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CREATE CHANGE

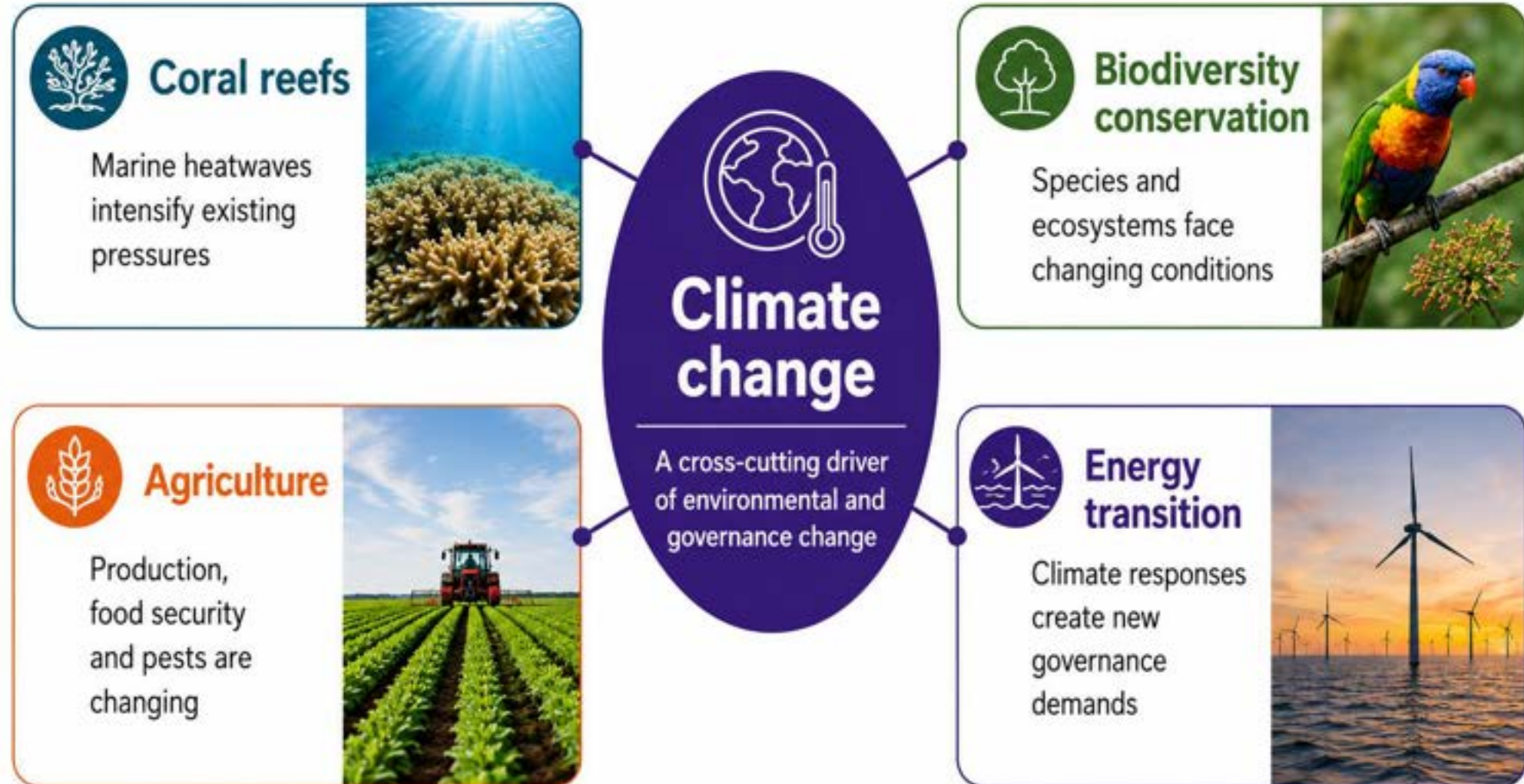
Policy and Governance in a Changing Sustainability Landscape

Pedro Fidelman

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4 September 2026

Climate change is reshaping sustainability challenges – and responses



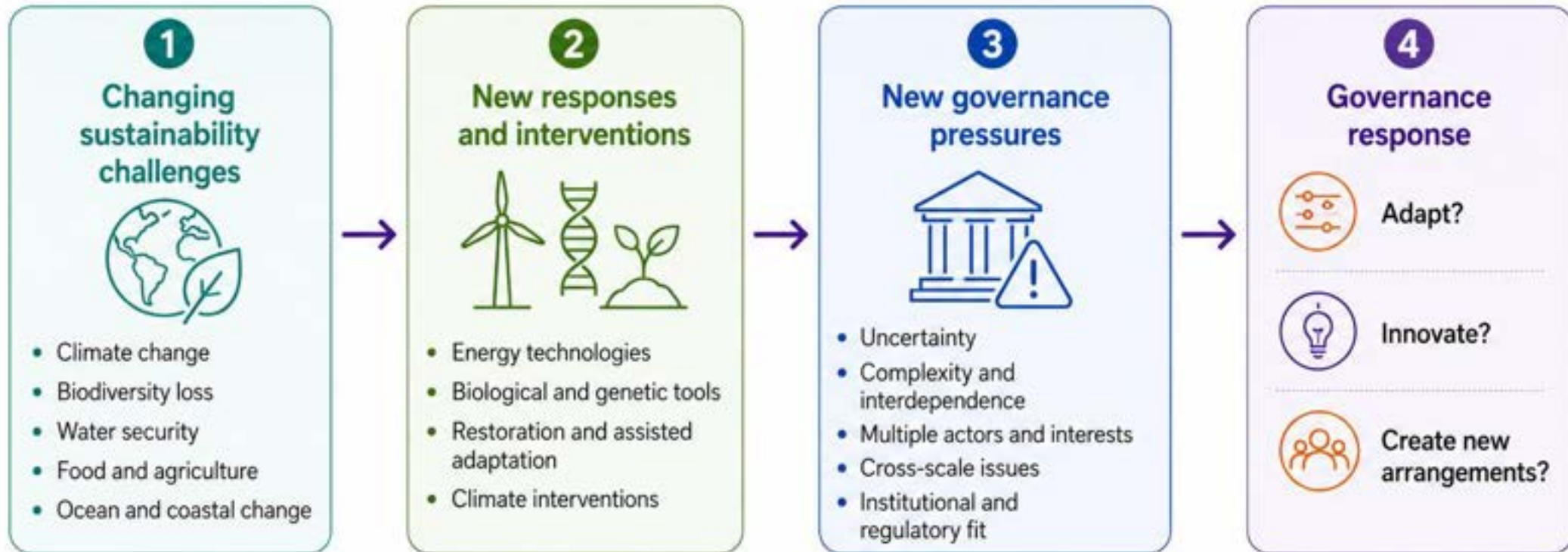
Why governance matters



Governance in a changing sustainability landscape



Climate change reshapes both problems and responses



Changing problems and changing responses create **new demands on governance.**

My research program



How do policy and governance systems respond to emerging sustainability challenges?



Emerging sustainability technologies

How novel interventions create new governance demands



Environmental policy and governance

How governance systems evolve across changing sustainability contexts



Innovative analytical approaches

Comparative governance, governance analytics and AI-assisted analysis

Selected empirical contexts



Reef restoration and adaptation



Offshore wind



Sustainable agriculture



Biodiversity conservation



Catchment and water governance



Climate adaptation



A comparative research programme across diverse sustainability challenges.

Policy, Sustainability & Innovation

PSI RESEARCH GROUP



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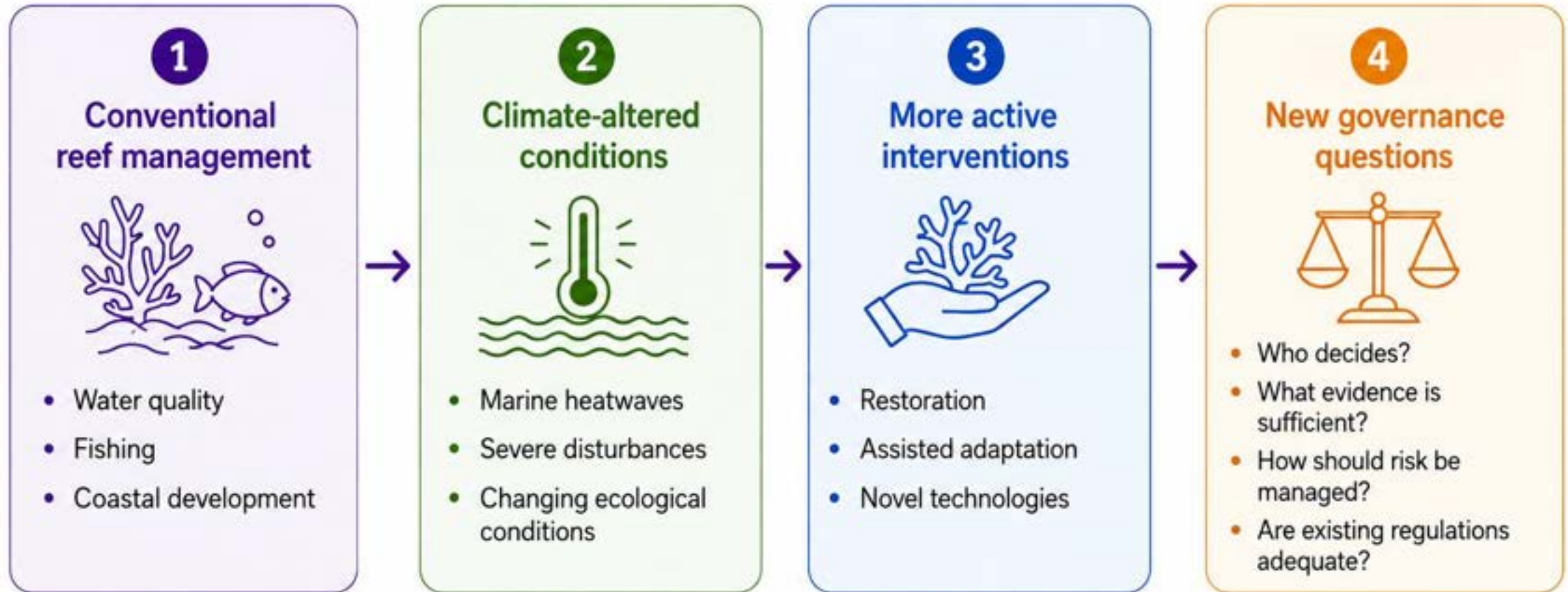
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Climate change and changing reef governance



