

# Emerging trends in modelling integrated urban water systems

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CRC for  
Water Sensitive Cities



An Australian Government Initiative



# Integrated Urban Water Management

*by managing the urban water cycle as a whole; a more efficient use of resources can be achieved providing not only economic benefits but also improved social and environmental outcomes*

*Wikipedia*



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# Water Management in Cities of the Future

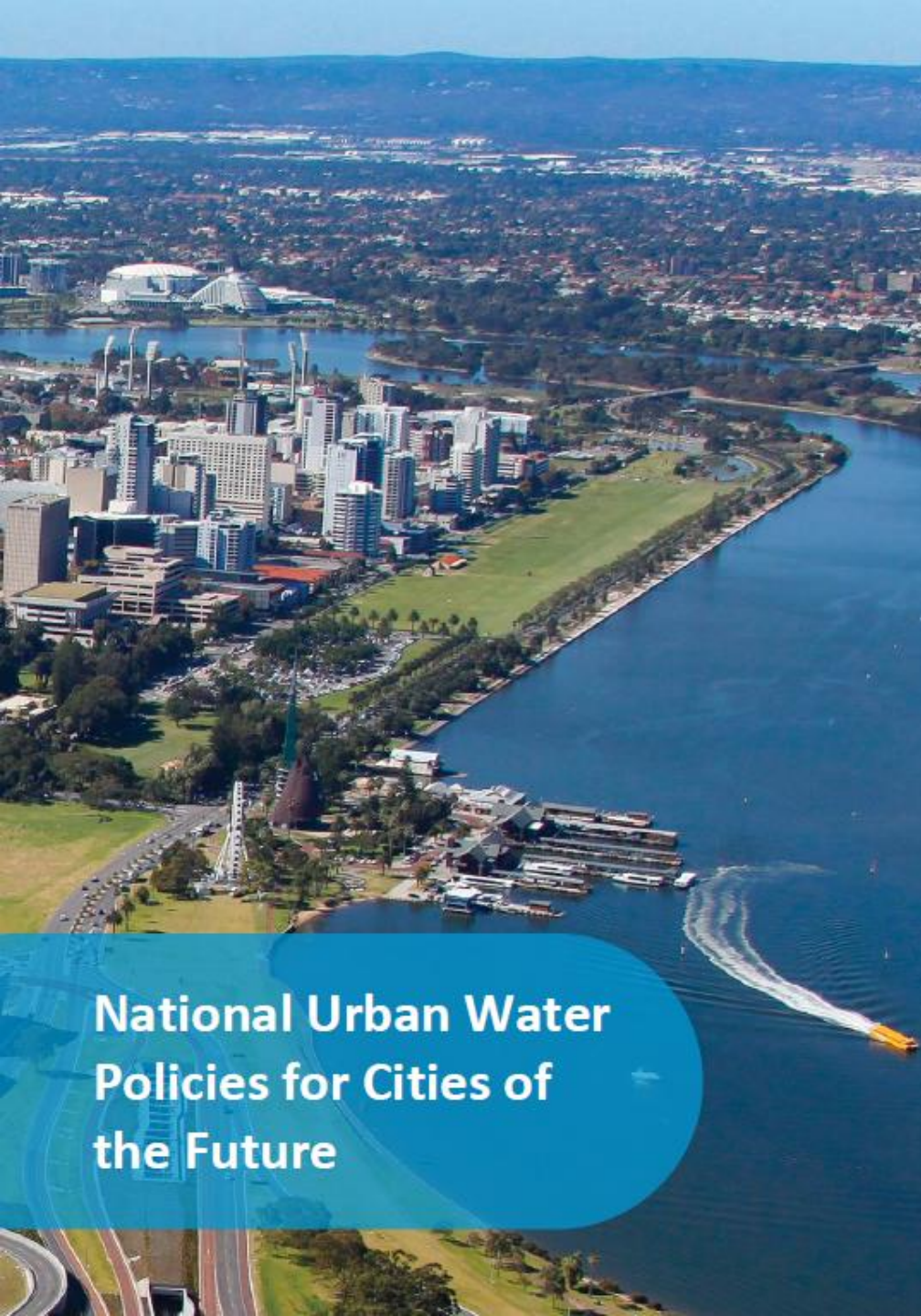
## - A vision for water sensitive cities

*Water sensitive cities are resilient, liveable, productive and sustainable.*

*They: efficiently use the diversity of water resources available within towns and cities; enhance and protect the health of urban waterways and wetlands; and mitigate against flood risk and damage.*

*They also create public spaces that harvest, clean and recycle water, increase biodiversity and reduce urban heat island effects.*





## National Urban Water Policies for Cities of the Future

The transformation of urban water systems from a focus on water supply and wastewater disposal (the ‘taps and toilets’ water utilities) to more complex, flexible systems that:-

- ✦ integrate various sources of water;
- ✦ operate through a combination of centralised and decentralised systems;
- ✦ deliver a wider range of services to communities (e.g. ecosystem services, urban heat mitigation); and
- ✦ integrate into urban design.



