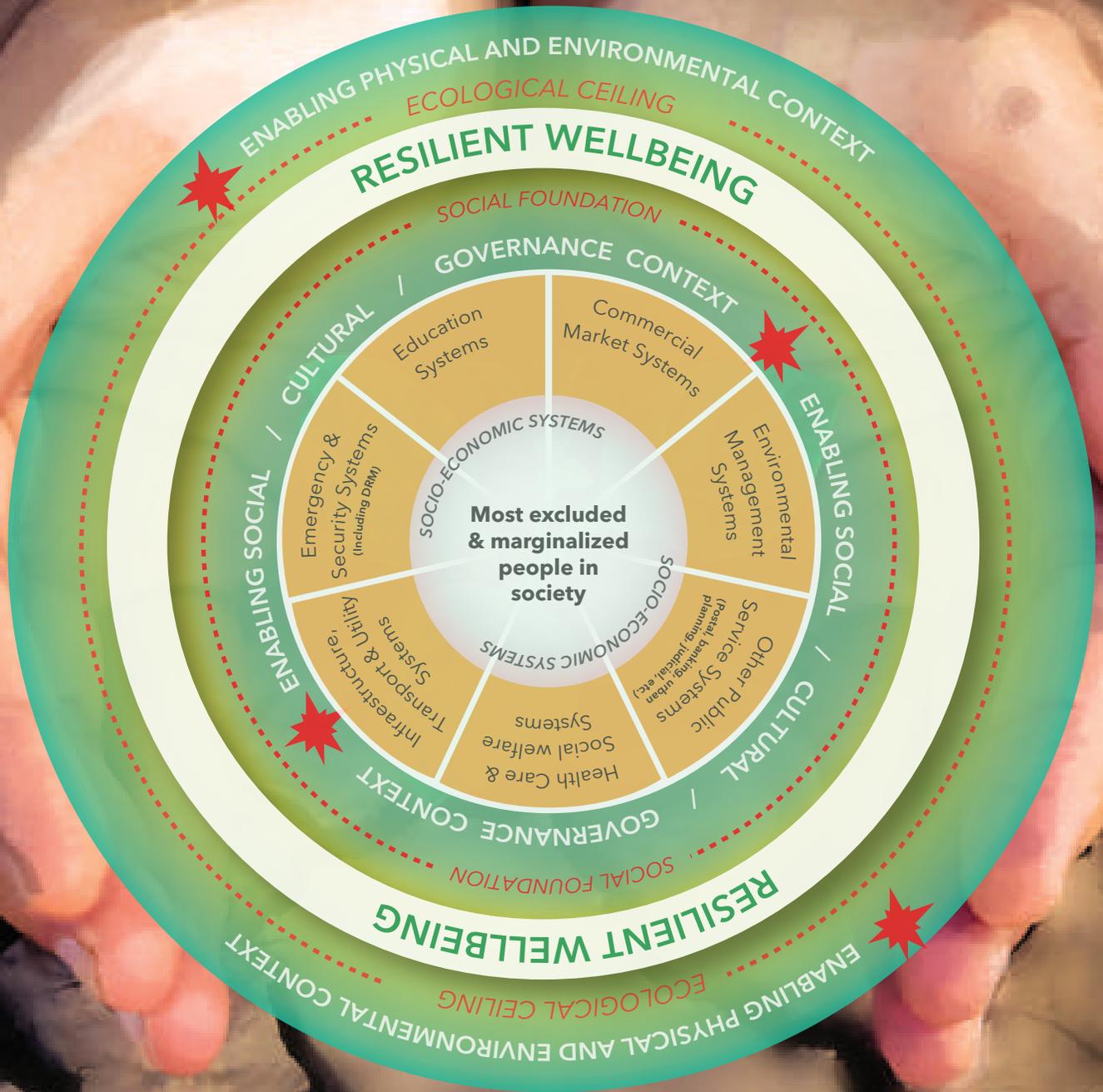


R4S Approach

Analysis of the Resilience for Social Systems



I What is the R4S Approach?

'R4S' or Resilience for Social Systems is an approach to analyzing the resilience of socio-economic systems. GOAL recognizes that societies are made up of socio-economic systems which service the needs of their populations and that addressing recurrent crises and effectively building resilience requires an integrated systems approach. Where these systems are fragile and large portions of the population are socially or economically marginalized, communities are highly susceptible to external shocks and stresses; coordination among stakeholders to strengthen these systems will ultimately improve resilience and lead to sustainable development. R4S is an innovative approach to build resilience of vulnerable communities using a systems approach.

I Why use the Resilience for Social Systems (R4S) Approach?

Shocks and stresses impact on social systems and reverse hard earned development gains disproportionately affecting the poorest and most vulnerable. Resilience of vulnerable populations to hazards is related to how well critical social systems are functioning for vulnerable populations in normal times and during in times of crisis. The R4S Approach was developed to inform a resilience approach to the implementation of humanitarian and development interventions by improving understanding of social systems and how they react to shocks and stresses. Humanitarian and development programmes which do not account for the resilience of vulnerable groups or the socio-economic systems on which they depend are much more likely to result in negative consequences in the short and/or long-term. The R4S Approach intends to address this need by providing a mechanism for selecting and analyzing the current resilience state of critical socio-economic systems and provide recommendations on how to build or strengthen the resilience of these systems.

"Resilience is the the ability to bounce back and return to a fixed stable state of equilibrium following a shock."

Holling 1973 in Béné et al. 2012

“System’s thinking allows people to make their understanding about social systems explicit and improve them.”

