

A Draft Framework for Developing **DRBC's Climate Resilience Plan**

September 11, 2024

Advisory Committee on Climate Change

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Delaware River Basin Commission

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Resolution 2024-04

- Recognizes the state of climate science
- Highlights climate action plans developed by Commission members
- Finds that climate change impacts the water resources of the Basin and the functionality and resilience of water infrastructure
- Directs the Commission to include a climate section in the **Water Resources Program** and to develop its own **Climate Resilience Plan**

Resolution 2024-04: CRP Components

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- Consultation with ACCC and other stakeholders
- **Funding** priorities and **timing**
 - At this time, no **new** resources are allocated to this CRP effort, but supplemental funding may be sought in the future
 - Anticipating an **iterative process** over short-, mid-, and long-term timeframes

Resolution 2024-04: CRP Components

- The CRP will include **prioritized actions** for evaluating impacts of climate change and formulating management approaches to **improve resilience and adaptation** to a changing climate
- Consultation with ACCC and other stakeholders
- **Funding** priorities and **timing**
- Actions within the **Commission's authority** may include:
 - Flow and drought management
 - Flood loss
 - Water quality
 - Water use and water efficiency
 - Water equity and environmental justice
 - Regulations

DRBC Authority: The Delaware River Basin Compact

- The Commission receives its authority from the **Compact**
- Articles 4 through 10 of the Compact identify **water resource-related** concerns within the Commission's substantive jurisdiction:
 - Water supply
 - Pollution control
 - Flood protection
 - Watershed management
 - Recreation
 - Hydroelectric power
 - Withdrawals and diversions

Resolution 2024-04: Public Input

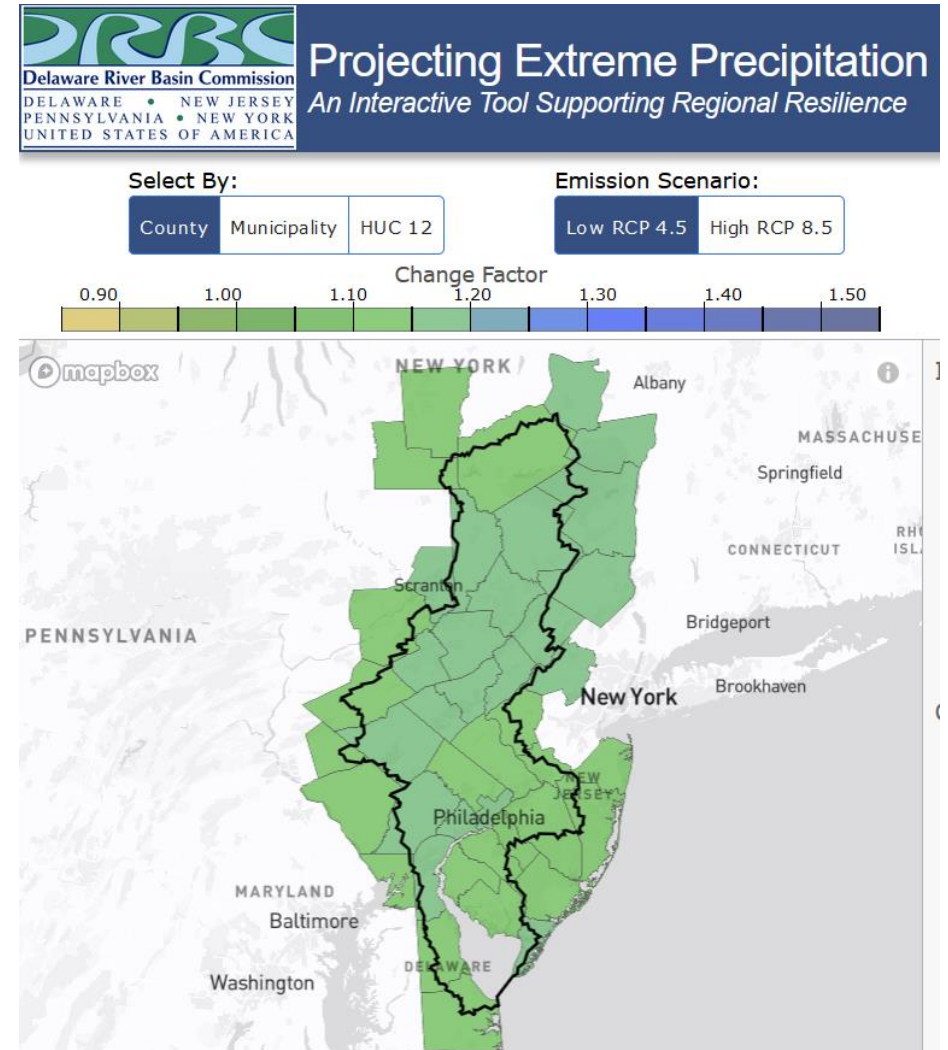
- **Generally supportive** – highlighted importance of rulemaking
- Specific comments:
 - Desire for greenhouse gas mitigation/prevention
 - Request to consider climate change in FFMP actions
 - Consult ACCC in project review process
- Expect future opportunities for public participation
 - Rulemakings
 - Comprehensive Plan changes
 - Annual Water Resources Program

