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INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR EFFECTIVE INTER-LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF FISHERIES RESOURCES: THE CASE STUDY OF FOUR MUNICIPALITIES IN BALER BAY, PHILIPPINES

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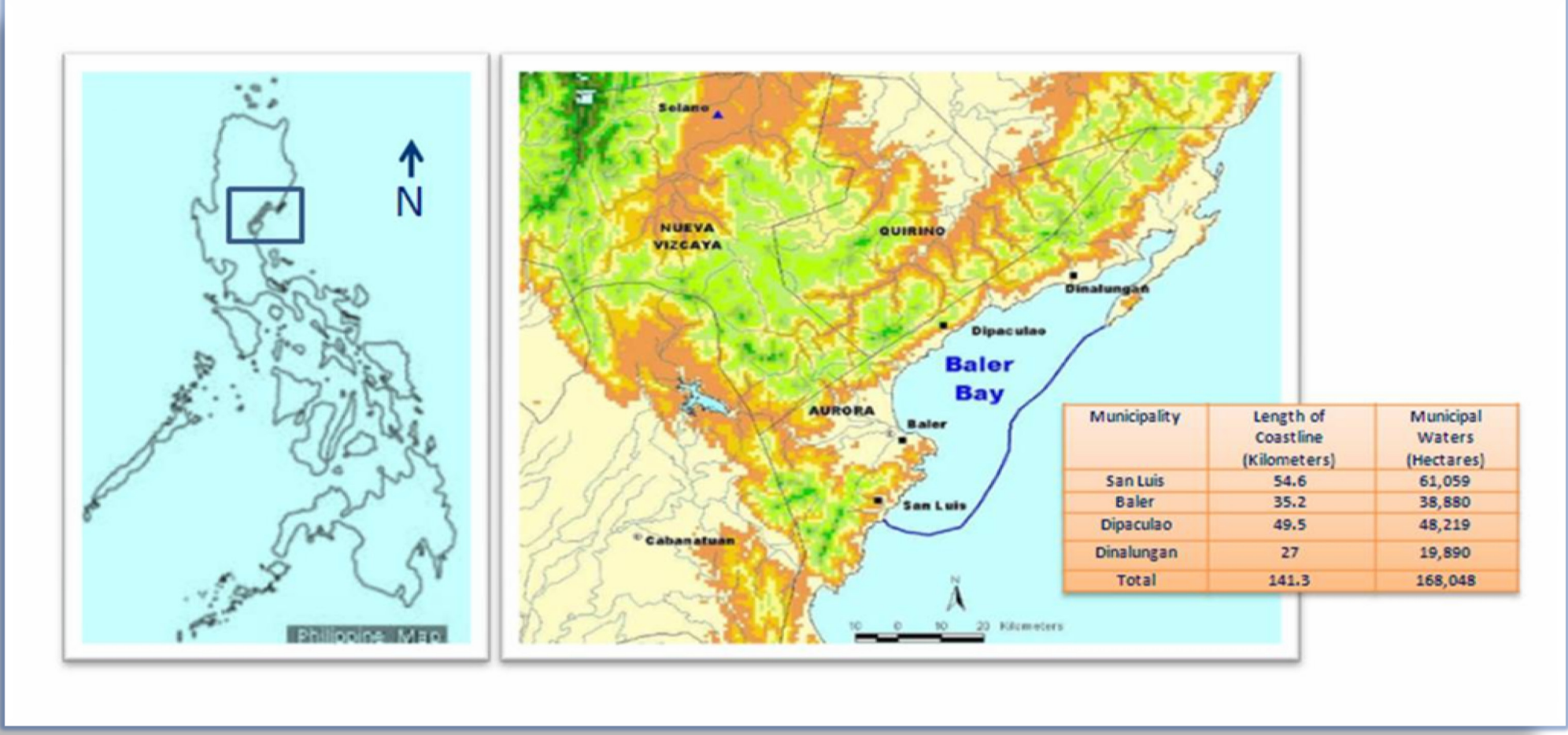
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INTRODUCTION

In 2006, Executive Order 533 adopted the Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) as a national strategy in the Philippines. It outlines the support mechanisms necessary for implementing fisheries and coastal management activities by national agencies and local government units (LGUs); and promotes inter-agency cooperation as an approach for effective and sustainable coastal resource management (CRM) effort.

To provide a case study of how such an approach can be effective for CRM, an assessment of the implementation of the **inter-LGU fisheries management plan (ILFMP)**, crafted by four municipalities in Baler Bay namely, Baler, Dipaculao, Dinalungan and San Luis, was undertaken.

Figure 1. Baler Bay, Aurora, Philippines (Philippine Environmental Governance Project, 2004)

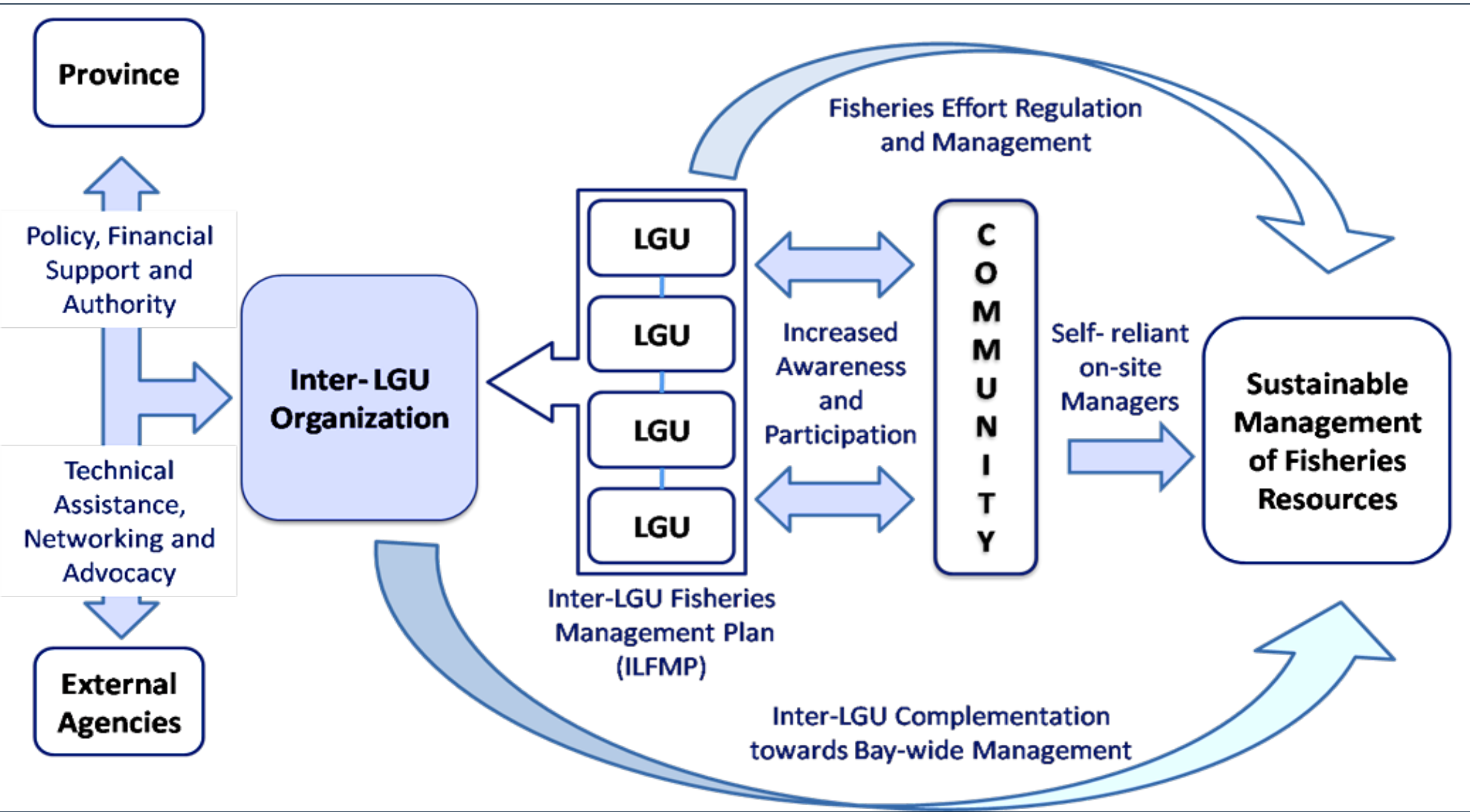


OBJECTIVES

Specifically, the study aims to:

1. Assess the inter-LGU framework for implementing the fisheries resource planning and management of the four municipalities in Baler Bay;
2. Determine the requirements for implementing the inter-LGU framework;
3. Provide inputs and recommendations for improved planning and management strategies towards sustainable coastal and fisheries resource development.

Figure 2. The Inter-LGU Operational Framework for Achieving Sustainable Development of Coastal and Fisheries Resources Adopted by Four LGUs for Implementing ILFMP



METHODOLOGY

Figure 3. Process flow of the research study

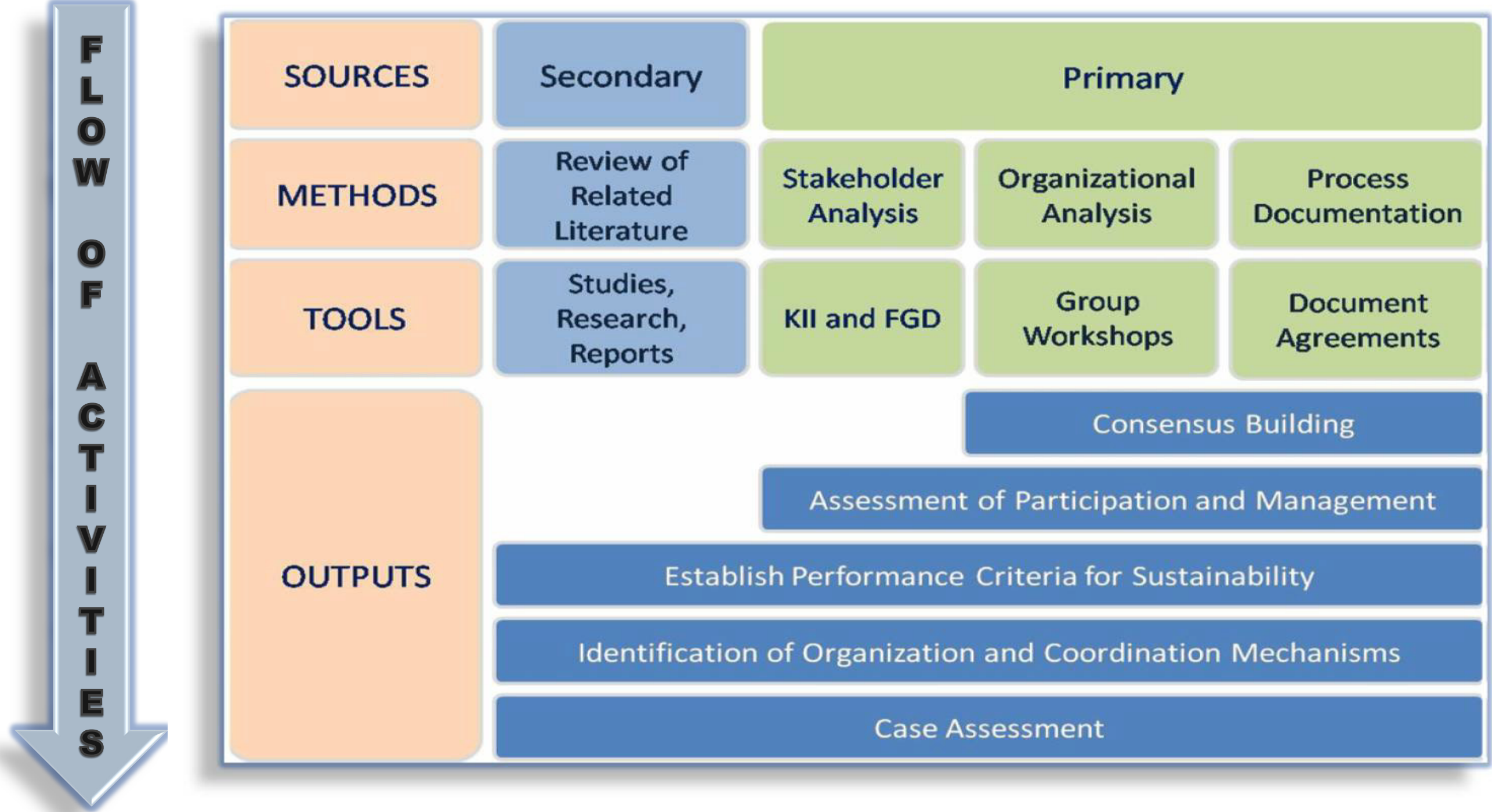


Figure 4. Documentation of key informant interviews (KII), consensus- building workshops and focus group discussions (FGDs) undertaken during the conduct of the research study



RESULTS

Figure 5. Diagram showing the current implementation of the ILFMP at the municipal level

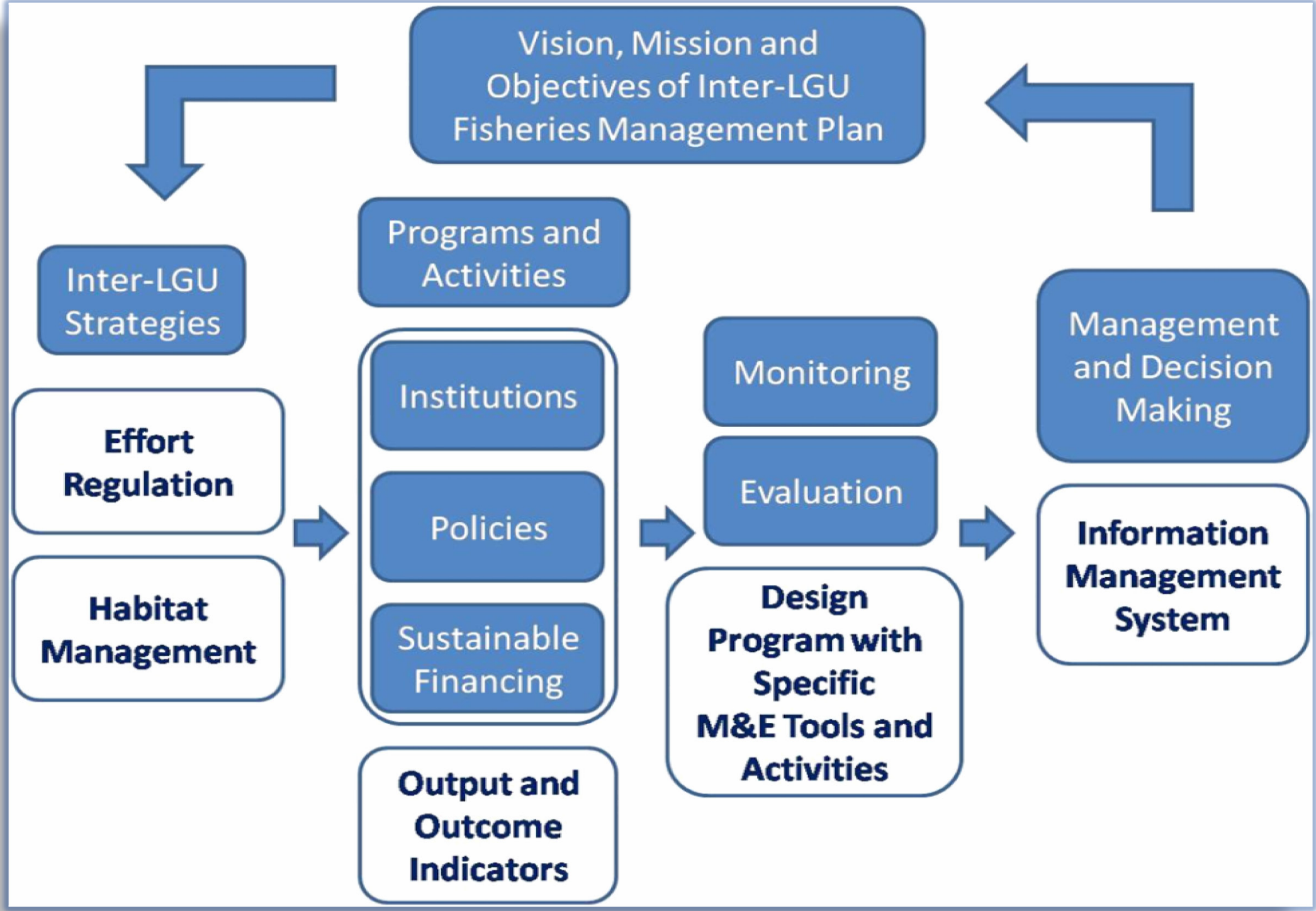


Figure 6. At the individual municipal level, ILFMP is integrated with other LGU development plans prior to working with other LGUs in undertaking inter-LGU ILFMP implementation

