

NCCWSC & CSC Network Strategic Planning

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STATUS REPORT TO ACCCNRS—TUCSON, ARIZONA

9 NOVEMBER 2016

What

- ❖ A strategic planning process for the NCCWSC that produces a **collective vision** for the Network, in addition to an articulation of key goals, outputs, and measures of success.
- ❖ The resultant Strategy will be used as an **overarching framework** for subsequent strategic planning processes led by individual CSCs.
- ❖ The format will be that of a **“living document”** that recognizes the evolving nature of the NCCWSC and the CSC Network.
- ❖ It is anticipated that the Strategy will be delivered as a document that is approximately **15-20 pages** in length that is revisited every **3-5 years** for ongoing refinement.
- ❖ This will help ensure that it remains an **agile reflection of the nature and key priorities** of this unique enterprise.

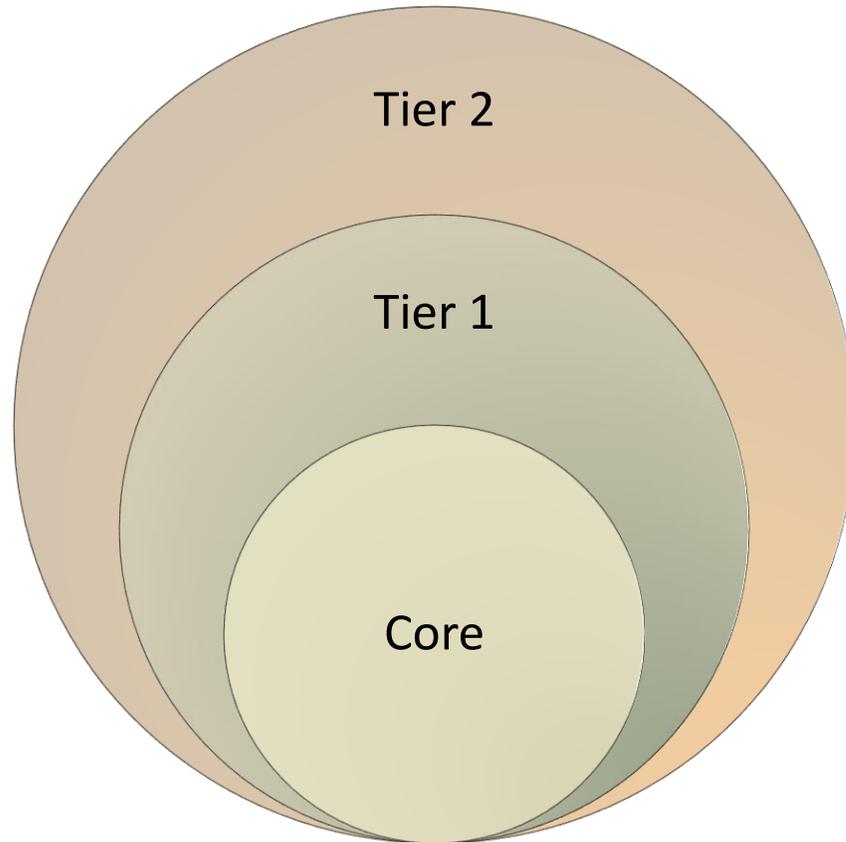
USGS CLIMATE & LAND USE (CLU) MISSION AREA STRATEGIC PLAN

NETWORK STRATEGIC PLAN

**INDIVIDUAL
CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTERS & NCCWSC
[Possible Planning Documents]**

Strategic Plan
Science Agenda
Annual Work Plan

Core Team and Levels of Engagement



Core Team: Meets ~2x month; consists of Carrie (SW CSC), Janet (NCCWSC), Mike (SC CSC)

Tier 1: NCCWSC leads, USGS & University CSC Directors, ACCCNRS sub-group members

Tier 2: Leadership from sister (LCC, RISA, Climate Hubs) organizations, USGCRP leads, & representatives from USGS CLU & Ecosystems Mission Areas

The Process

- ❖ Led by USGS representatives from NCCWSC, SW CSC, and SC CSC
- ❖ Review existing planning documents from USGS, the Climate and Land Use Mission Area, individual CSCs, and partner organizations (LCCs, RISAs, Hubs, etc.)
- ❖ Conduct structured interviews of CSC Directors and Staff (used questionnaires), ACCCNRS sub-group, and key partners (43 completed) to gather input and to determine where consensus does/does not exist:
 - *Interviews consisted of questions framed under 4 proposed themes & general directions*
 - *Consensus-building meetings will focus on topics that lack consensus; these will be primarily addressed during monthly University-NCCWSC-CSC calls & at quarterly USGS Directors meetings.*
- ❖ Inputs will form the basis of a logic model that will be at the heart of the Strategy.

