

Reconciling innovative knowledge partnerships with existing institutions: the Dutch Knowledge for Climate program

Katrien Termeer, Patrick Huntjens, Art Dewulf, Arwin van Buuren and Jasper Eshuis

katrien.termeer@wur.nl



Radboud University Nijmegen



Universiteit Utrecht

CARL VON OSSIETZKY universität OLDENBURG

UEA

University of East Anglia



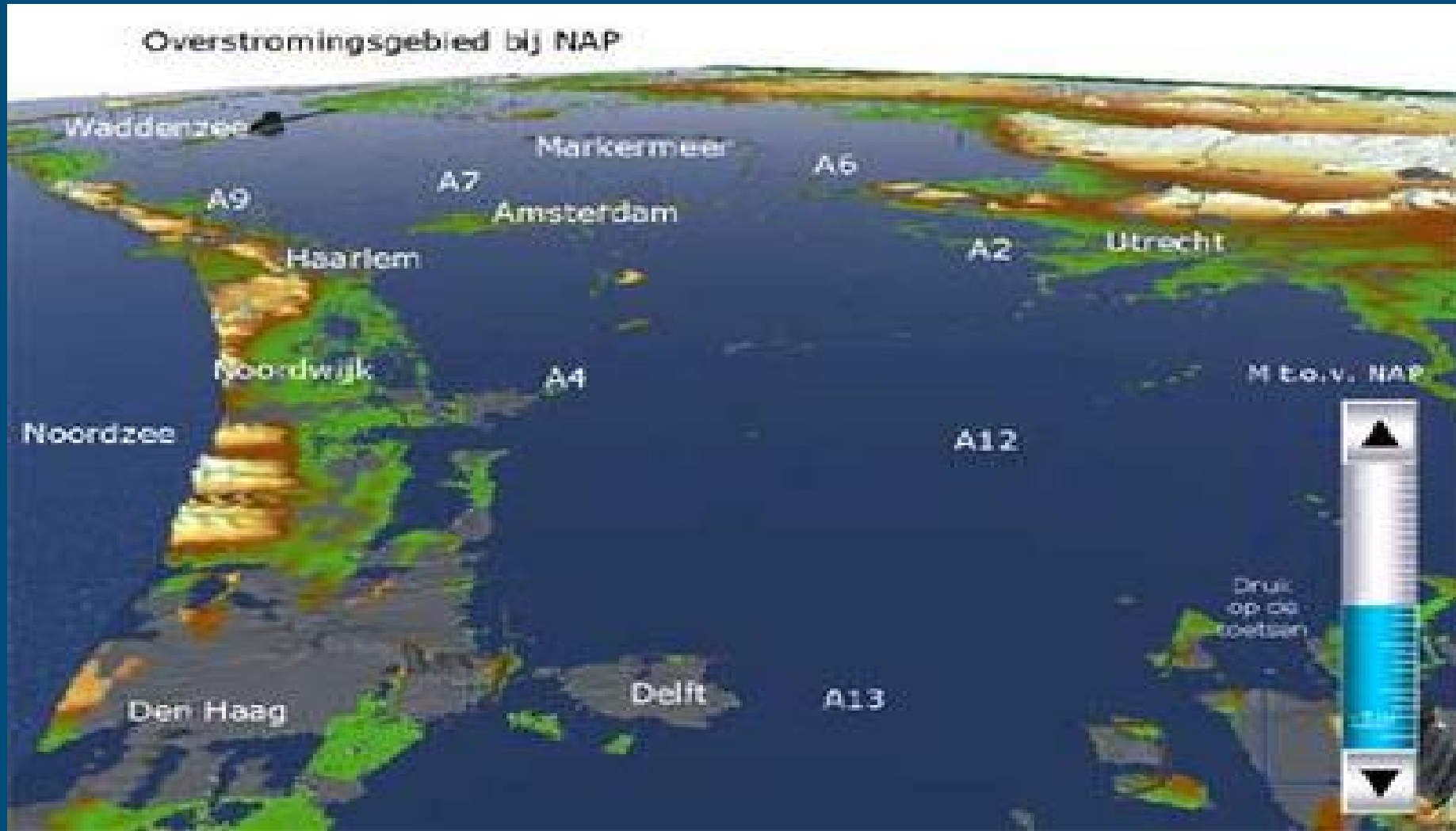
Stockholm University

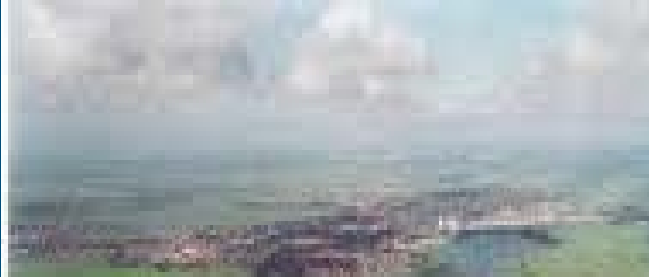


Kennis voor Klimaat

Center of Excellence "Governance of Climate Adaptation"

