

Old problems New Solutions: Reflections on Water Governance



Landcare Research Link
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Wellington

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Landcare Research
Manaaki Whenua



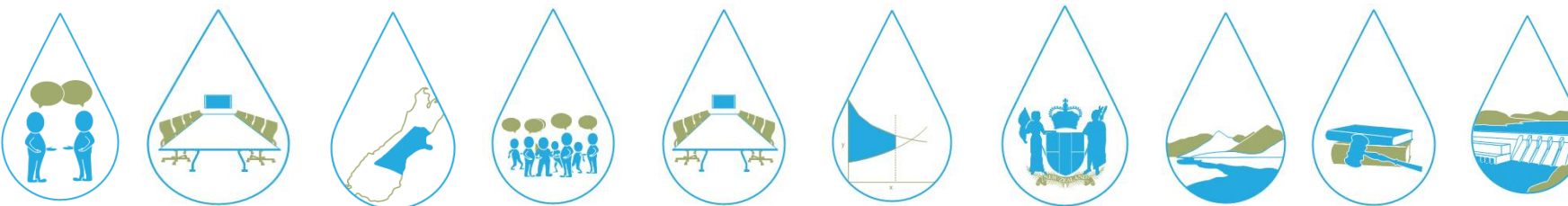
Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



Setting the scene ...

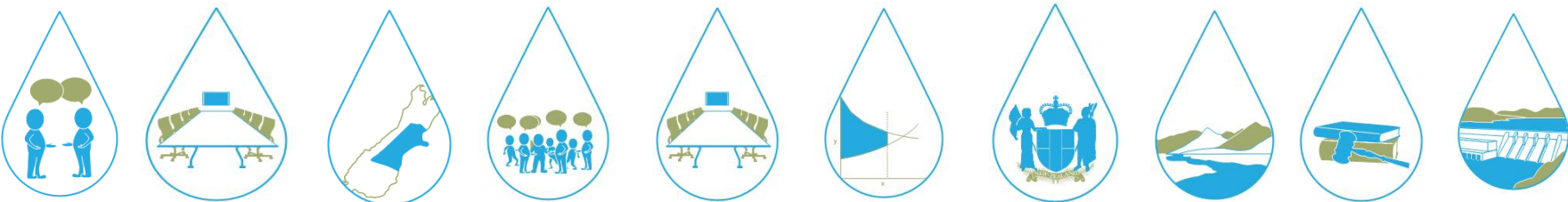
... capturing a moment ...

... where to from here?





Setting the scene ...



Water in New Zealand

Fresh water is clean and plentiful compared to elsewhere

Trending deterioration in water quality and over-allocation of water

Competition for resources

Impacts of climate change

2007

- Water quality declining, competition for resources
- Lack of clarity for iwi to participate as Treaty partner
- Criticisms of RMA regime & lack of National Direction
- Contentious court cases

2011

- Water recognised as a strategic asset
- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
- Collaborative initiatives underway
- Co-governance/management arrangements being developed

Old Problems New Solutions

Natural resource governance and decision-making required new ways of working at the science-policy interface

- 2007 – 2011
- 8 researchers
- Case studies in Canterbury



OLD PROBLEMS
NEW SOLUTIONS
Integrative research supporting natural resource governance

Edited by: Shona Russell, Bob Frame & James Lennox

**Evaluate values &
develop models**

**Understand resource
decision-making
processes**

**Experiences of Maori
engagement in
resource consent
decision-making
through courts**

**Case studies
(Canterbury Water
Management
Strategy, Hurunui
Water Project)**

**Investigate
perceptions &
experiences of water
management**

**Establish extend to
which Maori voice is
heard in water
governance**

**Examine stakeholder
& public participation
in strategy
development**

How can economic models contribute to development of water policy?

How are wicked problems being addressed through governance arrangements?

What governance alternatives could enable sustainable water management?

How have Maori sought to engage in decision-making for water through courts and legal proceedings?

How can deliberative processes contribute to sustainable water management?

What were the limitations of water management in Canterbury?

How are regional councils responding to water issues?

How are Treaty of Waitangi settlements providing opportunities for co-governance arrangements?

How can deliberative multi criteria evaluation contribute to sustainable water management?

What innovations are being implemented in Canterbury?

