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An adaptation process that works – adapting sustainable forest management to climate change

Jason Edwards - Forestry Adaptation Officer
Canadian Forest Service, Edmonton, AB.
jason.edwards@canada.ca



The key messages

The Elders have already said it.

We need to stop, look, and listen (and act).

We need to work better together.

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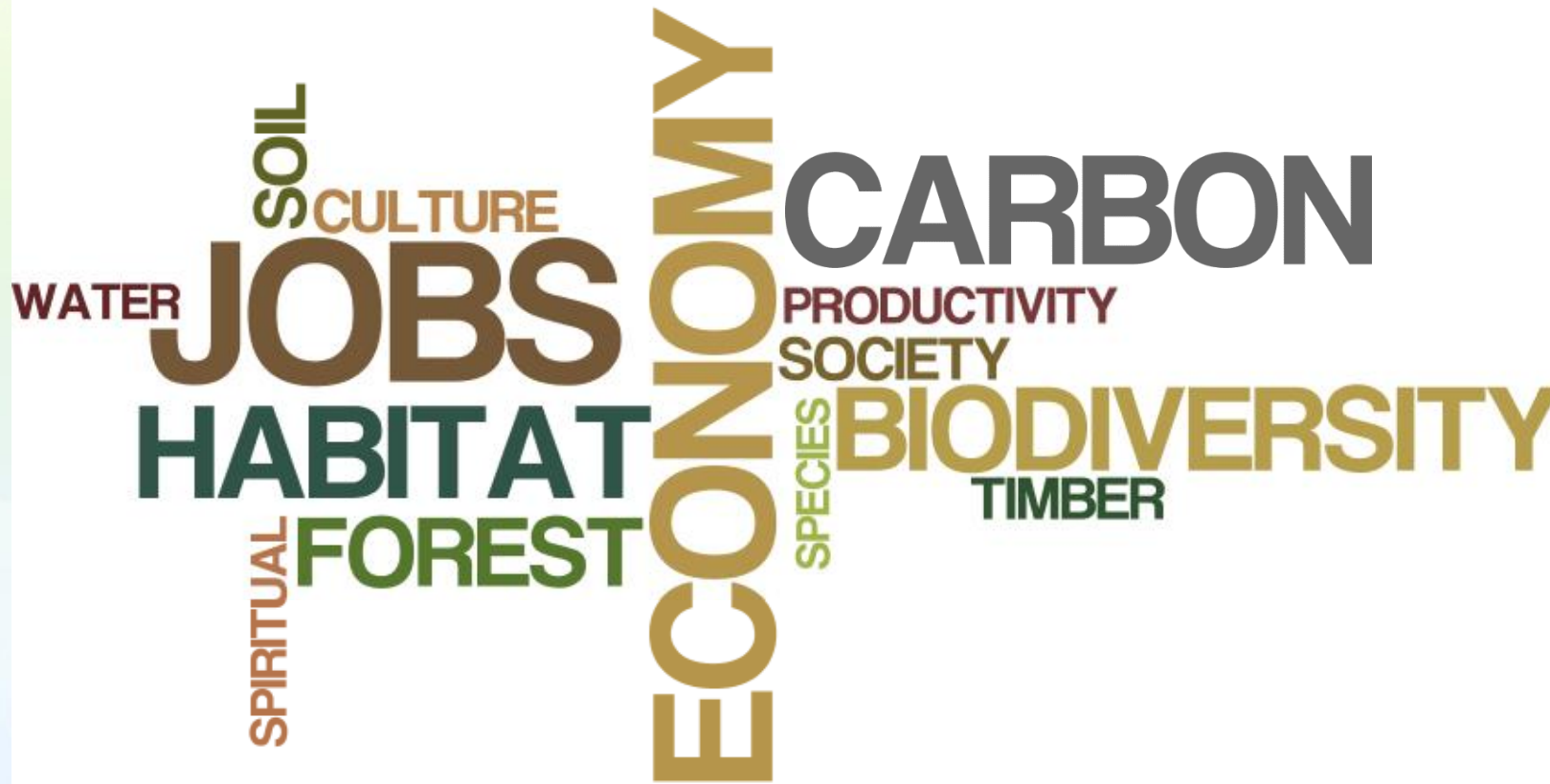


