Lecture/Discussion #3:

Introduction to coastal resource management (CRM) and the CRM planning process

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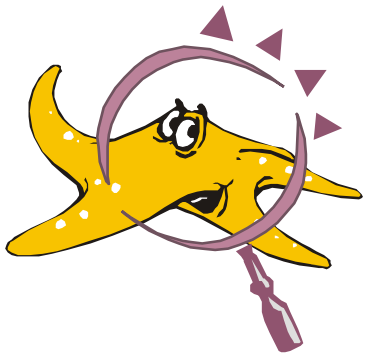

Key content points:

- Coastal resource management (CRM) is first and foremost about addressing varied, wide-ranging and often interconnected issues that directly or indirectly impact coastal areas.
- CRM provides the tools for slowing down, if not reversing the negative impacts of uncontrolled use of these resources.
- CRM is best accomplished by a participatory process of planning, implementing and monitoring sustainable uses of coastal resources through collective action and sound decision-making
- By involving resource users and focusing on local level responsibility, the communities have more ownership of the resources, issues and problems and their corresponding solutions.

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CRM is above all else, managing people and human activities so that their negative impacts on the coastal environment are minimized.

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It is a consultative, multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary process that encourages the participation and cooperation among individuals and communities to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of the coastal zone and its resources.

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Key issues addressed by CRM

- Degradation of coastal habitats
- Open access to fishery resources
- Increased fishing pressure to unsustainable levels
- Destructive/illegal fishing practices
- Coastal law enforcement
- Loss of marine biodiversity
- Inappropriate tourism and coastal/shoreline development practices
- Resource use conflicts

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Involving communities in CRM

It is important to recognize that local fishers and community members are the real day-to-day managers of coastal resources and nearshore fisheries.

Major activities that involve communities in the CRM process:

- Identification of stakeholders and formation of partnerships
- Community organization and mobilization
- Community participation in the planning process
- Information, education and communication (IEC)

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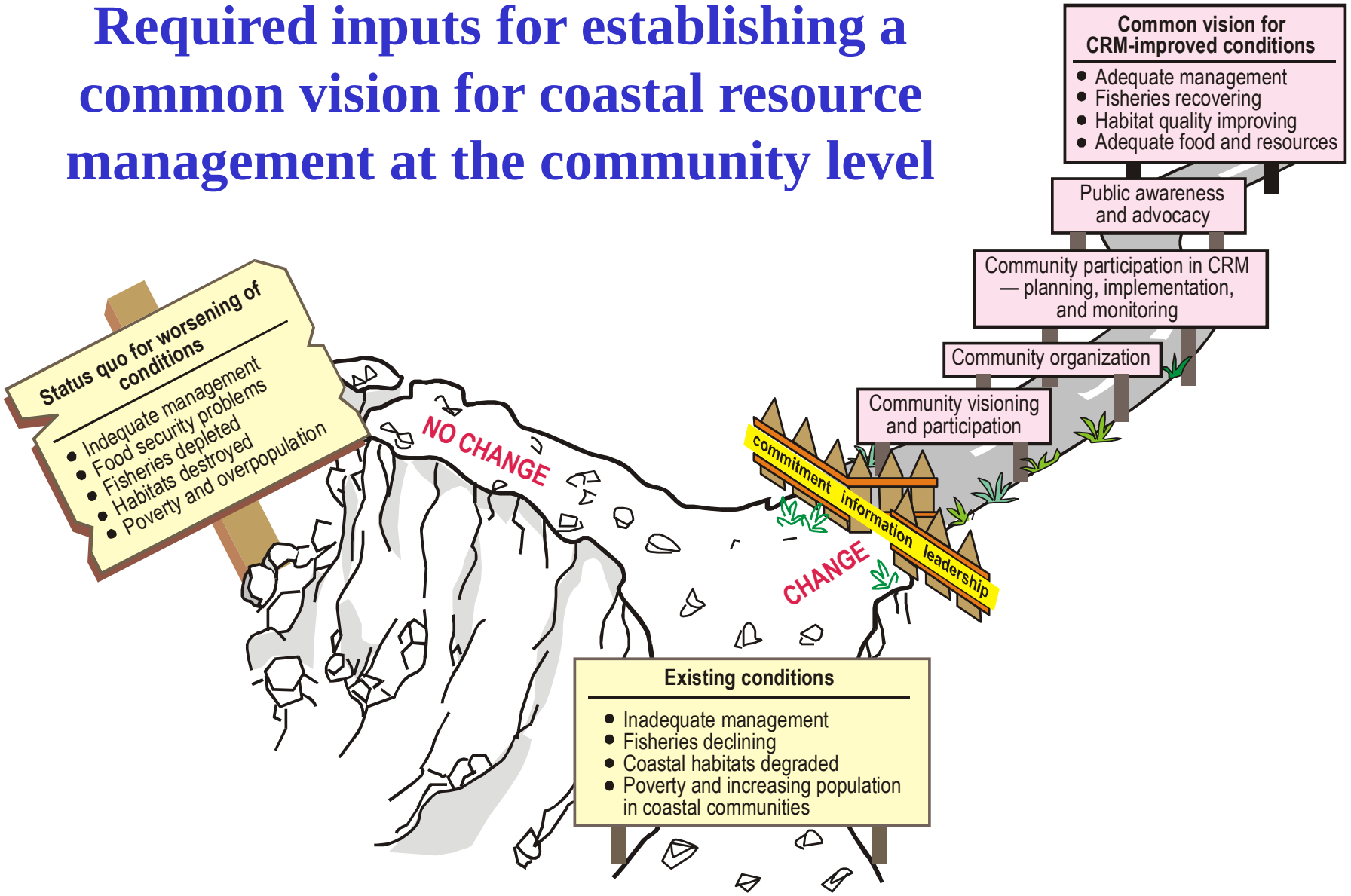
Required inputs for establishing a common vision for coastal resource management at the community level



