

# Why Resilience?

## The Case for Building Resilience



For many civic organisations and individuals, building resilience is often associated with natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and weather related events. While natural disasters do pose threats to communities and organisations, there are many other threats facing our ever complex society. Geopolitical events, resource constraints, declining net energy, highly leveraged households and governments, and volatile and interdependent financial systems all make the case for building resilience increasingly compelling. We have moved from a relatively localised economy to a largely global economy. This globalised economy is reliant on cheap energy inputs. Everything from food production, to transport to the way we live depends on fossil- fuel inputs, which are highly energy intensive.

## A Pragmatic Approach to Resilience



While it is easy to be optimistic and come up with short-term solutions to these challenges, we must also work within the limits of reality. Rethink Consulting takes a pragmatic and holistic approach to solving many of the challenges and problems we face. Only by understanding our current circumstances can we move toward realistic solutions. By understanding limitations, constraints and feedback loops we are able to prepare and weather any threats or disruptions to systems. It is wise to be proactive, as opposed to being forced to take action in an emergency.

## Empowering Communities and Organisations



There is great power, freedom and benefit in being able to identify, plan and take proactive positive action before crises occur. Before we can take positive steps towards a brighter more resilient future we must ask a number of questions and challenge our current assumptions. We must ask ourselves: What kind of future do we want? Are our assumptions about the future based on reality? Is there a systems thinking approach to what we do? What are the alternatives and what is possible?

Our greatest ability as humans is to conceptualise and think. **It is time to 'rethink' our future....**

# What is a Resilience Index?



**The Martin Resilience Index (MRI)** is part of the broader Martin Resilience Assessment (MRA), which assesses and ranks specific segments of local and regional government municipalities, communities, areas and /or regions. The MRI assesses the capacity for resilience within an organisation and /or region to withstand shocks, constraints and or economic contraction.

**The Index takes a holistic systems approach to analysing assets, services and regions.** The analysis is based on evidence-based financial, environmental and energetic data to help guide and formulate a baseline from which to move forward.

**The index uses quantitative data to highlight vulnerable sectors, enabling strategic initiatives to be developed.** Over time, this builds more robust and resilient towns, cities and communities.

**The MRI can be tailored to specific areas of interest (modules) depending upon the needs of your community, region or organisation.** The index establishes a baseline analysis from which to develop a more resilient strategic vision.

It is an insurance policy for your community's future.

**Rethink Consulting**   
Changing the way we see the world...

## MRI Resilience Index Modules

Economic Capacity and Diversity

Energetic Mobility

Local / Regional Services

Community Resilience

Food Policy / Adaptability

Environmental / Regeneration

Climate Change Mitigation

# Why a Resilience Index?

Some of the benefits of the Martin Resilience Index (MRI) are listed below.

## Organisational Benefits



→ Identifies Risks and Gaps, establishing a baseline to move forward.

→ Highlights vulnerable business units and /or sectors.



→ Identifies stranded assets and helps in transition management.

→ Helps prioritise the allocation of capital and resources.

→ Maximises Return on Investment.



→ Moves the organisation in the direction of a low-carbon future.

→ Enables ongoing monitoring and progress toward a more resilient future.

→ Demonstrates corporate stewardship and accountability.



→ Helps develop a strong strategic vision.

→ Delivers measurable outcomes.



## Community Benefits

→ Builds long-term capacity

→ Builds community networks

→ Engages community

→ Helps develop meaningful community initiatives

→ Facilitates collaboration

→ Helps facilitate long-term health outcomes

→ Enables local Job creation

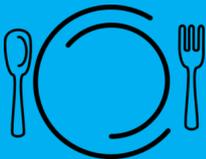
→ Explores local alliances

→ Empowers people to make positive change



# Building Resilience

## How Rethink Consulting Can Help



1.

Using evidence based data, Rethink Consulting creates awareness around the broader systemic challenges and risks which will impact councils and communities.

2.

With our holistic resilience index tools, Rethink Consulting identifies and maps vulnerable areas and /or sectors.

3.

Once risks and vulnerabilities have been established, Rethink Consulting develops real-world strategies (relevant to an area or organisation) and solutions to help mitigate risks.

4.

With ongoing monitoring and collaboration, Rethink Consulting helps guide and manage the transition process to a more resilient future. ...



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Andrew is an independent analyst, author and Director of Rethink Consulting. Andrew is the architect and developer of the MRI and MRA tools which help build resilience. His extensive network of passionate, highly skilled people make Rethink Consulting the ultimate partner.

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