



# **Understanding Sustainable Development and its Contribution to Policy-making**

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**CEval**  
Center for Evaluation



Macro- and micro-  
approach of  
sustainability

Three functions of  
sustainability  
evaluation for the  
political process

Tensions between  
policy-making and  
sustainability  
evaluation

1. Macro- and micro-approach of sustainability
2. Three functions of sustainability evaluation for the political process
3. Tensions between policy-making and sustainability evaluation



Macro- and micro-approach of sustainability

Three functions of sustainability evaluation for the political process

Tensions between policy-making and sustainability evaluation

Dimension	Type	Characteristics
I	Project-/program-oriented	The target group and/or executing agency continues the innovations to serve their own interests and for their own benefit.
II	Output-oriented	Other groups/organisations have adopted the innovations long-term to serve their own interests and for their own benefit.
III	System-oriented	The innovations lead, via processes of diffusion, to an increase in the performance of the system as a whole (e.g. the health or education system).
IV	Innovation-oriented	The target group/executing agency has a potential for innovation that enables it to react flexibly and appropriately to changed environmental conditions.



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a)

<b>Dim. I</b>	<b>Dim. II</b>	<b>Dim. III</b>	<b>Dim. IV</b>
+	-	-	+

b)

<b>Dim. I</b>	<b>Dim. II</b>	<b>Dim. III</b>	<b>Dim. IV</b>
+	+	+	-

Macro- and micro-approach of sustainability

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Tensions between policy-making and sustainability evaluation

1. No normative sustainability limit necessary.
2. Clear criteria that can be operationalised and empirically measured.
3. Evaluation results can be represented completely and clearly by using sustainability profiles.
4. Comparisons over time and between programs are easily possible.
5. Creation of an additive sustainability index is possible.



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Vision of  
sustainable  
development  
as balanced  
economic,  
social and  
ecological  
progress

