

# Participatory Governance and Social Factors in the Energy Transition

Oxford Energy  
Trinity Term Seminars

May 3, 2022

Nadejda Komendantova

# International Institute for Applied Systems

## Analysis (IIASA) is...

An international research institute that conducts **multidisciplinary/ transdisciplinary research** to help policymakers find long-term solutions to **global and universal challenges** facing countries

A photograph of the IIASA building at night, illuminated by warm lights. The building is a large, classical-style structure with a central portico supported by columns and a clock tower on the roof. The sky is dark, and the building's lights create a starburst effect.

**434 researchers from 52 countries (29% natural scientists, 41% social scientists, 30% mathematicians and computer scientists)**

# Cooperation and Transformative Governance (CAT) group

**CAT Group:** Interdisciplinary approach on governance and decision-making processes under uncertainty, complexity, ambiguity and volatility while incorporating systems thinking into strategic policy planning, addressing social dilemmas and wicked policy issues

- 1/ Cooperation models
- 2/ Decisions support systems
- 3/ Participatory modelling



# Methods in CAT group

## Cooperation models

- Game-theoretical models for public good and common pool management with real-world complexities
- Including bounded rationality, social heterogeneity, cultural dispositions, and institutional incentives

## Decision support systems

- Problem structuring methods
- Including prioritization of criteria, connection of drivers and criteria elicitation, selection of background influences, formulation of strategic goals, selection of most important drivers

## Participatory modelling

- Multi-criteria optimization and prioritization
- Systems mapping and morphological analysis
- Participatory scenario planning

# Research strategic alignment

CAT Research Group aims to contribute with development of methodologies on cooperation models, decision support systems and participatory modelling to research on **existing and emerging governance challenges**, and **their complex structures and dynamic evolutions** on the following topics:

-Health-related issues (cf., e.g., COVID-19)

-Climate change, natural hazards, biodiversity and ecosystems

-Societal transitions caused by technological innovations, industrial transformations or environmental changes

Cyber/Internet effects, including issues of digitalization

# Participatory governance of energy transition and human factors



# Individual reasoning: Behavioral economics methods for evaluation of cognitive and behavioral patterns of individual decision-making

**Contested policy issues require understanding of behavioral factors of various stakeholders who are participating in decision-making processes and are affected by policy interventions. Behavioral goals govern or 'frame' what people attend to, what knowledge and attitudes become cognitively most accessible, how people evaluate various aspects of the situation, and what alternatives are being considered.**

Individual decision making is influenced by the perceptions of gain, normative, and hedonic goals.



- Theory of planned behavior corresponds with Gain motivator with the assumption that people make decisions while relying on perceptions of costs and benefits. Other theory in this category are health beliefs model, social cognitive model, theory of interpersonal behavior, protection motivation theory
- Norm activation theory is associate with normative motivator. It is based on moral evaluations, depending on the extent to which the behavior has a more positive or negative effect on the environment or society
- Theories on affect focus on the role of feelings and on hedonic goals. It is depending on positive or negative feelings related to the behavior, such as feelings of satisfaction, joy, fear or anger.

# Methods for negotiations, contested policy issues and development of compromise solutions

**We are developing and applying a range of methods for integrated multi-attribute evaluation under risk, subject to incomplete or imperfect information, and evaluations of decision situations using imprecise utilities, probabilities, and weights, as well as qualitative estimates between these components derived from sets of weight, utility and probability measures. To avoid some mathematical aggregation problems when handling set membership functions and similar, we use higher-order distributions for better discrimination between the possible outcomes.**

- (i) a co-creative preference elicitation component,
- (ii) a multi-criteria component,
- (iii) a risk analytical component, and
- (iv) an aggregation and analysis component.

These methods have been applied in a variety of decision situations, such as Covid-19 mitigation, large-scale energy planning, allocation planning, de-mining, portfolio risks, gold mining, and many others, and is suitable, for instance, in interactive multi-criteria decision analysis approaches to synthesize outcome predictions and stakeholder preferences from multiple perspectives into decision recommendations.





# Human / social factors of energy transition

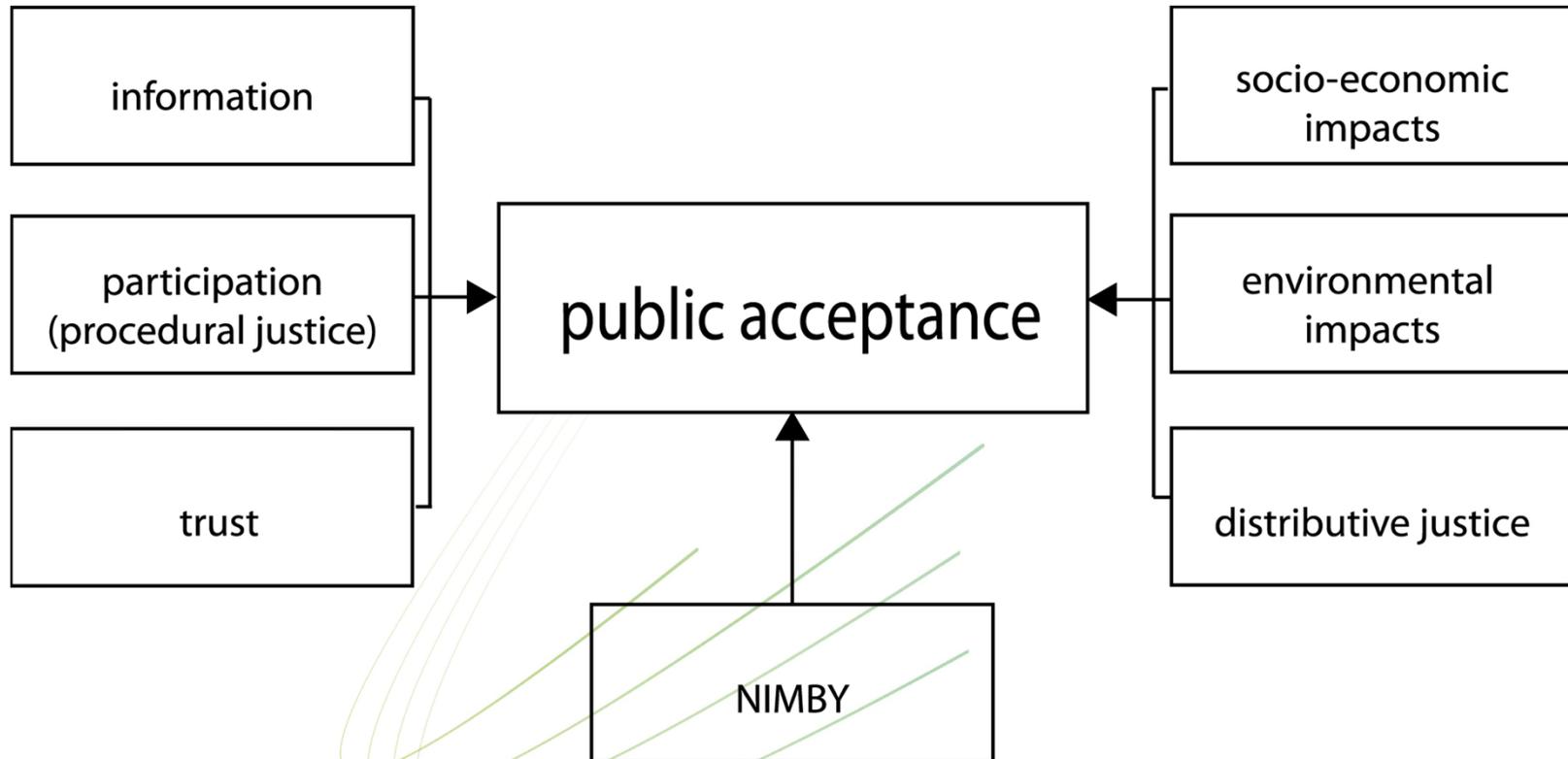
## Arnstein Ladder (1969)



Source: Komendantova et al., (2018) Energy Research and Social Science

# Public acceptance

# Drivers of acceptance: Nonparticipation and tokenism



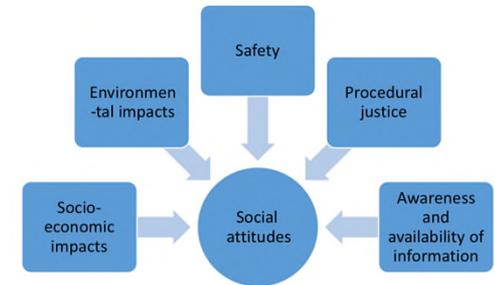
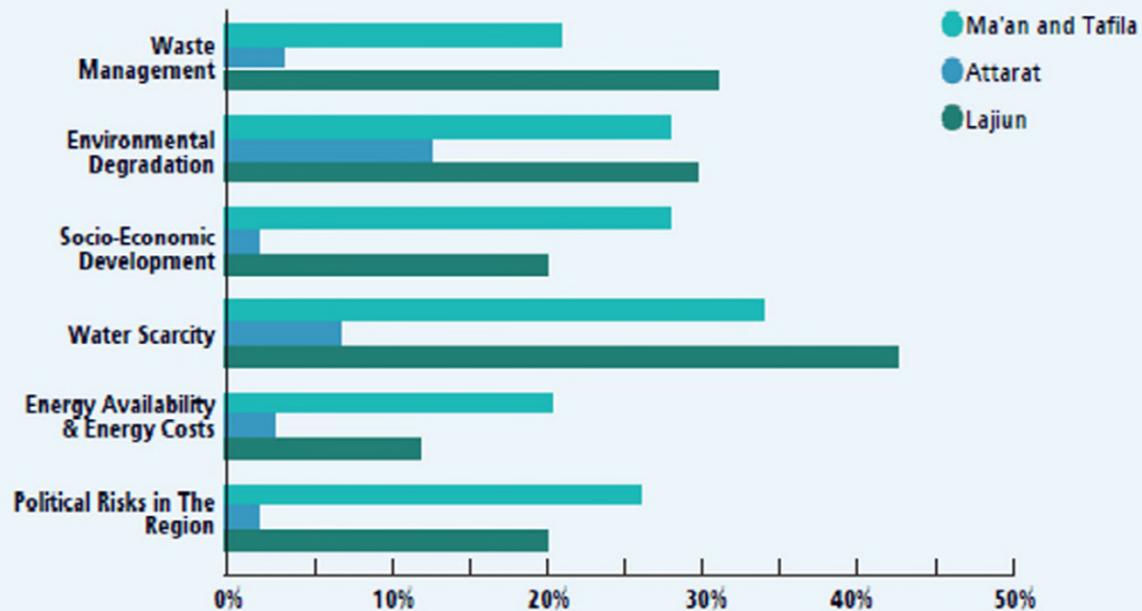
# Drivers of public acceptance

| Guiding principle   | <b>Elia (underground cable)</b>  | <b>TenneT</b>  | <b>50 Hertz</b>   |
|---------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Need</b>         | Unclear need as it is not clear if energy consumption in the region will be growing                  | Unclear need because of decentralized generation options   | Unclear need of the project   |
| <b>Engagement</b>   | Optimum time for engagement, perception that the voices will not be heard                            | Place of public information events, where everybody could pass by and not only already informed stakeholders | Information about who will be involved into discussions about the project |
| <b>Transparency</b> | Planned corridor, sources of electricity   | Criteria of selecting priority corridor, sources of electricity  | Planning procedures, source of electricity, EMFs                          |
| <b>Environment</b>  | Impacts of construction works, visibility effects  | Visibility impacts, security of transmission system, impacts from EMFs                                       | Impacts on environment, visibility impacts, impacts from EMFs             |
| <b>Benefit</b>      | Modernization of routes during construction period, jobs and impulses for socio-economic development |  | Compensation to land-owners, compensation to environment                  |

# Social acceptance of new technologies in Germany, Norway and Finland: carbon capture and storage

|          |  |   |   |
|----------|--|---|---|
|          | “The Good, the Bad and the Ugly”: German’s views on CCS  | “Pride and Prejudice”: progressive development of CCS in Norway   | “To be or not to be”: story of CCS in Finland   |
| Setting  | Strong opposition against CCS projects exists among politicians, NGOs and general public.                          | Norwegian government aims to make the country as a leader in CCS technology.  | Though there is no active CCS project in Finland, there are some R&D projects   |
| Villains | Distrust to politicians and the concern that energy policy is driven by interests of coal industry                 | Risk perceptions are also connected with the absence of storage sites, risk of leakage and the lack of technology learning. | Another barrier is the absence of storage sites and not developed mechanisms for monitoring of storage sites.           |
| Heroes   | To apply CCS only for offshore storage or to limit its application to steel and other energy intensive industries. | To provide financing incentives and certainty to investors and to limit application of CCS to steel and cement industries.  | To increase financial support for CCS demonstration projects from EU and reductions of costs of project implementation. |

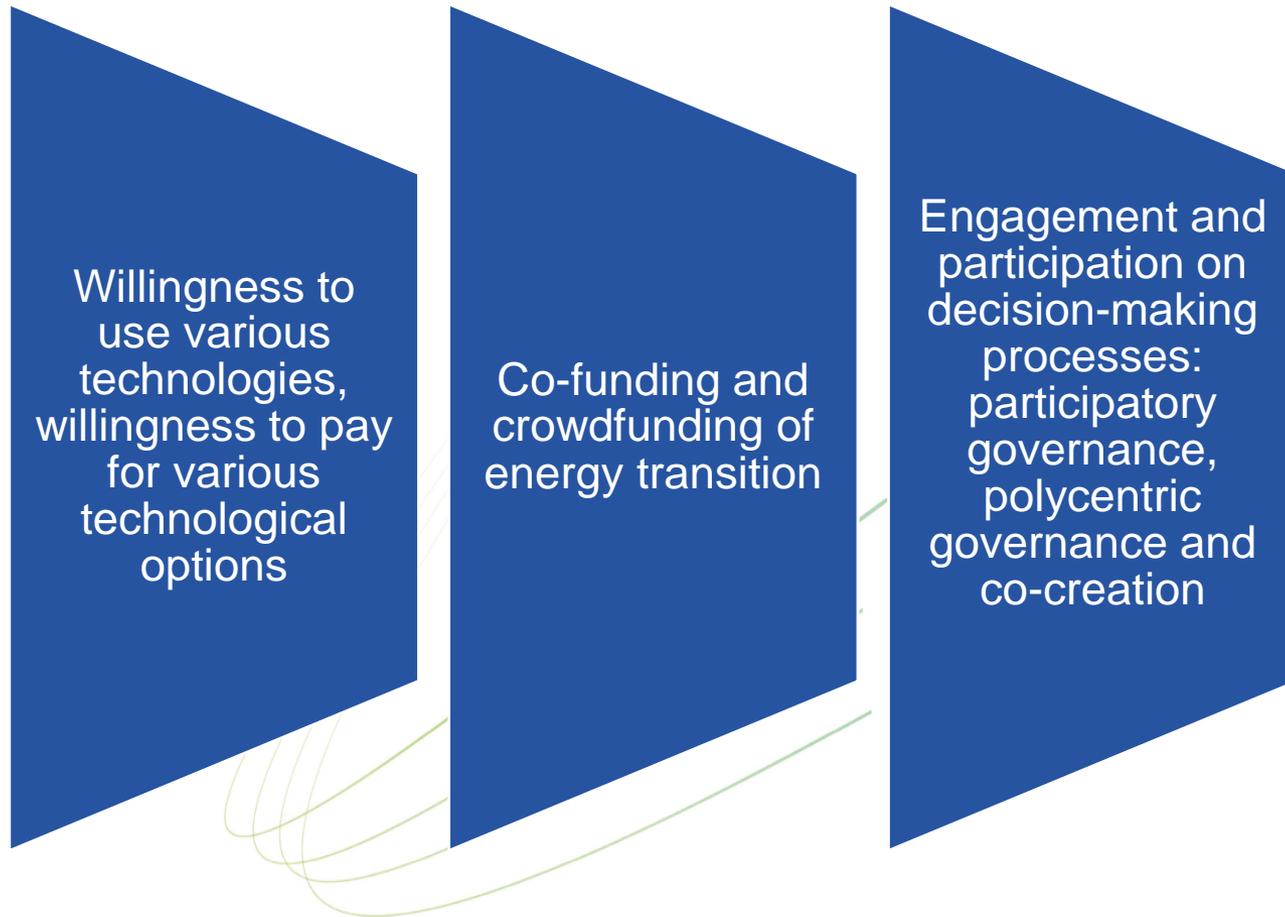
## Social attitudes towards renewable energies and shale oil in Jordan



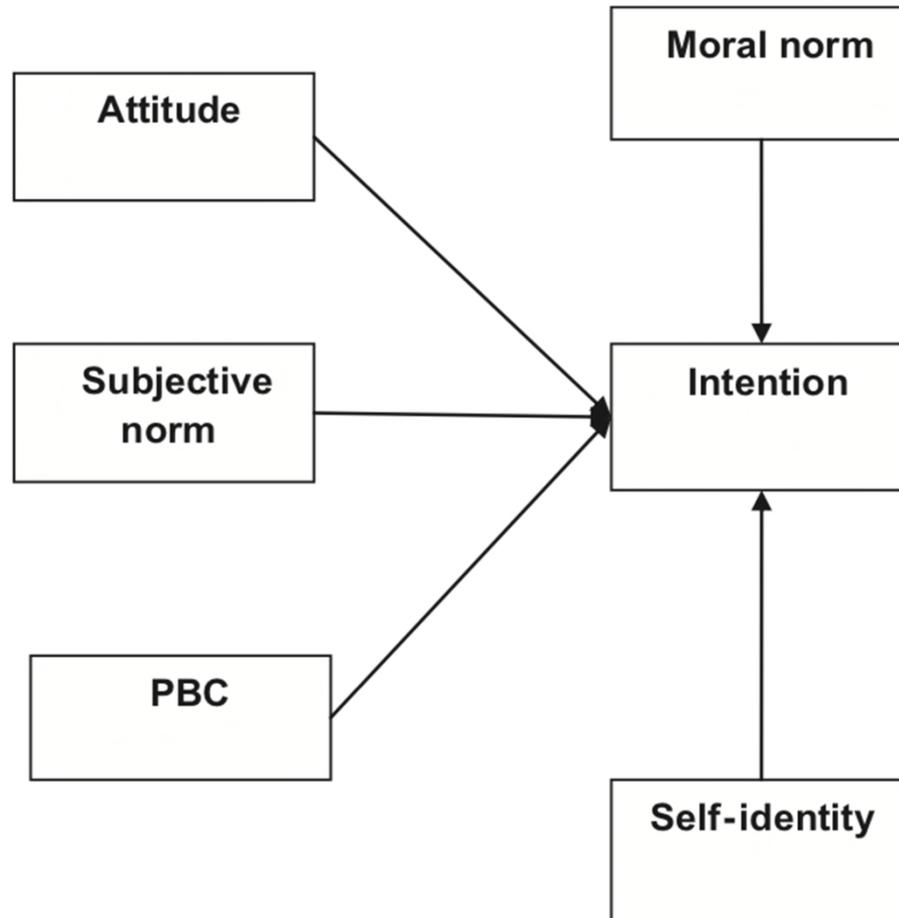
Source: Komendantova et al., OPEC Energy Review 2021

# Participation and engagement

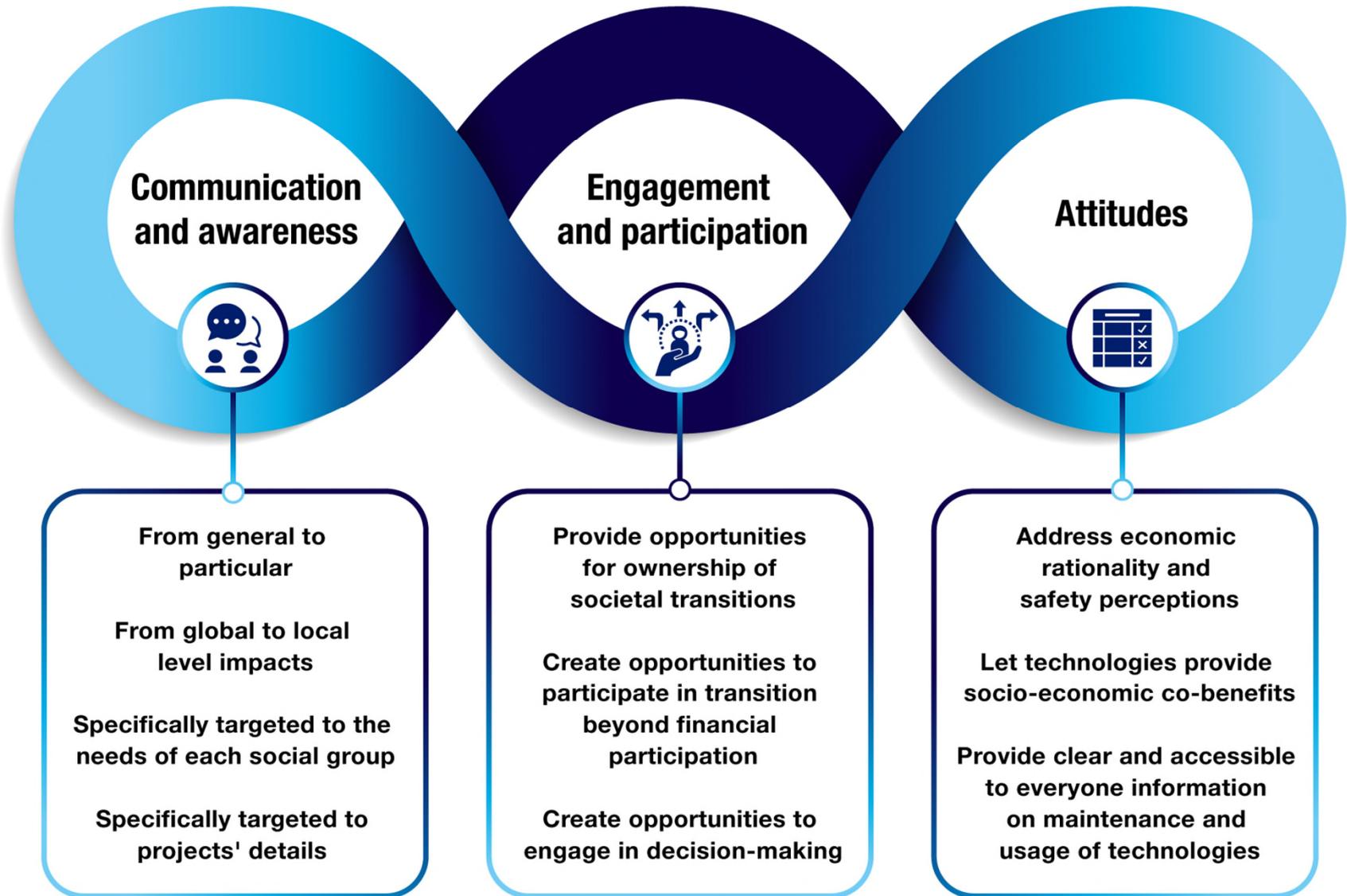
# Engagement and ownership of the process



# From awareness to action: Theory of Planned Behavior



# Communication, engagement, and attitudes cycle

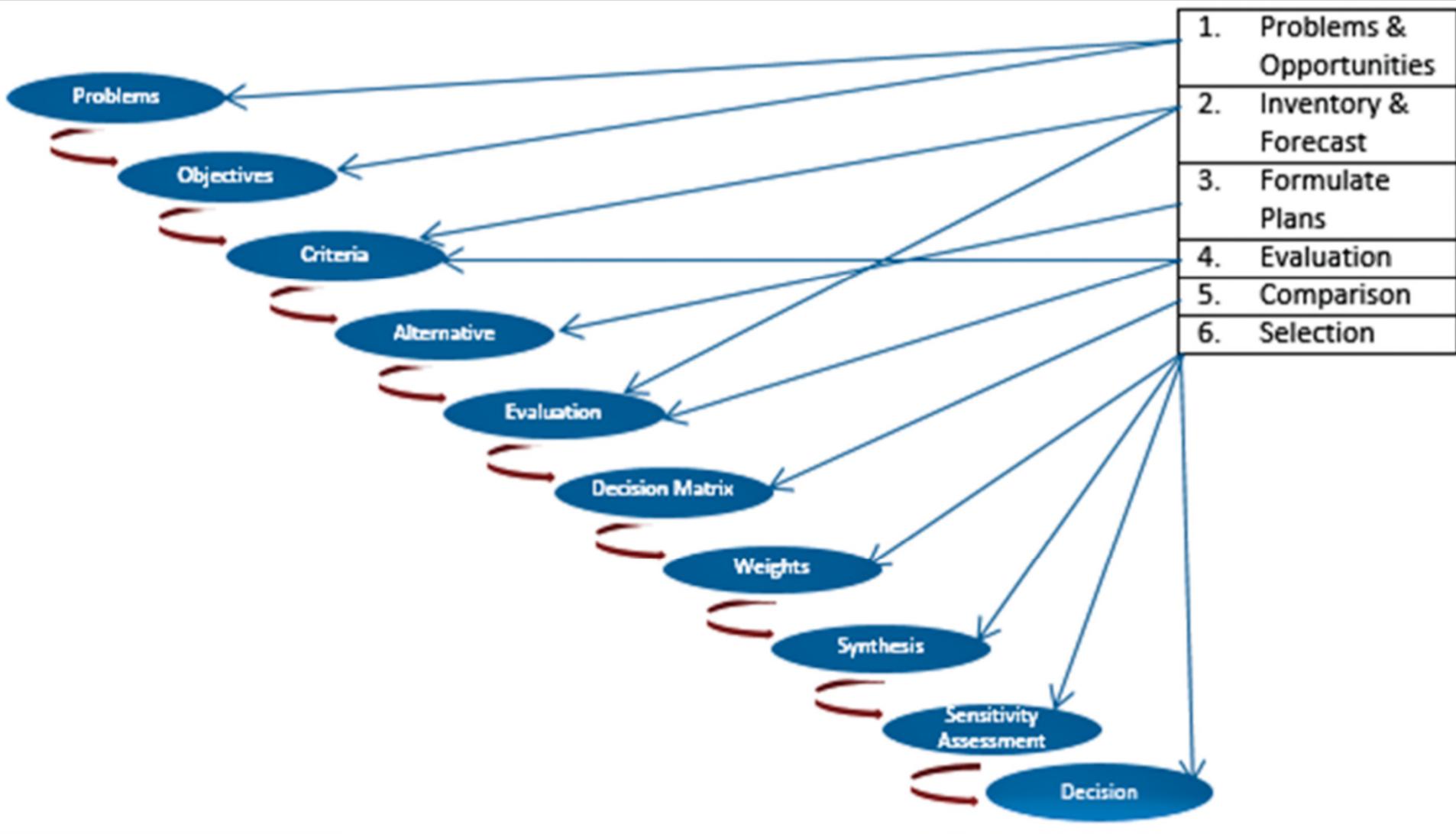


# Discourses about energy transition



# Compromise policy solutions

# Multi-criteria decision making

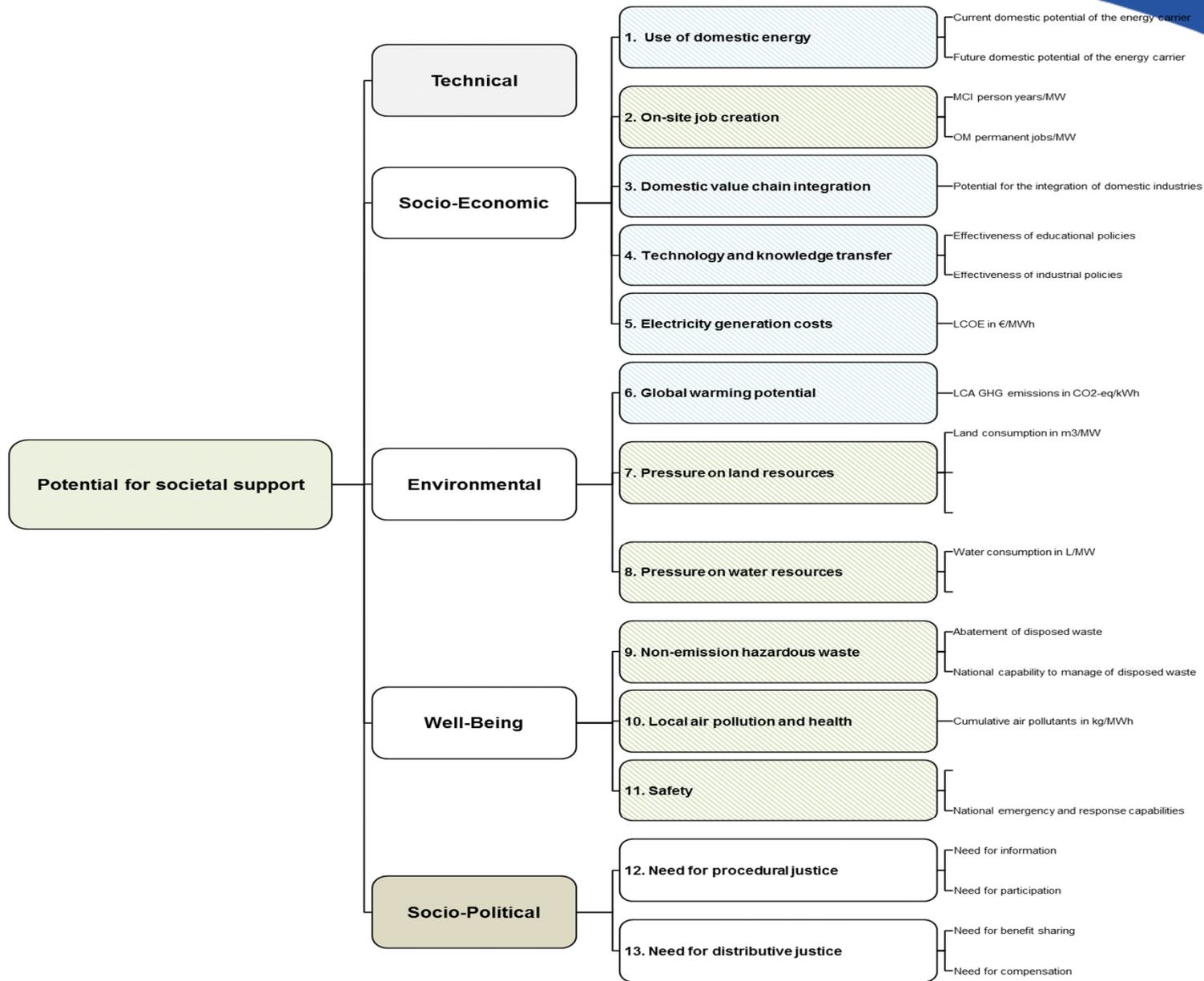




## Middle East North African Sustainable Electricity Trajectories (MENA Select)

Investigates the socio-economic impacts, risks and opportunities, and potential for conflict, of different electricity scenarios and power production technologies in several countries within the MENA region.

- Renewable energies, fossil fuels (oil, coal, gas) and nuclear
- Several stakeholders workshops
- Each technology will be evaluated against a set of criteria

