



Embarcadero, San Francisco



Port of Redwood City

BCDC RISING SEA LEVEL WORKING GROUP

October 15, 2026

OVERVIEW

1. Recap
2. Collaboration with SPUR
3. A Look Ahead
4. Commission Discussion

Part One: Recap

Where we've been and why we are here

Sea Level Rise adaptation governance in the Bay has....

Made progress, yet we still see:

- **Conflicting priorities** among local, state and federal agencies
- **Complexity and scope** of adaptation planning
- **Gaps in authorities** to incentivize/compel adaptation action
- **Coordination challenges** with many independent decision-makers
- **Lack of clear processes** for Bay-wide coordination

Who we talked to

12
meetings

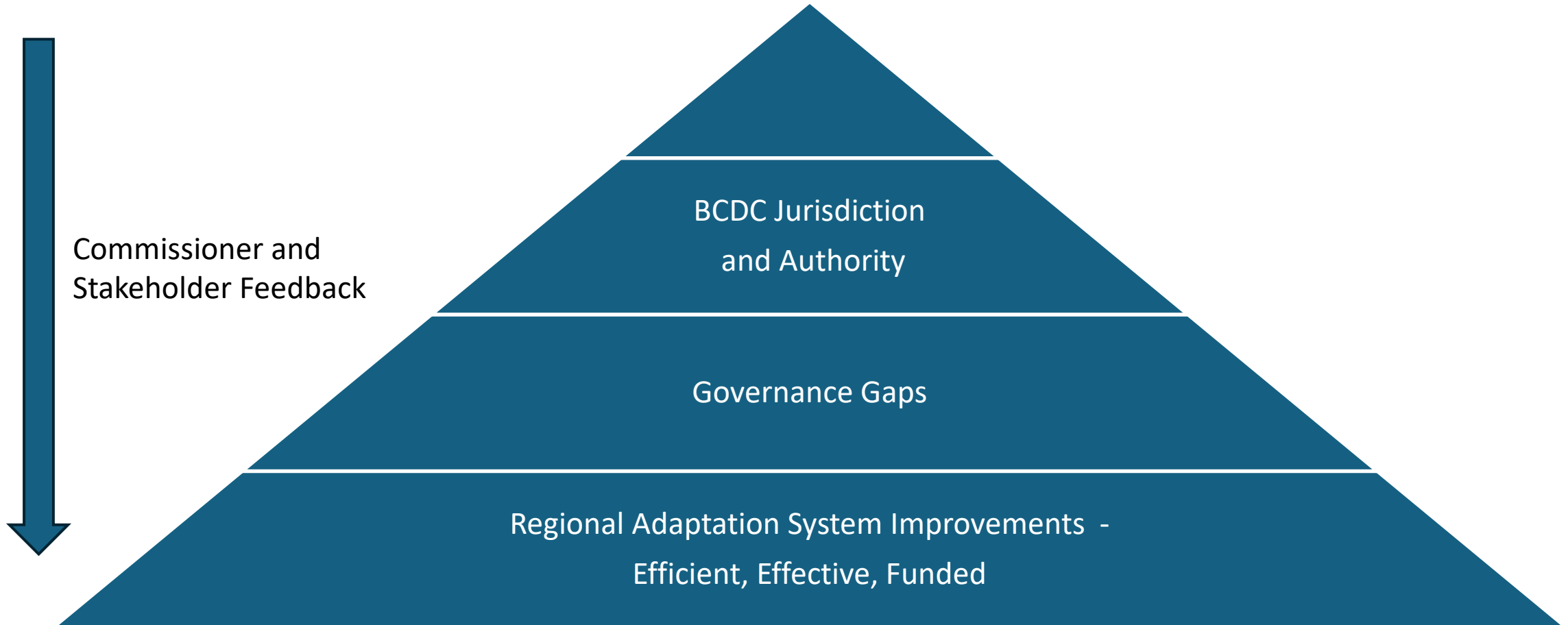
25
people

- Environmental justice advisors
- Partner agencies
- Flood control districts
- Policy and research nonprofits
- Environmental groups
- Commissioners
- Local government groups
- Development and private sector

What we asked

- What governance gaps and frictions hinder effective regional adaptation?
- What governance models and funding mechanisms could enable comprehensive regional adaptation — and who benefits from resolving these challenges?
- The Bay is a state-protected resource. Should the State assert new or different authorities to create a regional response?
- How do we build consensus across diverse stakeholders to support governance change?

