

CLIMATE CHANGE 2014

Mitigation of Climate Change

International Cooperation: Agreements & Instruments

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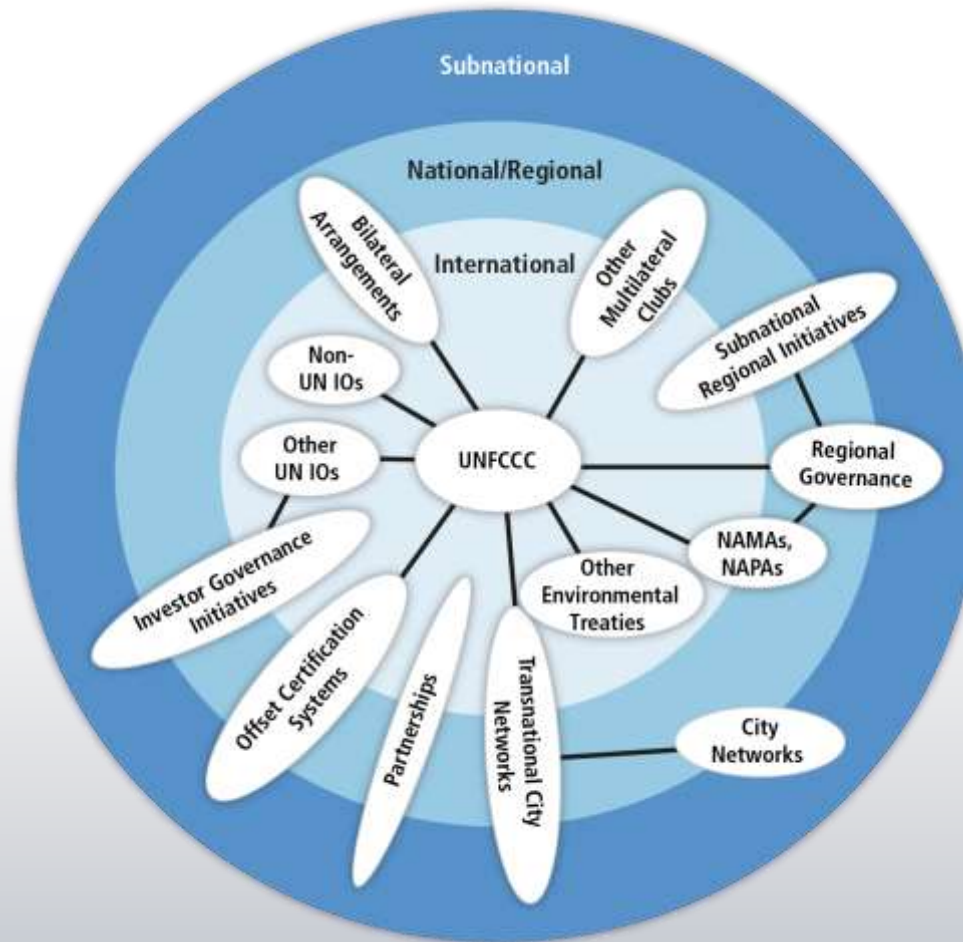


**Climate change is a global commons problem
that requires international cooperation and
coordination across scales.**

International cooperation is necessary to significantly mitigate climate change impacts

- This is principally due to the fact that greenhouse gases (GHGs) mix globally in the atmosphere, making anthropogenic climate change a *global commons problem*
- International cooperation has the potential to address several challenges:
 - Multiple actors that are diverse in their perceptions of the costs and benefits of collective action
 - Emissions sources that are unevenly distributed
 - Heterogeneous climate impacts that are uncertain and distant in space and time
 - Mitigation costs that vary

Climate change mitigation requires international cooperation across scales.