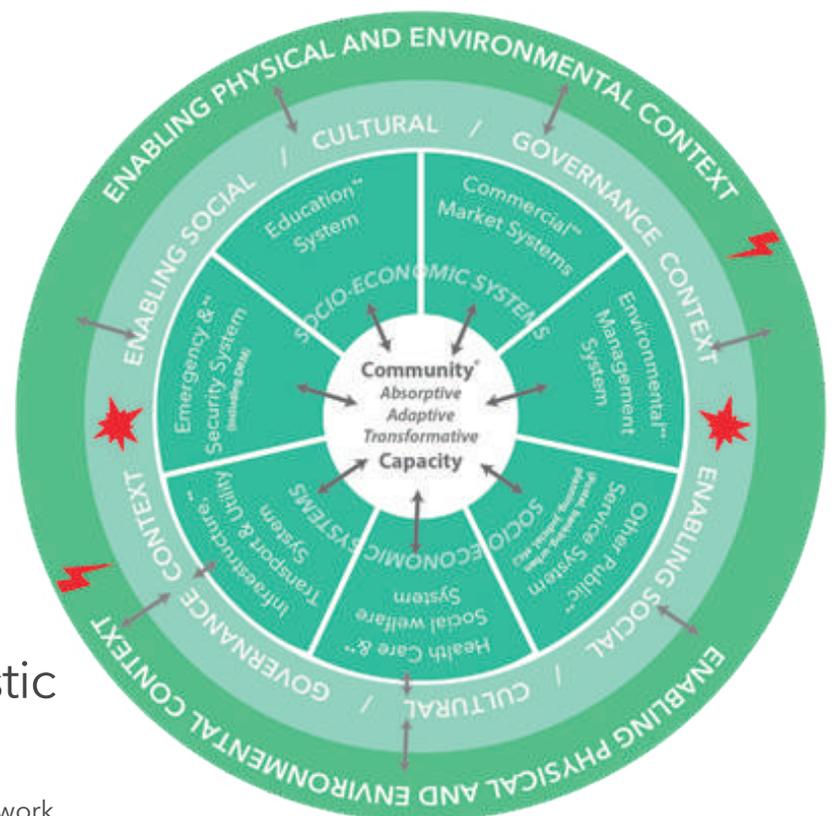
Aronson, 1998

Analytical Framework for Resilience of Social Systems

GOAL’s Analytical Framework for Resilience of Social Systems depicts the target group (eg. household, community) at the center, operating within or interacting with socio-economic systems that influence the target group’s overall well-being, which are in turn immersed in a general and broader encompassing context that is composed of two levels: (1) The ‘Social/Cultural/Governance’ context and (2) the ‘Physical and Environmental’ context.

The Resilience Wheel depicts (7) categories of socio-economic systems:

1. Education Systems
2. Emergency & Security Systems (including Disaster Risk Management)
3. Infrastructure, Transport & Utility Systems
4. Health Care & Social Welfare Systems
5. Commercial Market Systems
6. Environmental Management Systems
7. Public Administration Systems (urban planning, judicial system, etc.)



How the R4S Approach differs from other diagnostic tools?

The R4S Approach applies Systems Thinking, Network Theory, Scenario Thinking and Resilience tools to provide a practical and structured step by step process to assess the resilience of complex social systems. One of the central innovations in R4S is its mapping tool which aims to improve understanding of complex socio-economic systems and facilitate analysis of these systems. R4S also provides new guidance on analyzing determinant factors of resilient systems including Connectivity, Diversity, Redundancy, Governance, Participation and Learning.

- ARC D (Analysis of Resilience in Communities)
- R4S (Resilience for Social Systems)
- ★ Man made hazards
- ⚡ Natural hazards

Figure 1. GOAL's Resilience Wheel

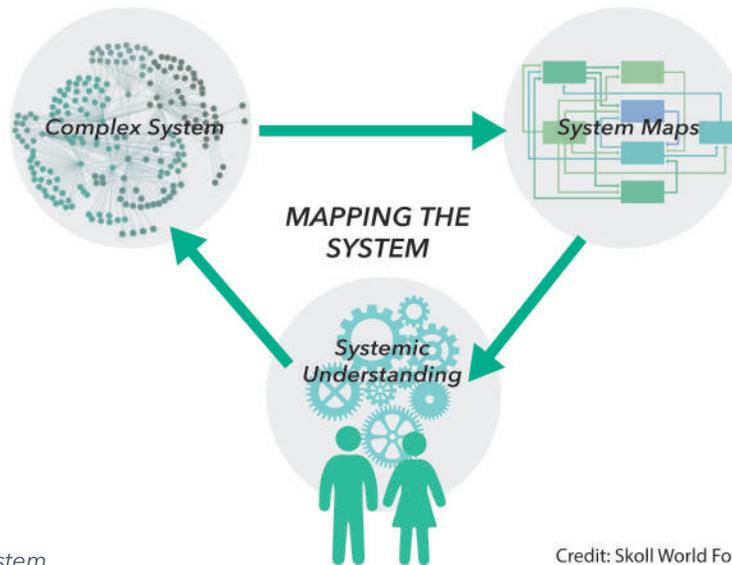


Figure 2. Mapping the system

Credit: Skoll World Forum

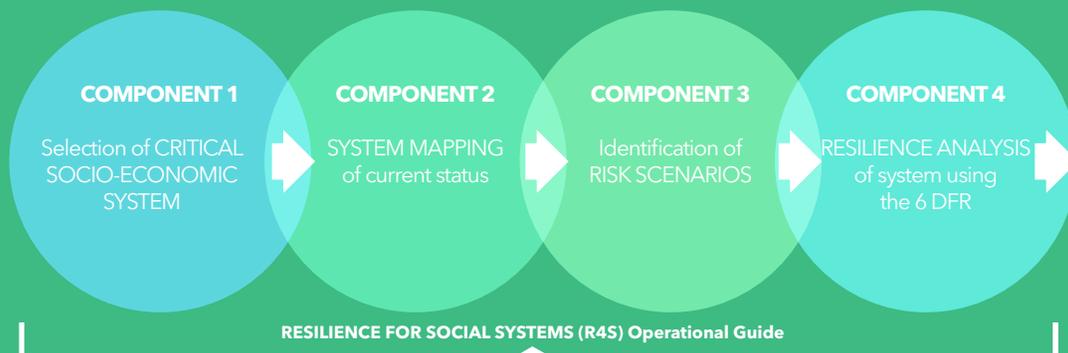
I 6 Determinant Factors of Resilience

After a comprehensive study and analysis of the elements that determine the resilience of a system (ecological, social or commercial) the Resilience for Social Systems (R4S) Approach has chosen the following as the metrics for measuring resilience:

1. **Connectivity:** The degree to which a system transfers the impact of shocks and stresses across a system reducing the degree of impact a single or small group of actor nodes (i.e. target group) receives. Connectivity should be viewed from the perspective of ensuring the system's functionality and the protection afforded to the target group.
2. **Diversity:** Refers to the different forms through which a system can function, which are sufficiently different such that a single risk scenario will not disable the entire system's functionality. A good level of Diversity will allow the system to continue functioning in different or adapted ways when impacted by shocks/stresses.
3. **Redundancy:** Having a back-up plan through which the system continues to function, should some actors become unavailable after being impacted by shocks and stresses. It refers to having a sufficient number and capacity of actors that can continue carrying out the system's functions.
4. **Governance:** From a system's resilience perspective Governance relates to whether the system has the capacity to take decisions and act as a whole using complex adaptive thinking. Reflected through how actors throughout the system become aware of potential risks, how they organize themselves to make decisions to face those risks and if through these decisions the system's leader(s) are able to guide the system to a position of an acceptable level of impact ensuring the system's functionality.
5. **Participation:** Refers to how inclusive the system is in taking into account the needs of vulnerable or disadvantaged actors. Does the system function in benefit of only a small group of the overall system actors, does it make the provision to protect vulnerable groups, what is the degree of freedom to associate, participate and speak?
6. **Learning:** Reflects how the system as a whole learns through feedback loops in response to past experiences or proactively from learning exchanges. Does it show Learning at the individual and group level, through practices, interactions and processes?

Structure of the R4S Approach

The Resilience for Social Systems (R4S) Approach is structured into four key components as follows:



How will the R4S Approach measure the resilience of a social system?

The R4S Guidance Manual describes the series of steps to be followed and the specific frameworks and tools to select and analyse socio-economic systems.

COMPONENT 1. Selection of critical socio-economic systems based on Relevance, Opportunity, Feasibility and Resilience¹.

Component 1 includes:

1. Context Analysis
-Determination of target groups
2. Review of Resilience Strategies for target group.
3. Identification of Critical Socio-Economic Systems.
3. Determination of Key Performance Indicators

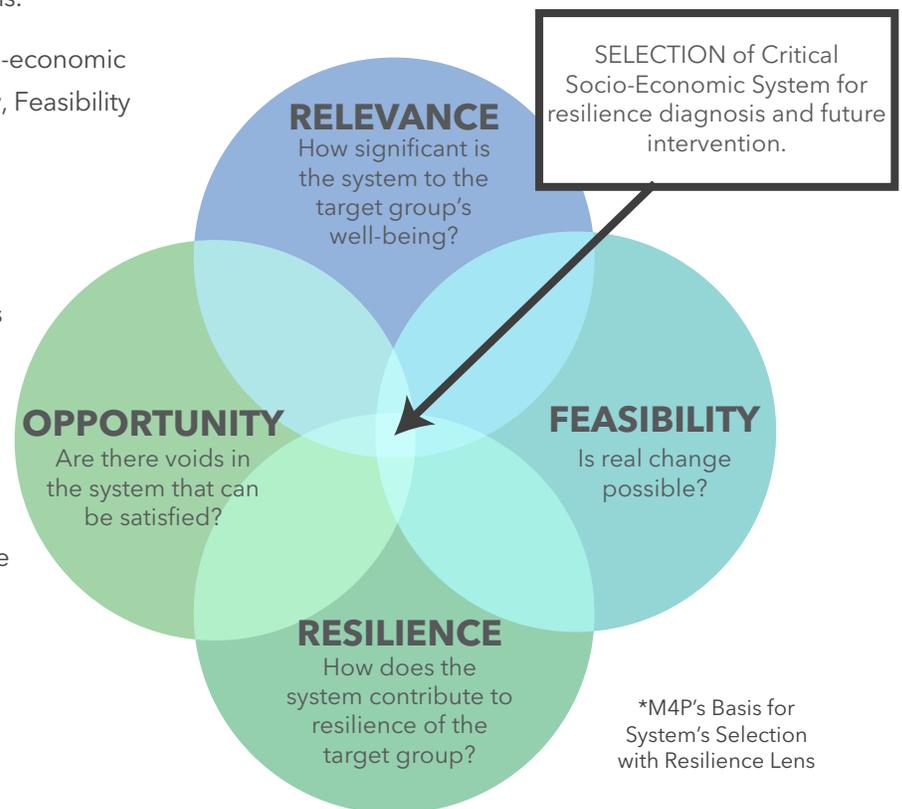
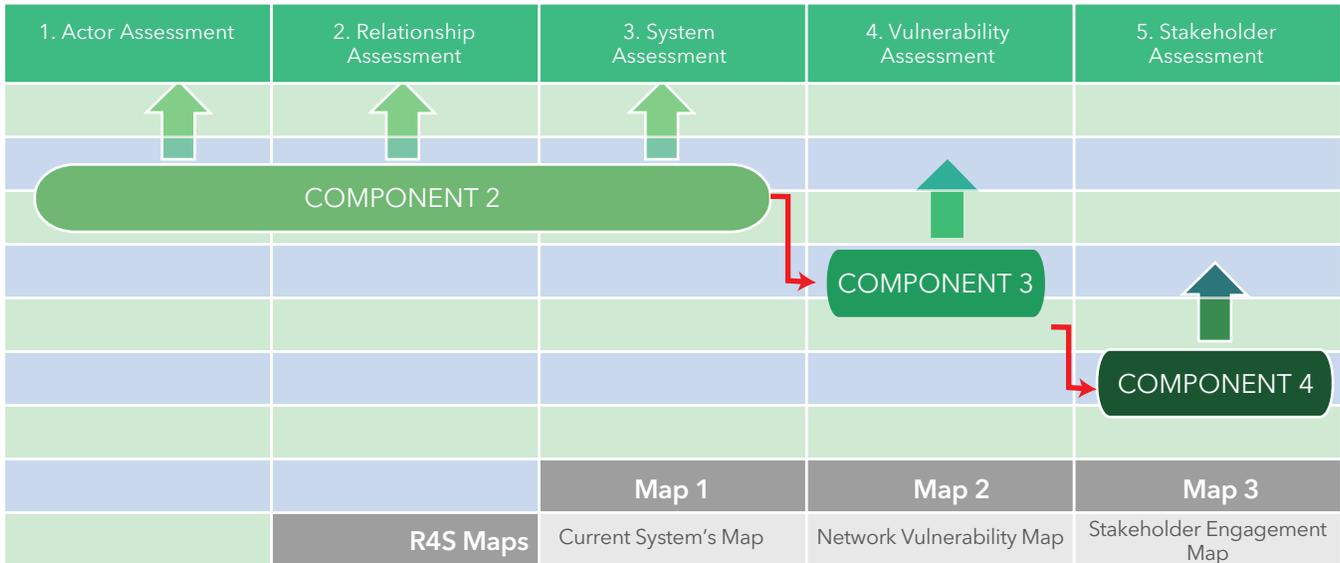