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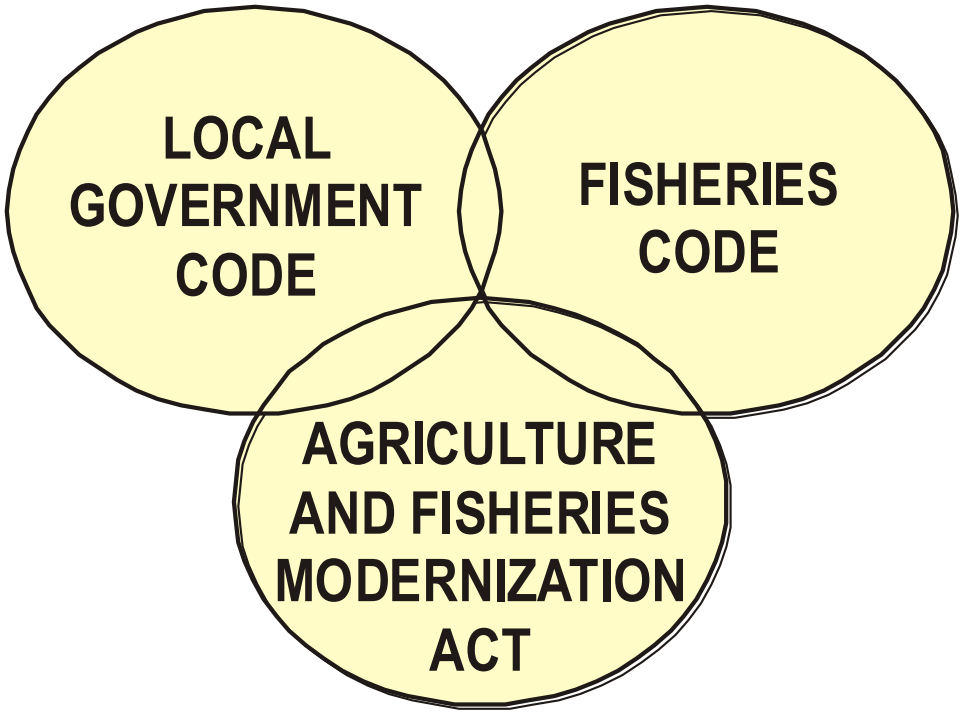
Role of the local government units

Local government plays a pivotal role as the last safety net for the recovery of coastal and marine resources in the Philippines.

The primary mandate for managing municipal/coastal waters out to a distance of 15 km from the shoreline has been devolved to the local government unit (LGU) under the 1991 Local Government Code (RA 7160) and more recently defined in the 1998 Fisheries Code (RA 8550).

