

# Scenario Planning Introduction & Examples



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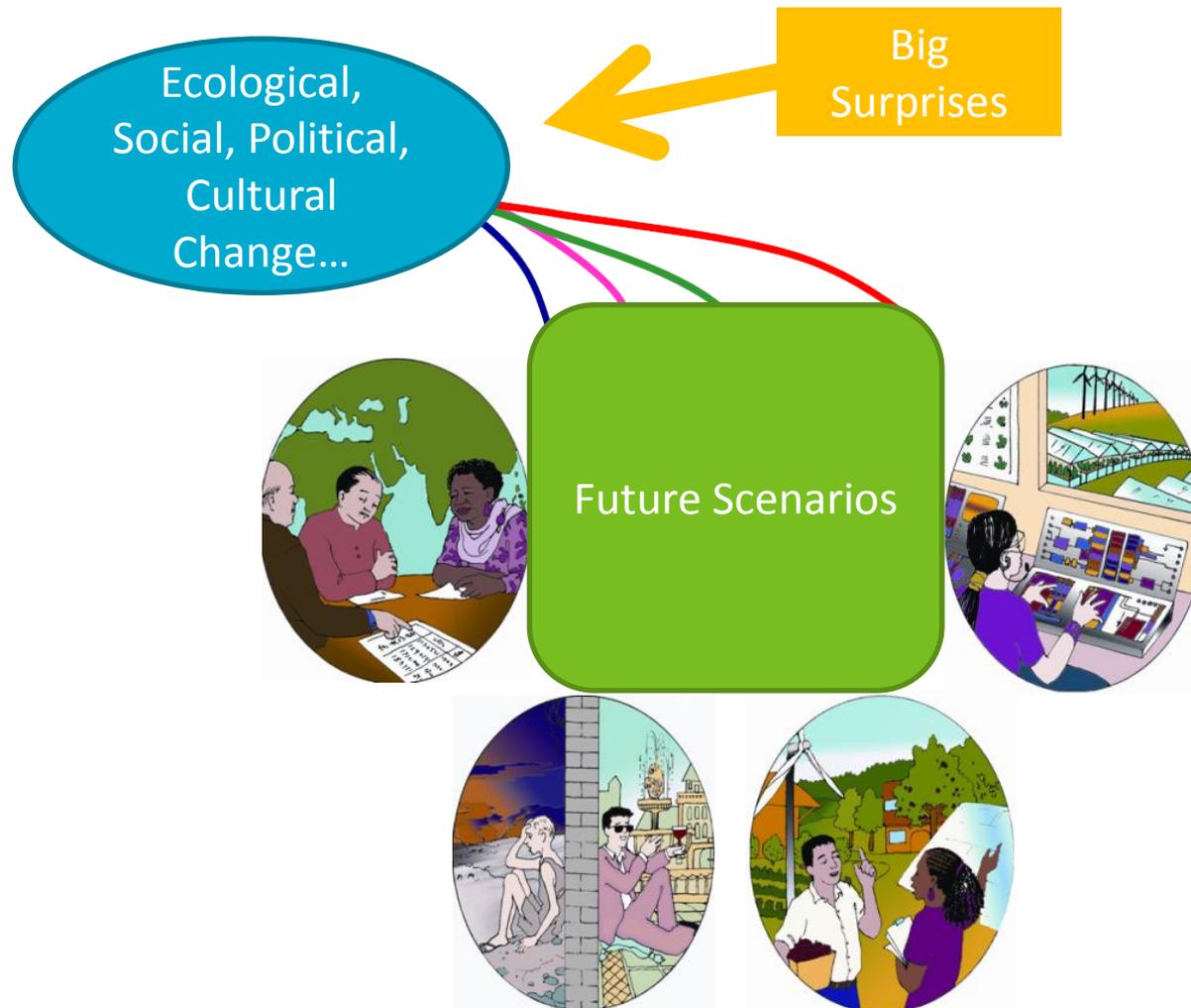
**Erin Bohensky, CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences, Townsville, Australia**  
**Torres Strait Futures Workshop 22-23 October 2012**



