



PHE5POL

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Theory:

1. Why theory?
2. Schools of thought
3. From stages heuristic...
4. ...to networked realities



Theory: what and why

- ❑ A supposition or a system of ideas intended to explain something, especially based on general principles independent of the thing to be explained
- ❑ Theory allows for prediction and/or falsification
- ❑ Theory is practical (Kurt Lewin) because it focuses and funnels
- ❑ (e.g., variables, analysis)



Cobb, R.W. & C.D. Elder (1983)
Participation in American Politics: the
Dynamics of Agenda-Building. The
Johns Hopkins University Press,
Baltimore

Cobb & Elder's agendas

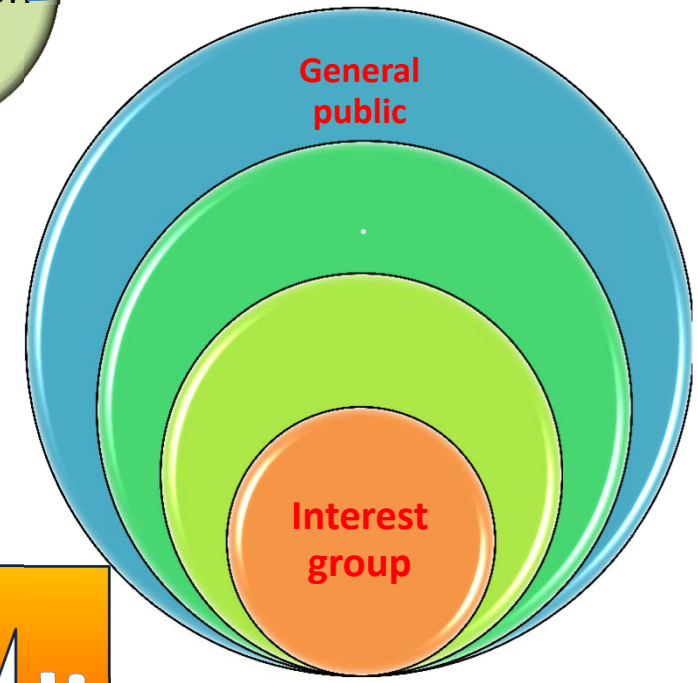
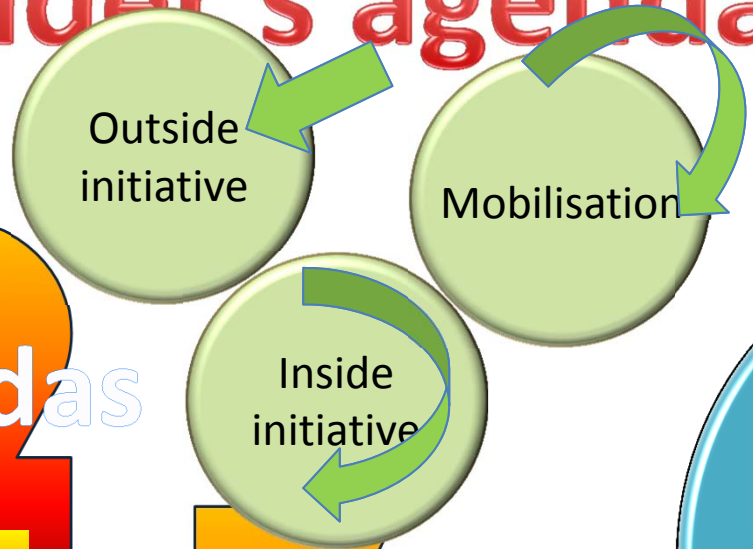
Theory