**Emerging trends in**

# **Integrated Urban Water Management**

*our ability to incorporate the socio-technical interplay of urban water systems will determine the significance of our traditional modelling capabilities in influencing the transformation of cities into resilient, liveable and sustainable places*



# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

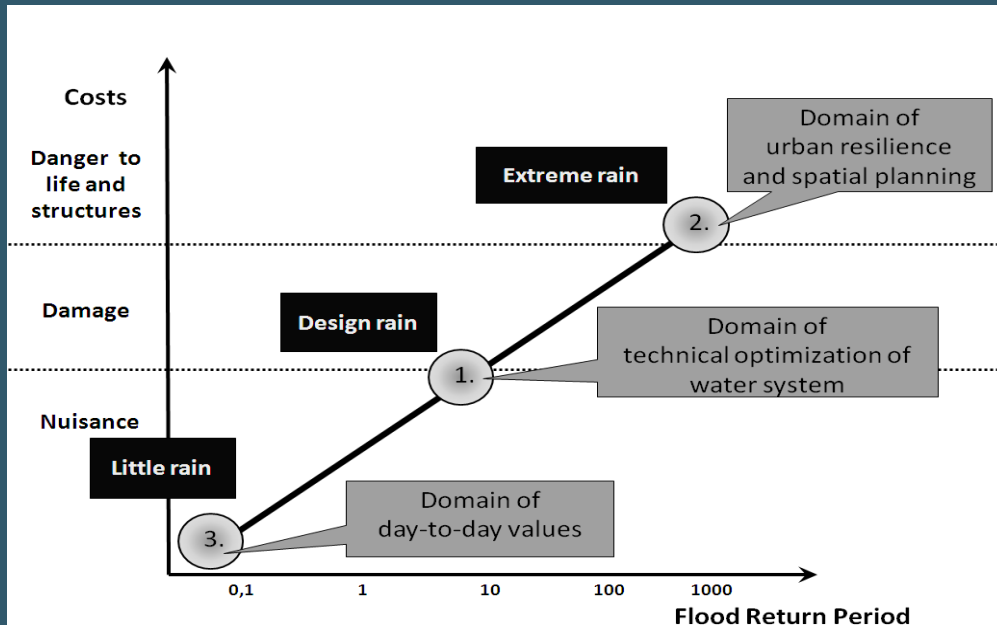
- The emergence of new performance indices
- Simulating the influence of socio-technical dynamics
- Capturing uncertainties
- Revisiting the concept of optimisation

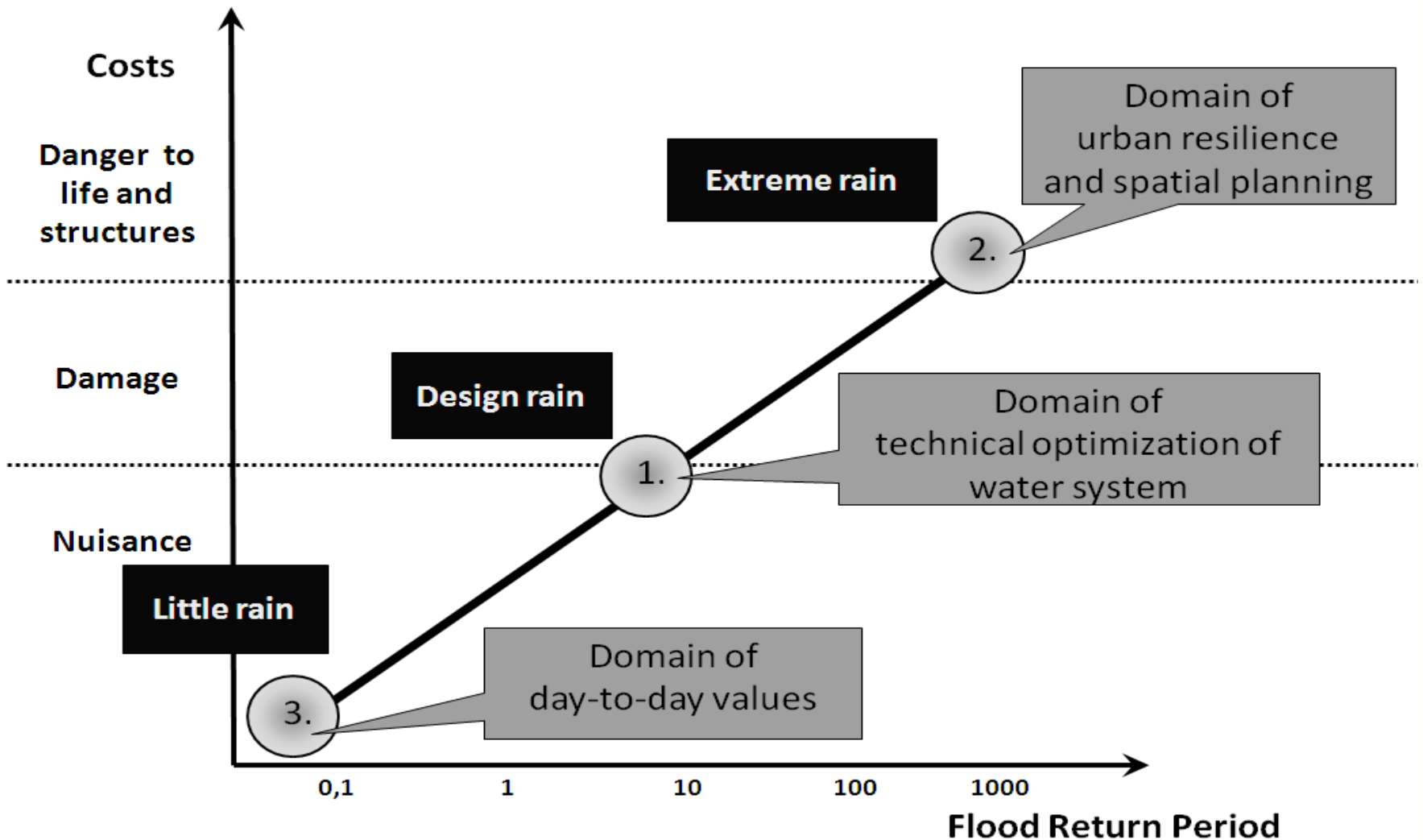


# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

- The emergence of new performance indices

- Simulating the influence of non-technical dynamics during uncertainties in the concept of urbanisation



