
SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME
BESAFE
First stakeholder workshop
INBO, Brussels, 23 – 24 May 2013

Partners and particulars

Instrument: FP7, Collaborative Project

Total Cost: 3,775,337.40 Euro

EC Contribution: 3,009,972.65 Euro

Duration: 4 years

Start Date: 1 September 2011

Consortium: 15 partners from 13 countries

Project Coordinator: Rob Bugter
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Project Web Site: www.besafe-project.net

Key Words: Biodiversity, protection, Ecosystem Services, effectiveness

- **NL** Wageningen UR (Alterra)
- **UK** The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford (UOXF-AF)
- **GE** Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ)
- **UK** Natural Environment Research Council - Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (NERC-CEH)
- **SE** Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)
- **DK** National Environmental Research Institute - Aarhus University (NERI-AU)
- **UK** Economics For The Environment Consultancy Ltd. (EFTEC)
- **FI** Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
- **HU** Szent István University (SZIU)
- **AU** Paris-Lodron University Salzburg (PLUS)
- **BU** Pensoft Publishers Ltd. (PENSOFT)
- **BE** Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)
- **IT** Joint Research Centre - European Commission (JRC)
- **NO** The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)
- **RO** University of Bucharest (UNIBUC)

What the call asked for:

An analysis of alternative ways to improve biodiversity policy making and governance at local, national and global scales

Our angle

To find out which type of argumentation is most effective in a given situation, or:

.. to describe the relationship between the effectiveness of argument(ation) types and the context in which they are used ...

Our main product for stakeholders:

…. and to make this knowledge easily accessible and usable through a user-friendly web tool.

What do we need to consider?

Who do the convincing?	What's in between?	Who need to be convinced?
NGO's, other policy makers, etc.	Arguments	Policy makers
Usually biodiversity people	The ones they THINK the policy makers in question will accredit	The ones deciding on biodiversity aspects – in any policy. Usually NOT biodiversity people

Both parties are influenced by the situation: their own convictions, their relationship with each other, the problem at hand, public opinion, other interests, ….

What do we need to consider?

Who need to be convinced?

Our **research target**:

the value they accredit to arguments determines their effectiveness

Policy makers

The ones deciding on biodiversity aspects – in any policy. Usually NOT biodiversity people

What do we need to consider?

Who do the convincing?

NGO's, other policy makers, etc.

Usually biodiversity people

Our **dissemination target**

They need to know which arguments to use when

What do we need to consider?

What do they use?

Our **research objects**

What *are* relevant 'argument types'?

What value(s) do policy makers accredite to them?

How does that depend on the context in which they are used?

Arguments

The ones they THINK the policy makers will accredit, used in the way they THINK will be most effective

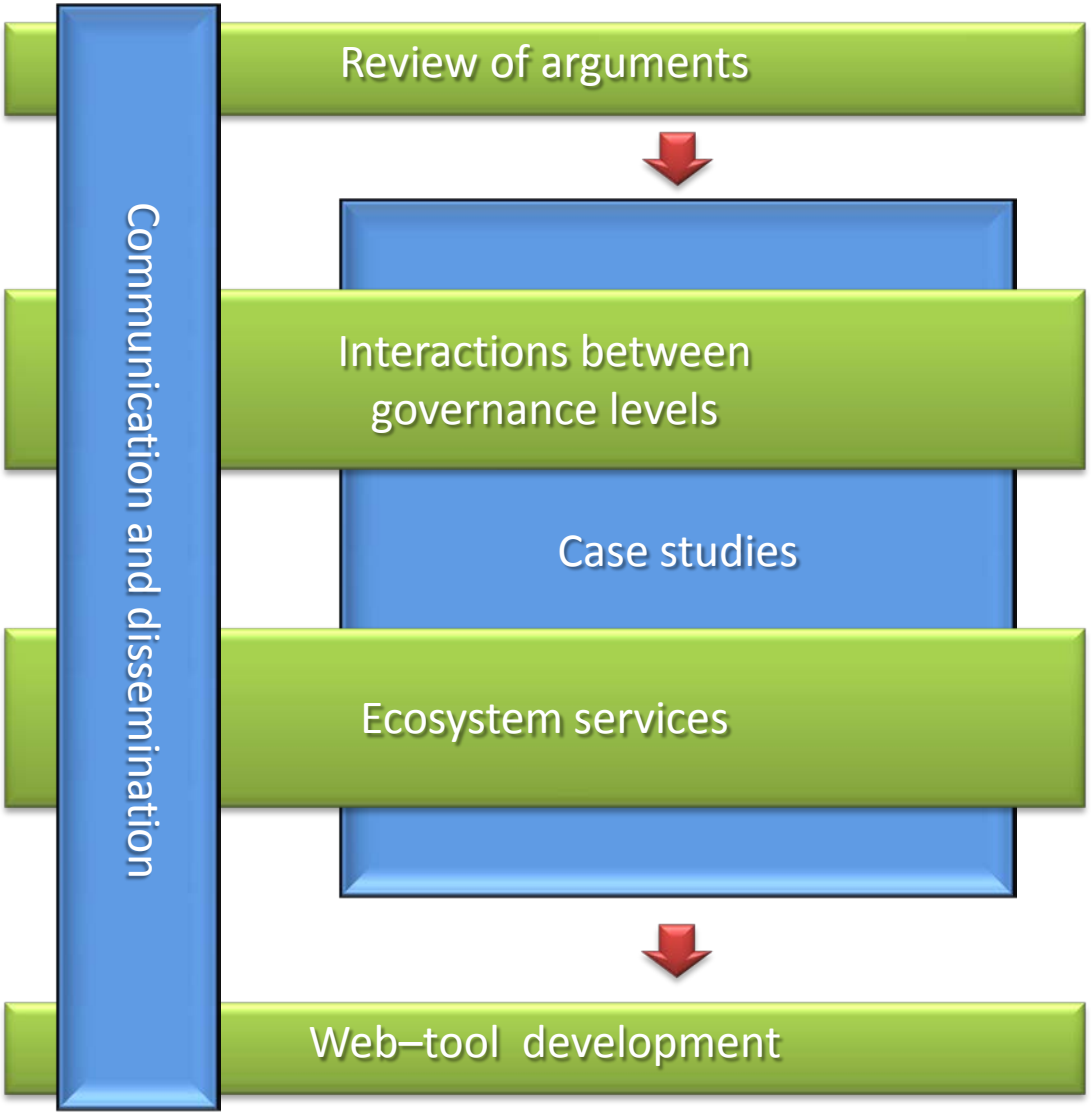
How can stakeholders make best use of our results?


