

Do Existing Logic Models for Science and Technology Development Programs Build a Theory of Change?

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Program Theory and Theory of Change

- Program theory is a theory or model that describes the underlying assumptions about how a program is expected to work; how the program causes the intended or observed outcomes.
- A theory of change is both a program theory and an implementation theory -- the expected steps in the implementation of the program, an explanation for why program customers will follow through after the program so that outcomes not totally under the program's control will be achieved. (Weiss)

Why do we care?

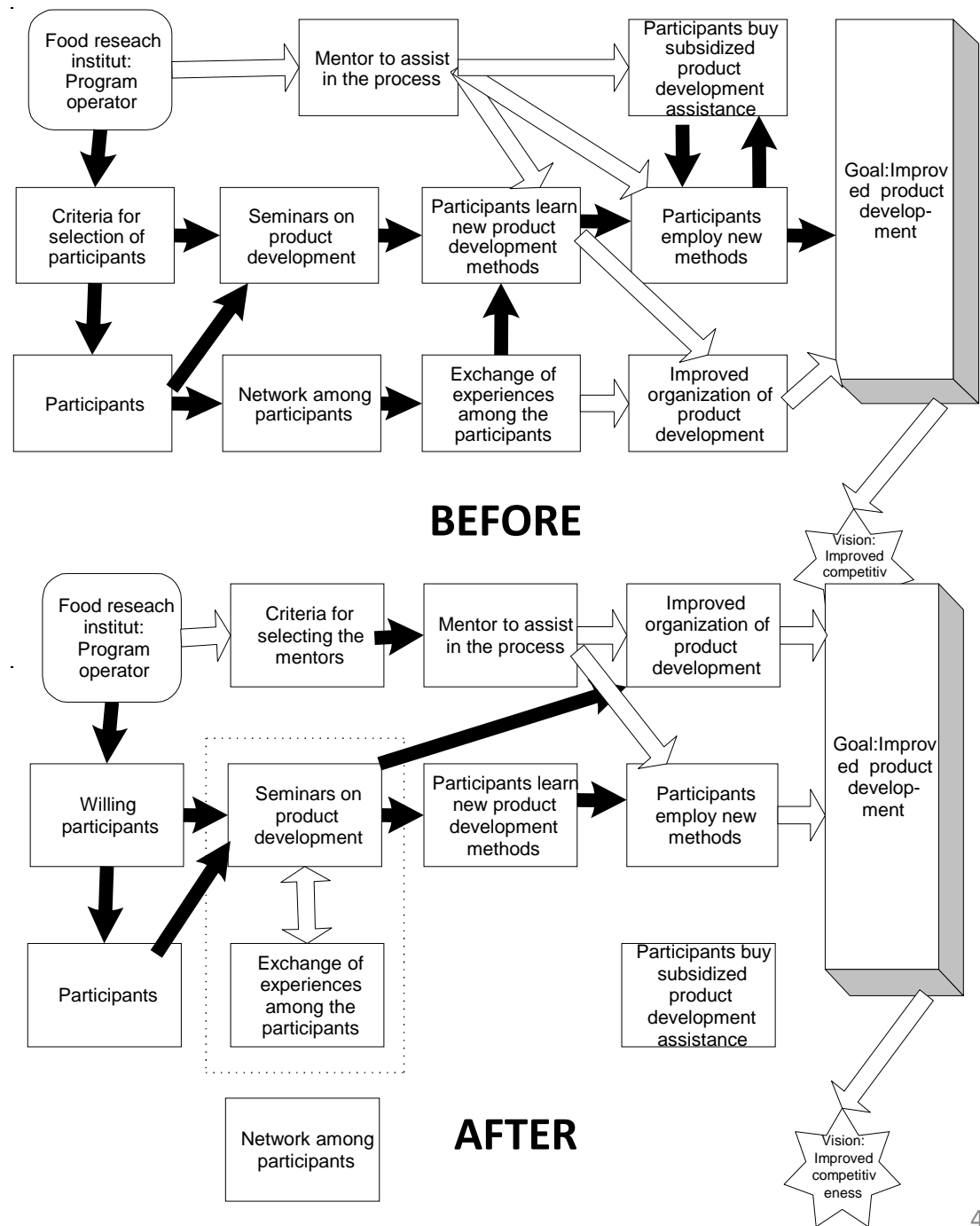
- program improvement**
- evaluation synthesis**
- attribution**



Strong linkage

The logic model and the program can be revised to reflect new information.

Source: Torvatn, 1999



A Matrix for Assessing Attribution

Categories of Information Needed for Additionality Assessment	Technology Timeline (Stage of Research, Development, and Commercialization)→					
	Preliminary & detailed investigation	Develop components	Develop system	Validate/ demonstrate	Commer- cialize	Market Adoption
History of the technology						
What DOE Did						
What Others Did — Private Sector						
What Others Did - Governments						
The DOE Effect, Influence						

What's the challenge?

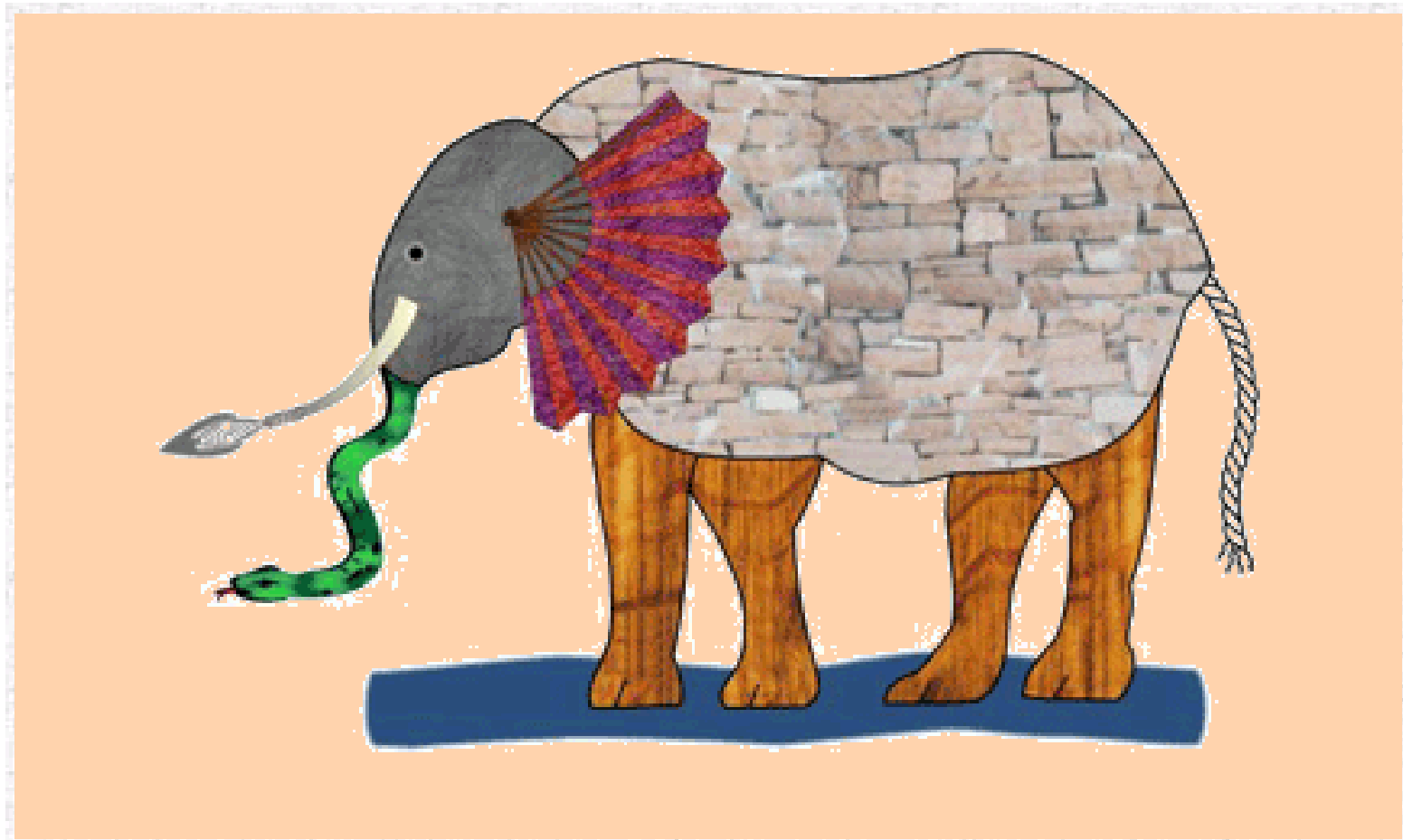
- complex emergent system**
 - not well studied**
- missing magic in the middle**

A system is made up of:

- Components (operating parts)
 - Actors
 - Institutions
 - Infrastructure
 - Actions, Interactions (networking)
 - Relationships (links between components)
 - Attributes (properties of the System's dimensions)
-
- The diagram illustrates the components of a system. A large blue oval encloses the internal elements: Actors, Institutions, Infrastructure, and Actions, Interactions (networking). Three arrows originate from the text 'Components (operating parts)' and point to the first three items inside the oval. Another arrow points from 'Relationships (links between components)' to the 'Actions, Interactions (networking)' item. A final arrow points from 'Attributes (properties of the System's dimensions)' to the bottom edge of the blue oval.