Potential effects of climate change





Climate proofing the Netherlands



Specific complexities

- crosses all thinkable boundaries and routines
- requires both immediate action and long-term horizons
- involves many actors, who bring with them a variety of perceptions and values
- the knowledge needed and available is not sufficient and sometimes even considered controversial
- new policy domain

 Innovative knowledge arrangements

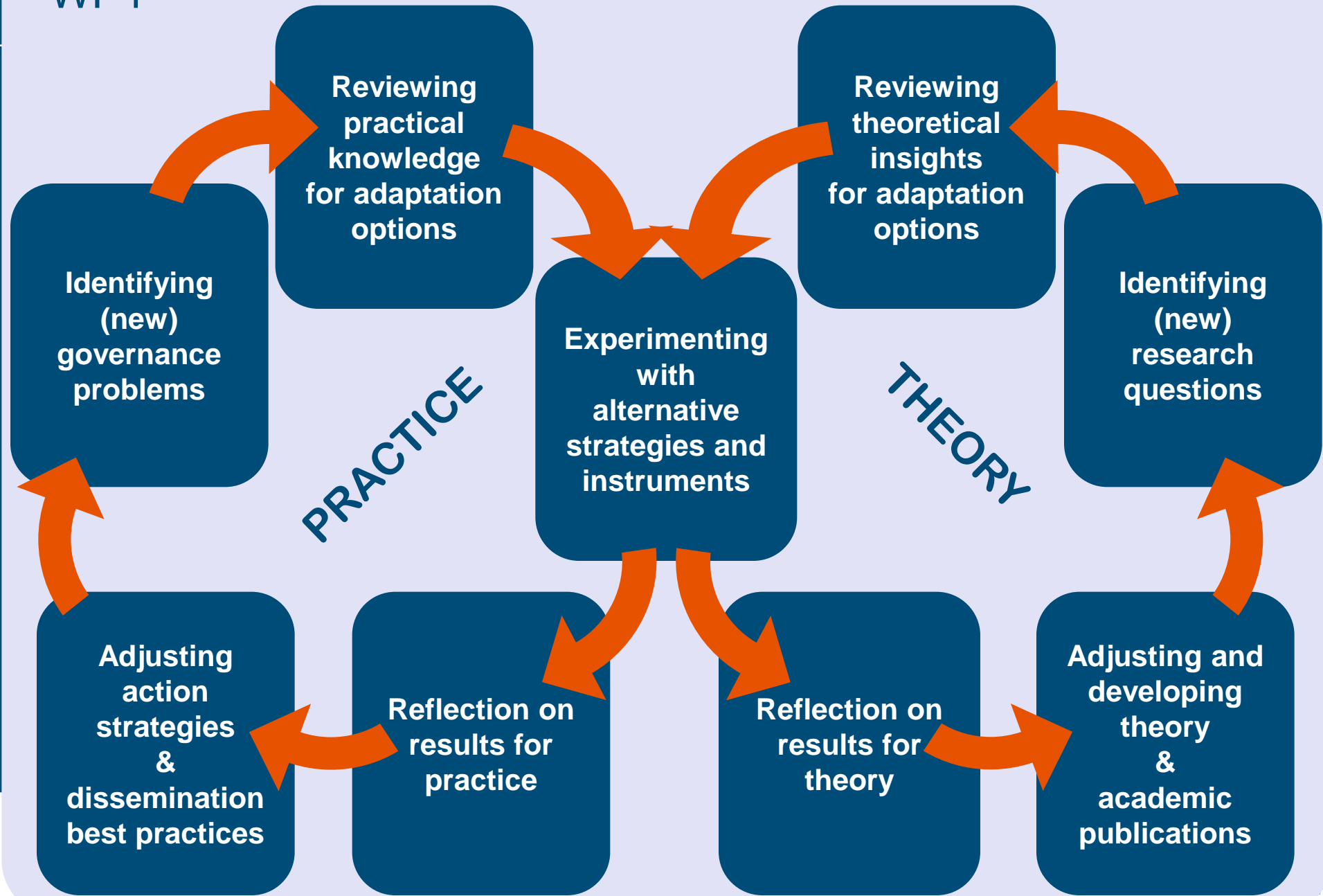
Dutch Knowledge for Climate Program

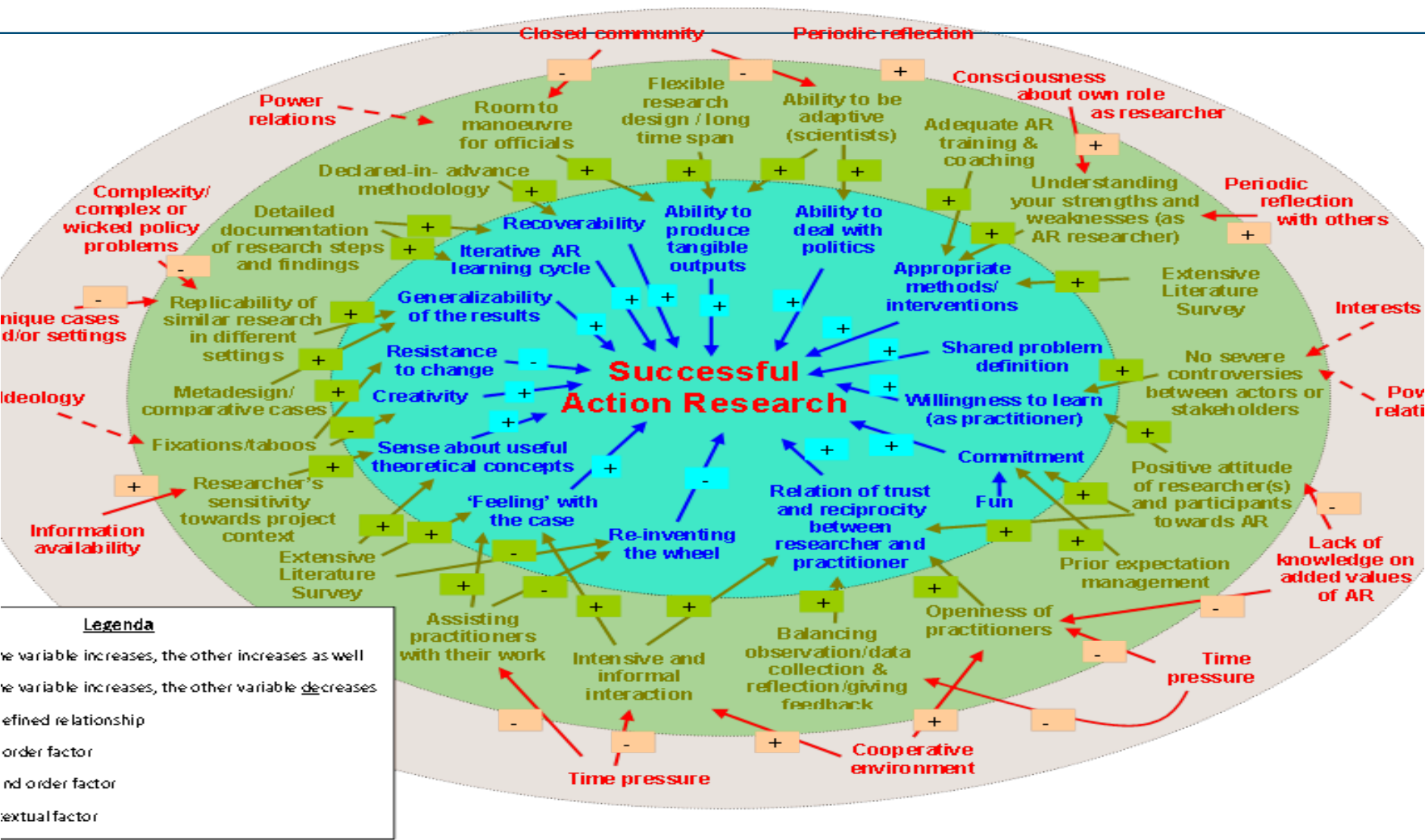


- Focus on the eight most vulnerable areas: hotspots
- HEI's, governmental organizations and businesses
- Co-production of knowledge with hotspots
- Funded by central government and co-financed by others
- 2009-2014

