Learning conference Trinidad and Tobago
Policy and institutional coherence: what does it take?

Veronique Verbruggen, Sr. Inter-regional adviser on Governance and Public administration institution building/ reform/ Capacity Development Unit

Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Sustainable Development Goals Principles

Universality	Inclusiveness	Integration
all countries are concerned by and responsible for, sustainability;	of all people as stakeholders and actors with interests and roles in sustainable prosperity	marking the indivisible bonds of the three dimensions of sustainability (social, economic and environmental)

SDGs as a network of interconnections:
not much happens without having an impact
on something else

Policy coherence

- Increasing synergies between policies and reduce trade offs
- Ensuring logic and consistency among policies and preventing them from undermining each other

(1) systematically identify relevant linkages across the SDGs and consider those linkages in design of policies;

(2) are consistent across scales (from local to national) of implementation;

(3) involve relevant stakeholders in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

(4) provide adequate resources for implementation at all levels and at all scales.

Key interactions of SDG 2

- Agriculture, food production and consumption are strongly dependent on energy services.
- Biomass and agricultural waste are potential source of renewable energy.
- Food and Energy compete over the same resources: land and water.

synergy/ trade-off

- Agriculture is an important source of GHG emissions and contributes to climate change.
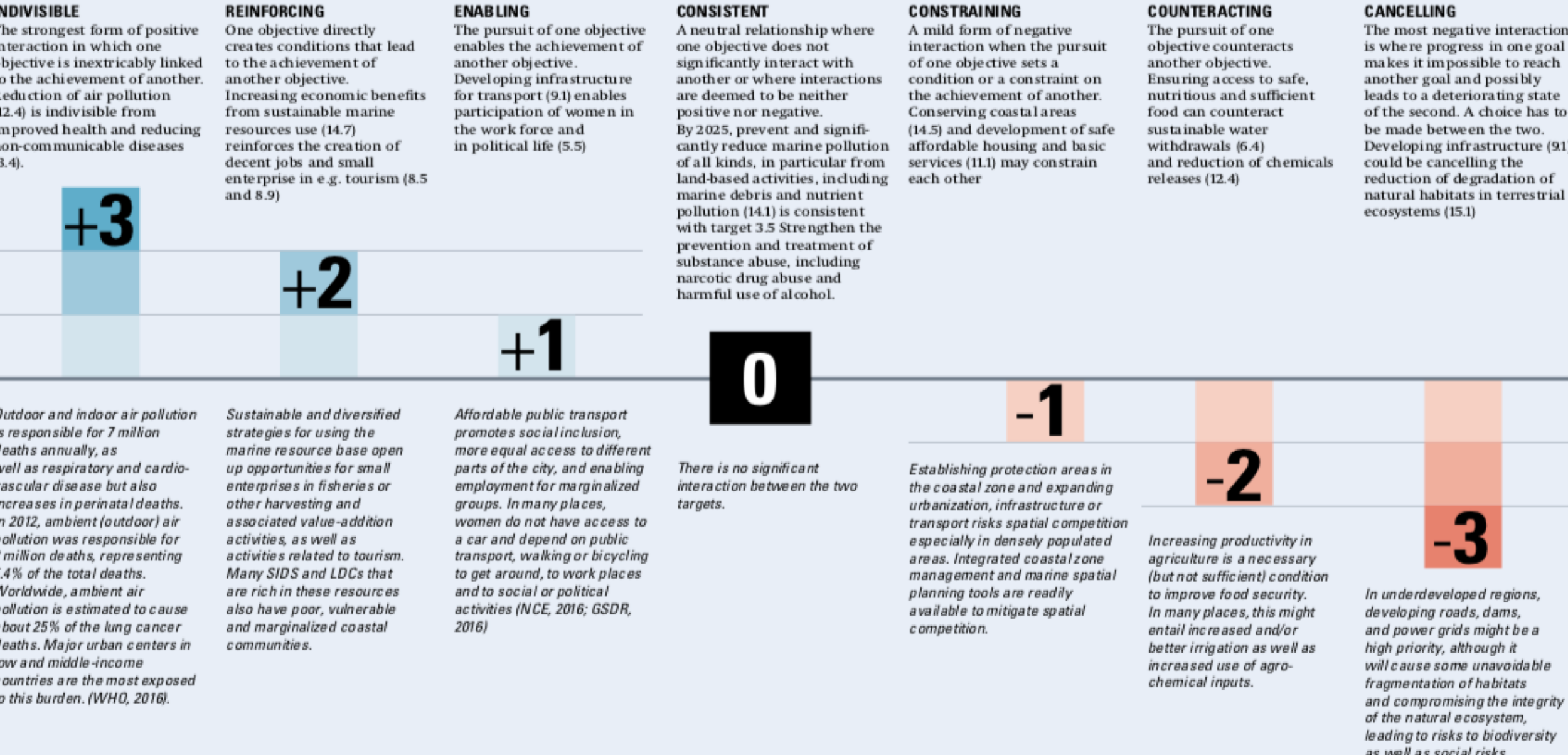- Climate change has an impact on agriculture and food security.

