



Nature-based Solutions

Portfolio review of WCS Climate NbS Projects

Caleb McClennen, Ph.D.

Wildlife Conservation Society

May 19, 2020

WCS

- Field Conservation in > 60 Countries
- 14 Global Priority Regions
- 400+ peer-reviewed publications per annum.
- Ongoing partnerships with more than 300 IPLCs
- > 50 Publicly Funded Climate NbS projects 2015-2019





**Protect
Intact Forests**



**Reduce Deforestation
Frontiers**



Ecosystem Based Adaptation



WCS Analysis of 50 Publicly Funded Nature-based projects 2015-2019

Methods

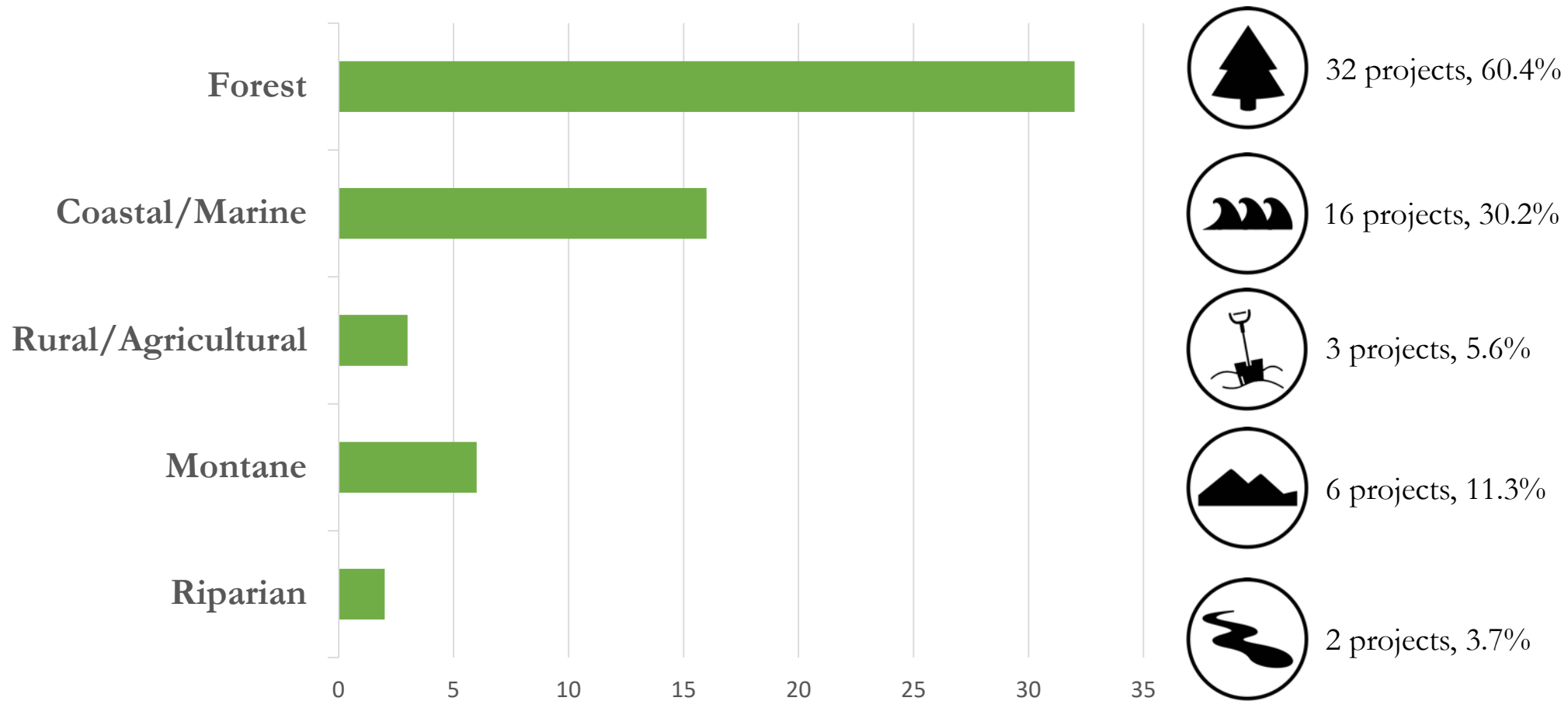


- Reviewed portfolio of 600 publicly funded projects 2015-2020 to select subset of 50 with NbS climate focus.
- Utilized subset of the STAP/ U of Michigan analytical framework
- Categorized projects by: geography, partnership with IPLCs, policy objectives and NbS type.

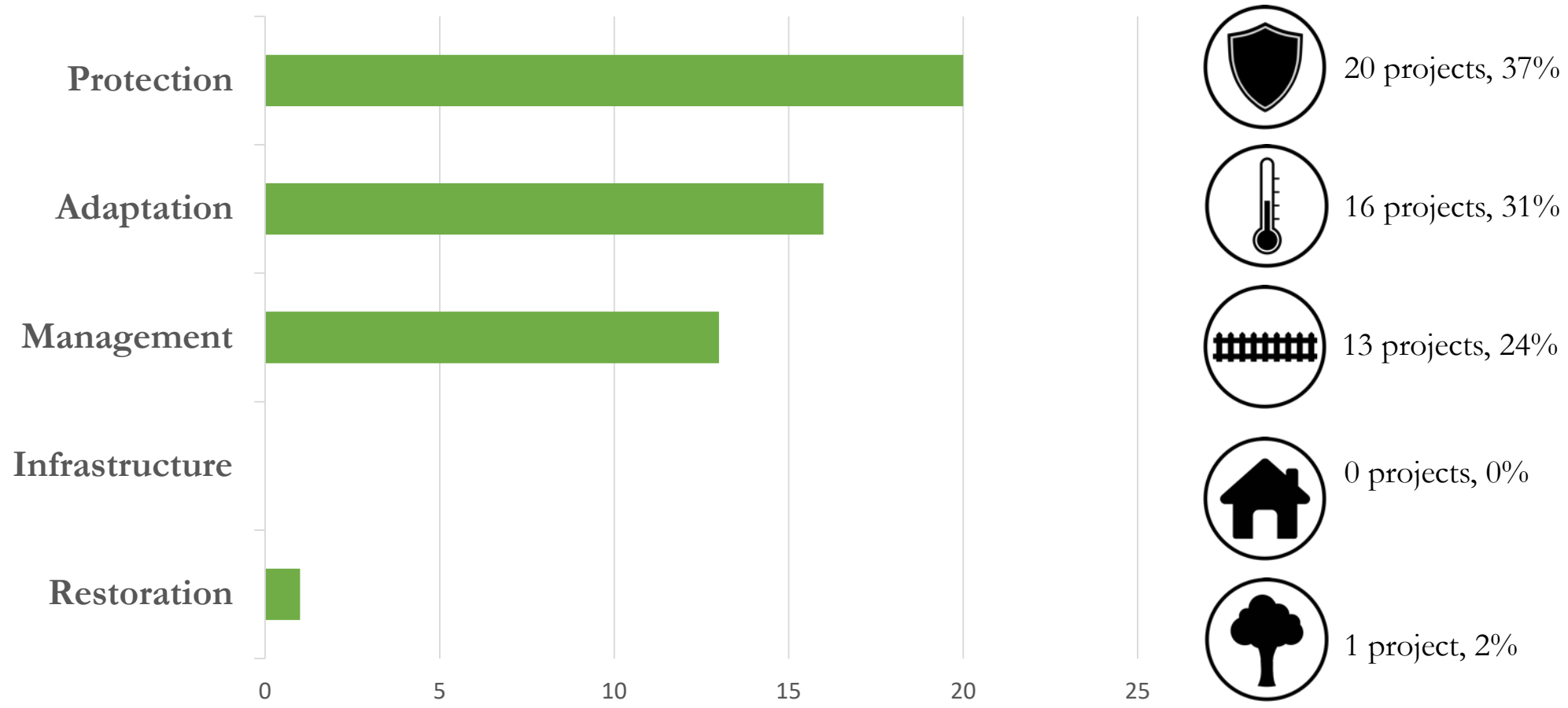
NbS Climate Portfolio 2015-2019



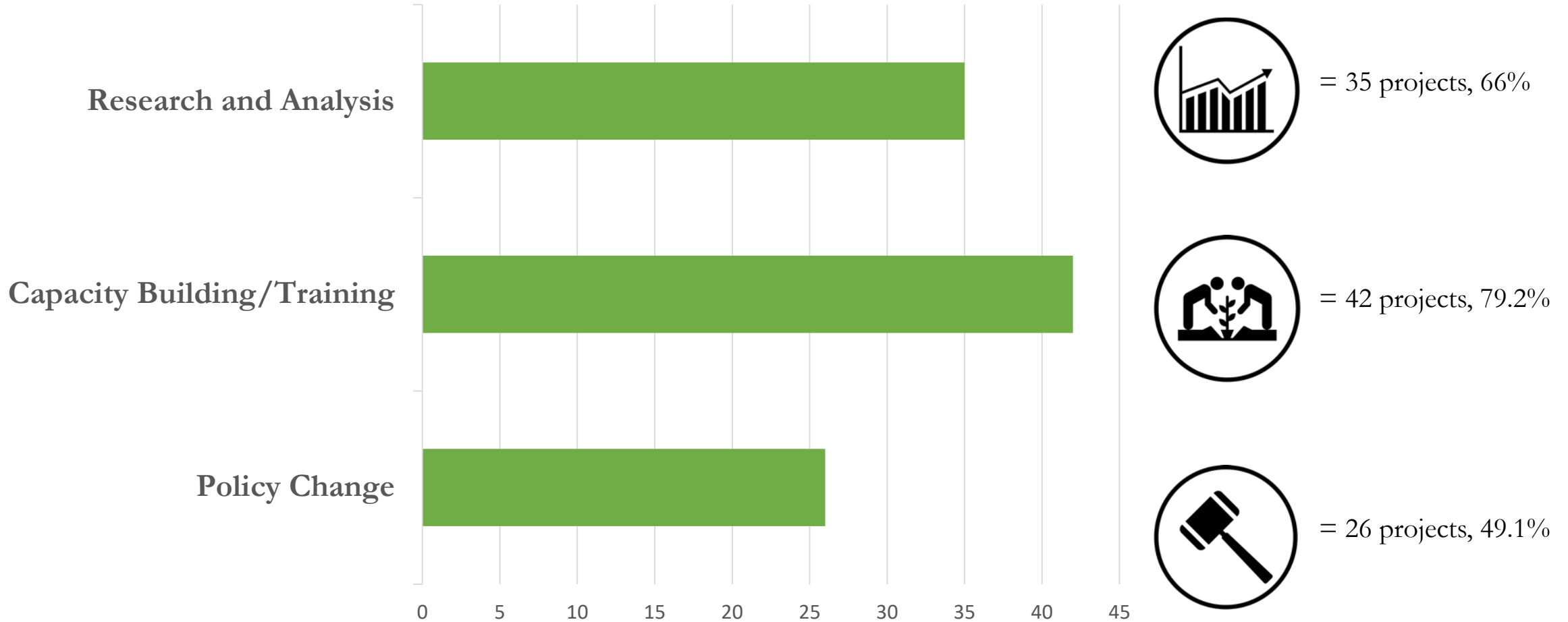
Focal Ecosystems: Forests and Marine



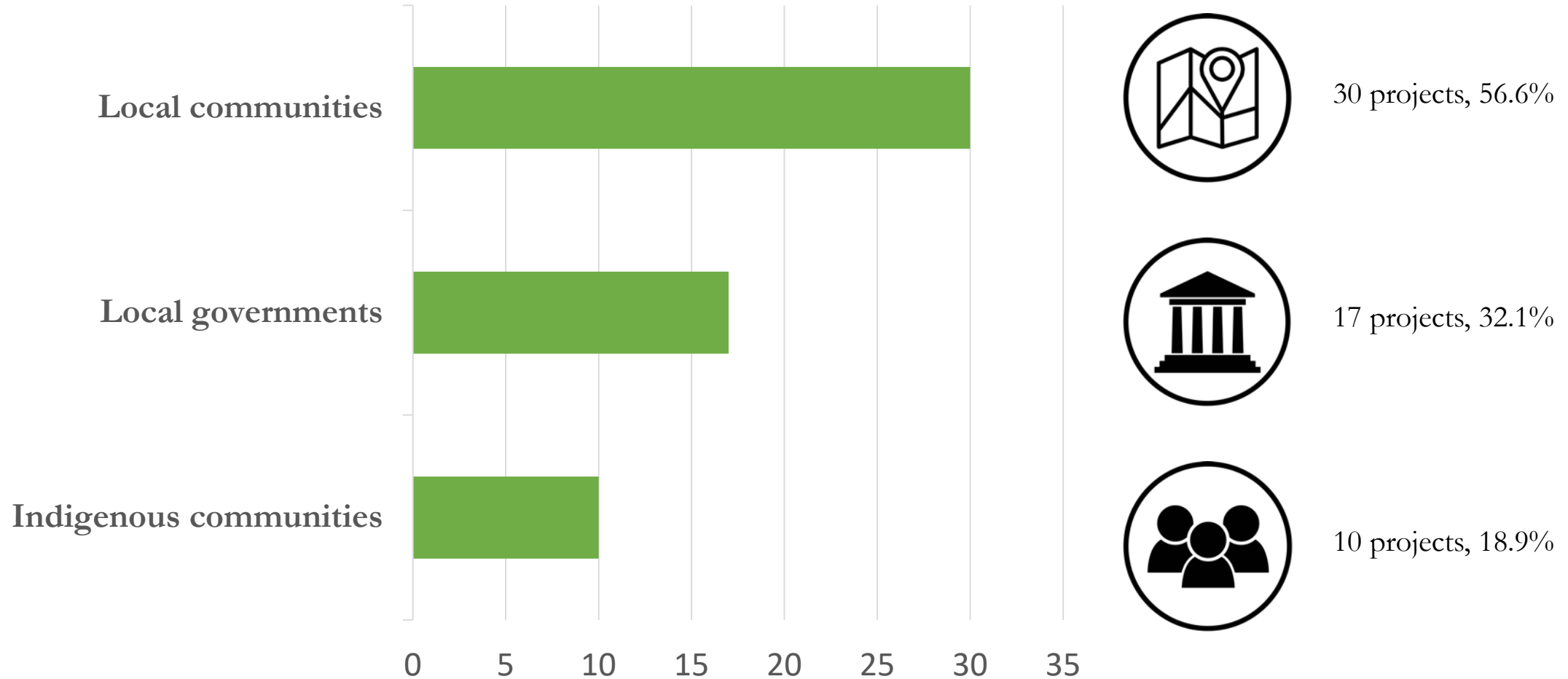
NbS Focus: Protection, Adaption & Management



Key NbS Project Elements



Partnerships



Case Study 1: Enhance Stakeholder Engagement for Uganda's National REDD+ Programme in the Albertine Region



Case Study 2: Scaling up marine protected areas in Melanesia for biodiversity conservation, food security and livelihoods



WCS Climate Adaptation Fund (CAF)



\$19.6 million invested in 104 adaptation projects from 40 U.S. states and territories

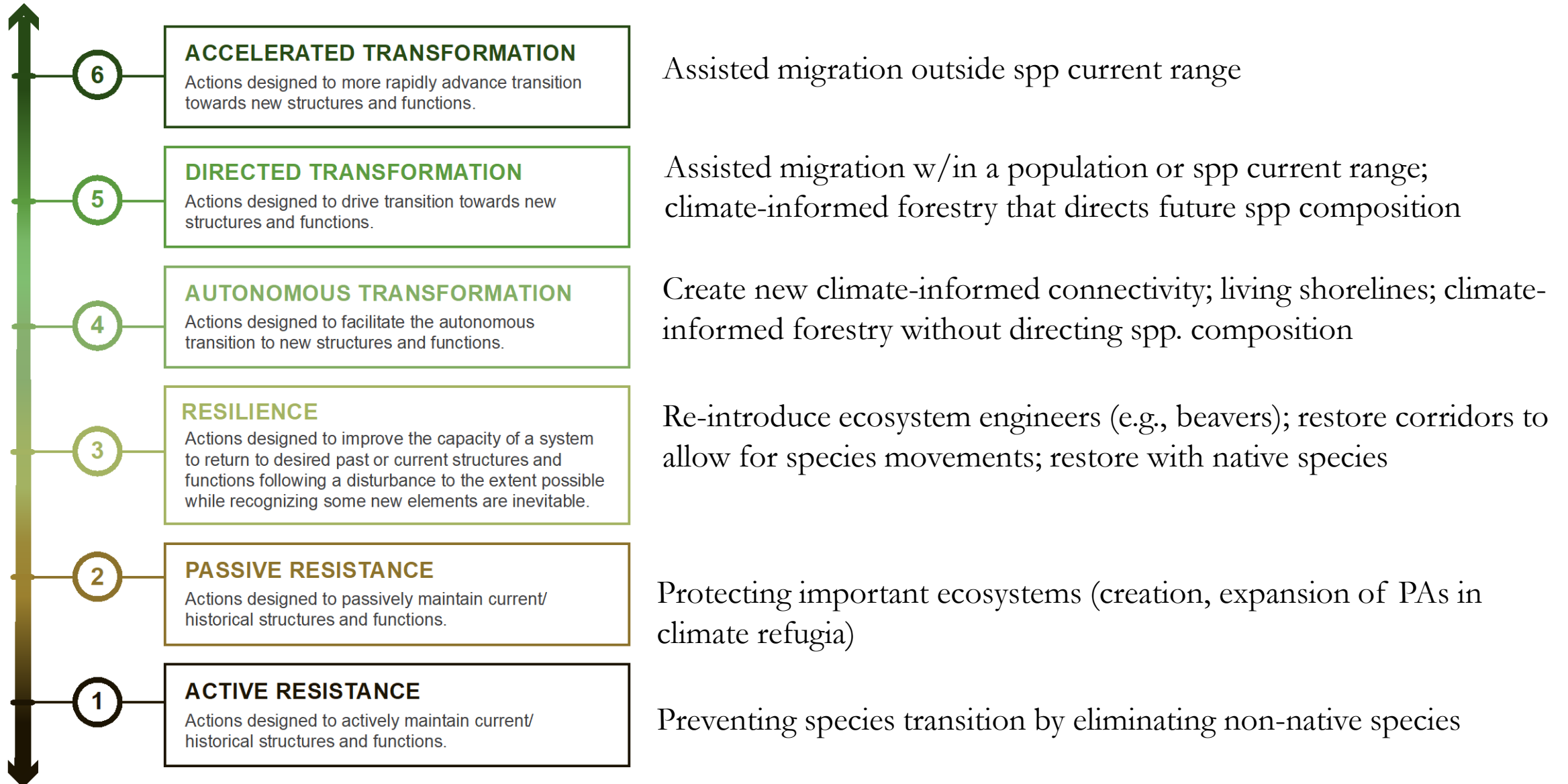


CAF Criteria for success

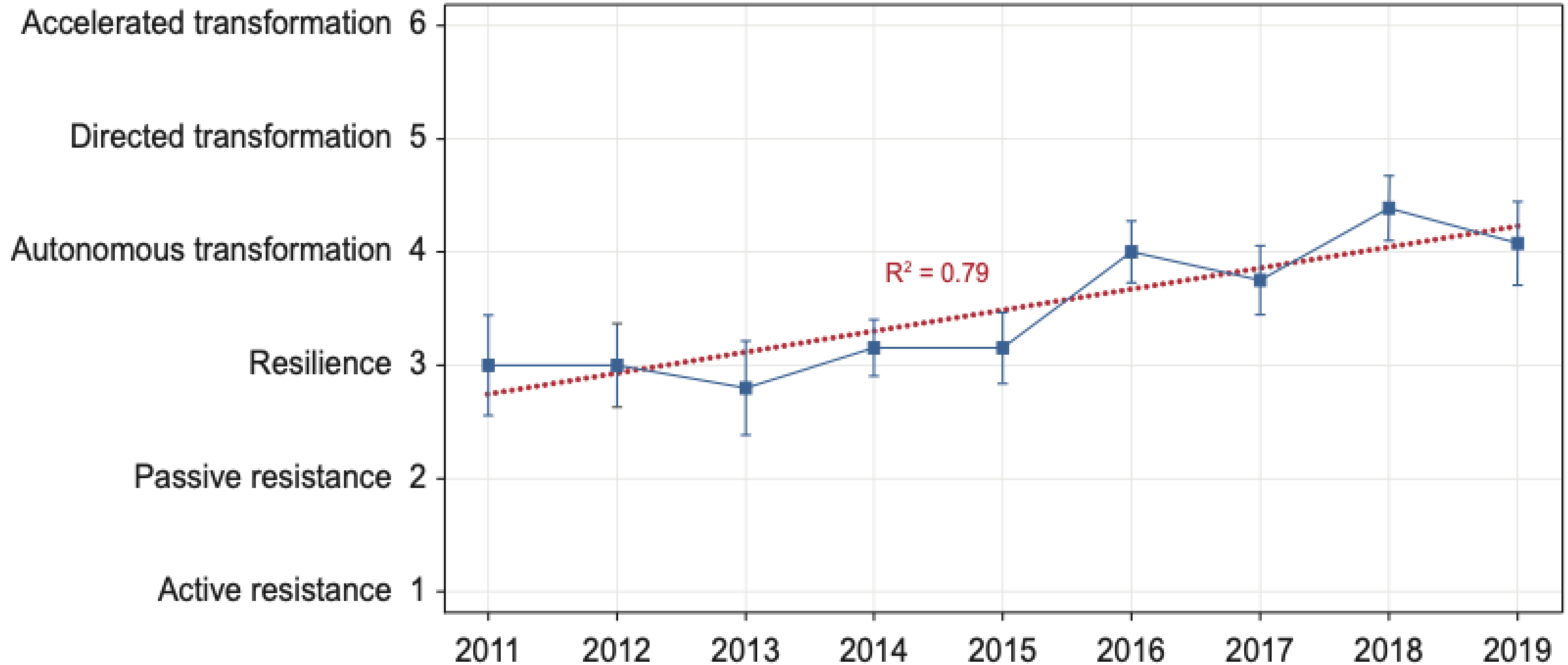


1. **Use of Information:** Adaptive Management, Knowledge, M&E
2. **Project Management:** Achievement of Objectives, Engagement, Finances, Sustainability, Partnerships and Capacity
3. **Social and Ecological Effects:** Ecosystem Function, Social, Wildlife
4. **Advancing the Field:** Capacity Building, Innovation, Mainstreaming, Policy

Resistance – Resilience – Transformation



CAF: From Resistance to Transformation



Discussion Topics



1. Mainstreaming Climate NbS in Policy still work in progress.
2. The portfolio addresses multiple societal challenges beyond climate, specifically food security and economic development.
3. Notable lack of Climate NbS projects linked to health.
4. Review demonstrates critical role of engaging IPLC for success.
5. More comprehensive review and post-project interrogation needed.
6. Many projects initially conservation focused. Development of best practices for NbS would help improve impact on societal benefits.

Questions