

Getting to the heart of the science-practice collaboration

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The Challenge of Separate Issue Domains

Issue:

Arctic Science

Local
Management of Arctic
Challenges

Framing:

Global /regional changes and impacts

Local hazards, resources, development needs, livelihood, survival ...

Participants:

Experts in oceans, cryosphere, climate modeling, ecology etc.

Planners, permitting officers, emergency managers, developers, Natives, others

Understanding:

Large-scale dynamics of earth system interactions

Local impacts, opportunities, constraints, specifics, how-to's ...

Solutions:

Emission reductions
Various general adaptation ideas

Land use regulations, planning, protection, insurance, emergency management, etc.

Goals:

Better understanding, projections

Development, publ. safety, env. protection

Capacity:

Scientific-technical, modeling

Political, social, legal, managerial

Connecting Different Issue Domains

■ SALIENCE

- Regional specificity, higher resolution
- Issue linkages
- Timing
- Format

■ CREDIBILITY and TRUST

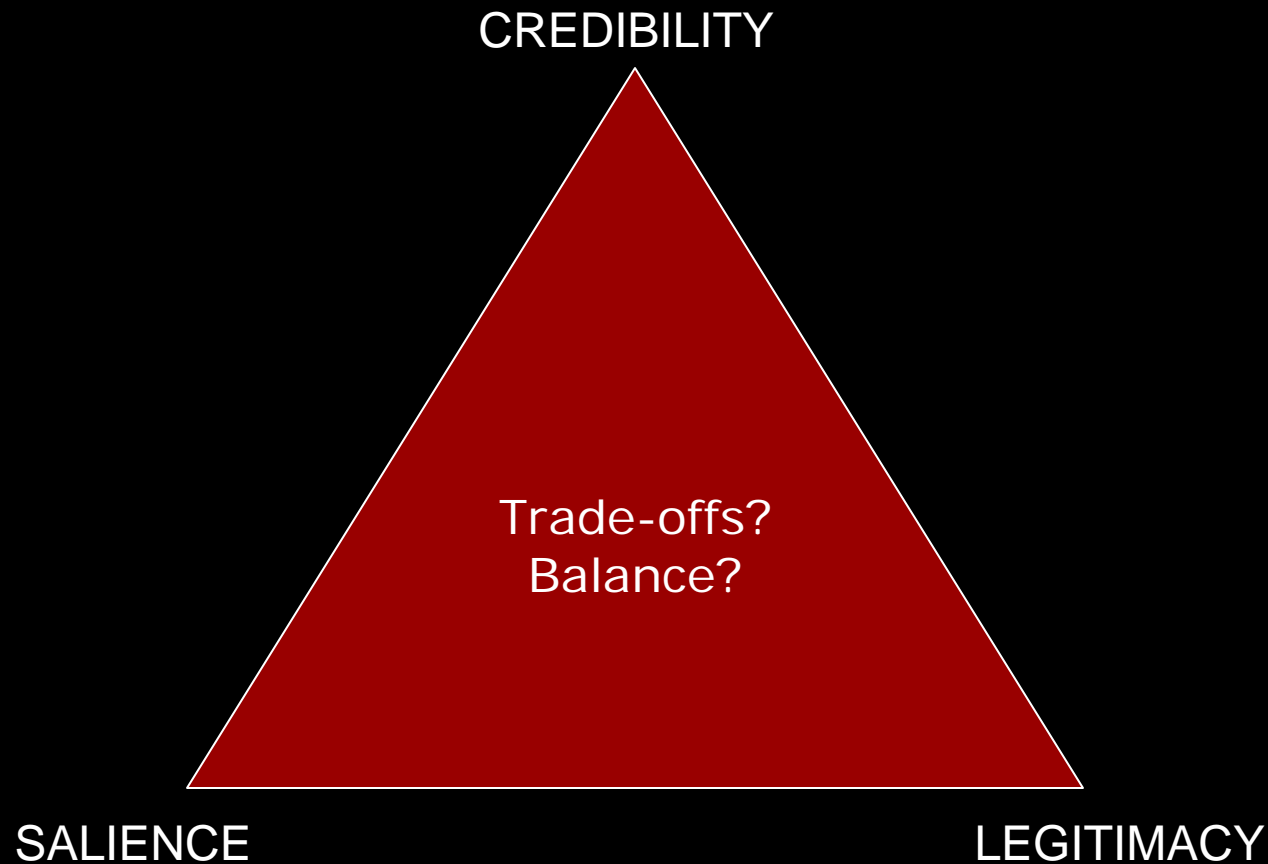
- Whose experts? Whose knowledge?
- Interaction among experts
- Transparency of scientific process
- The art of balancing the desirable with the possible