Source: Carlsson et al., 2002
Anna J. Wieczorek, Utrecht University

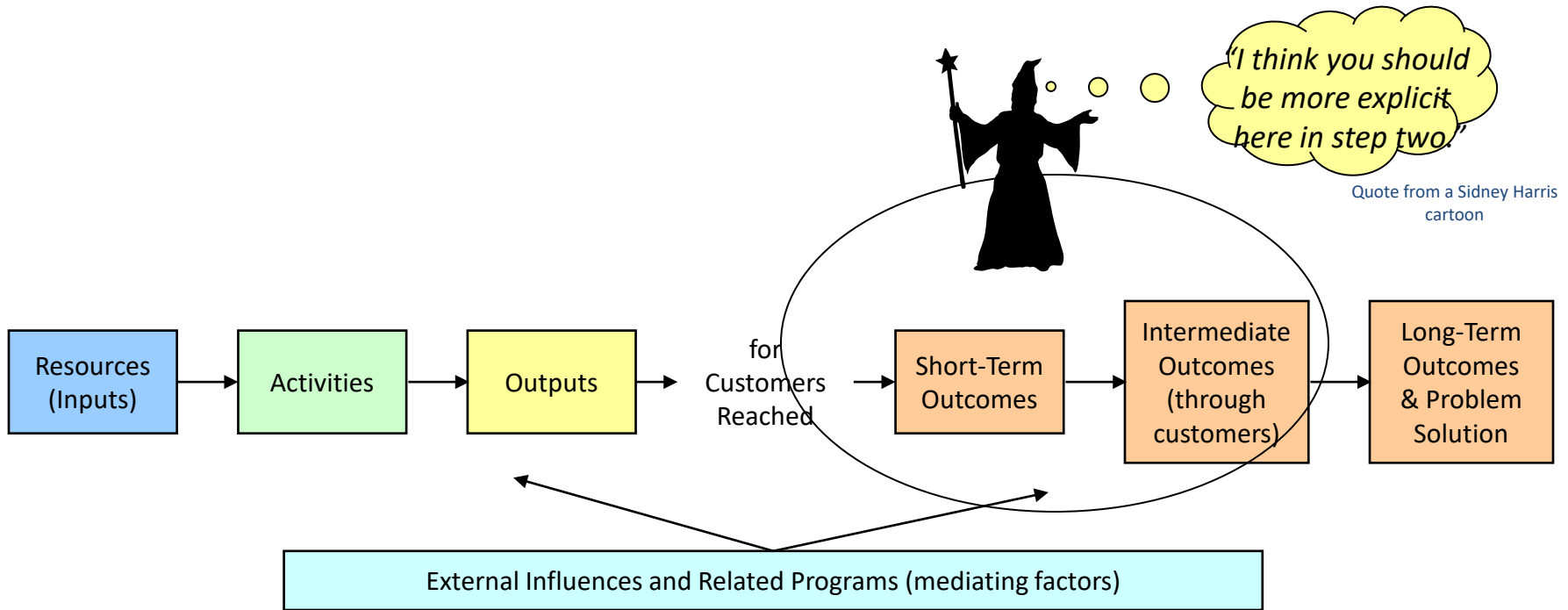
Parts are studied and understood better than the whole!



Source: Bhavya Lal, STPI, at AEA 2006

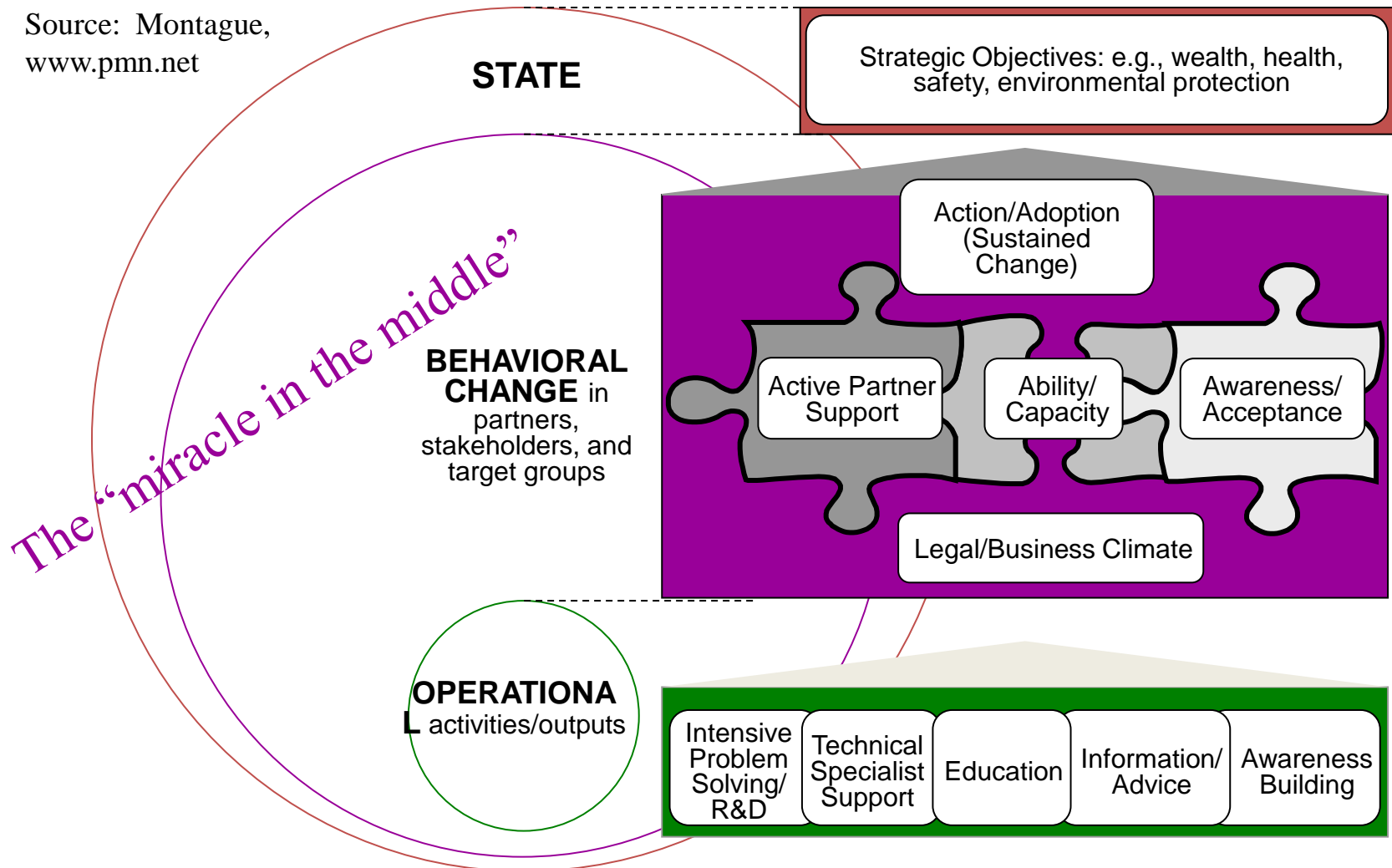
<http://www.cs.unibo.it/schools/AC2005/docs/Bertinoro.ppt#266,11>, *The Blind Men and the Elephant*

