

Towards Climate Change Adaptation - Strategies in the Baltic Sea Region

Recommendations for Policy-Making

1. Need of Policy-making
2. Approaches to Adaptation in the Baltic Sea Region
3. Recommendations for Policy-making

- ≡ high probability of damage
- ≡ missing perception of the threat
i.e. cigarette smoke, graduate climate change
and its impacts

⇒ „Cassandra“ Syndrome

⇒ long-term responsibility needs to be strengthened

Characteristics:

- ≡ cross-sectoral
- ≡ interregional
- ≡ intergenerational

Tools for Policy-making



regulatory
and juridical
instruments

*control, limit or
simply forbid
undesirable
action*

fiscal
instruments

*enhance
adequate
action and
behaviour*

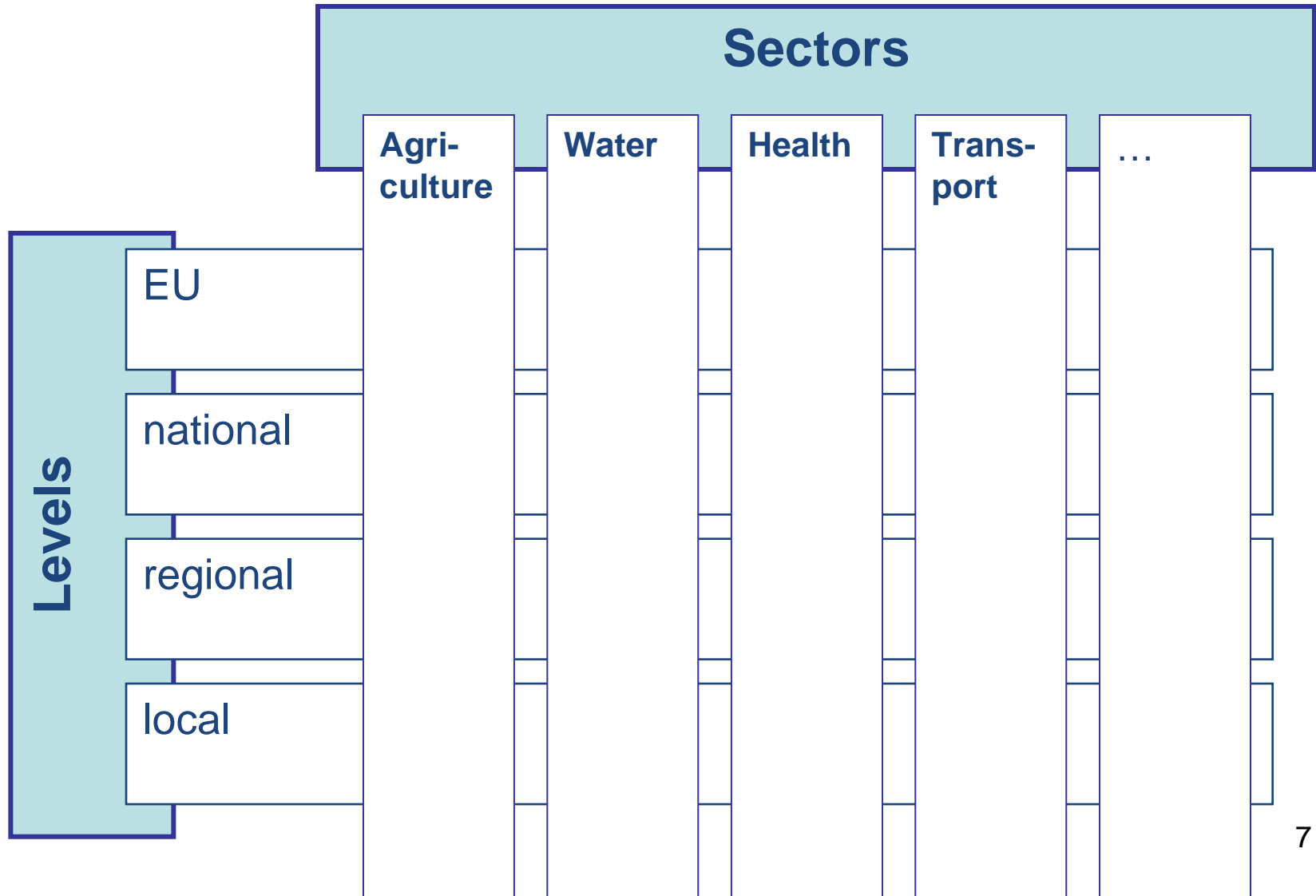
optimising
operation
procedures

*fosters
coordination &
integrated
approaches*

information,
education &
participation

*support
awareness
raising & the
change of
human action*

Approaches to Adaptation Strategies



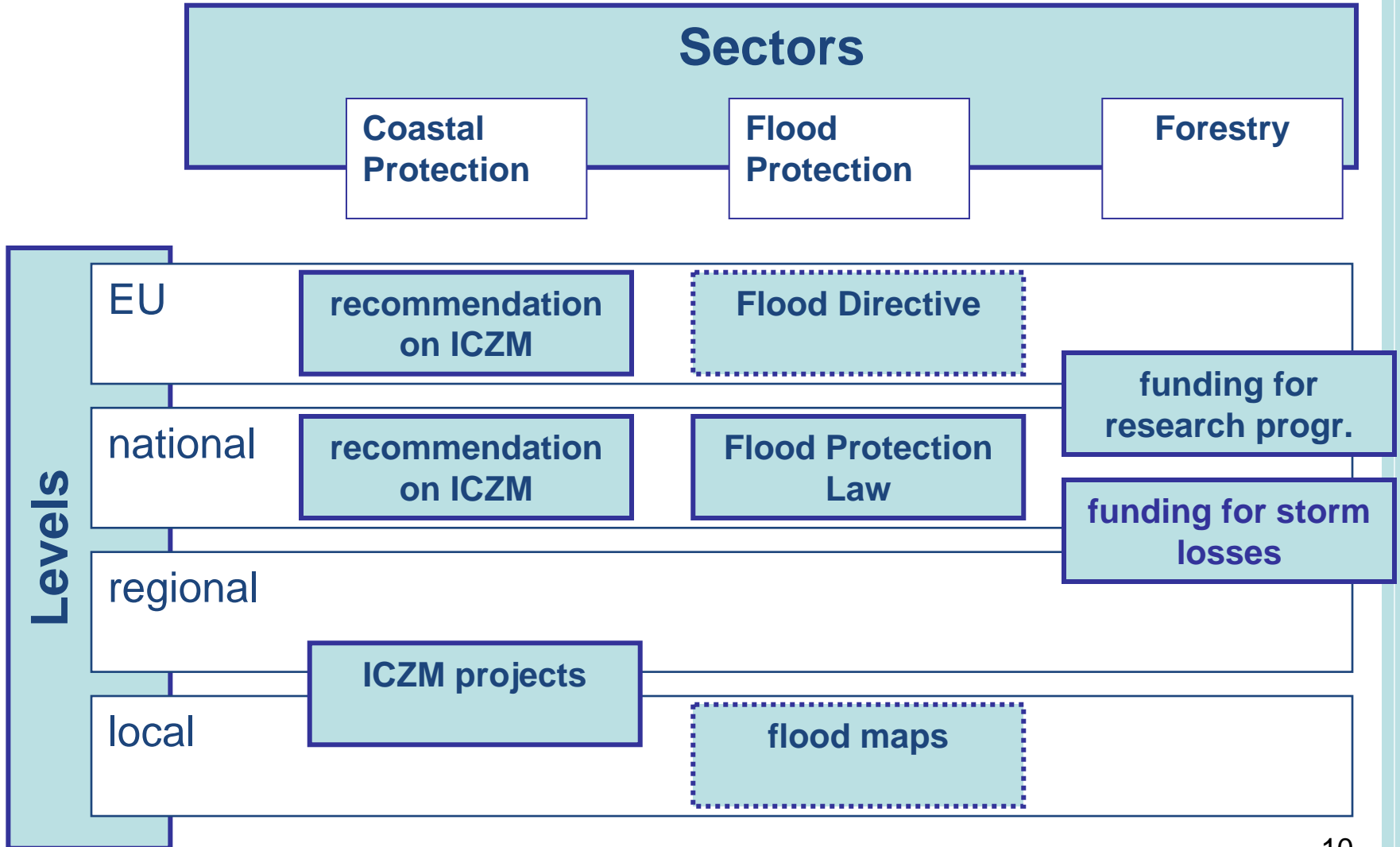
- ≡ 2004: EEA Report: Impacts of Europe's Changing Climate
- ≡ 2006: 2nd European Climate Change Programme
- ≡ 2007: Green Paper on Adaptation to Climate Change

- ≡ structural funding (i.e. Interreg projects)

