

*Water-wise cities and smart water systems Workshop,
Xi'an China, 11-13th September 2018*

Sustainable and Resilient Water Infrastructure: The Safe & SuRe Project

www.safeandsure.info

Professor David Butler

Director, Centre for Water Systems
University of Exeter, UK

Outline

- **Why** is Safe and SuRe infrastructure needed?
- **What** do we mean by Safe & SuRe?
- **How** can we build resilience & sustainability?
 - Safe & SuRe interventions framework
 - Example framework applications
- **What** is the relationship between reliability, resilience and sustainability?
- **Conclusions**

Safe & SuRe water infrastructure

Safe: *Reliable*

SuRe: Sustainable and Resilient

Aim of the S&S research project:

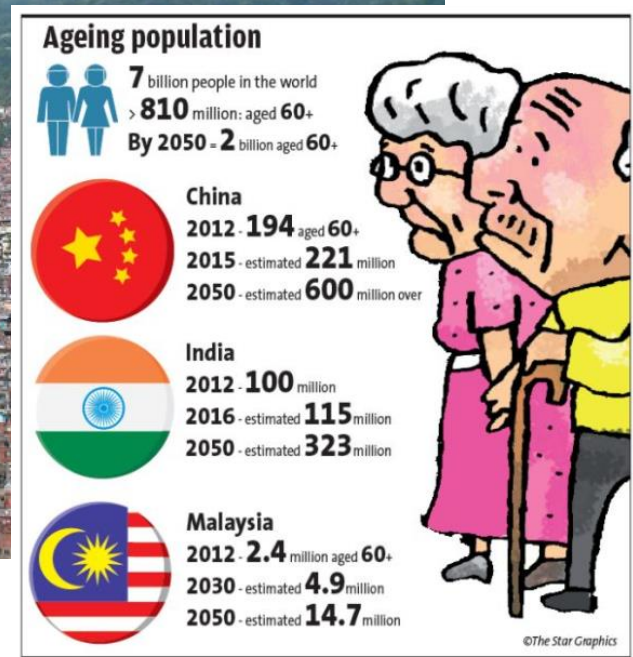
To develop a new paradigm for 'Safe & SuRe' urban water management in the UK in response to emerging challenges and global uncertainties



Why?



Global threats



An era of unprecedented variability?



Safe & SuRe

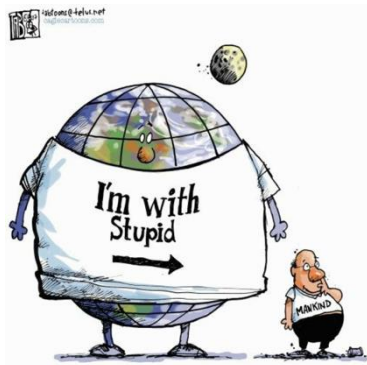


**Reliability
/ Safety**



Resilience

**Property
vs.
Performance**



Sustainability

Reliable



Reliability – key properties

Fail safe

Monitored

Capacity

Active

Hard

Compliant

Efficient

Resistant

Strong

Stable

Reliability - performance

Performance

deficit

Level of
service
or
design
standard

**Reliable
/
Safe**

*The degree to which the system minimises
level of service failure frequency over its
design life when subject to standard
loading*

Rel = min (failure: **probability**)

