

Engagement of Women's Organizations in Intersectoral Governance in Transition Economies

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Rationale & Major Factors behind Intersectoral Governance (ISG)

A new role of the government that relies less on state intervention, and more on market forces brought about by deregulation, decentralization, liberalization and privatization.

- Growing importance of the newly established private sector not only in the economic sectors of growth, but also in developmental activities in the social sector.
- Newly established civil-society organizations (CSOs), including women non-governmental organizations (WNGOs) are emerging as active participants in public policy processes during the transition period.
- Resulting from this is intersectoral governance that is increasingly encouraging the inter-organizational networks of state and non-state sectors jointly involving in these processes.
- Growing role of women and women's organizations (WO) in state and non-state sectors of economy and social development

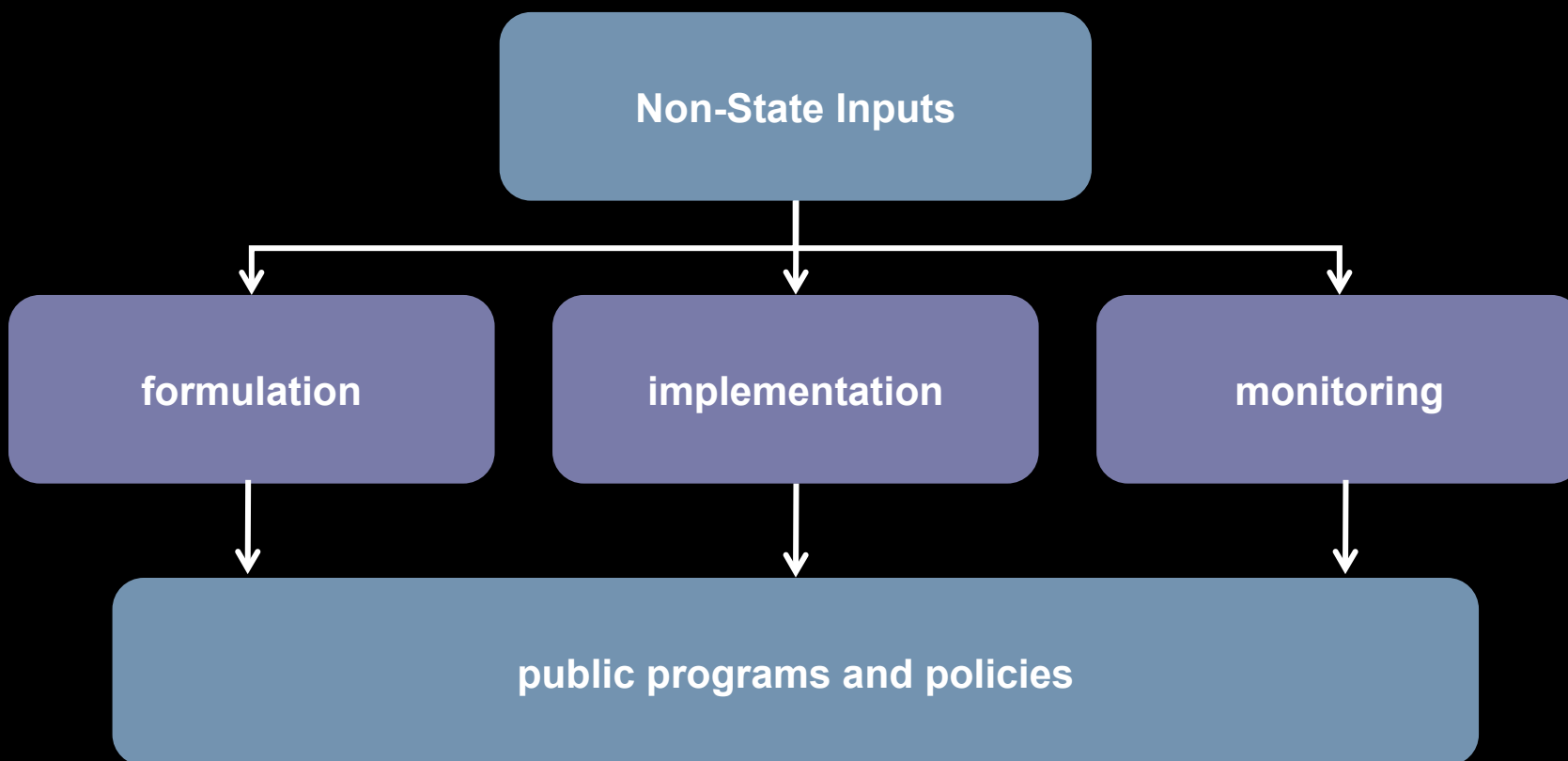


Actions Needed toward transition countries

- Promote understanding of the concept of ISG and its role in good governance with women's engagement
- Define the framework for building partnership among the government, private sector and CSOs/WNGOs to solve socioeconomic problems
- Constitute relationships between major partners at different stages of decision-making
- Develop organizational forms of partnership for design and implementation of socioeconomic programs



Purposes of ISG arrangements



Organizations		Decision-Making Stages at the national level									
		Exposing a problem				Working out a program				Realizing a program	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Govt. Sector	Higher governing bodies (President Administration, Parliament etc.)	●		●	●				●		●
	Ministries/ Agencies including WO	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	
	Local (provincial) governing bodies including WO	●		●		●				●	