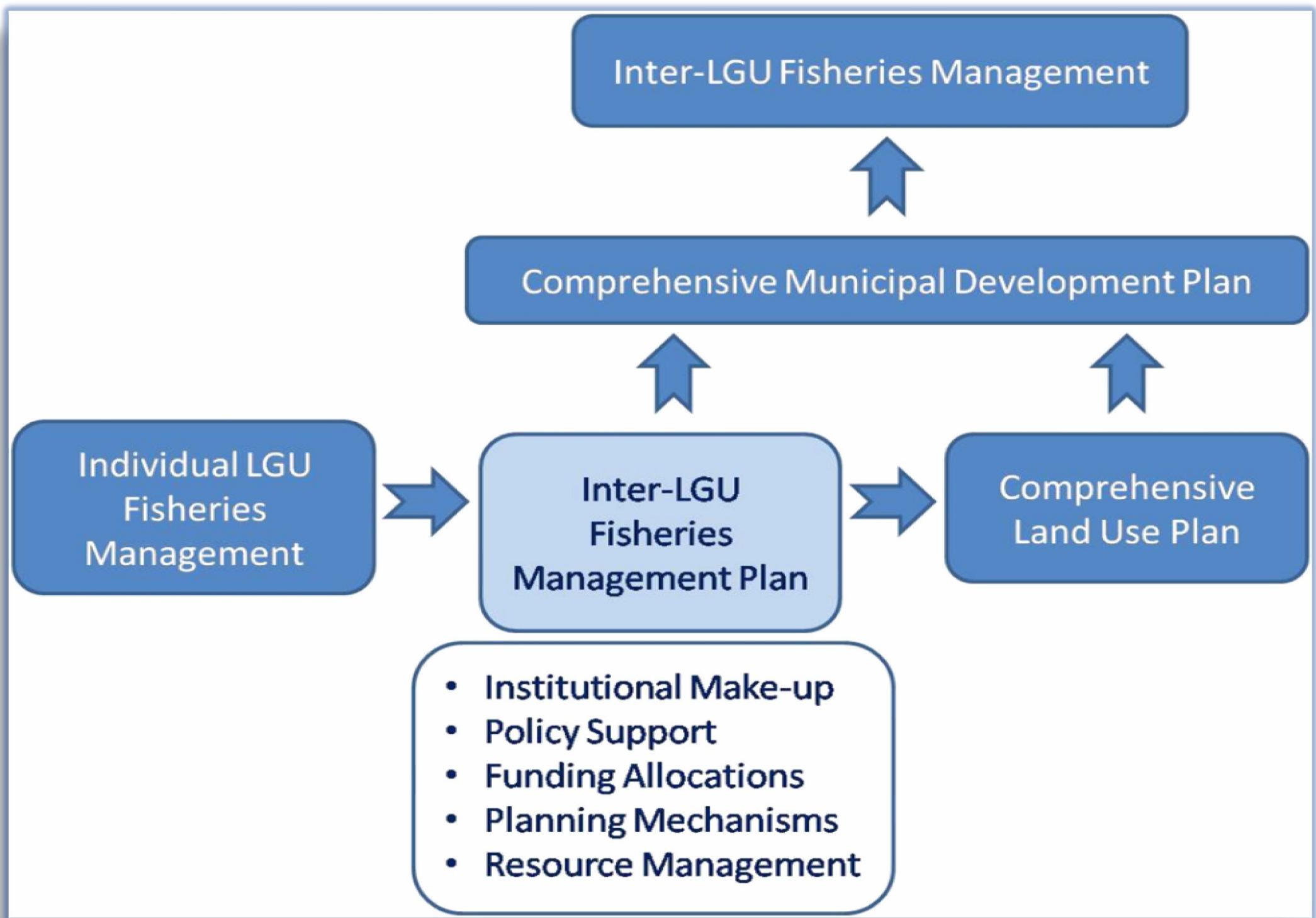
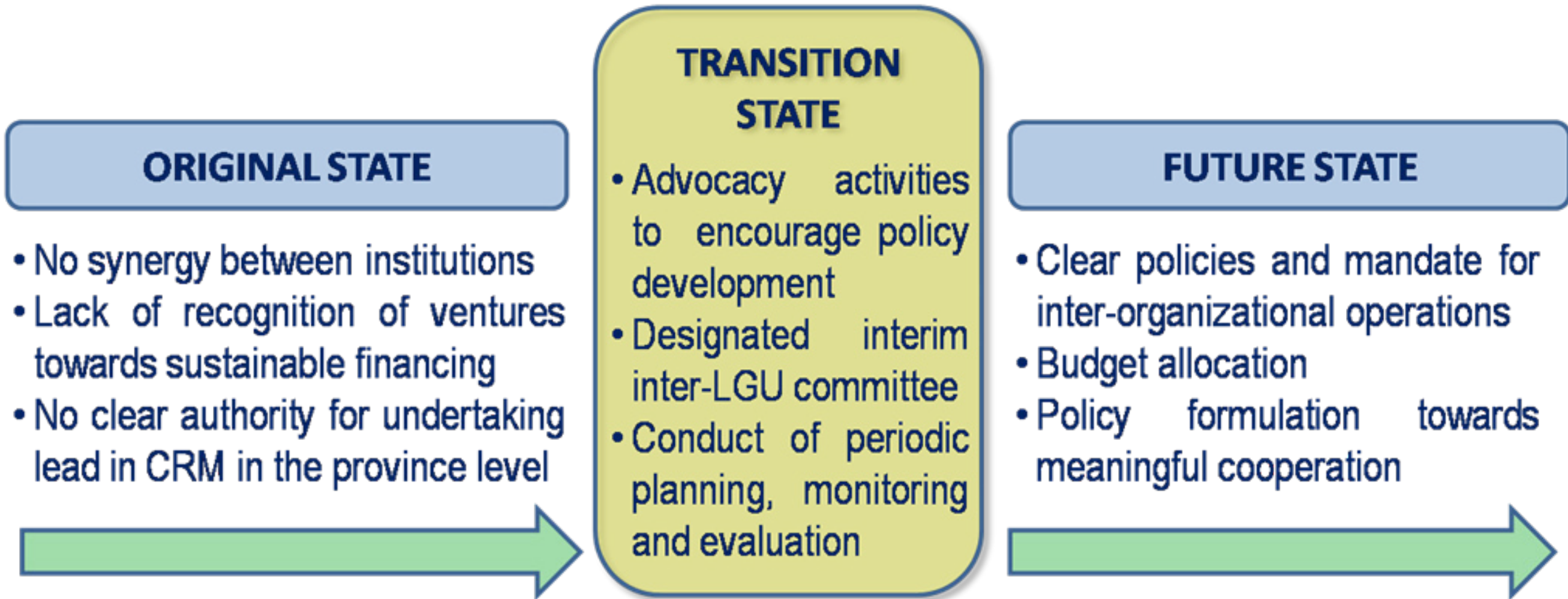
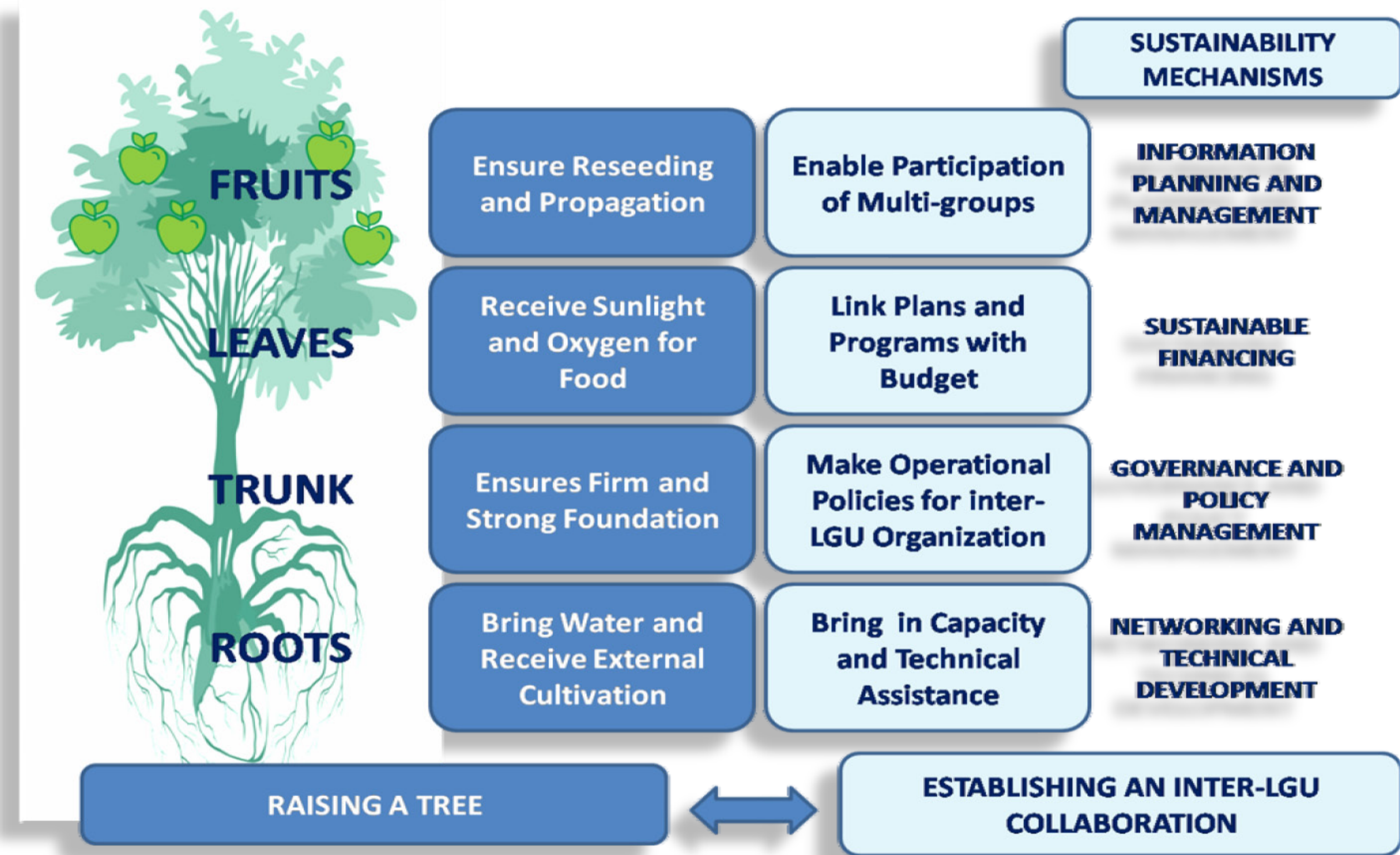


Figure 7. ILFMP implementation encountered an “Adjustment Phase” as individual municipal LGUs begin to recognize the benefits of inter-LGU management



Transition will bring the system to a gradual change to be able to shift and come to terms with a new situation.

Figure 8. An analogy to establishing a sustainable inter-LGU fisheries management approach



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