

*World Congress on Risk. Brussels, 22-25 June 2003.*

*Sub-theme: Global and Transboundary Risk*

*Mini Symposium: The management of uncertainty in risk science and policy.*

# Risk and uncertainties in a climate change impacts study. Links between scientists and stakeholders

by Dr. Claudia E. Natenzon  
Buenos Aires University/ FLACSO

# THE PROJECT

- Project AIAC LA26:  
“Impact of Global Change on the Coastal Areas of the Rio de la Plata. Sea Level Rise and Meteorological Effects”.
- Interdisciplinary Project of Projects: Climatology, Hydrology, Geomorphology and Social Geography teams.
- Financial support of the Buenos Aires University and Assessments of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change (AIACC). UNEP, The International START Secretariat Global Change **S**ys**T**em for **A**nalysis, **R**esearch and **T**raining (IHDP – IGBP – WCRP) and Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)

# LOCATION MAP



Source: R. Kokot, 2003

# PRELIMINAR QUESTIONS: Interrelation Types

1. Consultation
2. Inter-Consultation
3. Network Association



# COMPONENT: Inter-Consultation With Stakeholders

This component aims to achieve an inter-consultation relationship between:

- Project Members and the selected organizations (outside the project).
- PM among themselves (inside the project).
- PM of LA26 and others LA's AIACCCCA.

# METHODOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIVE PROCESS

The aim of the methodology to be applied is to install a *communicative process*, that is to say, to go beyond isolated consulting by establishing ruled and continuous mechanisms of association and interchange with stakeholders during the development of the Project.

At the same time, a process of interaction with the Project L26 team members will be set in order to assess the way of including the results of this inter-consultation in the adjustment of tasks and goals, and in the proposal of future projects.

# CRITERIA TO IDENTIFY STAKEHOLDERS

1. Pertinence and previous experience in the research subject/problem.
2. Different institutional associations (public/private, administrative levels, objectives).
3. Opportunity, previous contacts and will.

# STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED (1/3)

## Governmental Institution, National level:

SIFEM Sistema Federal de Emergencias- Secretaría de Seguridad Interior, Presidencia de la Nación (Federal Emergency System, Secretary of Internal Security, Presidency)

## Governmental Institution, Provincial level:

Defensoría del Pueblo Adjunta de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires. Area Medioambiente, Urbanismo y Comunicación (Office of the Deputy Ombudsman of the city of Buenos Aires. Environment, Urbanism and Communication Area)



# STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED (2/3)

Non-governmental organization related to Buenos Aires and the AMBA:

Fundación Ciudad (Foundation for the City)

Local Non-governmental organization (urban neighbourhoods):

GAO – Gestión Asociada del Oeste (Associated Management of the West)

# STAKEHOLDERS CONTACTED (3/3)

## Governmental Institution, Municipal level:

Secretaría de Política Ambiental y Seguridad Alimentaria.

Municipalidad de Avellaneda.

## Non Governmental Institution, Research Centre:

REDES- Centro de Estudios sobre Ciencia, Desarrollo y Educación Superior (Study Centre about Science, Development and High Education).

# ACTIVITIES:

- Individual interviews with associated stakeholders.
- Ask for suggestions by a specific questionnaire.
- Answers collecting and suggestions systematization (demands, proposals, observations).
- Presentation of partial results at a Workshop done on March 5th, 2003 with associated and interested stakeholders, giving answers to the suggestions.
- Development of bilateral activities with the associated stakeholders: links between web pages, technical assistance in specific works whit the public, exchange of information, processing product on order, etc.

# FIRST RESULTS (1/5)

The critical situation in Argentina has intensified and accelerated institutional, jurisdictional and even interpersonal fragmentation processes. Within this framework and this dynamics, complexity is not recognized, sustainability is extremely difficult and uncertainty prevails.



# FIRST RESULTS (2/5)

But...

Key interrelations are established towards the "outside" (with stakeholders) but towards the "inside" of the project as well (among the team researchers) and with other AIACCCA teams.

## FIRST RESULTS (3/5)

Although an interrelation type 2 (inter-consultation) has been chosen, association situations are emerging during the research practice, as germs of an interrelation of type 3.

# FIRST RESULTS (4/5)

As a result of the programmed activities, new interrelations are being built with new stakeholders, as services private enterprises like Hidrovia SA and Aguas Argentinas.

# FIRST RESULTS (5/5)

The Project's result are been re-formulated taking into account the stakeholders suggestions.



# ADDITIONAL ASPECTS

(External to the LA26 Project)

## PREMISES:

- Researchers are actors as well.
- The complexity of the problem is reflected in the complexity of the project.
- Project management should undertake such complexity.
- Fragmentation tends to be overcome through the collective construction of knowledge.

# TOWARDS INTEGRATION

The techniques that may lead to a interdisciplinary production of knowledge as a collective construction should be incorporated in the **design of project management.**

# DESIGN OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

It is the field in which the outlined problem can be solved or not:

- Thru an interdisciplinary mode *inside* the project.
- Thru participatory interrelations with stakeholders -particularly policy-makers and those affected by policies-, towards the *outside*.