Frequently the “theory of change” associated with a program is not explicit

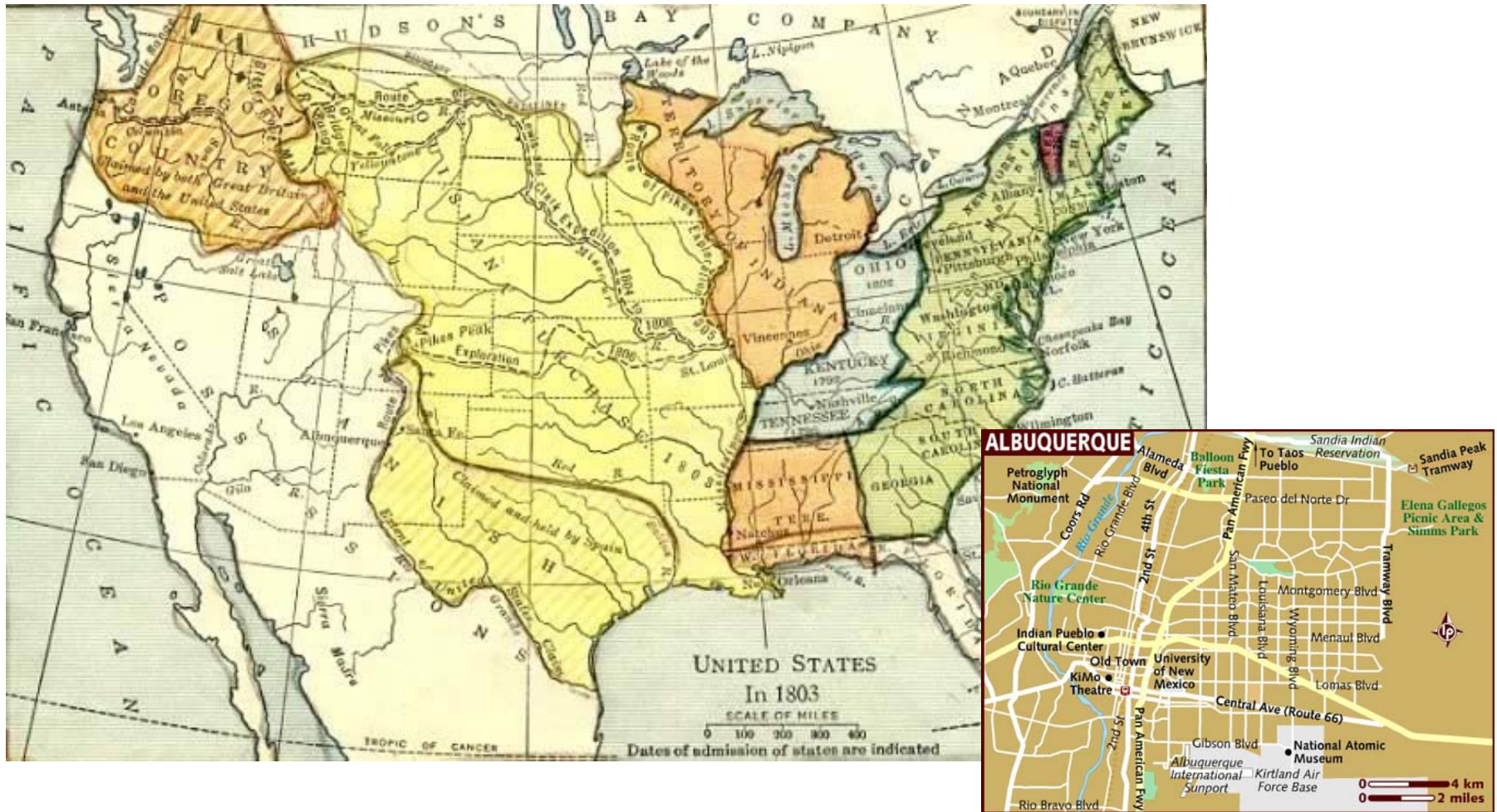


The hard part: intermediate outcomes

Source: Montague,
www.pmn.net



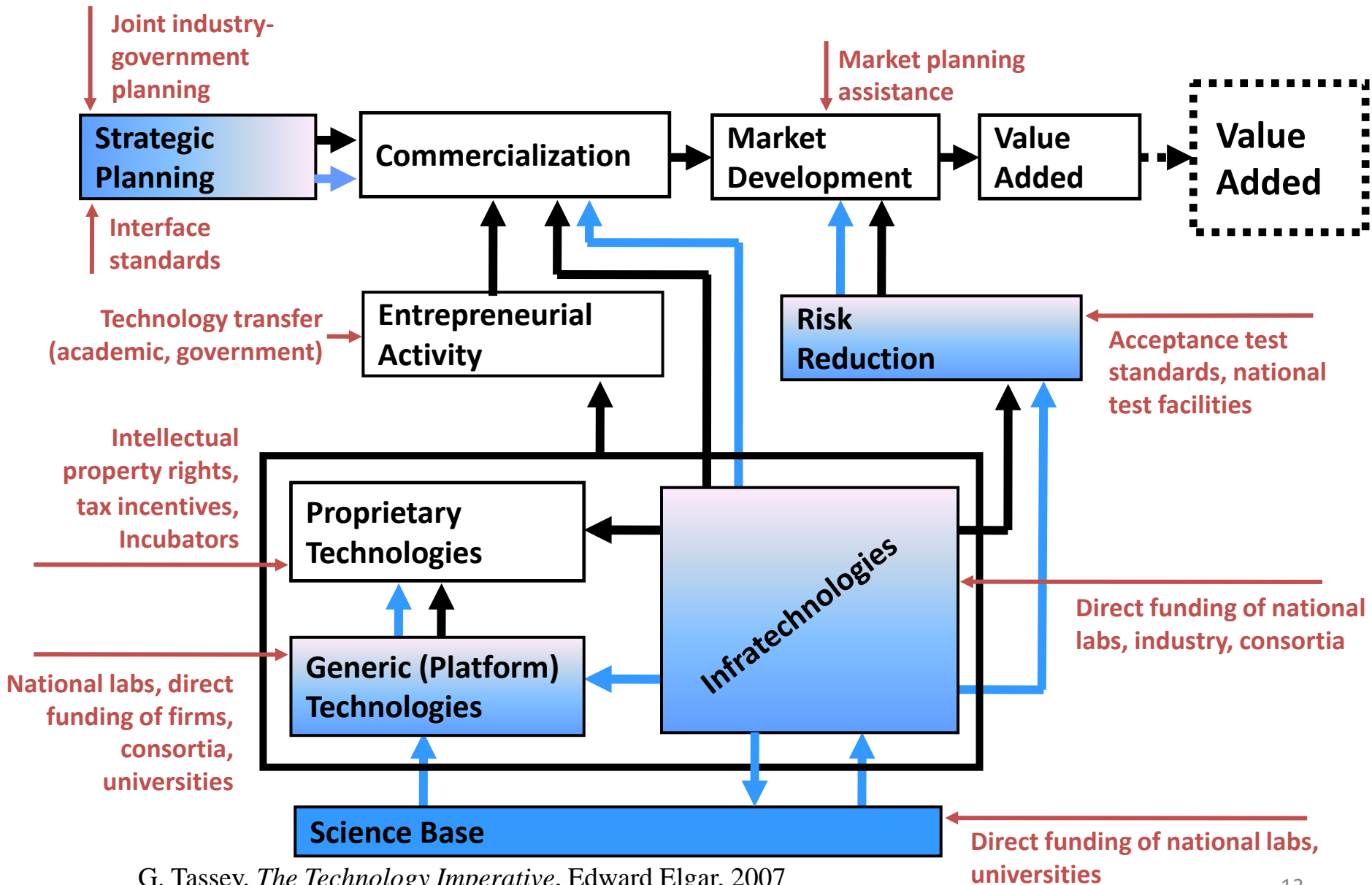
Different views: 30,000 feet vs. on the ground; new territory vs. settled; many years vs. election cycle



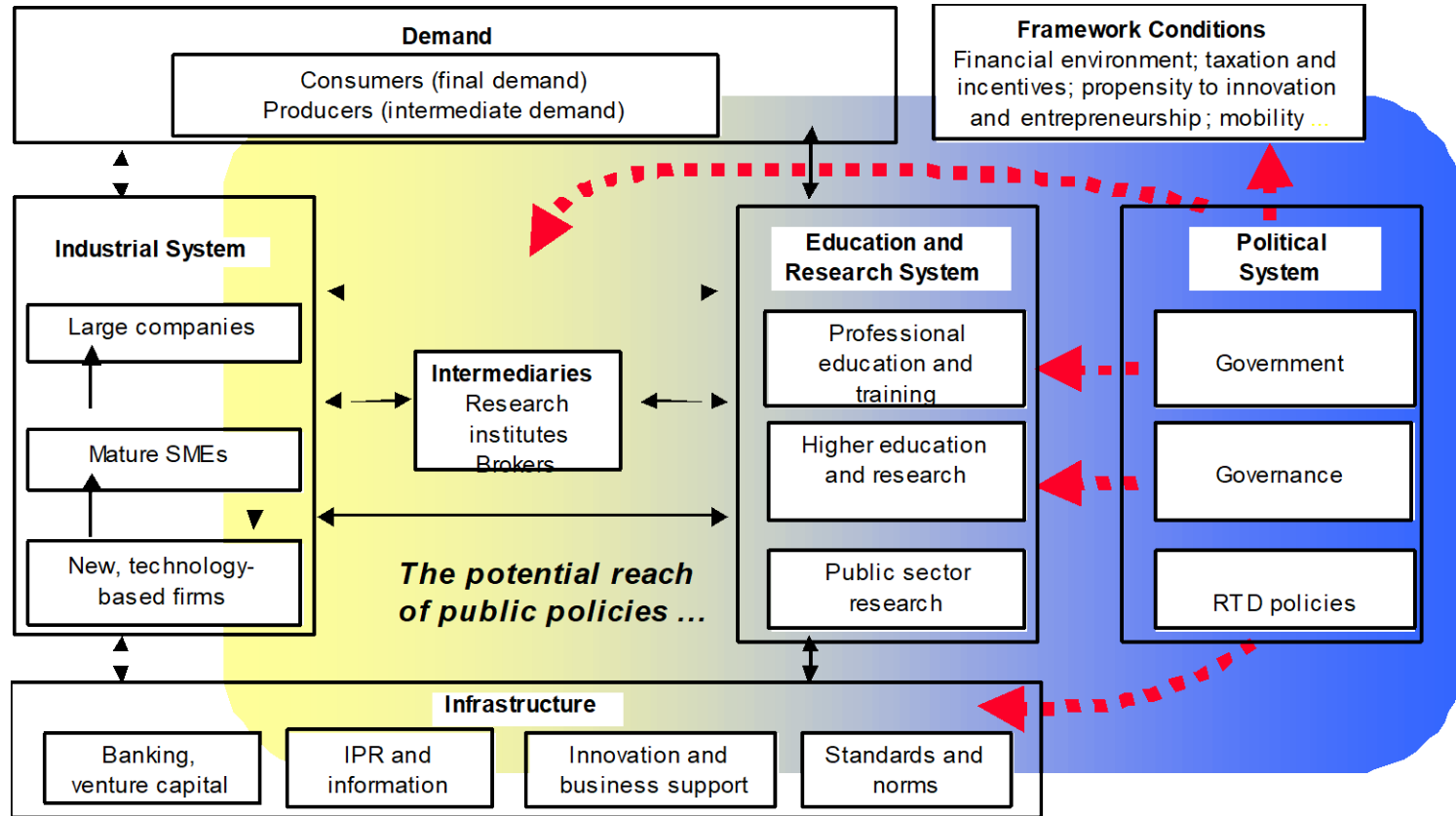
Components and Relationships

- **science, technology, entrepreneurial activity**
 - **actors, institutions**
- arenas of RTD, market domains**
- **input-output-outcome format**