So .....
.... what about this workshop?

Workshop aims

- To do a reality check
- To get stakeholders involved
  - We need yo
  - We want to your experiences entation: what works and what does not
  - We want you to help us to help you

BESAFE's basic setup



BESAFE's approach

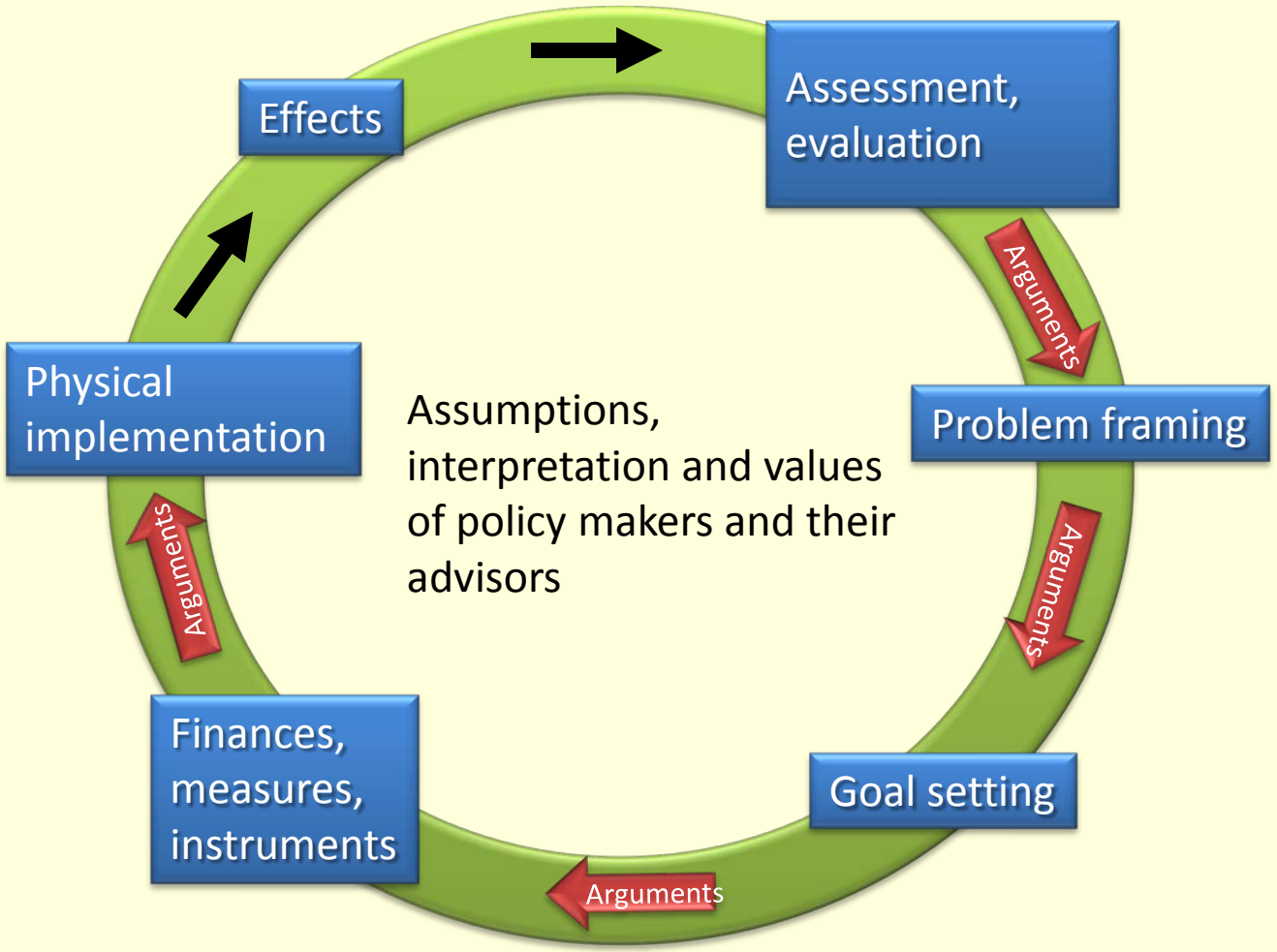
'Learning by doing'

We have an iterative approach

Policy cycle

Evidence base

Assumptions and values of stakeholders and wider society



Discourse – media, politics, science, society

1) Results of the arguments review

What can you find about 'types' of arguments in scientific and gray literature?

Bruce Howard, CEH, UK

Arguments

2) The context of use

What factors could influence the effectiveness of different ‘types’?

Rob Tinch, Eftec, UK

Arguments

3) The effect

How do arguments generate effect

Eeva Primmer, SYKE, Sweden

Then ….

You get the change to ‘discover’ some arguments yourselve

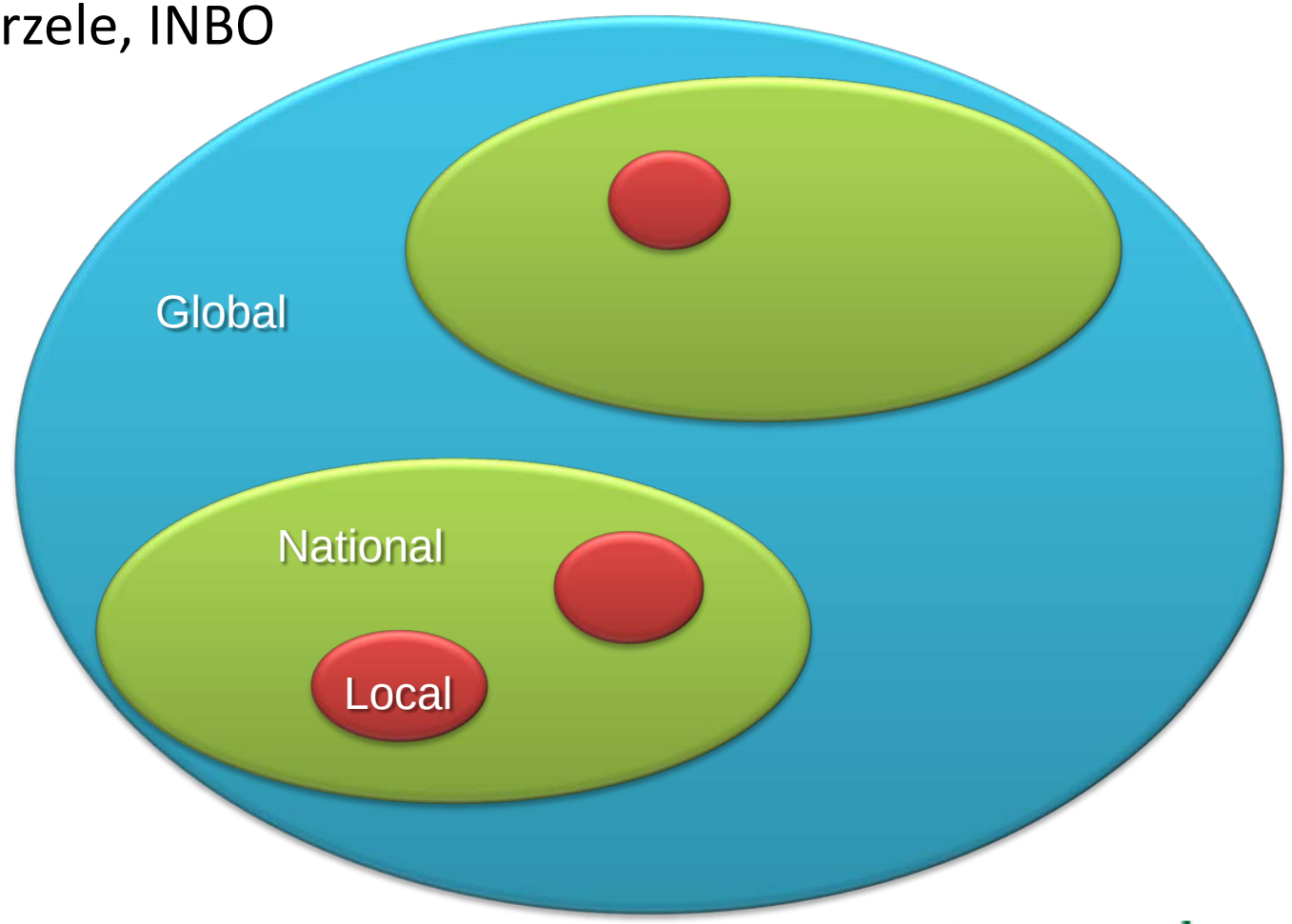
Bialowieza forest argumentation example

After tea ....

.. our two cross-cutting subjects

Interactions between governance levels

Ann van Herzele, INBO



Ecosystem services

Pam Berry, Oxford University

And Tomorrow: Our case studies

Malgorzata (Gosia) Blicharska, SLU, Sweden

No.	Case name	Partner	Governance level(s)	Time scale	WP criteria
1	Invasive species strategies; Germany, Europe	UFZ	Regional – EU	Months to years	WP 3
2	Large mammals in Norwegian wild-lands	NINA	Local – national	Months to years	WP 3 & 4
3	Water company uses of valuation evidence in investment planning	Eftec	Regional & national	Months to years	WP 3 & 4
4	Nested Socio-Ecological Systems in the Romanian Lower Danube River Catchment	UNIBUC	Local & regional	Years to decades	WP 3 & 4
5	Public controversies surrounding the return of red fox and wild boar to Flanders, Belgium	INBO	Regional	Months to years	WP 3
6	An underwater tidal electricity turbine; Northern Ireland	PLUS	Local & regional	Months to years	WP 3
7	Bialowieza Forest conflict, Poland	SLU	Regional – EU	Years to decades	WP 3
8	National Strategy for Mires and Peatlands; Finland	SYKE	Local & National	Months to years	WP 3
9	Management plans for the Andalusia national parks; Spain	UOXF	Regional	Months to years	WP 4
10	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Biodiversity Action Plan; UK	NERC-CEH	National (regional)	Months to years	WP 3
11	Long-term management of urban green areas, Finland	SYKE	Local – national	Months to years	WP 3
12	Implementing the Natura 2000 network, EU level, Europe	JRC, Alterra, NERI, SZIU, Eftec	National – EU	Years to decades	WP 3

