

Exploring the design of a Transformative Finance Lab

Impact for Breakfast Global – 30 March 2022

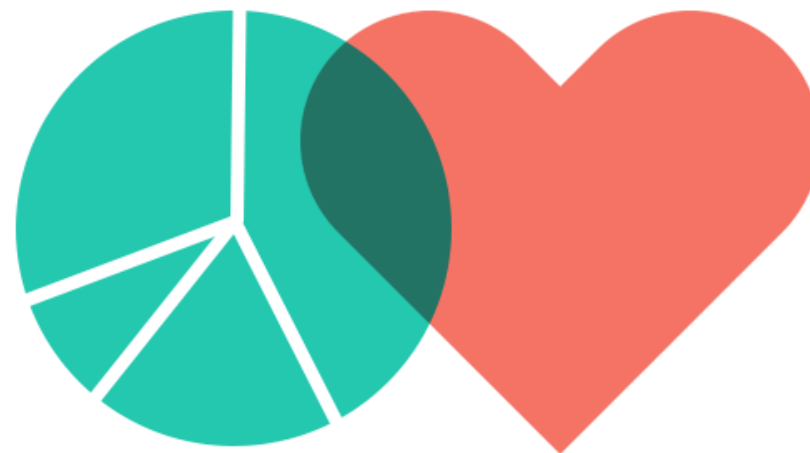


In cooperation with

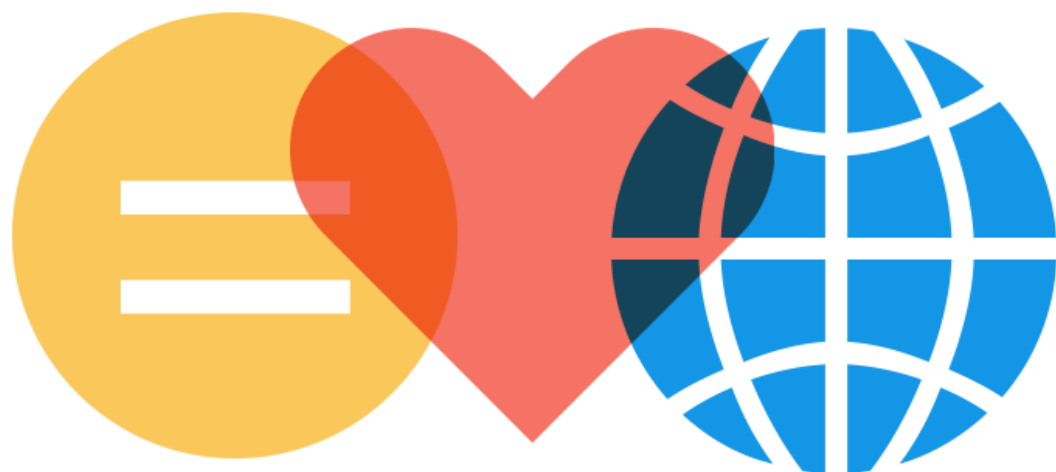


EVPA means IMPACT.

EVPA is an impact finance community at the intersection of finance, business and purpose.



We build capacities, facilitate dialogue, catalyse new ideas and best practice financing solutions - and shape the investing for impact eco-system in Europe and beyond

