



VALUING NATURE



Nested Ecosystem Services

18th / 19th October 2017

Valuing Nature Annual Conference, Edinburgh



Project aim

Maximise positive socio-cultural and ecological values of wetlands for wellbeing and reduce negative attitudes

Conceptual work and Methods: 12 case studies (3 in depth)

- WP 1: Conceptual approaches
- WP2:
 - Case studies (coastal managed realignment, arable reversion, urban wetlands, wet woodlands)
 - Ecological surveys
 - Economic valuation (e.g. questionnaire, interviews)
 - Sense of place / wellbeing (interviews, focus groups, community-voice, artistic lens (modified photo-elicitation), historical survey (e.g. oral histories, maps, texts).
- WP3: Information guidance production



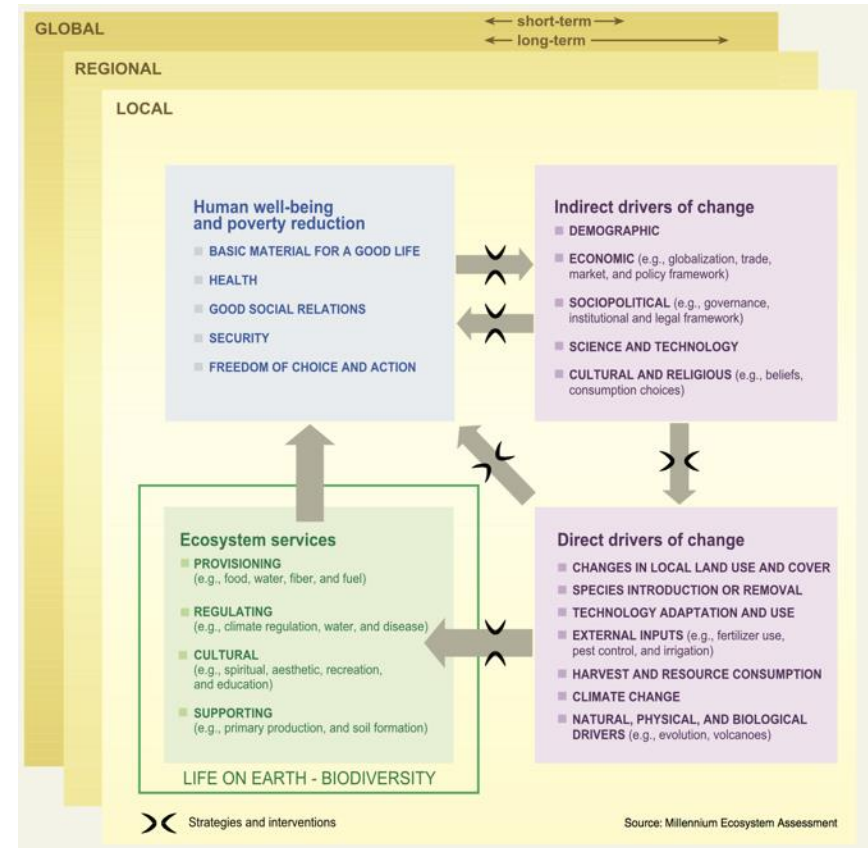
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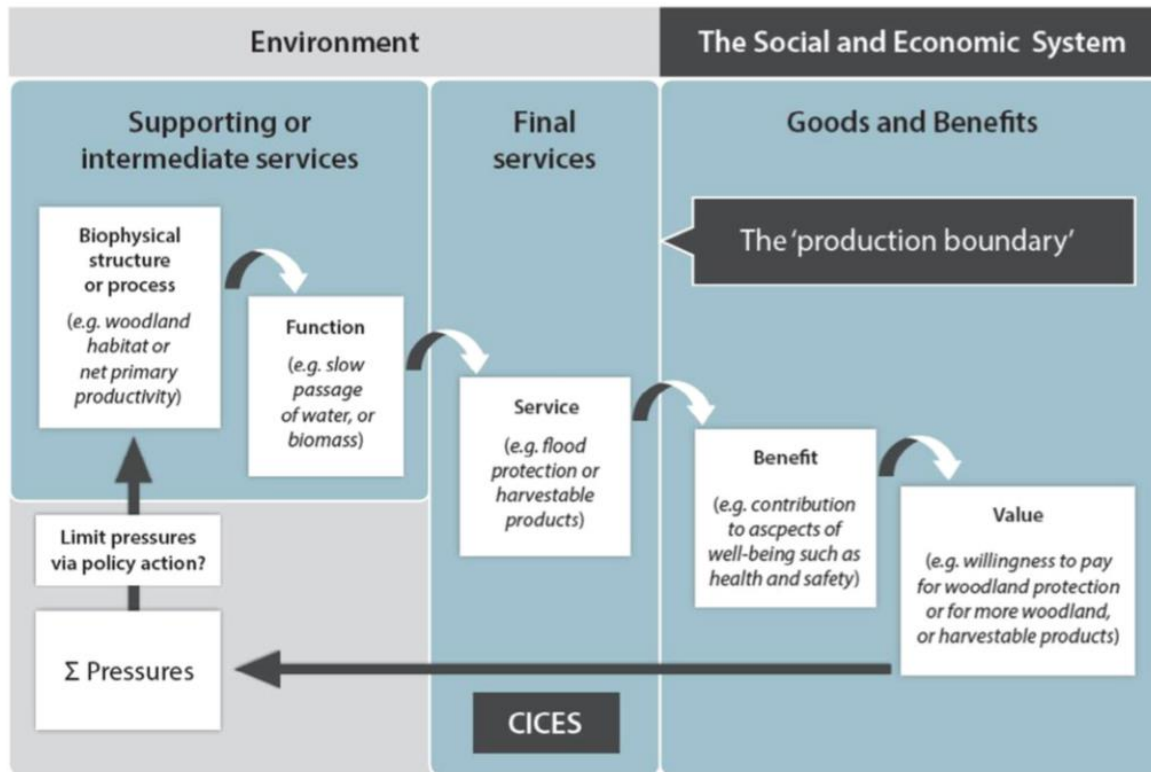
Conceptual Framework

Key issues driving development

- Understanding values and dis-values
- Thinking critically about the relationship between nature and culture
- Draw existing insights about CES but think about this in relation to supporting, provisioning and regulating services
- Incorporating more sophisticated ideas of wellbeing
- Producing a framework that reflects epistemology as well as ontology



Existing frameworks



“These complex connections (*between ecosystems and humans*) are poorly represented by a linear ‘cascade’, which assumes simple linkages and effects” (Constanza 2017, pg. 5)

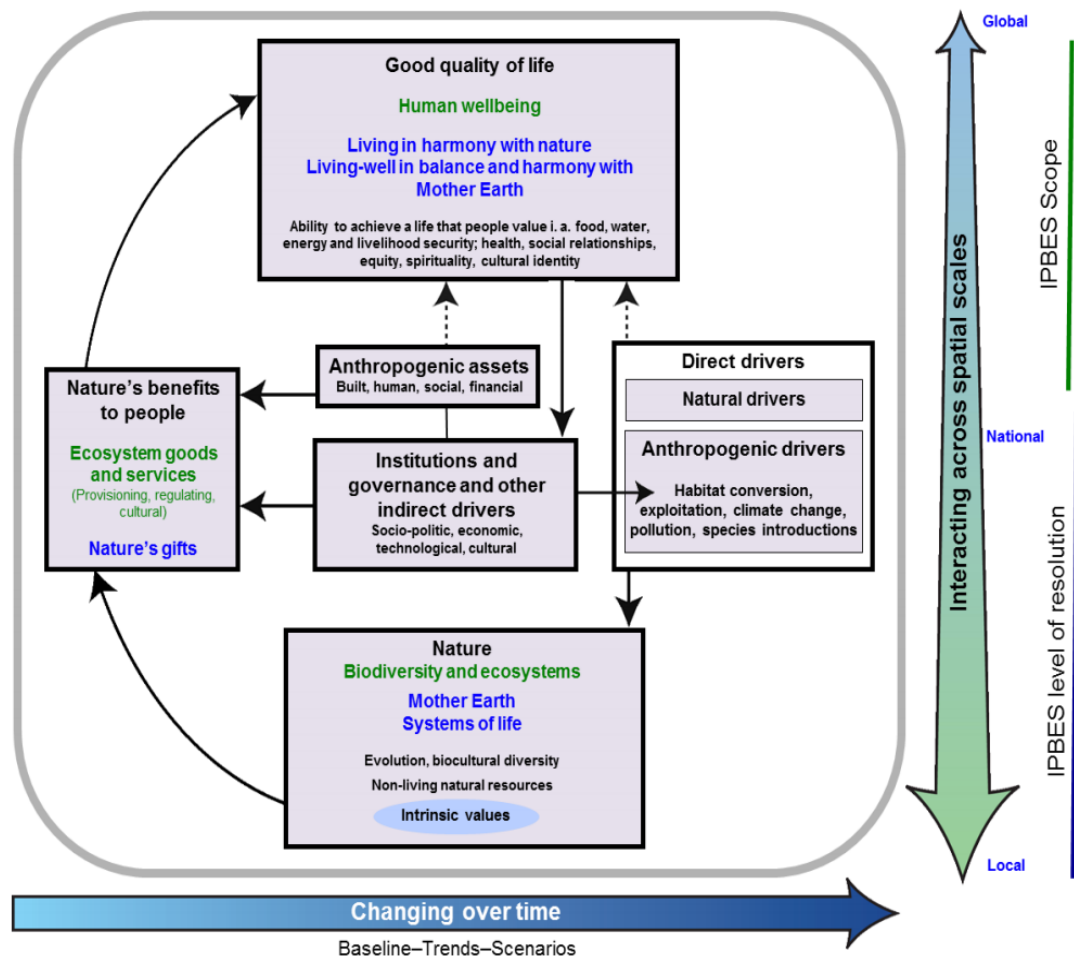
Fig. 2. Cascade diagram: from structure to functions, to services to benefits to value (Potschin and Haines-Young, 2017).

“... the concept of ecosystem services makes it clear that the whole system matters, both to humans and to the other species we are interdependent with. If anything, the ecosystem services concept is a ‘whole system aware’ view of **humans embedded in society and embedded in the rest of nature**. ‘Centric’ with any prefix doesn’t really describe this complex interdependence” (Constanza 2017, pg. 3).

Existing frameworks

“Trade-offs between the beneficial and detrimental effects of organisms and ecosystems are not unusual and they need to be understood within the context of the bundles of multiple effects provided by them within specific contexts. For example, wetland ecosystems provide water purification and flood regulation but they can also be a source of vector-borne disease”.

Figure 1
Analytical conceptual framework



Existing frameworks

R. Fish et al.

Ecosystem Services xx (xxxx) xxx-xxxx

“Cultural ecosystem services are understood here not as part of subject-object ontology - as a priori products of nature that people utilise for a particular benefit to well-being - but rather as **relational processes and entities that people actively create and express through interactions with ecosystems**” (pg. 4).

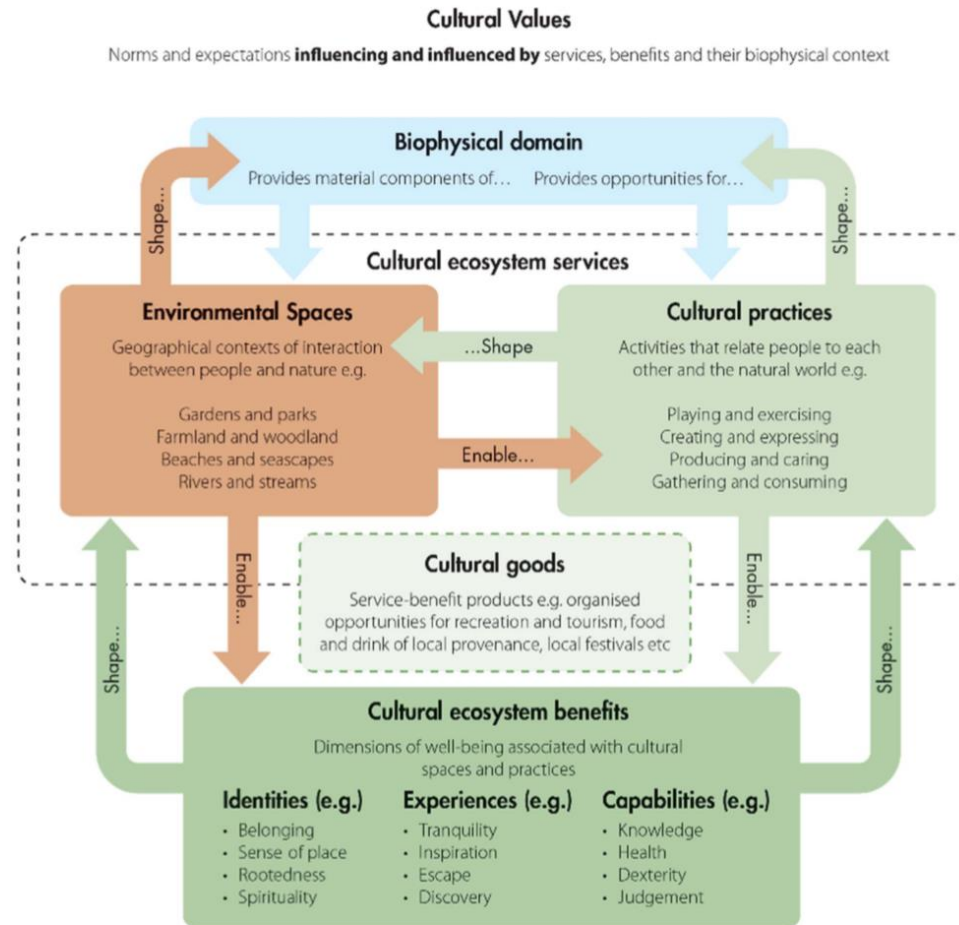


Fig. 1. A conceptual framework for cultural ecosystem services.

(Fish et al 2016)

Rethinking ecosystem services

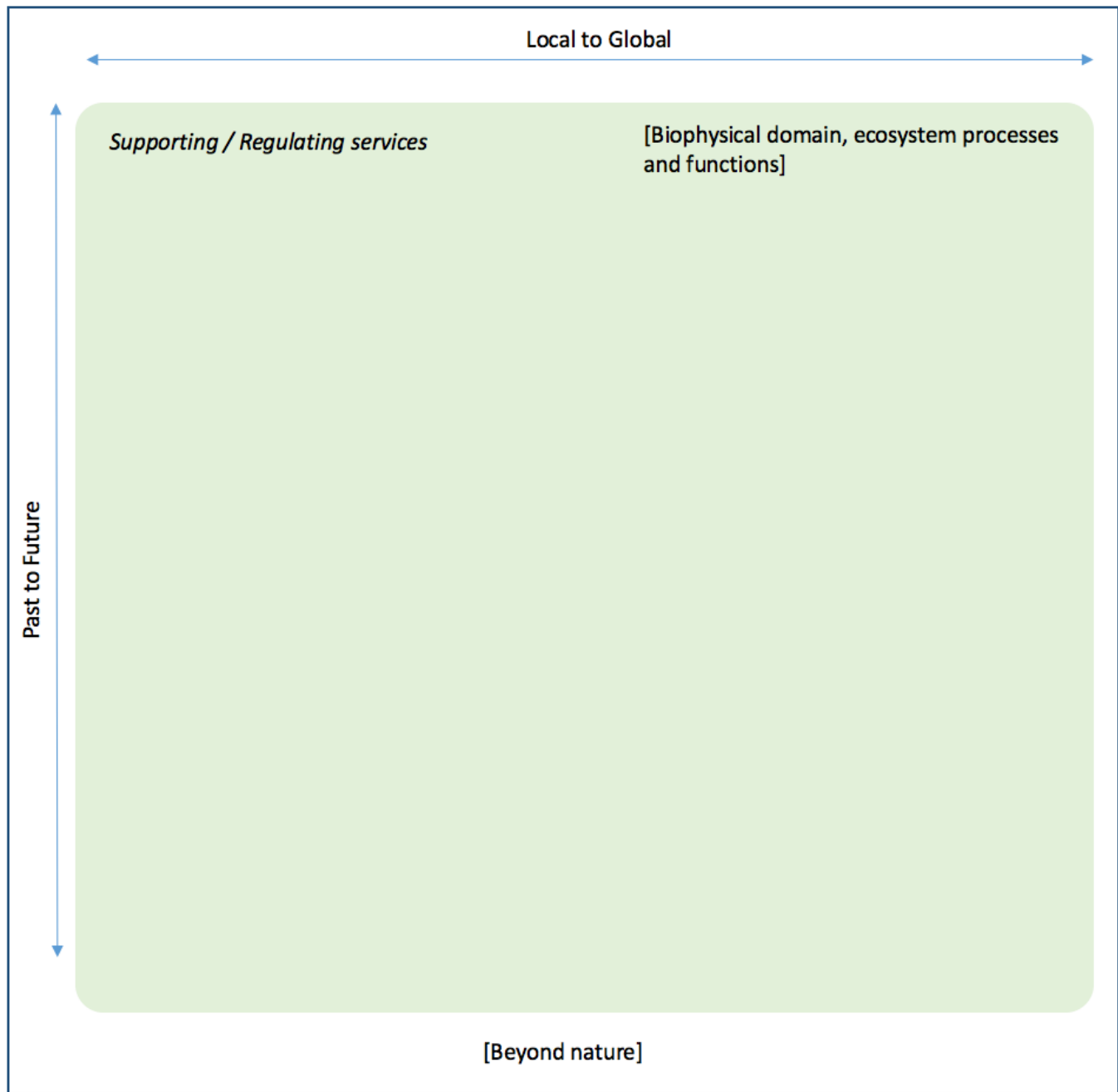
Key ideas

- Relational socio-ecological networks
- Co-constructed
- Actants
- Process
- Social wellbeing
- Interdisciplinary
- Plural values
- Narratives

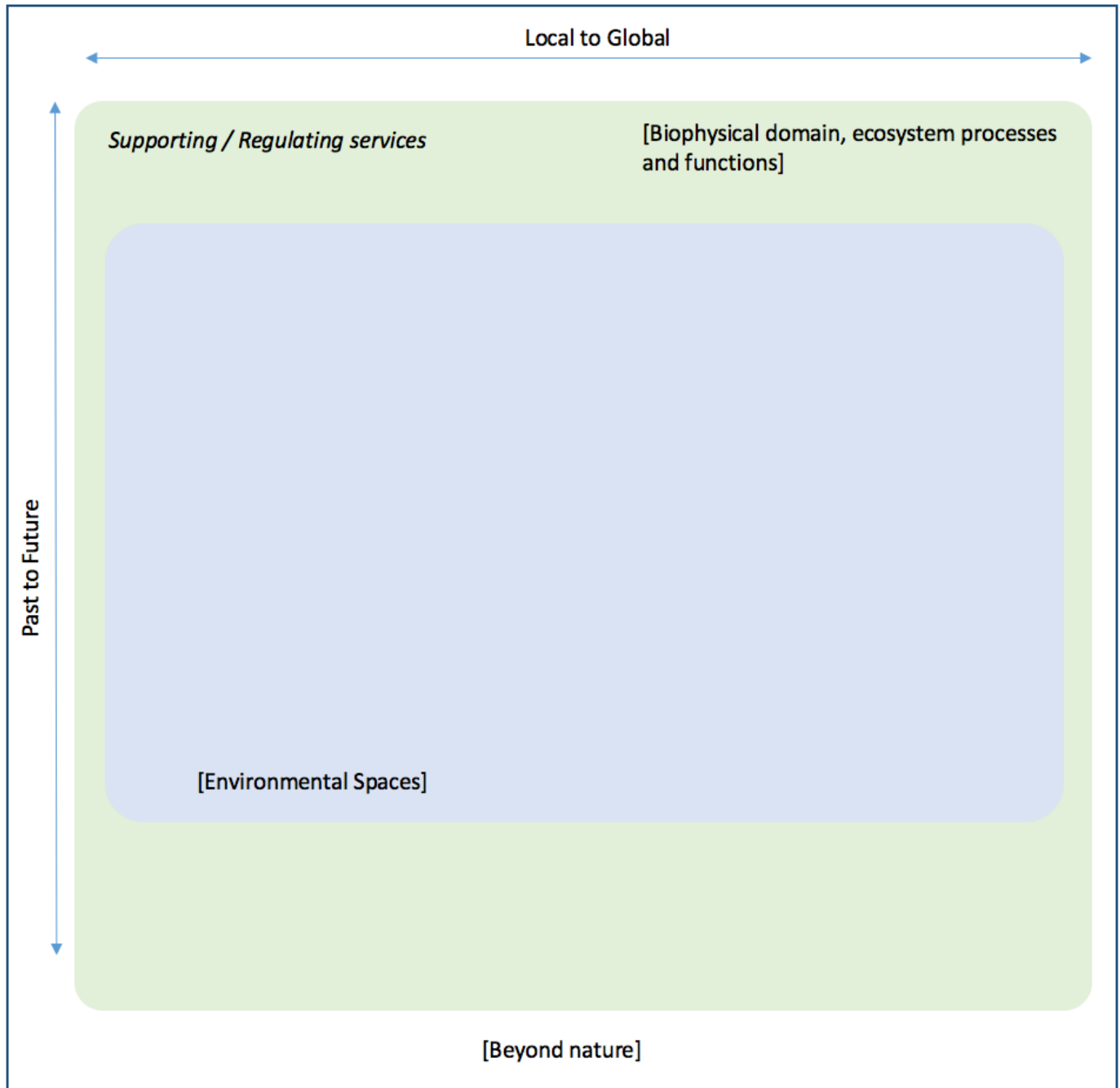


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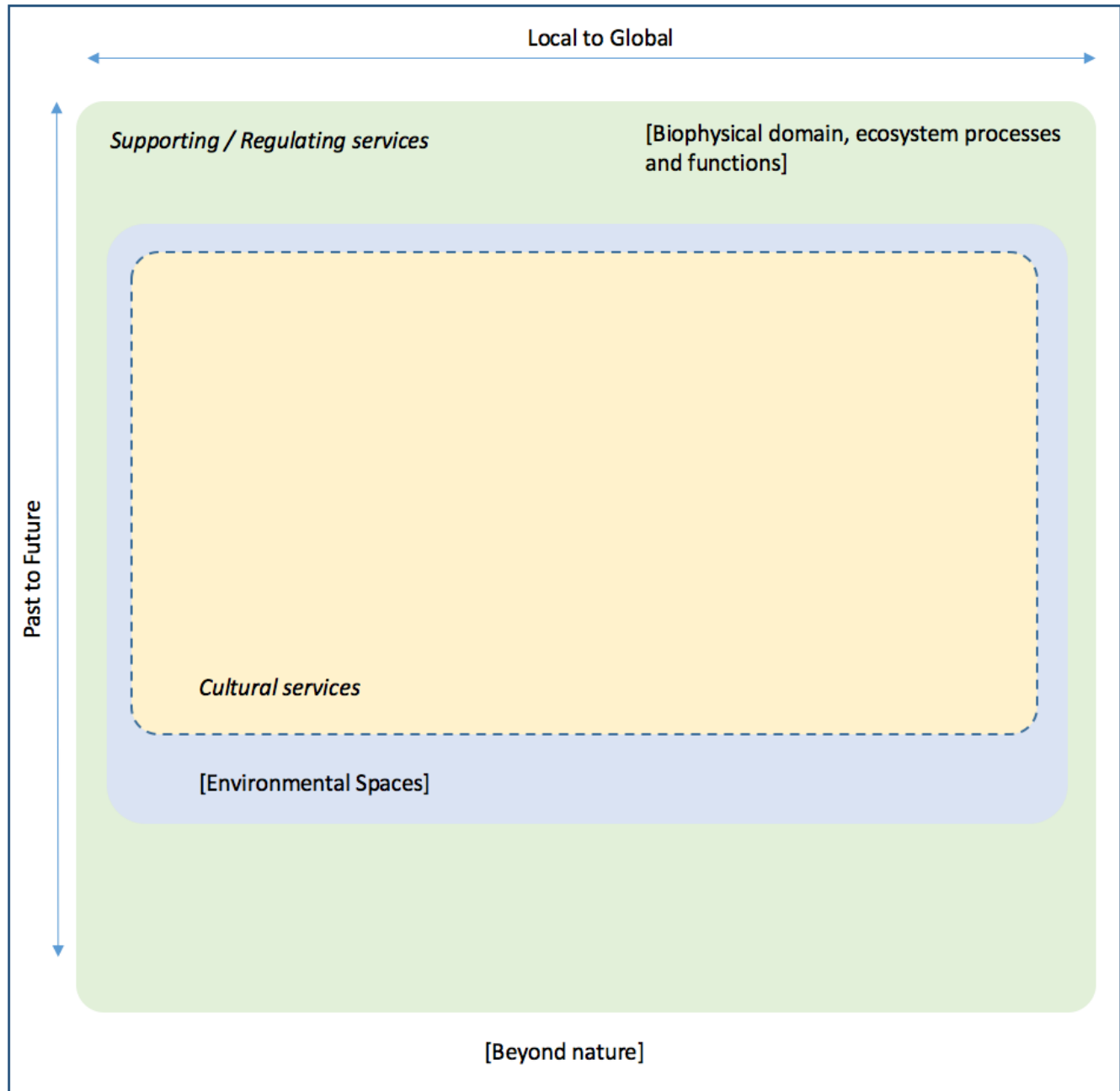
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