■ LEGITIMACY

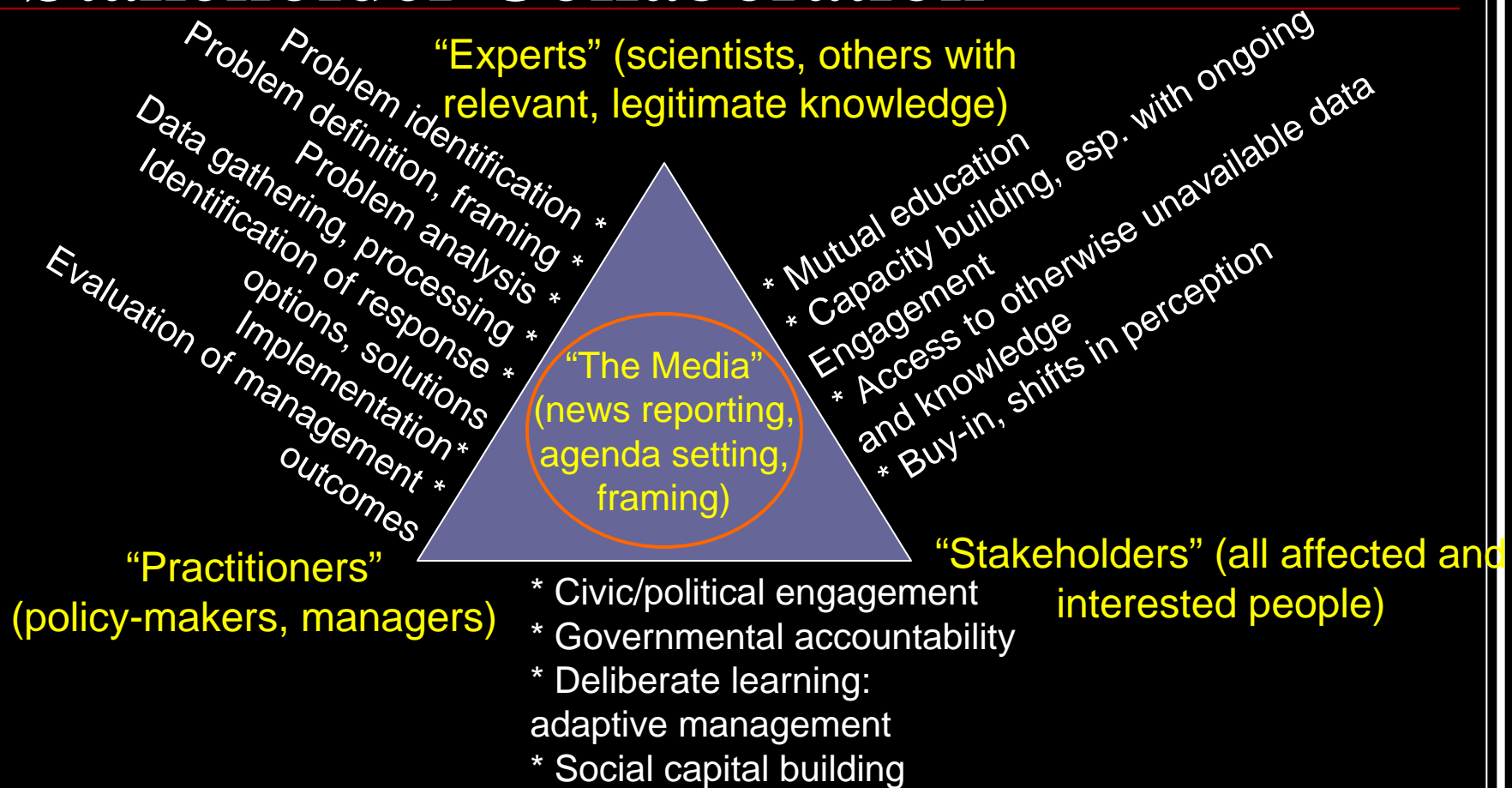
- Account for local concerns, values, needs, interests
- Clarity of rules, procedures
- Involvement in information-decision support process



A Challenging Balance in a World of Limited Resources and Time



The Benefits of Scientist–Practitioner–Stakeholder Collaboration



Key Lessons

- **Build trustful relationships**
 - Takes time, patience, resources
 - Non-condescending, respectful attitude
 - Make commitment, fulfill realistic promises, remain credible
 - Involve people with communication, leadership, facilitation skills
- **Make it matter**
 - Connect global to local issues of concern
 - Speak in common language
 - Aim to be relevant to the decisions people make, be mindful of opportunities, barriers, timing
- **Build the circle**
 - To start: involve those with high skill and motivation, build capacity, enable effective participation
 - To continue: be inclusive, broaden the circle, engage all relevant players
 - To succeed: be transparent, focus on process and product, deliver