Results of the argument review

Bruce Howard
CEH, UK

Recorded presentation

BESAFE Stakeholder workshop
23 May 2013 Brussels

Context and effectiveness

Rob Tinch
EFTEC, UK

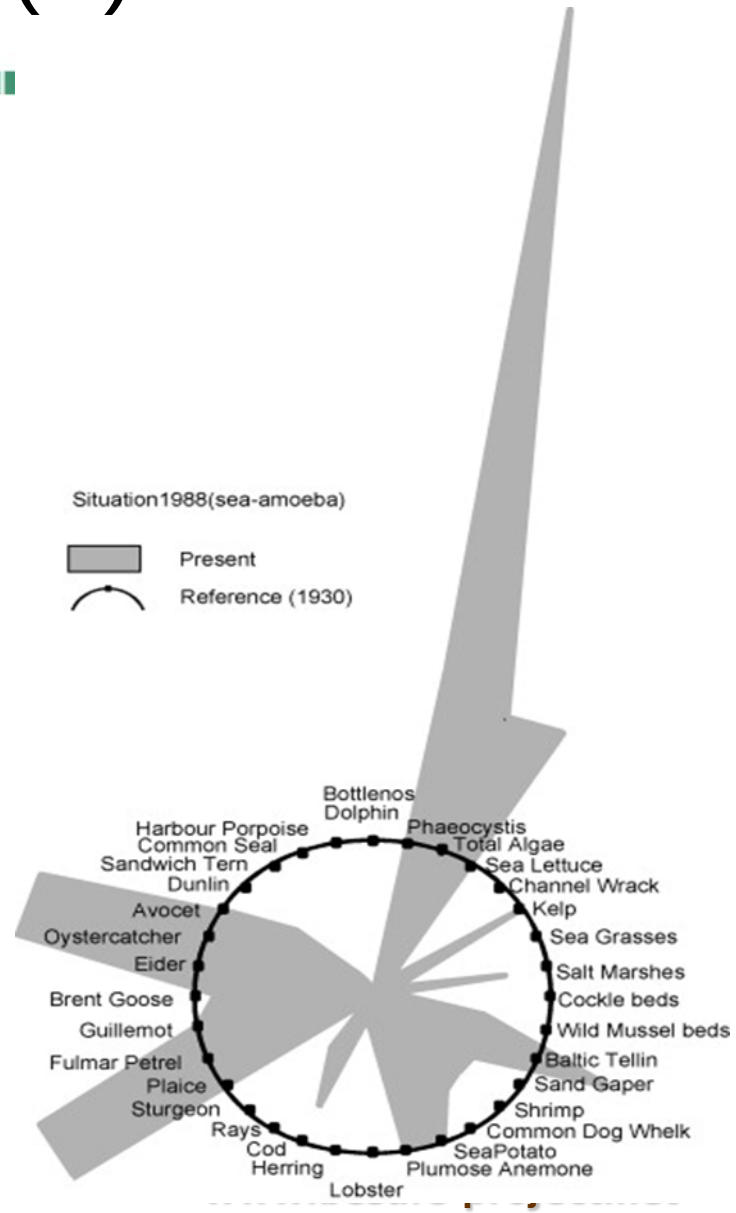
BESAFE Stakeholder workshop
23 May 2013 Brussels

Overview

- Effective arguments for biodiversity:
  - Bruce covered types of arguments
  - Eeva will discuss effectivness
  - I'll focus on role of **context**
- Links across FP7 projects
  - **SPIRAL**: effective science policy interfaces
  - **BESAFE** (and **BIOMOT**): effective arguments
  - **OPERAs** (and **OpenNESS**): effective tools and instruments

SPIRAL 'Story' (1)

- Science Institute for the Dutch Ministry of Water Management
- Integrated water management c.1988
- Nature: no clear figures
  - ships need 30m; farmers need X m3…
- Forty flagship species
  - spider/radar chart ('amoeba')



SPIRAL 'Story' (2)

- Policy question: what if Rhine cleaned up by 50% of heavy metal pollution?
  - Answer: little impact! 90%+ needed.
- "Bad message": $$$ spent for little benefit!
  - Must add chemical, biological, fisheries measures.
  - Other Ministries (inc. Nature) resist interference.
- Water ministry response: OK, forget it, focus on sewage and water quality, drop the ecosystem stuff.

SPIRAL ‘Story’ (3)

- Minister heard of the diagram
  - Opened a conference with it
  - “Ecological Dow Jones index of the North Sea”
  - Insisted it must be in third water management plan
- Why am I talking about this?
  - Context: same arguments, different effects
  - Other Ministries: They’re encroaching on our patch!
  - Water Ministry: Political trouble: heads down.
  - Scientist: Keep quiet? Publish? Dangerous territory!
  - Minister: Hmmm, I could use this…

THE AUSTRALIAN

Climate expert Clive Spash 'heavied' by CSIRO management

NICOLA BERKOVIC THE AUSTRALIAN NOVEMBER 03, 2009 12:00AM

A CSIRO economist whose research criticising emissions trading schemes was banned from publication said last night he had been subjected to harassment by the senior agency management.

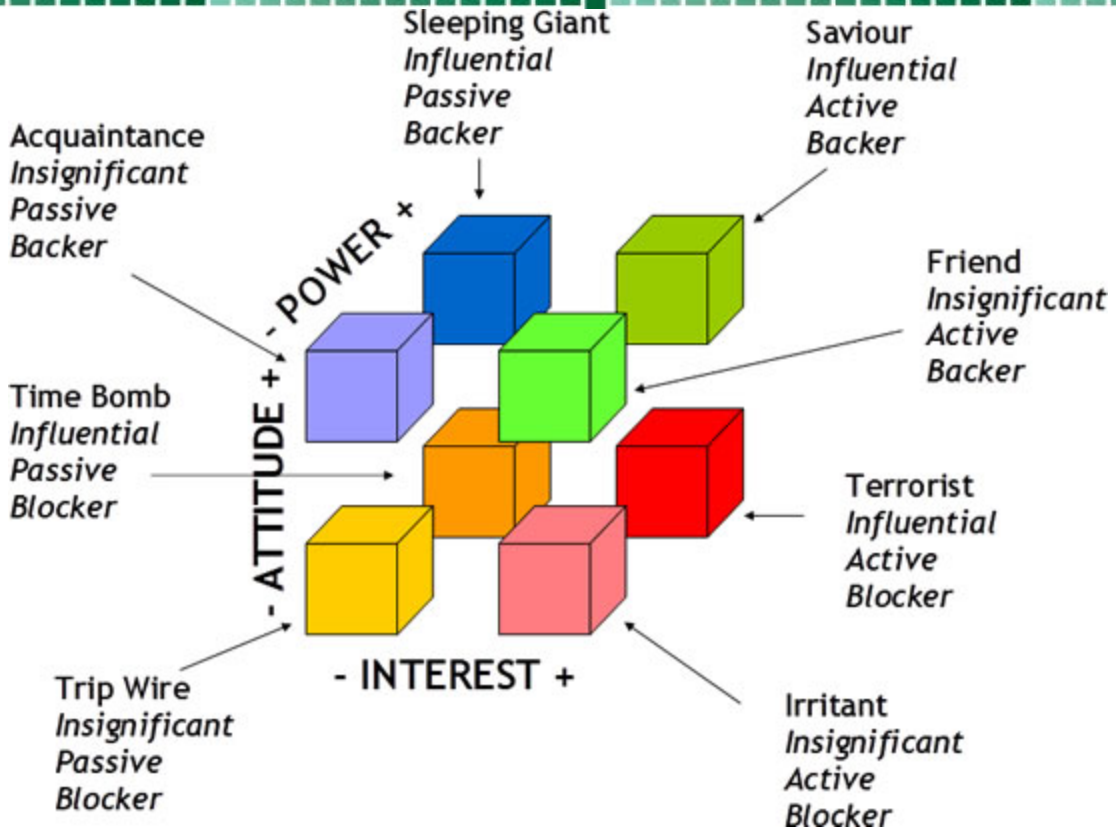
Clive Spash also accused the agency of hindering public debate and trampling on his civil liberties by preventing the research being published in British journal New Political Economy.

