

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROTECTING AUSTRALIA'S CHILDREN: PROGRESS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL APPROACH: 1990s-PRESENT



1990s-2009

**Phase I: problem
recognition, mobilisation &
political action**

- Calls from NGOs & research
- Senate reports 2004 & 2005
- National Framework 2009

DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL APPROACH: 1990s-PRESENT

1990s-2009

2010-present

Phase I: problem recognition, mobilisation & political action

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- Senate reports 2004 & 2005
- National Framework 2009

Phase II: system enhancement & experiments

- Improving existing system
(eg OOHC standards)
- Increasing early prevention
& intervention focus (Third
Action Plan 2015-18)

THIRD ACTION PLAN 2015-18

- Three new National Strategies:
 1. Early intervention with focus on the early years, especially first thousand days for a child
 2. Helping young people in OOHC to thrive in adulthood
 3. Organisations responding better to children to keep them safe
- Cross-cutting focus areas: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, & research



SOME SPECIFICS

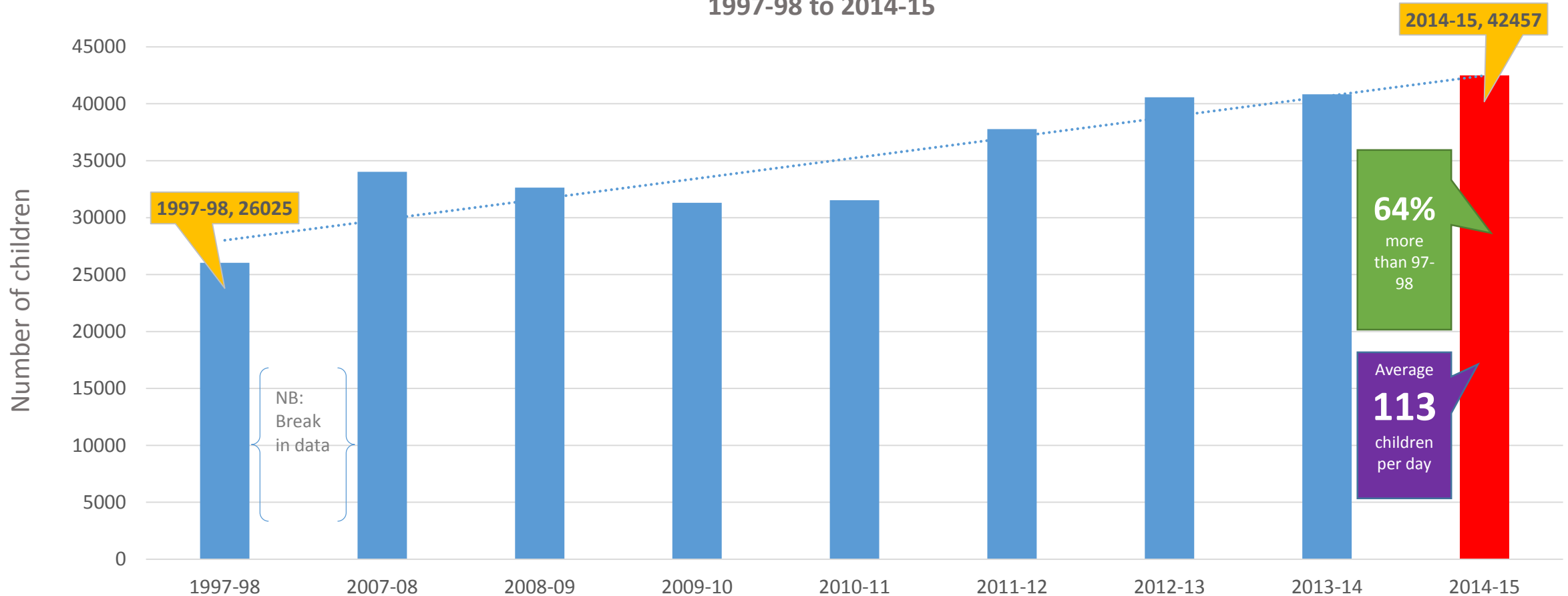
- 17 areas, including full application ATSI CPP, community awareness raising, identifying locations of high incidence family violence and better service coordination, trial ways to improve support for young people leaving care, implement OOHC standards
- Expect to hear more – Coalition meeting 17 August and by jurisdiction

PROBLEM UPDATED; PROBLEM UNABATED

Substantiations of child abuse (Australia)

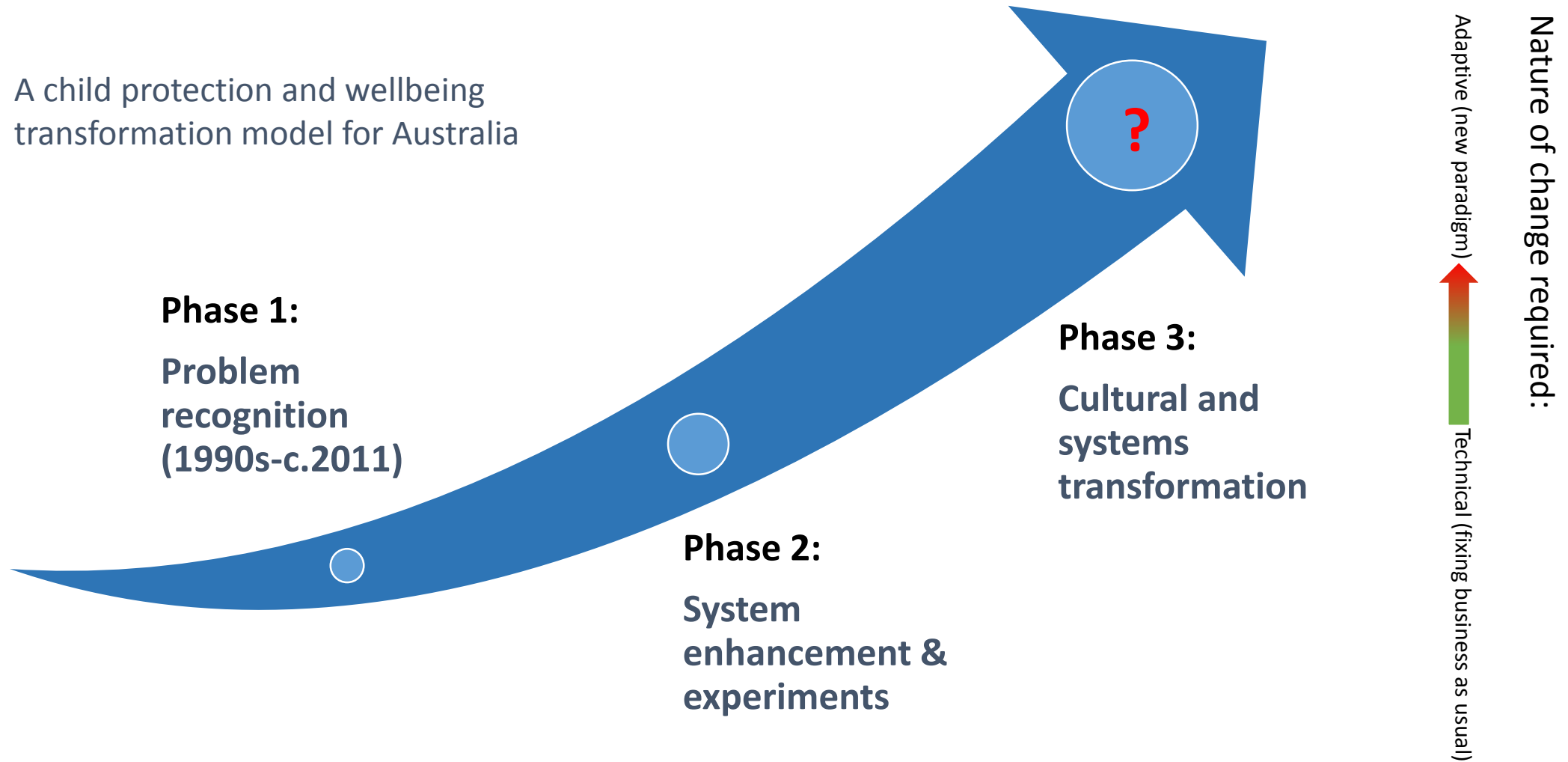
(reasonable cause to believe that the child had been, was being, or was likely to be, abused, neglected or otherwise harmed)

1997-98 to 2014-15



RE-CONCEPTUALISING THE JOURNEY

A child protection and wellbeing transformation model for Australia



After Heifetz and Linsky, *Leadership on the line* (2002)

TOWARDS PHASE 3: IDEAS FOR CULTURAL & SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

1. Build a multi-decade **national plan of action** for children and young people encompassing not only child safety but other domains such as health and education to focus attention and actions
 - Make a great '**First Thousand Days for a Child**' a community/political norm
 - Develop a multi-generational, multi-sectoral **investment strategy** to fuel the plan and specifically in relation to child safety
2. Re-run the 2005 Senate Inquiry entitled 'Protecting vulnerable children; a national challenge'
3. Support SNAICC's **Family Matters** campaign, particularly its request for COAG to adopt a target to help drive national efforts