Updated Approach



How can we ensure that regional adaptation is...



Effective

- Quality local adaptation plans?
- Completing projects that hit multiple goals?
- Carrots and sticks?
- Address maladaptation and accountability?



Efficient

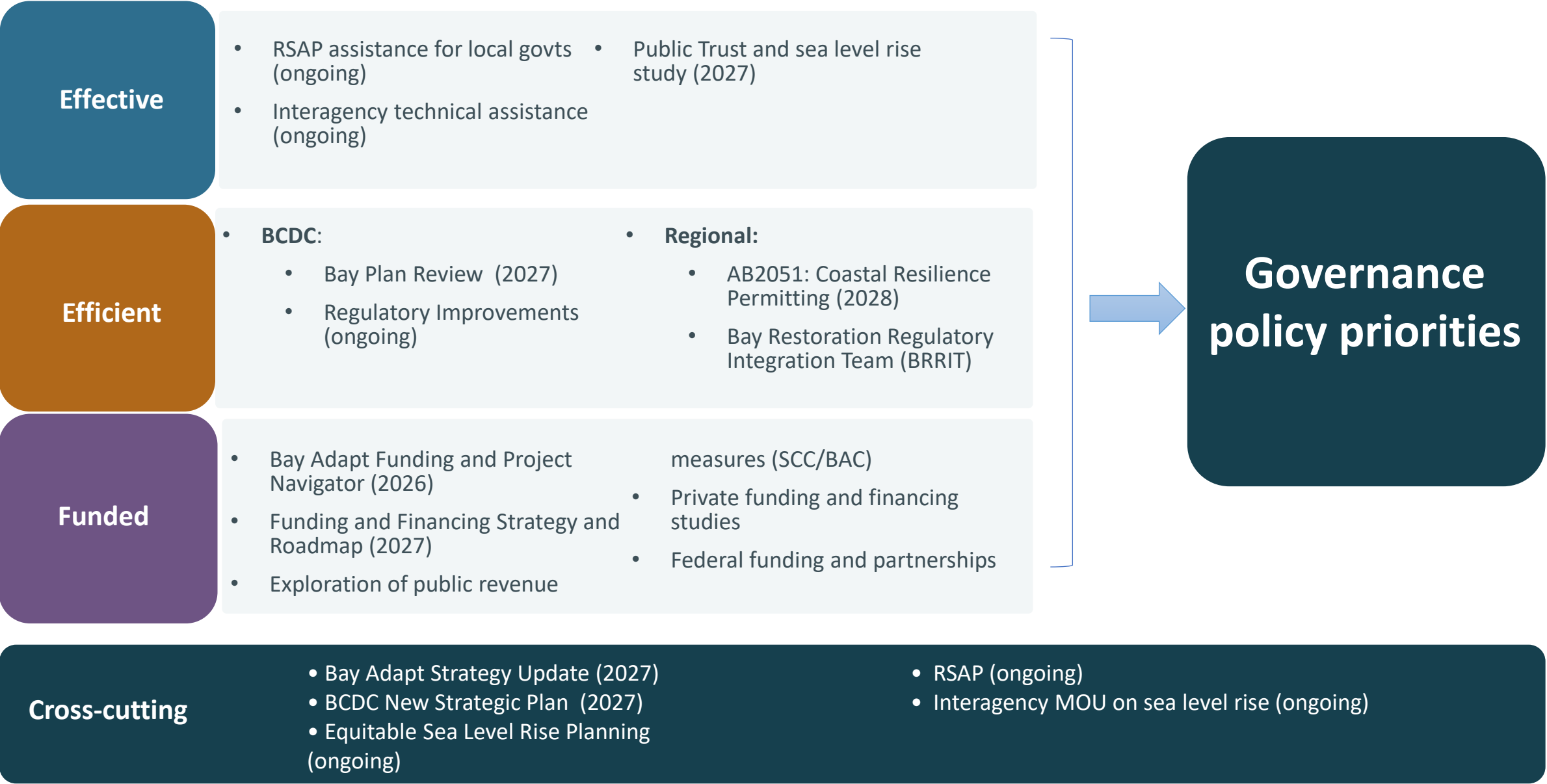
- Speed up adaptation efforts and address multiple goals?
- Easier navigation of permitting and regulatory process?
- Roles and responsibilities clear and well-coordinated?



Funded

- Expand funding? Bring in new funding streams?
- Access funding?
- Direct funding strategically and equitably?

Connected Efforts



Setting the direction for regional action

Goal: A vetted, regionally endorsed set of adaptation policy priorities and recommendations for the Bay and BCDC.

Unpacking the pillars through:

Case studies

Gaps and opportunities
analysis

Major issue identification

Recommendations



Potential solutions on the table

- Policy and organizational changes
- Innovative or proven funding mechanisms
- Voluntary interagency agreements and enhanced regional coordination
- New or improved use of authorities, including potential legislation

Part Two: Collaboration with SPUR

How BCDC will partner with SPUR on this work

For this next phase we are partnering with....

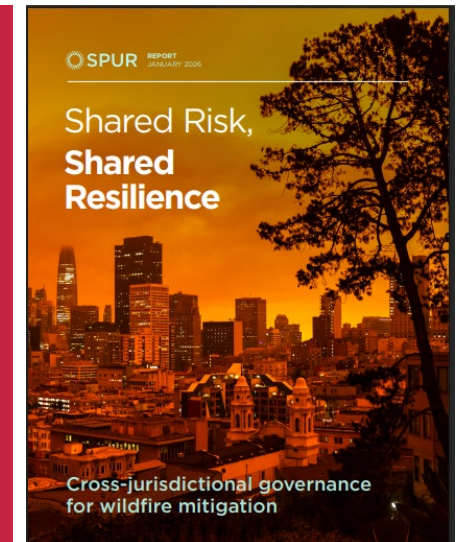
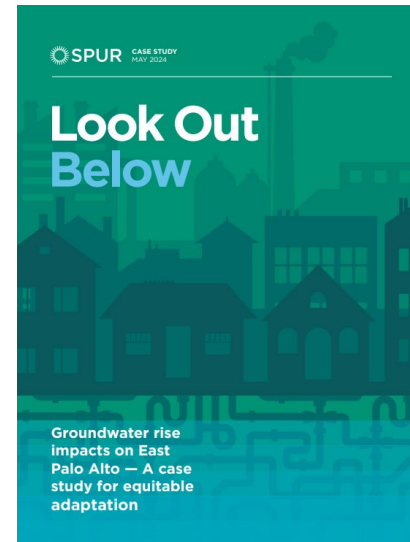


- nonprofit member-based public policy organization focused on creating a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for Bay Area communities.
- centers on planning, housing, transportation, sustainability and resilience, economic justice, and governance.
- research, education, advocacy



Financing Climate Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation, Part 3: Existing Tools Are Not Enough

By Sarah Atkinson, Hazard Resilience Senior Policy Manager



What SPUR brings



**Independent
convener**



**Governance
and policy
research**



**Climate hazard
expertise**



Regional reach

Phasing – Broad Overview

1

**Problem Statement
Development**

2026

Goal:

- Outreach and engagement
- Draft initial problem statement
- Publication to frame
- Research early solutions

★ *We are here!* ★

2

Feedback

Winter–spring 2027

Goal:

- Small group review of issues and solutions
- Policy Brief

3

Commission Workshop

May/June 2027

Goal:

- Commissioners and stakeholders work through the issues and solutions together

4

Recommendations

June–October 2027

Goal:

- A regionally endorsed set of adaptation policy priorities and recommendations

In the next few months...

