



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



Political Dimensions of Policy Coherence

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DESA Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government

Politics and Public Administration – complementary, not the same

Politics – exercise of power by political leadership
reflecting programs, ideologies, vested interests

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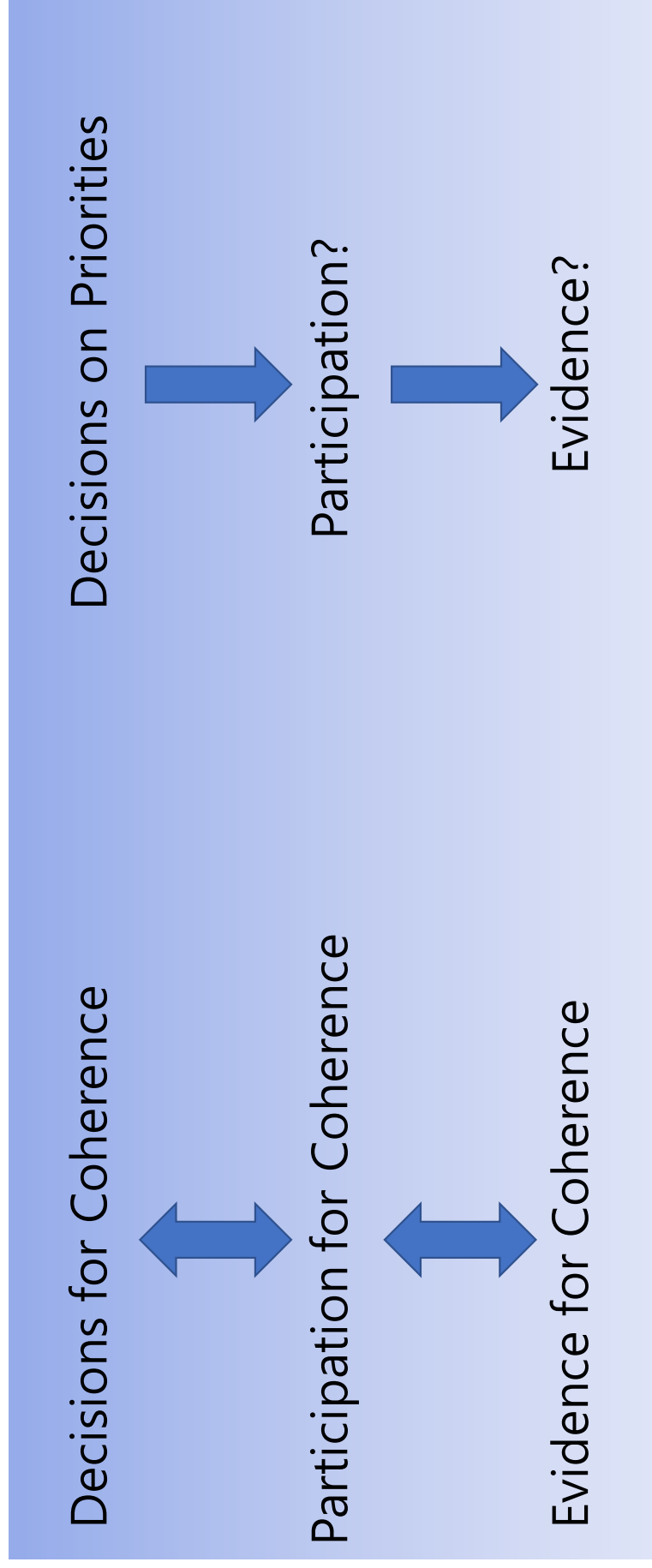
public administration – the machinery of government

= **Government**

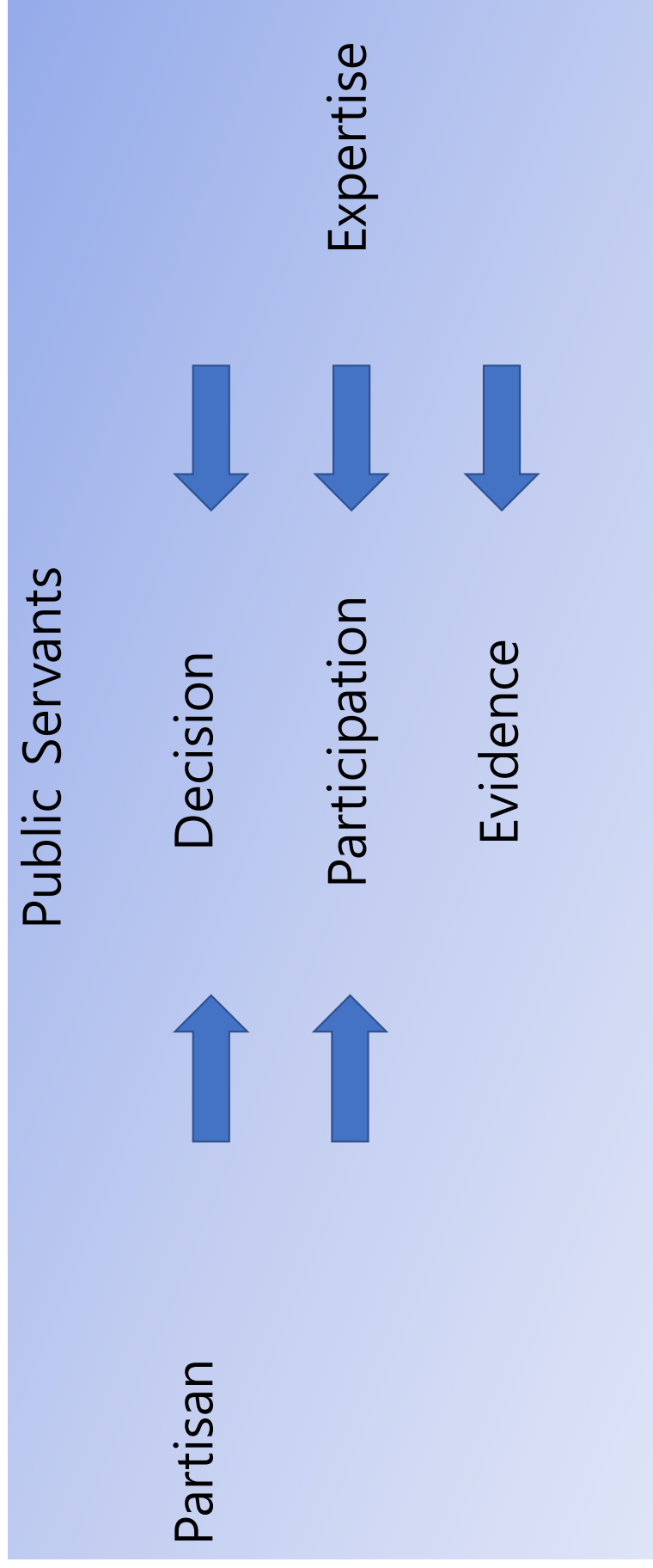
Politics in the Policy Cycle

enhancing policy coherence

impeding policy coherence



Public servants to navigate politics – respecting their roles



Context specific challenges

Multi-level governance: political alignment across levels of government or diversity of political orientation

Complexities of coherence: stakeholder engagement length of time axis (climate change)