

# MAPPING OF INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE MODELS TO OVERCOME BARRIERS FOR NATURE BASED URBAN REGENERATION

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IN CO-OPERATION WITH

# SBE19 Graz



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**SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT D-A-CH CONFERENCE 2019**

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# NBS

"Solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions bring more, and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions"

EUROPEAN COMMISSION, "ENVIRONMENT - RESEARCH & INNOVATION POLICY TOPICS - NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS," 2017.



## Objectives

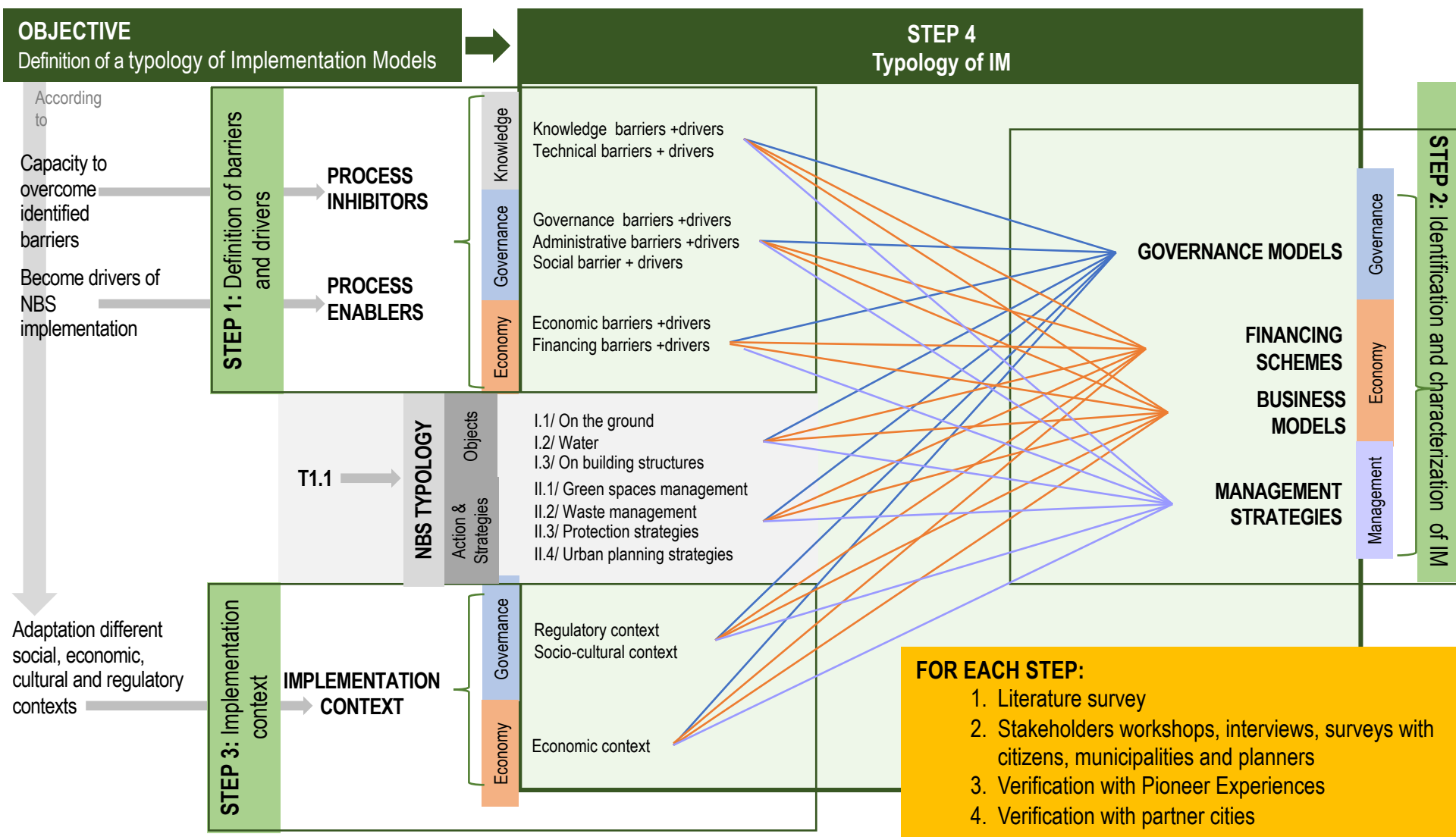


-  Improve the Integration of NBS in urban and spatial planning
-  Build a new and active community network around NBS
-  Offer high quality decision-support tools for re-naturing cities
-  Build a holistic assessment framework for NBS
-  Develop a reference knowledgebase on NBS and Best Practice sharing
-  Propose new governance, business and financial models for NBS implementation

# IMPLEMENTATION MODELS FOR NBS



# Definition of a typology of Implementation Models







# Barriers for NBS implementation

## BARRIERS

BARRIERS	Knowledge	Uncertainty	Operational unknown	BK1
			Performance unknown	BK2
		Accessibility to information	Information overload	BK3
			Incomprehensible presentation of results	BK4
		Technical inadequacy	Lack of ready-to-apply scientific results	BK5
	Governance	Disconnection between short-term actions and long term goals	Short-term decision-making cycles	BG1
			Long term responsibilities	BG2
			Gentrification	BG3
		Institutional barriers	Lack of coordination	BG4
			Lack of flexibility of decision making	BG5
			Unsupportive legal frameworks	BG6
		Complexity of governance structure	Goal misalignment	BG7
			Apathy	BG8
			Role ambiguity	BG9
		Participation and awareness	Perception	BG10
			Lack of participation	BG11
	Economy	Perception of the benefits	Appreciation of non-economic benefits	BE1
			Uncertain economic feasibility	BE2
			Short term vision	BE3
			Vandalism	BE4
		Budget constraints	NBS not a priority	BE5
			Lack of funding knowledge	BE6
		Risk perception		BE7

- ✓ The implementation of NBS projects is deeply determined by the novelty of the concept
- ✓ Its innovation is both an opportunity and a challenge for its implementation



# Knowledge barriers

→Uncertainty

→Technical inadequacy

- ✓ **Operational unknown:** Due to the **newness of the approach** → lack of protocols for design, implementation and maintenance for NBS projects
- ✓ **Performance unknown:** **Lack of evidence** regarding the quantitative benefits of NBS → Designers may encounter difficulties in implementing NBS solutions when compared to traditional solutions → investors may prefer more “proven” solutions
- ✓ **Lack of ready-to-apply scientific results, concepts and technologies** → Makes the adoption of NBS more difficult (even if a certain policy receptiveness exists)



# Governance barriers

- ✓ **Local government**
  - ✓ **Disconnection between short-term actions and long term goals** → The usual short-term action and decision-making cycles → not always match with the long-term requirements of the whole life cycle of NBS projects (planning, implementation, maintenance processes, but also sustainable financing)
  - ✓ **Bureaucracy and unsupportive legal frameworks** → Excessive legal rigidity, bureaucracy and lack of specific regulations. "Knowledge silos"
- ✓ **Local stakeholders:**
  - ✓ **Goal misalignment:** Different goals of stakeholders within partnership arrangements could hinder collaboration
  - ✓ **Apathy and role ambiguity:** A high number of stakeholders could generate inertia, apathy and lack of clarity in responsibilities





## Economic barriers

- ✓ **Budget constraints:**
  - ✓ **Not a priority:** City budgets for green development and maintenance often face severe budget constraints, while staff and related expertise is decreasing
  - ✓ **Lack of funding knowledge** → Financing mechanisms (such as EU-funding instruments) are available for cities, but they are complicated to apply for (requiring additional administrative staff and time resources) and **require co-financing**, which many cities cannot afford
- ✓ **Perception of the benefits**
  - ✓ Under appreciation of non-economic benefits → not directly related with economic growth and perceived as “soft”
  - ✓ Short term vision
  - ✓ Risk perception → Lack of incentives and motivation to attract private investment





