

SEGRA

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Economic Development in a
Dynamic, Connected and Contested World
Frameworks, Theories and Practice

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KEY THEMES OF THIS PAPER

SYSTEMS

- Understanding context, conditions and causality
- “This/and” thinking
- Applying theory and tools to design, intervene, monitor & evaluate
- Integrating – a place for all of the pieces

PERSPECTIVES

- People, values and culture - tensions
- Place
- Activity

DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS

DEVELOPMENT NARRATIVE

Sustainable Economic Development

In reality a balance of -

- Retaining;
- Adapting – performance and productivity;
- Creating economic activity

Fit to Market – Fit to Place – Fit to Time

Sub system of Regional Development

- Short to long run perspectives
- Socio- technical approach
- Triple bottom line principles

QUESTION - HOW DO WE THINK ABOUT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN

In a world that is increasingly & more rapidly

- Dynamic;
- Connected; and
- Contested.

WHERE

- Government, Science and Specialists are losing authority
- Policy and Regulation are left behind
- Explicit tensions between values and “Social License” is in the ascendancy

Answer - Differently!!

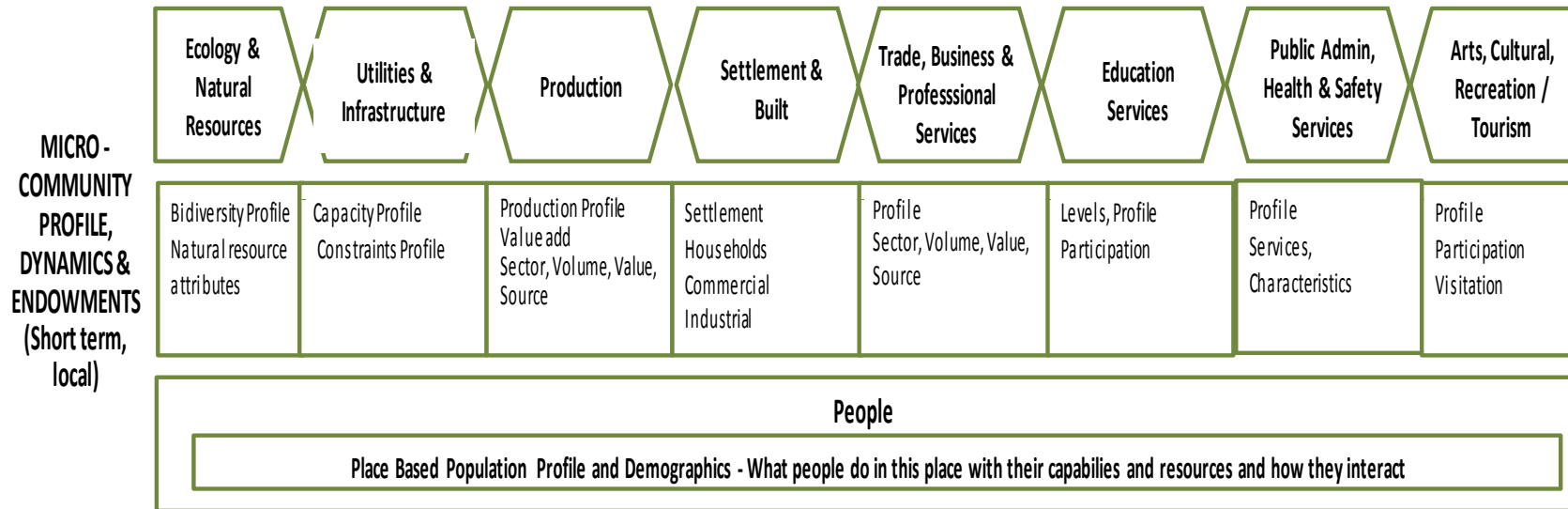
PRINCIPLES

At the end of the day it's about people;