Timeline



Input Themes

- I. Partnerships and Convening
 - II. Communications
 - III. Capacity Building
 - IV. Actionable Science
- *General Strategic Directions*

Theme 1: Partnerships & Convening

Q1. What is the unique role(s) of NCCWSC and the CSC Network in a field with numerous federal (and other) players?



Climate science work in the context of fish and wildlife & ecosystems

- As well as some cultural resources, particularly, though not exclusively, for DOI-managed & tribal lands.
- Original science & synthesis of science on fish, wildlife, habitat & cultural resources.

The research & the translation of stakeholder-driven, actionable science

- This helps ensure the information is communicated appropriately to guide strategic management and adaptation planning.
- Combines all aspects of what other climate entities do, in unique proportions.

University-federal partnerships

- The large geographic spread of the consortium, focused on **regional impacts, and pulling that together as a national story, because of the federal link.**
- Partnership with universities has facilitated developing the next generation of climate change scientists.



Theme 1: Partnerships & Convening

Q3. How can the NCCWSC and CSC Network better meet the climate science needs of stakeholders and constituencies?



Photo: Carolyn Enquist

Convene researchers, decision-makers and stakeholders.

- Foster dialogue among managers and researchers
- Establish priorities with LCCs

Understand the decision contexts of management applications

- Build research questions that help answer specific decisions facing stakeholders.
- Pursue knowledge co-production, but be mindful of the challenges inherent in doing so, given the level of staffing and funding in the CSCs
- Pursue increased funding to support co-production

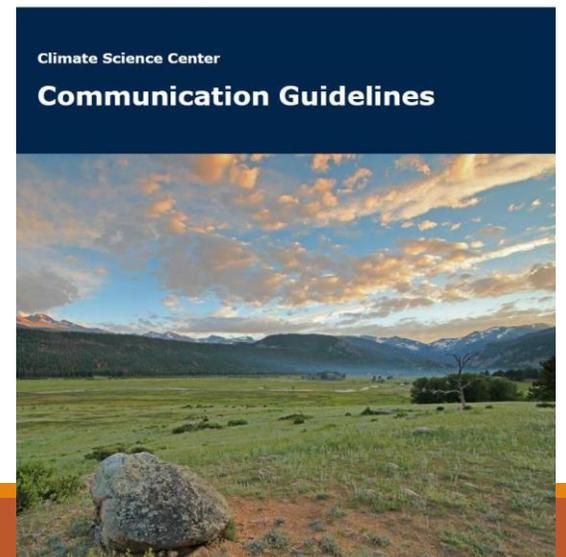
Set priorities across the Network for “core products and services” to meet emergent common needs

- *This is a critical outcome of convening and developing a deeper understanding of decision contexts; this is a top-down & bottom-up process*

Theme 2: Communications

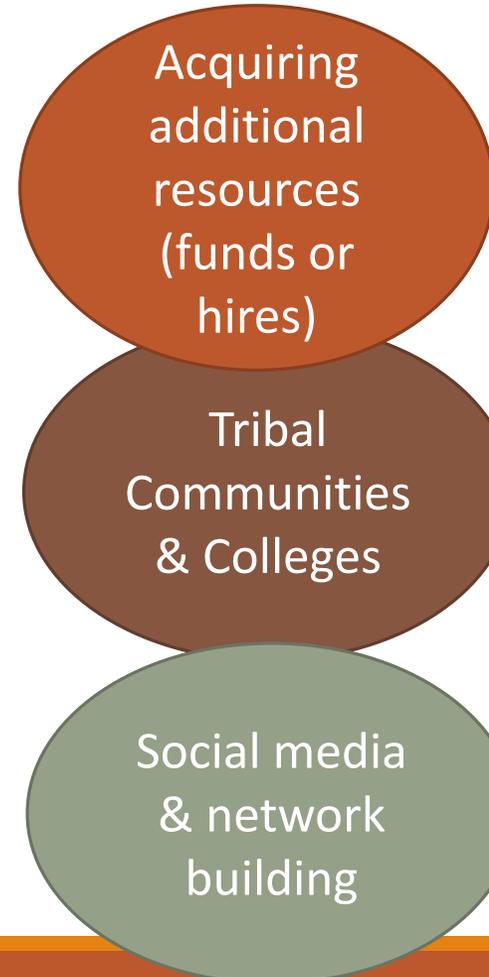
Q3. What role do you feel NCCWSC and the CSC Network should play to facilitate communication between scientists and managers/stakeholders?

