



Knowledge Exchange Seminar Series (KESS)

...is a forum that encourages debate on a wide range of research findings, with the overall aim of promoting evidence-based policy and law-making within Northern Ireland



Planning for Coastal Resilience

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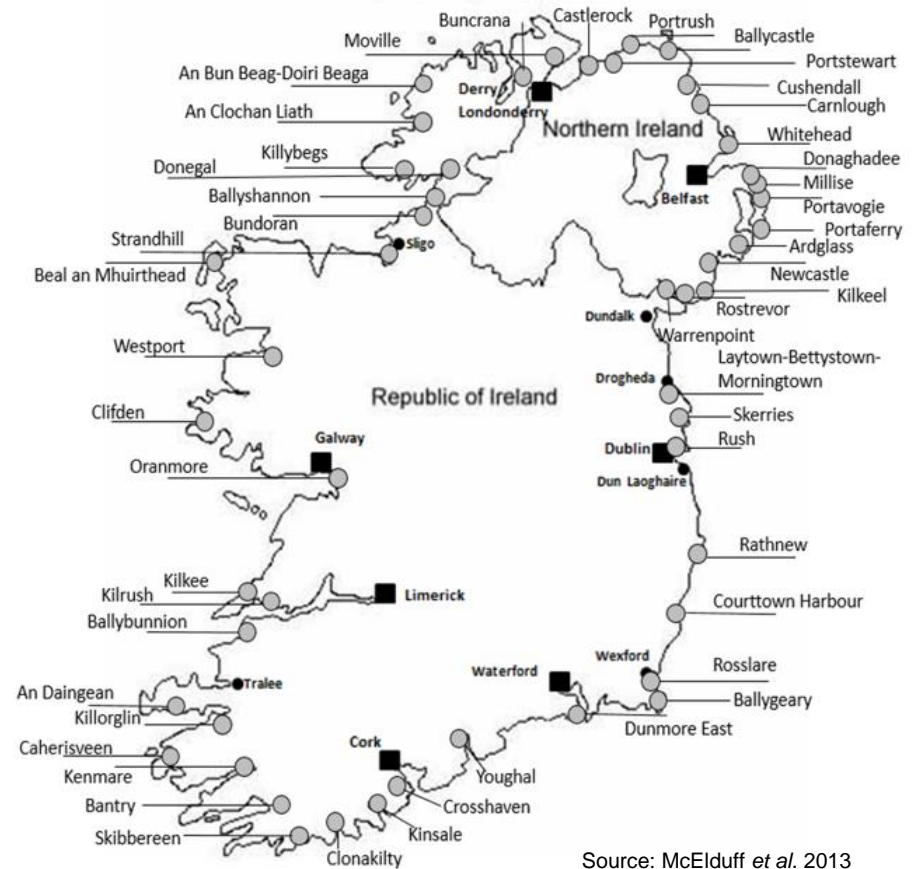
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Overview

1. Context: coastal challenges and characteristics
2. Resilience and Regeneration: a virtuous relationship?
3. The Octagon Values Model
4. Coastal Regeneration on the island of Ireland
5. Toward securing resilient outcomes for coastal communities

A Dynamic Context: Key Opportunities and Challenges

- Changing demographics
- Seasonality of employment
- Decline of coastal industries
- Climate change and coastal change
- Regeneration of coastal resorts
- Blue growth
- Tourism and recreation
- Culture and heritage
- Quality of life, health, etc.
- Land-Coast-Sea
- Marine Spatial Planning /ICZM concepts



Source: McElduff *et al.* 2013

Nexus between MSP and LUP: Towards resilient coastal communities?

- Future marine plans are expected to deliver the vision set out in the UK Marine Policy Statement (MPS) of “clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas”.
- The MPS requires this vision to be delivered sustainably – marine planning is required to have **positive terrestrial as well as marine impacts**, and deliver “a strong, healthy and just society” with marine development which is “benefiting society as whole, [and] **contributing to resilient and cohesive communities**”.
- The MPS states that marine planning should contribute to sustainable economic growth “**both in regeneration areas and areas that already benefit from strong local economies**” through integrating with terrestrial planning and engagement with coastal communities.
- The draft **vision** and objectives of the Marine Plan for Northern Ireland include the development of **vibrant, accessible and sustainable coastal communities**.

