

A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water Resources

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What is the Blueprint?

■ A policy response at European level

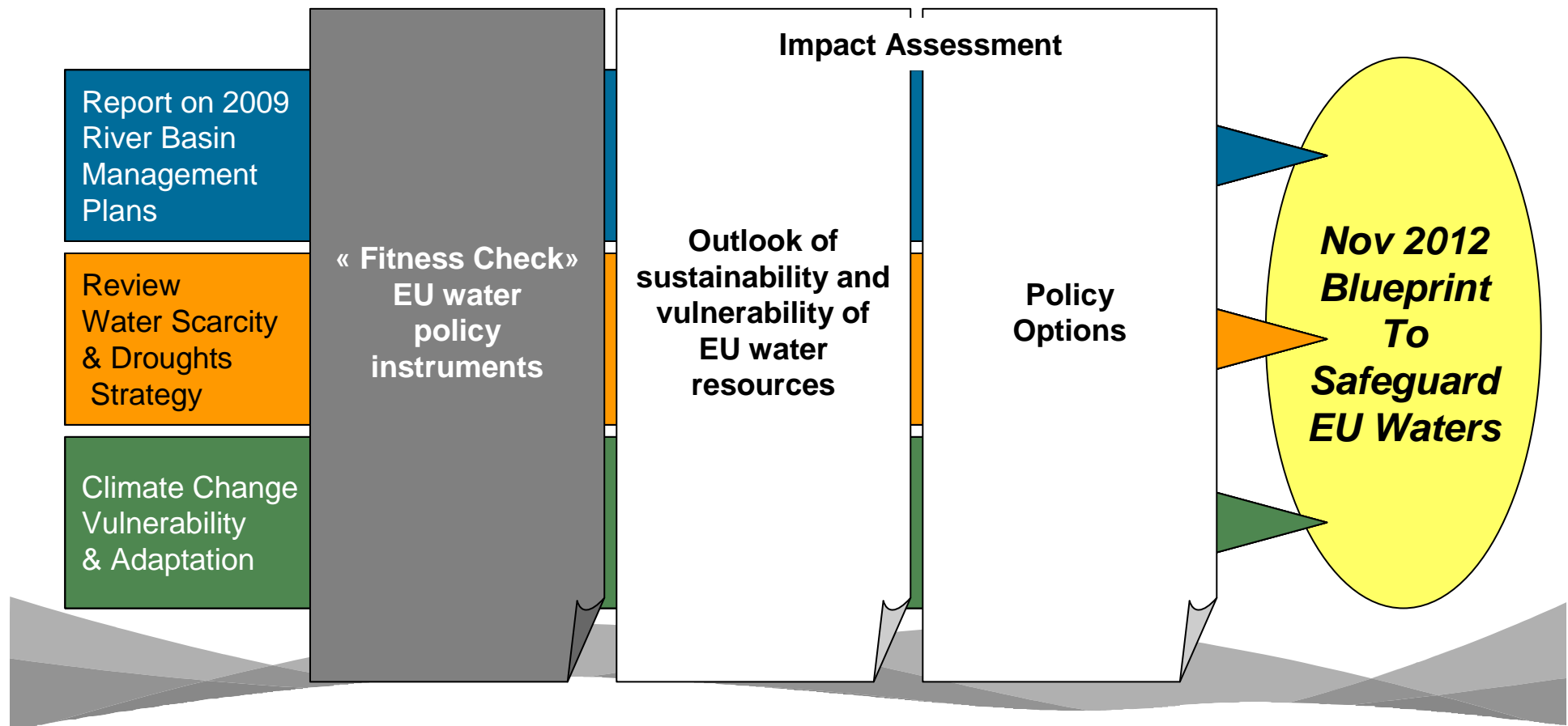
- to address the implementation issues related to the current EU policy framework with a focus on water quality
- to develop measures to tackle in particular water availability and water quantity problems

■ The Blueprint will:

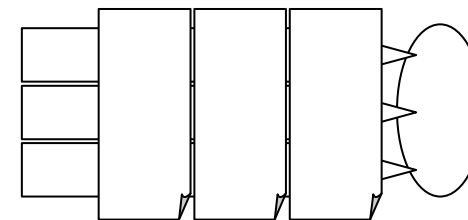
- Look into gaps and shortcomings of the current policy and ways to address them
- Look at the evolving vulnerability of the water environment to identify measures and tools in several EU policy areas
- Examine the balance between water demand and supply, taking into account the needs of both human activities and natural ecosystems
- Explain how the Blueprint objective should be supported by data collection, scientific and technological development

Objective:
*to ensure
sufficient
supply of good
quality water for
sustainable and
equitable water
use*

Synthesis of policy recommendations building on on-going assessments



3 types of action



■ Better Implementation

- The assessment of the River Basin Management Plans delivered by the Member States
- The Fitness Check of EU water policy

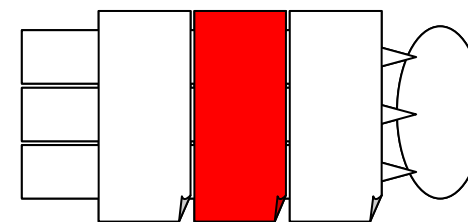
■ Better integration

- In particular: Agriculture, Energy , Regional and Cohesion policy, Research& Innovation, Transport

■ Completion

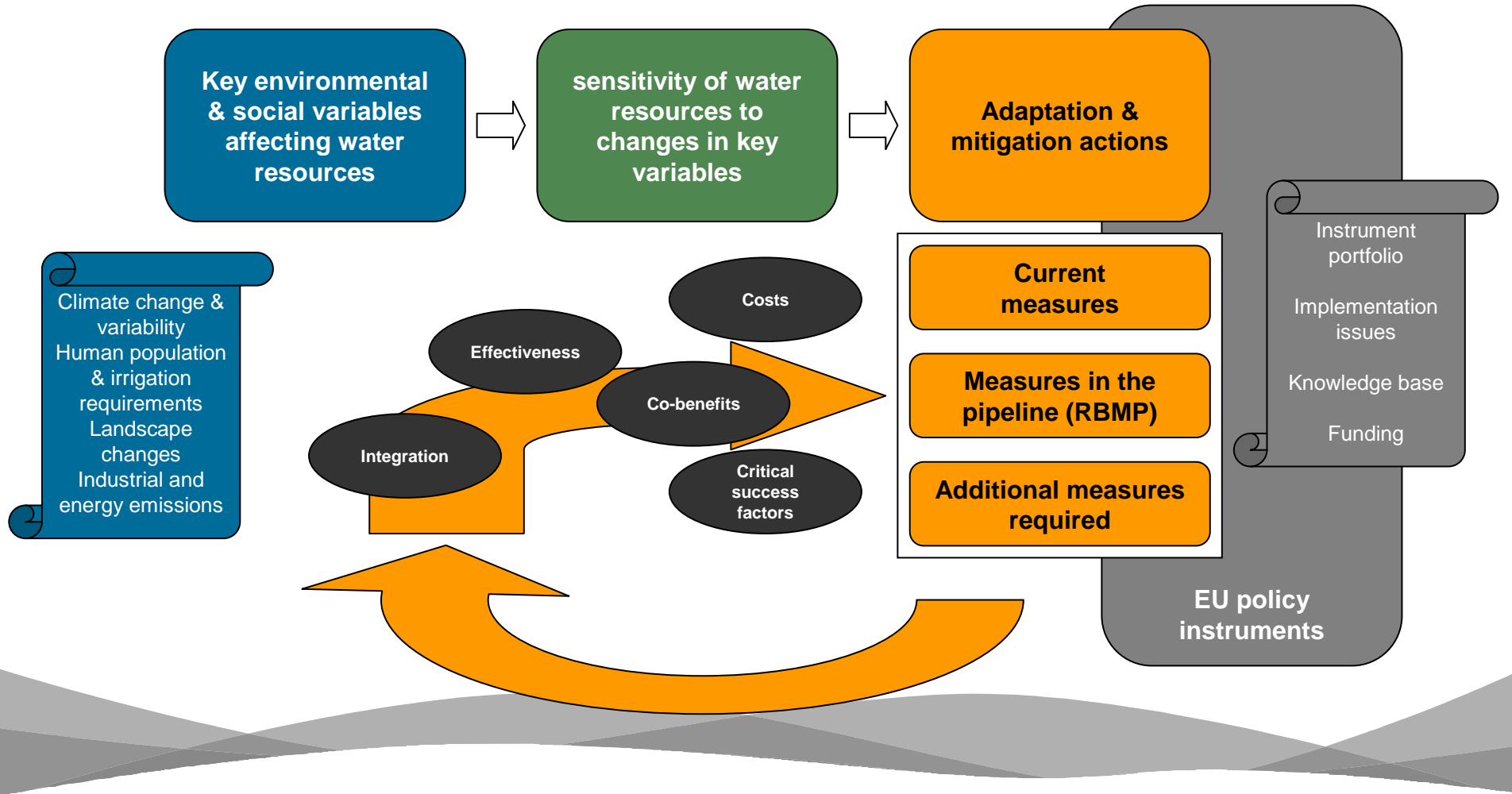
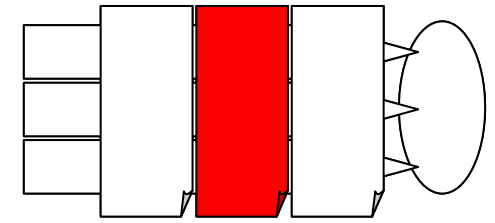
- The review of the EU policy on Water Scarcity and Drought
- The assessment of the vulnerability of water resources to climate change and other man made pressures

Outlook for EU water resources

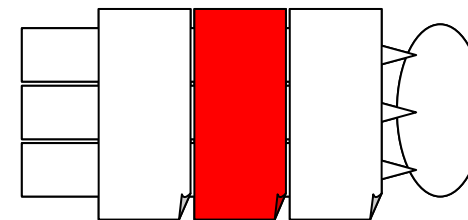


- **The Blueprint impact assessment identify the broad range of pressures on water resources:**
 - Organic/Nutrient pollution, dangerous substances
 - Hydromorphology/ Sediments
 - Disruption water cycle, droughts, floods
 - Over-exploitation water resources
- **It will build on the EEA State Of the Environment Report (SOER 2010), complemented by the EEA « State of Water » report to be published at the same time as the Blueprint**
- **Cross-sectoral / cross-policies assessment (drivers, responses)**
- **Common baseline, medium (2020-30) and long-term (2050) scenarios, sensitivity analysis.**

Impact Assessment Framework



From problem description to objectives



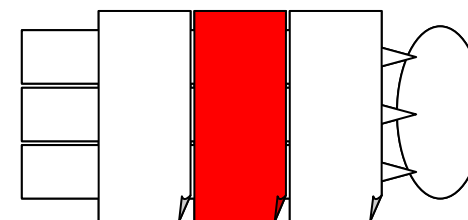
■ Problem description

- Identification of the **key challenges**
- Which **measures** are needed as a **priority**
- Analysis of the need to act at EU level: **policy options**

■ Objectives

- **General:** A water (and resources) efficient society (link to Europe 2020)
- **Specific:** Indicative targets at EU level on natural water retention, water savings, water reuse/recycling, water quality
- **Operational:** link to policy options

Scenarios and targets for the protection of water resources



Water resource balances (quantity, quality) for relevant European river basins - SEEAW framework - monthly resolution - ECRINS reference system

Disaggregated information on the **use of water** for the base year by the different economic activities, including estimates on its environmental impact.

Information on technical, non technical or structural **measures** affecting water availability and water use by the different economic activities, including estimates on their environmental impact.

Scenarios for land-use changes, hydrological parameters and use of water by the different economic activities

optimisation model, maximization of net social benefits from the use of water by economic sectors

baseline scenario / sensitivity analysis

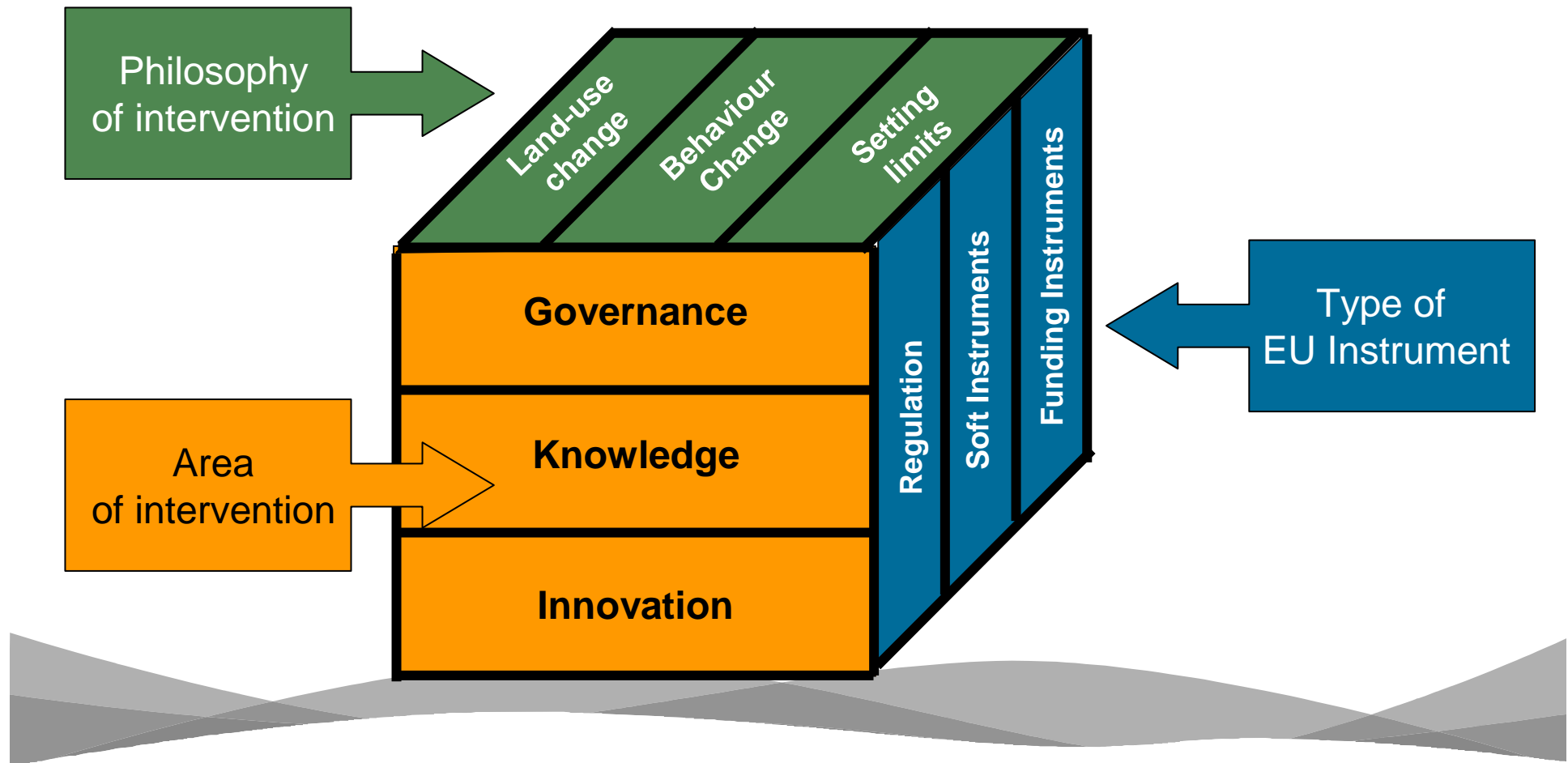
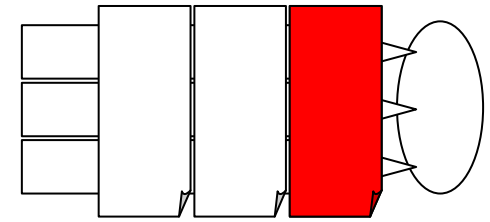
Selection of measures