- ❖ Facilitate dialogue/foster co-production between scientists & stakeholders
- ❖ Help connect scientists with end user needs
- ❖ Translate science into usable output for stakeholders and communities
- ❖ Understand managers' needs and decision frameworks



Theme 3: Capacity Building

Q1: What does the term “capacity building” mean to you? What activities does this include?



Illustrative quotes:

“Empowering people & partners to be self-sufficient.”

“Providing the tools, knowledge, advice, and support to communities and stakeholders to develop strategies and solve problems independently.”

Theme 3: Capacity Building

Q2: Should NCCWSC provide overarching guidance or should this be a more organic process from the individual CSCs?

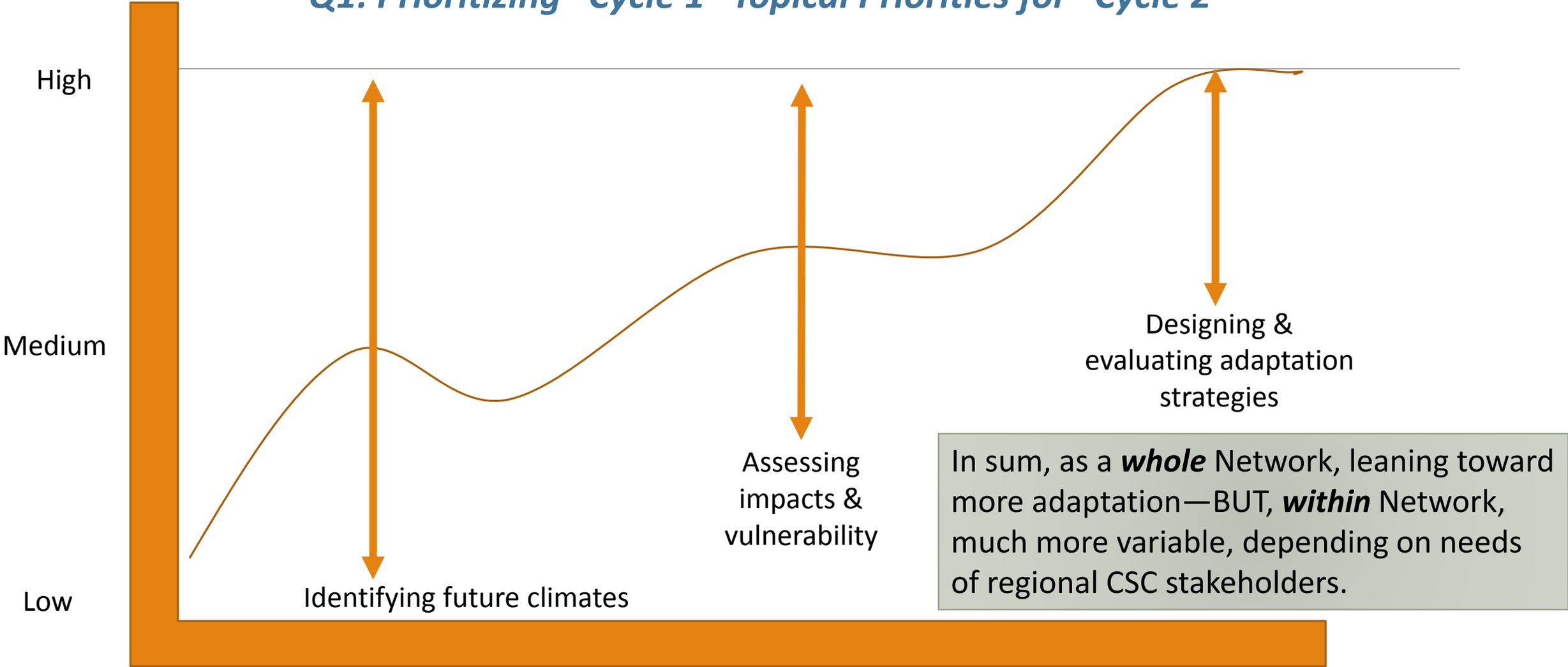
- Strong consensus that capacity building should be an **organic** process because each CSC has some unique circumstances and strengths.
- BUT, also strong consensus that NCCWSC **should provide general overarching guidance.**



Figure 15: Moderator Karletta Chief records key discussion points in her breakout session. Photo courtesy of Renee H. Reynolds, UA/Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership.

Theme 4: Actionable Science

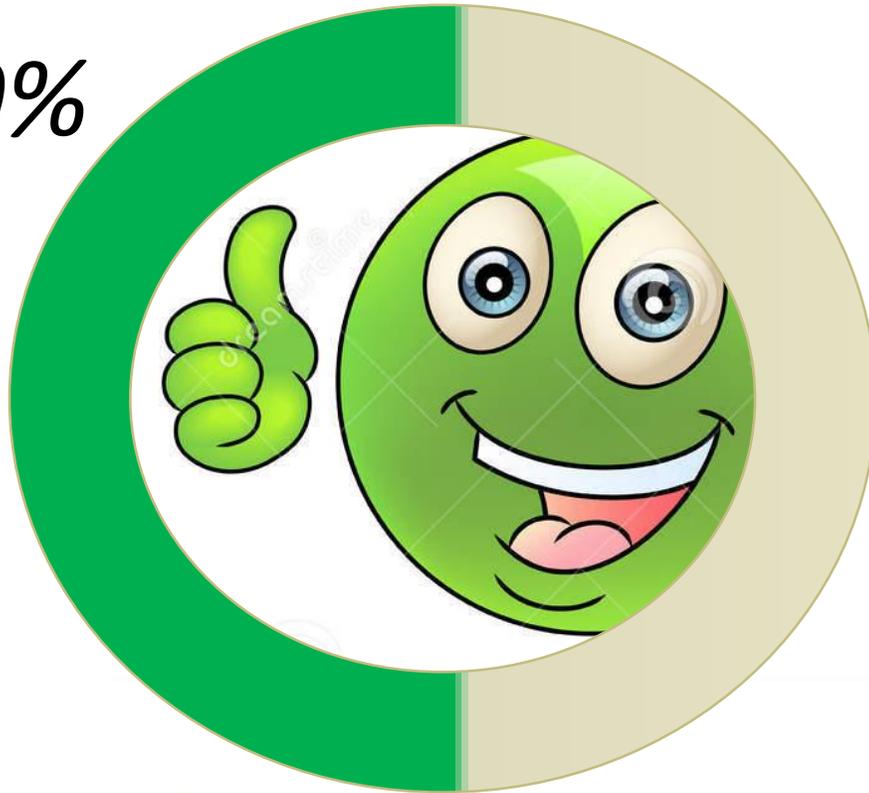
Q1: Prioritizing “Cycle 1” Topical Priorities for “Cycle 2”



Theme 4: Actionable Science

Q3. Should regional science priorities (e.g., single CSC) be aligned with national or multi-regional priorities across the Network?