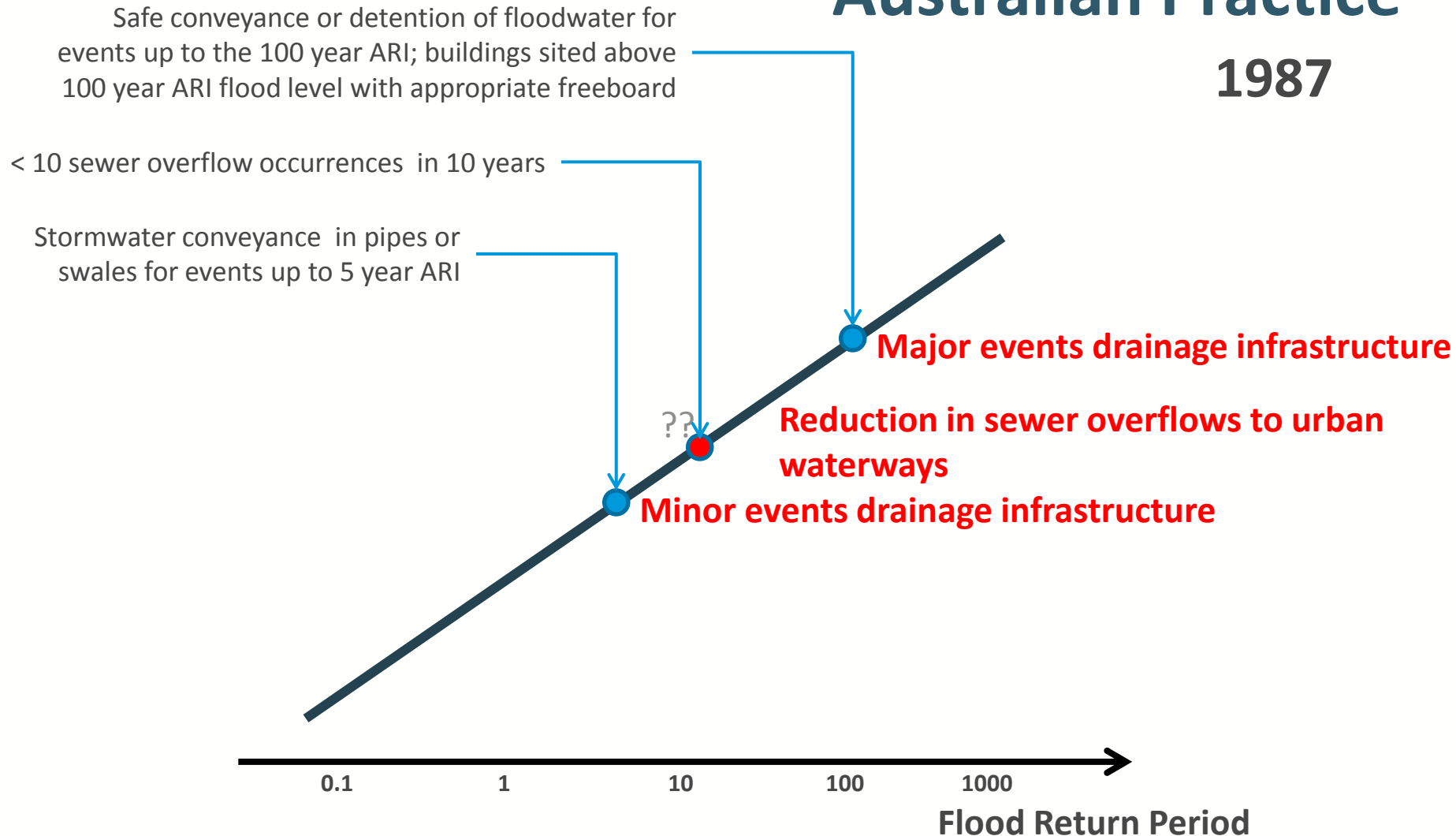


C.F. Fratini, G.D. Geldof, J. Kluck and P.S. Mikkelsen (2012): Three Points Approach (3PA) for urban flood risk management: A tool to support climate change adaptation through transdisciplinarity and multifunctionality. *Urban Water Journal*. Open Access. DOI:10.1080/1573062X.2012.668913



