



Potsdamer Forschungs- und Technologieverbund zu Naturgefahren, Klimawandel und Nachhaltigkeit



The Social Construction of Climate Adaptation Governance

Thorsten Heimann, Nicole Mahlkow



IRS

Initial: Different Handlings of Natural Science Scenarios concerning Climate Change

Schleswig-Holstein,
Niendorf near Lübeck, February 2010:
Upgrading of Dikes: 50 cm



Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, LUMV, 2009: "There is still time to wait and see"

Niedersachsen 2007: Upgrading of Dikes (25cm) + 25 cm



Different Handlings of Natural Science Scenarios concerning Climate Change

Denmark: "Wunderkind of Climate Mitigation"? (Der Spiegel 2007)

Und tatsächlich scheint Dänemark ein Klimaschutz-Wunderkind zu sein - ein großes Vorbild für den Nachbarn im Süden. Schon während der neunziger Jahre wuchs der Windkraftanteil am dänischen Strommarkt von rund 2 auf mehr als 20 Prozent. Früh förderte die Regierung in Kopenhagen Biogasanlagen, Kraft-Wärme-Kopplung, Wärmedämmung und Stromsparen. Heute bezeichnet sich das Königreich zwir-Nord- und Ostsee selbst als on

Poland: "Other Priorities?" "Climate Change discussed rarely" (Raabe / Härtel 2007)

polnischen Bevorkerung.

zu den anderen EU-Mitgliedsstaaten, wo im Durchschnitt 12 Prozent mit "ment" antworten Nur 32 Prozent der polnischen Gesellschaft finden den Klimawandel besorgniserregend; in der EU insgesamt sind es 50 Prozent. 52 Prozent der polnischen Befragten sehen für die Zukunft keine Notwendigkeit, ihr bisheriges Verhalten beim Verbrauch von Energie zu ändern.

derseits würden ebenfalle 52 Prozent Geld für Energiespargeräte ausgegeben und imme "onen und eine bessere Aufklärung durc'

14 diesem Wunsch ist P



Project D 3.1: How societies react to climate change

■ What are our questions?

How do societies construct and react to climate change?





■ How does it matter to governance?

Coping Strategies for climate change can only be effective

- If they are supported and accepted by relevant stakeholders
- If they consider and implement respective modes of perception and knowledge
- → Regional and cultural patterns should be identified to increase efficiency and adequacy of measures



Social Constructionism / Sociology of Knowledge

How is **knowledge formed** and how does it shape a **distinctive social reality?**



- It is derived from complex social interactions, especially from communication processes.
- The knowledge is embedded in the institutional fabric of society.
- People internalise this knowledge as objective fact, underlying logics of construction are not apparent anymore.