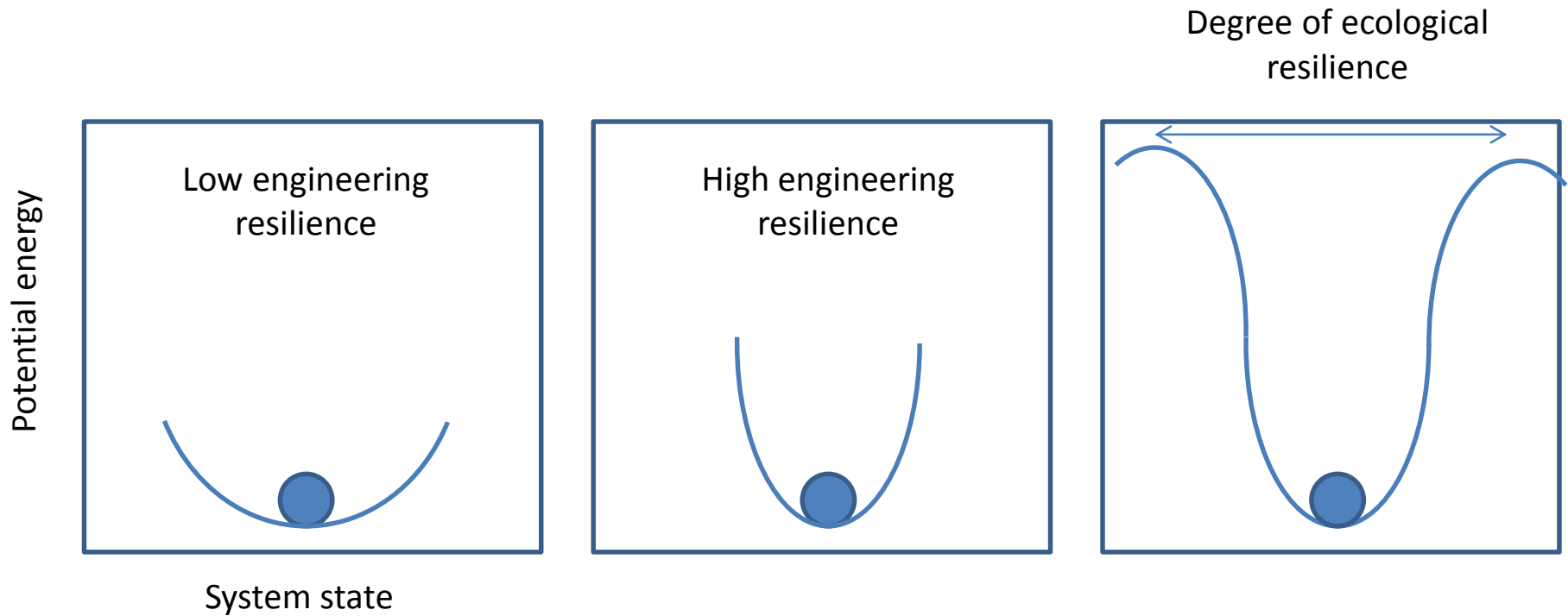
Design life

Time

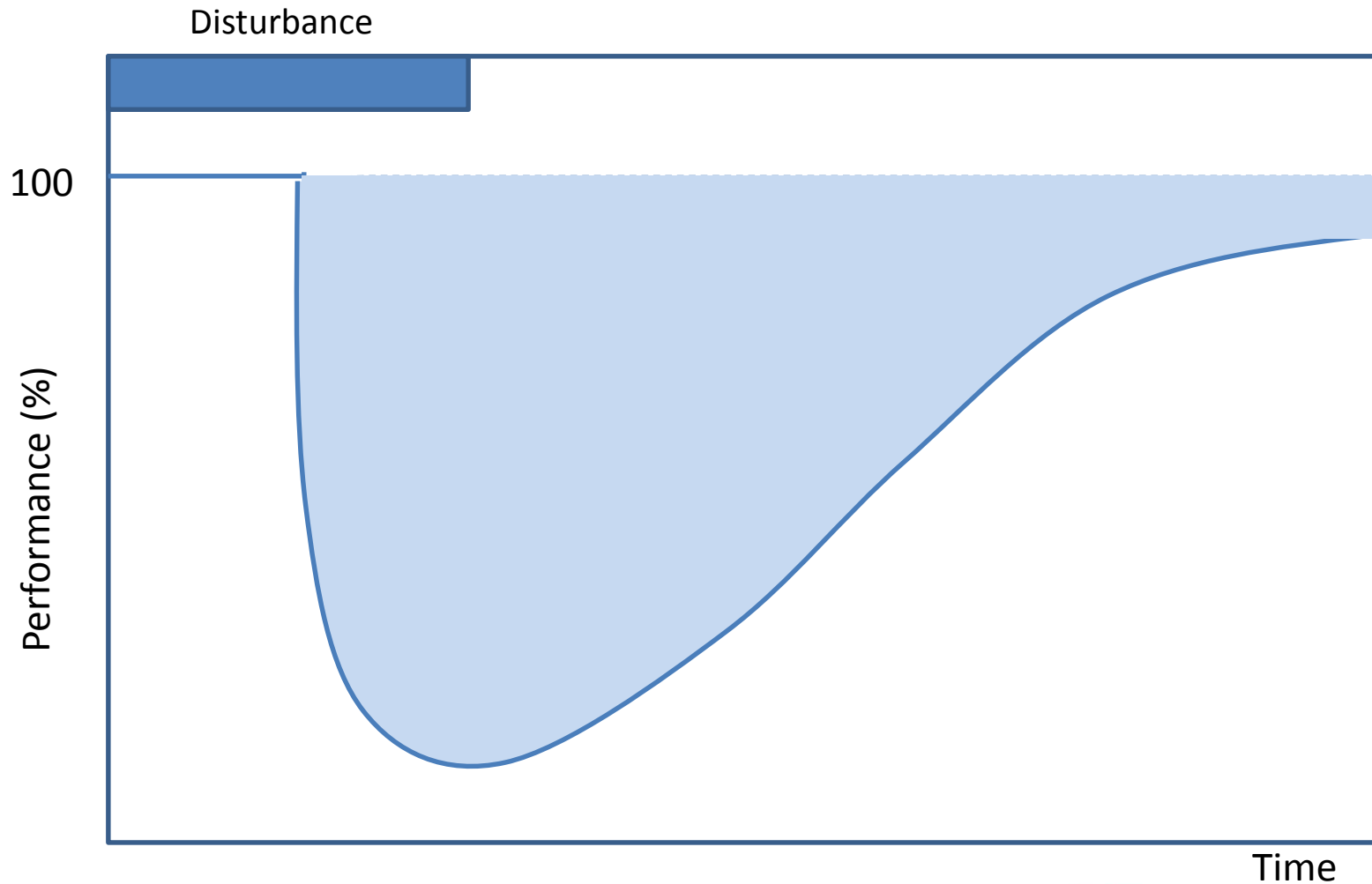
Resilient



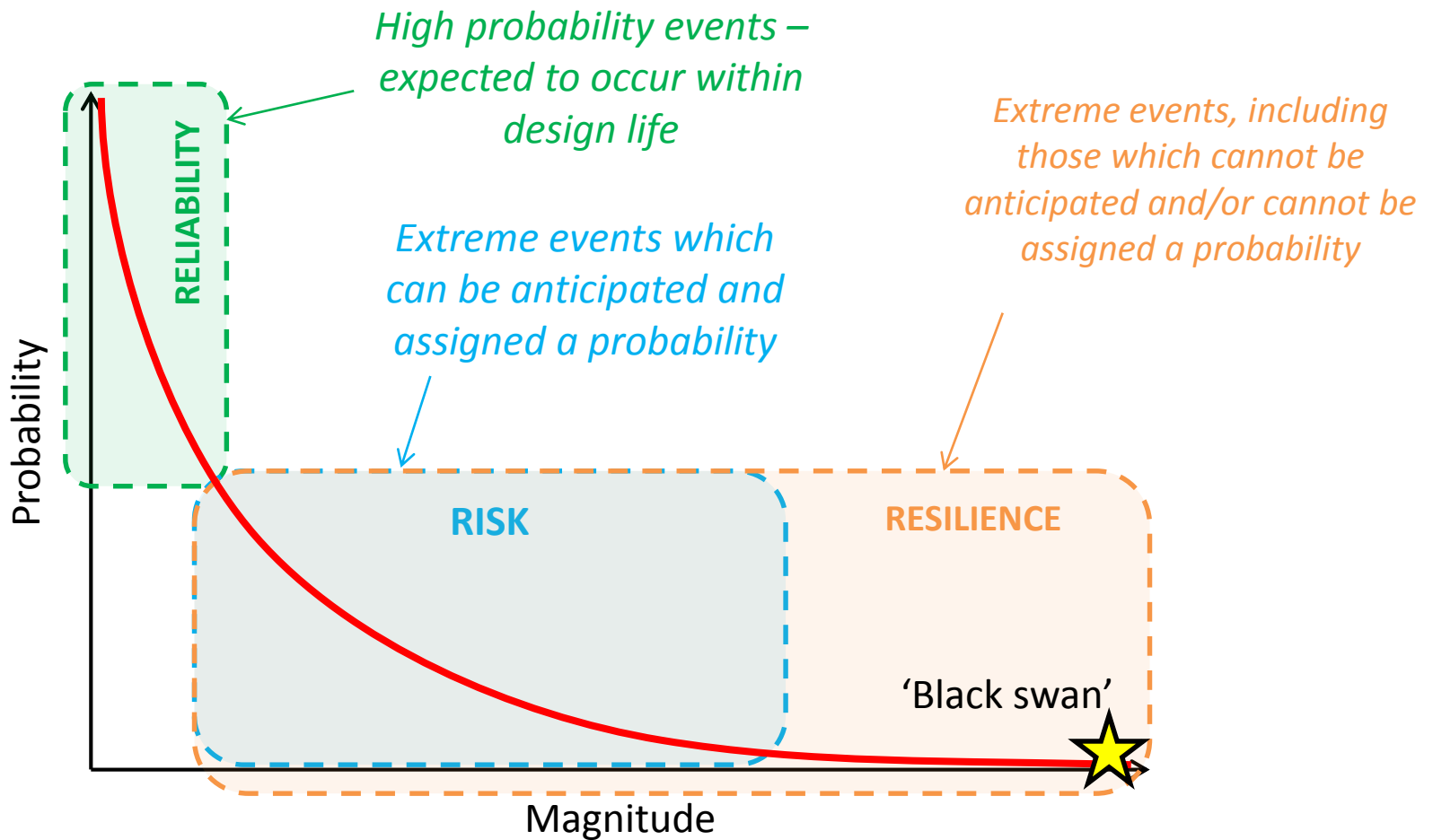
Basic concepts



System performance response curve



Resilience definition and dimensions



Resilience – key properties

Safe to fail

Interconnected

Reserves

Diverse

Redundant

Multi-purpose

Integrated

Recoverable

Flexible

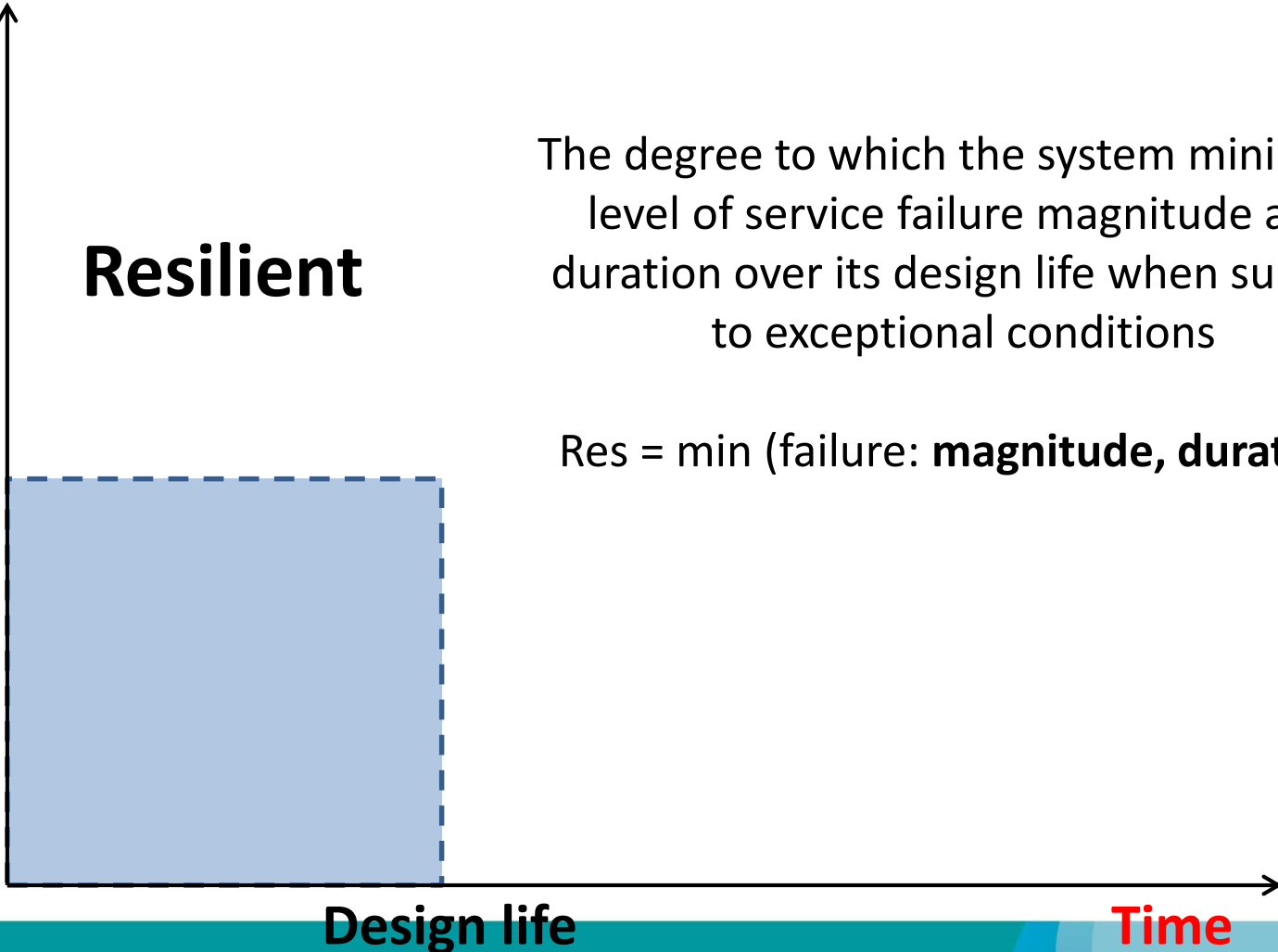
Replaceable

Resilience - performance

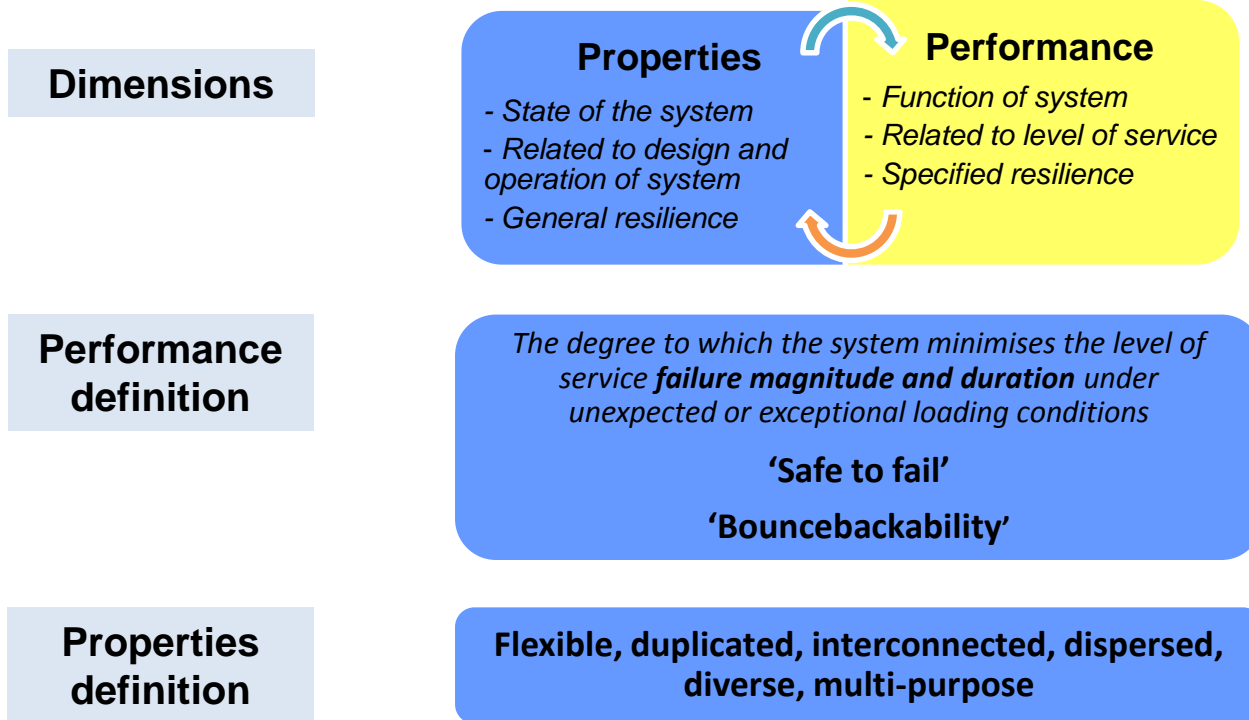
Performance
deficit

Resilient

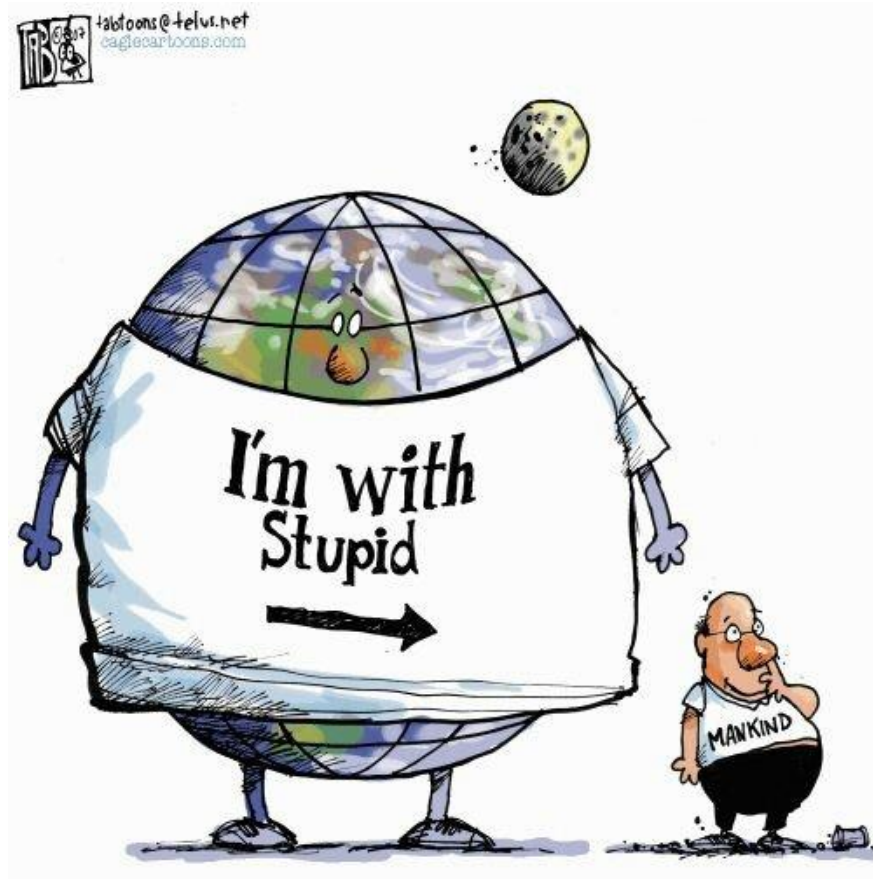
Level of
service



Resilience definition & dimensions



Sustainable



