



Risk Assessment through Storytelling: An Asset-Based Approach

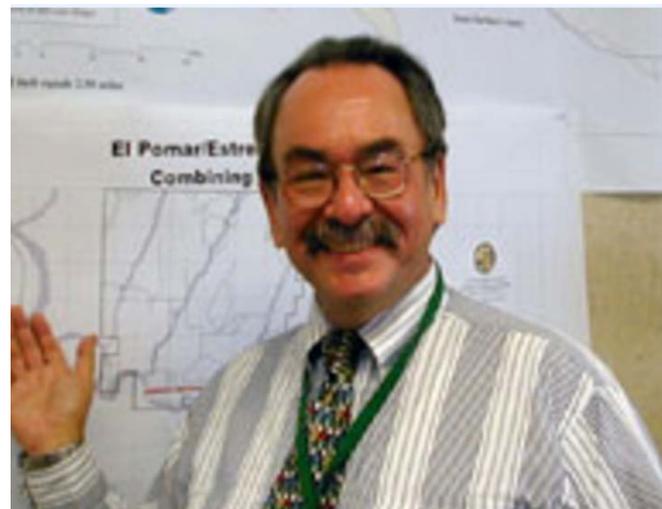
Welcome!

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Purpose

- Explore a risk assessment and identification approach that builds on a community's assets through story telling
- Demonstrate a positive interactive experience
- Encourage outcomes that embrace future visions and focus less on past conditions

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the advantages (and limitations) of a risk assessment process that builds on community assets
2. Distinguish between existing risk assessment tools, such as HAZUS, that are vulnerabilities-based, and Risk Map, that builds on community assets
3. List the community assets to include in an asset-based risk approach within your organizations
4. Use the asset-based approach checklist for initiating an asset-based risk assessment in your communities

Background on the Exercise

- Builds on positive attributes
 - Exercise participants are asked to describe their community using words or metaphors that provide a good quality of life (inspired by the strength-based Appreciative Inquiry model)
 - Most risk identification processes begin by looking at weaknesses, or threats
- Play is participant driven and follows the accepted 5e model (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate and Evaluate)