Steps in the RTD Policy to Value Added Life Cycle

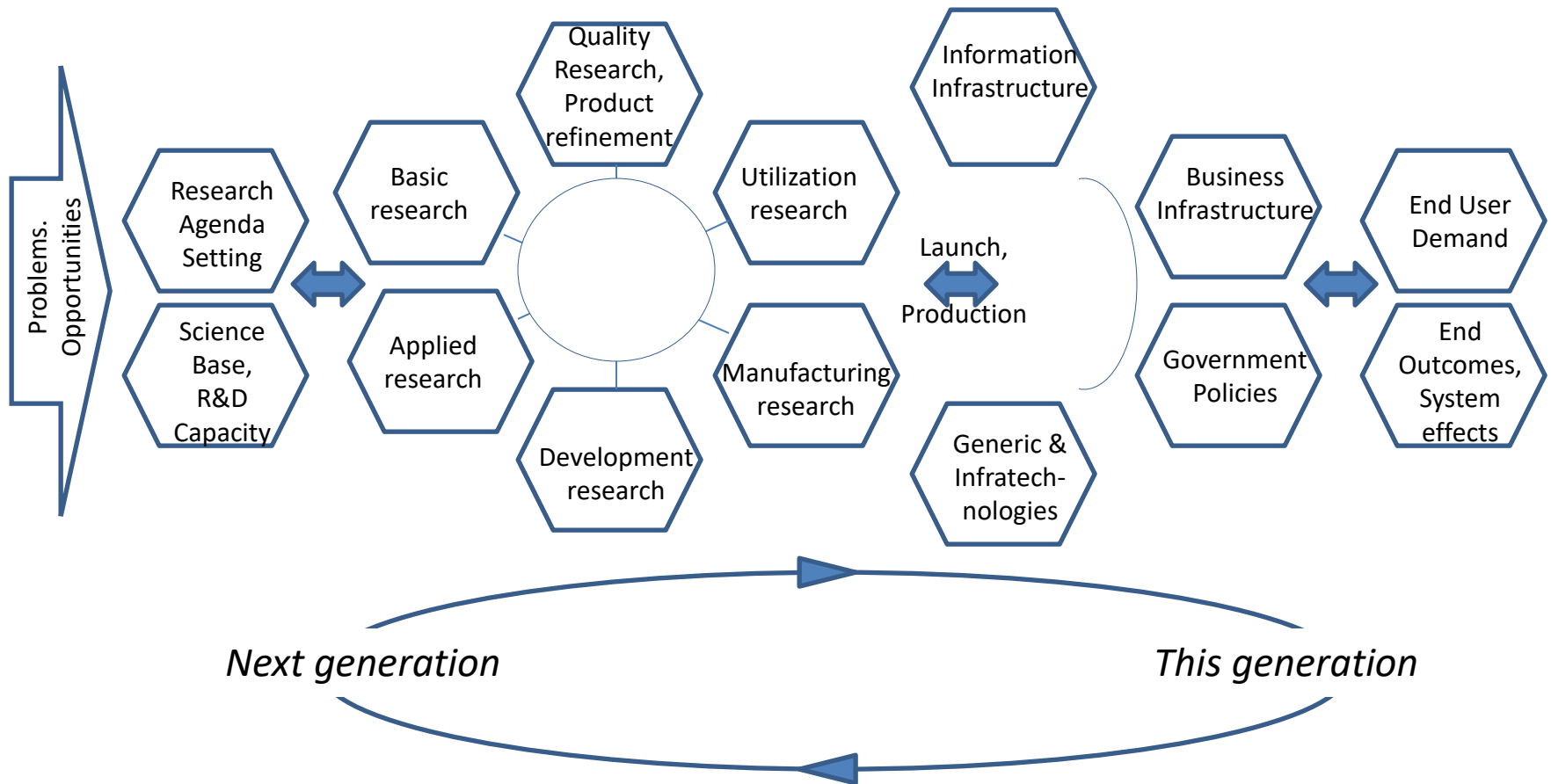


Actors/Institutions from a 'national innovation systems' perspective ...



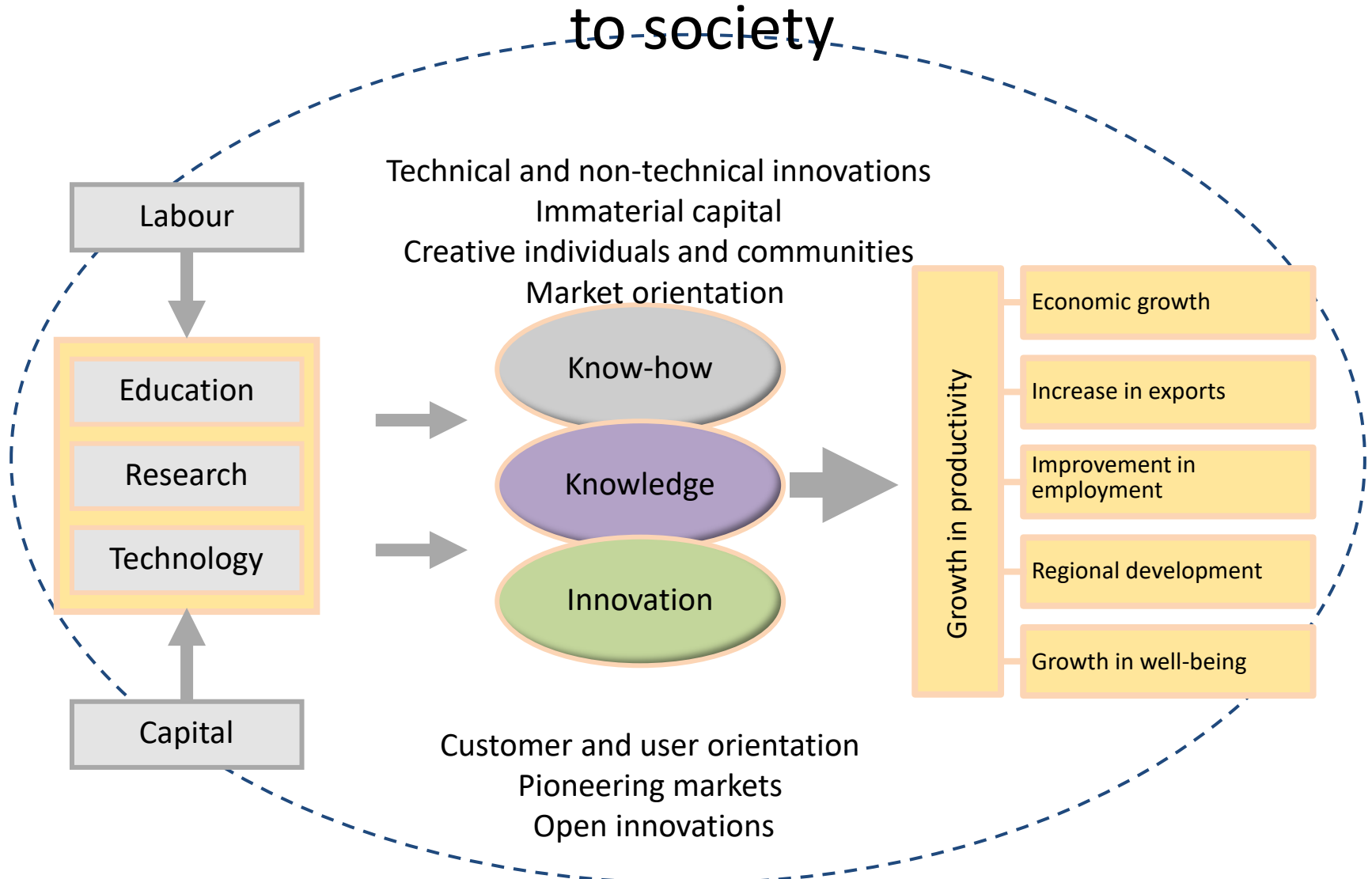
Source: Arnold and Kuhlmann, 2001

A more recent view of an innovation system



Different perspectives on theories of change for diverse RTD initiatives

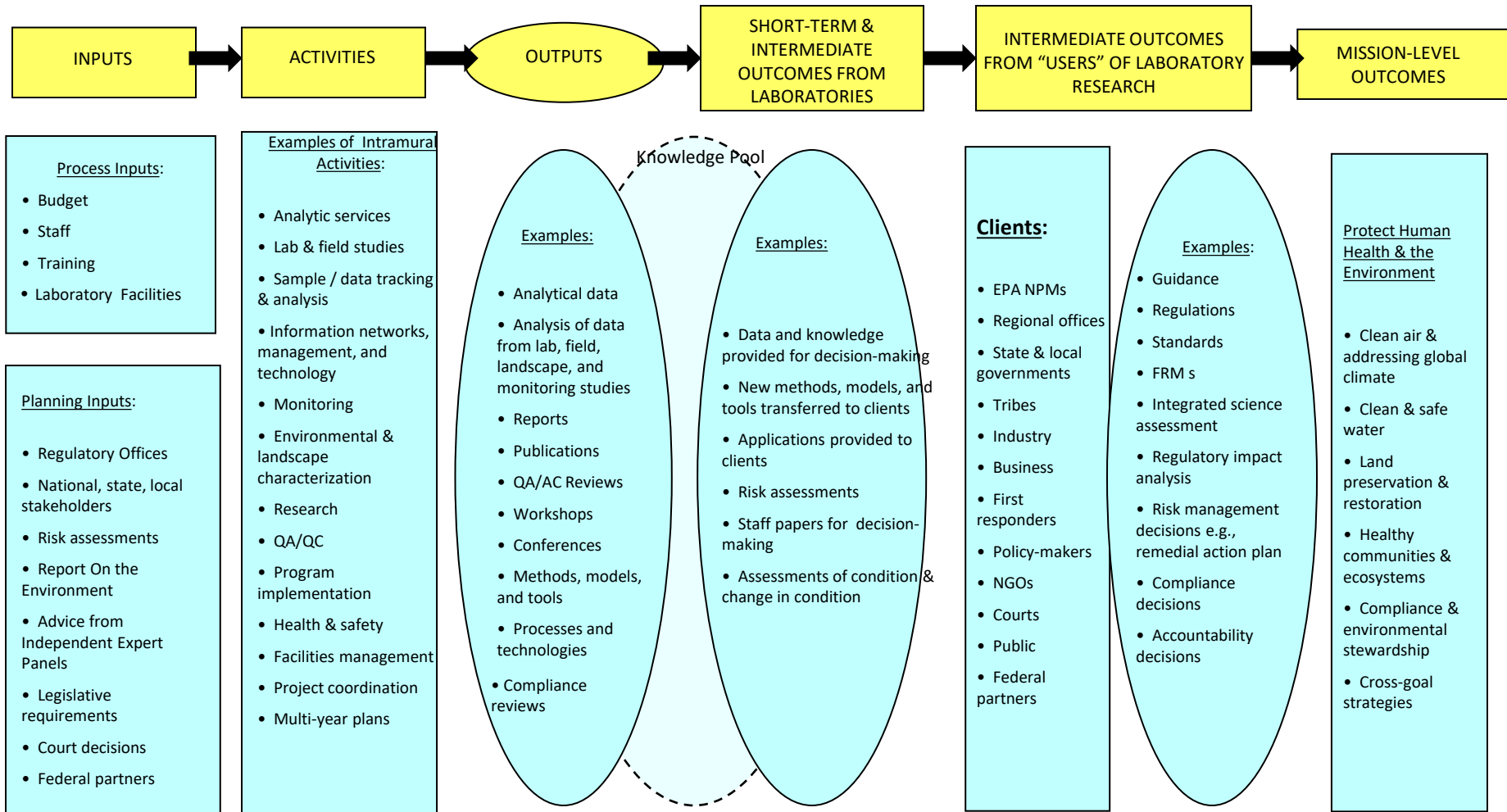
A macro level theory of RTD contribution to society



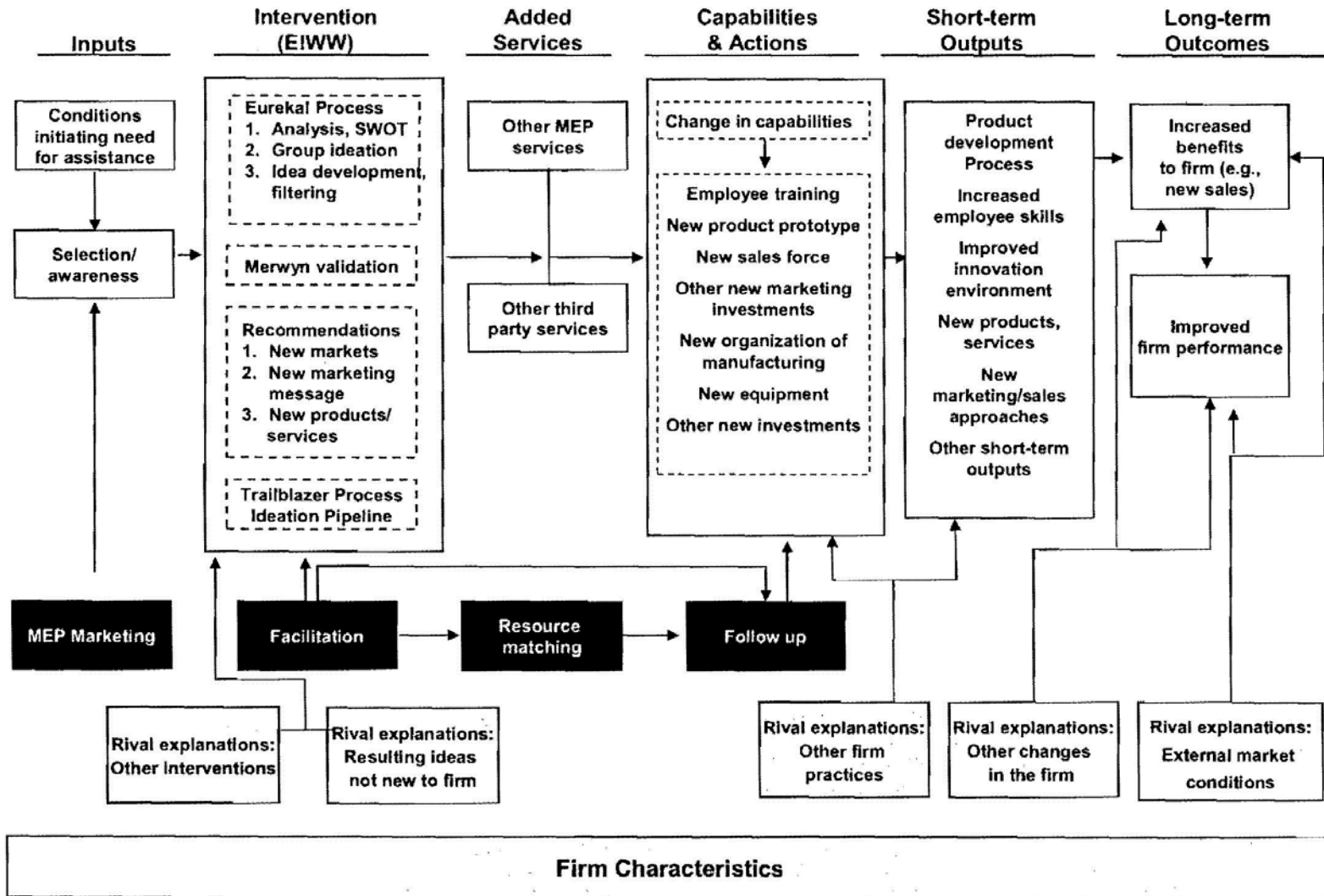
Source: Hyvarinen, Tekes

Logic Model of EPA Research

Adapted from Figure 4 – 1, page 54, *Evaluating Research Efficiency in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*, NRC, 2008)

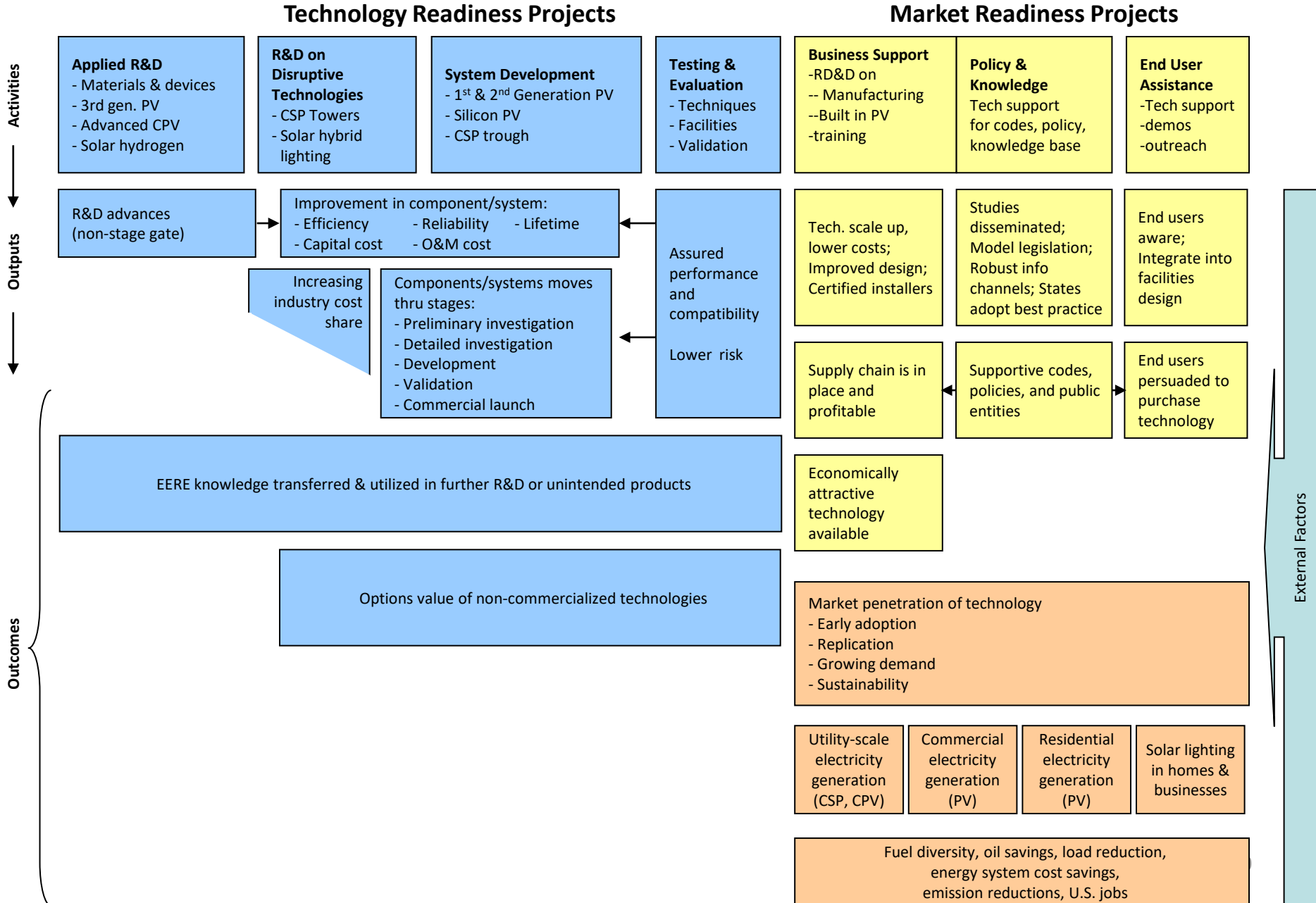


Logic Model: Eureka! Winning Ways



Source: P. Shapira, et al, for NIST MEP

U.S DOE Logic of Technology and Market Readiness



Changes due to Cooperative Research Centers

CRC

Human and Physical Capital

Near Core Competence Research

Research Amplification

Emerging/Competitive Technologies

Emerging/Competitive Technologies

Social Capital

- Ideas & Feedback
- Enhanced recruitment of new employees
 - Broadened scientific Network
 - Equipment use

Proximate

Near

Later

- Early access to ...
- New knowledge
 - New analytical tools and methods
 - Tacit knowledge about techniques
 - IP within Center
- R&D
- Dead ends to avoid
 - Shortened/accelerated progress on current projects
 - Promising new areas or paths to pursue
 - Emerging threats and opportunities

