

**Making green economy happen:  
Integrating ecosystem services and natural  
capital into sectoral policies**  
*Guidance for policy- and decision-makers*

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Building on the paper by: Kettunen, M., ten Brink, P., Mutafoğlu, K., Schweitzer, J.-P. and Pantzar, M.  
Claret, C. & Metzger, M., Pavlova, D.

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# Presentation Structure

- **The Guidance Tool - overview**
- **Main steps in the Tool**
- **Next steps**

# Structure and content

**Step 1:** Assessment of the current level of policy integration across sectors.

**Step 2:** Identification of key policy and sectoral opportunities and needs for future integration.

**Step 3:** Using the green economy framework as a strategic and holistic platform for planning take up and implementation.

# Step 1: Assessing current policy integration

Level of integration	Conceptual integration	Operational integration	Implementation integration
<i>Comprehensive and explicit</i>	Explicit recognition of all ecosystem services, including the recognition of ecosystem services and natural capital as underpinning elements of human wellbeing	Dedicated instruments exist for addressing ecosystem services and natural capital in a comprehensive manner within a policy area.	The dedicated instruments and measures are implemented, with due procedures in place to support the implementation (e.g. funding), monitor their effectiveness (e.g. ex-post assessments) and adopt changes if needed (e.g. process for adaptive governance).
<i>Explicit but not comprehensive</i>	Some explicit integration (e.g. some specific ecosystem services), including some recognition of ecosystem services and natural capital as underpinning elements of human wellbeing.	Some instruments exist that proactively address / build on the understanding of ecosystem services and natural capital within the policy area.	The existing instruments and measures are implemented, with some procedures in place to support and/or monitor the implementation (as per above).
<i>Implicit and incomprehensive</i>	Implicit and indirect integration, generally focus on preventing negative impacts of a policy sector on ecosystem services and natural capital	No dedicated instruments exist for directly addressing ecosystem services and natural capital. Some aspects – mainly focusing on avoiding negative impacts on (some) ecosystem services - integrated into sectoral instruments.	The existing indirect instruments and measures are implemented, with procedures in place to support and/or monitor the implementation. The framework for implementation does not, however, explicitly or comprehensively cover ecosystem services or natural capital.
<i>No specific integration</i>	No recognition (direct / indirect) of ecosystem services and natural capital	No instruments exist that would in any way address ecosystem services and natural capital.	No implementation of any instruments or measures linked to

# Step 1: Tools for integration

Instrument category		Identified concrete instruments with relevance to ecosystem services and natural capital
<b>Information instruments</b>	<b>Data, indicators, monitoring, mapping, accounting, science-policy assessments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Databases</li> <li>Indicators</li> <li>Monitoring and mapping frameworks</li> <li>Accounting frameworks</li> <li>Science-policy assessments and science policy interfaces supporting policy development</li> </ul>
<b>Decision-support instruments</b>	<b>Planning and targeting, supported by indicators, monitoring and mapping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional management plans</li> <li>Programmes for targeting and implementing funding</li> <li>Other mechanisms supporting planning and targeting (e.g. restrictions in regulations affecting planning of infrastructure developments)</li> </ul>
	<b>Reporting, supported by indicators, monitoring and mapping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting and review frameworks for legislation</li> <li>Ex-post assessments of policy instruments and related programmes (e.g. mid-term evaluations of funds)</li> </ul>
	<b>Impact assessment procedures and risk assessment and analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact assessments (IA) underpinning the development of policies and legislation (e.g. <i>ex ante</i> assessments)</li> <li>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and related guidance</li> <li>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and related guidance</li> <li>Product life cycle assessments</li> <li>Project selection and evaluation criteria</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation instruments</b>	<b>Dedicated legislative acts, regulations &amp; standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National and regional legislation</li> <li>Criteria and standards for policy sectors</li> </ul>
	<b>Protected areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National and regional protected area networks</li> </ul>
	<b>Public investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)</li> <li>European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)</li> <li>EU Structural and Cohesion Funds (ERDF, ESF, CP)</li> <li>EU Fund for the Environment – LIFE</li> <li>National and regional funds</li> </ul>
	<b>Market-based instruments and certification</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payments for ecosystem services (PES)</li> <li>REDD+</li> <li>Offsetting schemes</li> <li>Green public procurement (GPP)</li> <li>Certification schemes</li> </ul>
	<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoted / endorsed global, regional or nation-wide practices (e.g. soil conservation)</li> </ul>

## Step 2: Identification of key policy and sectoral opportunities and needs for future integration.

Prioritising policy action for integration of ecosystem services and natural capital in the context of different policies consist of the following:

- Identifying key **win-wins** for ecosystem services integration and delivery of sectoral objectives within sectors
- Identifying key **win-wins** for ecosystem services integration and delivery of sectoral objectives between sectors
- Identifying key **trade-offs** between policy sectors required to be addressed
- Identifying key **bottlenecks** for development within or across policy sector
- Identifying **windows of opportunity** (e.g. upcoming policy reforms) and linking these to possible sources to finance uptake.

