

# Ocean Solutions: *Co-design and co-development*

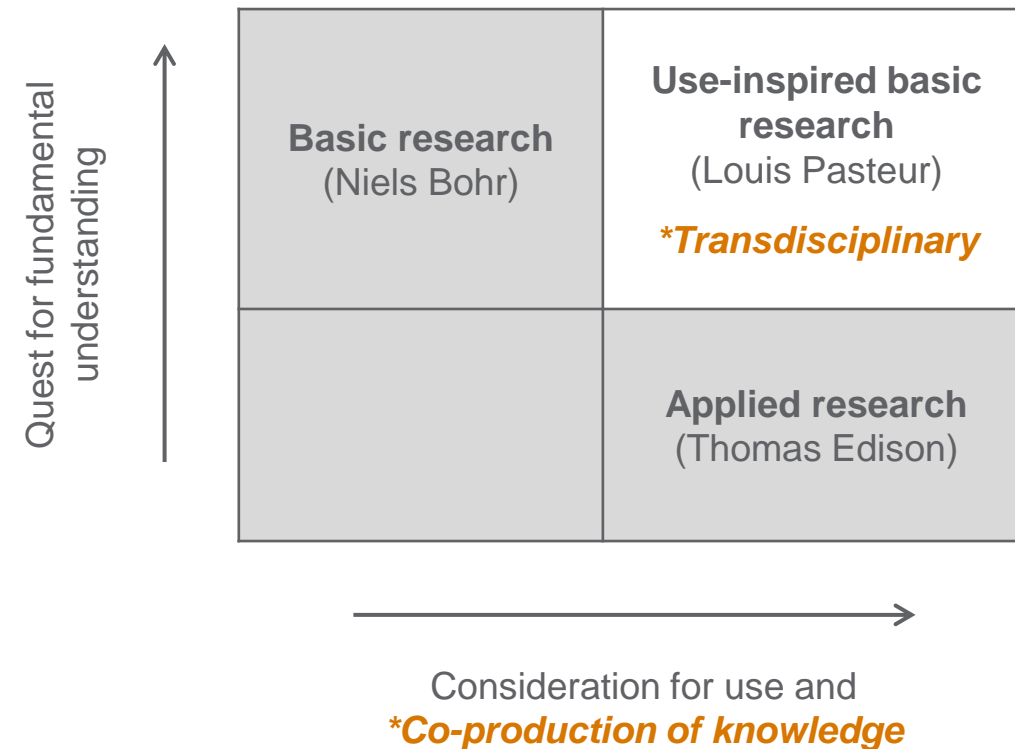
National Academies  
Decadal Survey of Ocean Sciences for NSF  
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# Transdisciplinary research

- Solutions oriented science
- Interdisciplinary
- **Co-production of knowledge**
- Research and policy outputs



## References:

Clark et al. 2016. Crafting usable knowledge for sustainable development. Proceedings of the National Academy of Science

Arkema and Ruckelshaus 2017. Transdisciplinary research for conservation and sustainable development in Conservation in the Anthropocene Ocean

