



Asia-Pacific
Water Forum

Framework Document on Water and Climate Change Adaptation

For Leaders and Policy-makers in the Asia-Pacific Region

Introducing the **Steering Group** and the **Framework Document for Leaders**

Wouter Lincklaen Arriëns
Co-Chair

Tokyo
1 October 2012



Steering Group on Water and Climate Change

- ✓ Establishment was endorsed by the Governing Council of the Asia-Pacific Water Forum in 2009

Tasked with 3 key result areas

1. Advising leaders on policies and practices
2. Guiding knowledge networking in the region
3. Reporting progress annually to the leaders in the Asia-Pacific region with recommendations for action

Steering Group Members

Scientists

Toshio Koike (Chair)

Levent Kavvas

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Jiang Tong

Harry Hendon

University of Tokyo

University of California

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National Climate Center,
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Adaptation Experts

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Sunita Nadhamuni (-2012)

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Development Experts

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JICA

JICA

ADB

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ADB

and advisers from Regional Knowledge Hubs

Knowledge



Practice



Leadership

1st Steering Group Meeting
Manila, March 2010

Asia-Pacific Water Ministers Forum
Singapore, June 2010

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5th Steering Group Meeting
Tokyo, October 2012

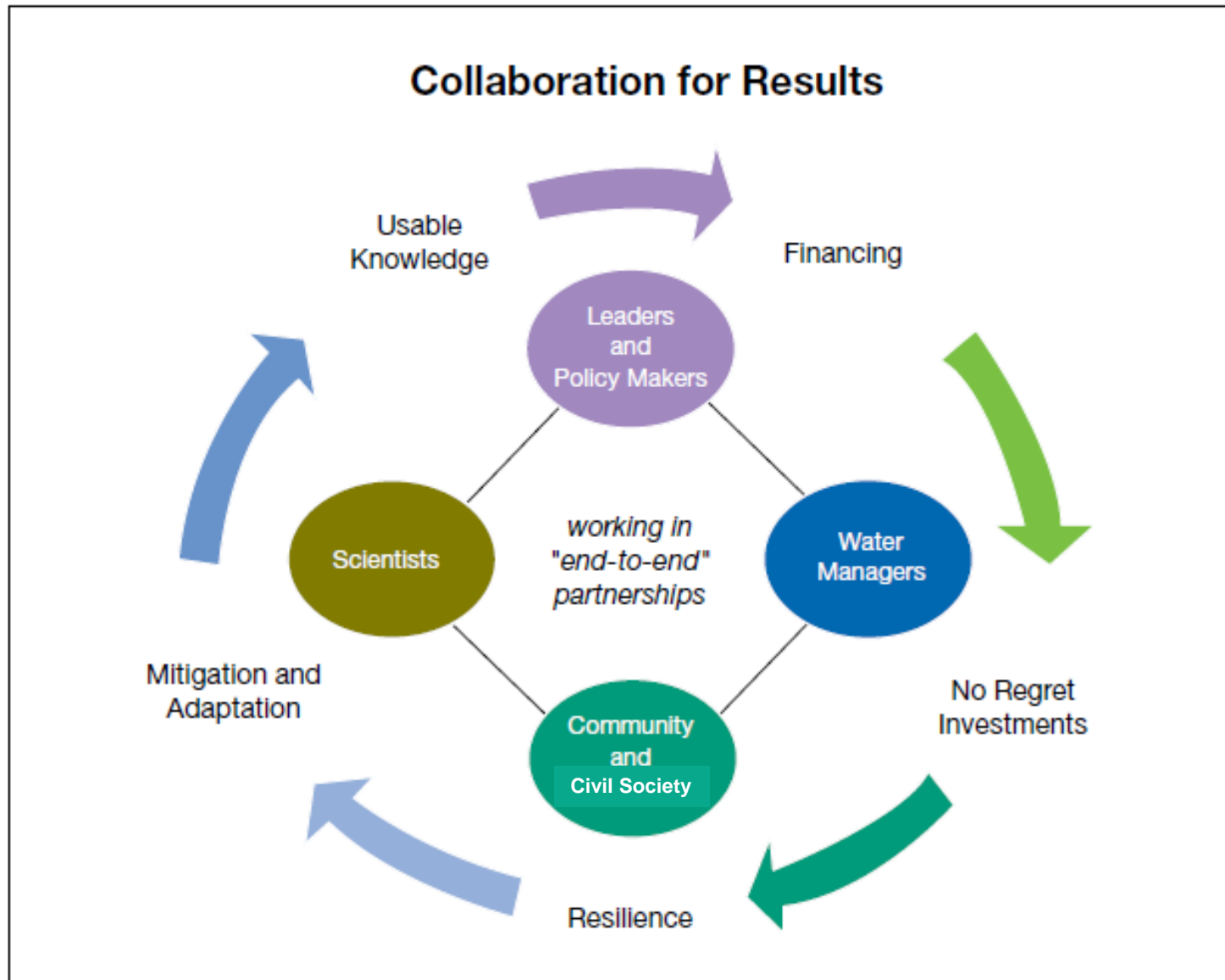


Five Principles for Leaders

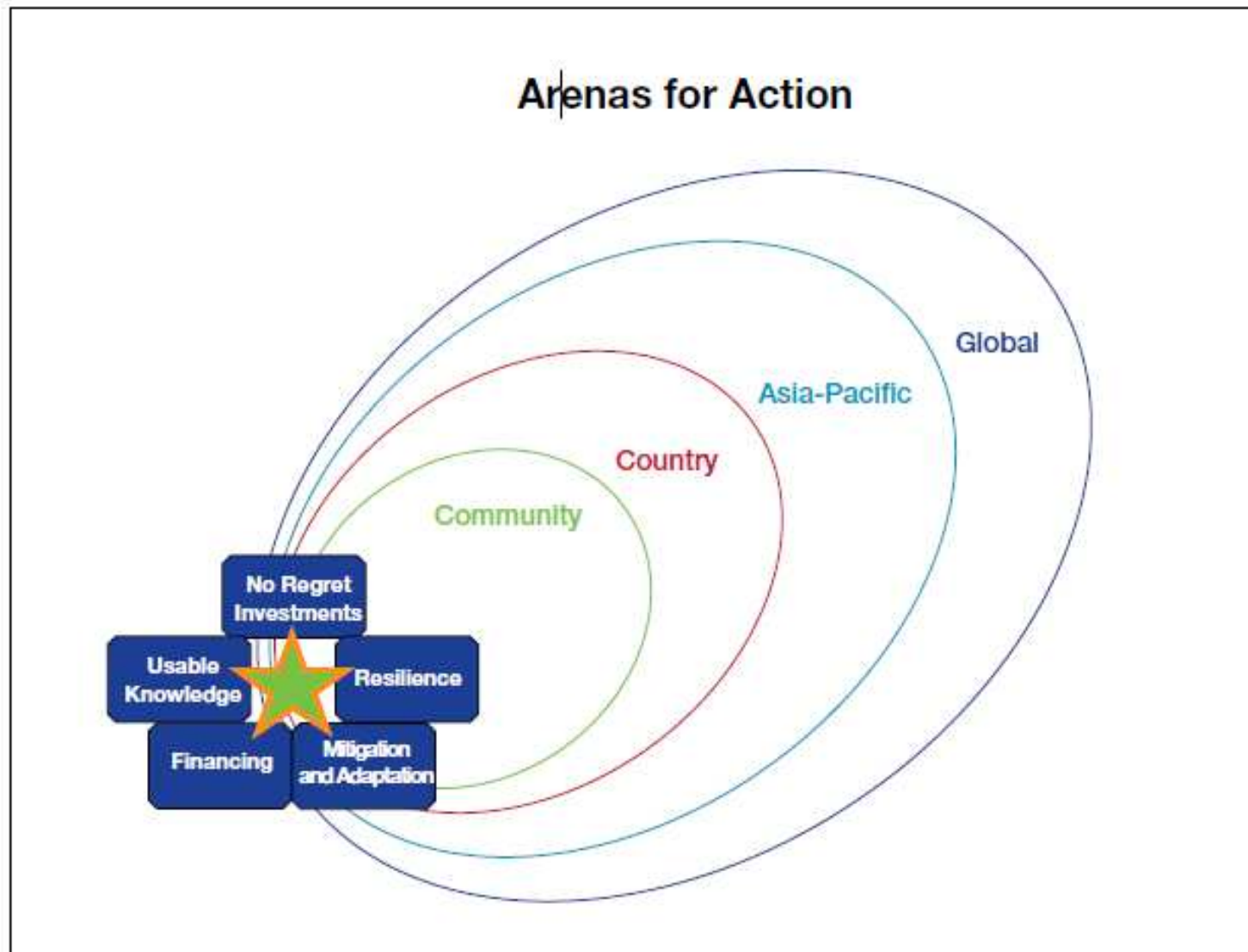


1. Usable Knowledge
2. No-regret Investments
3. Resilience
4. Mitigation and Adaptation
5. Financing

End-to-end partnerships



Apply in multiple arenas



Principle 1

Usable Knowledge

“We must support scientists and practitioners to work together and develop knowledge that leads to effective actions and increased public awareness.”

Action 1.1

Develop data infrastructure and networking for sharing data, information and knowledge to support decision-making and to raise public awareness

Action 1.2

Accelerate scientific efforts to improve the use of climate projections for countries, river basins and cities as well as to quantify and reduce the related uncertainty

Principle 2

No-regret Investments

“We must identify and implement approaches that improve water security over a wide range of potential conditions, including current climate variability.”

Action 2.1

Plan for incremental adaptation actions in tandem with improving climate projections

Action 2.2

Use an appropriate mix of structural and non-structural measures

Principle 3

Resilience

“We must build societies’ capacity to develop communities’ resilience in the face of a changing climate.”

Action 3.1

Strengthen the adaptation capacities of water managers, communities, and of society as a whole

Action 3.2

Improve community-based water risk management capacities

Principle 4

Mitigation and Adaptation

“We must adopt optimal combinations of measures.”

Action 4.1

Promote Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in river basins as the appropriate process for planning and investments

Action 4.2

Promote synergies in the planning and implementation of adaptation and mitigation measures

Principle 5

Financing

“We must increase dedicated climate financing substantially”