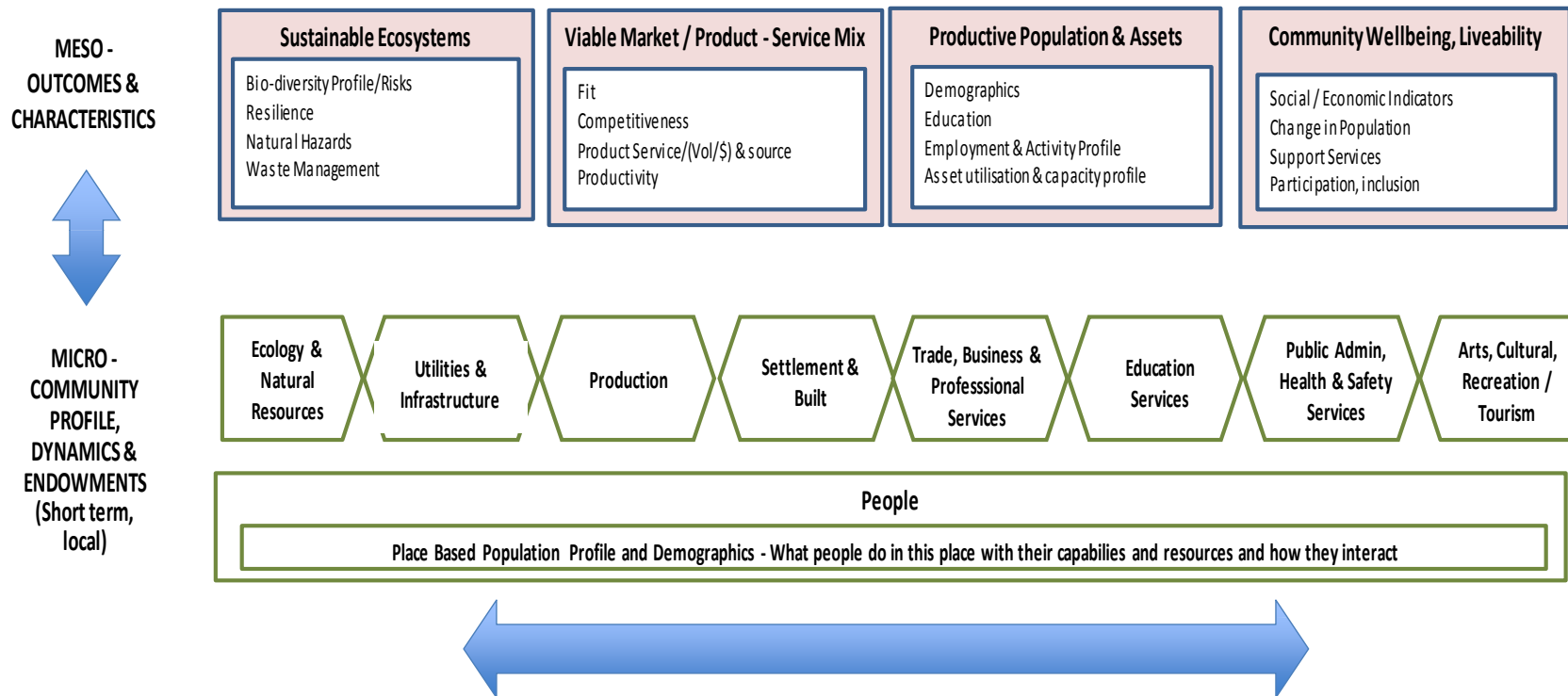
- Culturally relevant
- Socio-technical approach
- Engaging and reflexive
- Multi-dimensional and Multi-perspective

APPROACH.....

