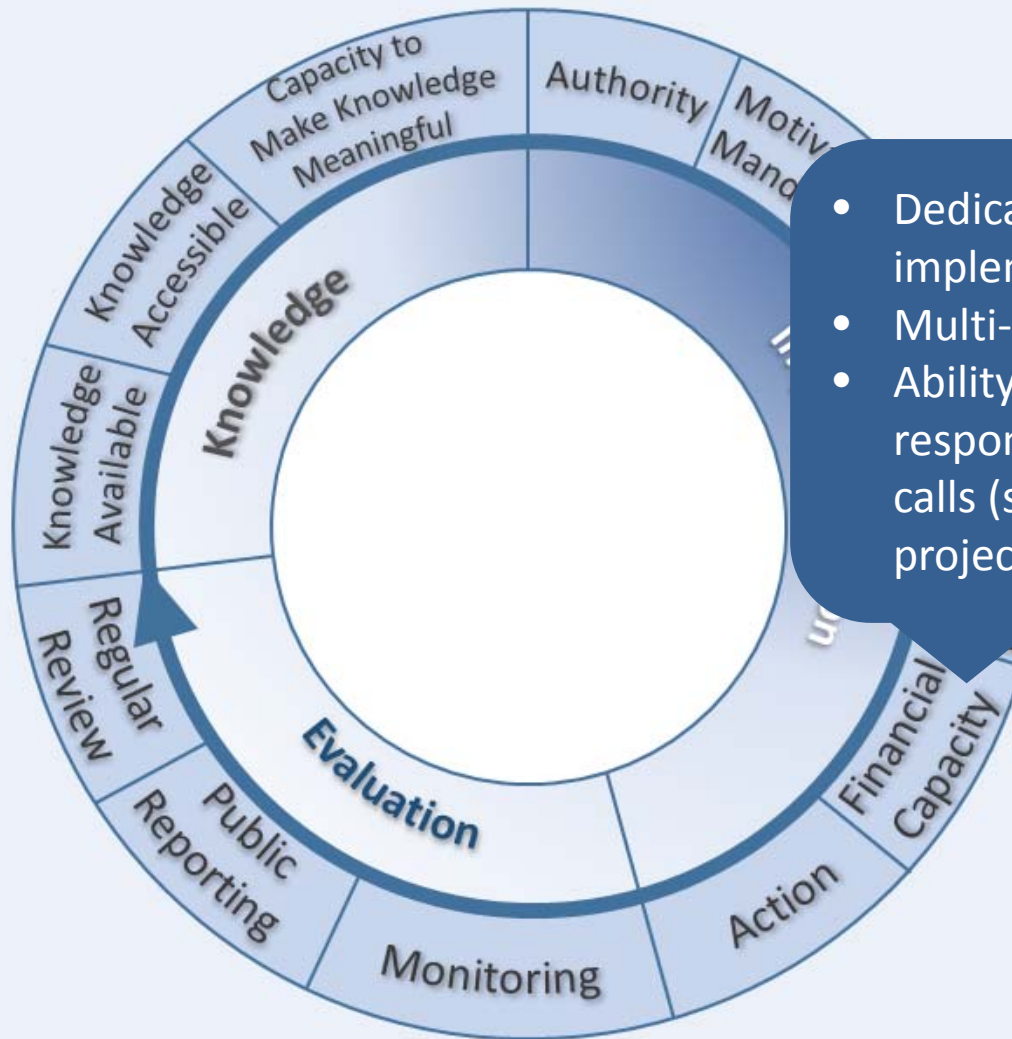


Measures of Realization



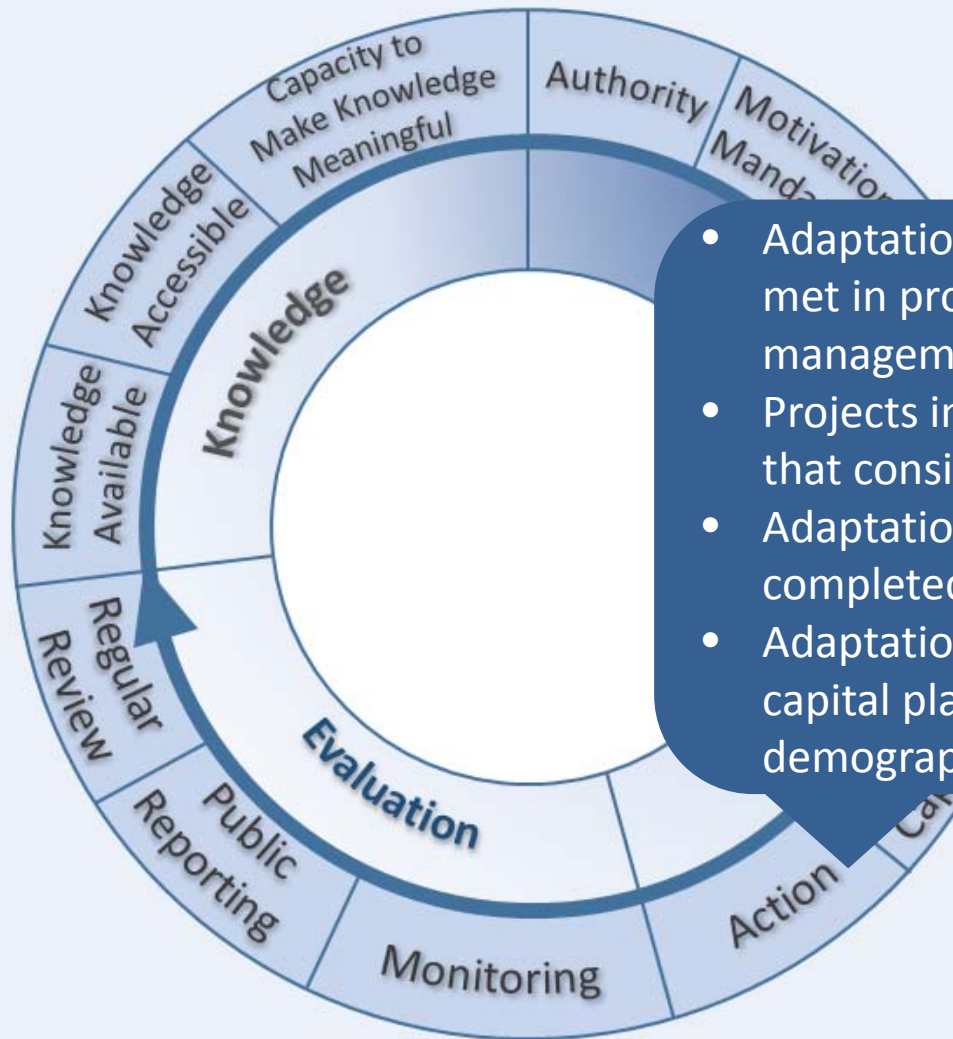
- Coordinating team/lead department
- Champion/lead
- Staff for adaptation
- Ability of org. system to take risk into account
- Involvement in collaborative committees

