

Planning for Mexico City: Pushing the Limits

**Global Integration is the only Path to National
Development**

An Airport is Essential to Global Integration

**We need a New Airport Near Mexico
City**

**Texcoco is the best location for
the airport**

All the options in the world

Texcoco is the best location for the airport

Critique

Alternatives

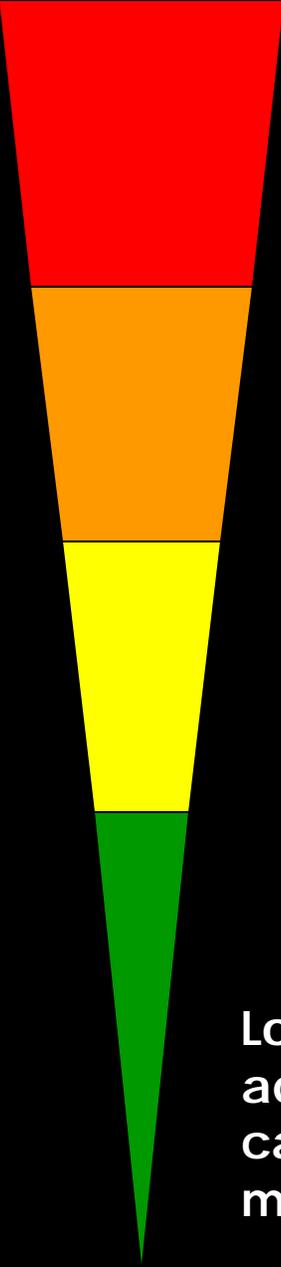
Farmers

No dialogue until dialogue was forced; distrust of government given track record.

Inclusion in a process that addresses power imbalance.

Insufficient resettlement options

Cernea's comprehensive resettlement model (IRR)



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Districto Federal

Layoff of 2200 airport employees, impact on local industries and 20,000+ other jobs, cost of new development.



Create incentives for commercial & residential investment at Benito Juarez to compensate for loss of jobs and tax base.

Environmental Groups

Loss of migratory bird habitat, aquifer contamination, loss of catchment/flood prevention mechanism.



Mitigation of impacts; balance environmental gains from Texcoco lake project with environmental losses from airport assuming they can coexist.



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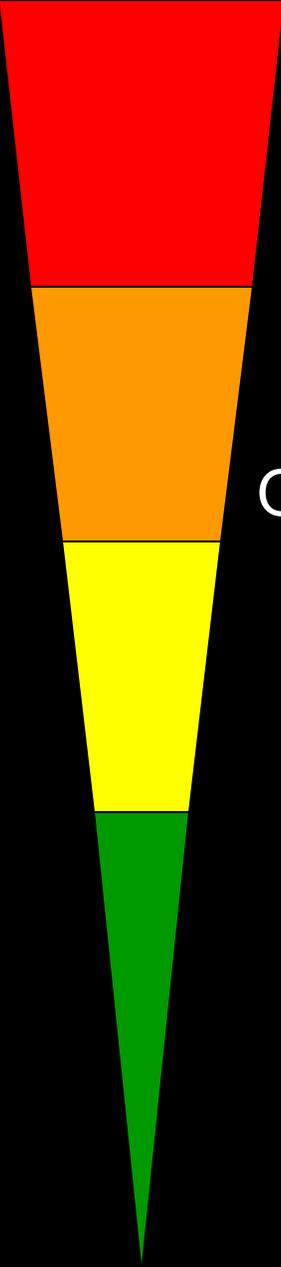
Reasons for
choice of location:

- Political
- Economic
- Technical????

Alternatives

Further study of
alternate options:

- expand Benito Juarez
- Hidalgo
- Network w/ Guadalajara
& Monterrey
- Network w/ Puebla,
Toluca, Cuernavaca