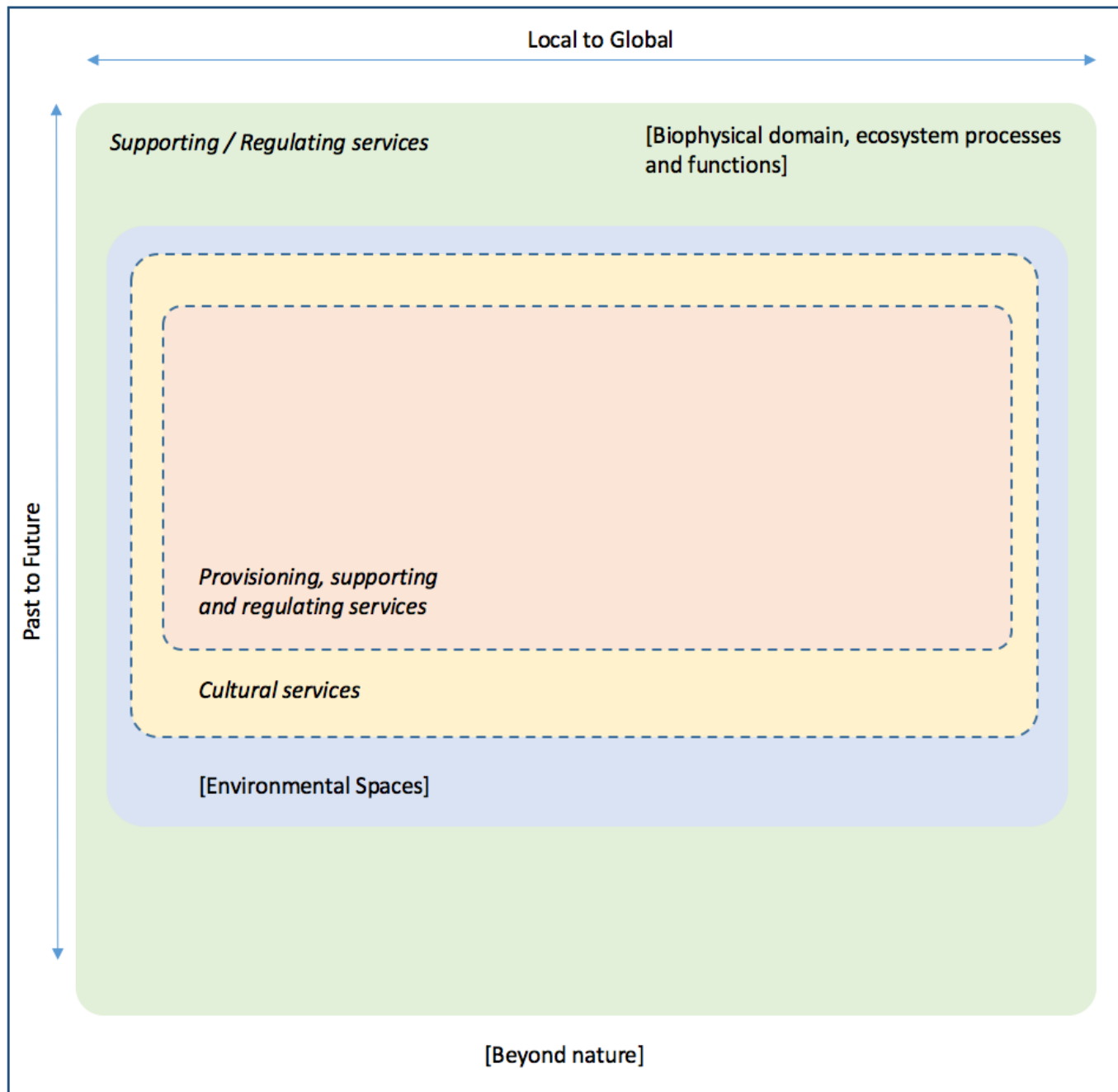
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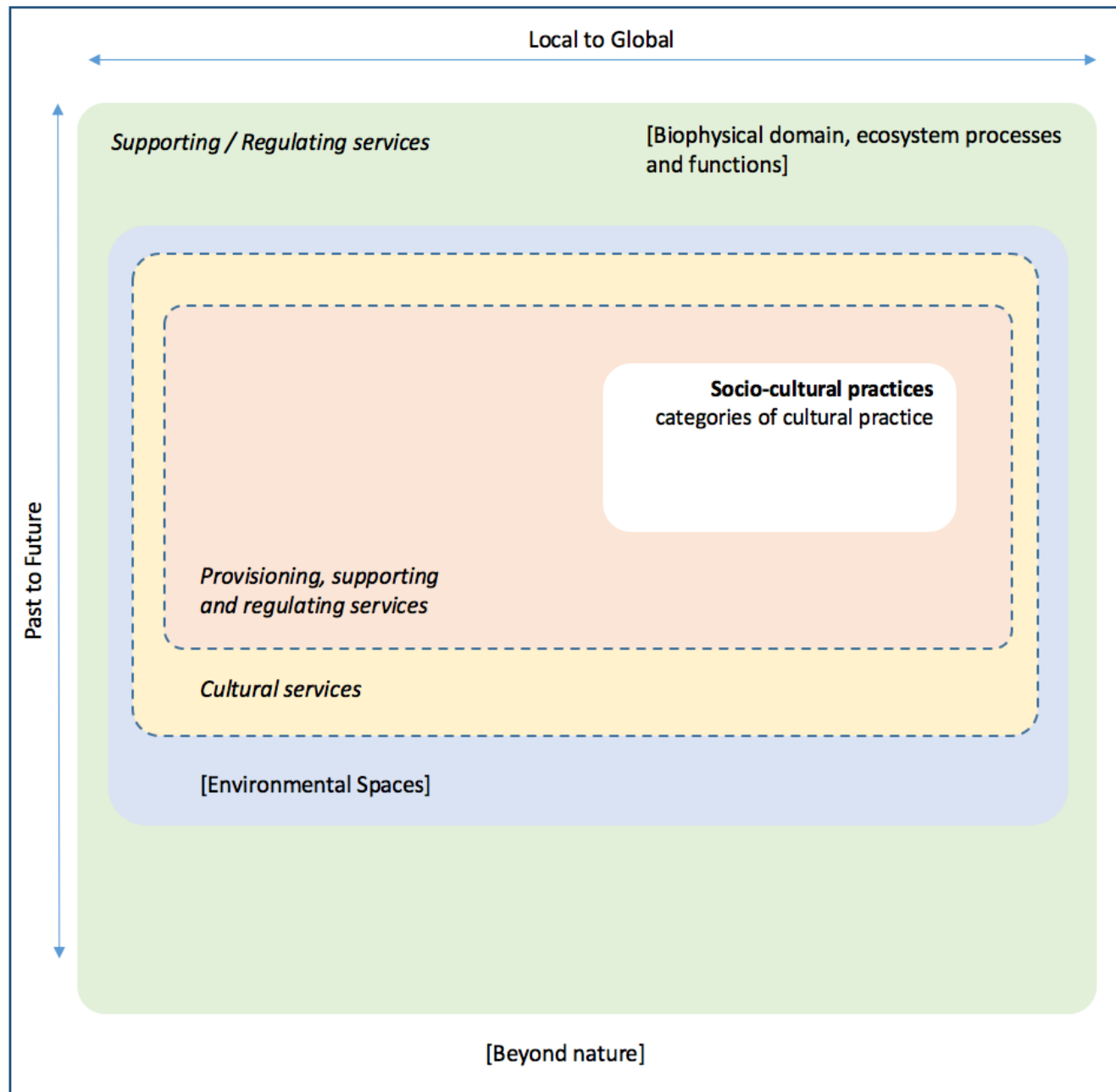
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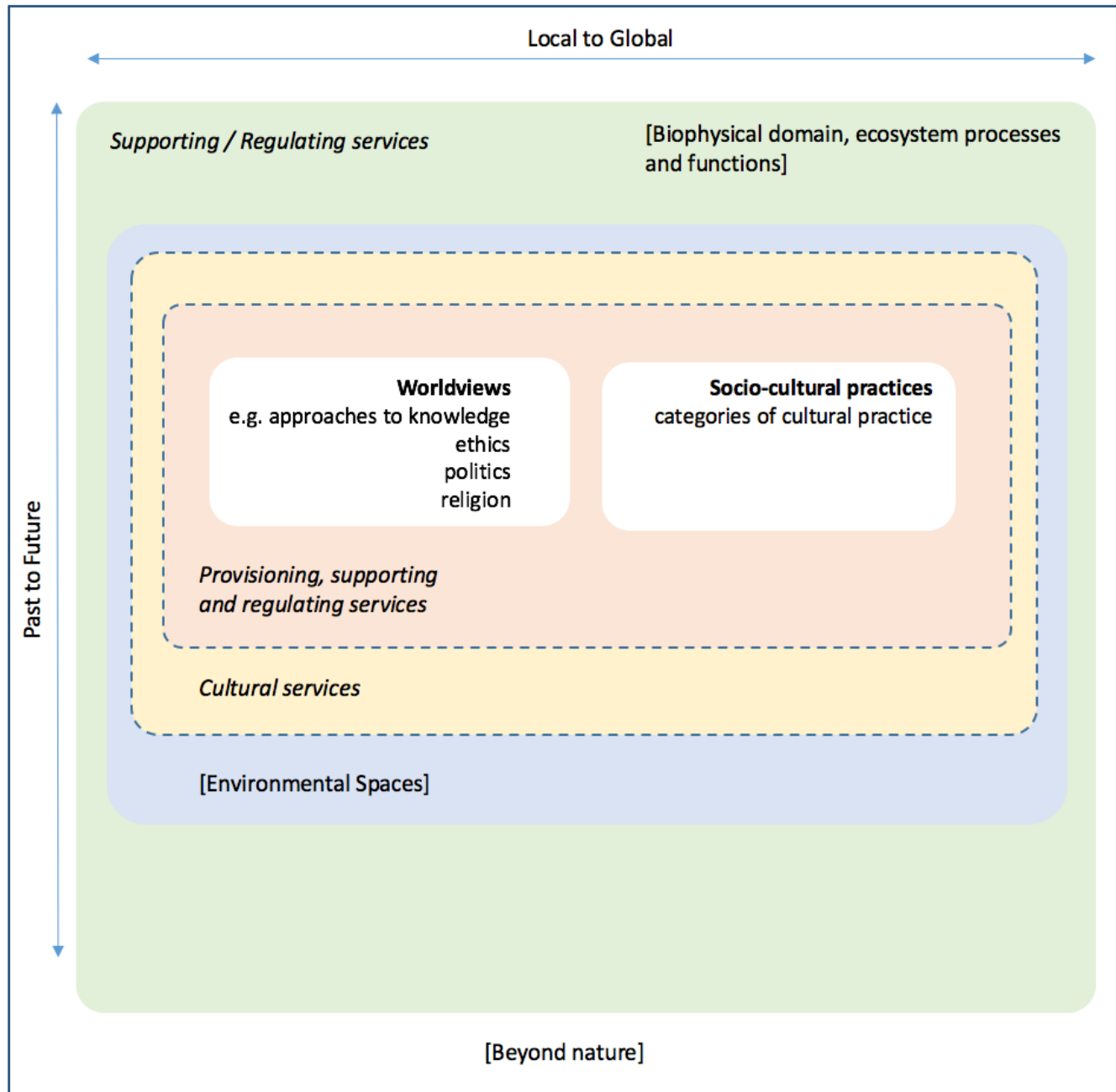
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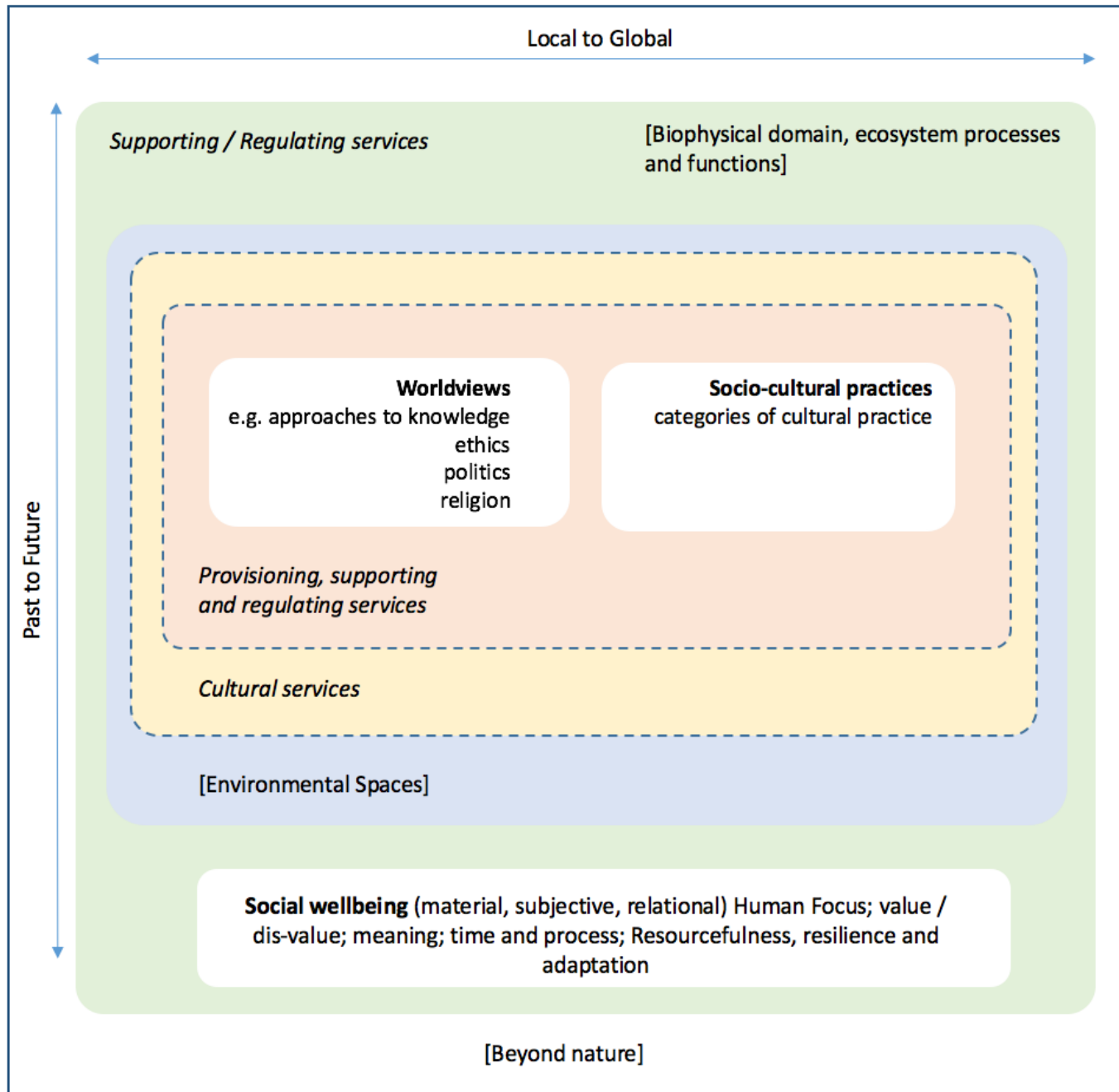
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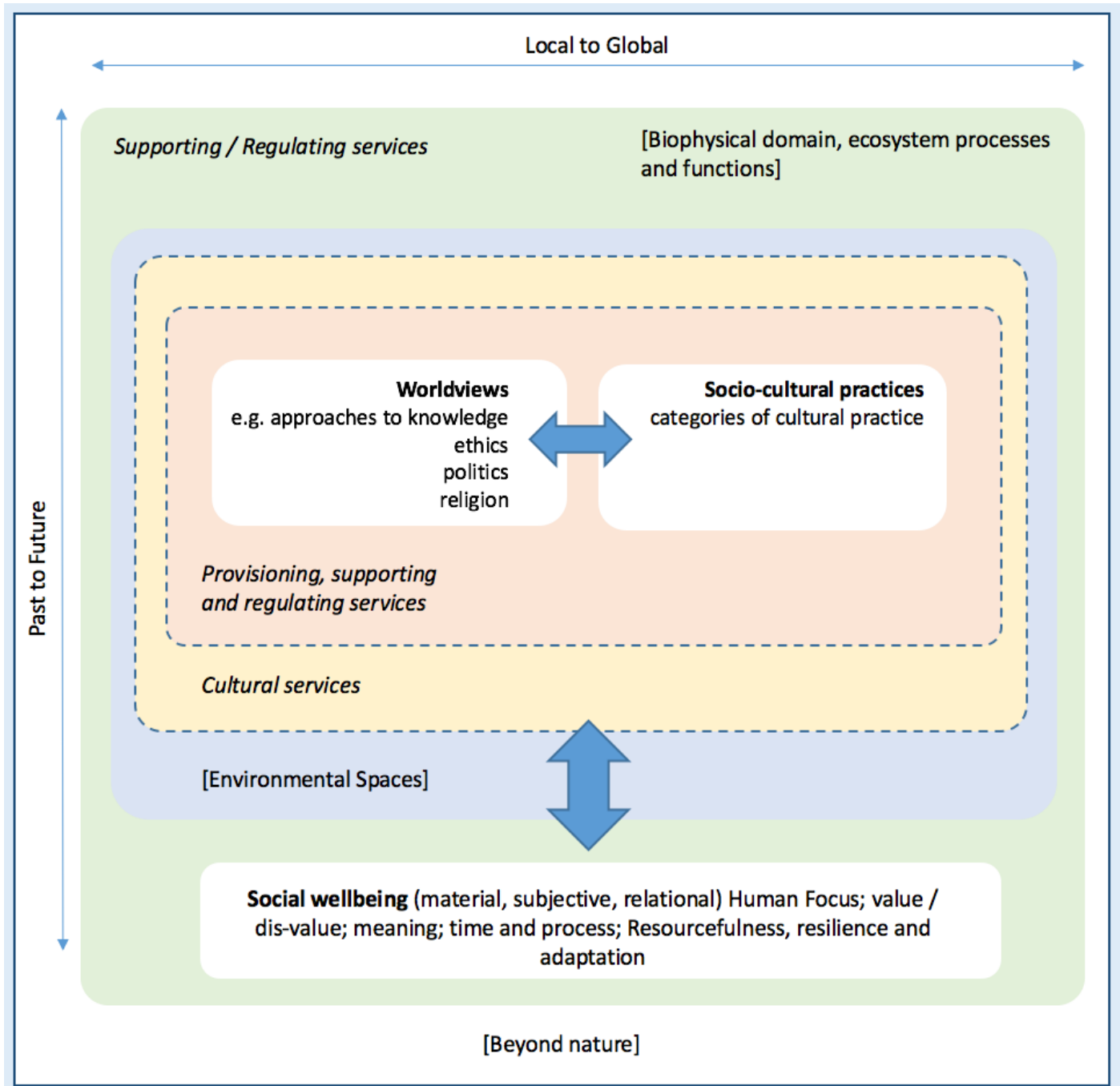
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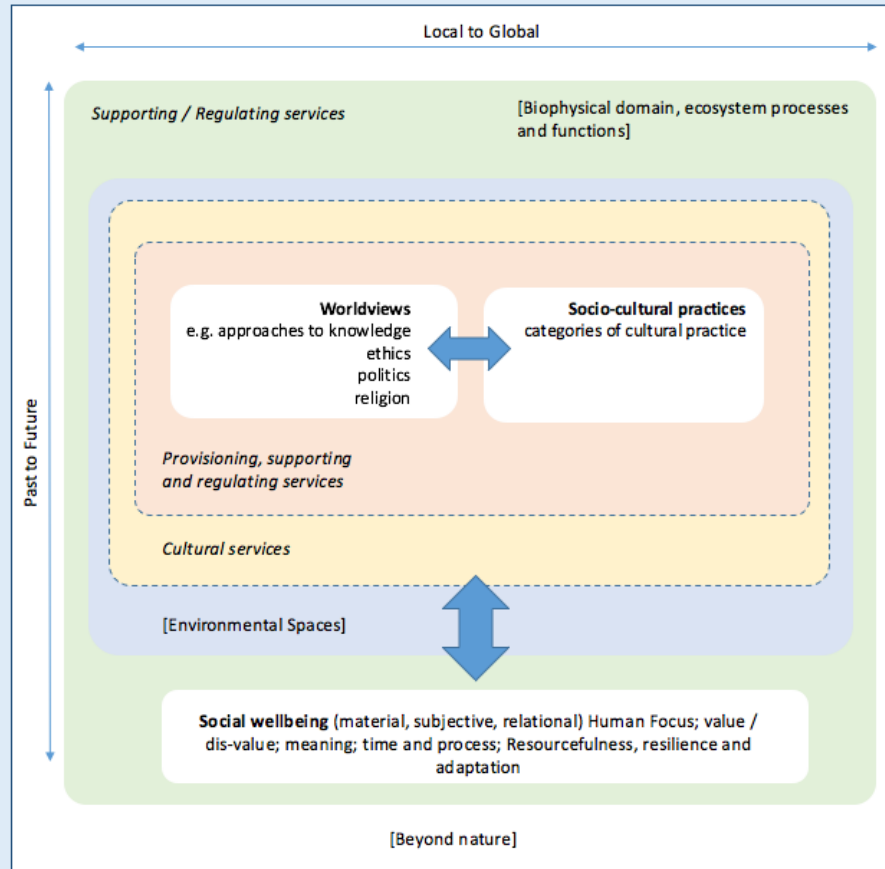
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Nested Ecosystem Services



Nested ecosystem services and narratives of valuing nature



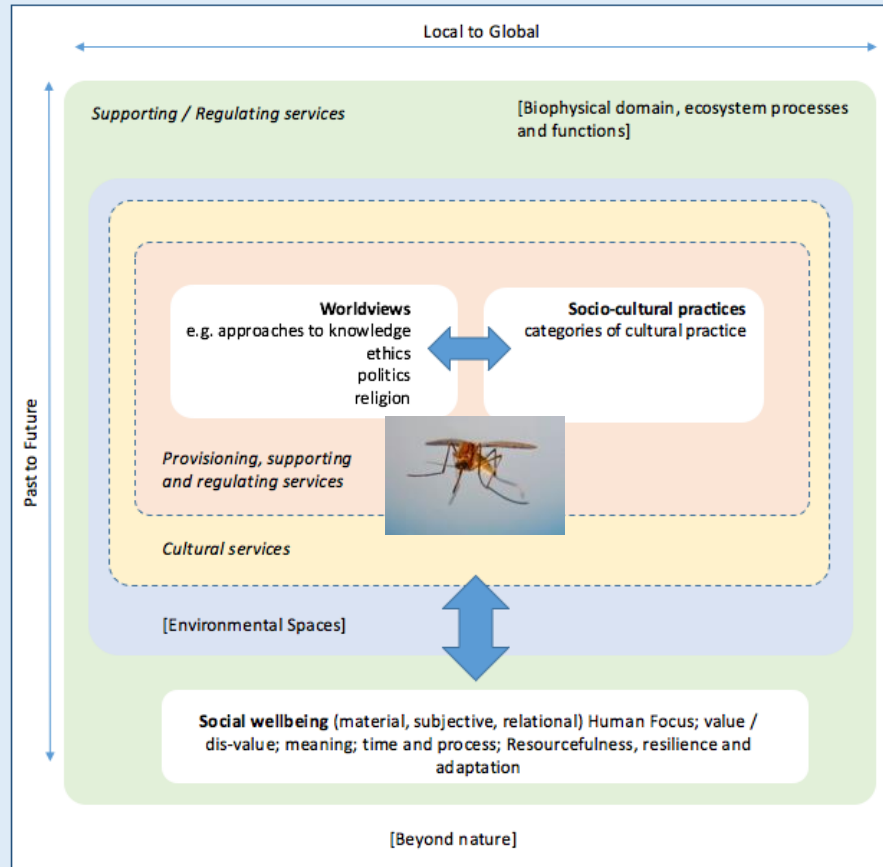
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Ecosystem services build **narratives of valuing nature** that feed into broader socio-political contexts.

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Interventions: A range of interventions are produced aimed at different stakeholders e.g. policy intervention, educational intervention. The interventions feed into stakeholder decisions while also feedback into the ecosystem services framework.

Nested ecosystem services and narratives of valuing nature



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