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Sustainable Forest Management



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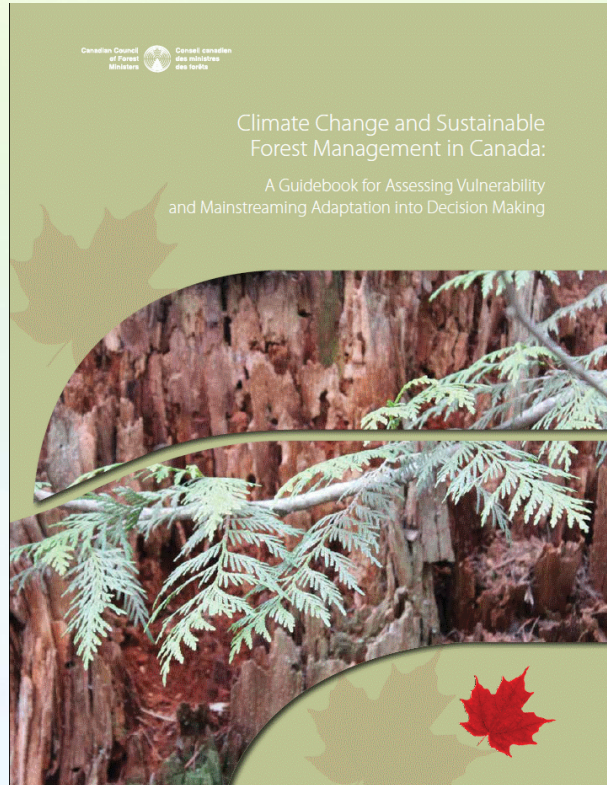
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Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Climate Change Task Force

Provided a foundation and guidance for adaptation

10 reports
(available at www.ccfm.org)



Edwards et al. 2015
www.ccfm.org



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What is Adaptation?

Adapt (verb):

doing something different, hopefully better.

It is a **social process**.

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What is Adaptation

There is a choice:

- 1) Be reactive, or
- 2) Be proactive – Be prepared



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Planned Adaptation

- Means to an end, not the end into itself
- Requires some structured thought and process to be successful.
- It must be embedded into decision-making processes, not a stand alone plan.

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Implementing adaptation

Must examine potential adaptation actions for

- Ecological suitability
- Social acceptability
- Technical and economical feasibility
- Conflicts with other objectives

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How to successfully adapt a complex system.

- Leadership and trust
- Readiness and willingness to adapt
- Focus on building social capacity
- New knowledge, tools and resources
- Proactive engagement – working together
- Willingness to learn from mistakes

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An adaptation process that works...

- Is place-based but scalable
- Is relevant to day-to-day decision making
- Recognizes connections between ecosystems and society
- Provides opportunities and ways for all voices to be heard

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An adaptation process that works...

- Integrates different ways of knowing
 - Western science, traditional knowledge, practitioner knowledge
- Provides opportunity to co-develop solutions
- Creates dialogue for shared understanding
- Provides opportunity to learn from others

