

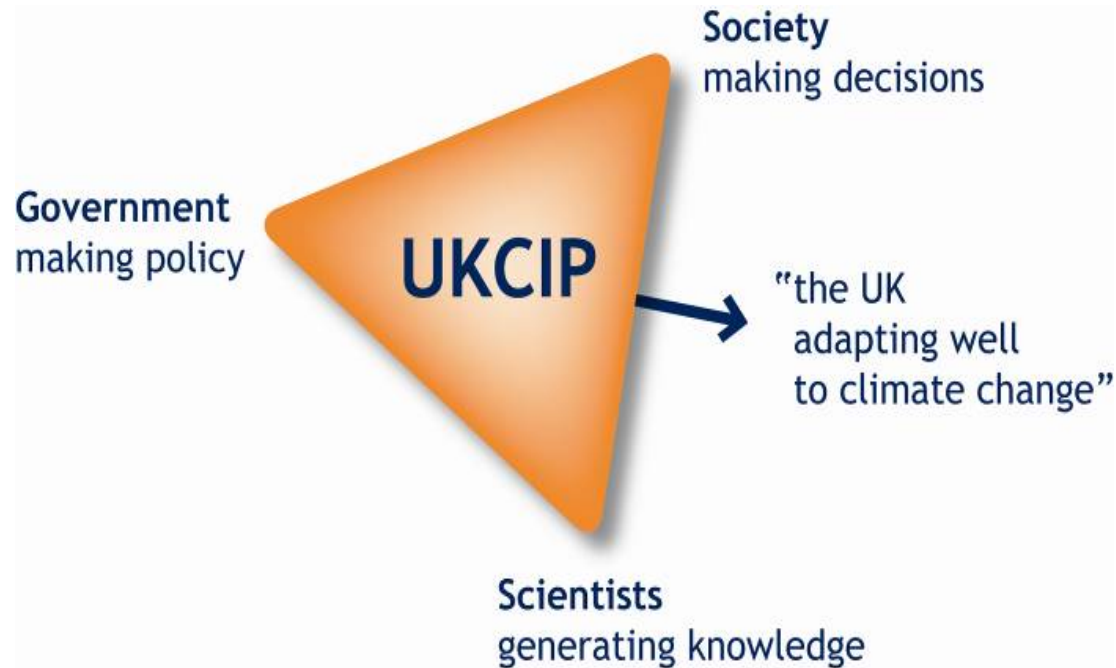
EMS Annual Conference

Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Adaptation Activities: Identifying Challenges to Find Appropriate Solutions



UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP)

- Set up by UK Government in 1997
- Based at the Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford
- Focus on adaptation, given necessity of mitigation



UKCIP “helps organisations to assess how they might be affected by climate change, so that they can prepare for its impacts”

UKCIP's work on Monitoring and Evaluation

- Workshops with practitioners and experts
- Collaboration with others (e.g. World Resources Institute and the UK Evaluation Society)
- Developing a 'toolbox' to support adaptation M&E



Why is M&E important in an climate adaptation context?

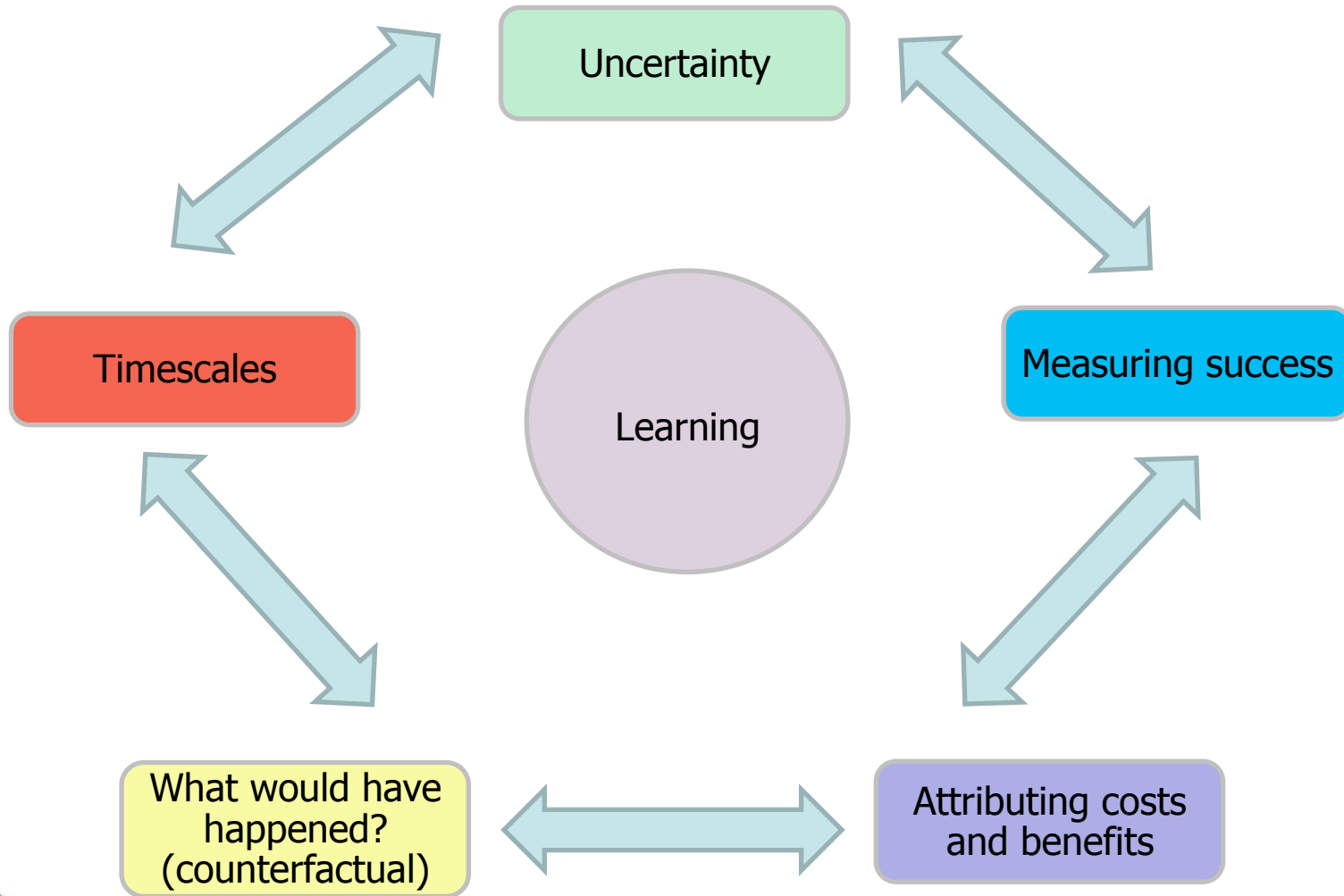
- Climate change is complex and long-term
- Still at an early stage in our understanding
 - How do we best adapt to future climate change?
 - How do we best assess our progress in adapting?
- Learning what works (or not) in what circumstances and for what reasons:

“Are we doing the right things and are we doing things right?”

What we have learnt through our work

- There is no ‘one size fits all’ solution or framework
- Don’t reinvent the wheel (WRI-GTZ)
- Specific ‘tricky issues’ and challenges exist, but most are manageable
- ‘Aim for the weak spots’ (WRI-GTZ)

'Tricky Issues' : What can make M&E of adaptation challenging?



M&E and uncertainty: The adaptation challenge

- Uncertainty is inherent in understanding future climate
- Our understanding of climate science, impacts and risks is dynamic
- Can feel like the goalposts are being moved
- How can we know if we are doing the right things or doing things right?



M&E and uncertainty: possible responses

- View adaptation as a continuous process
 - A journey, M&E is your satnav!
- Use of formative evaluation approaches
- Understand your assumptions the challenge them
- Flexibility should become an important success measure for the intervention (even if there is a cost).



Key messages

- Adaptation is a process, learning is key
- Effective M&E requires a spirit of continual improvement and learning
- Learning must reach beyond a single project
- M&E of adaptation has inherent challenges
- No ‘one size fits all’ solution but a toolbox of responses can help.

www.ukcip.org.uk