# INITIAL CONDITION

Political will<sup>1</sup> to perform the experiment under agreed methodological rules (Natenzon & Poggiese, 2002), beyond applied science and professional consultancy (Funtowicz y Ravetz, 1993).

<sup>1</sup> In the sense of "power management" and herefore, decision-making management.



# WORK PROPOSAL

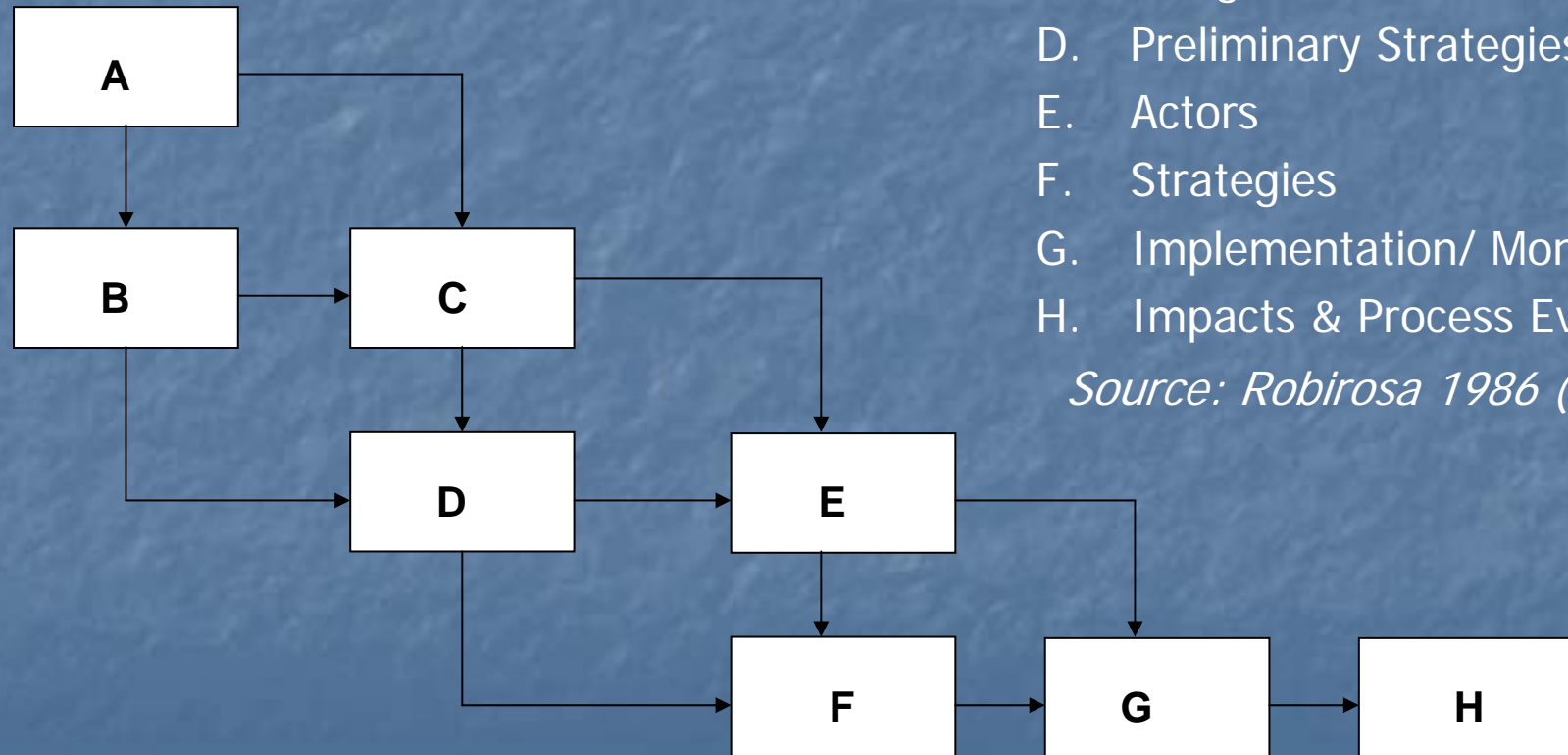
In the beginning an applied science scheme is set, with consecutive moments with feedback between:

- Construction of **disciplinary** knowledge,
- Construction of **interdisciplinary** knowledge,
- Construction of **inter-consultation** knowledge.

# WHAT IS EXPECTED?

The application of these three moments and their interrelations will produce an scenario in which the emergence of association networks is expected (Type 3).