# Step 2: Criteria for Assessing Opportunities

- ✓ **Impact:** which win-wins (within or between policy sectors) are likely to provide the largest positive impact, both in terms of conservation and socio-economic benefits?
- ✓ **Urgency:** which trade-offs are causing or will cause the considerable impact?
- ✓ **Feasibility:** which win-wins or trade-off are likely to be feasible to address (political and stakeholder support)?
- ✓ **Opportunity:** which policy sectors have clear windows of opportunity for change?
- ✓ **Engagement:** which policy sectors include stakeholders that have good capacity to support a change?
- ✓ **Assets:** which policy sectors have the most concrete opportunities for benefiting from the existing and/or improved natural capital assets (e.g. networks of protected areas)?
- ✓ **Knowledge:** which policy sectors and/or instruments have the level of knowledge available for robust policies and instruments?

**POLICY TRIGGER**



**POLICY AREAS**



**INSTRUMENTS:  
Implementation**



**INSTRUMENTS:  
Policy / decision  
support**



**INSTRUMENTS:  
Information**



**POLICY TRIGGER**





## **Step 3:** Using the green economy framework as a strategic and holistic platform for planning take up and implementation.

### **Mapping 'green' transition paths for key policy sectors**

The development of these pathways involves establishment of the following:

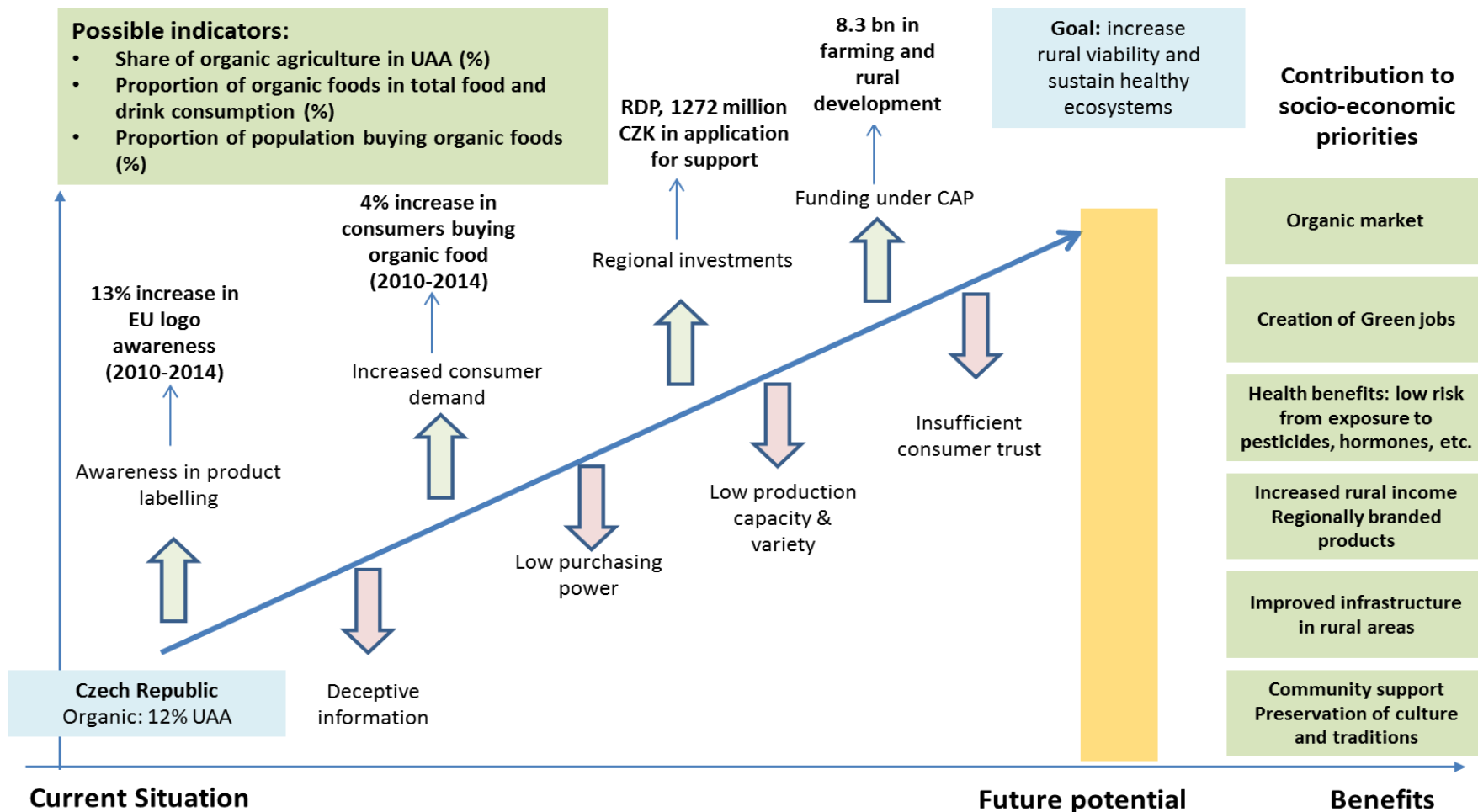
**State-of-play:** sectors current level of sustainability (e.g. contribution to the conservation of ecosystems) and key identified assets supporting transition

- ✓ **Future goal:** objective for the greening of the sector or the new green sector
- ✓ **Future benefits:** foreseen contributions to different socio-economic priorities identified at national, regional and/or local scale (e.g. sectoral growth objectives, job creation, avoided risks and cost) and what is known about the scale of these benefits
- ✓ **Drivers for change:** which drivers can be identified that now or in the future can support a shift towards green economy within the sector?
- ✓ **Barriers to progress:** which barriers can be identified hindering the change (e.g. lack of funding, lack of capacity, social barriers / norms)
- ✓ **Indicators of change:** indicators for assessing the progress toward greening within the sector

# Illustrative pathways for different sectors: Agro-Ecology

## Policy sector: agriculture → towards agro-ecology based agriculture

Example country: Czech Republic



What do you see as key drivers to realise opportunities?