# Australian Practice

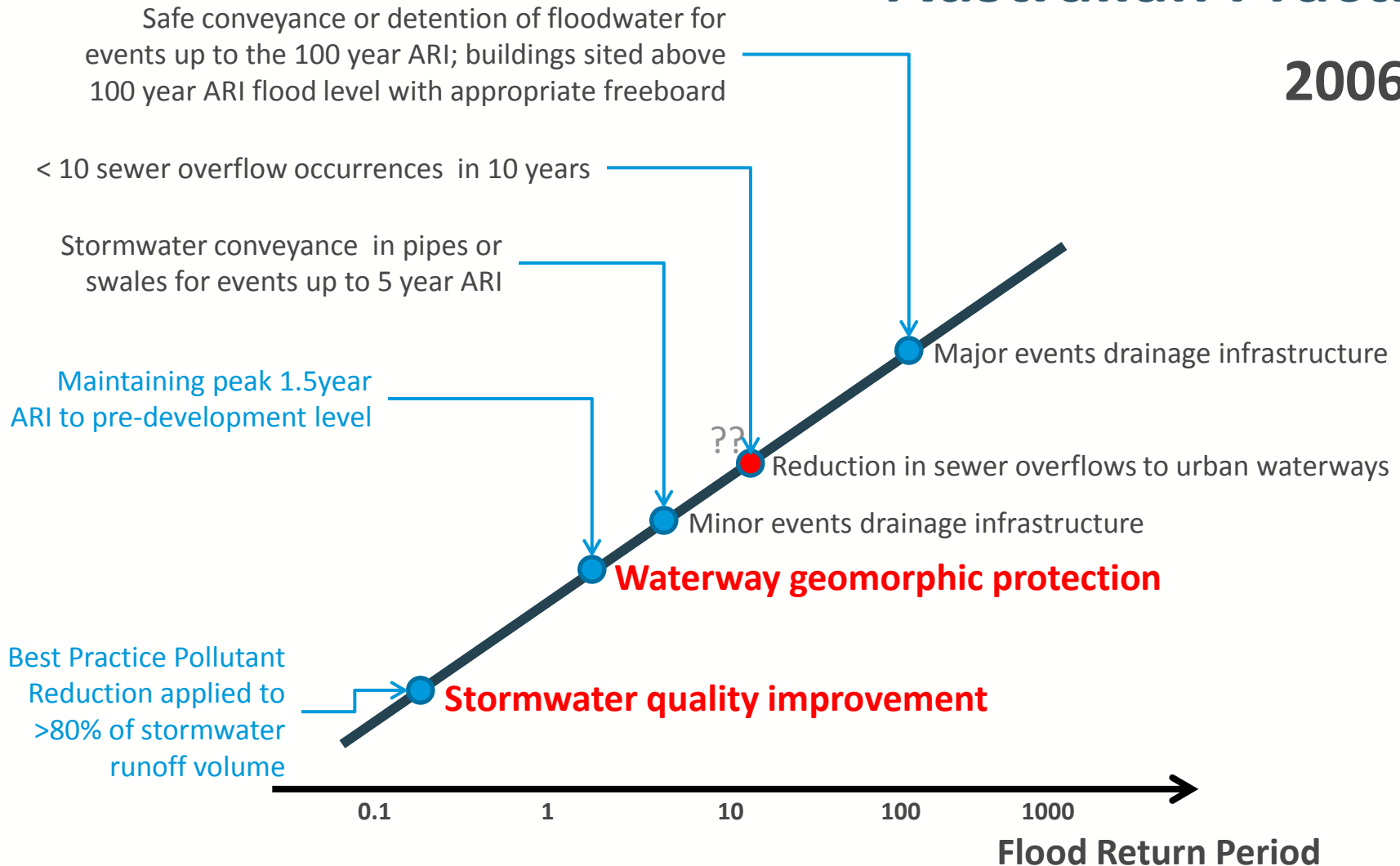
1987



Institution of Engineers Australia (1987), Australian Rainfall and Runoff: A guide to flood estimation, D H Pilgrim (ed).

