



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



Curtin University

Building climate resilience

How effective was the Farm Planning program?

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The Farm Planning program

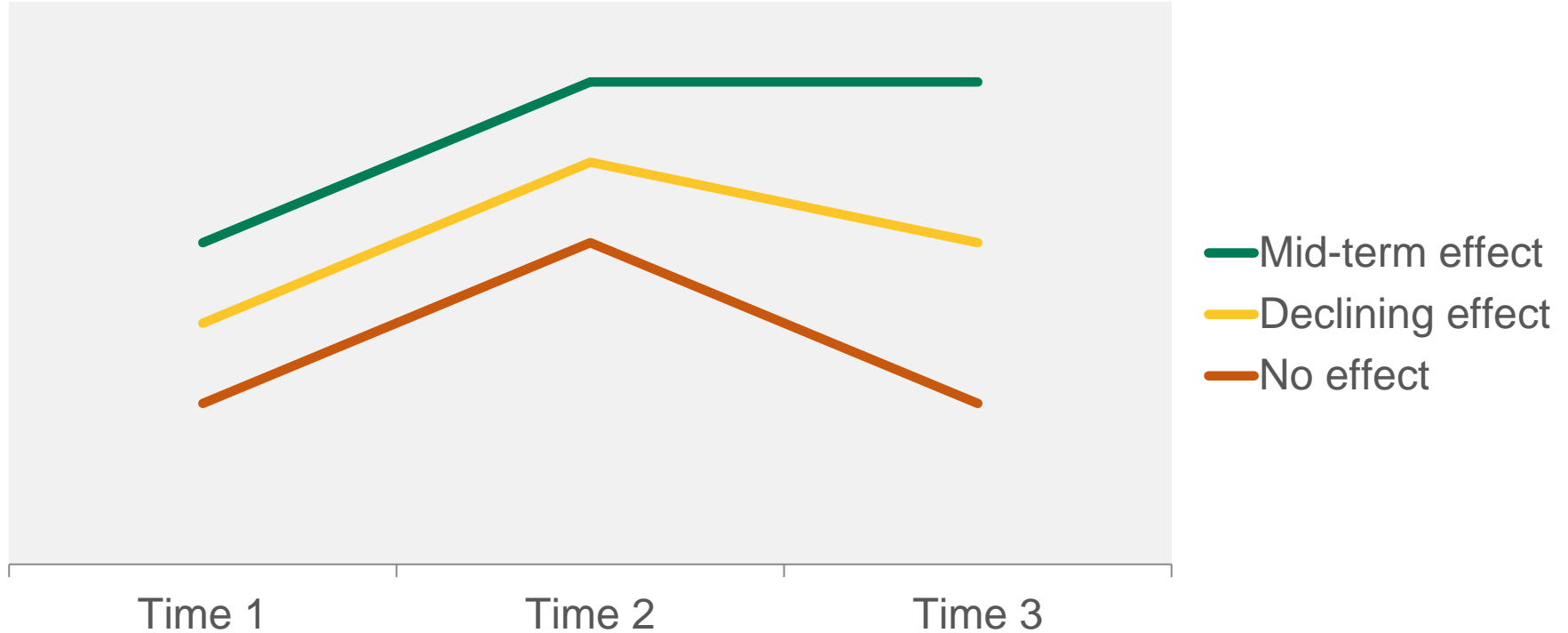
- 1 of 7 programs
- Risk management approach
- Develop strategic plans
 - Environmental, social, financial and production aspects
- Innovative approach
- 1125 participants from >990 farm businesses
- Grants to implement



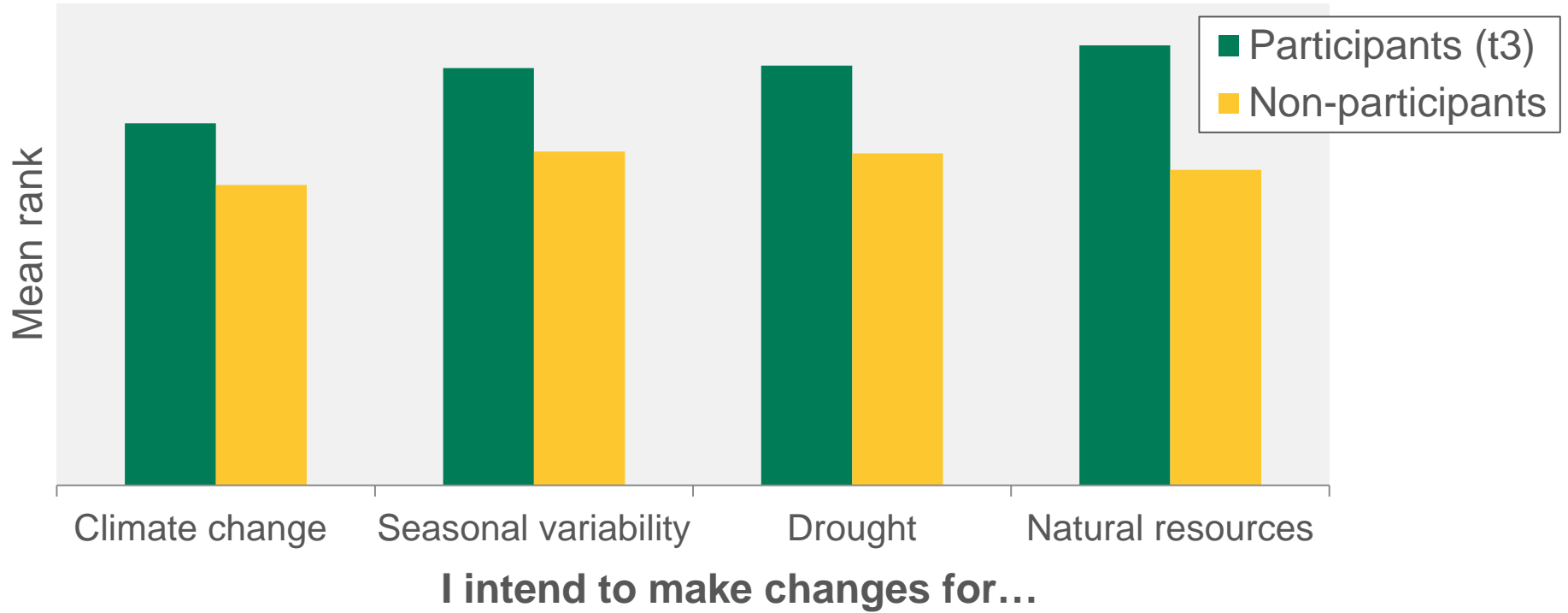
The research

- Questionnaires
- 12-18 months after completing the program
- Comparison to ‘non-participants’
- Comparison to pre- and post-workshop responses
- Three components presented:
 - Attitudes and beliefs
 - Practices
 - Perceptions of resilience

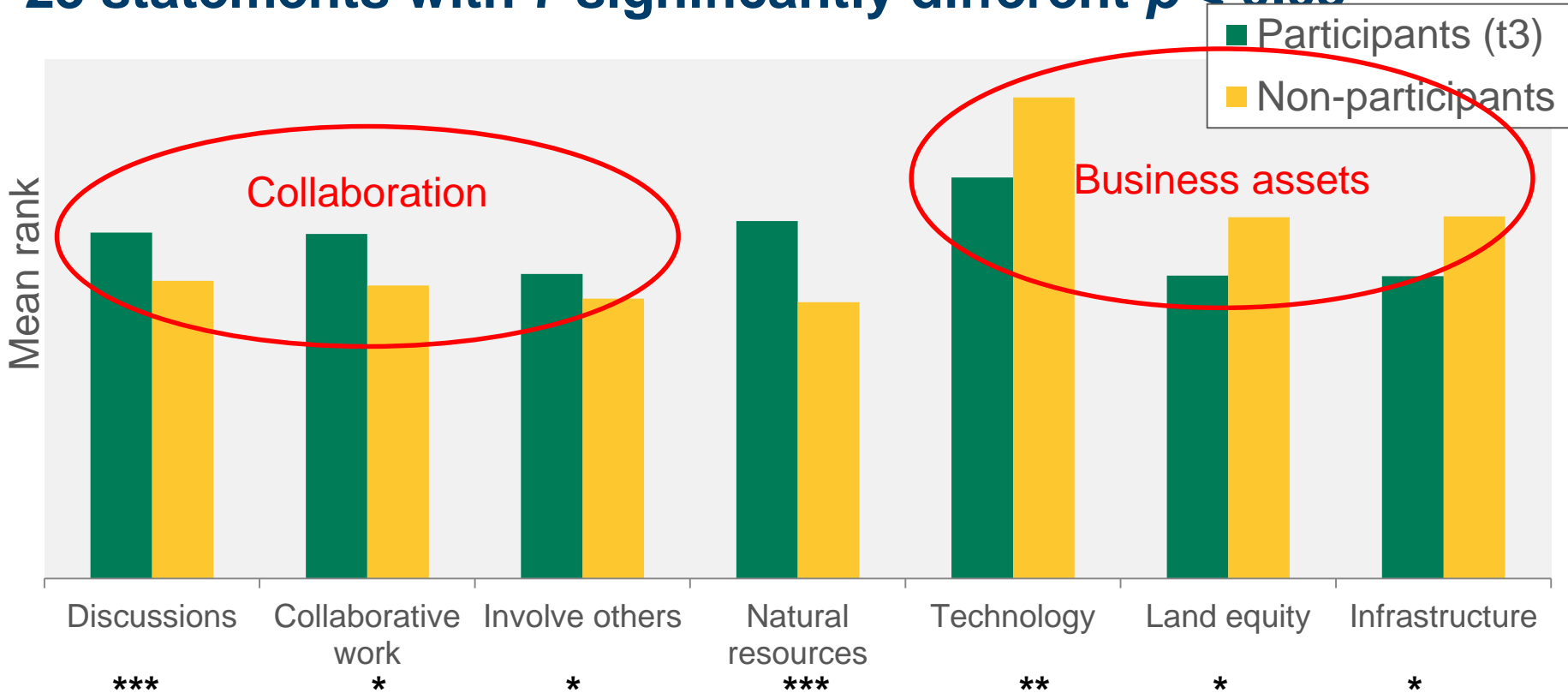
Changes in attitudes over time: illustrative patterns



Practices



Perceptions of resilience: 23 statements with 7 significantly different $p < 0.05$



Conclusions

- Program had a short-term effect on attitudes / beliefs
- Little difference in participant and non-participant attitudes/ beliefs/ perceptions ... except:
 - Optimism for the future; risk management; collaboration; natural resource management; business assets
- Participants had greater intentions to make changes to their business than non-participants
- Resilience is an emergent property that is difficult to measure
- Other lesson:
 - Immediate post workshop changes may not persist
 - Need for follow-up evaluations.

Thank you

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