Stokes 1997. Pasteur's quadrant

# Two examples of co-designed and co-developed research

## **Nature-based solutions to climate mitigation and adaptation**

- Caribbean – Belize, The Bahamas



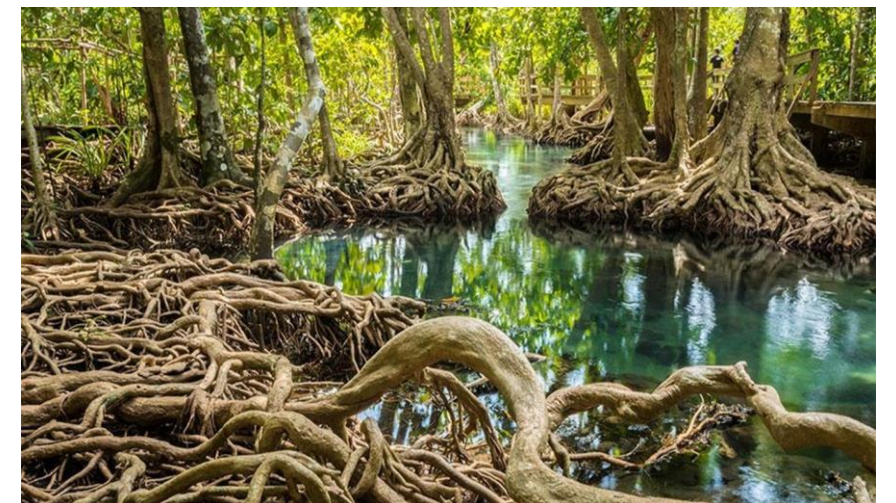
## **Renewable energy transitions in remote coastal and island communities**

- United States – City of Bainbridge Island, Makah Tribe



## Promise of blue carbon ecosystems and strategies

- Protection, restoration, and management of saltmarsh, seagrass, mangroves
- Store and sequester carbon in biomass and sediments
- Co-benefits: fisheries, tourism, coastal risk reduction, water quality





# Belize – leading country in coastal and ocean management



- Caribbean coast of Central America
- Famous for Blue Hole and Mayan temples
- Progressive in planning for sustainability of natural resources



CEO, Chantalle Samuels



# Transdisciplinary research team

World Wildlife Fund



Nadia Bood

Belize Coastal Zone Management



Arlene Young



Andria Rosado

Belize National Climate Change Office



Colin Mattis

Pew Charitable Trust



Courtneery Durham

Optimization analysis



Jade Delevaux



Peter Hawthorn



Sama Winder

Co-benefits



Jess Silver



Mary Ruckelshaus

Carbon



Lisa Beers

## Co-developed research questions

### Nature-based solutions to climate mitigation and adaptation

- What are the carbon mitigation and adaptation co-benefits produced by a range of potential blue carbon targets?
- Where should policies and actions be prioritized to provide a rich combination of co-benefits?



