LIVING LAB OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

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FUTURE EARTH FINLAND

National Committee for Global Change Research

www.futureearthfinland.fi

OUTLINE

Our pilot

Answers to session questions

Lessons learned

IMPROVING UTILISATION OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

Factors improving usability: **long-term** and **trust-building relationships** between producers and users of scientific knowledge

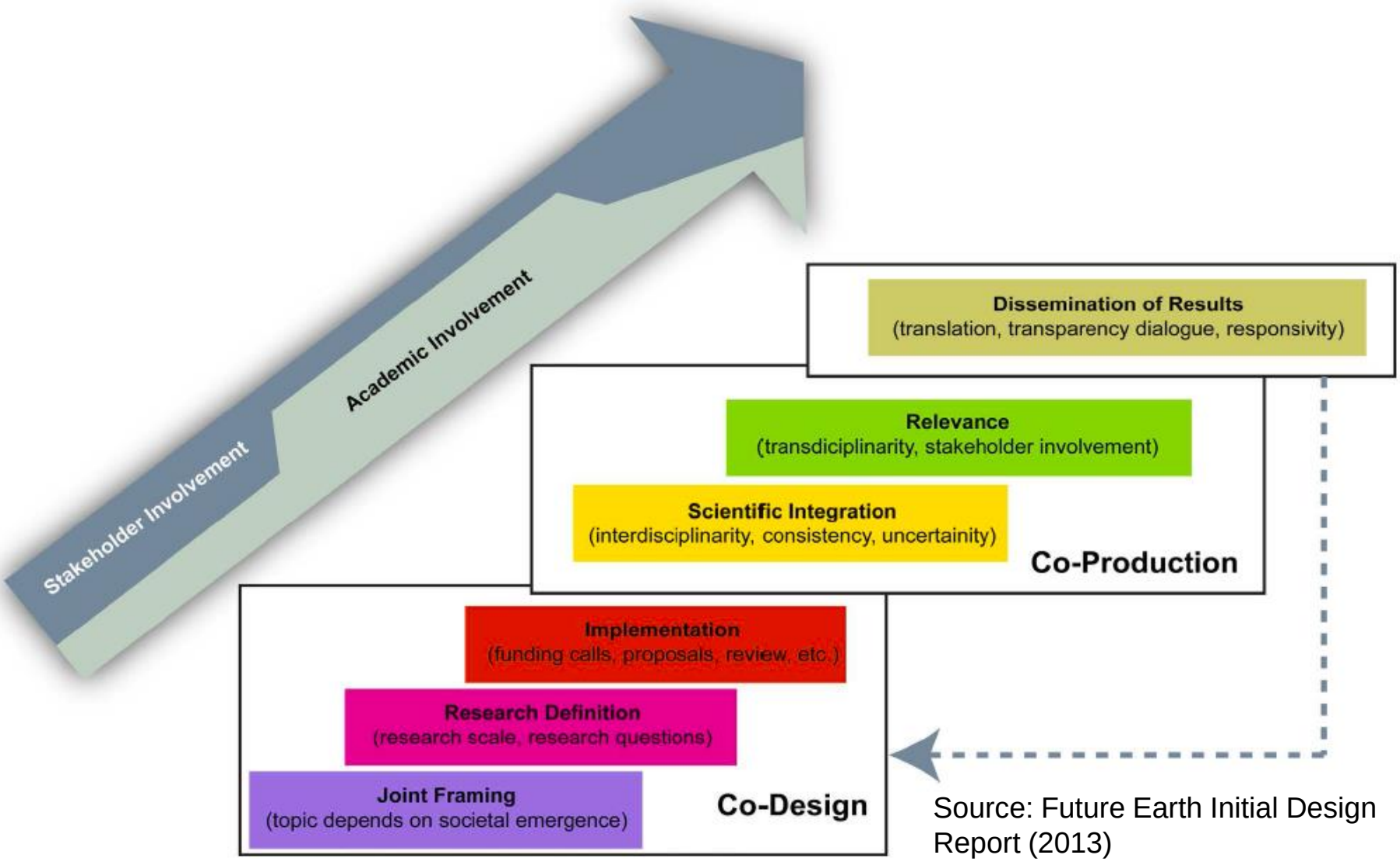
Boundary organisations like Future Earth can help.

