



HiAP in Finland

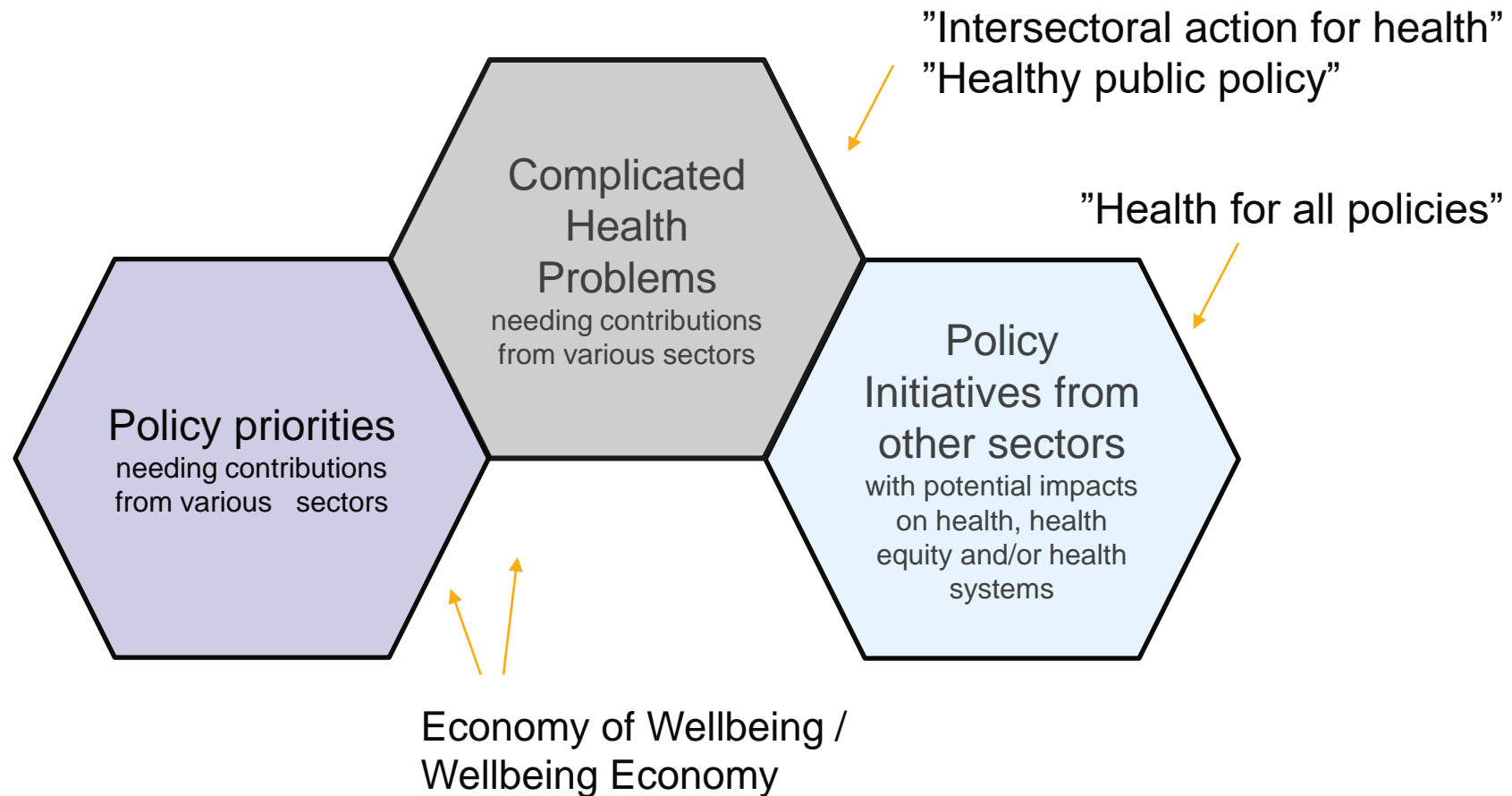
- some developments from 1990s to 2020s

The politics of framing – Navigating HiAP through changing times and context

Towards Sustainable Societies - Health in All Policies and Social Determinants of Health, Tampere University, September 6, 2023