~50%



~50%



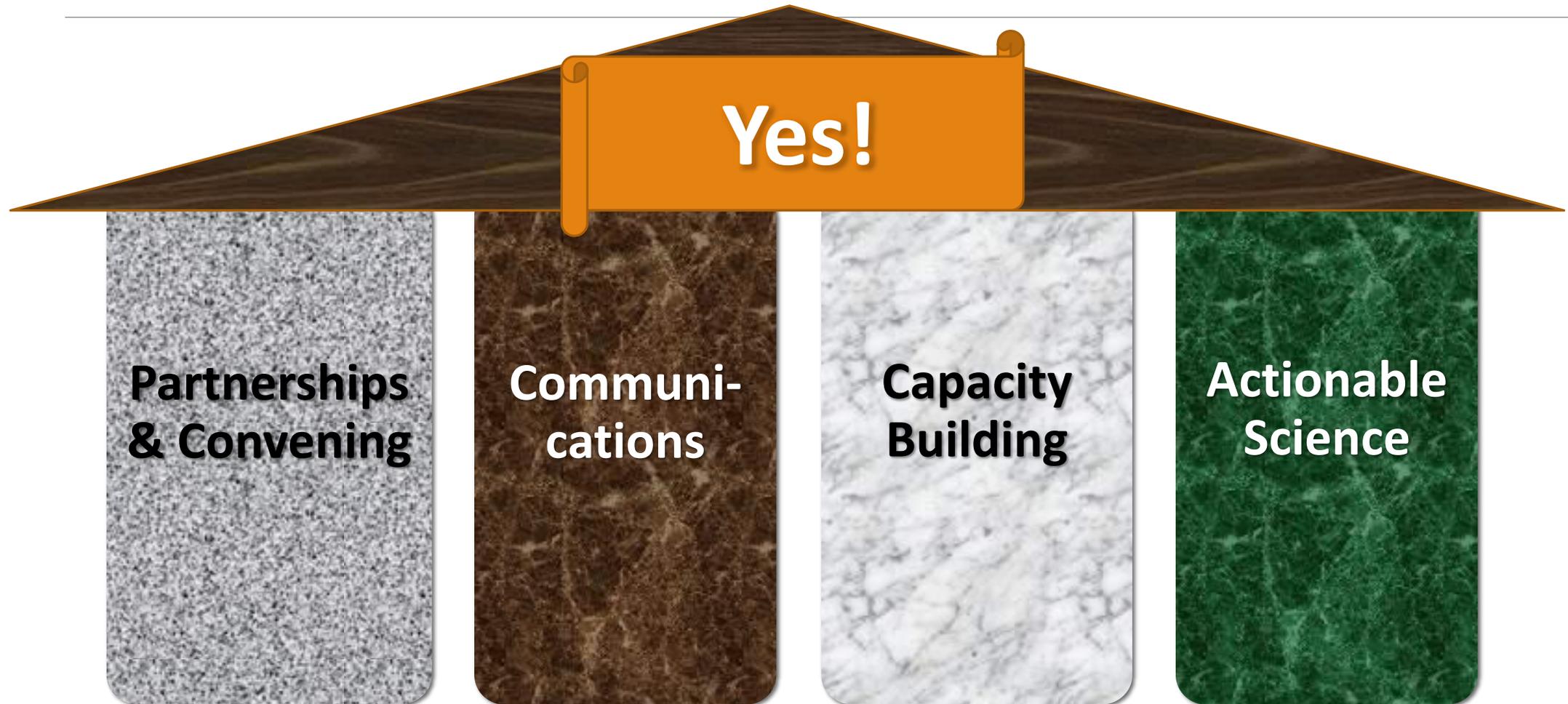
Theme 4: Actionable Science

Towards a unified vision

Actionable Science provides data, analyses, projections, or tools that can support decisions regarding the management of the risks and impacts of climate change. It is ~~ideally~~ **often** co-produced by scientists and decision makers and creates rigorous and accessible products to meet the needs of stakeholders. –ACCCNRS 2015