Co-designing and **co-producing** research

- Ideally: **identifying research questions** together with the users of the knowledge
- At minimum: **designing end-products** together with the users. At any point of the project but the earlier, the better
- An opportunity for scientists to become visible in society and to influence societal development by ensuring the **scientific excellence** of research questions
- Co-design **is not synonymous to purely user-driven, commissioned research**! Researchers bring to the discussion wider perspectives, different time scales, and information about the background and interconnectivity of problems.

STAKEHOLDERS: Policy and decision makers and planners on government and city level, citizens, NGOs, private sector, media

”CO-DESIGN” OF RESEARCH

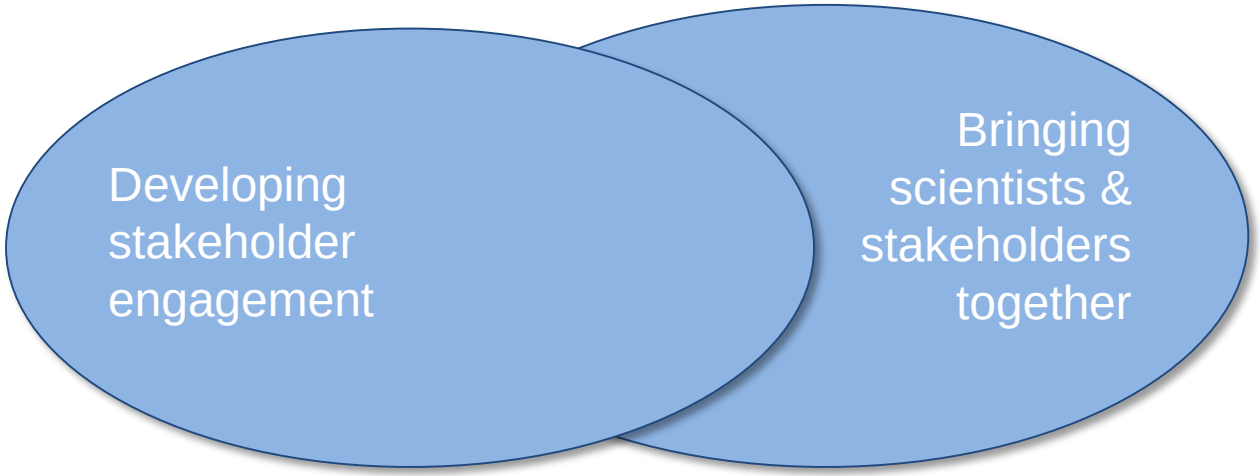


Source: Future Earth Initial Design Report (2013)

FINNISH LIVING LAB NETWORK OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

– STRATEGIES FOR BETTER USABILITY OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

Living lab service developers



Living lab service customers

FINNISH LIVING LAB NETWORK OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

– STRATEGIES FOR BETTER USABILITY OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