Measures of Readiness



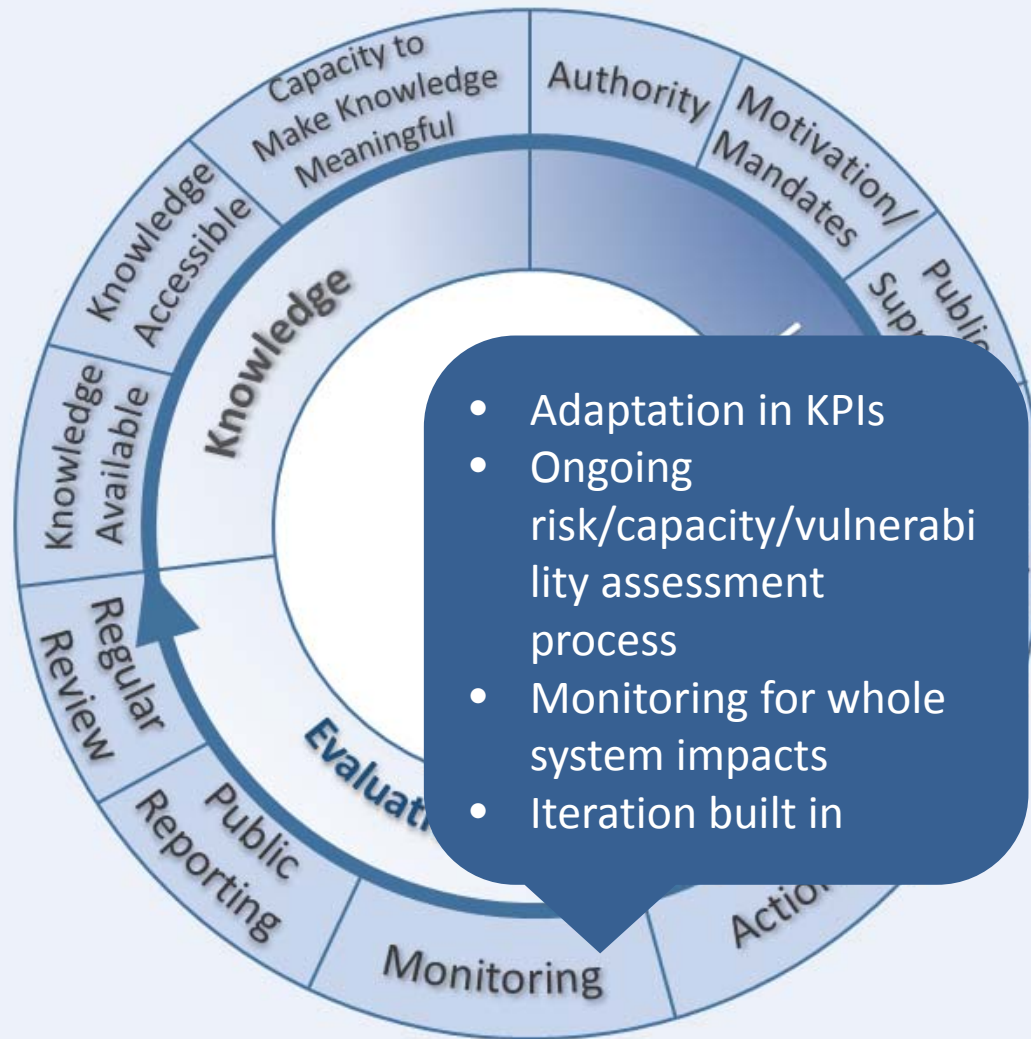
- Dedicated funding for implementation
- Multi-year funding
- Ability to use funding; respond to funding calls (shovel-ready projects)

Measures of Readiness



- Adaptation requirement met in project/asset management plans
- Projects implemented that consider adaptation
- Adaptation plans completed
- Adaptation considered in capital planning, demographic planning

