

HIA as a knowledge exchange tool in the policy arena: A conceptual framework

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National Collaborating Centre
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“There is nothing so practical
as a good theory!” Kurt Lewis, 1951



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Presentation

- **Conceptual Framework:**

To better understand how HIA leads decision makers to take health into account, and under which conditions.

- Framework will be used to:
 - document HIA project in Québec, Canada
 - evaluate knowledge utilization among decision makers in the context of this HIA.



What kind of HIA?

Decision-support model

(Harris-Roxas & Harris, 2010; Wismar, 2007);

Interactive model of HIA (Bekker, 2007).

**Objective: To promote interaction between public health actors
and policy makers.**



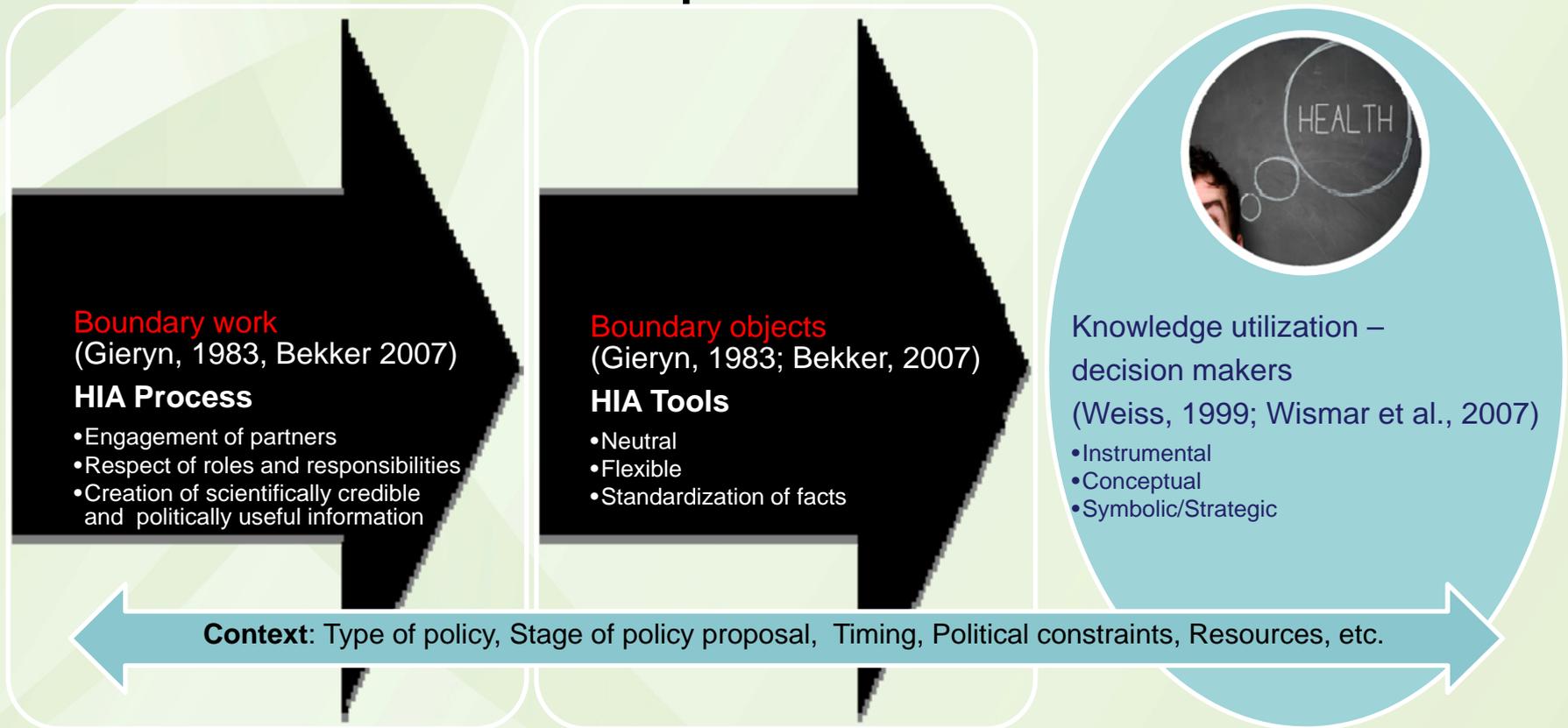
Where our framework comes from: “Boundary” theory

(Gieryn, 1983; Bekker, 2007)

- Rhetorical separation of science from non-science; distinction between different areas (scientific vs non-scientific) (Gieryn, 1983)
- Context of Interactive HIA: Boundaries are a way to recognize the different sectors/realities around the table (Bekker, 2007)
- HIA = Boundary work creates a “Common space”, “Trading zone” which allows for interaction and recognition of each party’s boundaries



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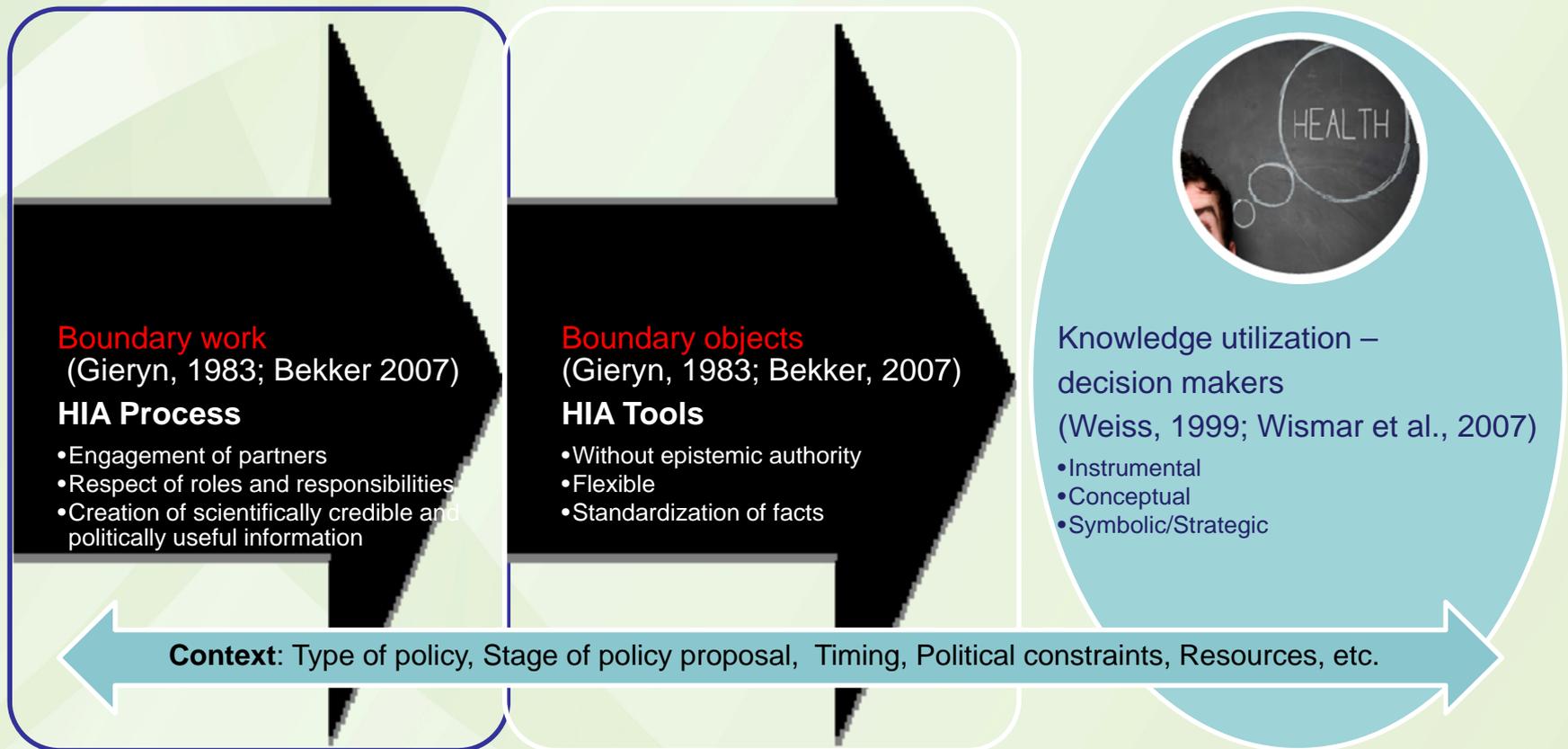


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Boundary work: HIA process



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Boundary objects: HIA tools

Boundary work
(Gieryn, 1983; Bekker 2007)

HIA Process

- Engagement of partners
- Respect of roles and responsibilities
- Creation of scientifically credible and politically useful information

Boundary objects
(Gieryn, 1983; Bekker, 2007)

HIA Tools

- Neutral
- Flexible
- Standardization of facts

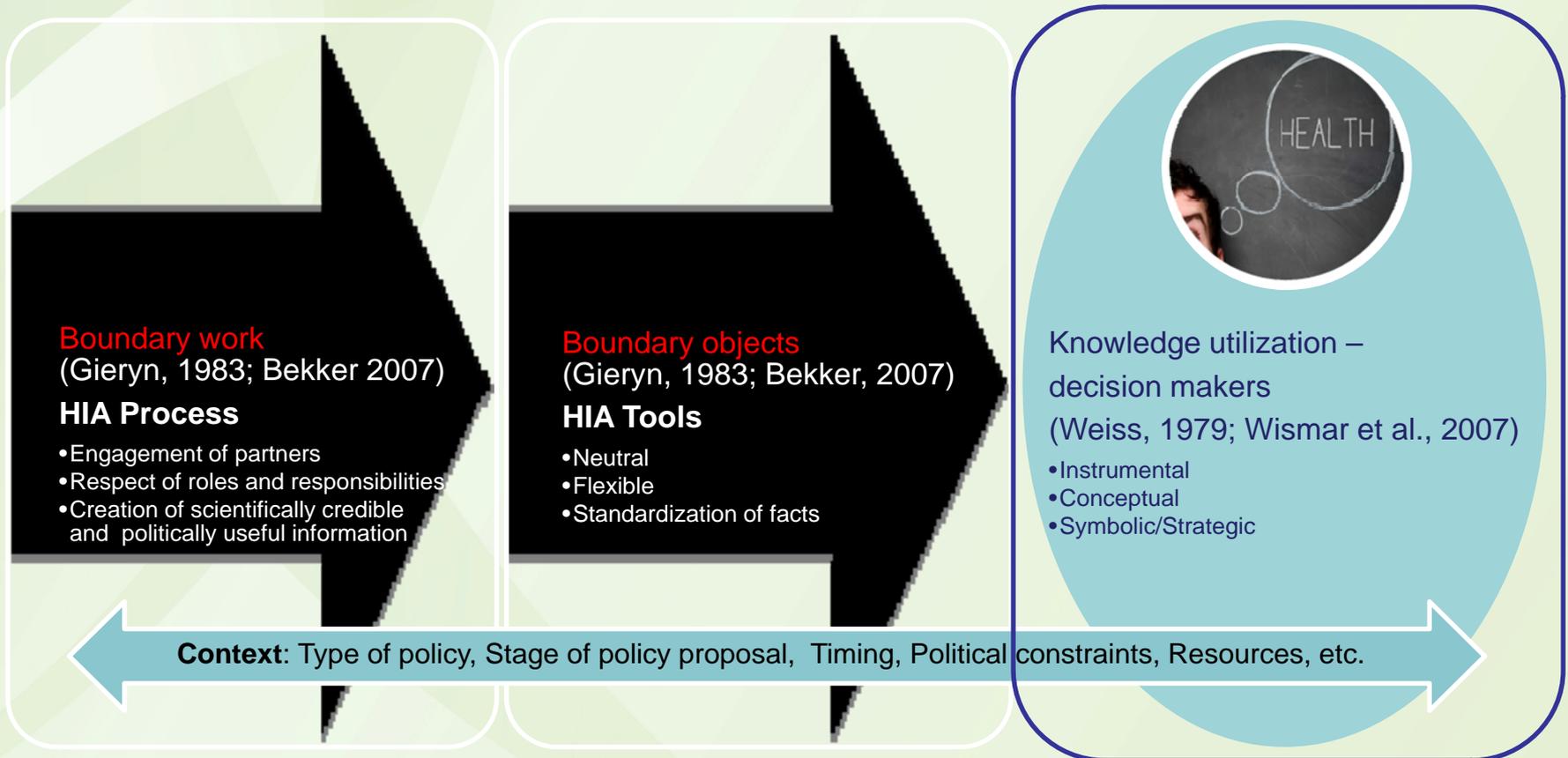
Knowledge utilization –
decision makers
(Weiss, 1999; Wismar et al., 2007)

- Instrumental
- Conceptual
- Symbolic/Strategic

Context: Type of policy, Stage of policy proposal, Timing, Political constraints, Resources, etc.



Knowledge utilization among decision makers



Context

Boundary work
(Gieryn, 1983; Bekker 2007)

HIA Process

- Engagement of partners
- Respect of roles and responsibilities
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Boundary objects
(Gieryn, 1983; Bekker, 2007)

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Applying the framework in Canada



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Region of Montérégie, Québec

Potential implications of the study

- Make the theory implicit in the interactive model of HIA explicit
- Help us to understand what works, what doesn't and why
- Shed light on HIA as a knowledge transfer/exchange activity



Muchas gracias!

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Questions & Comments:

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