Dr Spash defended the paper, The Brave New World of Carbon Trading, saying it was a dispassionate analysis of ETS policies and was not politically partisan.

He was told in February he could publish the work if it were peer reviewed. But in July, CSIRO management said it could not be published after it was cleared for publication.

This month, he was informed he could not publish it even in his private capacity, because it was "politically sensitive". Within 24 hours, he also received a letter outlining a list of trivial instances in which he was accused of breaching CSIRO policy, for example not completing a leave form properly.

Context: stakeholders



Politicians
Policy makers (environmental)
Policy makers (other sector)
Government agencies (executive)
NGOs
Academic
Consultancy
Private industry
Land managers, farmers, foresters etc.
Land owners
Property owners and residents
Users groups (hunters, anglers, tourists etc.)
Media
General public
Other (explain)

Interest

Perspective

Power

Understanding

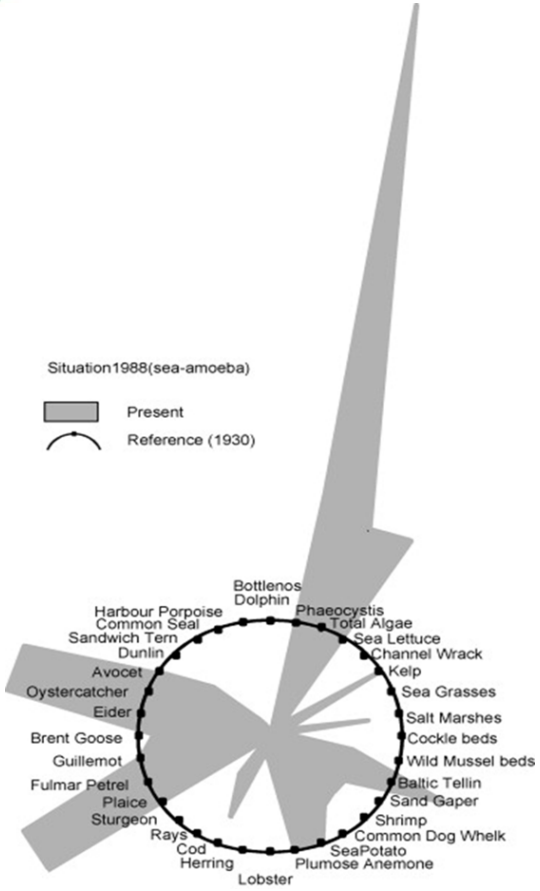
Style

“Scientists tend to be very matter of fact. It’s all facts so they present it as facts and then it’s…just not accessible.

And they think “well, why is it not accessible?”

Because … that’s not how people really communicate.”

Format



Indicator/Species	Proportion of Baseline (1930)
Phaeocystis	515%
Total algae	197%
Sea lettuce	209%
Channel wrack	23%
Kelp	100%
Sea grasses	19%
Salt marshes	57%
Cockle beds	13%
Wild mussel beds	50%
Baltic Tellin	156%
Sand Gaper	69%
Shrimp	74%
(and 28 others…)	

Which one would you open a conference with?

History, habit

- Stephenson, G. R. (1967). Cultural acquisition of a specific learned response among rhesus monkeys. In: Starek, D., Schneider, R., and Kuhn, H. J. (eds.), Progress in Primatology, Stuttgart: Fischer, pp. 279-288.

Frame of reference

Feeling of entitlement: I'm paying for this service!
Transfer of blame
Distrust of motives

Concern for others
Responsibility for own actions
Acceptance of external conditions

The choice of framing can influence arguments used and their effectiveness

"While payments may strengthen community relations and simplify action for environmental care, they may also introduce a purely instrumental logic and in some cases worsen the environmental status by crowding out environmental virtues." (Vatn 2010 "An institutional analysis of payments for environmental services", Ecological Economics, 69:6)

