3rd Technical Meeting of the Expert Group on Public Administration and Governance

Better informed public policy and administration in Member States

PLANAPP:
STRATEGIES TOWARDS A CULTURE OF EVIDENCE-INFORMED POLICY

FILIPA VALA

NOVEMBER 2022

1. Wicked problems: the challenges of evidence, policy coherence and policy coordination

2. The role of boundary organizations

3. PlanAPP-REPLAN: opportunities for boundary work

4. Boundary work @ PlanAPP: Addressing two key topics under climate change by mobilizing all actors

5. PlanAPPs activities to further promote a culture of science for policy

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1. The challenges of evidence, policy coherence and policy coordination

WICKED PROBLEMS

Multidimensional / do not have a definitive formulation

Lack a "stopping rule": managed more than solved

Solutions are not "true" or "false", nor can they be *tested*: some solutions will work better on multiple dimensions (or not)

1. The challenges of evidence, policy coherence and policy coordination

Achieving policy coherence and policy coordination
to properly address multidimensionality

Constant supply of up-to-date, reliable, evidence on what works and how people feel about it
to properly adjust strategies to "moving targets"

"Ingredients":

internal networks	external networks	Knowledge / Evidence sharing
Decision makers, policymakers	Citizens, stakeholders, academia…	

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2. The role of boundary organizations

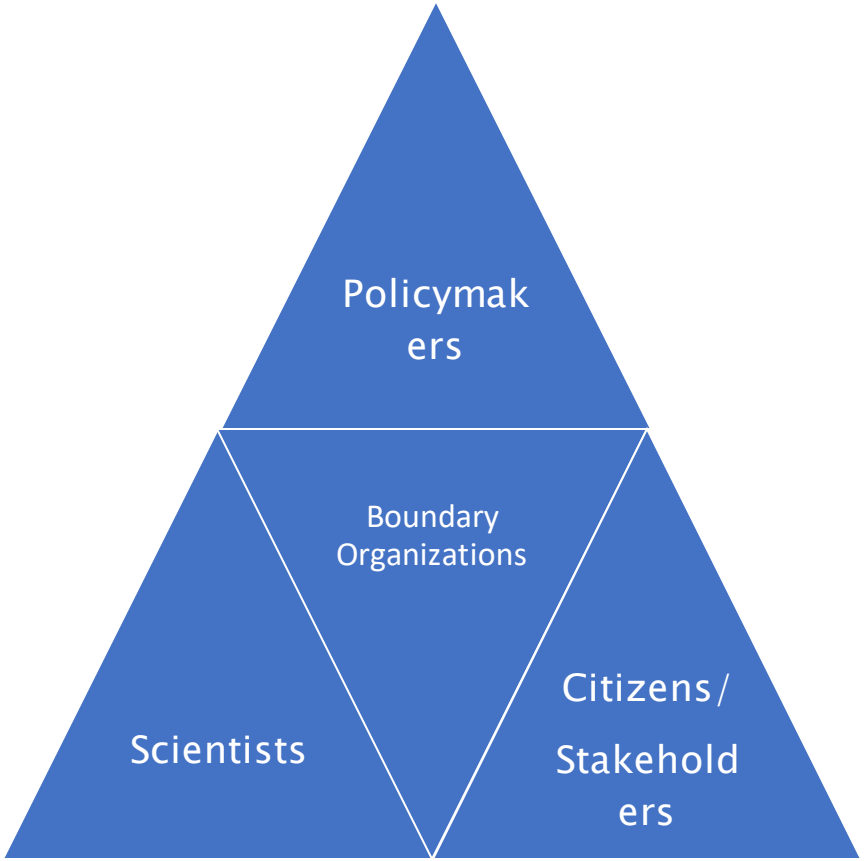
Support transdiciplinary and multidisciplinary research;

"Safe spaces" for different actors to meet and discuss ideas, develop closer relationships, improving trust

Play an important role in managing tensions across borders

Produce outputs recognized as credible by all involved;

BOs play a crucial role in harnessing evidence



Three different actors of boundary work for policy*
(*Building on JRC's S4P 2.0)

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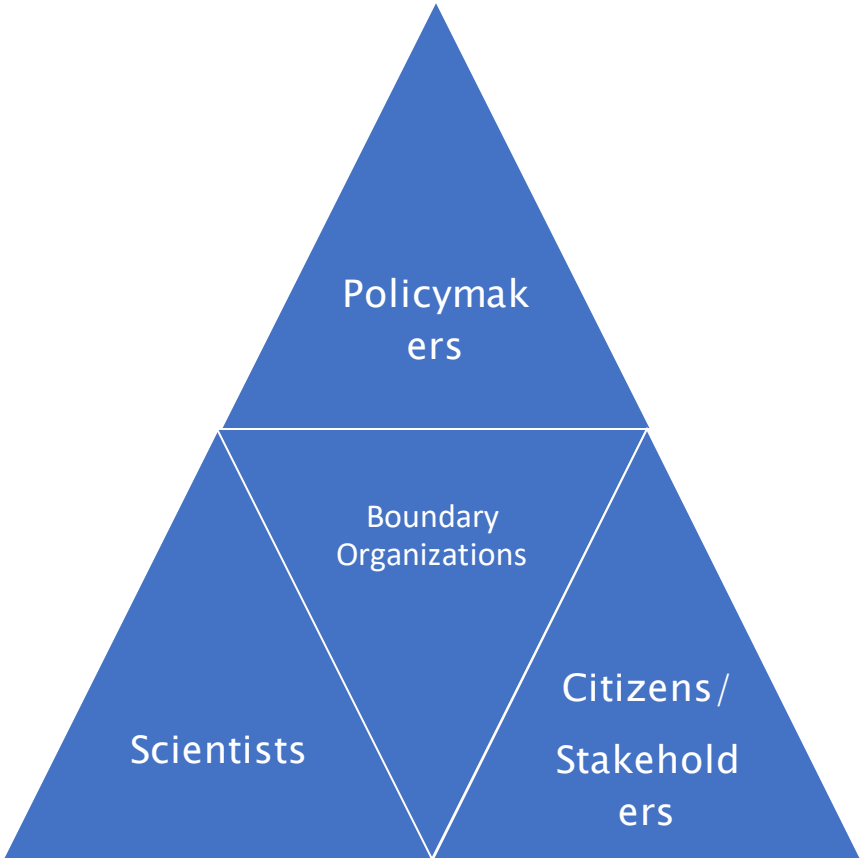
2. The role of boundary organizations

What is "evidence"?

Information that improves policy quality and decision-making:

- Scientific data;
- Data on citizen perceptions about a given issue;
- Protocols (e.g. for evaluation);
- Indicators (e.g. for monitoring);
- …

BOs have a knowledge brokerage function - adjust evidence supply to demand and may (should) antecipate demand



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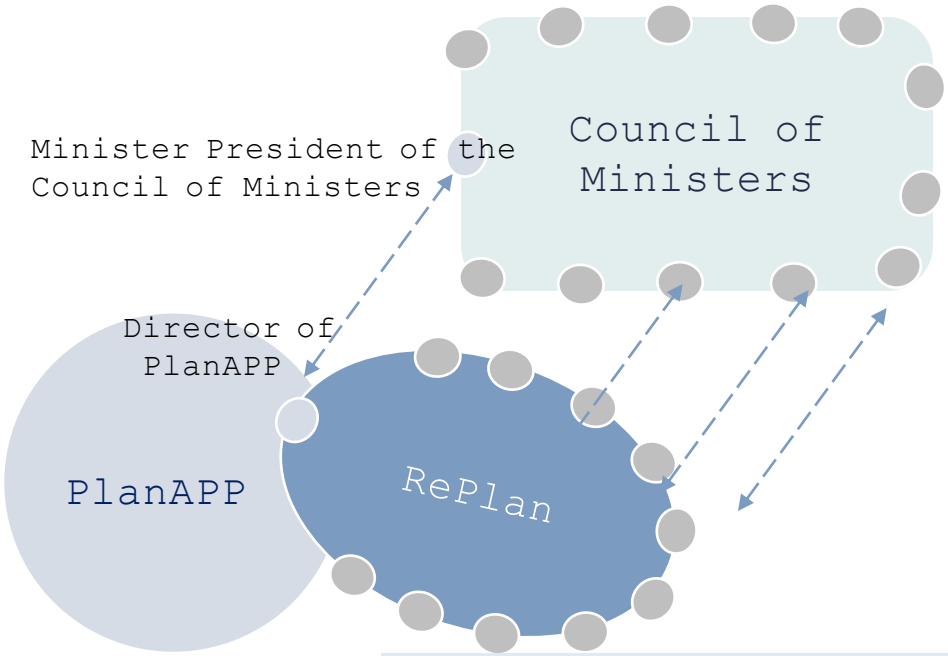
3. PlanAPP-RePlan: opportunities for boundary work

Policy coordination & coherence

Whole-of-government strategy



CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

TOP-DOWN, BOTTOM-UP, AND HORIZONTAL INFORMATION FLOW

internal networking

Decision makers, policymakers

external networking

Citizens, stakeholders, academia…

Knowledge / evidence sharing

Di… …or policy

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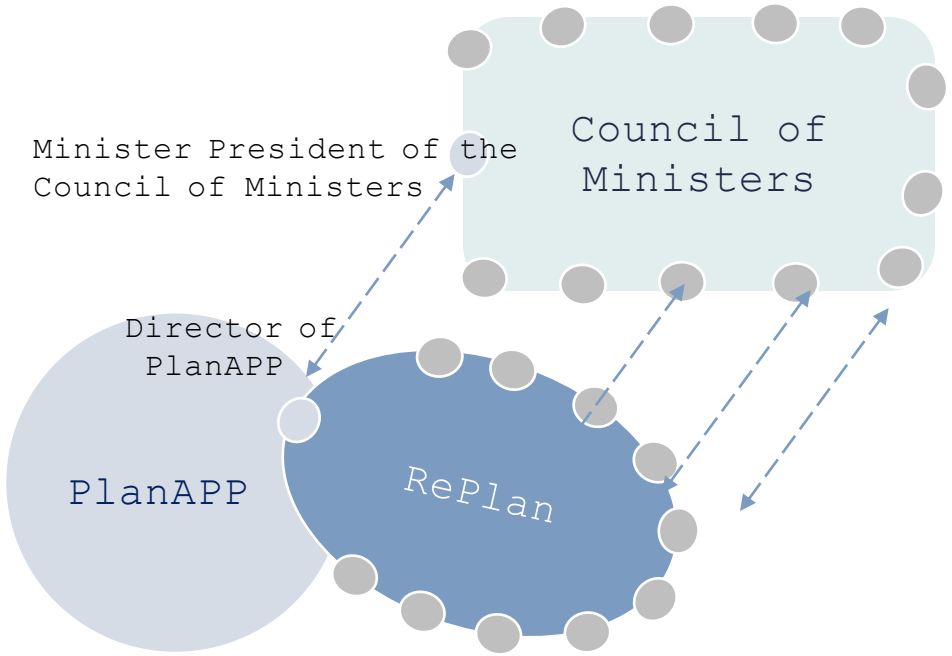
3. PlanAPP-RePlan: opportunities for boundary work

Policy coordination & coherence

Whole-of-government strategy

Better policy

Evidence-informed policy-making



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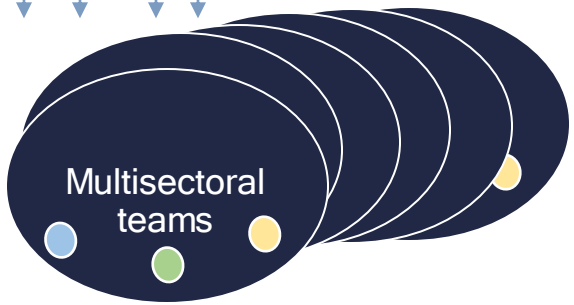

Different actors of boundary work for policy

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4. Boundary work @ PlanAPP: Addressing key topics under climate change by mobilizing all actors – a "pilot experiment"

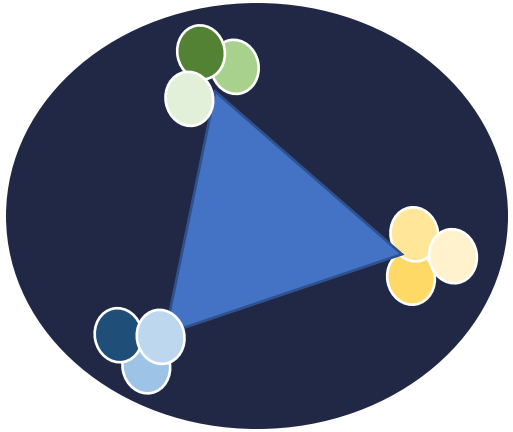
2 resources: Soil & water;
related but at different "levels" of strategic planning, in terms of goals and governance

Actors: Associate Laboratory CHANGE + Public Administration entities + Civil Society Stakeholders

Activity:

- Consensual diagnostic
- Consensual goals for 2030
- Back-casting
- Propose alternative options

Strategy: "NANO" BOs



Different actors of boundary work for policy

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5. PlanAPPs activities to further promote a culture of science for policy

AT SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS (JRC's ToT spinoff)

+ S4P workshops

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FCT (forthcoming)

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ADDRESSING HOW TO INTITUTIONALIZE THE S-P RELATIONSHIP

+ 1-day seminar
+ Round-tables with both communities

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THANK YOU

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