ICIMOD

CLIMATE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE FOR RESILIENT MOUNTAIN ENTERPRISES

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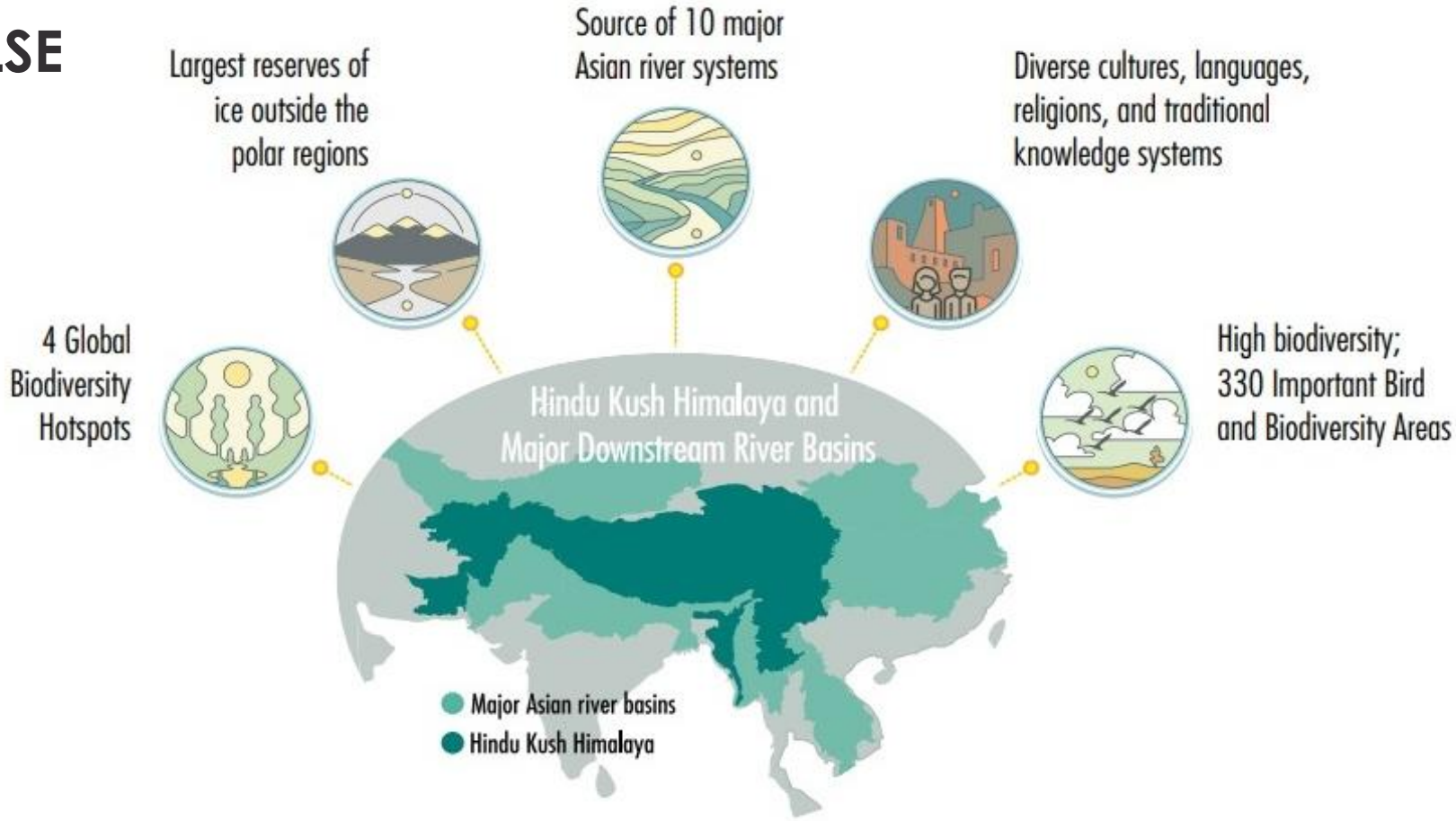
THE HINDU KUSH HIMALAYA IS THE PULSE OF THE PLANET



240 million
people depend directly on the HKH for their lives and livelihoods

1.9 billion
people depend on the HKH for water, food, and energy

> 35%
of the world population benefits indirectly from HKH resources and ecosystem services

Even 1.5 Degrees is Too Hot for the HKH

…amplified by elevation dependent warming

HKH will warm more compared to global mean and warm more rapidly at higher elevations