Measures of Readiness

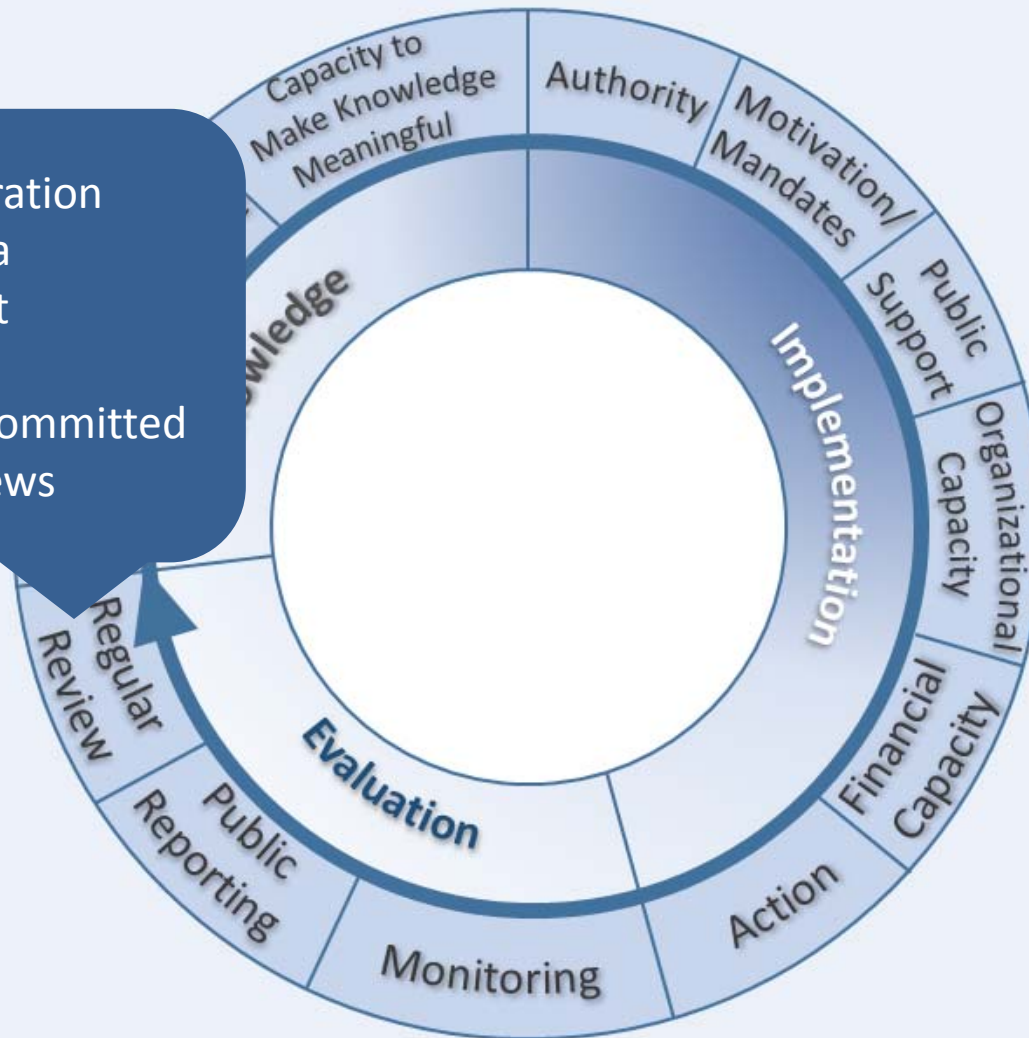


Measures of Readiness



Measures of Readiness

- Planning iteration required or a commitment
- Existence of mandated/committed regular reviews



Application of the framework

Trial

- Carbon Neutral Action Reports (public sector organizations)
- Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (local governments)

Objective

- to assess which pre-conditions are addressed (ranking 1-2-3, Y/N)