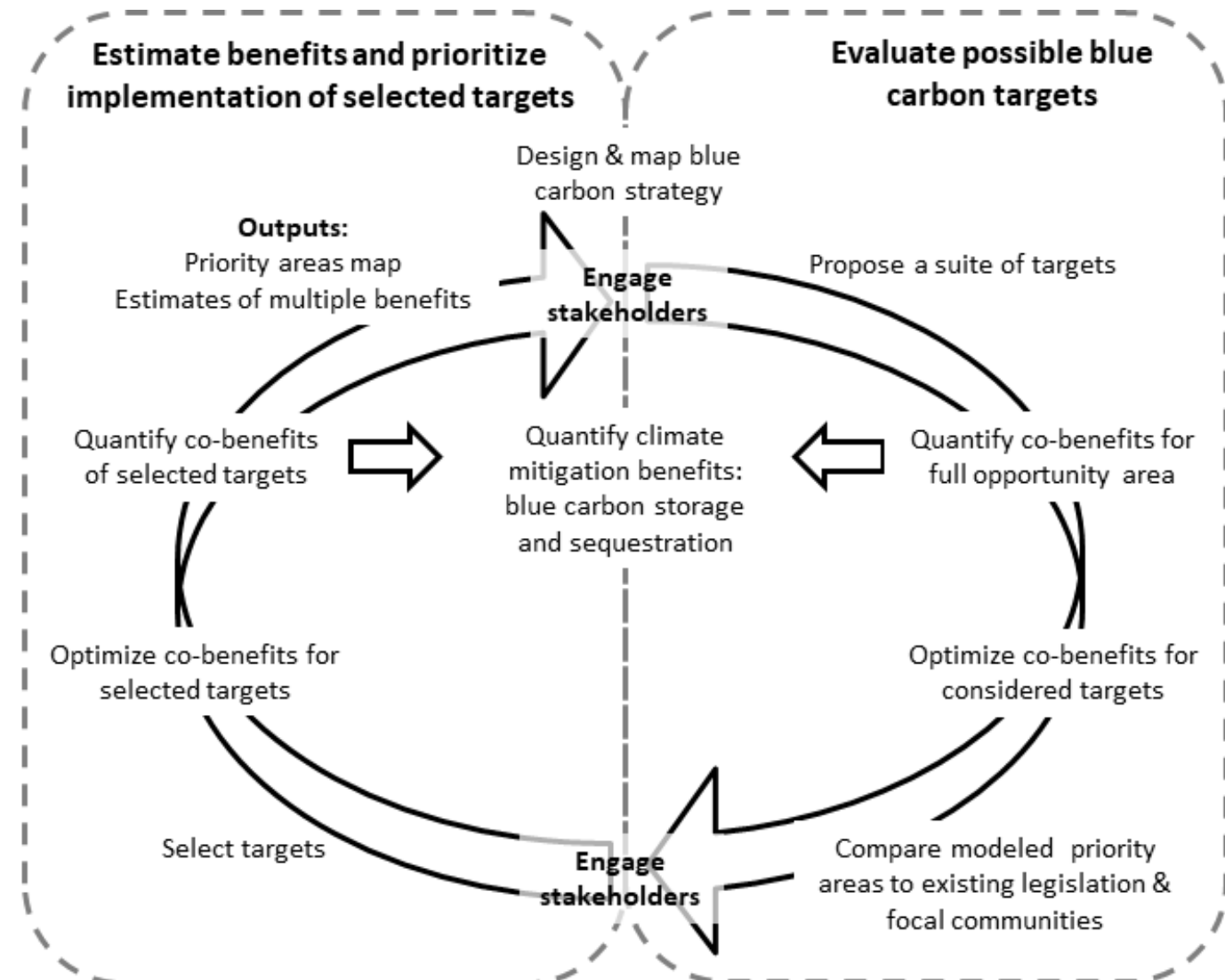


# Iteration of engagement and modeling



## InVEST

integrated valuation of  
ecosystem services  
and tradeoffs

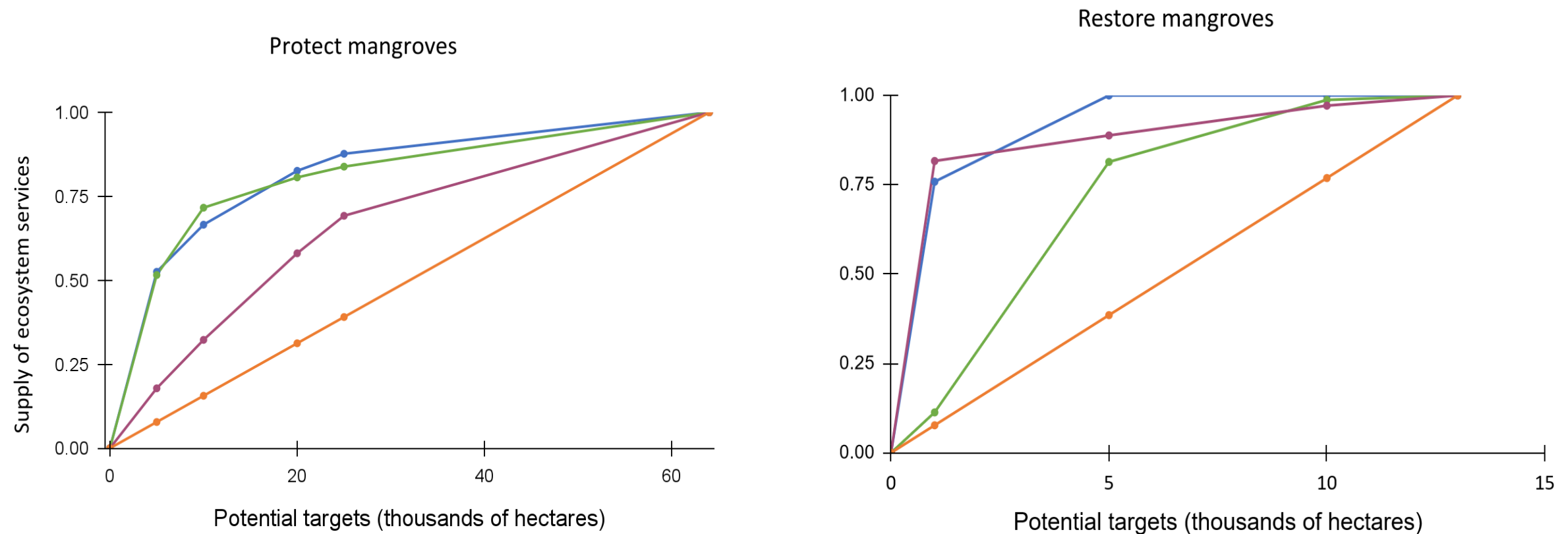


- In situ engagement
- Participatory mapping
- Communicate how community inputs integrated into process