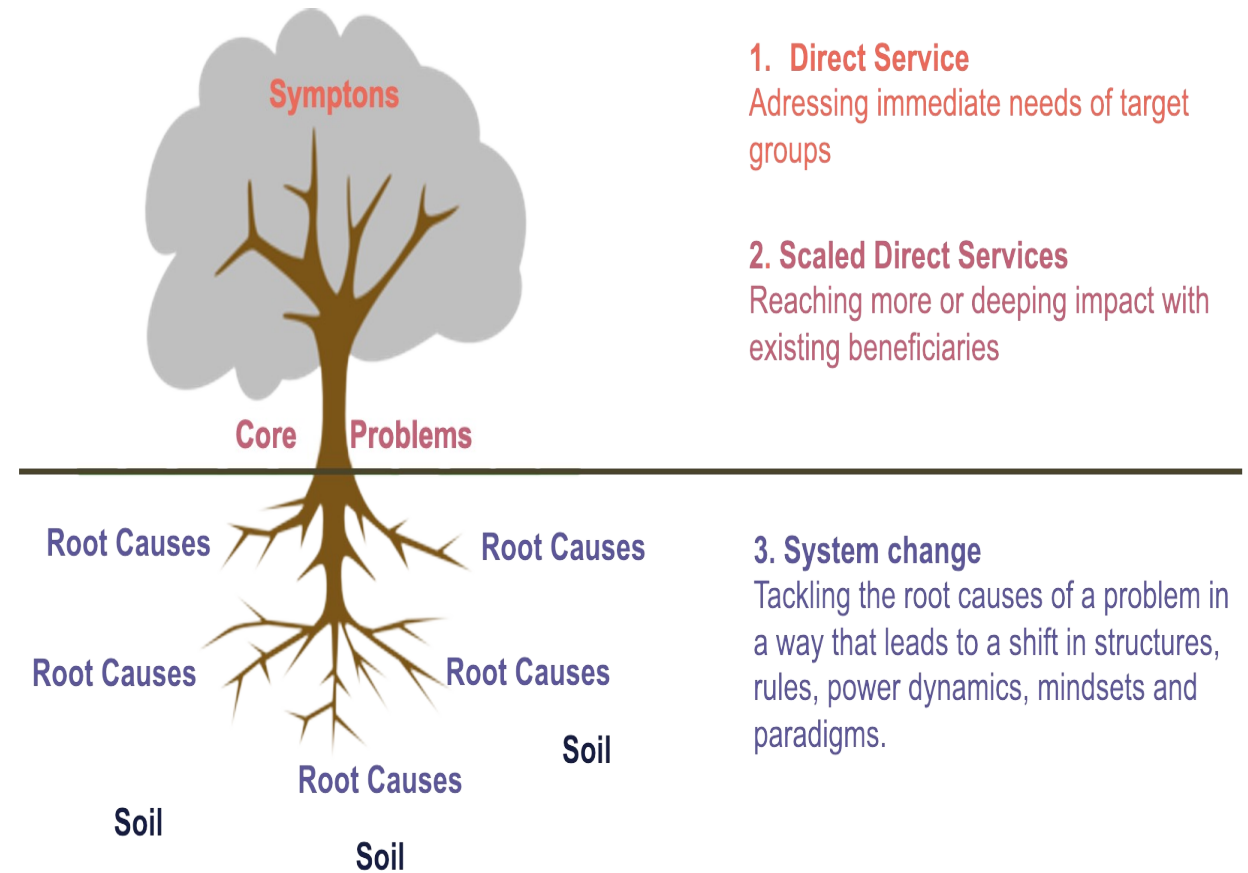


Background



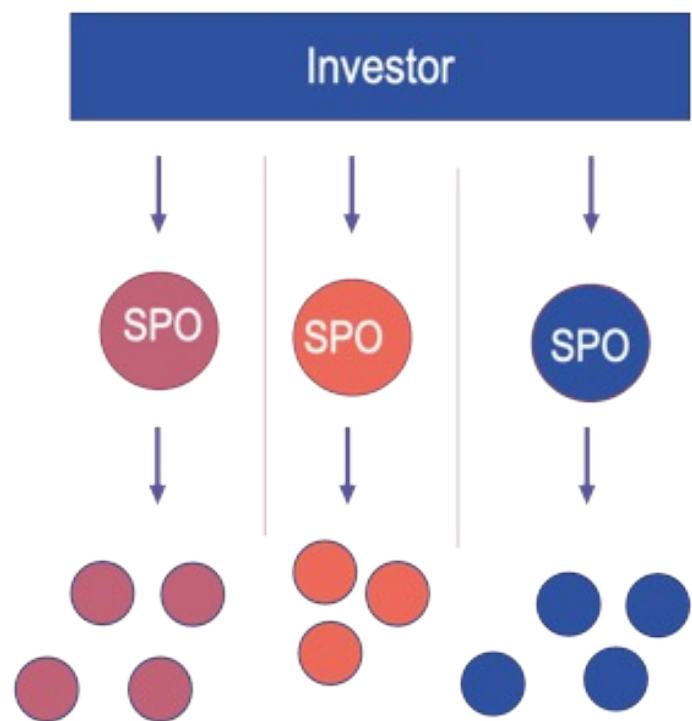
Why transformative finance @EVPA?

- Collaboration & system change are **key principles in EVPAs Charter for Investing for impact**
- An **increasing interest** from our community to learn and to act jointly!
- **Lack of learning opportunities and spaces** for funders and investors on this topic

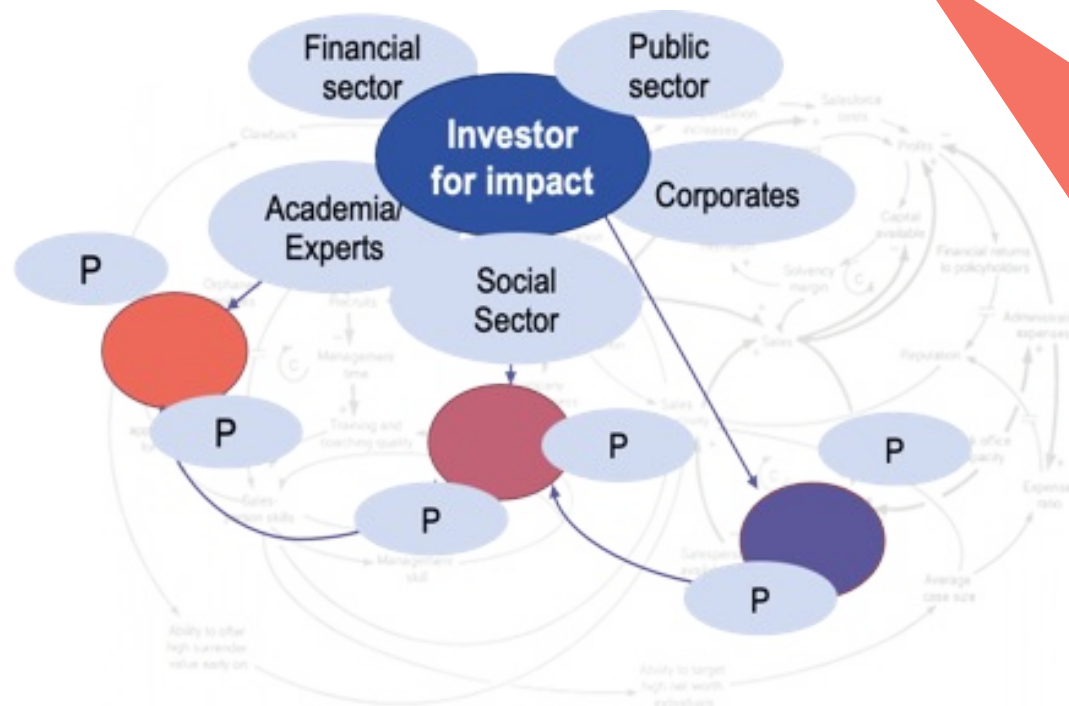


Intervening in volatile, unpredictable and complex systems.....

From here



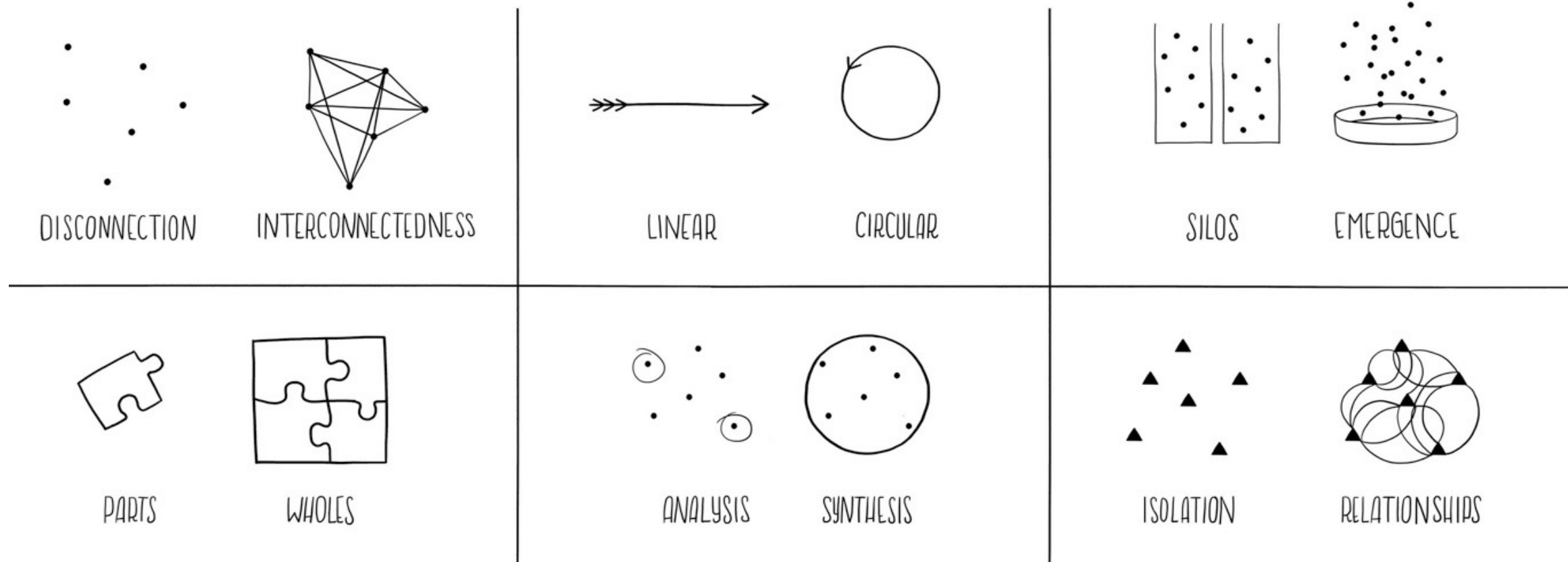
to here.....



Transformative impact



.... requires different investing practices and (leadership) methods



What is a Systems Lab?

“A space and process that engages diverse participants - on a short or a long-term basis - in open collaboration for the purpose of creating, elaborating, and prototyping radical solutions to (pre-defined) systemic challenge or themes.”

Stanford Social Innovation Review,
2016



Why a Transformative Finance Lab, Donika?



