Governance of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

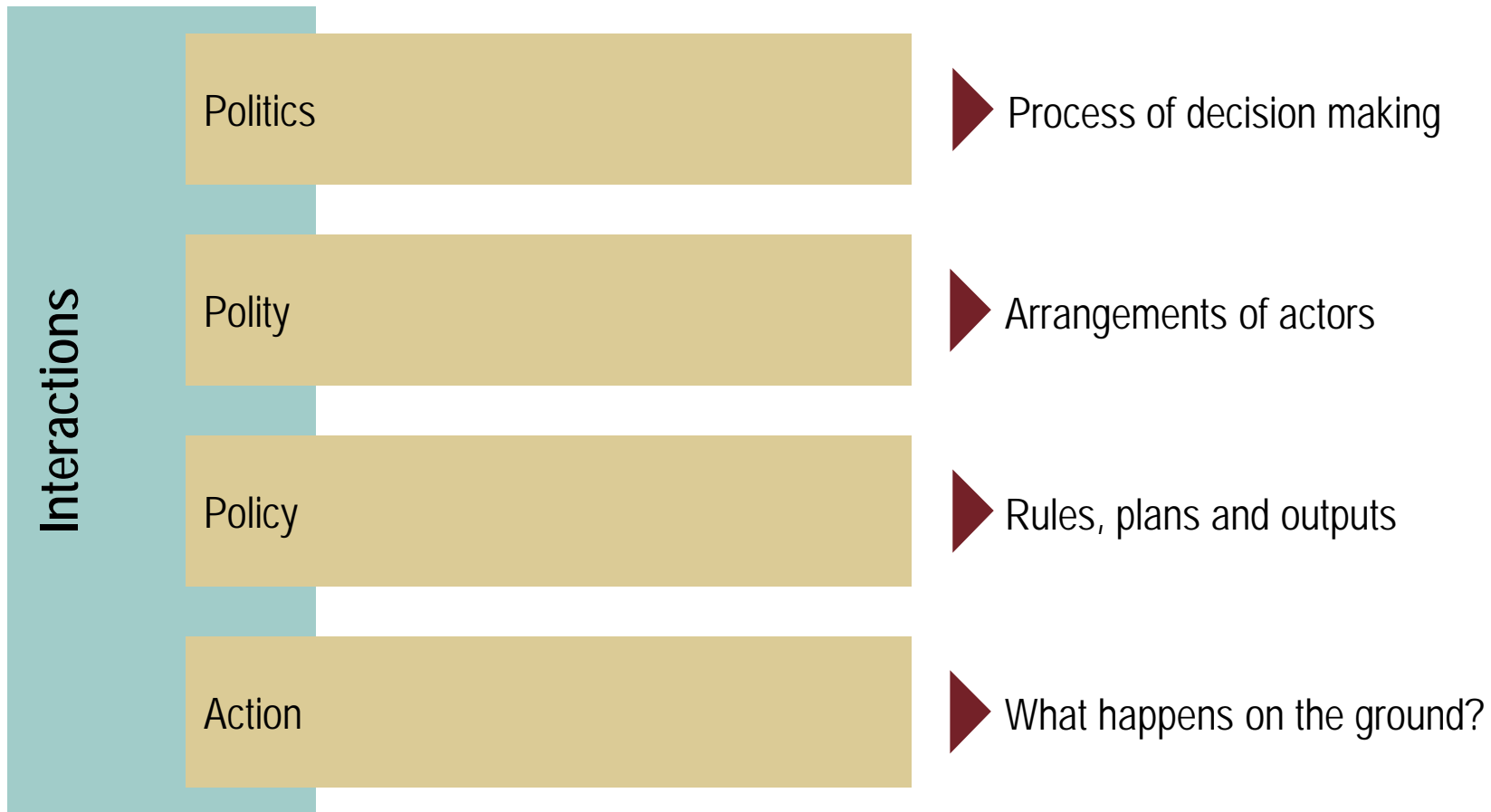Some thoughts on governance problems…

Outline

— What do we mean when we talk about governance of biodiversity and ecosystem services?