Living lab service developers

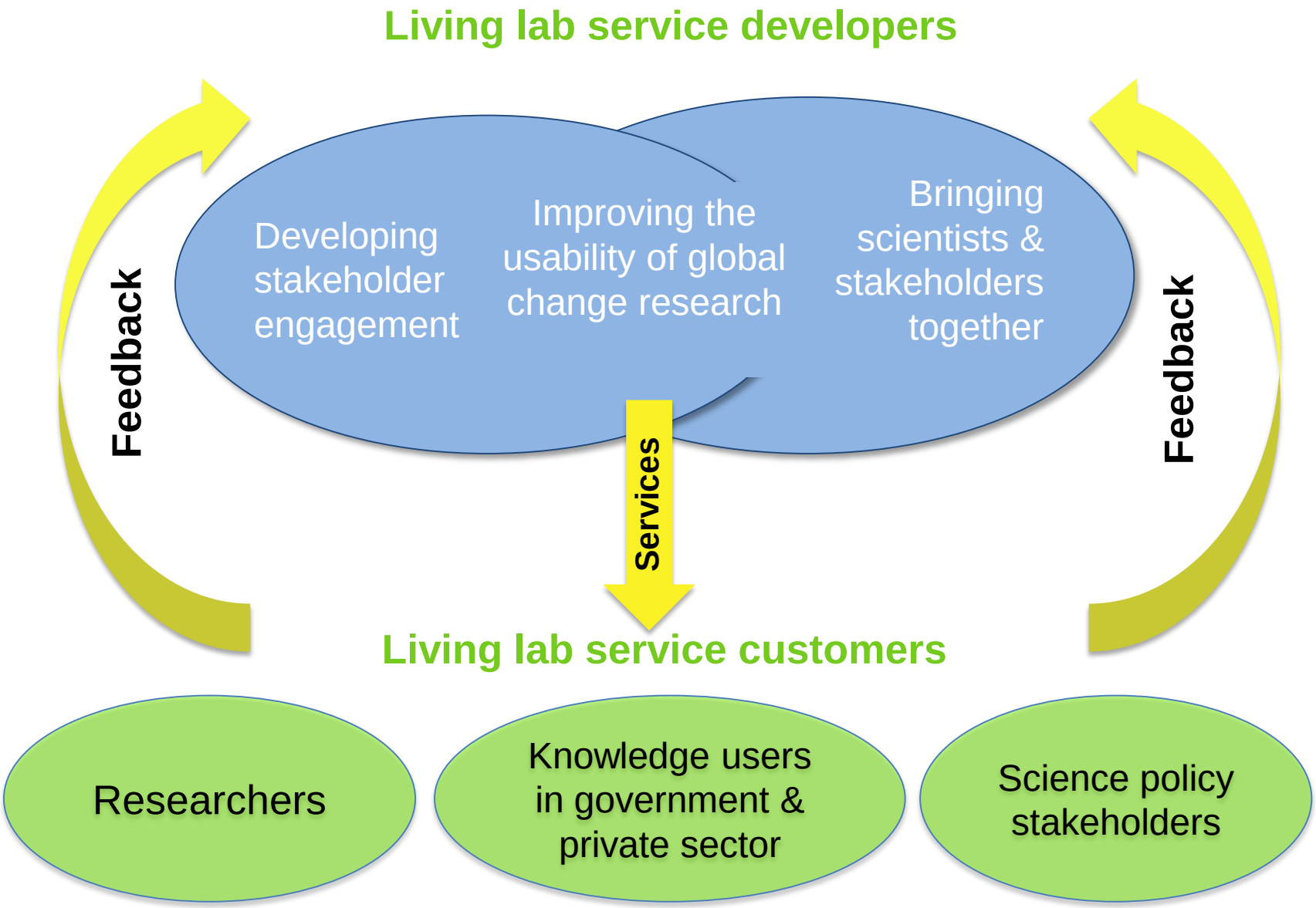
Services

Living lab service customers

- Researchers
- Knowledge users in government & private sector
- Science policy stakeholders

FINNISH LIVING LAB NETWORK OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

– STRATEGIES FOR BETTER USABILITY OF GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH



EVOLUTION OF OUR LIVING LAB SERVICES

Mixing events
+ **information**
on co-design

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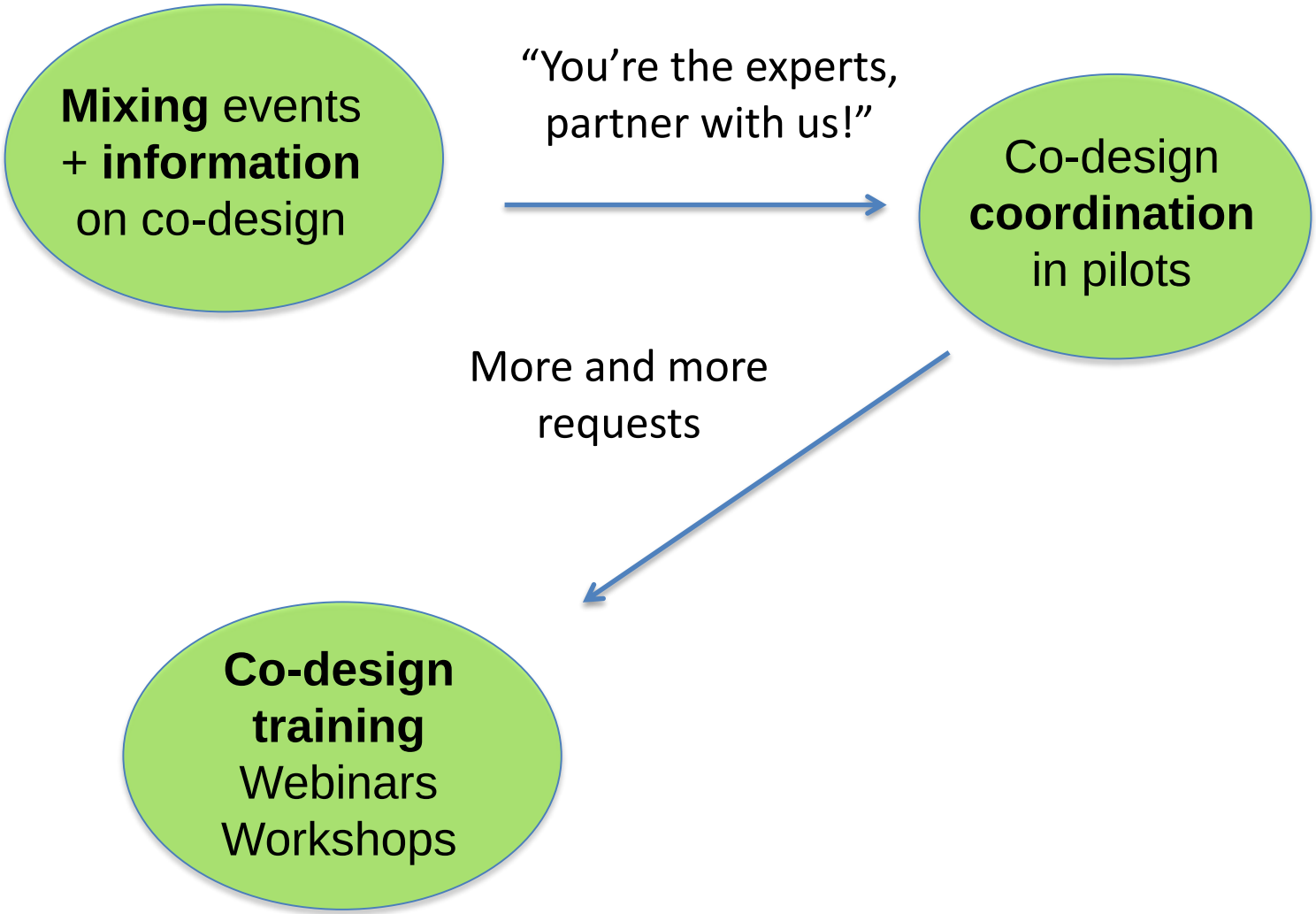
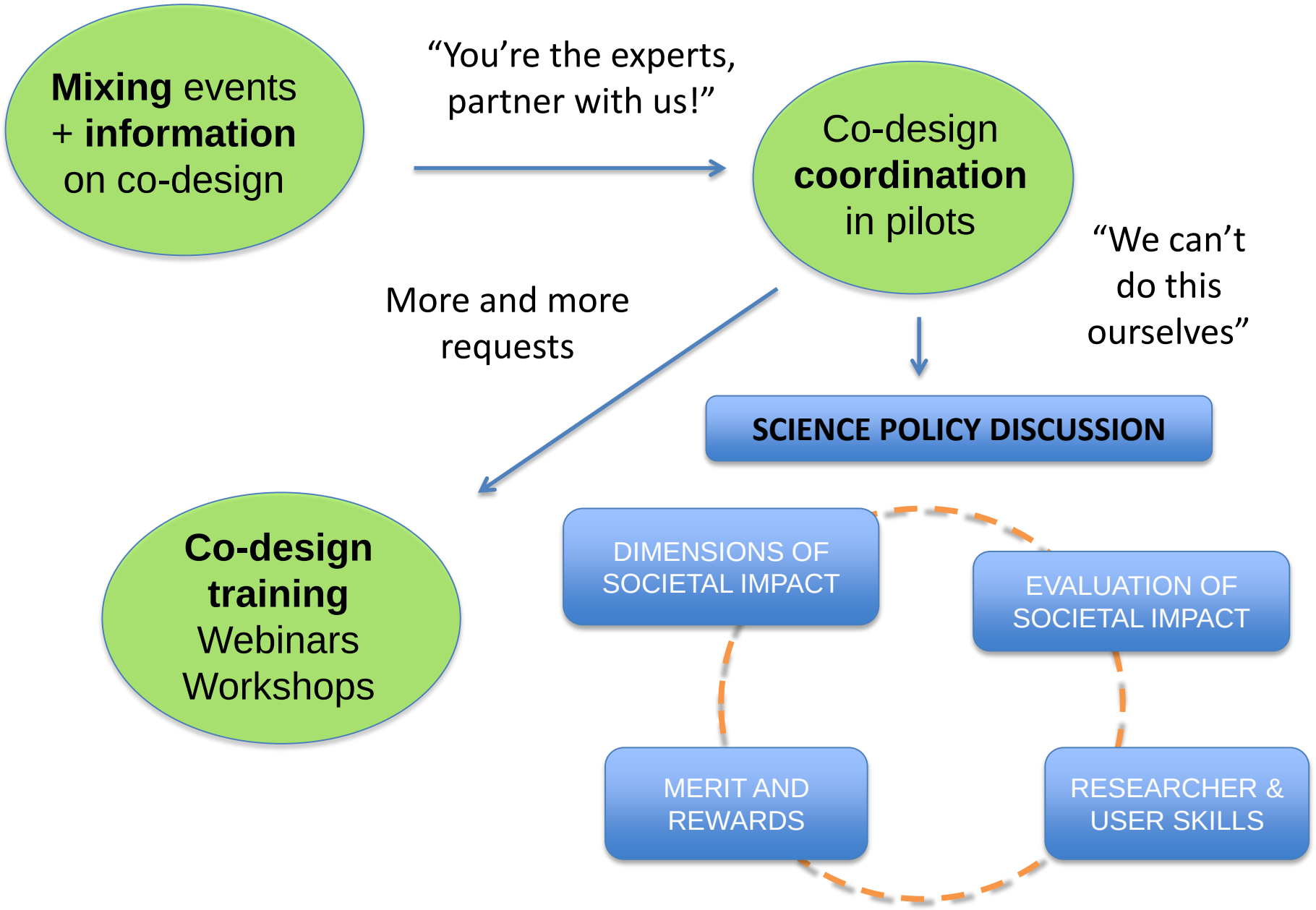
"You're the experts,
partner with us!"

