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BENEFIT OF GOVERNANCE
IN DROUGHT ADAPTATION



Supporting collaborative water resource
management

What makes up a “good governance” context?

Interreg IVb project in Netherlands,
France, Belgium, Germany and UK



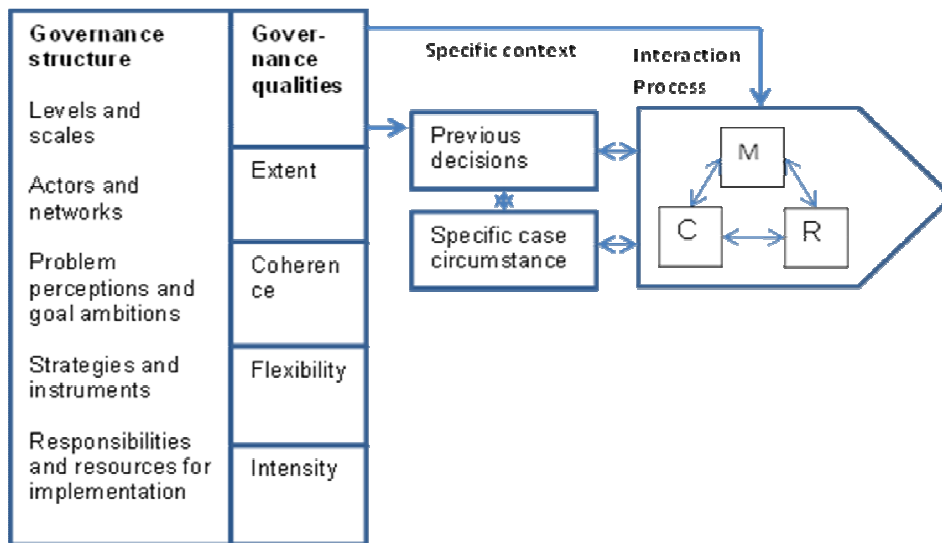
BENEFIT OF GOVERNANCE
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Practice and knowledge partners

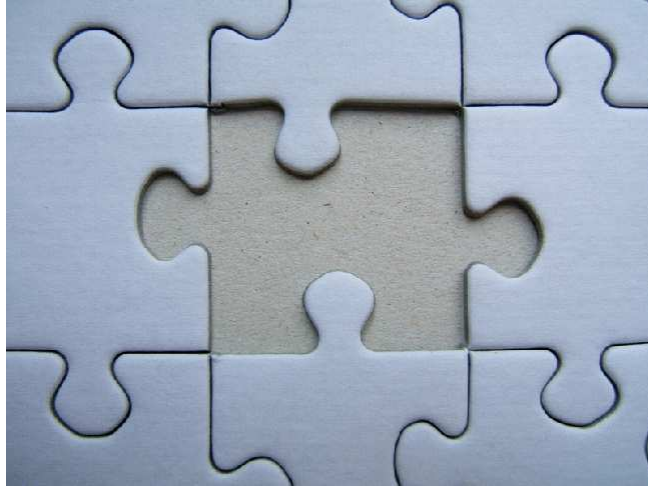


3

Governance context



Extent: are all relevant aspects taken into account?



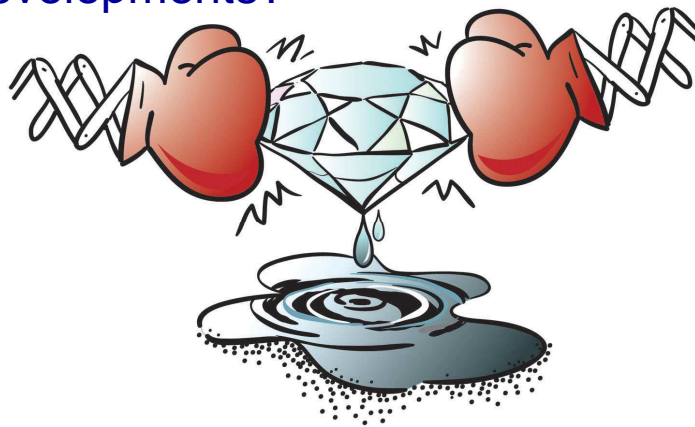
Coherence: are all aspects reinforcing rather than contradicting each other?



Flexibility: are multiple roads to the goals, depending on opportunities and threats as they arise, allowed and supported?



Intensity: to which degree does the governance regime urge and support changes in the status quo or in current developments?



Matrix form of governance assessment tool

Governance dimension	Quality of the governance regime			
	Extent	Coherence	Flexibility	Intensity
Levels and scales	How many levels are involved and dealing with an issue? Are there any important gaps or missing levels?	Do these levels work together and do they trust other between levels?	Is it possible to move up and down levels (upscaling and downscaling) given the issue at stake?	Is there a strong impact from a certain level to change behaviour?
Actors and networks	Are all relevant stakeholders involved? Who are excluded?	What is the strength of interactions between stakeholders? In what way are these interactions institutionalised in joint structures? What is the history of working together, is there a tradition of cooperation?	Is it practised that the lead shifts from one actor to another?	Is there a strong impact from an actor or actor coalition on water management?
Problem perspectives and goal ambitions	To what extent are the various problem perspectives taken care off?	To what extent do the various goals support each other, or Are they in competition?	Are there opportunities to re-assess goals?	How different are the goal ambitions from the status quo?
Strategies and instruments	What types of instruments are included in the policy strategy?	To what extent is the resulting incentive system based on synergy?	Are there opportunities to combine or make use of different types of instruments? Is there a choice?	What is the implied behavioural deviation from current practice and How strongly do the instruments require and enforce this?
Responsibilities and resources	Are responsibilities clearly assigned and sufficiently facilitated with resources?	To what extent do the assigned responsibilities create competence struggles or cooperation within or across institutions?	What is the flexibility within the assigned responsibility to apply resources in order to do the right thing in an accountable and transparent way?	Is the amount of applied resources sufficient for the intended change?

TEM 3 Enschede

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By Hans Bressers



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Report on the GT visit to Twente

Visit on November 11-13, 2013

Conclusions – Extent

Mostly: somewhat positive, but:

- The national level seems to retreat; although “Fresh water supply” is gaining interest
- Drinking water companies and general public not very much involved
- Draught risk awareness still low
- Preventive measures only voluntary
- Only water authority sees available instruments and responsibilities in frame of “draught resilience”

11

Conclusions – Coherence

The fragmentation – coherence paradox:

- Very high coherence in multi-stakeholder committees, often even across levels
- Seems to fit in existing administrative culture of consensus orientation
- Necessary and relatively successful adaptation to deal with rather incoherent and even fragmented rest of governance context

12

Conclusions – Flexibility

Positive by pooling resources, but:

- Strong local land use planning creates lengthy procedures, even for obvious improvements
- “Neo-corporatist” collaboration structures always run the risk of getting less open to new groups (e.g. new farmer group)
- Non-voluntary preventive strategies outside scope

13

Conclusions – Intensity

By far the weakest point, still medium:

- Weakly backed by broad awareness
- “Natural allies” among policy sectors are weakened (nature, landscape)
- Non voluntary approaches out of the question, thus only “luring” towards participation
- EU regulations and collaboration water authorities of the east and the south of the country provide some strength

14

Preliminary observations

Overall:

- Problem recognition is still at an early phase and water supply orientation dominant +
- Next to that consensual political culture (“polder model”)
>
- Only legitimacy for voluntary approaches > > >
- Best strategy: building partnerships
- Project managers do a very good job at this > inter-collegial exchange for continuous learning