



# Remote Research in Retrospect and Thinking Ahead

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Institute for Sustainable Futures

14 July 2022



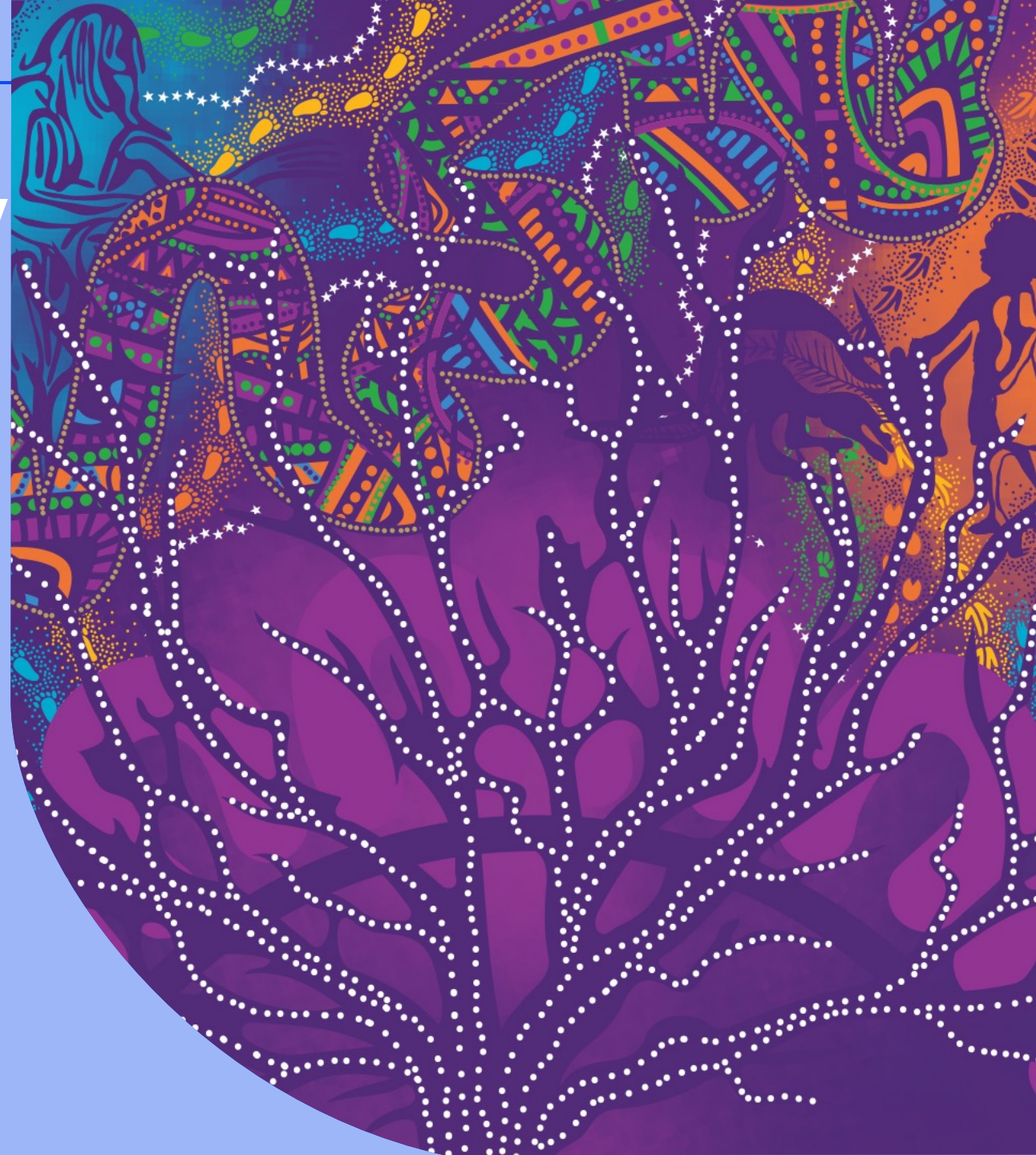


# Acknowledgement of Country

ISF-UTS acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.







## Research Team

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### Disclaimer

The authors have used all due care and skill to ensure the material is accurate as at the date of this report. ISF and the authors do not accept any responsibility for any loss that may arise by anyone relying upon its contents.

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# Introduction: Institute for Sustainable Futures

ISF take a solutions-focused approach to help governments, organisations, businesses and communities move towards a more sustainable future.