Co-design
coordination
in pilots

EVOLUTION OF OUR LIVING LAB SERVICES



EVOLUTION OF OUR LIVING LAB SERVICES



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ANSWERS TO SESSION QUESTIONS 1/4

What kinds of PE innovations are needed to support responsible research and innovation activity in the EU?

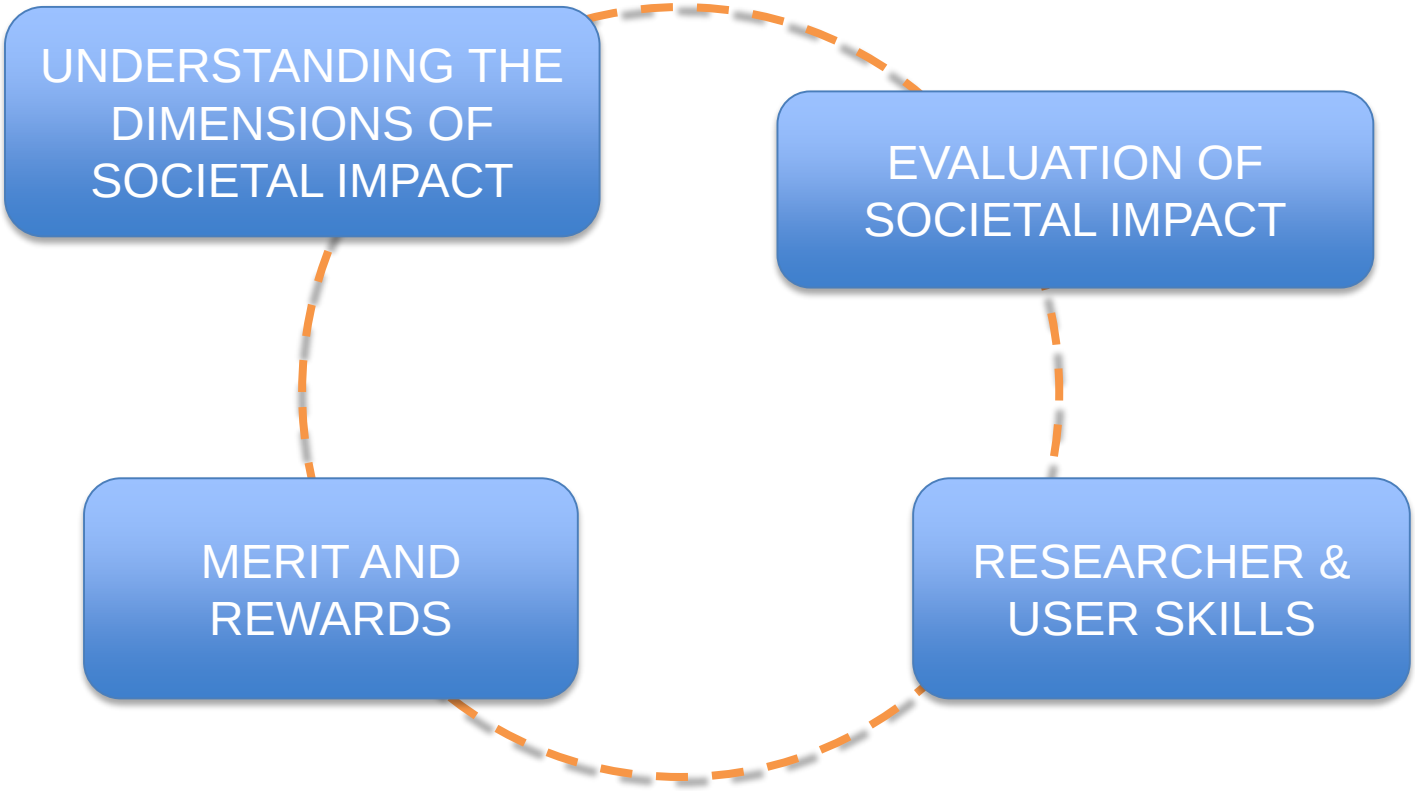
- **Innovative co-creation platforms** across disciplinary and societal borders on national and international scale (Aalto Energy Platform, Ministry of Education researcher meetings, Future Earth)