## Drivers for NBS implementation

- ✓ As new concept, allows innovative approaches, new ways to address (and consider) old problems and more inclusive practices

DK1	Lesson learnt through projects	Generation of evidence	Knowledge
DK2	Research on benefits		
DK3	Research on cost effectiveness		
DK4	Networks	Collaboration	
DK5	Co-creation		
DK6	Knowledge platforms	Information accessibility	
DK7	NBS ambassadors	Awareness	
DK8	Climate Change		
DK9	Ecological memory		
DG1	Collaboration	Process efficiencies	Governance
DG2	Coordination		
DG3	Action- thinking approach		
DG4	Capacity building		
DG5	Emerging partnerships	Self governance	
DG6	Grassroots and transition initiatives		
DG7	Reflexive/adaptive governance	Co-creation and participation	
DG8	Involvement of urban government		
DG9	Cross sectorial spaces and partnerships		
DG10	Co-production		
DG11	Tools to build a common vision		
DE1	Sharing risks	De-risking	Economy
DE2	Public de-risking strategies		
DE3	Provisioning of incentives to private investment	Government support	
DE4	Removal of administrative barriers		
DE5	Public-private partnerships		
DE6	Conditions for new business models and finance schemes		
DE7	Cooperative competition		
DE8	Mid-Long term financing		
DE9	Real estate		
DE10	Self-financing and self-management		



# Knowledge drivers

## ✓ **Generation of evidence→**

- ✓ Lesson learnt in implemented projects
- ✓ research on benefits→ to generate quantified information
- ✓ Research on cost effectiveness → to justify new investments and to promote long-term funding and public-private arrangements

## ✓ **Collaboration→** Networks & Co-creation

## ✓ **Information sharing→** through knowledge platforms

## ✓ **Awareness→**

- ✓ NBS ambassadors
- ✓ **Climate change as a new criterion for changing priorities in decision making**
- ✓ Ecological memory can improve the understanding of different perceptions of urban nature and lead to higher levels of ownership of NBS projects by local communities.



## Governance drivers

- ✓ **Process efficiencies** → Collaboration (combination of the different strengths) + Action- thinking approach (problem-based governance) + Capacity building (to balance the uncertainty)
- ✓ **Self- governance** → Emerging partnerships between civil societies in cities & Grassroots innovations/transition initiatives → as collaborative networks providing on-the-ground evidence of the multiple benefits
- ✓ **Co-creation and participation** →
  - ✓ Reflexive/adaptive governance to include flexible ways to maximize learning opportunities and experimentation to overcome barriers related with uncertainty, complexity and system dynamics
  - ✓ The involvement of local governments is crucial for a rapid transfer from concepts to action



# Economic drivers

## ✓ De-risking→

- ✓ Sharing risk through collaborative arrangements to enable the distributed responsibilities

- ✓ Public de-risking strategies→ beginning phase requires a great **government support**, due to methodologies and ways are not yet completely defined.

## ✓ Government support

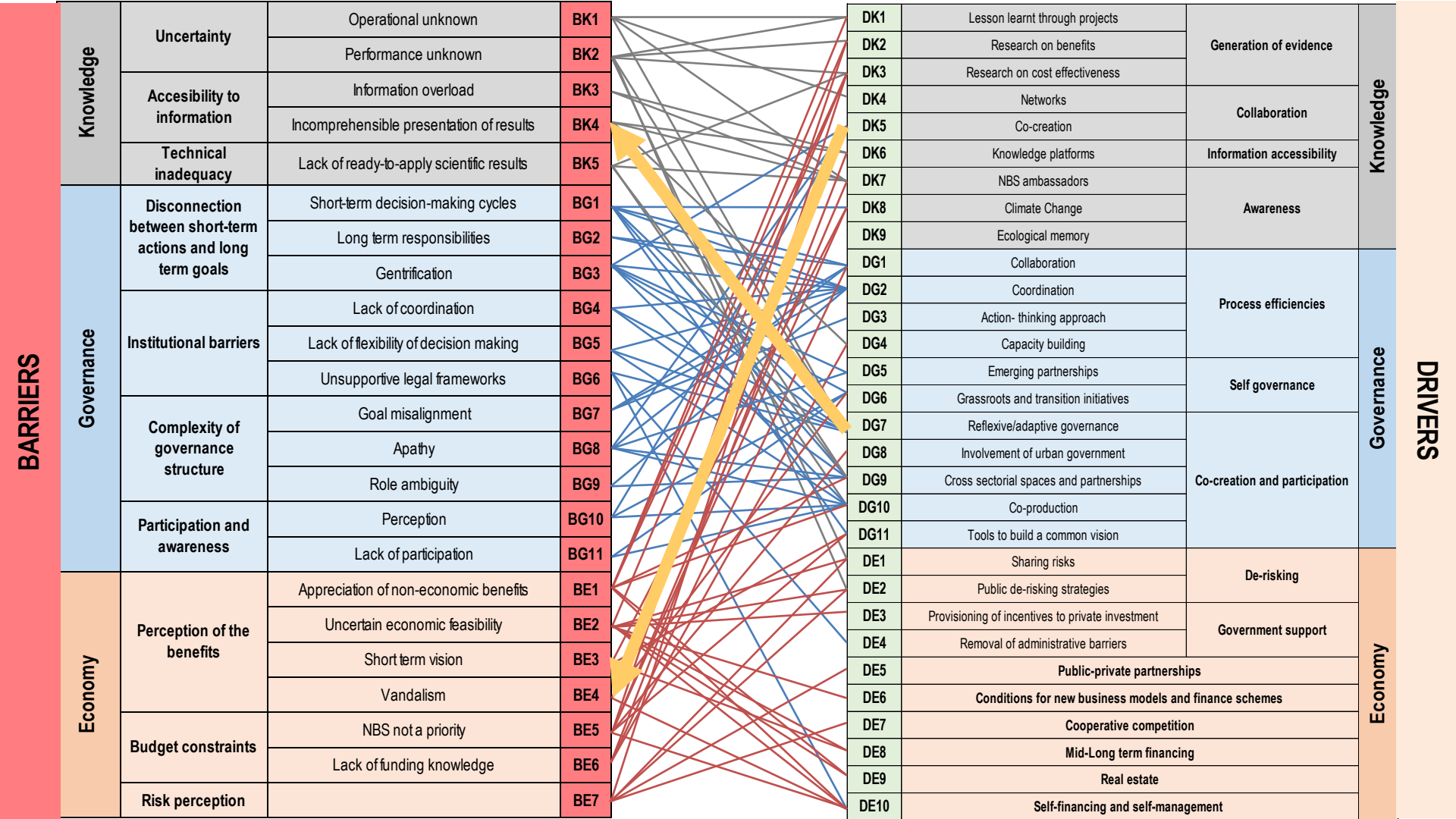
- ✓ Provisioning of incentives to attract private investment + Removal of administrative barriers

- ✓ Public-private partnerships→ to overcome budget constraints and limitation of resources.