# TOOLS: Logic sequence



- A. Diagnostic
- B. Problems
- C. Integration
- D. Preliminary Strategies
- E. Actors
- F. Strategies
- G. Implementation/ Monitoring
- H. Impacts & Process Evaluation

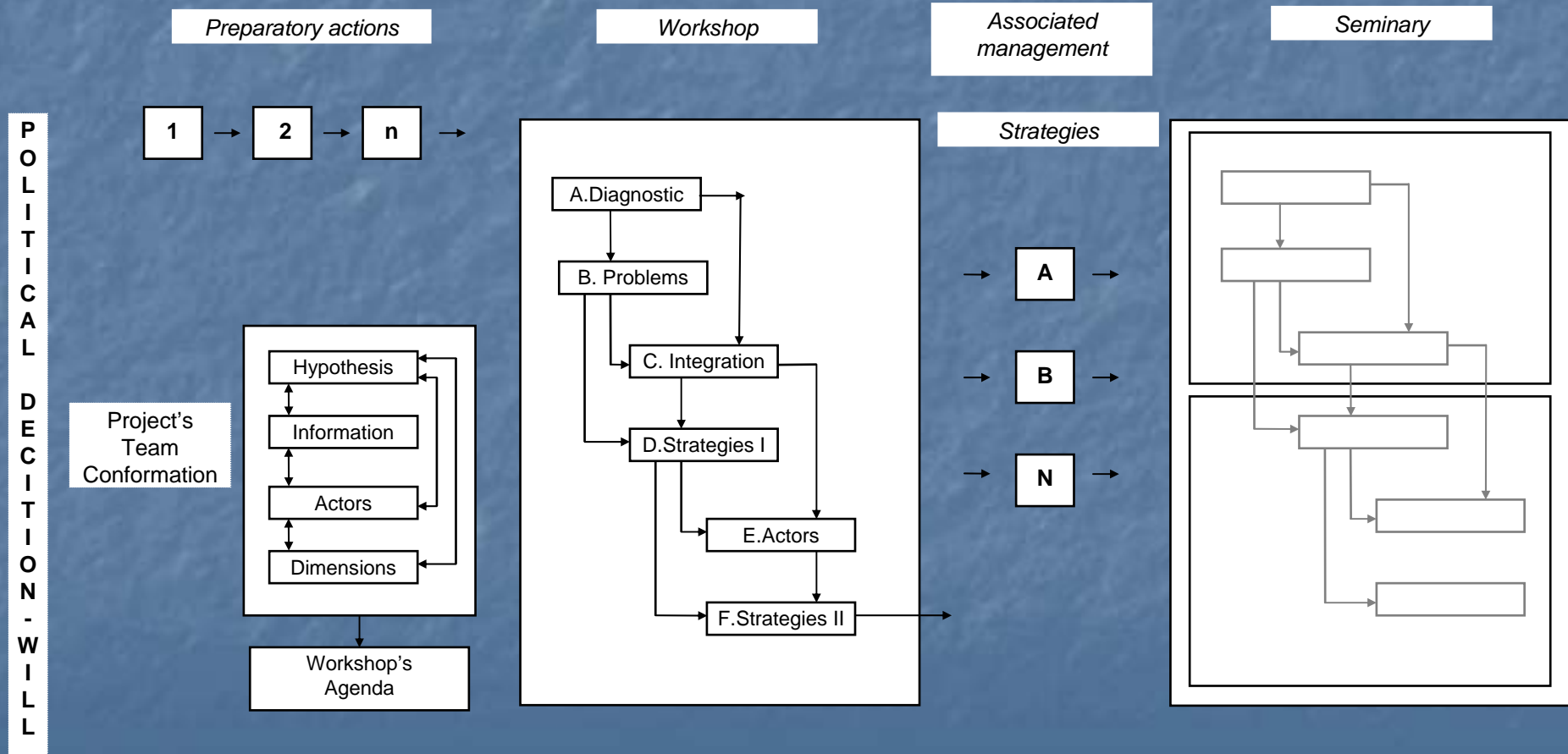
*Source: Robirosa 1986 (modify) .*

# TOOLS: Methodological Cycle

## PREPARATORY STAGE

## STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION STAGE

## REFORMULATION STAGE



Source: Robirosa 1986, Poggiese, 1994.

# REFERENCES

- Barrenechea, Julieta y Claudia E. Natenzon (2002). *LA26-AIACCCCA: Project Document*. Buenos Aires, mimeo. Translation: Elvira Gentile.
- Funtowicz, S. y J.Ravetz (1993) *Epistemología política, ciencia con la gente*. Buenos Aires, CEAL.
- IPCC (2001) *Climate change 2001: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability*. New York, Cambridge University Press.
- Natenzon, Claudia E. (2001). "Inundaciones y cambio climático como problemática interdisciplinaria" En: *Primer Encuentro sobre "Adaptación de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires y Area Metropolitana al Cambio Climático"*. Defensoría del Pueblo Adjunta de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires. Buenos Aires, 14 y 15 de noviembre de 2001. Ponencia publicada en formato electrónico.
- Natenzon, Claudia E. y Héctor A. Poggiese (2002) "Collaborative planning and co-management. The development plan for Zudañez, Chuquisaca, Bolivia". In: *Implementing Sustainable Development, Integrated Assessment and Participatory Decision-Making Processes*. Edward Elgar Ed./ SCOPE/ UNEP.
- Robirosa, M. (1986) "Articulación multidisciplinaria de conocimientos en una metodología integrada para la planificación y gestión ambiental del desarrollo". In: Enrique Leff, editor. México, Siglo XXI.



Risk and uncertainties in a climate  
change impacts study.  
Links between scientists and stakeholders  
by Natenzon

*MANY THANKS !*