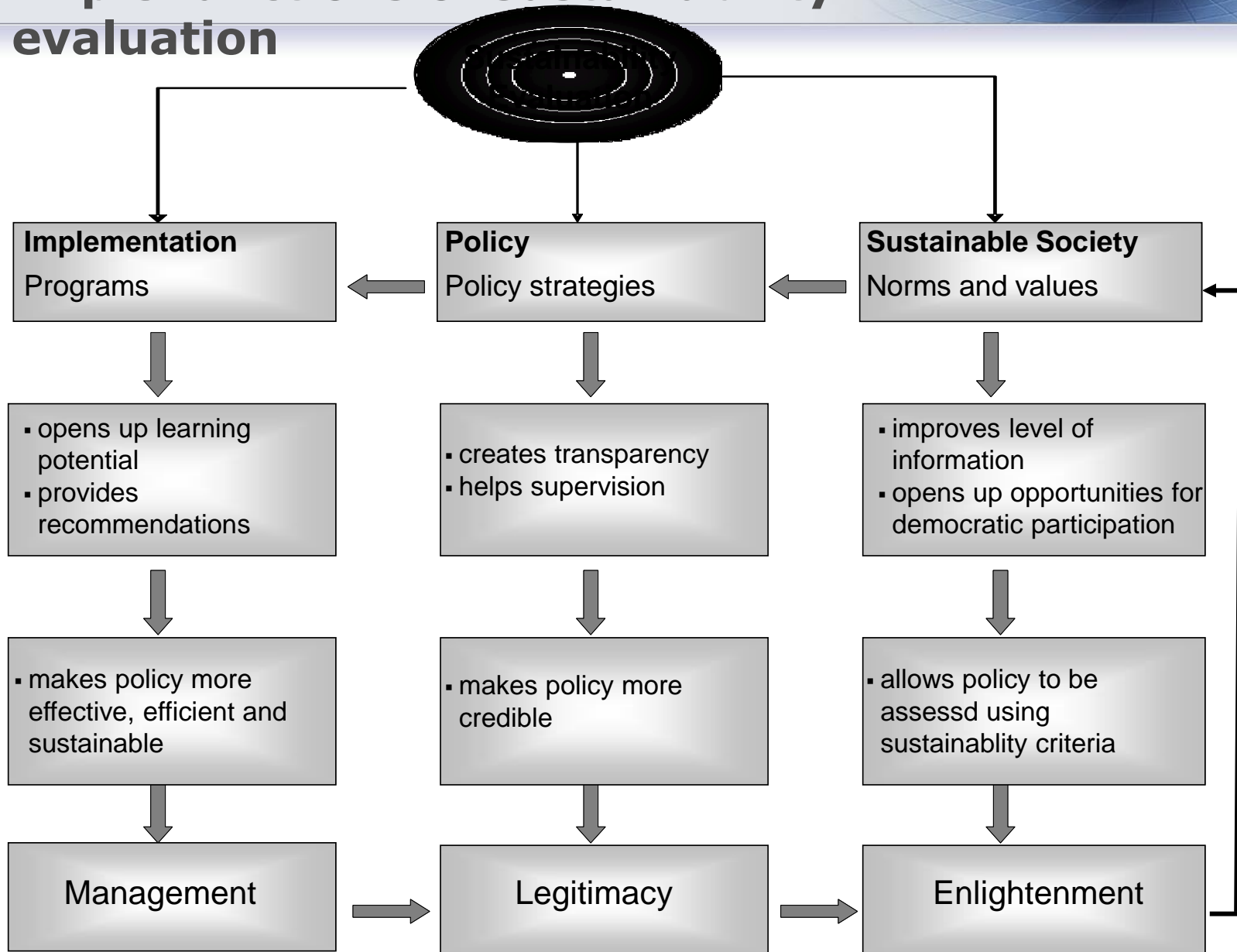
**Evaluation**

Belief in the  
possibility of  
shaping and  
controlling  
sustainable  
development

