Science-policy interaction Experiences from ASTA

International and National Abatement strategies for Transboundary Air Pollution and

Peringe Grennfelt

5-7 October 2005

ASTA

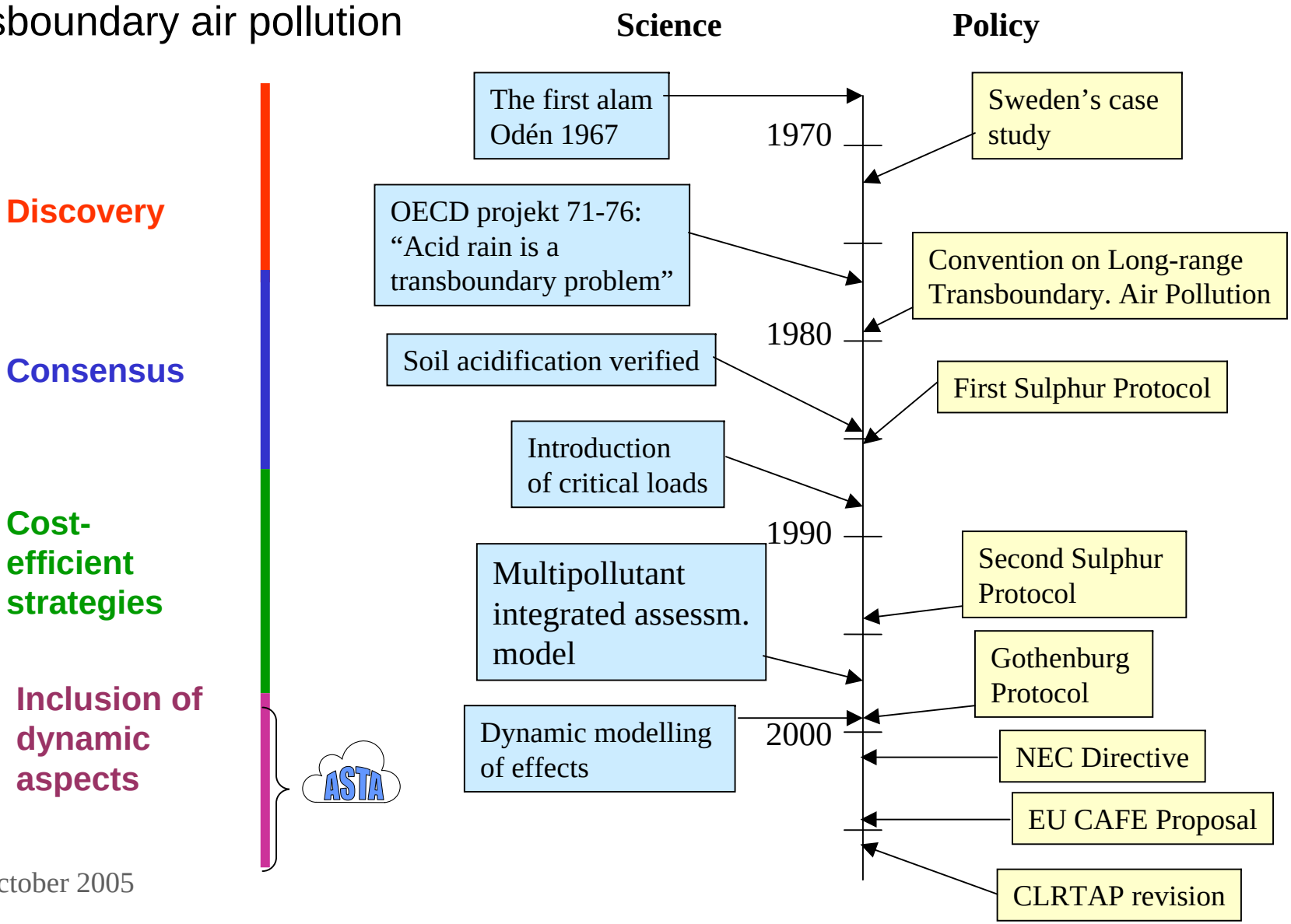
http://asta.ivl.se

- 8 year research program (1999-2006)
- Scientific research in support of policies on transboundary air pollution
- Improve the role of science in the policy process through developing concepts, forming consensus and improve communication between policymakers and the scientific community.

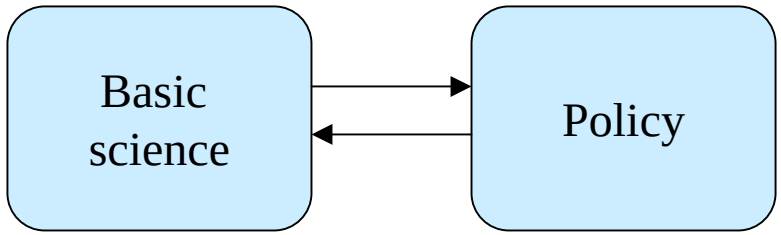
Clear identification of target processes

- The Convention with its subgroups
- Later The European Commission and its CAFE programme

Science and policy closely linked during the whole history of transboundary air pollution



Relations between science and policy have changed



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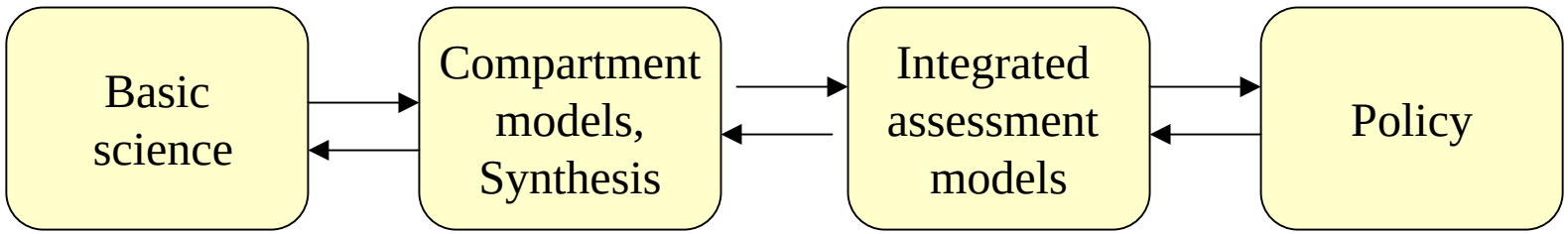
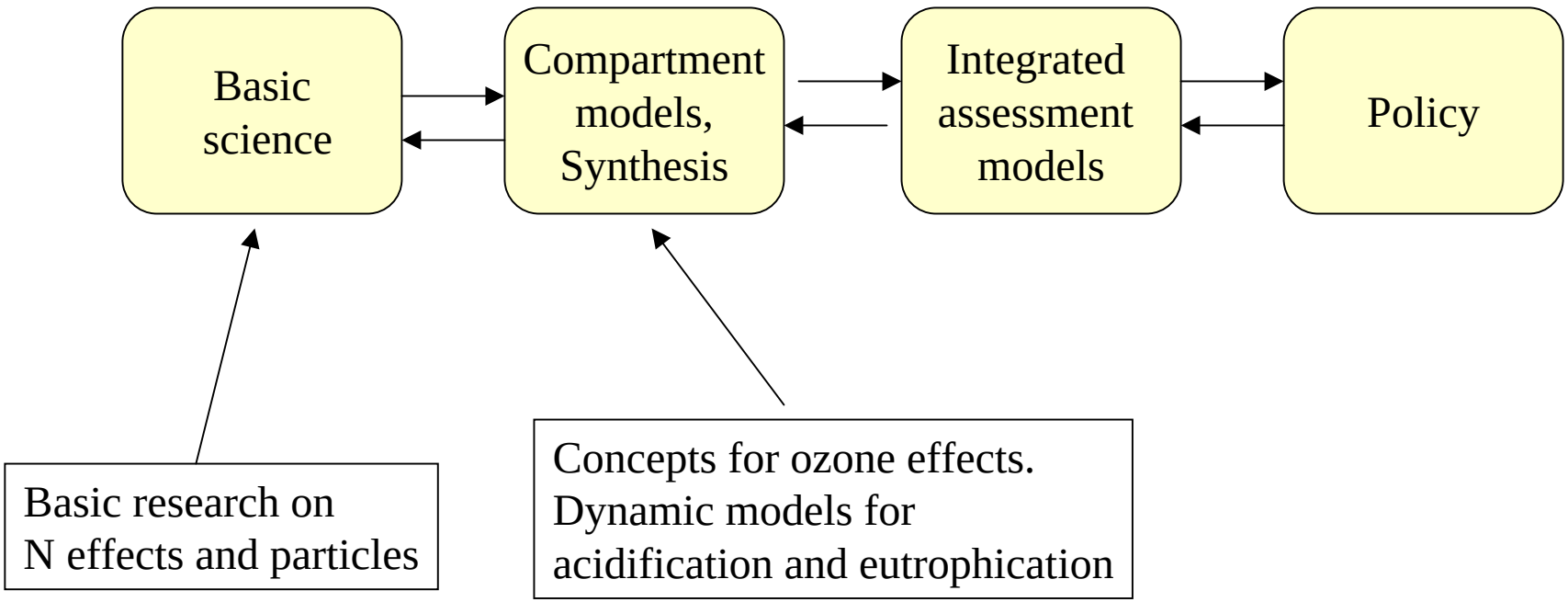
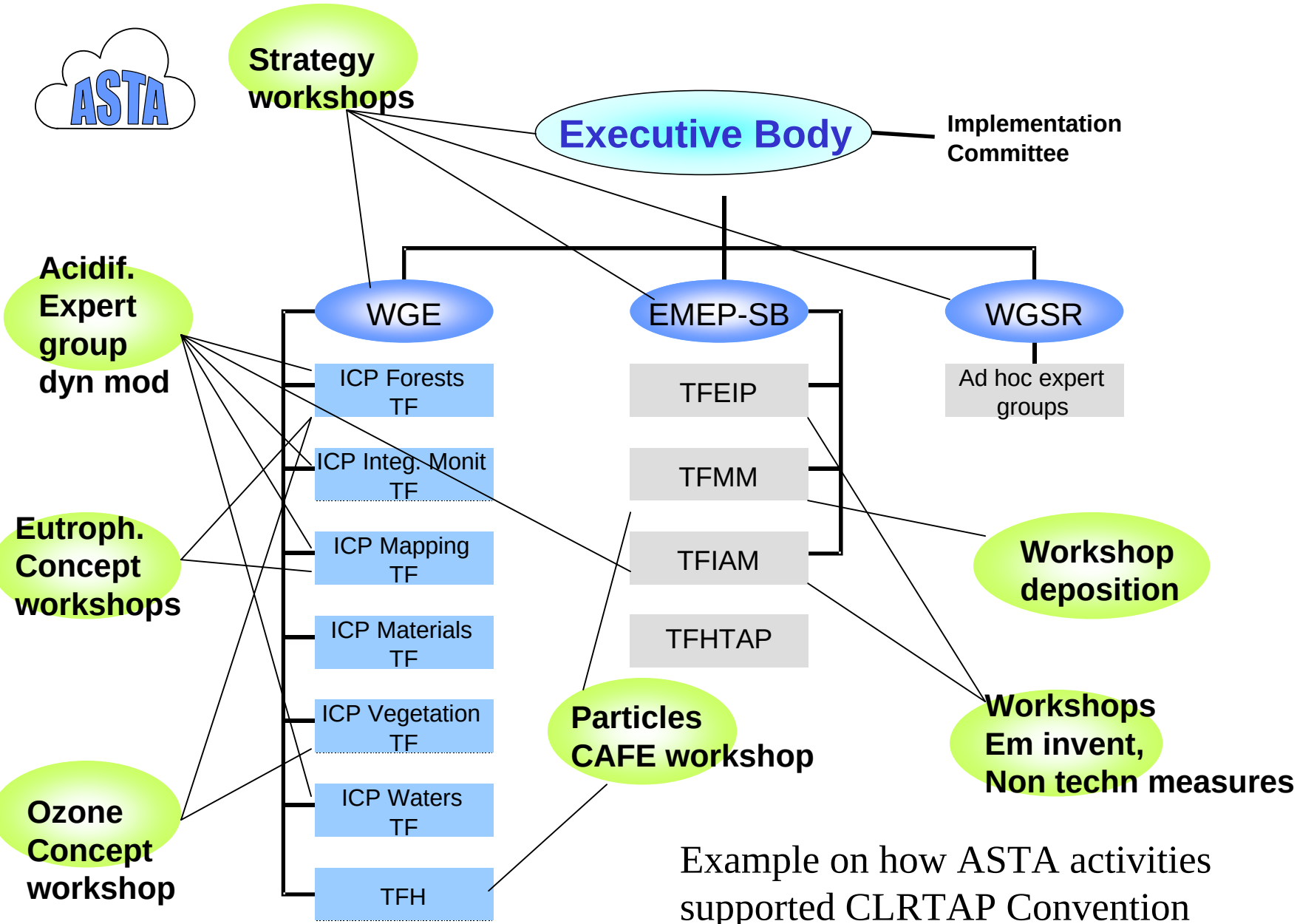


