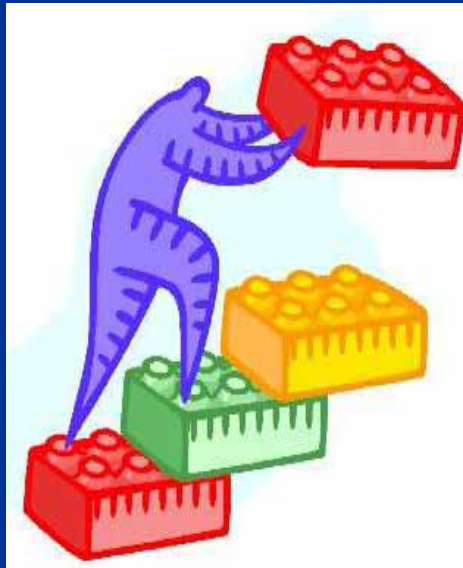


Social Learning in the Context of Adaptation to Climate Change



Chris High

Communication & Systems
Open University, UK

Outline

Understanding Adaptation

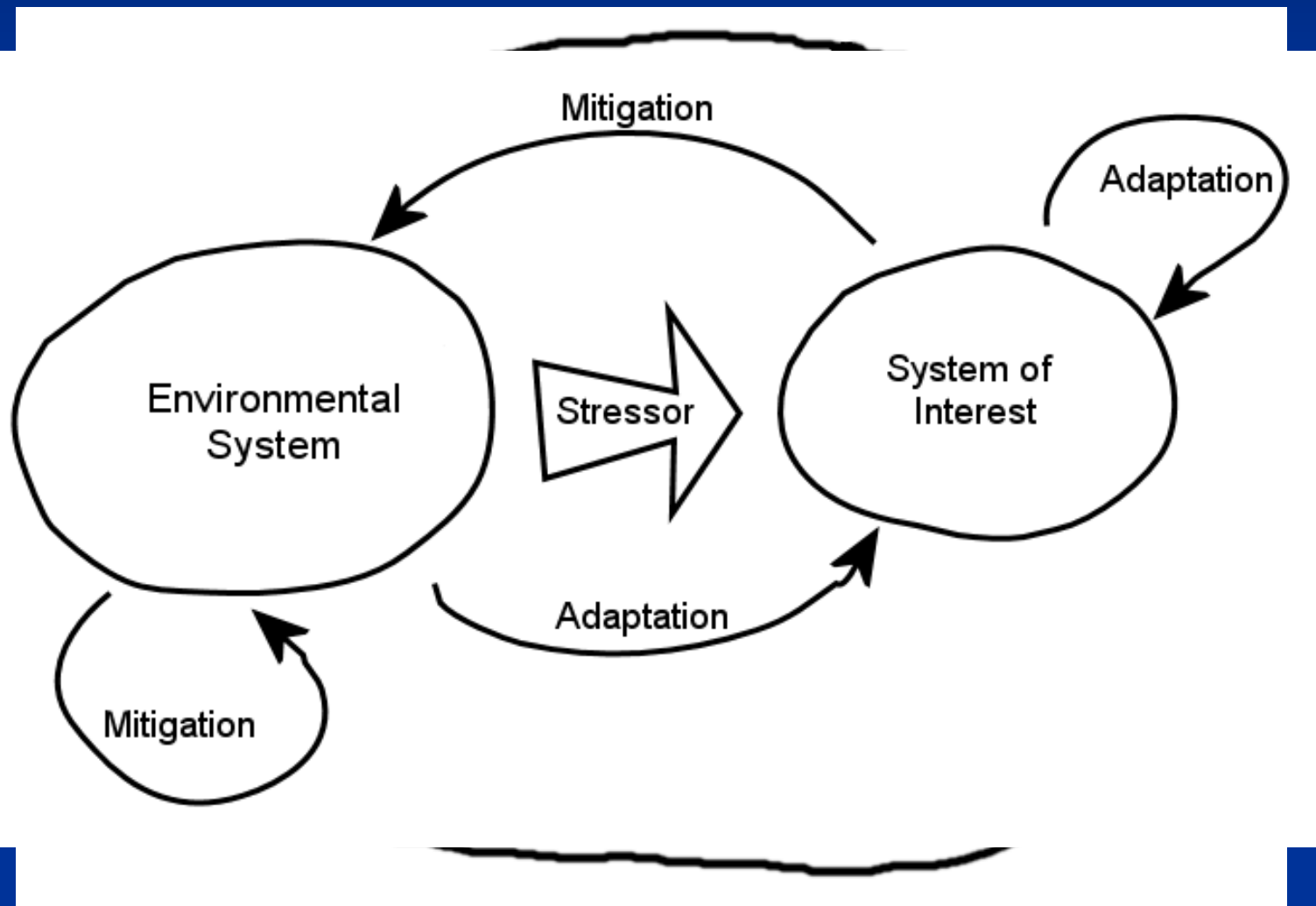
Institutional Systems

Social Learning

