



MICRO-CREDENTIAL

LAND MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

1.- Introduction to Land Resources and Land Management

Review of Key Concepts

LM-W01-V07



Co-funded by
the European Union



How to use this review

Learning goals

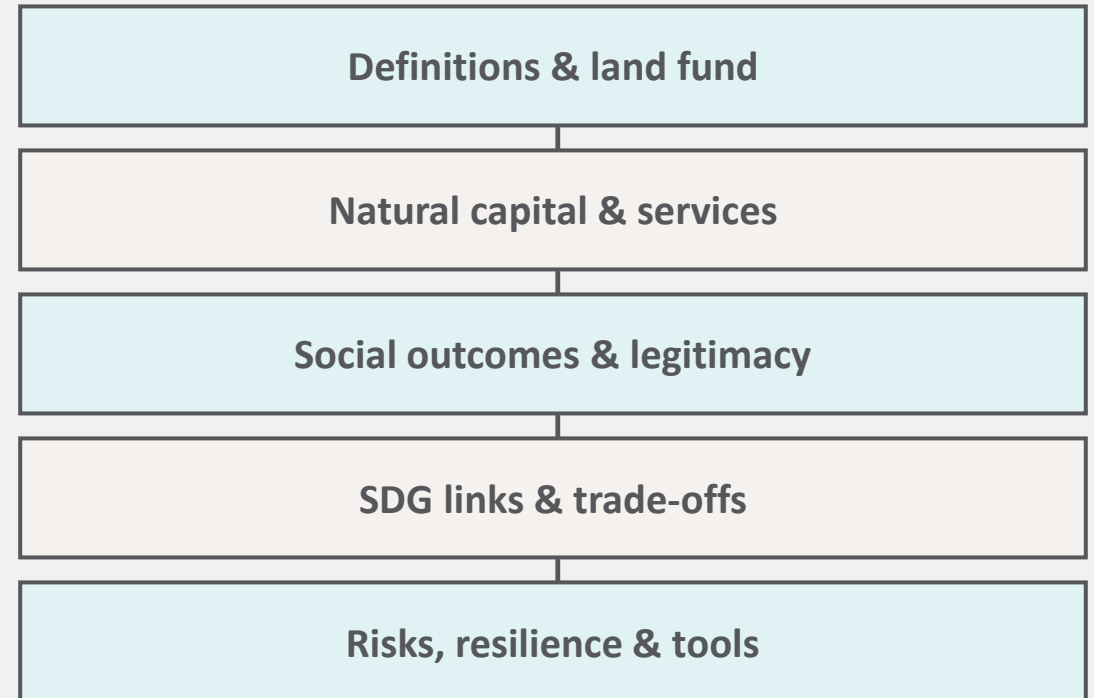
Recall the Week 1 framework: land asset → governance choices → development outcomes