## ✓ Mid-Long term financing

## ✓ Real estate

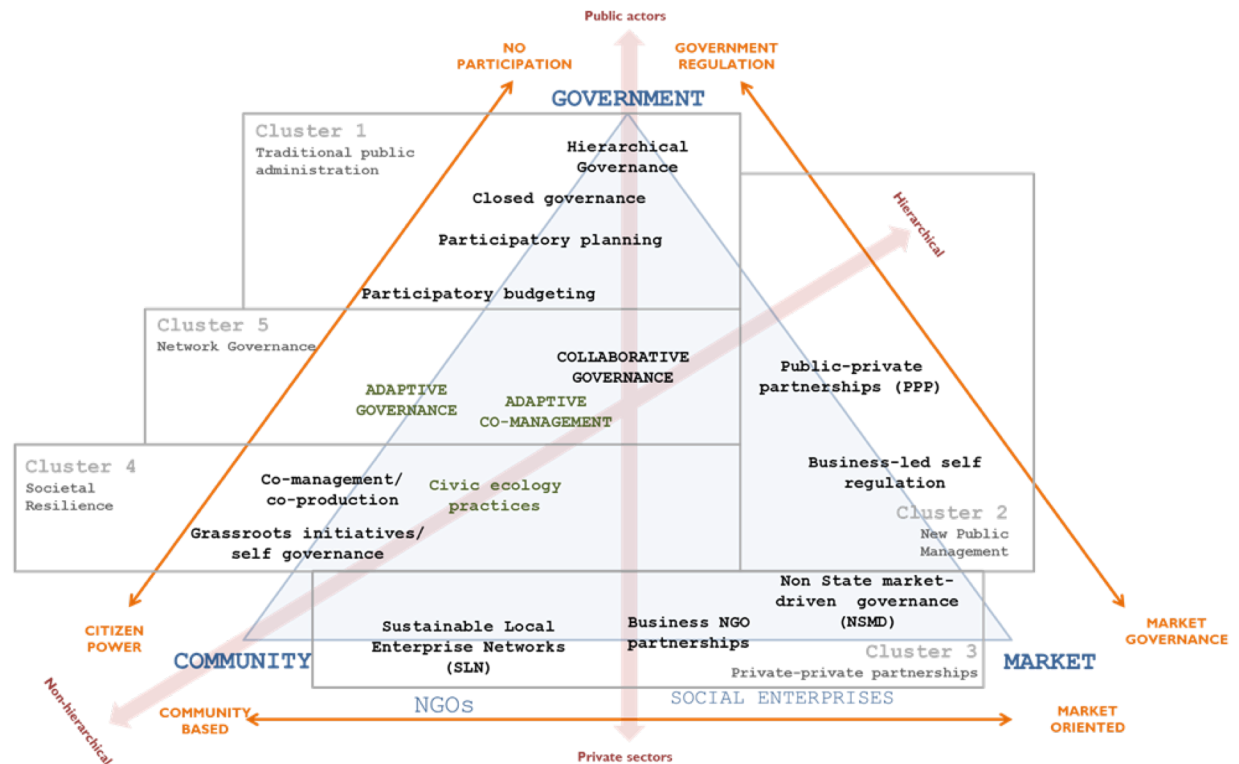


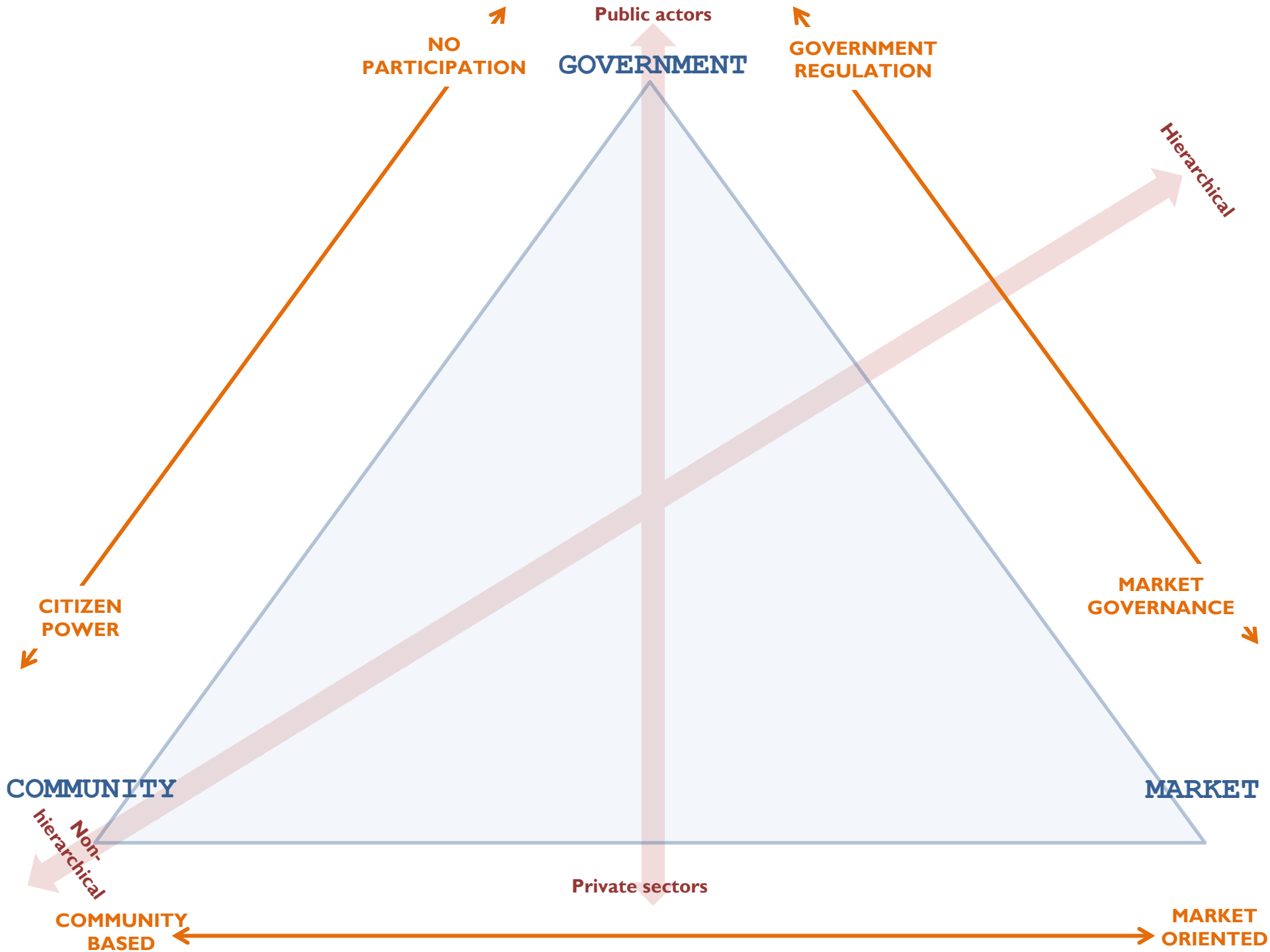


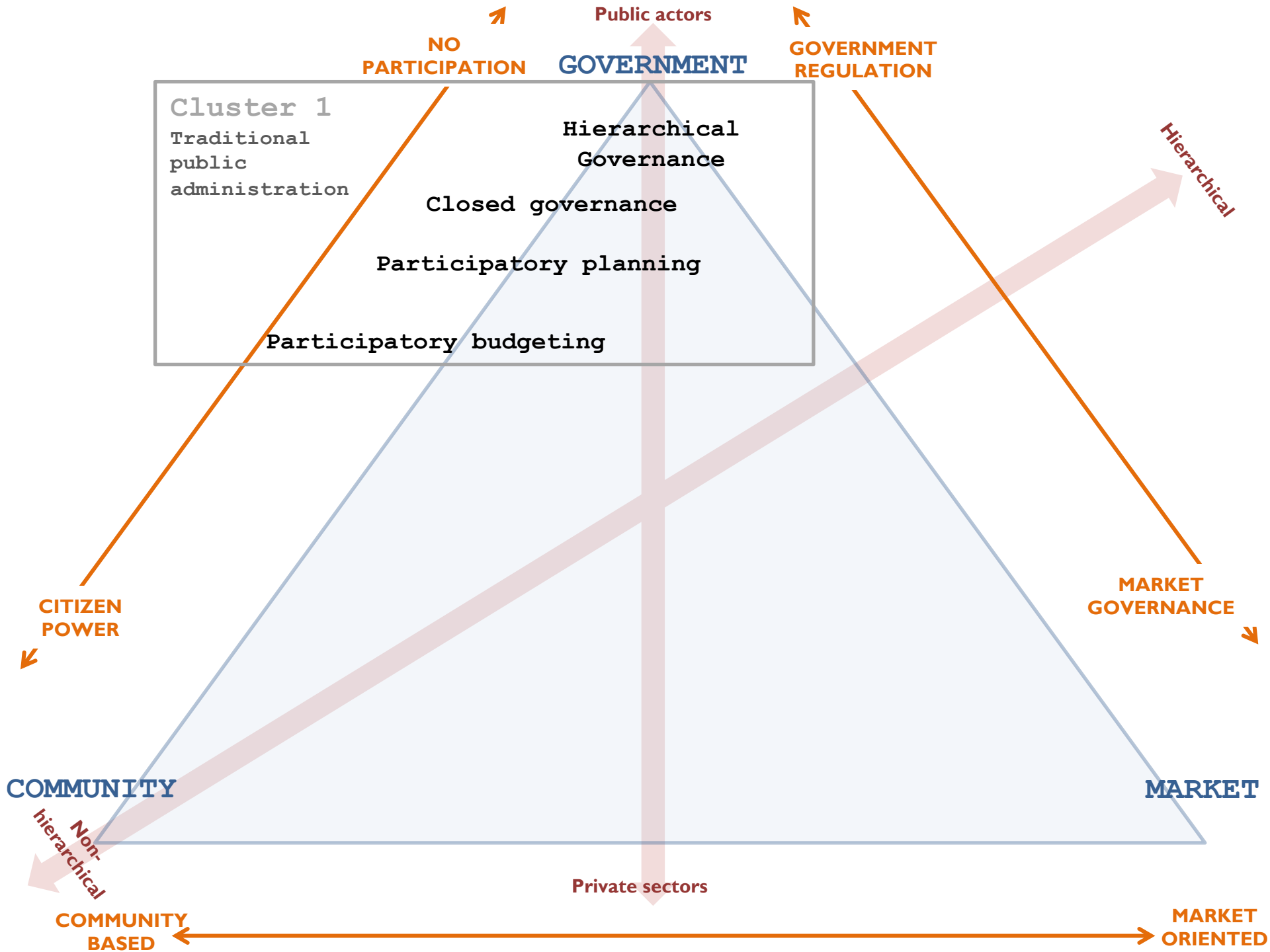
- ✓ Links between barriers and drivers are **cross-domain**
- ✓ Link between **economic barriers and knowledge drivers** → Uncertainties in a new field as NBS could generate significant barriers that can be addressed by more research and evidence.
- ✓ Link between **governance drivers and knowledge barriers** → governance models that are based on mutual learning and cross-sectorial spaces

# Governance Implementation Models→

- ✓ Review of urban and environmental governance models
- ✓ mapped and characterized
- ✓ assess their suitability
- ✓ Five clusters have been identified and distributed according to:  
involved actors, their position in the spectrum from high to low government involvement and their level of participation