Figure 3. Basis for Socio-Economic System Selection

COMPONENT 2. System Mapping of the Current Status of Selected Socio-Economic System(s)

The Stakeholder Assessment Matrix (SAM) is a tool designed to process the stakeholder information and proceed to develop R4S System Maps (an iterative process will occur between the 'SAM' and the different SystemMaps).

Stakeholder Assessment Matrix (SAM)



The R4S System Maps represent the system’s architecture, with the commercial or non-commercial transactional process of the system in the middle section (value chain) with the target group clearly identified, and the supporting functions of the system (in the upper green section) and critical regulatory functions (in the bottom orange section) of the system’s enabling environment (Refer to Figure 6). R4S maps are a compilation of information gathered through an iterative process which is constantly updated as understanding of the system deepens and new data is collected in consultation with market actors.

COMPONENT 3. Identification and Selection of Risk Scenarios with Potential to Affect the selected systems.

Component 3 includes:

1. Determination scope of risk analysis
2. Analysis of risk landscape
3. Determination of root risks and secondary risks (cause and effect)
4. Evaluation of probability of occurrence of root risks
5. Determination of risk scenarios for 'Vulnerability Assessment' (in Stakeholder Assessment Matrix)
6. Development of a Network Vulnerability Map based on the identified risk scenarios

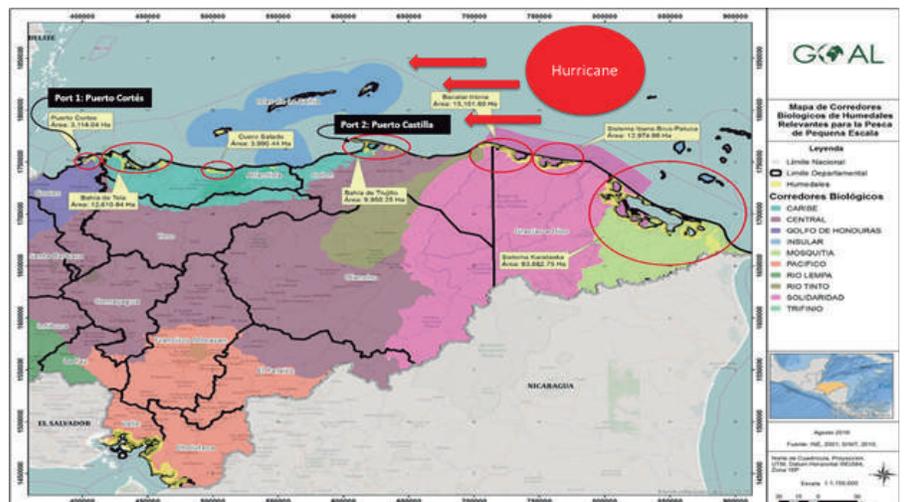


Figure 4. Selection of Risk Scenarios

COMPONENT 4. Resilience Analysis of Critical Socio-Economic System Based on the 6 Determinant Factors of Resilience.