# Policy sector: climate → towards nature-based climate adaptation

Example country: Portugal

## Possible indicators:

- Portugal 2020 budget for adaptation (€)
- Share of green infrastructure in total area (%)
- Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) ranking (No)

404 million Euros available to “promote climate change adaptation and risk prevention and management” under Portugal 2020 strategy

**Goal:** Adapt to climate change through the protection of natural resources

## Contribution to socio-economic priorities

Alleviation of climate change costs; economic viability of vulnerable sectors (e.g. tourism, fisheries)

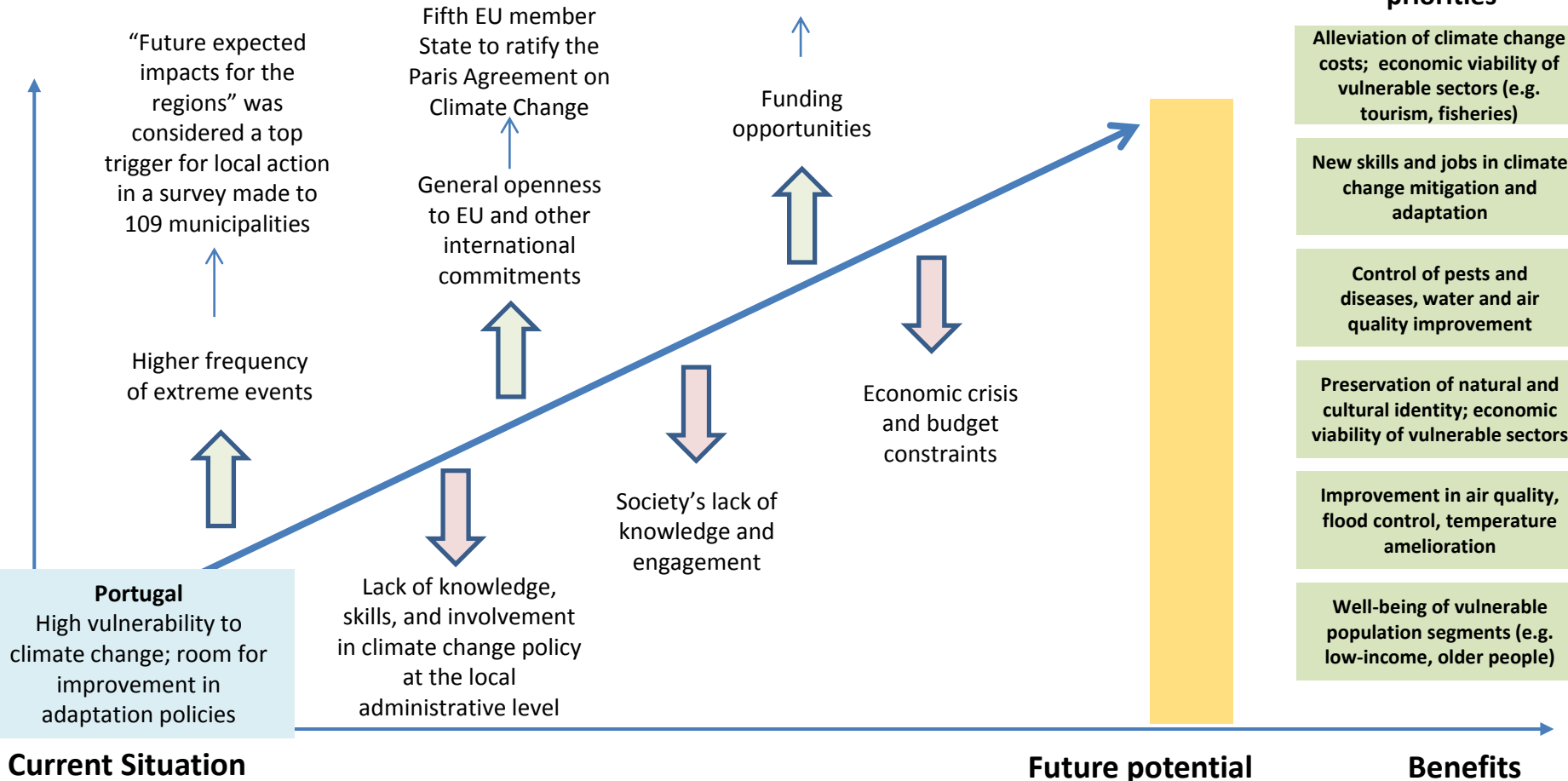
New skills and jobs in climate change mitigation and adaptation

Control of pests and diseases, water and air quality improvement

Preservation of natural and cultural identity; economic viability of vulnerable sectors

Improvement in air quality, flood control, temperature amelioration

Well-being of vulnerable population segments (e.g. low-income, older people)