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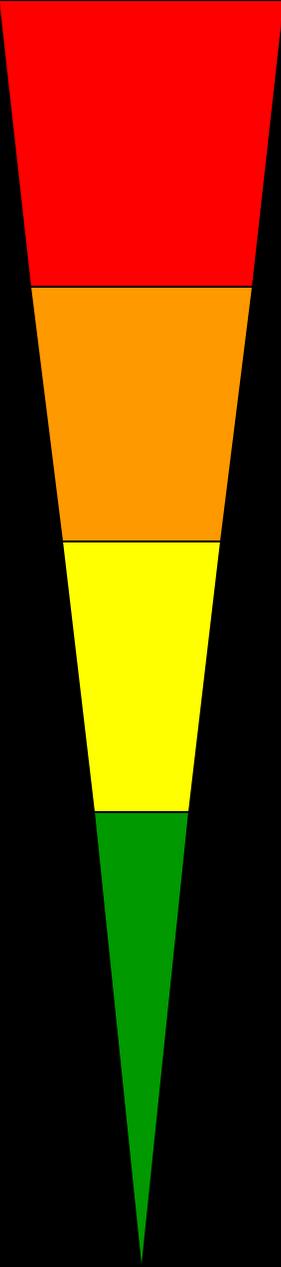
Questionable reasoning:

- Air traffic forecasts optimistic
- Assumed level of economic growth derived from new airport
- Hub creation intent not backed by airline commitments

Alternatives

Further study of:

- economic impact of new airport
- more sustainable development (expand local industries, organic farming etc.)



Global Integration is the only Path to National Development

Critique

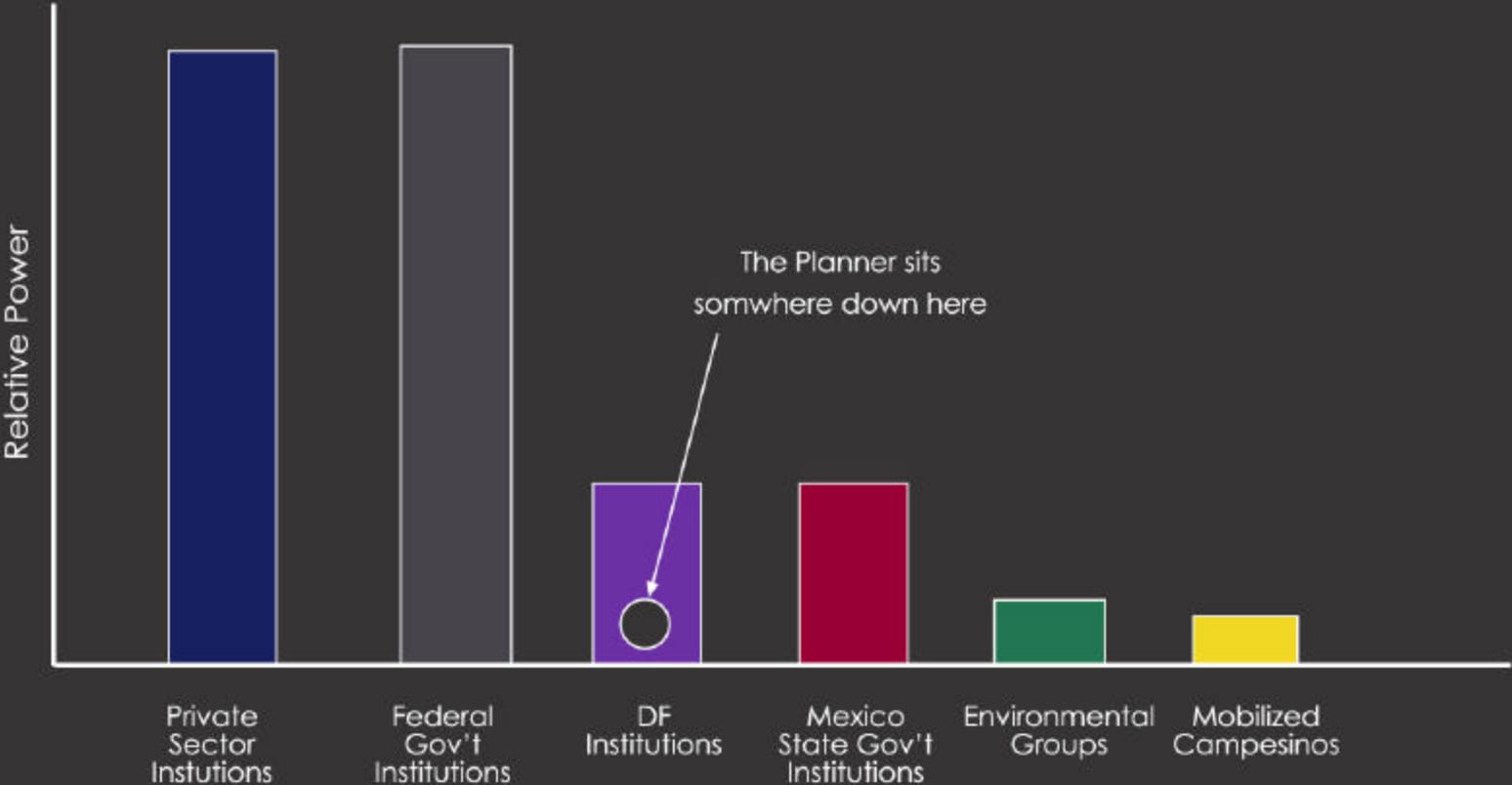
Global integration might raise country's GDP, but not everyone wins. Rich getting richer, poor getting poorer in most cases.