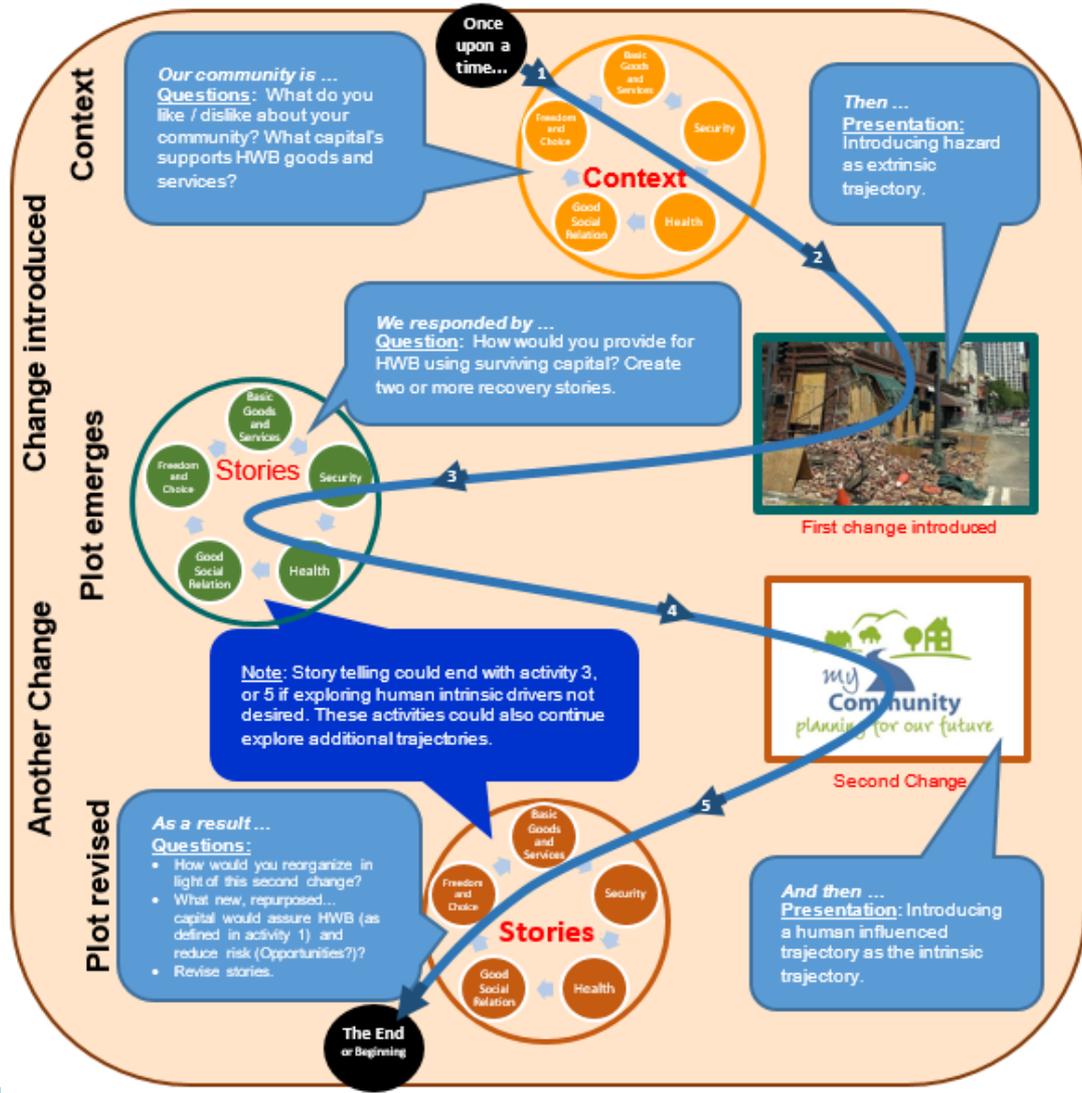
Appreciative Systems Approach

- Storytelling will drive the participatory adaptive planning process
- Participants describe the case study community using Human Well-Being (HWB) categories, not by cataloging community dysfunctions or vulnerabilities
- Questions are asked that lead from community's strengths, not weaknesses

Three Rounds of Play: Overview

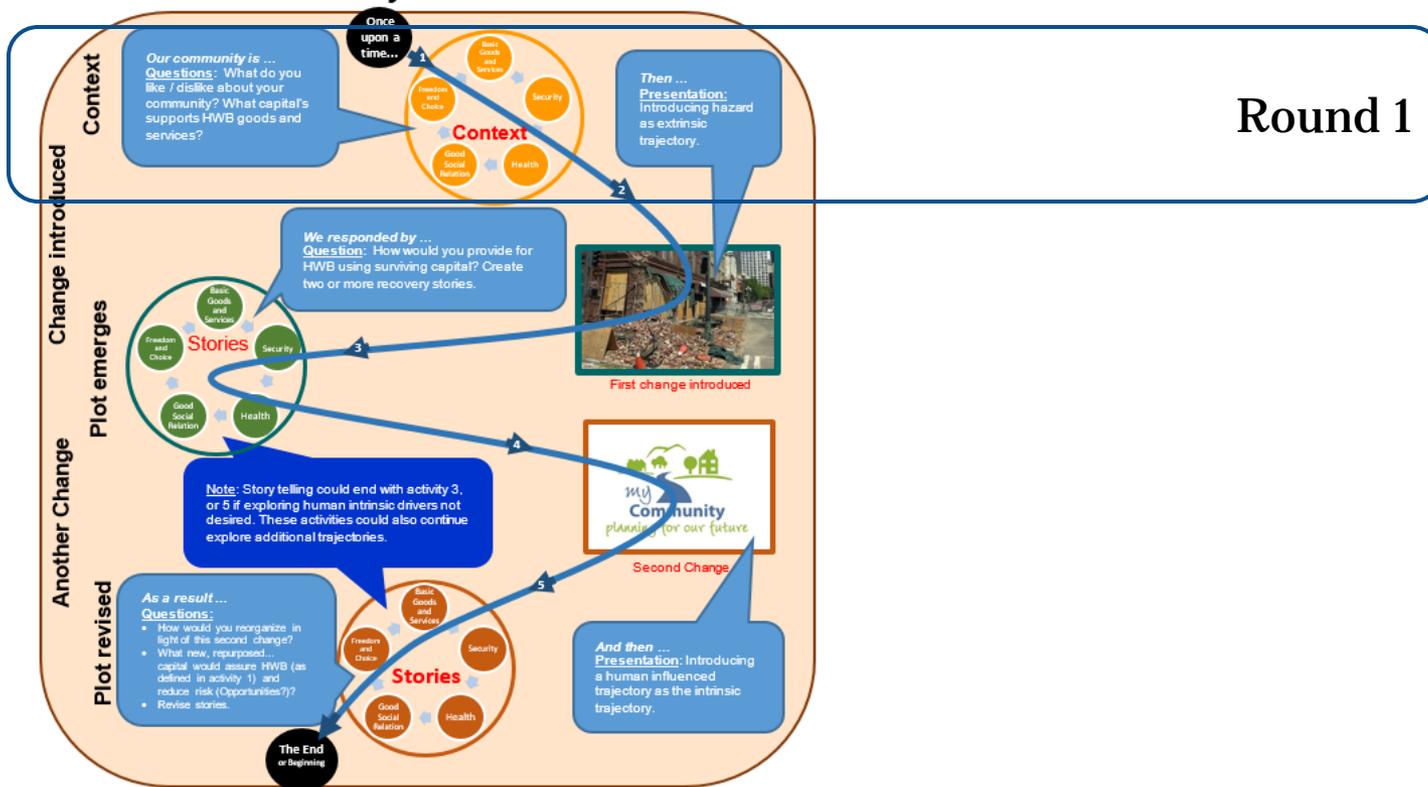
- Participants divide into teams according to HWB category: (Basic Material for a Good Life, Health, Security, Good Social Relations, Freedoms and Choice)
- Case study community is introduced
- Teams participate in three rounds of play – refining their work each round of play
- Teams report out after each round

