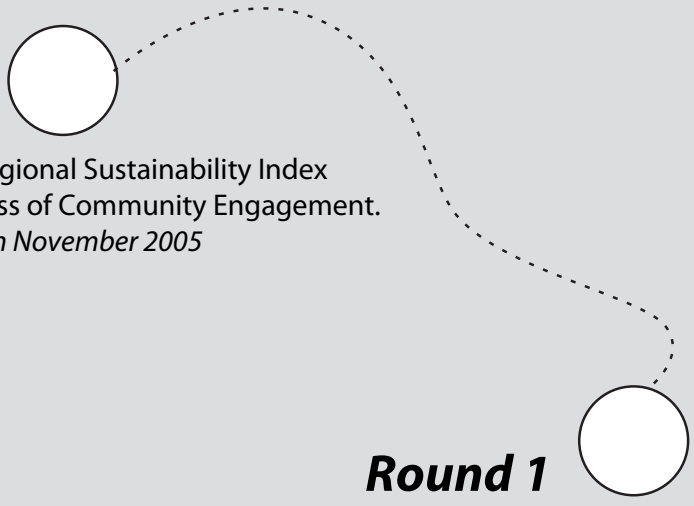
Conversations around Catalyzing a Sustainable Northern Rivers Region

This report records the themes and key principles and initiatives that have emerged from a set of on-going stakeholder roundtable conversations conducted across the Northern Rivers region.



Round 2

Developing a Regional Sustainability Index through a process of Community Engagement.
Clunes, Friday 4th November 2005

Round 1

How Can Fostering Creative Industries Help Catalyze a Sustainable Northern Rivers Region
Yamba Friday 19th August 2005

These roundtable conversations have been convened by:

CLIC Network

Northern Rivers Regional Development Board

Southern Cross University.

an **evolveris project team** of michael o'loughlin & manuela taboada has contributed these conversations maps.
evolveris: helping catalyze sustainable healthy habitats-places

EVOLVERIS

Conversations around Catalyzing a Sustainable Northern Rivers Region

Round 2: Developing a Regional Sustainability Index through a process of Community Engagement

Clunes *Friday 4th November 2005*

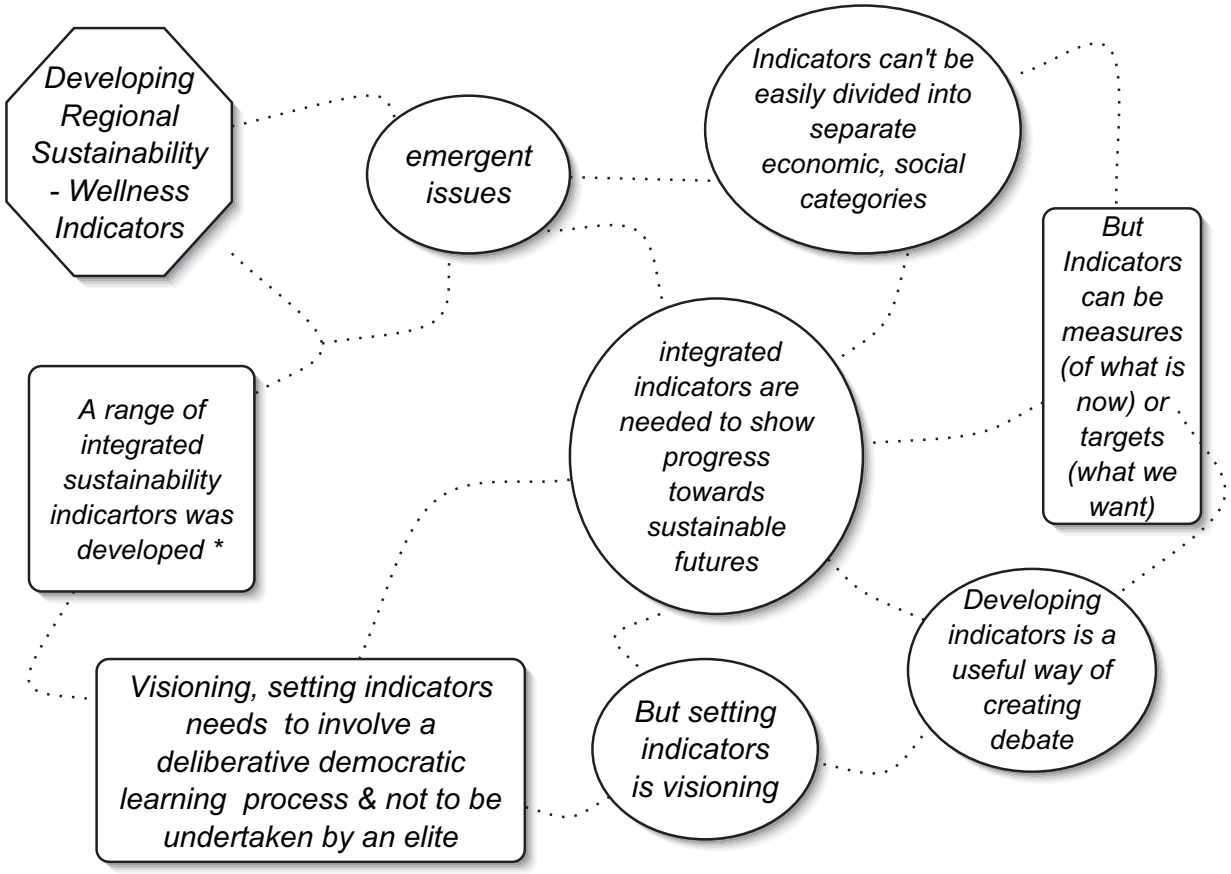
This Regional Roundtable Conversation was of 2 parts

Part 1 was a structured process where participants considered developing a suite of regional sustainability/well-being indicators that would provide effective feedback about the region's move towards sustainability eg:

** environmental (ecological integrity, health)*
** social (community resilience / caring)*
** economic (prosperity, balance, equity)*
** global commons (impact, give and take)*
** cultural/ spiritual (values, diversity, enrichment)*

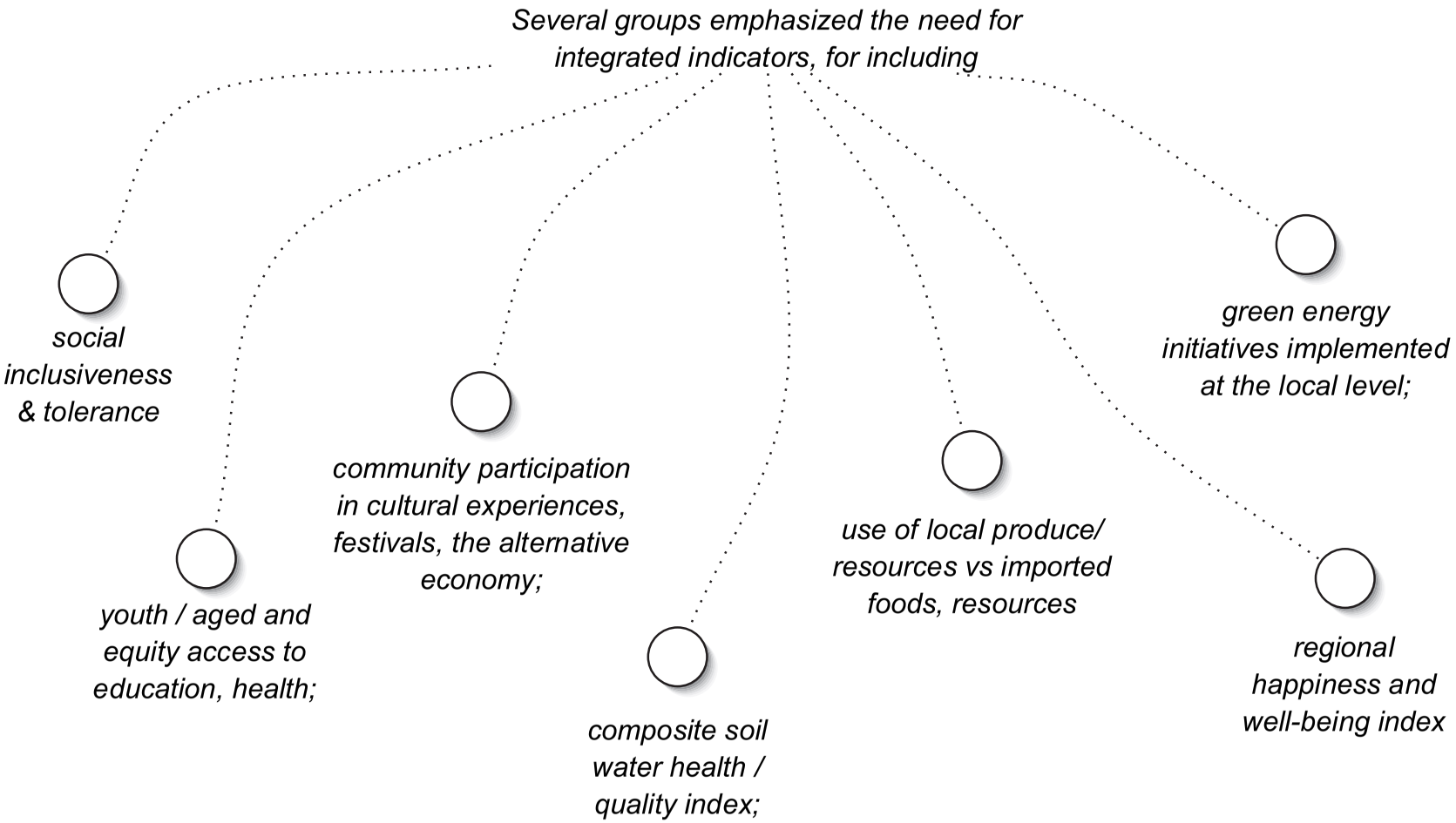
Part 2 concerned the community engagement process to best enable the construction of these indicators

Clunes Conversation Part 1 Sustainability Indicators

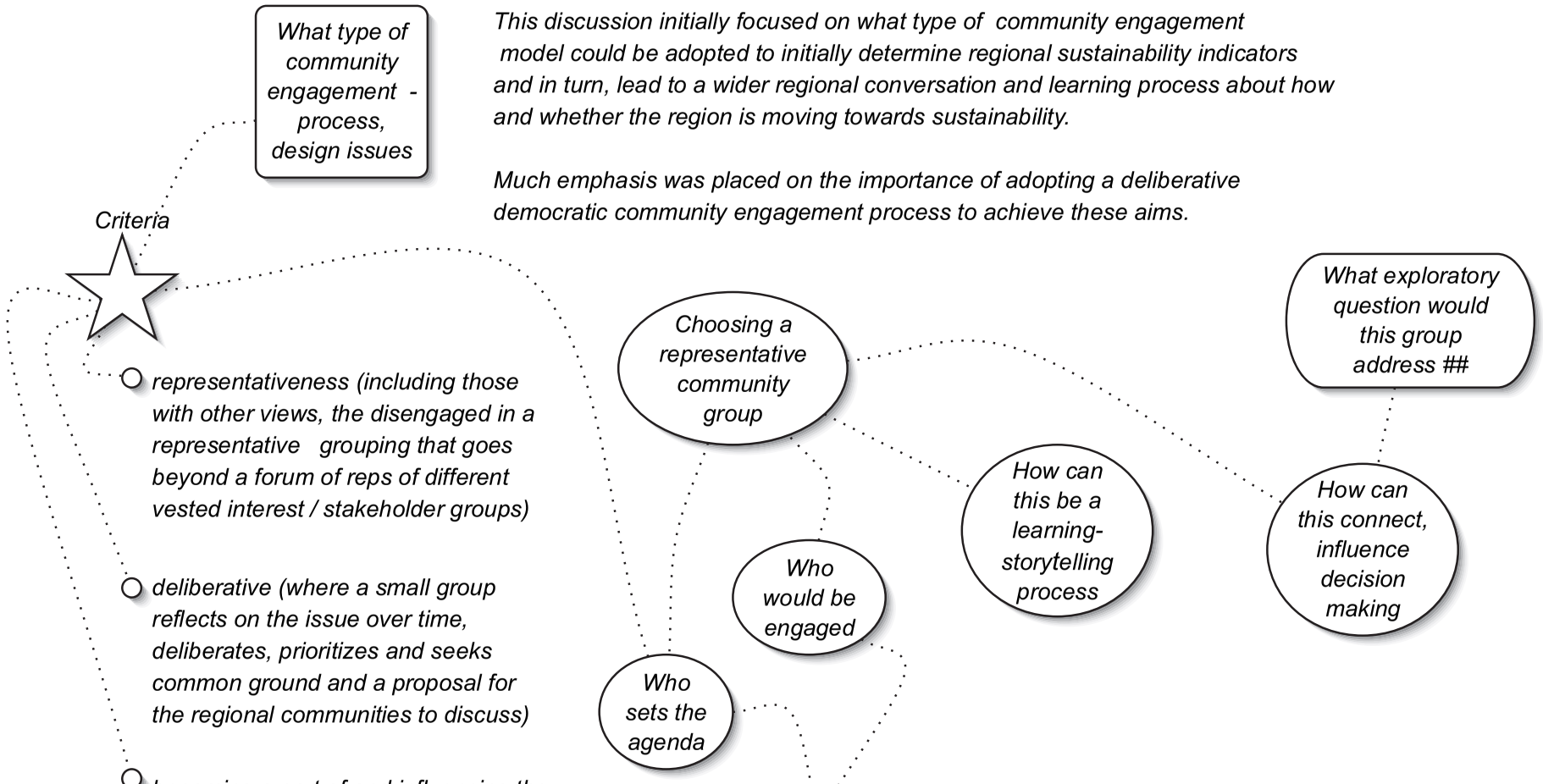


An Evolveris Project - developed by Manuela Taboada & Micheal O'Loughlin
mtaboada@une.edu.au molough2@une.edu.au

Recurring themes in the discussions about sustainability indicators



An Evolveris Project - developed by Manuela Taboada & Micheal O'Loughlin
mtaboada@une.edu.au molough2@une.edu.au



An Evolveris Project - developed by Manuela Taboada & Micheal O'Loughlin
mtaboada@une.edu.au molough2@une.edu.au

Recurring Themes/Questions Asked

Where are we headed?

How else can we motivate people besides using fear?

How can we go beyond the business as usual and incremental changes approach?

Is our situation about to get worse? Are we about to face a social tsunami?

What exploratory question would this group address

An example of opening, exploratory questions for a community group deliberating on a set of sustainability indicators:

What are the things needed to keep this place special? How would you know you were heading towards this? What examples or stories best show this?

Possible Next Steps to help catalyze a move towards a sustainable North Coast region

- *expanding the LEP planning process to includeconversations about sustainability indicators*
- *broadcasting the stories of sustainability initiatives on a regional web portal*
- *forming a working party to advance the regional conversations on developing a community engagement process to develop sustainability indicators*

An Evolveris Project - developed by Manuela Taboada & Micheal O'Loughlin
mtaboada@une.edu.au moloughl2@une.edu.au