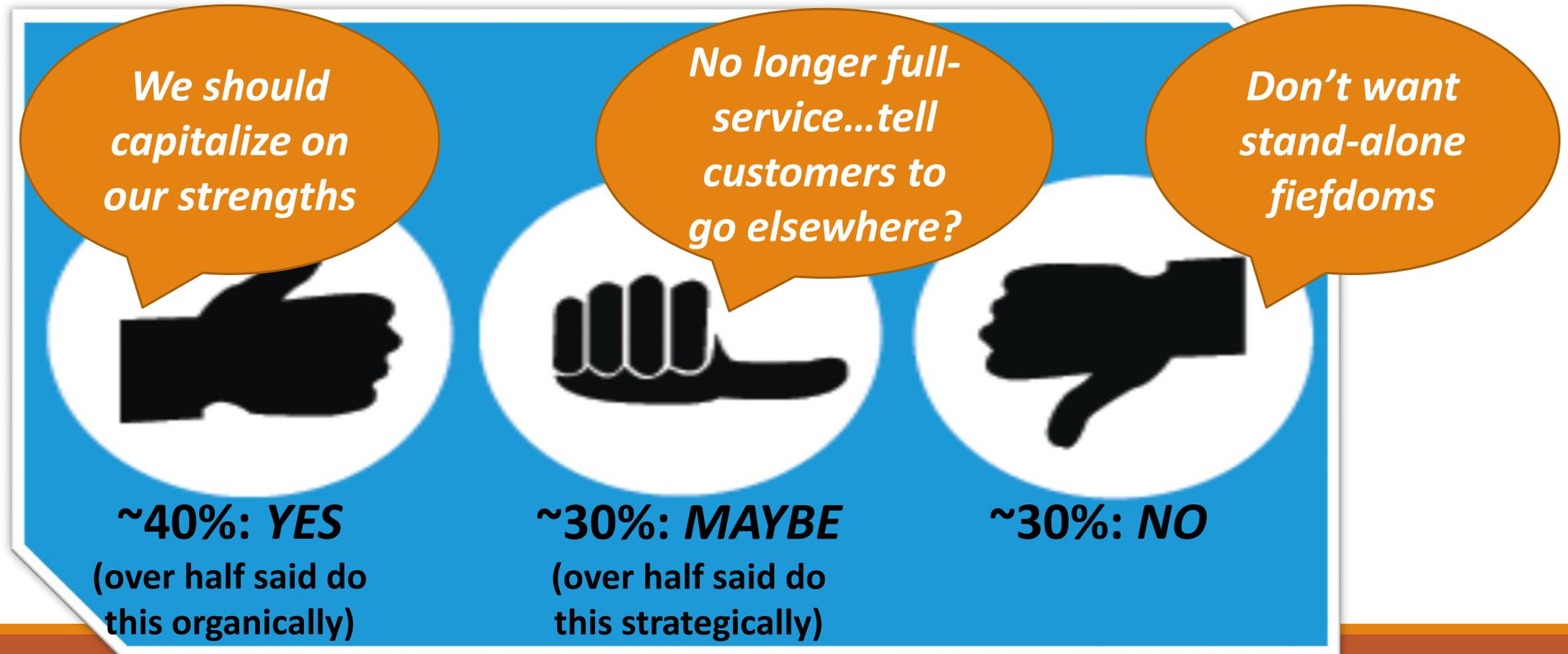
General Strategic Directions

Q1. Should the 4 proposed themes be the Strategic Priorities or “Pillars” upon which we build our Strategy?