Alternatives

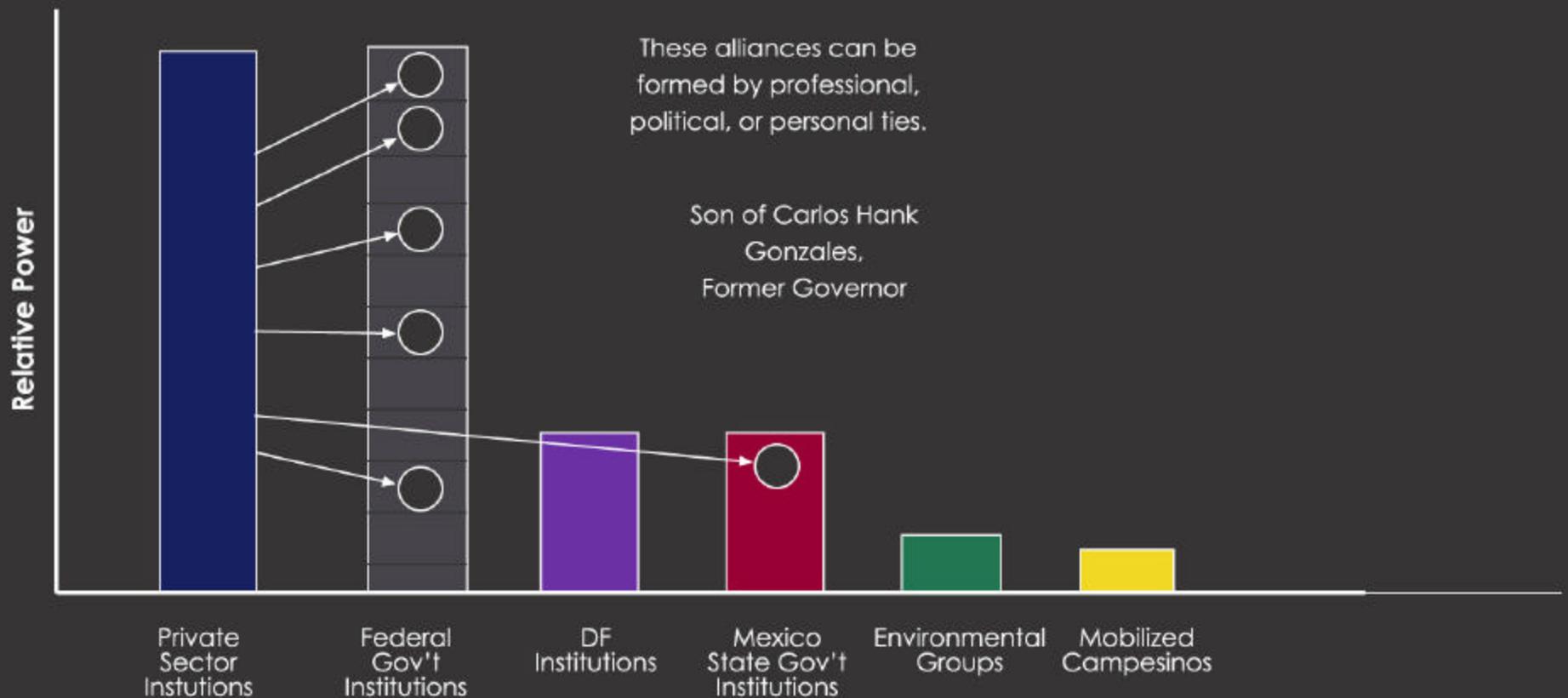
- promote domestic industries
- protect food security
- raise income levels of the poorest *in addition to* globalization efforts.