- ≡ Flood Directive

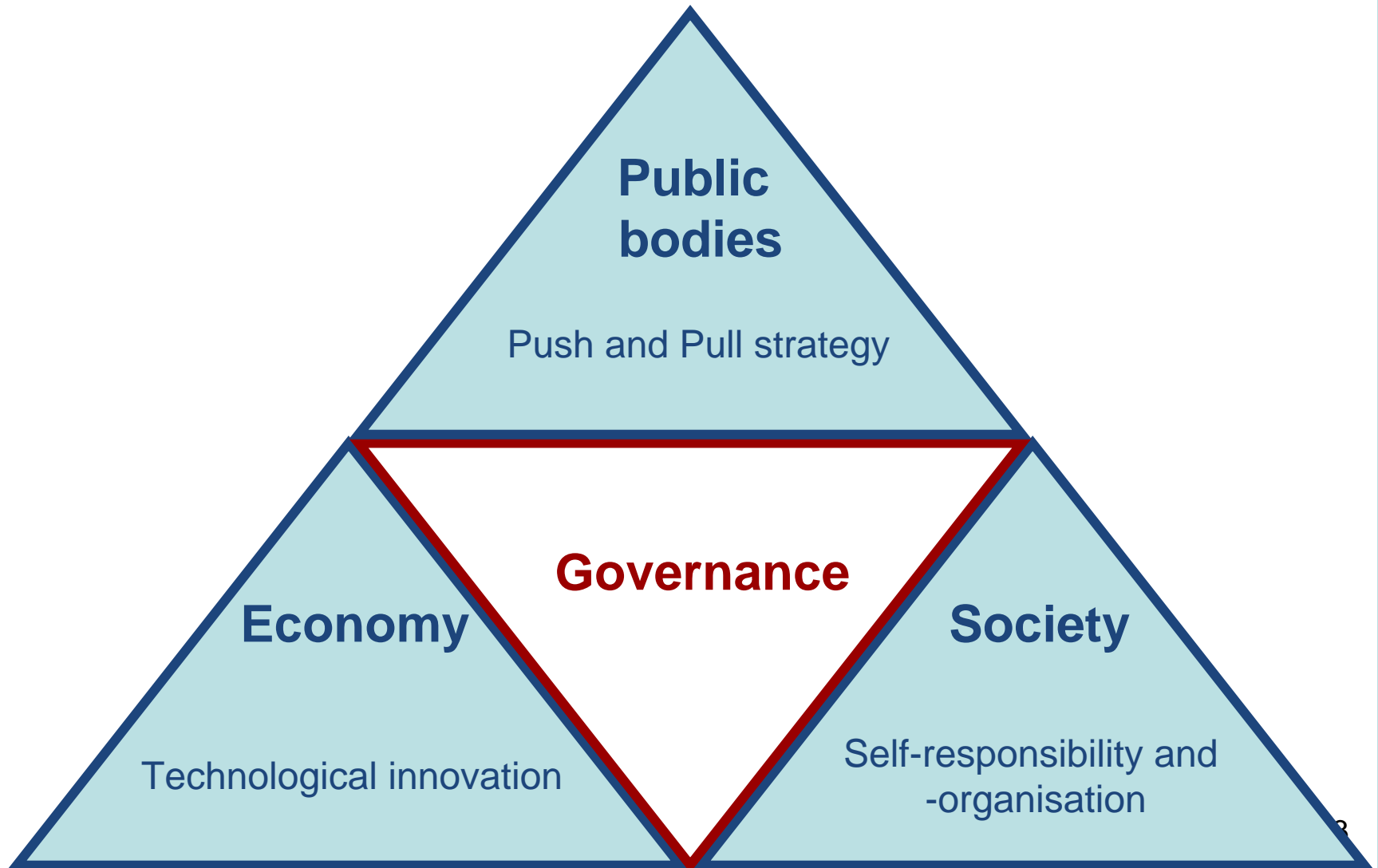
- ≡ Finnish National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change
- ≡ German Competence Centre on Climate Change Adaptation

Examples of Sectoral Approaches



- ≡ national strategies only in their beginnings
- ≡ few sectoral approaches
- ≡ importance of EU initiatives
- ≡ hardly any initiatives at local level

Recommendations for policy-making



Integration into existing Policies i.e. Spatial Planning



- ≡ cooperation and participation at different levels
- ≡ existing instruments and procedures (i.e. Strategic Environmental Assessment)
- ≡ binding regulations (i.e. building code)

Tackling Climate Change Impacts



Hazard-based approach

How to strengthen resilience against extreme weather events?

**ASTRA project:
Winter Storm Study**

Vulnerability-based approach

“Who is vulnerable to what, in what way and where?”

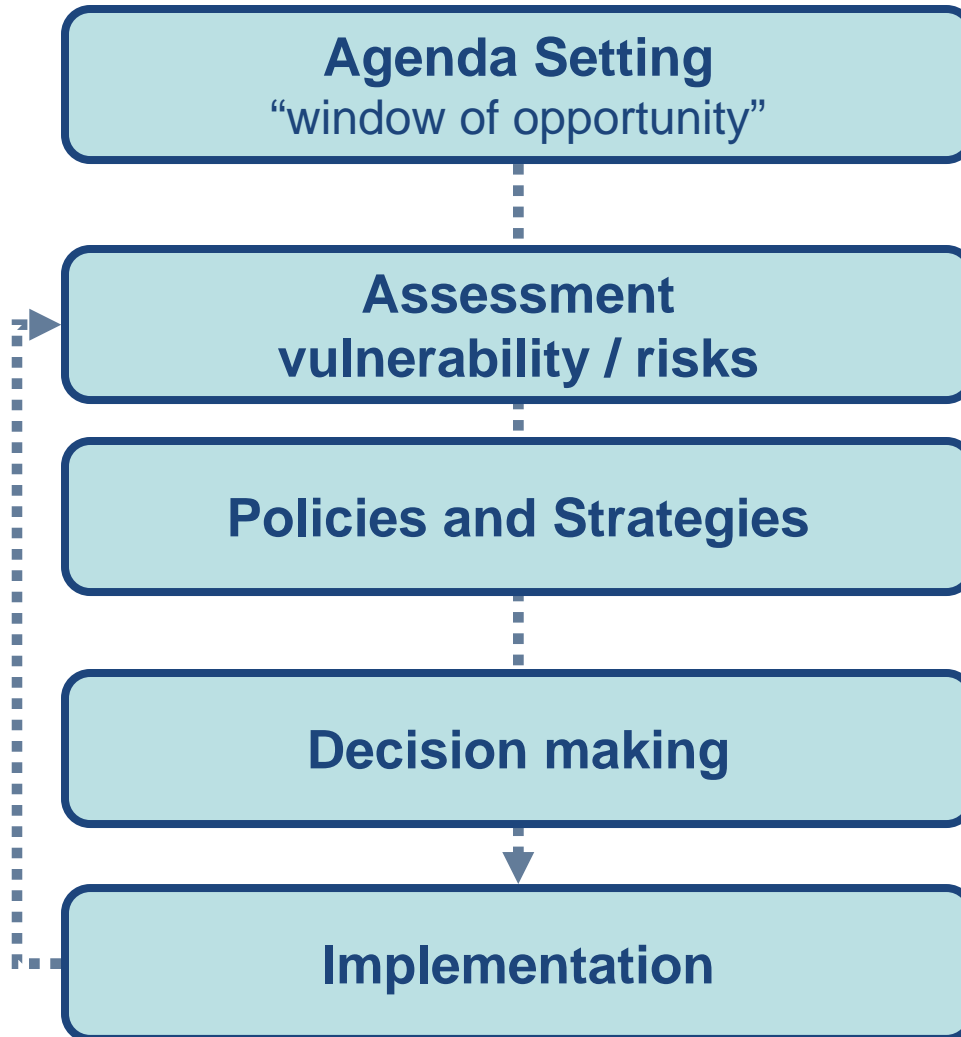
**ASTRA project:
Lithuanian regional workshops**

Policy-based approach

To what extent do existing policies consider adaptation needs?

**ASTRA project:
Assessment of existing policies**

Step-wise Approach



Need for

- ≡ awareness rising
- ≡ education

Both should become a matter of course

Starting Points for Adaptation Activities

- ≡ Influencing policies in member countries through further
 - studies and research activities
 - recommendations
 - monitoring activities
 - financial funding

Activities at BSR Level



- ≡ communication platform
- ≡ research activities
- ≡ tackling joint problems
 - i.e. fishery, coastal protection, transport, tourism, ...

- ≡ assessing vulnerability and existing policies
- ≡ creating capable organisational structures
- ≡ supporting legal framework
- ≡ providing financial funding
- ≡ securing lasting information channels

Local and Regional Tasks



- ≡ feedback on concrete adaptation needs
- ≡ implementation of measures and strategies
- ≡ capacity building and empowerment

Thank you!



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