Towards a minority-adjust Cultural Impact Assessment in Germany
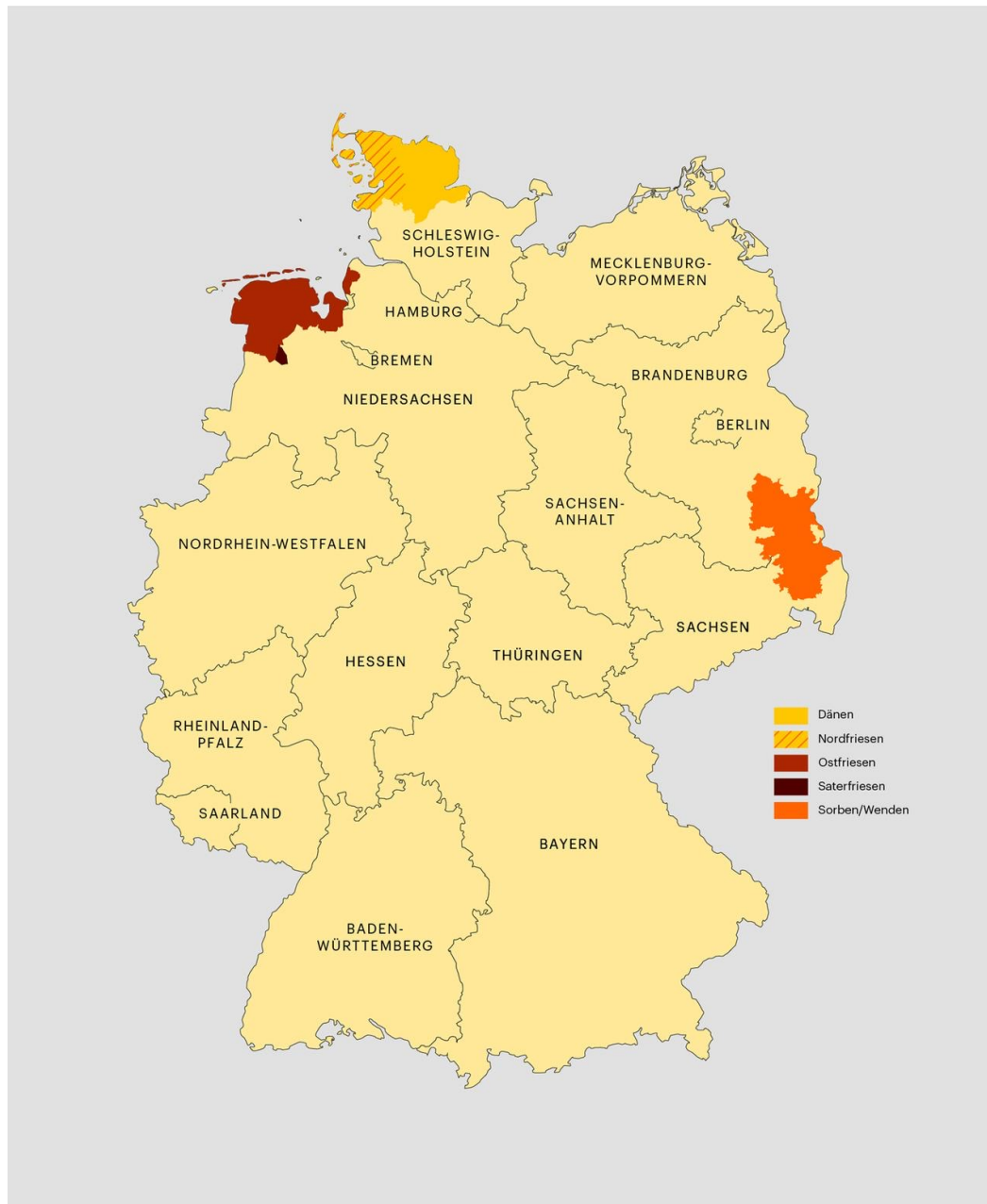
Jenny Hagemann (presenting), Lutz Laschewski & Fabian Jacobs

