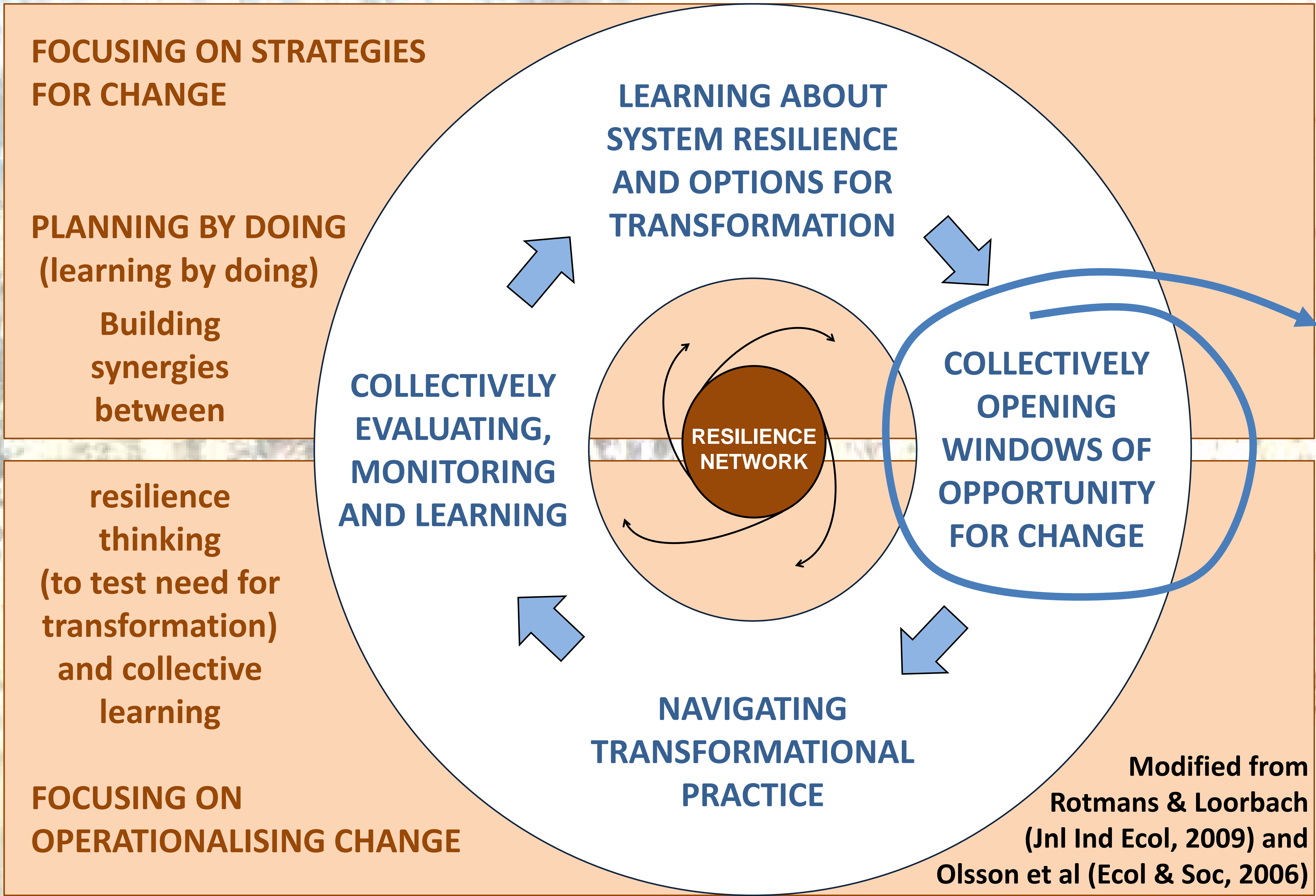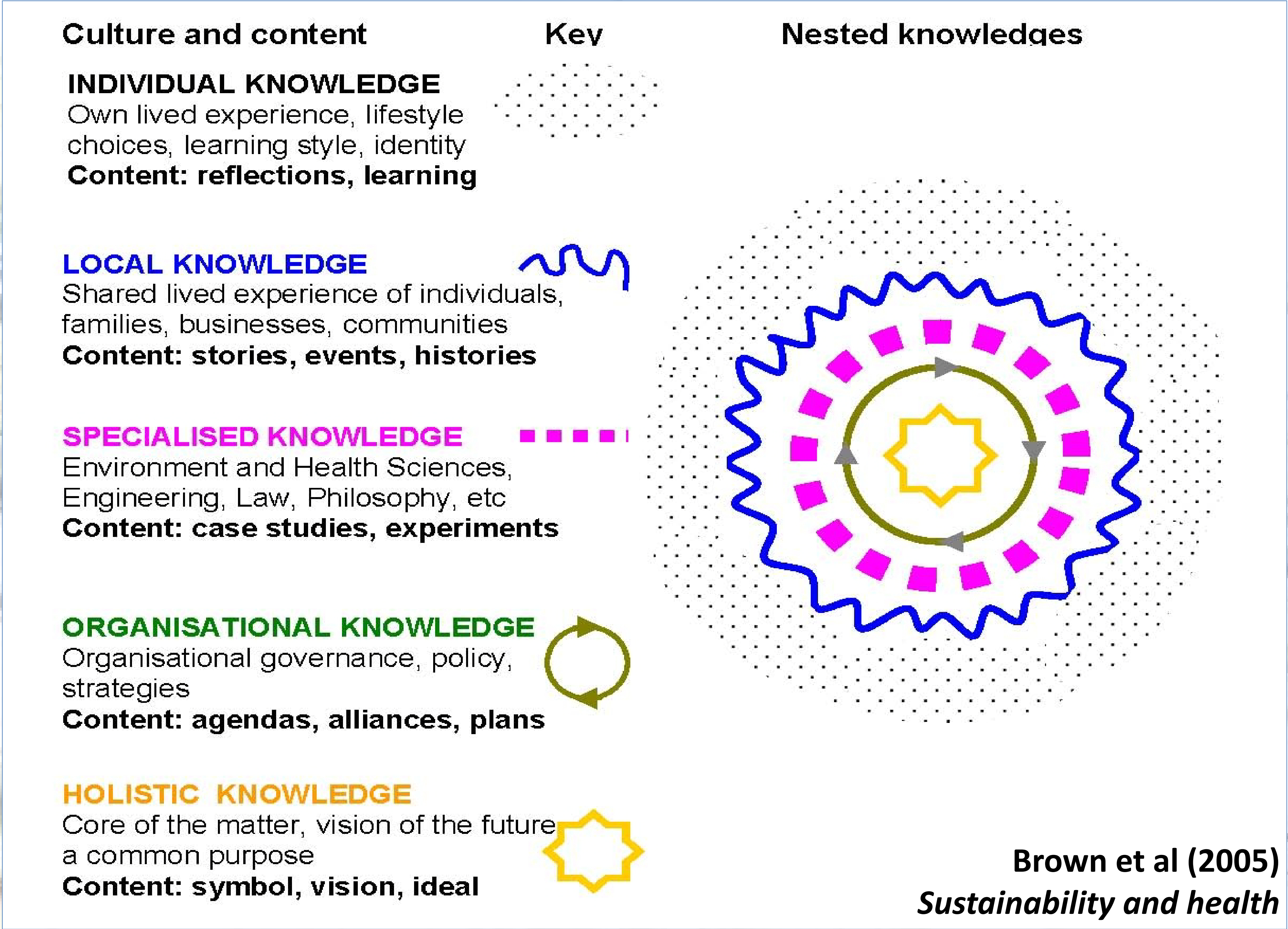# How do communities build and maintain capacity to manage intentional transformation?