# Facing up to the challenge of the future

- While we can't predict the future, we can better **anticipate and prepare for** shocks
- Futures thinking approaches are designed to think about major **trends** (what we know)
- and how they might combine with major future **uncertainties** (what we don't know)
- from global to local

# Making sense of complex change



# Scenario planning

- **Scenario planning** is an approach for structured thinking about future uncertainty and how agencies, industries or communities can plan for it
- **Scenarios** are:
  - logical stories that capture key ingredients of our uncertainty about the future
  - describe futures that could be, not futures that will be
  - different from predictions, projections and forecasts (Peterson et al. 2003)
  - qualitative (narratives) and quantitative (numerical)

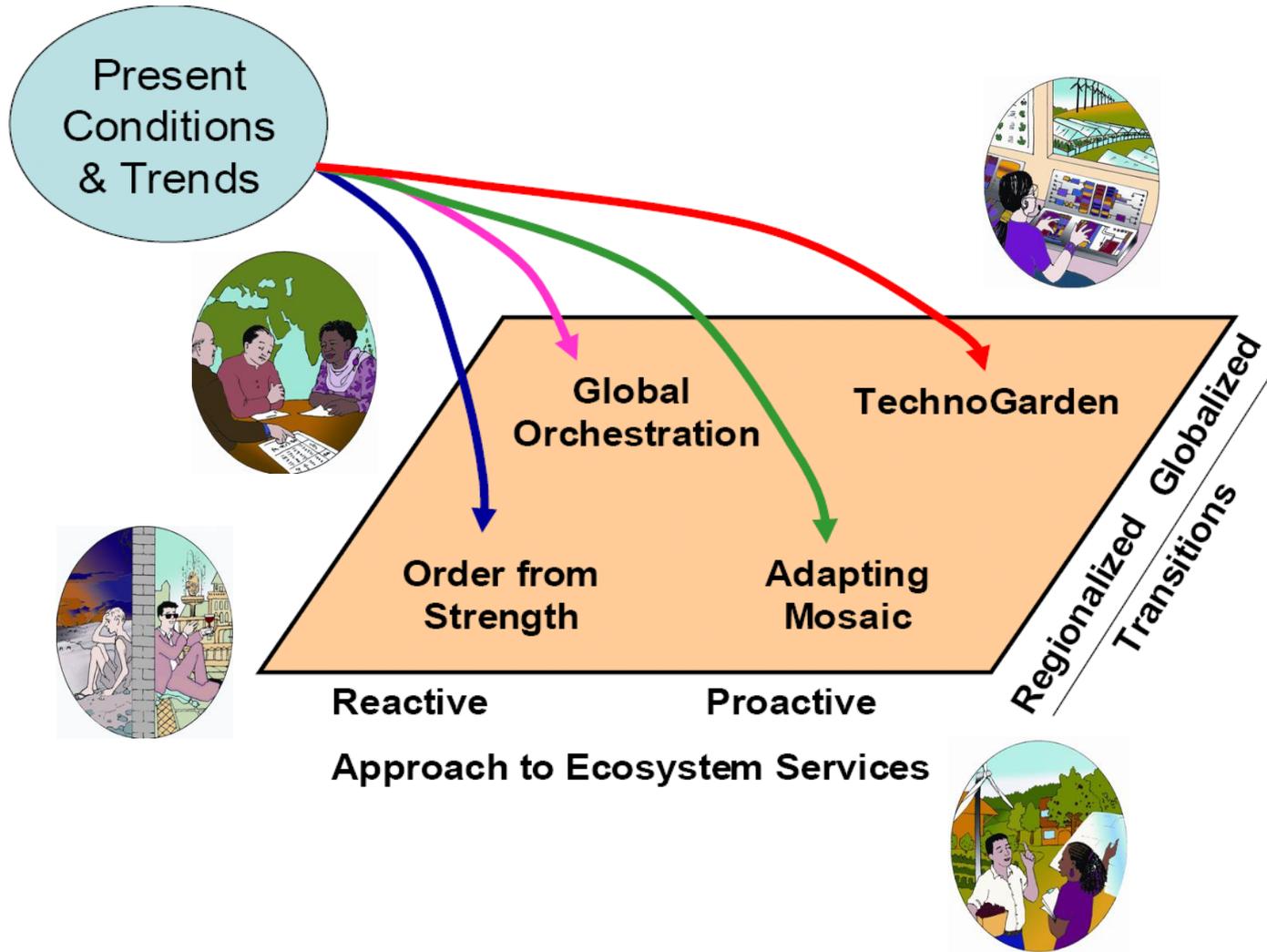


# Potential outcomes of scenarios

- Narratives, maps, models, drawings, plans and projections
- Input into management strategies, plans or policies
- Learning by participants, stakeholder groups, and the greater community
- Forum for dialogue and debate about desirable and undesirable futures



# Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Global Scenarios

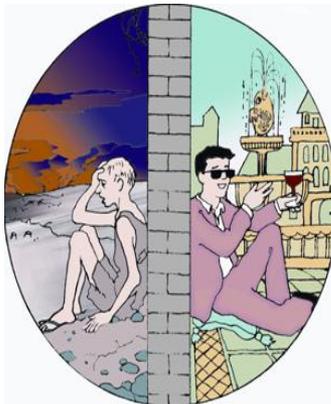


# Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Global Scenarios



- **Global Orchestration**

Globally connected society that focuses on global trade and economic liberalization and takes a reactive approach to ecosystem problems but that also takes strong steps to reduce poverty and inequality and to invest in public goods such as infrastructure and education.



- **Order from Strength**

Regionalized and fragmented world, concerned with security and protection, emphasizing primarily regional markets, paying little attention to public goods, and taking a reactive approach to ecosystem problems.

# Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Global Scenarios



- **Adapting Mosaic**

Regional watershed-scale ecosystems are the focus of political and economic activity. Local institutions are strengthened and local ecosystem management strategies are common; societies develop a strongly proactive approach to the management of ecosystems.