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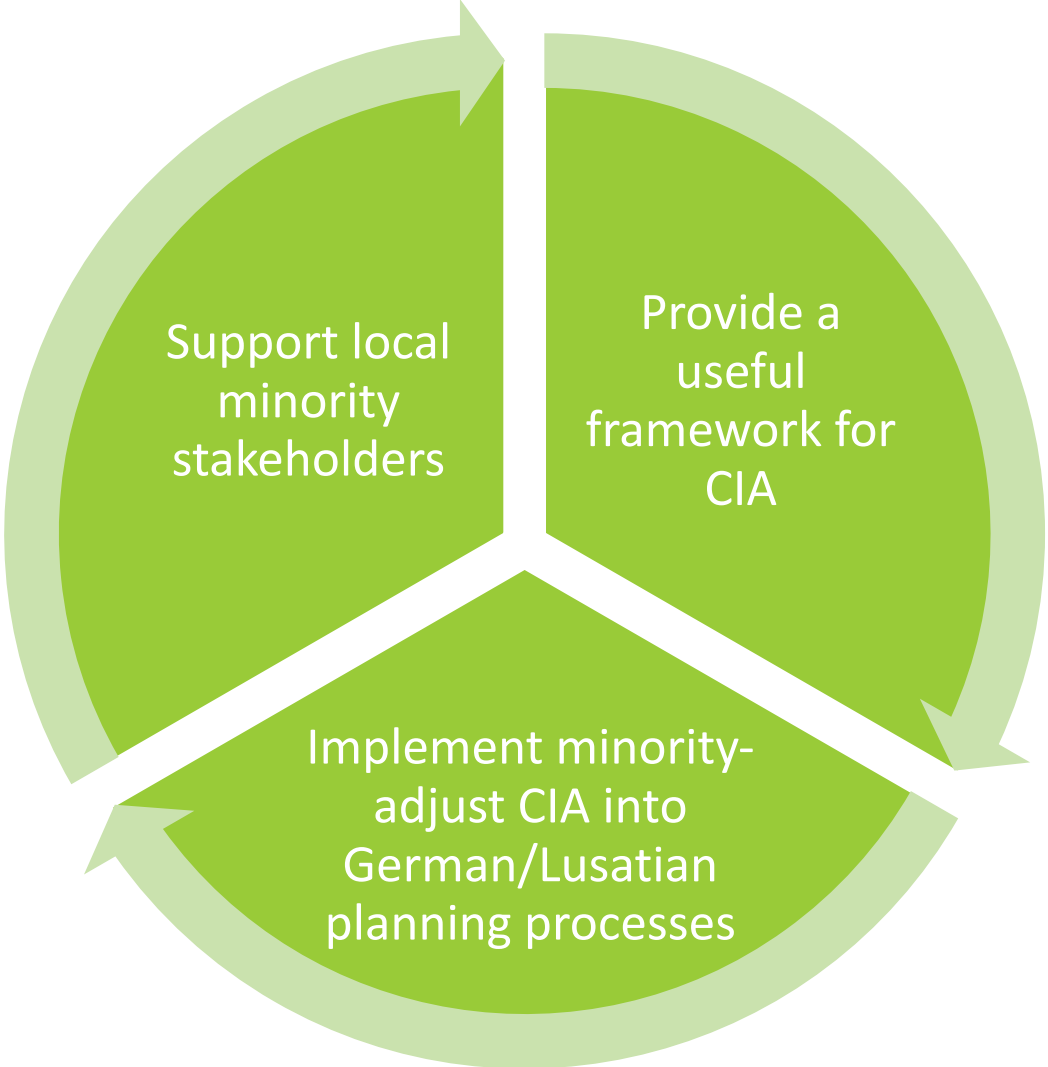Fabian.Jacobs@serbski-institut.de

