



# Resilient Futures

## Chair's Welcome

Seth Bullock

Resilient Futures final project workshop – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013

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# Project origins



**3 year multidisciplinary project** funded by the EPSRC/ESRC as part of the RCUK Global Uncertainties Programme.

Next generation resilience ‘Sandpit’ with 20+ academics to “generate adventurous, interdisciplinary projects targeting infrastructure resilience”

## 8 partner organisations:



Core goal of producing an **interactive computer-based demonstrator system** as a tool for exploring **infrastructure interdependencies** and the **community and technological impacts** of natural and malicious hazard events.

# Future Scenarios and Episode Development

Andrew Dainty, Pete Fussey  
Dan Sage, Indraneel Sircar, Chris Goodier, Lucy  
Gregson-Green and Lee Bosher

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# Three Generations of Resilience

## 1<sup>st</sup> generation

- In-built redundancy
- Hardening
- Physical adaptation

• **ROBUSTNESS**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> generation

- Community empowerment
- Motivation
- Ability to react and prepare

• **RECOVERY**

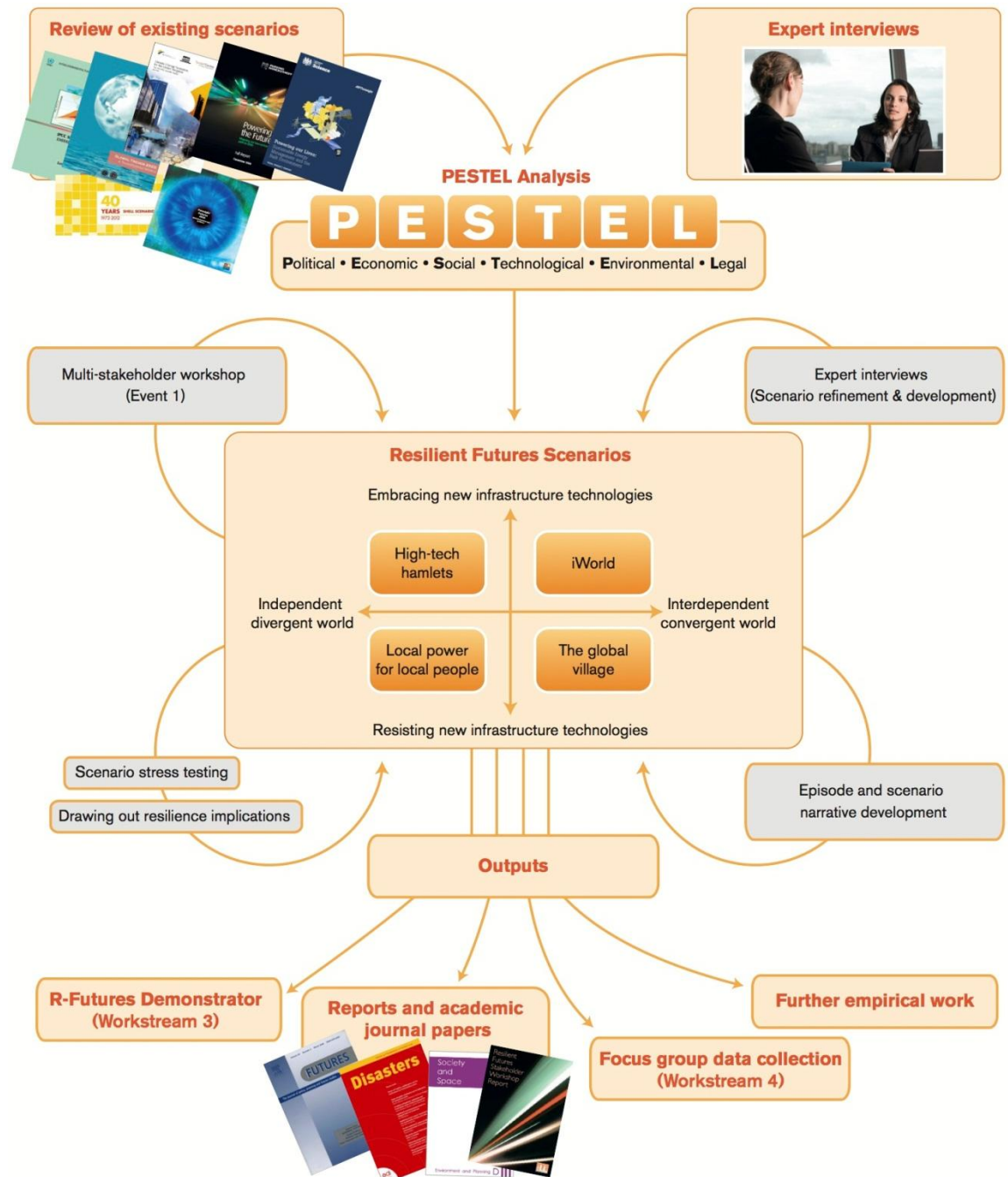
## 3<sup>rd</sup> generation

- Evolving into something different
- Learning to become more resilient

• **ADAPTABILITY**

Source: *Shared Responsibilities*, Institute for Public Policy Research (2009)