LGU Mandate for CRM



Planning
Protection
Regulatory
Enforcement
Legislation
Intergovernmental relations
Relations with POs and NGOs
Extension and Technical Assistance

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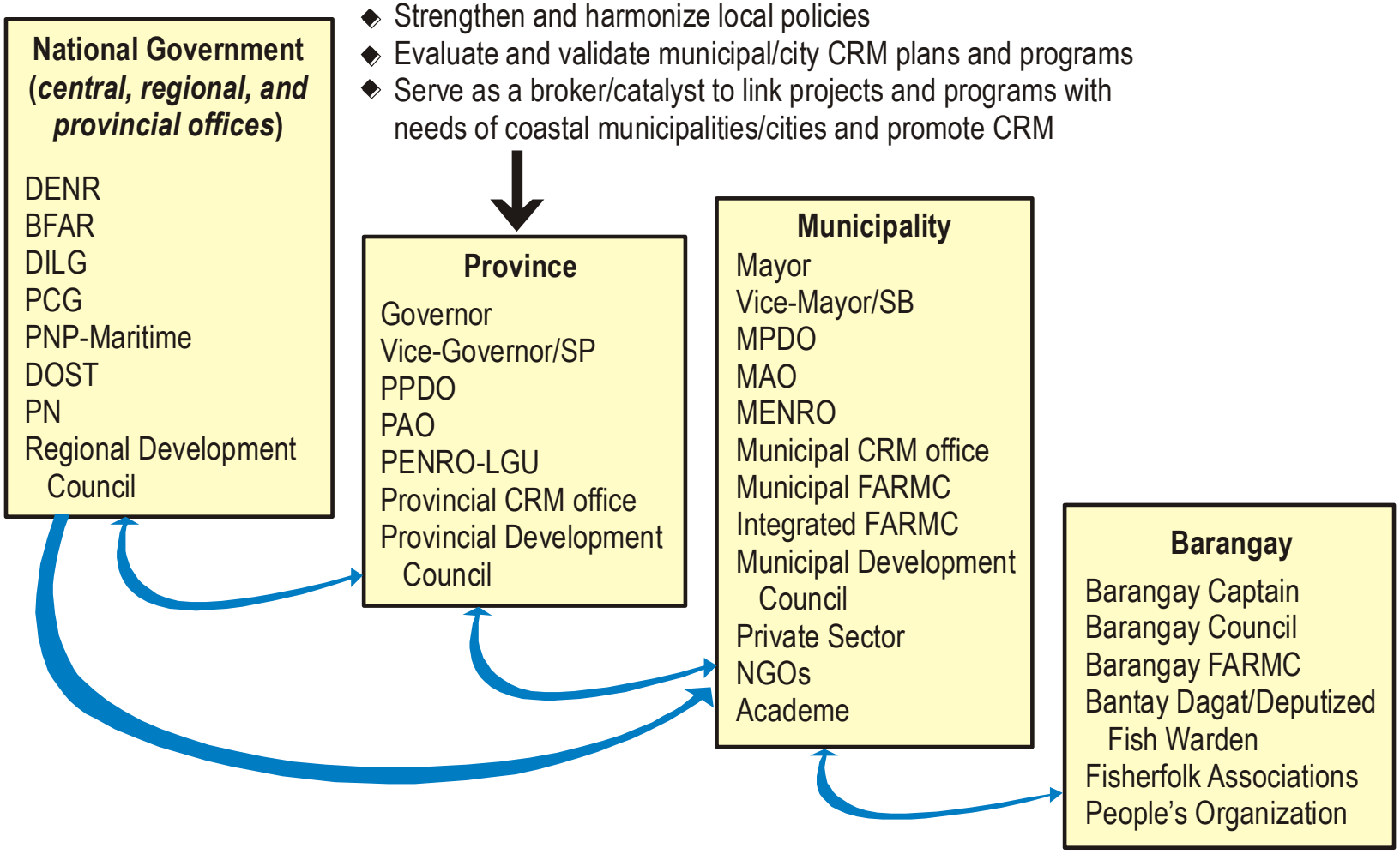
Agencies responsible for managing coastal resources

- Provide CRM as a basic service to municipalities/cities through technical assistance, training, and information management
- Strengthen and harmonize local policies
- Evaluate and validate municipal/city CRM plans and programs
- Serve as a broker/catalyst to link projects and programs with needs of coastal municipalities/cities and promote CRM