Today

ASTA has mainly focused on basic research compartment models and synthesis





Example on how ASTA activities supported CLRTAP Convention

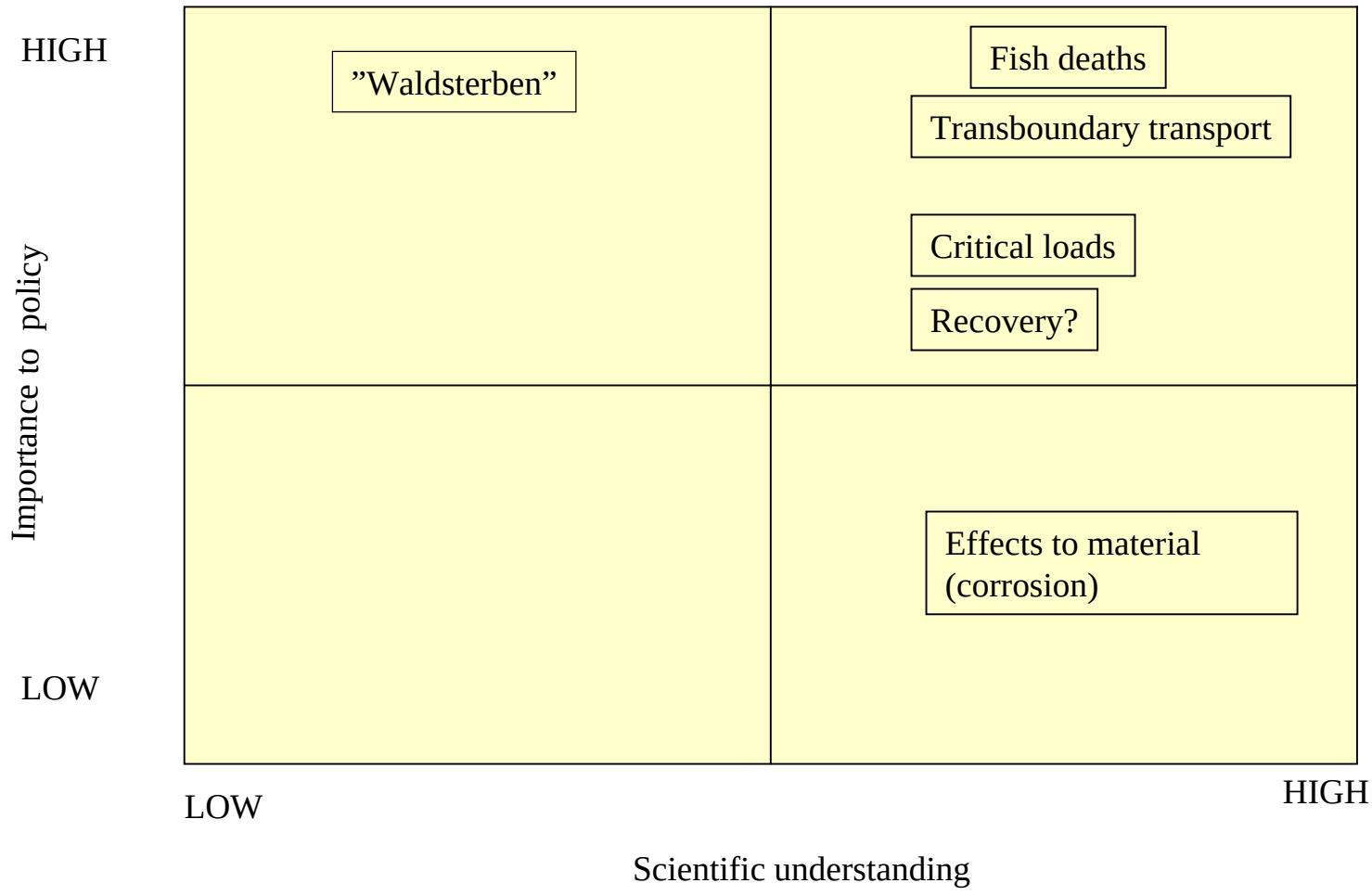
Communication an important part of ASTA

- **Support to the development of the CLRTAP and CAFE agenda**
  - Workshop at Saltsjöbaden April 2000
  - Review of the strategies for EU and CLRTAP Oct. 2004
- **The introduction of dynamic aspects for acidification**
  - Conference in Copenhagen Nov. 1999
- **Organisation of specific workshops and expert meetings**
  - Five meetings on dynamic modelling 2000-2004
  - Seven additional workshops on validation of emission inventories, new concept for ozone effects, health effects from particles. deposition of base cations, science - policy interactions and non-technical measures

The role of social science in ASTA

- Improved our understanding of our roles and the way we are working
- Bridges between science and policy (critical loads)

Scientific understanding and importance for policy for some concepts within transboundary air pollution



Some experiences

- The process often as important as the outcome.
- Transparency and participation crucial
- Timing. Windows of opportunity.
- Visualisation of experiments and results
- It takes time. Credibility is mostly achieved through long term relations.

Some experiences

- Common concepts. Critical loads helped bridging the gap between science and policy. Concepts do not need to mean the same for scientists and policymakers.
- National initiatives often questioned. Better to use “independent” organisations (Nordic Council of Ministers, international workshops, IIASA, international projects).
- Maintaining scientific quality has not been a problem (results mainly published in peer reviewed journals).