- **Innovative reward and merit structures** for scientists – RRI must be rewarding and give academic merit!

ANSWERS TO SESSION QUESTIONS 2/4

How to **ensure effective societal engagement** in the design and implementation of new research projects and programmes?

- **Co-design** and **co-production of research** – for this we need to address



ANSWERS TO SESSION QUESTIONS 3/4

How to **develop capacities** and improve the **incentives of research agencies** to advance PE?

- **SCIENCE POLICY**: Universities & ministries in key position – if state funding rewarded for societal impact -> **education modules** on societally impactful research.
- **BOUNDARY ORGANISATIONS** between science and society - **platforms for science-policy discussion** providing models and benchmarking with successful examples (Future Earth)
- **TRAINING** of co-design & co-production and other transdisciplinary methods on national & regional & international level.
- **FUNDING INSTRUMENTS:** H2020 already lots of co-design and stakeholder involvement, what about national funders?

ANSWERS TO SESSION QUESTIONS 4/4

What is our **vision of PE** for European research and innovation activities **for the year 2026?**

- Majority of universities offer **comprehensive training for students in TD and get rewarded for impactful research**
- **Sufficient national and international funding** available providing for extra costs and resources for stakeholder involvement and co-creation
- **Innovative co-creation platforms** exist on national and European scale where researchers and societal stakeholders can meet and co-design research questions
- **Boundary organisations** like Future Earth known and useful on national and international scale, offering support, advice, networks and training

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LESSONS LEARNED

What worked well/ poorly in the PE pilot?

- Neutrality – boundary organisation not under any ministry/university is easy to trust

What was achieved?

- A lot of **awareness** of and **interest for co-design and co-production** as a method ensuring societal impact.

- Future Earth Finland quickly became known as **a source of reliable information and service** on this – services evolved in the living lab setting

- **A clear understanding of the key issues** standing in the way of better usability of research

  -> a visible and trusted role as **an agenda-free, safe space for science-policy discussions** with researchers and users of scientific knowledge.

LESSONS LEARNED

What should be taken into account in the planning and organizing of this kind of PE/ pilot activities?

- **Networking is key.** Work with established organisations and co-organise many events – that way you gain more audiences and build trust and legitimacy.
- **LOTS of leg work**. Finding the interested people in different organisations (ministries, funding agencies, universities). They do exist!

How did collaboration between different actors work during the pilots?

- With careful pre-planning and co-designing of the events, well!
- Facilitation methods are important: all views must be heard and valued equally

FUTURE EARTH FINLAND

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FROM COLLABORATION WITH USERS AND PRODUCERS OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

THANK YOU!

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