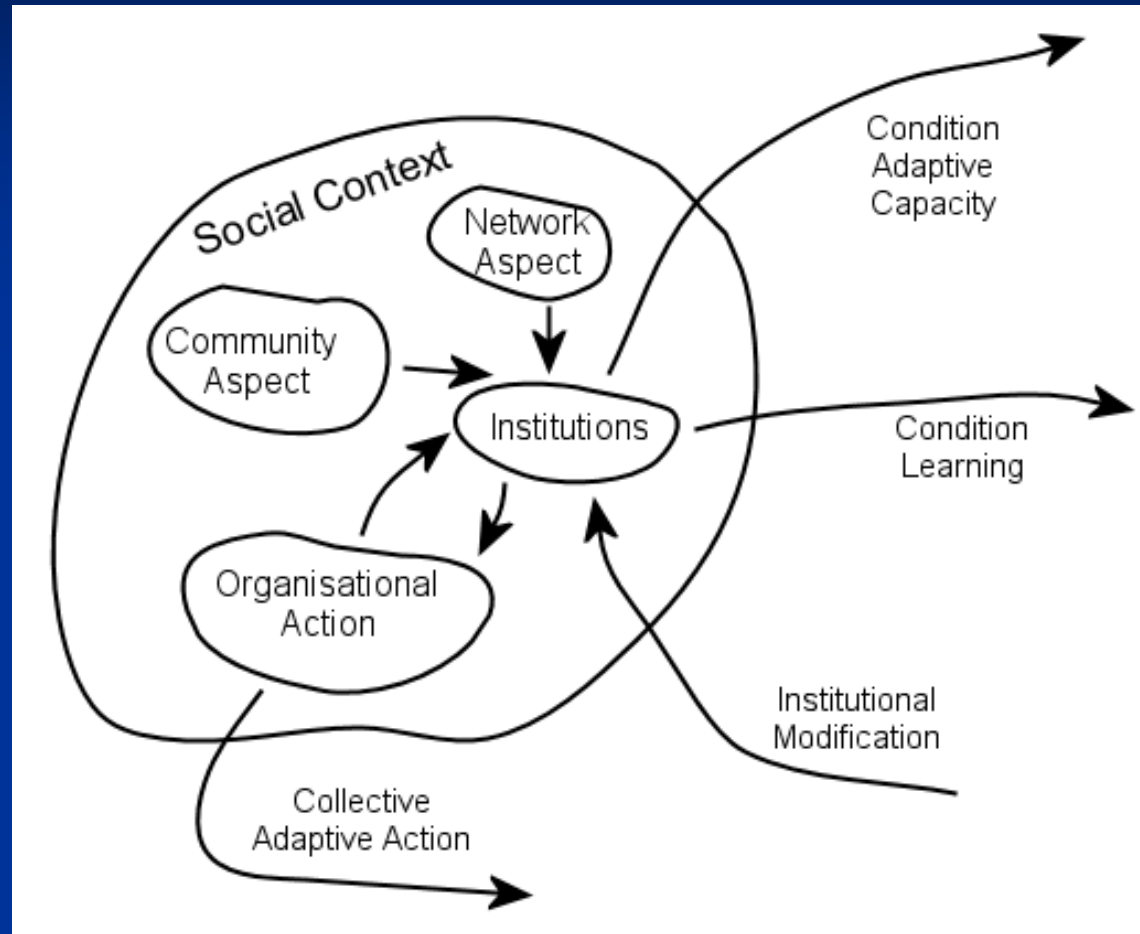
The Adaptive Challenge

Plan B

Understanding Adaptation

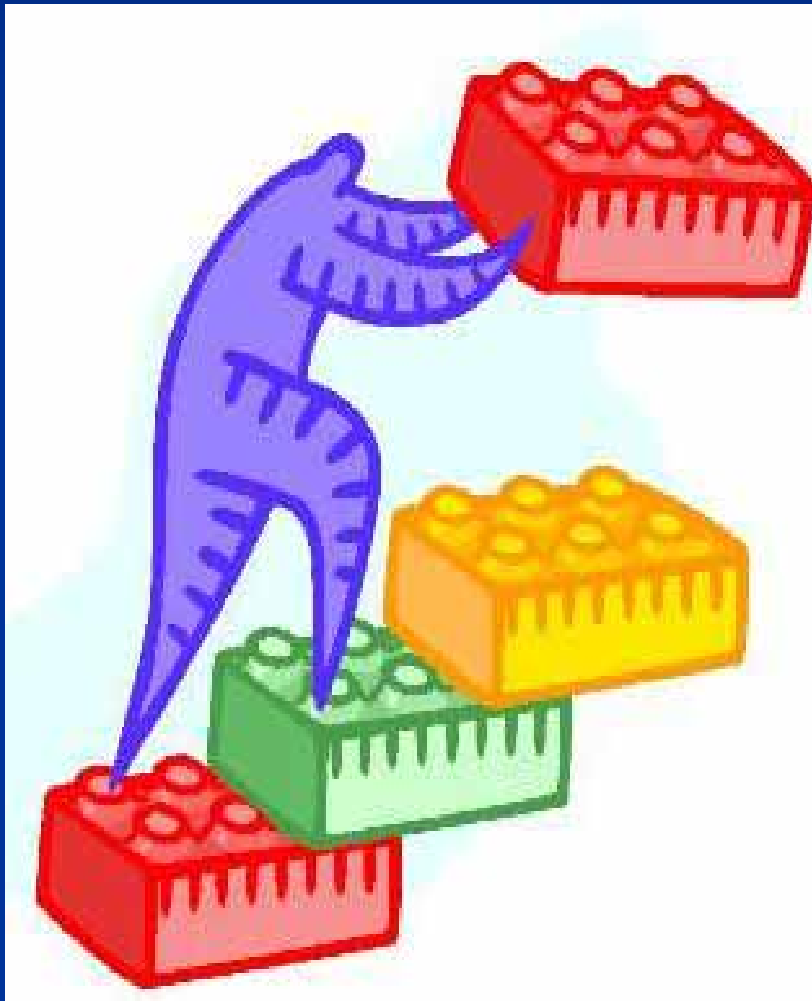


Adaptation to Rapid Climate Change



Post-doc work with Mark Pelling at Liverpool
Multi-layered study drawing on theory and
experience to understand possible futures

Institutional Architectures



Pelling et al (2008) :
Institutional
architectures

North (1990) : Institutions
are the rules of the
game, organisations are
the players

Campbell (2004) :
Institutional dynamics

Institutional Forms in Governance

- Hierarchy
- Market
- Network

Thompson (2003)