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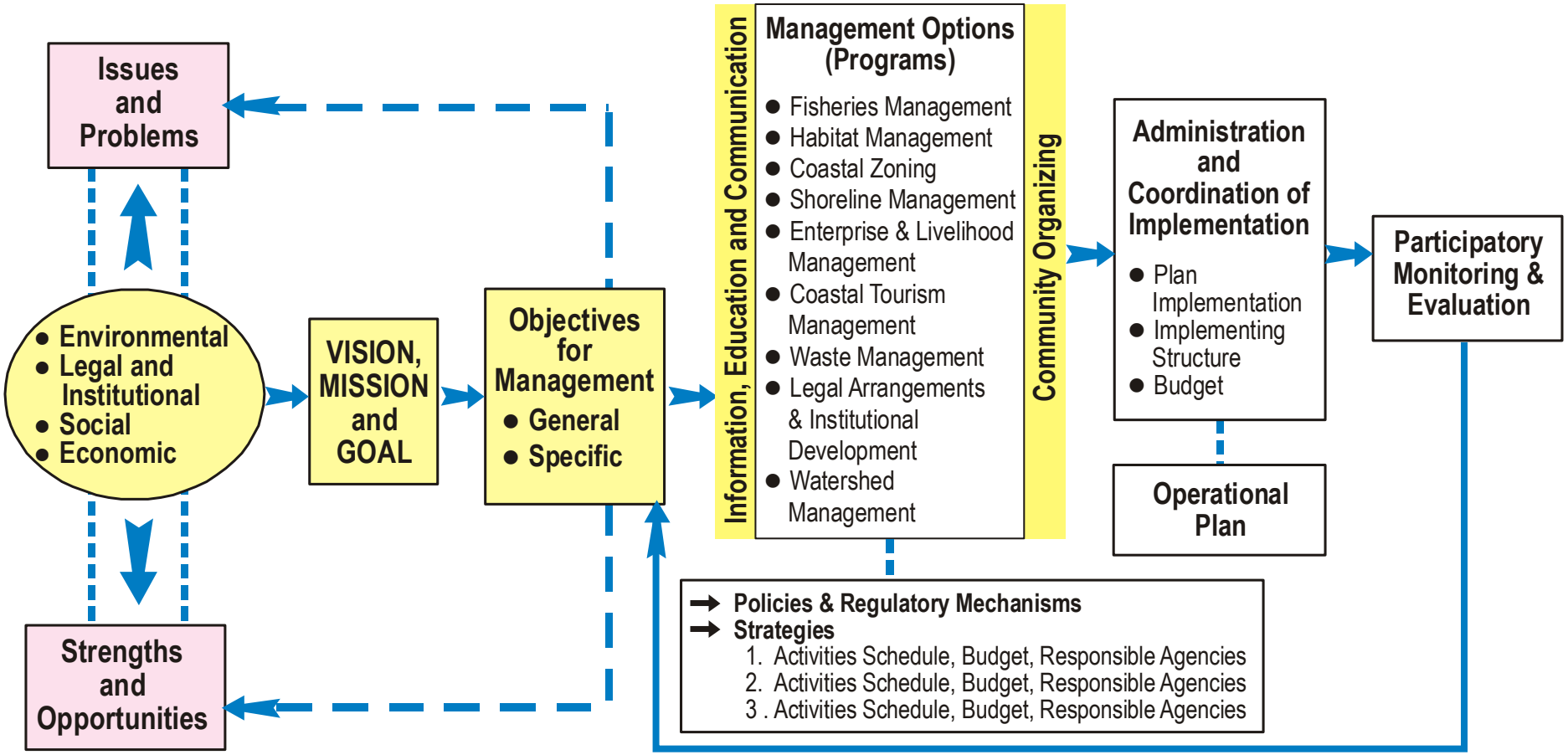
Strategic planning on CRM for LGUs



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Benefits of CRM planning to LGUs

- Guides local chief executives on priority issues to be addressed
- Establishes local legislative agenda for municipal, city and provincial councils
- Provides direction to technical staff on actions to be taken to address priority issues
- Provides a framework for making informed decisions about coastal and marine resource use
- Provides continuity during changes in political administration
- Contributes to long-term sustainability of economic development activities