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Autochthonous minorities in Germany

orange: Sorbs

Our goals

Support local minority stakeholders

Provide a useful framework for CIA

Implement minority-adjust CIA into German/Lusatian planning processes
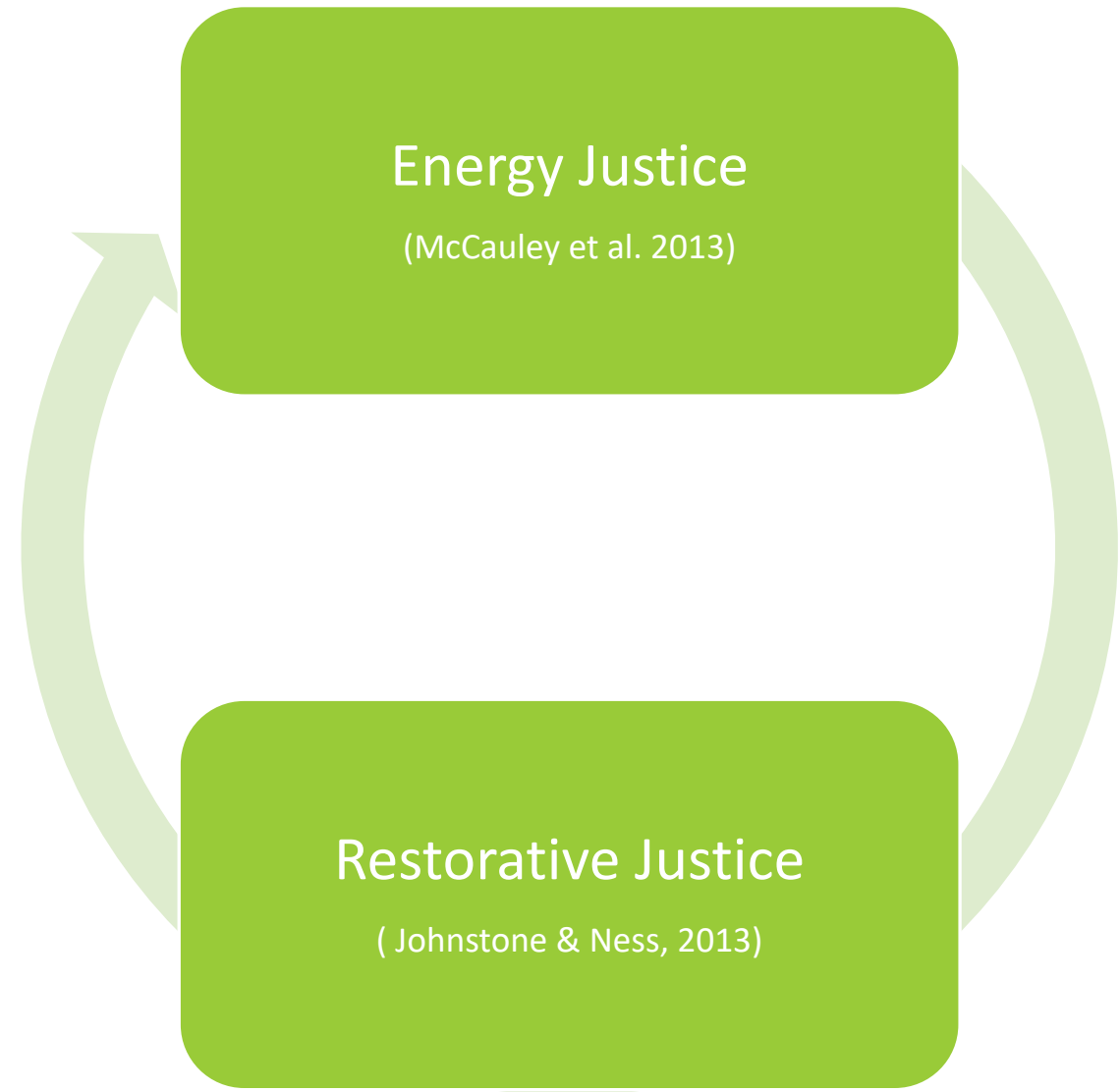
How?

