

# The Co-production of Sustainable Future Scenarios

David M. Iwaniec<sup>1</sup>, Elizabeth M. Cook<sup>2</sup>, Marta Bérbes Blázquez<sup>3</sup>, Nancy B. Grimm<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>Georgia State University, <sup>2</sup>Barnard College, <sup>3</sup>Arizona State University



### Why future scenarios?

The Sustainable Future Scenarios (SFS) engagement process creates space to question the limits of what is normally considered possible, desirable, or inevitable in the face of future challenges.

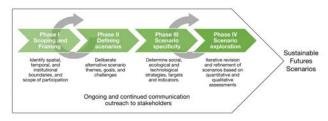
Scenarios are an important tool for assessing potential socialecological change across a region, city, or neighborhood.

Through a collaboration of practitioner and academic stakeholders, this research integrates participatory scenario development, modeling, and qualitative scenario assessments.

Comparative analyses among the future scenarios demonstrate trade-offs among regional and microscale temperature, water use, land-use change, and co-developed resilience and sustainability indices.



The SFS approach emphasizes the co-development of positive and long-term alternative future visions. Scenario approaches vary based on diverse planning and decision support needs and objectives. CAP LTER uses 3 distinct scenarios.



# CAP Scenarios: Seven Regional Futures











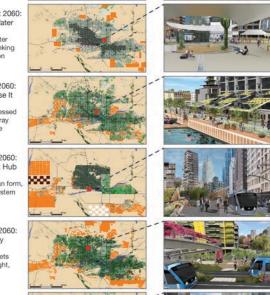
Balancing targets for flood, drought, & heat

Transformative 2060: Almost Zero Waste

Reduce water. material, & energy waste

Strategic 2060:

Aspirational future scenario based on existing governance strategies









Low density urban ○Wind farms Solar farms

### Scenario themes







CAP Scenarios: Five Neighborhood Futures





Workshop participants constructed five positive visions of the future of South Phoenix along the themes of:

- 1. Just green enough (avoiding green gentrification)
- 2. Equity district (achieving social and environmental
- 3. Mountain to river (ecohydrological connectivity)
- Some like it hot (dealing with extreme heat)
- 5. Connected and mobile (improving all forms of transit)





See Berbés-Blázquez poster #22

## CAP Scenarios: Cross-scale Comparisons





### How well does the scenario do relative to BAU? -3 (much worse) to +3 (much better)

	Resilience characteristics			Sustainability characteristics			Summary scores		
	Cope	Cope	Cope	Equity		Smart			
	with	with	with	City	Eco City	City			
	flood	drought	heat	(S)	(E)	(T)	RESIL	SUST	Overall
Adaptive scenarios									
Flood: Desert wetland	3.0	2.0	1.5	0.0	2.0	0.0	6.5	2.0	8.5
Drought: True Cost of Water	0.0	3.0	-1.3	-0.8	1.0	1.8	1.8	1.9	3.7
Heat: Cool It or Lose It	1.5	2.0	3.0	0.8	2.0	1.0	6.5	3.8	10.3
Transformative scenarios									
Healthy Harvest Hubs	1.5	2.0	2.0	0.5	1.5	3.0	5.5	5.0	10.5
Emerald City	2.5	1.8	2.5	1.8	2.8	1.0	6.8	5.5	12.3
Almost Zero Waste	2.0	2.5	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	6.5	4.0	10.5