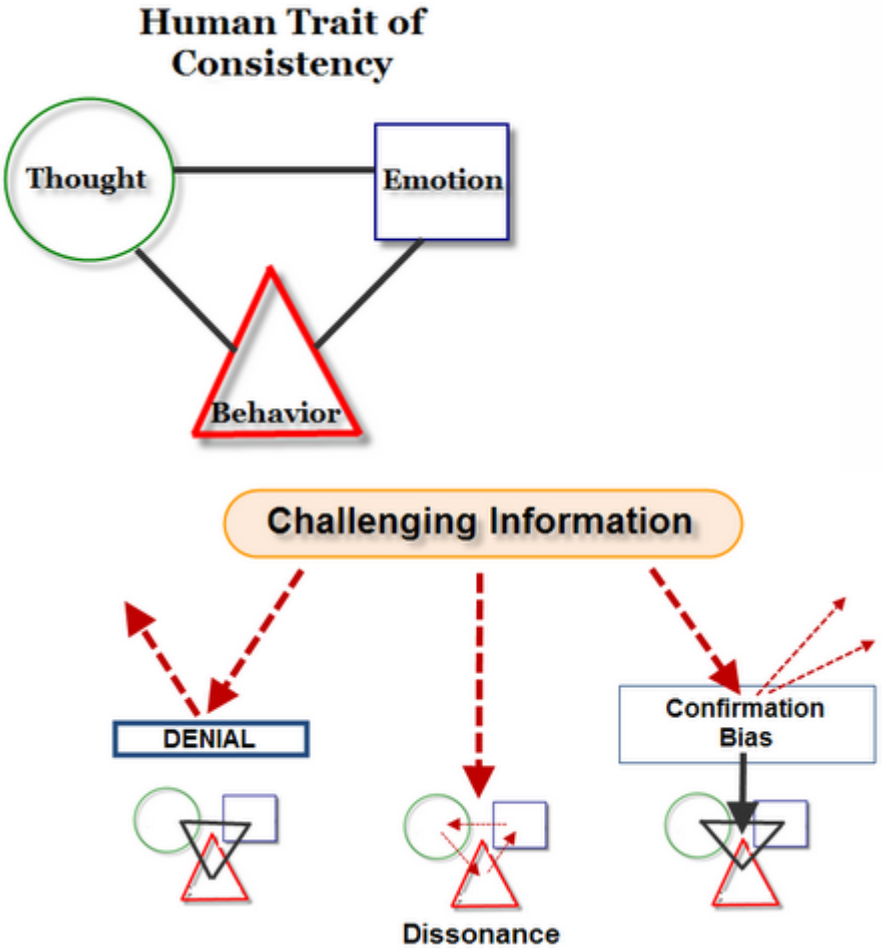
Decision context

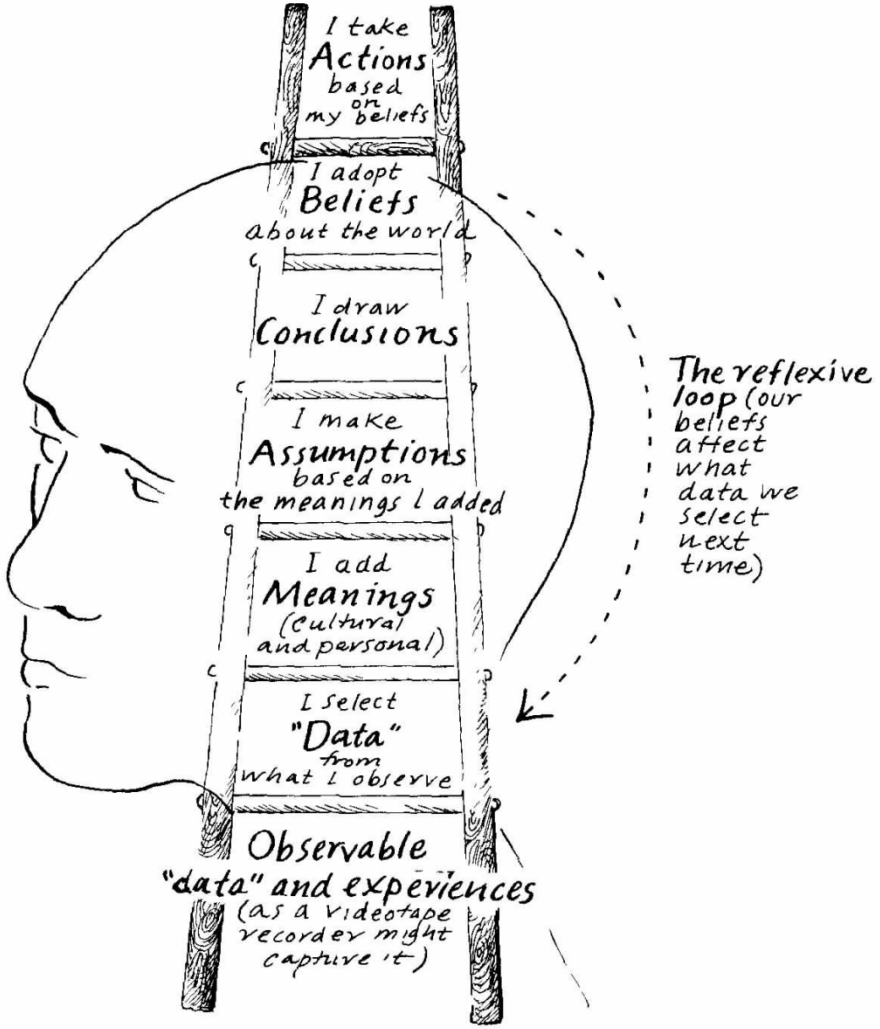
Primary Issue	Definition
Protected areas	Designation, management, agreements etc. relating to formally designated protected areas
Resource management	Agriculture, forestry, fisheries, water, energy, hunting…
Restoration	Habitat creation, restoration, clean-up
Species management	Invasive species, alien species, wildlife, reintroductions, endangered species plans
Development	Impact assessment, consideration of negative impacts on biodiversity from development
Reducing human impacts on biodiversity	Pollution control, climate change regulation/mitigation…contexts aimed at controlling or reducing negative impacts of humans on nature
Biodiversity impacts on human activity	Enhancing biodiversity for, or recognising, its impacts on humans – flood control, recreation, aesthetics, health benefits…
Other general conservation	Priority setting, biodiversity action plans, corridors/connectivity, adapting to climate change
Other (explain)	

Policy drivers

Implementation of policy or legal obligation
Impact assessment, policy appraisal
Attempt to influence policy or opinion
Setting targets, prices, limits
Focus on enhancing ecosystem services
Focus on biodiversity/conservation gain
Other (explain)

Cognitive dissonance





DOUBLE FACEPALM

FOR WHEN ONE FACEPALM DOESN'T CUT IT

CRELE: content, context, process

- **Credibility**: perceived quality, validity and scientific adequacy of the people, processes and knowledge exchanged;
- **Relevance**: salience and responsiveness of the SPI and knowledge to policy and societal needs;
- **Legitimacy**: perceived fairness and balance of the SPI processes;
- **Iterativity**: proposed as additional criterion in SPIRAL research.