Connect land resources to sustainable development goals and social outcomes

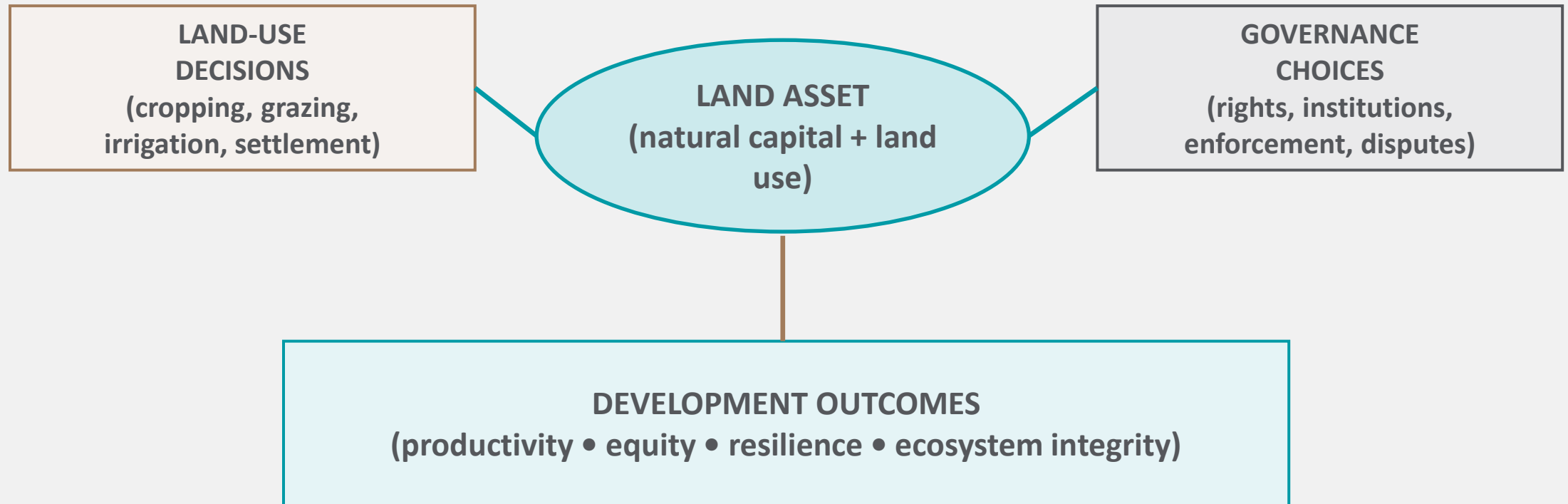
Recognize land degradation risks and climate pressure

Summarize rights, governance, monitoring, and policy instruments

Apply the checklist to Central Asia examples



Concept map

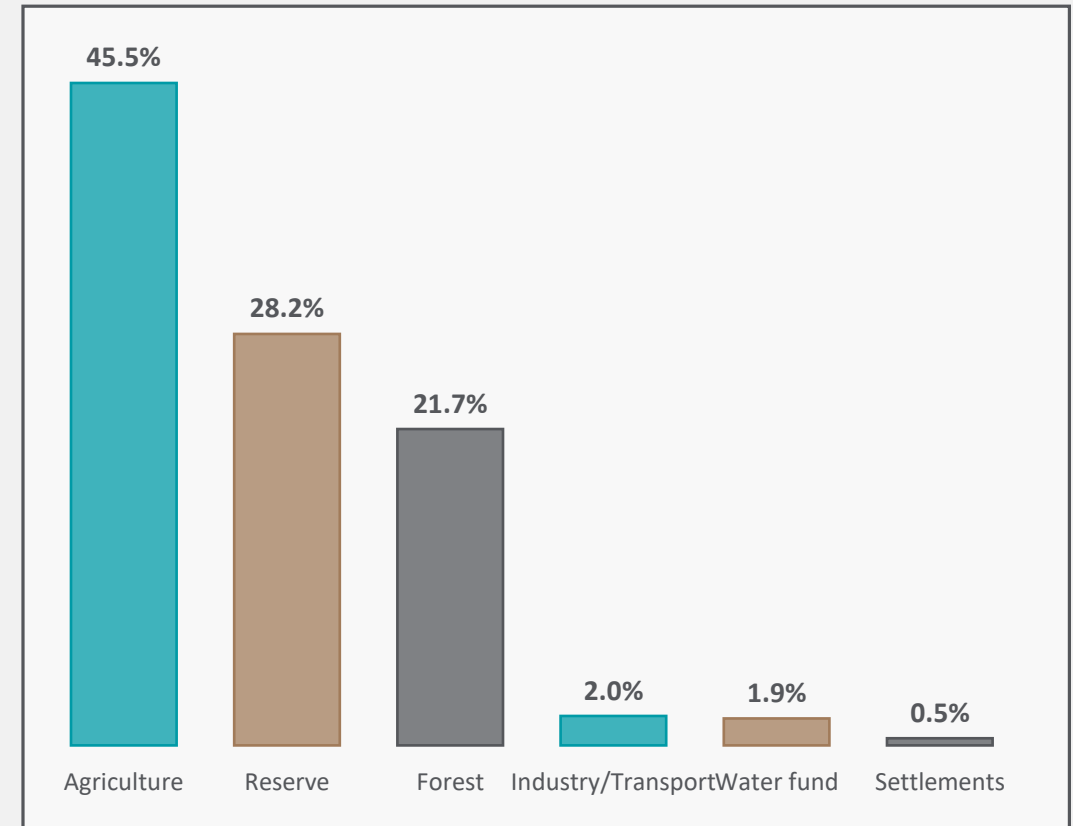


Land resources and the land fund

Land resources = area + quality + location.
Management depends on land category (land fund)
and permitted use.

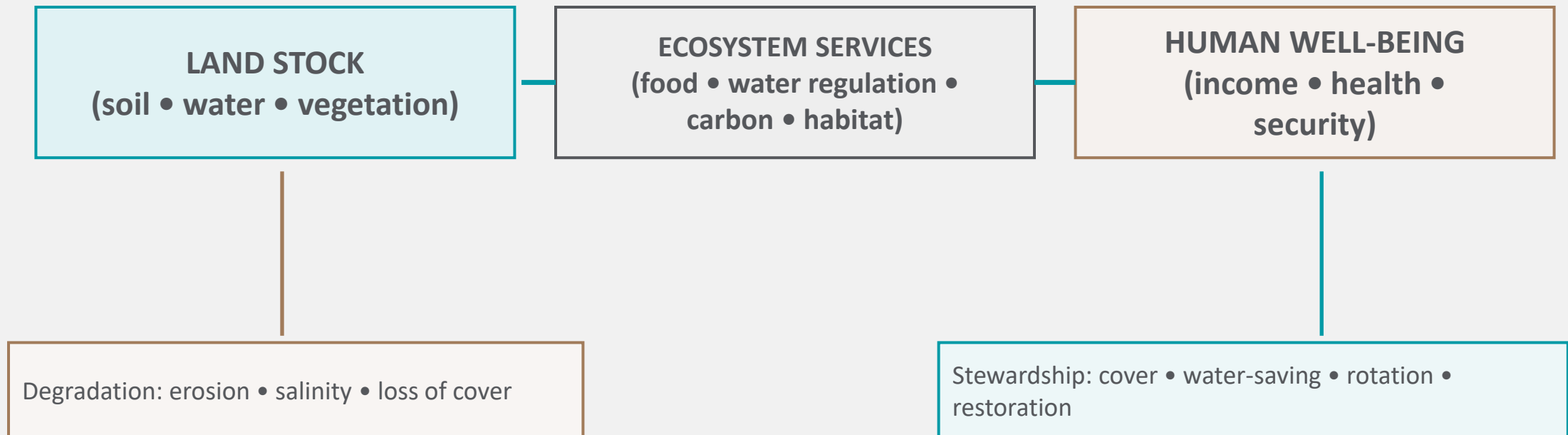
Key attributes

Soil fertility and structure (organic matter, compaction)
Slope and erosion susceptibility
Water availability and irrigation/drainage condition
Salinity / waterlogging risk in irrigated zones
Accessibility (roads, markets, services)



Land as natural capital

Natural capital is a stock that generates flows over time. Sustainable land management protects the stock while meeting current needs.