synergy

- Sustainable agricultural systems and practices contribute to ecosystem health.
- If agricultural production is not sustainable, it can lead to deforestation, land degradation and harm long-term food security.
- A careful balance is needed.

synergy/ trade-off

Beyond synergies and trade-offs: 7-grade scale

GOALS SCORING

INDIVISIBLE
The strongest form of positive interaction in which one objective is inextricably linked to the achievement of another. Reduction of air pollution (12.4) is indivisible from improved health and reducing non-communicable diseases (3.4).

REINFORCING
One objective directly creates conditions that lead to the achievement of another objective. Increasing economic benefits from sustainable marine resources use (14.7) reinforces the creation of decent jobs and small enterprise in e.g. tourism (8.5 and 8.9)

ENABLING
The pursuit of one objective enables the achievement of another objective. Developing infrastructure for transport (9.1) enables participation of women in the work force and in political life (5.5)

CONSISTENT
A neutral relationship where one objective does not significantly interact with another or where interactions are deemed to be neither positive nor negative. By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution (14.1) is consistent with target 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

CONSTRAINING
A mild form of negative interaction when the pursuit of one objective sets a condition or a constraint on the achievement of another. Conserving coastal areas (14.5) and development of safe affordable housing and basic services (11.1) may constrain each other

COUNTERACTING
The pursuit of one objective counteracts another objective. Ensuring access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food can counteract sustainable water withdrawals (6.4) and reduction of chemicals releases (12.4)

CANCELLING
The most negative interaction is where progress in one goal makes it impossible to reach another goal and possibly leads to a deteriorating state of the second. A choice has to be made between the two. Developing infrastructure (9.1) could be cancelling the reduction of degradation of natural habitats in terrestrial ecosystems (15.1)

+3

+2

+1

0

−1

−2

−3

Outdoor and indoor air pollution is responsible for 7 million deaths annually, as well as respiratory and cardio-vascular disease but also increases in perinatal deaths. In 2012, ambient (outdoor) air pollution was responsible for 3 million deaths, representing 5.4% of the total deaths. Worldwide, ambient air pollution is estimated to cause about 25% of the lung cancer deaths. Major urban centers in low and middle-income countries are the most exposed to this burden. (WHO, 2016).

Sustainable and diversified strategies for using the marine resource base open up opportunities for small enterprises in fisheries or other harvesting and associated value-addition activities, as well as activities related to tourism. Many SIDS and LDCs that are rich in these resources also have poor, vulnerable and marginalized coastal communities.

Affordable public transport promotes social inclusion, more equal access to different parts of the city, and enabling employment for marginalized groups. In many places, women do not have access to a car and depend on public transport, walking or bicycling to get around, to work places and to social or political activities (NCE, 2016; GSDR, 2016)

There is no significant interaction between the two targets.

Establishing protection areas in the coastal zone and expanding urbanization, infrastructure or transport risks spatial competition especially in densely populated areas. Integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning tools are readily available to mitigate spatial competition.

Increasing productivity in agriculture is a necessary (but not sufficient) condition to improve food security. In many places, this might entail increased and/or better irrigation as well as increased use of agro-chemical inputs.

In underdeveloped regions, developing roads, dams, and power grids might be a high priority, although it will cause some unavoidable fragmentation of habitats and compromising the integrity of the natural ecosystem, leading to risks to biodiversity as well as social risks.