# Triple functions of sustainability evaluation

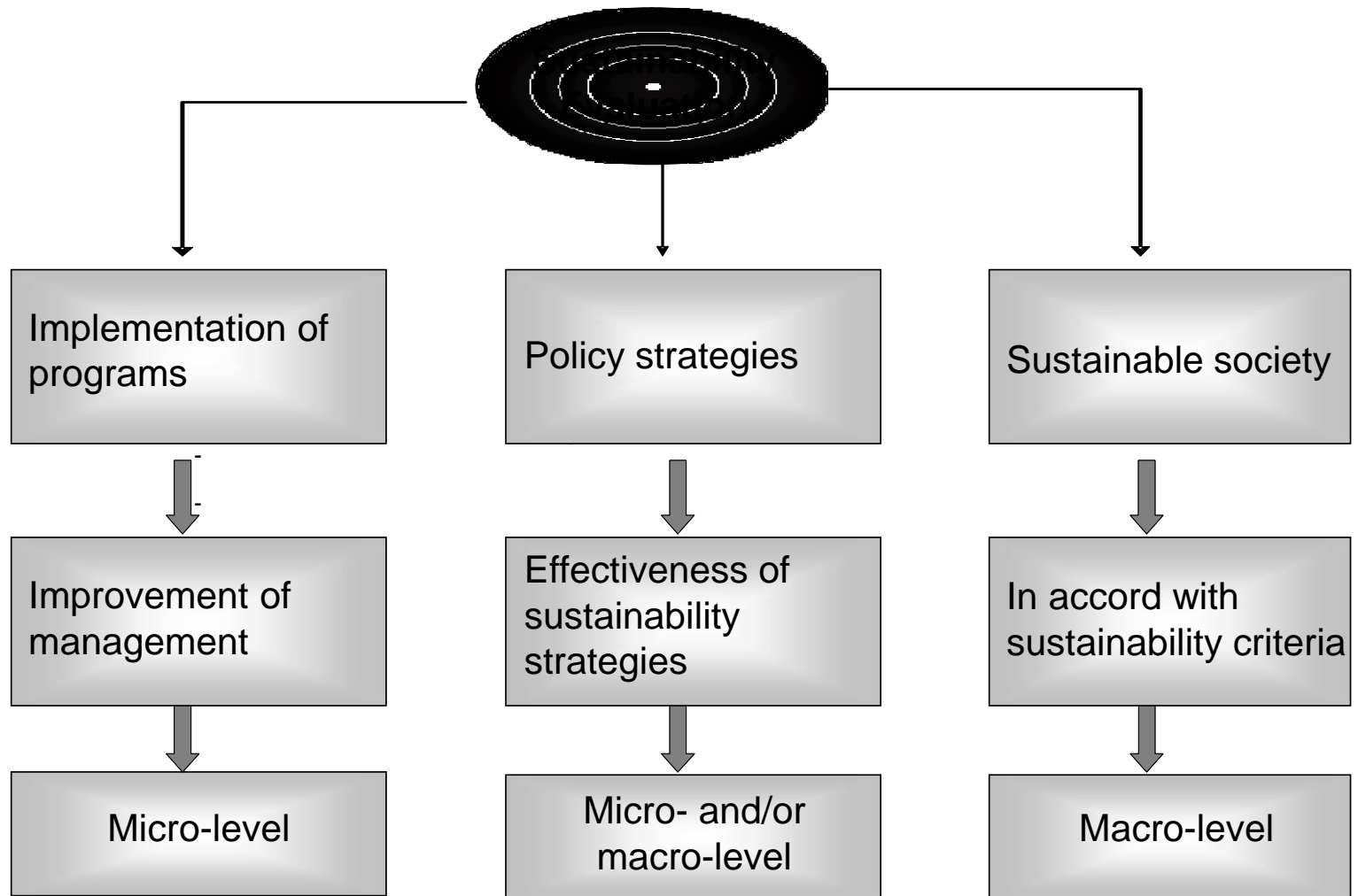


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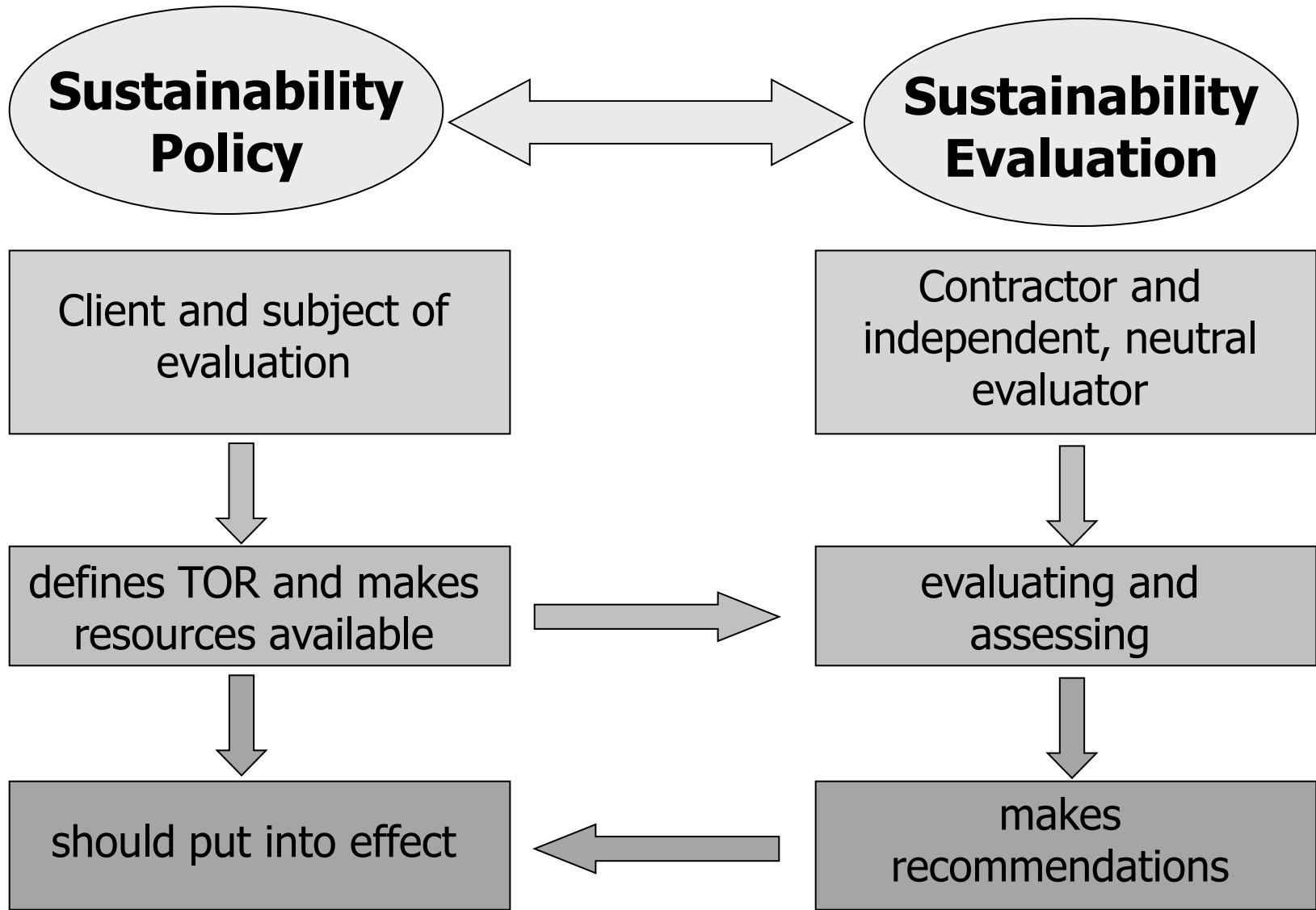


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1. Definition of the evaluandum  
“sustainability”
2. Micro-macro-problems of sustainability
3. Usefulness of sustainability evaluation for  
policy making with regard to the micro-  
/macro-level
4. Approaches and methods for evaluation of  
sustainability
5. Relationship between policy making and  
sustainability evaluation
6. Institutionalization of sustainability  
evaluation in the policy cycle.



Thank you for your attention!



Prof. Dr. Reinhard Stockmann