Current Situation

Future potential

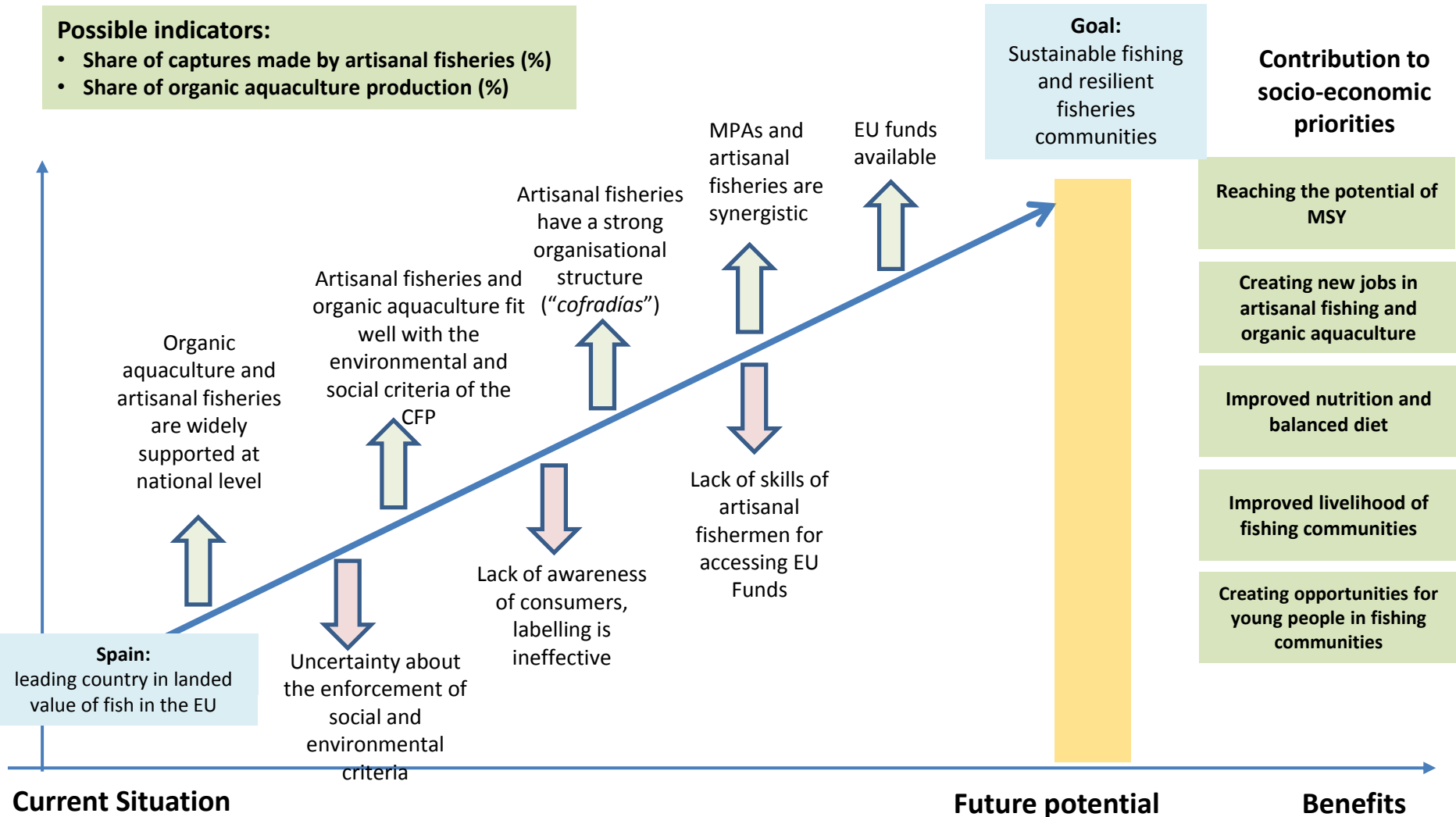
Benefits

# Policy sector: fisheries → towards sustainable fisheries

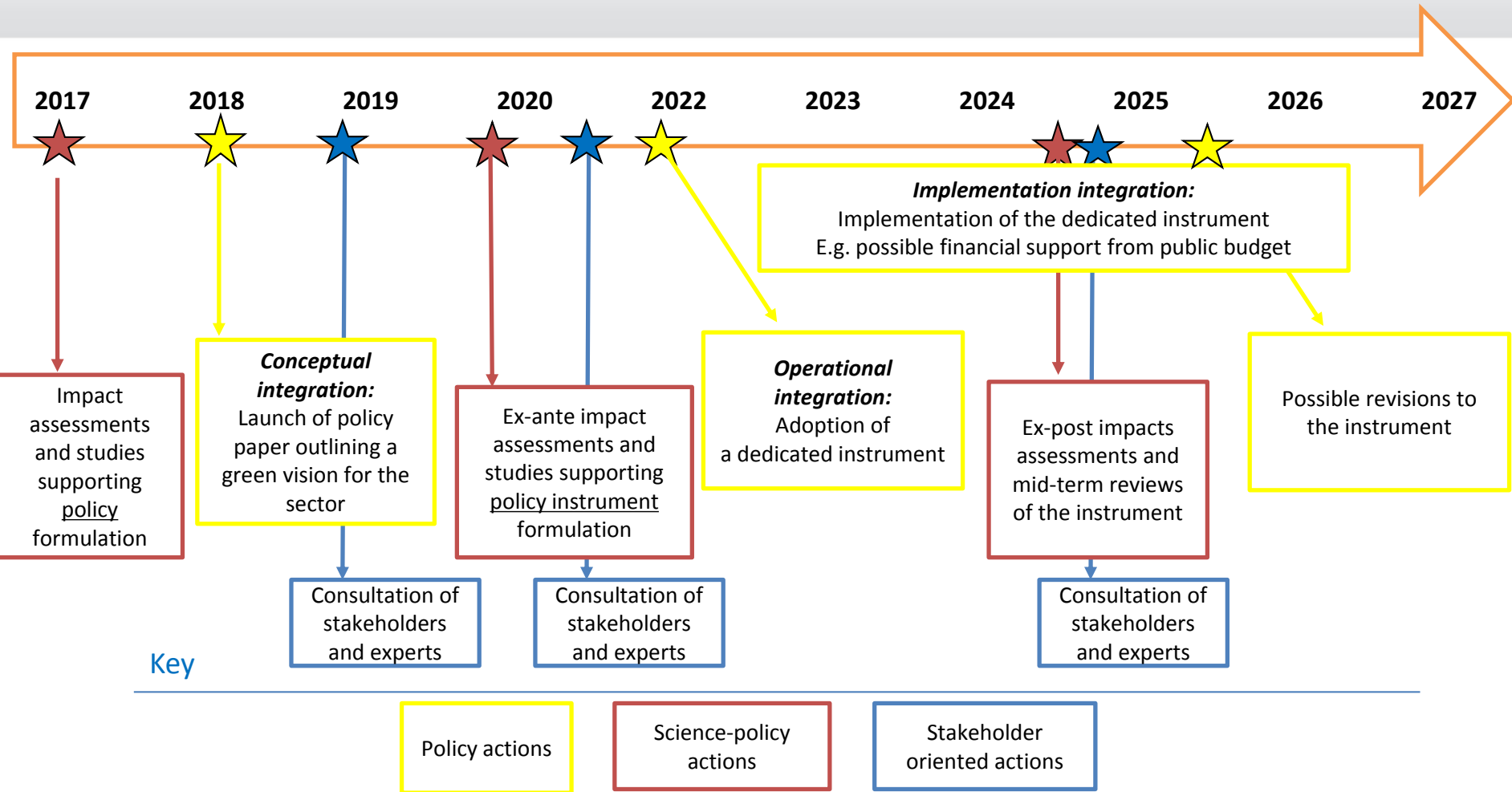
