

Improving stakeholders' capacity for adapting effectively to changing conditions: the case of oil and gas development in the Russian Arctic

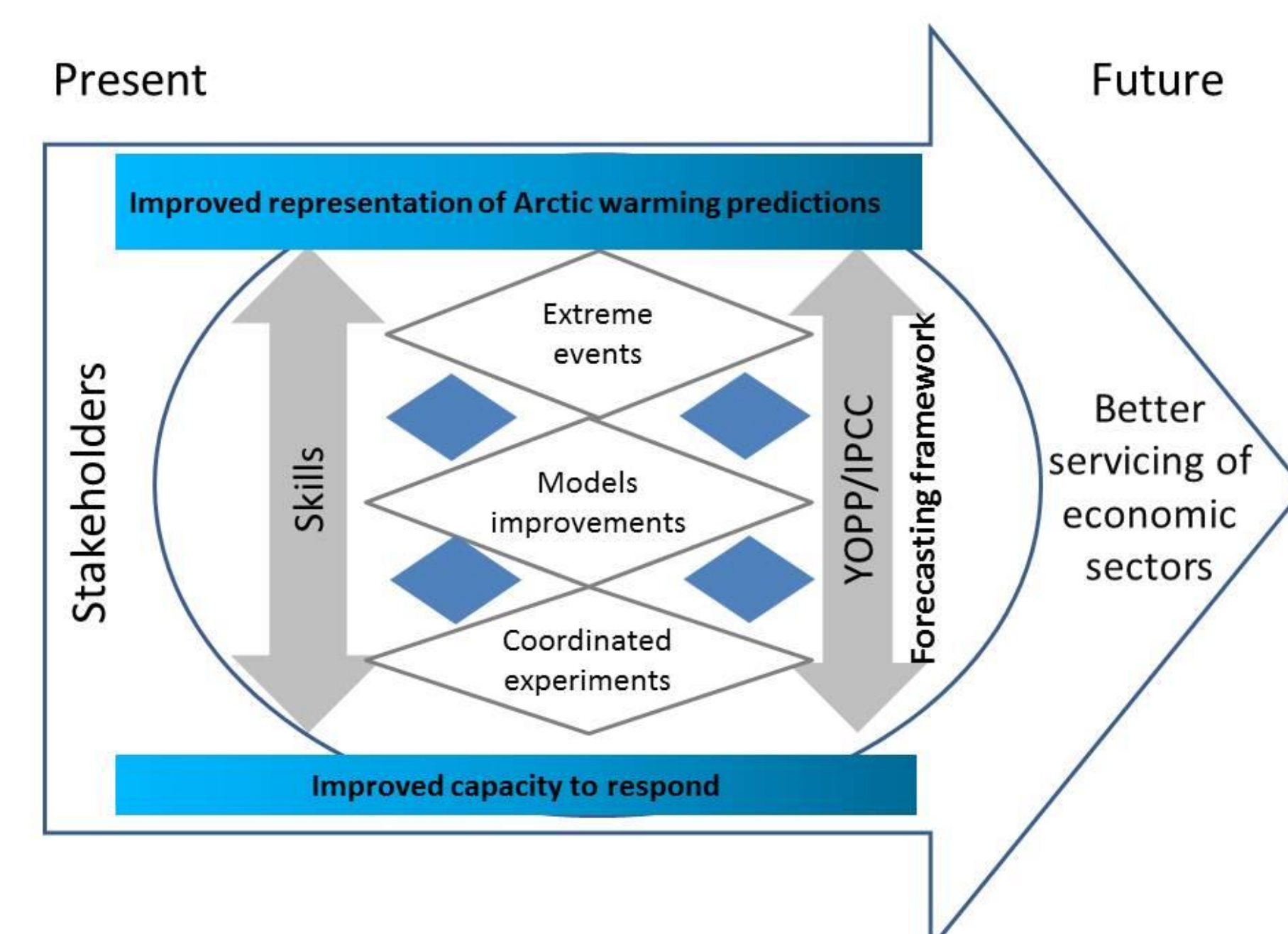
Part of the Blue-Action Research Project

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Blue-Action: Understanding the impact of a changing Arctic on northern hemisphere weather and climate

- Brings together 120 experts from over 40 organizations in 17 countries.
- Evaluates the impact of Arctic warming on the northern hemisphere and develops new techniques to improve forecast accuracy at sub-seasonal to decadal scales.
- Works specifically to simulate the linkages between the Arctic and the global climate system, and to understand the Arctic's role in generating weather patterns associated with hazardous conditions and climatic extremes.
- Aims to improve the safety and wellbeing of people in the Arctic and across the northern hemisphere and to reduce risks associated with Arctic operations and resource exploitation, and to support evidence-based decision-making by policymakers worldwide.



Motivation

- Changes in the Arctic strongly affect ecosystems, people and business both inside the Arctic and at lower latitudes.
- We need a better understanding of the interplay between regional and global systems (meteorological, climatic, economic, technological, legal, political) within the Arctic and their impacts beyond the region.
- We conduct a study of the impact of Arctic changes on business - specifically resource development - in the Arctic with the purpose of improving stakeholders' capacity to adapt to climate change.

Oil and gas development in the Russian Arctic

Within Work Package 5 "Developing and Valuing Climate Services" of the Blue-Action project, the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in cooperation with Institute of the World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Science (IMEMO) and Foresight Intelligence develop a case study on "Oil and Gas Development in the Russian Arctic".