Story Board:



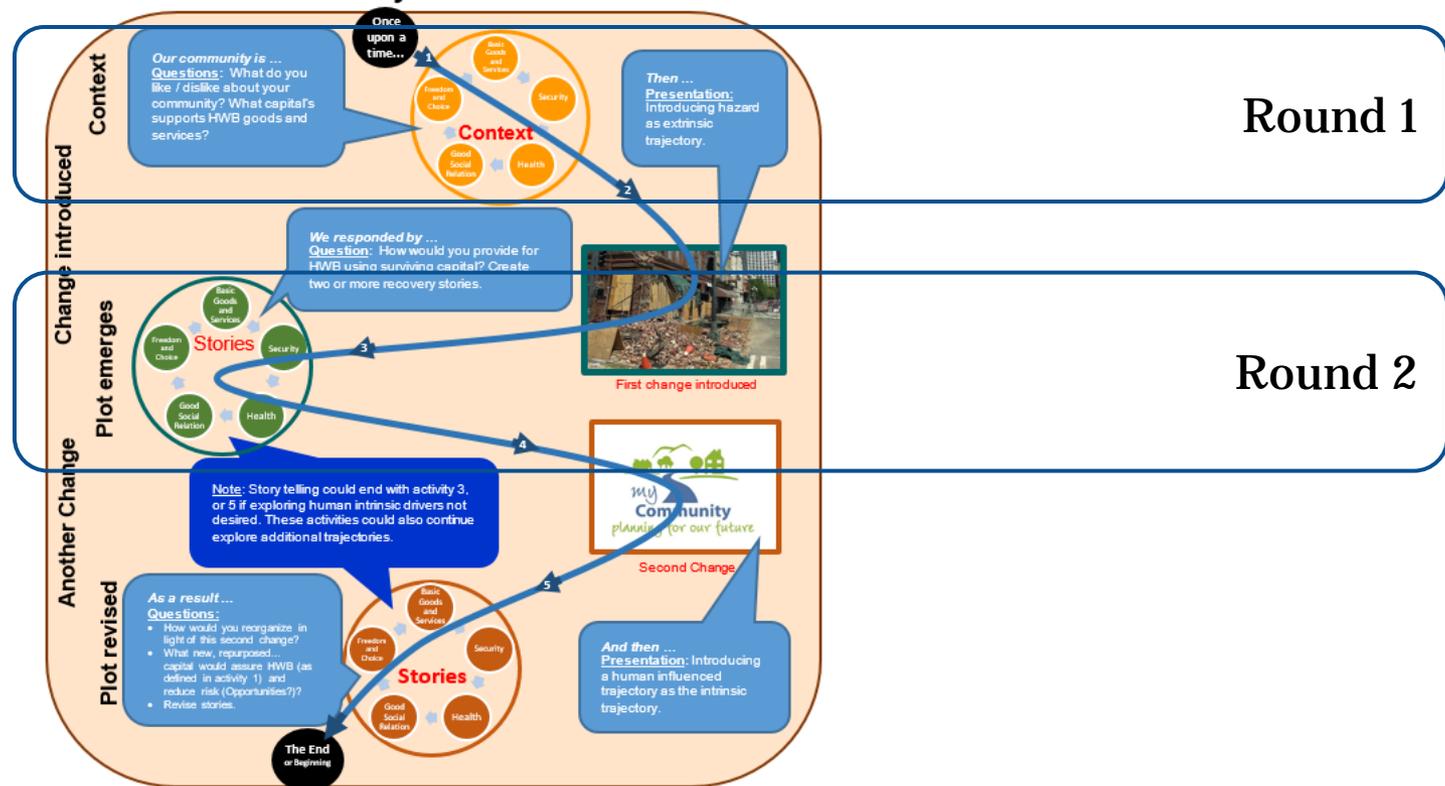
Discovering (Risks and Opportunities) through Story Telling: Round 1

Story Board:

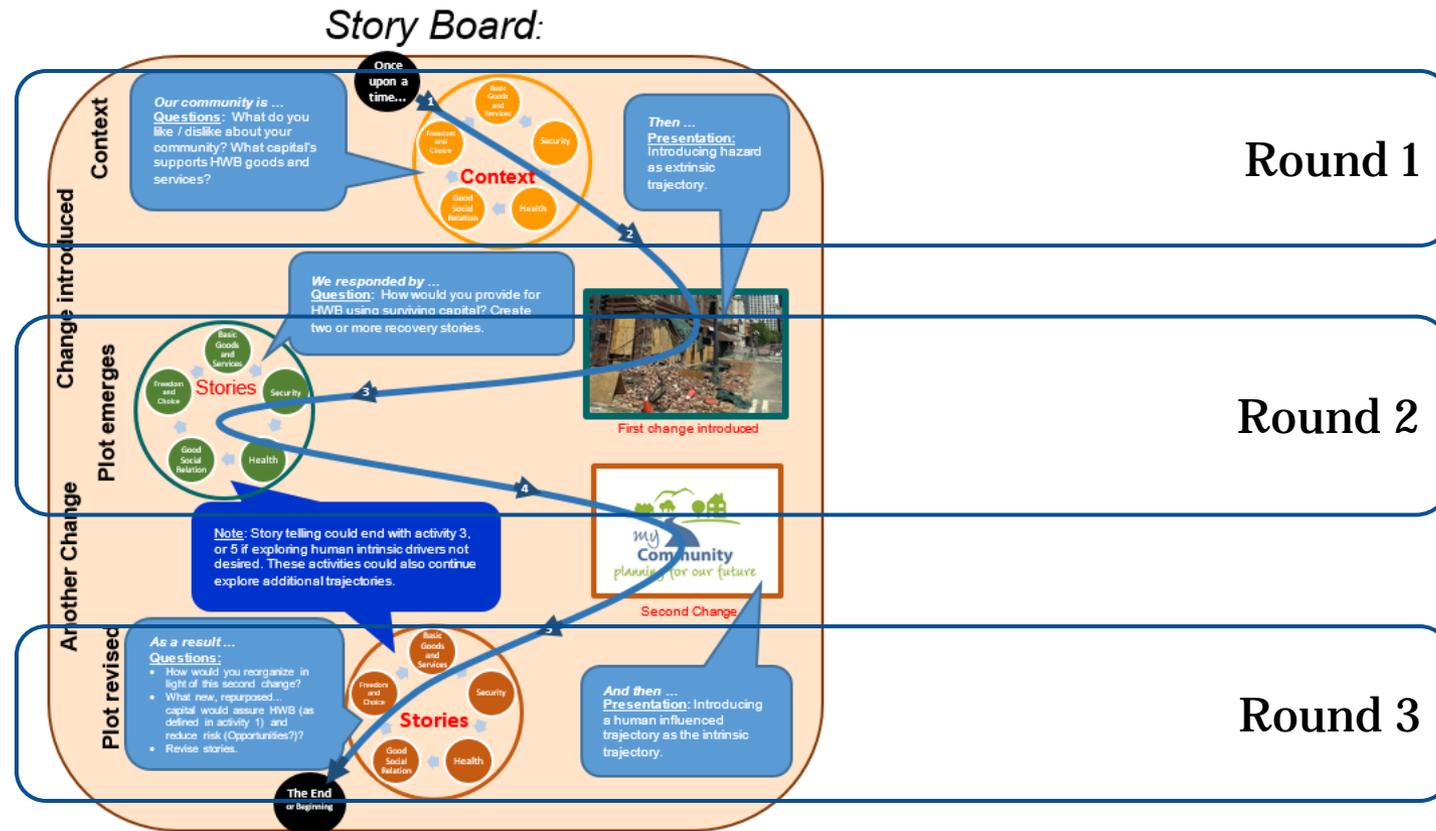


Discovering (Risks and Opportunities) through Story Telling: Round 2

Story Board:



Discovering (Risks and Opportunities) through Story Telling: Round 3



Round 1 - Context

Identify Community Assets

- What do you like / dislike about your community?
- What goods and services define the community? - use verbs like “meet,” “obtain”, etc. (*This provides a baseline*)
- Identify the providers of these goods and services - use nouns (*Available capital pre-event*)
- Groups report
- **A Hazard event will be introduced after Round 1**

Round 2 - Story

Changes in Post-Event Assets

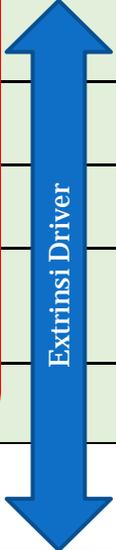
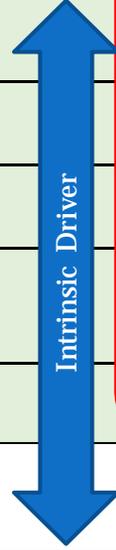
- Create your story
- Introduce ways HWB emerges FROM functioning capital. (Craft your initial plot and develop characters)
- How would you provide for HWB using surviving capital
- Groups report
- **Vision statement presented after Round 2**

Round 3 - Revise Story

Re-visioning: Participants asked to:

- Thinking of goods and services defining community (*Round 1*) and post-event providers of HWB (*Round 2*)
- Revise story developed in Round 2 - discover new, repurposed... capital (assets) assuring / inhibiting HWB.
- How would you revise story in light of this second change?
- Can you introduce longer term risk reduction measures into your revised stories?
- Are there any path dependencies / elements in common?