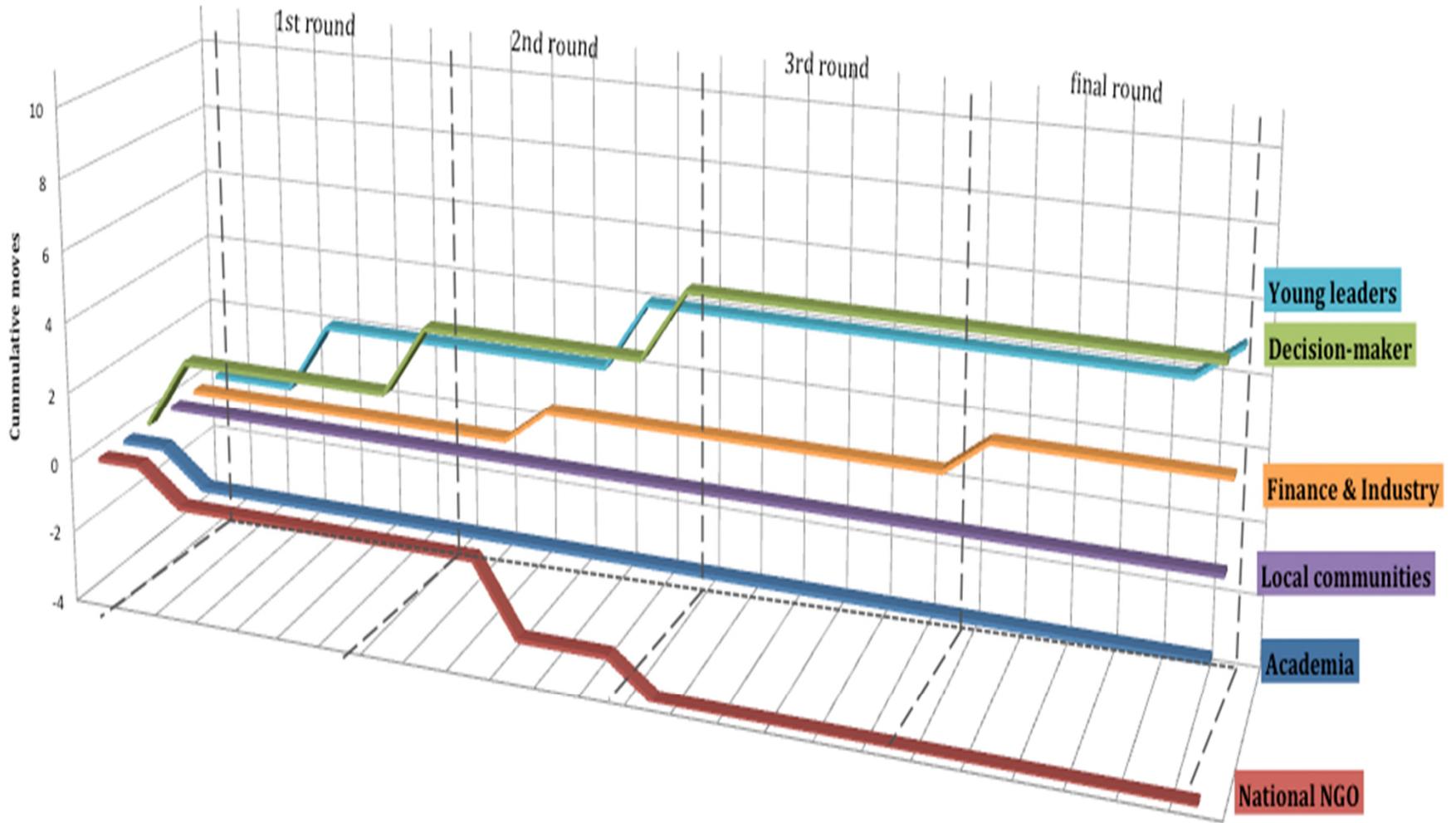


 Contribution to national energy and development objectives

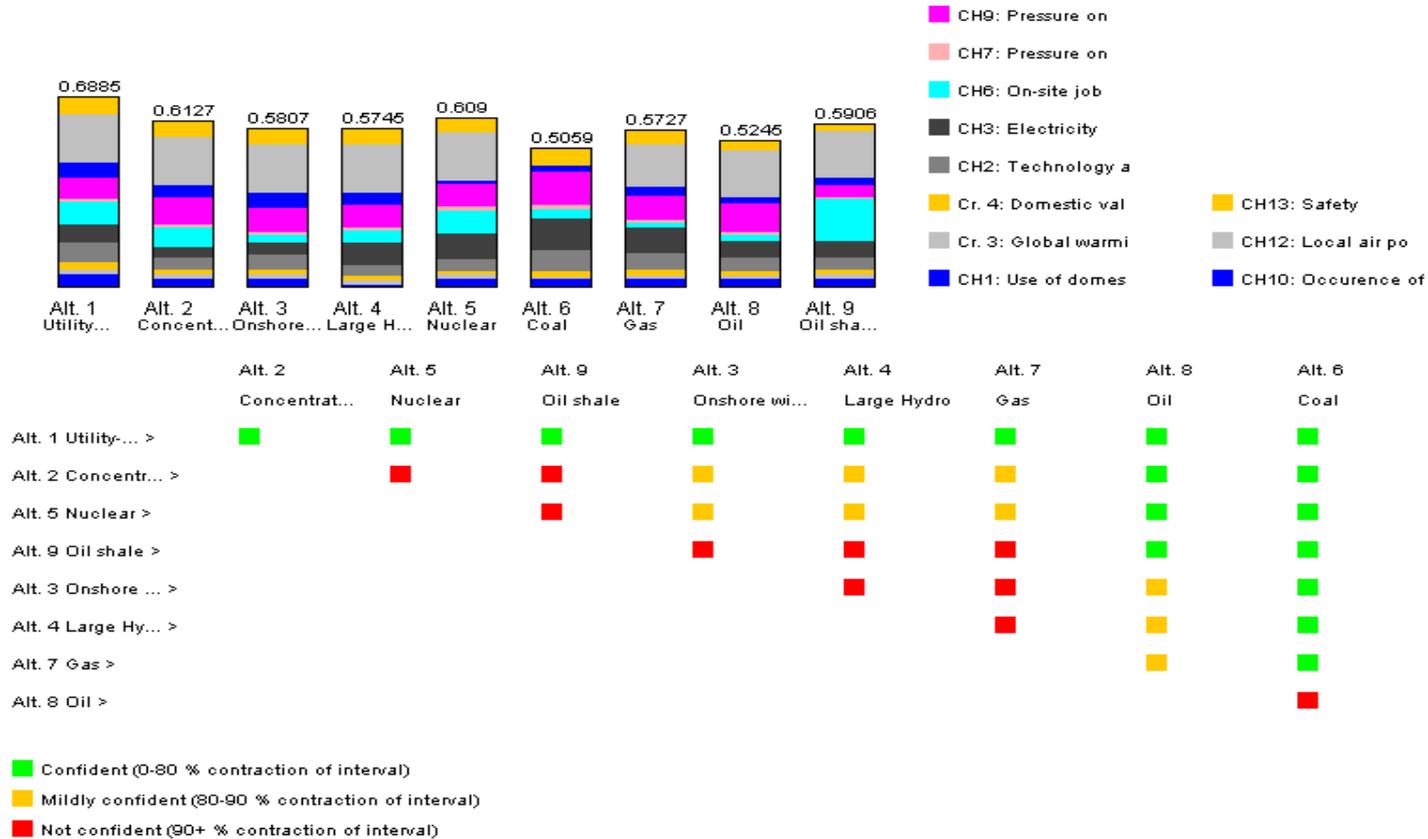
 Local conflict sensitivity

| Stakeholders             | Use of domestic energy sources | Global warming potential | Domestic value chain integration | Technology and knowledge transfer | Electricity system costs | On-site job creation    | Pressure on land resources | Pressure on local water security | Non-emission hazardous waste | Local air pollution and health | Safety                  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Young leaders</b>     | Moderate-low importance        | Moderate-low importance  | Least importance                 | Moderate importance               | High importance          | Moderate importance     | Least importance           | Moderate importance              | Least importance             | Moderate-low importance        | High importance         |
| <b>National NGOs</b>     | Moderate-low importance        | Moderate-low importance  | Least importance                 | Moderate-low importance           | High importance          | Moderate-low importance | Least importance           | Moderate-low importance          | Least importance             | Least importance               | Moderate-low importance |
| <b>Local communities</b> | Least importance               | High importance          | Least importance                 | Least importance                  | High importance          | Least importance        | Least importance           | Moderate-low importance          | Least importance             | Moderate-low importance        | High importance         |
| <b>Academia</b>          | Moderate importance            | Least importance         | Moderate-low importance          | Moderate importance               | High importance          | Moderate importance     | Least importance           | Moderate importance              | Least importance             | Moderate importance            | Moderate-low importance |
| <b>Finance/Industry</b>  | Least importance               | High importance          | Least importance                 | Least importance                  | High importance          | Least importance        | Least importance           | Moderate-low importance          | Least importance             | Moderate-low importance        | High importance         |
| <b>Policy-makers</b>     | Moderate importance            | Least importance         | Moderate-low importance          | Least importance                  | Moderate importance      | Least importance        | Moderate-low importance    | Least importance                 | Least importance             | Least importance               | High importance         |
| <b>Compromise</b>        | Moderate-low importance        | Least importance         | Least importance                 | Moderate-high importance          | Moderate-high importance | High importance         | Least importance           | Moderate-high importance         | Moderate-low importance      | High importance                | Moderate-low importance |

## JORDAN - Group divergence and convergence on "Safety"



# Trade-off on technologies



**Conclusion:** "Alt. 1 Utility-scale Photovoltaic (PV)" is the best alternative, with "Alt. 2 Concentrated Solar Power" as runner up. The Alt. 1 > Alt. 2 statement is confident, since the information provided in this decision basis supports a strict ranking with a degree of 22 %, whereas the reverse statement is not supported.