# Management relevant results - carbon and co-benefits

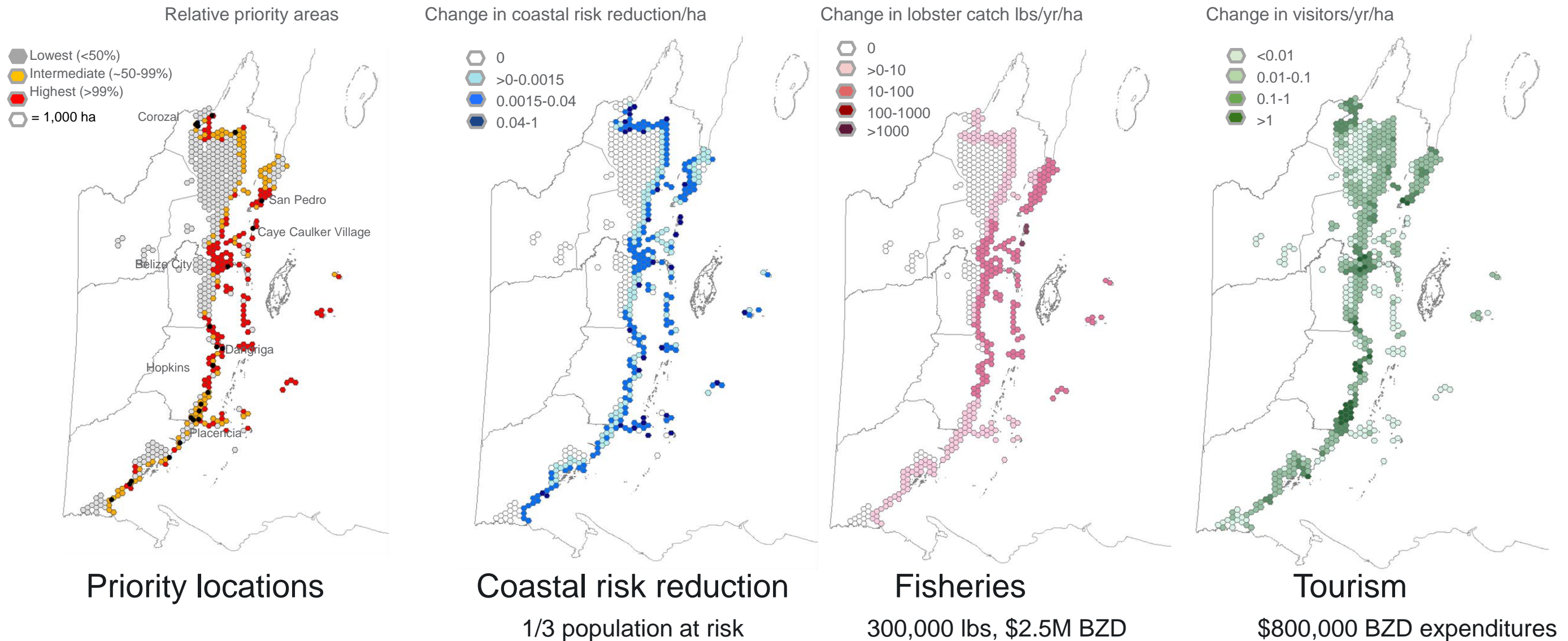
*Increases in carbon benefits with larger investments in mangroves, while fisheries, tourism, and coastal risk reduction co-benefits grow initially and then plateau.*