Under component 4 the System Map is analysed against the risk scenarios using the following steps:

1. Resilience Analysis against the 6 Determinant Factors of Resilience (Refer to *Figure 5*)
2. Stakeholder Engagement Map
3. Theory of Change
4. Ideal System's Map (Refer to *Figure 7*)

Level and Category		Description
1	No or Minimal Connectivity/Diversity/Redundancy/Governance/Participation/Learning	Little awareness of issues and no action.
2	Low Connectivity/Diversity/Redundancy/Governance/Participation/Learning	Some awareness and motivation, some action, but action is piecemeal and short-term
3	Medium Connectivity/Diversity/Redundancy/Governance/Participation/Learning	Awareness and long-term actions, but these are not linked to a long-term strategy and/or not all aspects of the problem are addressed
4	Approaching Optimal Connectivity/Diversity/Redundancy/Governance/Participation/Learning	Actions are long-term, linked to strategy and address main aspects of the issue, but there are still deficiencies (especially systemic) in implementation
5	Optimal Connectivity/Diversity/Redundancy/Governance/Participation/Learning	Actions long-term, linked to strategy, addressing all aspects of the issue, embedded in society and sustainably systemic) in implementation

Figure 5. Resilience Analysis against the 6 Determinant Factors of Resilience

Guidance Manual

The *R4S Operational Guide* provides users with a detailed description of the steps of each of the 4 Components and tools and frameworks necessary for the resilience diagnosis of socio-economic systems, it also contains the rationale and theory behind its development.



Who should use the R4S Approach?

- Any organization in the process of shaping its thinking around disaster resilience and one who needs a disaster-focused overview of resilience, as well as a comprehensive understanding of social systems.
- Organizations with a long-term commitment and portfolio in disaster resilience, who need a “view of the forest” to inform the strategic direction of their programming.
- National and local governments who want to understand the disaster resilience of key systems to identify areas of weakness and better coordinate their efforts and those of organizations working in their areas.
- Organizations active in advocacy and government departments needing evidence to shape policy decisions for socio-economic systems.

Market Players' Coordination

Market Players' Coordination



Stock management

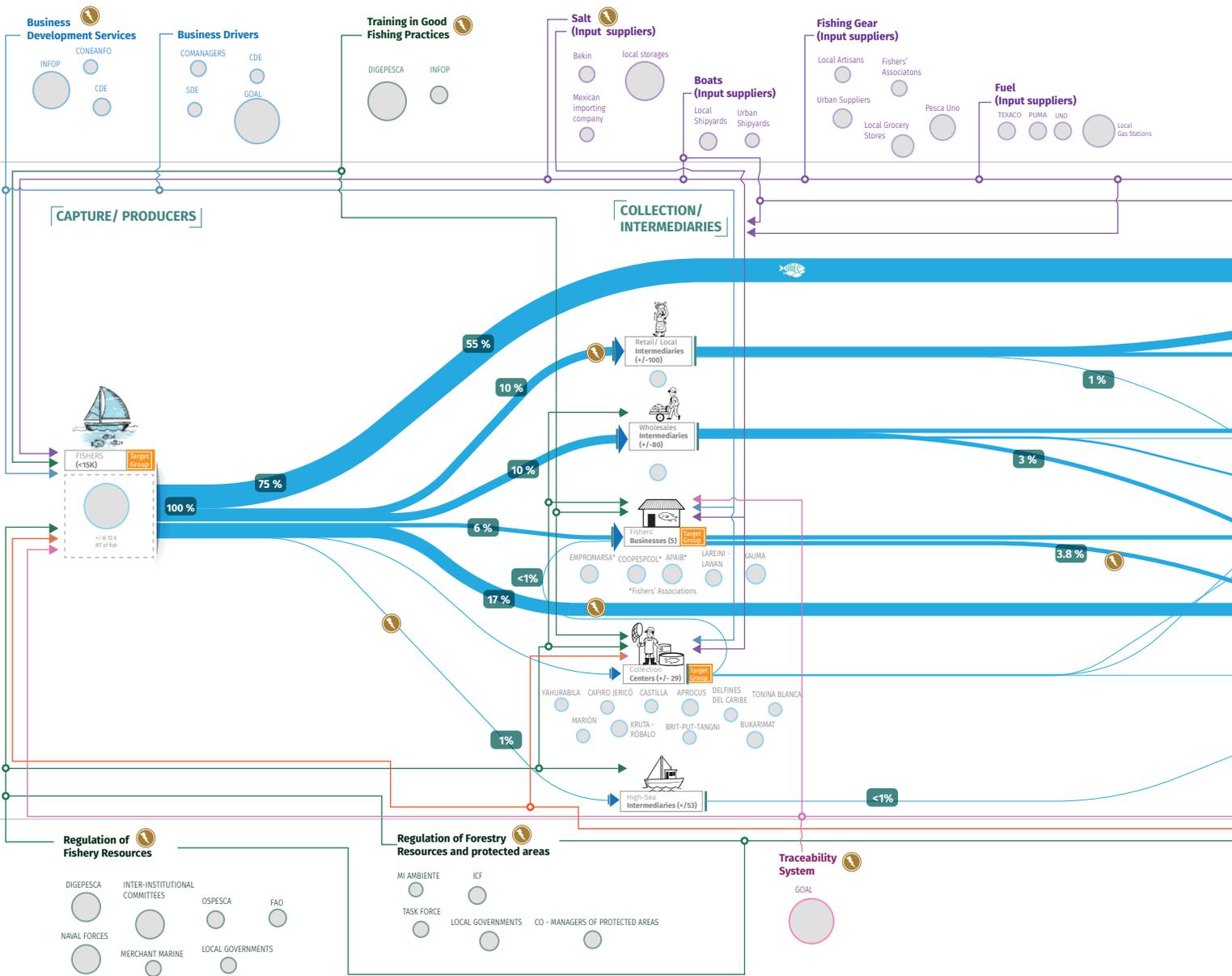
Scientific Investigation



SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS

Transaction Chain [INPUT]

REGULATORY FUNCTIONS



Natural Resources Regulation



Regulation of cross-border fishing
Weak regulation, is not regulated as it should be, very weak characteristics.