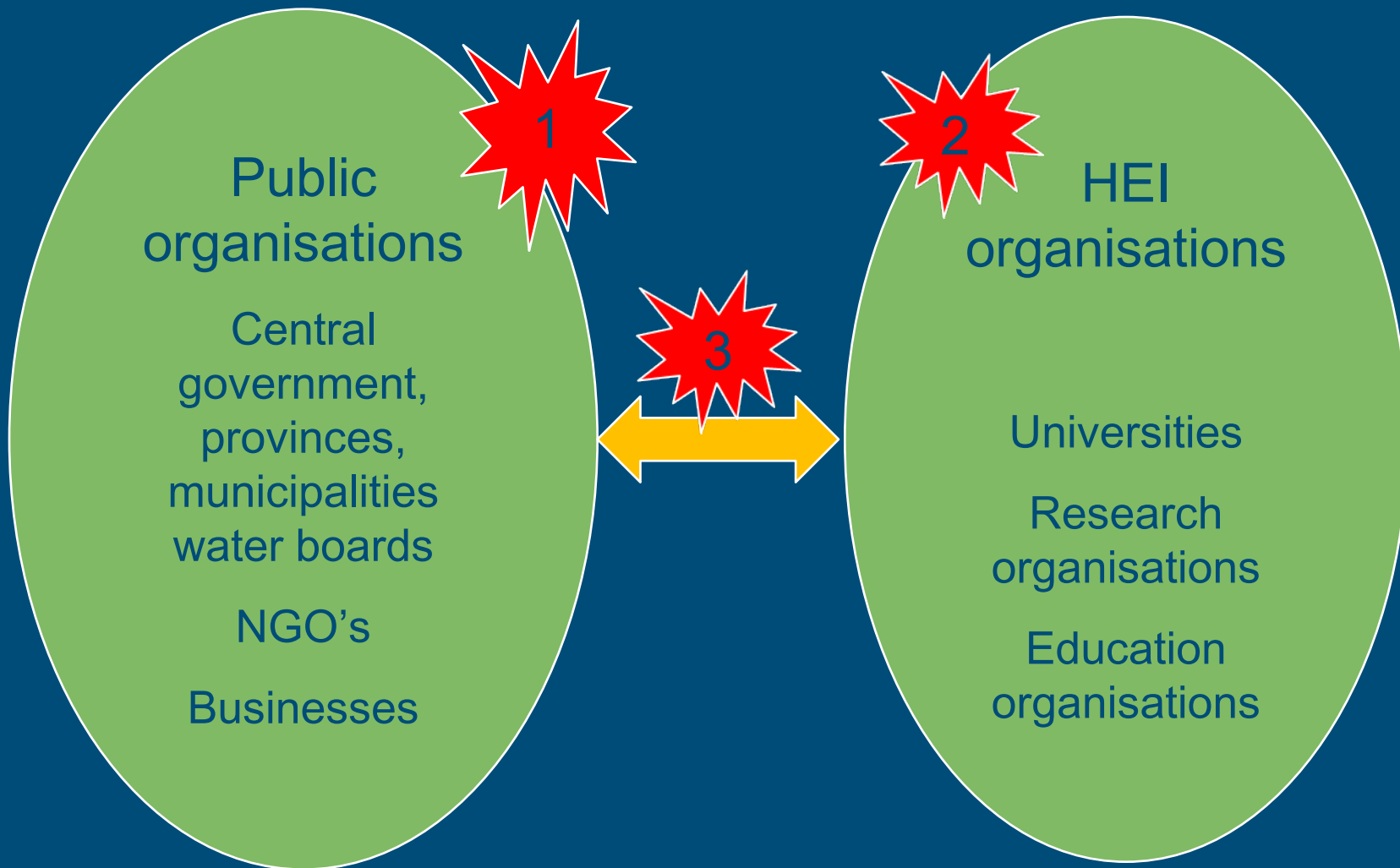
WP1

Collaborative action research





First reflections



1. Tensions within public organisations

- Changing political agenda's
- Budget cuts, problems with co-financing
- Perception/prejudgment of knowledge
- Planning and control
- Separated divisions for research and policy
- Hesitating and cautious to experiment with new adaptation policies

2. Tensions within HEI organisations

- Schedule of PhD's
- Planning and control
- The pressure to publish in high impact journals.
- Hesitating and cautious to engage in policy practices
- Perception/prejudgment of policy practice
- Pillars based upon disciplines
- Competing research programs

3. Interactions

- European research funding rules
- Different perceptions of research questions
- Misfit of time schedules
- Time consuming, high transaction costs
- Different levels of Trust

First conclusions

- Despite the advanced program design, the initial participant's enthusiasm and the available resources, actually getting started appears to be difficult
- Many of the assumptions underlying the collaborative arrangement conflict with the rules and beliefs of the participating organizations and their institutional environments
- Innovative knowledge arrangements require institutional change
- Small wins and patience