BESAFE
the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services

Goal Features	Structural Features
Vision	

Output Features	What to assess
Relevant outputs	Timely in respect accessible, compr efficient dissemin
Quality assessment	Processes to ensu comprehensivene robustness, and n uncertainty
Translation	Efforts to convey different domains and making the n for various audier

Process Features	What to assess

Outcome Features	What to assess
Social learning	Do SPI participants, audiences, wider public learn and change their thinking about biodiversity?
Behavioural impact	Do SPI participants, audiences, wider public change behaviour as a result of learning?
Policy impact	Do SPI information, learning, and associated changes in policy-maker behaviour lead to changes in policy?
Biodiversity impact	Do the above changes lead to changes drivers and pressures threatening biodiversity, societal responses and the state of biodiversity?

SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

How do arguments generate effects?

Eeva Primmer
Finnish Environment Institute

BESAFE Stakeholder workshop
23 May 2013 Brussels

Arguments for biodiversity

- **Science produces good arguments for biodiversity**




- **Scientists communicate these arguments in many different ways**




The scientists' arguments have made it to policy

The need for preserving valuable areas has been recognised

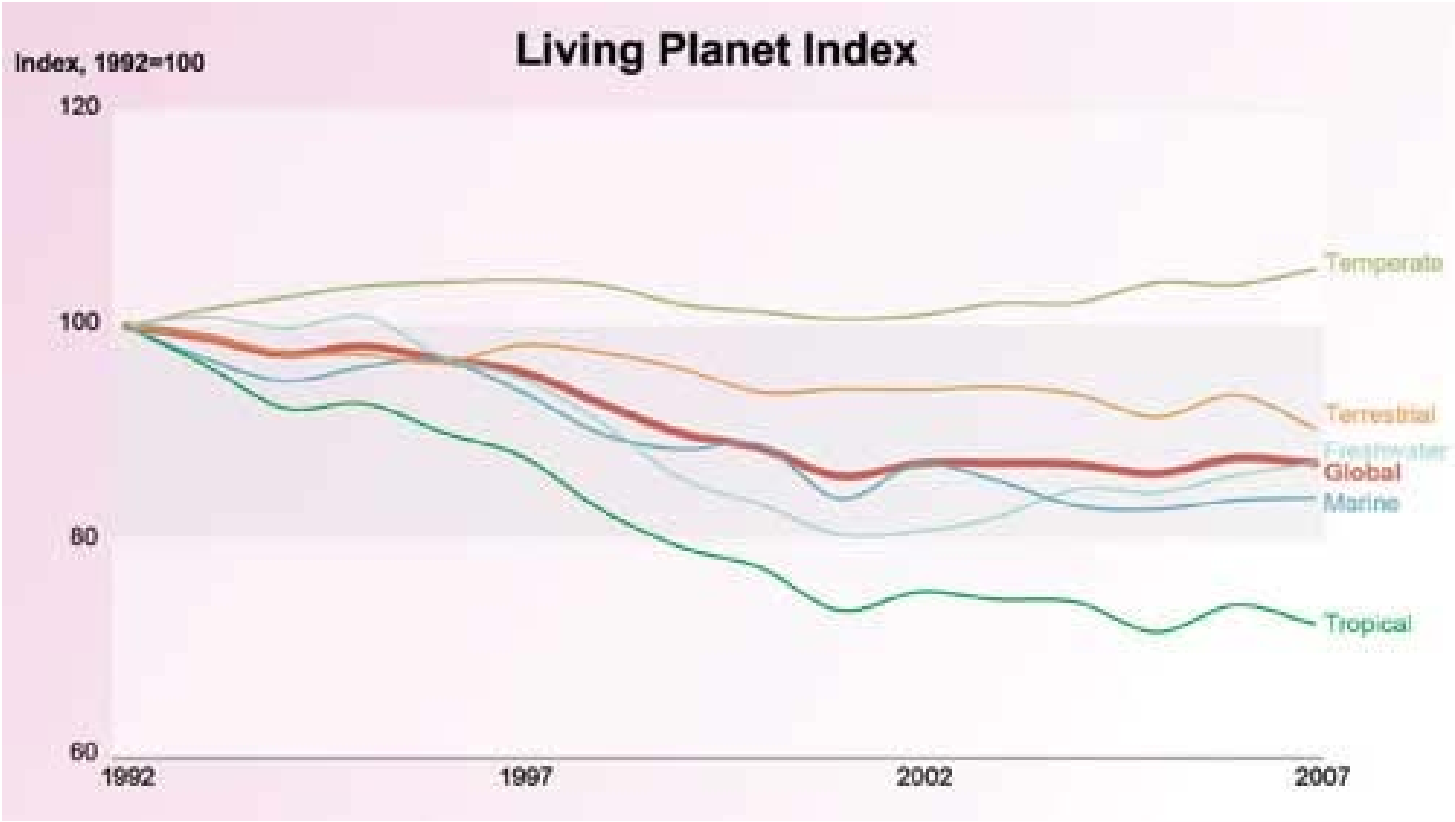
"By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes."

