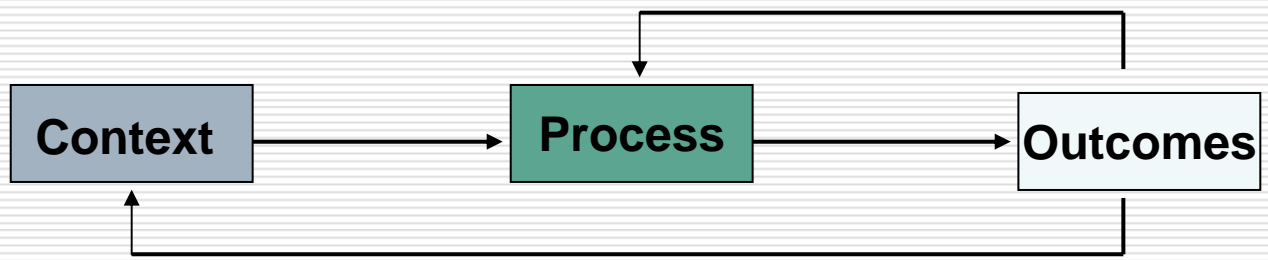
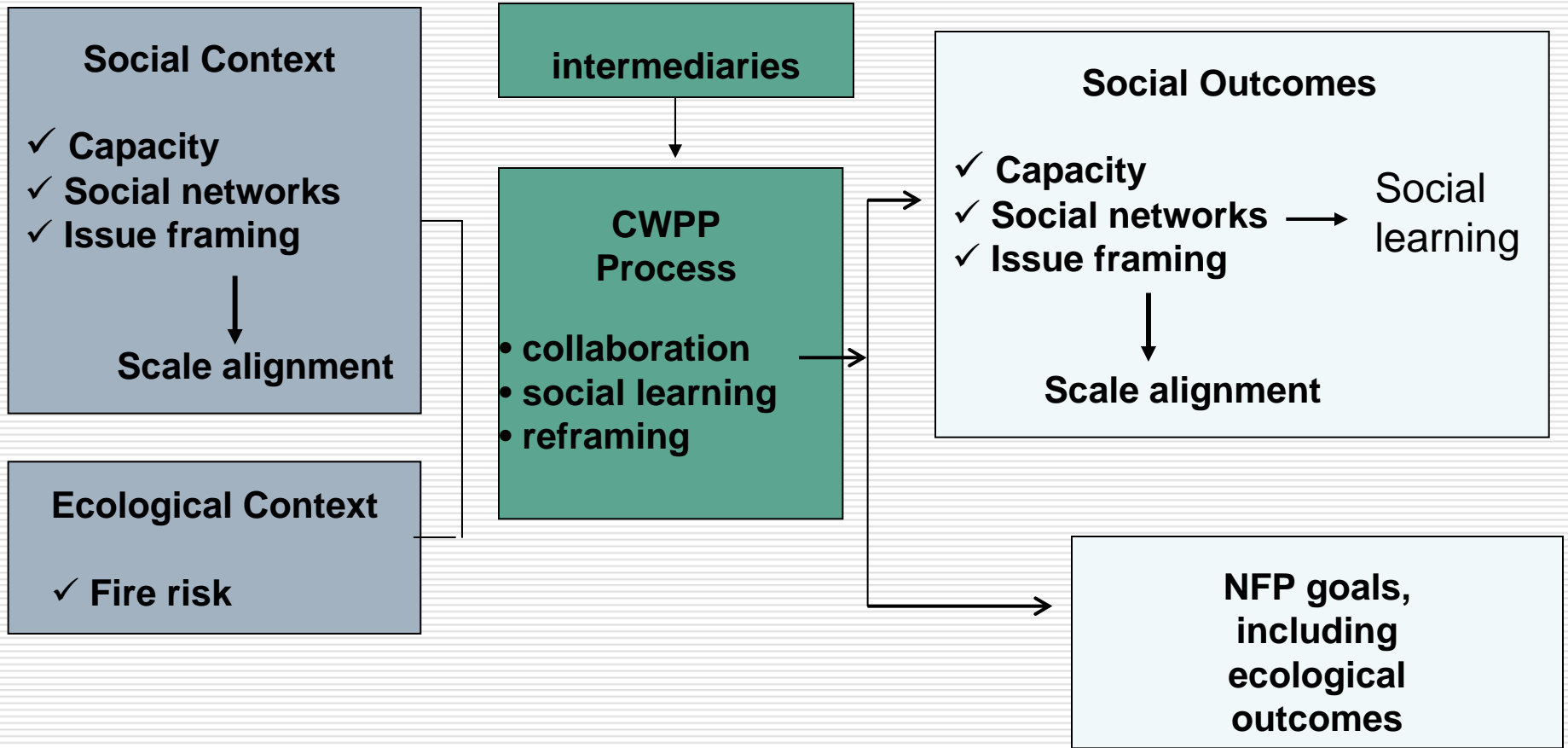




Assessing, Monitoring and Evaluating CWPP Context, Process and Sustainability

Victoria Sturtevant

Southern Oregon University



Why assess context?

Understanding the ecological setting and social dynamics of the community is essential for successfully undertaking a community-based collaborative project such as a CWPP.

Need to assess

- social composition, culture and history of the community
- constellation of assets which provide capacity to launch a collaborative effort
- what outside resources and information needed



How to assess context?

- Assess past experiences
 - Framing of issues, including risk
 - Past controversies and collaboration
 - Catalysts for change
- Find community assets
 - Trusted leaders and “spark plugs”
 - Skilled residents
 - Community organizations
 - Sources of support
- Discover networks of individuals and organizations
 - Emergency management networks
 - Fire (networks including state and federal agency)
 - Informal and formal neighborhood and community network
 - Bridges to outside resources





Why evaluate CWPP process?

- ❑ Assess effectiveness
- ❑ Improve accountability and inclusivity
- ❑ Build trust among participants and with stakeholders
- ❑ Find new participants and resources
- ❑ Note progress and successes



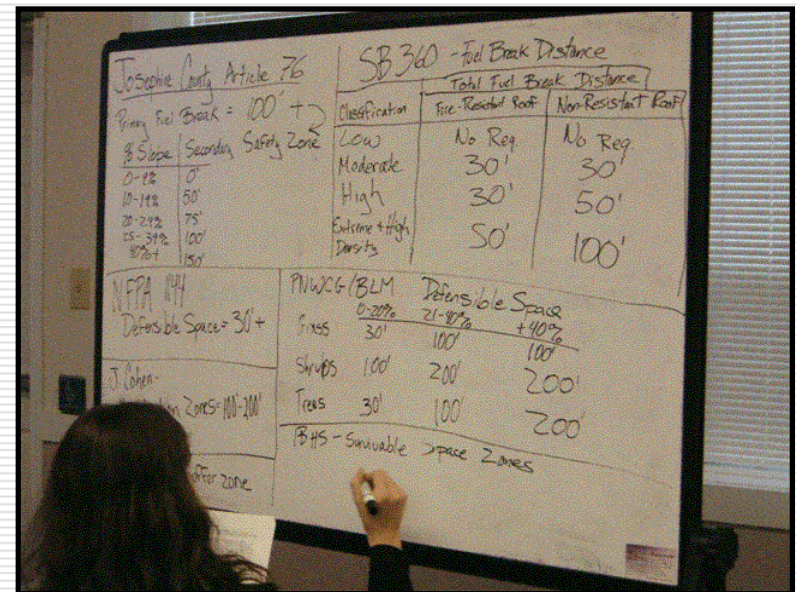


How to evaluate process?

- ❑ Check who is at the table, who is missing
- ❑ Are their goals and expectations aligned?
- ❑ Assess how data, models, and maps frame problems and what other options are available
- ❑ Evaluate
 - communication
 - decision making
 - incentives for participation
- ❑ Determine if scale is appropriate
 - across landscape and jurisdictions
 - community or neighborhood level



- Ideally, all participants should take part in monitoring – bring in outside evaluator only if necessary.
 - Get a good cross-section of respondents, including non-participants as well as participants.
 - Group coordinators found to report higher rates of success (Leach, Pelkey, and Sabatier 2002)
- Focus on the group's objectives - how well does the group meet its own goals?
- Consider using a combination of descriptive, normative, and impact questions.



Potential Roles for Participants

- Neighborhood (homeowners association),
Community (community development org)
 - Education/ outreach
 - Rule/ covenant establishment and enforcement
 - Peer and mentor relationships/norms
 - Diffusion of technology and innovation
 - Collect fees/fines
 - Apply for grants
 - Sign/bless CWPP
 - Fuels management on common property
 - Monitoring and evaluation

Potential Roles

- State, Municipal and County
 - Funding, grant applications and funding distribution (NFP, Title III)
 - Community planning and zoning
 - Emergency planning and evacuation (transportation)
 - State and local code/law development and enforcement
 - Tax incentives-assessments
 - Home/landowner education/outreach/ assistance
 - Land and resource planning and management
 - GIS mapping and other technical assistance or training
 - CWPP facilitation, writing, monitoring, signing/approval
 - Wildland fire prevention/suppression and structure protection
 - Social services, special needs
 - Community economic development (small diameter and biomass)
 - Risk assessment
 - Fuels management on public land that they manage

Potential Roles

□ Federal

- Develop federal policies
- Land and resource planning and management
- Federal law enforcement
- Wildland fire prevention/suppression and structure protection
- Fuels management (prescribed burning, mastication and other activities)
- on lands that they manage.
- State and local government incentives/assistance
- Biomass and other small diameter market development
- Technical assistance, fuels information and other tools, data, maps, etc.
- CWPP review (different from above?)
- Develop staff who later become consultants or other players in CWPP
- Development and implementation.
- Monitoring

Finally, assess sustainability

Why? To evaluate the needed capacities and essential components for moving to the next step - implementation.

How? Ask:

- Has social capacity been created to implement the plan?
- Are community education and outreach effective and sustainable?
- Are agency and department decision-makers willing to implement projects?
- Is the CWPP comprehensive and multifaceted?
- Are there programs, organizations or plans to embed CWPP?