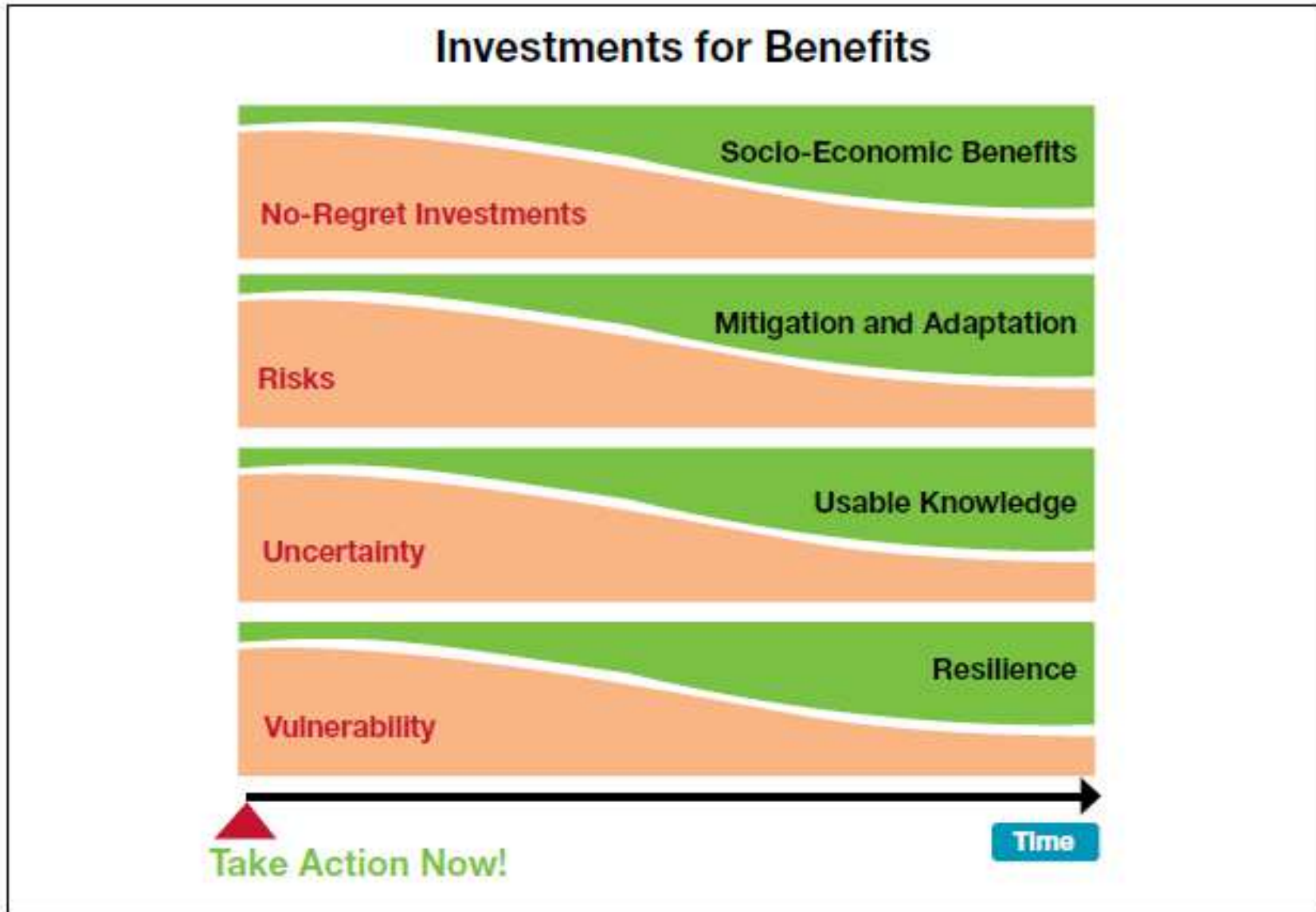
Action 5.1

Conduct economic impact assessments for various adaptation options

Action 5.2

Mobilize significant investments today (e.g., 1% of GDP) to prevent greater damages later (e.g., 5%) as advised by the Stern report

Leaders to take action now



Key Issues from the Review

1. Scope of usable knowledge is too narrow
2. Precautionary approach is also relevant
3. Resilience goes beyond extreme events
4. Top-down and bottom-up approaches required
5. Effective institutions are needed in river basins

Key Issue 1

Usable knowledge

Expand the scope of “usable knowledge” from climate projections and impact assessment to include lessons learned from monitoring trends and best practices at basin level, from local knowledge, and from new technology

Key Issue 2

Precautionary approach

Recognize the need for applying a precautionary approach for hot spot areas in the region where systemic climate changes might cause impacts beyond those associated with “climate variability” (for example in the Hindu-Kush-Himalayan region, the Sunderbans, and the Mekong delta, amongst others)

Key Issue 3

Resilience

Build resilience as society's capacity to successfully transform itself in the face of a changing climate, going beyond "bouncing back" after extreme events

Key Issue 4

Top-down and bottom-up

Promote a combination of top-down (based on projections and impact assessments) and bottom-up (based on risk management) approaches

Key Issue 5

Effective institutions in basins

Recognize the need for effective institutions and capable organizations in the IWRM process in river basins

“If we adopt the five principles, and if we can build partnerships involving the government, the private sector and the civil society, I believe that we will succeed in enhancing the water security of our region.”

Tommy Koh
Chair, Governing Council
Asia-Pacific Water Forum

Next steps

Building on the Framework Document

- Steering Group develops meta-guidelines for practitioners
- informed by a regional workshop organized jointly with AWCI - GEOSS in Tokyo in Oct 2012

Thank you for contributing to this work!