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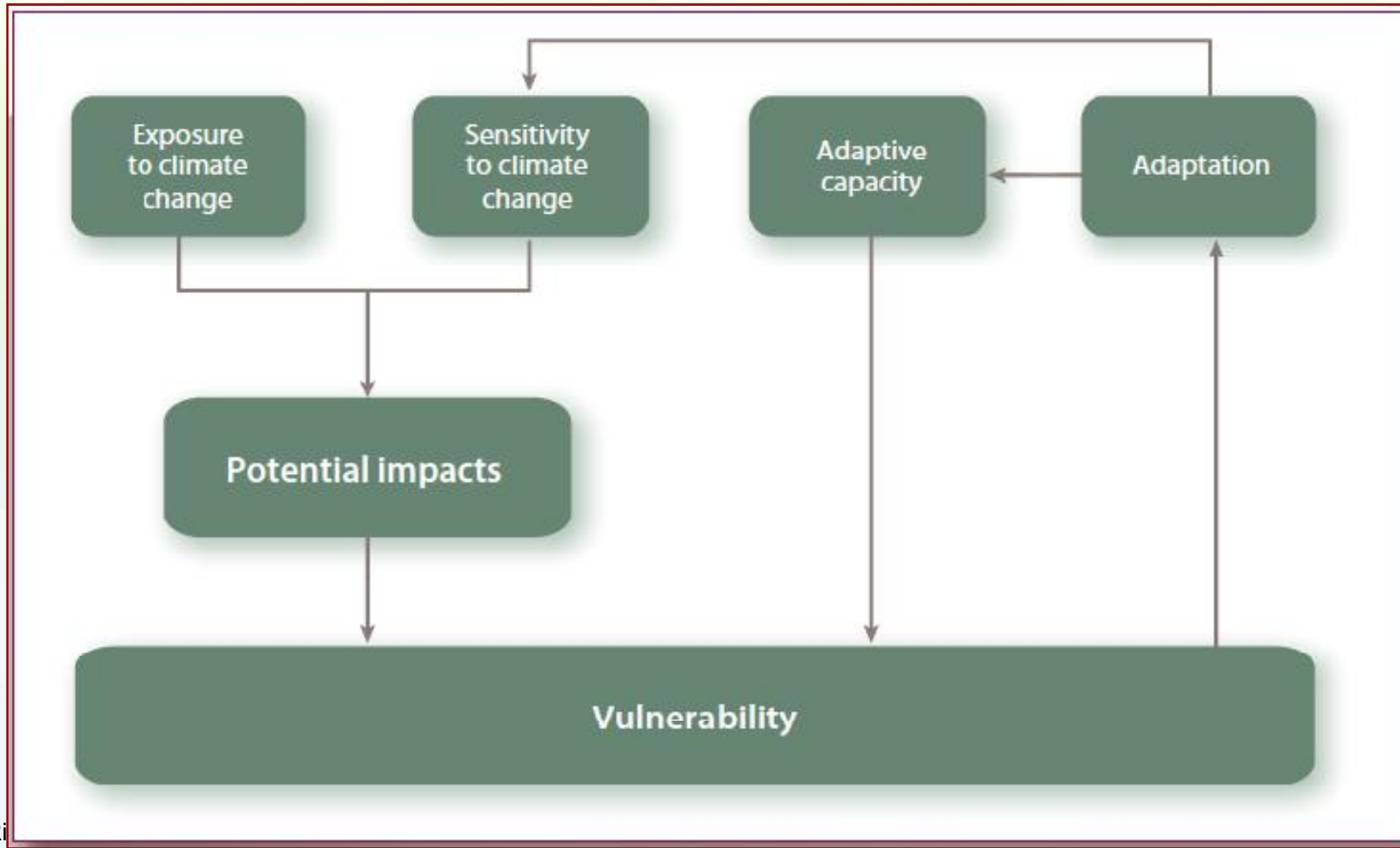


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New tools: Vulnerability Assessment Approach