Worksheet

Discovering Risk (and Opportunities) through Story Telling: an asset-based approach							
Categories	Round 1 Community setting ... Identify Capital assets (providers) that emerge FROM HWB. • What do you like/dislike about your community? • What goods and services, and providers contribute to your quality of life?		Event - 1 (Extrinsic)	Round 2 Story -- Determine ways HWB emerges FROM functioning capital. (Craft your initial plot and develop characters) • How would you provide for HWB using surviving capital?	Event - 2 (Intrinsic)	Round 3 Re-tell story -- Discover new, repurposed... capital (assets) assuring / inhibiting HWB. • How would you reorganize in light of this second change? • What are the path dependencies / elements in common?	
HWB Categories (optional)	Story Context:	Providers of HWB:	Providers: (left standing, compromised, destroyed)	Story Telling:	Providers: (left standing, adapted, removed)	Revise Story	Comments:
Basic Materials			 Extrinsic Driver		 Intrinsic Driver		
Health							
Security							
Good Social Relations							
Freedom/Choice							

Worksheet Example - Greensburg Kansas (Tornado)

Discovering Risk (and Opportunites) through Story Telling: an asset-based approach						
	Round 1			Round 2		
Categories	Our community setting ... Create the setting and introduce assets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you like/dislike about your community? • What goods and services, and providers contribute to your quality of life? • Product from Stories: Capital assets (providers) that emerge FROM HWB. 		Event - 1	Story -- We responded by ... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question: How would you provide for HWB using surviving capital? • Product: Creative ways that HWB emerge FROM functional capital. 		Event - 2
HWB Categories (optiona)	Story Context:	Providers of HWB:	Providers: (left standing, compromised destroyed)	Story Telling:	Providers: (left standing, adapted, removed)	Comments:
Basic Materials	 <p>Active though deteriorating antiquated commercial district</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Department stores 2. Services 3. Restaurants 		 <p>Relied heavily on social capital</p>		 <p>Created a "green" community</p>

Schedule for Our Exercise

Exercise Element	Minutes
Form Teams	2
Round 1	5 - 10
Disaster Scenario	8
Round 2	5 - 10
Vision Introduced	5
Round 3	15
	40 - 47

Form Teams

- ***Basic Material for a Good Life*** – secure and maintain adequate livelihoods, income and assets, enough food at all times, furniture, clothing, access to goods
- ***Health*** – being strong, feeling well, having a healthy physical environment, access to medical assistance
- ***Security*** – secure access to natural and other resources, safety of person and possessions, shelter, living in a predictable and controllable environment with security from natural and human-made disasters

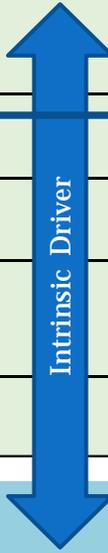
Form Teams (cont.)

- ***Good Social Relations*** – social cohesion, mutual respect, good gender and family relations, and the ability to help others and provide for children
- ***Freedoms and Choice*** – having control over what happens and being able to achieve what a person values doing or being



You need only to fill in the cells related to your specific HWB team.

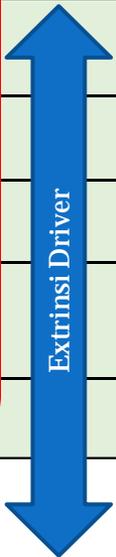
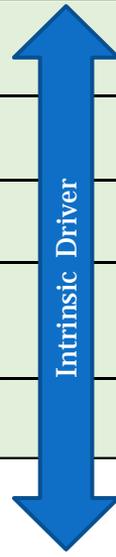
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Hazard Scenario

- [Provided by Instructor]

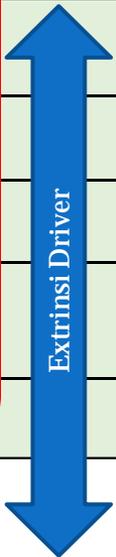
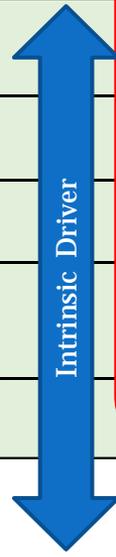
Worksheet - Round 2

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Community Vision Statement

[Provided by instructor]

