

# Assessing how changes in cultural services associated with future scenarios affect the wellbeing of different cultural groups



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# Acknowledgements



NESP- Northern Australia Environmental Resources

Aboriginal Interpreting Western Australia

Research participants from the Fitzroy catchment and beyond



# Background

Forests provide multiple benefits that contribute to people's wellbeing by fulfilling human values

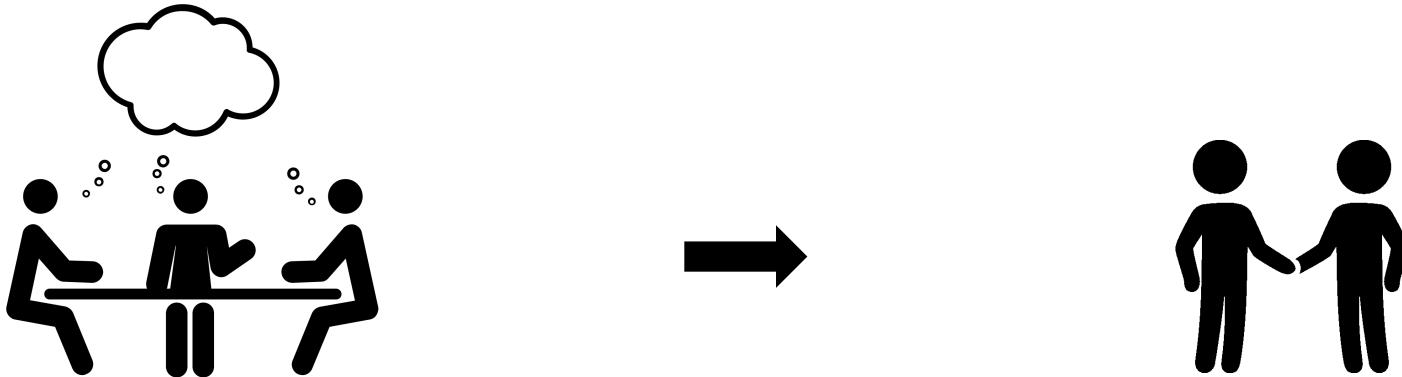
Different cultural groups may hold different, even competing values



# Background

Natural resource management: decisions are political choices among competing values

Multi-stakeholder initiatives (MSIs) – potential for more equitable and effective outcomes





# Background

Method linking cultural services and wellbeing in a multi-stakeholder initiative aiming to:

- Develop a common language that accounts for cultural diversity
- Document how future changes affect the realisation of wellbeing values by different stakeholder groups



# Context



- Fitzroy catchment in the Kimberley region (WA) – Wild river
- 8,000 people, >70% Aboriginal
- Land use dominated by grazing
- Government planning – water and land use



# Context



## Interest groups

- Aboriginal Australians
- Pastoralists (~48 stations, including Indigenous owned)
- Environmentalists
- Mining
- Government

# Project

Participatory scenario planning to explore how future environmental changes can affect the wellbeing of different stakeholder groups

Transdisciplinary approach:

Solution-oriented  
Interdisciplinary  
Mutual learning

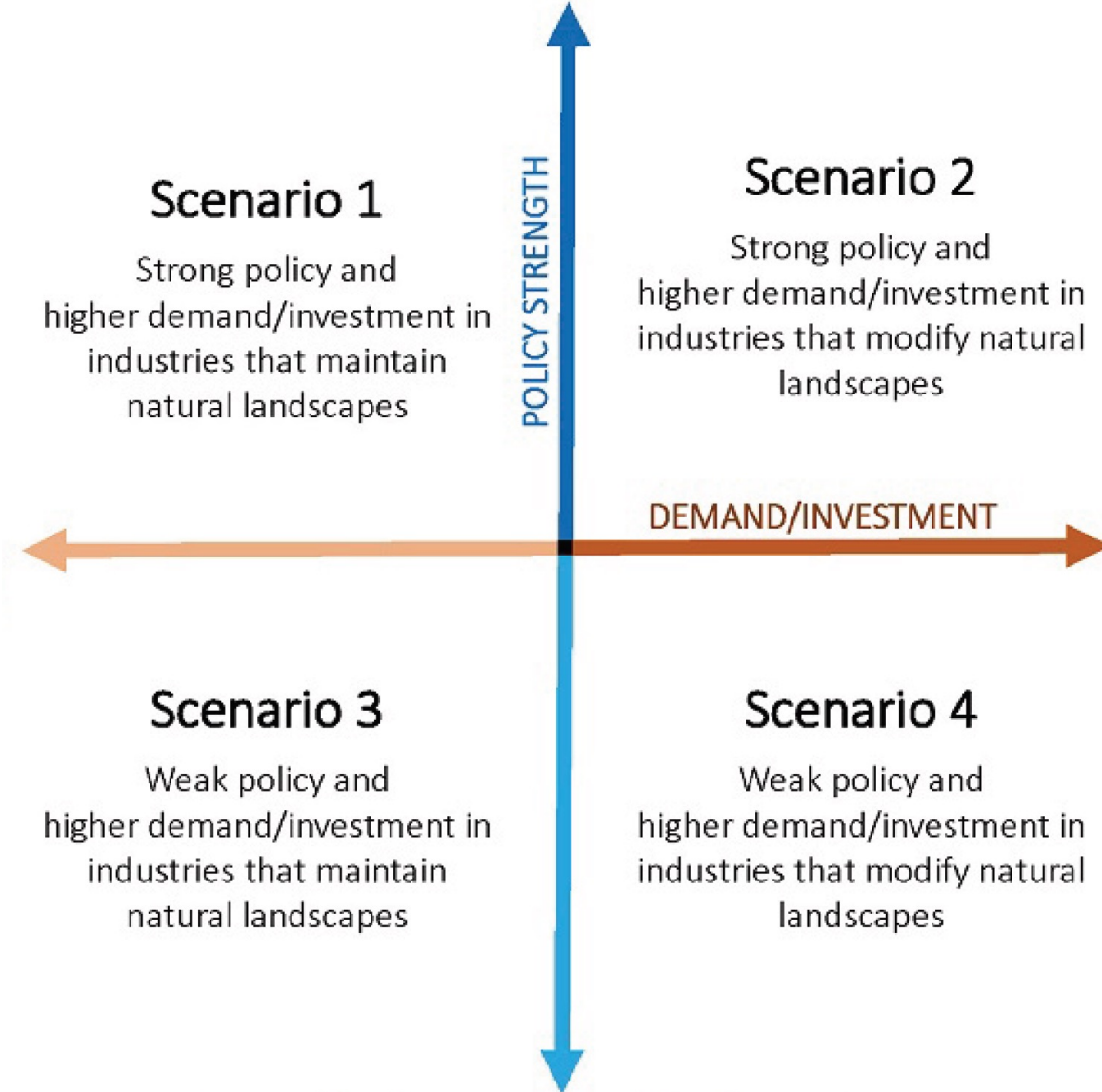




# Project

- Assemble the team, interviews
- Workshop 1: identified drivers of future change (30 years)
- Workshop 2: prioritised and described drivers
- [Scenarios: narratives, indicators, and maps of land use changes]
- **Workshop 3a: Wellbeing assessment, Aboriginal groups**
- **Workshop 3b: Wellbeing assessment, multi-stakeholder (mid-Oct)**





# Method

Categories of end-state values for environmental management that support human wellbeing<sup>1</sup>

Associate specific landscape elements with values contributing to people's wellbeing

Used with mainstream (Australian) groups

Language and culturally translated to suit target groups

1. WALLACE, K. J., KIATKOSKI KIM, M., ROGERS, A. A. & JAGO, M. 2018. *Classifying values for planning the conservation and use of natural resources. Working Paper 1808* [Online]. Available: <https://ageconsearch.umn.edu/record/276174>

## *Enough food and water to drink*





# *Satisfying work*



# *Knowledge of country and culture*





# *Safety, feeling safe and secure*



## *Fun – recreation, leisure*





## ***Strong family and community relationships***



# *Healthy country, healthy river*



*Beautiful places and things that make  
you feel good*





## *Inner peace, spiritual fulfilment*

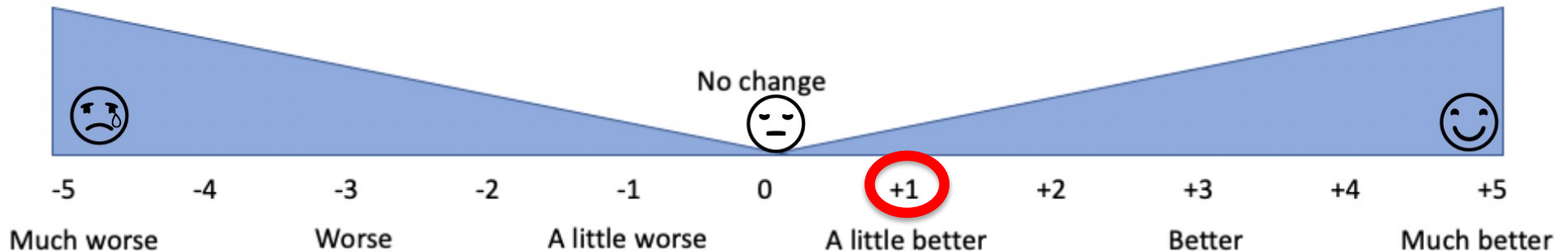




# Method

1. Personal and geographic perspectives
2. Present categories and discuss current satisfaction
3. Present scenario 1 and ask:

If this scenario happens, **compared to the way things are now**, your group's wellbeing for [category x] will be:



4. Discuss rationale behind rating

# Results



1. Develop a common language that accounts for cultural diversity
2. Document how future changes affect the realisation of wellbeing values by different stakeholder groups

Aborigines related to most wellbeing categories

Distinct preferences between scenarios

Some issues (access) and themes (being on country with family) cut across categories



# Conclusion and next steps

Successfully applied to Indigenous group

Repeat with multi-stakeholder group (mid October)

Tool for deliberation

Can be adapted to be used in impact assessment

Limited generalisation and simple quantitative analysis  
(but can be adapted)



# Image credits

SEE-Change, 2015

Moone Valley City Council

ABC News, 2012, 2017, 2019

National Indigenous Australians Agency, Commonwealth of Australia 2016

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, 2019

Kimberley Aboriginal Medical Services

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The authors

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