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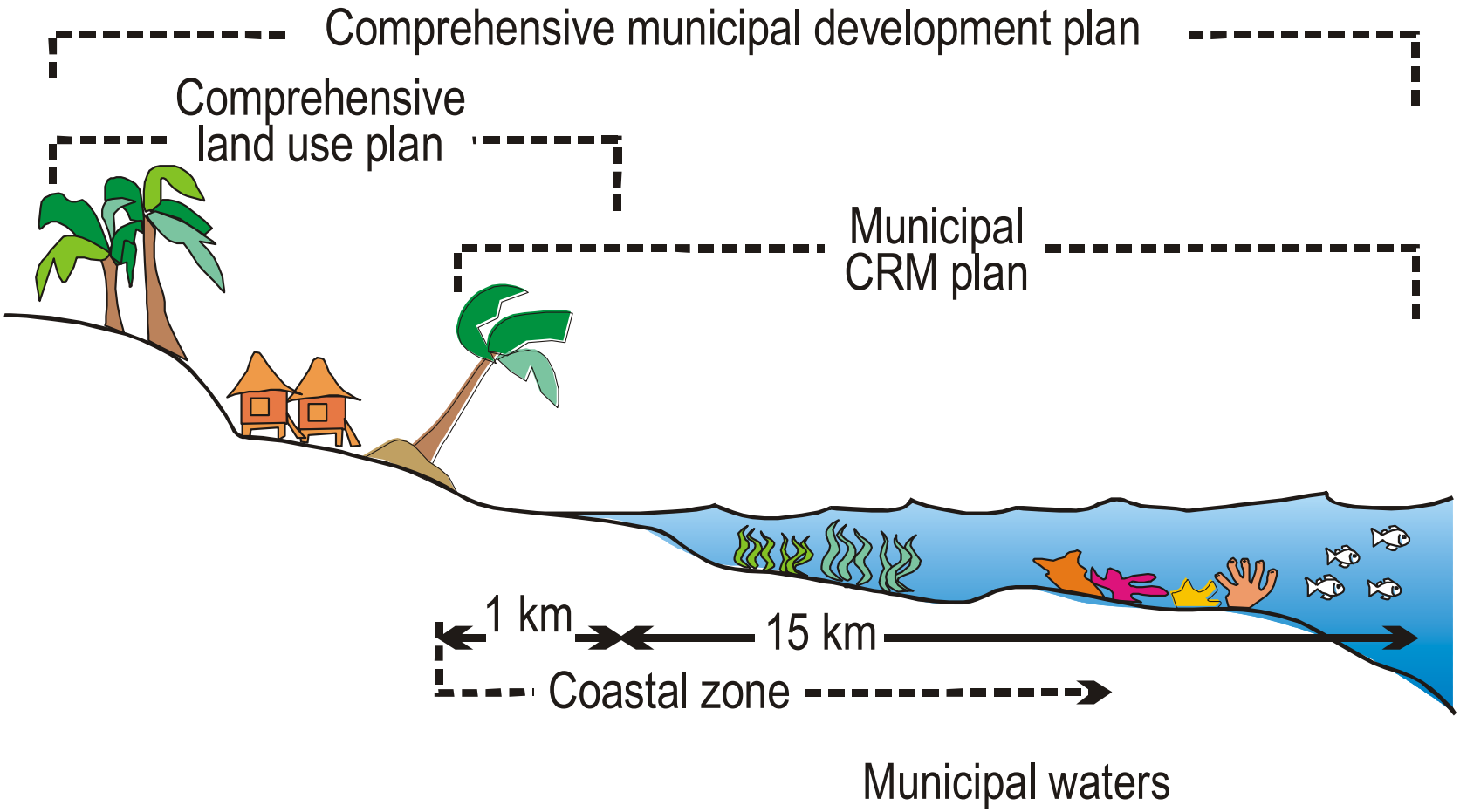
Spatial coverage of a municipal CRM implementation



