

Brückenschlag zwischen Forschung und Entwicklung

Tagung zur Transdisziplinären Nachhaltigkeitsforschung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit,
25. Februar 2014, Bonn

Bettina Wolfgramm



Suspension bridge
over the Shakh dara
river in the Tajik
Pamirs.

Photo: D. Maselli

Bridging Research and Development Introduction

A Guide for Transboundary Research Partnerships

11 Principles

- P1 Set the agenda together
- P2 Interact with stakeholders
- P3 Clarify responsibilities
- P4 Account to beneficiaries
- P5 Promote mutual learning
- P6 Enhance capacities
- P7 Share data and networks
- P8 Disseminate results
- P9 Pool profits and merits
- P10 Apply results
- P11 Secure outcomes

7 Questions

- Q1 Why work in partnership?
- Q2 How to ensure cohesion?
- Q3 What form of collaboration?
- Q4 Which foci and priorities?
- Q5 Who to involve?
- Q6 Where to create relevance?
- Q7 When to consolidate outcomes?

Content

Transboundary Research Partnerships

11 Principles

Main challenges

Steps to application

7 Questions

Stumbling blocks

Main debates

Examples

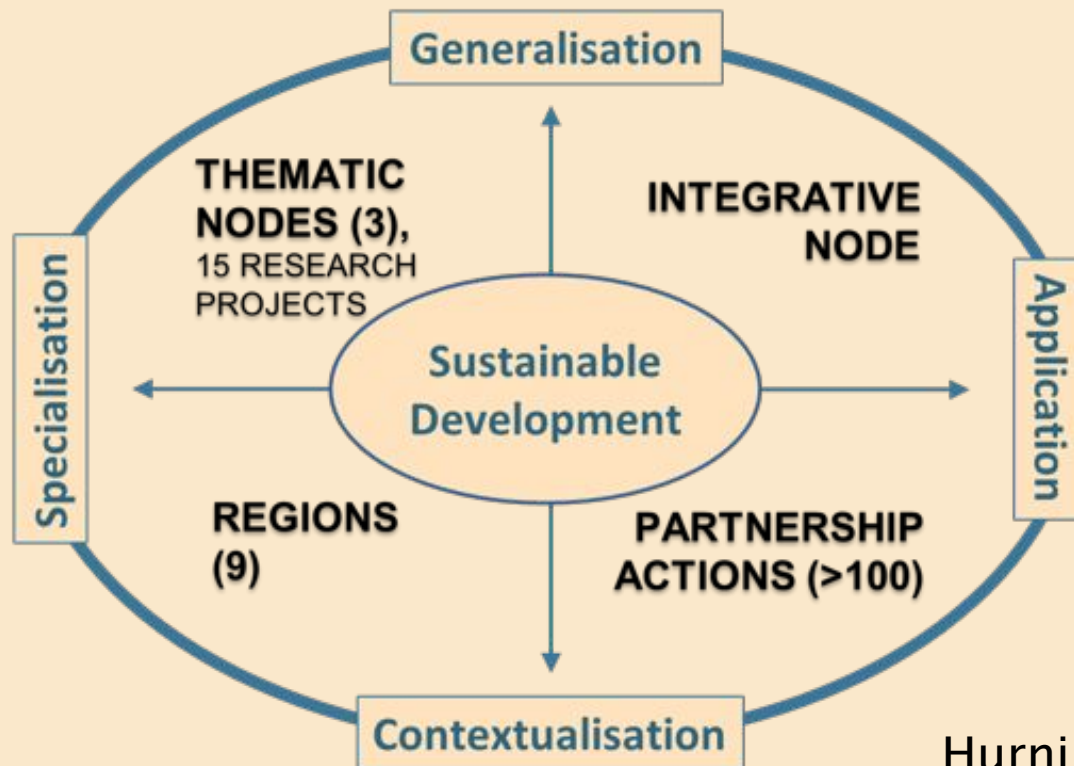
Research project RP11
on Land Resource
Potential in Tajikistan
and Ethiopia,
NCCR North-South
2009-13

Stumbling blocks

The research-action
interface in Kyrgyzstan
and Tajikistan, in the field
of sustainable land
management (SLM),
MSRI 2013