**Committed to the United Nations' goals for sustainability**

**Solution-focused research**

**Rigorous research**

**Transdisciplinary  
research**

**Focus on  
sustainability  
transformations**

**Collaborative  
research**

# Introduction: Institute for Sustainable Futures

## Vision, Mission and values

### ISF's mission, vision and values



#### VISION – why we do what we do:

- To transform society for a better world

#### MISSION – what we do:

- Create change towards sustainable futures

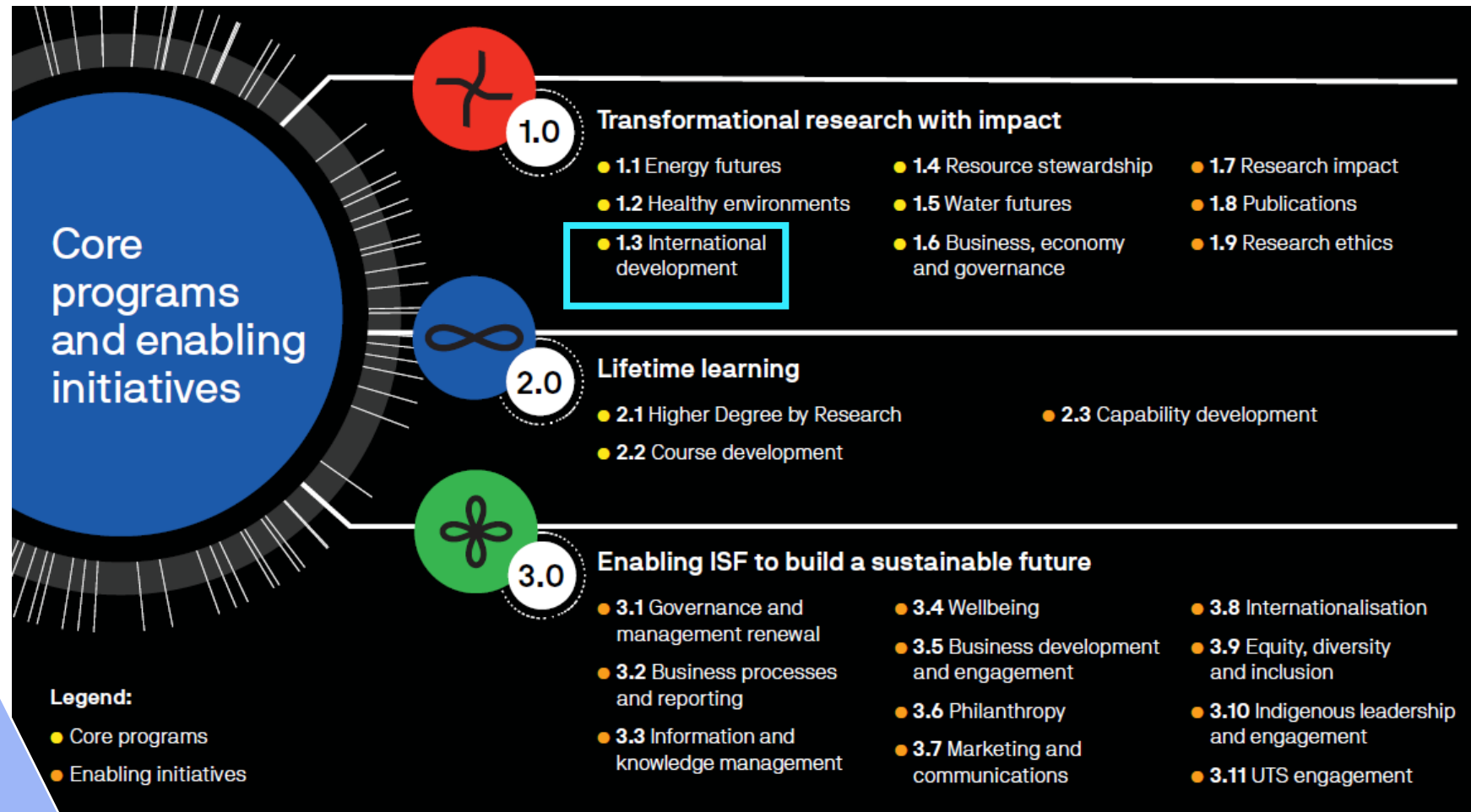
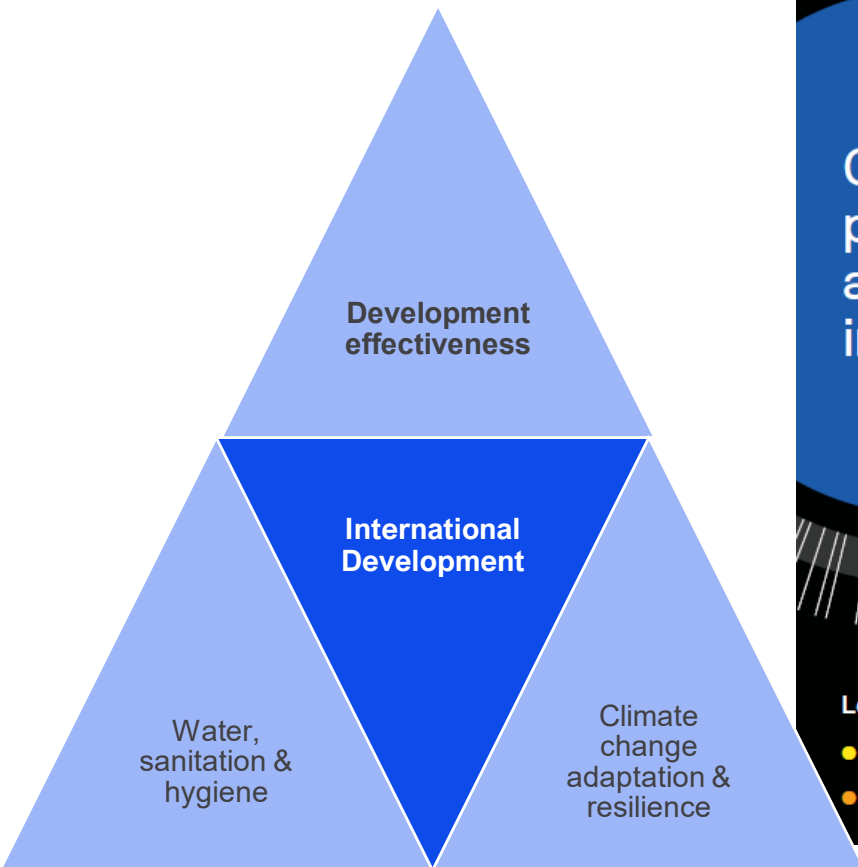
#### VALUES AND PRINCIPLES – how we conduct our work and ourselves:

- **Passion:** We are passionate about what we do and challenge the status quo
- **Care:** We go the extra distance for each other, our collaborators and the planet
- **Inclusion:** We listen before we speak and respect others in their thinking, knowledge and world views
- **Integrity:** We combine rigour and relevance with an ethical approach to achieve impactful outcomes
- **Collaboration:** We meet people where they are at, to co-create and enable transformative and lasting change
- **Courage:** We take risks and take responsibility in progressing our purpose

The Institute for Sustainable Futures was officially launched in 1997 by the newly established University of Technology Sydney as a flagship stand-alone research institute. The mission of the Institute is to create change towards sustainable futures, and it achieves this through its client- and solution-focussed research, working across disciplines, providing solutions to complex problems.



# Research areas and Initiaves



ISF's International Development research projects fundamentally involve fieldwork and travel to the Asia-Pacific region, but the team made a **pragmatic change** in the research approach due to the Covid-19 pandemic and switched **from face-to-face to remote research**.



Source: Tazrina Chowdhury

# Methodology: Donald Schön's 'theory of action'

## Reflection-in-action

- Thinking ahead
- Analysing
- Experiencing
- Critically responding

## Reflection-on-action

- Thinking through experiences
- Discussing
- Journal



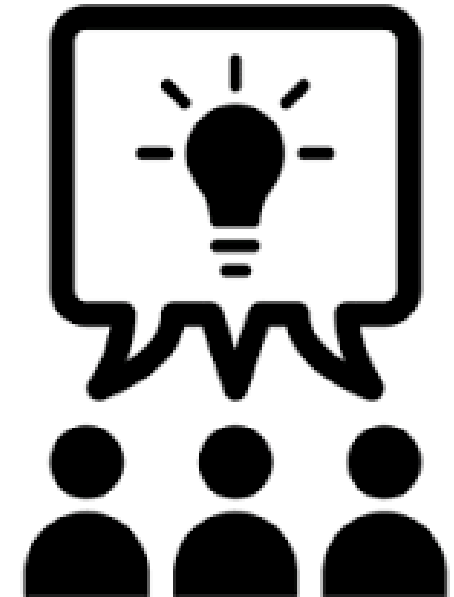
Source: Schön, 1993



# Group work for Reflective practice

4 groups reflecting on recent remote research practices -

<b>Group 1</b>	What worked well and enablers?
<b>Group 2</b>	Challenges faced and reasons
<b>Group 3</b>	Thinking ahead- what can we do as researchers?
<b>Group 4</b>	Thinking ahead- skills or changes from partners' sides



# World Cafe for Reflection-on-action

- Brainstorming to think through the remote research experiences
- Discussion on the methods that have been more effective and have future potentials
- Prioritising research approaches through discussion.



Source: Internet



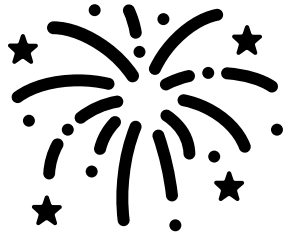
# Key findings



Regular check-in meetings



# Key findings



Celebrating project milestones





# Key findings



Sense-making workshops for local researchers



# Future recommendations

**Flexible planning**



**Mentoring process**



Source: Internet



Thank you