  — Policy
  — Politics
  — Polity

— The Governance Context

  — EU governance system

  — PES as a global trend

— Core challenges (in my opinion)

  — Power
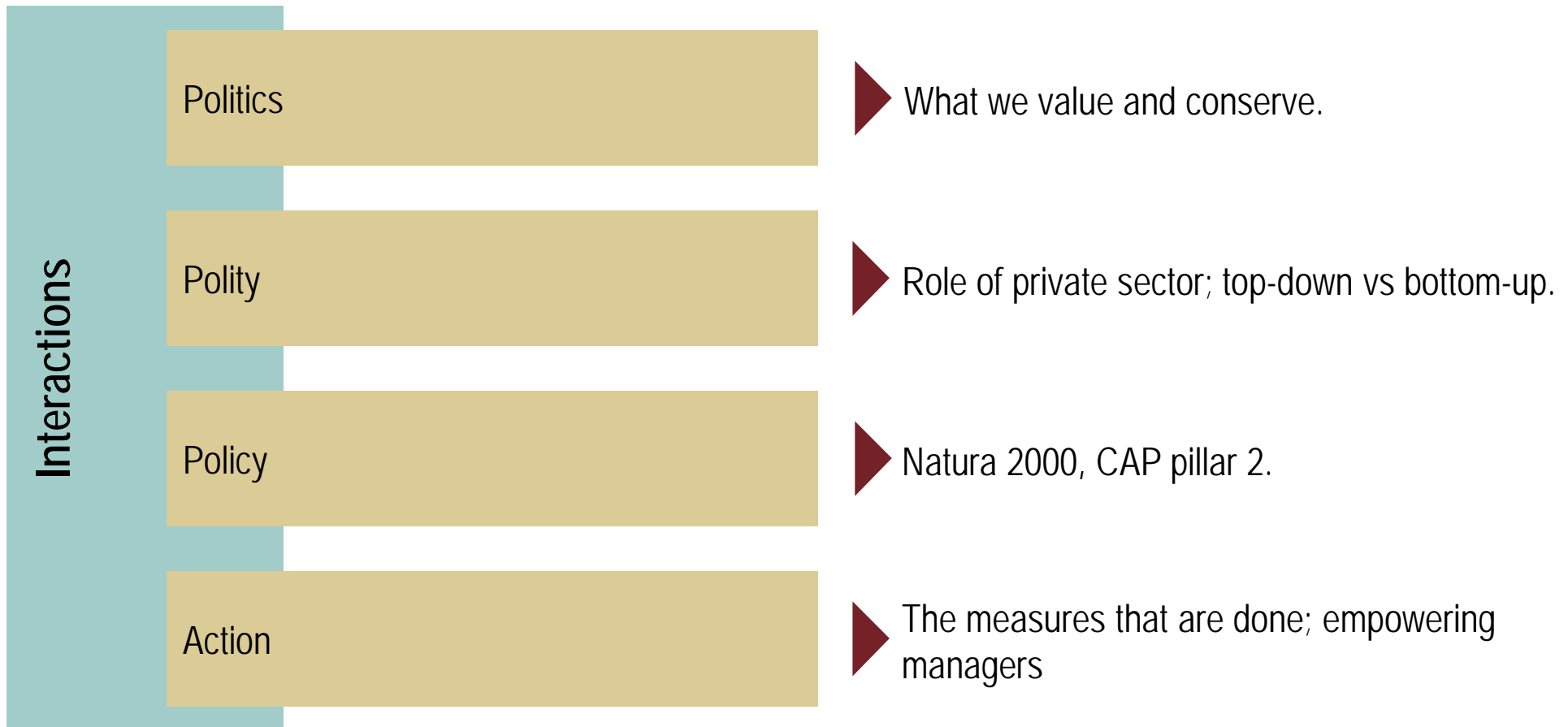 — Scale
  — Implementation and knowledge… to follow!

What do we mean by governance?

Interactions

Politics	▶ Process of decision making
Polity	▶ Arrangements of actors
Policy	▶ Rules, plans and outputs
Action	▶ What happens on the ground?

What do we mean by governance?