Carbon —●— Tourism —●— Fisheries —●— Coastal Risk Reduction —●—

# Management relevant results - change in co-benefits for selected mangrove protection target

*Results show where greatest co-benefits would be realized for least area of investment and highlight spatial variation among services.*

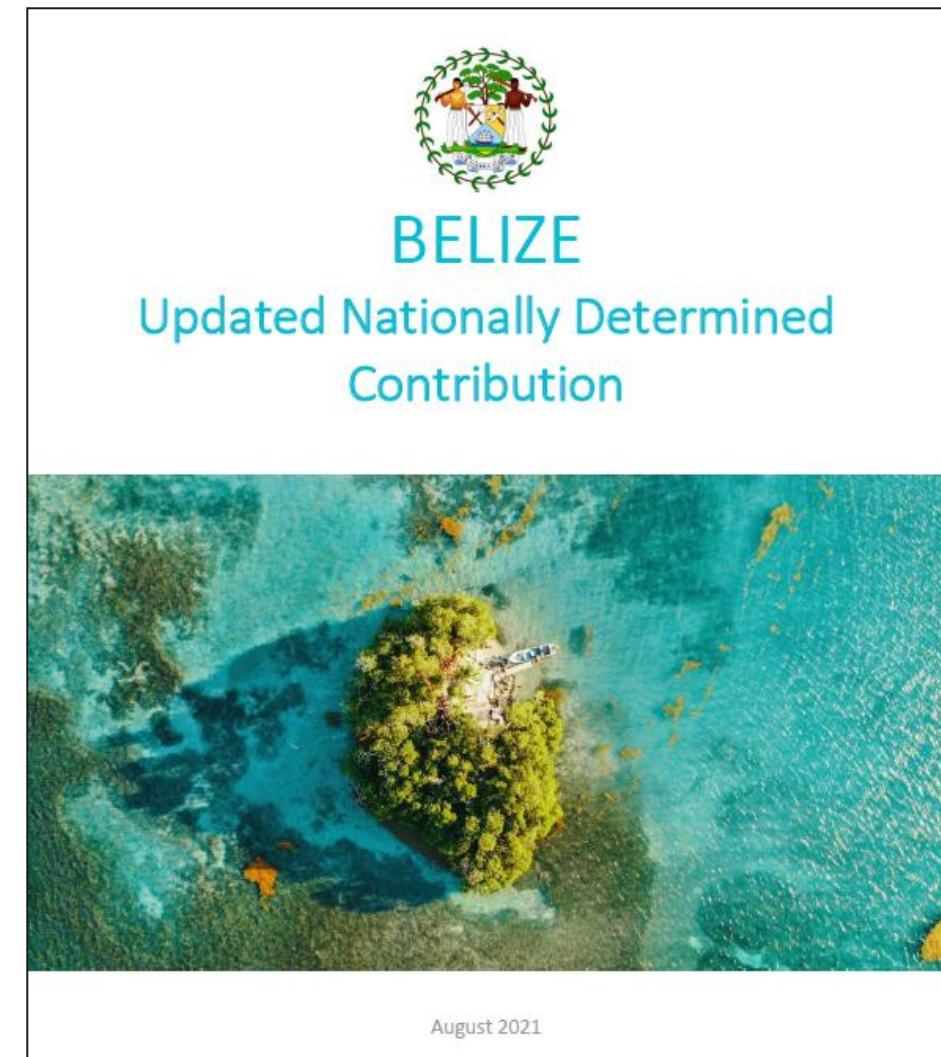




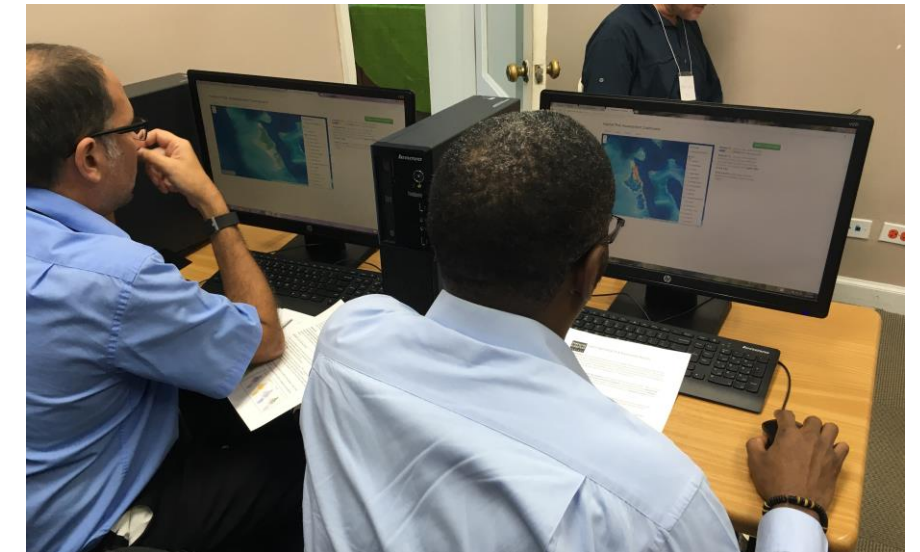
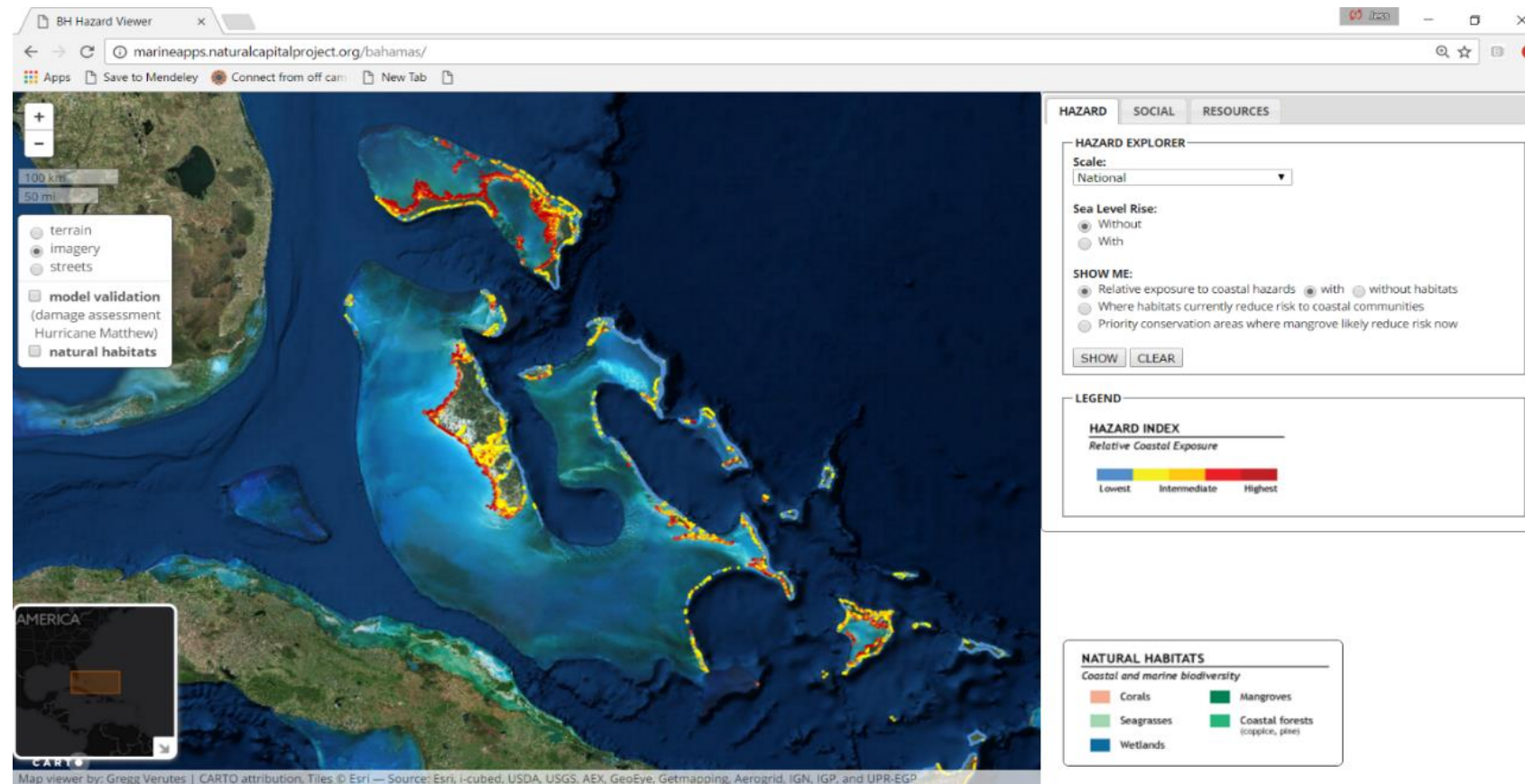
## Policy outcomes informed by research - Selected targets submitted in updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

### 2 time-bound targets for blue carbon

- 1) Protection of 12,000 ha of mangroves beyond existing protected areas by 2030.
- 2) Restoration of at least 4,000 ha of mangroves by 2030.



# Capacity building through simple online tools





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## Renewable energy transitions in remote coastal and island communities

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# Renewable energy transition – Bainbridge Island, WA

## City of Bainbridge Island, WA

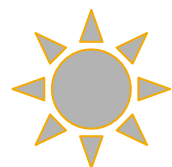
- 100% Renewable Energy by 2040
- Increased Energy Resilience for Emergencies and Climate Change

Analyze pathways to 100% renewable energy and explore and develop options for increasing energy resilience in the face of natural hazards.

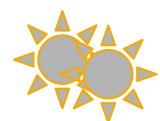




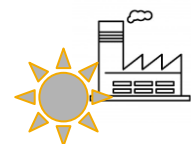
# Pathways to 100% Renewable Energy



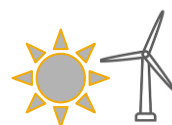
**#1 - City-led solar on-island** - City properties are developed for solar then City shares lessons learned, sparks interest, and explores incentive programs to engage other public entities to install solar.



**#2 - Community-led solar on-island** - All reasonable public and private properties are developed for solar in the near term.



**#3 - Solar + Waste-Energy + Buy the rest** - All reasonable city properties are developed for solar. An anaerobic biodigester to match existing waste stream is installed. Additional power needed to meet goals is purchased.