Conclusions

Each Institution has Different Levels of Power

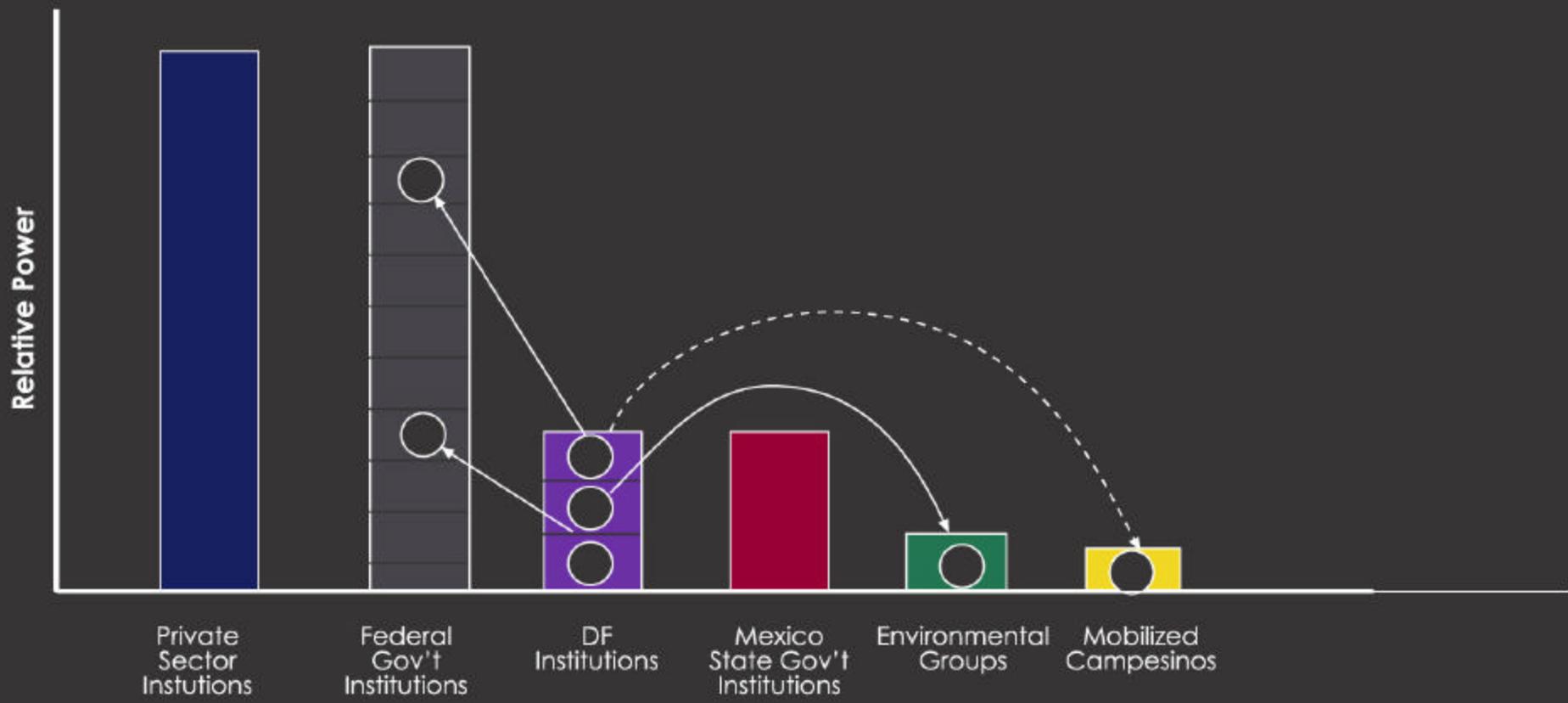


When individuals within institutions agree on a plan or process, they form an alliance. Alliances allow Institutions access to each others power.

