



**Biodiversity
Knowledge**



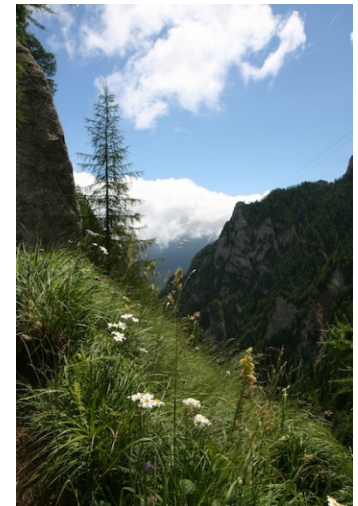
**Creating a Network of knowledge
for biodiversity and ecosystem services**

Dr. Marie Vandewalle
Helmholtz-Centre for Environmental Research
UFZ



Econnect & Biodiversity Knowledge

- “How could we learn from each other, build on each other? How to enhance and extend collaborations?”
- Econnect = a Network
- In needs of policy implementation
- Bad communications between managers and Alpine convention”



Talk overview



1. Context
2. Project and Objectives
3. First steps and challenges
 - Mapping the knowledge flow
 - Developing a prototype for a network of Knowledge
4. Get involved!

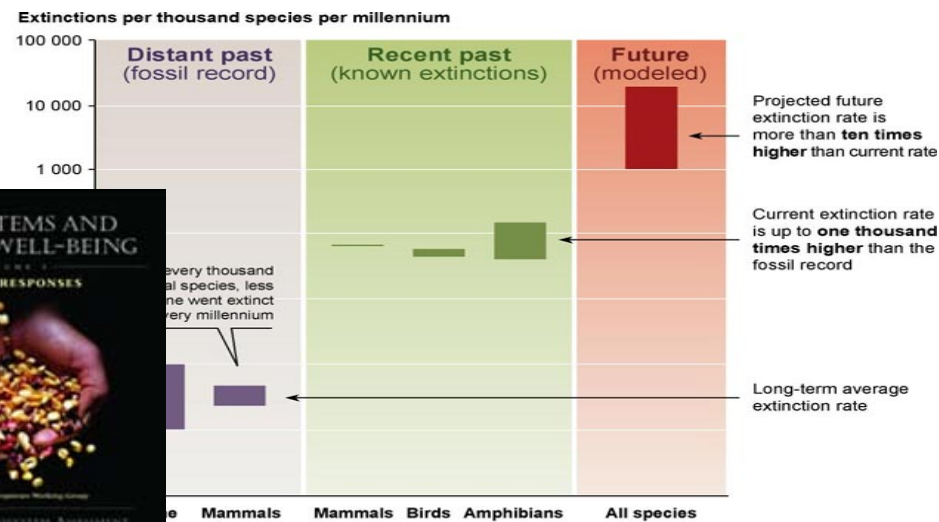
The 2010 Biodiversity target has clearly not been met

“Biodiversity is still being lost as fast as ever, and we have made little headway in reducing the pressures on species, habitats and ecosystems.”

“Since 1970, we have reduced animal populations by 30%, the area of mangroves and seagrasses by 20% and the coverage of living corals by 40%.

“These losses are clearly unsustainable.”

- UNEP chief scientist Joseph Alcamo -



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

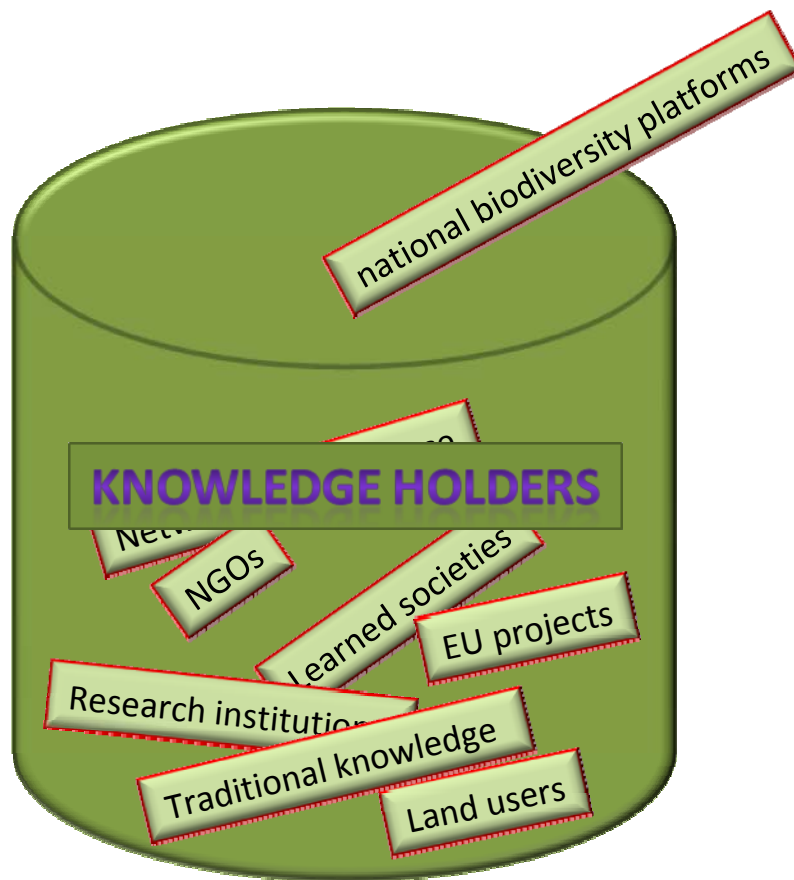
What does biodiversity for us?



“Biodiversity is still being lost as fast as ever, and we have made little headway in reducing the pressures on species, habitats and ecosystems.”

- UNEP chief scientist Joseph Alcamo -



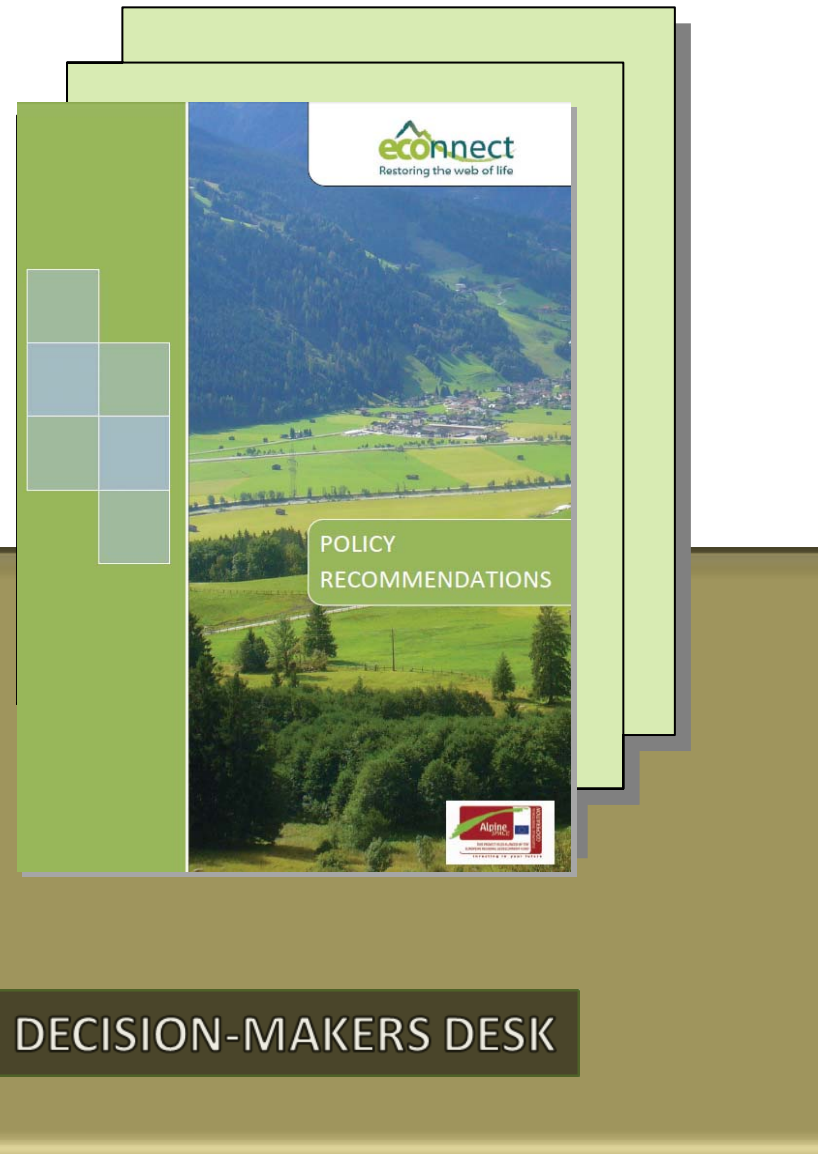


THE virtual Biodiversity
Knowledge bowl!

Lack of Knowledge?

Lack of adequate measures?

Right tool to communicate?



“Global and regional discussions have shown that much of the available science and experience is not being effectively used, and that interfaces between science and policy must be significantly improved.”