Institutional Forms in Organisations



Formal : Informal

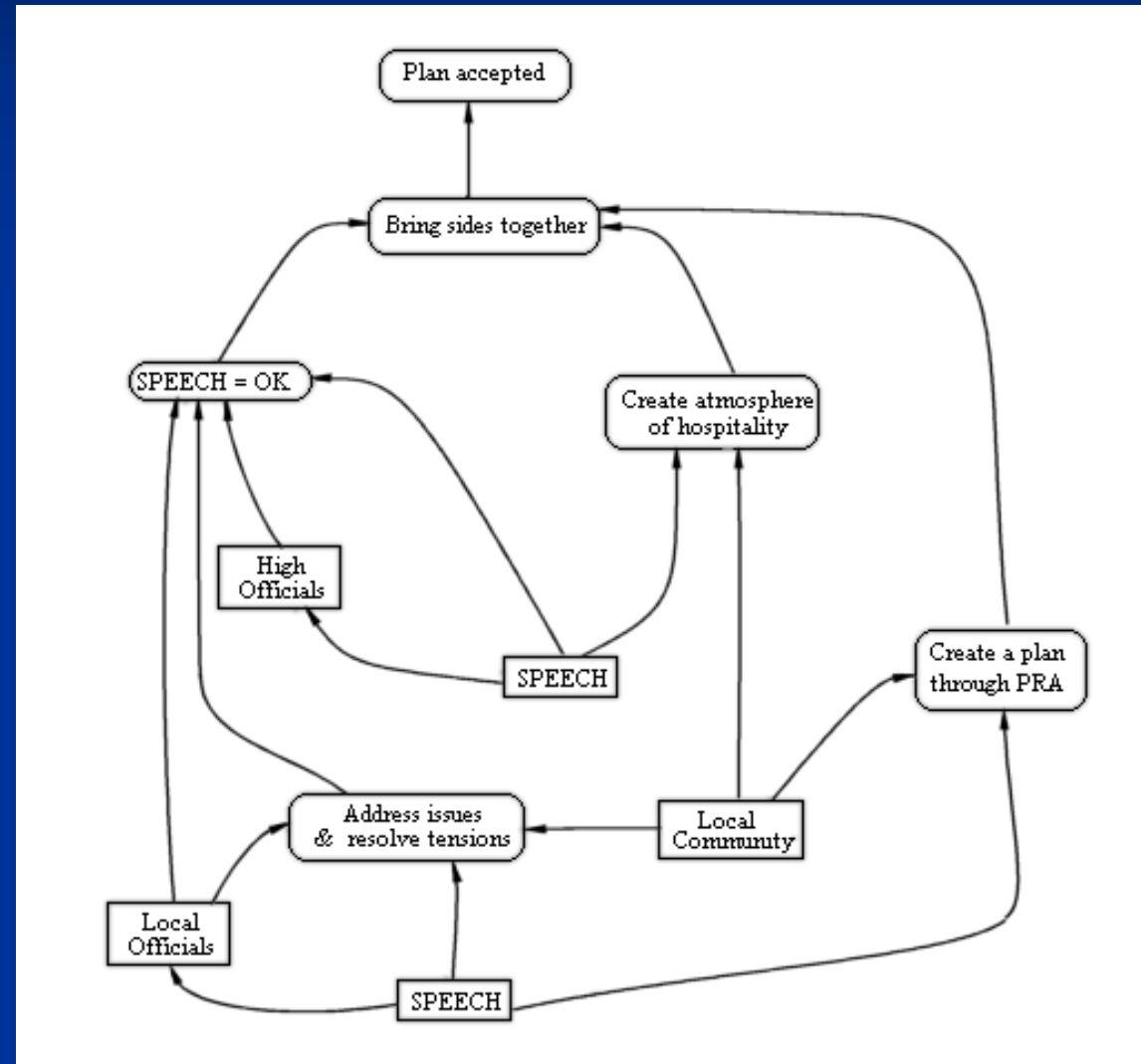
Shadow : Canonical

Understanding the Shadows

Formal and
informal channels

Articulation of
shadow and
canonical trust

Ethical payoff