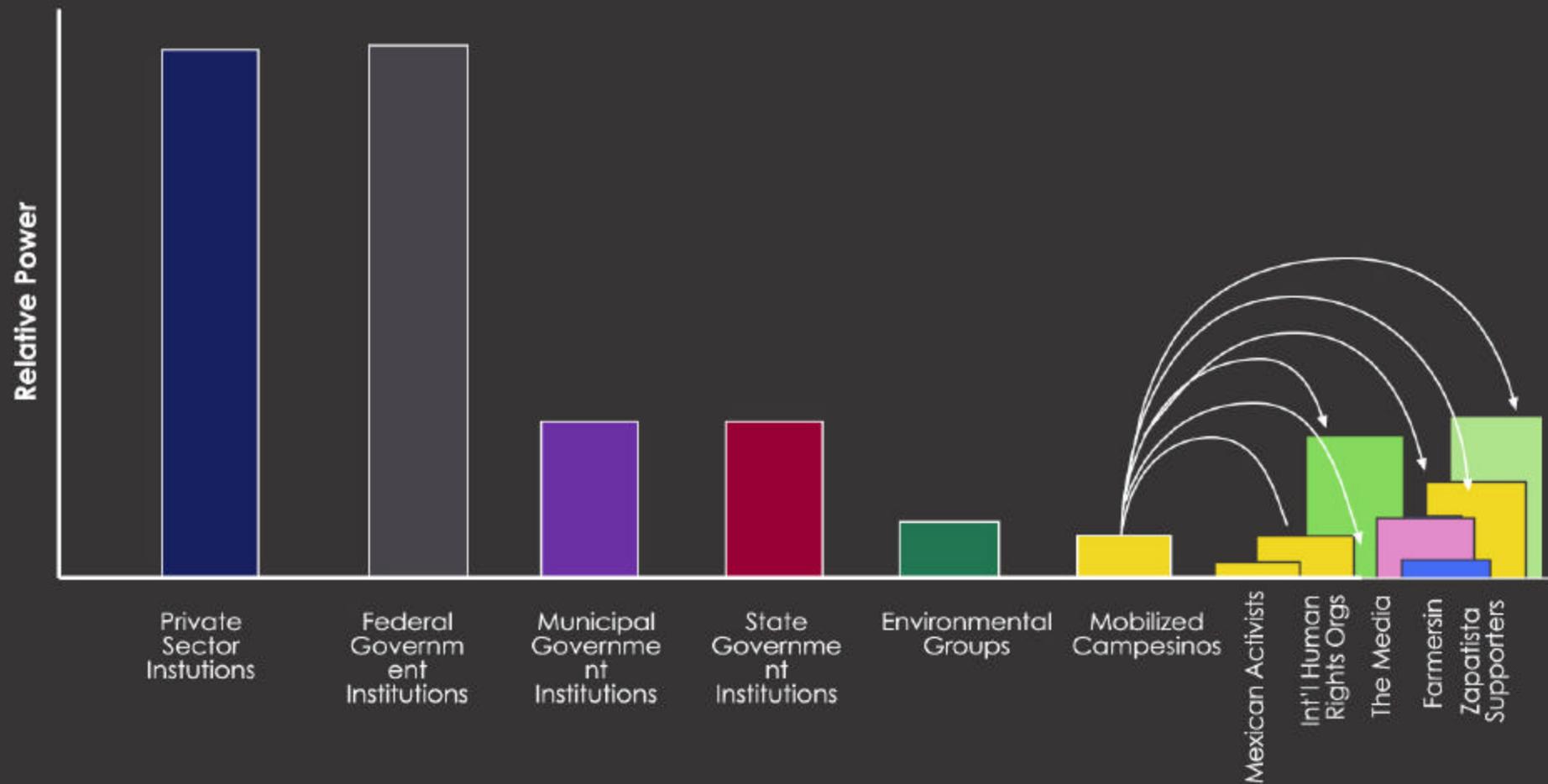


But Different Alliances are also built.