EPBRS, 2009

1-Context

2-Project

3-First steps and Challenges

4-Get involved



?

General AIM:

To better link our biodiversity and ES knowledge landscape
with biodiversity governance across Europe

KNEU

Developing a Knowledge Network for EUropean expertise
on biodiversity and ecosystem services
to inform policy making and economic sectors

Facts about the KNEU project



Coordination and support action



November 2010 → April 2014 (42 months)



Coordinated by the UFZ



A consortium of 18 leading institutions in Europe on biodiversity and ecosystem services research and governance

KNEU Partnership



= Ca 40 experts

- UFZ, Germany (**Coordination**)
- Natural Environment Research Council – Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, NERC-CEH, UK
- Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, RBINS, Belgium
- CIIMAR, Portugal
- NIOZ, Netherlands
- FRB, France
- ALTERRA, Netherlands
- Universität Wien, UNIVIE, Austria
- NINA, Norway
- CSIC, Spain
- MTA Okologiai es Botanikai Kutatointezete, IEB HAS, Hungary
- ECNC, Netherlands
- Bangor University, United Kingdom
- EVINBO, Belgium
- Umweltbundesamt GmbH, EAA, Austria
- SYKE, Finland
- BEC, Ireland
- VLIZ, Belgium

KNEU FP7 project's aim:

To develop and test a prototype of **Network of Knowledge** to inform policy-making and economic actors in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services

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Network of Knowledge (NoK)?

-EPBRS (2009)

-together **existing organizations** and processes

-**improve the science-policy interface** by helping to focus the support of science and scientists on the needs of those **setting policy** and taking decisions.

NoK on Biodiversity: a challenging approach!

Challenge 1:

How to organise this network for a wide variety of knowledge holders – across disciplines, scales, organisations and contexts?



Step 1:

Mapping the knowledge **flow** within Europe

1-Context

2-Project

3-First steps and Challenges

4-Get involved

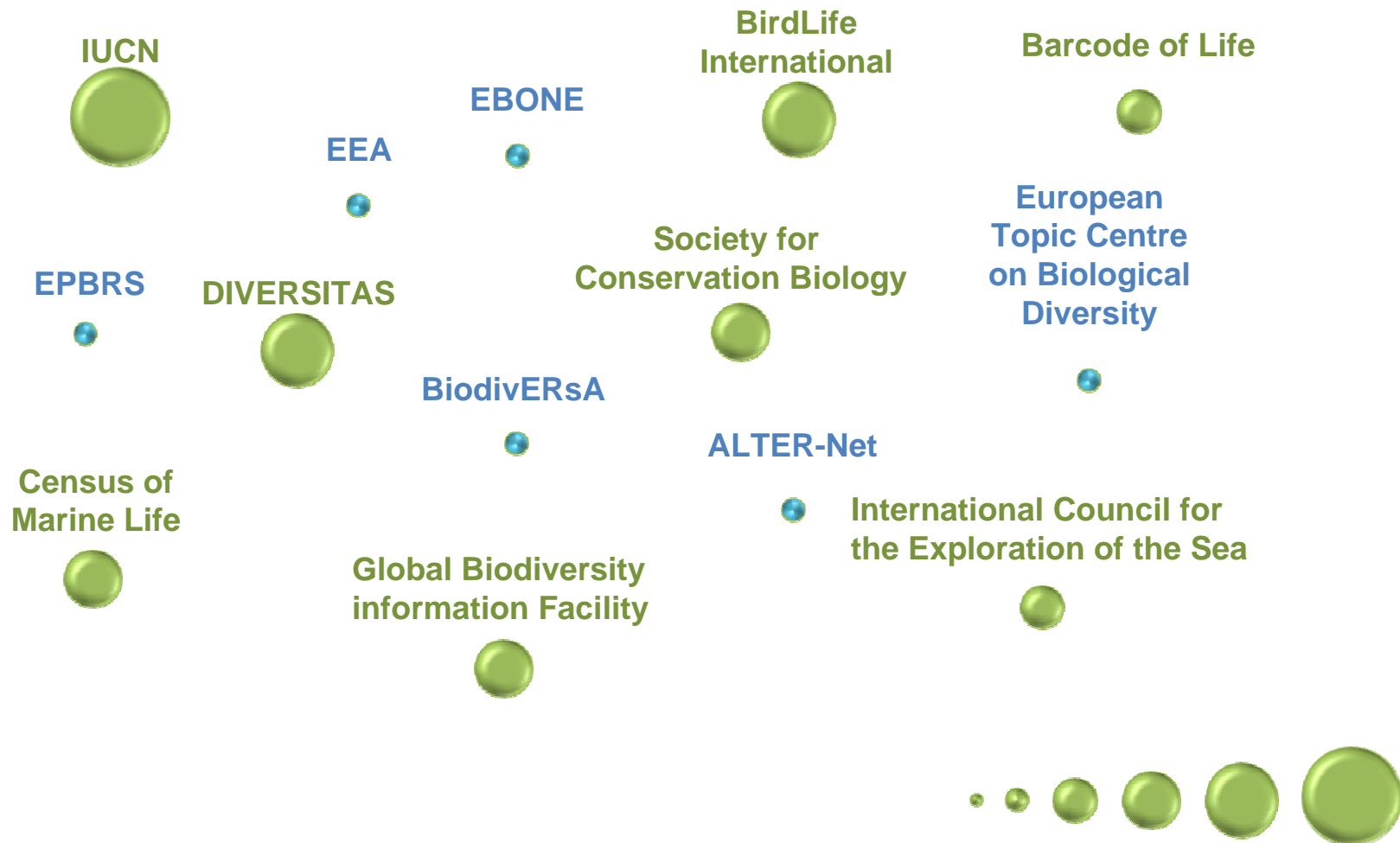
Project Step 1- Mapping the knowledge flow within Europe

2 Strategies for this mapping:

A] Overview of biodiversity knowledge holders through a consultation and completed with votes

A] Overview of biodiversity knowledge holders

European and Global Knowledge hubs/Key networks or Initiatives that have influenced most the knowledge flow on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the past 5 years



Project Step 1- Mapping the knowledge flow within Europe

2 Strategies for this mapping:

A] Overview of biodiversity knowledge holders through a consultation and completed with votes

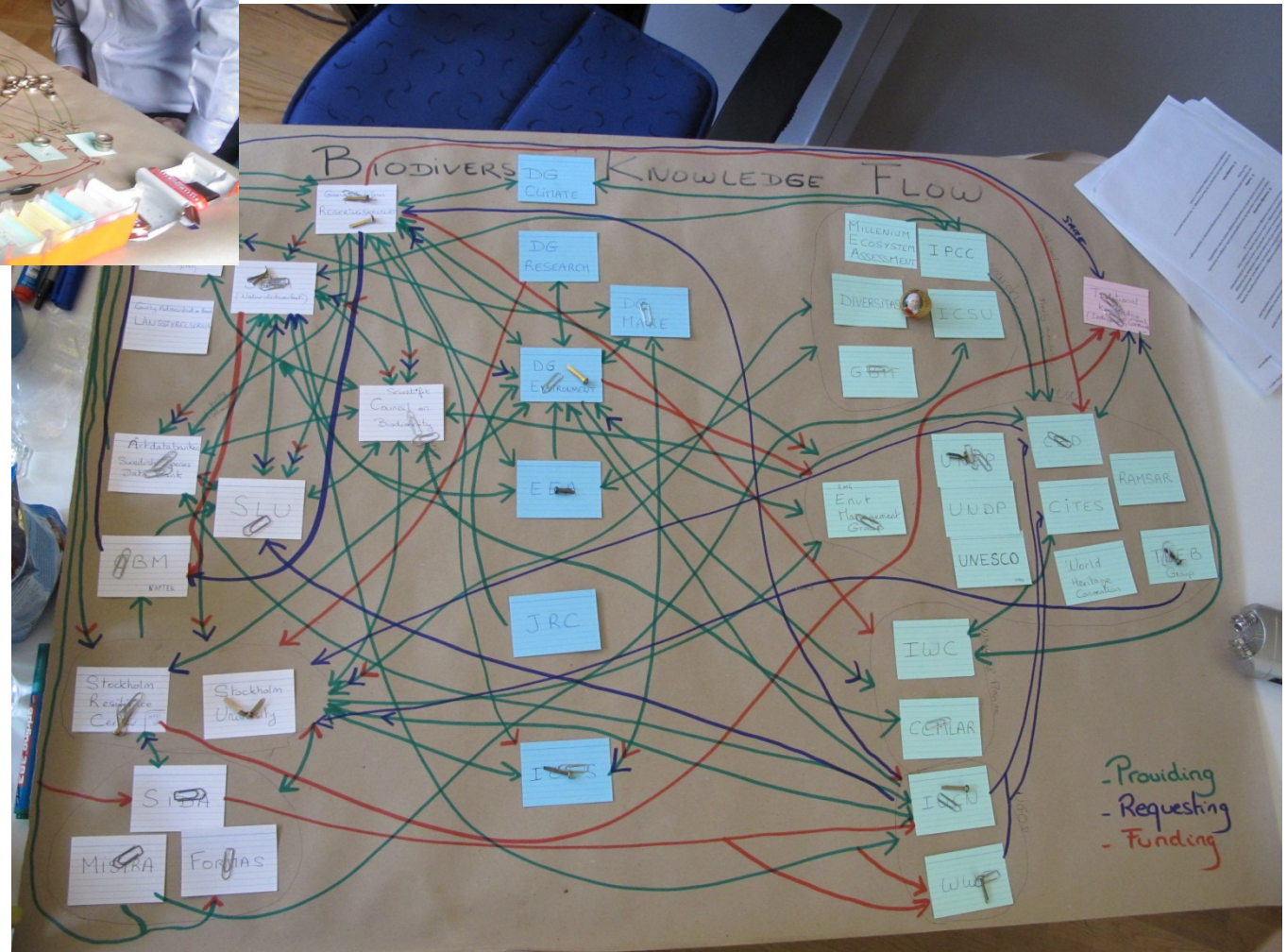
B] Complemented this overview with an interview-based method to visualize the knowledge flow through the knowledge holders

B] Visualize the biodiversity knowledge flow

*Visualizing the flows of knowledge within Europe through **interview-based method***

- **Interviews** of persons working with biodiversity issues and locating at known key nodes in the future network.
- use the interview-based mapping tool called Net-Map (Schiffer and Hauck, 2010) as a directive.
NetMap is a tool which helps to “explore relationships that shape and affect the issue at stake but are not necessarily reflected in formal hierarchies or otherwise visible”
- “Who do YOU KNOW has strongly influenced biodiversity knowledge flow in Europe the past 5 years? And how?”

2- Visualize the biodiversity knowledge flow



We have made 19 interviews at the moment and are planning:

- 4 in Marine biodiversity
- 4 in Conservation
- 4 in Agriculture
- 4 European scale

X 2 (Germany + Belgium)
= 32 interviews

1-Context

2-Project

3-First steps and Challenges

4-Get involved

Project Step 2- Developing a prototype for a network of Knowledge



PROTOTYPE

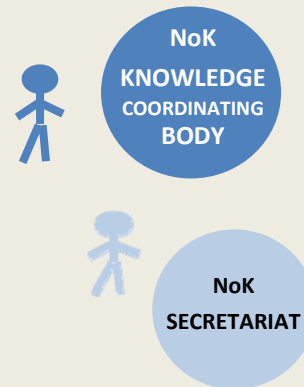
Version 10

The actors of the NoK prototype

KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS / PROVIDERS



KNOWLEDGE INTERFACE BiodiversityKnowledge NoK

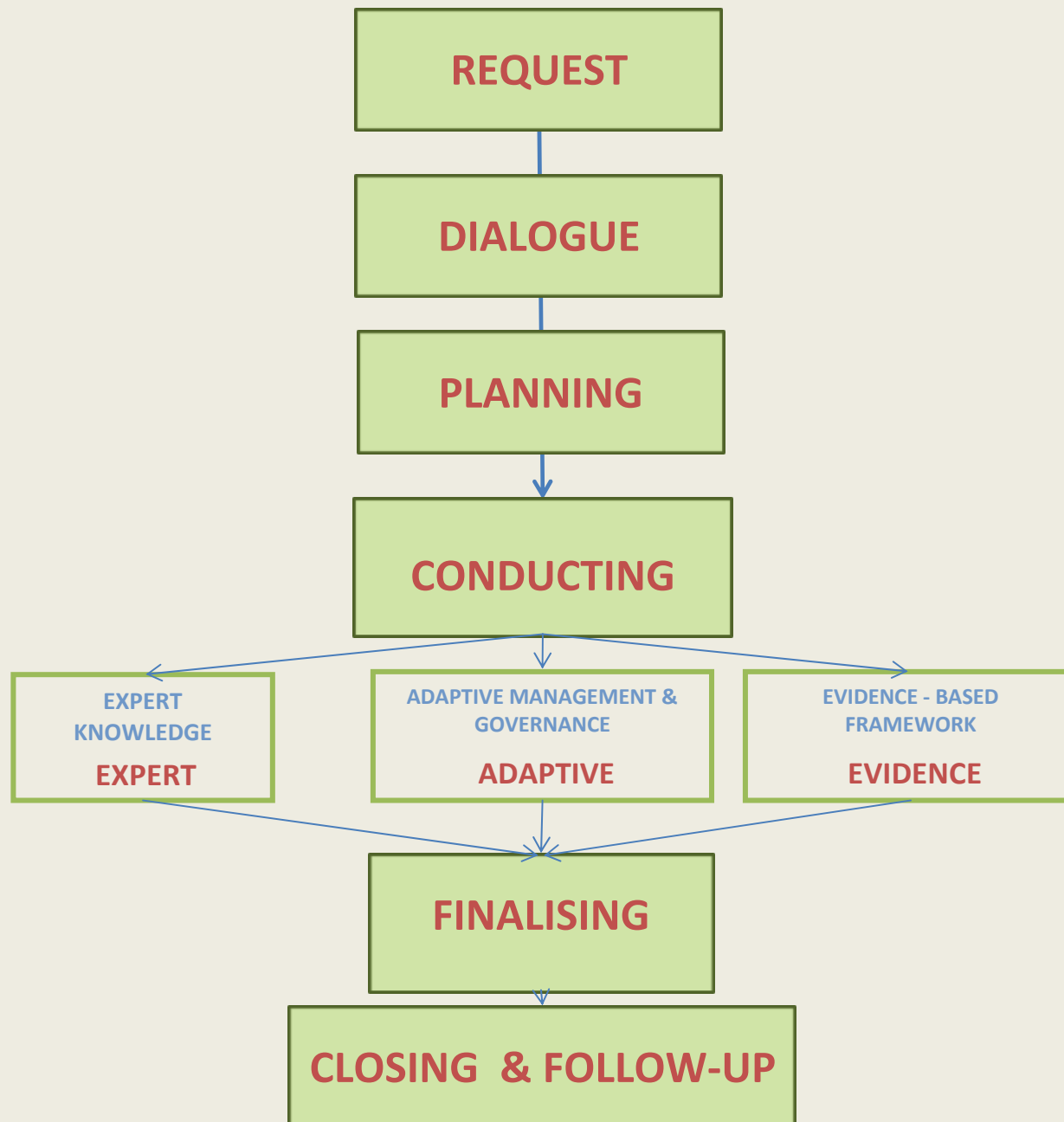


KNOWLEDGE USERS



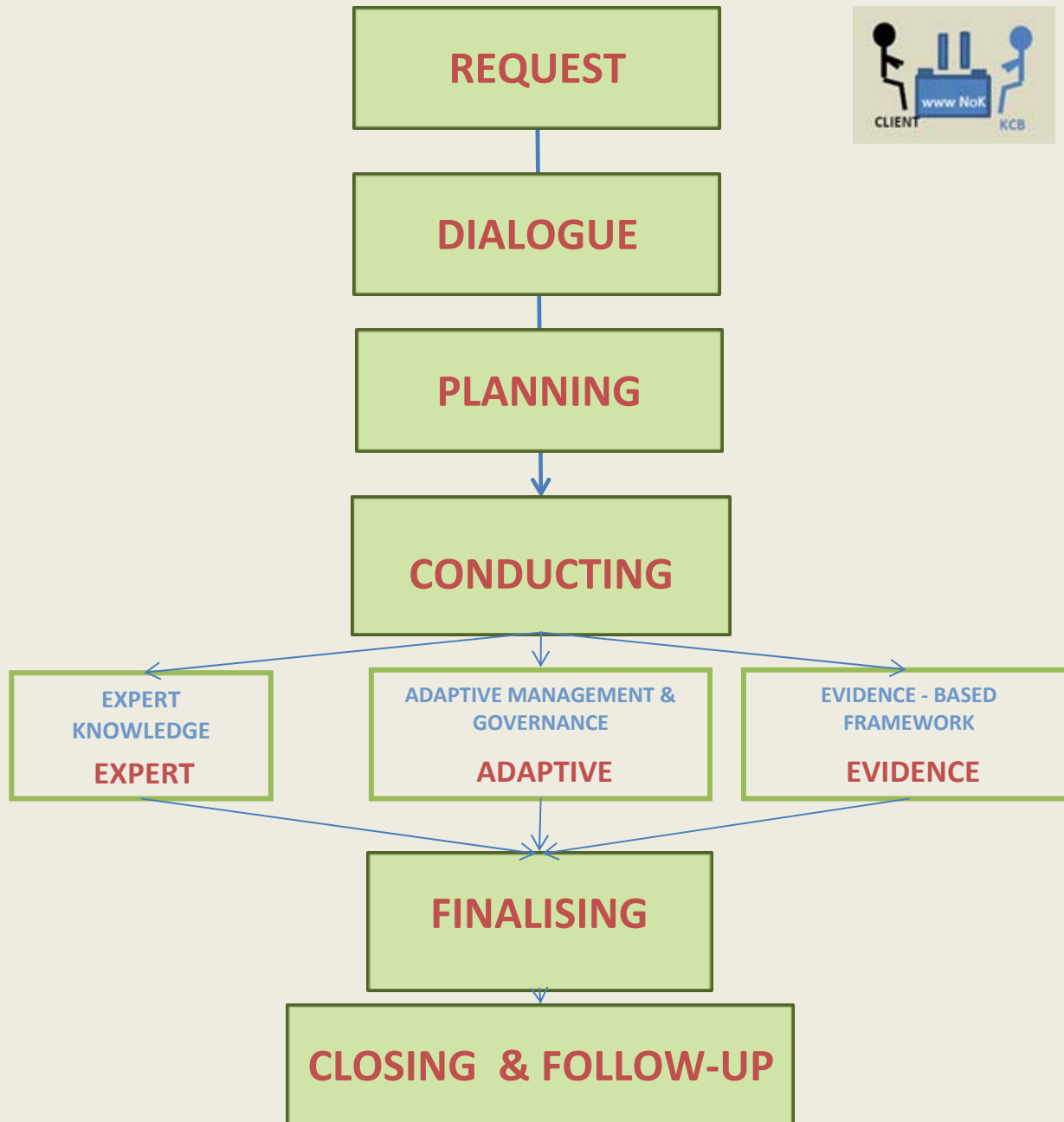
The NoK prototype steps

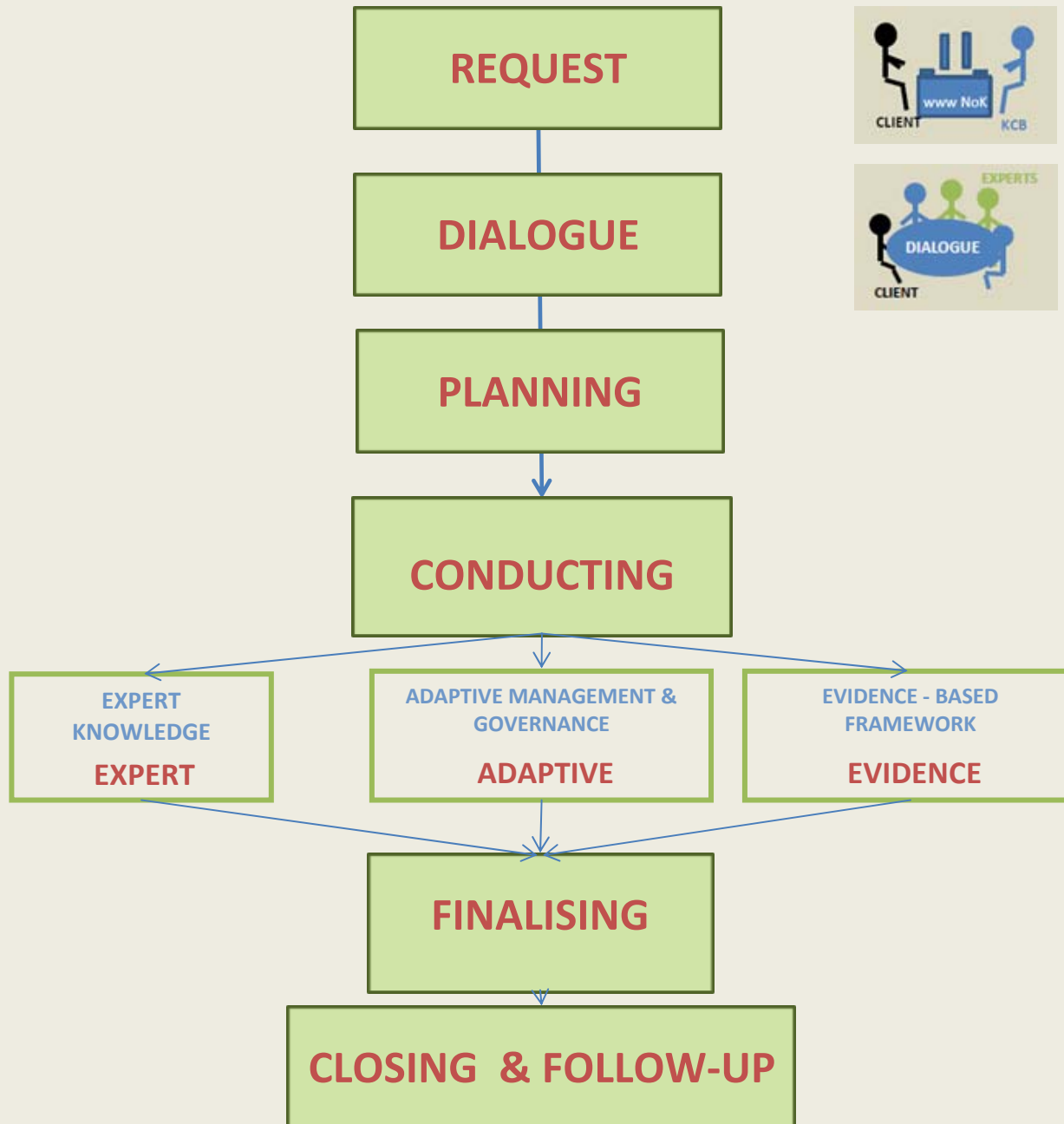
Some challenges





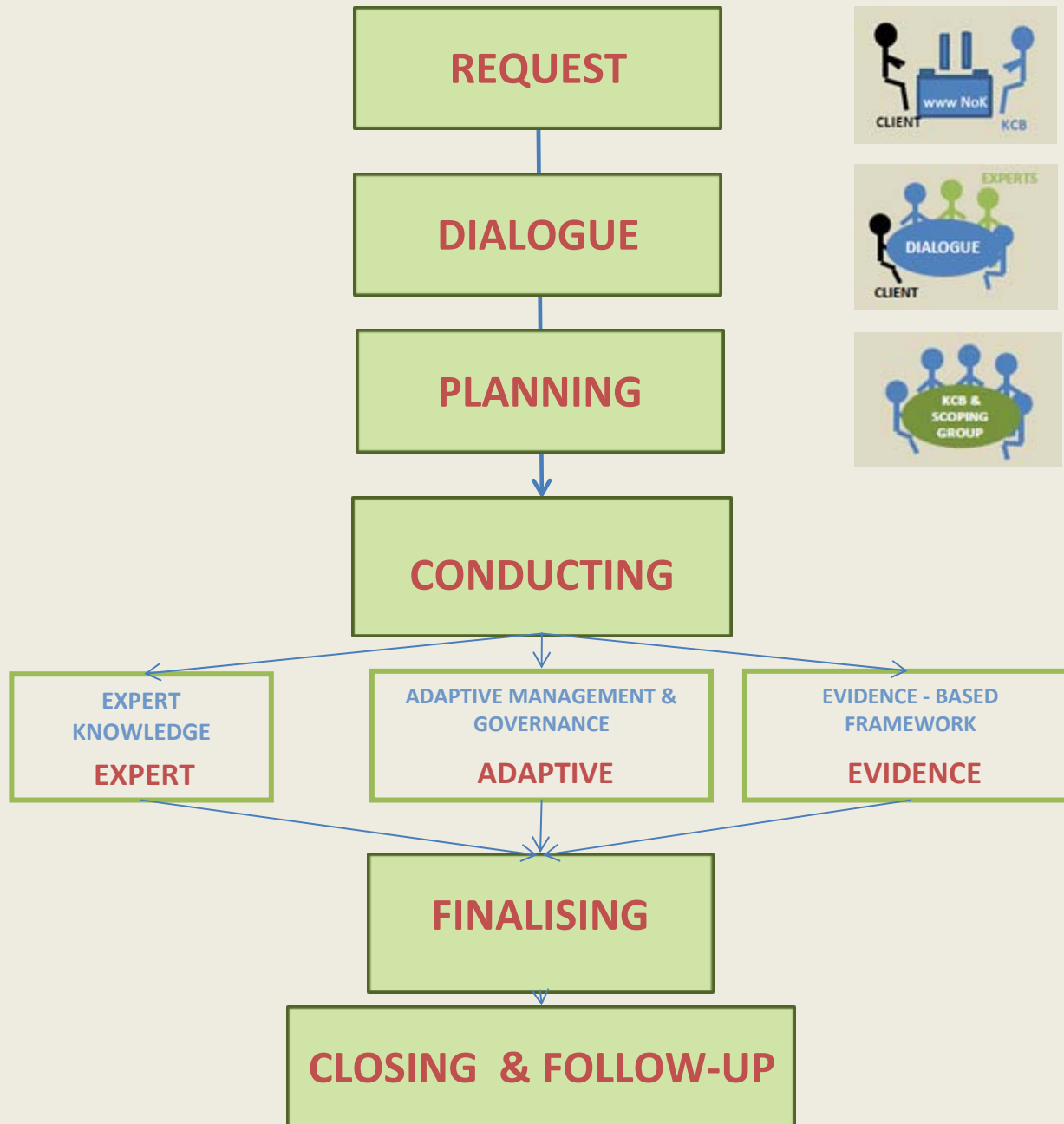
Set of criteria?





Set of criteria?

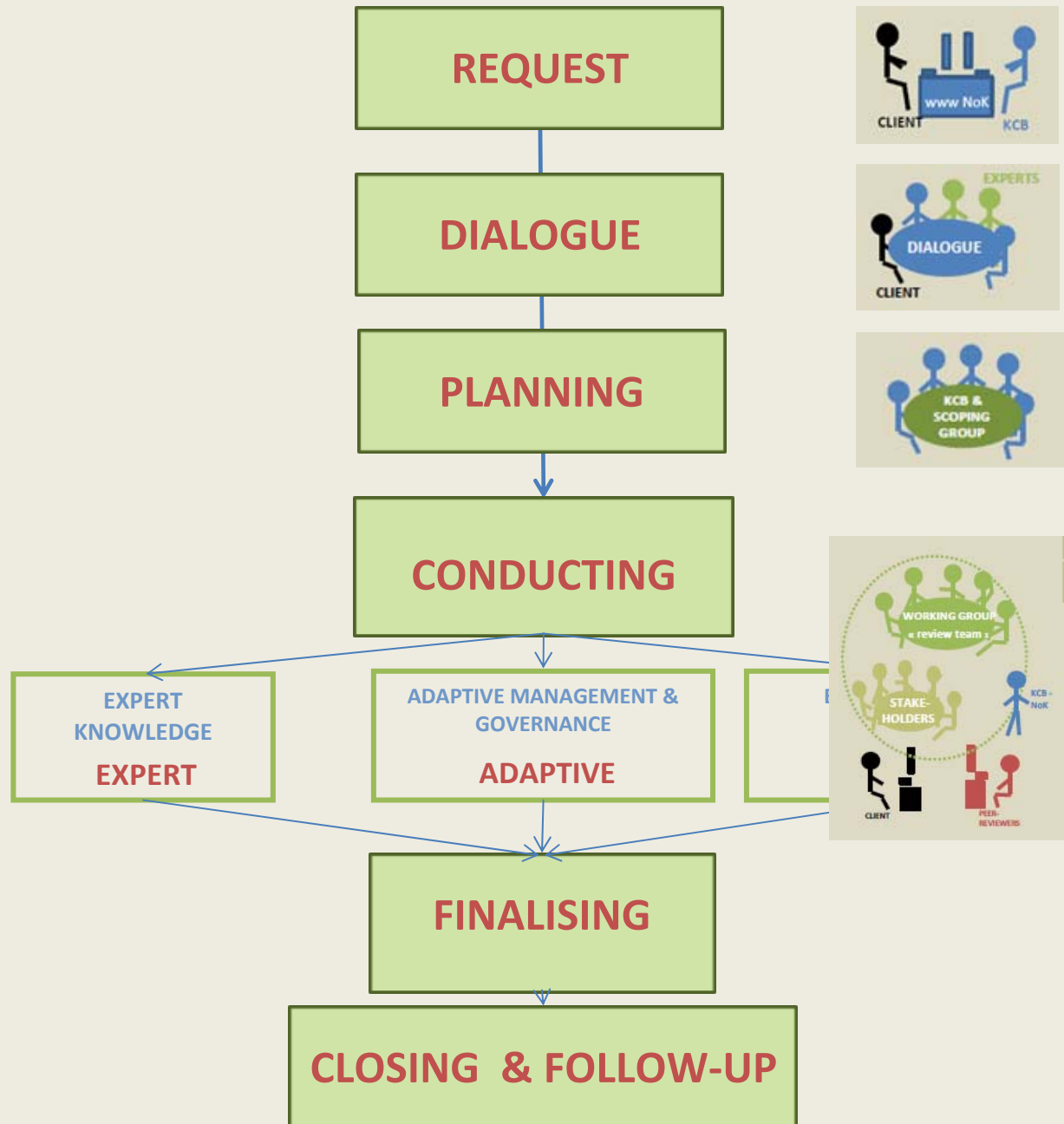
Ensuring mutual understanding of clients and knowledge holders on issue



Set of criteria?

Ensuring mutual understanding of clients and knowledge holders on issue

Selection of experts and of methodological approaches

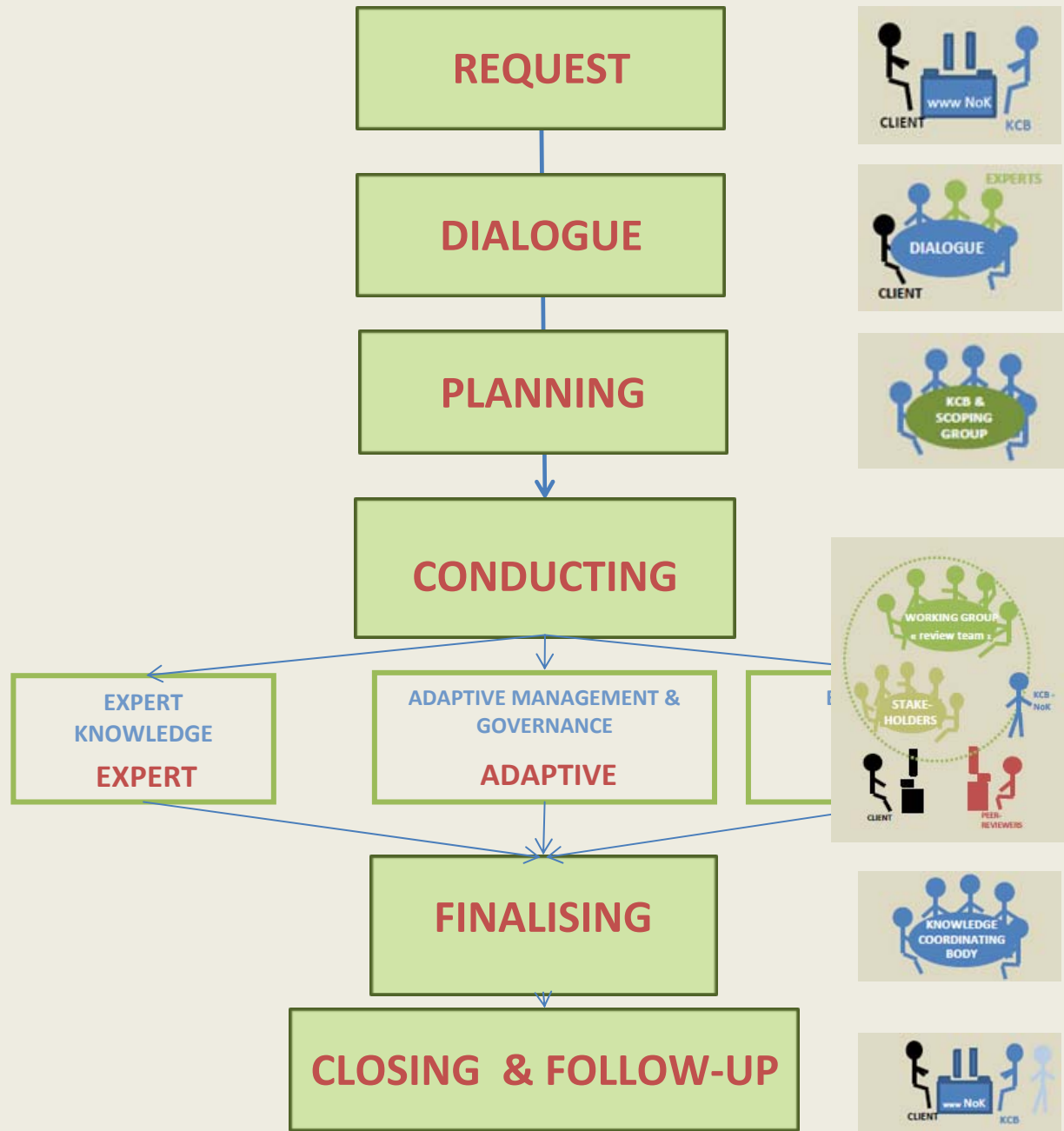


Set of criteria?

Ensuring mutual understanding of clients and knowledge holders on issue

Selection of experts and of methodological approaches

Keeping time line and ensure transparency / credibility



Set of criteria?

Ensuring mutual understanding of clients and knowledge holders on issue

Selection of experts and of methodological approaches

Keeping time line and ensure transparency / credibility

Feedback with stakeholders and clients.
&
Acknowledgement of contributions

Further steps :

- Further develop the NoK prototype
- Test it with 3 different case studies questions
- Start a broad consultation for feedback

Several ways of knowing more about Biodiversity Knowledge and being involved in the design of the NoK:

- www.biodiversityknowledge.eu

Have a look at our website!



[Home](#) [Objectives](#) [EU Project: KNEU](#) [Events](#) [Newsletters](#)

2011-10-05 [BiodiversityKnowledge at NERI conference](#)

a NoK explained



Concept

The Network of Knowledge



Background

The biodiversity challenge



Your involvement

Your expertise is needed!

[Follow our progress](#)

[Mapping the Knowledge](#)

[Designing the Network](#)

[Case studies](#)

[BiodiversityKnowledge in International Innovation:](#)



[Google calendar](#)

KNEU is a Coordination Action Project funded under the European Commission's Framework Seven Programme, contract number 265299

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Several ways of knowing more about BiodiversityKnowledge and being involved in the design of the NoK:

- www.biodiversityknowledge.eu
- Register to our Newsletter at newsletter@biodiversityknowledge.eu

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- www.biodiversityknowledge.eu
- Register to our Newsletter at newsletter@biodiversityknowledge.eu
- Participate to and/or read the reports on the website from the project conferences and ws
- Presence of BiodiversityKnowledge at different meetings, international conferences, ws....



Biodiversity Knowledge

Help us make a difference !

For biodiversity and
ecosystem services
RESEARCH

For biodiversity and
ecosystem services
POLICY in Europe

And for supporting
IPBES from a
European perspective



Biodiversity Knowledge

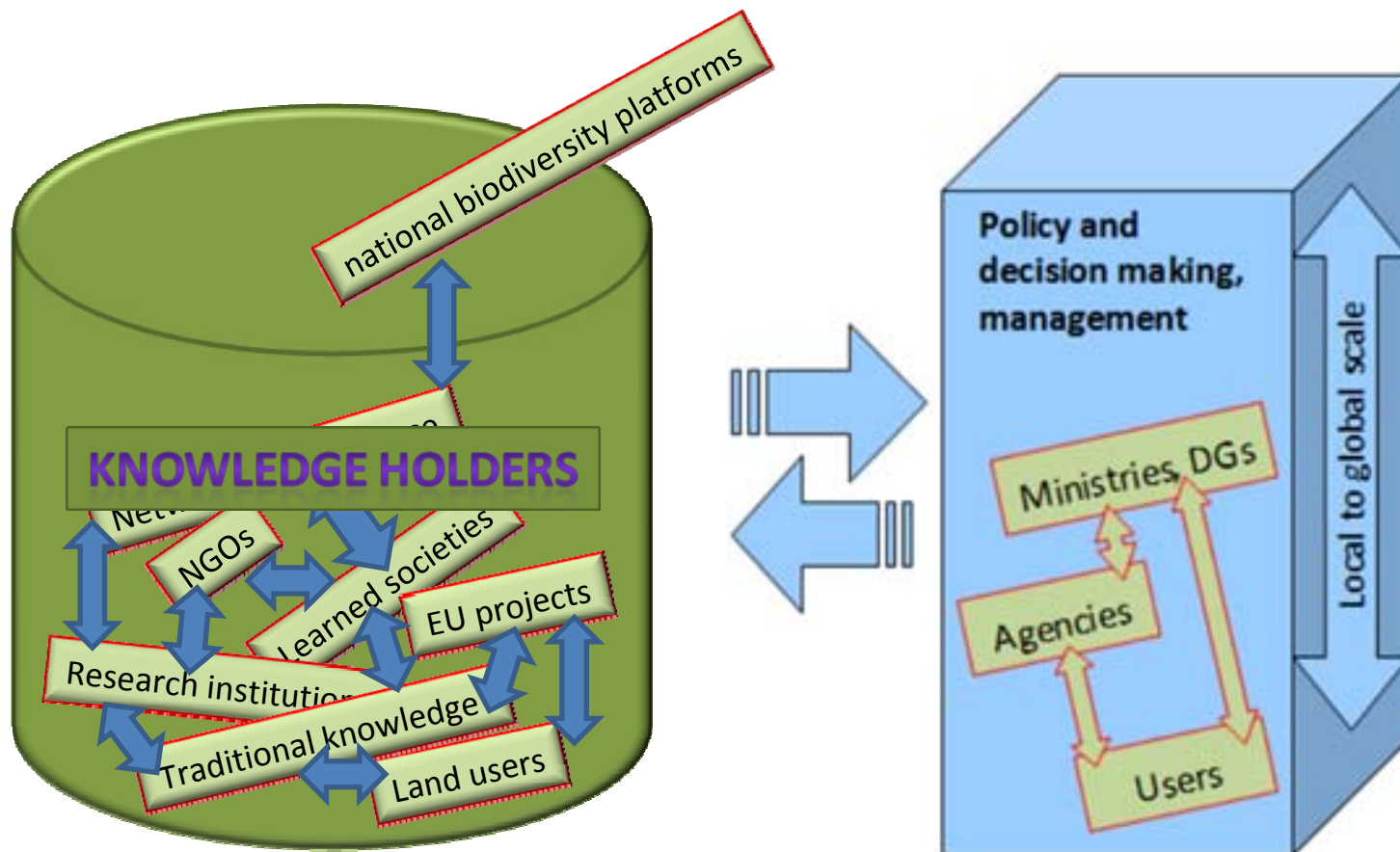
Help us make a difference !

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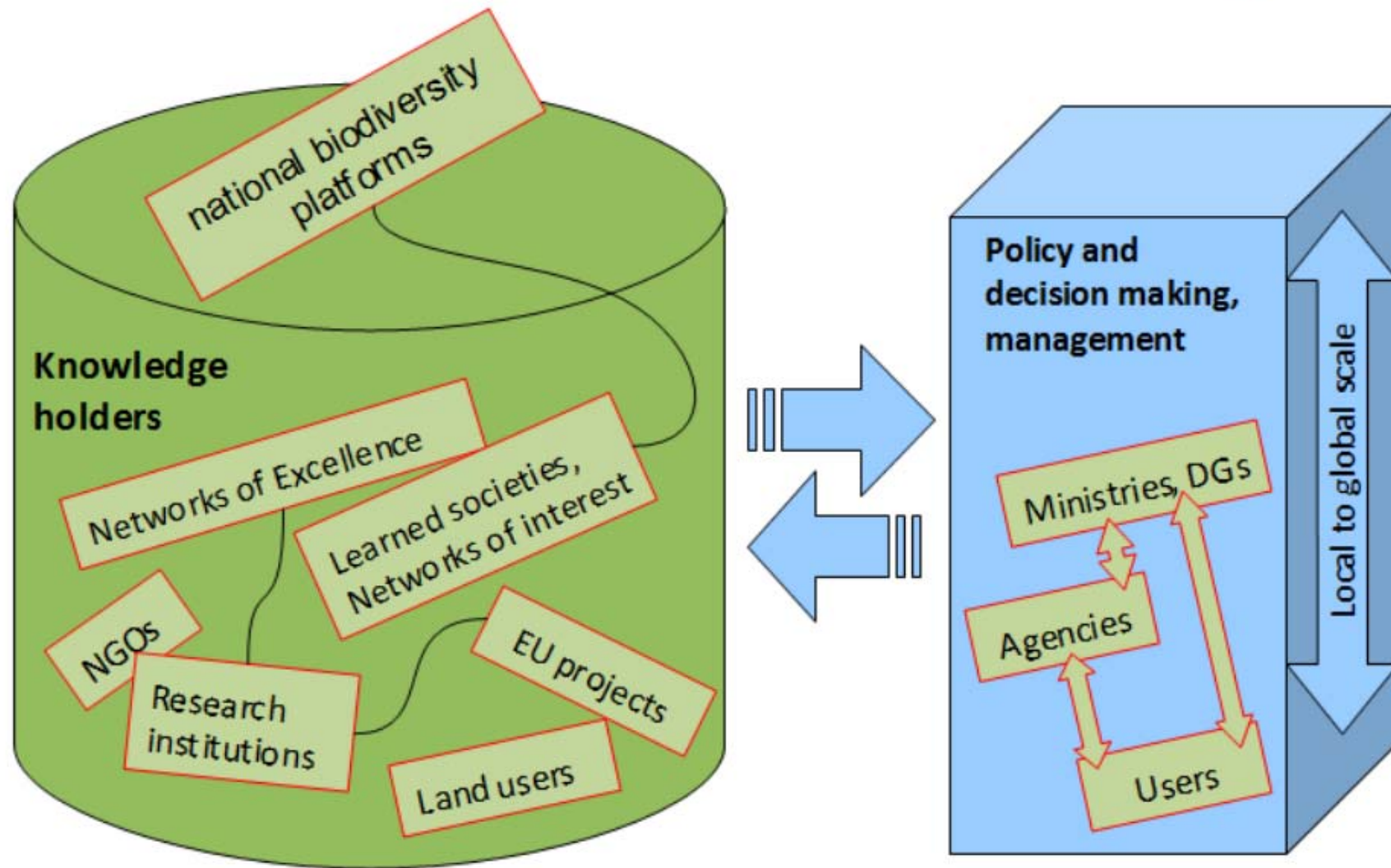
For biodiversity and
ecosystem services
POLICY in Europe

And for supporting
IPBES from a
European perspective

Thanks for your attention



A still diverse and poorly connected knowledge community meets a decision making environment with increased needs for information and knowledge



Understanding of the main terms in the context of this project

KNOWLEDGE: Biodiversity management and policy require information gathered from a wide range of knowledge types. This includes scientific knowledge in the strict sense (mainly backed by peer-reviewed literature), but ALSO knowledge from practical (management) experience and other evidence-based sources.

KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS: People and institutions that possess relevant knowledge in various areas of expertise, including scientists from different fields, practitioners in biodiversity management, administrative bodies, companies, NGOs and indigenous and local people.

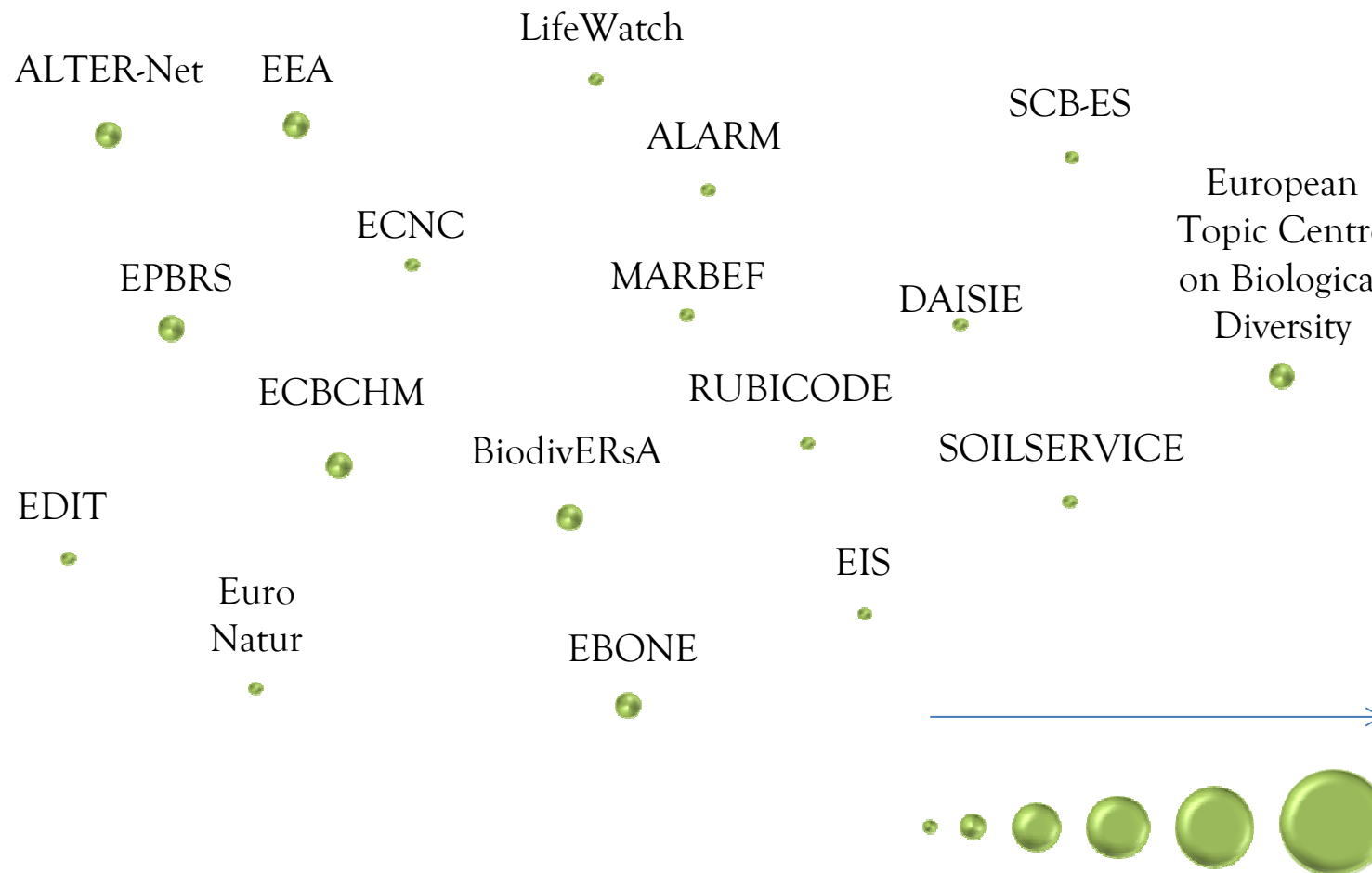


CLIENTS: Clients of a network of knowledge are people and institutions responsible for the management and policy strategies on biodiversity and ecosystem services which approach the network with questions related to their responsibility. These clients include political institutions like DGs, ministries, European and national agencies as well as European or international conventions. They may also include the private sector and its umbrella organizations and NGOs in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

1- Mapping the knowledge flow within Europe

Biodiversity Knowledge Flow: European hubs

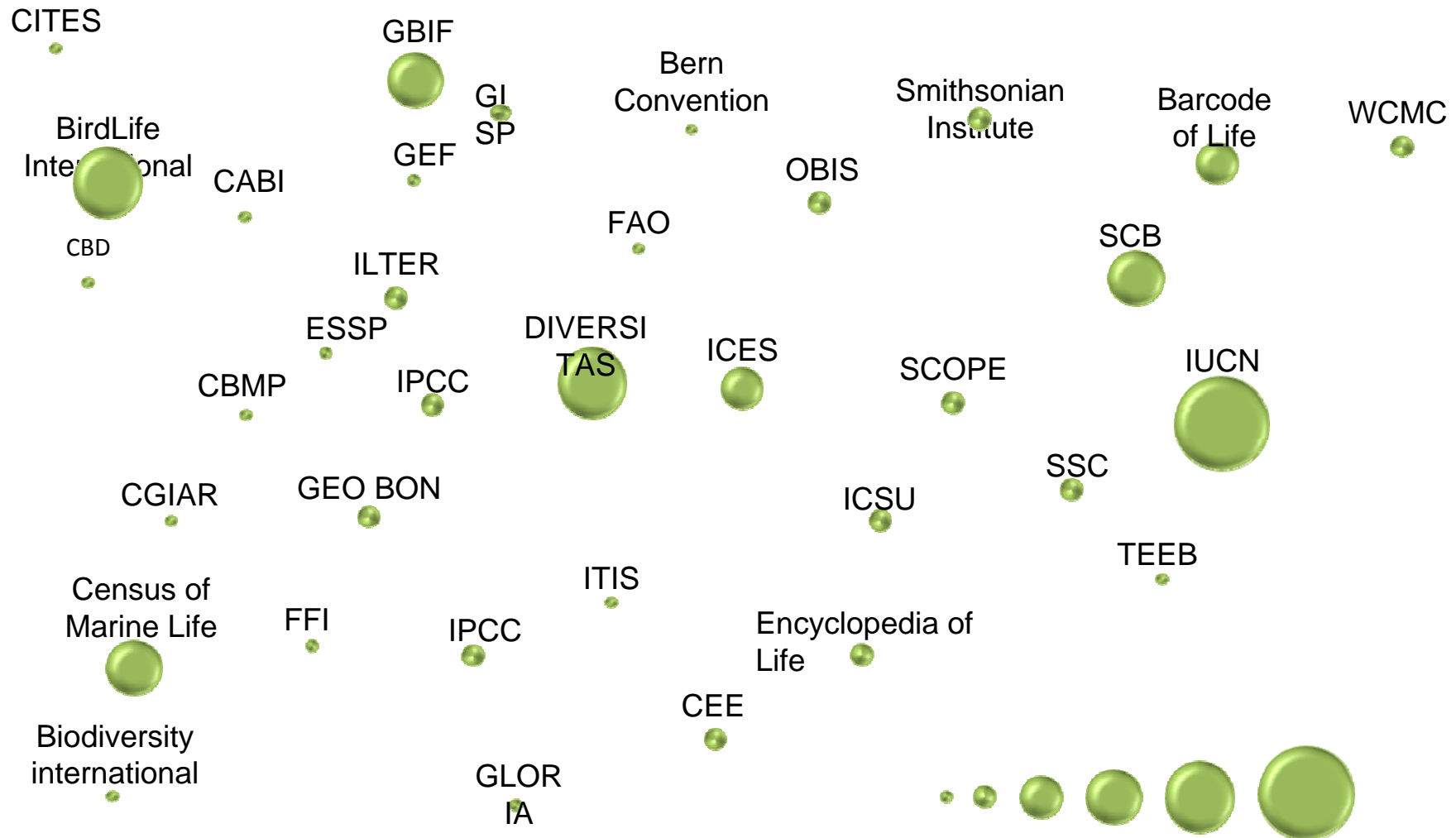
European Knowledge hubs/Key networks or Initiatives that have influenced most the knowledge flow on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the past 5 years

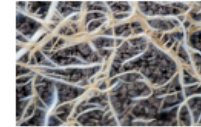


1- Mapping the knowledge **flow** within Europe

Biodiversity Knowledge Flow: Global hubs

Global Knowledge hubs/Key networks or Initiatives that have influenced most the knowledge **flow** on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the past 5 years





[» Home](#) [» Objectives](#) [» Project: FP7 Coordination Action KNEU](#)



NoK

(network of knowledge)

PROTOTYPE

Version 10



Concept

The Network of Knowledge



Background

The biodiversity challenge

KNEU is a Coordination Action Project funded under the European Commission's

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STAKEHOLDERS

include knowledge holders/providers as well as clients as these two categories may overlap.