Commercialization

IP/Trade Secrets inside firm

Improved/New

- Products

- Processes

- Services

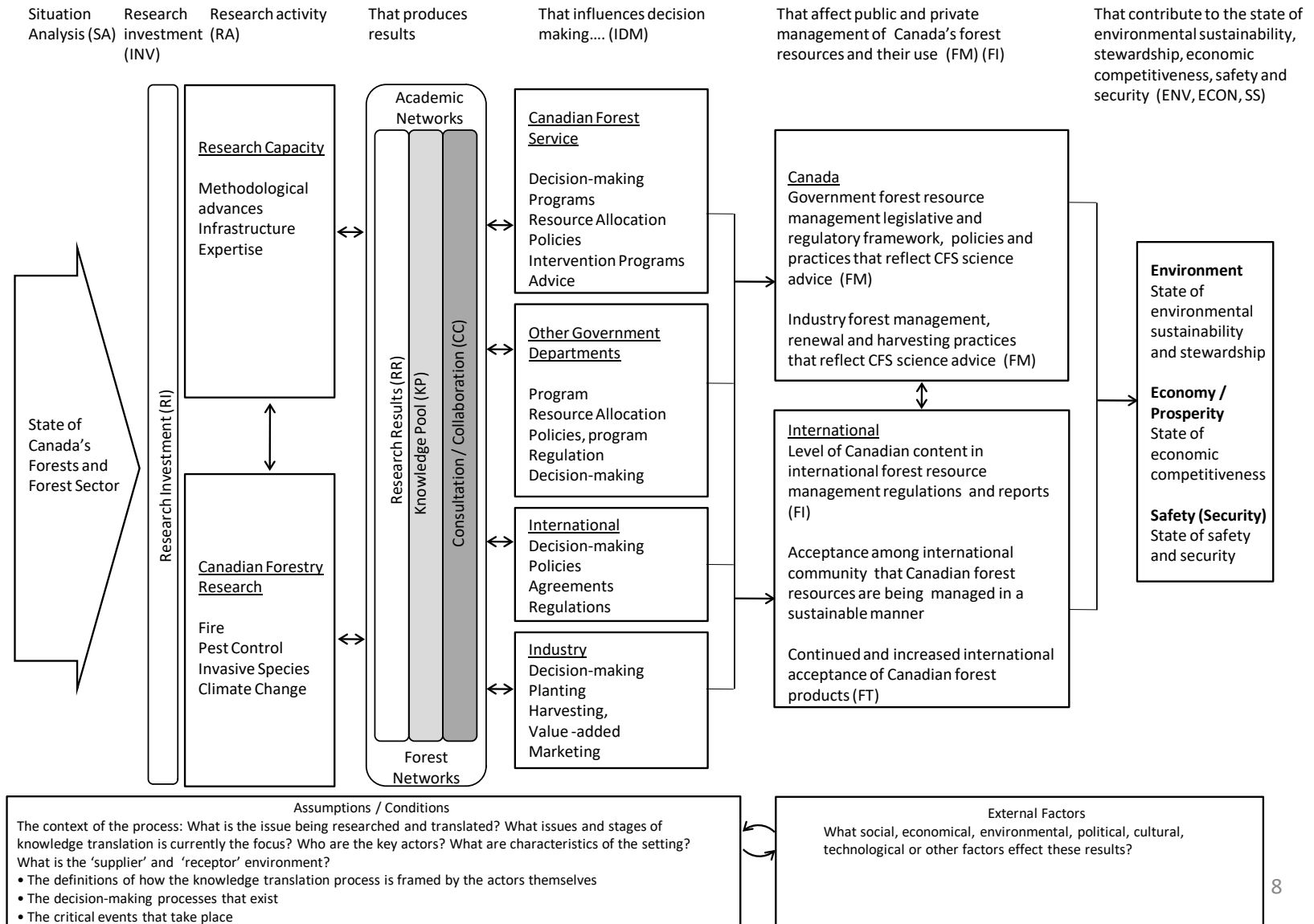
Strategic reconnaissance and alliances

D. Gray, for NSF STC

CFS Logic Model of Wildland Fire Research

CFS Logic Model and Forest Research Contribution to Forest Sector Outcomes

Initiation and Diffusion of Science Research Impacts



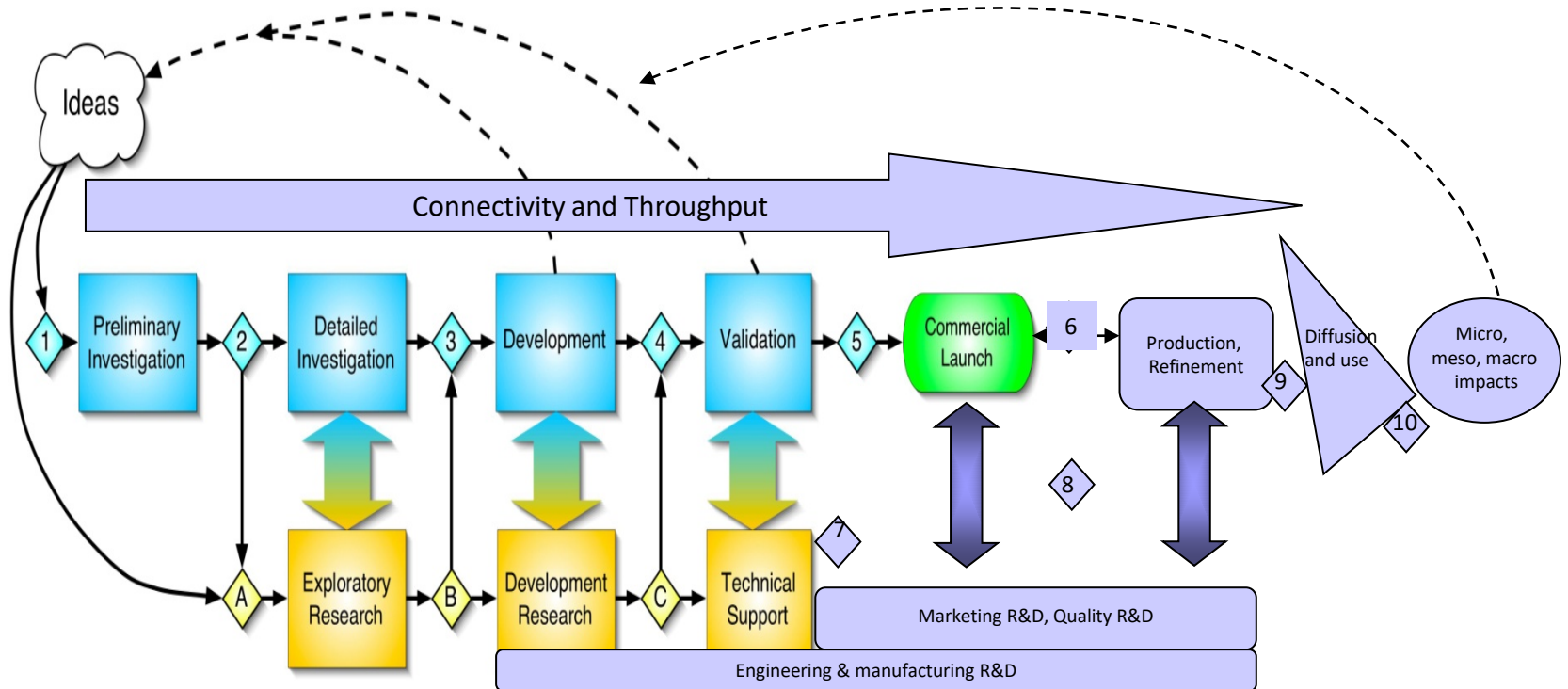
Summary and Conclusions

- Arriving at a comprehensive theory of change for RTD and innovation is important
- Progress is being made
- We have a way to go to understand the parts as well as the whole system
- A RTD Logic model repository can help us to move forward.

Thank you for your attention.

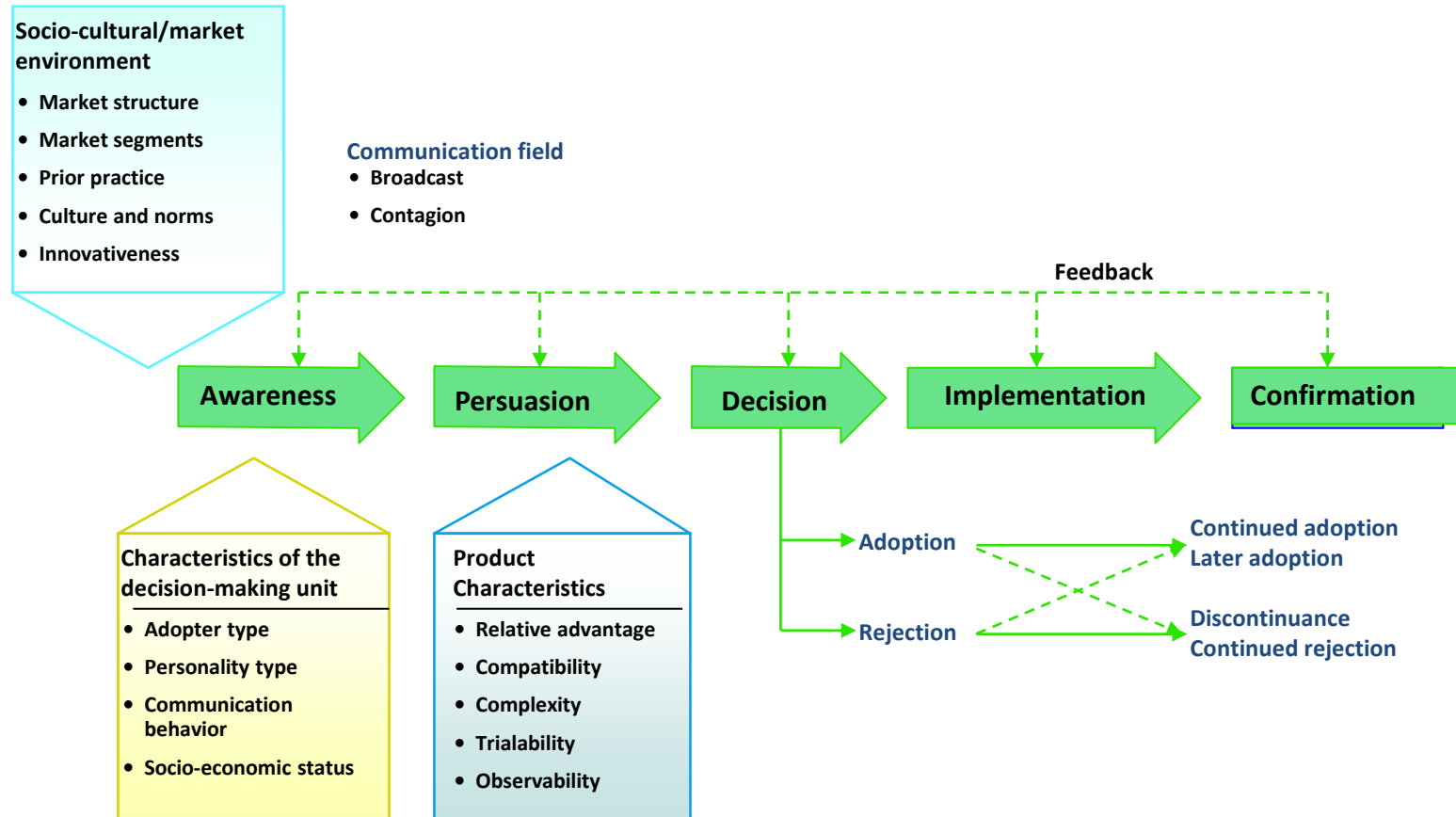
- See RTD TIG website from AEA TIG information page
- Contact me at gretchen.jordan@comcast.net