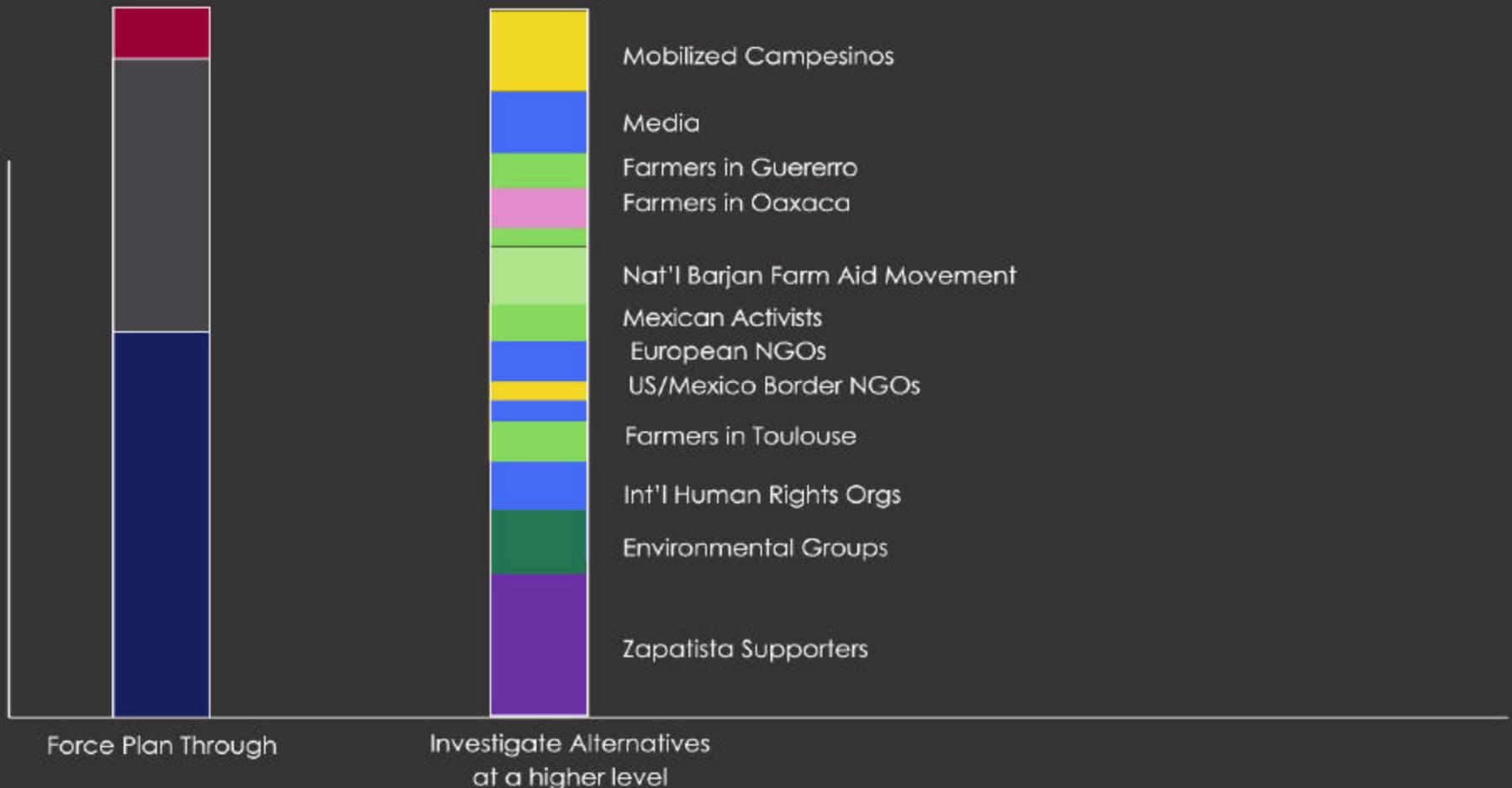
For example, Obredor, a Politician with presidential ambitions who was opposed to the plans, allied with the Compesinos and other constituencies in order to stop it in the interests of his city.