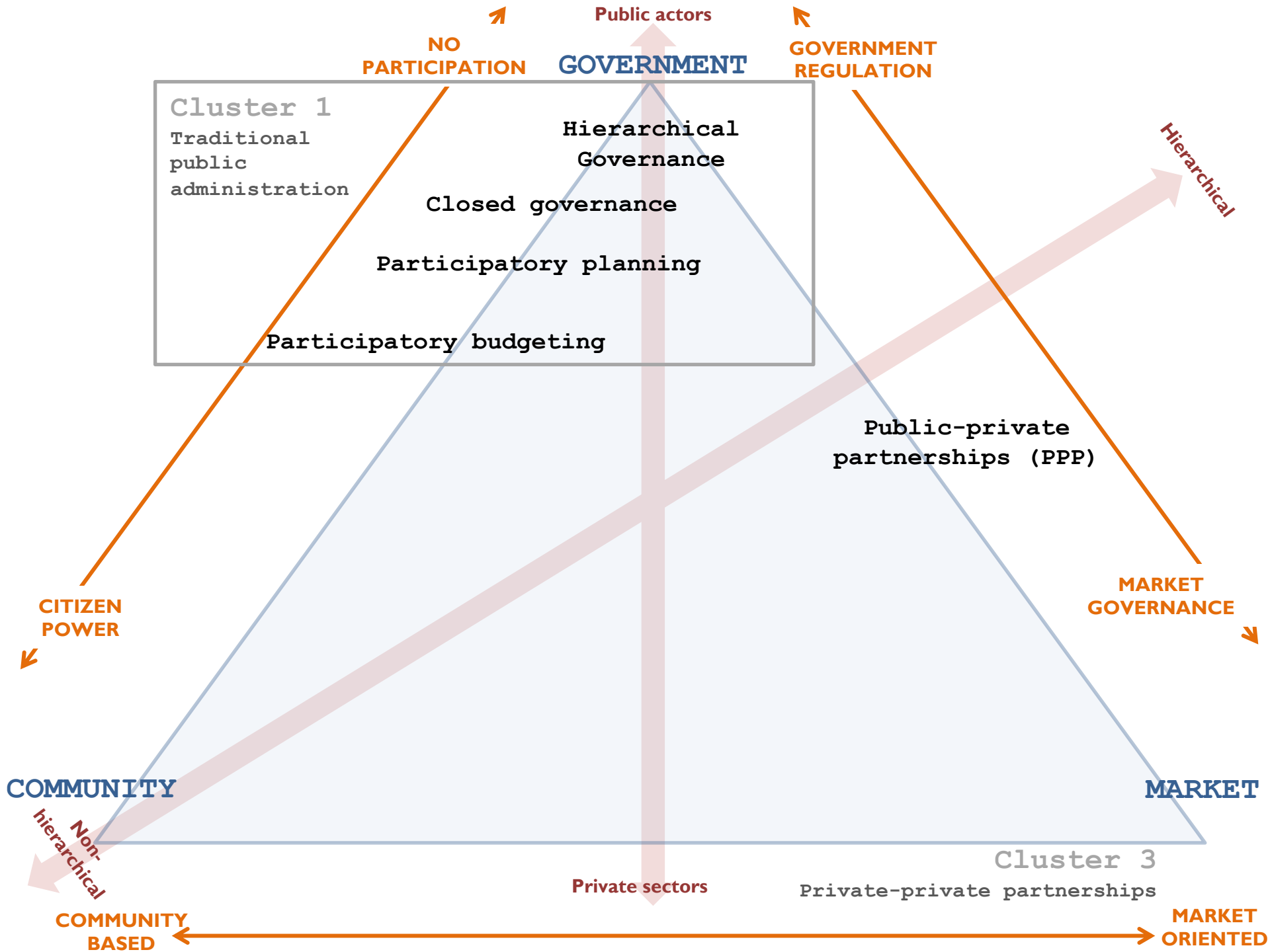




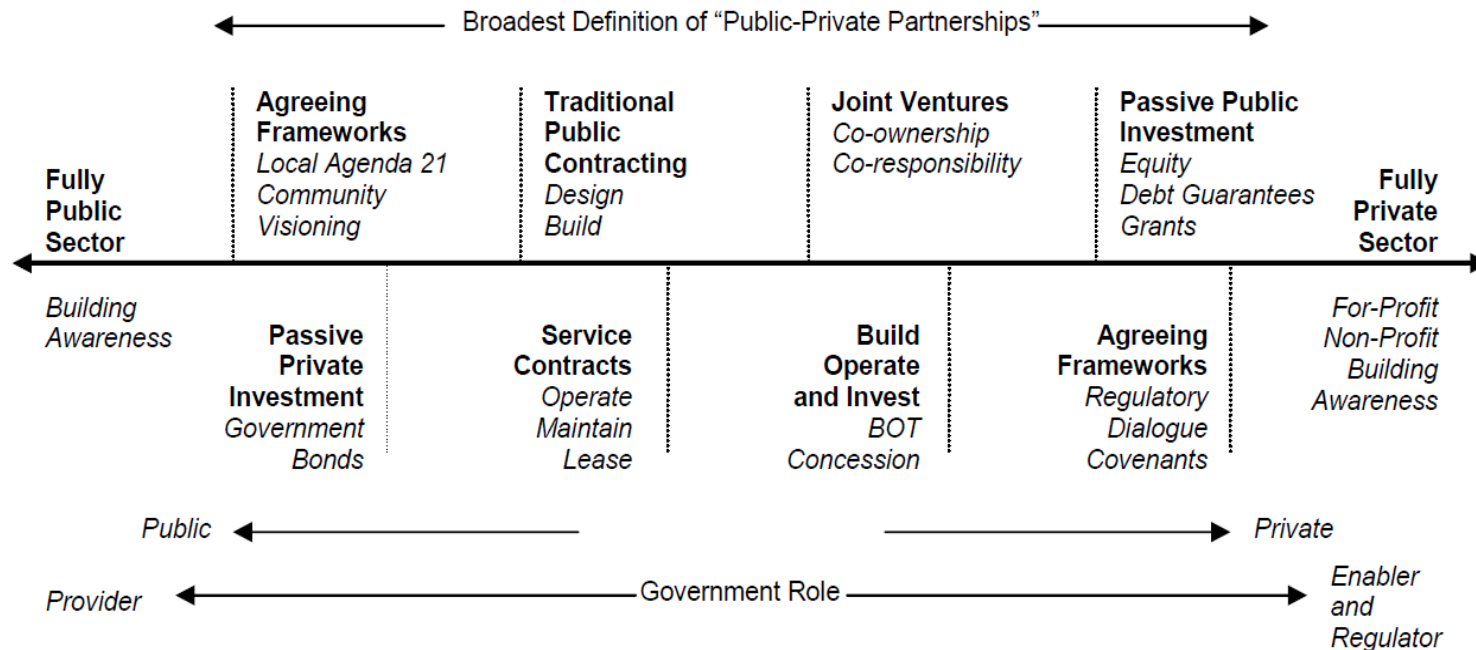




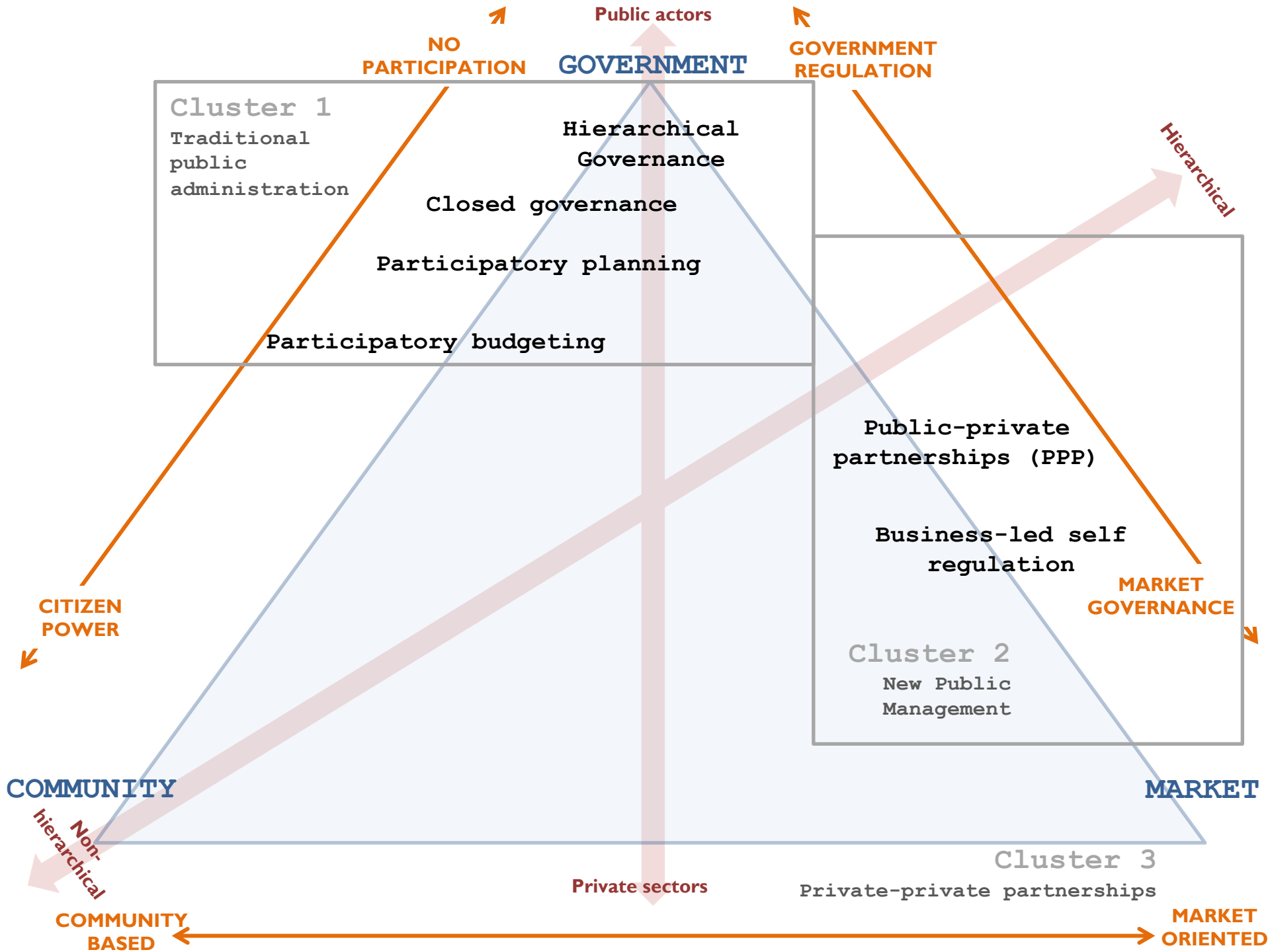
	CLUSTER 1: Traditional Public Administration		
	Hierarchical governance	Closed governance	Participatory planning & budgeting
KEY WORDS	Centralized, government led, top-down, hierarchical	Hierarchical, closed participation, top-down	Hierarchical, open participation
HOW EMERGES	Default governance regime	Government defines the problem and the participants	Usually required by law.
INVOLVED ACTORS	Government. Citizens and community are always at the receiving end.	Access is restricted. Governmental actors are organised and complemented with a few non-governmental selected actors.	Government, citizens, NGOs
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT	Leading role	Leading role	Very high
RULES	Instrumental vision on policy Administrations hierarchically controlled by electorally accountable governments. The interaction rules give government a leading role, whereas non-governmental actors follow. Coercion by the government is the predominant interaction type	Government has the power because it controls the resources that can be mobilised. The non-governmental actors can influence if the government allows it. Restricted cooperation. Government assigns certain tasks to the involved nongovernmental actors and then monitors them.	Hierarchically participation. There is a need to formalise the rules of the game and provide well established supporting tools (like websites, guidelines) to rebalance the information asymmetry. The stage when the stakeholders are involved depends of the level of collaboration.
CONTEXTUAL CONDITIONS	Often fails to provide effective solutions for highly contextualized situations	In cases of environmental issues with potentially catastrophic impacts, the predominance of “less than democratic” expert politics could be justified	Some countries have adopted national level instruments to promote different forms of public consultations at local levels providing guidelines and tools.
TOOLBOX	Top-down directives or command-and-control policies.	Top-down directives or command-and-control policies.	Neighbourhood planning. Participatory budgeting. E-tools for citizen involvement Workshops, professional moderation of debates. Interactive mapping
REFERENCES	[57] [75]	[57] [62] [76]	[23] [74] [77] [78]
BARRIERS	BG3, BG3, BG7, BG9, BE1, BE3		
DRIVERS	DG2, DG8, DE4, DE8, DE9		
SUITABILITY FOR NBS	<b>Low.</b> Often falls short in efforts to coordinate governance across large-scale ecosystems that cross multiple jurisdictional boundaries. Innovation is limited to some large-scale national and universal innovations being <b>not enough for local innovation required</b> . Large step-change improvements could be possible initially, but <b>less capability for continuous improvement</b>		