Coastal Regeneration:

A differentiated context?



| SOCIAL VALUES | ECONOMIC VALUES |
|--|---|
| Seasonal populations Ageing population Transience Poor health ... | Declining coastal industries Reliance on seasonal employment (tourism/fishing) Reduced hinterland Blue growth ... |
| ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES | GOVERNANCE VALUES |
| Coastal erosion Increased storm intensity and occurrence Flooding Environmental designations Physical isolation ... | Land – Coast - Marine divide ICZM MSP Property rights ... |

Coastal Community Diversity: Towards a typology

Indicative classifications grouped thematically

| Category | Scored above average on indicators relating to... | | | | | | Potential Case Study |
|-------------|---|-----------|--------|---------|-----------|------------|----------------------------------|
| | Demography | Education | Health | Housing | Transport | Employment | |
| Retiring | | | | | | | Kenmare, Co. Kerry |
| Striving | | | | | | | Killybegs, Co. Donegal |
| Reinventing | | | | | | | Newcastle, Co. Down |
| Expanding | | | | | | | Courtown Harbour, Co. Wexford |
| Nourishing | | | | | | | Skibbereen, Co. Cork |
| Prospering | | | | | | | Portstewart, Co. Antrim |

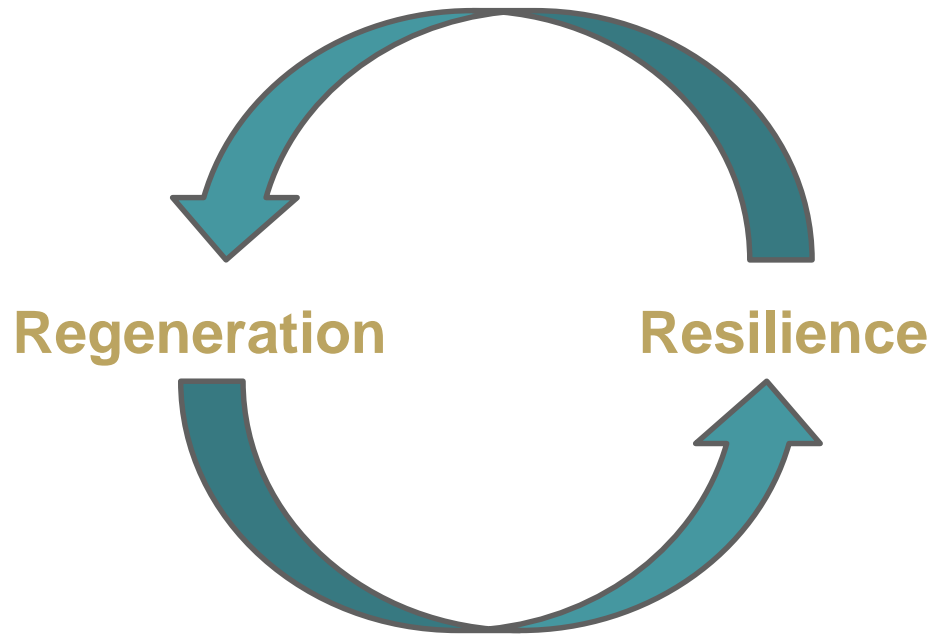
Source: McElduff *et al.* 2013

KEY
 Above Average
 Below Average

Resilience & Regeneration

“...the bottom line for sustainability is that any proposal for sustainable development that does not explicitly acknowledge a system's resilience is simply not going to keep delivering the goods (or services)”

(Walker and Salt, 2006)



