



A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES





Background to the Framework

Policy frameworks are useful for:

- establishing an overall perspective & the best direction to take
- communicating aims & priorities to other Ministers
- identifying commonalities in approach with other agencies
- getting ideas out in the public domain



Background to the Framework (cont.)

The sustainable communities framework:

- ❑ has been developed by DIA, MSD, CYF & CEG (agencies of the Community & Voluntary Sector portfolio)
- ❑ is based on experiences of NZ communities & community workers, as well as published research
- ❑ has received input and comment from other agencies - (e.g. TPK, MED, Treasury, Housing)
- ❑ provides a tool for a developing a cross-sector strategy for building sustainable communities



Why is Government Interested in Strong Communities?

- Creative, forward-looking communities are an important building block for an innovative economy
- Communities with high social capital facilitate individual & family/whanau well-being
- Cohesive communities are more likely to find effective solutions to local issues and problems
- Self-determining communities with capable leadership pursue development appropriate to their own values and aspirations
- Informed, responsible communities tend to look for practical ways of achieving sustainable development
- Inclusive, involved communities are more resilient in the face of adversity & external shocks



What is a Community?

A network of people & organisations bound together by factors such as...

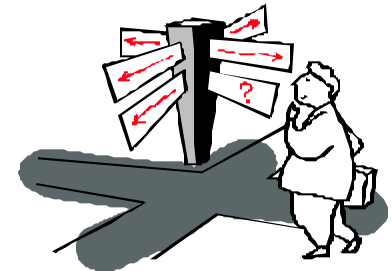
- Shared identity, culture and/or whakapapa – eg. hapu/iwi or ethnic group
- Common geography
- Administrative or political arrangements
- Similar interest or kaupapa eg. voluntary organisation, Maori community group or online “virtual community”





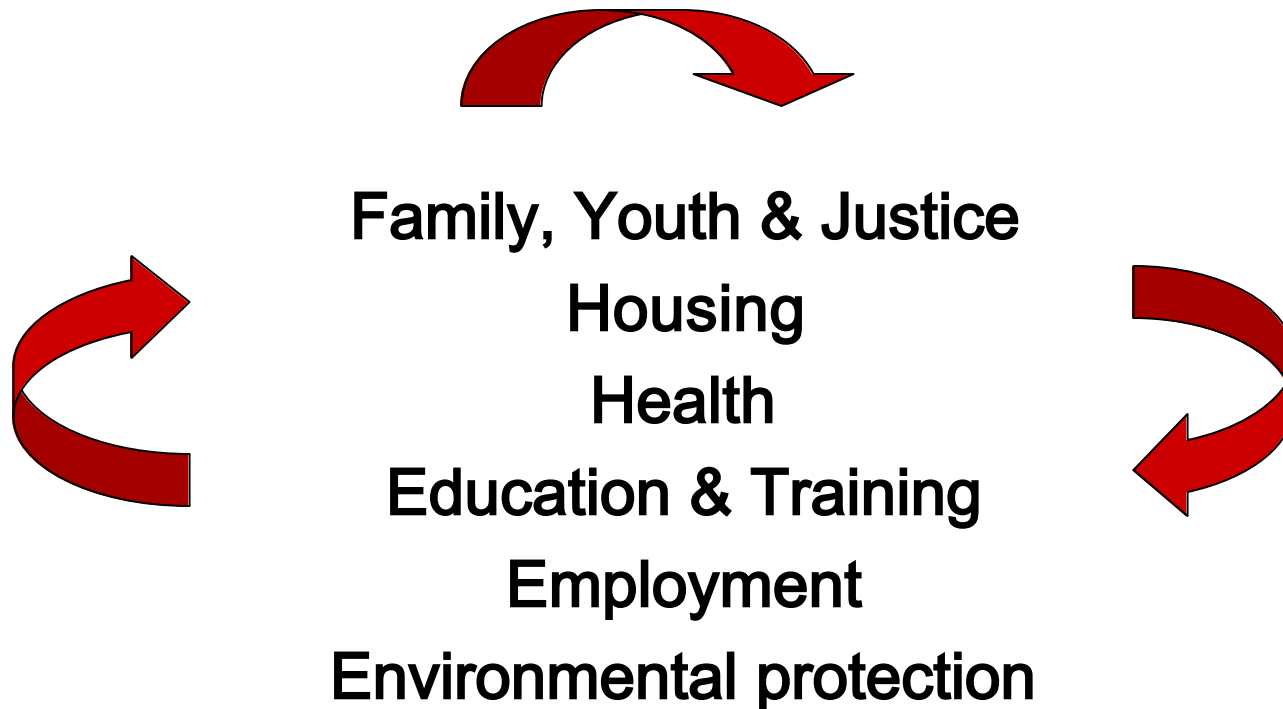
Recent Impacts on Communities

- Globalisation – trade, information, jobs, values
- Moves toward devolved responsibility and greater self-determination
- Changes to the welfare state
- A greater role for the community & voluntary sector
- Treaty settlements & Maori development
- Increasing social diversity





Complex Community Problems Require Holistic Solutions



Example: Bay of Plenty healthy housing

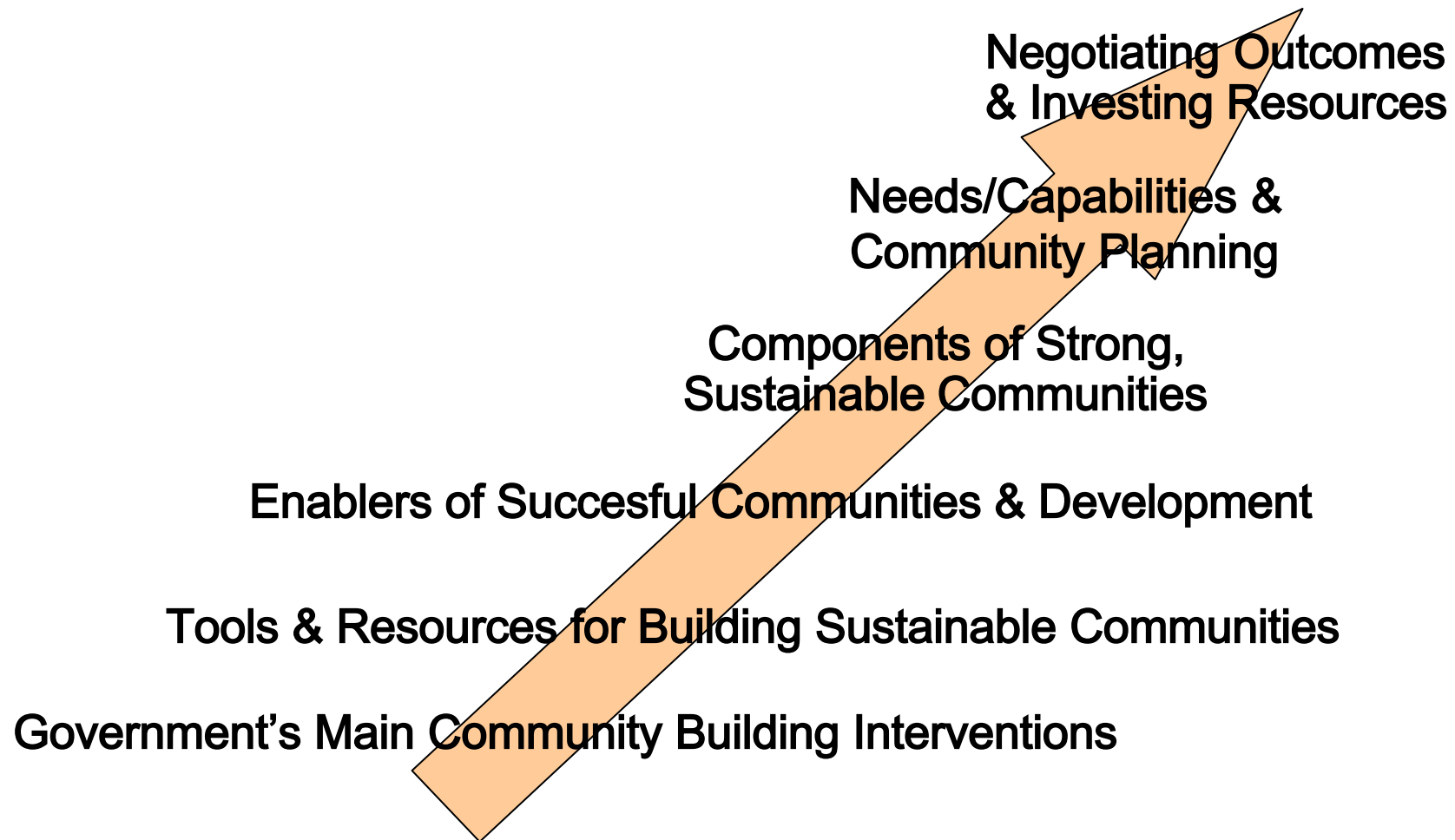


Government's Evolving Approach to Building Strong Communities

- ➡ Community owned solutions & community driven development
- ➡ Facilitation & effective capacity building
- ➡ Diversity of responses and models
- ➡ Collaboration & partnership
- ➡ From silos to a whole of government approach
- ➡ Achieving mutual outcomes with communities



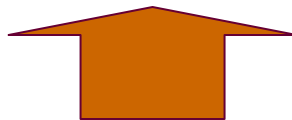
A Sustainable Community Investment Approach



Government's Main Community Building Intervention Strategies



- Overcoming disadvantage & ensuring basic well-being
- Facilitating citizen participation
- Strengthening community capabilities
- Addressing intractable problems
- Supporting development initiatives





Enablers of Strong, Successful Communities

- Promotion of community identity, shared values & self-determinaton
- Skilled leaders & capable organisations
- Strong social capital - bridging & bonding networks, opportunities for civil participation
- Access to necessary funding & social services
- Access to relevant advice, information, research & technology
- Necessary local infrastructure
- Supportive legislative & regulatory environment





Government's Community Investment Tools & Resources

- ✓ **Community advisors & social entrepreneurs – empowering, mentoring, brokering, facilitating**
- ✓ **Community social services provision**
- ✓ **Inter-agency initiatives (e.g. families, crime prevention, youth, health, housing, employment)**
- ✓ **Information access – IT, online information, research, public information**
- ✓ **Organisational & leadership capacity building**
- ✓ **Funding for community/voluntary groups & economic development**
- ✓ **Training and education**

Government's Community Interventions & Investments

Investments Interventions	Funding	Advice & Facilitation	Access to Information	Social Services	Brokering Relations
Capacity building	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
Facilitating participation		Yes	Yes		Yes
Overcoming disadvantage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Addressing intractable problems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Supporting development initiatives	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes



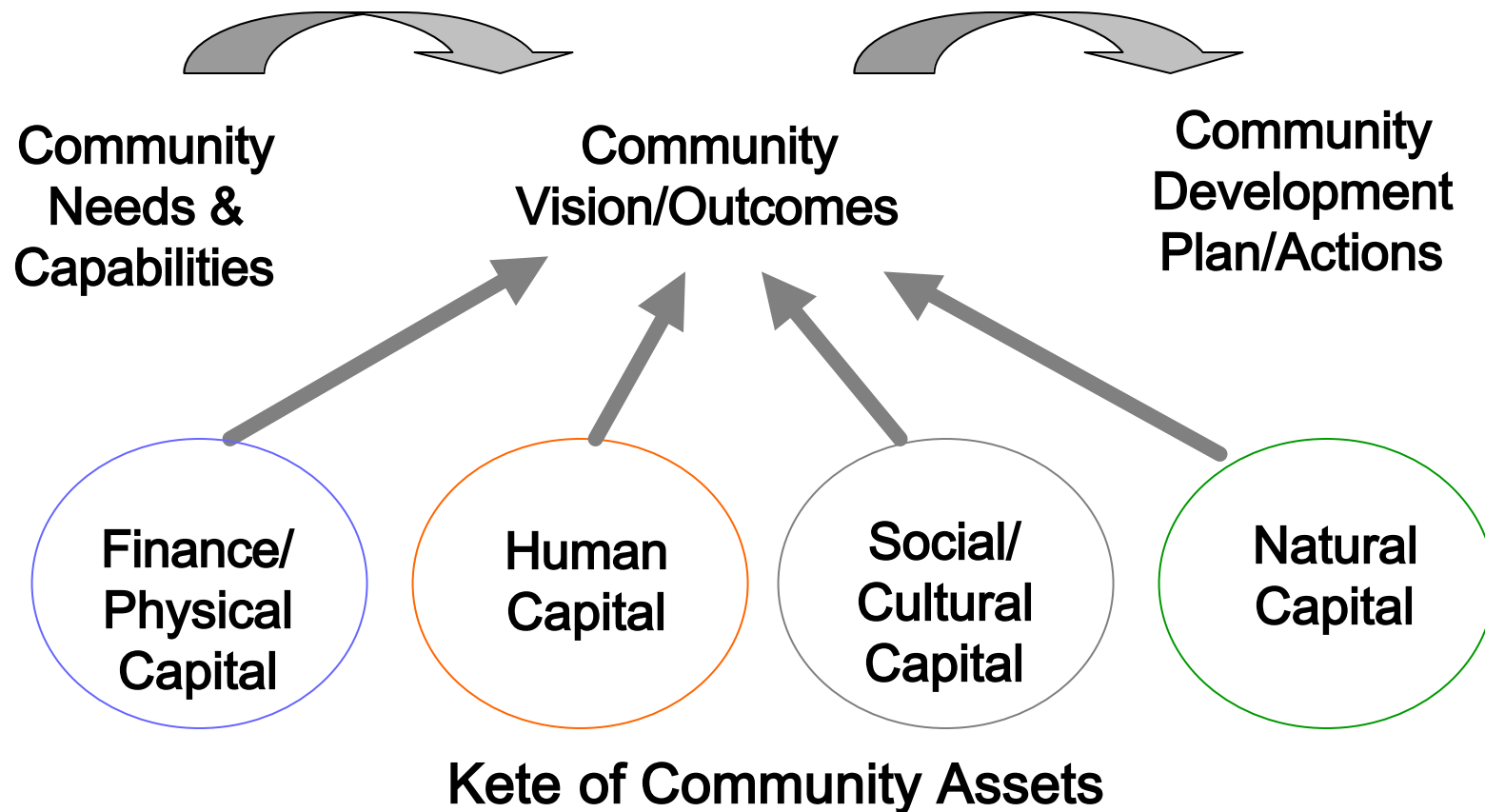
Investment Principles

- ✓ Achieve mutually agreed outcomes
- ✓ Foster partnerships & shared responsibility
- ✓ Consistent with the Treaty of Waitangi
- ✓ Address exclusion & intractable community problems
- ✓ Are benefit-cost effective
- ✓ Foster sustainable development
- ✓ Result in strengthening community capacity for self-determined development



Sustainable Community Development Planning

Whole Community/Hapu Participation





Kete of Components/Assets of Sustainable Communities

Economic

Finance
Capital
Physical
Infrastructure
Business
Employment
Trade

Human

Leadership
Innovation
Skills &
Knowledge
Education
Training

Social/Cultural

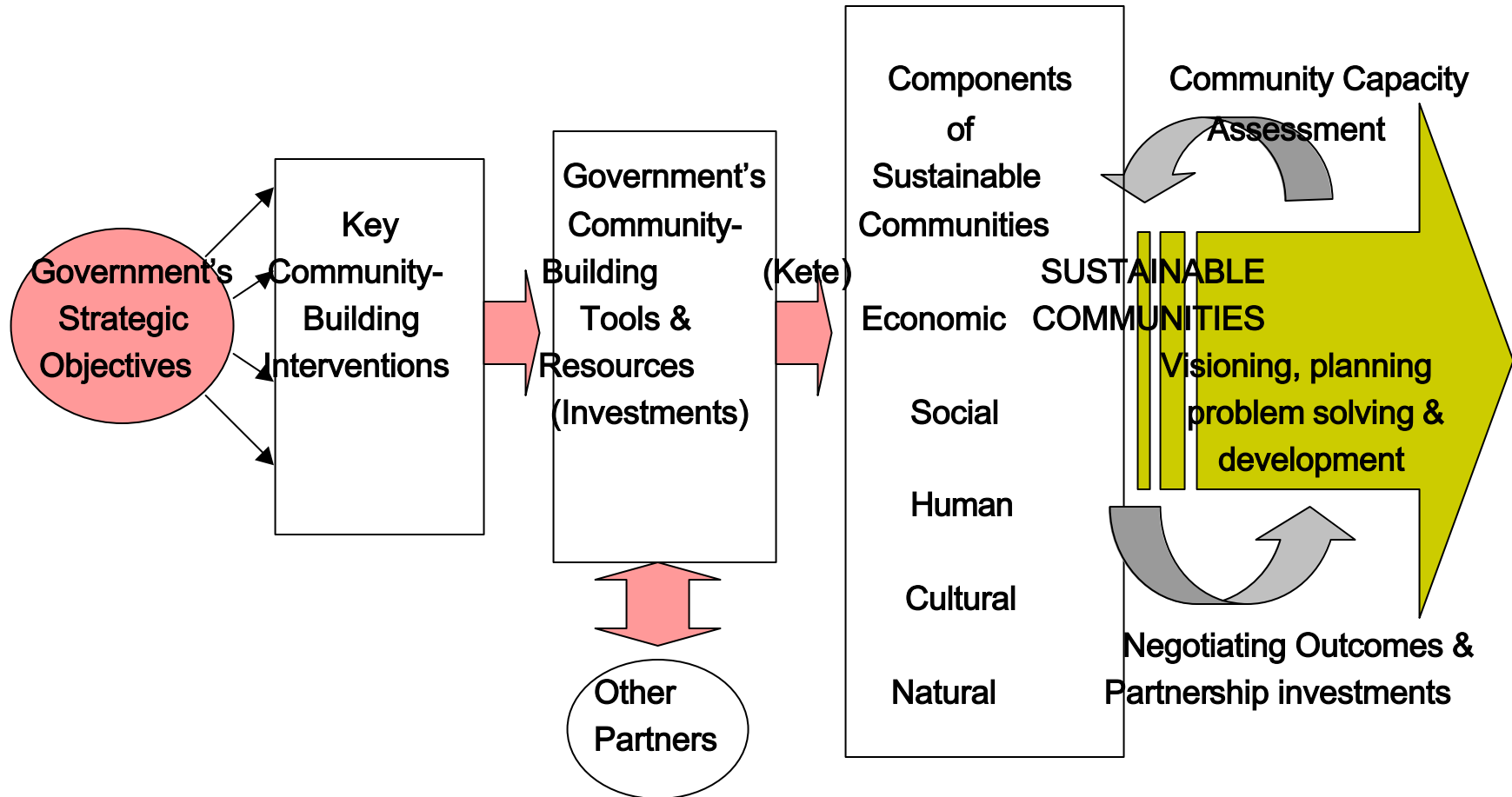
Social networks
Governance
Communications
Cultural knowledge
Reciprocity
Shared values
Spiritual beliefs

Natural

Land & minerals
Fresh Water
Marine life
Clean Air
Forests
Flora & fauna

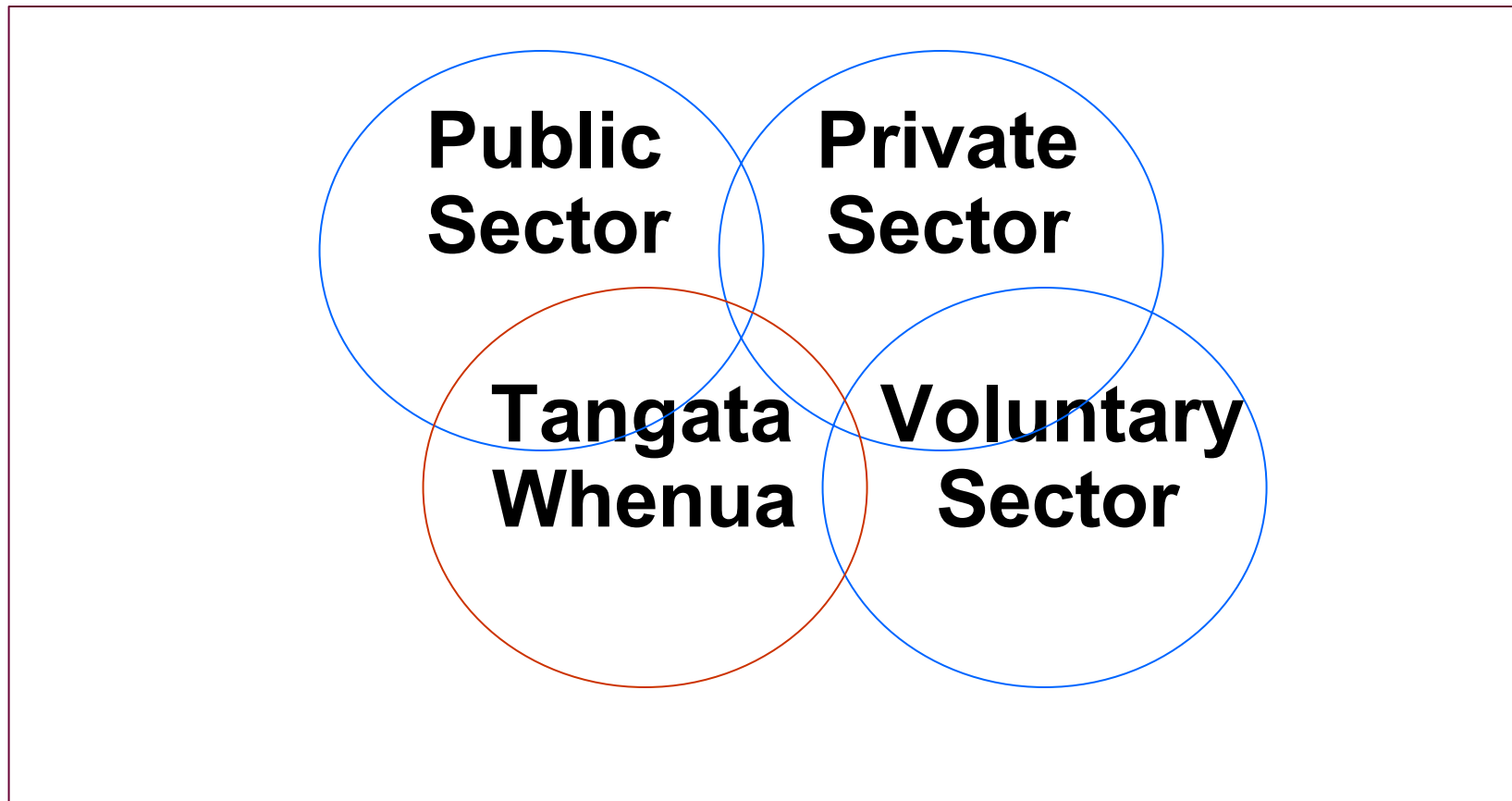


A Whole of Government Investment Model for Building Sustainable Communities





Local Community Partners





Example of Collaborative Community Development

Project “K” (Kaikohe):

- Role of advisors – catalysts, facilitators & brokers
- Stakeholder involvement across all sectors
- Community involvement in identifying local needs & community strategic planning
- Access to information and IT
- Supporting local leadership & community organisation capacity building
- Creating partnerships for co-ordinated resourcing





Time for a Co-ordinated Community Investment Approach

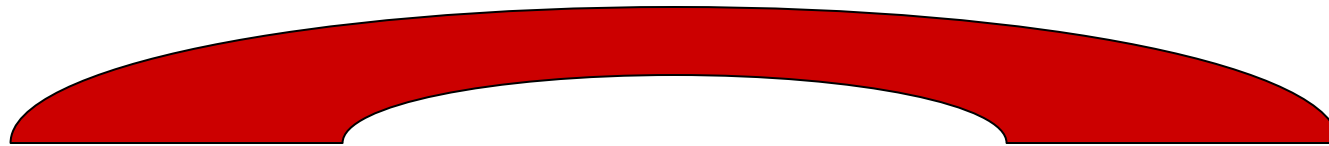
An inter-agency community building strategy is needed:

- To give effect to the Statement of Government Intentions for an Improved Community Government Relationship
- To respond to community/hapu/iwi expectations and flaxroots initiatives
- To give effect to New Zealand's commitment to be a world leader in sustainable development
- To enable communities to effectively utilise new Local Government legislation
- To align fragmented silo interventions, e.g. services and funding, to better benefit communities (Review of the Centre)

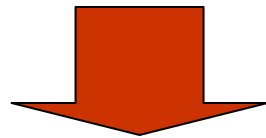




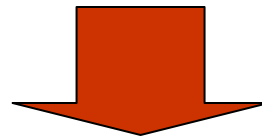
Key Communities for Government Strategic Engagement



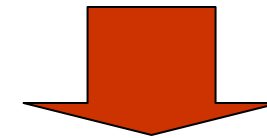
Developing Sustainable Communities



**Hapu
Development**



**Local
Community
Development**



**Pacific/Ethnic
Community
Development**





Strong Communities ...



- **Seek appropriate solutions together**
- **Provide people with a sense of belonging & purpose**
- **Share a vision and common values**
- **Have capable, enterprising leadership**
- **Have proactive, inclusive organisations**
- **Are resilient and resourceful**
- **Manage their own self-determined, sustainable development**