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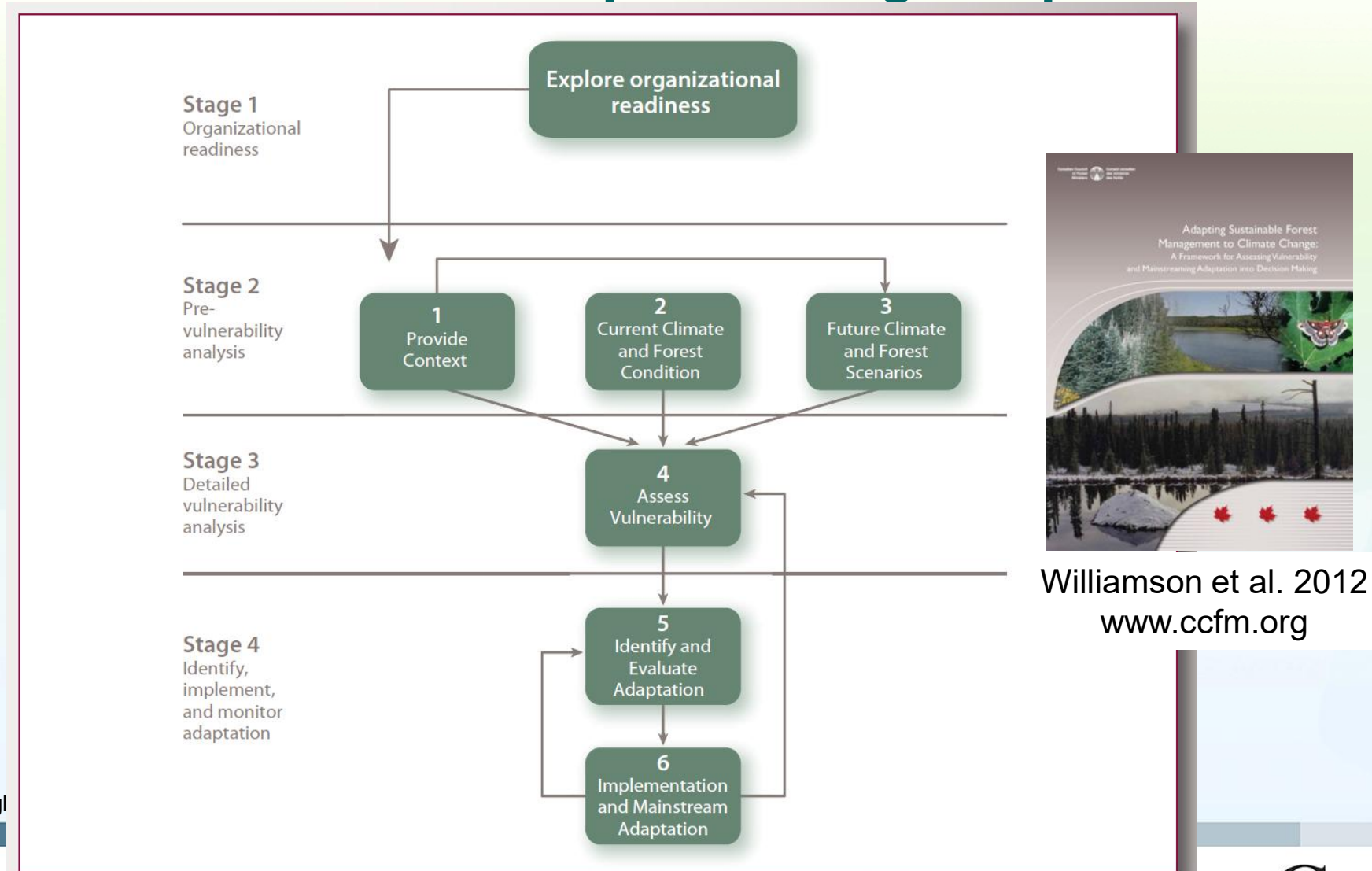


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The CCFM Approach to Vulnerability Assessment and Implementing Adaptation