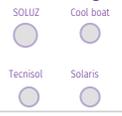


The Transaction Chain, in the middle of the map, demonstrates the volume of production that goes through the different distribution channels (or actors), from the producers all the way to the end consumers (it has been assumed nothing goes to waste). The Supporting Functions are in the top section of the map and the Regulatory Functions are in the bottom section; each containing 3 different levels of connectedness to the Target Group: Direct, Indirect or Absent Interrelationship.

LEGEND



Renewable Energy for Cold Storage:



Business & financial services

Marketing/ Investigation-Information



Financial Services



CAYCOL



TIGO MONEY



CAYCSOL



FAMA



Informal Credit



Supplies & logistics services

Ice Suppliers (Input suppliers)



APAB (* Fishers' Business)



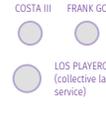
EMPROMARSA



Equipment Repair Services



Transportation Services

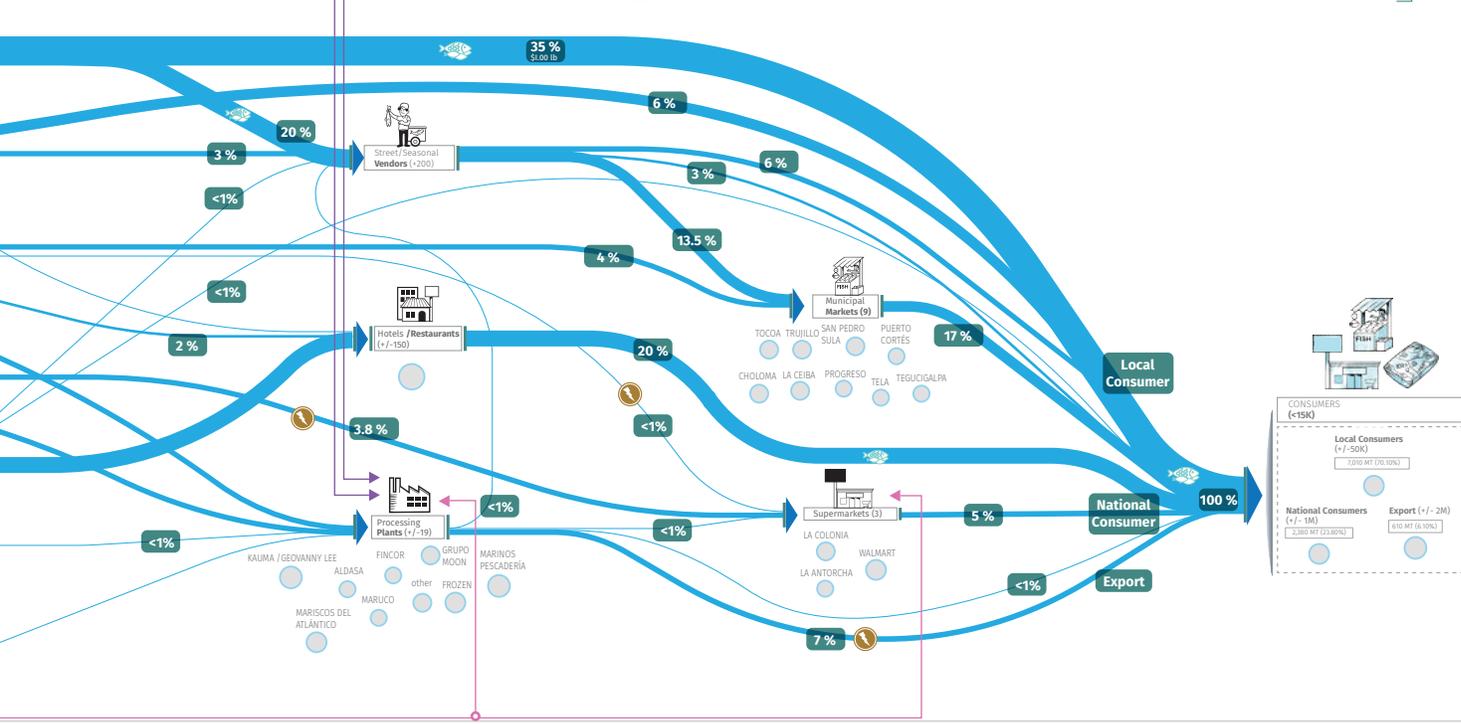


Equipment Suppliers



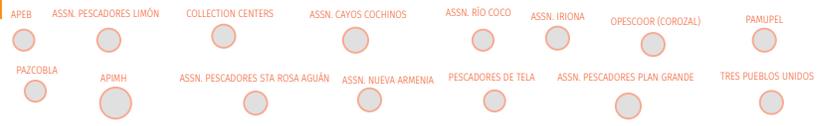
RETAIL/ PROCESSING

CONSUMPTION



Fishers' Associations/ Cooperatives

Target Group



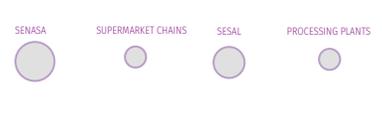
Indigenous People's Rights Protection



Municipalities (Operating permits)



Hygiene / Food safety standards



Tax Regulation



Governance



EWS/DRR Management



Early Warning & Response Systems (EWRS)



Business Operation Regulations/ Permits



Hygiene / Food Safety Security



ABSENT INTERRELATIONSHIP

INDIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP

DIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP

OUTPUT

INDIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP

INDIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP

ABSENT INTERRELATIONSHIP

RESILIENCE FOR SOCIAL SYSTEMS 'R4S' APPROACH
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MAP
Current System

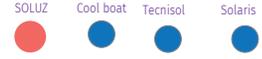
System: Small-Scale Fisheries Market System in the Honduran North Atlantic Coast

Date: May/2019 - Revision Number: 03
Prepared by: Mario Argeñal/ Gabriela Cáceres/ Ana Córdova/
Carlos Villatoro/ Darwin Castillo/ Sayri Molina/
Reviewed by: Luigi Loddo/ Bernard McCaull

The 'R4S' Stakeholder Engagement Map is based in the Current System Map. It represents all the different type of players that exist in the small-scale fisheries system according to two key elements: their influence capacity over the system & Interest and incentives to improve the system based on the Systemic Theory of Change and System Change Map developed in Step 4.3. The stakeholder analysis uses a scale from 1 to 5 for capacity and also a 1 to 5 scale for interest and incentive, where 1 is the lowest score and 5 the highest score possible. As the Legend on the upper right hand corner illustrates, the Stakeholder Engagement Map reflects four (4) types of actors.

'Key Players' are represented as red circles, and they could be considered the most important type of actor in the system since they reflect the highest scores on two critical variables: (1) capacity to influence the system and (2) interest to improve the system. Thus, being the ideal system players (change agents) to work with.

Renewable Energy
for Cold Storage:



Supplies & logistics services



Market players

Market Players' Coordination



Stock management

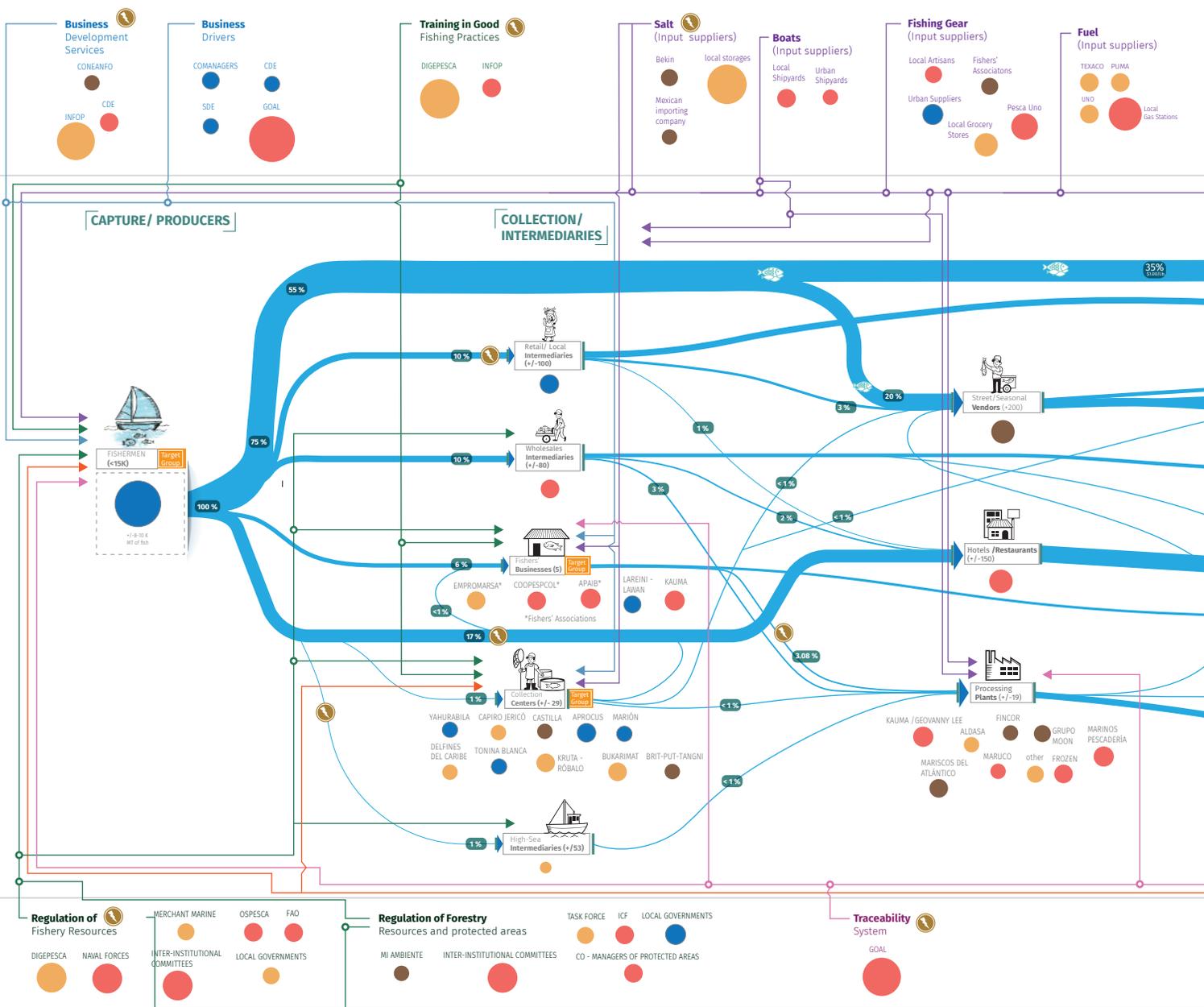
Scientific Investigation



SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS

Transaction Chain INPUT

REGULATORY FUNCTIONS



Natural Resources Regulation



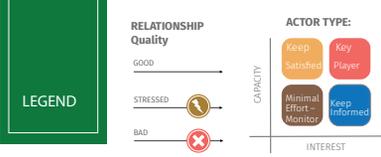
Regulation of cross-border fishing
Weak relation; is not regulated as it should be, very weak chancelleries.