The need for preserving ecosystem services has been recognised

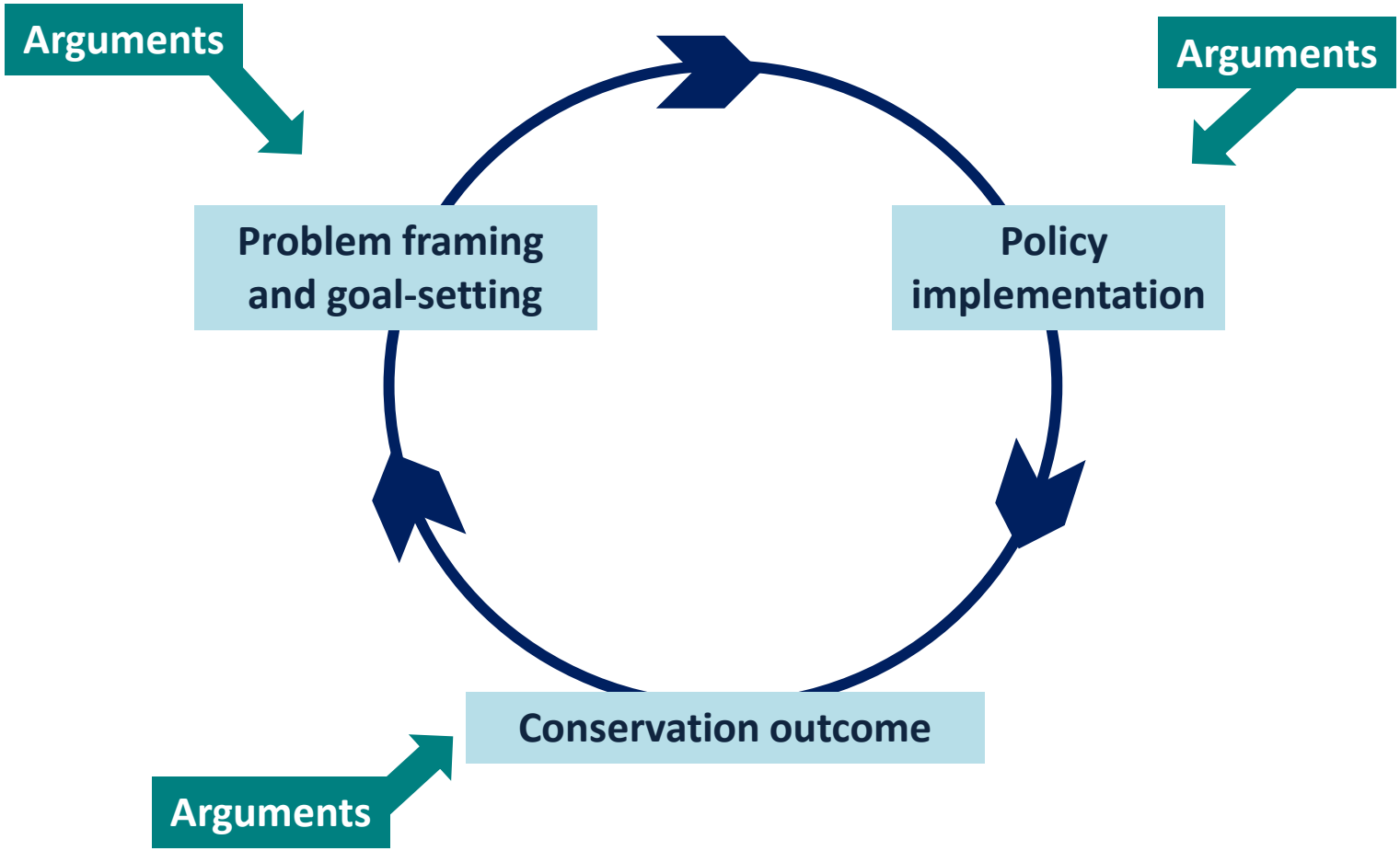
Halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020, and restoring them in so far as feasible, while stepping up the EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.

Is this a measure of effectiveness?

Another measure would be to look at the outcome



Arguments produce effects at all stages



Sometimes arguments grow in importance

- With crisis
  - economic crisis and green economy
- With new advocation efforts and civil society preassure
- With increasing threat
  - climate change
- With new opportunities
  - payment mechanisms
  - green infrastructure

→ Accumulation

Arguments might even push other arguments aside

- Already existing goals can be justified with new reasons
  - Bioenergy
- New goals might make old goals redundant
  - Economic grow

→ **Replacing**

Some arguments stick around

- Even with new evidence, some arguments do not give way
  - Bioenergy
  - Forest biodiversity conservation

→ **Persistence**

Some arguments make it to different levels

- Arguments “trickle down”
- Arguments make their way from the bottom to the top

→**Level-crossing**

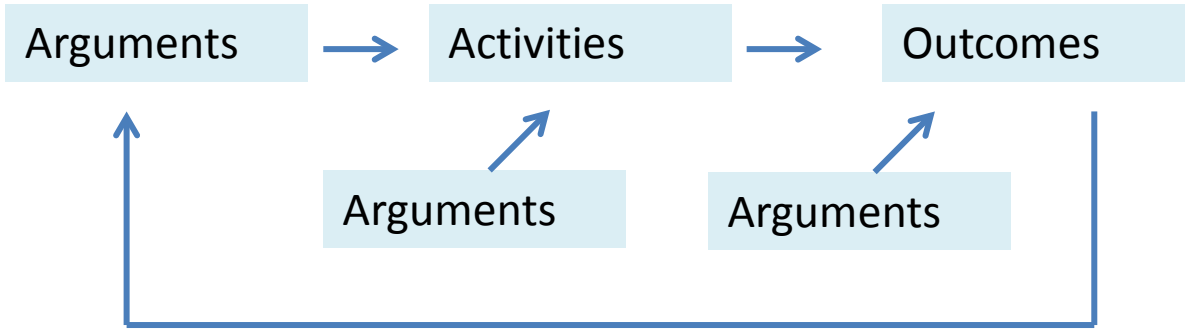
Arguments might reach new audiences

- Collaborative policy implementation can engage new stakeholders
- Actors might copy successful ideas

→ Diffusion

How to identify the effects of arguments?

- Infer/reason the effects
- Observe the accumulation, persistence, replacing, level-crossing and diffusion of arguments



- Ask:

→ **What are the ways that arguments generate effects?**

→ **What are the effects of arguments?**