

# **Ruamāhanga Whaitua**

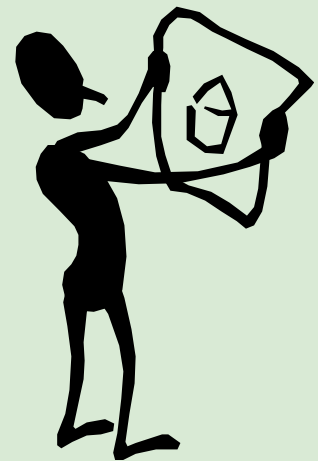
## **Social Assessment: Process and discussion of assessment criteria**

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# What is Social Assessment?

- *A systematic effort to identify, analyze, and evaluate social impacts of a proposed change on people and communities*
- *In advance of decision making*
- The information is used to help identify options and manage change
- To enhance sustainability and social outcomes



# Social Assessment is Commonly Applied to:

- Planning projects - in New Zealand usually resource consents, eg an irrigation project or a new highway



- Preparation of policies and plans, eg catchment plans, spatial plans, recovery plans

# An SIA Considers the Full Range of Values - and always looks for the social consequences of actions



# Approach –Key Steps

- Scoping – identify key issues, define assessment area, establish frameworks, variables and data availability
- Establish and describe the baseline
- Identify and assess alternatives
- Assess impacts (requires integration)
- Plan monitoring, mitigation and management of change – to maximise social outcomes/benefits
- Along with public participation

# Baseline: Key Observations

- The Wairarapa has diverse economic activity but farming remains very important
- Proximity to Wellington City drives commuting and amenity migration
- The towns have significant areas of low-social-economic status
- The waterways are an important source of amenity, cultural values and recreational uses such as swimming and fishing
- Some anecdotal evidence of reduced water-based recreational activity/satisfaction

# Population Change 2006-16

Location	% Change 2006-16*
Masterton	5.3
Carterton	19.7
Greytown	10.4
Featherston	-2.5
Martinborough	14.7
Rural Masterton	9.3
Rural Carterton	31.0
Rural South Wairarapa	23.1

# To Frame the Social Assessment we Used

- A standard framework of social wellbeing elements
- Parameters/indicators based on previous water resources planning work
- Ruamāhanga Whaitua Values established by the Committee
- Draft attributes developed by the Committee