Donika Dimovska

Chief Knowledge
Officer at Jacobs
Foundation



Design considerations



The Transformative Finance Lab: our starting point in January 2022

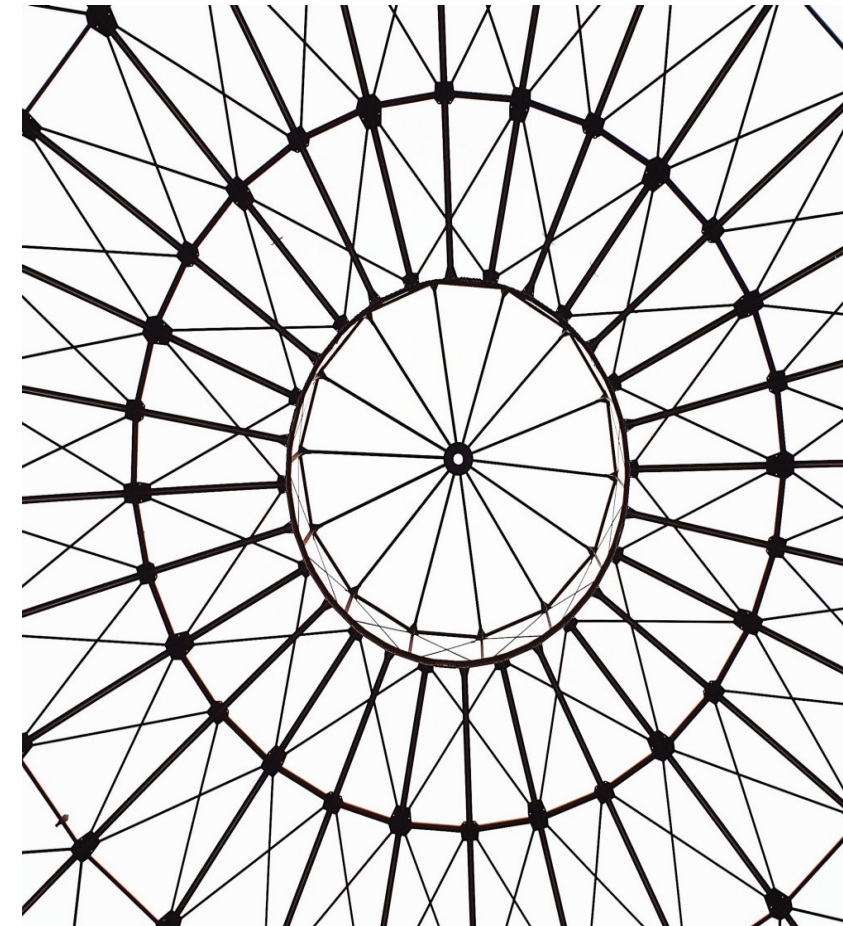
Why? To overcome silos to effectively address systemic financing challenges

What? A facilitated space, method and process supported supported by suitable technology

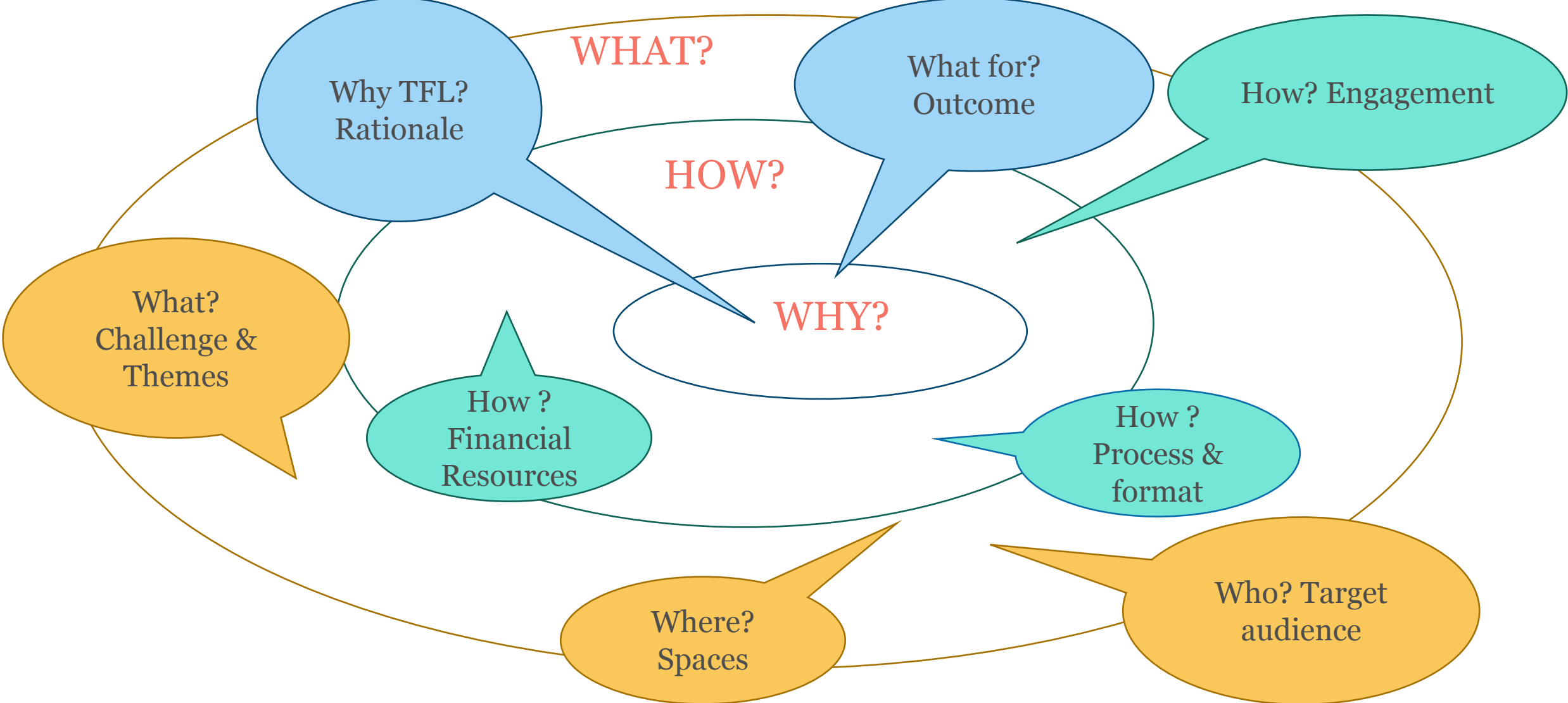
Who? Engaging a diverse group of actors across the spectrum of capital and beyond

How? By co-sensing, learning, exploring, experimenting, co-creating and collaborating.