Example country: Spain

## Possible indicators:

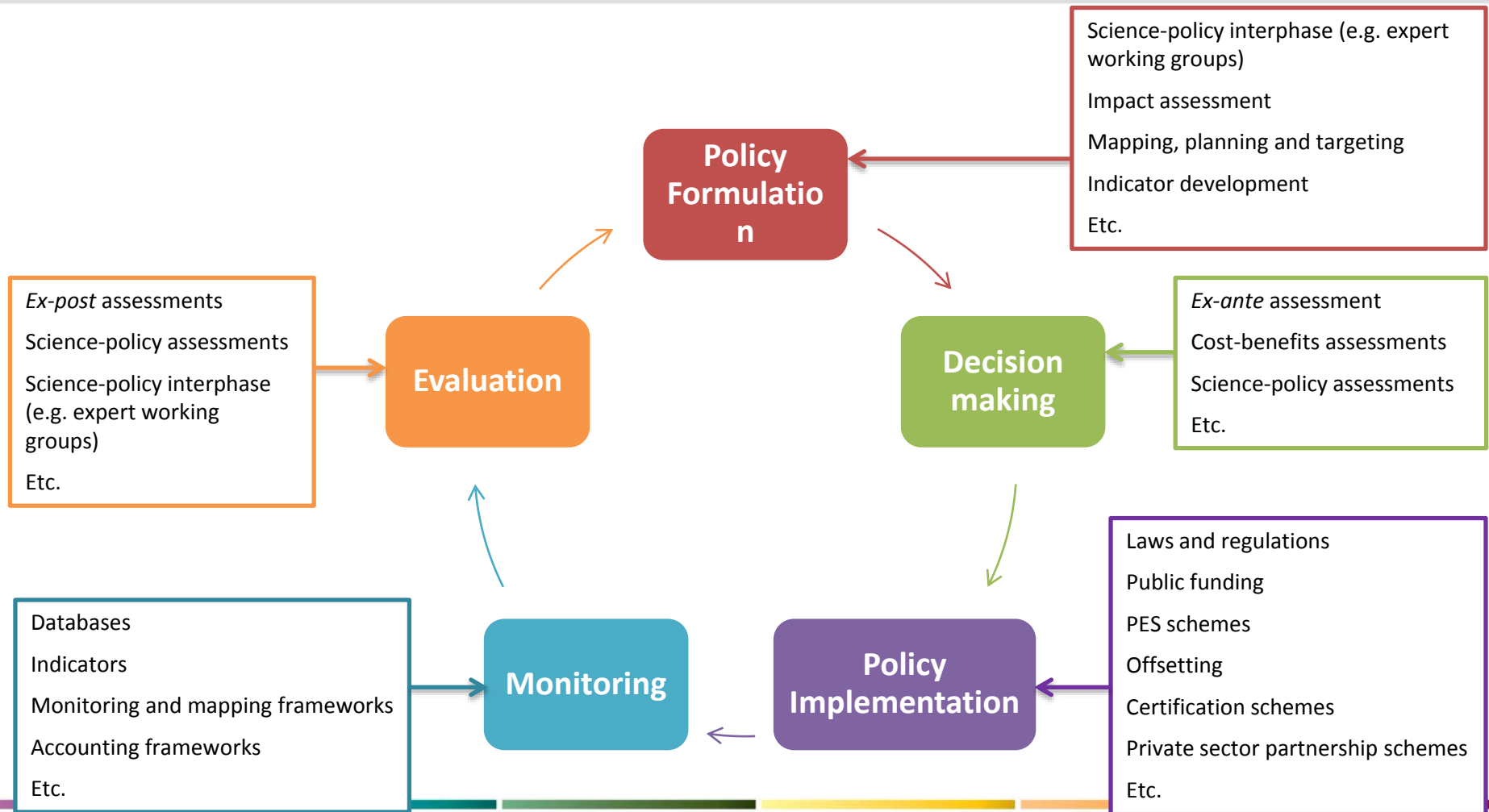
- Share of captures made by artisanal fisheries (%)
- Share of organic aquaculture production (%)