How to achiece a Just Transformation through minority-adjust Cultural Impact Assessment?

How?

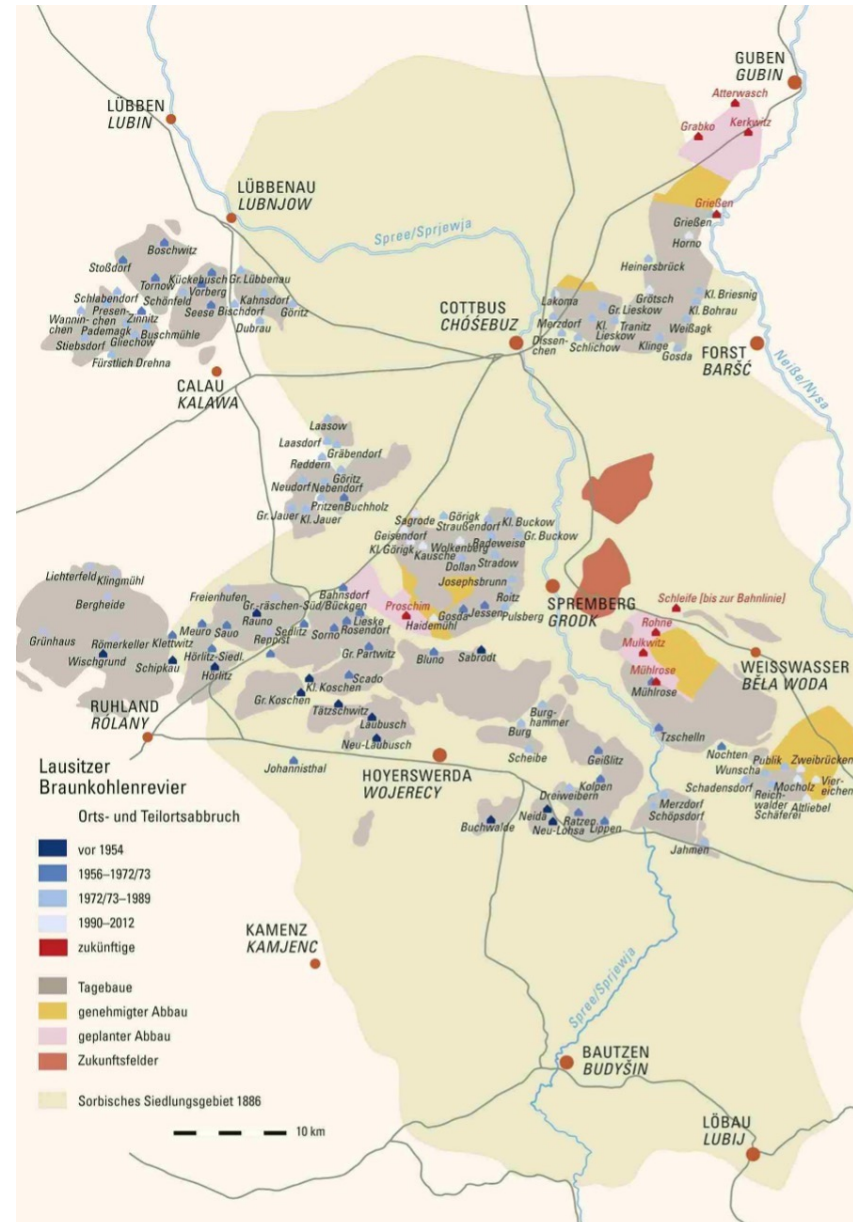How to achiece a Just Transformation through minority-adjust Cultural Impact Assessment?

Energy Justice

(McCauley et al. 2013)

Restorative Justice

(Johnstone & Ness, 2013)

Why?