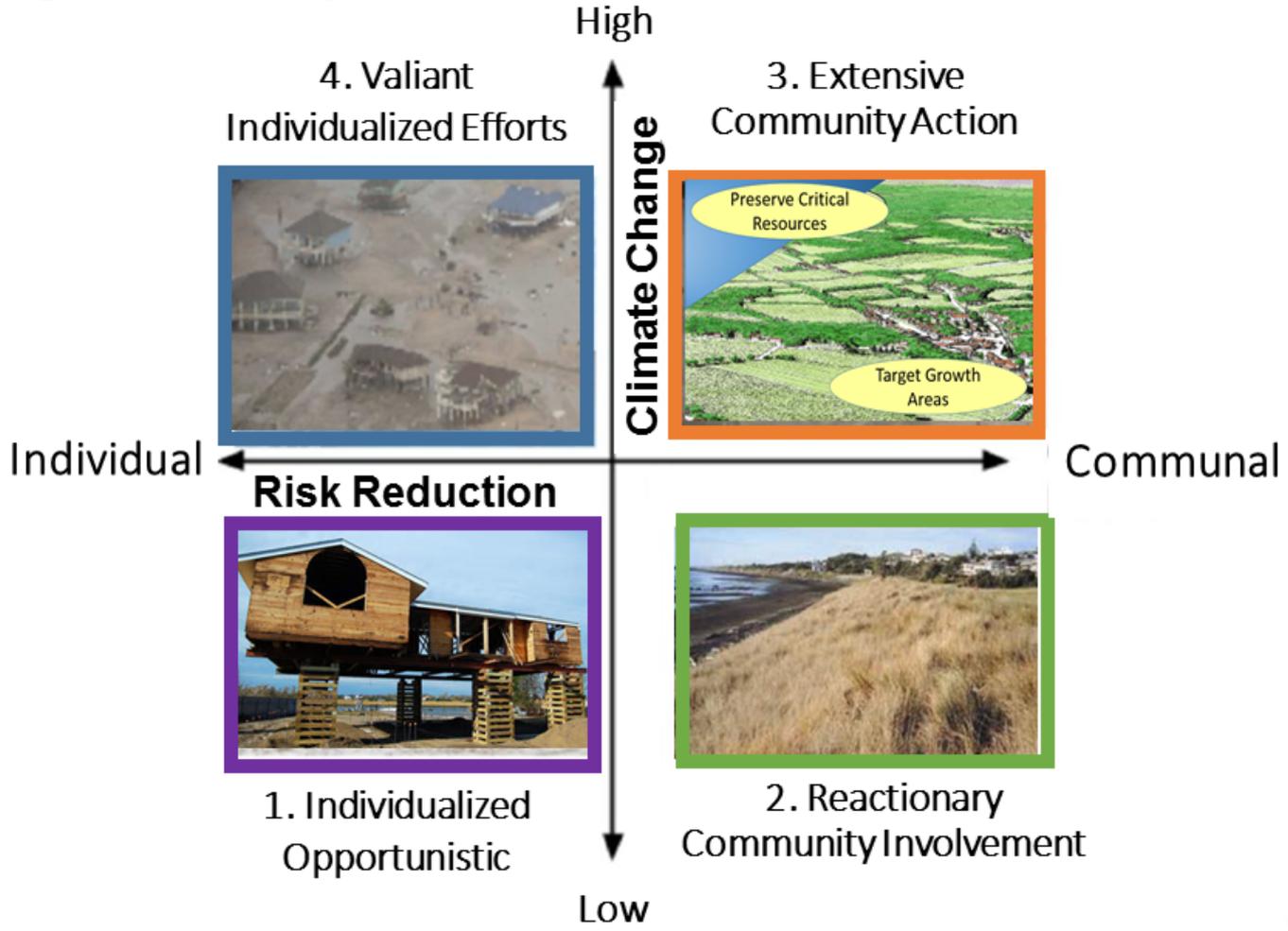
Worksheet - Round 3

Discovering Risk (and Opportunities) through Story Telling: an asset-based approach								
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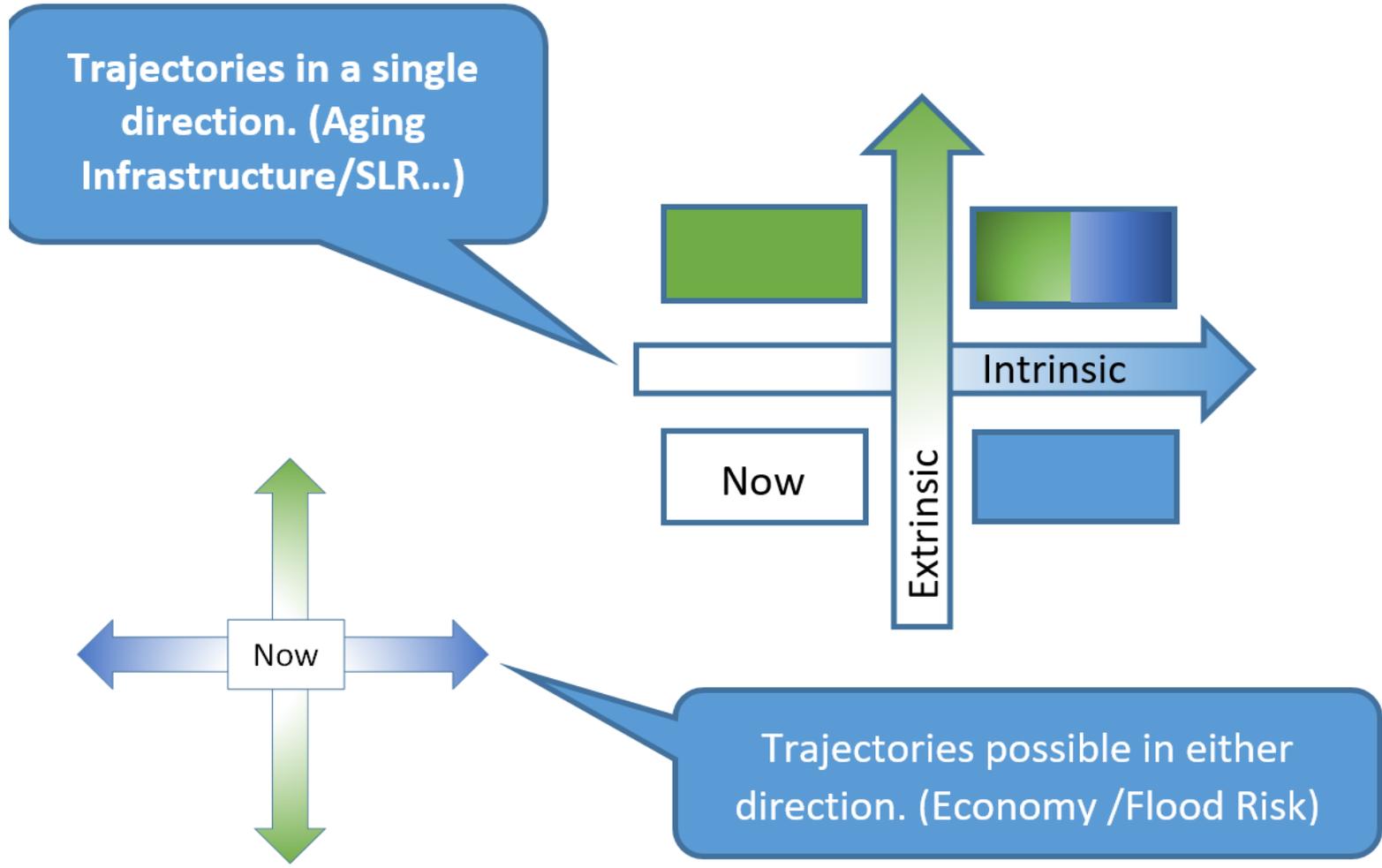
Concluding Discussion