Climate-altered conditions can drive more interventionist responses, creating **new demands on governance**.

Recurring governance issues across contexts



Offshore wind

Climate mitigation and new marine infrastructure

- New offshore infrastructure creates coordination demands across sectors and jurisdictions
- Governance must balance marine space, fisheries, environmental impacts and community interests
- Recurring questions concern authority, coordination and institutional fit



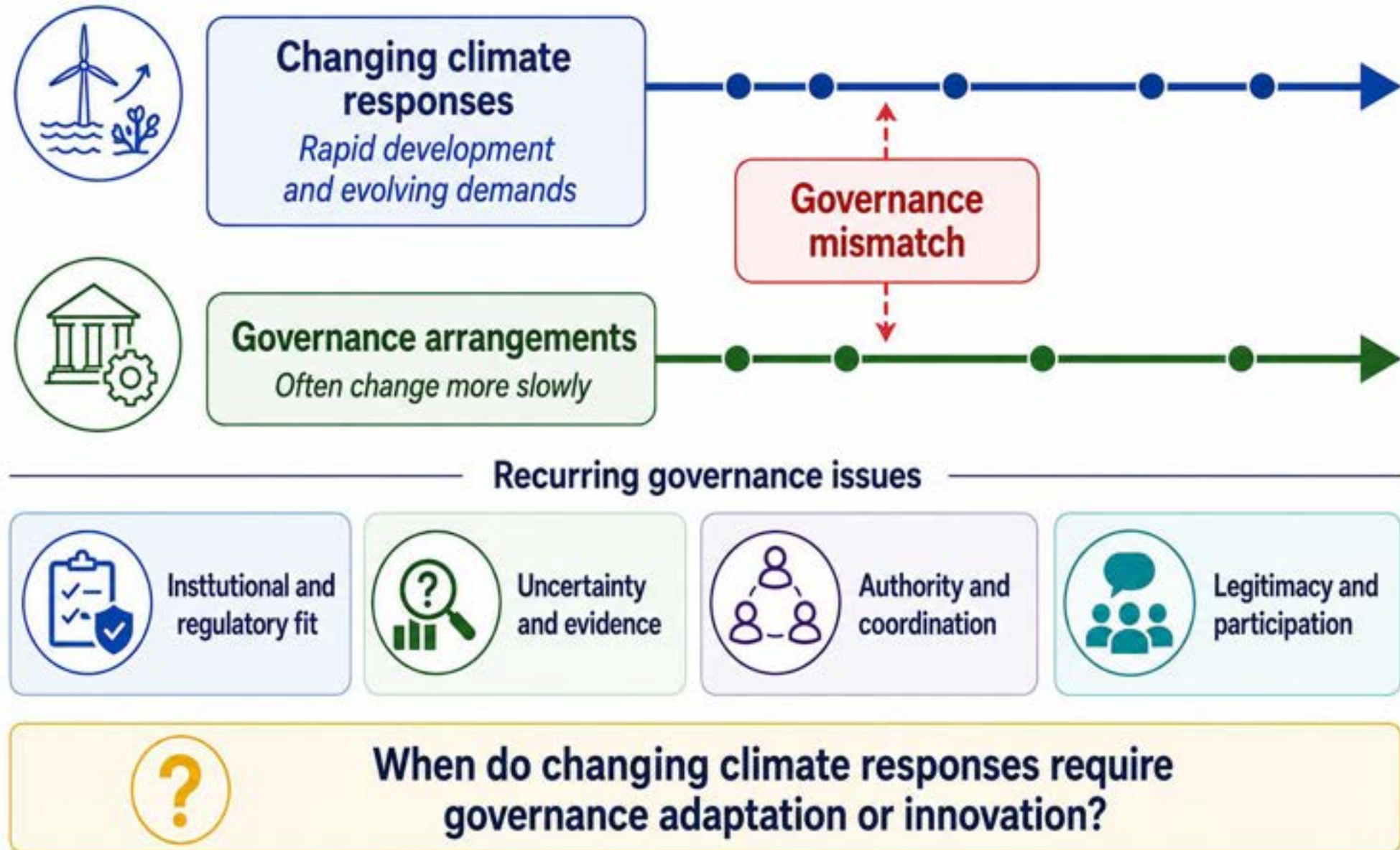
Coastal communities in Ghana

Adaptation under interacting climate and local stressors

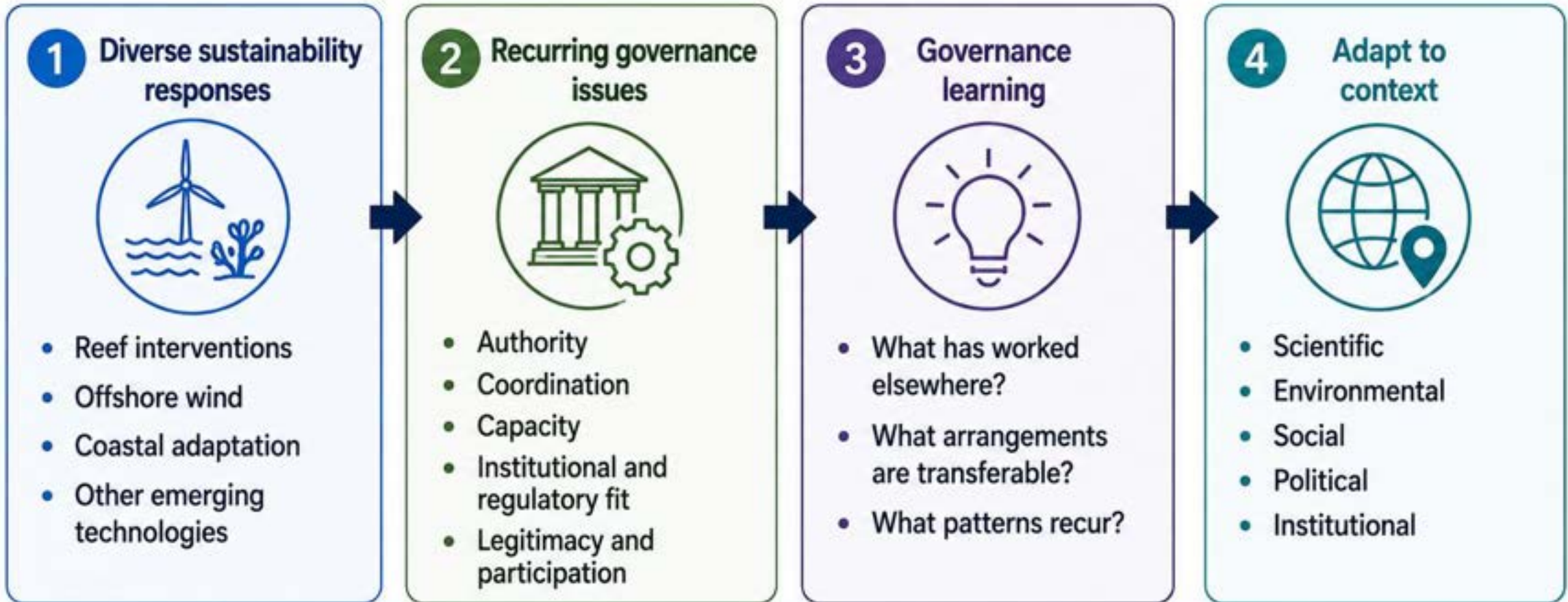
- Climate change combines with existing social, economic and environmental stressors
- Effective response depends on mobilising social, political, human, financial and other forms of capital
- Recurring questions concern societal capacity, governance support and effective response

Across reefs, offshore wind and coastal adaptation, recurring issues include coordination, authority, capacity and institutional fit

Why governance may struggle to keep pace



Learning across climate responses



Learn from recurring patterns, adapt lessons to context

Climate change is also a governance challenge



Climate change reshapes both sustainability problems and the responses societies pursue



New climate responses can expose limits in existing policies, regulations and governance arrangements



Policy and governance systems therefore need the capacity to adapt and innovate as conditions change



Learning across climate responses can help avoid treating every new governance demand as unprecedented



The challenge is not only developing effective climate responses, but ensuring policy and governance can evolve with them



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Thank you

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