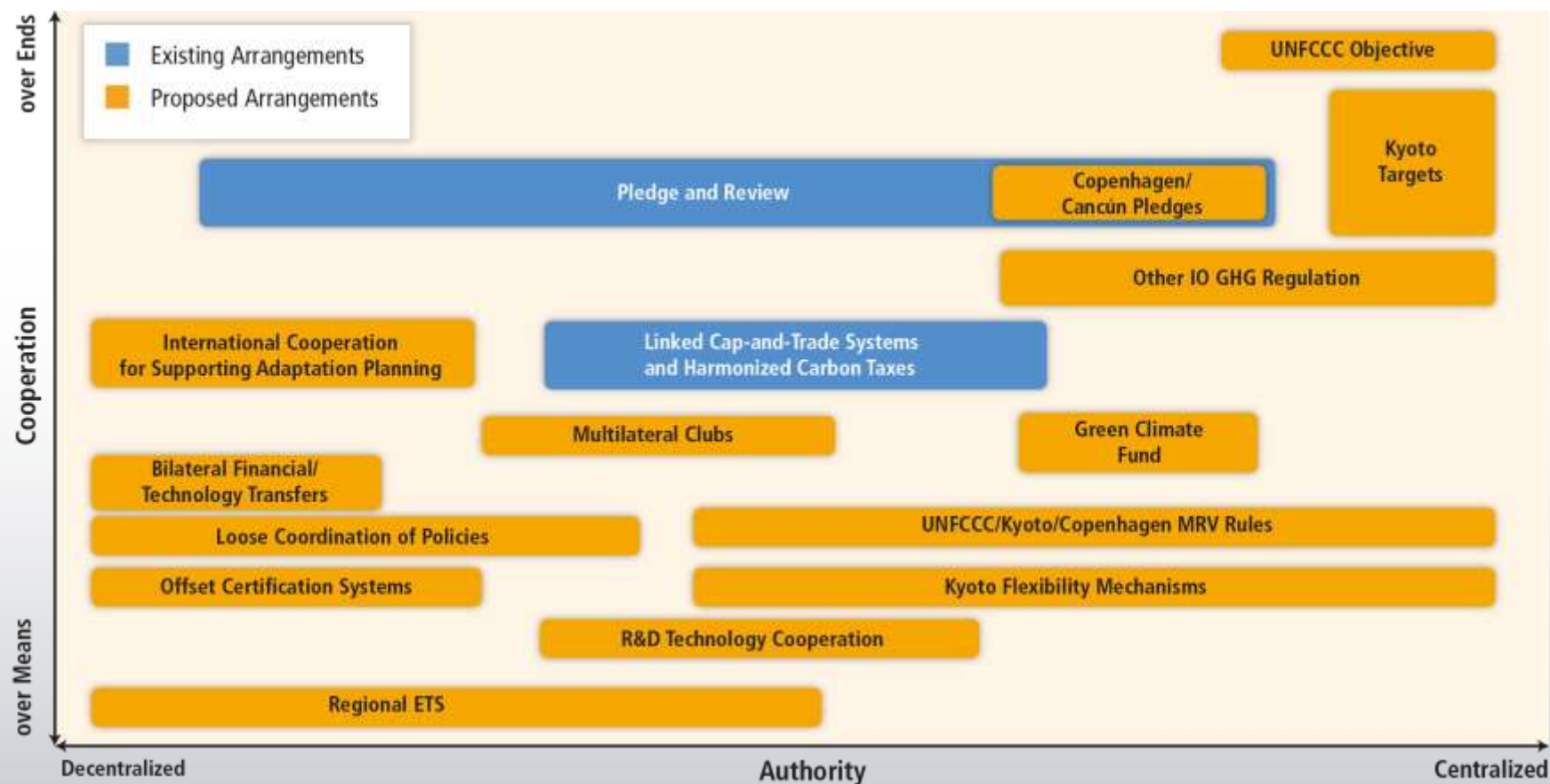


Based on Figure 13.1

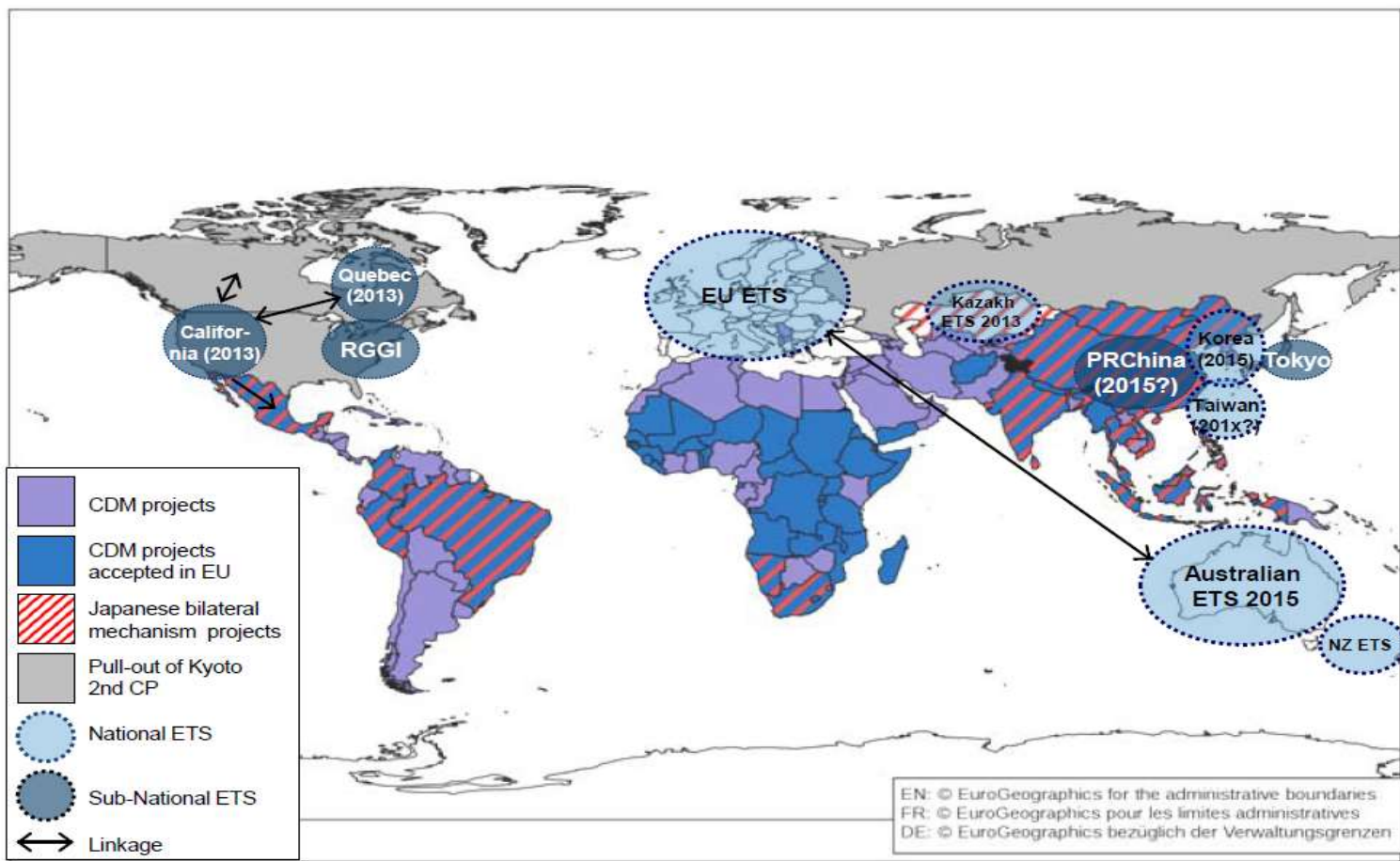
Strong Multilateral agreements

Harmonized national policies;

Decentralized but coordinated national policies



Based on Figure 13.2



Limiting warming involves substantial technological, economic and institutional challenges.



International trade offers positive and negative incentives to promote international cooperation on climate change

- Three issues are key to developing constructive relationships between international trade and climate agreements:
 - How existing trade policies and rules can be modified to be more climate friendly
 - Whether border adjustment measures (BAMs) or other trade measures can be effective in meeting the goals of international climate agreements
 - Whether the UNFCCC, World Trade Organization (WTO), hybrid of the two, or a new institution is the best forum for a trade-and-climate architecture

Cooperation can be evaluated using a range of criteria

- Four criteria stand out:
 - Environmental effectiveness
 - Aggregate economic performance
 - Distributional impacts
 - Institutional feasibility.
- These criteria are grounded in several principles:
 - Maximizing global net benefits
 - Equity and the related principles of distributive justice and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDRRC)
 - Precaution and the related principles of anticipation, and prevention of future risks
 - Sustainable development.

The Kyoto Protocol was the first binding step toward implementing the principles and goals of the UNFCCC

- It has had limited effects on global emissions because:
 - Some countries did not ratify the Protocol
 - Some Parties did not meet their commitments
 - Its commitments applied to only a portion of the global economy