# Australian Practice

2006

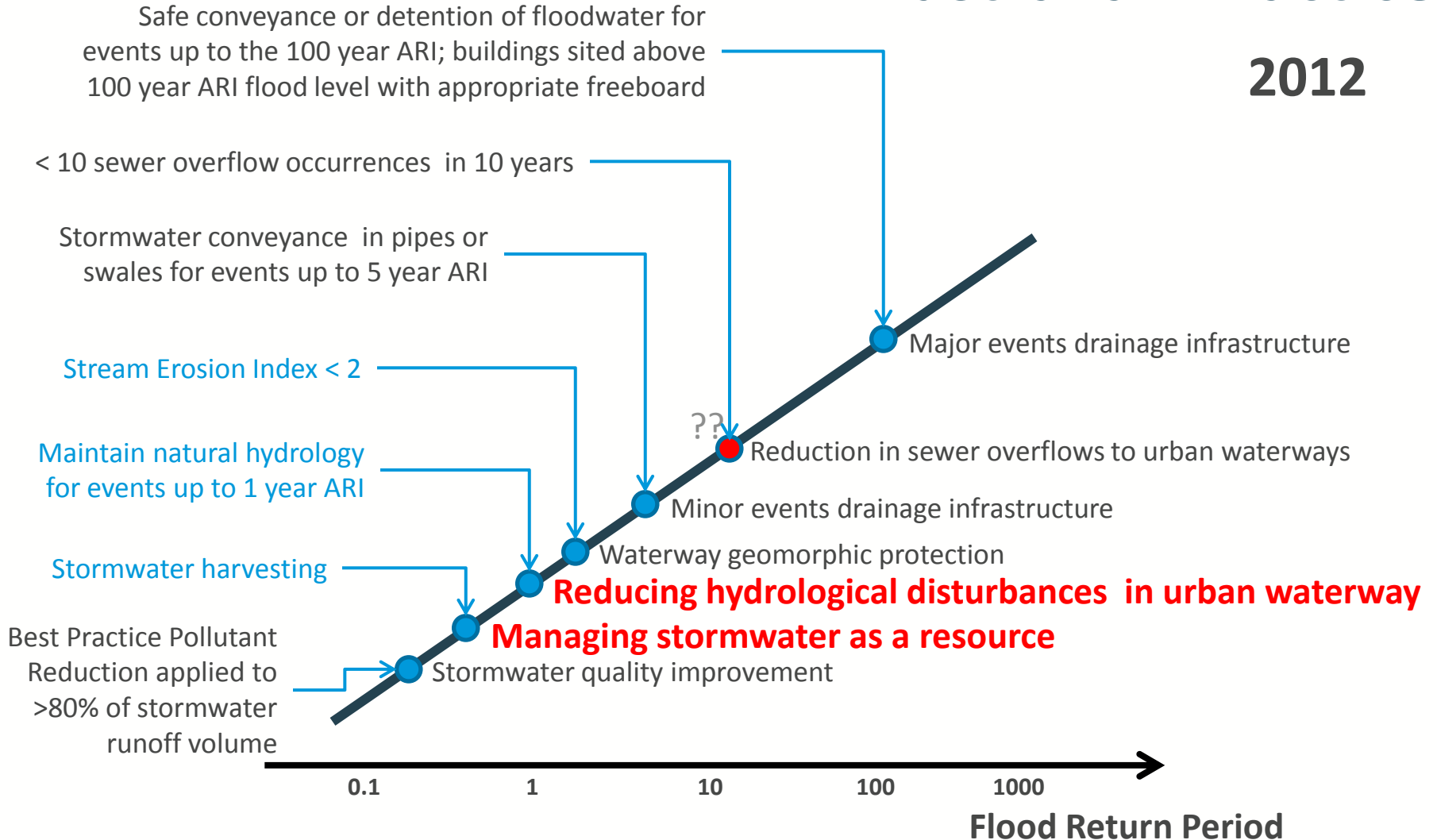


Victorian Stormwater Committee (2006), Urban Stormwater Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines, CSIRO Publishing, ISBN 0 643 06453 2, 320p, May 2006.

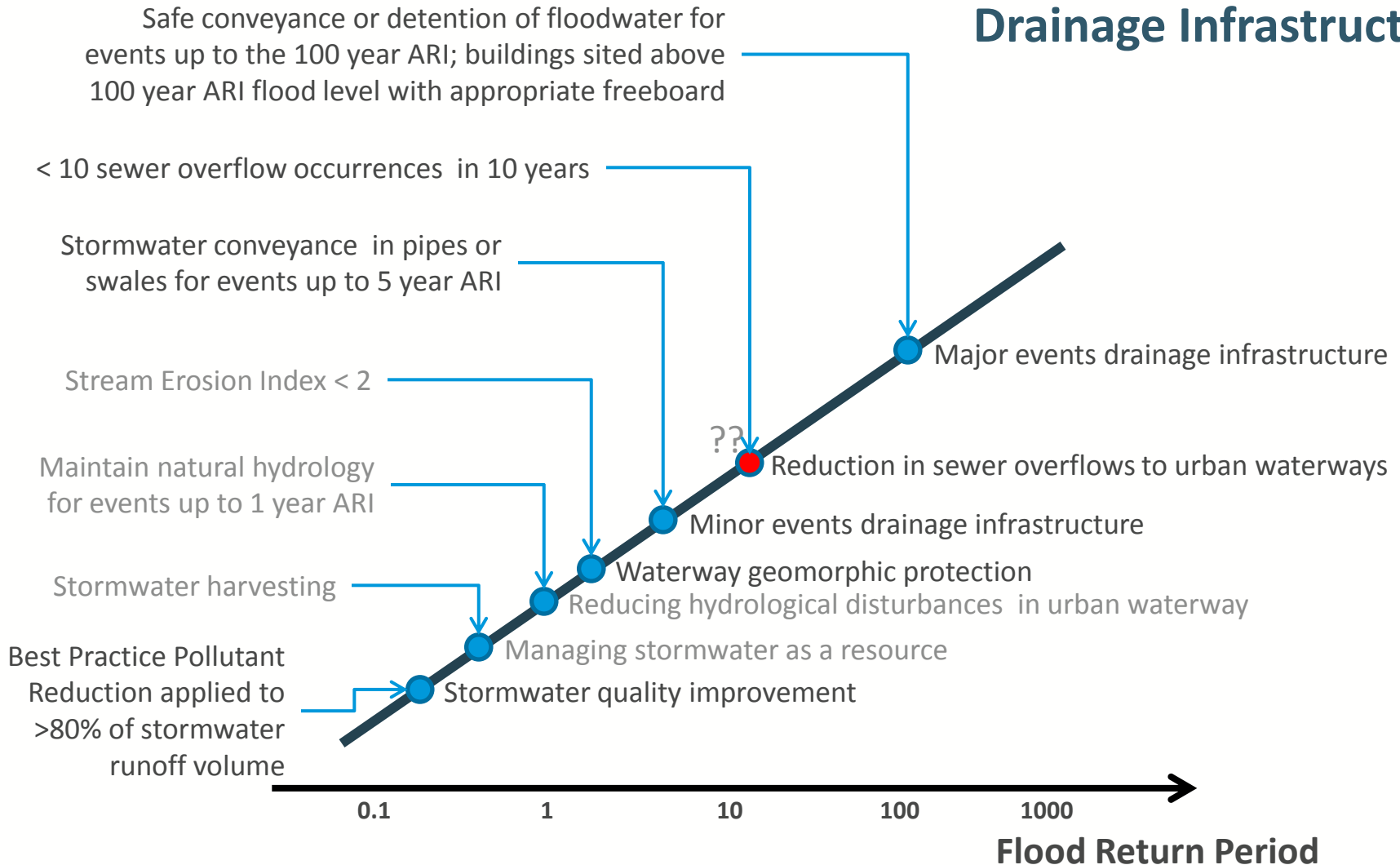


# Australian Practice

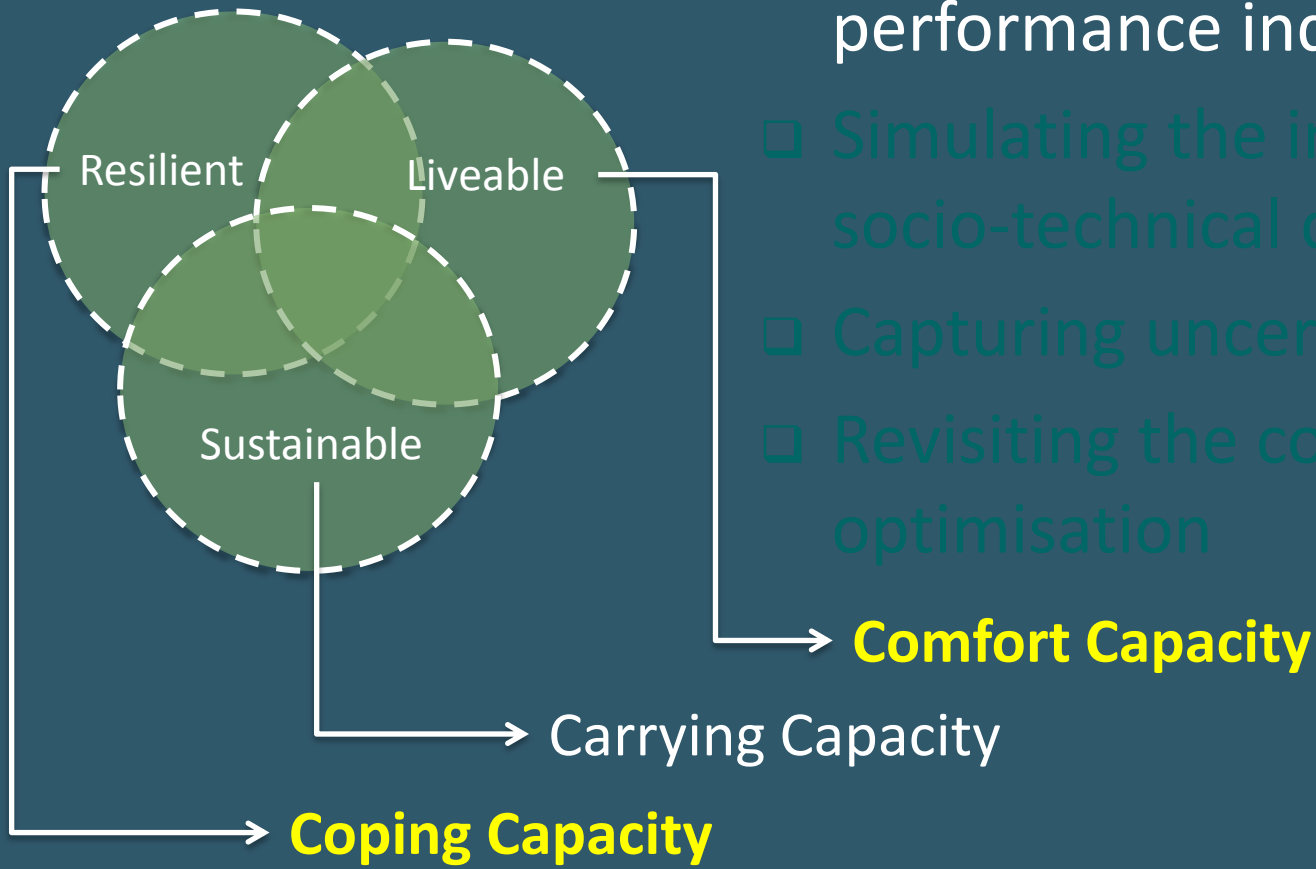
2012



# Multiple Hydrologic and Hydraulic Design Objectives for Drainage Infrastructure



# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios



- The emergence of new performance indices
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# Linking Urban Water Management and Urban Liveability



Science-Policy Partnership  
for Water Sensitive Cities

## *Liveability and the Water Sensitive City*

Phillip Johnstone, Rachelle Adamowicz, Fjalar J. de Haan,  
Briony Ferguson and Tony Wong

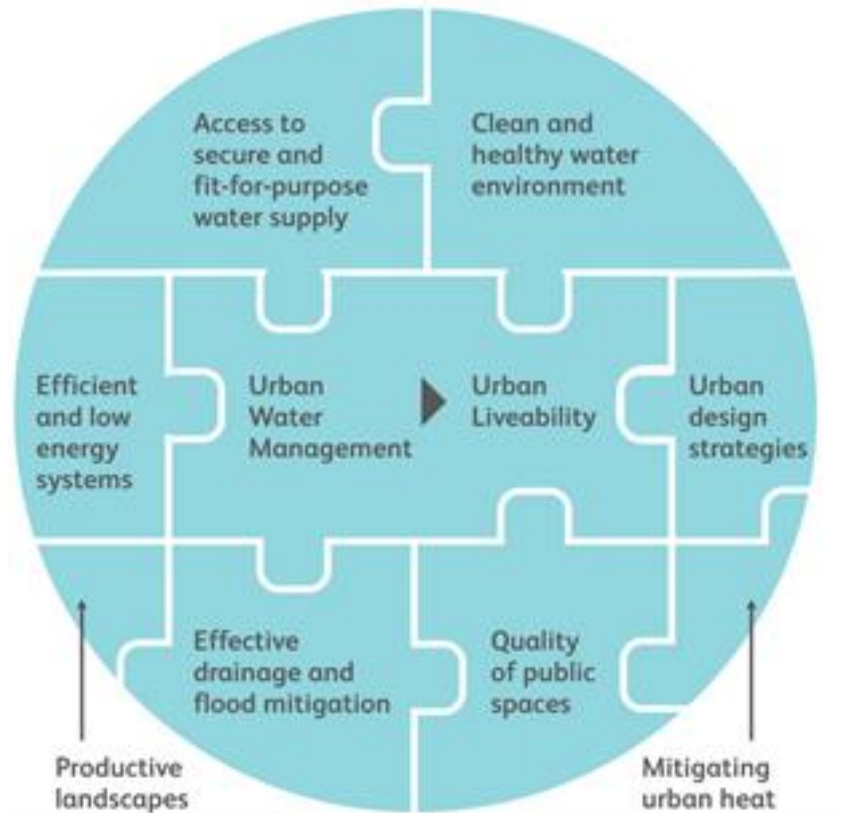
Monash Water for Liveability & Victorian Government Department of  
Sustainability and Environment

August 2012

Johnstone, P., Adamowicz, R., de Haan, F., Ferguson, B. and  
Wong, T. (2012), *Liveability and the Water Sensitive City*,  
Monash University, ISBN 978-1-921912-12-2, July 2012



Figure 5: Linking Urban Water Management to Urban Liveability<sup>12</sup>



# Linking Urban Water Management and Urban Liveability

Wong, T., Allen, R., Brown, R., Deletic, A., Griggs, D., Hodyl, L., McIlrath, B., Montebello, T., Smith, L. (2011), Transitioning to a resilient, liveable and sustainable greater Melbourne (localised case studies), report prepared for the Living Victoria Ministerial Advisory Council, March 2011

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## Effective Drainage & Flood Mitigation

- ❑ Future cities would incorporate into its **urban planning and design of appropriate land uses in accordance to the three-tiered approach of retreat, adapt and defend** against future flood vulnerability.
- ❑ A water sensitive city would establish **a network of blue and green open spaces and corridors to serve as an integral element of the city's drainage infrastructure** and floodway for flood conveyance during rare (low probability) storm occurrences.





## Urban design strategy

- ❑ Parklands, green waterways, structures and buildings are ‘**green infrastructure**’ that emphasise the important role that vegetation (and therefore water and irrigation) plays in urban environments.
- ❑ Access to alternative **fit-for-purpose water sources provides an additional and abundant source of water to allow the greening of cities.**



## The quality of public spaces

- ❑ Urban water systems designed in urban environments to **incorporate means of enhancing social engagement and cultural expression**
- ❑ Public spaces to include the **celebration of water** in urban environments with art features that respond to water availability and seasonality, and the establishment of biodiversity terrestrial and aquatic corridors.



## Mitigating urban heat

- ❑ **Climate responsive designs** will have a positive effect on human health. Urban heat mitigating design responses should place particular emphasis on the strategic implementation of WSUD technologies and green infrastructure.
- ❑ Green infrastructure supported by such **design principles of keeping water in the landscapes and promoting lush and well-irrigated vegetation** can provide microclimate benefits by reducing excess urban heating (through shading, and cooling by evapotranspiration) and limit human exposure to extreme heat.



# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

- The emergence of new performance indices
- Simulating the influence of socio-technical dynamics
- Capturing uncertainties

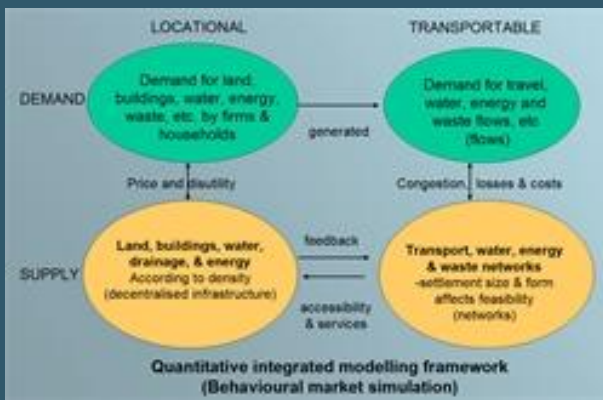
*Stormwater runoff is generated across distributed areas and therefore presents the best opportunity for green infrastructure be distributed throughout the urban area for effective realisation of multiple benefit outcomes*



# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

## ReVISIONS

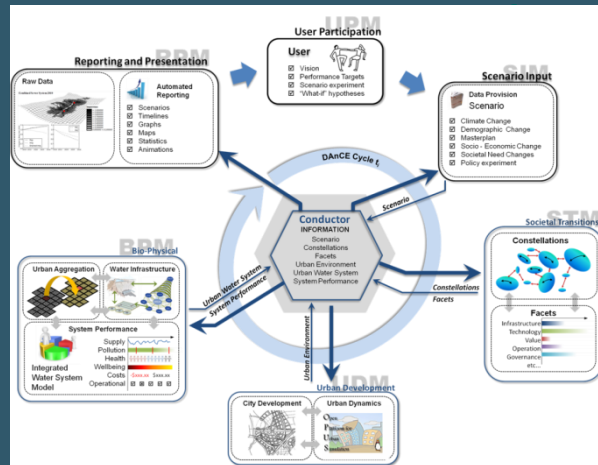
Regional Visions of Integrated Sustainable Infrastructure Optimised for Neighbourhoods



- The emergence of new performance indices
- Simulating the influence of socio-technical dynamics

## DAnCE4Water

Dynamic Adaptation for enabling City Evolution for Water

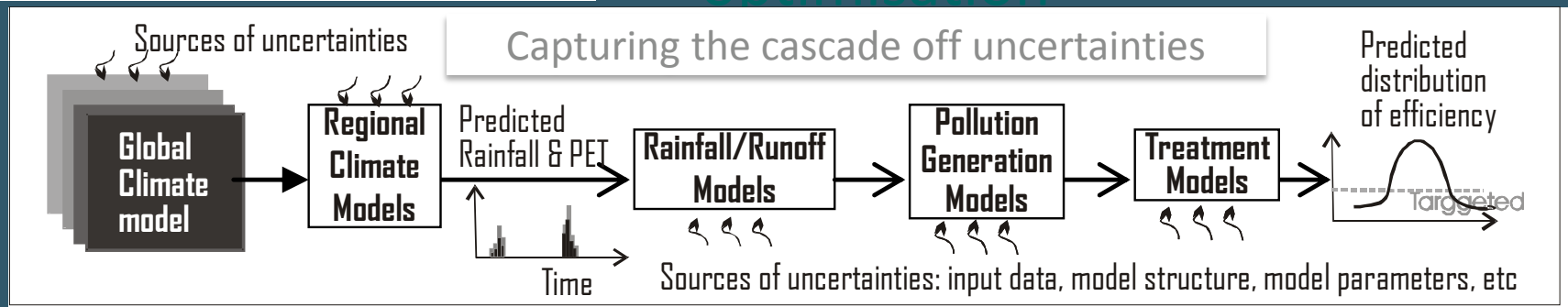


# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

THERE ARE KNOWN KNOWNNS  
THERE ARE THINGS THAT WE KNOW THAT WE KNOW, THERE ARE  
**KNOWN UNKNOWNNS**  
THAT IS TO SAY, THERE ARE  
THINGS THAT WE NOW KNOW WE DON'T KNOW  
BUT THERE ARE ALSO  
**UNKNOWN UNKNOWNNS**  
THERE ARE THINGS  
**WE DO NOT KNOW**  
**WE DON'T KNOW**  
AND EACH YEAR WE DISCOVER  
A FEW MORE OF THOSE  
**UNKNOWN**  
**UNKNOWNNS**

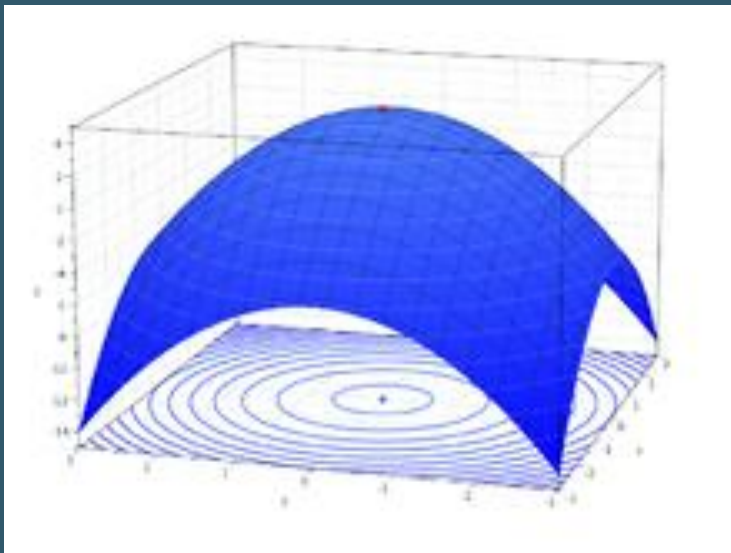
Tim Curtis 2011

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# Multiple drivers, Multiple criteria & Multiple scenarios

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# conclusions

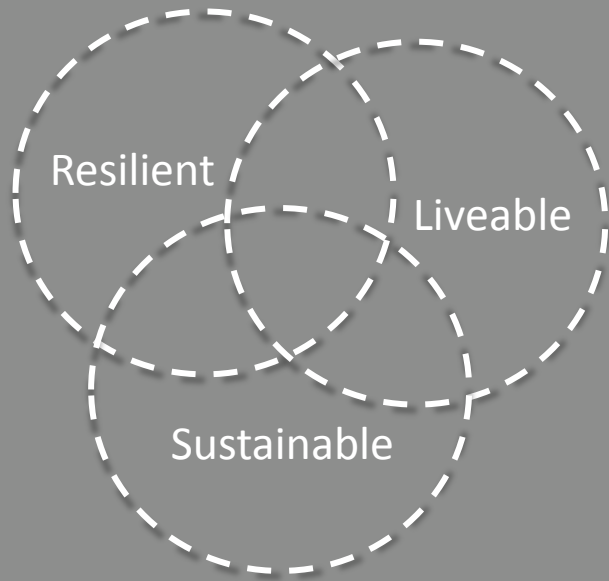
## Integrated urban water management

- ❑ the emergence of hybrid centralised/decentralised infrastructure and green infrastructure
- ❑ water management for multiple benefits that include enhancing urban liveability
- ❑ solutions are distributed throughout the urban area for effective realisation of multiple benefit outcomes
- ❑ strategies need to be adaptive to the socio-technical dynamics of urban growth, expanding integration and changing priorities of management objectives





# conclusions



*our ability to incorporate the socio-technical interplay of urban water systems will determine the significance of our traditional modelling capabilities in influencing the transformation of cities into resilient, liveable and sustainable places*