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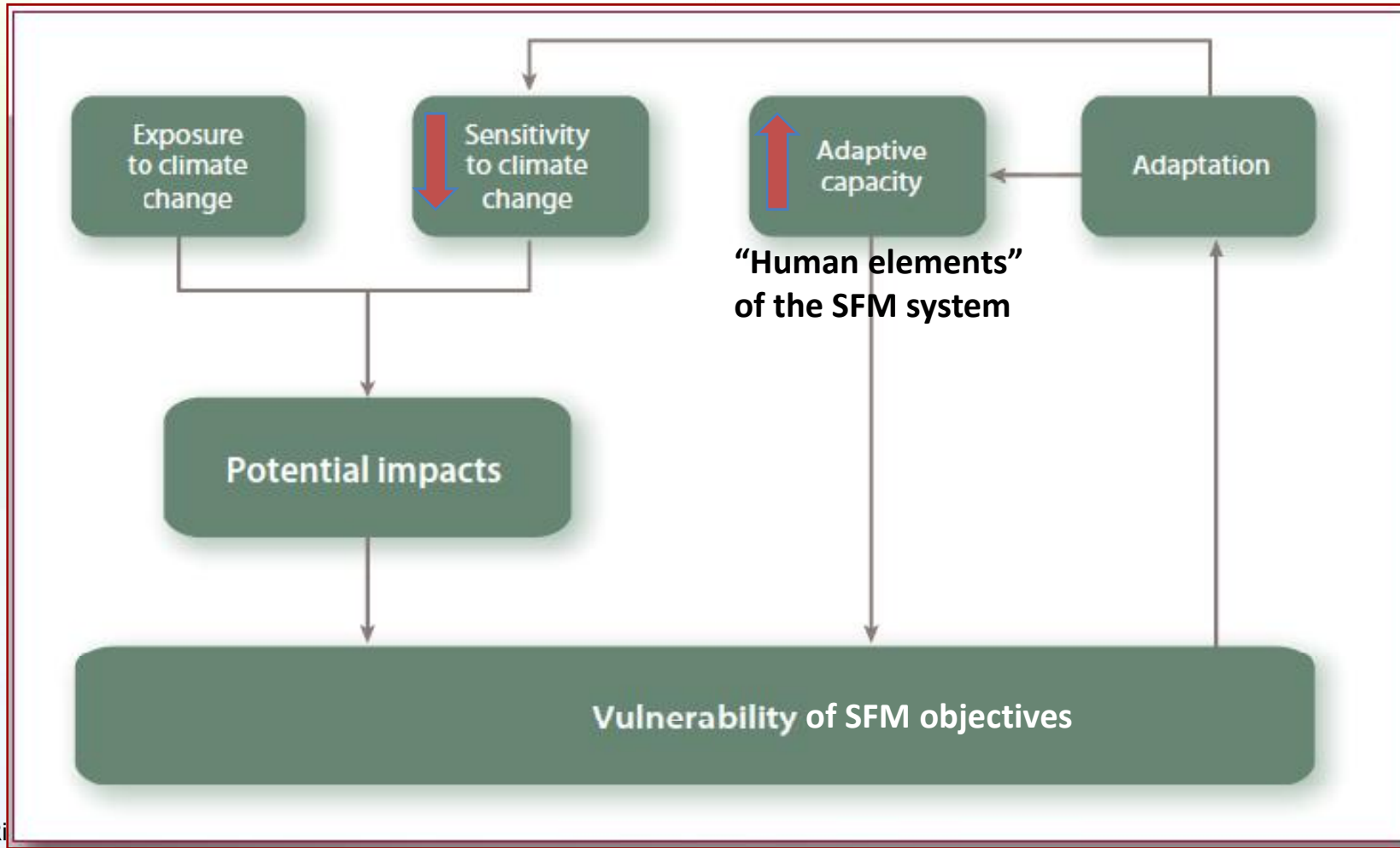
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FIGURE 2. Four stages of adaptation to climate change in the context of sustainable forest management.

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Vulnerability Assessment Approach

SFM is a complex social-ecological system consisting of multiple values



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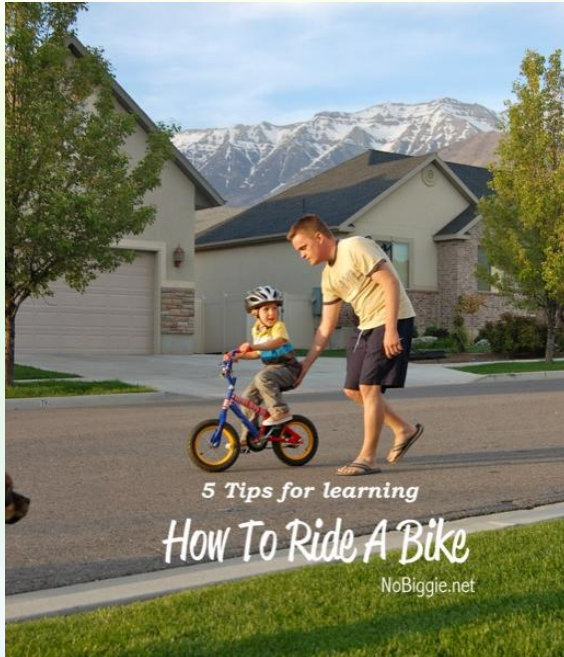
CCFM-based Vulnerability Assessment Example - Mistik Management, Saskatchewan



Conducting a vulnerability assessment as they are renewing their Forest Management Plan.

Contact: Sheri Andrews,
University of Saskatchewan

Getting started with adaptation



“Can’t steer a bicycle unless you’re moving”

- David Cleaves (ret), Climate Change Advisor to Chief of USFS

- Start small
- Don’t waste your time with training wheels.
- Take the pedals off.
- Find ways to get the wheels rolling.
- Learn with your friends.
- No pressure from parents!

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