



# Irrigation and gender equality

An alternative gender-analytical approach  
to water governance

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# Irrigation and gender

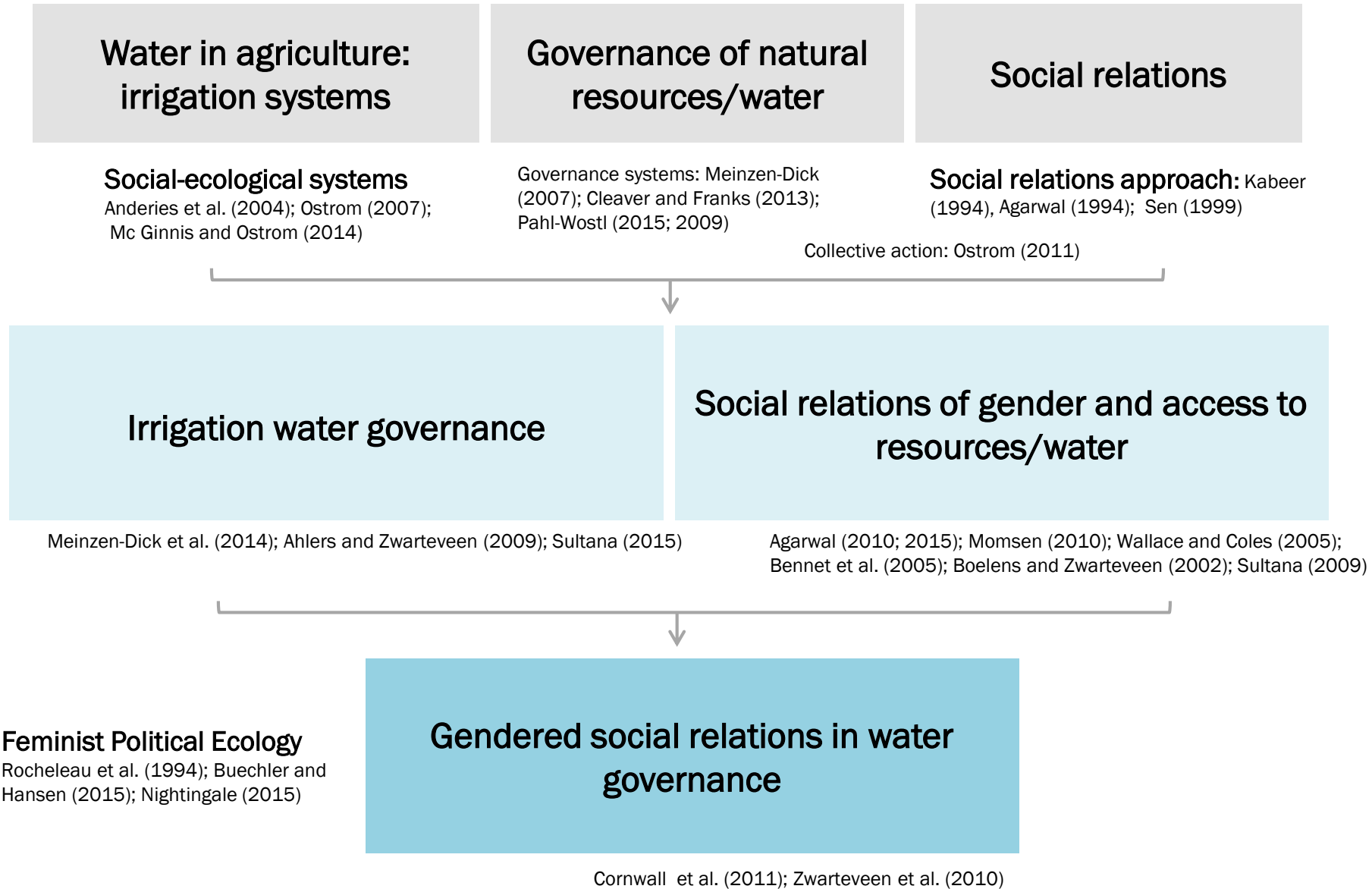
- Insufficient problem analysis predisposes unsuccessful or unsustainable interventions
- Usually, not all dimensions of technical agriculture and social issues are considered
  - Water rights
  - Social relations of power in the community
  - Production and market constraints
- Exacerbating gender inequalities by not fully understanding gender and other social dynamics.



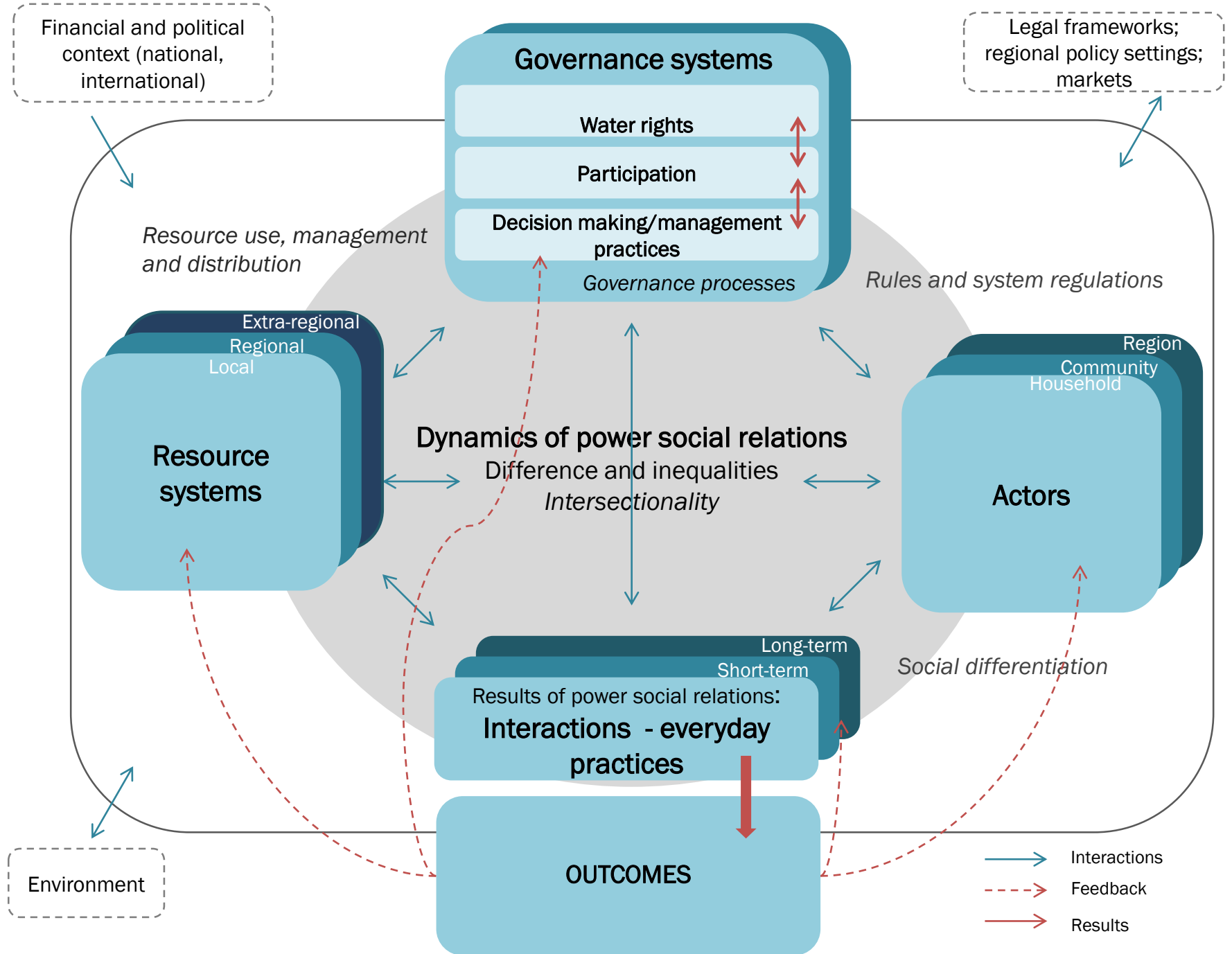
# An integrated gender-analytical framework for water governance