- Past outcomes of similar exercises
- Comparison to more traditional vulnerability-based approaches
- Conducting a community workshop within your community

Sandy Point, WA



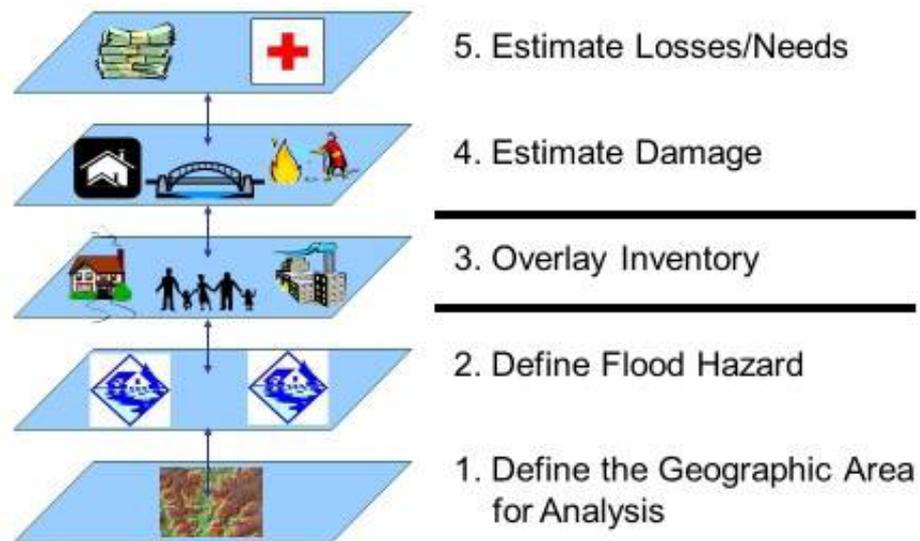
Stories Can Be Written As Scenarios



Vulnerability-Based Approach: HAZUS

- Includes available inventories
- Subjects inventories to scenario hazard event
- Damage estimates in dollars for impacted inventories
- Process focuses on removal or “hardening” at-risk inventories of things
- Often ignores importance of natural and social sources of adaptive capacities

HAZUS-MH: Methodology



Common Approaches

Risk assessment fall into two general categories:

1. **Vulnerability-based** –emphasizes vulnerabilities and prompts responses focusing on the adaption of available risk inventories
2. **Assets-based** –driven by assets that define a community - the community's well-being, not merely vulnerabilities

Was Outcome Similar?

We need stronger neighborhoods, increased walkability, greater sense of place, mixed land uses, closer neighbor and family ties, and trust.

Freitag , R., Abramson, D., Chalana, M., & Dixon, M. (2014). Whole community resilience: an asset-based approach to enhancing adaptive capacity before a disruption. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 80 (4), 324-335.

Conducting a Similar Exercise with Your Community

- Instructors should read the Journal of the American Planning Association Volume 80, No.4 Autumn 2014, Article: “Whole Community Resilience: An Asset-Based Approach to Enhancing Adaptive Capacity Before a Disruption”
- The session would extend over a 4 – 6 hour time period
- Story Rounds would be approx. 60 minutes each, including reporting and could include more than one day of play
- Round One “providers” have been color coded to make relationships more apparent

Conducting a Similar Exercise with Your Community (cont.)

