



RESEARCH CONTEXT

How **transparency in public spending and contracting** shapes trust in preventive public governance

Trust between public institutions and communities is essential for effective natural risk prevention, particularly in contexts of:

- ▶ High exposure to environmental hazards
- ▶ Increasing social sensitivity to public decision-making
- ▶ Complexity of risk governance frameworks

Legal and administrative frameworks examined include openness, traceability, and accountability in procurement related to:

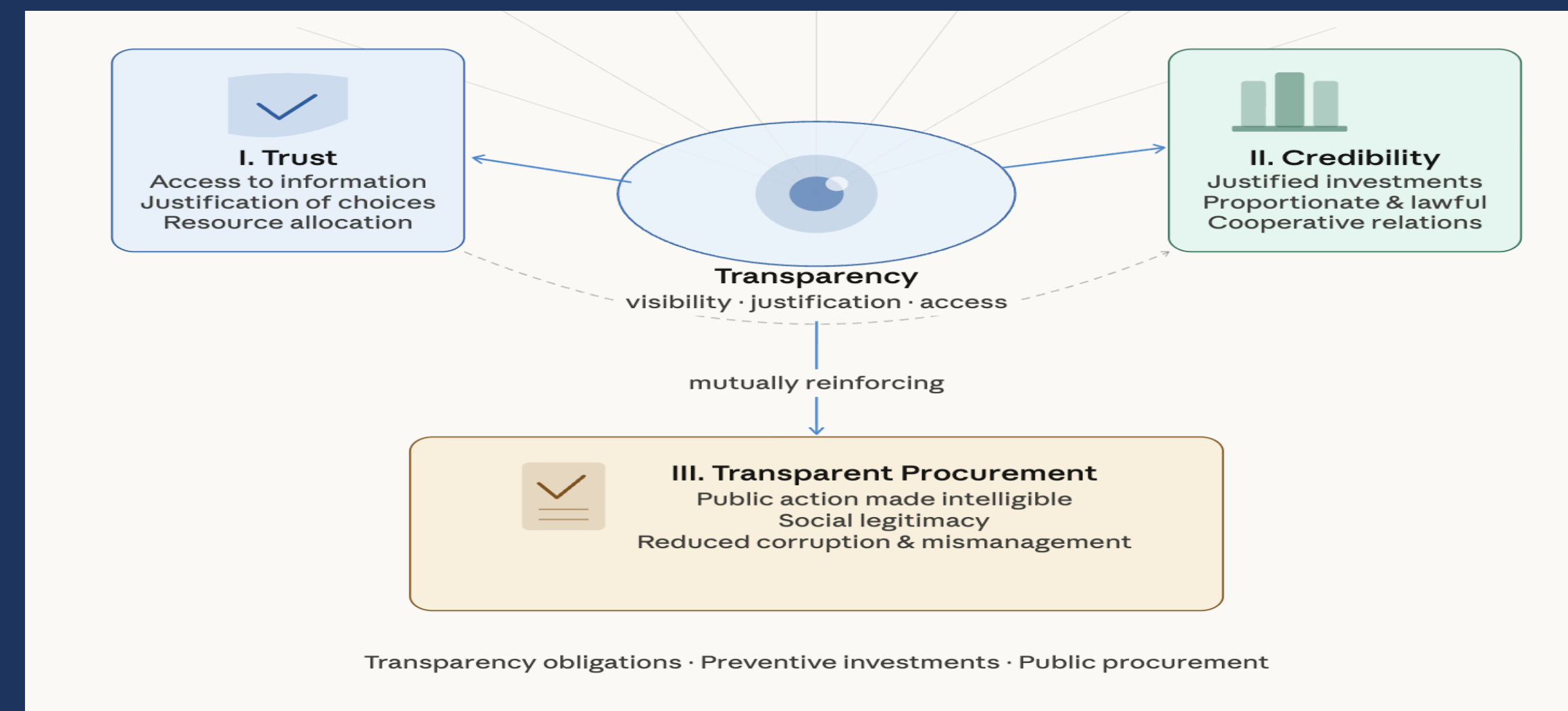
PREVENTION · MITIGATION · ADAPTATION

Three pillars of risk management

Prevention
Stop the risk before it happens
Proactive · upstream
Eliminate causes

Mitigation
Reduce severity and impact
Reactive · concurrent
Limit consequences

Adaptation
Adjust to new conditions
Long-term · forward
Build resilience



KEY FINDINGS

Three interconnected dimensions of legal transparency

I. TRANSPARENCY OBLIGATIONS SHAPE TRUST

Access to information, justification of choices, and clear allocation of financial resources are crucial, especially in the **preventive phase**, where benefits are indirect, delayed, or not immediately visible.

Absence of transparency fosters mistrust, resistance and social conflict.

II. PREVENTIVE INVESTMENTS STRENGTHEN CREDIBILITY

When clearly justified, proportionate, and legally sound, investments strengthen institutional credibility and enhance cooperative relationships.

III. TRANSPARENT PROCUREMENT AS COMMUNICATION

Transparent procedures make public action **intelligible** and **socially legitimate**, reducing corruption and mismanagement risk.

CONCLUSIONS

Transparency as a Preventive Governance Tool

Transparency is a preventive governance tool integrating legal guarantees with participatory practices into a relational process grounded in trust.

LEGAL DIMENSION

Formal transparency obligations — traceability, openness, accountability — provide the **structural foundation** for legitimate preventive action and reduce institutional risk of mismanagement.

RELATIONAL DIMENSION

Beyond compliance, transparency as a **communicative act** that builds capital, sustains community embeds trust as a resource for long-disaster prevention governance.

