

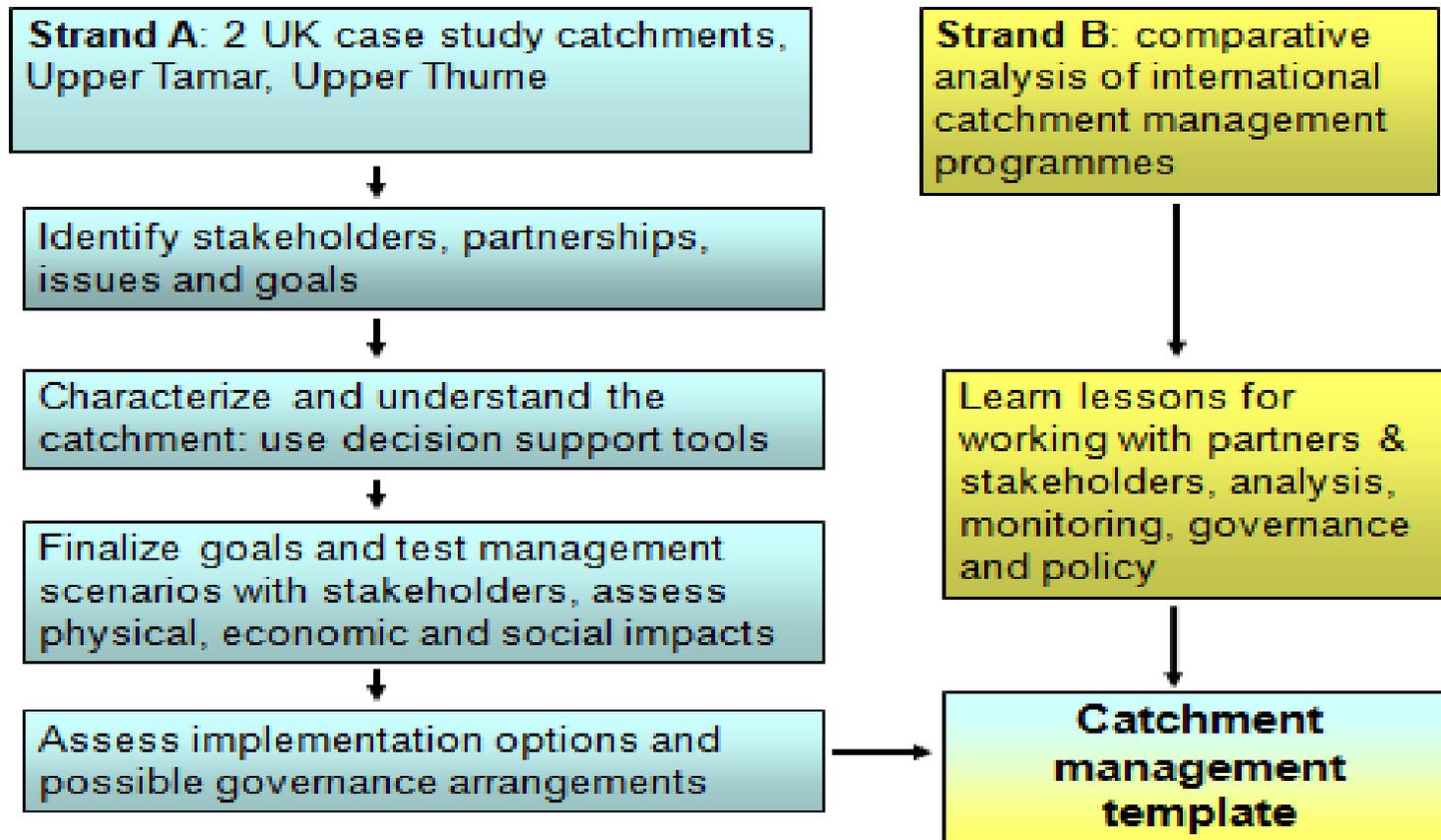
Catchment management in the EU: exploring the scope for learning lessons

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Research on comparative catchment management governance

- How can comparative analysis and lesson learning help with the development of a CM template?
- Project partners in EU, Australia, USA
- Two approaches:
 - **Government level analysis** = UK/EU, Australia, USA
 - **Catchment level analysis**
 - Cross national comparison of individual cases in the UK, D, DK, Australia, USA

Defining catchment management

- Catchment management is a nebulous concept = multiple definitions
- Growing phenomenon worldwide – North America (watershed partnerships), Europe (RBM) and Australia (ICM/NRM) but also developing countries (IWRM)
- But several key features of these approaches including:
 - **Scale** = catchment, river basin, watershed
 - **Stakeholders** = participation of multiple actors from different levels
 - **Collaborative institutions** = collaboration of actors within specific institutional structures, e.g. RBLPs, watershed partnerships

Comparing CM governance

- How can we compare?
- Multiple approaches to catchment management governance worldwide
- One way to compare is to focus on government **policy instruments**:
 - ***Regulatory forms*** of government policy to embed catchment management
 - Legal measures, regulations
 - ***Non-regulatory forms*** of policy to encourage catchment management
 - Funding or voluntary approaches