# The *R-Futures* scenario & episode development process



# Identification of predetermined factors



- Consistent factors across scenarios
    - Higher population (77m in 2050)
    - More households (35m in 2050, up 40%)
    - Older population (75 and over 6% in 2033 from 3.5% today)
    - Climate change targets (80% reduction by 2050)
    - Increased global demand for energy (global energy demand doubled by 2030)
    - Increased global demand for fossil fuels (Chinese oil demand up 100% by 2036)
    - Reduced supply of fossil fuels from non-OPEC nations
    - Ageing infrastructure (closure of all current nuclear plants by 2035, five coal plants by 2015)
    - Some climate change effects (e.g. 2-4C increase in UK mean winter temps, sea level changes c. 18-26cm)
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# X axis



- The uncertainty around levels of global convergence, or the pace of globalisation, is common to several reports (IPCC, Foresight, NIC, IEA) .
- This axis has potential resilience implications:

	More interdependent and convergent world	More independent and heterogeneous world
Energy infrastructure	Centralized and interconnected power generation (e.g. Saharan solar array and European super grid)	Highly decentralized power generation, regional competition, local or regional energy markets
Transport infrastructure	More travel, more flying, European high speed rail networks, more integrated public transport	Much less travel, more walking/cycling, more compact cities, less public and private transport, more teleworking

# Y axis



- Other futures studies use a range of axes:
    - Social values (e.g. belief in material wealth vs. social well-being)
    - Role of the state (e.g. Big Society)
    - Levels of economic growth
    - Attitudes towards global environmental issues (i.e. do we meet targets or try to meet targets – price of carbon)
    - ***Acceptance of technological change*** (e.g. smart cars, embedded generation etc.)
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# And so: 2050 Scenarios



Embracing new infrastructure technologies

**High-Tech Hamlets**



**i-World**



Independent,  
divergent world



Interdependent,  
convergent world



**Local Power for Local  
People**



**The Global Village**

Resisting new infrastructure technologies



**Salient features:**

- Regional energy production
- Primacy of urban/regional governance
- Little inter-regional interoperability of systems

**Specific/supposed vulnerabilities:**

- Energy importation
- Little redundancy
- Regionalised tensions/animosity
- Informal economy

**Salient features:**

- Internationally facing
- Solar arrays & dynamic smart grid
- High cost energy and transport/unaffordability

**Specific/supposed vulnerabilities:**

- Cascade failure?
- Limited social capital?
- Fuel poverty and socio-economic inequalities

**Salient features:**

- National and insular focus on energy production
- Co-location of populations and energy production
- Localised micro-generation of power
- Limited motorised transport

**Specific/supposed vulnerabilities:**

- Energy importation
- Condensed high value sites
- Limited resources
- Regionalised tensions & informal economy

**Salient features:**

- Role of transnational institutions
- Cohesive (international) policy setting
- Focus on demand reduction
- Significant focus on nuclear and renewable energy

**Specific/supposed vulnerabilities:**

- Cascade failure?
- Limited social capital?
- Significant tensions over inequality
- V. high density urbanism

# Episode development: principles and approach



- Role of episode: stress test the scenario and to draw out different resilience implications
  - Work through 3Gs of resilience across different scenarios
  - Extreme (to stress test) but credible
  - Probe some of the issues of all-hazards responses/planning
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## Expert interviews

- 30 experts were interviewed to develop the scenario/eps and understand resilience implications:
    - **Transport:** BAA, Network Rail, British Transport Police, DECC, Costain, Amey, DHL
    - **Energy:** National Grid, Electricity North West, UKERC
    - **Resiliency:** Commission for Rural Communities, Camden Borough Council, Deloitte, Environment Agency, Cabinet Office, Health Protection Agency, Arup, NaCTSO
    - **Academia:** engineering, planning, economics, human geography
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