Why to achiece a Just Transformation through minority-adjust Cultural Impact Assessment

Energy Justice

(McCauley et al. 2013)

Restorative Justice

(Johnstone & Ness, 2013)

Restorative Justice "aims to repair the harm done to people [...] and also [defines] what injustices society should give attention to in the first place." Heffron and McCauley 2017, p. 660

Green: historical & current settlement area of the Sorbs
Grey: historical lignite mining areas
Orange: current mining areas

Left: Sorbian costumes worn in the original village of Halbendorf, 1954.

right: Sorbian costumes worn in the resettlement destination of Halbendorf, after 2010.

Why?

What is our research aiming at?

Making the interdependencies between economic projects and minority culture measurable

Assess the consequences of lignite mining for Sorbian culture in a well-founded manner

Avoid negative effects of future projects

Develop and strengthen positive consequences of future projects

Establish MACIA in regional planning in Lusatia

How to access culture?

Some challenges within the Lusatian context

How to access culture?

Some challenges within the Lusatian context

➢ **Indigeneity / Minority**

➢ 2021: Germany ratified the International Labour Organisation's Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (ILO 169)

➢ Sorbs are not defined / acknowledged as Indigenous People

➢ Sorbs are an autochthonous minority, living in Germany from the 6th century on without a kin-state

How to access culture?

Some challenges within the Lusatian context

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➤**Culture / practice**

is a socially regulated, typified, routinised form of physical behaviour (including sign-using behaviour) and comprises specific forms of knowledge, know-how, interpretation, motivation and emotion. Physical behaviour, knowledge, interpretations, rules and codes come together in practices [...] to form a complex from which none of the elements can be broken out. Reckwitz 2020, p. 49, translated from German by the author

How to access culture?

Some challenges within the Lusatian context

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➢ **Culture / practice**

➢Constitudes a Community of Practice (Wenger et al. 2002)

➢ **Localisation**

➢Through the action areas of the Community of Practice

How to access culture?

Some challenges within the Lusatian context

➢ **Indigeneity / Minority**

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➢ Constitudes a Community of Practice (Wenger et al. 2002)

➢ **Localisation**

➢ Through the action areas of the Community of Practice

➢ **Time Scale**

How to access culture?

CIA methods

Oral history

Focus group interviews

Statistical analysis

surveys

Field research / site visits

Expert interviews

consultation

How to access culture?