The unknown destination?



Sustainability – key properties

Simple

Affordable

Natural

Low energy

Recycled

Low impact

Renewable

Low resources

Inclusive

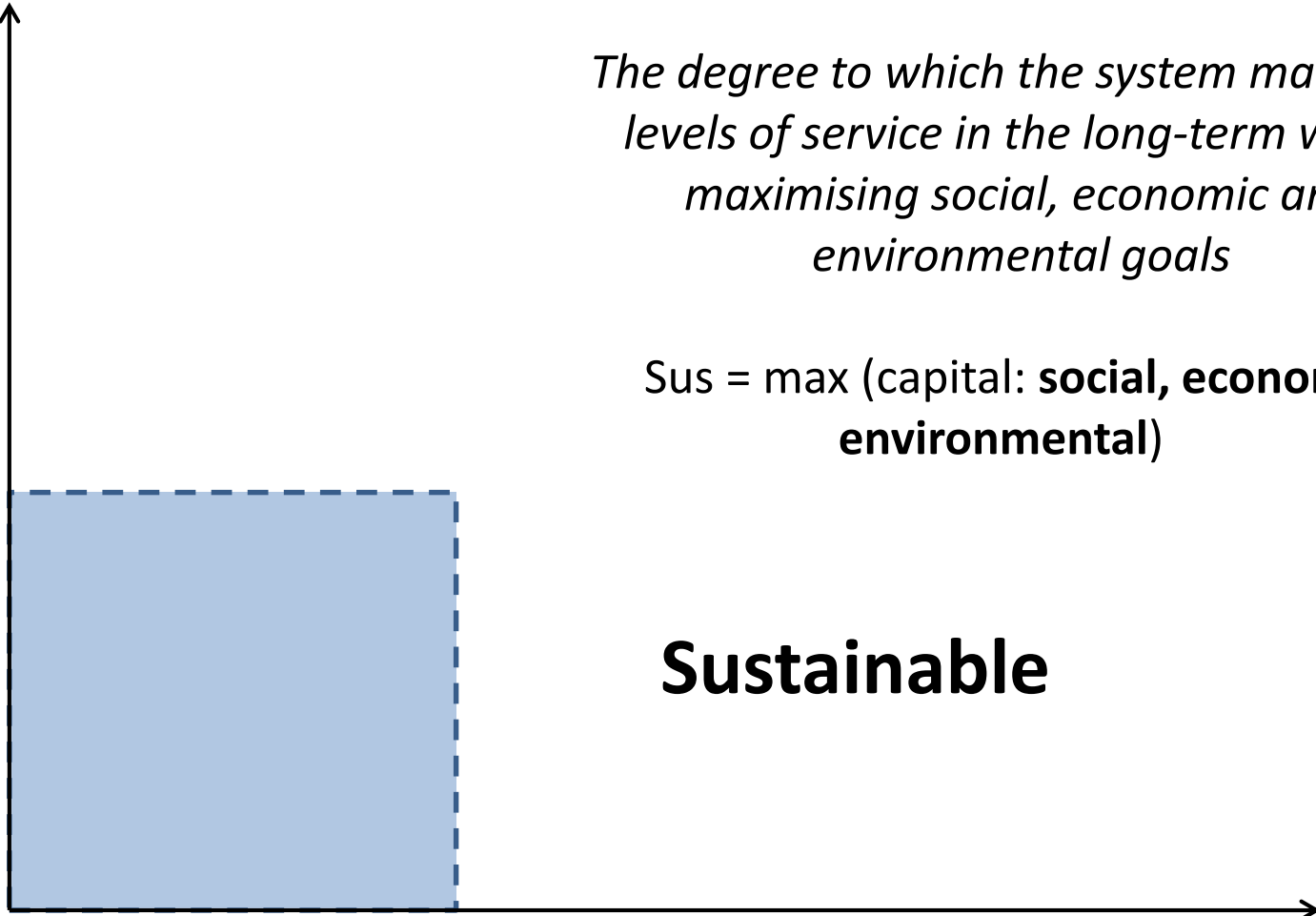
Equitable

Sustainability - performance

Performance

deficit

Level of service



The degree to which the system maintains levels of service in the long-term whilst maximising social, economic and environmental goals

Sus = max (capital: **social, economic, environmental**)

Sustainable

Design life

Time

Sustainability definition & dimensions

Dimensions

Properties

- State of the system
- Related to design and operation of system
- General sustainability