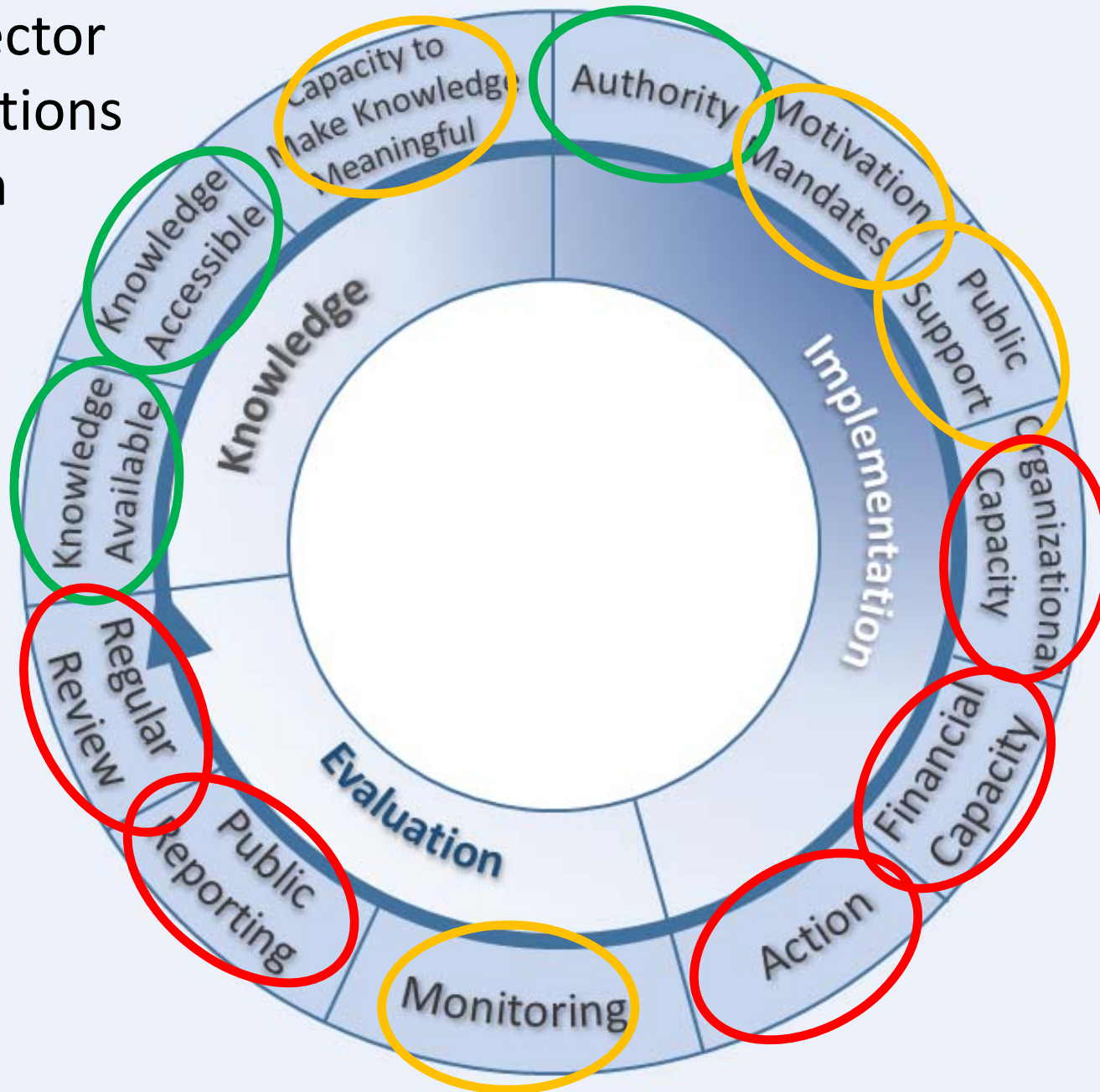


Preliminary results from trial

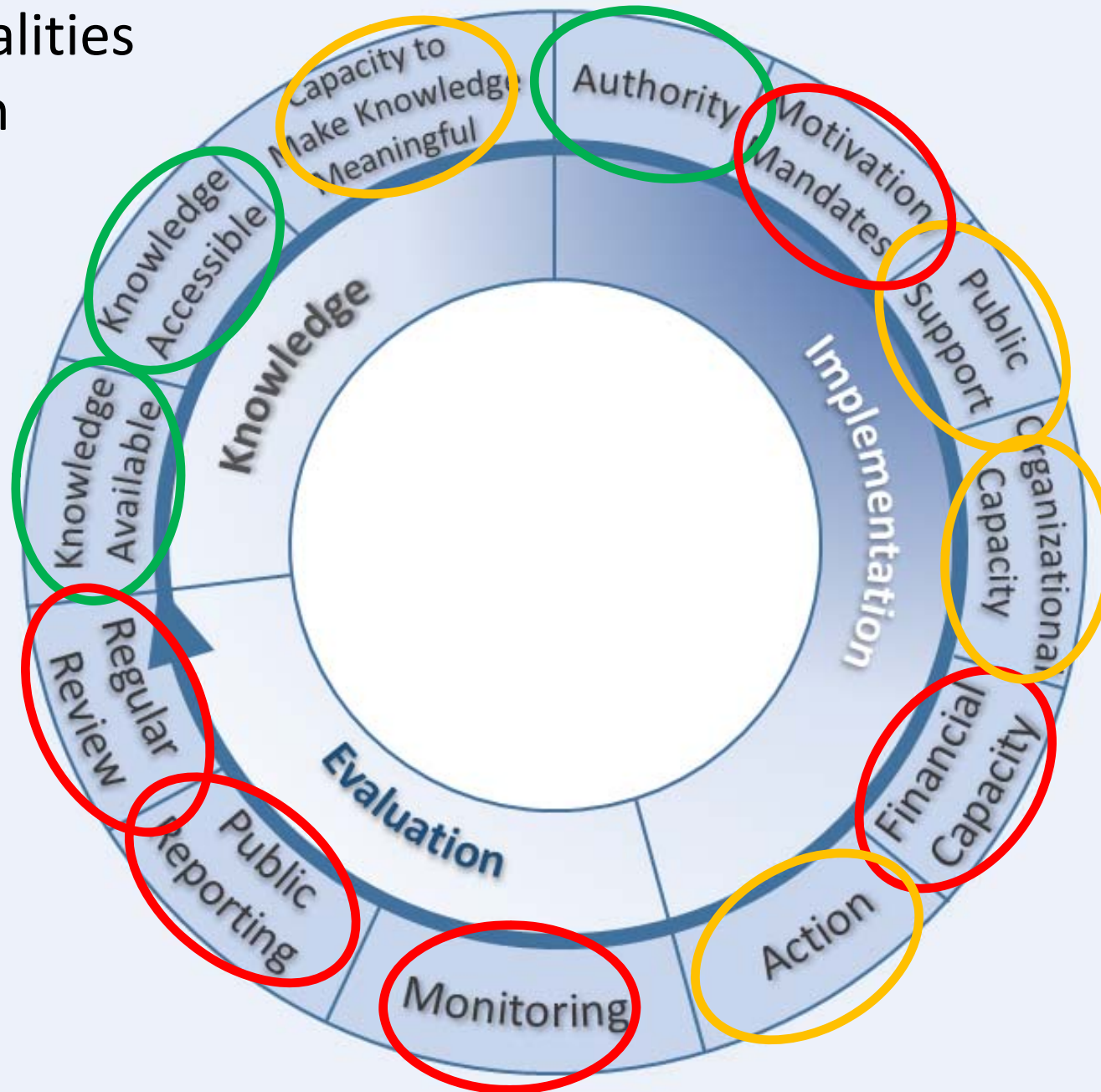
Three point scale – Early (1) – Underway (2) – Advanced (3)
n/d – no/limited data

| | CNAR (public sector organizations) | CARIP (municipalities) |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Knowledge | Early (1) | Early (1) |
| Implementation | Early (1) | Underway (2) |
| Evaluation | n/d | n/d |

Public Sector
Organizations
based on
CNAR



Municipalities based on CARIP



Learnings

About our context

- Significant data gaps
- Limitations of existing reporting tools
- Customizing measures

About readiness

- Ability to reflect on barriers directly
- Aggregates hide nuances
- No statements about effectiveness

Insights into Readiness

- Knowledge not a barrier – knowledge translation is
- Organizational capacity limited
- Reporting and review largely absent



The screenshot displays the website for the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC). At the top, the logo features a stylized globe with green and blue waves, followed by the text "PACIFIC CLIMATE IMPACTS CONSORTIUM". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with links for "ABOUT PCIC", "DATA PORTAL", "ANALYSIS TOOLS", and "RESOURCES". Below the navigation is a large banner image of a dense evergreen forest with mountains in the background. The text "Regional Climate Impacts" is overlaid on the bottom right of the banner. Below the banner, there are three main content sections: "MEETING THE NEED FOR PRACTICAL CLIMATE INFORMATION", "LATEST NEWS", "EVENTS AND SEMINARS", and "FEATURED PUBLICATION".

PACIFIC CLIMATE IMPACTS CONSORTIUM ABOUT PCIC DATA PORTAL ANALYSIS TOOLS RESOURCES

Regional Climate Impacts

MEETING THE NEED FOR PRACTICAL CLIMATE INFORMATION
The Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC) is a regional climate service centre at the University of Victoria that provides practical