Business Sector	Large, Small & Medium Business including WO	●		●		●				●	
Civil Society Sector	CSOs (WNGOs, unions, public chambers etc.)	●		●		●				●	



ISG Framework

- Institutional/Organizational Aspects
- Technological Aspects



Institutional/Organizational Aspects

- New Role for the Government is manifested in:
 - Establishing policy predictability, stability & continuity
 - Ongoing debureaucratization of the state
 - Improved quality of public expenditures
 - Introduction & development of social insurance
 - Fiscal incentives to promote investment & employment
 - Reforms of financial regime
 - New legal framework for private enterprises
 - Role of gender balance, growing role of women & WO



Institutional/Organizational Aspects

- Trends going on in transitional economies
 - Private sector finds itself increasingly engaged in activities embraced by the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) including but not limited to delivery of government policy initiatives, location and general business activity in deprived communities, involvement in public-private partnerships, provision of mainstream public services, growing role of women-entrepreneurs



Institutional/Organizational Aspects

- Trends going on in transitional economies
 - Civil society expands gradually its network of organizations such as professional associations, WNGOs, political parties, labor unions engaged in fulfilling watchdog (moral, social, democratic) and development functions by means of promotion and protection of among other things social rights, equality, freedom, peace, justice, transparency and consensus-building.



Institutional/Organizational Aspects

- Challenges facing emerging socially active sectors (*private sector*)
 - Although CSR is considered to be a business led initiative government still must be involved
 - Governments need to create legislative mechanisms at the national and local levels whereby business and labor can bargain collectively to improve conditions in a company