Social importance of land use

Why it matters

Livelihoods and rural employment
 Equity: who gains and who loses
 Legitimacy and compliance with rules
 Conflict and dispute frequency
 Migration pressures and local stability

Who decides? (local users → external actors)

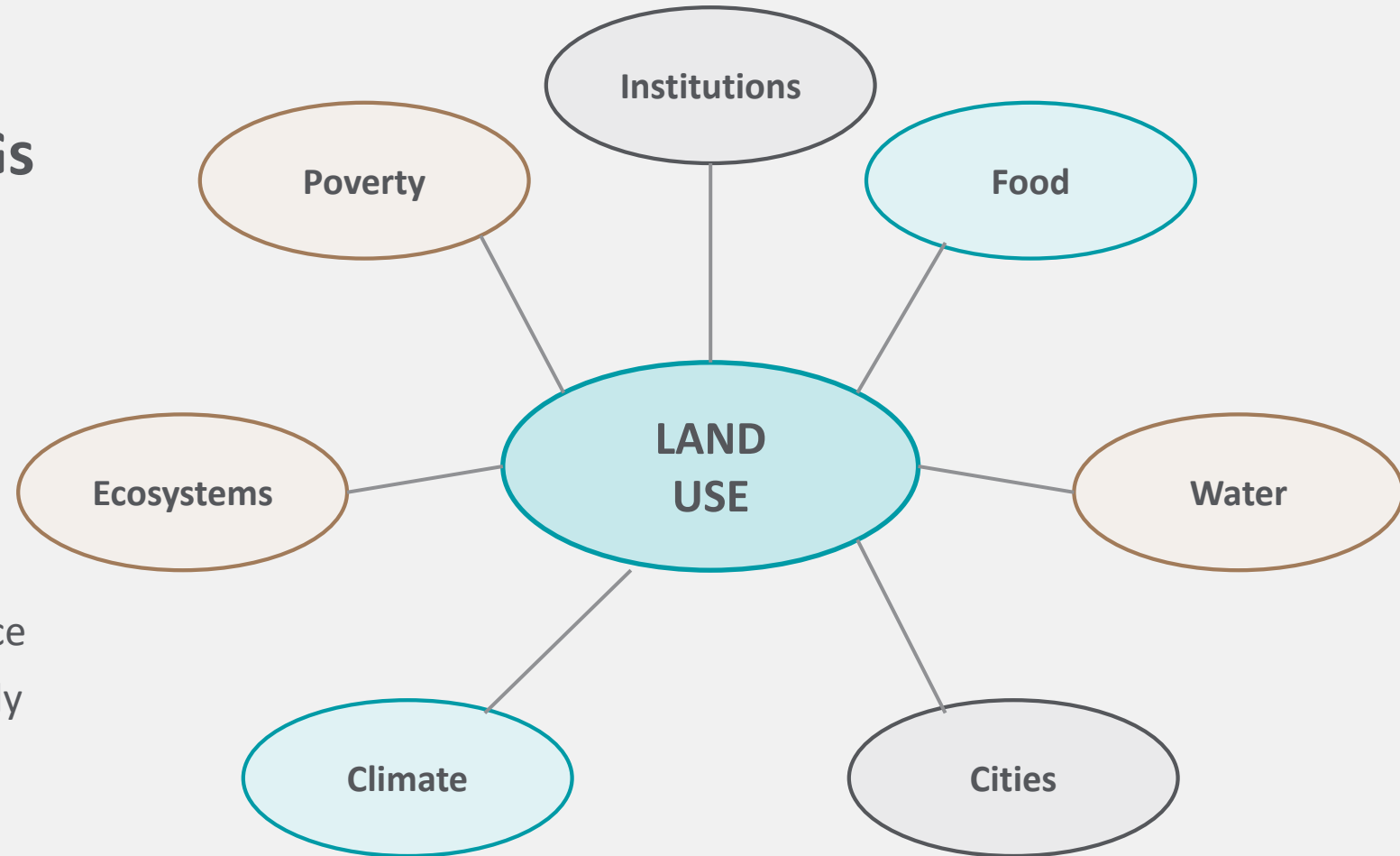
Accountable investment (clear duties + benefits)	Externalized costs (conflict risk)
Shared stewardship (co-management)	Displacement / exclusion (low legitimacy)

Review question: Who decides, who benefits, who pays?