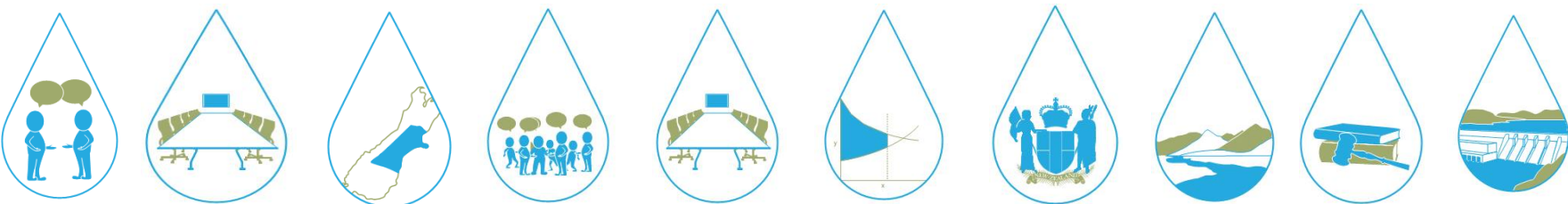
How had collaborative governance developed in Canterbury?

How have groups taken action to develop and manage water resources?

How do people participate in decision-making?



... capturing a moment ...



Capturing a moment 2008 - 2011

- Actors
- Spaces for action
- water issues
- published reports
- Central Plains Water Consents
applicants, CCC, Selwyn district council, ECAN, Environment Commissioners, Malvern Hills Protection Society, Ngai Tahu, recreationalists
- Wainiwai a valley, Chch Town Hall, meeting rooms, pages of the press
- water storage, infrastructure, share issues, scientific studies

Feb 2008: State of the Environment Report 2007

MFE

State of the Environment Report 2007 published (Feb 2008)

state of water environment

July 2008 NZBCSD publishes review of reforms for water

NZBCSD, Aqualinc, NWA

NZBCSD Best Use Solution for Water (July 2008)

resource management regime

Reviews of Water Governance.

July 2009 Turnbull Group publishes review of reforms for water

Water NZ ... multi-stakeholders

Turnbull report on water governance (July 2009)

September 2010 LAWPF publishes report

IWI, major water users, electricity generators, irrigation industry, regional councils, recreation, tourism, dairying, ...

Land & Water Forum report published (Sept 2010)?

stakeholder participation in collaborative initiatives

National Policy Developments

SWPOA stops in 2009

National Policy Statement Board of Inquiry

National Environmental Standards

Fresh Start for Fresh Water Strategy June 2011

New Start for Freshwater July 2009

Work programme for policy officials (10 projects)

Ministers for Agriculture and the Environment, IWI leaders, policy officials, stakeholders

NPS for freshwater management

FW clean up fund

National direction for water management

IWI & Crown

IWI leaders group/ministerial meetings

Treaty of Waitangi negotiations

Canterbury Water Management Strategy

canterbury water management strategy (stage 3) (March 2008)

participation in public meetings of stakeholder consultations (CWMS) Aug 2008

CWMS Strategic Framework released (Nov 2009)

water executive established

water zone committees established (Hurunui in July 2010 - ...)

Visions and principles endorsed in ECAN Act (March 2010)

meeting rooms, Chch Town Hall, desks, hotels, ECAN, websites, pages of the press

CMP, ECAN, Steering Group, Ngai Tahu, stakeholders, public

CWMS and sustainability appraisal (June 2009)

Environment Canterbury

Review of performance of Environment Canterbury

Crech Report on performance of ECAN (Feb 2010)

organizational change, regional politics, devolved decision-making

ECAN legislation passed (March 2010)

ECAN, Crech et al, MFE, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Local Government, Our Water Our Vote, public, Green party politicians, academics

Campaigns, rallies (March - June 2010)

parliament, public meeting rooms, Great Hall in the Arts Centre, Our City O-Tautahi, Pages in the press, radio, Christchurch Cathedral Sq

Water at the interface of science and policy

ICM Programme (2000 - 2010)

OPNS (2007-2011)

Policy Makers, Researchers from Landcare Research, Cawthron, NWA, University of Otago.

VMO (2010 - 2013)

Water Research Strategy released (2009)

contribution of research to water governance & sustainable water management

Hurunui Water Conservation Order

application for hurunui water conservation order

resource consents for Hurunui Water Project

Hurunui Water Project, Fish & Game NZ, Whitewater NZ, ECAN Commissioners

agricultural development water conservation

Hurunui River, Chch Town Hall, websites

application withdrawn (Dec 2010)

Local authorities water strategies

Christchurch City Council releases water management Strategies

Hurunui District Council releases a water management strategy (2008?)

links between TLAs and regional councils approaches to water management

local authorities

Voluntary action between government agencies and industry bodies

industry developments working with agricultural sector to improve land and water management

audited self management programme s trialled

awards by Community Irrigation Funds

irrigation NZ MAF, Landcare Trust, ECAN

How is New Zealand engaging with water issues?

- Central government are engaging with Iwi and stakeholders
- Regional councils are developing strategies
- Industry bodies are developing land management practices
- Communities are working together to develop water resources

How do people participate in decision-making?