MACIA methods

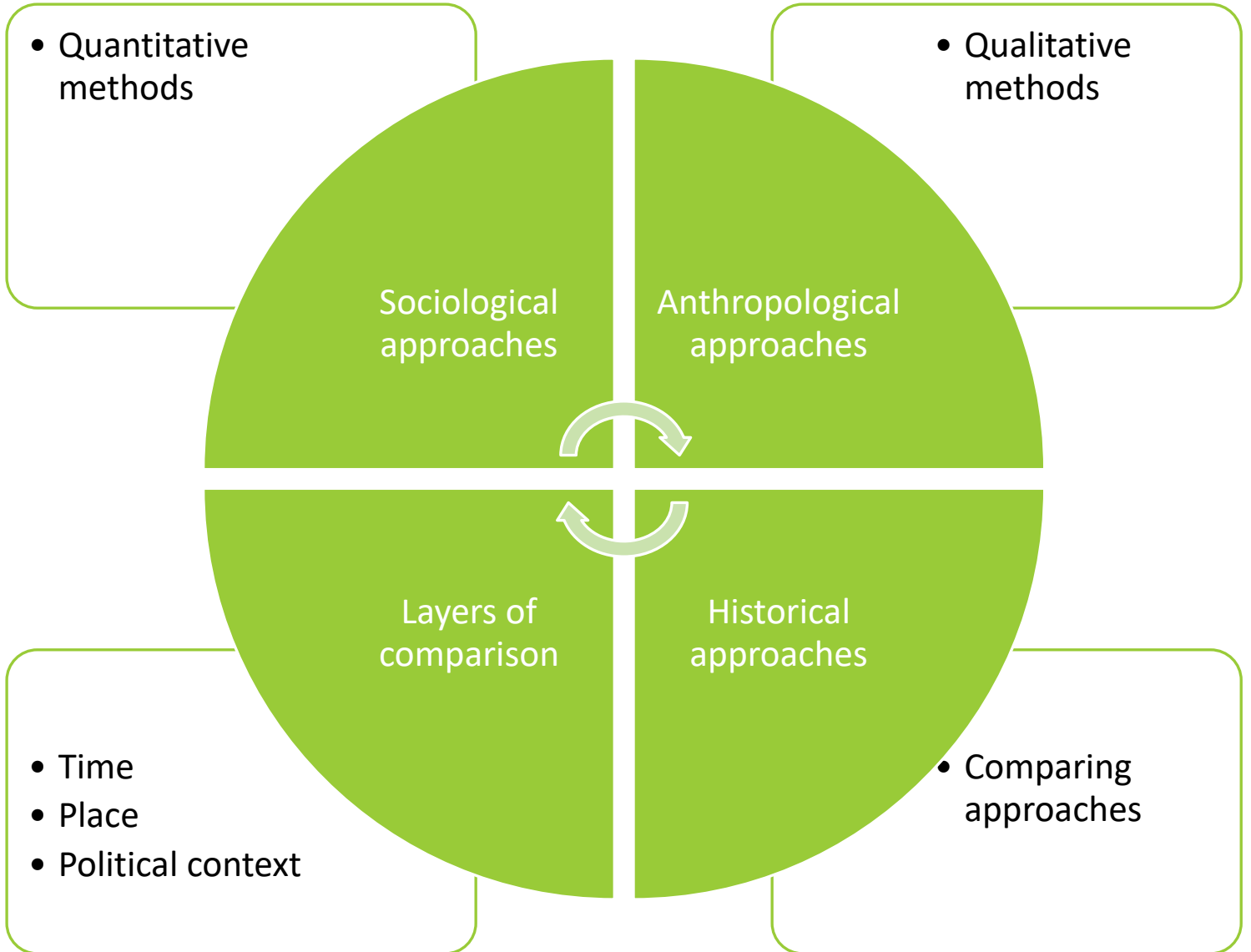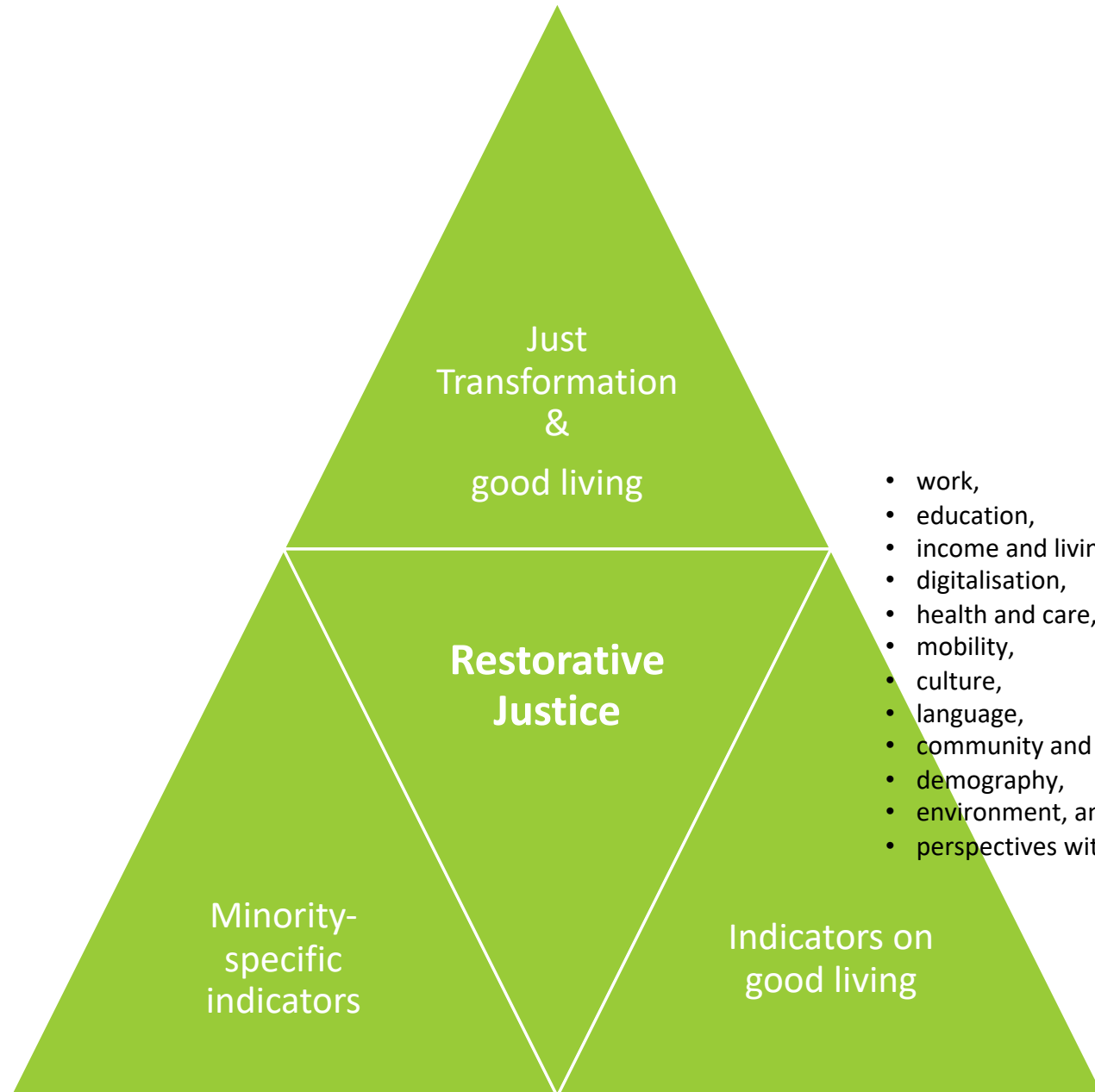|		
Oral history	Focus group interviews	Statistical analysis
surveys	Field research / site visits	Expert interviews
consultation	historical literature review & archival research	ethnographic videography & photography

How to access culture?

MACIA methods

- Quantitative methods

- Qualitative methods

Sociological approaches

Anthropological approaches

Layers of comparison

Historical approaches

- Time
- Place
- Political context

- Comparing approaches

How to access culture?

Some thoughts on indicators

Just
Transformation
&
good living

**Restorative
Justice**

Minority-
specific
indicators

Indicators on
good living

- work,
- education,
- income and living,
- digitalisation,
- health and care,
- mobility,
- culture,
- language,
- community and participation,
- demography,
- environment, and climate protection,
- perspectives within regional development

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.

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#iaia24

screening	• Establishing an advisory board consisting of 50 % local Sorbian stakeholders and public institutions • Terms of reference formulated by advisory board • Identification of possible conflicts of interest and ethic questions • Agreement on suiting form for knowledge transfer
description of the planned project and its alternatives	• conditions of the current environmental and regional planning • use of language or working language of the employer • involvement of the affected community • Cultural sensibility of the employer
baseline-study analysing the initial situation	• customs and traditions as well as other commemorative culture in the surrounding area • Associations • Informal community structures and events • Personnel continuities/discontinuities • Conventional land use • Field names, street names, place names • sites used for socio-cultural activities / land utilisation • Building methods • Language use • linguistic landscape • Local actors in the Sorbian cultural sector (economics, leisure) • Historical context • Political and social structures • Conditions of the respective environmental and regional planning • Education, school system and teaching practices
scoping-phase with the central assessment of identified impacts	
report	
decision-making based on the IA	
follow-up to ensure the realization of the IA results	Meta-evaluation via matching with terms of reference Evaluation through

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