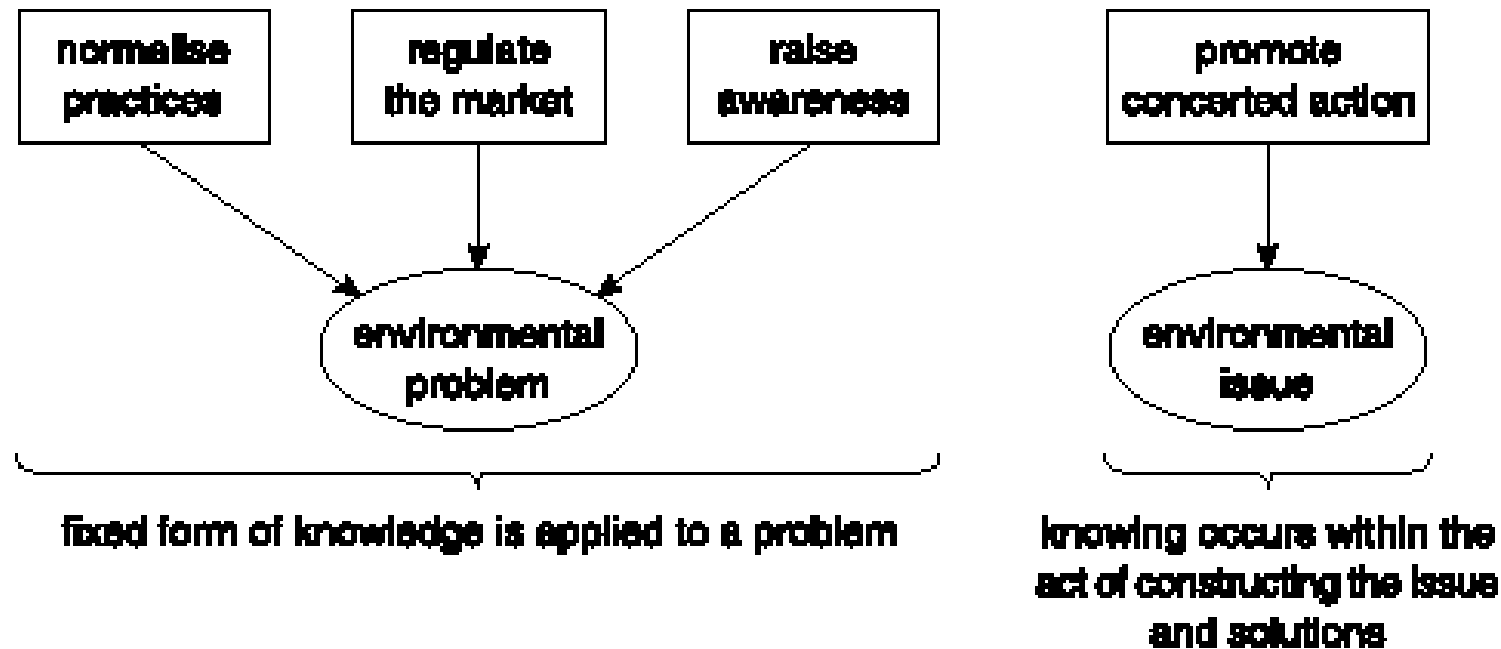
Institutional Systems



Informal Institutions

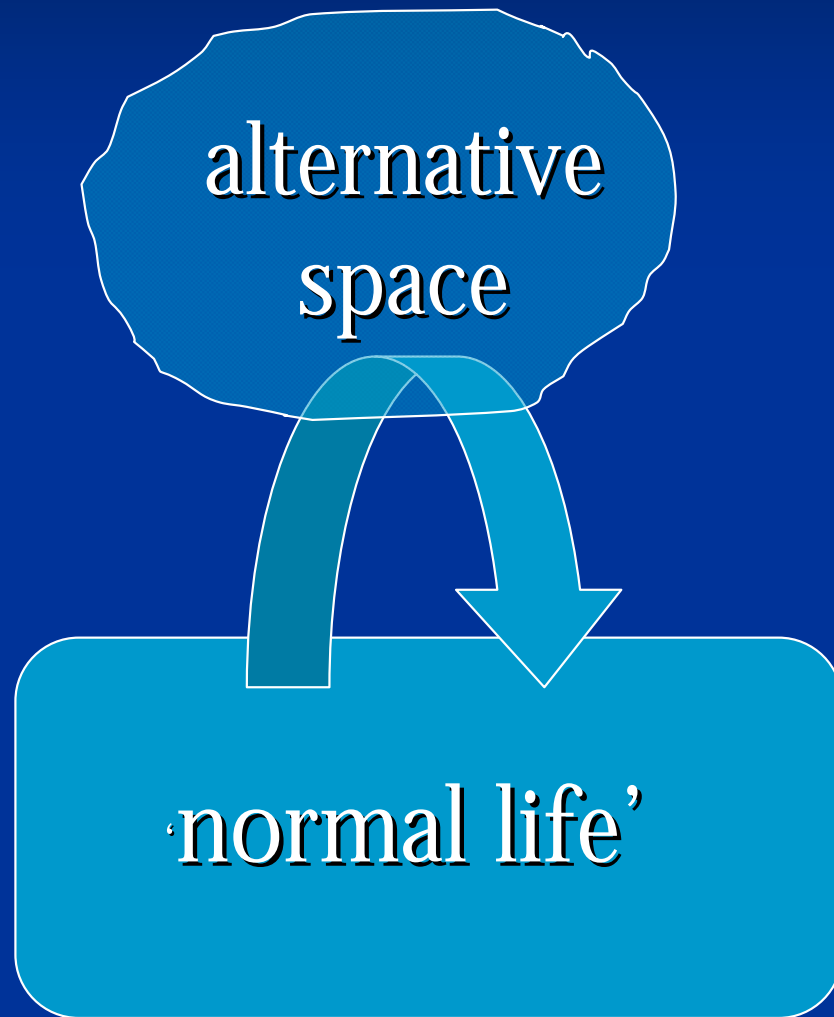
School	Community	Network
Social Capital	Bonding	Bridging
Granovetter	Strong Ties	Weak Ties
COPs (Wenger)	Community	Constellation