Theoretical approach

# Theoretical approach



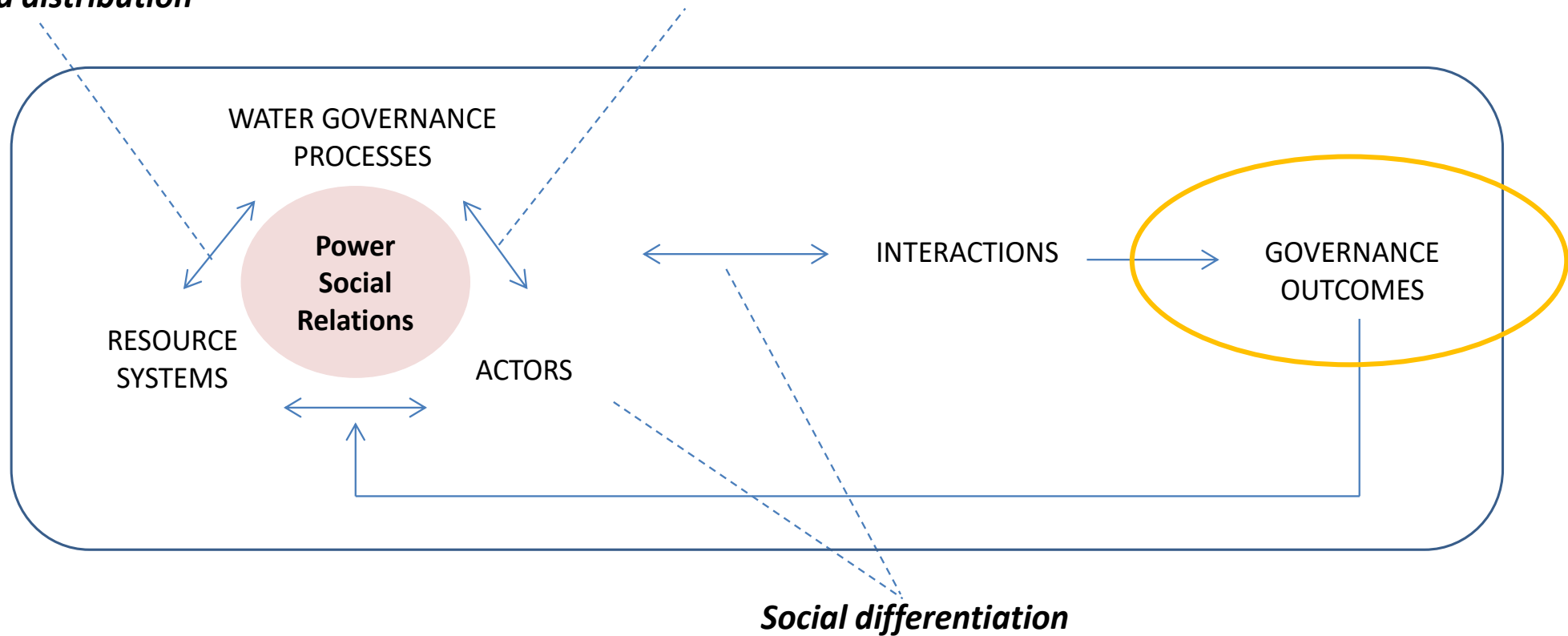
# Analytical map



# Analytical map - synthesis

*Resource use, management and distribution*

*Rules and system regulations*



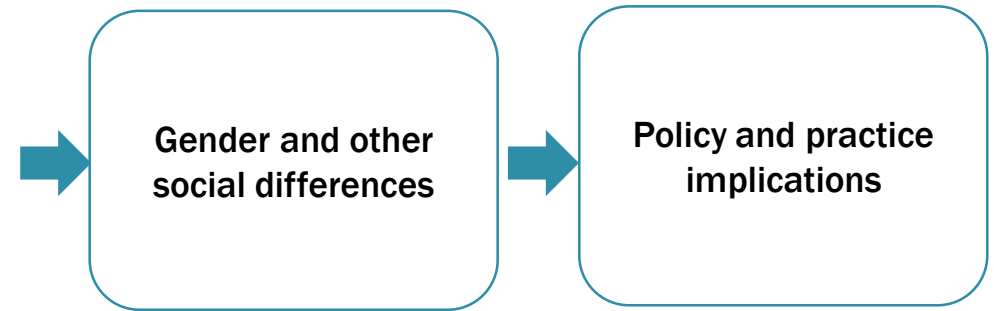


# The gendered outcomes of small scale irrigation systems

Evidence from Argentina and Ethiopia

# Outcomes of governance of SSIS – Argentina and Ethiopia

- Security of access to natural resources
- Livelihood strategies
- Autonomy
- Adaptive strategies



## *Example of analysis*

Outcomes	Gender differences and inequalities	Implications	Policy recommendations
<b>Security of access</b> Legality Reliability Affordability Physical capacity Workload	Women access less land	Less independent water rights for women	Formalisation of land and water rights
<b>Livelihood strategies</b>			
<b>Autonomy</b>			
<b>Adaptive strategies</b>			



# The role of the integrated gender-analytical framework

- A practical tool for identifying key priorities and focus on the most relevant/urgent
- Make visible
  - 1) Intersections - ‘technical’ irrigation practices and practices derived from social interactions
  - 2) The effects of those interactions in livelihood strategies
- Focusing on these intersections permits comparisons between different contextual settings.
- Expand the audience





## Importance for policy

- Evidence suggests that gender is indeed a **factor to access *secure, reliable* and *affordable* water.**
- Despite constraints, many rural women find in agriculture their main source of income and an empowering livelihood option if they can access **secured irrigation water.**
- Well informed **gender integration policies** in the traditionally male-dominated irrigation management sector are of high priority.



  
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# Thank you

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