NCCR North-South

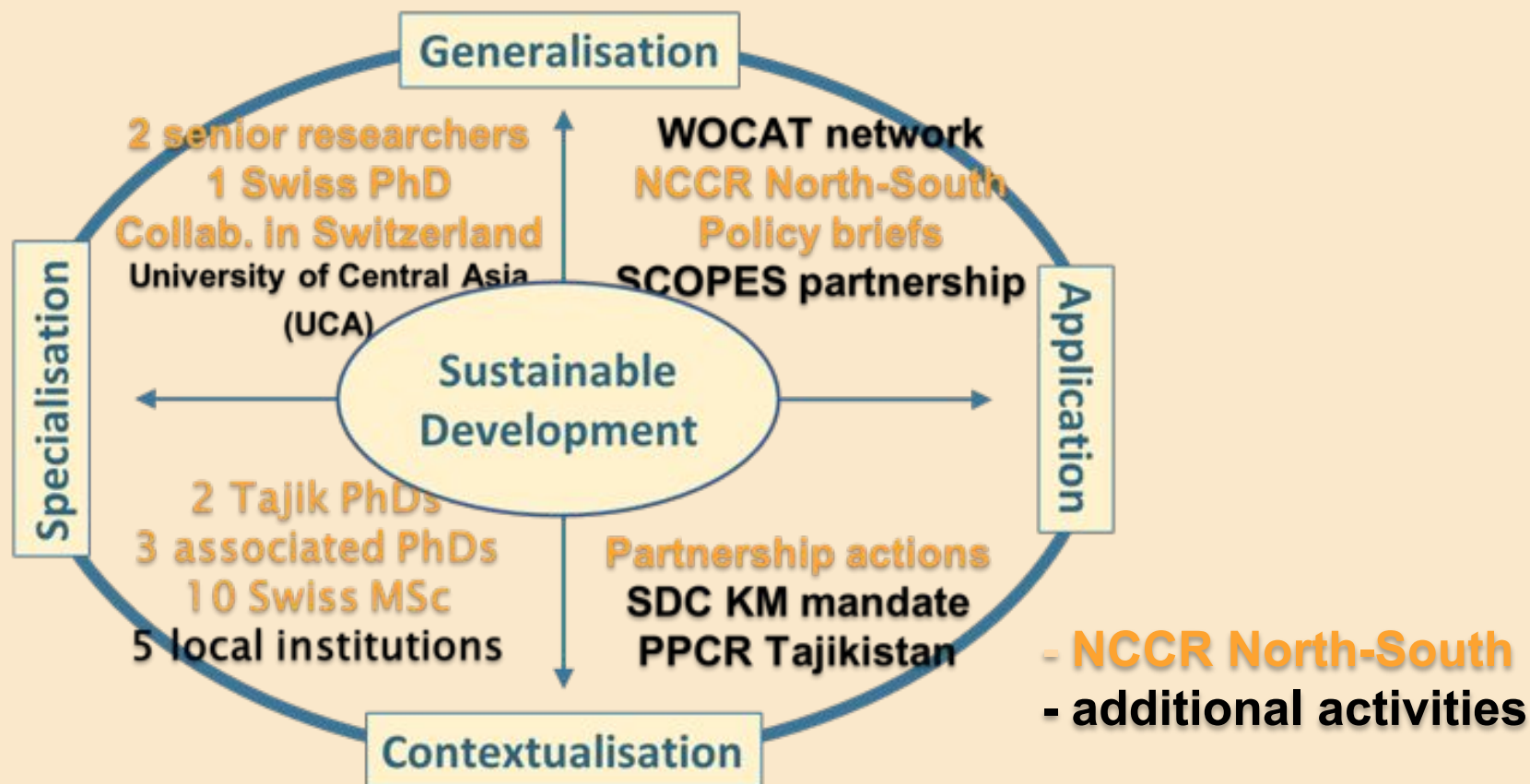
- A 12-years program, 2001–13
- 9 regions and over 40 countries
- 7 Swiss academic institutions, 197 regional partners
- Around 400 researchers
- Financed by Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) & Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



(adapted from
Hurni and Wiesmann 2011)

NCCR North-South in Tajikistan

- A 4-years research project, 2009–13
- Tajikistan and collaboration with Kyrgyzstan
- 1 Swiss academic institution, 5 regional partners
- Around 30 researchers



