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The Importance of a Legitimate Global Stocktake

The legitimacy of the UNFCCC's Global Stocktake is a pivotal aspect in harmonizing science and policy within the international climate policy making. In this research project, the legitimacy of the first Global Stocktake is analysed. It is argued that a legitimate Global Stocktake could cultivate trust and confidence among diverse stakeholders, including scientists, policymakers, and civil society, by providing a robust and transparent mechanism for assessing progress, identifying gaps, and informing evidence-based policy decisions. By fostering a legitimate science policy output, a legitimate Global Stocktake, it is argued, holds the potential to galvanize collective action, foster collaboration, and drive the transformative changes needed to address climate change and create a sustainable future.

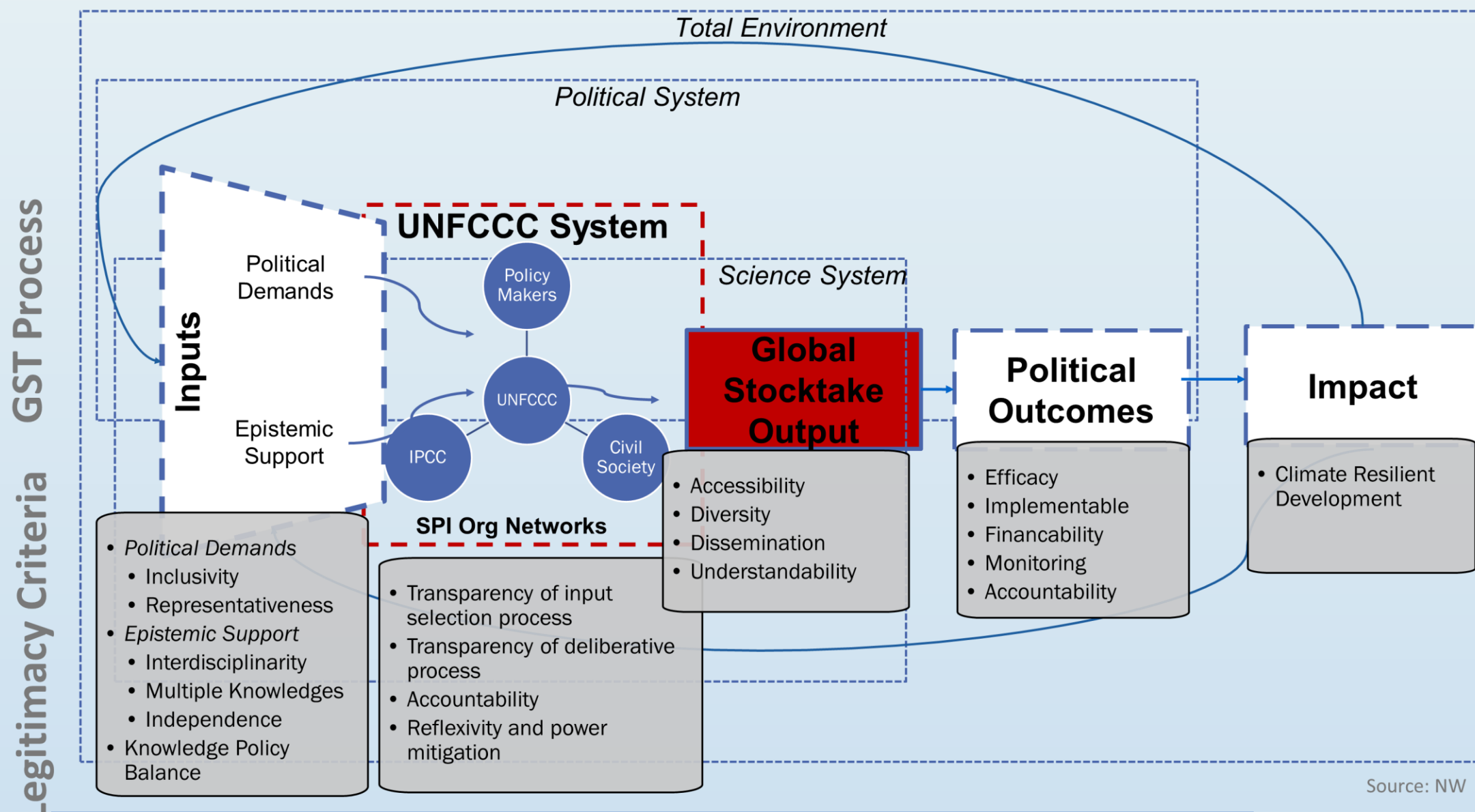


Figure 1: Conceptual framework showing the Global Stocktake Process and the related legitimacy criteria.

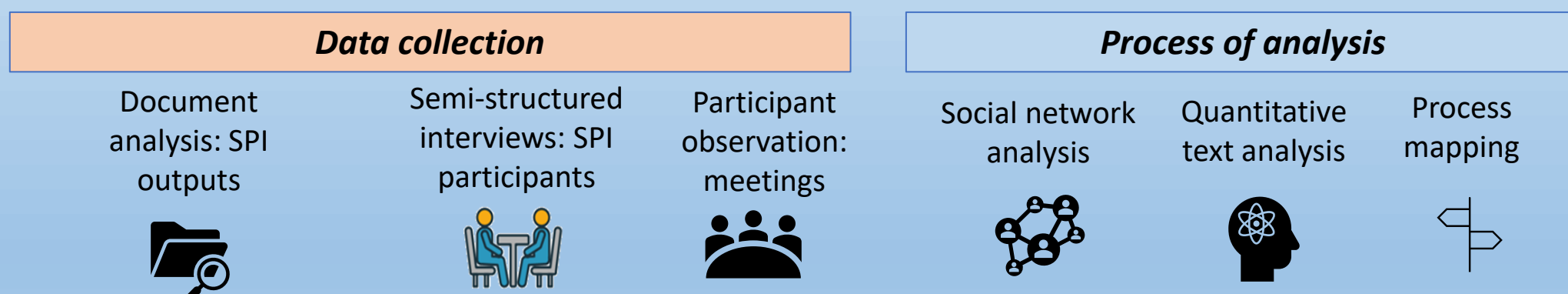
The GST Process

Being conceptualized as process bringing together the science and policy systems, the GST is based upon different 'political demands' and 'epistemic support', being brought together within the system of the UNFCCC. In this system, the outputs are transformed to outputs, the tangible products such as a CMA decision, a technical annex or a political declaration. The GST then is contributing to political outcomes such as the updates of NDCs which is expected to have an impact in the overall environment.

GST Legitimacy

The GST process is key towards achieving the Paris Agreement and can hence be considered to be a powerful process. Following Arendt, power is not per se bad but needs to be justified and legitimacy can be helpful doing so as it has procedural and substantive elements. Complementing Scharpfs' systems theoretical approach towards legitimacy with a theory of change, above several criteria for a legitimate GST have been identified along the GST Process.

Methodology



Interested in this project?

This poster serves as the foundation for an ongoing research project investigating the legitimacy of the Global Stocktake (GST). As part of this project, I invite actors involved in the GST process who are interested in sharing their insights and perspectives to reach out for potential interviews. Additionally, I welcome any feedback or suggestions. Please contact me for further details or to schedule an interview.

Cooperation partners



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