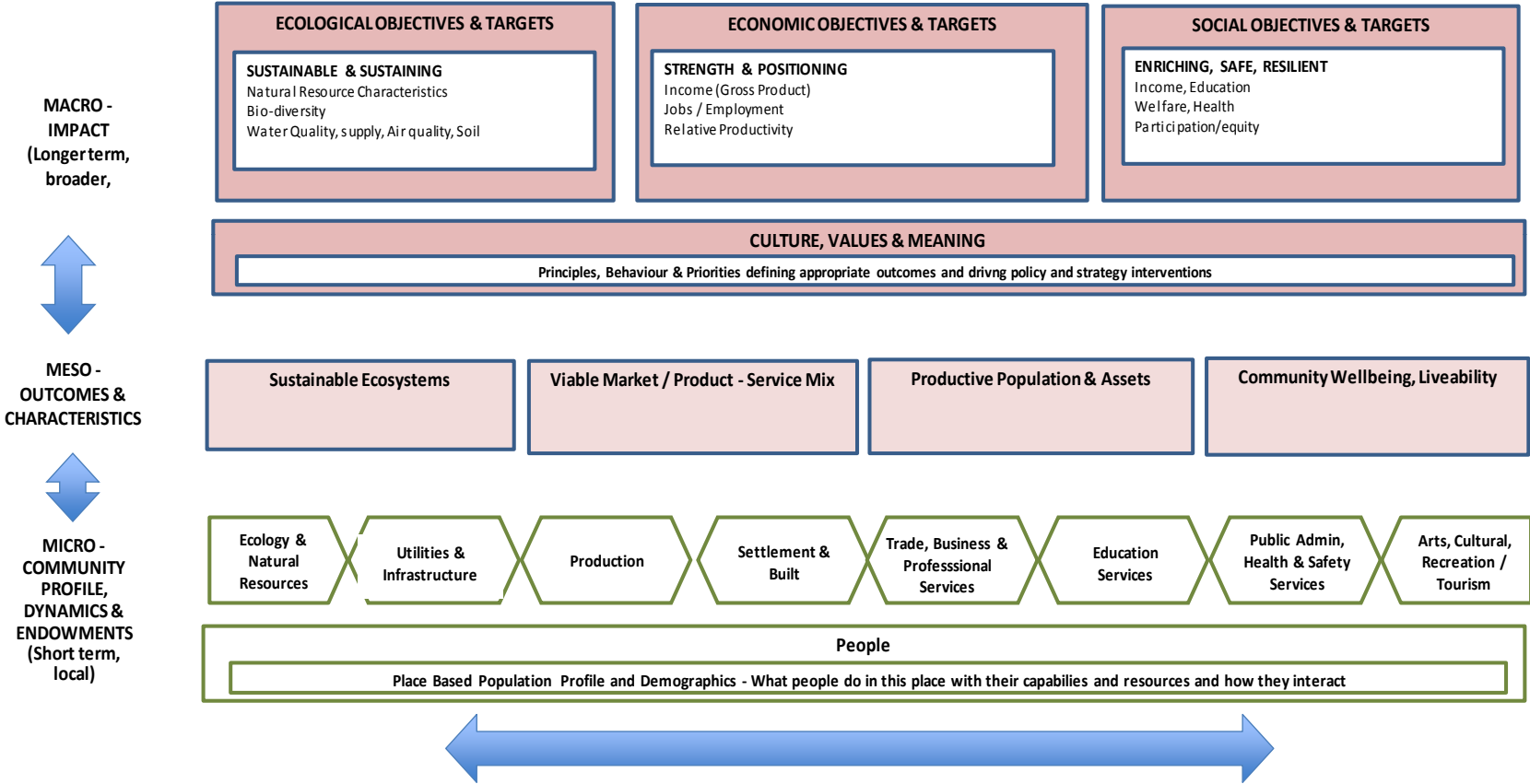
1. - WHAT'S HAPPENING "ON THE GROUND" & WHY?