Performance

- Function of system
- Related to level of service
- Specified sustainability

Performance definition

*The degree to which the system maintains levels of service in the **long-term** whilst maximising **social, economic and environmental goals***

'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'

Properties definition

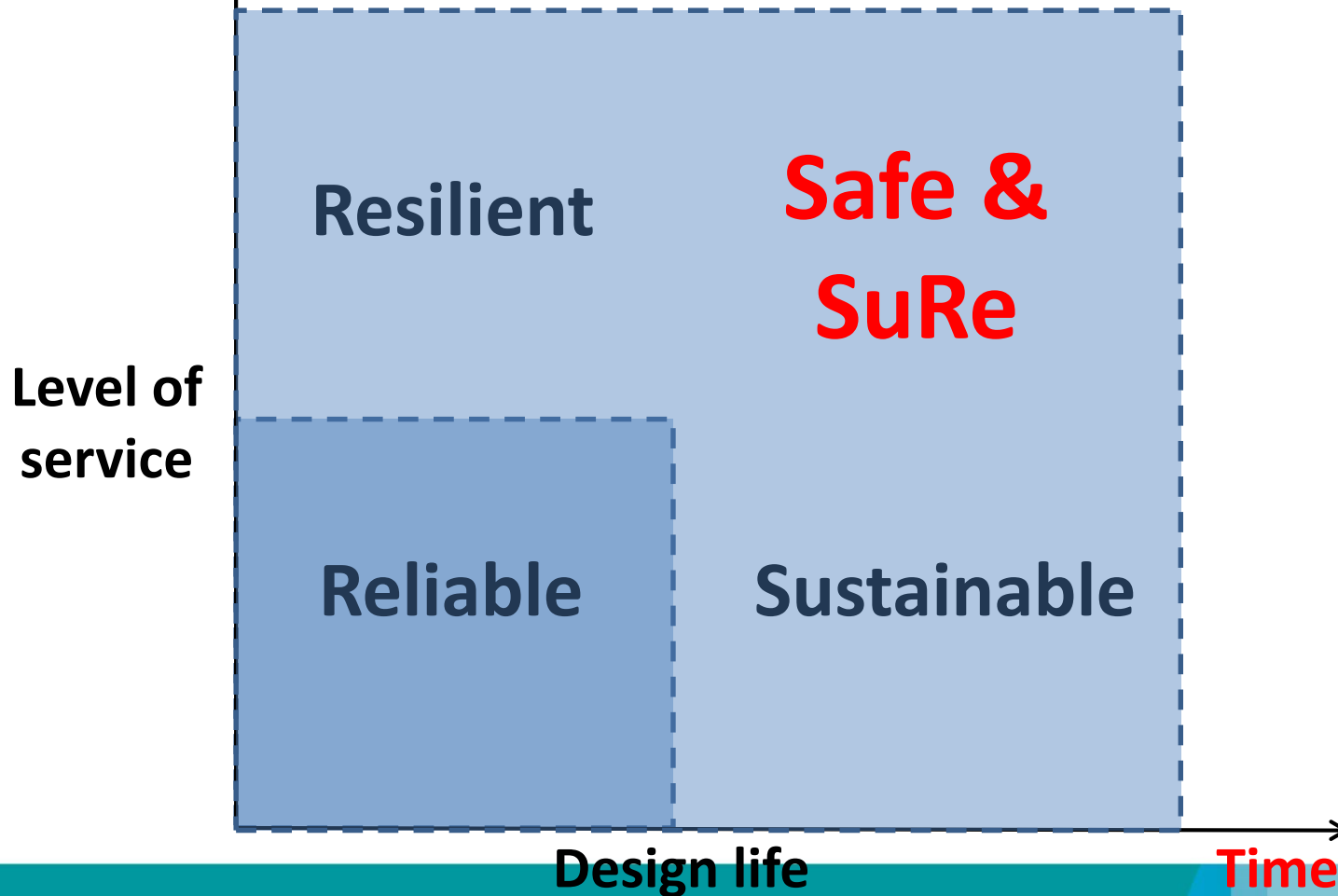
Affordable, equitable, non-polluting, low energy, reusable, simple

Pulling it all together: Safe & SuRe



Pulling it all together: Safe & SuRe

Performance
deficit



How?



S&S Interventions Framework



E.g. Urbanisation

Threat



Increased system influent

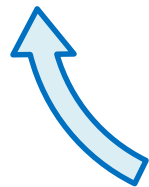
System

Impact



CSOs, effluent quality failure, ...

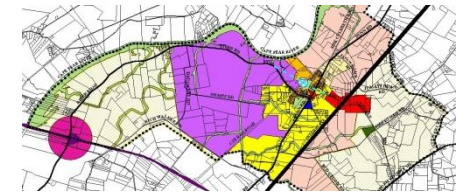
Consequences



Environmental damage, ...



Threat



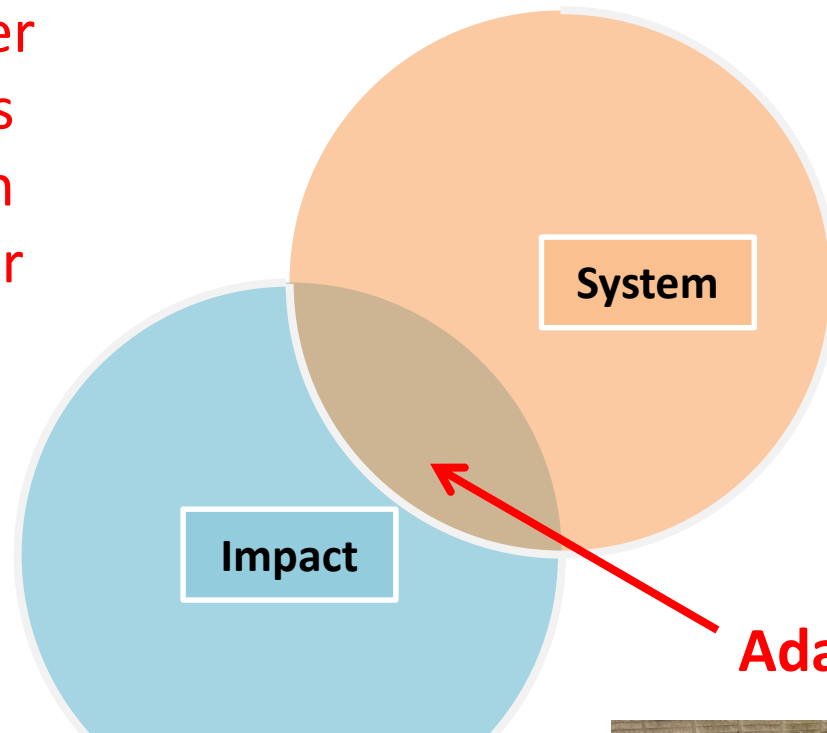
Mitigate

System



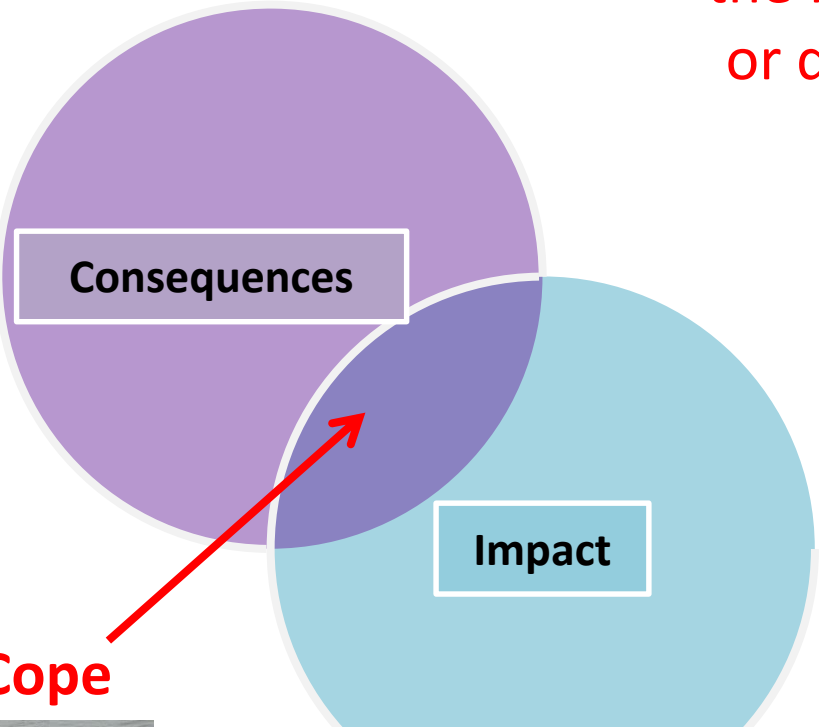
Mitigation: 'Any physical or non-physical action taken to reduce the frequency, magnitude or duration of a threat'

Adaptation: 'Action taken to modify specific properties of the water system to enhance its capability to maintain levels of service under varying conditions'