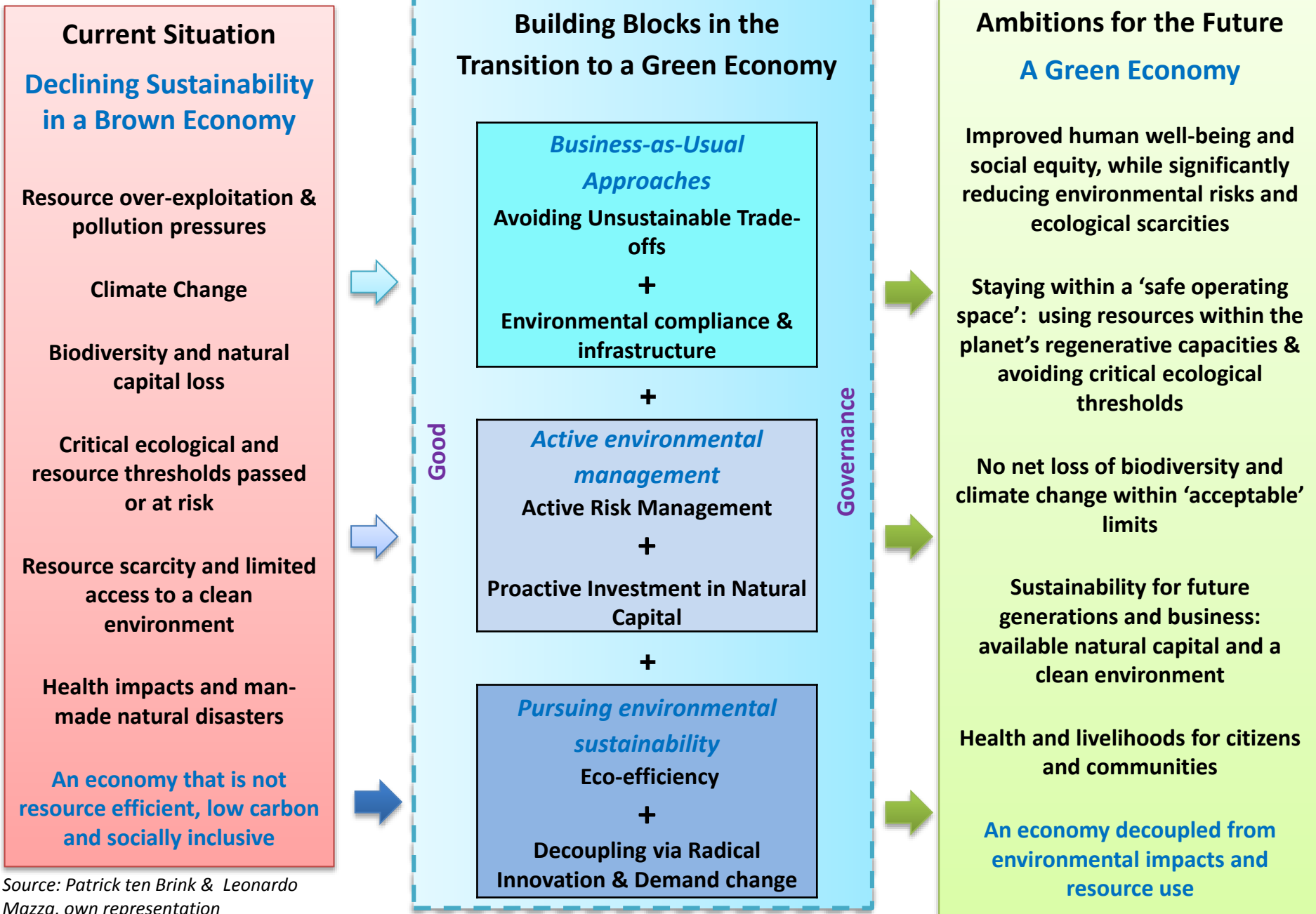
# Developing sector-specific plans for 'green' transition



# Integration instruments in the context of sectoral policy cycle



# Developing a strategic plan for a shift towards green economy



Source: Patrick ten Brink & Leonardo Mazza, own representation

# Assessment of current level of integration in Scotland

	Environment: Air	Environment: Soil	Environment: Water	Agriculture & Rural Dvpt	Forest	Marine/coastal environment, fisheries	Climate	Bioenergy
Conceptual integration	+	=	-	=	=	=	=	-
Operational integration	+	+	=	+	+	+	+	+

## Overall level of ES/NC integration

	Explicit and comprehensive
	Explicit but incomprehensive
	Implicit and incomprehensive
	Policy sector in transition
	Policy area with subsectors displaying uneven levels of ES/NC integration