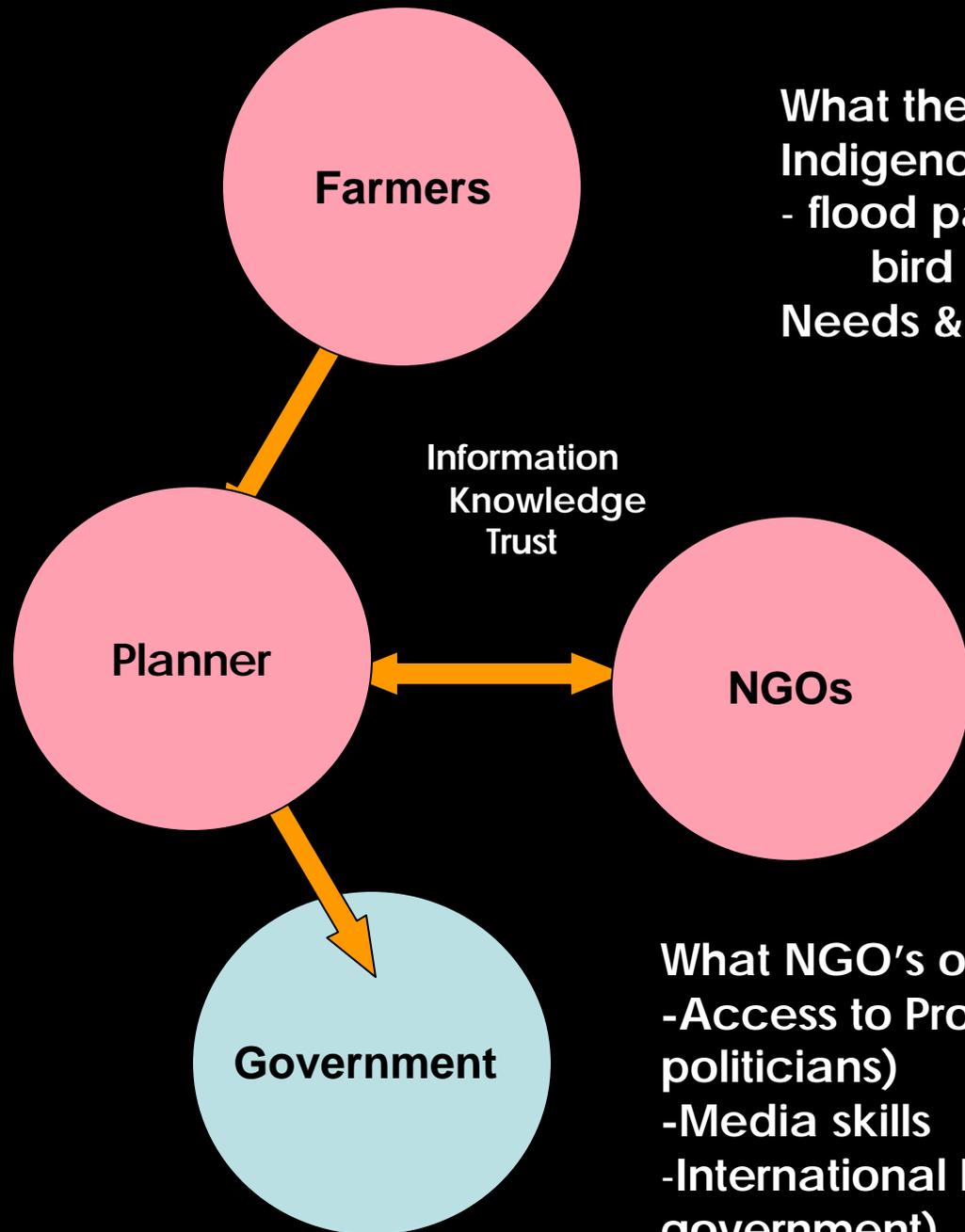


Increasingly, Civil Society Groups are getting better at enhancing their power through Media and forming Transnational Linkages with powerful groups abroad



When linked through alliances, the combined power of the groups who want the plan changed may “add up” to enough to challenge the power of those in support of the plan. Enough power can create additional demands for institutional reform, a change in the process, as well as the plan.