Transboundary Research Partnerships

11 Principles – steps to application

P1 Set the agenda together
P2 Interact with stakeholders

define

P3 Clarify responsibilities
P4 Account to beneficiaries

plan

P5 Promote mutual learning
P6 Enhance capacities
P7 Share data and networks

do it

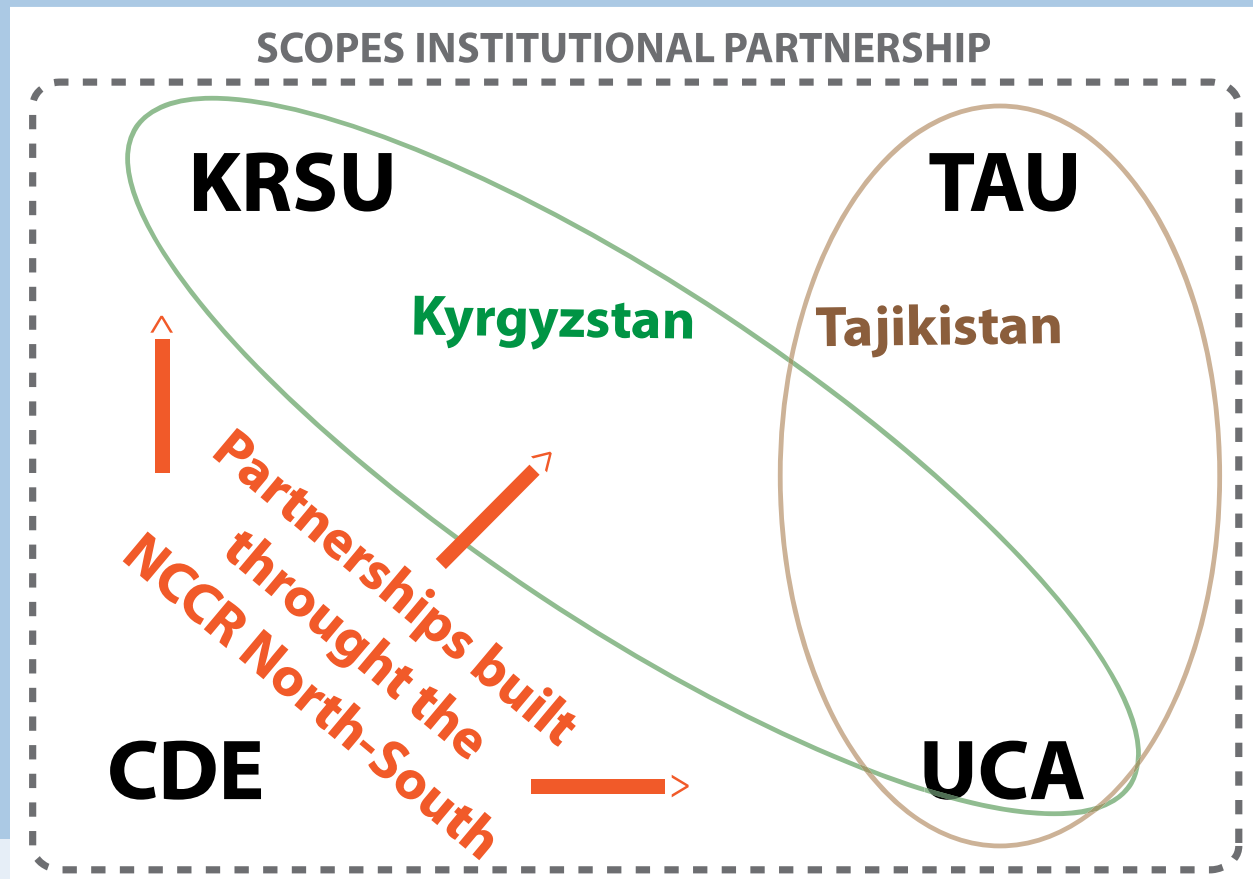
P8 Disseminate results
P9 Pool profits and merits
P10 Apply results
P11 Secure outcomes