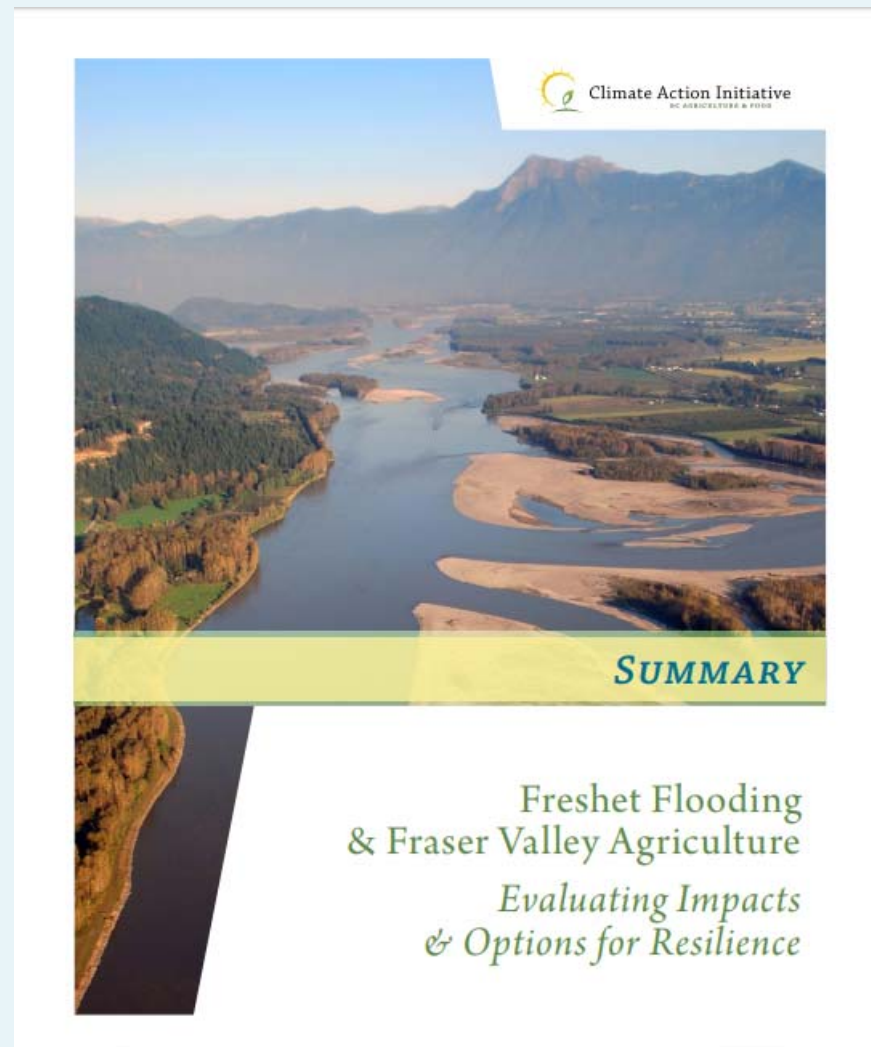
LATEST NEWS
July 5, 2017
[June 2017 PCIC Update](#)
June 12, 2017
[PCIC Director Gives Invited Public Lecture at CMOS](#)

EVENTS AND SEMINARS
There are no events or seminars currently scheduled.

FEATURED PUBLICATION
PCIC Update: June 2017
The June 2017 PCIC Update covers the following stories: The VIC-GL Model Now Operational, Climate Variability: the Hot Cold

Next steps

- Address data gaps
- More nuanced, qualitative assessment
- Include three provincial ministries
- Consider small set of outcome-based measures



References

Bours, D., McGinn, C., Pringle, P. (2014) Guidance for M&E of Climate Change Interventions. SeaChange and UKCIP, London, UK.

Ford, J. and King, D. (2015) A framework for examining adaptation readiness. *Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change* 20: 505-526

Ford, J., Berrang-Ford, L., Lesnikowsky, A., Barrera, M., Heyman, S.J. (2013) How to Track Adaptation to Climate Change: A Typology of Approaches for National-Level Application. *Ecology and Society* 18: 40.

Gagnon-Lebrun, F. and Agrawala, S. (2007) Implementing adaptation in developed countries: an analysis of progress and trends. *Climate Policy* 7: 392-408.

Moser, S.C. and Ekstrom, J.A. (2010) A framework to diagnose barriers to climate change adaptation. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 107(51): 22026–22031.

Moser, S.C. and Boykoff, M. (eds.) (2013) *Successful Adaptation to Climate Change – Linking science and policy in a rapidly changing world*. New York, Routledge.

Thank you!
Questions or comments?

johanna.wolf@gov.bc.ca