What for? To co-create financing solutions for transformative impact. **And more.....**



Many design questions.....



Lab mapping and interviews – what have we learned?

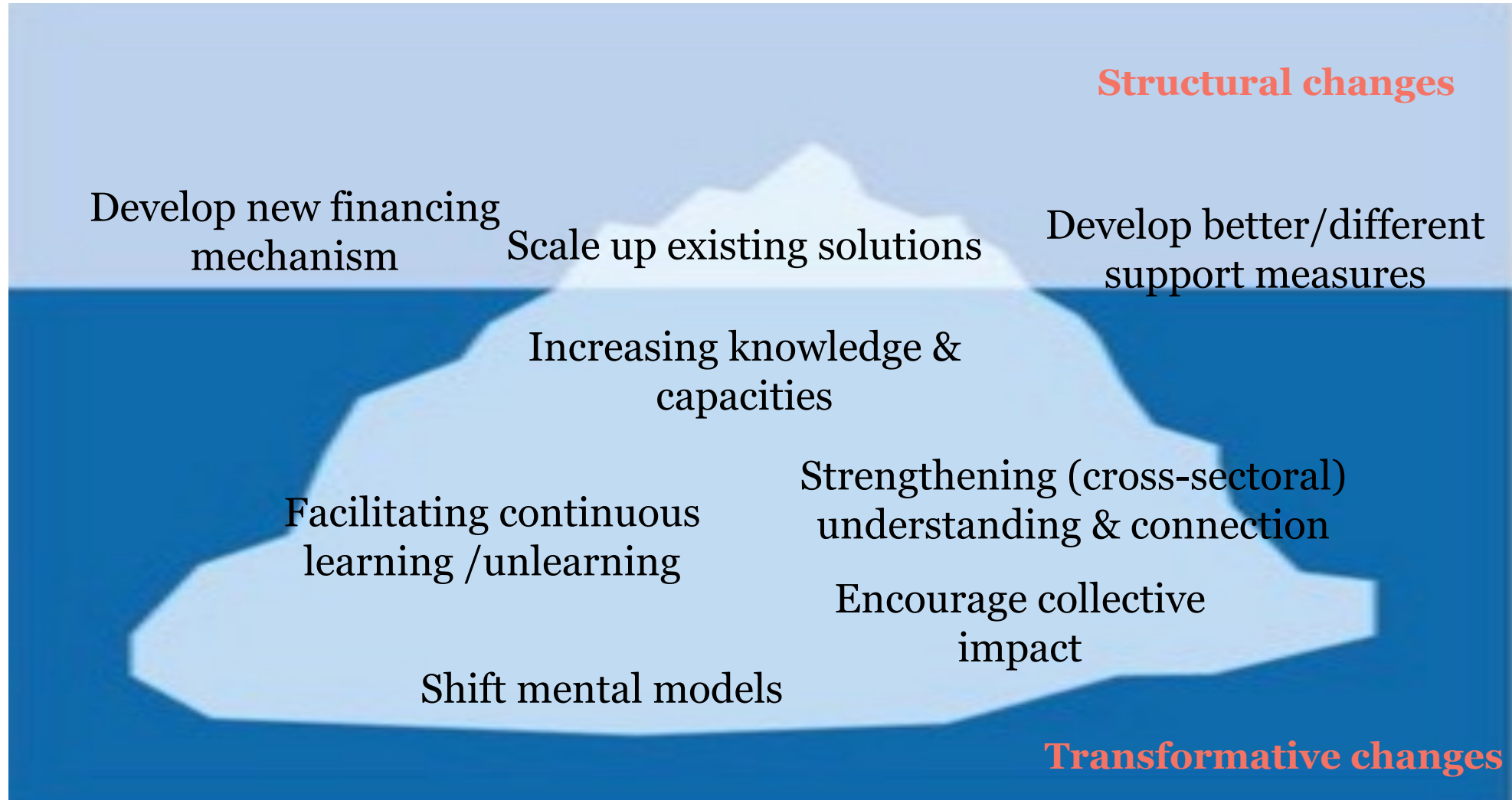
- System Labs increasingly common – identified **32 relevant initiatives** and there are many more!
- Focus on (impact) finance is harder to find (if so on climate finance) => **eco-system gap!**
- **Public interviews series** between February and March 2022



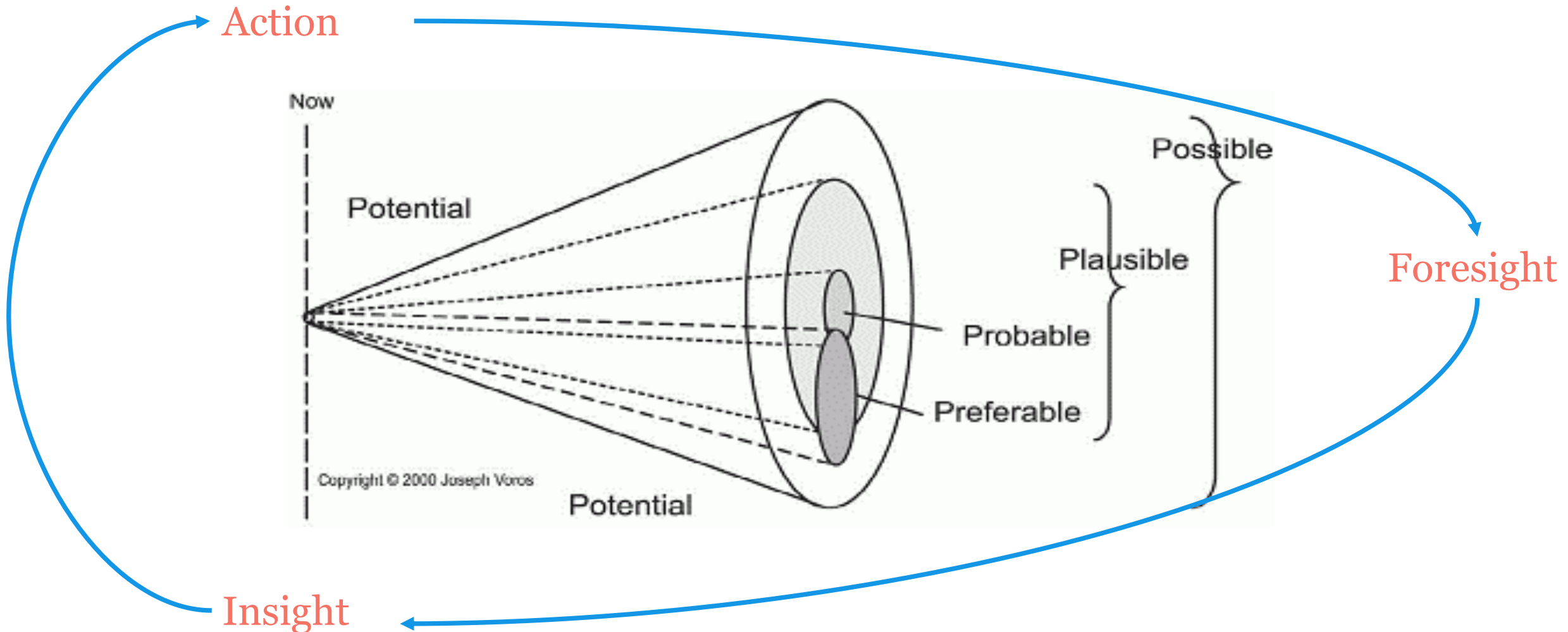
*Thank you
for your
time!!*



Why and what for? Beyond solutions....



... including widening our perspectives about future possibilities

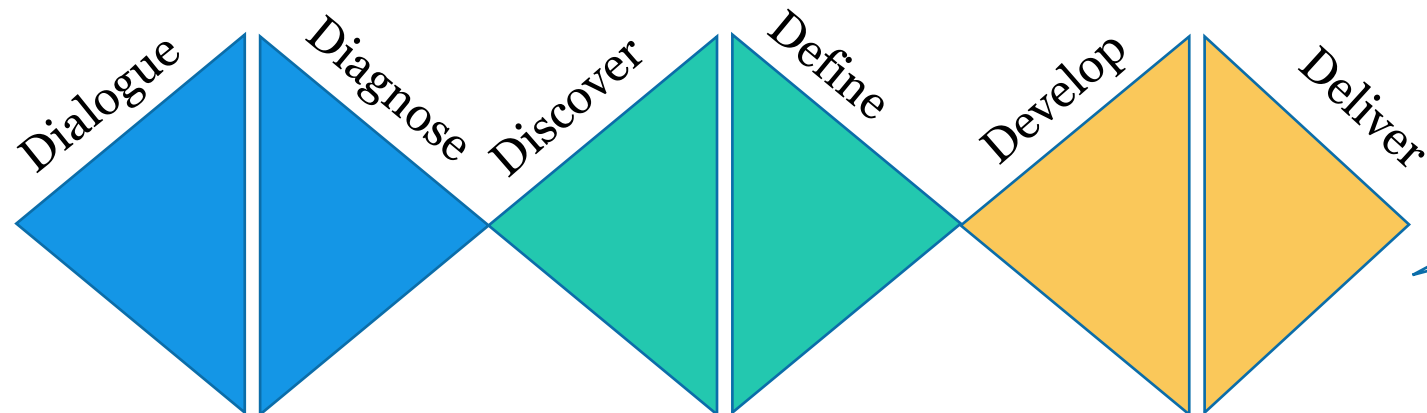


All phases are important, not only the ideation phase.....

Challenge/ Theme

Ideation

Development



Modularity in-built in design for longer term processes

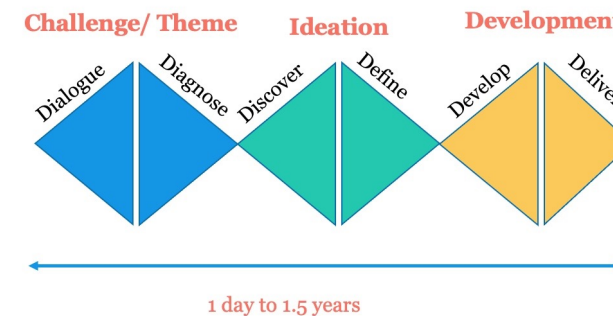
1 day to 1.5 years

Duration
Trust building & transformation vs time commitment and resources

.... and engagement, challenge formulation & lab economics

Challenge /Theme formulation can be different depending on Lab intention

- Option 1 Challenge host sets challenge and calls for proposals => solution submitted (and refined)
- Option 2 Challenge hosts sets challenge or theme => solutions developed in Lab
- Option 3 Challenge definition and solution part of co-creative Lab process



Engagement in different phases varies and secured by :

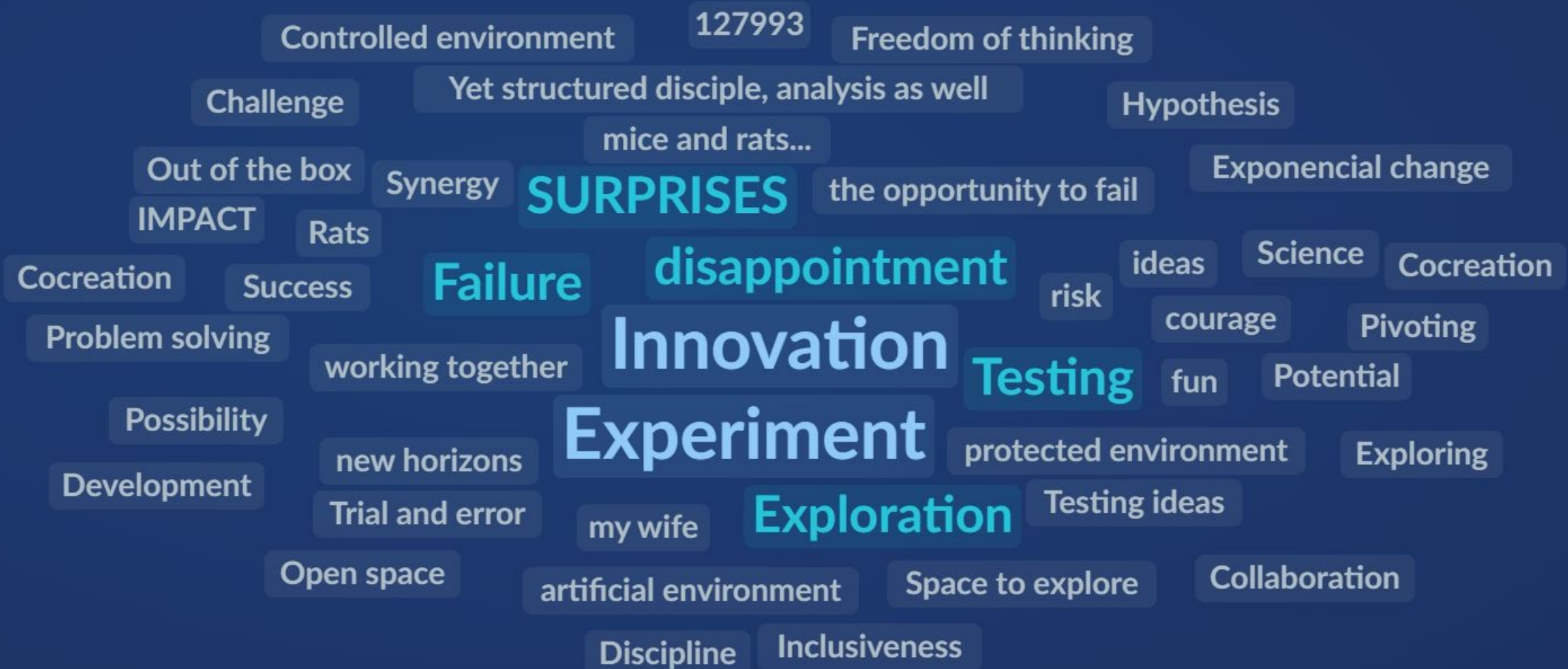
- Relevance to stakeholder
- Ownership/participants to assume a variety of roles (expert, group moderator)
- Process endorsed by high profile persons
- Fast paced process with milestones

Lab economics & financing

- Resources for lab management needed
- Financing and partners for implementation of ideas & prototypes

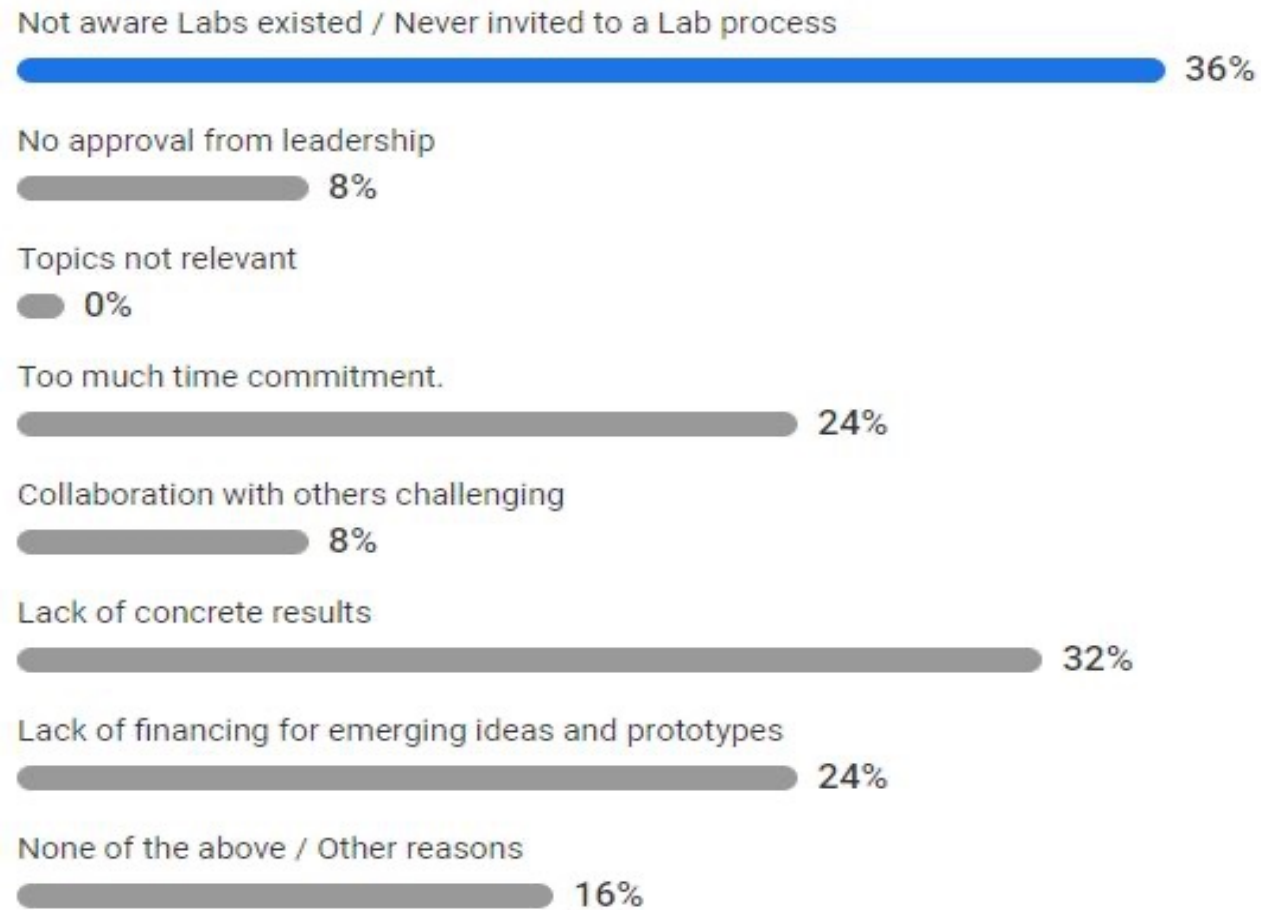
Group Inputs

What is your first association when you think about the term Lab?



In the past what has kept you from engaging in a co-creative process such as a Lab - or what did you find particularly challenging in case you did engage?

25 



Thematic group work (15 min)

Discussion in groups: Education, Climate, Health, entrepreneurship, no sector

“What are top challenges in your sector / field that Lab process would make a real difference?”

Collect as many as possible and write them down!

<https://padlet.com/floriantuder/qdfdl9yk1nycimlp>



Question: “What are top 3 factors that would make the Transformative Finance Lab successful and attractive to you?”

What are your top 3 factors that would make a Transformative Finance Lab successful and attractive for you?

13

- continuity regarding participants - so that different sessions can build one upon another and not start from scratch to bring new people on board
- 1) shared values as a basis 2) all are open to update assumptions and to dig for root causes 3) create synergies (interdisciplinary expertise, stakeholders...)
- New options shall be cooler & better than the existing ones to switch
- Some investment in post lab, next phases of piloting
- Long-term orientation and vision
- Inclusive of all - education to internalize "externalities" in a self incentivized mechanism
- Dare to fail
- Structure
- A safe space for 'Not knowing'
- safe space - failure not a risk but a certainty --> fail in style
- Allow for enough time
- Clear scope Failure means learning
- Space for independent thinking
- Inclusive stakeholders willing to take part in the 'experimentation'
- commitment by actual large investment players who are willing to take results from the lab to action
- Keep bringing together different stakeholders, break up silo thinking, as you do
- Space to interrogate the fundamentals of finance - not jump into products
- It has to offer space for equal thinking
- Solutions focused
- Structured process
- Align for systemic and scalable implementation
- Clear expectations on time commitments required, and intended outputs
- Solution for the financing gap
- Concrete objectives
- bias to action - try try try

Contact us !

Anja-N. König

EVPA - Lead, Transformative Finance

akoenig@evpa.ngo



Peter Cafferkey

EVPA - TFL Partnerships & Outreach

pcafferkey@evpa.ngo



EVPA means IMPACT.

Rue Royale 94 | 1000 Brussels | Belgium

evpa.eu.com | [#MoreImpact](https://twitter.com/MoreImpact)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