share

P1 Set the agenda together

>define
plan
do it
close

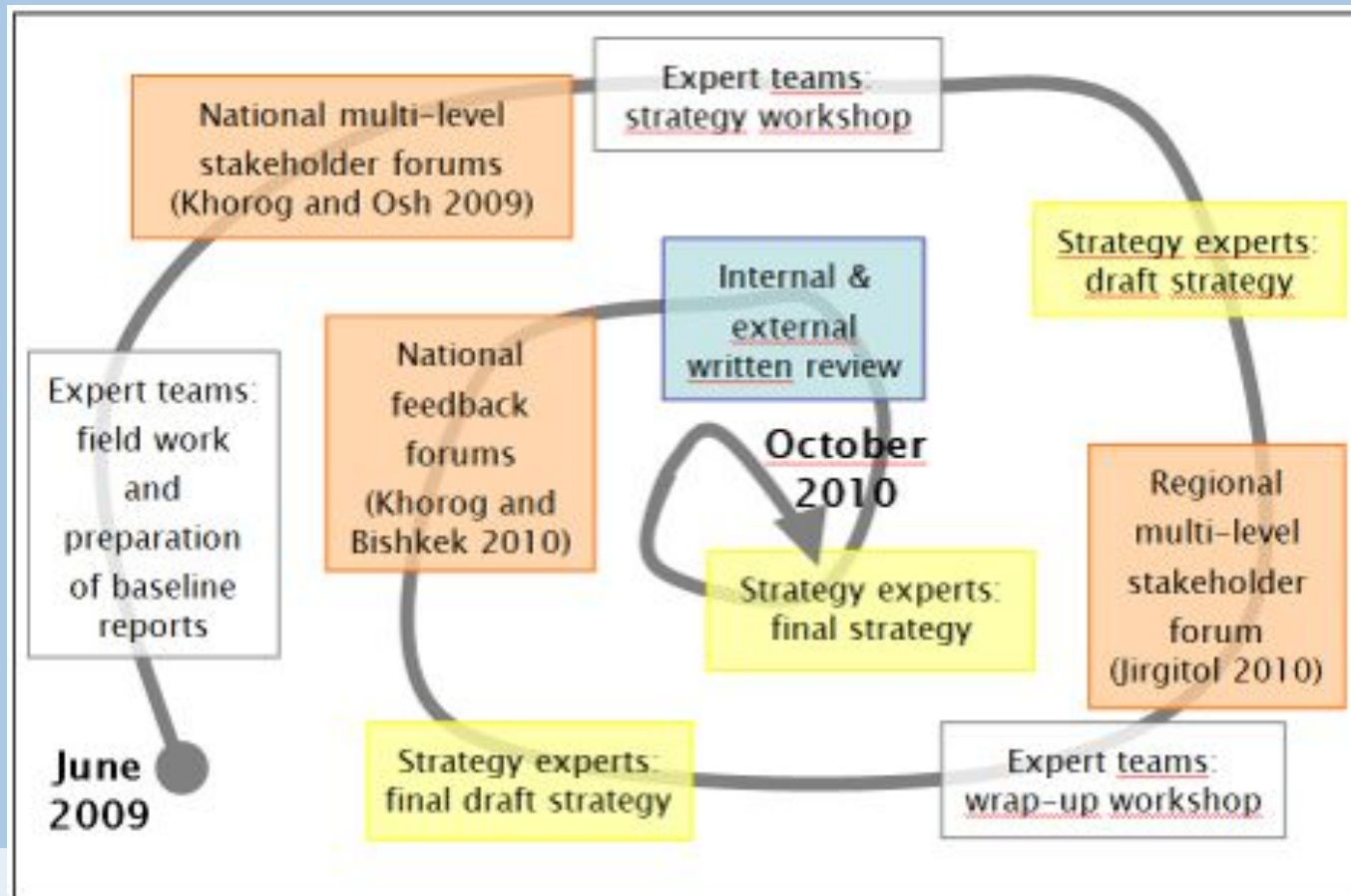
SCOPES (Scientific co-operation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland) > Preparatory grants



P2 Interact with stakeholders

>define
plan
do it
close

Strategy for Sustainable Land Management in the High Pamir and Pamir-Alai Mountains (PALM), (GEF/UNEP/UNU)



Forum
Expert teams
Strategy experts
External review

P3 Clarify responsibilities

P4 Account to beneficiaries

define
> plan
do it
share

SDC Integrated Watershed Management Initiative:

- > Implementing Partner: Cartias Switzerland
- > Knowledge Management: CDE, University of Bern

Planning workshop May 2012:

- > Joint definition of implementation and research areas
- > Planning of joint work

Evaluation workshop April 2014:

- > Exchange on implementation and research results

P5 Promote mutual learning
P6 Enhance capacities
P7 Share data and networks

define
plan
>do it
share



World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies

P5 Promote mutual learning:
Joint documentation of SLM practices

P6 Enhance capacities:
Impact assessment with soil spectroscopy

P7 Share data and networks:
WOCAT online database with SLM practices



P8 Disseminate results

P9 Pool profits and merits

define
plan
do it
>share

SDCs IWSM initiative:

- > **Community based SLM planning:**
SLM decision support workshops
- > **National level:** Pasture management Field-Field-Exchange and Round Table in collab. With Caritas
- > **Central Asia Regional level:** Collaboration with the UCA Knowledge Hub making information available on the internet in Russian and English
- > **Global level:** WOCAT Video trailer “building resilience – people with greener land”: Presented at the Int. Water Conference in August 2013 in Dushanbe, and at the UN Assembly in New York in Sept 2013

P10 Apply results P11 Secure outcomes

define
plan
do it
>share

Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience in Tajikistan (PPCR), Phase 1, Agriculture and SLM

- > **SLM inventory**
(70 SLM documentations, Conducted through participation of 13 organisations)
 - > **Community workshops** to elaborate climate change adaptation strategies based on SLM
 - > **Scaling up SLM practices by targeting different village zones**
- => Phase 2 is following up