DRBC's ongoing climate-related work includes...

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- **Flood loss reduction**

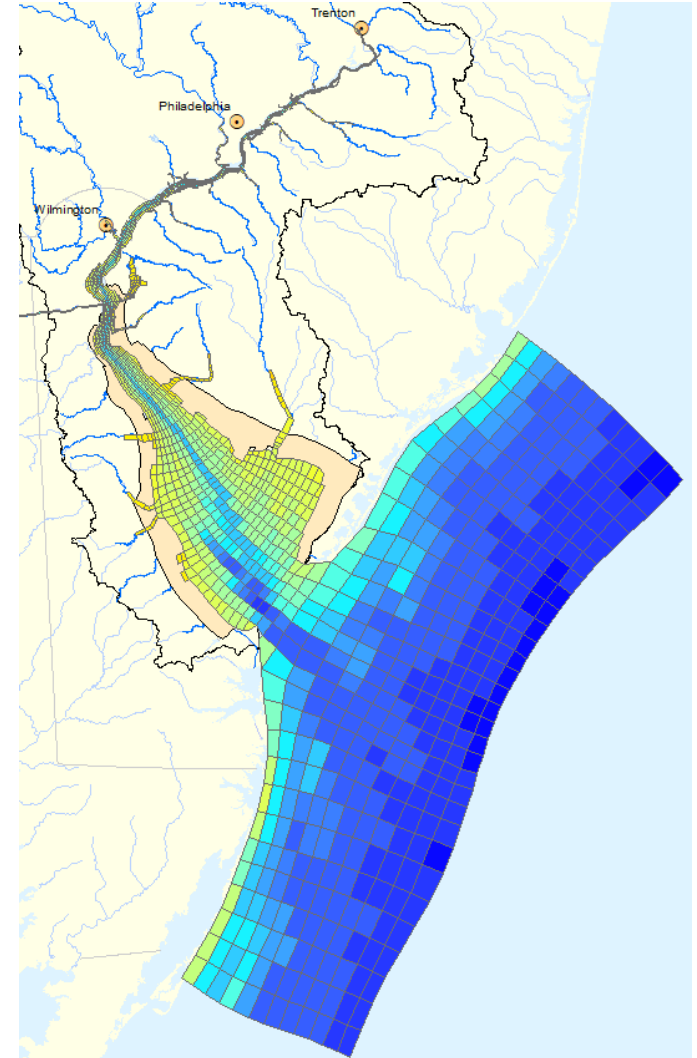
- Extreme precipitation projections, interactive tool
- Hazard mitigation assistance grants



This projection tool was developed by the [Northeast Regional Climate Center \(NRCC\)](#) at Cornell University on behalf of the [DRBC](#).

DRBC's ongoing climate-related work includes...

- Flood loss reduction
 - Extreme precipitation projections, interactive tool
 - Hazard mitigation assistance grants
- **Water availability and quality**
 - Salinity and sea-level rise
 - Storage feasibility
 - Climate change impacts on flow



DRBC's ongoing climate-related work includes...

- Flood loss reduction
 - Extreme precipitation projections, interactive tool
 - Hazard mitigation assistance grants
- Water availability and quality
 - Salinity and sea-level rise
 - Storage feasibility
 - Climate change impacts on flow
- **Outreach and education**
 - ACCC Climate Change Forum (Jan. 2023)
 - Joint workshop with EPA R3 (Oct. 2024)
 - NJ Assn Floodplain Managers meeting (Oct. 2024)

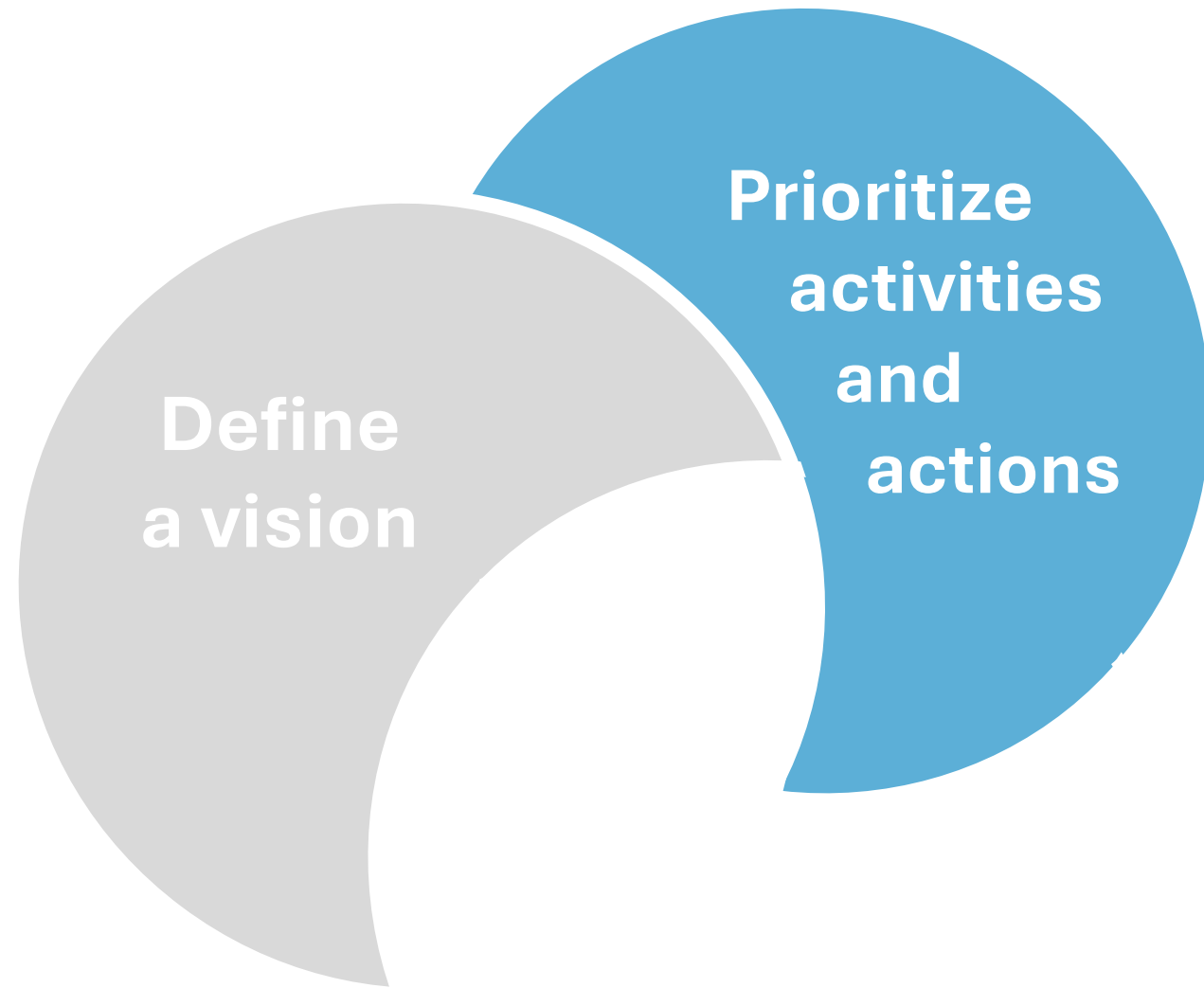


DRBC's climate
resilience plan
will **coordinate,**
guide, and
expand ongoing
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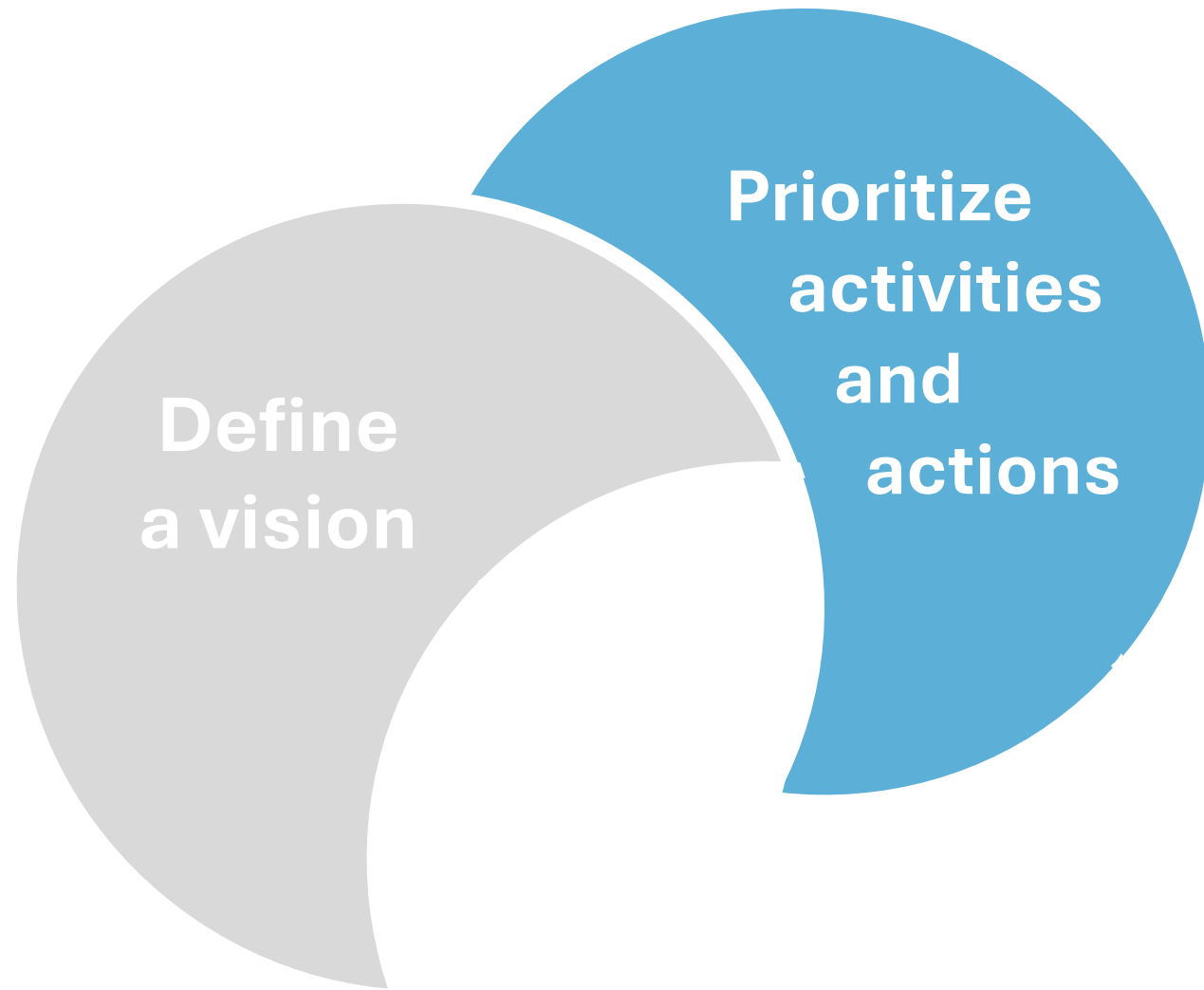


Define
a vision

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DRBC's climate resilience plan will **coordinate, guide, and expand ongoing and future work**

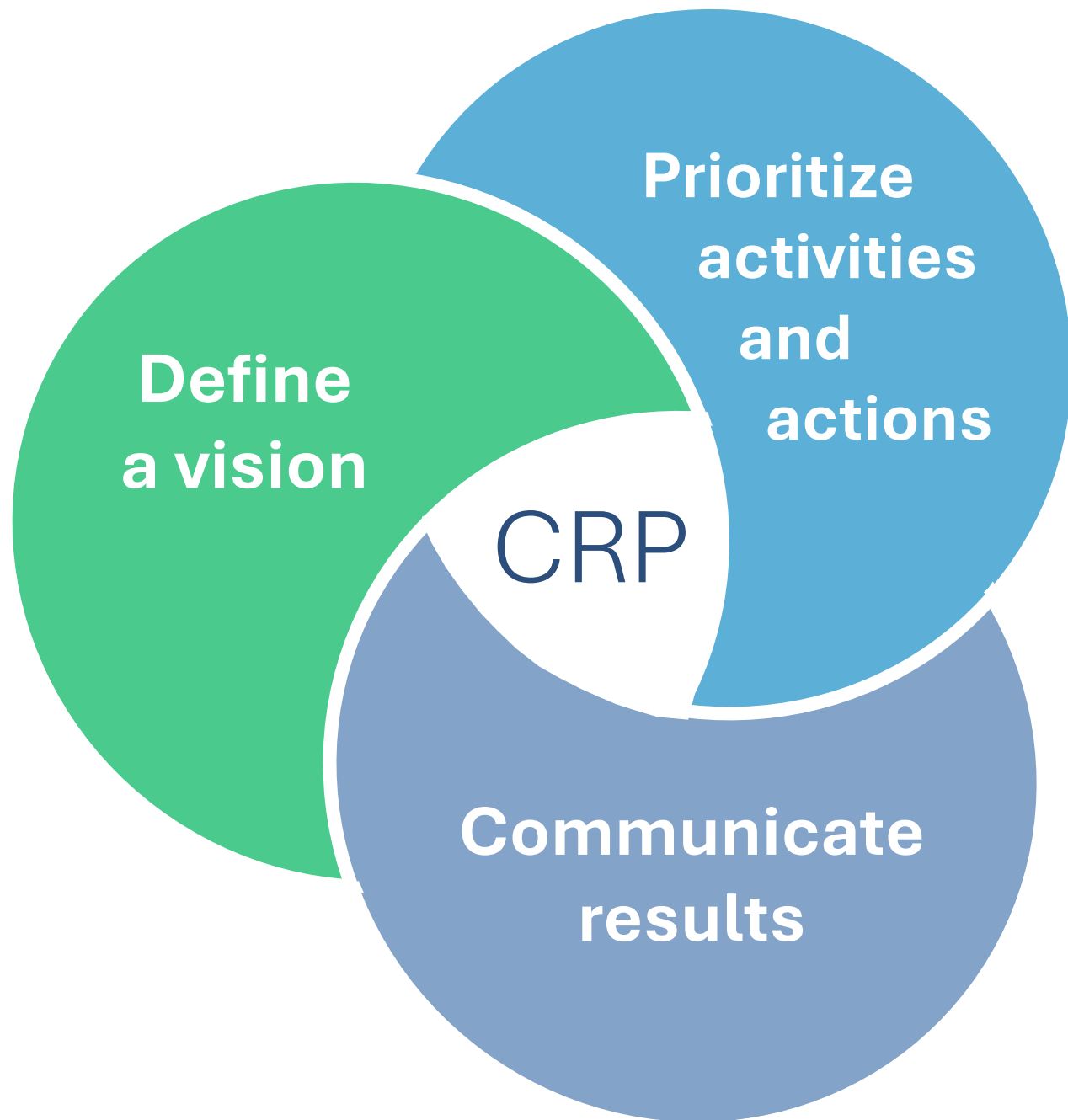


This list may include...

- **Research**
 - Model development
 - Improving predictions
 - Trend analysis
 - Monitoring
 - Extreme value studies
- **Interactive data tools**
 - Report cards; new metrics
- **Outreach**
 - Partnership development
 - EJ community engagement
- **Intergovernmental coordination**
- **Policy and regulation**
- **And more...**

DRBC's climate resilience plan will **coordinate, guide, and expand ongoing and future work**





DRBC's climate resilience plan will **coordinate, guide, and expand ongoing and future work**

DRBC's Resilience Team includes representatives from each section

- Team lead + *Water Resource Planning*: Sarah Beganskas
- *Senior Management Team* liaison: Kristen Bowman Kavanagh
- *Legal*: Kevin Pregel
- *External Affairs and Communications*: Chris McCann
- *Project Review*: Eric Engle and Raveena Pachucki
- *Water Resource Operations*: Sara Sayed
- *Water Quality Assessment*: Jake Bransky
- *Water Quality Modeling*: Joseph Fogarty



Parallel processing: Planning and implementation

**Resilience
Team**

DRBC

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Climate
resilience plan
framework

1

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Parallel processing: Planning and implementation

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- Define vision, goals,
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- Define vision, goals, and metrics
- What types of actions are in DRBC's authority?

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- Resources available

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- Define vision, goals, and metrics
- What types of actions are in DRBC's authority?
- Resources available
- Outline Phases 2 & 3

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Parallel processing: Planning and implementation

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Climate
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2
Vulnerability
assessment &
gap analysis

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What do we know?

- Describe and quantify climate impacts to water resources in DRB

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What information do we need to guide planning?

- Data / monitoring
- DRBC's role in relation to partners' work

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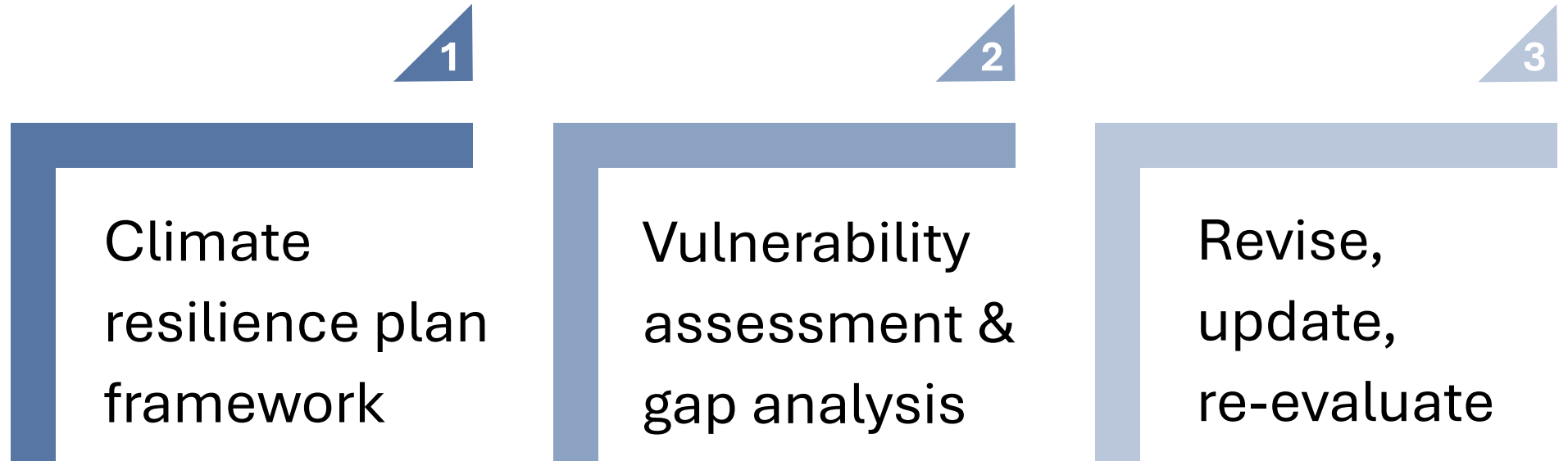
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Prioritized list of possible activities and actions

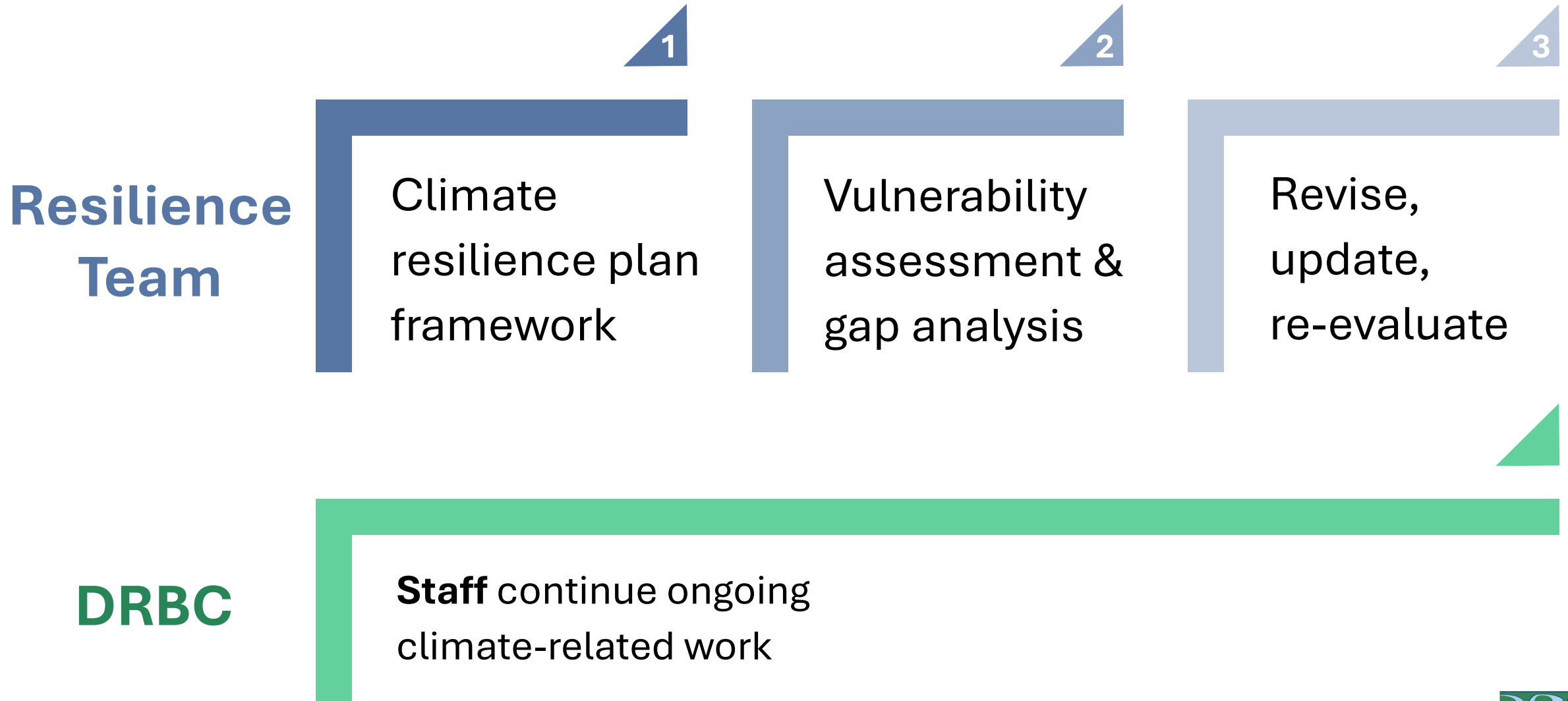
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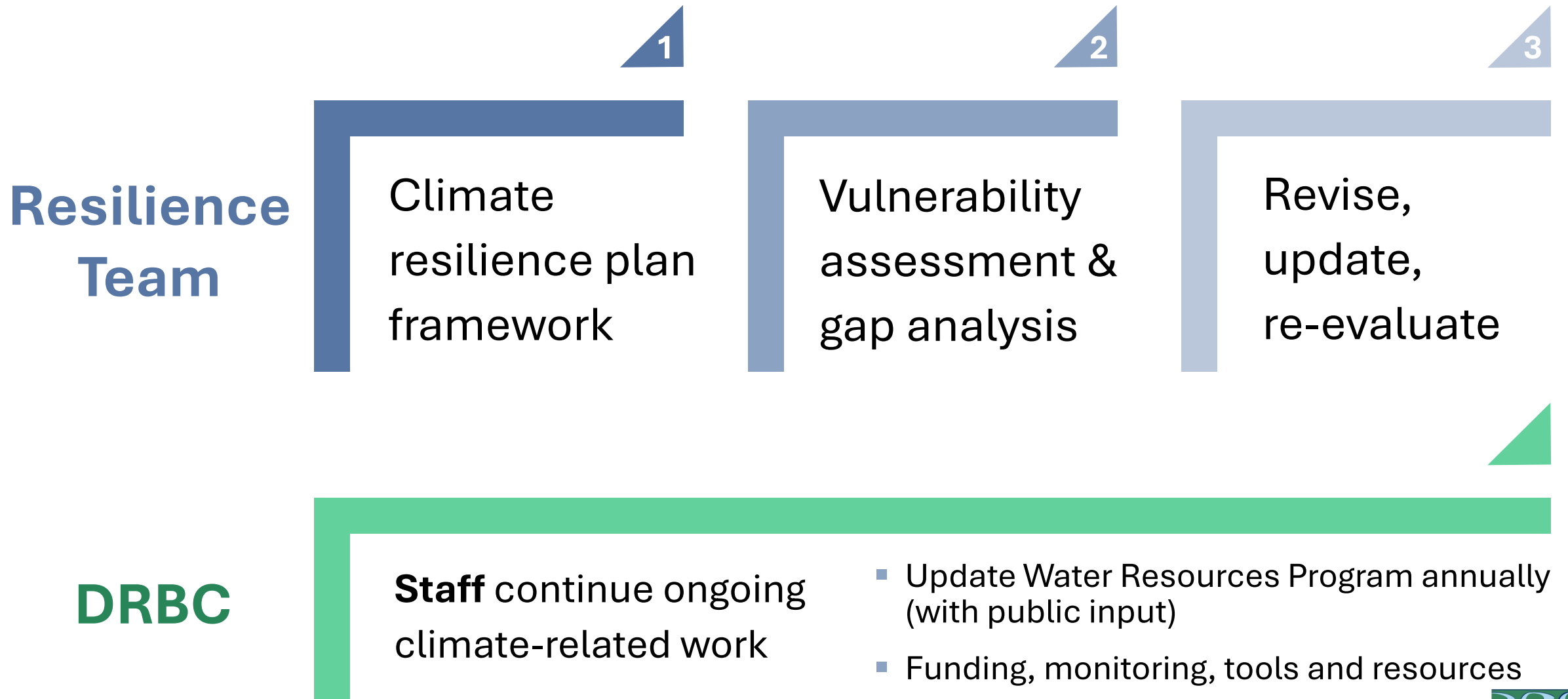


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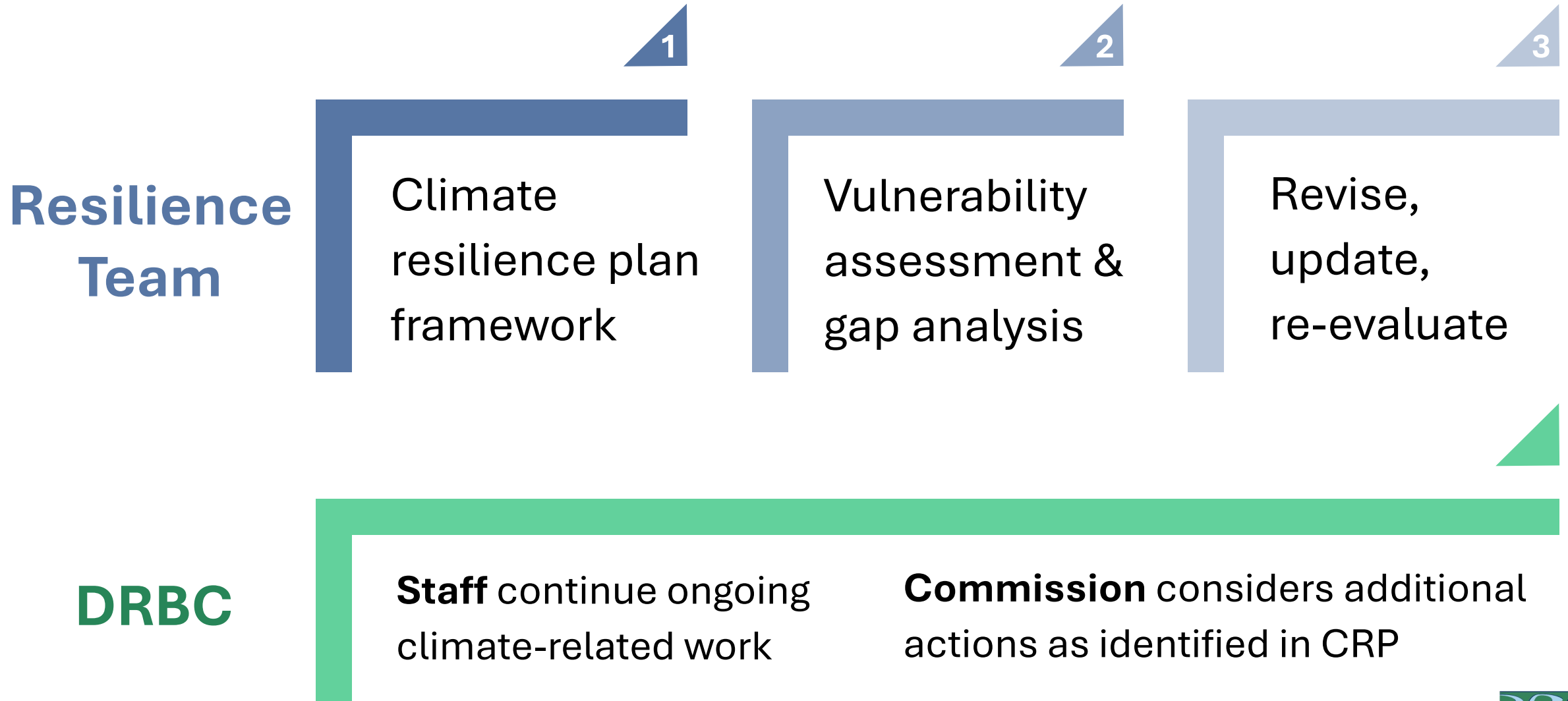
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DRBC's climate resilience planning process has begun.

Any lessons learned or guidance to share at this early stage?



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