A technology development view



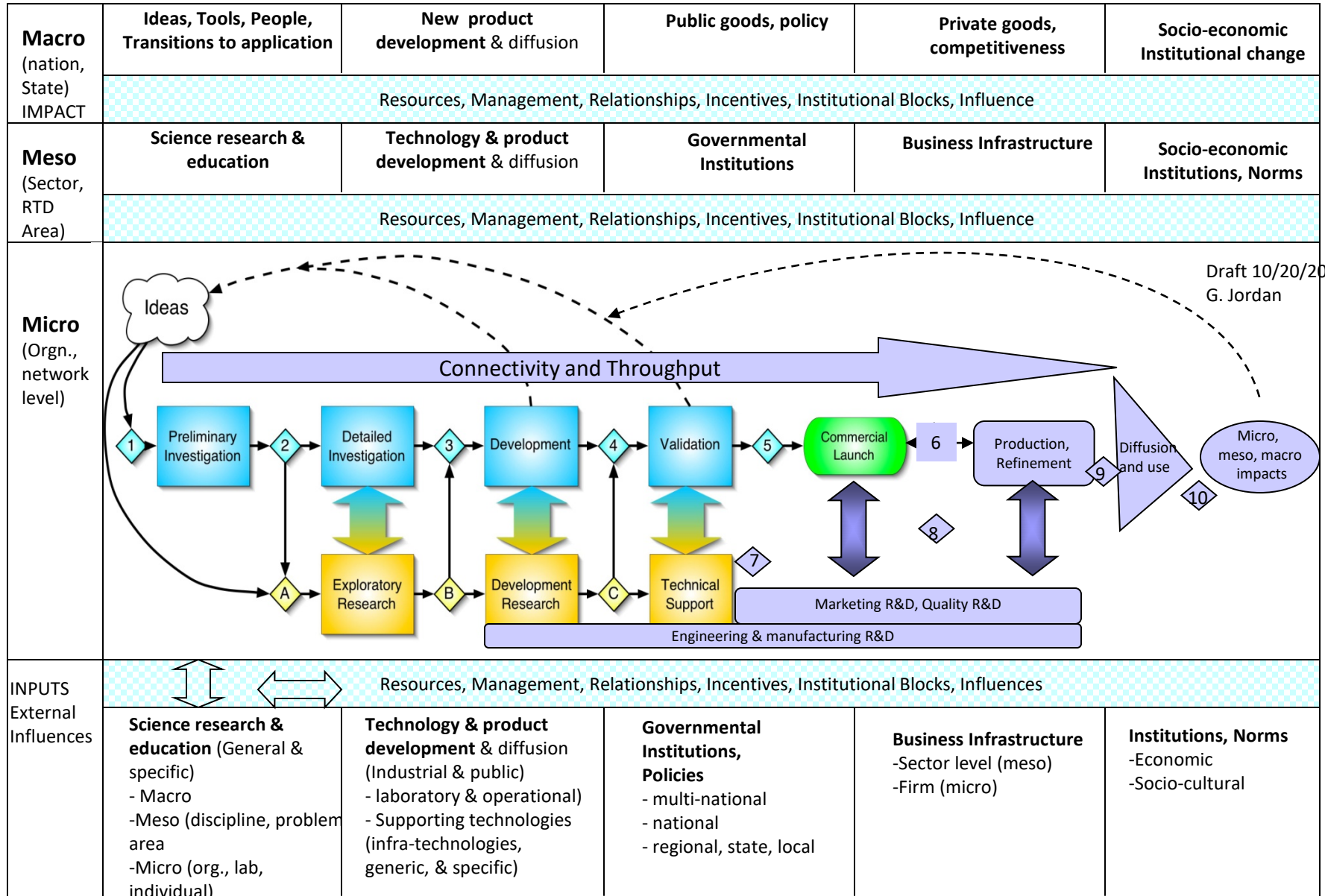
Source: G. Jordan, 2007. Modified from R. Cooper/ Exxon's Stage Gate, Hage & Hollingsworth's Idea Innovation Network