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Context

Rational Use of Land Resources

- > Embedded in late-Soviet (1980's) planning system
- > Central authority dictates production parameters
- > Researchers develop technology to achieve targets

“...ensure maximum achievement [of] land use while giving due consideration to...environmental factors (GOST 26640-85 1987)

Sustainable Land Management

- > Outgrowth of 1992 Earth Summit.
- > Equal emphasis on economic, environmental, and social considerations.
- > Focus on institutions and participatory approaches
- > Applied to the new situation of decentralized farms of smallholders



The research-action interface in SLM in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Methods

> Selection of publications

- 3 types of literature: Local academic; international academic; grey
- 1991 to mid 2012

> Analysis of state of research

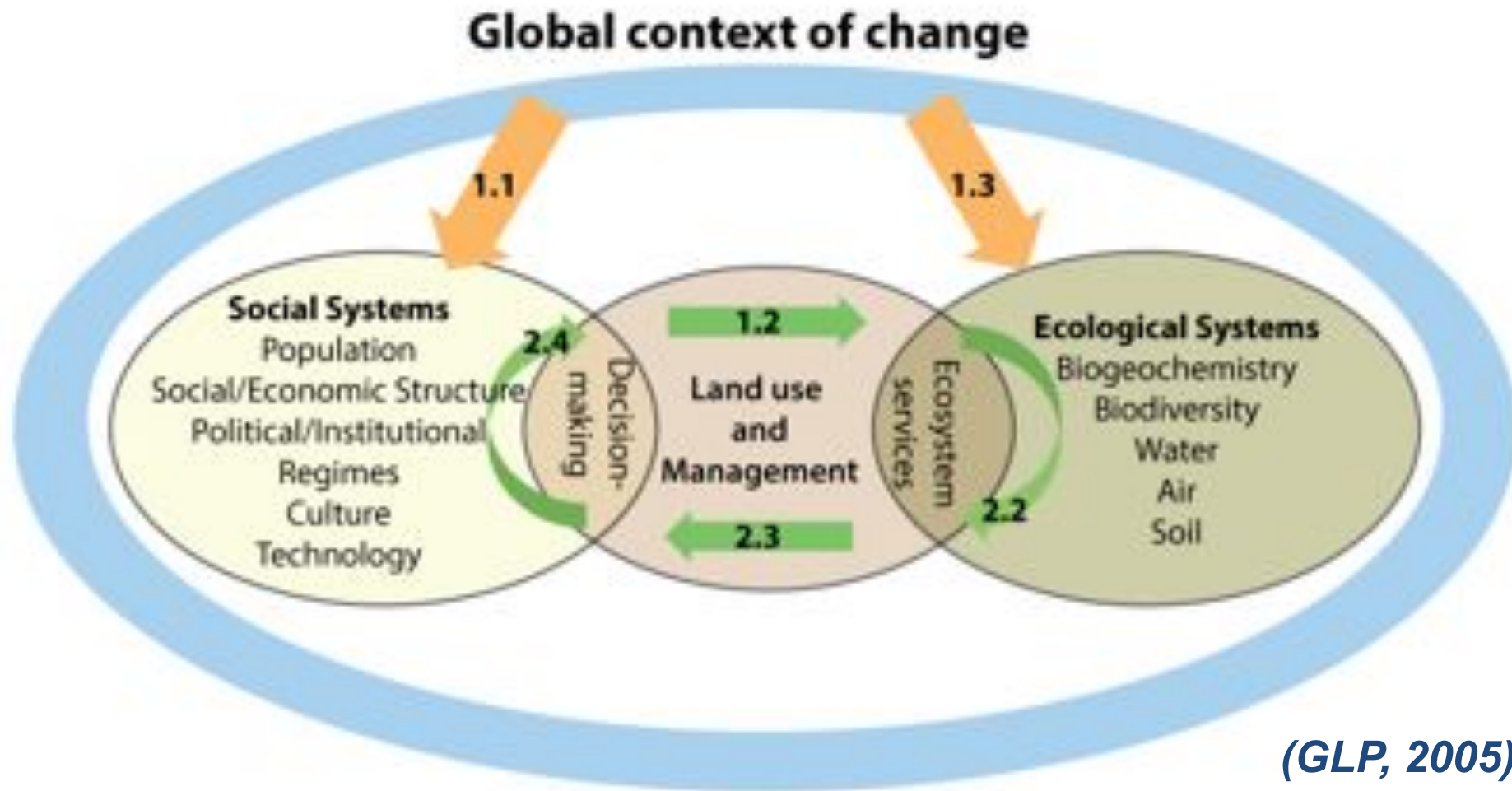
- Attribute each publication to parts of Global Land Project (GLP) framework (quantitative & qualitative analysis)