# Spectrum of PPP types

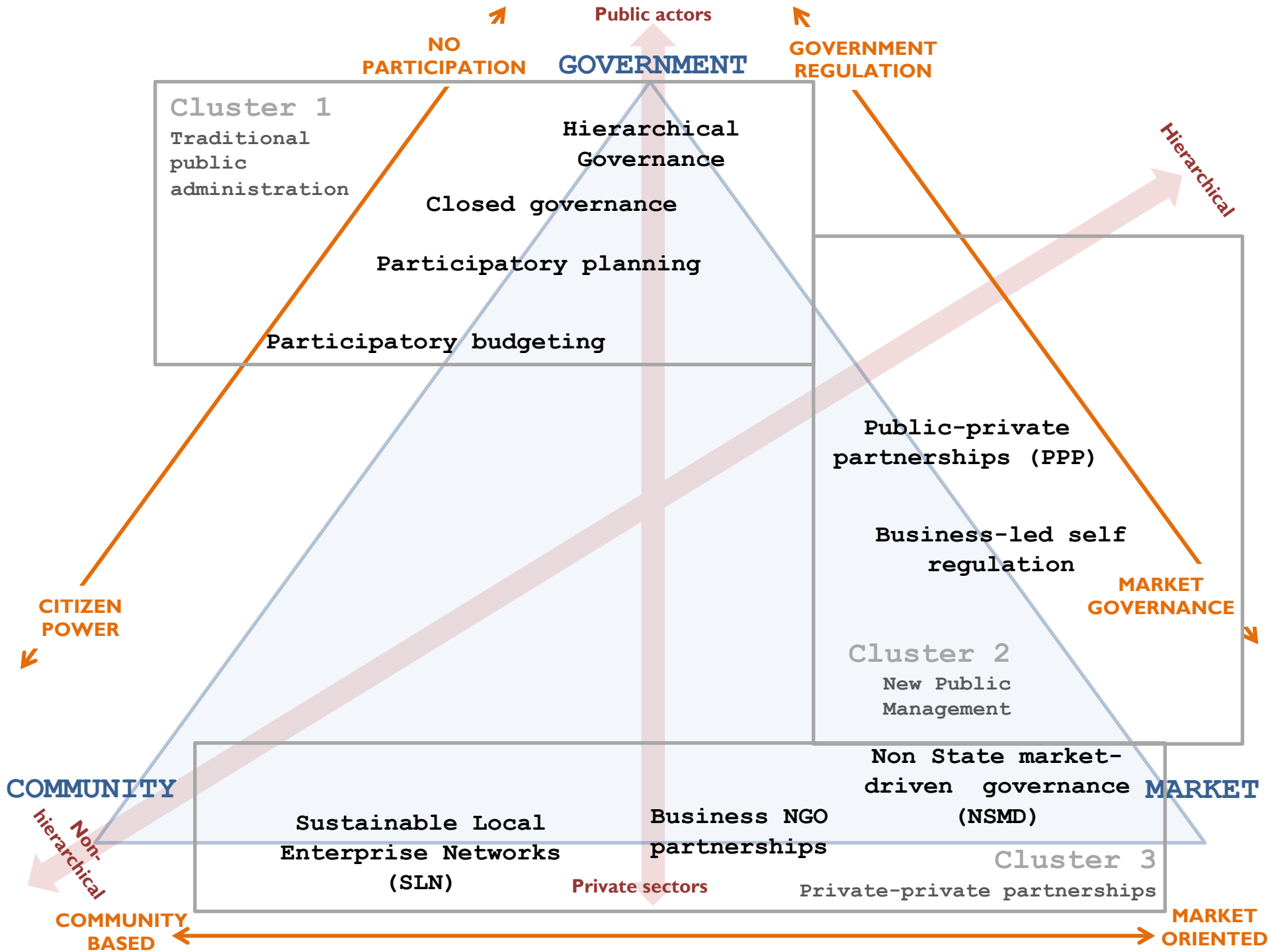


Source: UNDP, Pppue, Joint Venture Public- Private Partnerships for Urban Environmental Services Report on UNDP / PPPUE ' s Project Development Facility, II (2000).

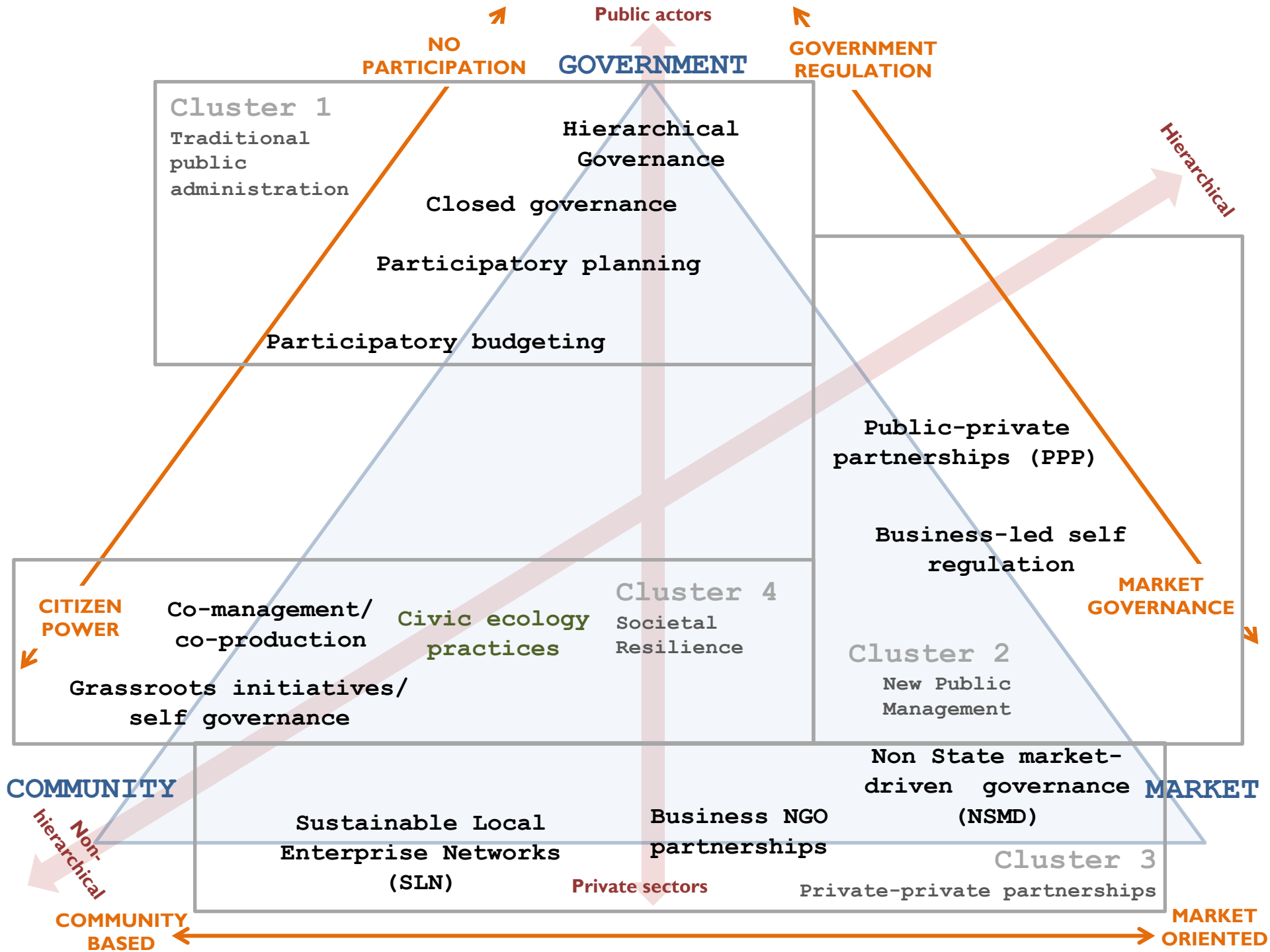




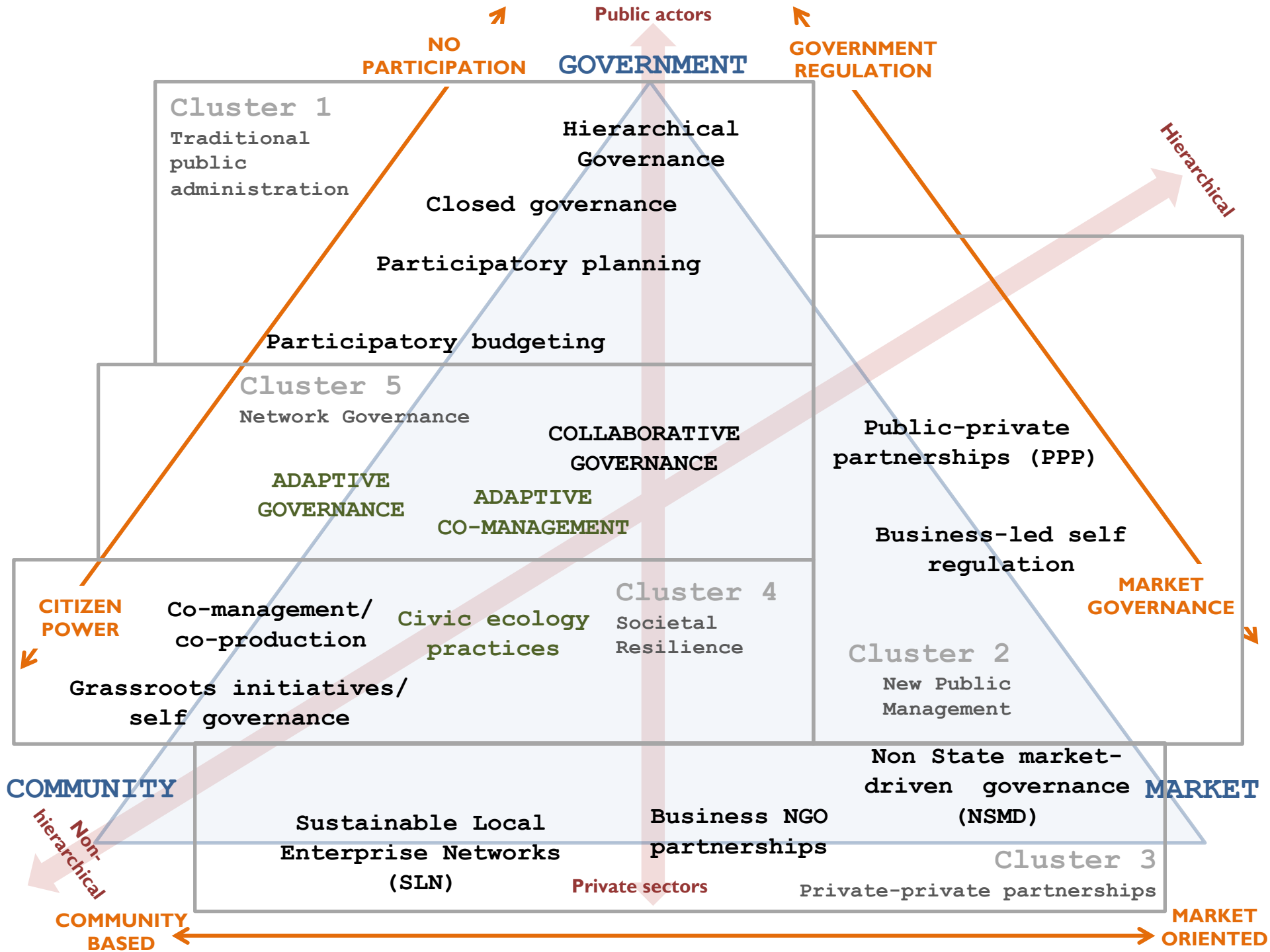
	CLUSTER2: New Public Management	
	Public–private partnership (PPP)	Business-led self-regulation
KEY WORDS	Marked-oriented, competitive, top-down	Business-led, decentralized
HOW EMERGES	Usually from a flexible, opportunistic approach, drawing from experiences in other cases. Not always the most evident solution, but a widely acknowledged crisis can trigger the arrangement.	When government is not perceived anymore as the only source of legitimacy and market forces are strong enough.
INVOLVED ACTORS	Government + private sector	Business sector. Efforts may be undertaken to include community
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT	Can range from high to low involvement.	Announcers and commissioners
RULES	Private sector involvement does not eliminate public sector responsibilities. Continued government involvement in certain services helps ensure the efficiency of markets by reducing capital risks, increasing access to information, and reducing monopoly	Utilization of market exchanges and incentives to encourage environmental compliance. Corporate self-regulation initiatives create their own (usually voluntary) rules and procedures to guide corporate behavior.
CONTEXTUAL CONDITIONS	PPP are deeply context based.	In neo-liberal contexts
TOOLBOX	Outsourcing. Joint Venture Public-Private Partnerships	Voluntary agreements, third-party certifications, eco-labelling, corporate social responsibility
REFERENCES	[33] [49] [71]	[80], [81]
BARRIERS	BE2, BE6	
DRIVERS	DK3, DK4, DG3, DG9, DE1, DE6, DE7, DE9	
SUITABILITY FOR NBS	<b>Low-medium</b> depending the scale of the NBS project (the smaller the scale the easier to implement only market-oriented approaches). Risk aversion of the private sector often result in a <b>choice for proven technology</b> rather than for innovative solutions (such NBS).	



	CLUSTER 3: Private-private partnerships		
	Non-State Market-driven governance (NSMD)	Business–NGO partnerships	SLENs (Sustainable Local Enterprise Networks)
KEY WORDS	Market-oriented, decentralized	Hybrid governance, decentralized, non-hierarchical	Self-organizing, complex adaptive systems
HOW EMERGES	NGOs develop their sets of responsible business practices due to the difficulty to influence the government providing recognition in the marketplace to responsible companies	A reactive approach is adopted by companies in the beginning, but partnerships could evolve, where pressures from NGO lead to go from mere compliance to strategic actions	Provide an integrating opportunity for stakeholders to acknowledge a shared asset base and construct a virtuous cycle
INVOLVED ACTORS	Environmental and social stakeholders participate with business interests	Markets + NGO	NGOs + civil society members + companies.
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT	Not necessarily	Medium-low	Not mandatory.
RULES	Steering by market parties, regulation on basis of supply and demand. The viability of NSMD is determined by whether it can achieve legitimacy to operate. Authority emanates from the market	Depending of the type i) threat-induced, compliance or charity-driven responses, ii) transactional partnerships for improving profitability or market share, iii) businesses move beyond bottom-line iv) other key stakeholders are involved	Require at least one for-profit business to anchor the network and ensure that it is financially sustainable.
CONTEXTUAL CONDITIONS	General dissatisfaction with old policy instruments; neoliberal institutionalism and free trade agreements and a requirement for market innovations.	Differences in organizational cultures between business and NGOs due to differing missions and accountability systems.	Depend on mobilizing all four key assets: human, social, financial and ecological (natural) capital.
TOOLBOX	Forums for exchanges of expert information, databases of experiences and best practices. Norm generation and community building	Sponsorship. Short-term problem-solving. Sustained dyadic Eco-labelling. Industry sustainability standards.	Re-conceptualization of roles.
REFERENCES	[62] [79] [80] [81] [82] [83] [84]	[86] [88]	[89] [90]
BARRIERS	BK4, BK5, BG7, BG10, BE1, BE2, BE5, BE6		
DRIVERS	DK7, DK8, DK9, DG1, DG3, DE6		
SUITABILITY FOR NBS	<b>Medium-high.</b> But currently the required conditions for the more complex models are met only in rare cases. This implies the need for a significant change in relationships between enterprise-based activities in the developing world and broader social, economic and political systems in which they are embedded.		