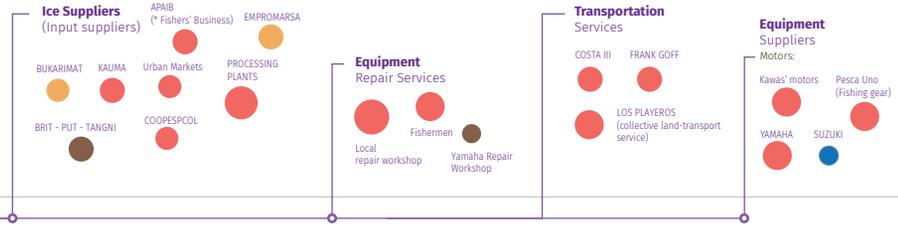
The 'Minimal Effort - Monitor' type of actors (brown circles) are those whose capacity and interest to change the system are the lowest, hence trying to effect systemic change with these type of actors would not be fruitful at this stage. However, these type of actors could change their status in the future and become potential change agents and thus must be monitored.

The 'Keep Informed' type of actors (blue circles) are those who possess a high interest to improve the system but their capacity to do so is low. Thus, the capacity of these system players could be enhanced since their interest for systemic change is high (resistance for change would be low). They represent potential change agents at this stage and they must be kept informed.

Finally, the 'Keep Satisfied' type of actors (orange circles) are those whose capacity to influence change in the system is high but whose interest to do so is low. As the Legend reflects, these type of players are a few steps from becoming 'Key Players' and thus should be motivated and persuaded to become key change agents. They must be kept satisfied for them (intentionally or unintentionally) not to use their influence to obstruct change to the system.

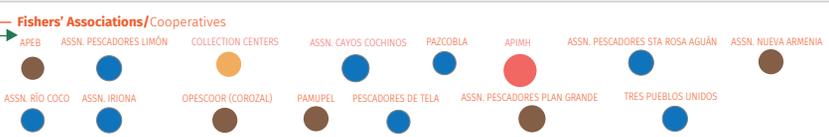
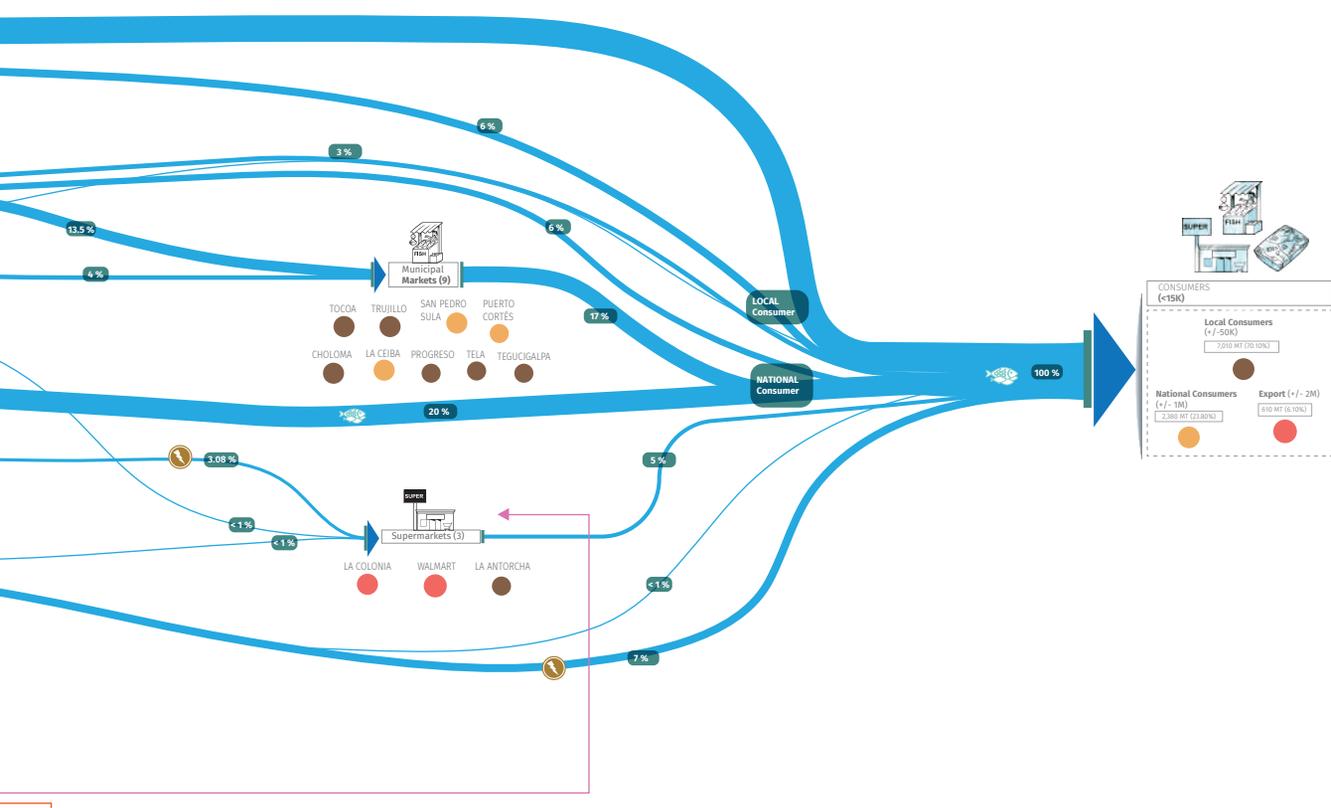


Business & financial services

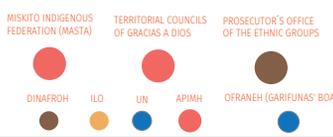


RETAIL / PROCESSING

CONSUMPTION



Indigenous People's Rights Protection



Governance



ABSENT INTERRELATIONSHIP
INDIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP
DIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP
INDIRECT INTERRELATIONSHIP
ABSENT INTERRELATIONSHIP

OUTPUT



R4S Approach

Analysis of the Resilience for Social Systems