1

Problem Statement Development

2026

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Outreach and Engagement

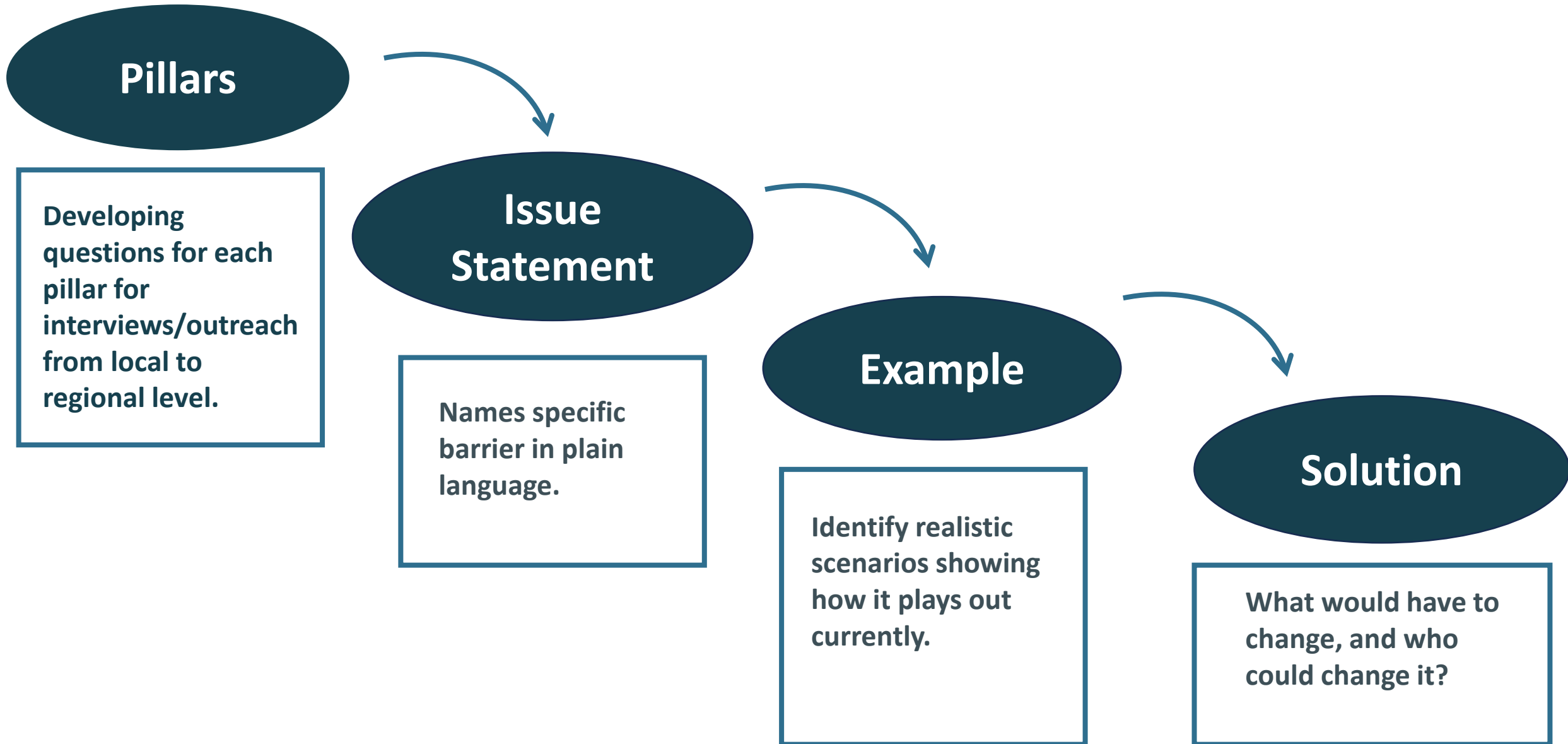
- Interviews with stakeholders
 - Cities and counties
 - CBOs & consultants
 - Regulatory agencies
- Rising Together - November 9th
 - Regionalism panel
 - Governance for nature-based solutions
- Small Group Convening

**Key Deliverable* Publication “Framing the Governance Gap”*

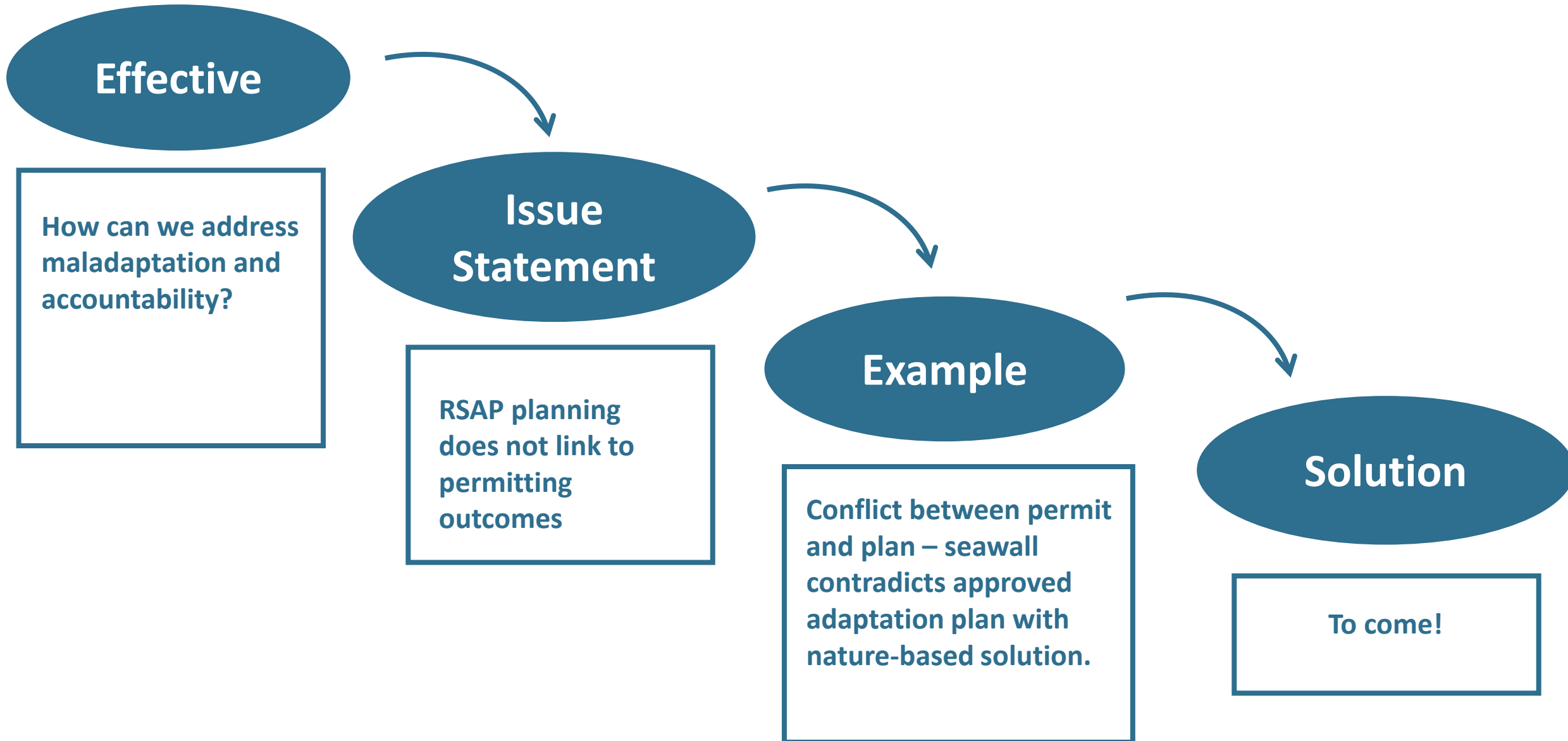
Part Three: A Look Ahead

Unpacking the issues under each of the Pillars – Effective, Efficient, Funded

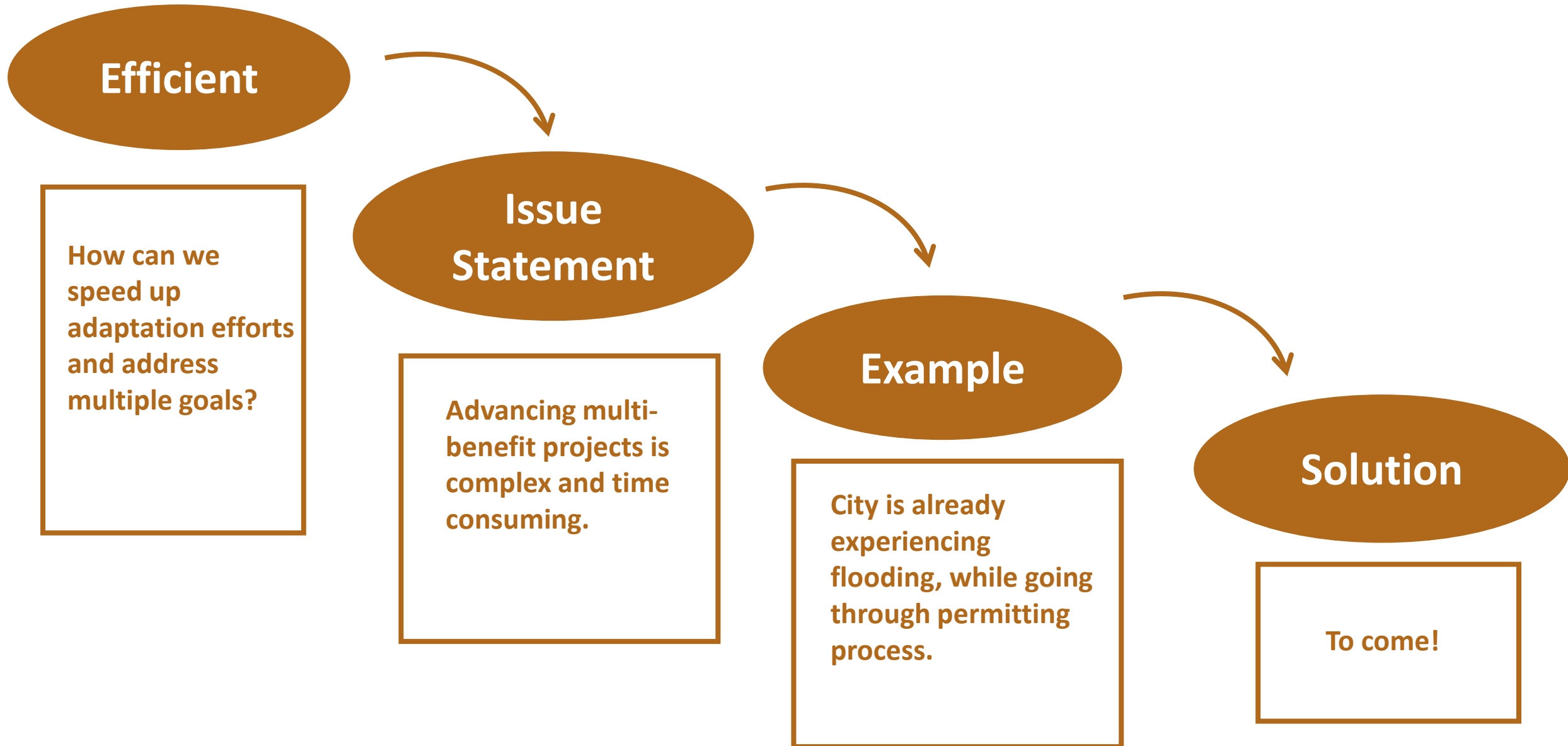