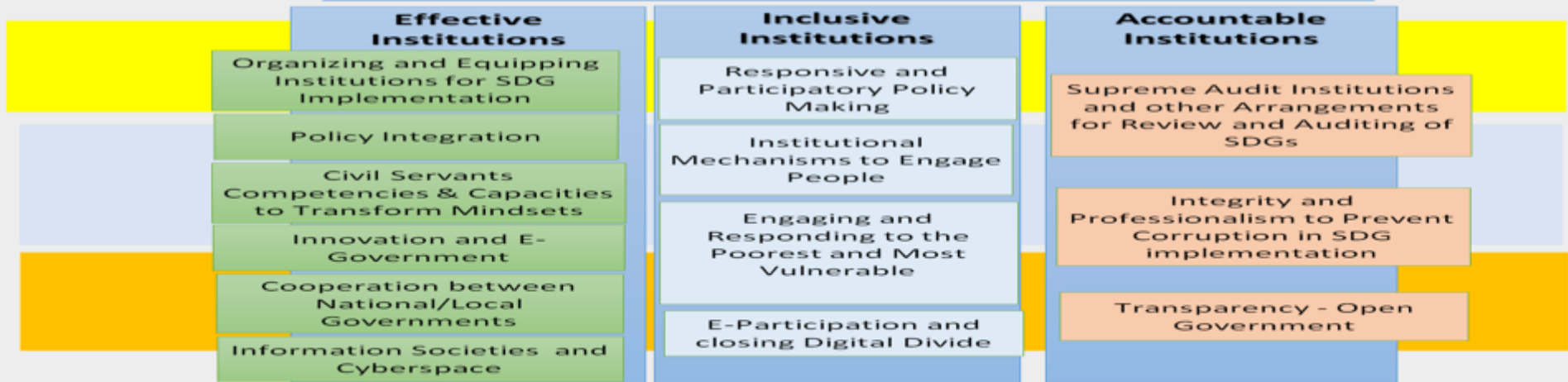# UN Public Administration Programme

Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Leave No One Behind

Transforming Institutions, policy making and service delivery for the SDGs

Effective Institutions

- Organizing and Equipping Institutions for SDG Implementation
- Policy Integration
- Civil Servants Competencies & Capacities to Transform Mindsets
- Innovation and E-Government
- Cooperation between National/Local Governments
- Information Societies and Cyberspace

Inclusive Institutions

- Responsive and Participatory Policy Making
- Institutional Mechanisms to Engage People
- Engaging and Responding to the Poorest and Most Vulnerable
- E-Participation and closing Digital Divide

Accountable Institutions

- Supreme Audit Institutions and other Arrangements for Review and Auditing of SDGs
- Integrity and Professionalism to Prevent Corruption in SDG implementation
- Transparency - Open Government

DPADM Objective
To foster effective, efficient, transparent, accountable, innovative and citizen-centred public governance, administration and services for sustainable development

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16
Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

TRG 16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	TRG 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	TRG 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	TRG 16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	TRG 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
TRG 9.C Affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020	TRG 17.14 Policy coherence for SDGs	TRG 17. 9 Effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries	Other relevant SDGs and Targets	

