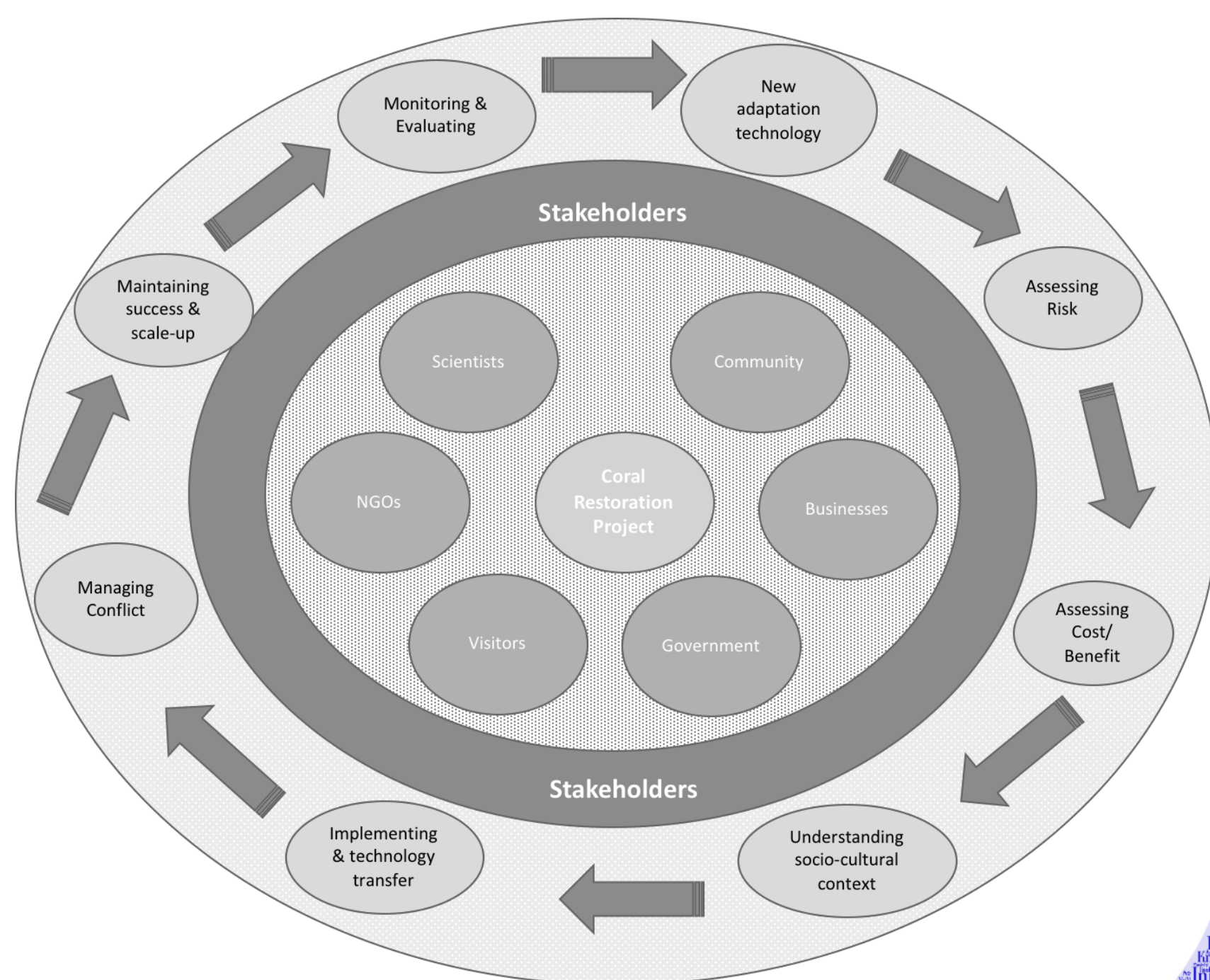


Human dimensions of CORAL RESTORATION



SUMMARY OF REVIEW

Coral reef systems are at the point where passive restoration measures alone may no longer viable to protect global reefs, and playing a more active role is necessary. Coral restoration or gardening are increasingly supported by governments and scientists, but research into the human dimensions of such interventions is lacking. We identified a total of 36 academic papers that have investigated aspects of 'Human Dimensions of Coral Restoration Technology Adaptation'. Key dimensions and an analytical framework are shown below. A key finding is that the economics and scalability of active reef restoration are contested, and this is partially due to a lack of consistent and robust measures to evaluate success across sites. The literature suggests that coral gardening is most successful in developing economies, as well as in 'house reefs' neighbouring tourist resorts, due to the appropriate inclusion, participation and resourcing of local people and businesses. Questions around the role of local/indigenous knowledge and ethics remain under-explored. More info: r.westoby@griffith.edu.au



SOCIAL MEDIA

Between September 2016 and October 2019, there were only 167 Twitter posts that discussed the topic of coral restoration. The overall sentiment was positive with an average score of 0.31 (with 1 being the most positive). A word cloud of keywords is shown. More info: jinyan.chen@griffith.edu.au



AESTHETICS

It is important to understand how people perceive the beauty of man-made reefs. To this end, we conducted four focus groups with a total of 29 participants, including Traditional Owners, Australian residents and Chinese visitors. The focus groups found that there are differences in view across three cultural groups while they have similar knowledge and understanding of coral restoration sites. Most had heard about coral restoration, but they did not always understand how the coral restoration projects have been done. Chinese were most skeptical of 'intervening' in nature, whereas Australians and TO supported the restoration of coral because they 'bring fish'. TO expressed most emotions (often sadness) about the state of the Reef and were eager to support restoration.

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