Agendas

Models

Publics

Criteria

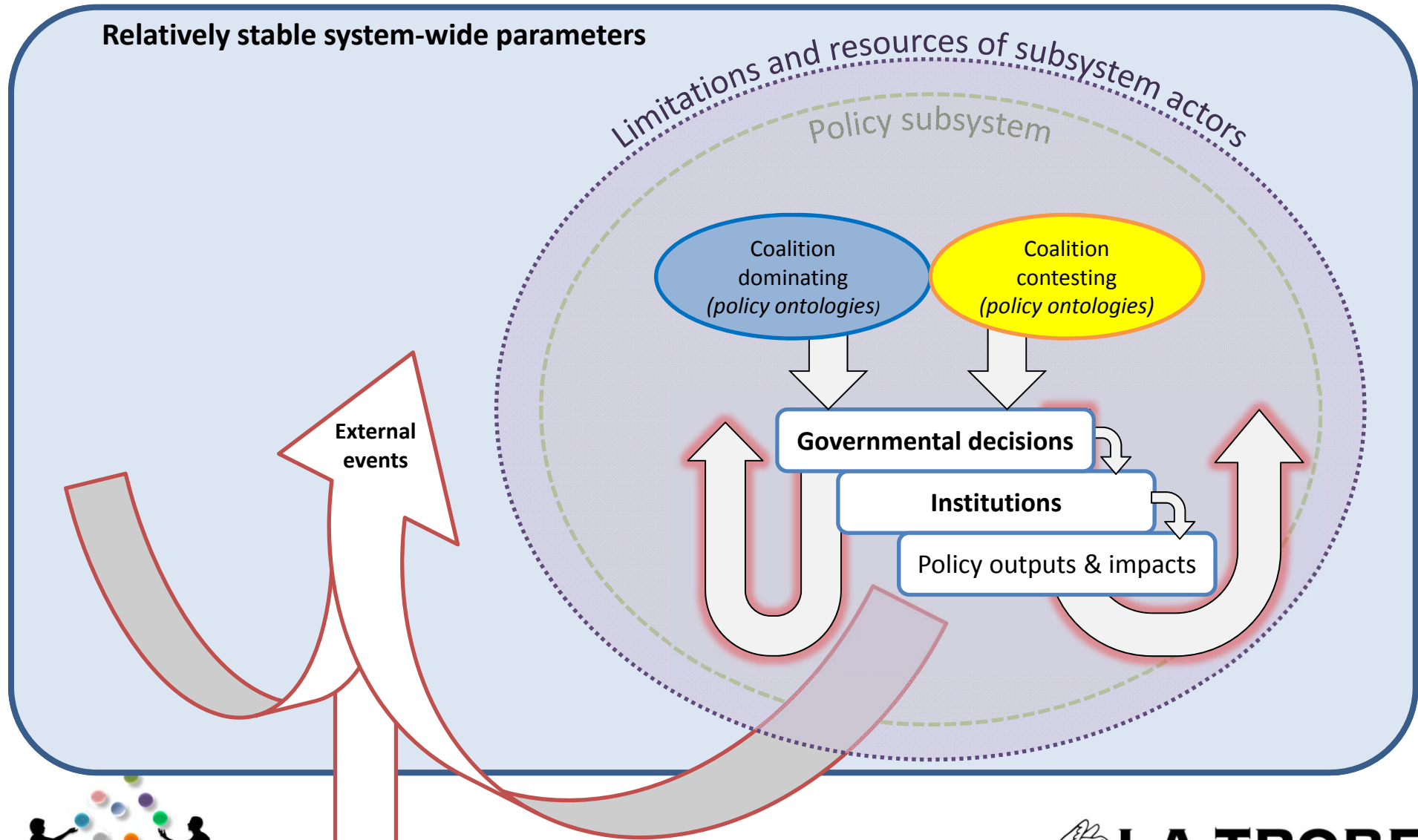


- Issue is non-unequivocal
- Issue is perceived socially relevant
- Issue is relevant to long term
- Issue is perceived non-technical
- Few historic precedents to issue



Sabatier & Jenkins-Smith

Sabatier, P.A. & H.C. Jenkins-Smith (1993) Policy Change and Learning: an Advocacy Coalition Approach. Westview Press, Boulder



Limitations and resources of subsystem actors

Policy subsystem

Coalition dominating
(policy ontologies)

Coalition contesting
(policy ontologies)