Cultural Theory (Interpreted)	Egalitarian	Individualist

Social Learning



Ison et al (2004)

Social Learning



Multi-stakeholder
learning processes

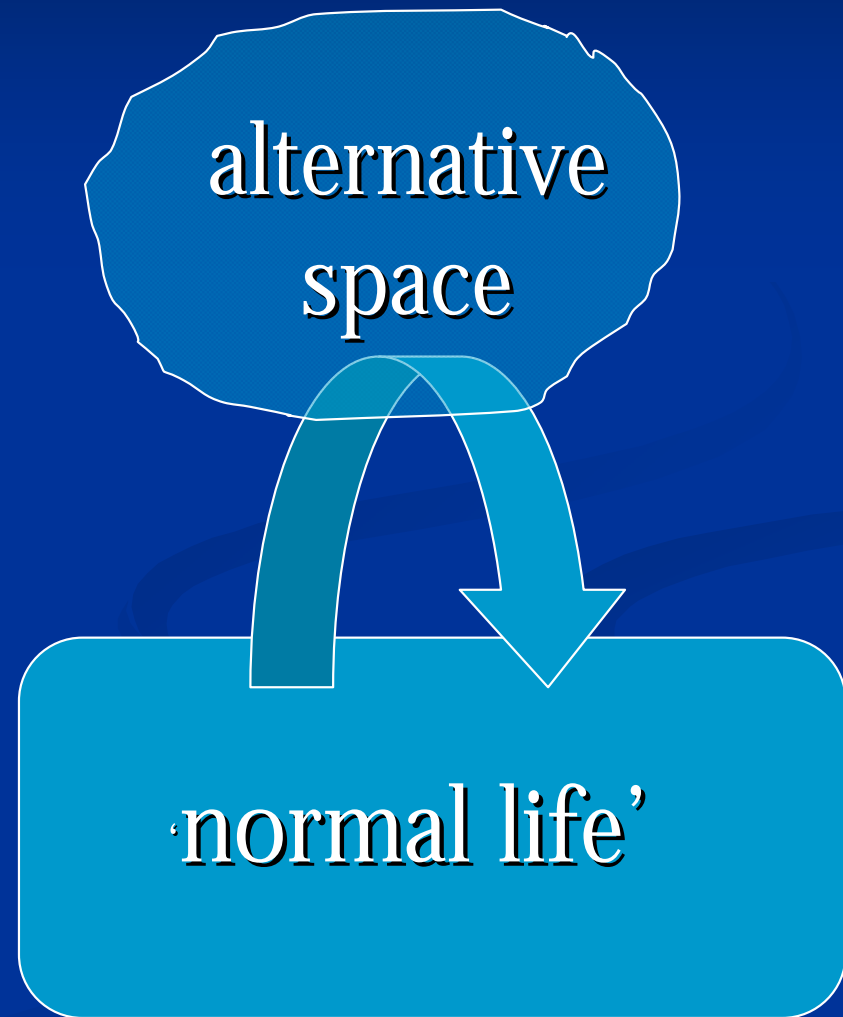
Emphasises soft skills,
EQ etc.