Water management

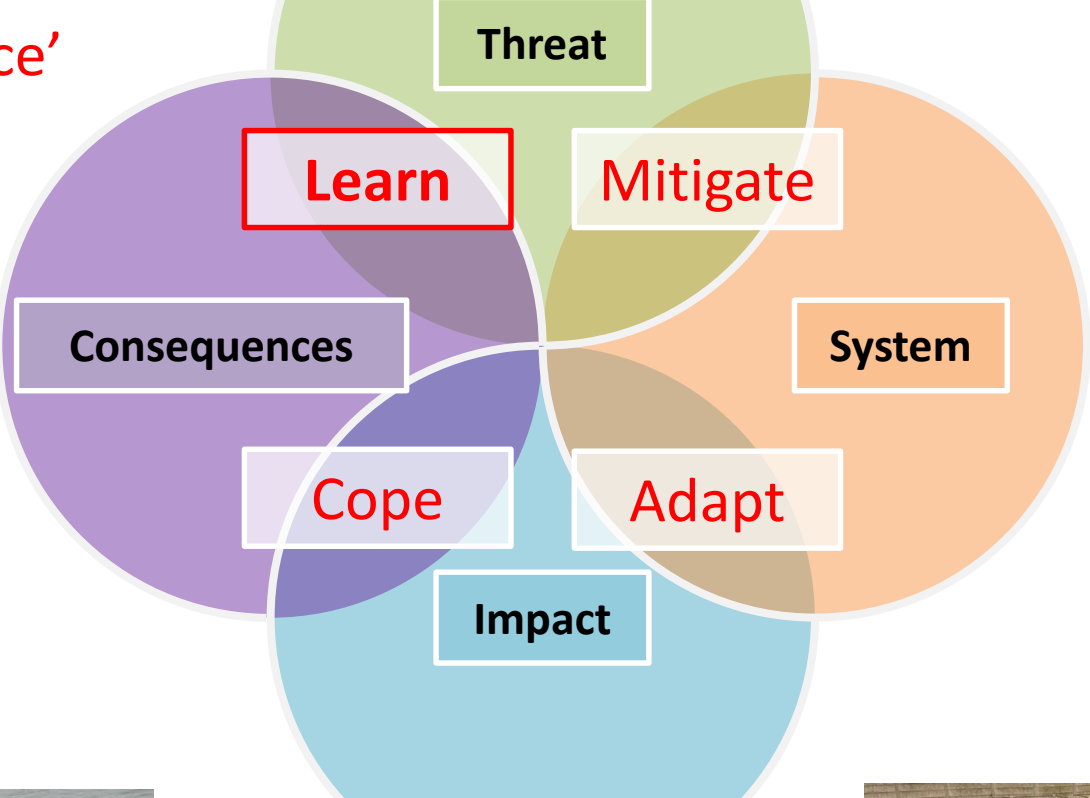
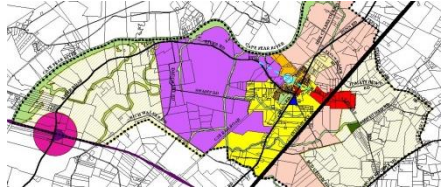
Coping: 'Any preparation or action taken to reduce the frequency, magnitude or duration of an impact on a recipient'



Cope

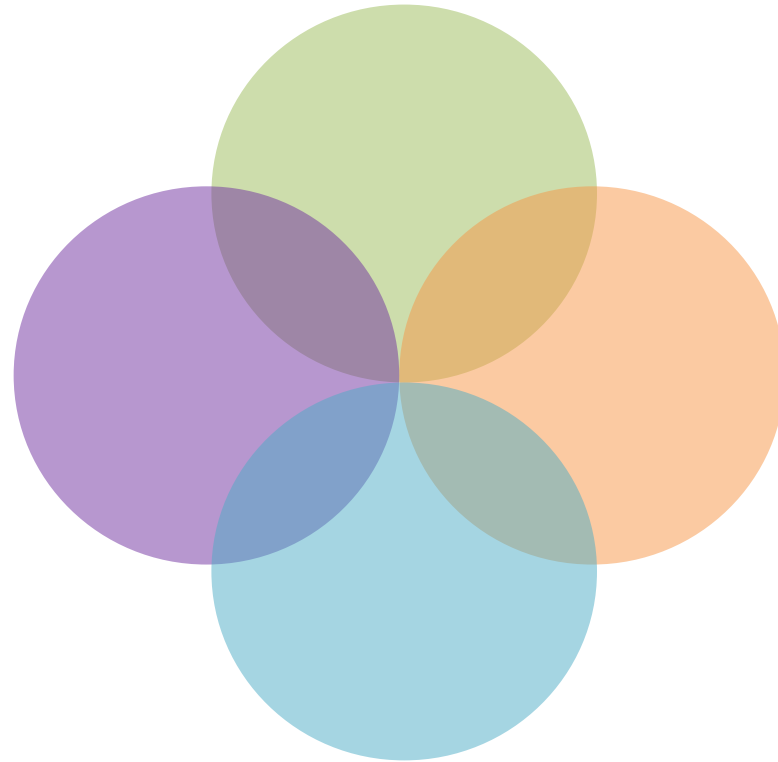


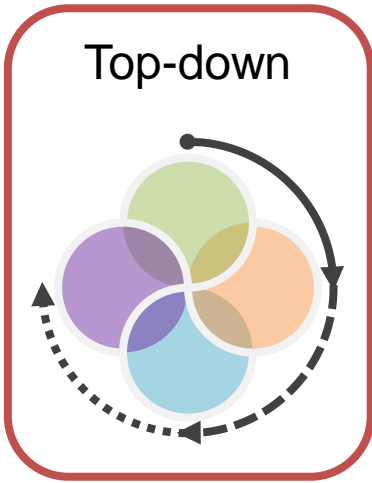
Learning: 'Embedding experiences and new knowledge in best practice'



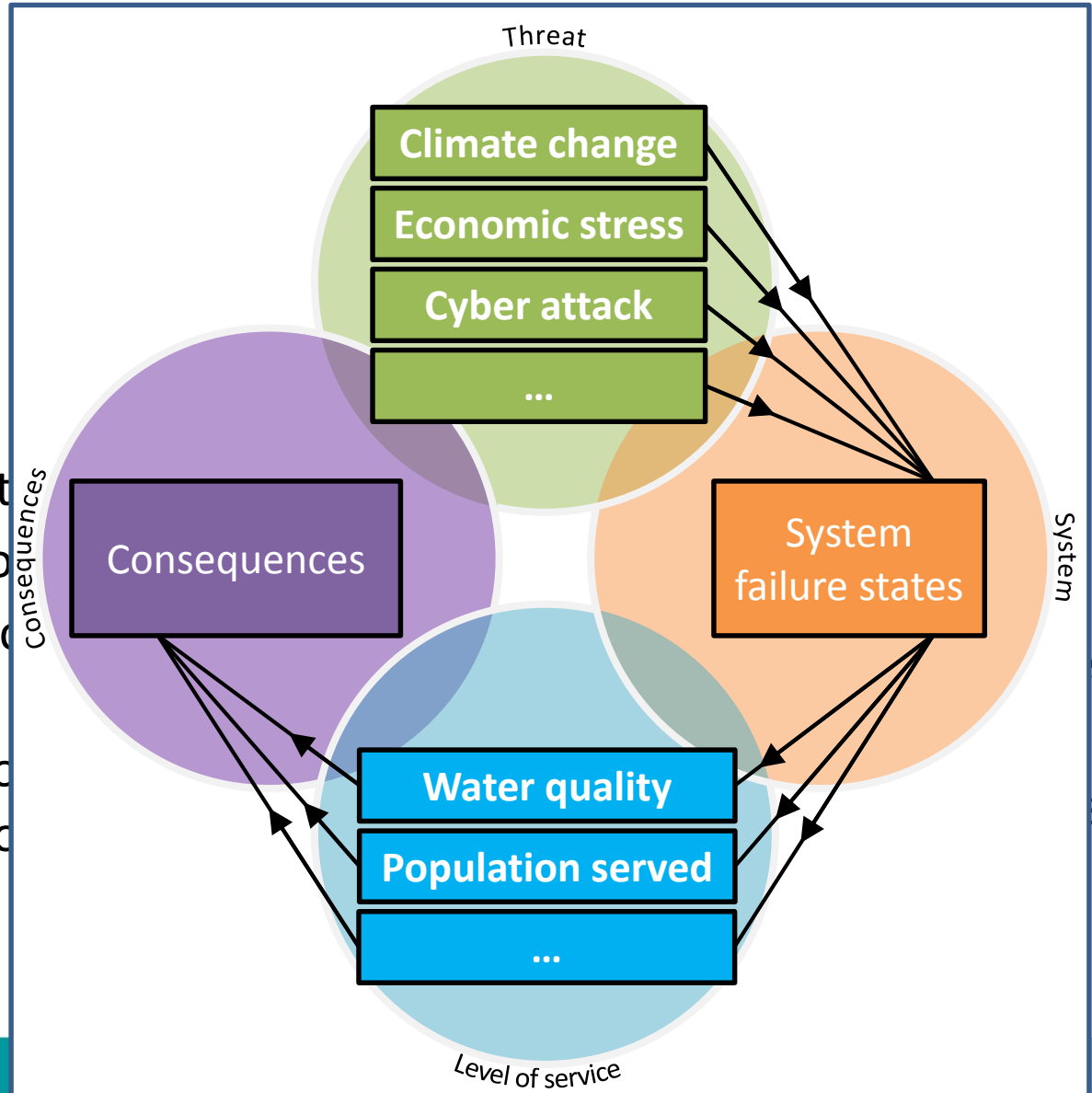
Water management

Applying the framework





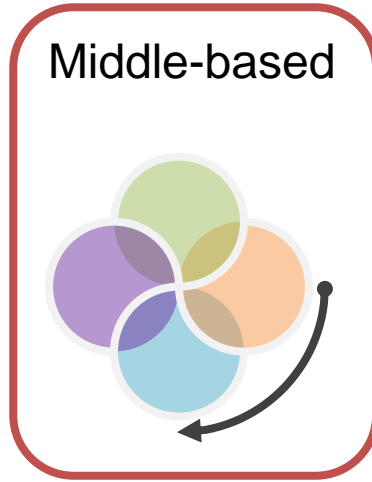
- Threat-based, mitigation
- Relies on identification
- Conventional approach to assessment
- Addresses response to changes we can reason about (e.g. climate change)
- Widely used