	CLUSTER 4: Societal Resilience		
	Co-management	Civic ecology practices	Self-governance/grassroots initiatives
KEY WORDS	Open participation, decentralized management, social learning	Small scale, local	Bottom-up, polycentric, self-organisation, self-management
HOW EMERGES	When initiated by non-government, government supports implementation. When initiated by the government stakeholders are invited	Often are initiated by lay persons, generally as a community-based response to urban decline or sudden disturbances like hurricanes and war	Decision-making about societal development is not solely in the hands of government, but companies, scientists, media, new social movements and community.
INVOLVED ACTORS	Local authorities, citizens, NGOs, researchers	Scientists and NGOs helps to ensure larger impacts and longer-term sustainability, but it is not mandatory	Local authorities, citizens, NGOs, researchers
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT	Medium	Not mandatory	It could have a semi-passive role
RULES	Local authorities have to take the responsibility for the urban environment which means that there is a limit for decentralization as far as public goods and services are concerned	Local authorities have to take the responsibility for the urban environment which means that there is a limit for decentralization as far as public goods and services are concerned	Grassroots movement have their own dynamic and they are an inherently unpredictable. Institutional diversity and multi-scalarity.
CONTEXTUAL CONDITIONS	How co-operative management schemes are formulated and implemented depends on the task at hand and the responsibility shared	They reflect local environments and cultural traditions.	An active society is requirement.
TOOLBOX	Collaboration. Experimentation.		
REFERENCES	[74] [31], [94] [32] [37] [41]	[23] [95]	[65] [96] [73]
BARRIERS	BG7, BG9, BG10, BG11, BE1, BE5		
DRIVERS	DK9, DG6, DG10, DE10		
SUITABILITY FOR NBS	<b>High.</b> Management of natural resources is one field especially well fitted for these types of governance. Reflexive governance is a model that may be the one applicable for social-ecological innovations such as NBS.		

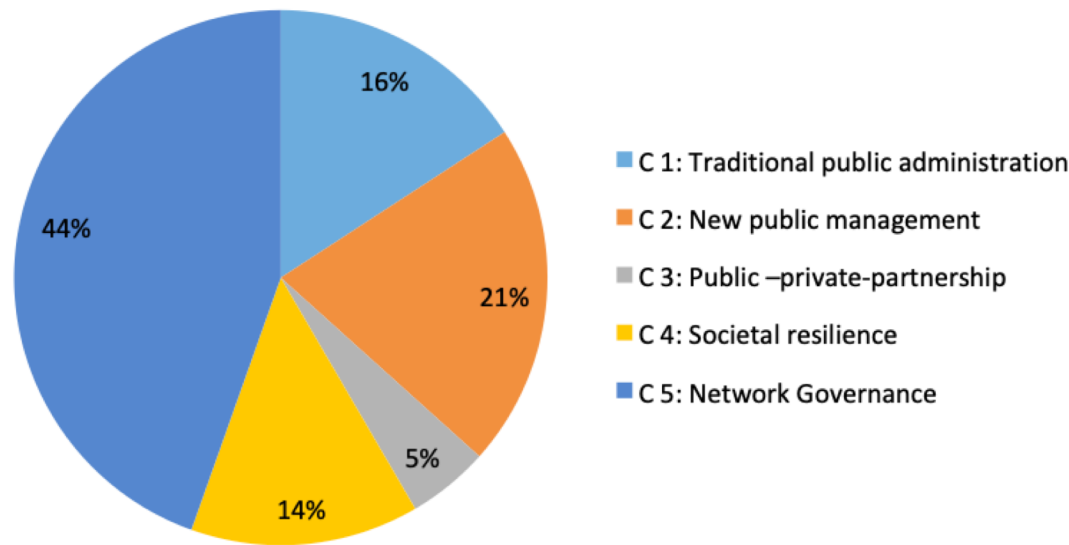




	CLUSTER 5: Network Governance		
	Collaborative governance	Adaptive governance	Adaptive co-management
KEY WORDS	Collaborative, multi-level, polycentric	Environmental governance, decentralized, polycentric, bottom-up	Community-based, resource management, polycentric
HOW EMERGES	Usually the model is initiated by the government trying to incorporate new resources, efficiency, knowledge and competences to solve complex problems.	May require “windows of opportunity” that appear as significant boost in capital or legitimacy	Usually triggered by a crisis.
INVOLVED ACTORS	Involves a large group of governmental and non-governmental actors that engage in competitive and/or stimulating governing activities.	Requires a structure of nested institutions and cross-scale institutional diversity connected by formal and informal networks	Diverse set of stakeholders, operating at different levels, often through networks from local users to international bodies.
GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT	Government retains the formal authority	Medium.	Medium.
RULES	Actors are only loosely bound to one another. The model is formally organized and meets collectively. Participants are included in decision making process. Transaction costs are high.	Largely builds on human relationships and trust.	Leadership is essential by providing innovation, building trust, making sense, managing conflict, linking actors, compiling and mobilizing broad support for change. Iterative learning and action
CONTEXTUAL CONDITIONS	Theoretically the model can be implemented at local, regional, state, national and even global levels (although at global level the decisions are voluntary)	Developed democracies and high-income countries where policy tends to leave room for and support innovation and bottom-up initiatives	Tailored to specific places and situations
TOOLBOX	Analytical-deliberative approaches. Participatory evaluation. Collaborative scenario-building exercises. Urban Transition Labs	Assessment of multiple and non-monetary benefits. Qualitative, multi-criteria, iterative and experimental approaches.	Collaboration. Experimentation. Bioregional approach to resource management
REFERENCES	[21] [54] [57] [65] [86] [93] [99] [100]	[55] [61][101] [102]	[30] [41] [91] [102] [103][104]
BARRIERS	BG2, BG7, BG9, BG10, BE1, BE2		
DRIVERS	DK1, DK2, DK3, DK4, DK5, DK9, DG1, DG7, DG8, DG9, DG10, DE1, DE2, DE3, DE4, DE5, DE6, DE7		
SUITABILITY FOR NBS	<b>Very High.</b> Collaborative governance is an approach thought for dealing with uncertainty, complexity and dynamics, therefore totally suited for NBS projects. “Transaction costs” (costs of consultations, reaching agreement, and enforcing such agreements) could be high		

- 56 IMs organized in detailed cards
- A WordPress blog based DB for data gathering
- Web based IM DB

[illegible]



- ✓ Governance models → The results that emerged from the IM database
  - ✓ more usual governance models are the ones from the Cluster 5 – “Network governance” (around 43% of the cases)
  - ✓ The second is the Cluster 2- “New public management” (21%) and the third is the Cluster 1- “Traditional public administration” (16%) with a theoretical suitability level of “low” or “medium low”
  - ✓ **Correlation between the suitability of the governance models and their incidence is not so evident**
  - ✓ The frequency of these types of governance → more related with the **traditional inertia of government structures** than with the suitability of them.

● ● ● ● Thank you for your attention!



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