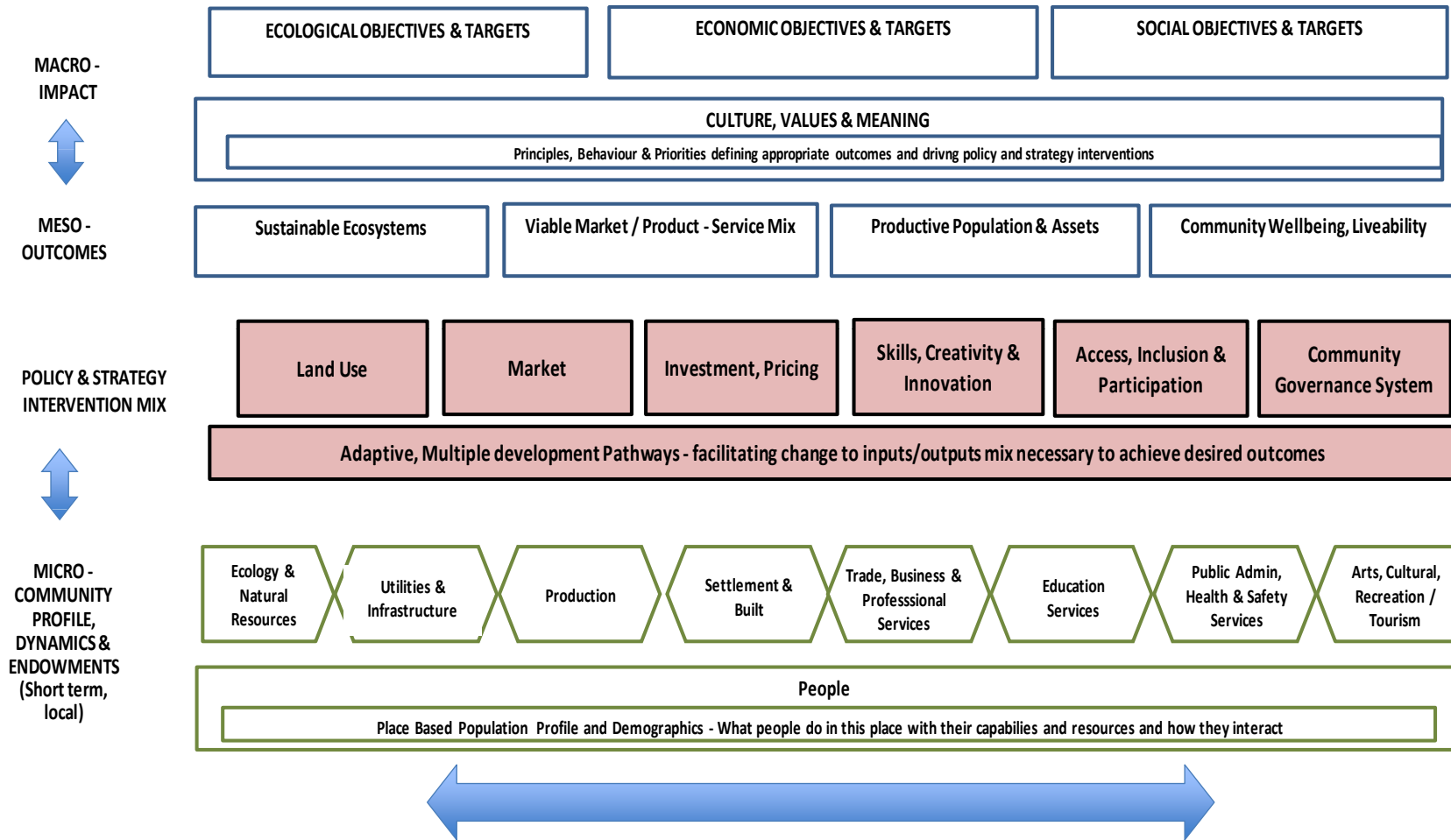
2. - WHAT OUTCOMES ARE BEING ACHIEVED?



3. - ON WHAT BASIS DO WE JUDGE THE OUTCOMES ACHIEVED AND SOUGHT?