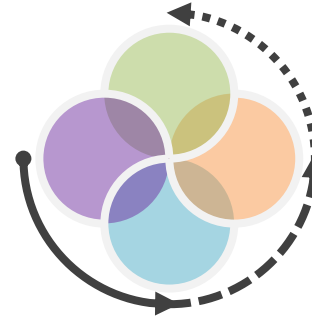
Top-down



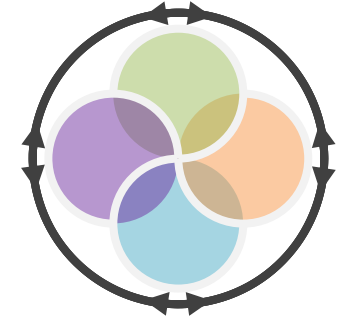
Middle-based



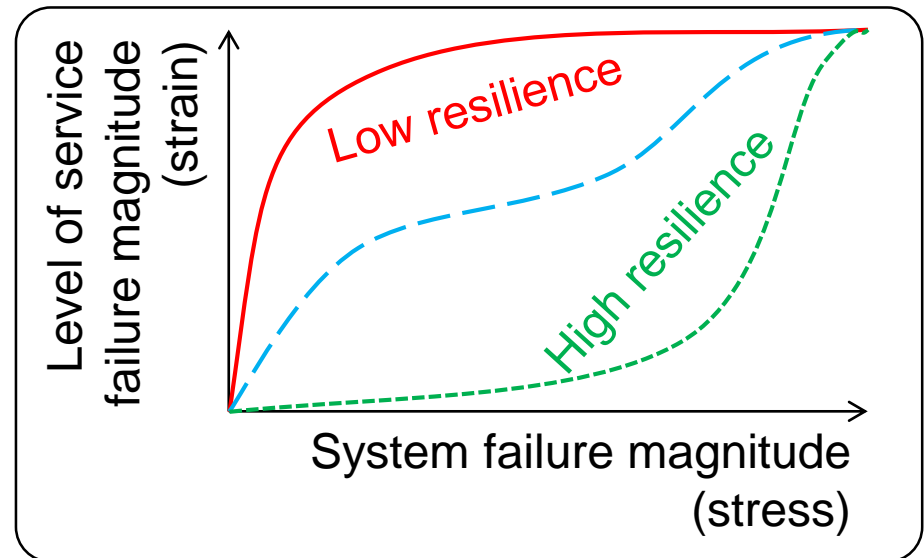
Bottom-up



Circular



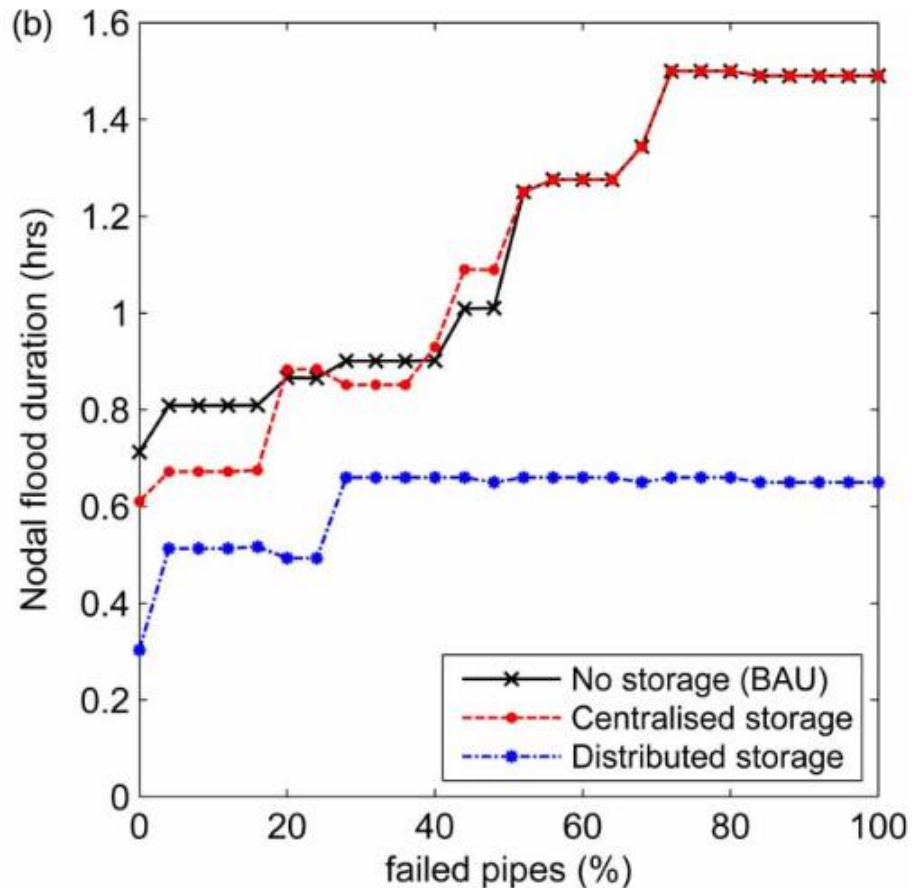
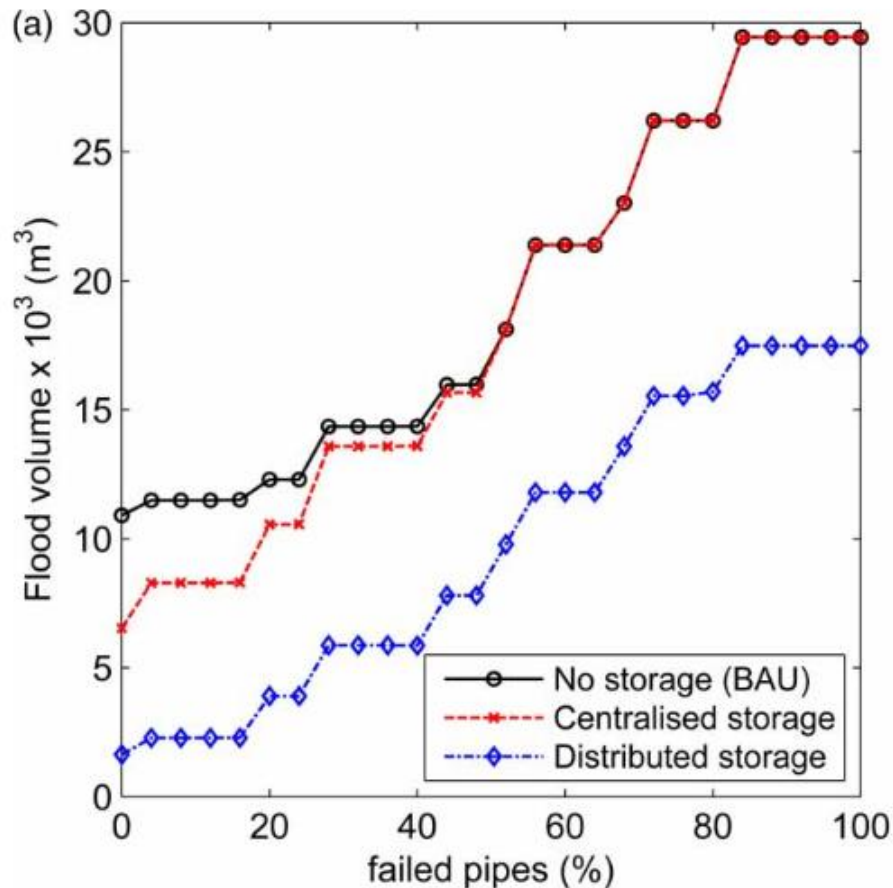
- System failure modes more easily identifiable
- Many threats may result in the same system failure modes → Can be addressed in a single analysis
- Global resilience analysis



Compare systems or interventions:

E.g. Adaptation measures in an urban drainage system

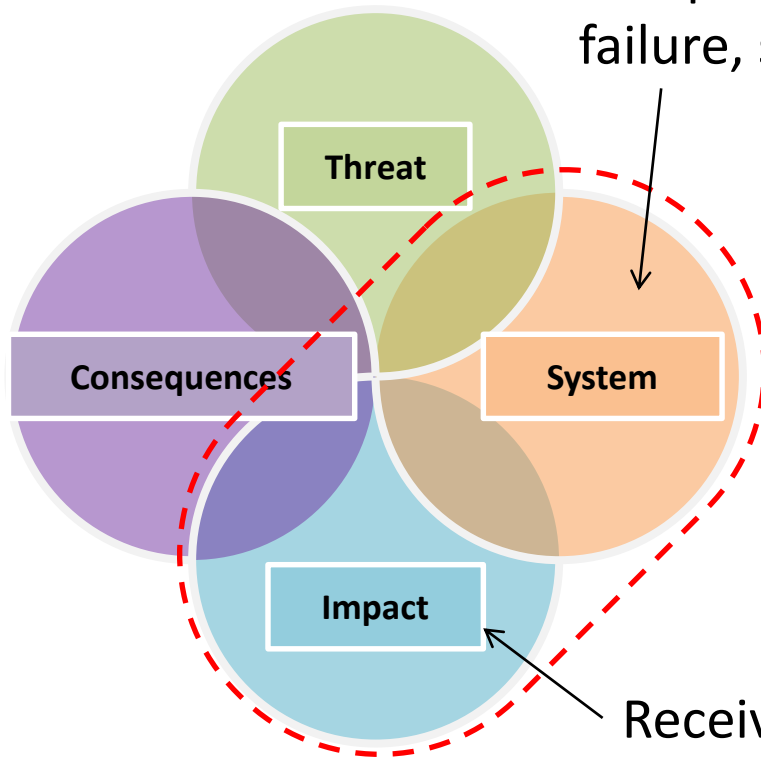
(Mugume et al. 2015)



Identification of key system failure modes:

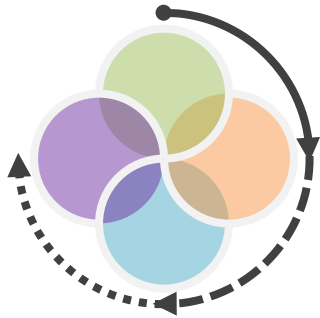
E.g. Resilience of a wastewater treatment plant

Pump failure, aeration failure, shock loads

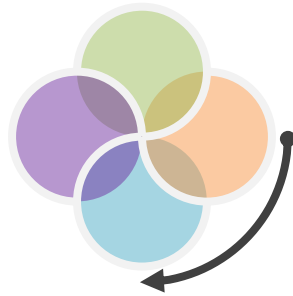


Receiving water quality

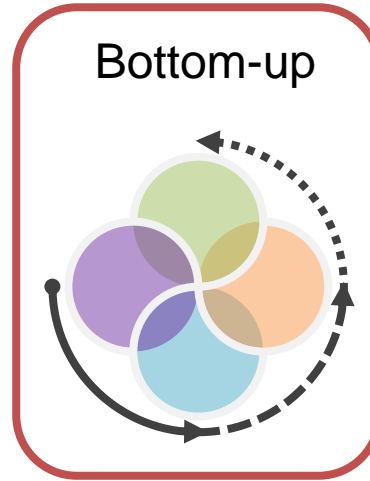
Top-down



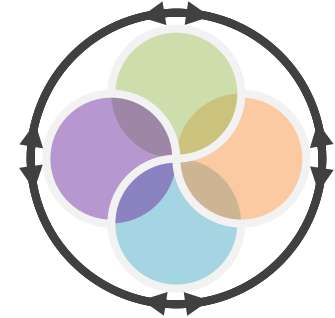
Middle-based



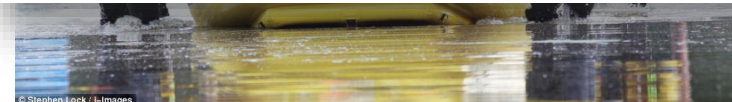
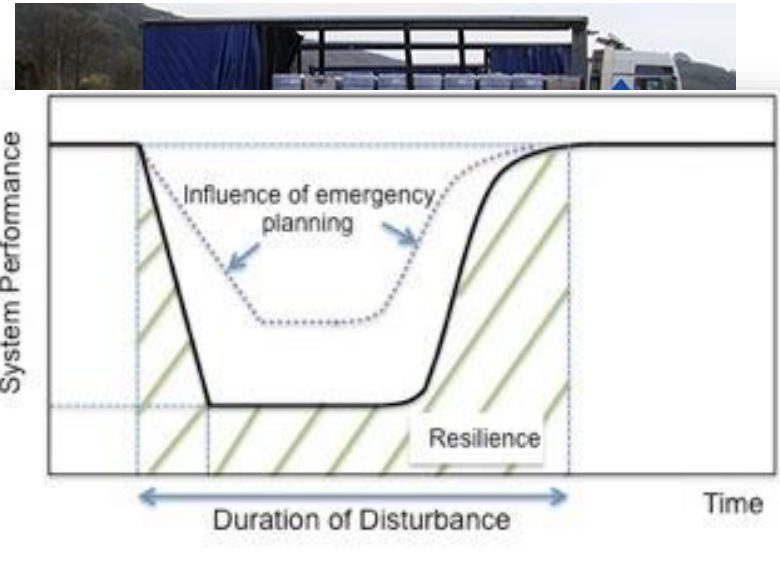
Bottom-up



Circular



- Consequence-based, coping focussed
- Relies on identification of potential social, economic or environmental consequences
- Focus on reducing vulnerability
- Detailed knowledge of threats or impacts not required

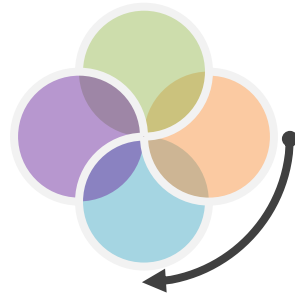


© Stephen Lock / i-Images

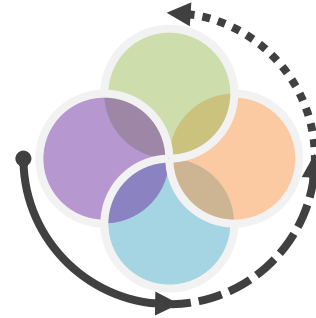
Top-down



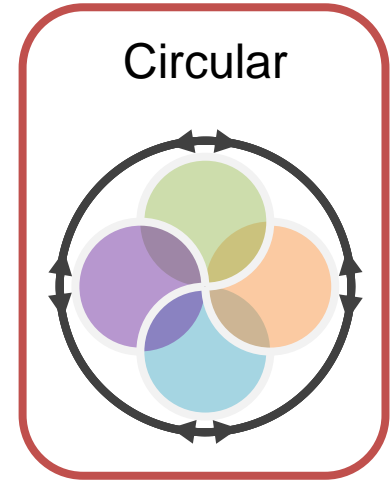
Middle-based



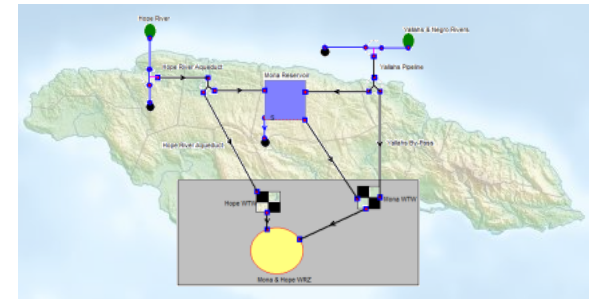
Bottom-up



Circular



- Focus on **learning**
- Evaluate success of mitigation, adaptation and coping actions to ensure strategies, processes and actions are updated
- Enables improvements to be made across all levels, leading to increased resilience and sustainability
- Process coordination and ownership of responsibilities present a challenge



Safe & SuRe relationships



Potential strategies: mitigation/ adaptation/coping/learning

- **Low tech** (e.g. sustainable drainage).
- **High tech** (e.g. 'smart', real time control).
- **Integrated** (e.g. SuDS, Sponge Cities).
- **Scale** (e.g. centralised, decentralised, hybrid).
- **Flexibility** (e.g. option portfolios, incremental build)
- **Fit for purpose water** (e.g. rain, grey, black, yellow).
- **Policy change** (e.g. planning controls, building regs).
- **Behavioural change** (e.g. floodproofing, insurance).