Resilience & Regeneration: Evolving perspectives

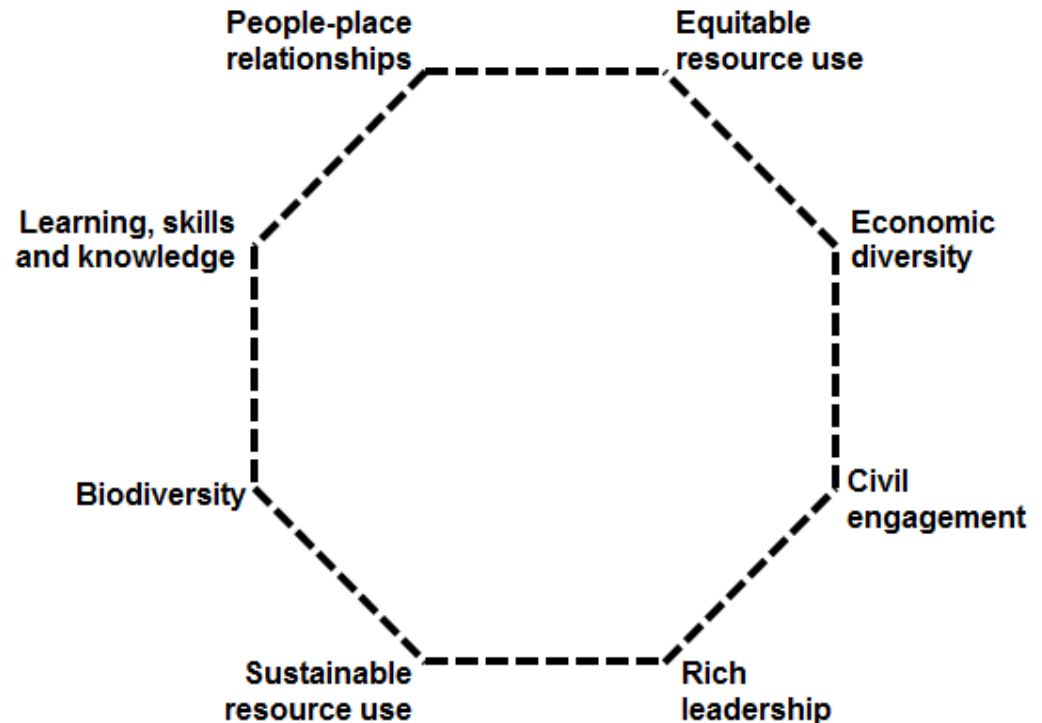
| Perspective | Characteristics | Focus on: |
|--|---|--|
| Engineering | Recovery time after disturbance. Emphasis on maintain efficiency of function and control of resources in an optimal fashion. | Concern with steady state equilibrium. Recovery, constancy and conservation. |
| Ecological resilience and social resilience | Potential for multiple equilibria. Ability to withstand shock. | Persistence, robustness. |
| Social-ecological resilience | Mutual interaction integrating ecological and social (institutional) systems. Multi-scalar. | Adaptive capacity, transformative potential, learning, innovation. |
| Community resilience | Ability of a community to cope and adjust to stresses caused by social, political and environmental change and to engage community resources to overcome adversity and take advantage of opportunities in response to change. | Equitable resource distribution, economic diversity, civil engagement, rich leadership, sustainable resource use, biodiversity, learning and skills, and people-place relationships. |