Niches, alternative
policy coalitions etc.

Social Learning

Learning gives rise to novelty in:

- Propositional knowledge
- Capacity to act
- Relationships



Institutional Strategies



Accommodation

Reflexive Agency

Mediation

Bricolage

Niche Management

Current and Future Stressors



Current and Future Stressors



5 -100 year time scale

Environmental challenges

Energy descent

Institutional vulnerability

Two Scenarios



What do we want to conserve?

Plan B

As nations we spend money
on adaptive infrastructure

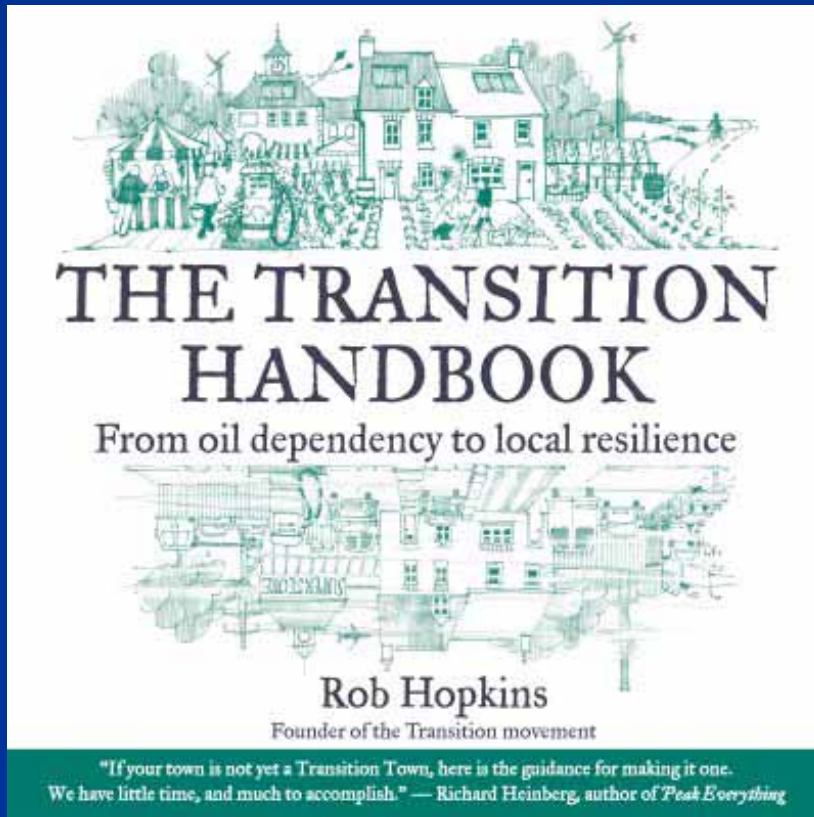
Adaptive capacity has a basis
in social fabric

Can we invest in social and
human capital too?



Plan B

Transition movement,
intermediate technology,
clubs and societies, etc. etc.



Can we prepare for less
desirable tomorrows in
ways that have a short-run
payoff too?

Research and policy agenda

Building a policy platform for adaptation and resilience

Links between social structure and adaptive capacity

How to interpret this idea in terms of the 'risk/security industry'.





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