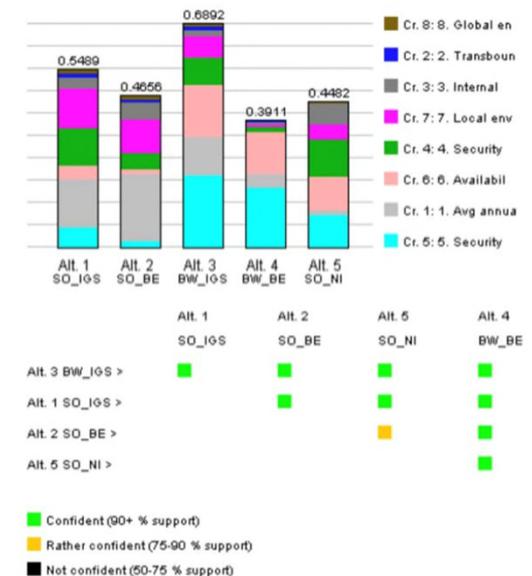


# Participatory scenario planning of water-energy nexus in Jordan

|                 |                      | Energy Dimension     |                    |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
|                 |                      | Baseline Energy (BE) | Low Imports (NI)   | Interconnected Gulf System (IGS) |
| Water dimension | Baseline Water (BW)  | BW_BE                | BW_NI <sup>1</sup> | BW_IGS                           |
|                 | Smart Operation (SO) | SO_BE                | SO_NI              | SO_IGS                           |

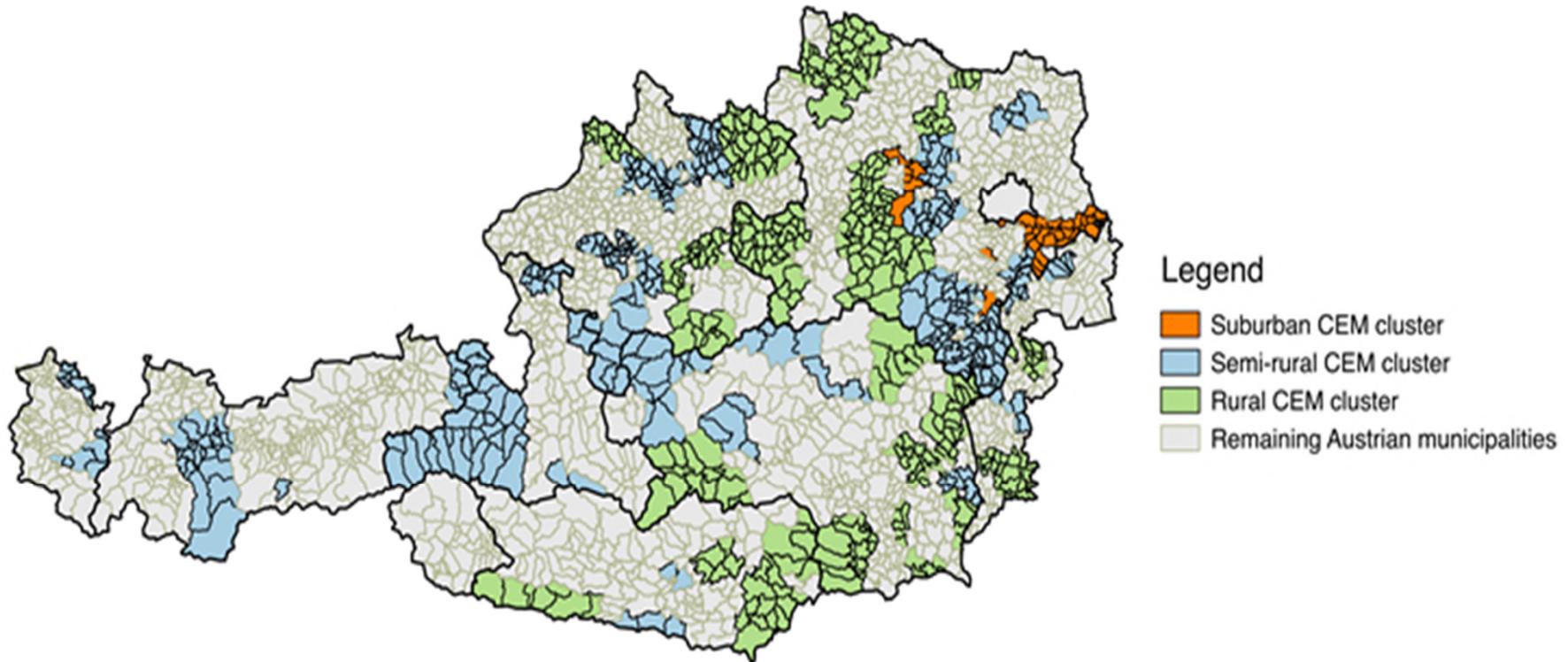
<sup>1</sup> BW\_NI was not considered in the rankings due to infeasibility.

| Ranking       | 1st    | 2nd    | 3rd    | 4th   | 5th    |
|---------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| Energy group  | SO_IGS | SO_BE  | BW_IGS | BW_BE | SO_NI  |
| Water group 1 | SO_IGS | SO_NI  | BW_BE  | SO_BE | BW_IGS |
| Water group 2 | BW_IGS | SO_IGS | SO_BE  | SO_NI | BW_BE  |



Source: Komendantova et al., Sustainability 2020

# Energy transition in Austria





Contact Information  
Nadejda Komendantova  
[komendan@iiasa.ac.at](mailto:komendan@iiasa.ac.at)