# Meshing RWC and SIA Frameworks

## Ruamāhanga Whaitua Values

Māori Use – Mahinga kai

Te Mana o Ruamāhanga - Mauri, Habitat, Biodiversity and Natural Character

Our Ruamāhanga river culture

Ruamāhanga Economic Use, Resilience and Prosperity

Ruamāhanga community public health and wellbeing

Ruamāhanga Recreation

## Elements of social wellbeing

Economy, business activity, income and employment

Lifelong learning and education – the skills to lead a good life

Physical and mental health

Outdoor areas, natural environment, wild and open space, and amenity

Goods and services, retail and commercial space

Transport and communications

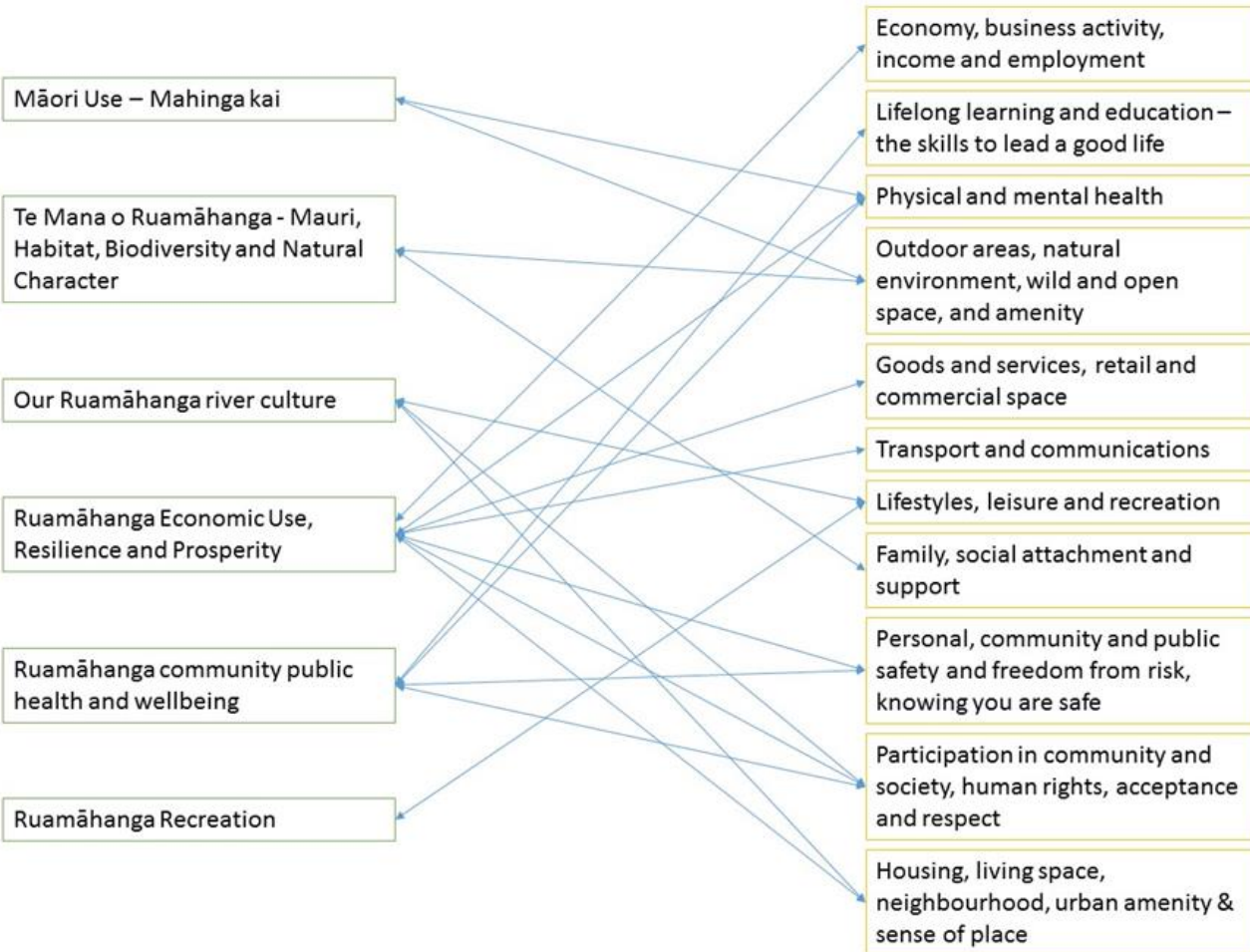
Lifestyles, leisure and recreation

Family, social attachment and support

Personal, community and public safety and freedom from risk, knowing you are safe

Participation in community and society, human rights, acceptance and respect

Housing, living space, neighbourhood, urban amenity & sense of place



# For Assessment of the Scenarios

- We need to assess the likelihood of achieving social outcomes desired by the Committee
- Using a scale such as:

Much worse	A bit worse	Same or very little change	A little bit better	A lot better
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- Using agreed criteria based on RWC Attributes, eg

# Signalling Social Outcomes – What You Want to Achieve, for

- Economy
- Recreation
- Community
- Health
- Equity



# Signalling Social Outcomes

- Economy - livelihoods, eg employment, business activity
- Recreation, eg use of river for swimming, use of lake for boating
- Community, eg sense of belonging/place, level of cohesion/inclusion, local schools
- Health, eg a healthy population, people are safe from risk/hazards
- Equity, eg intergenerational fairness, improved social status of towns/Maori

# Signalling Outcomes for

- Economy
- Recreation
- Community
- Health
- Equity

Task – Each group identify 3-4 social outcomes that you would like to see reported on by the scenario modelling team. Be specific about the attribute you are trying to achieve. Select 3 or 4 outcomes to report back

# Example of Outcomes

- Recreation outcomes:
  - The river is suitable for **swimming** at all popular current swimming spots, **or**
  - The River is suitable for **wading** throughout its length
  - The Lake ...
  - Fishing ...



# Examples of Outcomes

## Community outcomes:

- People have a strong association with the River/Wairarapa Moana
- There is enough population in rural areas to support local schools ...
- Educational programmes ...