From pillars to solutions



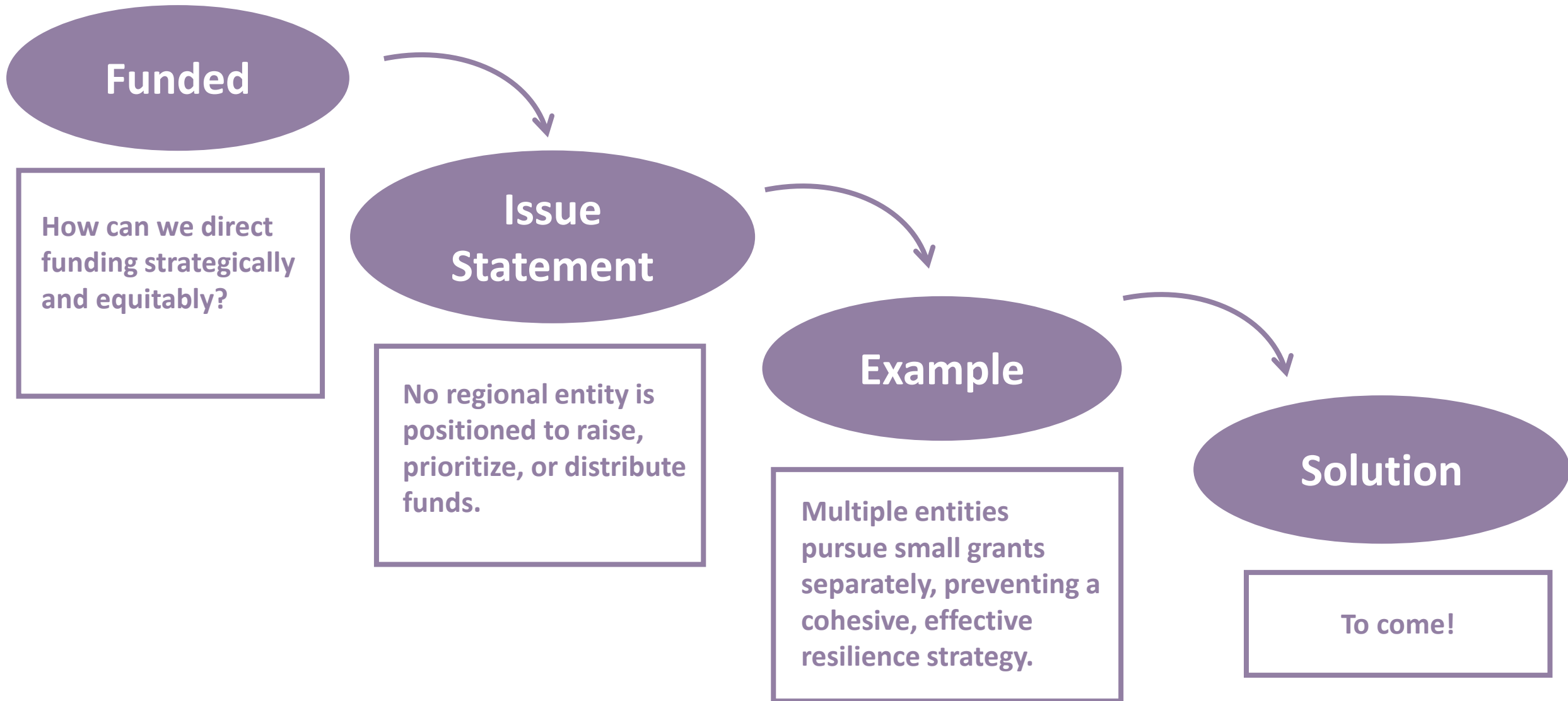
From pillars to solutions



From pillars to solutions



From pillars to solutions



Part Four: Commission Discussion

Questions for the Commission

Discussion Questions

- Do you have questions on process or phasing of this work?
- Are there issues under each of the pillars that should be included for testing with stakeholders?
- What would make the issue statements come to life for you?