Theory of Diffusion of an Innovation

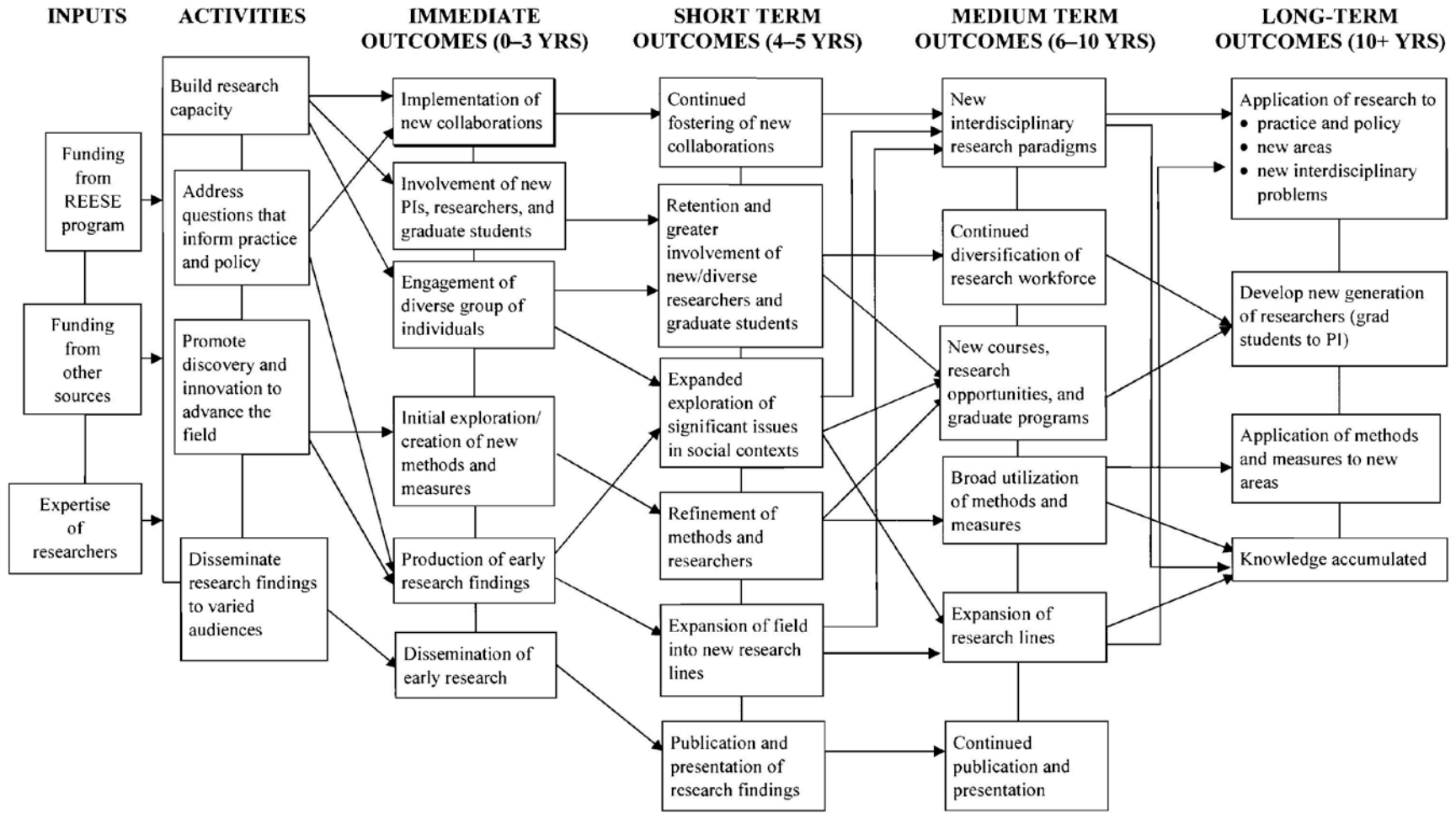


Source: Everett Rogers 1994 as modified by Innovologie, LLC. 2005

Multiple levels of influence and assessment within an emergent RTD system

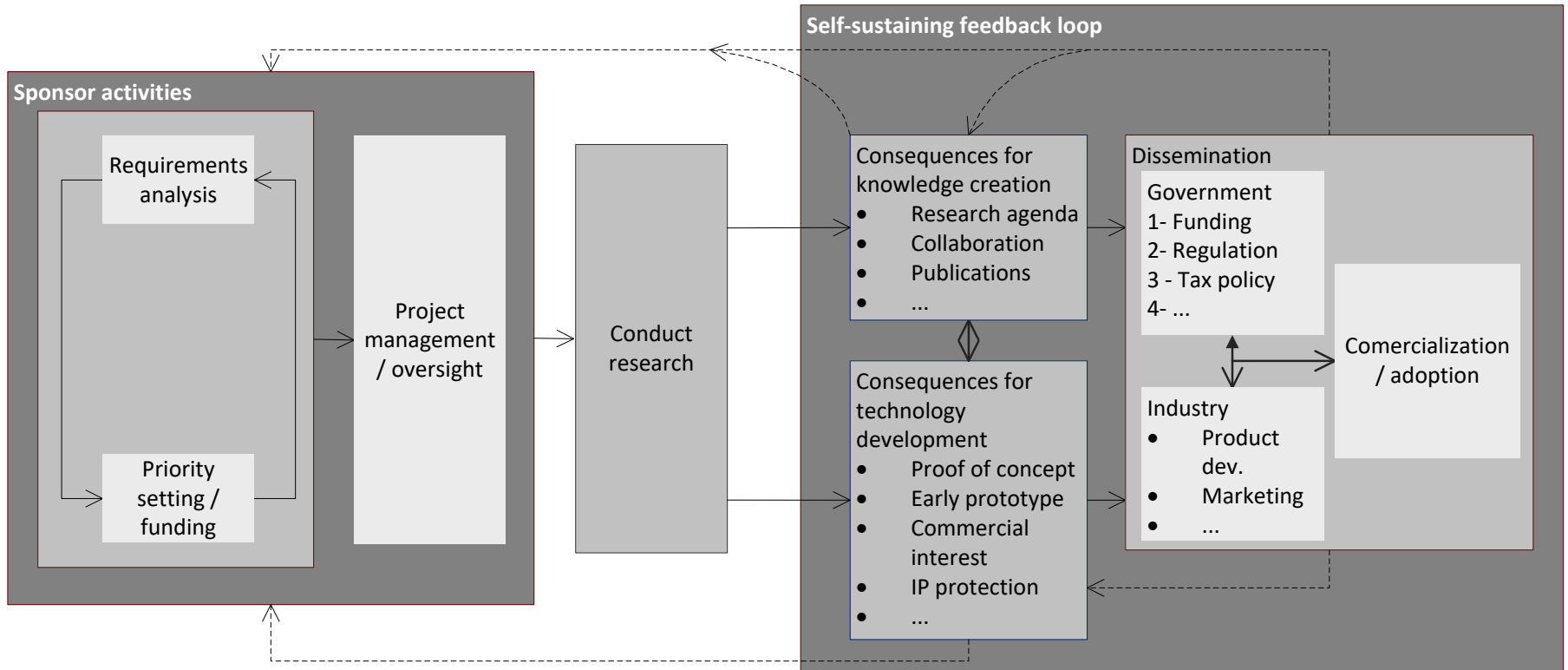


REESE Logic Model – Basic Science

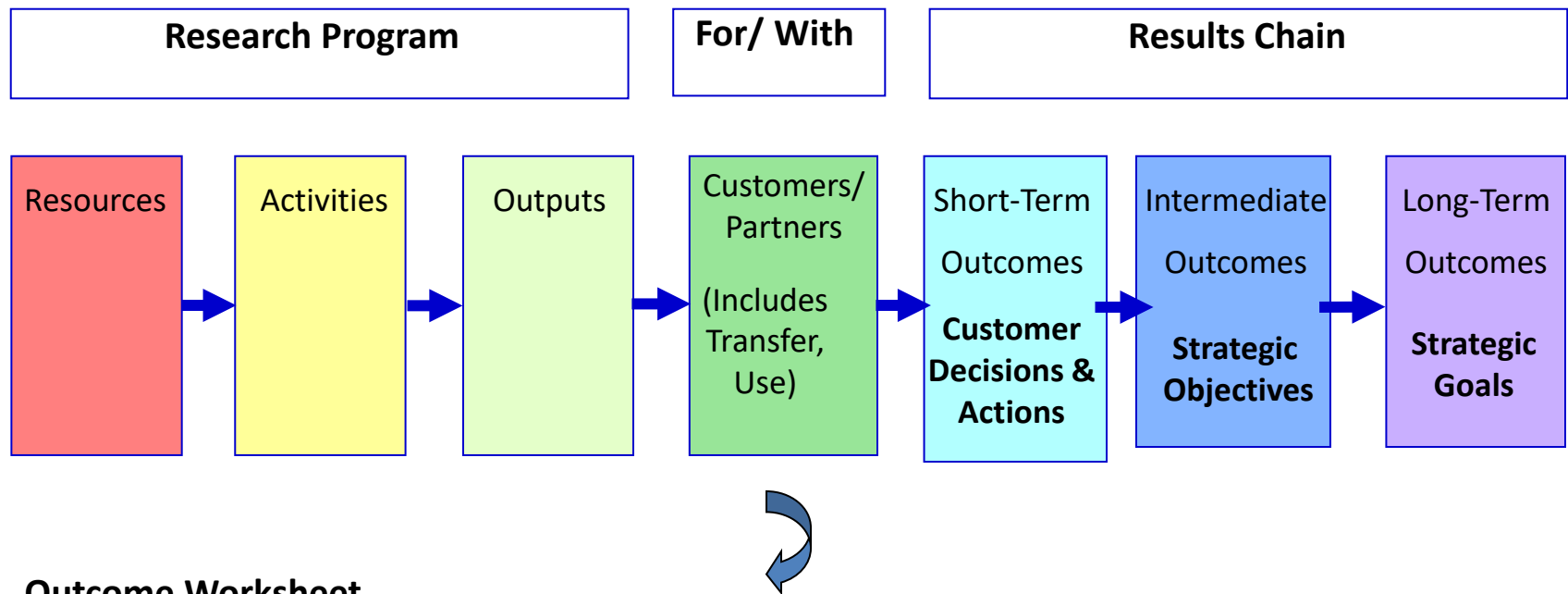


Source: Frechtling for NSF

Program level, with feedback loops to priority setting



Rand-NIOSH. Helping researchers think through how their work contributes to organizational goals

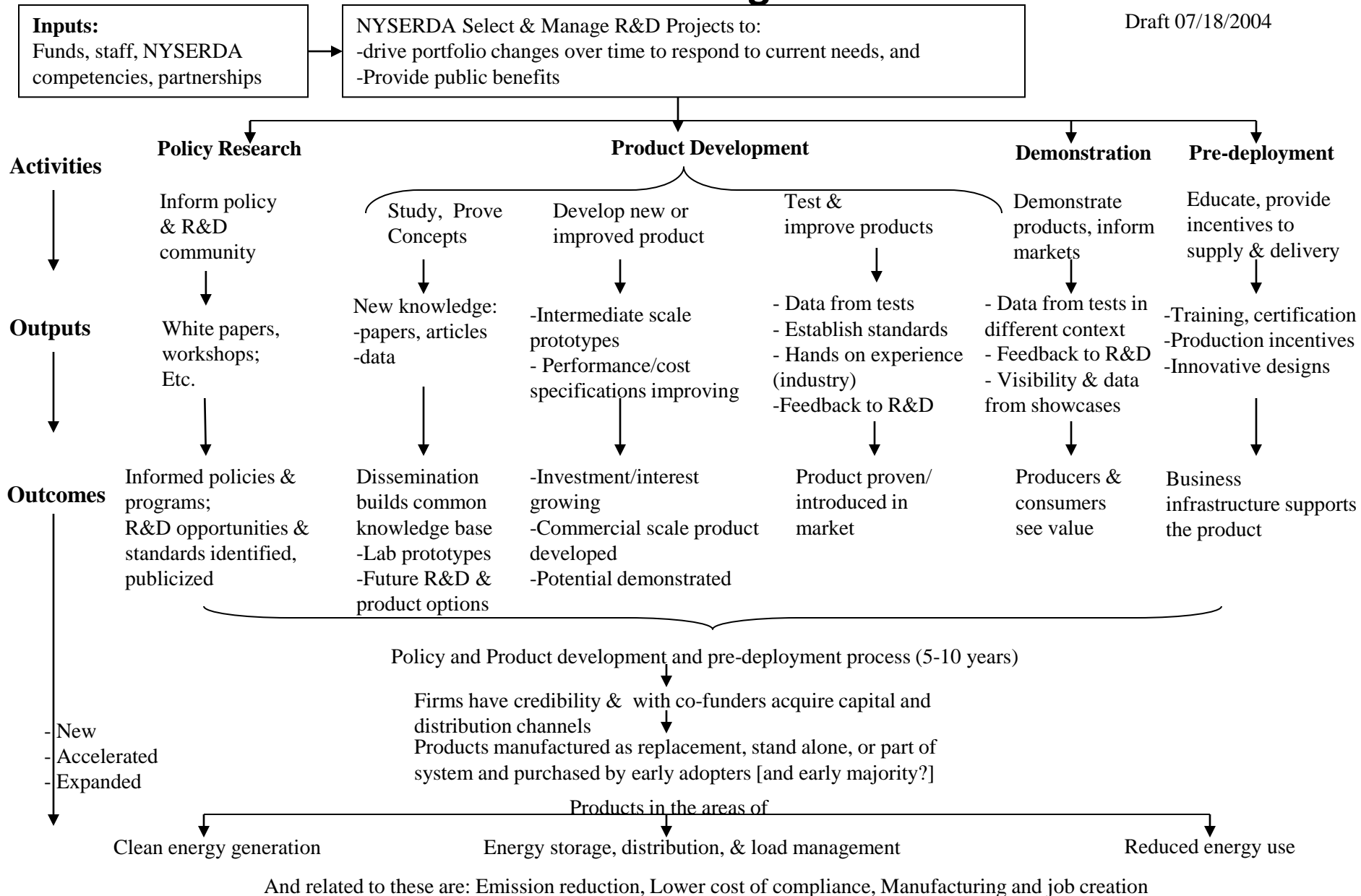


Strategic Goals	Intermediate Outcomes	Short term outcomes	Customers/ Partners reached	Outputs	Activities	Resources

Modified from RAND- NIOSH

NYSERDA R&D Portfolio Logic – Revised DRAFT

Draft 07/18/2004



External Influences:

Cost, Performance of existing technologies; Industry willingness to take risks; Uncertainty of R&D; Energy prices; Government policies