Training School
Stakeholder Interaction in FACESMAP

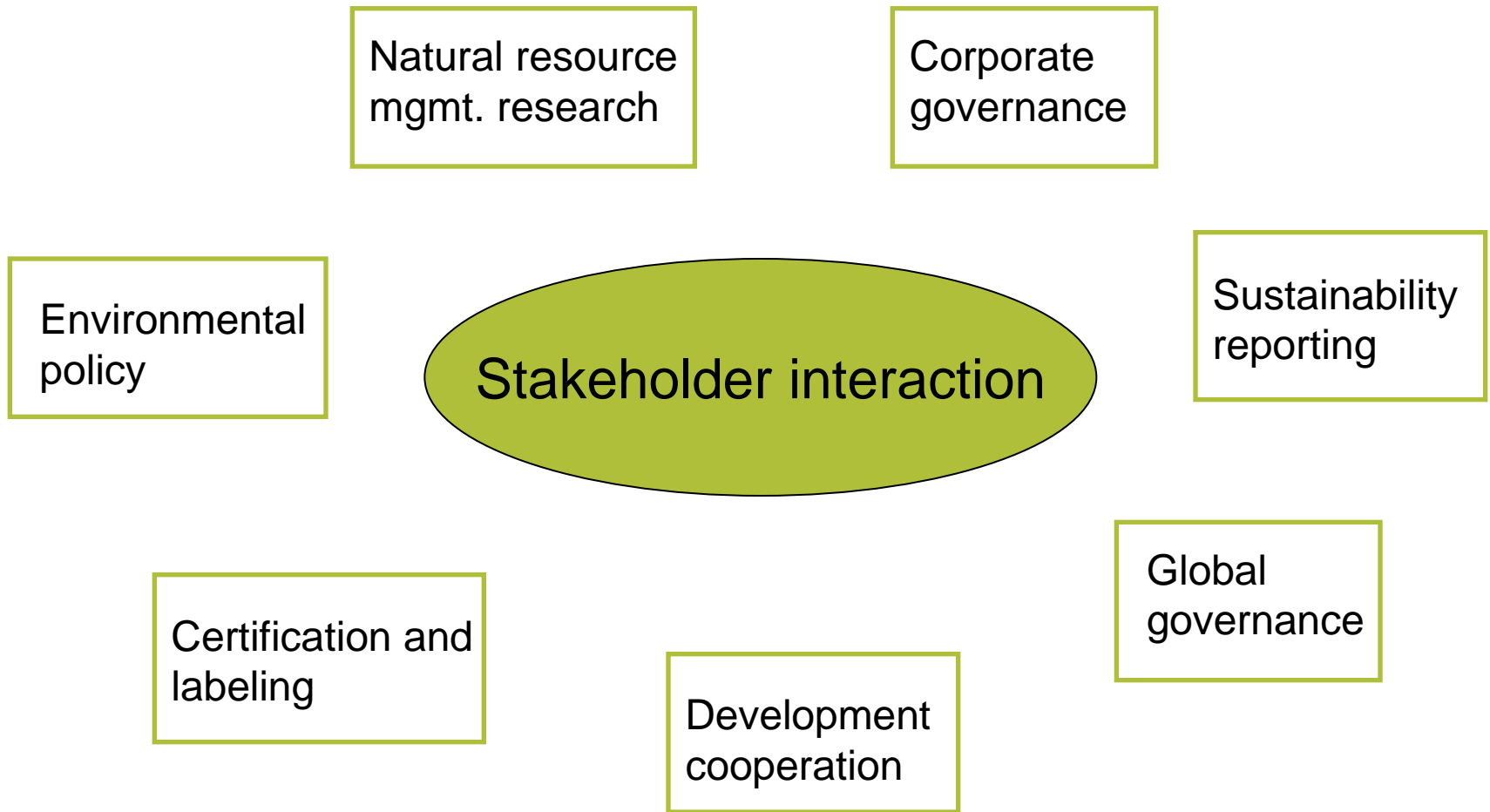Kathrin Böhling (boehling@tum.de)

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Engaging with Stakeholders

Natural resource mgmt. research

Corporate governance

Environmental policy

Stakeholder interaction

Sustainability reporting

Certification and labeling

Development cooperation

Global governance

Definition of 'stakeholder'

"… any group or individual who can affect or is affected by the achievement of the organization's objectives." (Freeman 1984: 46)

"… stakeholders are defined by their legitimate interest in the corporation, rather than simply by the corporation's interest in them." (Donaldson & Preston 1999: 76)

"The very expression 'stakeholder' has become so widespread today that many pundits have forgotten that it first arose in the USA as a liberal reaction to the primacy being bestowed upon financial value, led by the figure of the shareholder." (Pesqueux & Damak-Ayadi 2005: 5-6)

Stakeholders in NRM research

(Close) relationship between NRM research and sustainability discourse (e.g. SFM, SLM)

- Different stakeholders may have interest in and/or influence on the issues that are being investigated

  Then: Who defines these issues; i.e. „Who is in and why?" (see Reed et al. 2009)

- Shift in NRM research from:

  (a) application of scientific knowledge to management of ecosystems, to

  (b) giving space for articulation of multiple perspectives on use of natural resources, valuation of different types of knowledge, and co-production of knowledge between academic and non-academic communities (e.g. Rist et al. 2007; Pohl et al. 2010)

Drivers behind interacting with Stakeholders

- Instrumental use of research
  e.g. overcome obstacles to adoption of new technologies and methods

- Normative justifications
  i.e. NRM research affects people -> legitimacy of science-based research, empowerment of marginalized groups

- Transdisciplinarity
  i.e. if knowledge production takes place in context of application, provision of 'socially robust' knowledge is necessary

- Other?

Stakeholder Interaction in FACESMAP

"The interdisciplinary work will be done in close cooperation with relevant public and private stakeholders." [Abstract]

"Also the public administration and private stakeholders which are entrusted for or affected by policy implementation are increasingly asking for knowledge on …" [Background]

"The country participants will (co-)organise the interdisciplinary excursions and workshop discussions with the policy-makers and stakeholders on national-regional level … [networking] will contribute to the interdisciplinary focus group discussions with the policy-makers and stakeholders on European level …" [Objectives]

"The Action shall be carried out in close cooperation with stakeholders from practice and policy who have already indicated their interest and willingness to collaborate." [Scientific Programme]

"The WG meetings will also be used for stakeholder interaction on regional level which gives the opportunity to understand the specific problem situations in the different regions." [excursions to field sites and panel discussions] [Organisation]

FACESMAP Training School on Stakeholder Interaction

1. What do we know? [Sunday]

2. What can we learn from others? [Monday]

3. What is the TS' value added for FACESMAP? [Tuesday]

Today

- Getting to know each other

- Exercising a specific type of inquiry to share experiences with stakeholder interaction

- Conclusions
  - (i) 'typical' stakeholders in forestry
  - (ii) 'typical' formats of stakeholder interaction

Food for thought … tomorrow

- Recall the interview

- Consider the story that was told about stakeholder interaction: Does it qualify as a 'top story' of stakeholder interaction?
  - newness
  - people involved
  - effectiveness, efficiency
  - impact, surprising outcomes

- Think of a headline for your top story