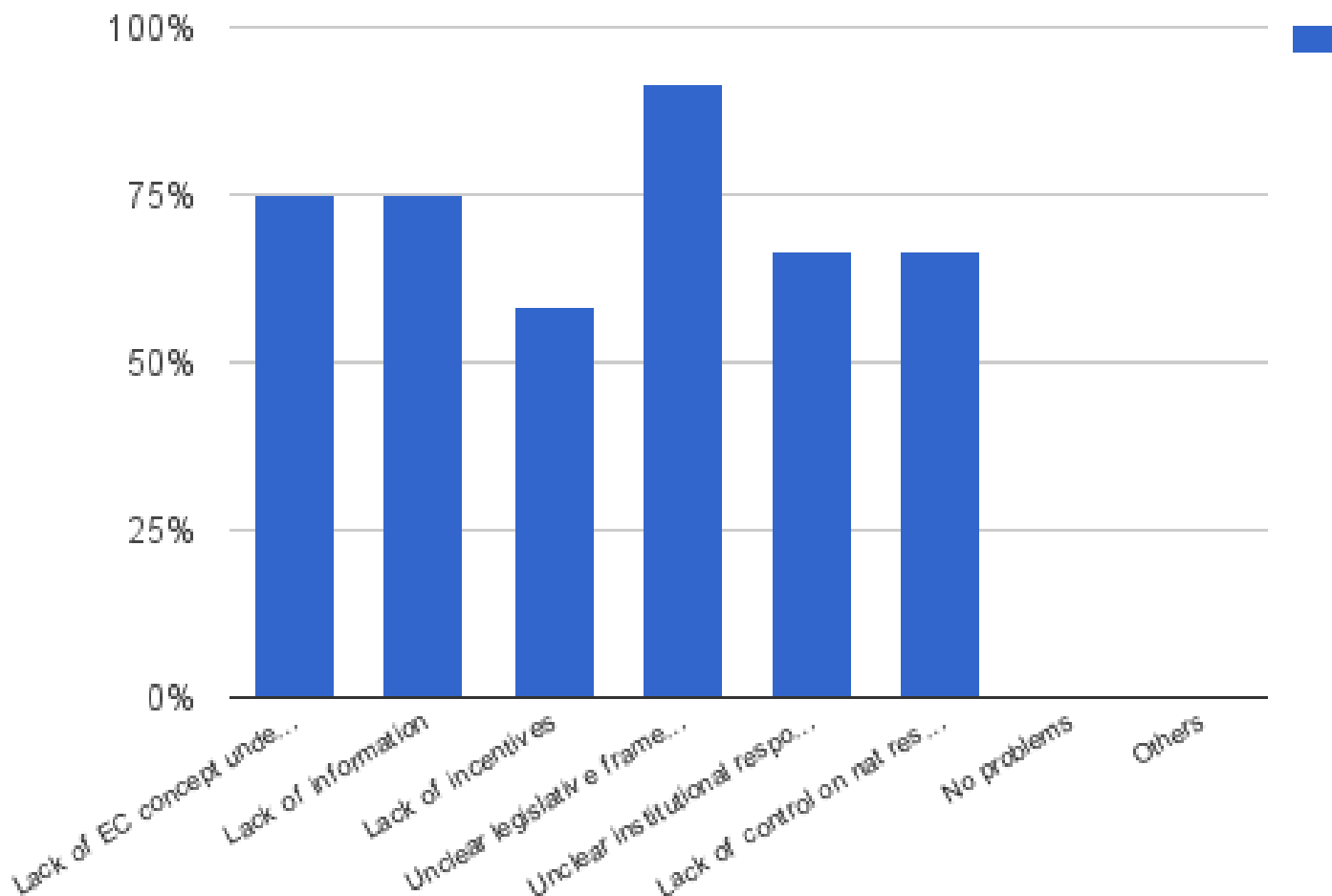
## Comparison with EU policy

+	Integration in Scottish policy superior to what has been observed for the EU
=	Integration in Scottish policy roughly equivalent to what has been observed for the EU
-	Integration in Scottish policy inferior to what has been observed for the EU