- 5.5 ± 1.5˚C by 2100 relative to 1976-2005 at current emission trends
- 2.5 ± 1.5˚C by 2100 relative to 1976-2005 (RCP 4.5)
- 1.8 ± 0.3˚C (relative to pre-industrial) in a 1.5 degree world

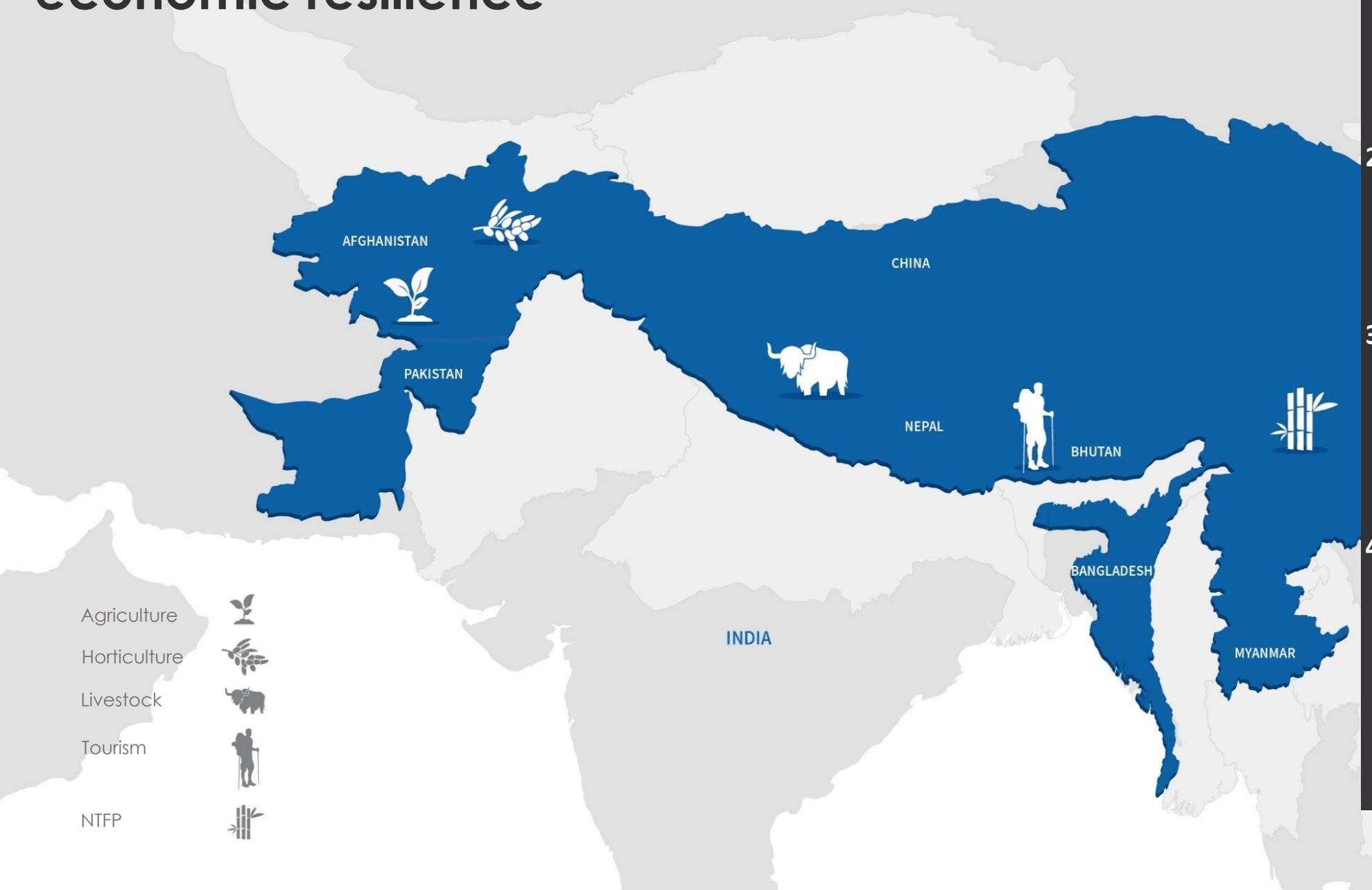
For areas above 2,000m, if 1.5˚C EOC then:

- Karakoram 2.2 ± 0.4˚C
- Central Himalayas 2.0 ± 0.5˚C
- Southeast Himalayas 2.0 ± 0.5˚C

Source: HIMAP climate change chapter and Kraaijenbrink et al. 2017, Nature

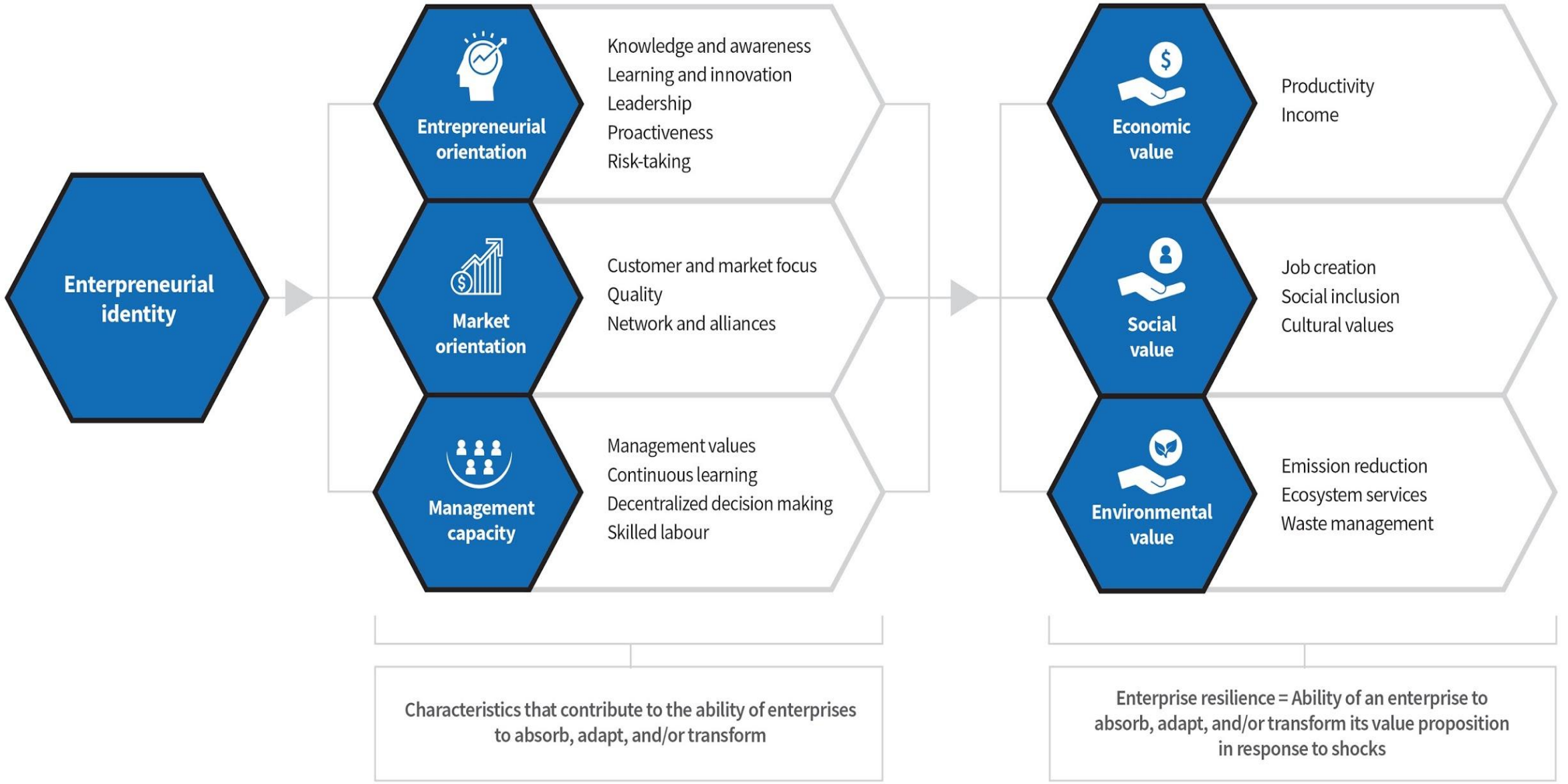
In a 1.5˚C world, glaciers in the HKH will lose 1/3 of their volume by 2100
And 2/3 of their volume under current emission trends
Snow covered areas and snow volumes will decrease and snowline elevations will rise;
Snow melt induced run-off peak will be stronger and occur earlier in the year

Small-holder mountain enterprises contribute to economic resilience

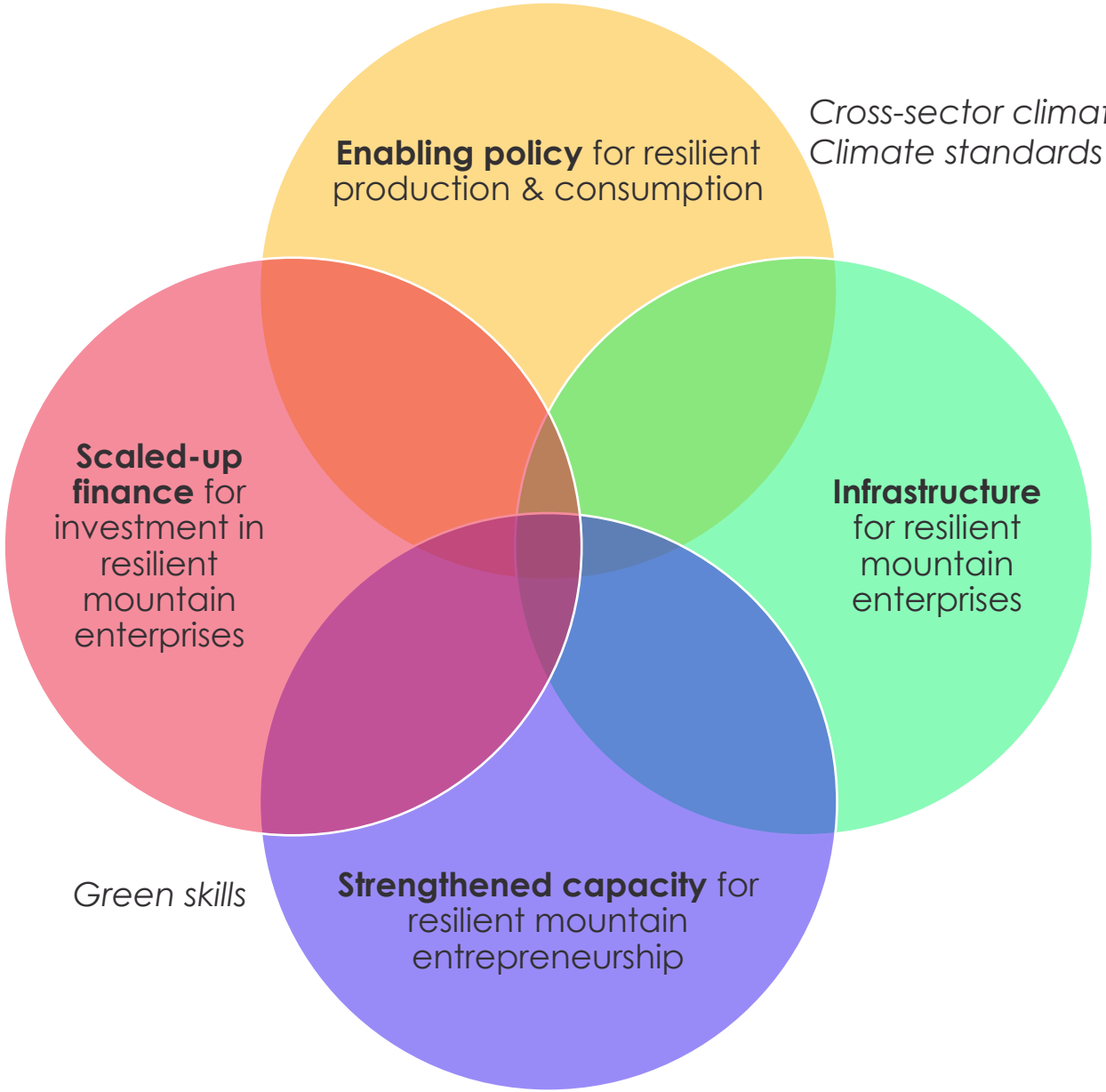


1. **The HKH regions supports niche value chains:** tourism, energy, water, agriculture and labour
2. **95% of the private sector comprises of MSMEs – largely in the informal sector**
3. **Mountain value chains are vulnerable to climate & other shocks: floods, drought, disasters, pandemic**
4. **Mountain entrepreneurs have little capacity to absorb, adapt or transform their value proposition to respond to these shocks**

Measuring resilience in MSMEs



Policies for resilient mountain enterprises



Cross-sector climate targets
Climate standards & verification mechanisms

Principles for responsible investment

Targeted financial instruments

Access to digital finance

Infrastructure to access services (clean energy, climate information)

Platforms to promote learning, innovation & aggregation

Green skills

Thank you
Protect the pulse.