Range of intervention strategies



Combined sewer
centralised storage



Sewer separation



Roof disconnection /
water butts



Urban **creep** control /
green infrastructure



Road permeable
pavements / SuDS

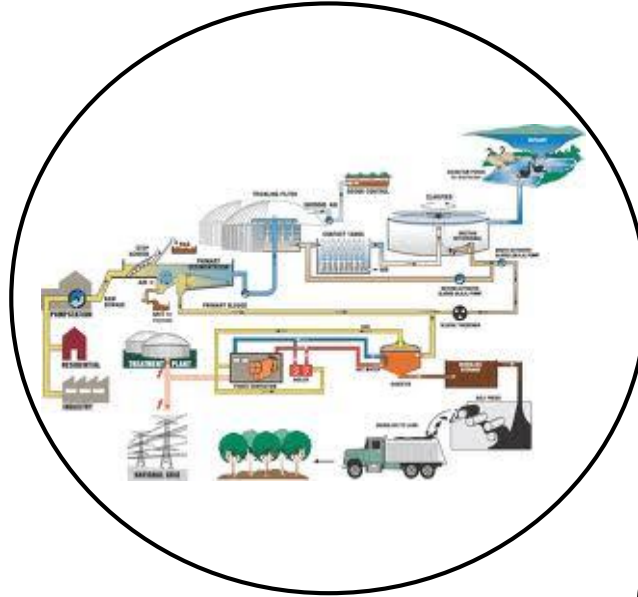


Off-grid housing

Integrated urban wastewater system

Sewer System

COMBINED SYSTEM

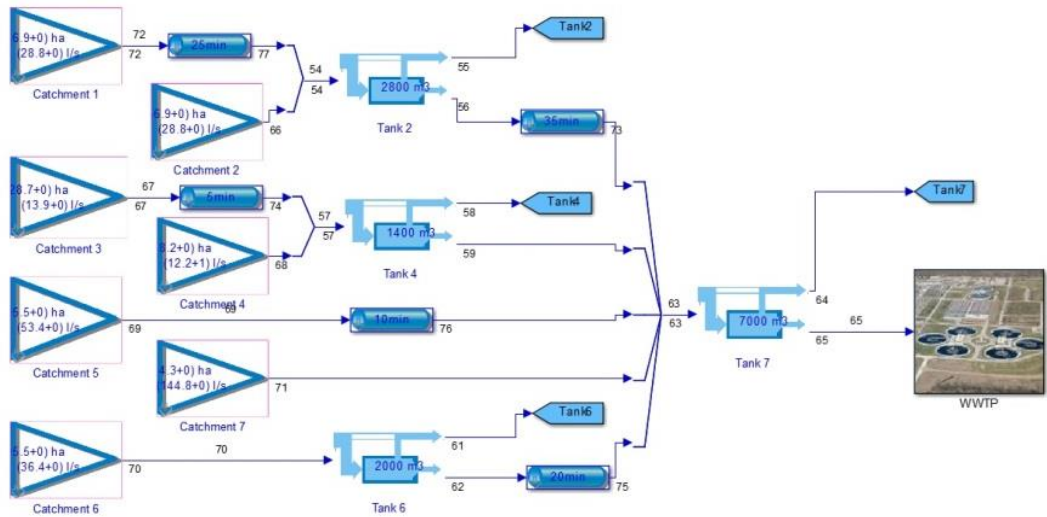
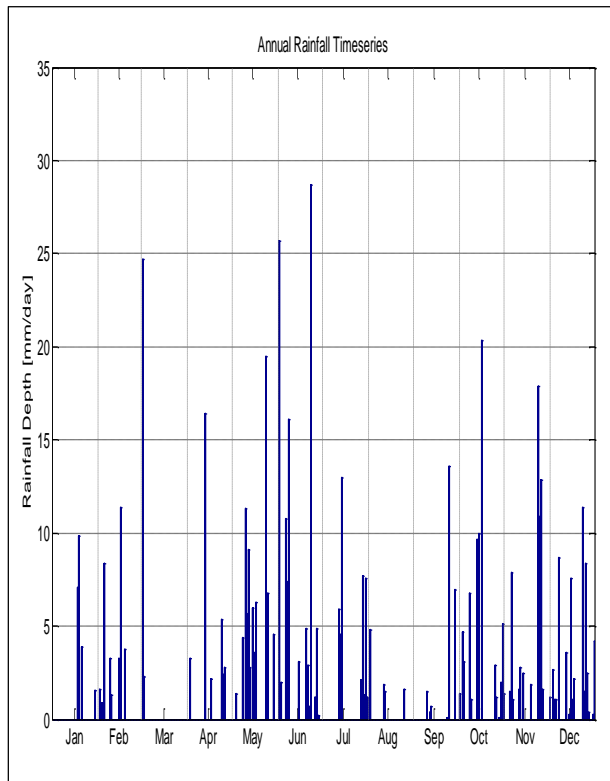


River



Wastewater Treatment Plant

Modelling and simulation

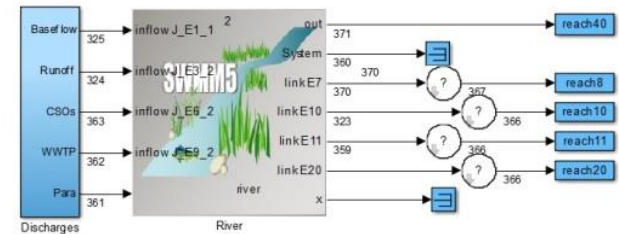


Global DWF



Global Rainfall and Evap
which (NCN07/N77 rain)

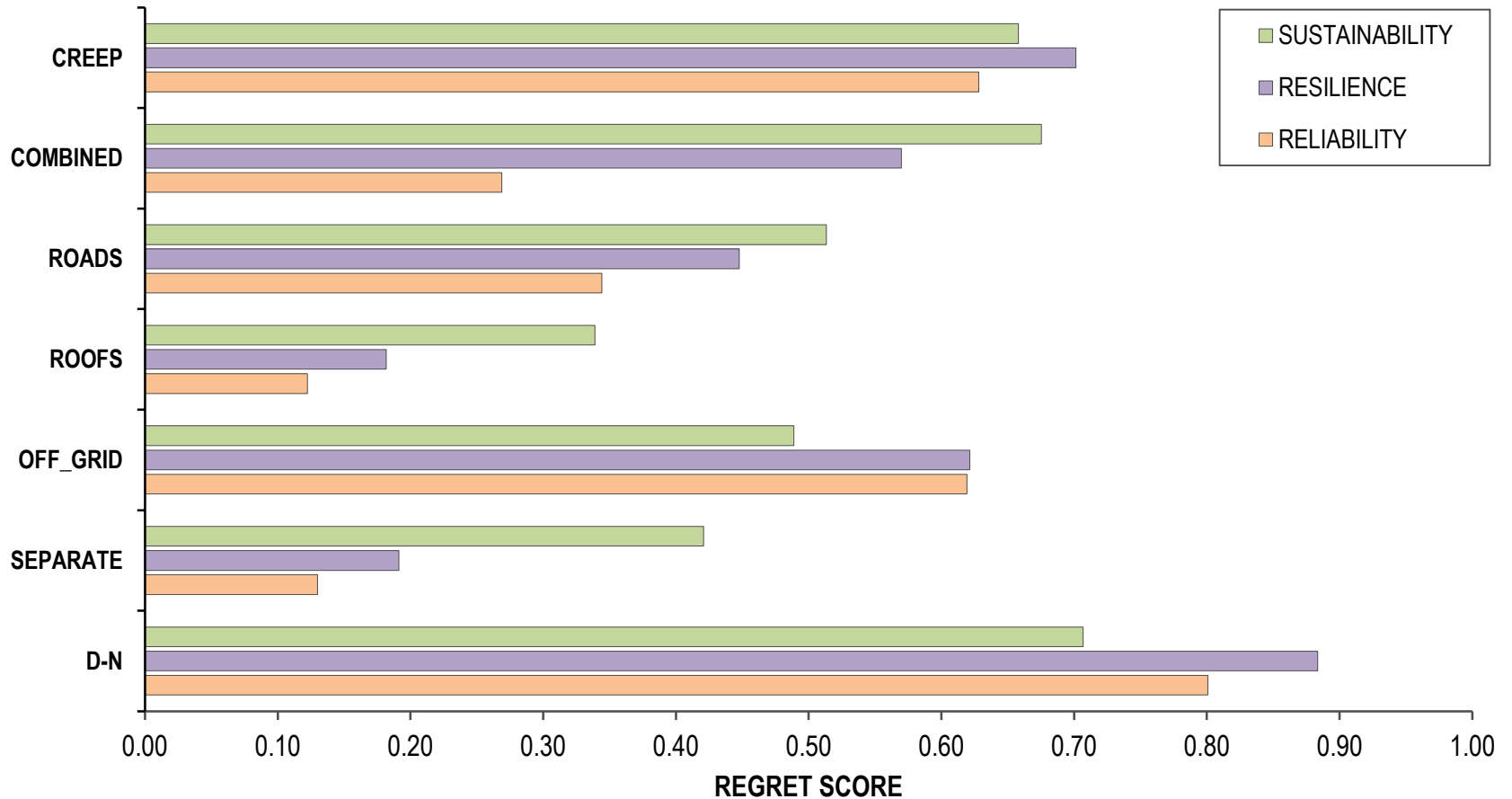
SIMBA6



Safe & SuRe performance indicators

Objective	Reliability	Resilience	Sustainability
Flooding	% time flood free	Flood volume (m ³)	Number of properties affected
		Time flooded (hours)	Material damage (£)
Water Quality (DO and AMM)	% time >4 mg/l	6 h minimum (mg/l)	Impact to aquatic resources (fisheries, fresh water)
	% time <4 mg/l	99%ile (mg/l)	
CSO	Frequency of spills (annual events)	Annual spill (m ³)	Aesthetic and health impact of spills
		Time of spills (hours)	
Energy	-	-	Operational tCO ₂
River flood downstream	% time flood free	Flood volume (m ³)	Properties affected
		Time flooded (hours)	Material damage (£)
Cost	-	-	Capital cost (£)
Acceptability	-	-	High-med-low

Safe & SuRe interventions?



Conclusions

Urban water systems need to be:

- **Reliable** to provide needed services, but not at *any cost*.
- **Resilient** to meet the unexpected and the extreme but with emphasis on *safe to fail*.
- **Sustainable** to ensure *long term* performance within planetary and social limits.

How?

- By developing, evaluating and implementing **Safe & SuRe** socio-technical systems.
- There is no *'one size fits all'* solution or strategy.

Conclusions

Why?

- To manage unprecedented *change, uncertainty* and *variability*.
- To prepare for the journey into the *unknown* which we call the future.



*Water-wise cities and smart water systems Workshop,
Xi'an China, 11-13th September 2018*

Sustainable and Resilient Water Infrastructure: The Safe & SuRe Project

d.butler@Exeter.ac.uk

Professor David Butler

Director, Centre for Water Systems
University of Exeter