URBAN SUSTAINABLE RESILIENCE: A POLICY FRAMEWORK

Research Question

The term resilience is becoming increasingly popular and evolving into different lines of thought. This research focuses on policy structures that aim to progress towards long-term urban resilience that is dynamic, proactive, holistic and adaptive. It asks:

- What policy structures can drive long-term urban resilience?
- What drivers, implementation enablers, gaps and governance tools are important to successful implementation?
- What indicators can be used to learn from policy actions across geographies?

Figure 1: Pillars of Sustainable Resilience.
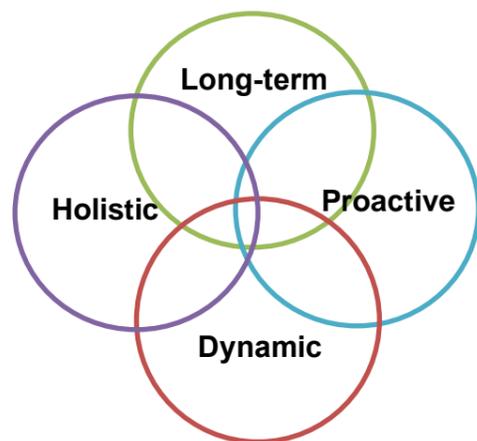
Methodology
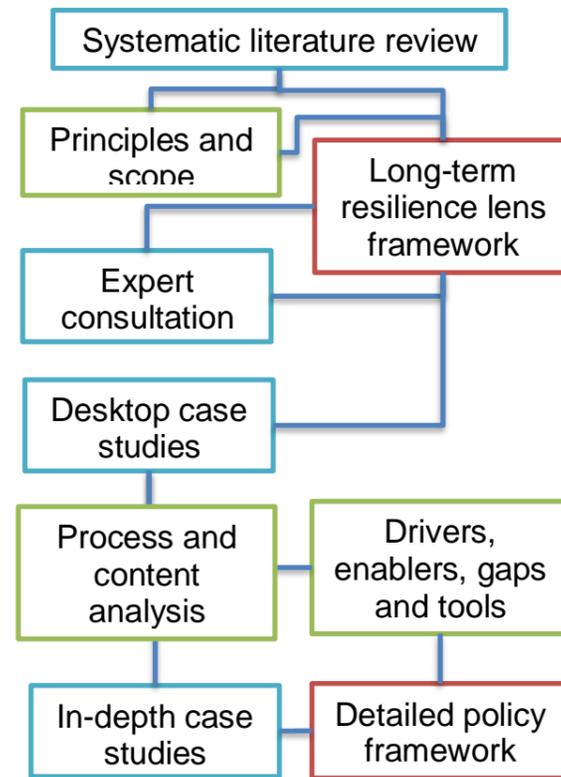
Results

🏁 Sept. 2015 ➡ Sept. 2018 🏁🏁

Completed

- ✓ Literature review
- ✓ 3 conference papers
- ✓ 11 interviews with experts from industry, government and research in Australia, the UK and the US
- ✓ Refined Long-term Resilience Policy analysis framework (Figure 2)

Underway

- ✓ One book chapter and 2 journal papers
- ✓ Series of desktop case study, currently including 10 cities across the globe
- ✓ 3 in-depth case studies identified

Figure 2: Long-term resilience policy lens framework

The expert consultation feedback has been most encouraging, highlighting the need for this research project and potential for implementation once completed.

Conclusions

Urban resilience has been the centre of significant attention from academic and policy actors across the world over recent decades. However, relatively little attention has been paid to the long-term policy implications of striving towards more resilient urban systems and the challenges introduced by the complex, multi-level and multi-actor policy network that forms its context.

The central hypothesis of this research is that resilience is a long-term goal, beyond immediate disaster planning and management, and an ongoing process that requires a proactive approach. This research proposes that in order to progress towards resilience that endures, the policy structures that underpin these efforts need to be able to remain effective over the long-term and "survive" short-term pressures.

This research aims to provide an applied framework to improve policy development and evaluation for more sustainably resilient cities in Australia.

Anticipated impacts

The applied outcomes of this research will help build resilience of urban centres in Australia by providing tools to develop and improve proactive and reflective policy.

Further information

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