Resilience & Regeneration

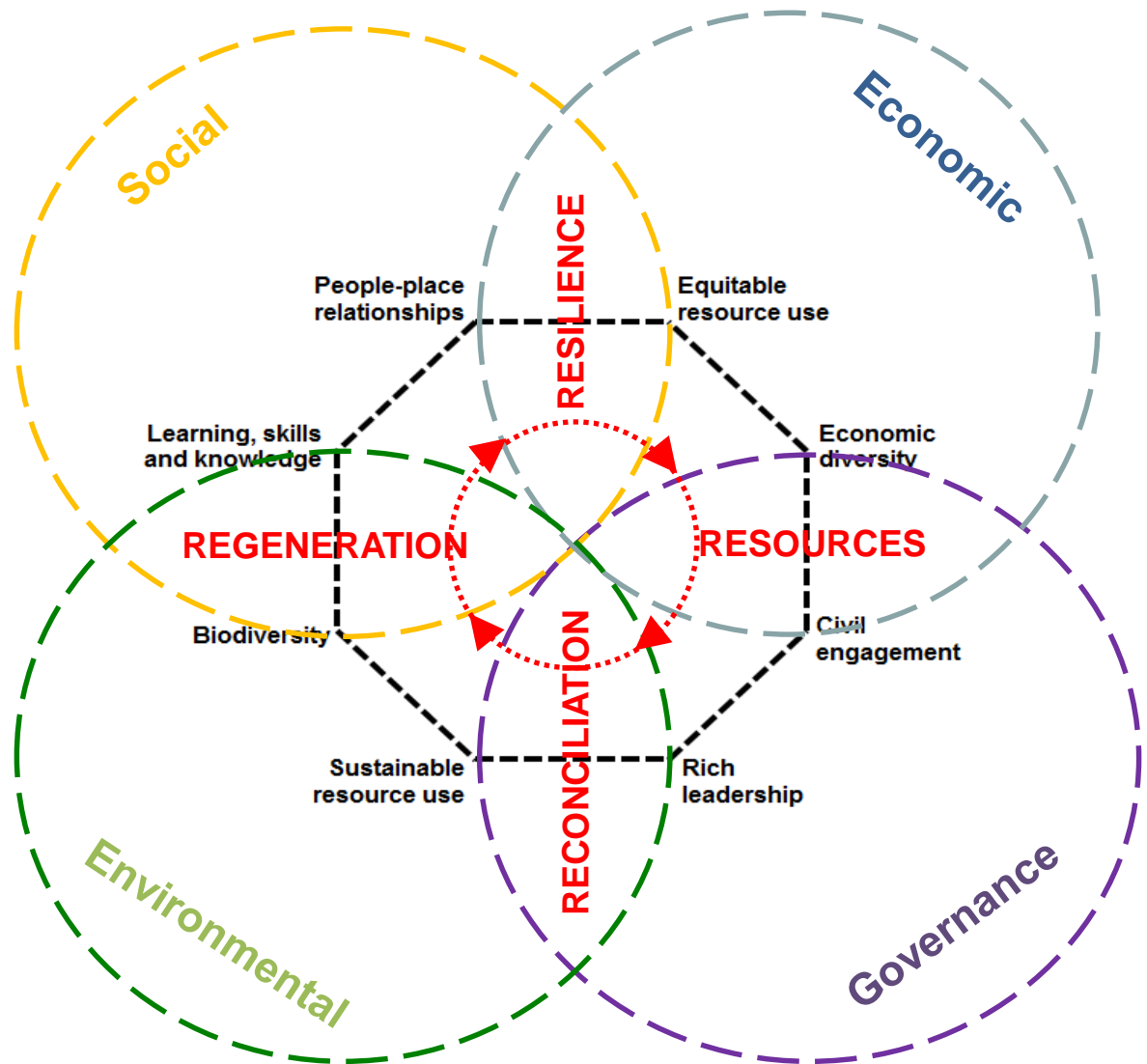
Components of Community Resilience

“the ability of a community to cope and adjust to stresses caused by social, political and environmental change and to engage community resources to overcome adversity and take advantage of opportunities in response to change”

(Amundsen, 2012, p.45)



Resilience & Regeneration: The Octagon Values Model



Source: (McElduff *et al.* 2016)

Key findings from the island of Ireland

REGENERATION

Tourism-led - visible consequences.

Need to move beyond physical improvements to address underlying causes of social, economic and environmental decline.

Place-tailored and sensitive intervention which respects existing cultures and traditions and fosters a positive place image and identity.



RESILIENCE

People-place relationships.

Learning, skills and knowledge.

Resilience is an outcome – not an output:

*“What’s as important as getting that work done is the kind of synergies it creates: It builds communities, it creates community resilience”
(Local authority, Kinsale).*

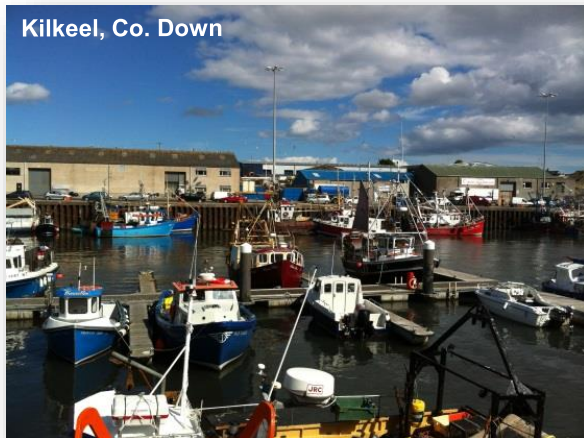
Coastal hazards: lack of awareness/ capacity?



Key findings from the island of Ireland

RESOURCES

- Sustainable use of internal resources - sources of regeneration.
- Economic diversification needed – hindered by physical isolation, economic inheritance and lack of political interest.
- Living on the edge: entrepreneurialism.



RECONCILATION

- Conflicting perspectives.
- Lack of joined up thinking.
- Local resistance to change and apathy.
- Platforms for interaction.
- Need for strong, influential drivers.



Toward Resilient Outcomes for Coastal Communities

1. Socio-economic deprivation exists outside large urban areas and inner city neighbourhoods.
2. The Coastal Community Typology - one-size-fits-all approach is inadequate.
3. A collaborative all-island approach? E.g. Coastal Partnership Network
4. The Octagon Values Model - a need to incorporate 'resilience thinking'.
5. Land-Coast-Marine – reconciling roles, responsibilities and priorities.



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