Assessing lesson learning

- How can we assess the scope for learning lessons?
- Many theoretical arguments on the drawing of lessons
- But there are constraints to learning between different countries in practice:
 - Differences in national contexts
 - Higher level lesson learning between governments on policy instruments (hard policy) can be problematic
- Lesson learning at lower levels is easier
 - Best practice (soft policy) ideas tend to transfer more easily, for example between individual catchments

Comparative practice

	UK/EU	Australia	USA
Policy instrument	Regulatory	Non-regulatory	Regulatory/non-regulatory
Scale	River basin	Regional and local	Variable
Stakeholders	Public, key stakeholders	Multiple	Multiple
Collaborative institutions	River basin institutions	NRM bodies and local partnerships	Multiple forms of collaborative engagement

Catchment management in the UK/EU

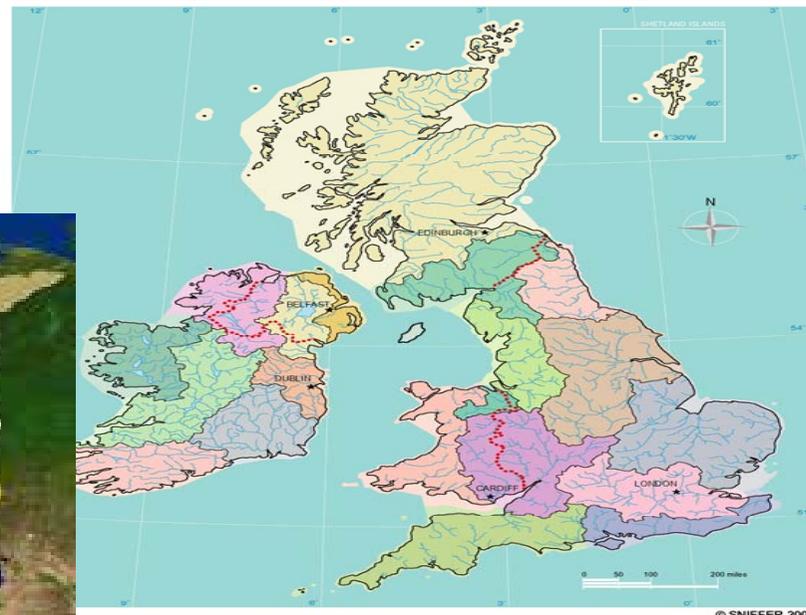
- National regulations for catchment management
- Implement EU WFD (2000) legal principles and CEC guidelines
- **Scale** = river basin districts
- **Stakeholders** = consultation and active engagement with public and key stakeholders at regional and national levels
- **Collaborative institutions** = river basin liaison panels, national stakeholder groups and liaison panels
- But also wider collaboration at the sub-regional scale
 - Catchment Sensitive Farming
 - Community catchment groups (Smith *et al.* 2010)

