Community-led approaches to building resilience

The policy gaps and opportunities

Dr Anne Cleary
Mosaic Insights recognises and acknowledges the unique relationship and deep connection to Country shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as First Peoples and Traditional Owners of Australia. We pay our respects to their Cultures, Country and Elders past and present.

Artwork by Melissa Barton. This piece was commissioned by Alluvium and tells our story of caring for Country, through different forms of waterbodies, from creeklines to coastlines. The artwork depicts people linked by journey lines, sharing stories, understanding and learning to care for country and the waterways within.
National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

The National Reconciliation Week theme for 2024, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will—and must—continue.
We are a strategy, planning and design practice.
We exist to accelerate the transition to a future of resilient, healthy communities with nature at their heart.
We apply an integrated, evidence-based approach to analyse, plan and design the social landscapes of the future.
Alluvium Group
Solving the complex and systematic challenges facing our society and environment

EcoFutures
Ecological strategy, advice and design in a changing environment

MOSAIC insights
Science, insights and impact for social landscapes of the future

Natural Capital Economics
Economic and policy analysis, advice and decision support

alluvium
Science, engineering and strategy for catchments, rivers and coasts

alluvium international
Catchment management science and planning through the Asia Pacific region and beyond
Setting the Scene

Navigating the policy response - three take aways:

- Systems Thinking
- Integrated
- Evidence Informed and Community Led
Systems Thinking
Determinants of mental health and wellbeing in the context of climate change

Risk and Protective factors of mental health in the context of climate change

Integrated Policy

- Across policy sectors
- Across policy tiers (collaborative governance)
- Across policy cycle
Integration across policy sectors

National Health and Climate Strategy (2023)

Australia’s first National Health and Climate Strategy sets out a whole of-government plan for addressing the health and wellbeing impacts of climate change, whilst also addressing the contribution of the health system - encompassing public and preventive health, primary and secondary health care, and aged care - to climate change.
Objective 4 (Health in all policies) is to support healthy, climate-resilient and sustainable communities through whole-of-government action which recognises the relationship between health and climate outcomes.
Integration across policy tiers - collaborative governance

Figure 4.2: Hierarchy of plans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Wisemans Ferry (Webbs Creek) Flood Level (m AHD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun 1867</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1889</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 1949</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 1961</td>
<td>3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 1964</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 1978</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 1988</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1990</td>
<td>4.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2020</td>
<td>2.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2021</td>
<td>4.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2022</td>
<td>5.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2022</td>
<td>1.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 2022</td>
<td>5.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2022</td>
<td>2.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wisemans Ferry is governed by 4 local councils and 2 state electorates.
Challenges with collaborative governance

- **No one size fits all** - need to identify the collaborative governance mechanisms required to enable place-based and community-oriented collaboration to occur.

- **Needs sustainable funding models/mechanisms** - financing of co-governance is a challenge. However, evidence suggests that co-creation/co-design processes that foster a long-term sense of ownership are an effective way of developing sustainable financing and operating models.

- **Needs time and resources** - authentic collaboration is resource and time intense and requires long term outcomes.

- **Risk** - need for experimentation, permission to fail and handling of power dynamics.

- **Need implementation and outcome** - need to keep momentum and demonstrate impact.
Integration across policy cycle

1. Identify policy need
2. Preliminary stakeholder consultation
3. Draft
4. Stakeholder consultation
5. Revise, review and approval
6. Implement
7. Monitoring and evaluation
8. Learning and review
9. Policy need and review process
Evidence informed and community led
Is there a communication and engagement plan?

- Scientific rigour vs fit for purpose
- Participant burden
- Timeframes of outcomes
- Causality?

IAP2
- Inform
- Consult
- Involve
- Collaborate
- Empower
- Co-design???

- Action objective
- Responsible agent
- Resourcing
- Timeframe
Starting to see this thinking reflected in latest international frameworks
Recap:

We need evidence informed and community led/owned policy that is integrated across sectors, government tiers and the policy cycle and that reflects a systems thinking approach.
Thank you

Anne.cleary@mosaicinsights.com.au