Aim: improve Arctic rights- and stakeholders' capacity for adapting effectively to changing conditions and opportunities using significantly improved predictive methods and knowledge

Approach: transdisciplinary co-design and co-production of knowledge for informing decision-making at multiple levels and scales

Focus: on potential social, economic and environmental impacts of different energy development scenarios in the Western Russian Arctic on stakeholders based in the Arctic and elsewhere

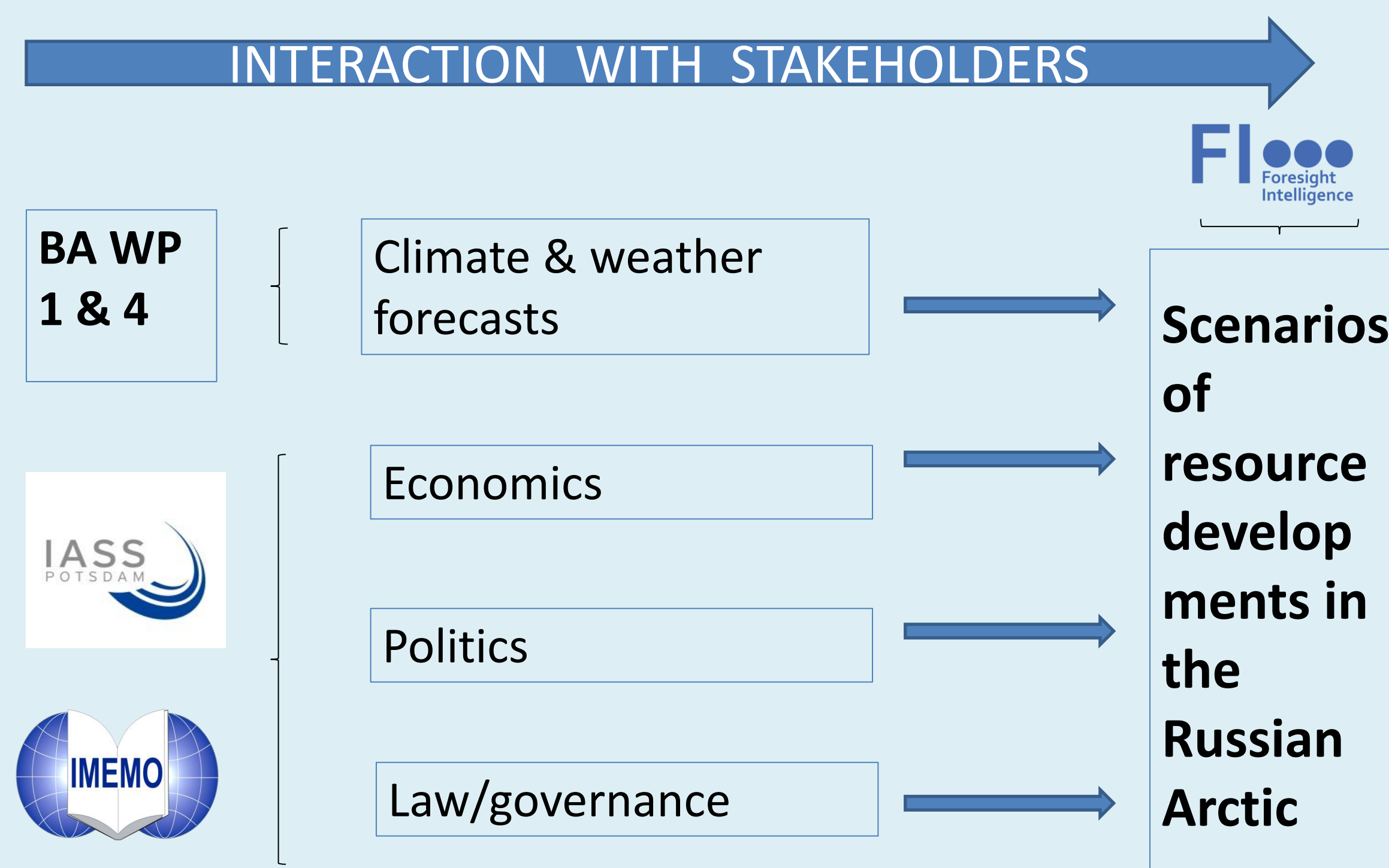
Tasks

Map views and needs concerning **Arctic climate information and resource development** of Russian and international stakeholders, including officials, businesses, indigenous organizations, and environmental NGOs.

Conduct **economic and policy analysis** of the likelihood and extent of energy resource development and potential consequences based on projections of a) international market, legal, regulatory, and political conditions, b) climate change impacts and c) expectations and perceptions of relevant stakeholders.

Co-design, develop, and test together with stakeholders **scenarios** of future energy resource development and its consequences in the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Okrug during three scenario workshops in 2017 and 2018.

Approach



Scenarios will be developed and tested together with stakeholders at three workshops using the method of strategic foresight, which is used worldwide by policymakers, business and analysts who want to convert uncertainties into opportunities.

Deliverables

- Stakeholder Map
- Scenario workshops
- Research articles
- Report about experience with engagement of stakeholders



The engagement of and dialogue among interested groups is a central part of this transdisciplinary impact study and a very important arena for collaboration in terms of risk assessment and prospects for sustainable development. This interaction is also important for data gathering to co-design, build and develop combined sets of scenarios, which will include market analyses, legal and political circumstances, and impacts of air pollution from resource development.

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