> Analysis of research-action interface

- Assess knowledge types; research types; amount and type of collaboration (based on author affiliations)
- Stakeholder feedback session (2012 CAMP Forum in Dushanbe, Tajikistan)



Global Land Project: a socio-ecological systems framework



Distribution of all publications across GLP

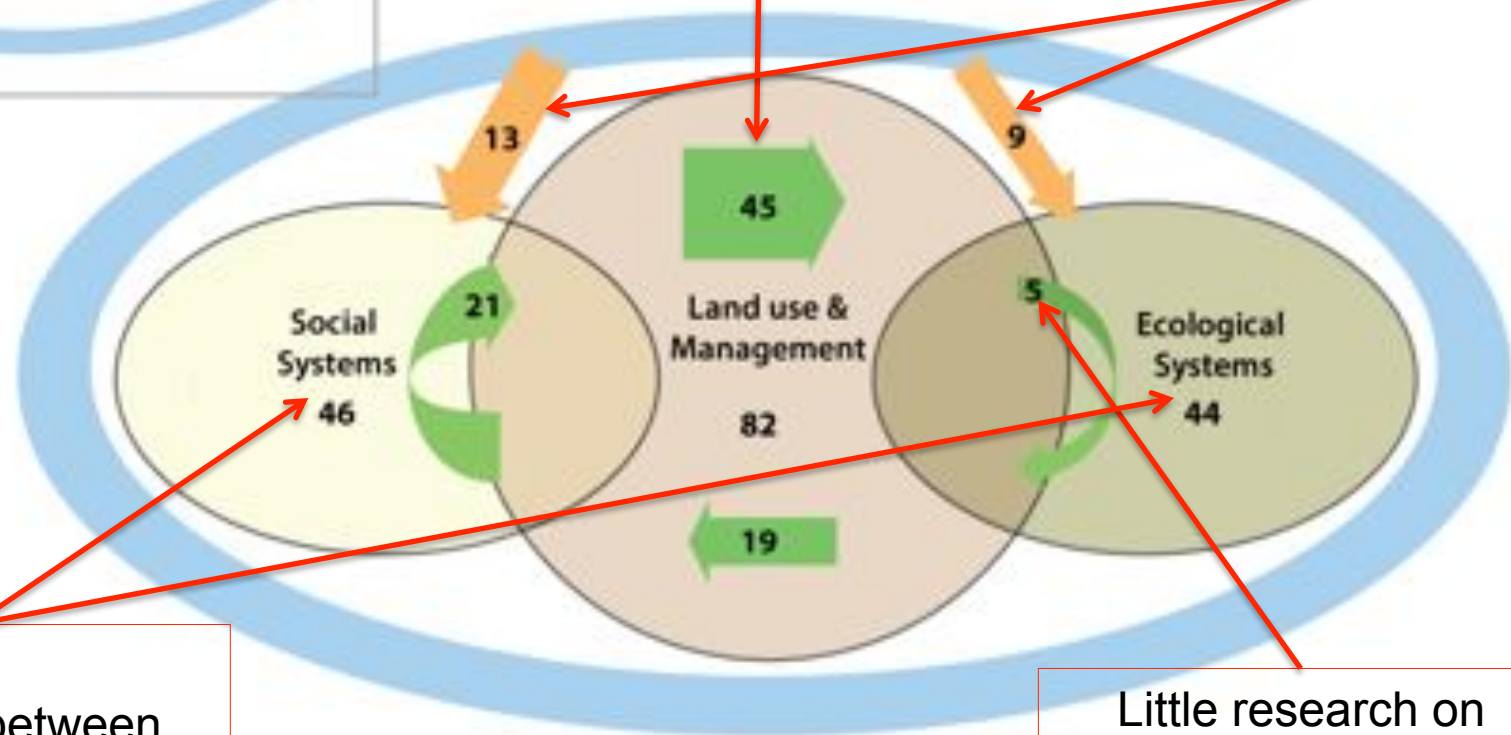
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Emphasis on impacts of changes in land use & management on ecosystems