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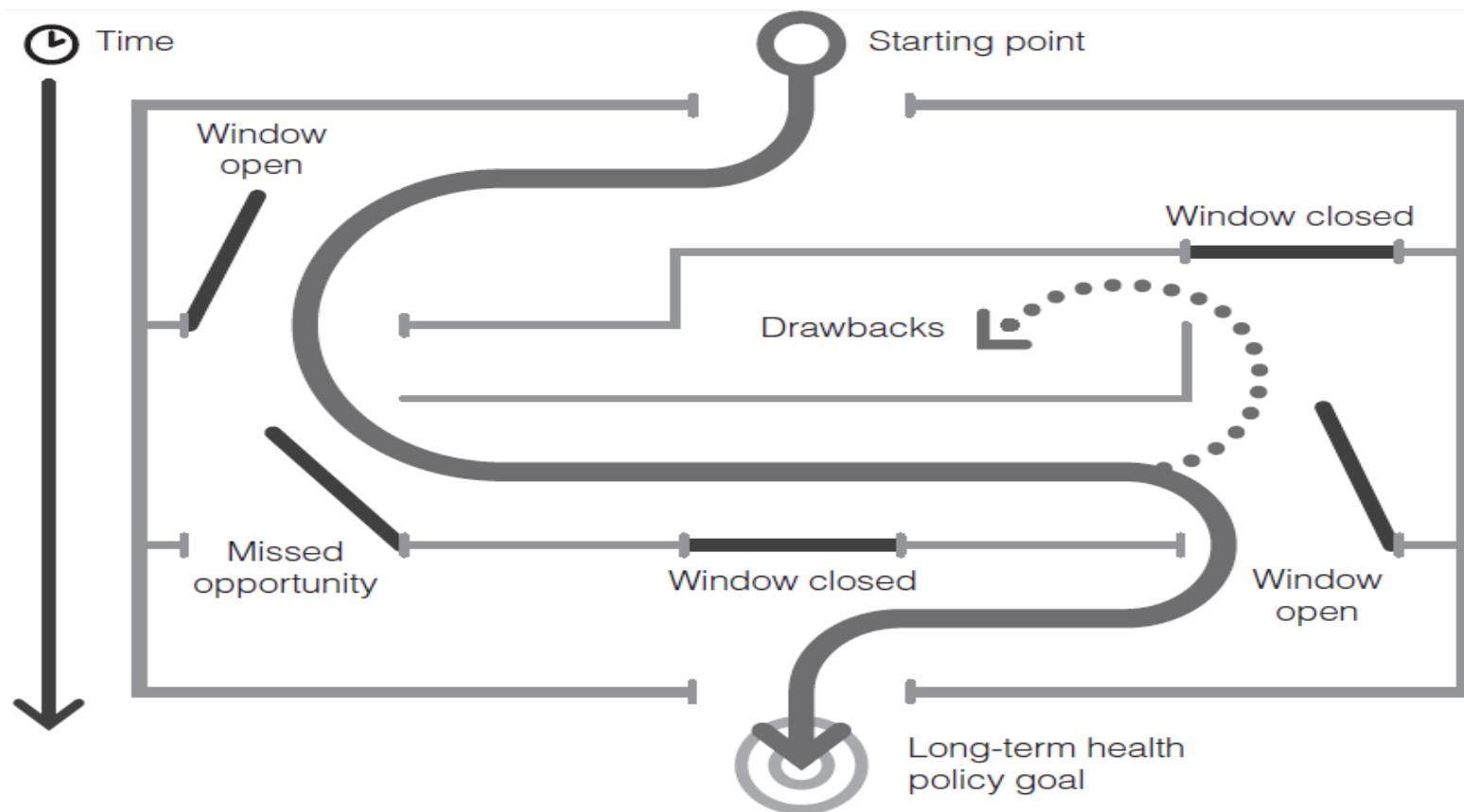
The Need for a Health in All Policies Approach