Interactions	Politics	What we value and conserve.
	Polity	Role of private sector; top-down vs bottom-up.
	Policy	Natura 2000, CAP pillar 2.
	Action	The measures that are done; empowering managers

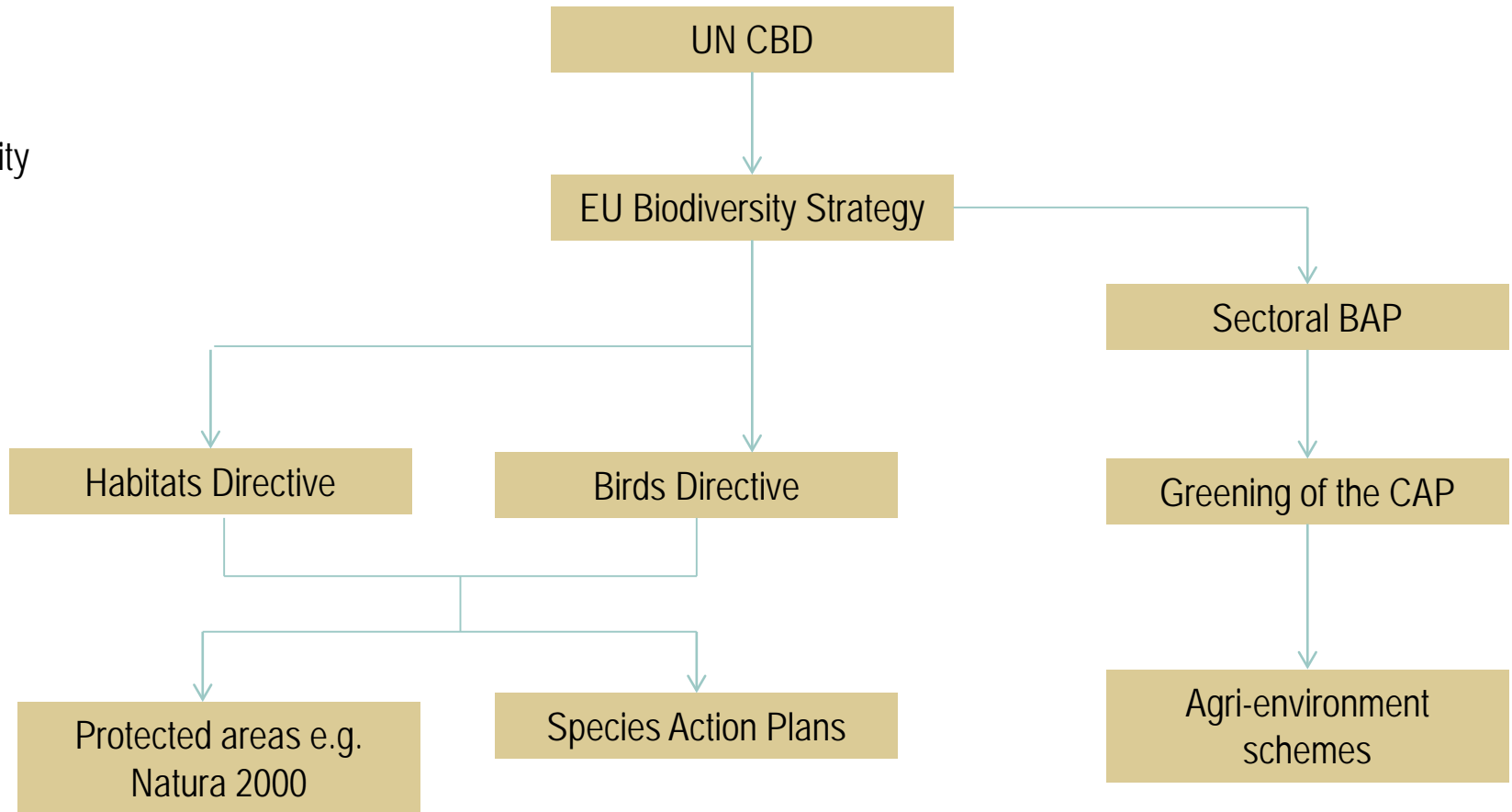# The Governance Context: EU

Multilevel governance system

Goals

Subsidiarity

Actions

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                                    UN CBD
                                       │
                                       ▼
EU Biodiversity Strategy ──────────────────────────┐
         │                                          ▼
   ┌─────┴──────────┐                          Sectoral BAP
   ▼                ▼                               │
Habitats Directive   Birds Directive               ▼
   │                │                        Greening of the CAP
   └───────┬────────┘                               │
     ┌─────┴──────┐                                 ▼
     ▼            ▼                           Agri-environment
Protected areas  Species Action Plans             schemes
e.g. Natura 2000
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The Governance Context: EU

— Common Agricultural Policy as core biodiversity policy in EU agricultural landscapes
  - Production policy
  - Gradual addition of environmental objectives, most recently 2013

— Compulsory
  - Pillar 1
  - Ecological Focus Areas

— Voluntary
  - Agri environment schemes

The Governance Context: PES

— Millennium ecosystem assessment

- A call to action
- Explicit agenda for using ecosystem services in economic decision making

— Carbon markets

- Voluntary carbon market
- REDD+

— CAP pillar 2?

— Results based payments for ecosystem services

— Private companies

The Governance Context: PES

— Millennium ecosystem assessment

- A call to action
- Explicit agenda for using ecosystem services in economic decision making

— Carbon markets

- Voluntary carbon market
- **REDD+**

— **CAP pillar 2?**

— *Results based payments for ecosystem services*

— Private companies

The Governance Context: PES Carbon Markets

The Governance Context: PES
Private Companies

Core challenges: power

— What ES do we value?

— Who pays? (and who has the ability to pay?)

— Who benefits? (and what factors prevent or facilitate this)

— Balancing diverse wishes of actors with different powers to act

Core challenges: power

Milcu, Leventon et al., 2016. Disaggregated contributions of ecosystem services to human well-being: a case study from Eastern Europe. Regional Environmental Change. DOI 10.1007/s10113-016-0926-2.
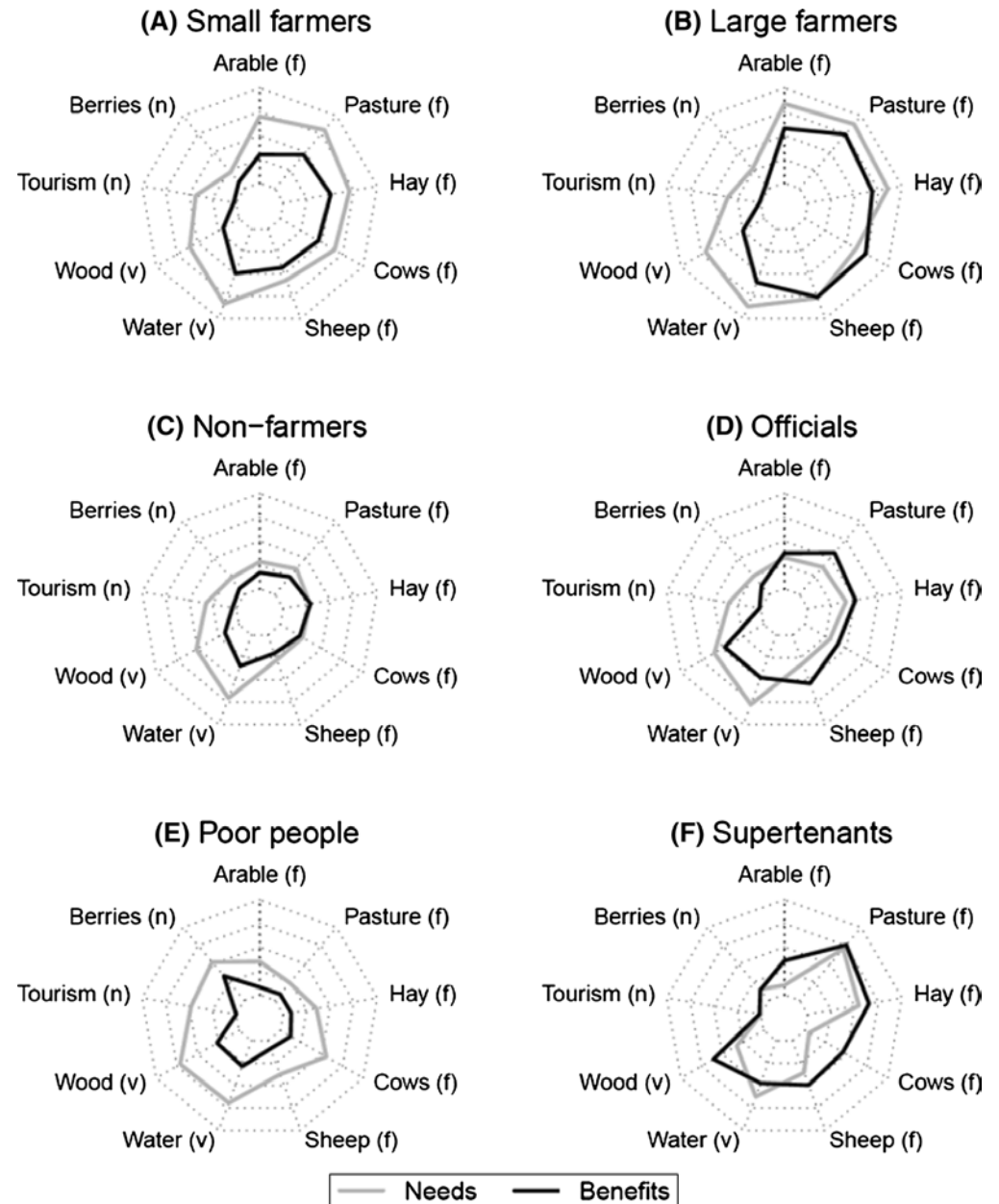
Core challenges: power

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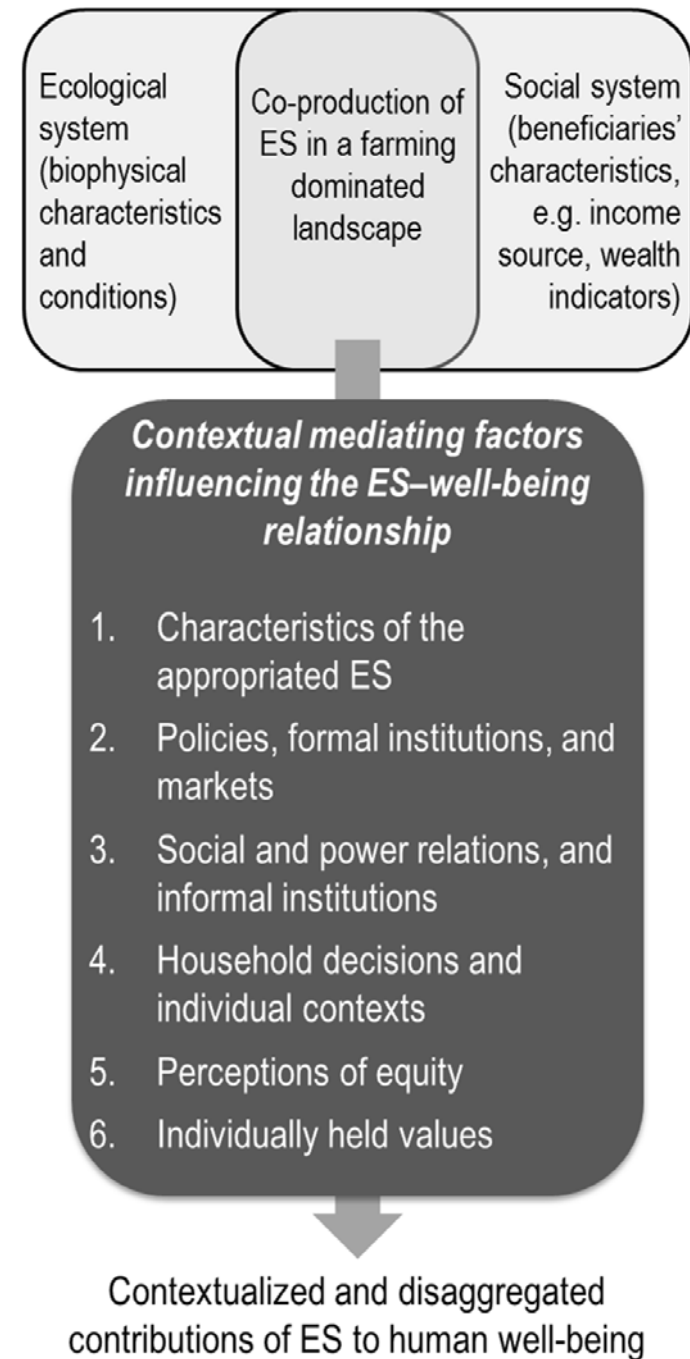
Core challenges: power

— Balancing diverse wishes of actors with different powers to act

— Who are we governing for?

— What do we want to protect?

— Politics – who's wishes?

— Polity – How does the system shape who gets a voice?

— Policy – who does the policy favour or penalise?

Core challenges: Scale

— Ecosystem scale is not the same as administrative scale.