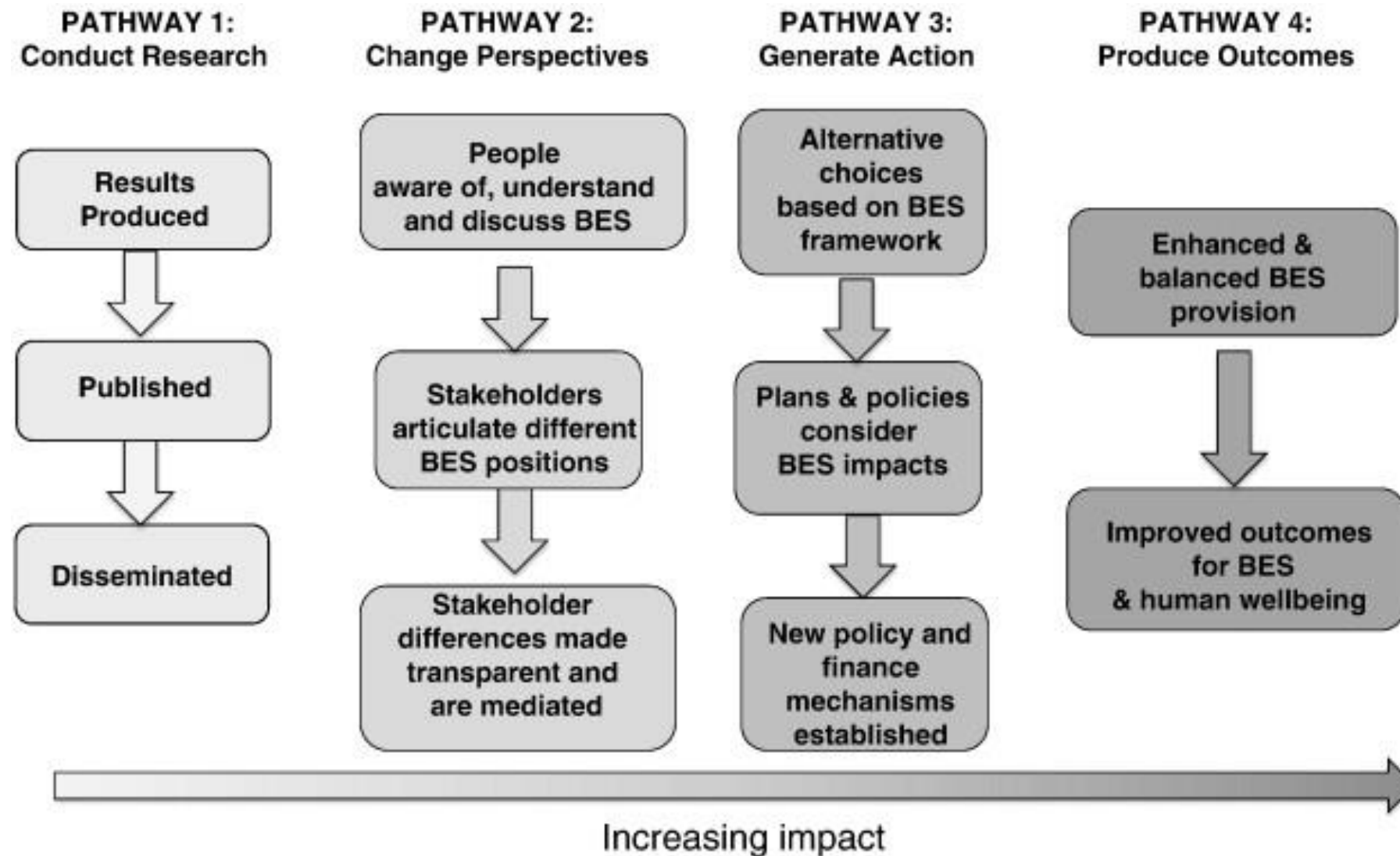


**#4 - Solar + Small scale wind + Buy the rest** - All reasonable city properties are developed for solar. The permitting process for one wind turbine is started. Additional power needed to meet goals is purchased.



**#5 - Solar + Tidal energy + Buy the rest** - All reasonable city properties are developed for solar. The permitting process for one marine energy converter is started. Additional power needed to meet goals is purchased.

# Impact of co-designed social-ecological research





# Challenges, successes, and future co-produced research

- Invest in iteration and long-term relationships
- Advance qualitative and quantitative scenario development
- Explore multiple, interdisciplinary outcomes that resonate with diverse audiences
- Support capacity building for communities, scientists, and decision-makers