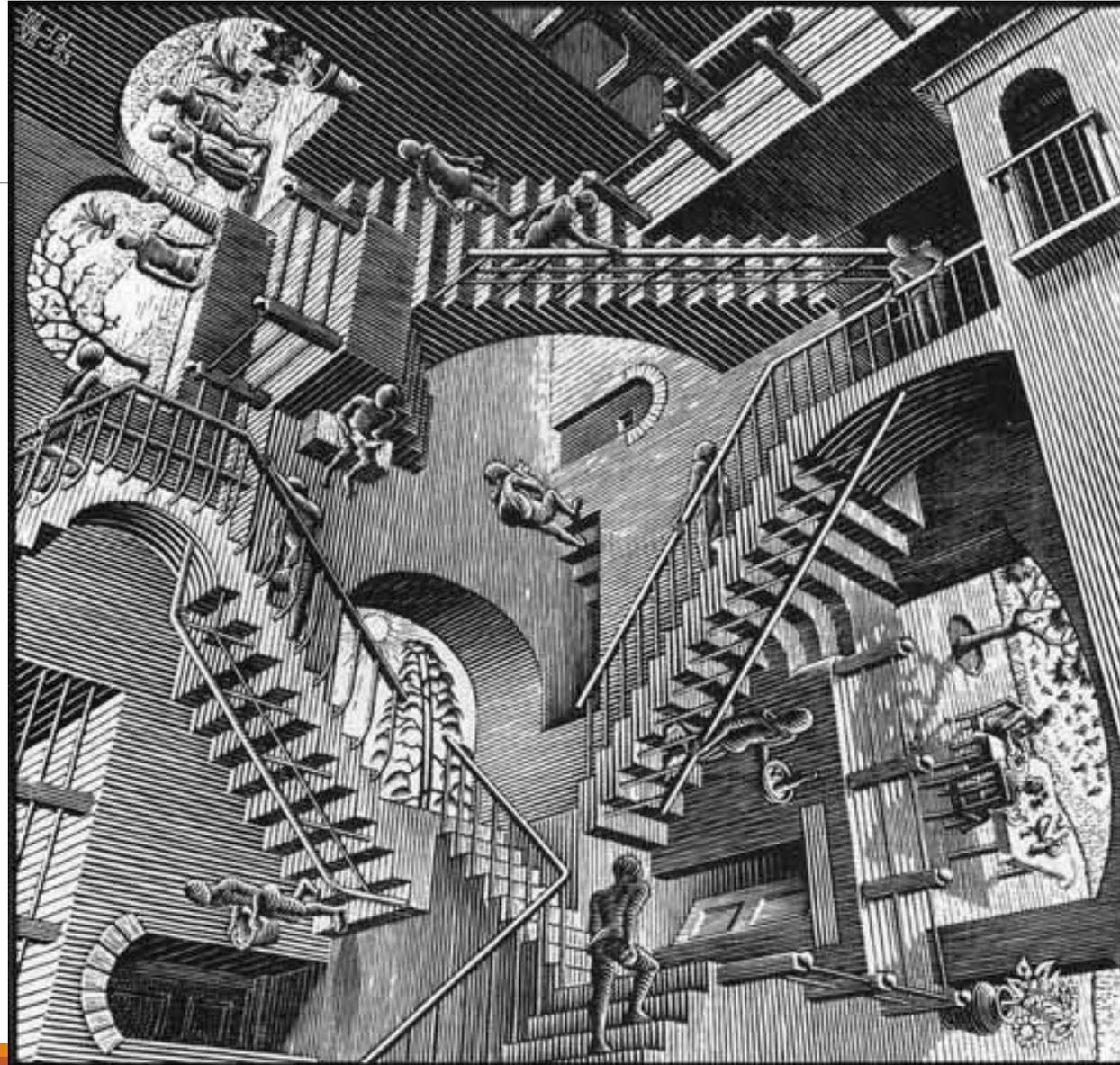


General Strategic Directions

Q2. Does it make sense for the Network to support the specialization of individual CSCs, possibly as “Centers of Excellence” or less formally, strategically or organically?



Where do we go from here?



Next steps in the process

- ❖ Complete interviews of Tier 2 folks and refine synthesis
- ❖ Coordinate with NCCWSC Communications Team on Mission Statement development
- ❖ Coordinate with NCCWSC Science Team on identifying & developing science priorities
- ❖ Develop more formalized process for consensus building as we move forward...

Role of ACCCNRS

- ❖ Appoint sub-group on Strategic Planning that leverages the ongoing work of the Core Products and Functions sub-group
 - *This sub-group will interact directly with USGS Strategic Planning Core Team, providing requested inputs.*
- ❖ For topics on where consensus building may be difficult, guidance may be sought from ACCCNRS.
- ❖ ACCCNRS will be briefed on a regular basis; additional input will be sought primarily, but not exclusively, at these times.

Thank you!

UPDATE FOR ACCCNRS—C. ENQUIST, J. CUSHING & M. LANGSTON

9 NOVEMBER 2016

Extra slides

REC#1 – Actionable Science

Context and foundational science



Decision-focused science

SWAP Synthesis
AK Integrated Ecol. Model
Downscaling
Sea Level Rise Estimates
Available Science Assessment Project (ASAP)



Forest bird vulnerability (HI)

ʻIwi conservation plan

Refuge Adaptation Strategy
Two Basins Drought Project

Less co-development



More co-development

Theme 1: Partnerships & Convening

Q2. Who are the other major players in the climate adaptation field that NCCWSC and the CSC Network should be connected to (i.e., who are our primary partners)?

- LCCS, RISAs, USDA Hubs, Tribes, State agencies, EPA, NOAA, Forest Service, broader DOI network (FWS, NPS).
- This will have to vary by CSC, because different people are willing to play, and the issues vary, which draws different people.
- Collaboration with USGS Science Centers should be pursued more



Where we are:

