

Low Carbon Societies Network



Stakeholder involvement in Low-carbon strategies – an introduction



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Importance of stakeholder involvement

Political & social importance:

- A transition of the energy system needs to be supported by the whole society
- Scenarios are long term strategies which demand short term decisions to avoid long term negative impacts

Co-production of knowledge between researchers, politicians and stakeholders leading to increased legitimacy of the decisions:

- Add social, political expertise to the technical and economic hypothesis
- Evaluate the social acceptance of the scenarios – why?
- Create ownership of the scenarios among the stakeholders
- Find out main cleavages and common ground and solutions
- Know more about obstacles and factors for inacceptability

Definition stakeholder

- IPPC (2007): « A person or an organisation that has a legitimate interest in a project or entity, or would be affected by a particular action or policy. »
 - World Bank (2008): « Any entity with a declared or conceivable interest or stake in a policy concern. »
 - Van de Kerckhof (2006): « Actors from society who have an interest (a stake) in a specific policy issue.»
- **The definition of stakeholders depends on the objective of the stakeholder involvement**

An unresolved dilemma: Representativeness and competence

- **Representativeness (Fairness)**: equal chance 'to be heard' and to exercise influence
 - An interactive process is considered to be fair if the group of participants is representative of the total population of stakeholders
 - Large deliberative forums

An unresolved dilemma:

Representativeness and competence

- **Competence** - extent to which participants in interactive policy-processes are able to generate **effective policy-outcomes**, where stakeholders agree upon
- Only those stakeholders who are able to judge a successful policy implementation should be selected to participate => skilled actors & small group

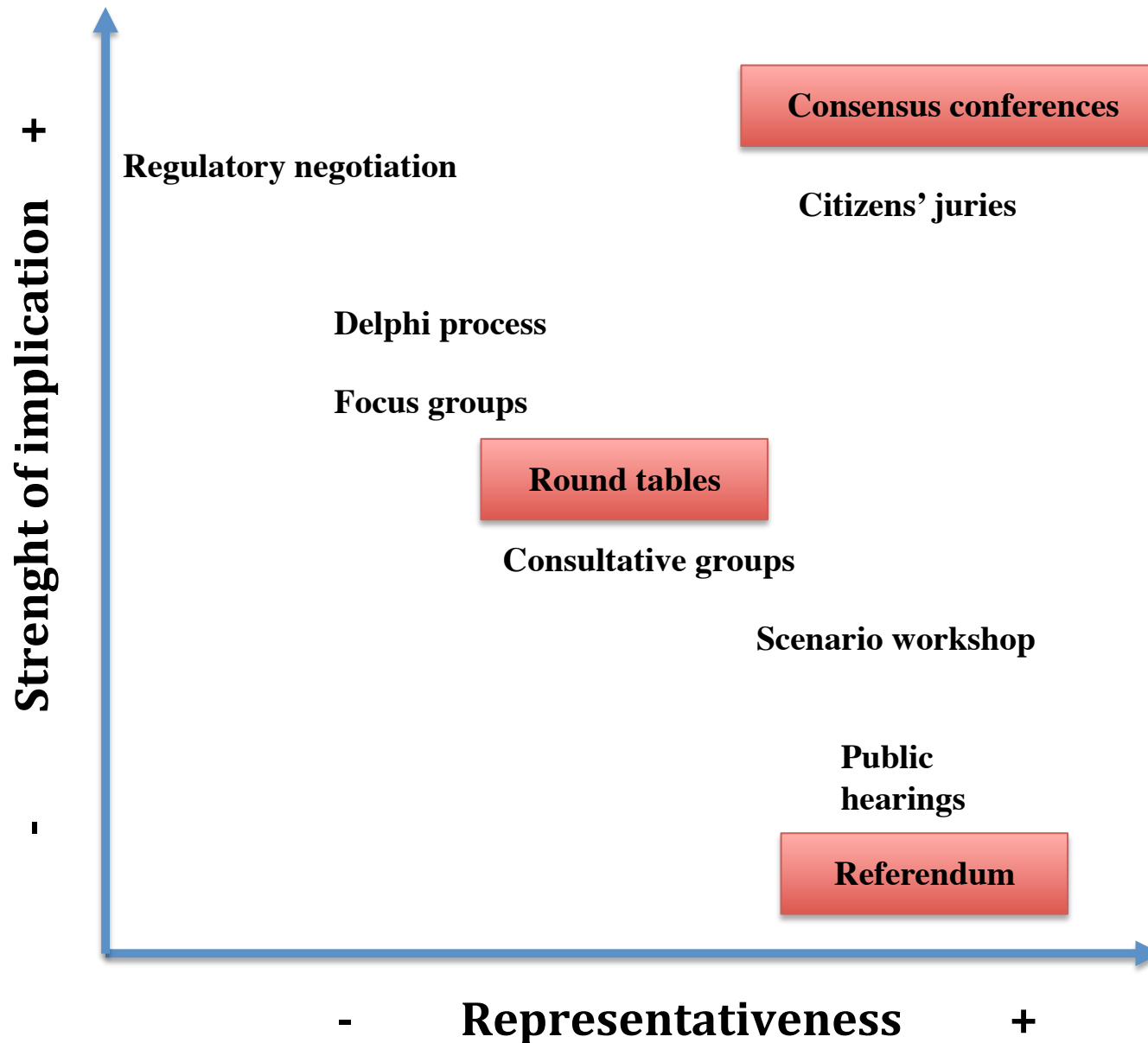
Does the principle of competence prevail?