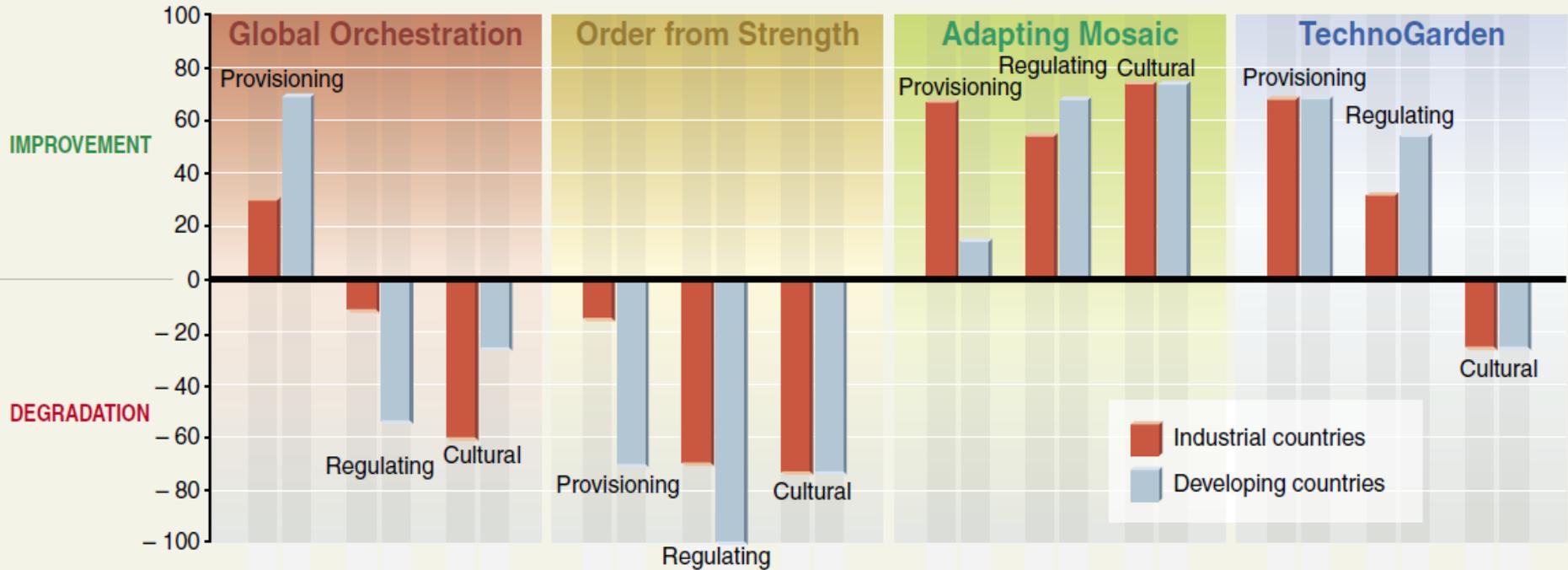


- **TechnoGarden**

Globally connected world relying strongly on environmentally sound technology, using highly managed, often engineered, ecosystems to deliver ecosystem services, and taking a proactive approach to the management of ecosystems in an effort to avoid problems.

# Comparison of four Millennium Ecosystem Assessment scenarios

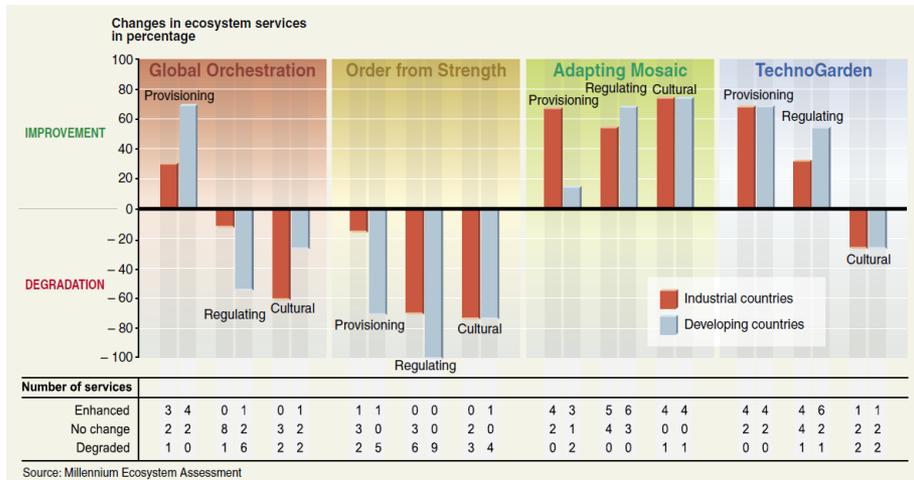
Changes in ecosystem services in percentage



Number of services	Global Orchestration		Order from Strength		Adapting Mosaic		TechnoGarden																	
Enhanced	3	4	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	3	5	6	4	4	4	4	4	6	1	1
No change	2	2	8	2	3	2	3	0	3	0	2	0	2	1	4	3	0	0	2	2	4	2	2	2
Degraded	1	0	1	6	2	2	2	5	6	9	3	4	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	2

Source: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

# Millennium Ecosystem Assessment scenario results



Quantitative: statistics, figures



Qualitative: pictures, stories, theatre

# Example of scenario illustration: "Smiling West" West New Britain PNG in 2030



# Example of scenario illustration: Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia

