



Need help transitioning to a water sensitive city?

The CRC for Water Sensitive Cities (CRCWSC) can help you make significant progress.

Using our **Water Sensitive Cities Transition Planning Process**, we provide strategic guidance for cities and towns wanting to accelerate their transition towards their vision of a **water sensitive future**. We also help decision makers and practitioners determine how to **most effectively shape and service cities** to achieve that future.

Module 3 of our **Water Sensitive Cities Transition Planning Process** is about **transition planning**—and a proven way to plan is to use our **Transition Dynamics Framework**, to analyse your city's current transition progress and identify priority strategies for advancing the transition to water sensitive practices.



CRC for
Water Sensitive Cities



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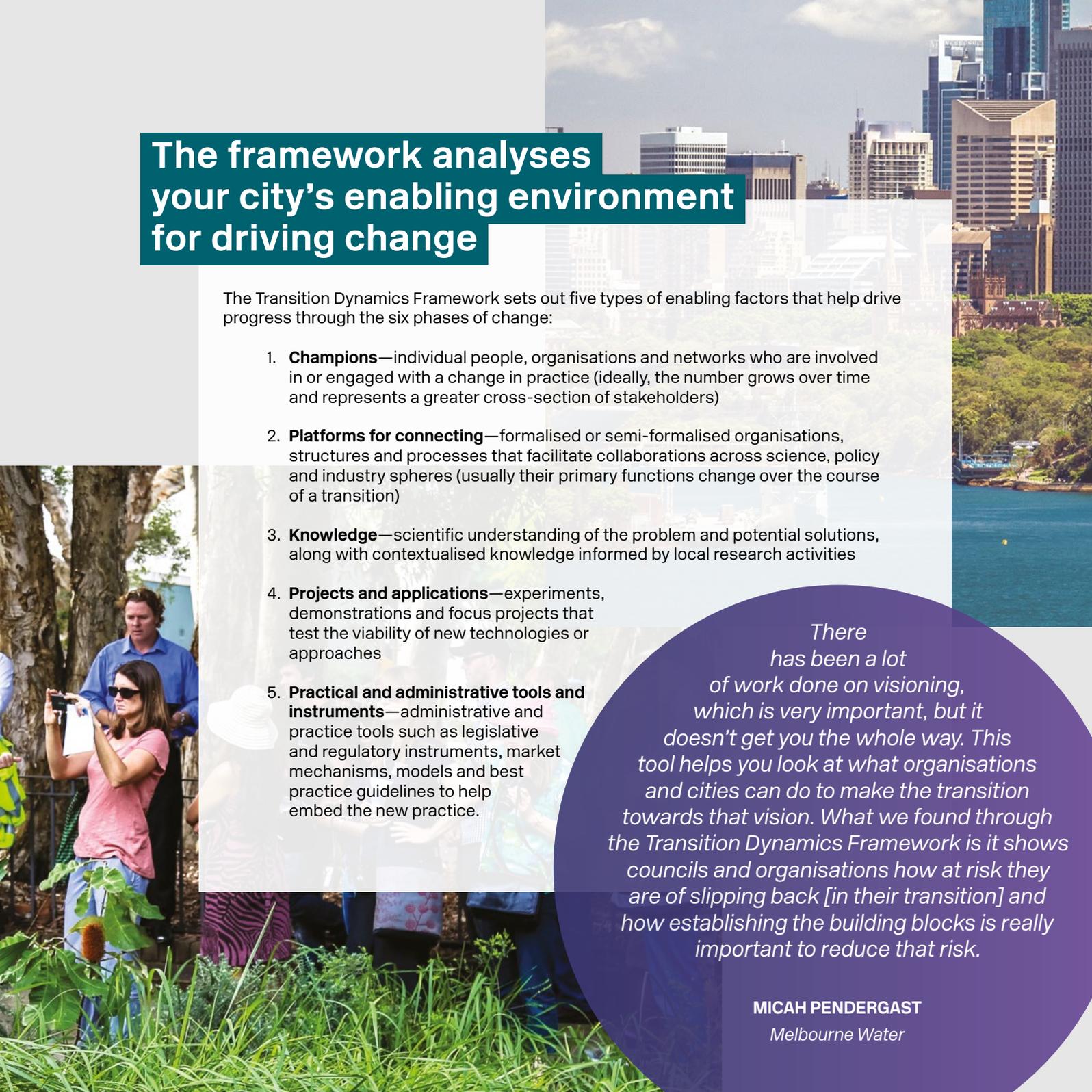
Use the framework to answer: *How do we achieve our water sensitive city vision?*

We know that transformative changes are never easy. To move entrenched water management systems in new directions, it is essential to understand and consider the social and institutional dynamics along with the technical aspects that underlie a city's transition.

Realising new practice on the ground requires significant changes across the structures, cultures and practices of urban and water system planning, design, management, engagement and decision making. These changes are likely to happen over a long timeframe, as new water sensitive practices are established and old ones are replaced.

Our research and experience show that water sensitive transitions unfold over six phases:





The framework analyses your city's enabling environment for driving change

The Transition Dynamics Framework sets out five types of enabling factors that help drive progress through the six phases of change:

1. **Champions**—individual people, organisations and networks who are involved in or engaged with a change in practice (ideally, the number grows over time and represents a greater cross-section of stakeholders)
2. **Platforms for connecting**—formalised or semi-formalised organisations, structures and processes that facilitate collaborations across science, policy and industry spheres (usually their primary functions change over the course of a transition)
3. **Knowledge**—scientific understanding of the problem and potential solutions, along with contextualised knowledge informed by local research activities
4. **Projects and applications**—experiments, demonstrations and focus projects that test the viability of new technologies or approaches
5. **Practical and administrative tools and instruments**—administrative and practice tools such as legislative and regulatory instruments, market mechanisms, models and best practice guidelines to help embed the new practice.

There has been a lot of work done on visioning, which is very important, but it doesn't get you the whole way. This tool helps you look at what organisations and cities can do to make the transition towards that vision. What we found through the Transition Dynamics Framework is it shows councils and organisations how at risk they are of slipping back [in their transition] and how establishing the building blocks is really important to reduce that risk.

MICAH PENDERGAST
Melbourne Water

Transition Dynamics Framework: six phases and five enablers

Transition phase	Champions	Platforms for connecting	Knowledge	Projects and applications	Tools and instruments
1. Issue emergence	Issue activists		Issue highlighted	Issue examined	
2. Issue definition	Individual champions	Sharing concerns and ideas	Causes and impacts examined	Solutions explored	
3. Shared understanding and issue agreement	Connected champions	Developing a collective voice	Solutions developed	Solutions experimented with	Preliminary practical guidance
4. Knowledge dissemination	Influential champions	Building broad support	Solutions advanced	Solutions demonstrated at scale	Refined guidance and early policy
5. Policy and practice diffusion	Government agency champions	Expanding the community of practice	Capacity building	Widespread implementation and learning	Early regulation and targets
6. Embedding new practice	Multi-stakeholder networks	Guiding consistent application	Monitoring and evaluation	Standardisation and refinement	Comprehensive policy and regulation

The framework helps you prioritise, action and monitor your transition

Using the framework will help you understand your city's current transition phase and what enabling factors you need to address to advance to the next transition phase.

We apply the framework during a full day workshop, in which we explore the presence or absence of the enabling factors in your city. This analysis helps determine priority focus areas for advancing your city's transition.

As a result of this analysis, you will be equipped to:

- **Prioritise strategies and actions.** Stakeholders identify the full suite of actions and strategies needed to transition to a water sensitive city. They can then identify those actions that must be done in the short term, the medium term and the long term.
- **Build up the enabling environment.** Stakeholders identify the broad suite of actions needed to deliberately build up the enabling environment over time.
- **Build up the capability of practitioners to implement these enabling strategies.** Practitioners gain the knowledge, skills and tools they need to progress their city's water sensitive transition.
- **Provide a framework for monitoring progress.** Practitioners use the Transition Dynamics Framework to monitor and track progress over time.

The framework is useful beyond transition strategies

The Transition Dynamics Framework is versatile and can be applied to a range of contexts and scales, including those outside of water sensitive city transitions. We can help you apply the framework to a specific program or organisation, to assess and monitor impact and performance, for example. Speak with us about how the framework might be useful to your circumstances.

Townsville recently undertook the water sensitive city transitions process—the outcomes realised so far include greater understanding, collaboration and 'joined up' thinking across the various disciplines and industries in Townsville. The process importantly helped us define the 'what's next?' by using the innovative Transition Dynamics Framework to map out a pathway to our desired state over time.

CHRIS MANNING

Townsville Water and Waste

Make progress right now

If you'd like to discuss how our Transition Dynamics Framework or any of the modules and tools in our **Water Sensitive Cities Transition Planning Process** can help your city, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact the regional manager in your state to discuss your local water sensitive city journey:

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