WFD - River Basin Districts



Water UK 2010

WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE RIVER BASIN DISTRICTS IN THE UK AND IRELAND



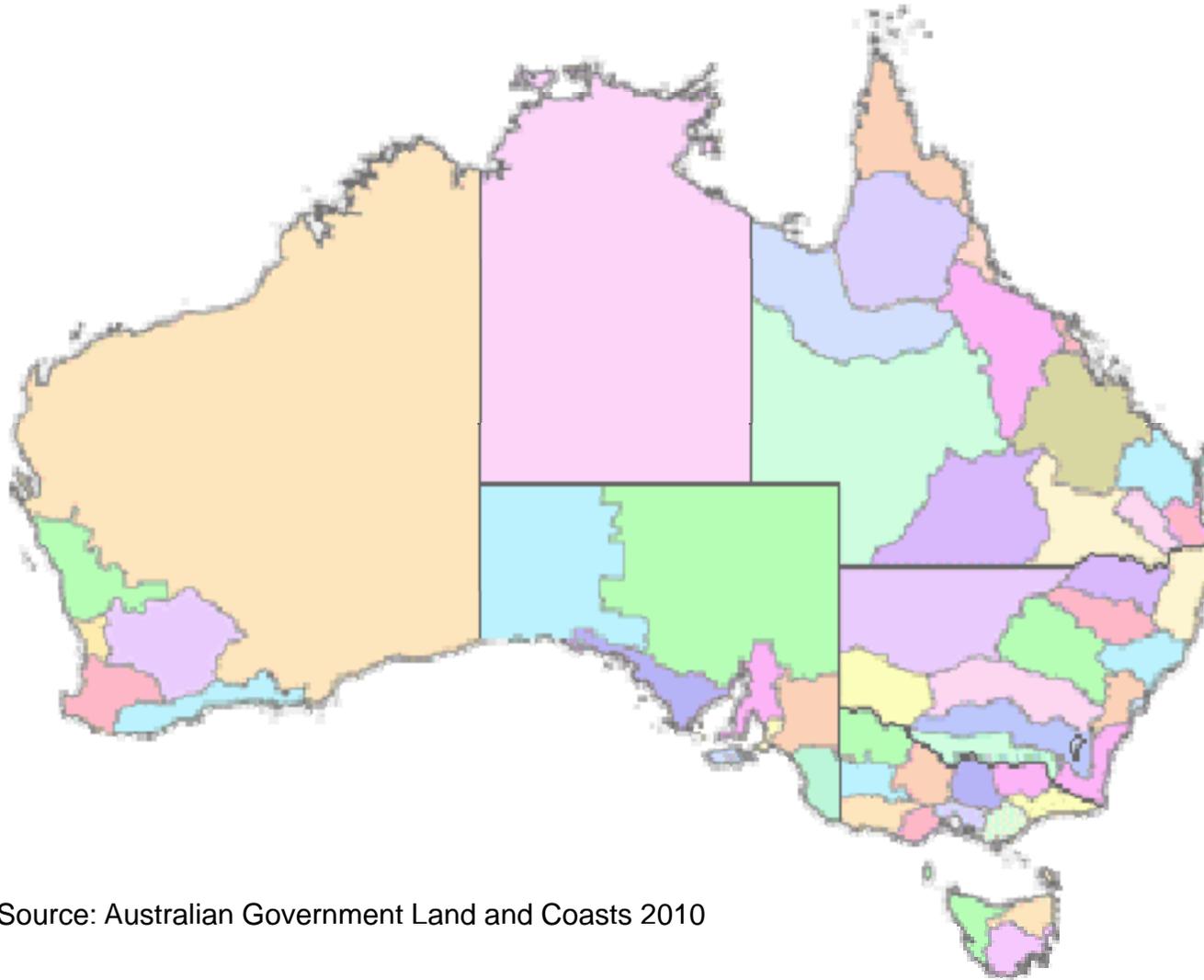
Ireland(UK) and Ireland		Scotland, England and Wales	
	RBD Name: North Western (IRBD)		RBD Name: Scotland
	RBD Name: Neagh Bann (IRBD)		RBD Name: Solway Tweed (Cross Border)
	RBD Name: North Eastern		RBD Name: Northumbria (Cross Border)
	RBD Name: Western		RBD Name: North West
	IRBD Name: Shannon (IRBD)		RBD Name: Humber
	RBD Name: Eastern		RBD Name: Anglian
	RBD Name: South Eastern		RBD Name: Western Wales
	RBD Name: South Western		RBD Name: Dee (Cross Border)
			RBD Name: Severn (Cross Border)
			RBD Name: Thames
			RBD Name: South East
			RBD Name: South West
			Coastal and Transitional Waters Areas are shown as a list of the RBD.
			★ Capital Cities

WFD UK TAG 2010

Catchment management in Australia

- Natural resource management (NRM) at regional/local scales
- Australian government NRM policy based on funding mechanisms and state government ICM policy
- Landcare, Natural Heritage Trust and Caring for Our Country
 - Business plan model - provisions on CM tied to funding
- **Scale** = regional and local
- **Stakeholders** = regional and local level engagement of government and non-governmental actors
- **Collaborative institutions** = 56 NRM bodies , catchment groups

NRM Regions in Australia



Source: Australian Government Land and Coasts 2010

Catchment management in the USA

- Complex and fragmented situation
- Top-down process - some federal legal and funding measures:
 - Clean Water Act and USEPA
 - watershed planning, Section 319 funding
 - Safe Drinking Water Act 1986
 - MOA – New York watershed protection
 - USDA – National Resources Conservation Services
- The rise of ‘watershed partnerships’ = bottom up process
- ***Scale, stakeholders*** and ***collaborative institutions*** =
 - different models of CM ranging from ‘collaborative superagencies’ to local partnerships

Watershed management - USA



The estuary logo depicts an Atlantic sturgeon, the Hudson's largest fish



Assessing the scope for learning lessons

- UK (and EU) *can* learn much from US and Australia:
 - Facilitating CM through non-regulatory instruments (funding, technical assistance, voluntary approaches)
 - Scales, stakeholder engagement and collaborative institutions
- However, we need to be aware of national differences:
 - Uniqueness of US/Australian approaches: less regulatory, ‘bottom up’ forms of CM
 - Uniqueness of the UK/EU approach: more regulatory (‘top down’) forms of regional based CM
 - Application constraints = ‘fitting’ lessons learnt to the UK/EU context – governance forms differ

Conclusions 1

- Lessons *can* be learnt from abroad for UK/EU catchment management
- But potential constraints mean that analysis should be sensitive to differences in governance approaches
- This does not preclude trans-national lesson learning at lower levels, i.e. between catchments
 - Transfer of ‘soft policy’ ideas, norms and best practices
 - Governance and science aspects of CM

Conclusions 2

- Therefore, research has concentrated on assessing lower level lesson learning between sub-national cases and applying it to the UK case studies:
 - Identifying and transferring best practice lessons from CM groups in the UK, USA, Australia, NL, D, DK
 - Adaptive management approach and modelling (USA, Australia)
 - Report card (Australia)
 - Analysis used in book on comparative practice (2011)
 - Case study material employed to develop a set of normative principles on best practice for the governance of CM