Blueprint Specific Objectives

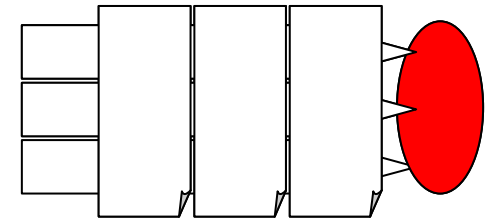
indicative targets at EU level for reducing the vulnerability of water resources

- **natural water retention,**
- **water savings,**
- **reuse/recycling**
- **water quality**

Policy Options

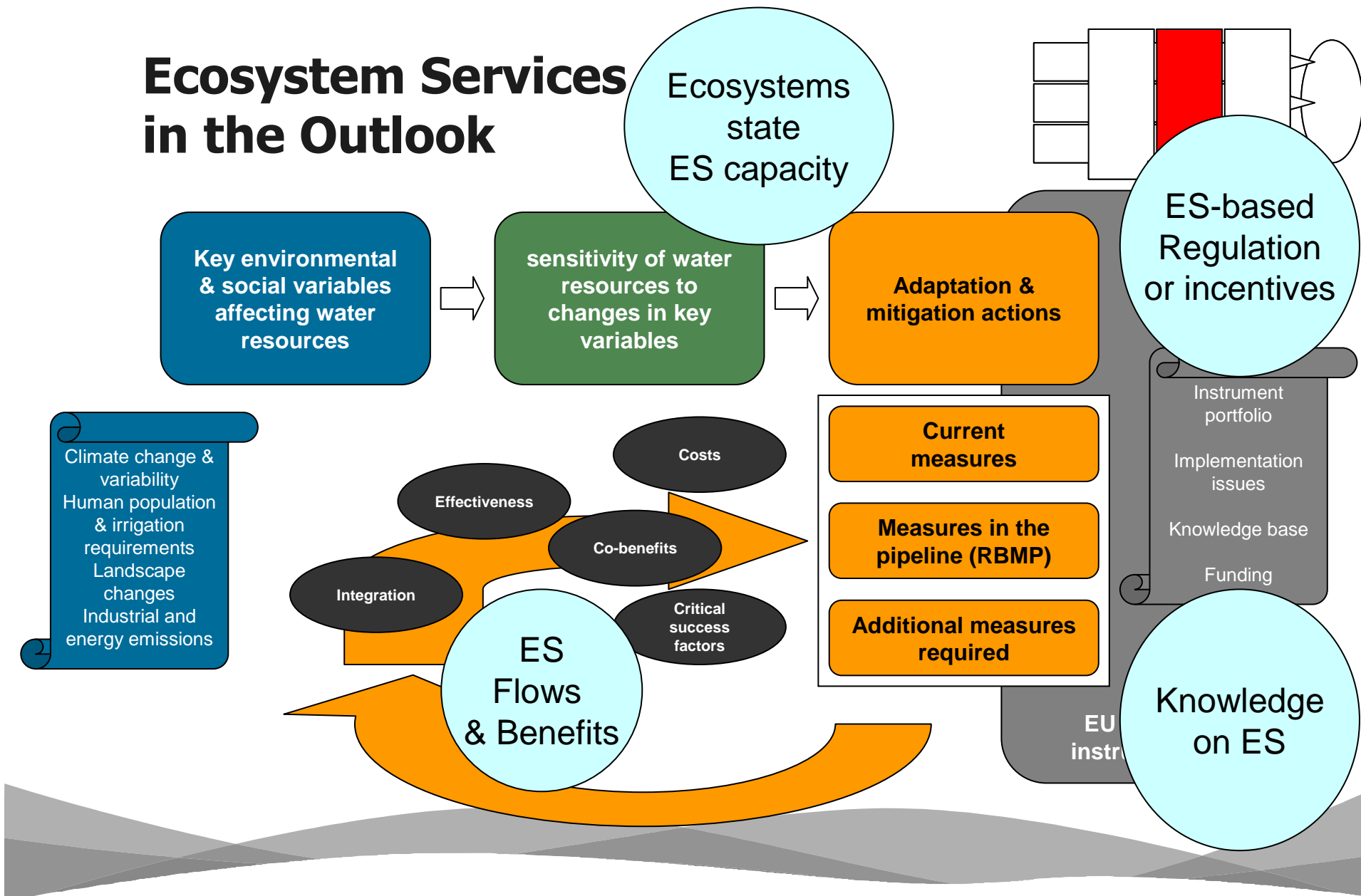


Calendar towards Blueprint adoption in November 2012

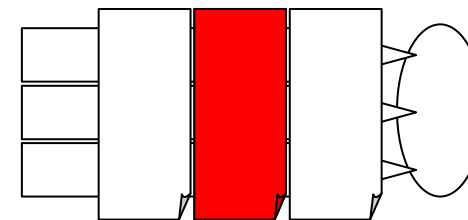


| | 2011-III | 2011-IV | 2012-I | 2012-II | 2012-III | 2012-IV |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------|---------|----------|---------|
| | Assessment RBMP – Pressures & Measures | | | | | |
| | Water Efficiency in Buildings | | | | | |
| | WSD Gap Analysis | | | | | |
| | ClimWatAdapt | | | | | |
| | Natural water retention measures | | | | | |
| | | Fitness Check 2 | | | | |
| | | Water resources balances | | | | |
| | | Scenarios & Targets | | | | |
| | | Impact Assessment Policy options | | | | |
| Public Consultations | | FC | | Options | | |
| Key Events | | | FC | WWF | GW | END |
| Adoption | | | | IAB | ISC | 15/11 |

Ecosystem Services in the Outlook



Ecosystem Services in the Blueprint context



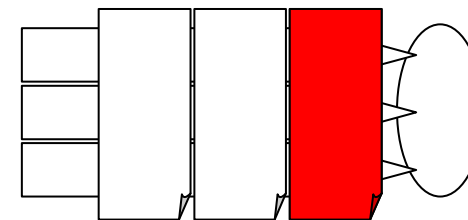
■ Indicative targets at EU level to reduce vulnerability of water resources water targets based on:

- maximization of [net social benefits from the water use](#) by economic sectors including
 - welfare impacts for water users,
 - [valuation of key ecosystem services provision](#),
 - valuation of external costs from degradation of ecological status and energy consumption

■ Land Use / Natural Water Retention measures

- The [impact of these measures on Ecosystem Services provision](#) is part of cost and benefit analysis.

Ecosystem Services & current Water Policy Instruments



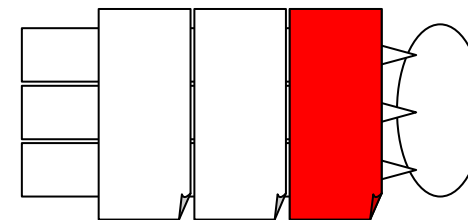
■ Water Framework Directive

- Ecological Status: Connections between ES and WFD objectives
- Socio-economic analysis: inclusion of ES in the cost-benefits balance
- Water Pricing: inclusion of ES in cost recovery
- Agricultural Measures

■ Floods Directive

- ES in Flood Risk Management plans
- See "Towards better environmental options in flood risk management"

Policy Options to be explored



- Inclusion ES into target setting for water resources protection at River Basin Level
- EU framework for Payments for Ecosystem Services?
- Need for improved research & monitoring effort on ecosystem status and ES provision
- Etc.

Thank you for your attention!

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/blueprint/index_en.htm