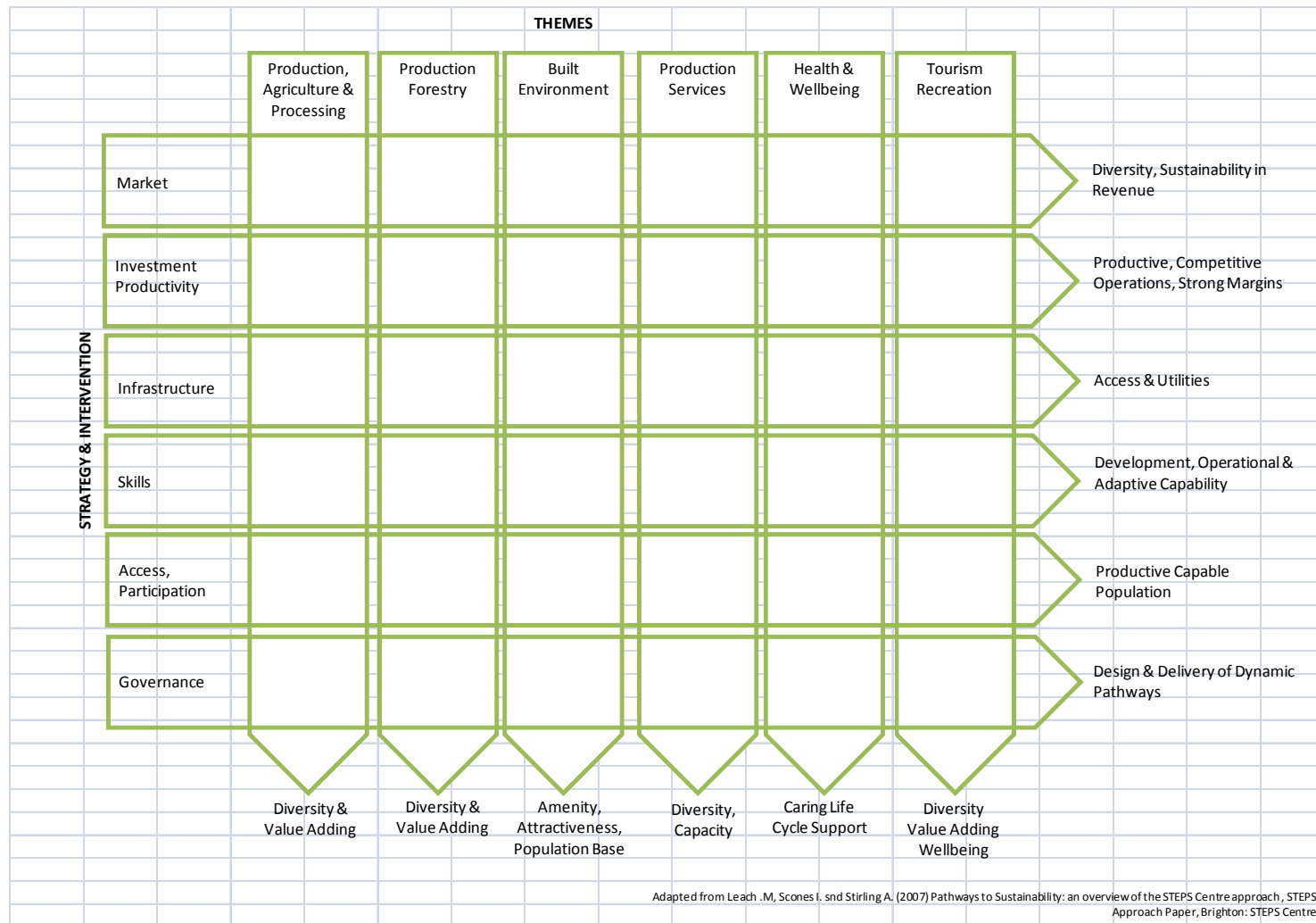
4. HOW WE INTERVENE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?



By framing the Context we can

- Identify the condition/current state (inc trends and shocks) – knowledge not just reductionist information
- Understand the cause/effect relationships
- Map interests and values; multiple perspectives & theory
- Values overlay – problem, opportunity or sleeper?
- Identify Gaps
- Combine & model lay and evidence based knowledge
- Engage & focus people
- Design Development Pathways
- Evaluate and adapt

DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS



SYSTEMS THINKING

Applied and contributing to results in

- Regional development
- Industry development
- Sector/Enterprise development
- Initiative benefit/cost analysis
- Intervention mix modeling

Critically it reflects and fits concept of PLACE & PEOPLE!!

SYSTEMS THINKING AND THEORY

Creates a context within which to apply theory

From an economists perspective – knowledge rather than data

Mix of quantitative and qualitative

PLACE BASED POSITIONING and POLICY NARRATIVE

DEVELOPMENT NARRATIVE

They who control the discourse WIN.

Need to be seen as legitimate, authoritative;

Clear, engaging message always on song

Deliberative approaches leading to

Recognition – Momentum - Adaptation

CONCLUSIONS


- Economic development approaches need to match the context
- Operate in a complex adaptive system, should be thought about and managed as such
- Not just technical
- Multiple perspectives & dimensions – a frame in which to fit “all of the bits” adds value
- Need for a relevant, engaging, evidence based narrative and discourse
- **THIS IS OUR CHALLENGE**

Practice based approach, tested and enhanced through my PhD work

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