Framework for navigating polycentric governance

The figure is a web of the four interconnected elements outlined in the paper’s framework to successfully increase adaptive capacity, the ability for actors to adapt change when responding to issues of sustainability.

Knowledge
- Knowing the science
- Knowing the venues
- Knowing the players
- Knowing the politics
- Knowing the self

Relationships
- Choosing partners
- Developing trust
- Mixing bridging and bonding social capital
- Committing strategically

Strategies
- Choosing venues
- Thinking about externalities
- Building on small wins
- Relying on cooperation
- Allocating leadership
- Adjusting decision rules

Decisions and implementation
- Explicitly sequencing goals
- Accepting uncertainty

Figure from “Institutional navigation for polycentric sustainability governance,” by M. Lubell and T. H. Morrison, 2021, Nature Sustainability.