- More deliberation can create more inequalities
- Citizens and stakeholders do not want to be a part of just a ritual

The relationship between input and output legitimacy shows up; stakeholders want to reach their goals (output legitimacy) and are therefore willing to sacrifice some democratic values

Mijke Boedeltje & Juul Cornips (2007)

Different forms of stakeholder involvement

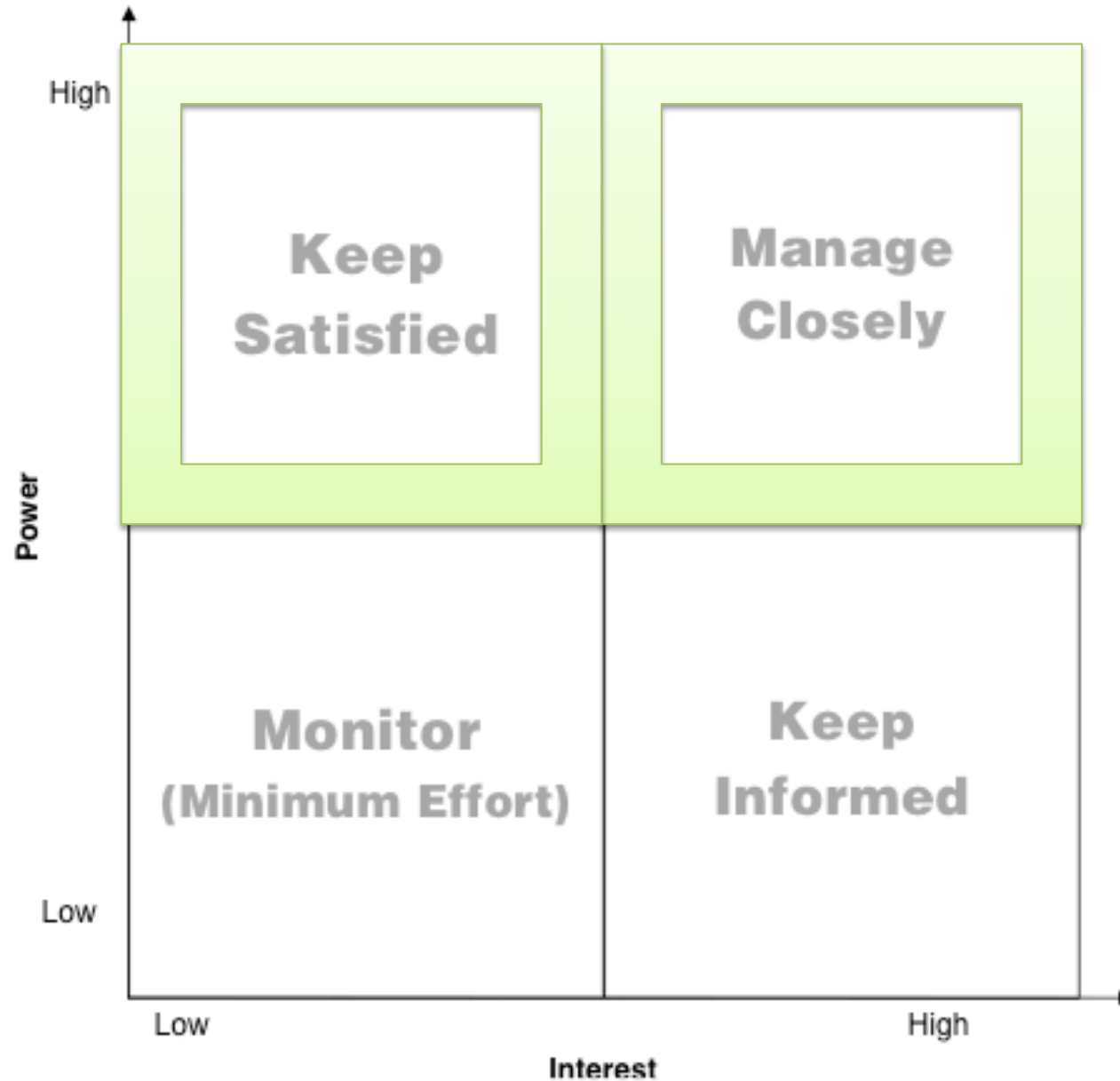


Stakeholder involvement in ENCI-LowCarb

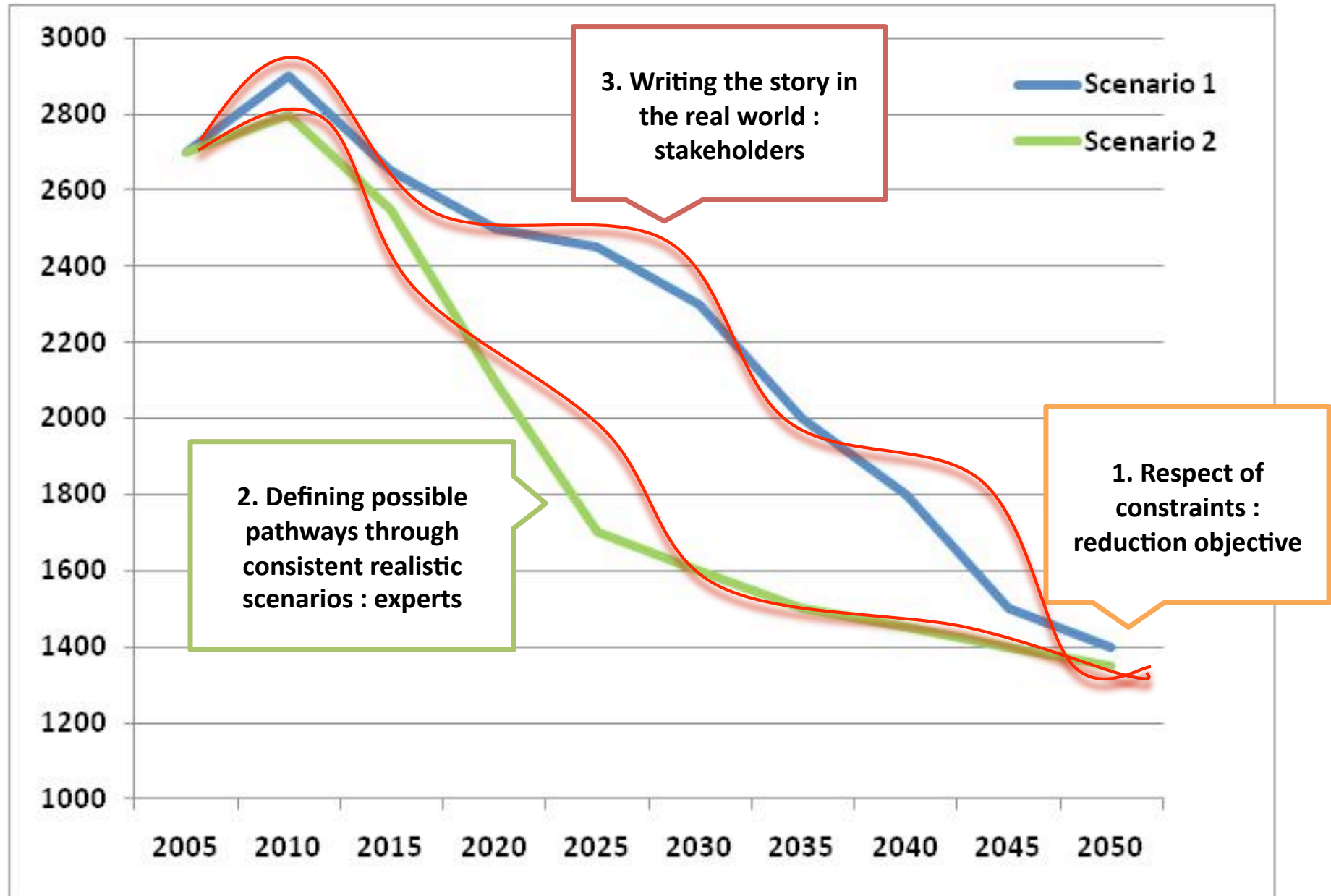
Stakeholder involvement in scenario creation is particularly challenging:

- Macro-economic models, limits of the models
- Different levels of decisions: technical and political
- Impact on assumptions
- Interconnections
- External contexts
- Polarizing issues

Selection of stakeholders



A scenario: a goal, an outline, a story...



Thank you for your attention!
Questions?

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