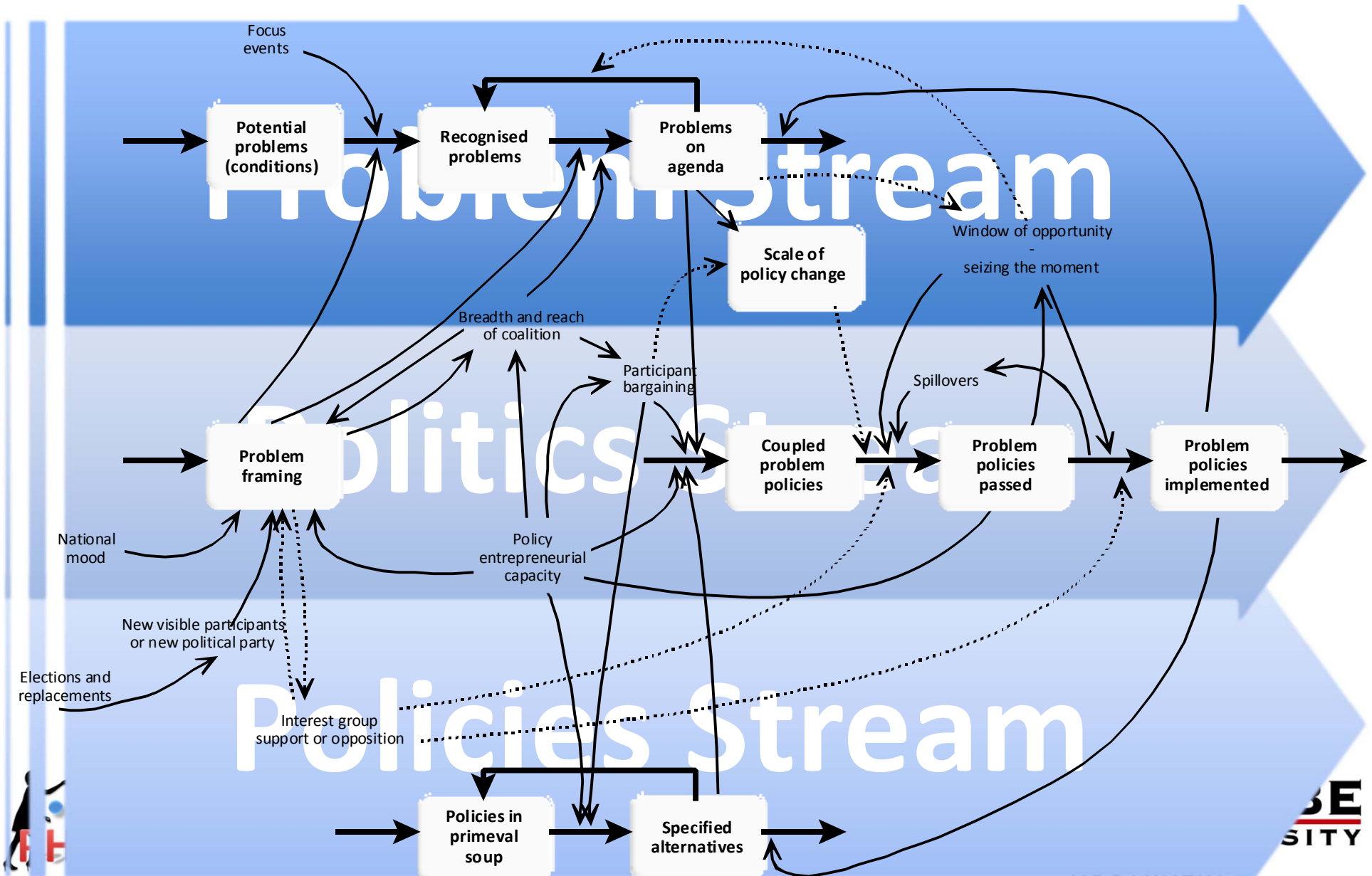
Governmental decisions

Institutions

Policy outputs & impacts



Kingdon's Streams

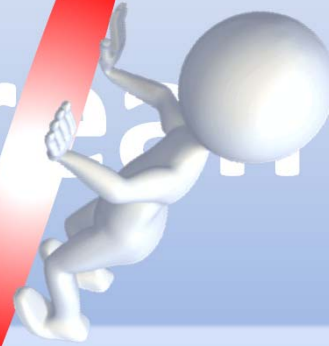


Kingdon's Streams

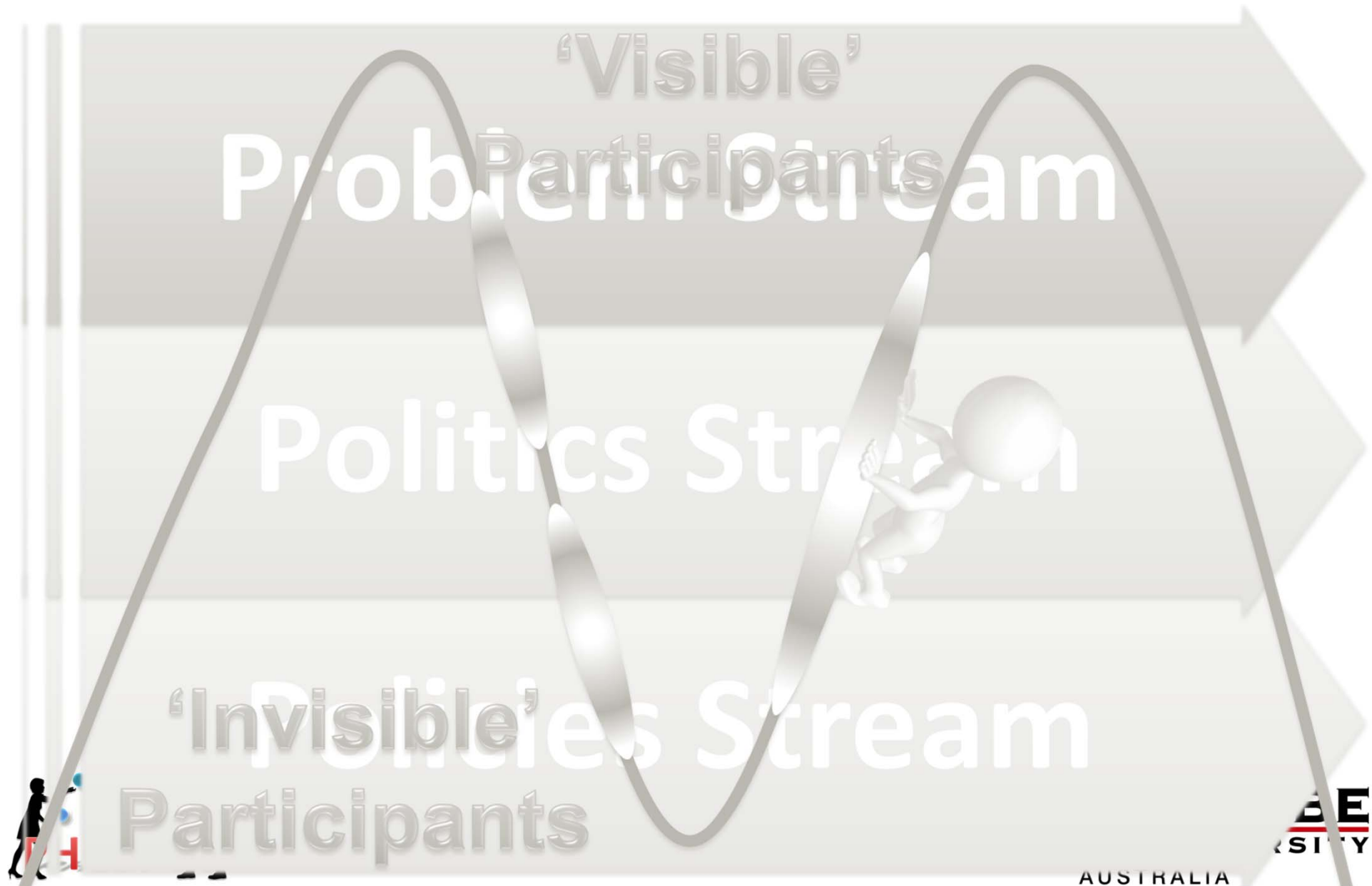
'Visible'
Participants
Problem Stream

Politics Stream

'Invisible'
Participants
Policies Stream



Kingdon's Streams

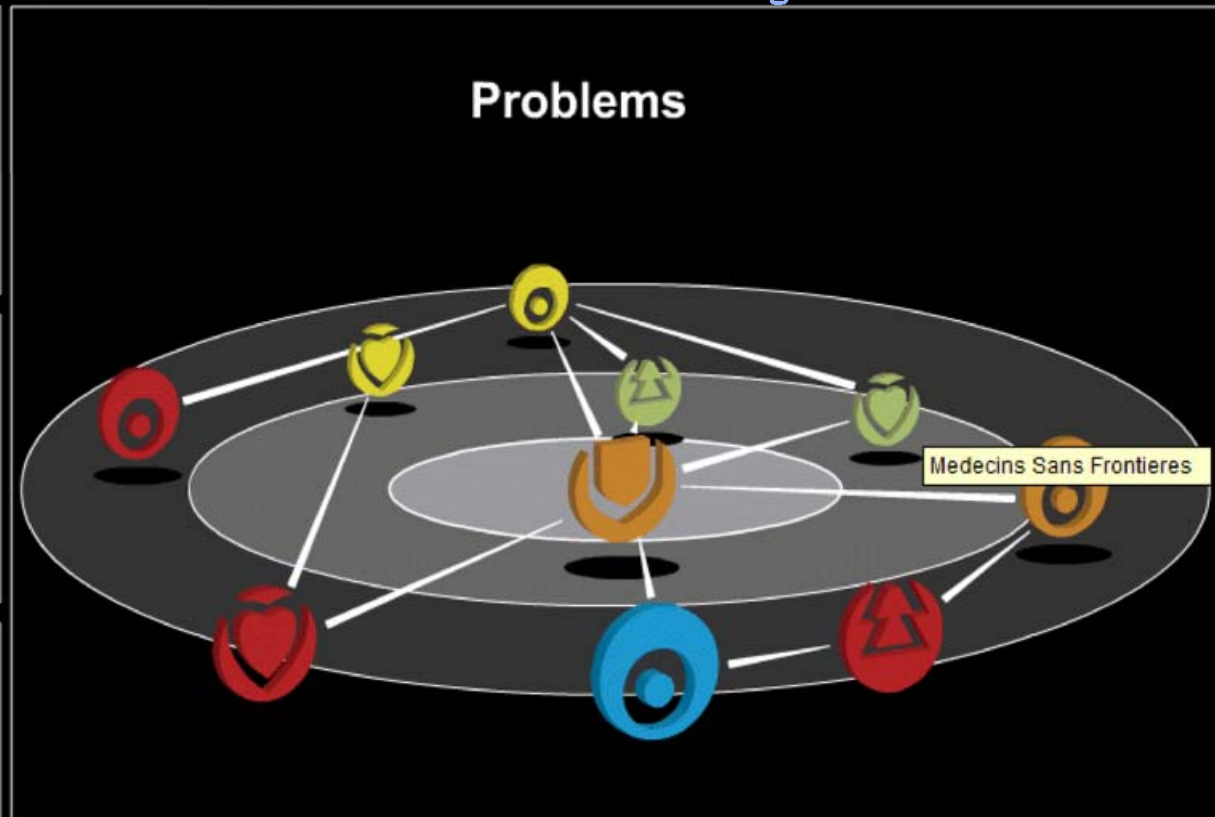
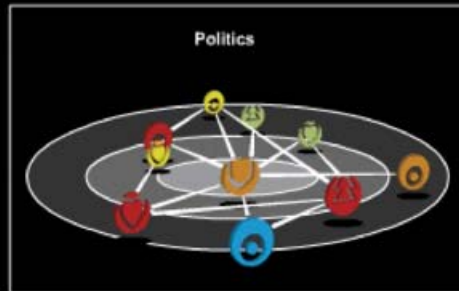


Kingdon's Streams



IMPoIS

Interactive Mapping of Policy Streams



January

July

January

July



Professional Associations



Municipal authority



Health & Human Service agencies



Community groups

Reset



Mazmanian & Sabatier

Mazmanian, D.A. & P.A. Sabatier (1989)
Implementation and public policy –
with a new postscript. University Press
of America, Lanham/New York/London)

Tractability of the problem(s)

- A1 technical difficulties
- A2 diversity of target group behaviour
- A3 target group as a percentage of the population
- A4 extent of behavioural change required

Ability of statute to structure implementation

- B1 clear and consistent objectives
- B2 incorporation of adequate causal theory
- B3 initial allocation of financial resources
- B4 planning integration within and among implementing institutions
- B5 Decision rules of implementing agencies
- B6 Availability or recruitment of implementing staff
- B7 Formal access by outsiders

Nonstatutory variables affecting implementation

- C1 socioeconomic conditions and technology
- C2 public support
- C3 attitudes and resources of constituency groups
- C4 support from sovereigns
- C5 commitment and leadership skill of implementing officials

Stages (dependent variables) in the implementation process

Policy outputs
of
implementing
agencies

Compliance
with policy
outputs by
target groups

Actual impacts
of policy
outputs

Perceived
impacts of
policy outputs

Major revision
in statute

A U S T R A L I A

Many more theories:

