

THE BALTIC CLIMATE SCHOOL

WHEN SCIENCE, POLICY AND
DECISION-MAKING MEET

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Interreg
Baltic Sea Region

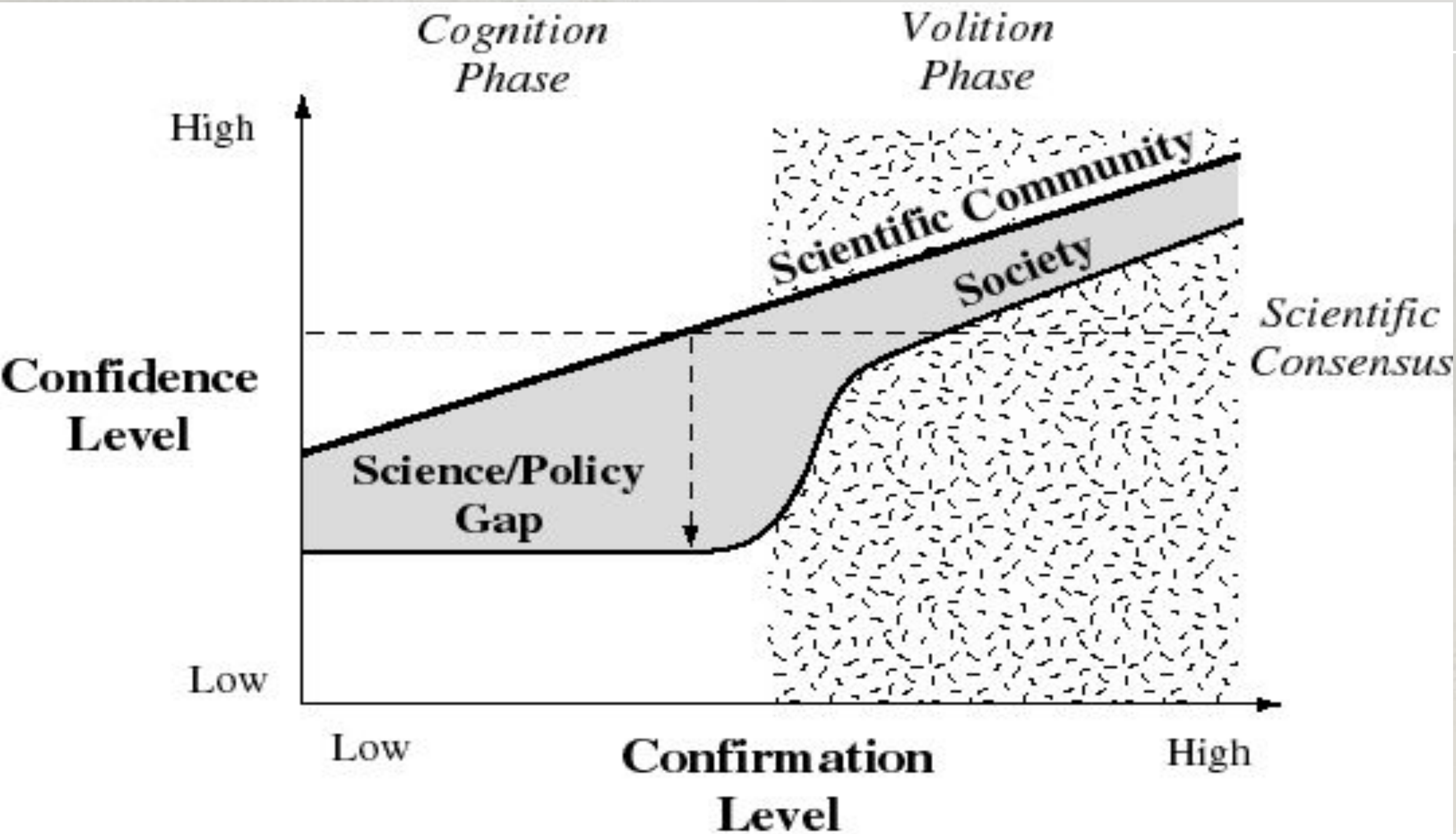


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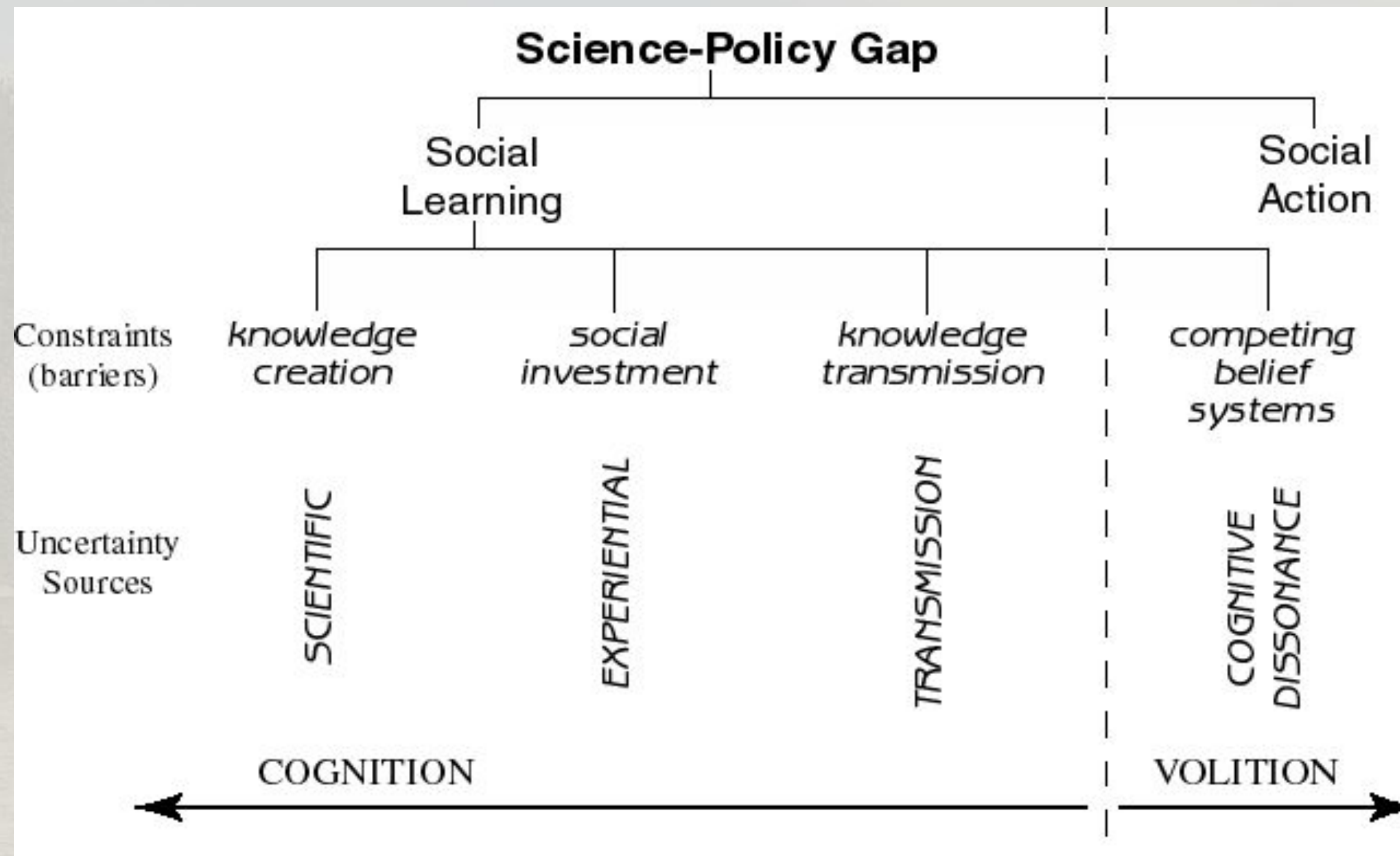
CIRCULAR ECONOMY

BALTIPLAST



Schematically, the science-policy gap is defined as the difference in levels of confidence for a given scientific finding expressed by the scientific community and society.

Realistically, the science-policy gap is more than an information gap; the extent to which society's level of confidence in a theory or model lags behind that of the scientific community depends on other significant factors.



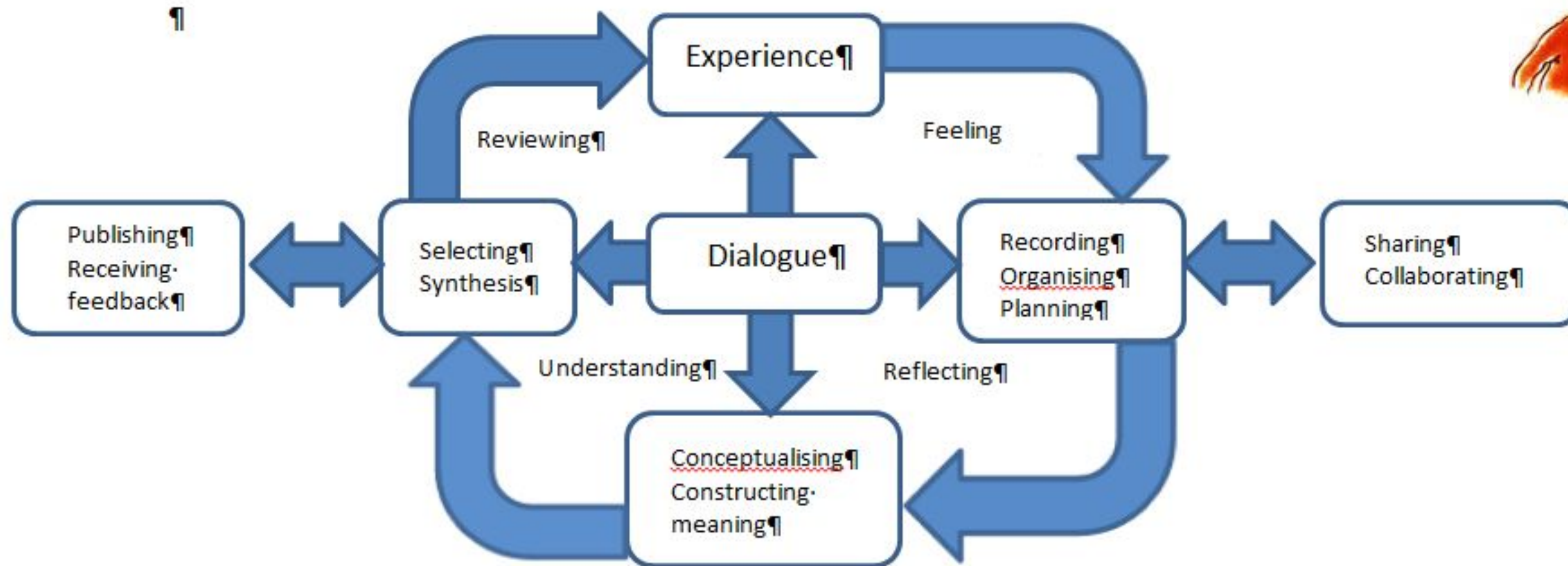
By definition, science is a provider of new information and has always been cast in the dual role of both defending and attacking reigning paradigms. For this reason, science will frequently produce cognitive dissonance, uncomfortable levels of uncertainty, and resistance in the body politic.

G. A. Bradshaw, 2000
<https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol4/iss1/art7/>

The inconsistency and psychological discomfort of cognitive dissonance can be reduced by changing one's beliefs, values, or behavior.

Dissonance can be avoided by rejecting or avoiding information that challenges belief systems or by interpreting dissonant information in a biased way.

Communicating strategies : INTERACTION



Communicating uncertainties from scientists to other actors in a policy debate allows the other actors to co-assess the quality of technical expertise and co-produce the relevant evidence. Communication may also be aimed at raising awareness among actors

Communicating strategies : INTERACTION

Persuasive communication



Convince others by presenting your perspective as attractive and worthwhile.

Dialogical learning



Understanding one another's perspectives better through open dialog and by encouraging learning on all sides. Dialogical learning may lead to mutual understanding, trust and support for management actions, or at least reduce resistance against actions.

Negotiation



Reaching a mutually beneficial and integrative agreement that makes sense from multiple perspectives

Oppositional modes to action



Distancing and avoiding each other or trying to impose your perspective upon others by force

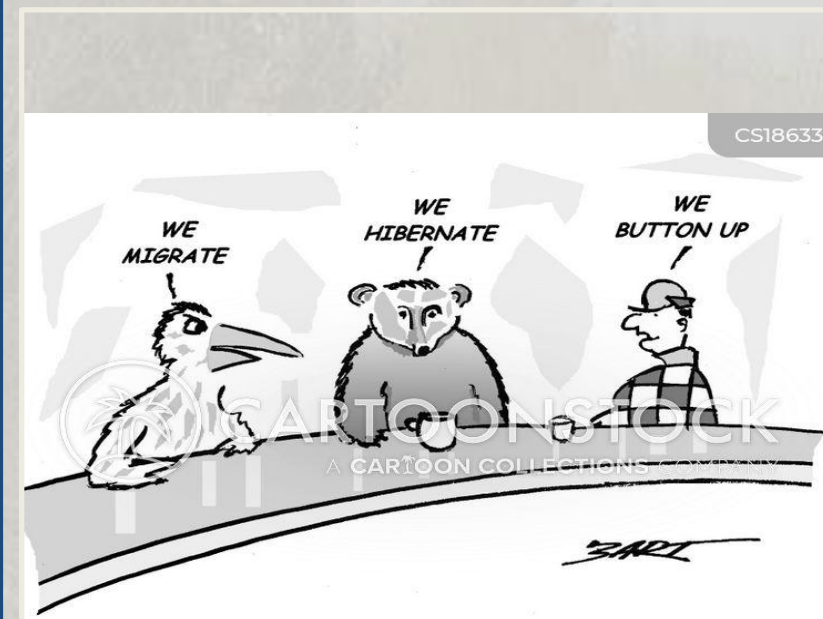
Communicating strategies : COPING STRATEGIES

Preparing for the worst



Limiting potential negative consequences (controlling damage) of the case scenario (i.e. being conservative or precautionary)

Adopting robust solutions



Adopt strategies that perform well under multiple scenarios. This may mean adopting multiple measures (diversifying solutions) to ensure that one or more will be effective under each of the possible scenarios

Developing resilience



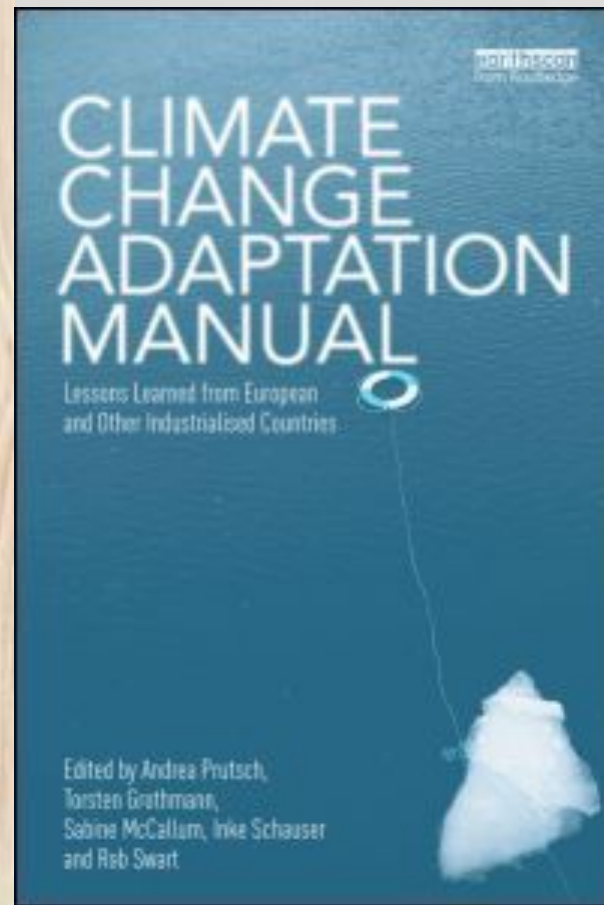
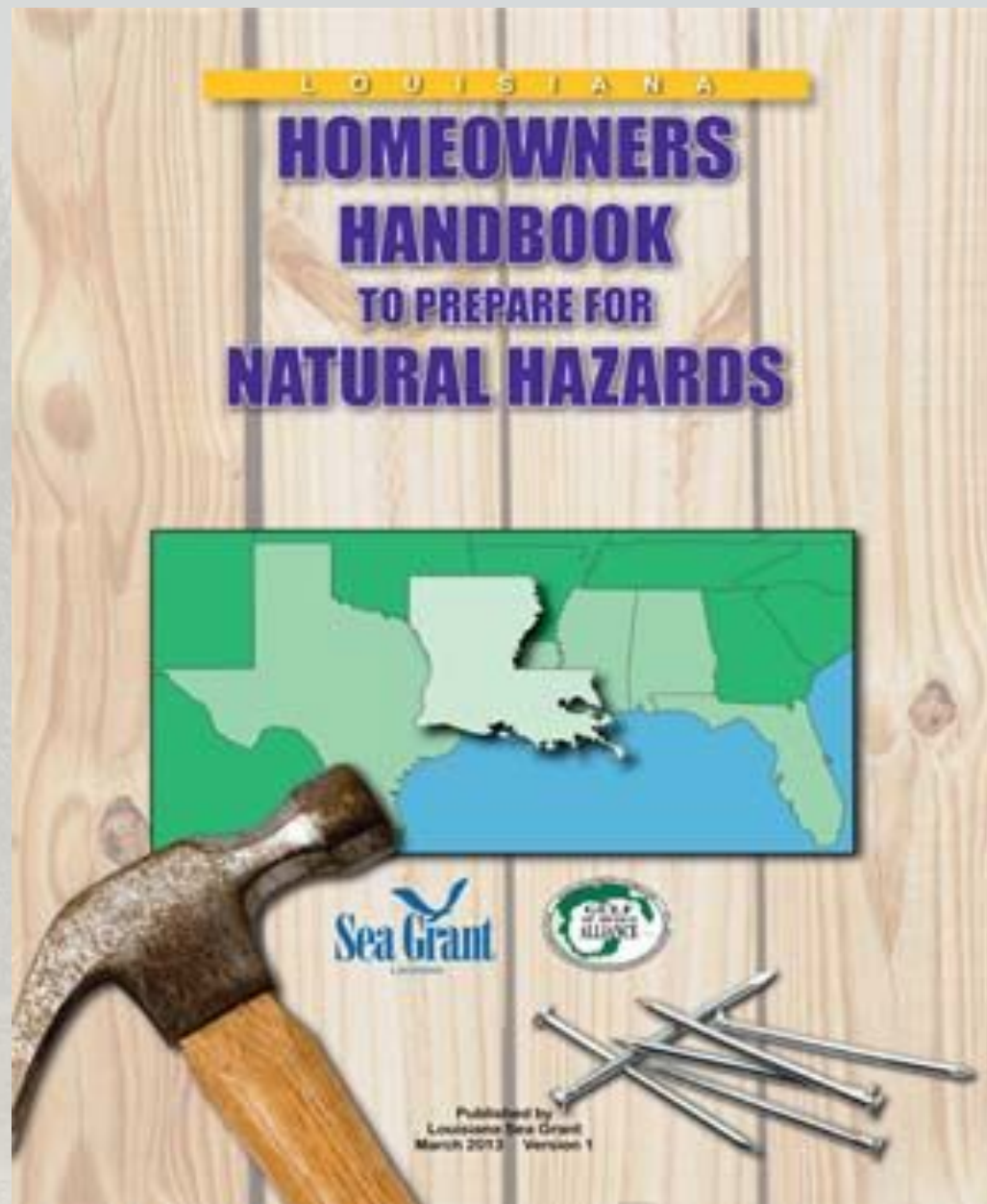
Developing “the capacity” of a system to absorb recurrent disturbances, such as natural disasters, so as to retain essential structures, processes and feedbacks

Adopting flexible solutions



Choosing flexible management strategies, which can be adapted to future changes. This may include adopting measures that are feasible within the timeframe of an unfolding potentially damaging event and that prevent or mitigate damage

Communicating strategies : COPING STRATEGIES



THANK YOU

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