Little research on influence of global factors



Near equal distribution between social systems and ecological systems

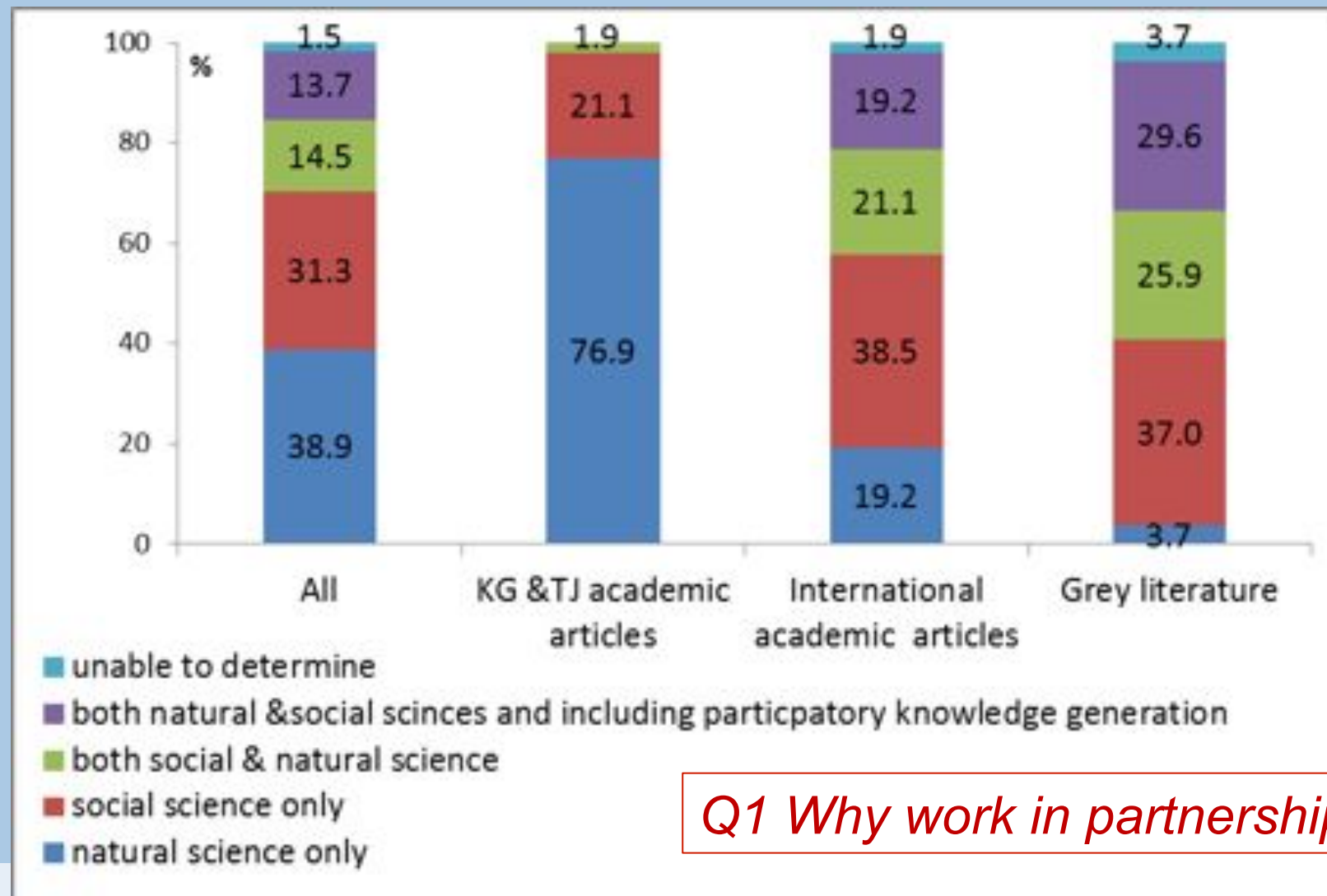
Little research on implications of impacts on ecosystem services

Contribution of each type of publication to disciplinary, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary research

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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

CDE
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND ENVIRONMENT



Q1 Why work in partnership?

Research-action interface: key findings

>14% of all publications included participatory knowledge generation (0% local academic lit)

~5% of all publications focused on household level

Critical feedback from
CAMP Forum participants:

Feedback session conducted at
2012 CAMP Forum, Dushanbe

“Research is too theoretical and not aimed at practical results”