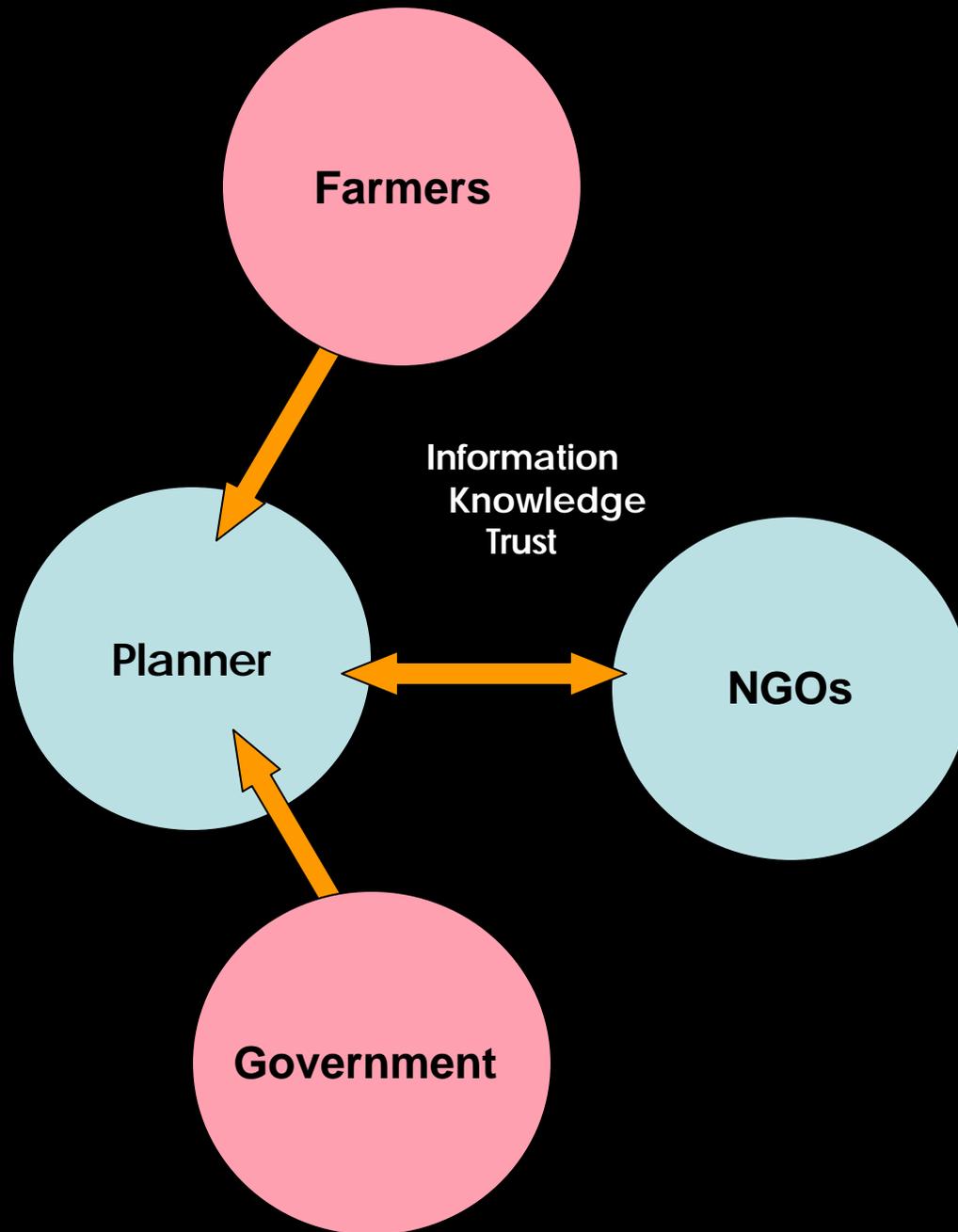




What the farmers offer:
Indigenous (technical) knowledge
- flood patterns, soil conditions
bird migrations, etc.
Needs & Values of stakeholders

What the Planner Offers:
Technical knowledge: details of plan --> Mobilization
Strategic pressure points:
Key meetings, key people
Access to decision makers
Specialized knowledge:
maps, reports, etc.

What NGO's offer:
-Access to Professional networks (lawyers/ politicians)
-Media skills
-International Pressure (including foreign government)



How to engage farmers:

- Asking permission: speak at community forums (consultas), attend social events, spend time
- Local media (radio, newspaper)
- Locate epicenters of social capital (churches, schools, art groups)

How to engage government:

- Create forum for increased cooperation among existing institutions
- Creation of new institutions (ex: MCMZ planning commission)
- It is in their best interest to engage social movements

"For struggling for a better world all of us are fenced in...
The fence is reproduced globally. But fences are broken.
The rebels search each other out. They walk toward one another.
They find each other and together break other fences.
In the countrysides and cities, in the states, in the nations,
on the continents, the rebels begin to recognize each other,
to know themselves as equals and different.
They continue on their fatiguing walk,
walking as it is now necessary to walk,
that is to say, struggling..."

- subcommandante marcos
chiapas, mexico