- Each story round would benefit from World Café element where-by team members would rotate, building on each team's individual effort
- Follow-up: The result of the play would be written and become the seed of more rigorous science-based research
- Conclusions: Presented to the original participants and others in a meeting, second workshop or "Open House" (slide 24 provides an example)



Review of Key Learning Objectives

1. Describe the advantages (and limitations) of a risk assessment process that builds on community assets
2. Distinguish between existing risk assessment tools, such as HAZUS, that are vulnerabilities-based, and Risk Map, that builds on community assets
3. List the community assets to include in an asset-based risk approach within your organizations
4. Use the asset-based approach checklist for initiating an asset-based risk assessment in your communities

Thank You for Your Participation!



DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION
Ambassador Curriculum

- **Questions and/or comments**
- **Contact information**

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Supporting Material

- Worksheet
- Graphic Illustrations of Rounds

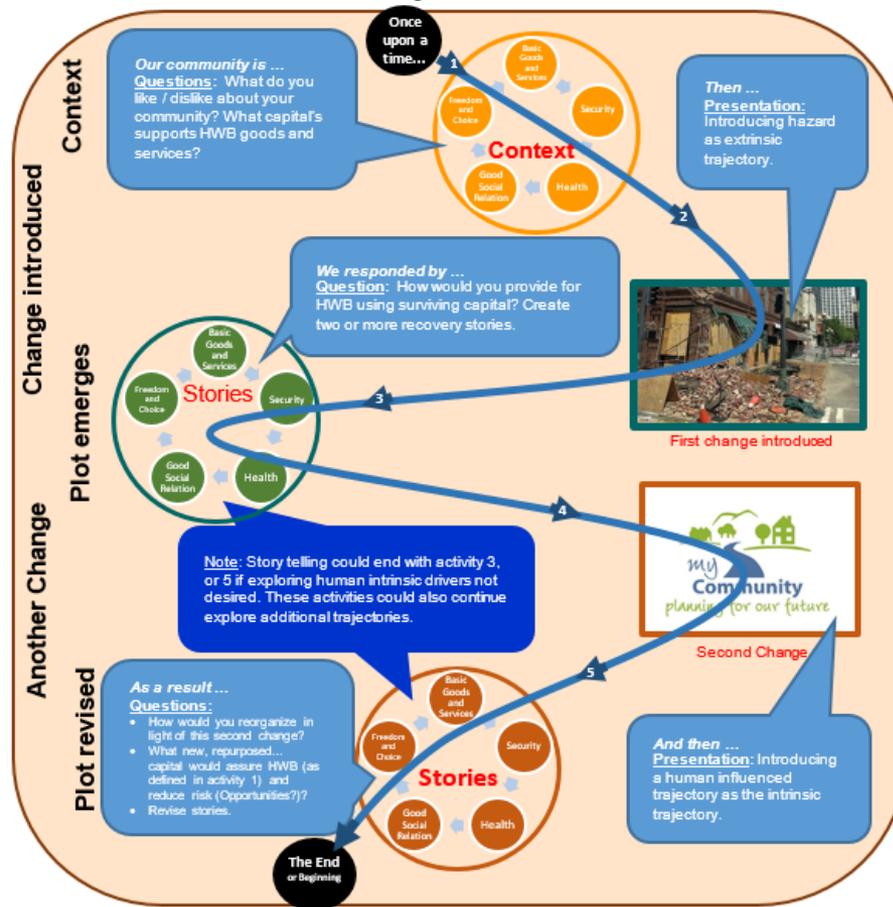
Worksheet

Discovering Risk (and Opportunities) through Story Telling: an asset-based approach

Categories	Round 1		Event - 1 (Extrinsic)	Round 2		Event - 2 (Intrinsic)	Round 3	
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Health								
Security								
Good Social Relations								
Freedom/Choice								

Graphic Illustrations of Rounds

Story Board:



Guidance

- Create the setting and introduce your characters**
 - Participant's may divide into Human Well-Being (HWB)
 - Structured as a World Café if possible. (Develop a context)
 - Capital assets will emerge FROM HWB.
 - Capital can be grouped as to being natural, social or built.
- Introduce an action (Change) -- Earthquake, Market ...**
 - Presentations of the hazard event can be:
 - Exploratory – What is likely to happen?
 - Predictive – What could happen?
 - Aspirational – What do we want to happen?
 - HAZUS Global report could provide content.
- Craft your initial plot and develop characters**
 - Create at least stories that lead from capital that is:
 - Functional
 - Not functional
 - HWB will emerge FROM functional capital.
 - Identify and integrate tipping points.
- Introduce a second action – such as future conditions, policy, (can be Exploratory, Predictive...**
 - Possible sources include:
 - Vetted community plans / vision statements
 - Anticipated, feared... human induced changes
- Revise stories**
 - Re-tell stories as World Café groups rotate.
 - Look for commonalities between stories, for key items that may control outcomes (path dependencies), and risk reduction/opportunity enhancement measures.
 - See earthquake and Sandy Point scenario examples below.