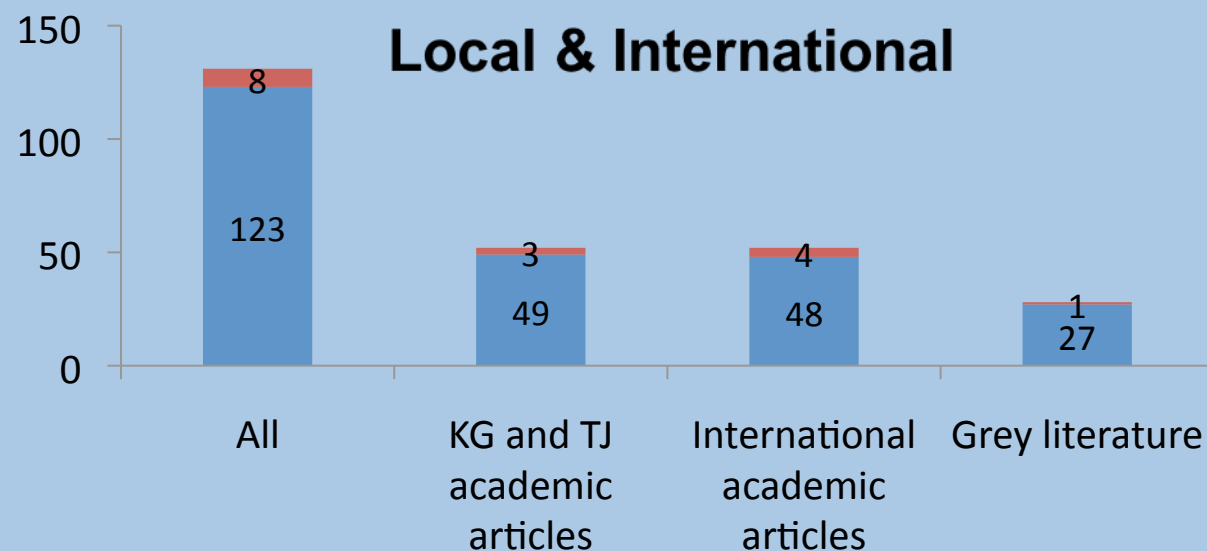
“Researchers do not reach out enough to other stakeholders to formulate their research questions”

“Research is not linked to national development plans”

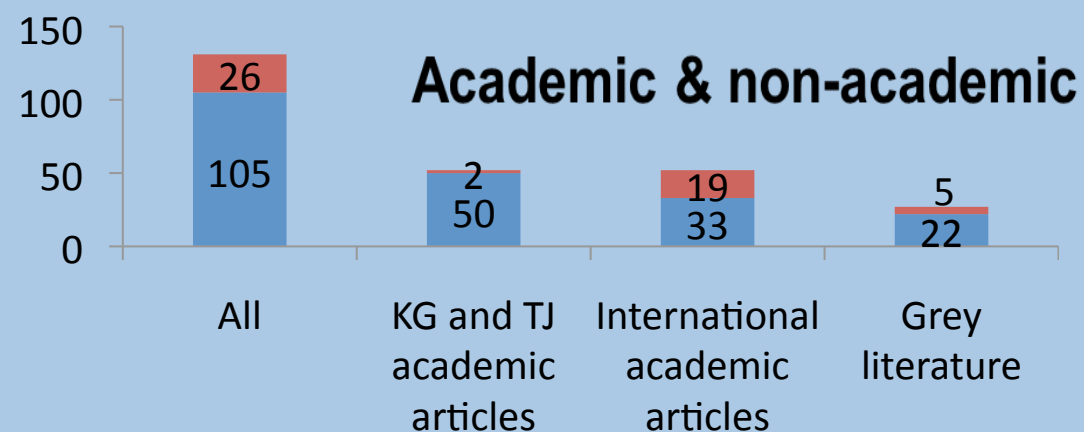


Q2 How to ensure cohesion?

Author Collaboration



collaboration
no collaboration



Q3 What form of collaboration?

Research for improved Land Management in Central Asia: research effectiveness

	Late Soviet era (the 1980s)	Current situation (2010s)
Socio-political context	Top down management: Agriculture is highly politicized and centralized. Structures are well-established, financed by the state, and bureaucratic.	International projects and programs bring in international strategies (UN conventions) and donor driven
	<i>Q4 Which foci and priorities?</i>	
Researchers' engagement strategies	Tailor-made to the Soviet planning system. Social learning is not envisaged.	Short-term projects link to easily accessible partners. Researchers work
	<i>Q5 Who to involve?</i>	
Research outcomes	Studies limited to "cause-effect" type of research aimed at achieving planning and production targets.	"Cause-effect" type research and little interdisciplinary work. Focus on biophysical research versus research
	<i>Q6 Where to create relevance?</i>	
Partnerships	Strong and international networks existed for academics	Dynamic knowledge platforms
	<i>Q7 When to consolidate outcomes?</i>	

Conclusions

Q1 Why work in partnership?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To fund research on global issues - To improve research capacities
Q2 How to ensure cohesion?	Joint ownership, strengthening Southern partners, support for informed decision making, forming alliances
Q3 What form of collaboration?	Collaboration develops over time, and can stretch from disciplinary to transdisciplinary research
Q4 Which foci and priorities?	Research, capacity building, impact
Q5 Who to involve?	Peers, facilitators, moderators, brokers
Q6 Where to create relevance?	Input > output > outcome > impact
Q7 When to consolidate outcomes?	Project > programme > institutions > networks

Thank you for your attention!

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References

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