Source:
Ollila 2011, Leppo et al 2013, WHO 2015

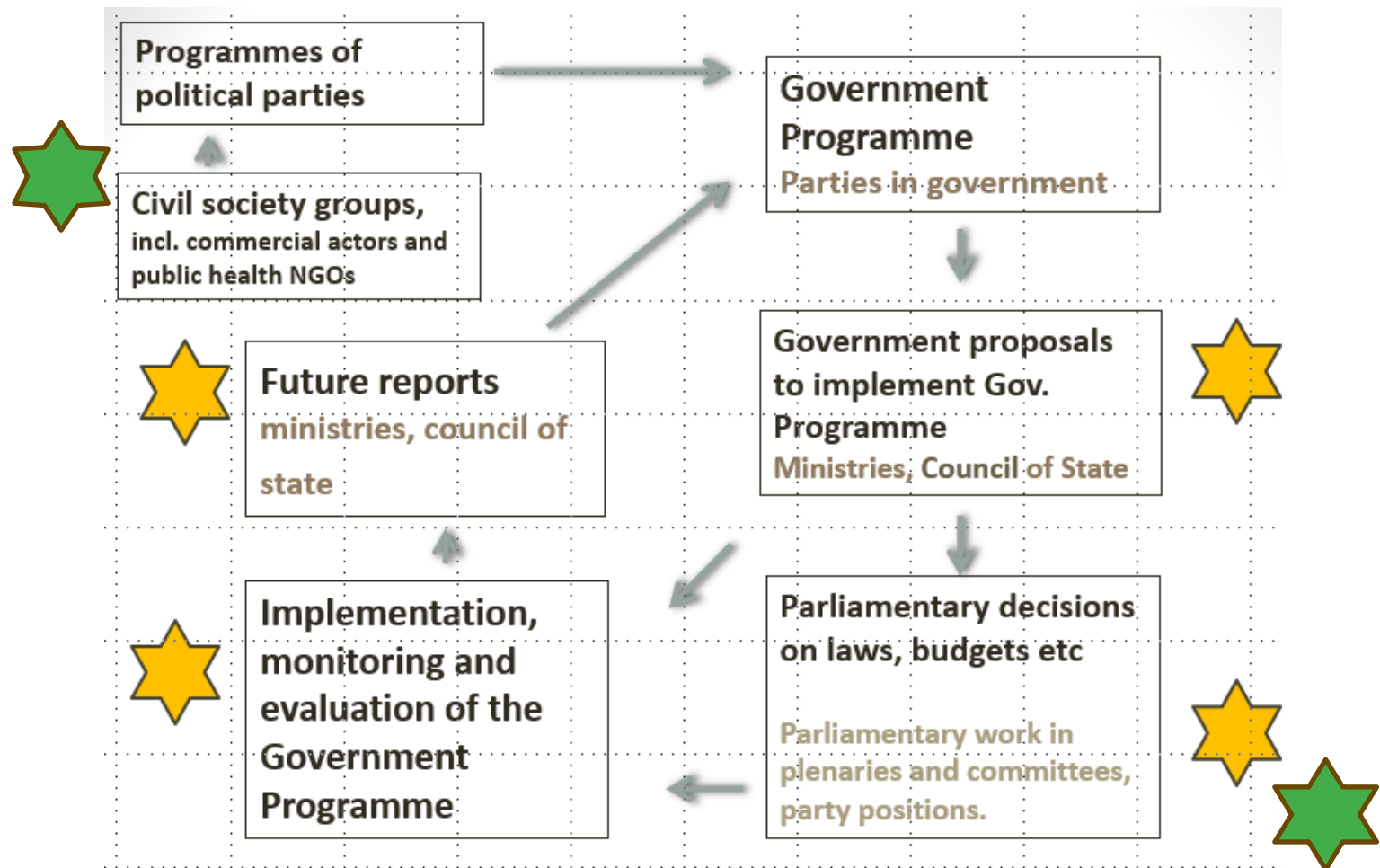
Windows of opportunities open and close

- you just have to know where and when



Source: Ollila E, Baum F, Peña S, 2013

The policy cycle & windows of opportunity for HiAP - national level policy-making in Finland



HiAP in Finland - structural observations

- Legal Frame:
 - Health promotion (Constitution)
 - Intersectoral health promotion laws on Health and Social services, and on municipalities:
 - In 1990's legal base for Intersectoral National Public Health Committee and Intersectoral Public Health Reports established, neither exist currently
- Structures, processes, tools (executive and legislature)
 - Tradition of consultations/ working together (health promotion unit MSAH)
 - Intersectoral advisory boards, for example:
 - State nutrition advisory board
 - Advisory board on public health not existing since 7/2023)
 - EU committee system at national level
 - Parliamentary committees and consultations
 - Intersectoral Health Programmes, currently none
 - Health Impact Assessments (often not done)



HiAP from 1990s to 2020s: some observations

- The policy-making frame has changed since Finland joined the EU in 1995 – many decisions now made on the EU level
- Traditionally Min. of Soc. Affairs and Health lead HiAP activities,
 - now focus shifting towards Ministry of Finland and Council of State and towards Economy of Wellbeing
- HiAP legal framework and structures have weakened
 - No legal backing for intersectoral public health committee, nor reported
- Focus traditionally on Public sector civil servants & their intersectoral work
 - rather than on politics and political actors and processes or participatory approaches. Still the case
- Economy of Wellbeing:
 - Health contents perhaps still more inspirational than practice
 - Attention to indicators – evaluation? planning?
 - Public Health expertise to be strengthened in that context



Observations on the prerequisites for successful HiAP

- Political will & power to address health/health equity at various points of the policy cycle
- Public health capacity to
 - Identify problems, develop policies and understand politics
 - Anticipate the need for evidence
 - Produce evidence
 - Assess impacts
 - Address impacts in the proper forum/proper time/form
 - Ensure accountability and vigilance
- Public health experts' understanding of the policy-making systems & processes & agendas beyond health
- Interplay btw civil servants, politicians, researchers, NGOs & other civil society (with c-o-i management)
- Transparency of policy-making, good quality media & formal accountability mechanisms