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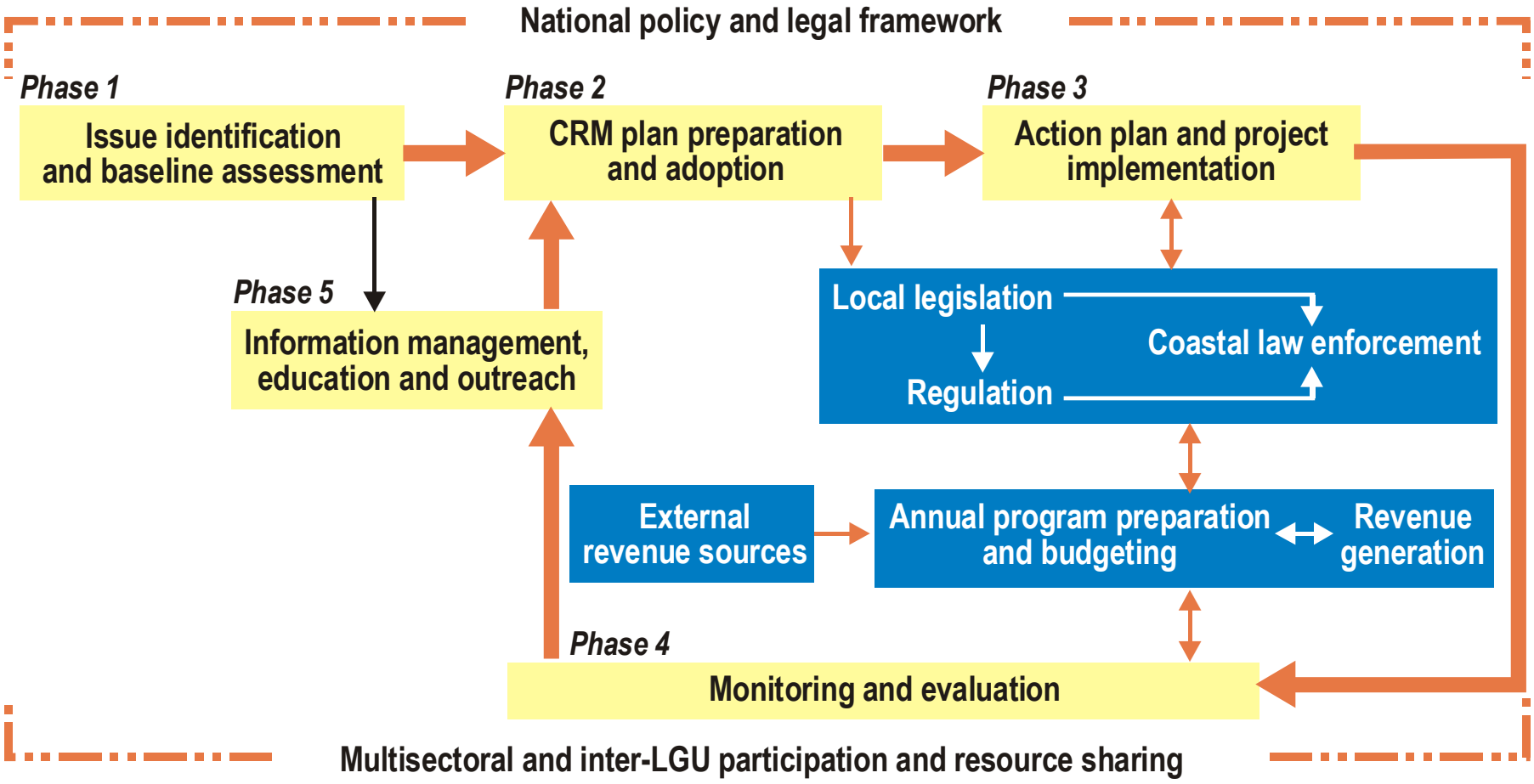
The coastal management planning process being adapted for Philippine local government



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CRM Key Result Areas (Benchmarks)

1. Multi-Year CRM Plan
2. Coastal Resource Assessment
3. CRM-Related Organizations
4. Annual CRM Programming and Budgeting
5. Shoreline/Foreshore Management
6. Best CRM practices being implemented:
   a. Local Legislation
   b. Municipal Water Delineation
   c. Coastal Zoning
   d. Fisheries Management
   e. Coastal Law Enforcement
   f. Marine Protected Area
   g. Mangrove Management
   h. Solid Waste Management
   I. Upland/Watershed Management
   j. Coastal Environment-Friendly Enterprise Development
   k. Revenue Generation
   l. Multi-Institutional Collaboration for CRM

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