- The Parties to the Protocol collectively surpassed their collective emission reduction target in the first commitment period
 - But the Protocol credited emissions reductions that would have occurred even in its absence.
- The Kyoto Protocol does not directly influence the emissions of non-Annex I countries, which have grown rapidly over the past decade.

The Montreal Protocol has also achieved significant reductions in global GHG emissions

- The Montreal Protocol set limits on emissions of ozone-depleting gases that are also potent GHGs, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs).
 - Substitutes for those ozone-depleting gases (such as hydrofluorocarbons, HFCs, which are not ozone-depleting) may also be potent GHGs.
- Potential lessons learned from the Montreal Protocol:
 - Use of financial and technological transfers to broaden participation in an international environmental agreement
 - May be of value to the design of international climate change agreements

Recent UNFCCC Negotiations

- Recent negotiations have sought to foster:
 - More ambitious mitigation commitments from countries with commitments under the Kyoto Protocol
 - Mitigation contributions from a broader set of countries
 - New finance and technology mechanisms
- Under the 2010 Cancún Agreement, developed countries formalized voluntary pledges of quantified, economy-wide emission reduction targets and some developing countries formalized voluntary pledges to mitigation actions.
- Under the 2011 Durban Platform for Enhanced Action, delegates agreed to craft a future legal regime that would be 'applicable to all Parties ... under the Convention'
 - To include substantial new financial support and technology arrangements

THANK YOU !