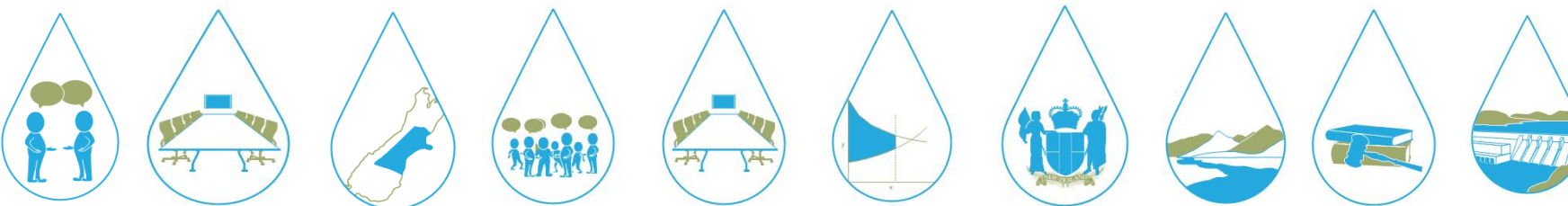
- Contributions of stakeholder engagement recognised
- Deliberative processes increasingly used
- Yet public participation can be variable

What governance arrangements are emerging?

- Co-governance arrangements are developing through Treaty negotiations
- Collaborative initiatives underway in regions
- Responsibilities distributed amongst actors



How is water governance changing in New Zealand?



A range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to develop and manage water resources, and the delivery of water services, at different levels of society

Rogers & Hall 2003

- Who should be involved in governance, and how is that decided?
- Who is accountable when governance occurs through multiple organisations at various scales?

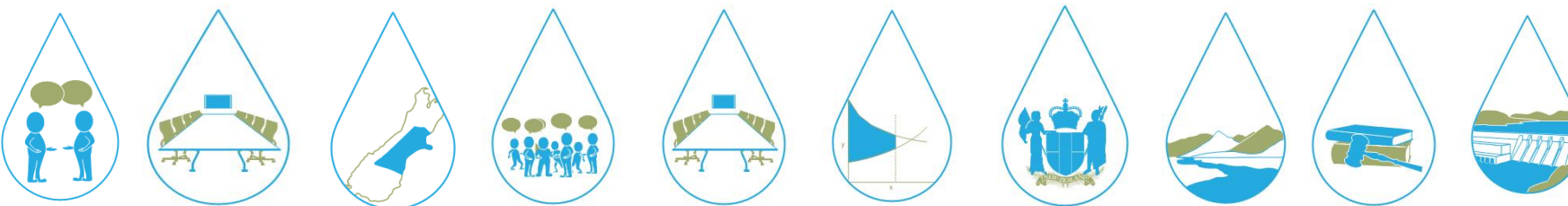
- Emergent & complex
- Polycentric innovations underway
- Multiple scales
- Responsibilities redistributed



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... where to from here?



Natural resource governance and decision-making requires new ways of working at the science-policy interface

- **Values Monitoring and Outcomes (2010 – 2013)**
- **LCR Outcome 4**

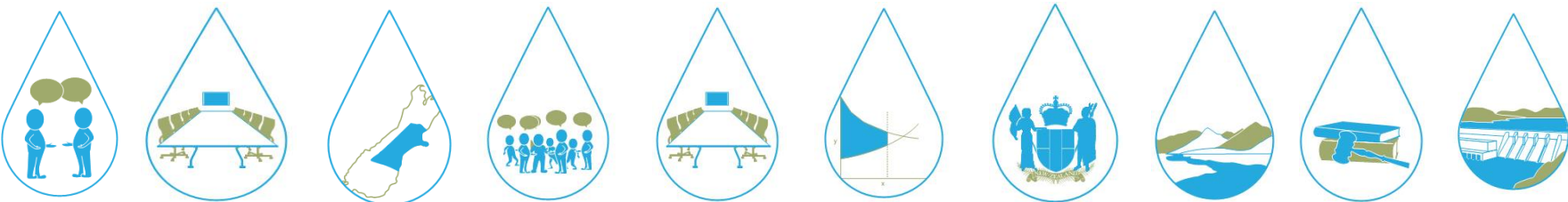
- **Water Research Strategy (2009)**
- **Land and Water Forum (2010)**

Possible avenues for research

- provide information to decision-makers
- develop models and scenarios
- support development of monitoring and evaluation programmes
- explore the use of tools and processes to share information
- examine how water issues are framed and articulated in public discourse
- examine how collective groups take action to manage water resources



How can research engage with emerging water governance?





Thank you

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**How is New Zealand
engaging with water
issues?**

**How do people
participate in decision-
making?**

**What governance
arrangements are
emerging for water
management?**

