

Using Behavioural Insights to Improve Policymakers' Decision Quality in Urban Climate Adaptation



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Connected to the Climate Action Flagship Theme "Climate Governance"



RESEARCH QUESTION

How can policymakers' decision quality in urban climate adaptation be understood and improved using behavioural insights?

STATE OF THE ART

Earlier research on citizens' climate adaptation behaviour and structural barriers provides valuable insights into factors that might impact policymakers' decisions, such as:

- Outcome and self-efficacy (Grothmann and Patt, 2005)
- Threat perception (Houser et al., 2022)
- Temporal myopia (Lupp et al., 2016)
- Psychological distance (Singh et al., 2017)
- Insufficient funding (Shi, Chu and Debats, 2015)
- Top-down policymaking (Phuong, Biesbroek and Wals, 2018)
- Fragmented responsibilities (Oberlack, 2017)
- Land use competition (Kaufmann and Wiering, 2019)



STUDY 1

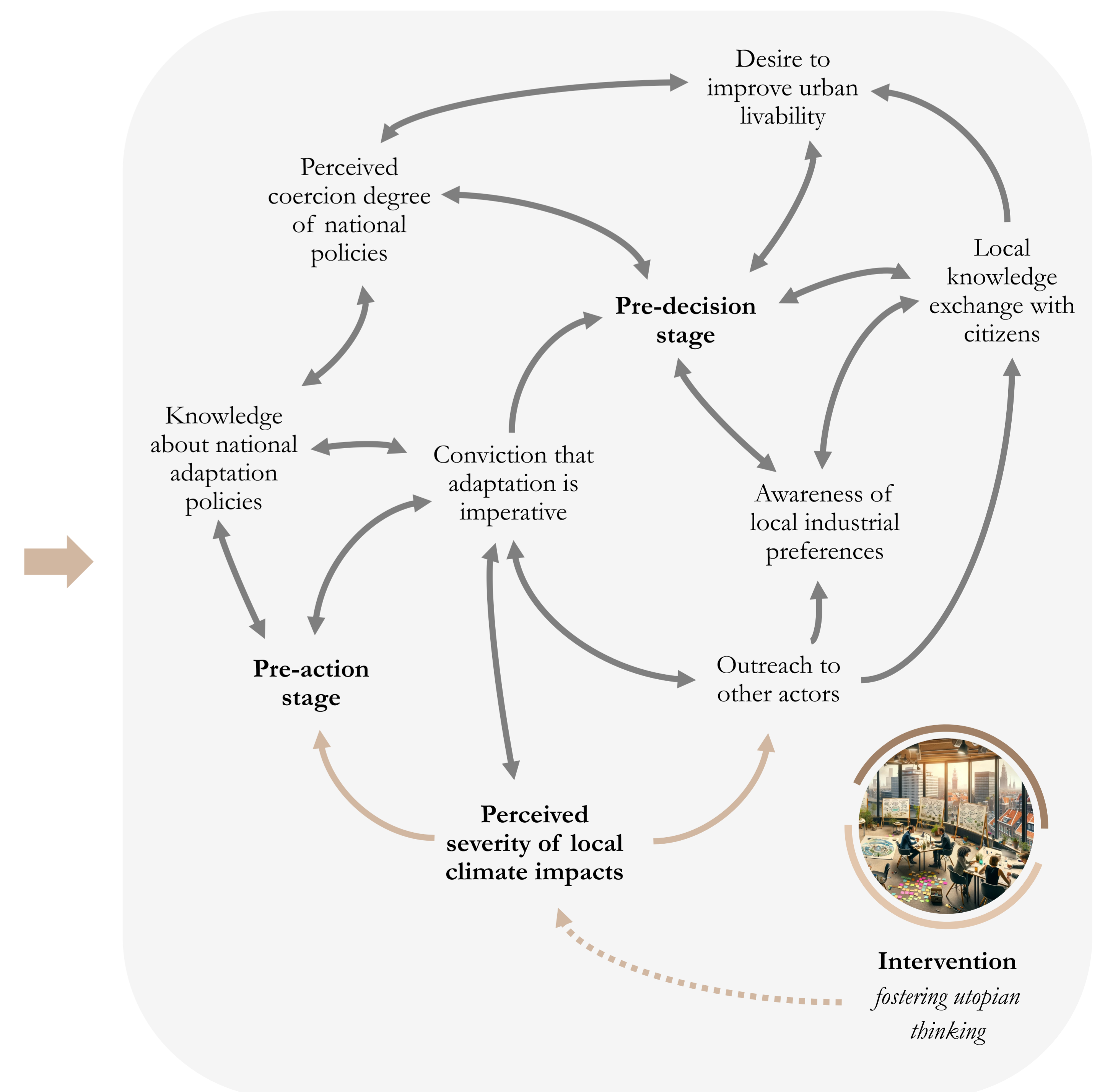
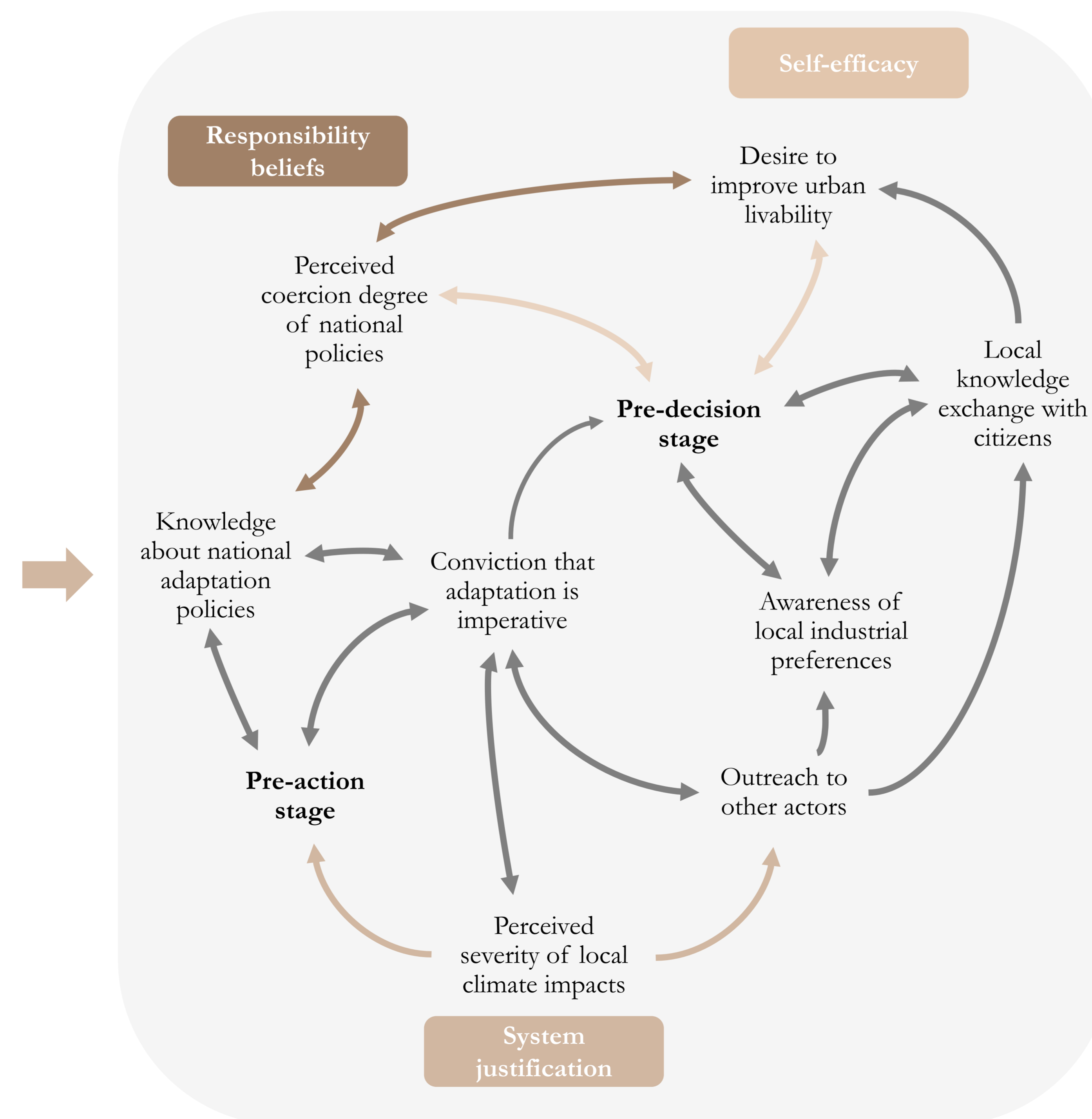
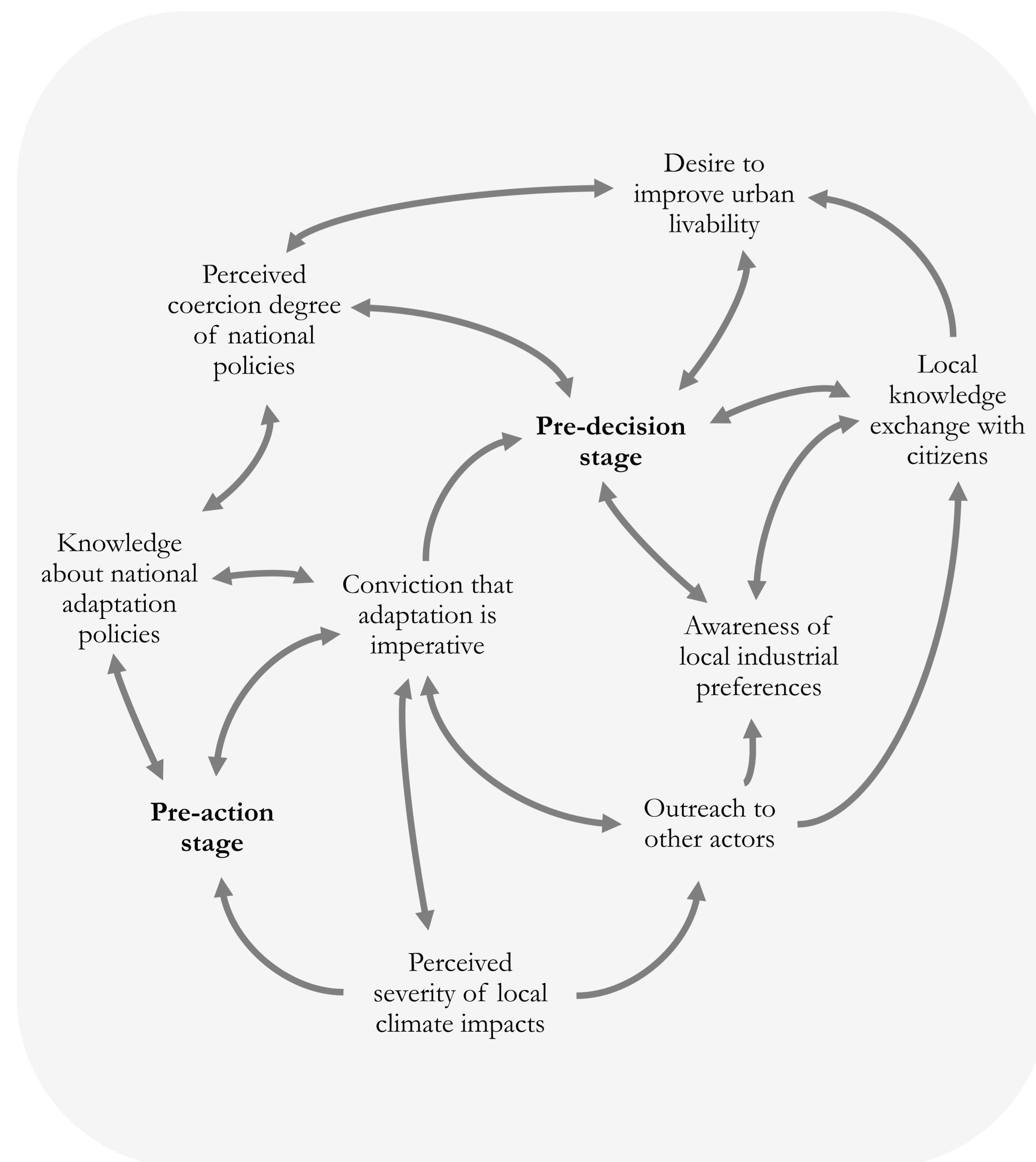
The **first study** will explore local policymakers' decision context in urban climate adaptation – i.e., the aggregation of the factors impacting decisions.

STUDY 2

The **second study** will prioritise and further assess specific behavioural influences, underlying psychological phenomena, and impacts on policymakers' decisions.

STUDY 3

The **third study** will develop and test a behavioural intervention that improves policymakers' decision quality.



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