Key Activities

Committee of Experts on Public Administration

UN Public Administration Programme
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government
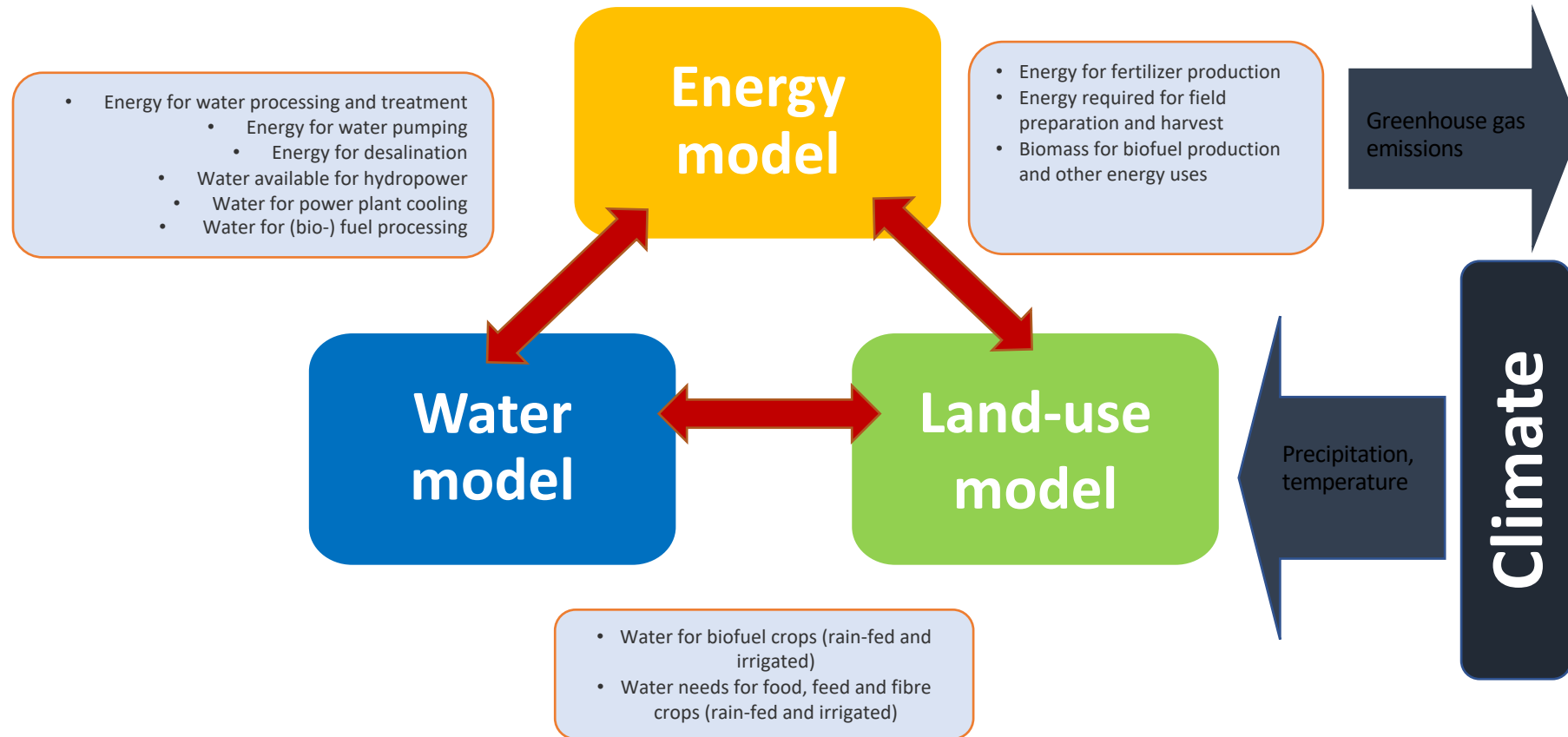UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Aspects to consider

- Indivisibility of the SDGs requires institutional (btw sectors, between national and regional/ local level) as well as policy coherence
- Leadership geared to deal with different challenges: switch between directing, coaching, supporting and delegating staff
- Strengthen skills in the field of resilience, flexibility, reflexivity
- Strengthen analytical, operational and political capacity competencies
- Inclusiveness and meaningful engagement with non-governmental partners and private sector
- Long term orientation
- Knowledge sharing
- Evidence-based orientation