— Time
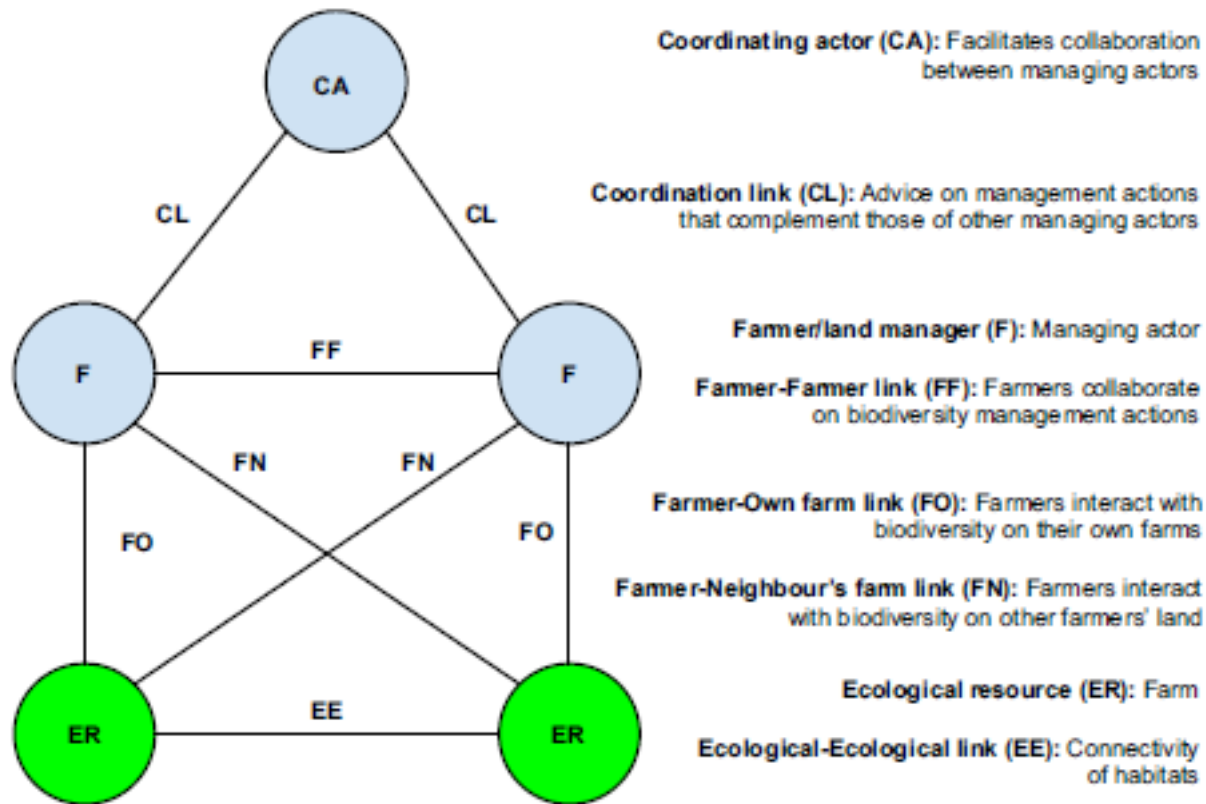 - Short-term schemes (1-2 years)
  - 10-year revisions

— Space
  - Single farms
  - Counties
  - Countries

Core challenges: Scale

Leventon, Schaal et al., 2017. Collaboration or fragmentation? Biodiversity management through the common agricultural policy. Land Use Policy 64, 1-12.

Coordinating actor (CA): Facilitates collaboration between managing actors

Coordination link (CL): Advice on management actions that complement those of other managing actors

Farmer/land manager (F): Managing actor

Farmer-Farmer link (FF): Farmers collaborate on biodiversity management actions

Farmer-Own farm link (FO): Farmers interact with biodiversity on their own farms

Farmer-Neighbour's farm link (FN): Farmers interact with biodiversity on other farmers' land

Ecological resource (ER): Farm

Ecological-Ecological link (EE): Connectivity of habitats

Core challenges: Scale

Coordination type actor (CT): Provides advice to individual farmers

Farmer-Own Farm link (FO): Farmers interact with biodiversity on their own farms

Core challenges: Scale

— Ecosystem scale is not the same as administrative scale.

— Politics – how to match administrative logic with ecosystem logic?

— Polity – how do we arrange actors around ecosystem scales?

— Policy – what do we actually ask people to do?

Summary

What do we mean by governance?	▶ Politics, polity, policy, action… and their interactions
Trends in governance	▶ The multilevel nature of EU biodiversity policy, and the global trend towards PES as a policy
Core challenges	▶ Power and scale as a result of interactions between social and physical world.

Future questions…

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