Knowledge Construction of Climate Change

- -Threats and chances
- -Preferred measures

Module 1

Analysis of public discourses

Module 2

Expert interviews

Qualitative

Genesis of Knowledge constructions

Module 3

Quantitative survey

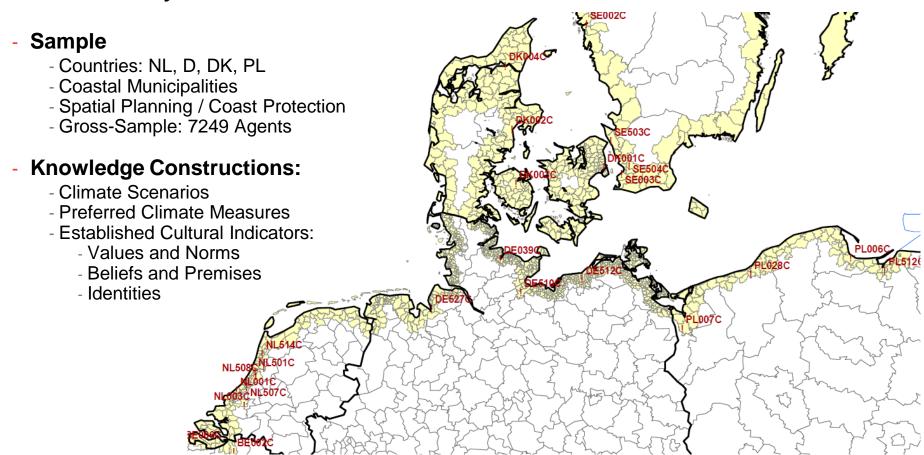
Quantitative

Interrelations of existing knowledge constructions



Study Design

 Standardized Online-Survey



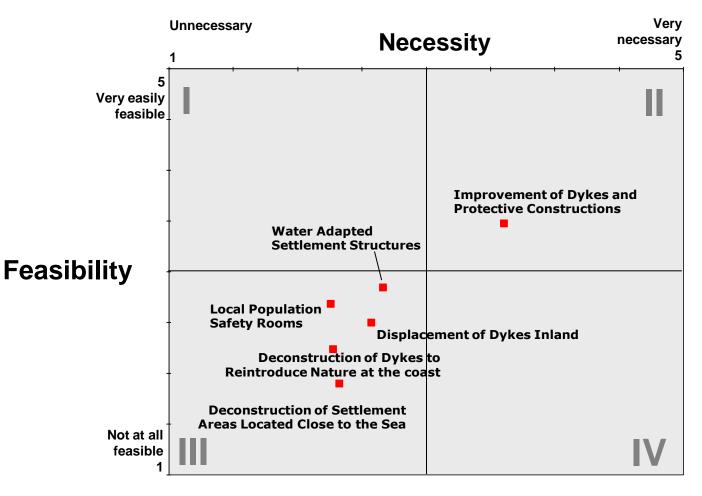


Acceptance: Flood Protection Measures (Sea)

TOTAL: All Countries

Basis: n=785

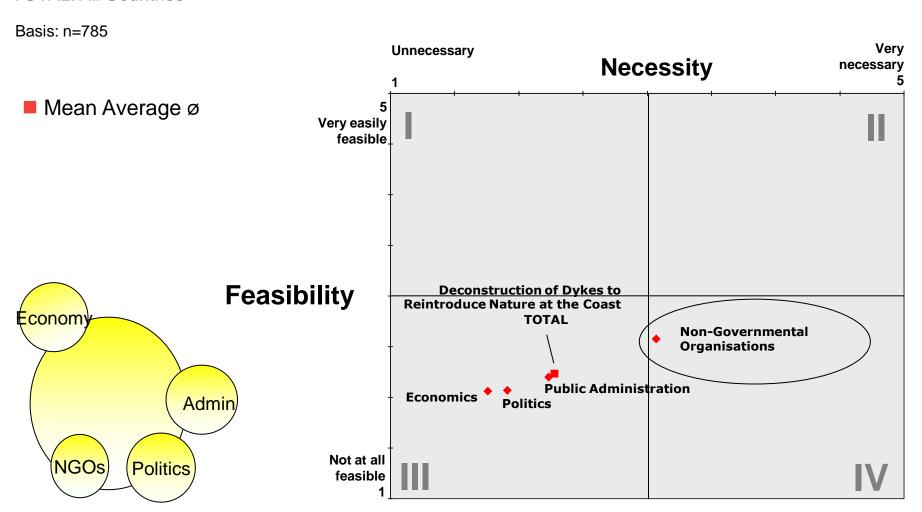
Mean Average ø



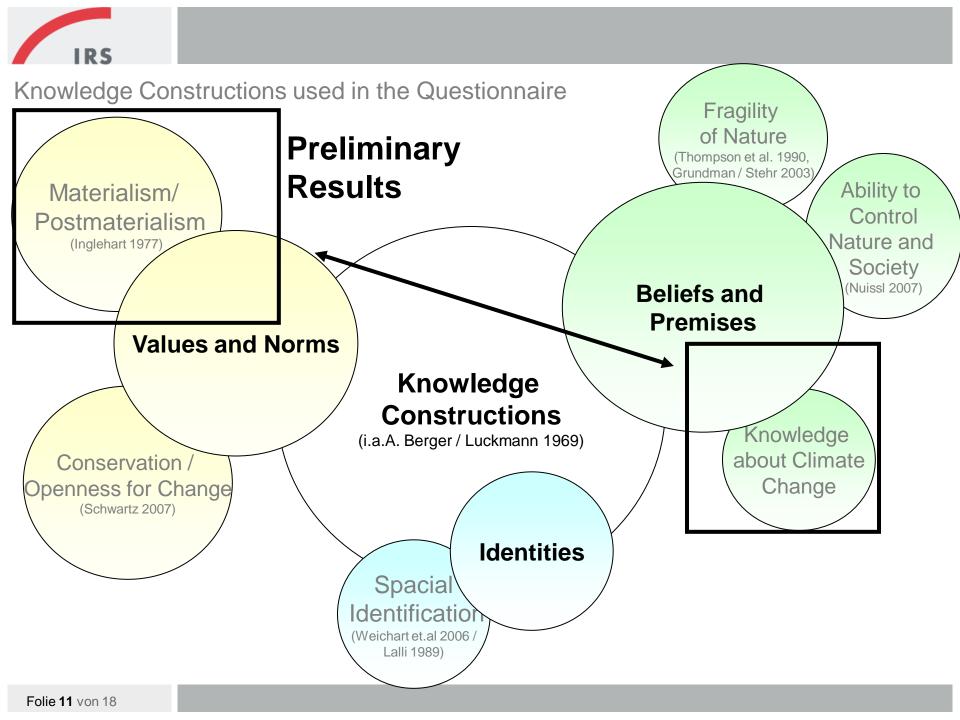
Question AKZa/AKZb: "Please assess the necessity and feasibility of the following measures for [Bezugsraum] up to 2025. Furthermore, please indicate if any measures have been conducted during the last 15 years." (5Point-Rating-

IRS

Acceptance: Deconstruction of Dykes to Reintroduce Nature at the Coast TOTAL: All Countries

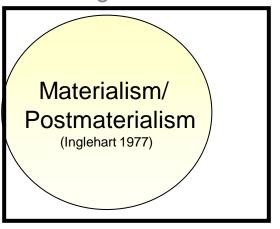


Question AKZa/AKZb: "Please assess the necessity and feasibility of the following measures for [Bezugsraum] up to 2025. Furthermore, please indicate if any measures have been conducted during the last 15 years." (5Point-Rating-





Knowledge Constructions used in the Questionnaire



Hypothesis:

Interrelations between Materialism/Postmaterialism-Orientation and individual problem-framing of Climate Change? (ref. to O'Brian / Wolf 2010)

- Ronald Inglehart 1970s
- Value Change in Prosperious Societies since World War II
- From Materialism to Postmaterialism
- "Post-Materialists" vs. "Materialists"

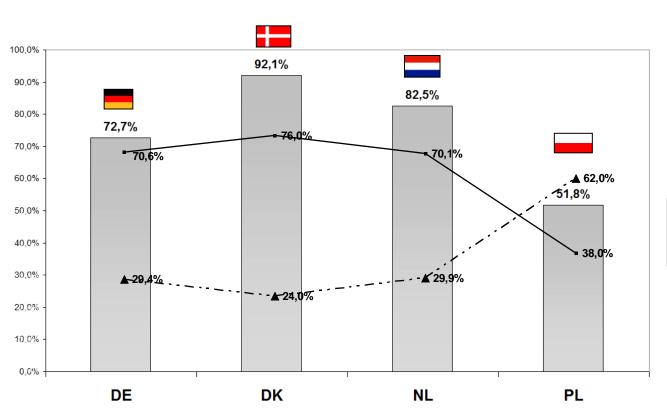




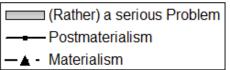




Framing of Problems: "Do You Think Climate Change is a Serious Problem in General?" / Materialism-Postmaterialism-Index



Country	Coefficient of
	Contingency K
GER	0,230*
DK	0,487*
NL	0,588*
PL	0,507*
ALL	0,238*
	* Sig.<0,05



Basis: n=785

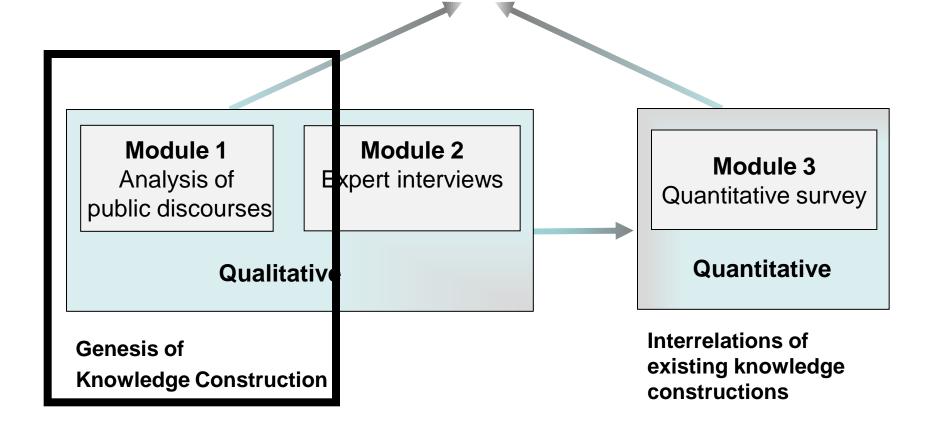
Question KWP: "Do you think climate change is a serious problem in general?" (5-Point-Rating-Scale)

Question ING: "Which of the following things would you say is most important: Maintaining order and security in the nation, Giving people more say in important government decisions, fighting rising prices, protecting freedom of speech?" (Index)



Knowledge Construction of Climate Change

- -Threats and chances
- -Preferred measures





Discourse Analysis

Sociology of Knowledge Approach to Discourse Analysis



Analysis of collective knowledge in societal fields

Discourses: recurring patterns of communication that create shared

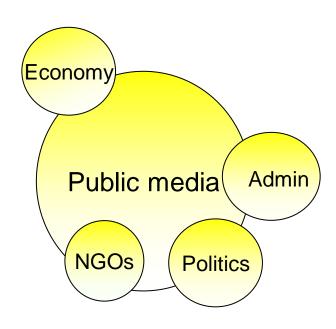
interpretations of what reality is.





Discoursive Constellations

Field logics: stable within a field, local constellations of and between sectors vary



Interplay of local knowledge and (supra-) national knowledge: important role of local topics and narratives



Constallations and structures of discourses are spatially unique



Methodological Approach

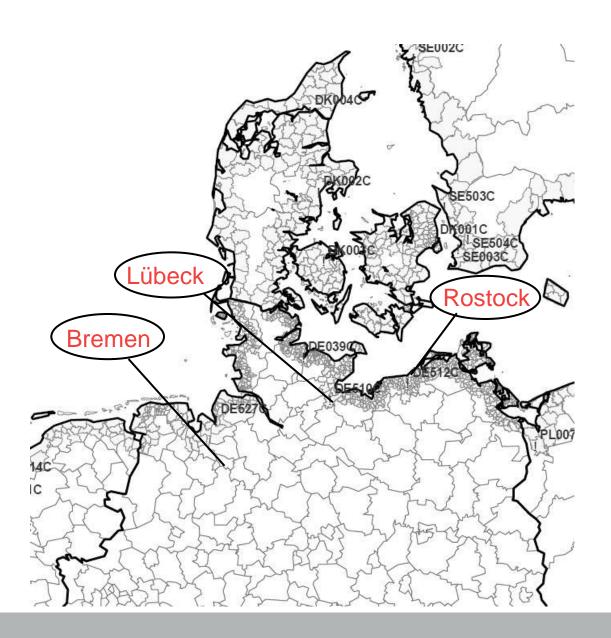
Discourse Analysis

Research material: Locally spread papers

Nationally spread papers

Publications from local economic, political, administrative sector

Genealogy 2003 → 2010





First Results: Local media discourse Rostock and Lübeck

- Both coastal towns at the Baltic Sea
- Similar size and structure
- Severe financial situation.



But does that mean they perceive climate change similarly and prefer the same measures?

■ 2100: Lübeck old town drowning after sea level rise

"The great flood of prognoses"

Die Staaten streiten um Maßnahmen gegen die Klimakatastrophe – und Experten, ob es sie gibt



2100: Rostock Riviera

Was sollen wir am Mittelmeer?

nd von Warnemünde das Supersommerwett

"Why should we go to the Mediterranean?" Ostseezeitung



First Results: Local media discourse

Knowledge Constructions on Climate Change

Dominant spatial perception of threats

Dominant time orientation in climate discourses

Dominant local social fields

Lübeck

Localised /globalised

History:

Focus on hanseatic heritage

Politics

Rostock

Regionalised /globalised

Future:

Focus on future chances

Economy

Preferred measures

Preservation through mitigation and adaptation

Change through mitigation strategies



If conflicts arise in Climate Adaptation Governance, please consider:

Knowledge Constructions involved

- Development of Local Discourses

- Values, Beliefs, Identities of agents

Field Logics

 Local Constellations of Groups involved from different Social Fields





Potsdamer Forschungs- und Technologieverbund zu Naturgefahren, Klimawandel und Nachhaltigkeit



The Social Construction of Climate Adaptation Governance

Thorsten Heimann, Nicole Mahlkow