- Awareness-raising, capacity development
- Involvement of ministries in the identification of substantive linkages between the SDGs and in the development of cross-sectoral policy analysis
- Development of cross-sectoral budget processes
- Development of integrated planning tools
- Incentives for ministries/staff to work across sectors
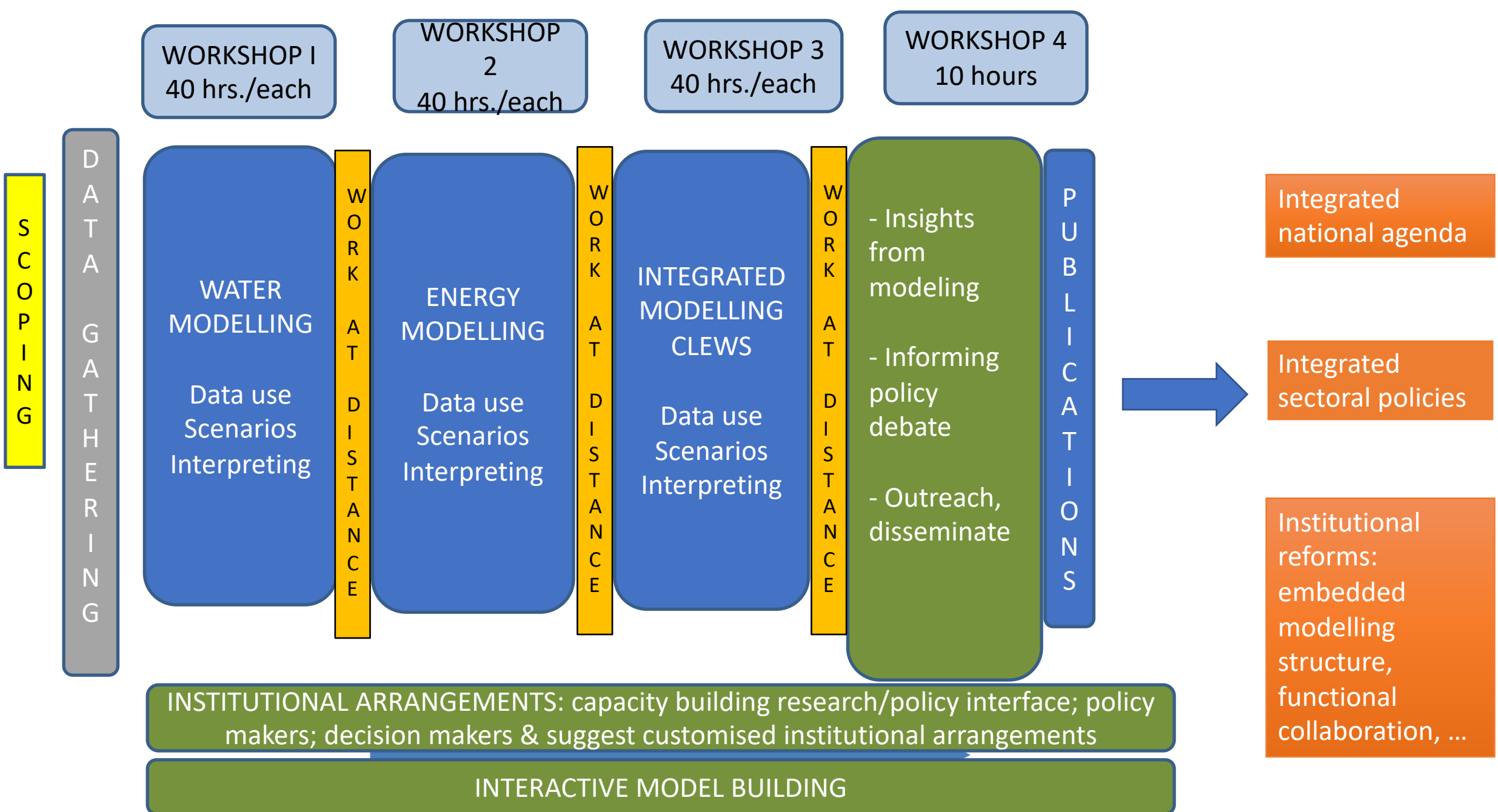- Mechanisms for science-policy interface, e.g. modelling/ scenario-planning

CLEWS
An analytical framework and model

Lessons learned and highlights for implementation

- Leadership at the highest level is required for effectiveness and clarify that SDGs is the overall policy framework and not an addition
- Weak institutions can impede coherence in implementation
- Integrated policy planning and budget processes require more attention
- Inter-ministerial arrangements do not guarantee more engagement
- More engagement does not necessarily lead to more coherence
- Power & resource imbalances among stakeholders
- Transformation of institutional architecture, mindsets and values
- Real-world policymaking comprises negotiations around competing goals/ interests: management of conflict and negotiation skills
- Need for contextualization, hence "best practices" elusive as a concept

Thank you

verbruggen2@un.org

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