A process to build transformative action in Wakool Shire, Australia (1 of 3 case studies)

MICHAEL MITCHELL, PAUL RYAN, ROD GRIFFITH, BRIAN WALKER, VALERIE BROWN AND GREG WALKERDEN
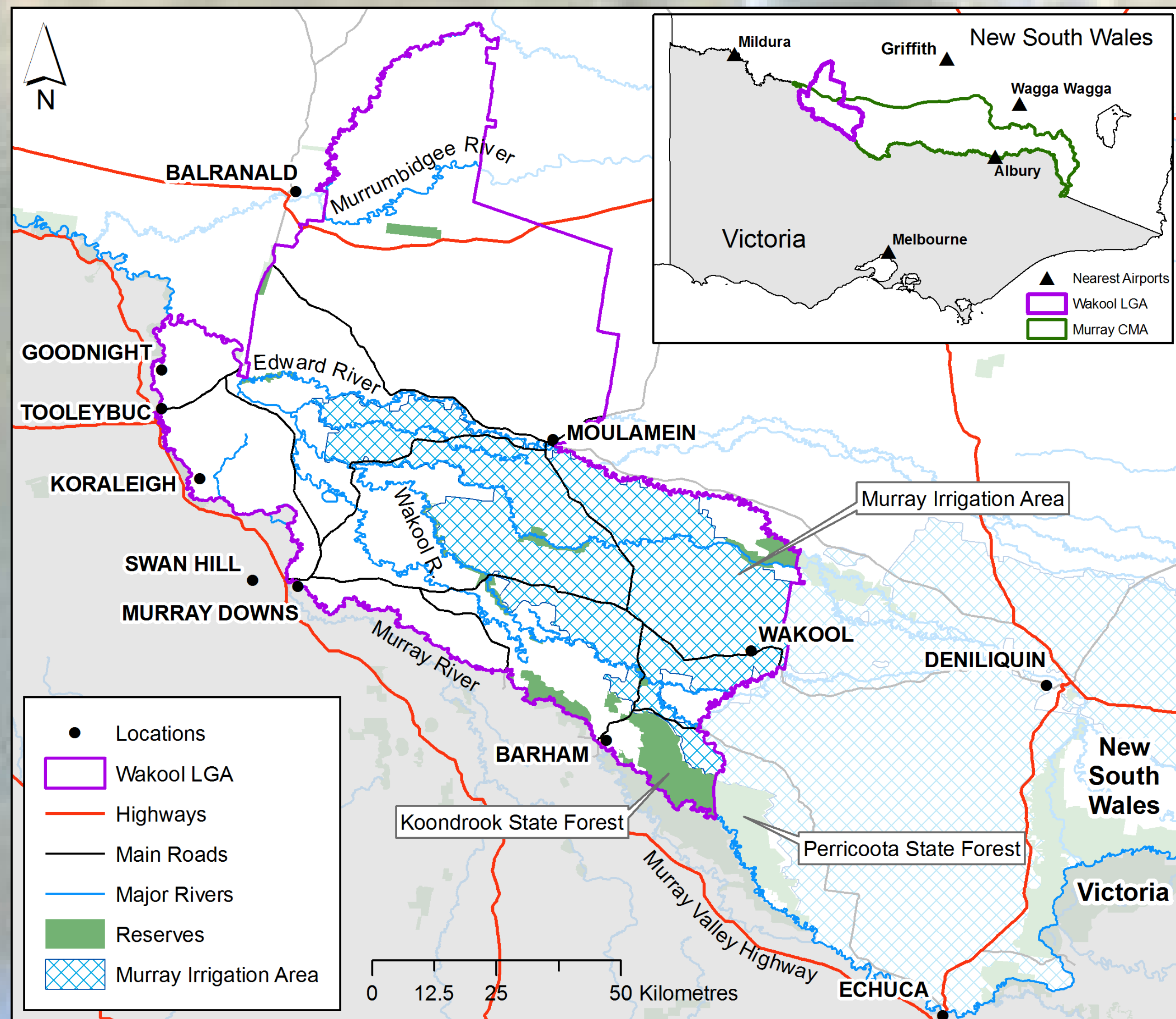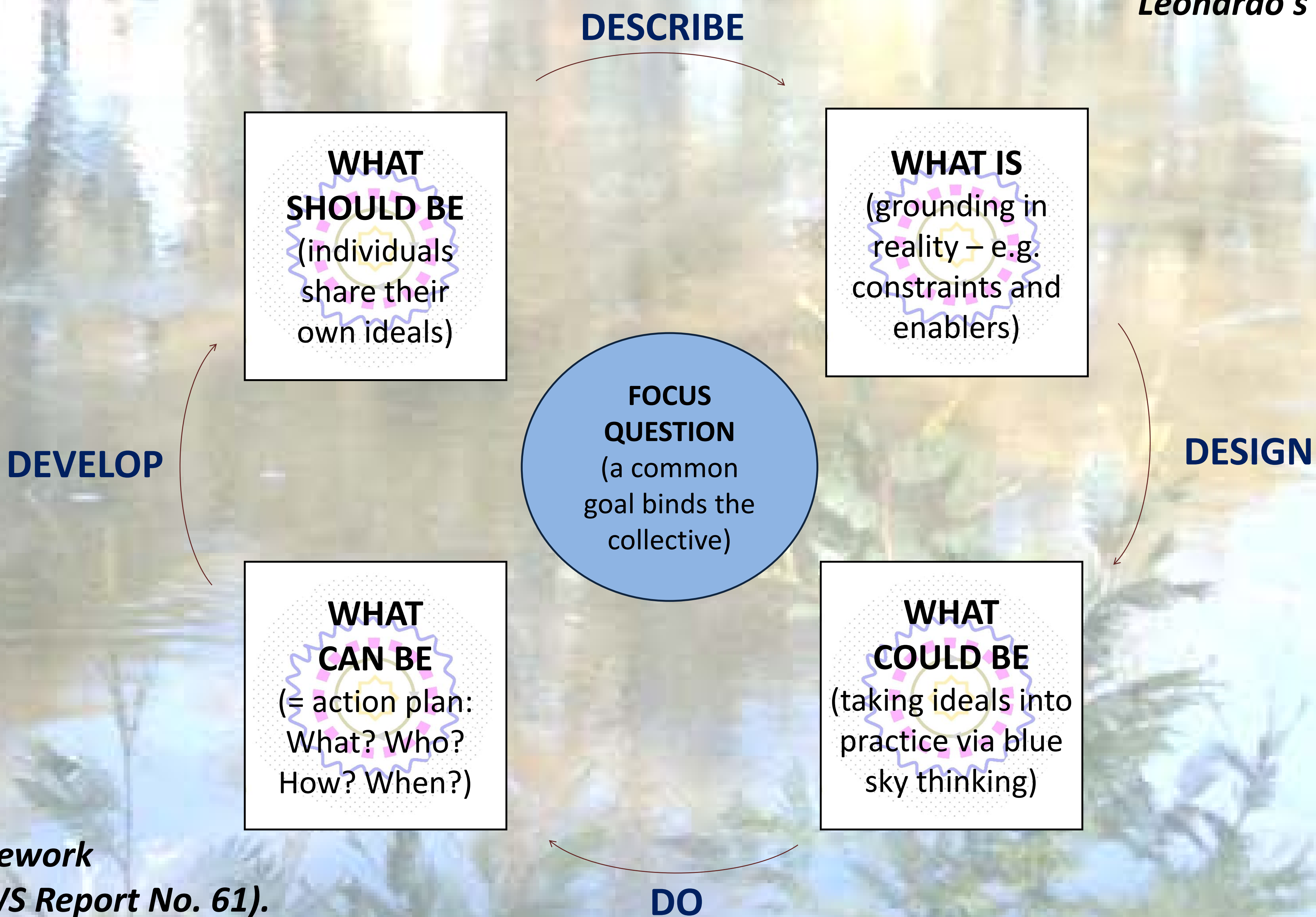
FOCUSING ON STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE

PLANNING BY DOING (learning by doing)

Building synergies between

resilience thinking (to test need for transformation) and collective learning

FOCUSING ON OPERATIONALISING CHANGE

LEARNING ABOUT SYSTEM RESILIENCE AND OPTIONS FOR TRANSFORMATION

COLLECTIVELY EVALUATING, MONITORING AND LEARNING

RESILIENCE NETWORK

COLLECTIVELY OPENING WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

NAVIGATING TRANSFORMATIONAL PRACTICE

Modified from Rotmans & Loorbach (Jnl Ind Ecol, 2009) and Olsson et al (Ecol & Soc, 2006)

Drawing on multiple knowledge cultures to build a collective action plan...

Culture and content   Key   Nested knowledges

INDIVIDUAL KNOWLEDGE
Own lived experience, lifestyle choices, learning style, identity
Content: reflections, learning

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
Shared lived experience of individuals, families, businesses, communities
Content: stories, events, histories

SPECIALISED KNOWLEDGE
Environment and Health Sciences, Engineering, Law, Philosophy, etc
Content: case studies, experiments

ORGANISATIONAL KNOWLEDGE
Organisational governance, policy, strategies
Content: agendas, alliances, plans

HOLISTIC KNOWLEDGE
Core of the matter, vision of the future a common purpose
Content: symbol, vision, ideal

Brown et al (2005)
Sustainability and health

...using a four stage spiral of continuous learning:

Modified from Brown (2008)
Leonardo's vision

DESCRIBE

WHAT SHOULD BE (individuals share their own ideals)

WHAT IS (grounding in reality – e.g. constraints and enablers)

DEVELOP

FOCUS QUESTION (a common goal binds the collective)

DESIGN

WHAT CAN BE (= action plan: What? Who? How? When?)

WHAT COULD BE (taking ideals into practice via blue sky thinking)

DO

Map of Wakool Shire

New South Wales

Mildura   Griffith

Wagga Wagga

Victoria   Albury

Melbourne

Nearest Airports

Wakool LGA
Murray CMA

BALRANALD

Murrumbidgee River

GOODNIGHT
TOOLEYBUC

Edward River

MOULAMEIN

Murray Irrigation Area

KORALEIGH

Wakool R.

SWAN HILL
MURRAY DOWNS

WAKOOL

DENILIQUIN

Murray River

BARHAM

New South Wales

Koondrook State Forest

Perricoota State Forest

Victoria

Murray Valley Highway

ECHUCA

Locations
Wakool LGA
Highways
Main Roads
Major Rivers
Reserves
Murray Irrigation Area

0   12.5   25   50 Kilometres

Map of Wakool Shire

More info – see fact sheet

Griffith et al.(2010) *Building a collaborative framework for transformative action in the Wakool Shire (ILWS Report No. 61).*