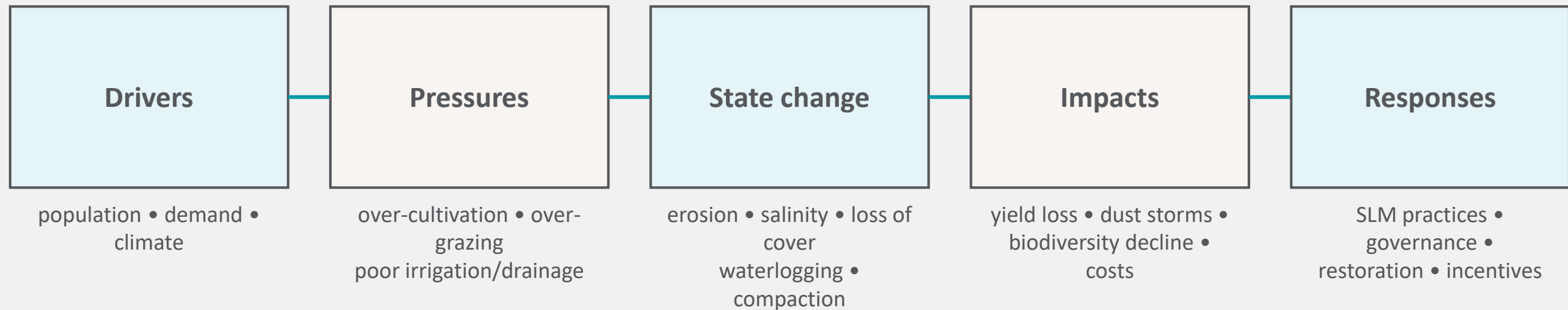
Land as a connector across SDGs

Review messages

One land decision can affect several goals at once
 Integrated planning makes trade-offs visible early
 Institutions shape whether benefits are shared



From drivers to degradation



Review point: prevention is usually cheaper than late-stage rehabilitation.

Climate pressure and resilience

Downward pressure loop (risk trap)

Heat & variability

Shocks (drought/flood/wind)

Income stress

Extraction / short-term use

Faster degradation

Upward resilience loop (capacity)

Monitoring & early warning

Clear rules & coordination

Adaptive practices

Restoration & maintenance

Stable livelihoods

Rights, tenure, and governance

Review checklist

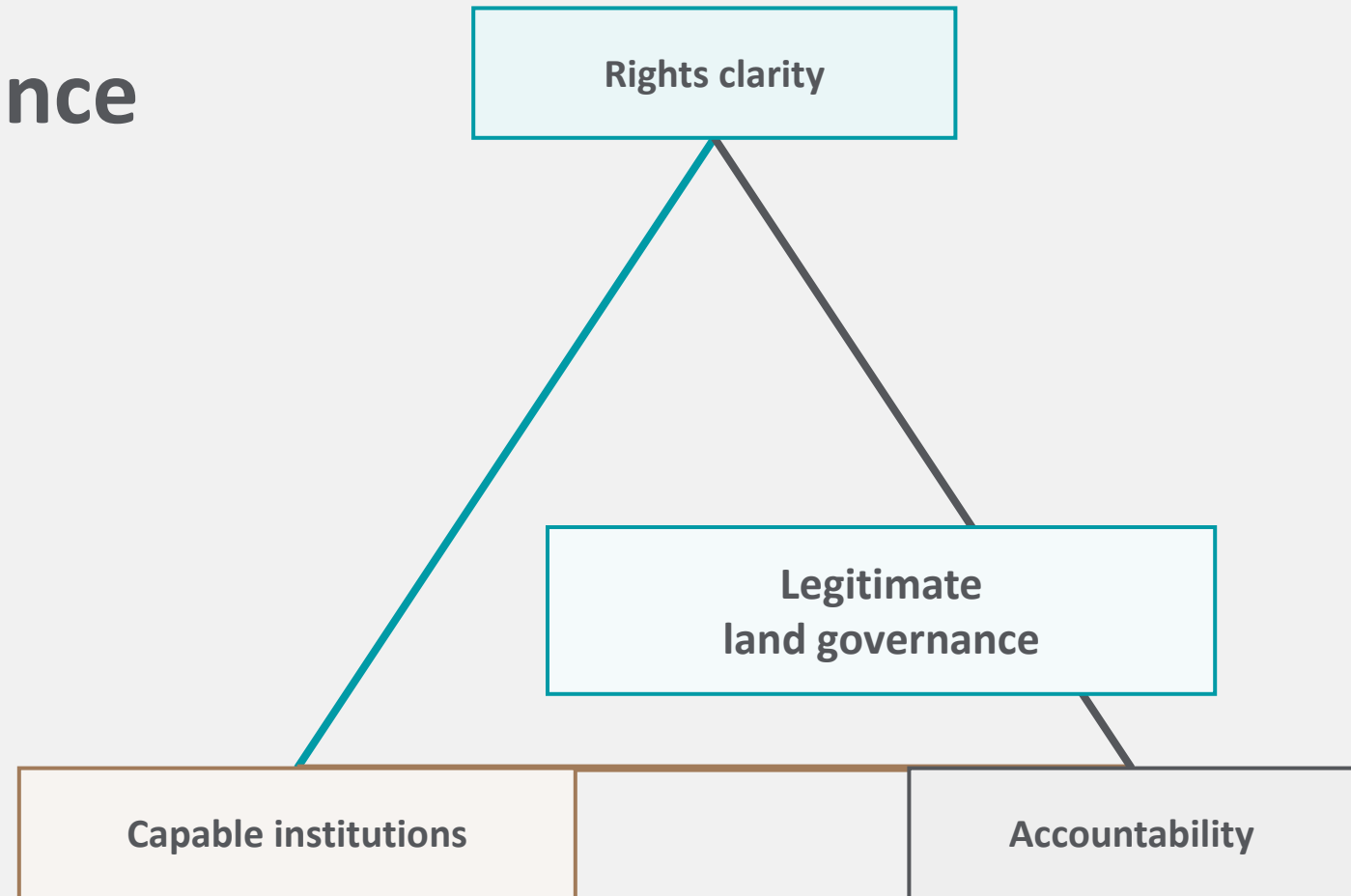
Who holds which rights (use, exclude, transfer) and responsibilities?

Are boundaries and records clear and updated?

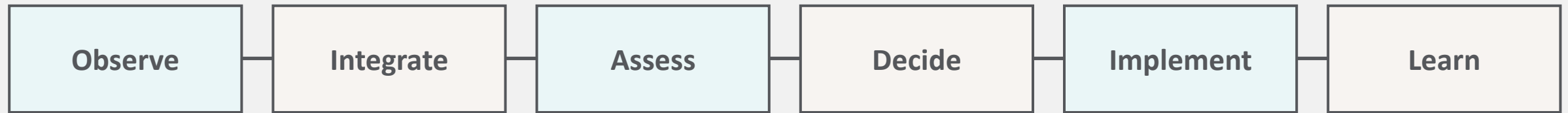
Are rules enforced fairly and predictably?

Is there a trusted dispute-resolution process?

Do users have incentives to invest in stewardship?



Monitoring: from observation to action



Typical indicators (examples):

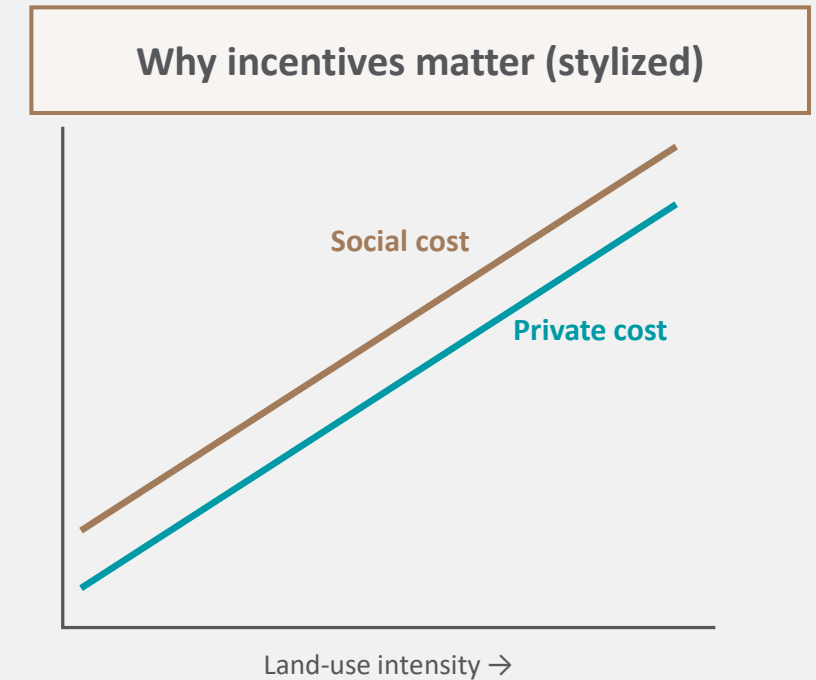
- soil cover and erosion signals
- salinity / waterlogging symptoms
- vegetation condition
- groundwater depth
- dispute frequency / compliance

Good monitoring is:

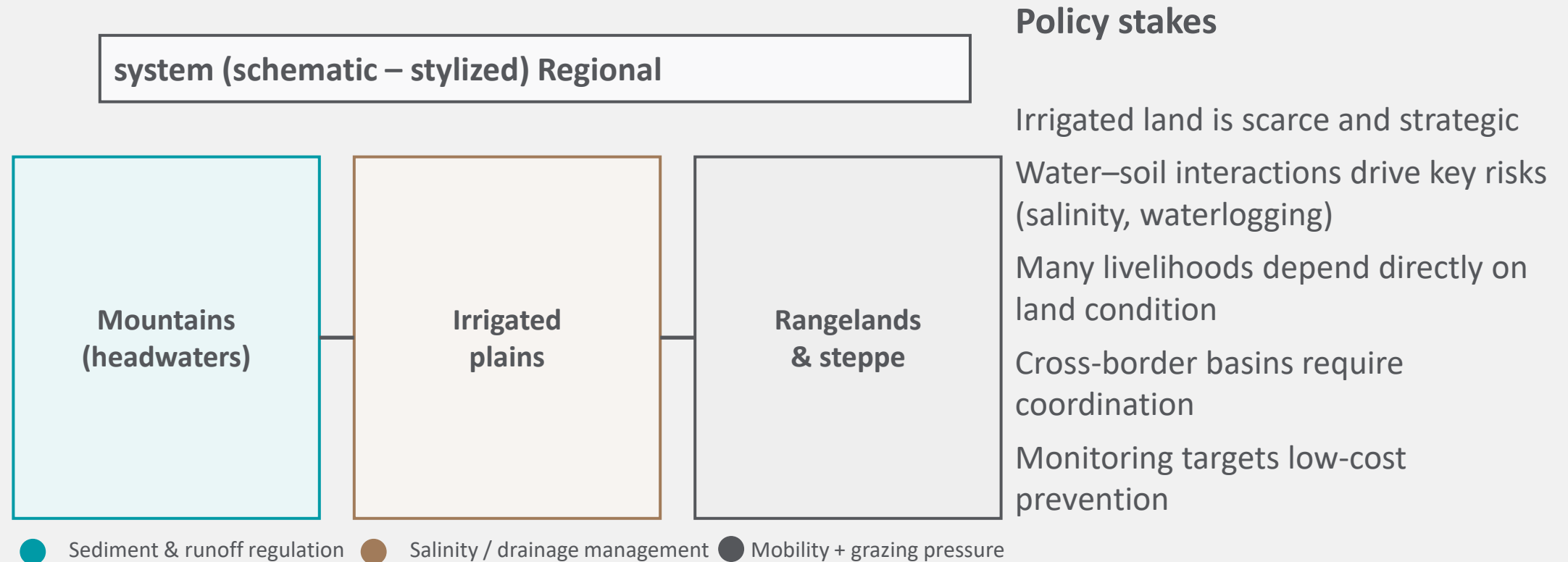
- regular
- comparable
- linked to decisions
- transparent

Policy instruments: choose a mix

Regulatory zoning • standards • permits • enforcement	Economic fees • compensation • credit • incentives
Information maps • advisories • disclosure • early warning	Institutional mandates • coordination • dispute resolution

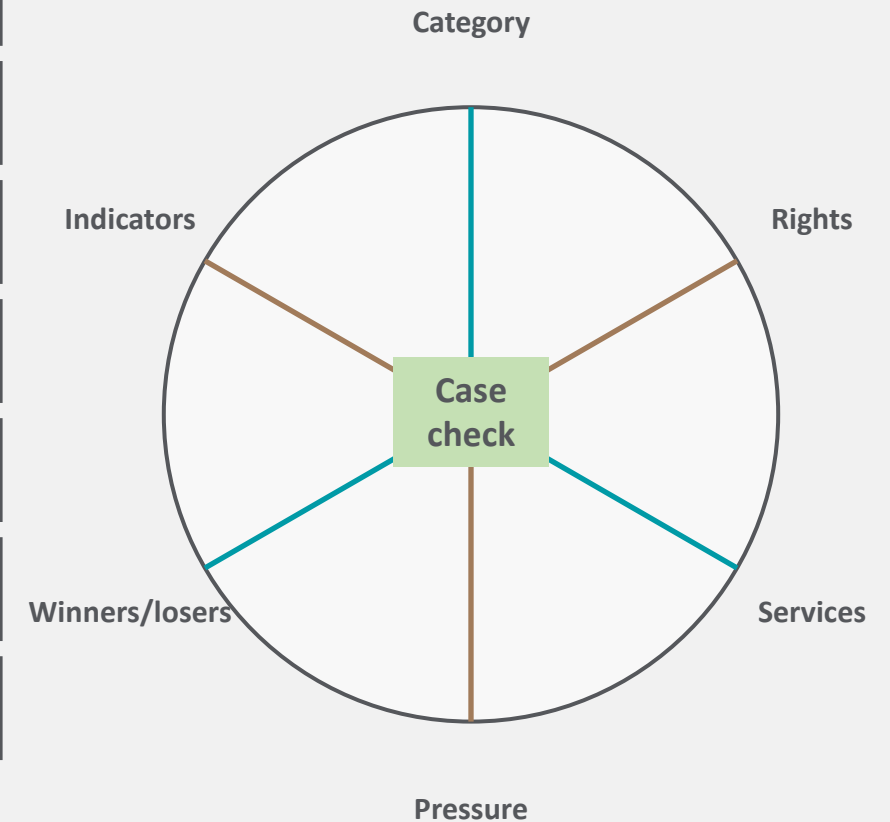


Central Asia: why the concepts matter



Key takeaways and self-check

1. Land is natural capital—protect the stock
2. Social outcomes matter—distribution and legitimacy
3. Multiple goals—integrate planning and trade-offs
4. Degradation pathway—identify the dominant pressure
5. Climate stress—build resilience and adaptive capacity
6. Rights & governance—central enabling conditions
7. Monitoring + instruments—turn ideas into action





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