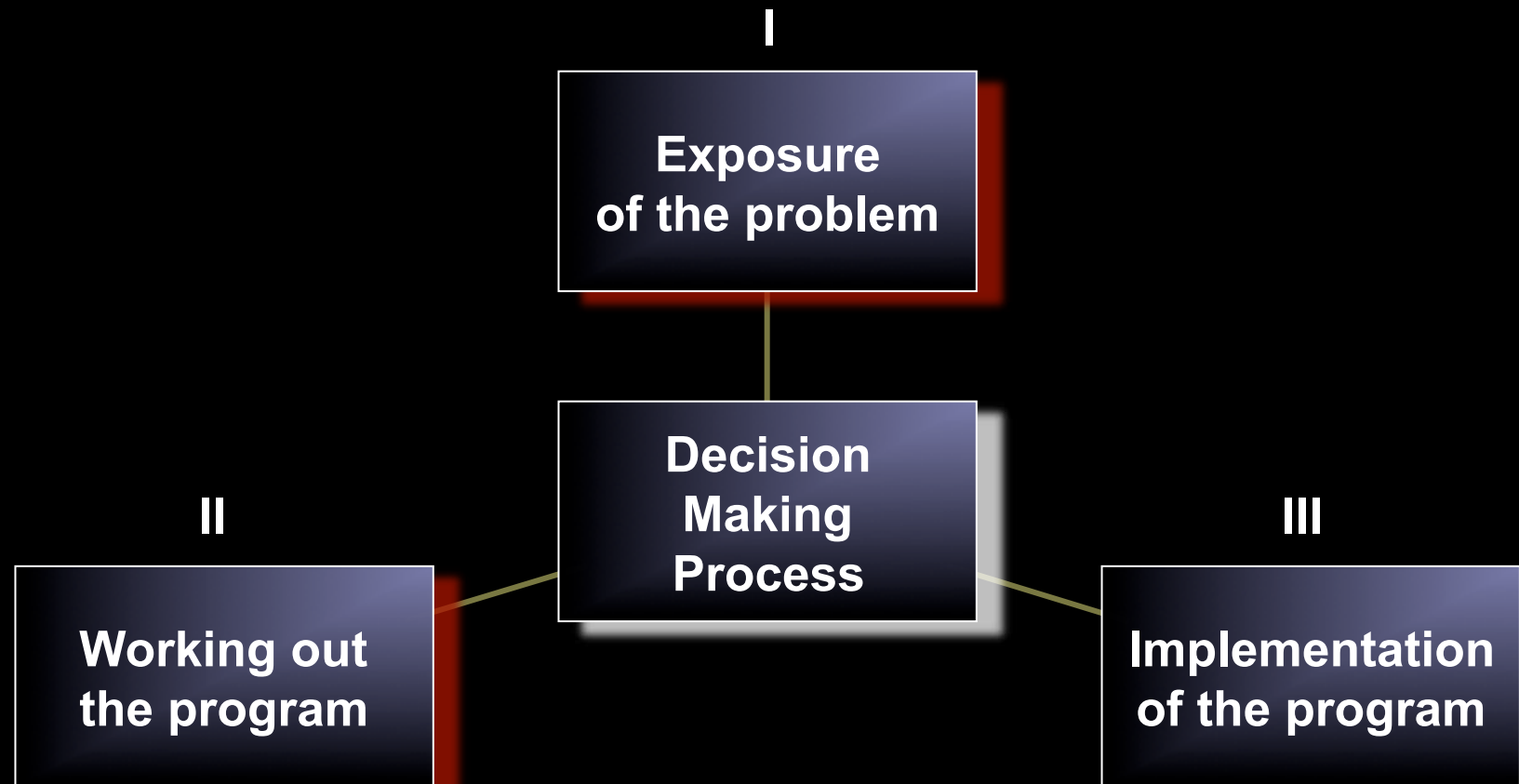


Institutional/Organizational Aspects

- Challenges facing emerging socially active sectors (*civil society*)
 - Legal space needs to be delineated for the operation of civil society organizations, including women's organizations
 - Poor policy implementation and low absorption capacity due to a shortage of qualified human resources and lack of incentives to cooperate
 - Scarcity of financial resources



Technological Aspects





Technological Aspects

■ 10 Steps in Decision-Making Process

I {	Step 1:	Identification/exposure of a problem
	Step 2:	Formation of a special commission
	Step 3:	Formulation of major objectives
	Step 4:	Designation of a responsible agency



Technological Aspects

■ 10 Steps in Decision-Making Process

II	Step 5:	Working out a program
	Step 6:	Development of a program
	Step 7:	Assessment of a program
	Step 8:	Issuance of a document
III	Step 9:	Implementation of a program
	Step 10:	Review of results



Available Cases

■ Russian Experience of ISG

The Russian Federation Public Chamber was formed as an independent civil institute.

The Public Chamber is mainly supposed to:

- **Conduct public expertise of laws at their draft stage**
- **Control & monitor executive government activities**
- **Accumulate and forward public proposals to the President**



Available Cases – cont.

■ Russian Experience of ISG

The Tripartite Social Partnership (TSP) created as one of the strategies for national development.

The benefits to be derived from the TSP include:

- **Anticipated economic growth**
- **Protection of jobs**
- **Less inflation**



Concluding Remarks

- Conceptualizing ISG, taking into account the role of women & WOs
- Review of the Legal/Regulatory Framework
- Market-based Incentives for ISG
- Recording Public-Private Partnership
- Provisioning Social Services
- Strengthening & Capacity Building of CSOs and WNGOs through training