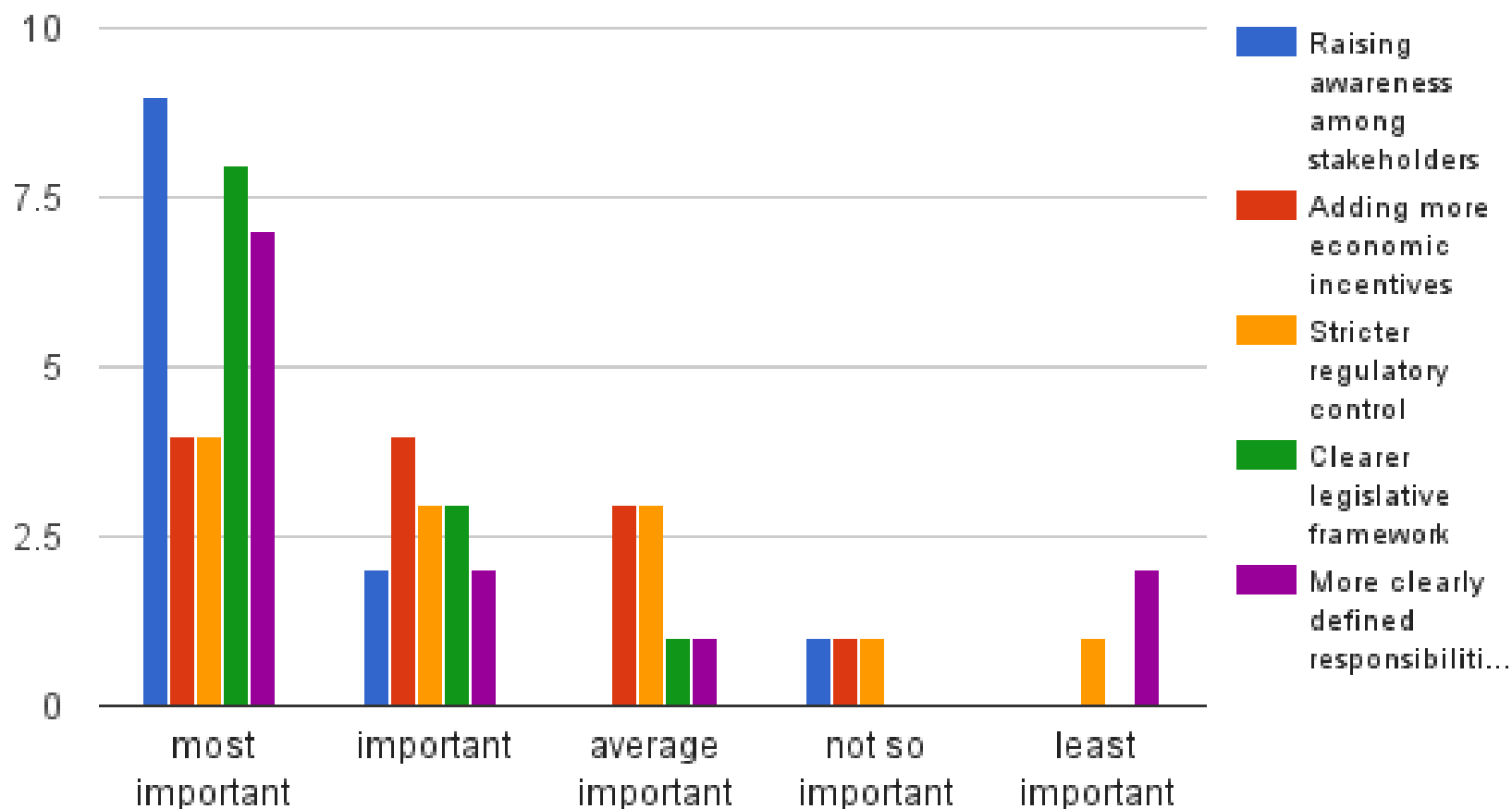
# Assessment of the current level of integration in the Lower Danube Basin

**What are the major problems for the integration and application of ES?**



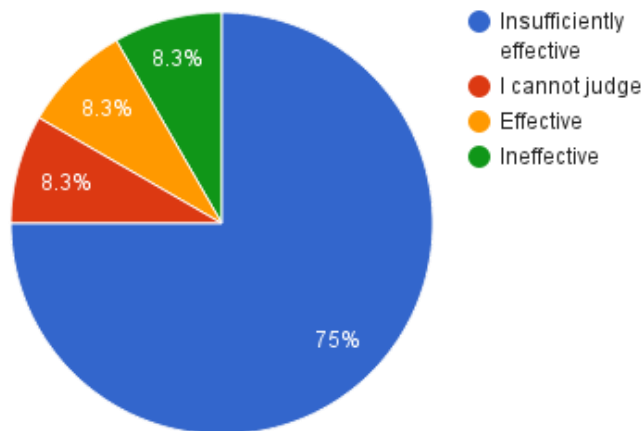
# Assessment of the current level of integration in the Lower Danube Basin

## Measures for successful integration of ES

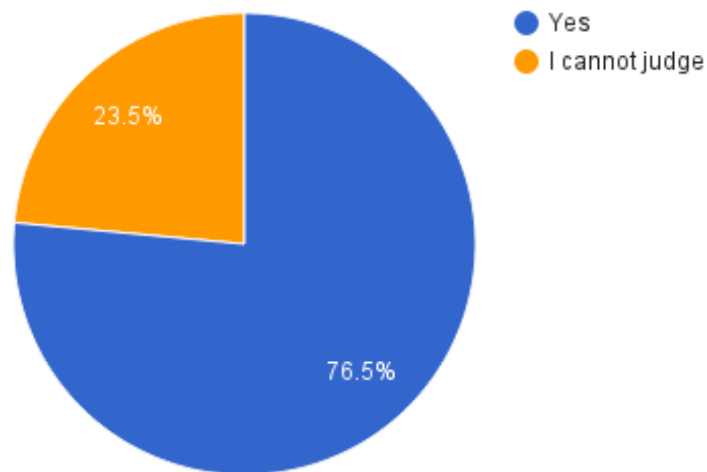


# Assessment of the current level of integration in the Lower Danube Basin

Count of How do you judge the effectiveness of policies for integration of water ES?



Do you think the knowledge of ES can be applied in practice in your work?



# Way Forward

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## Within OPERAs

**Deliverable delivered!** - D4.2 Lessons learned and recommendations for integrating ecosystem services into policy instruments - Kettunen, M., ten Brink, P., Mutafoğlu, K., Schweitzer, J.-P. and Pantzar, M. Claret, C. & Metzger, M. Pavlova, D. May 2017

[Link to OPPLA!](#)

## Beyond OPERAs

- Disseminate
- Use in integration work!
- See if countries and regions start to apply too, to support 2020 target date!

[www.operas-project.eu](http://www.operas-project.eu) • [info@operas-project.eu](mailto:info@operas-project.eu)



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