CLIENTS

CLIENTS

People and institutions responsible for the management and policy strategies on biodiversity and ecosystem services, approaching NoK with questions/problems related to their responsibility.

Political institutions (DGs), ministries, European and national agencies, European or international conventions, private sector and its umbrella organisations, NGOs



KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS / PROVIDERS

People & institutions possessing relevant knowledge in various areas of expertise. NoK aims to *make it easy for knowledge holders to become knowledge providers*

Scientists, practitioners, administrations, companies, NGOs, indigenous and local people, scientific societies, institutes, governmental agencies, consultants...)

KNOWLEDGE HUBS:

Networking person or institution. They have an overview of knowledge holders in a given area/ organization/ country and are able and willing to link these with the requests identified and tackled by the NoK.

NoK network of knowledge



NoK KNOWLEDGE COORDINATING BODY

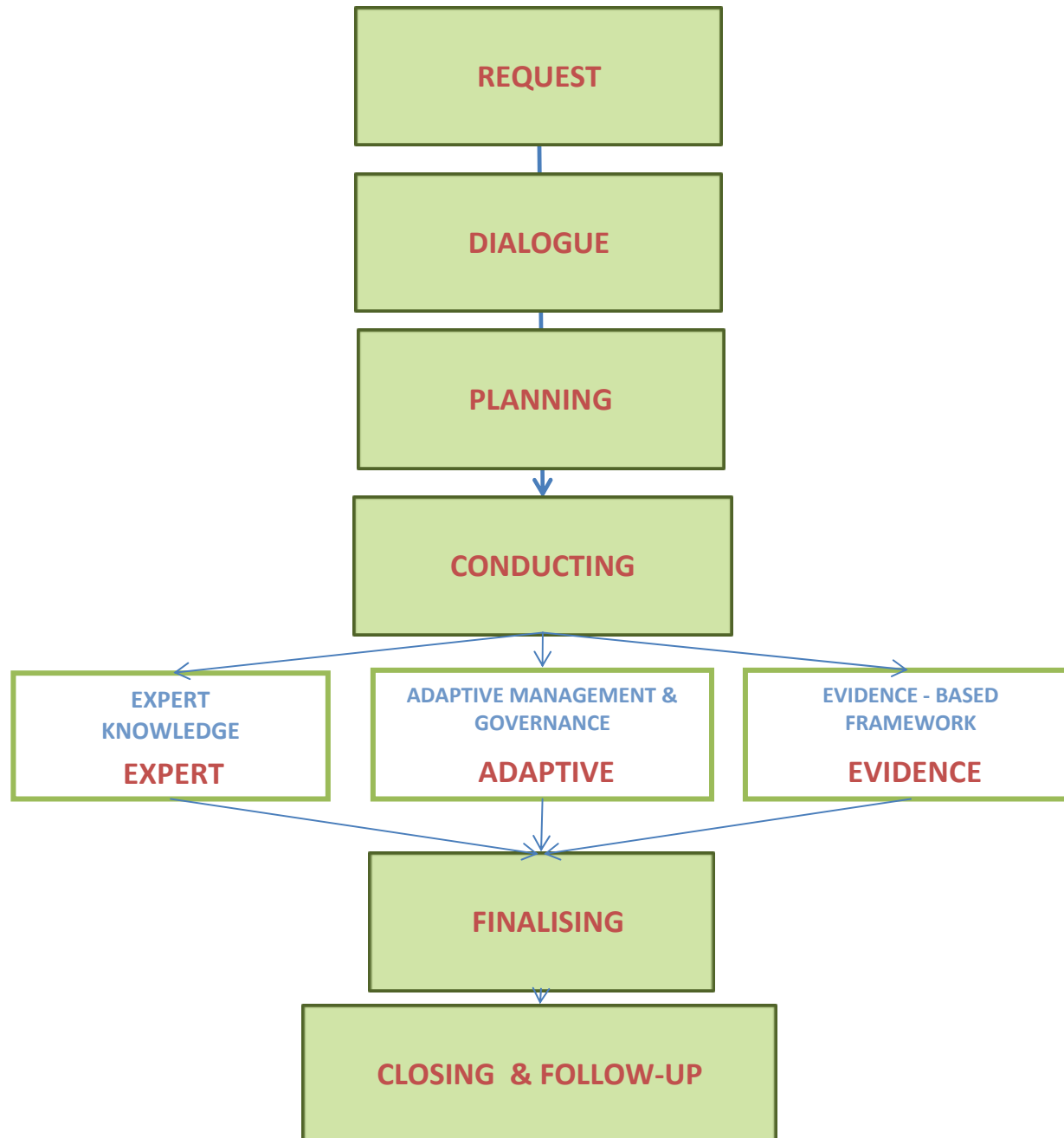
KNOWLEDGE COORDINATING BODY identifies appropriate knowledge providers and communicates the question asked by the client, convenes working groups or other meetings, maintains dialogue across actors and organise (peer) review of documents.



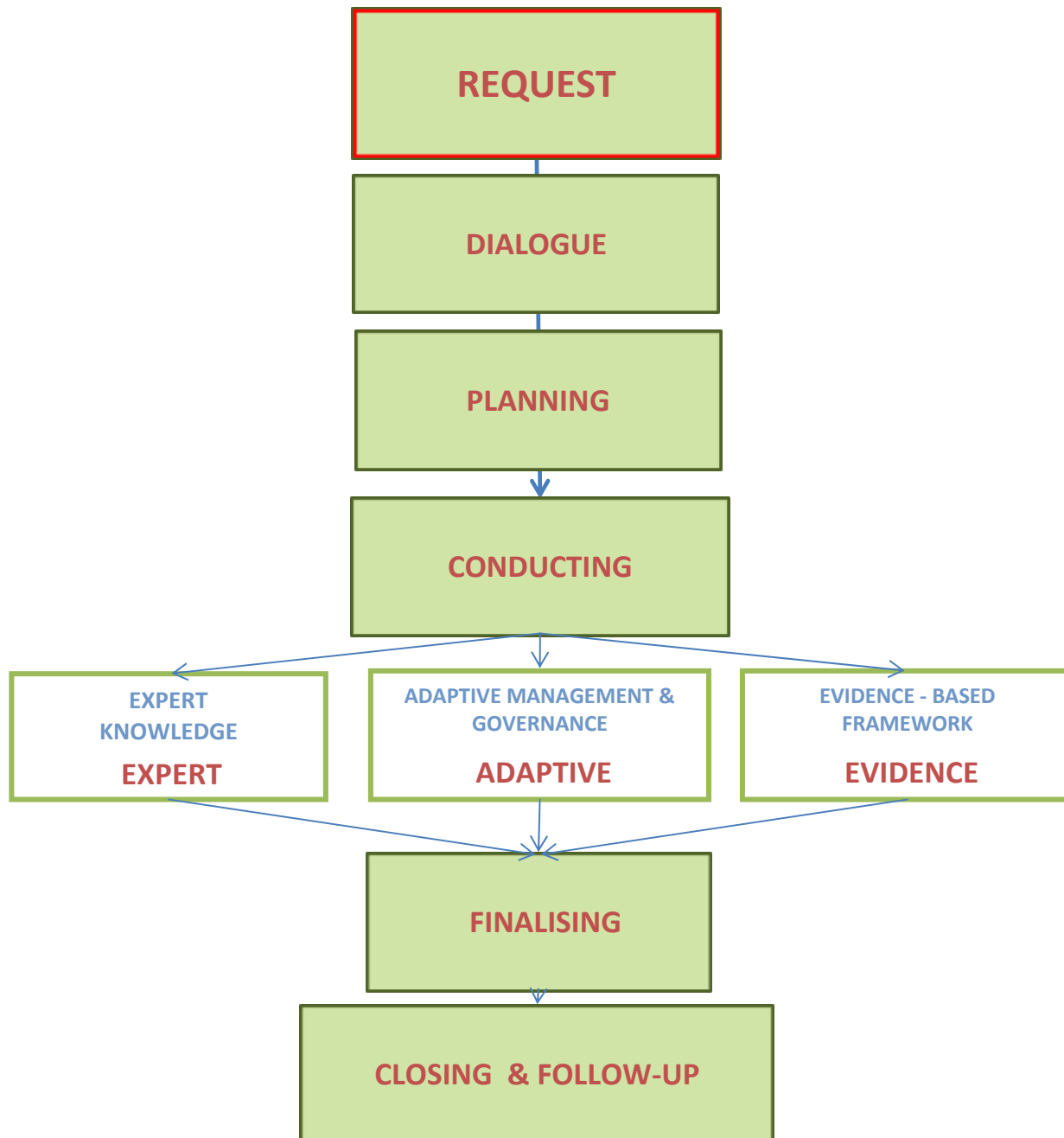
NoK SECRETARIAT

NoK SECRETARIAT schedules and handles the day-to-day work and budget, supports the work of the NoK, liases with knowledge hubs . May be responsible for developing communication strategies/plans and ensure their implementation.

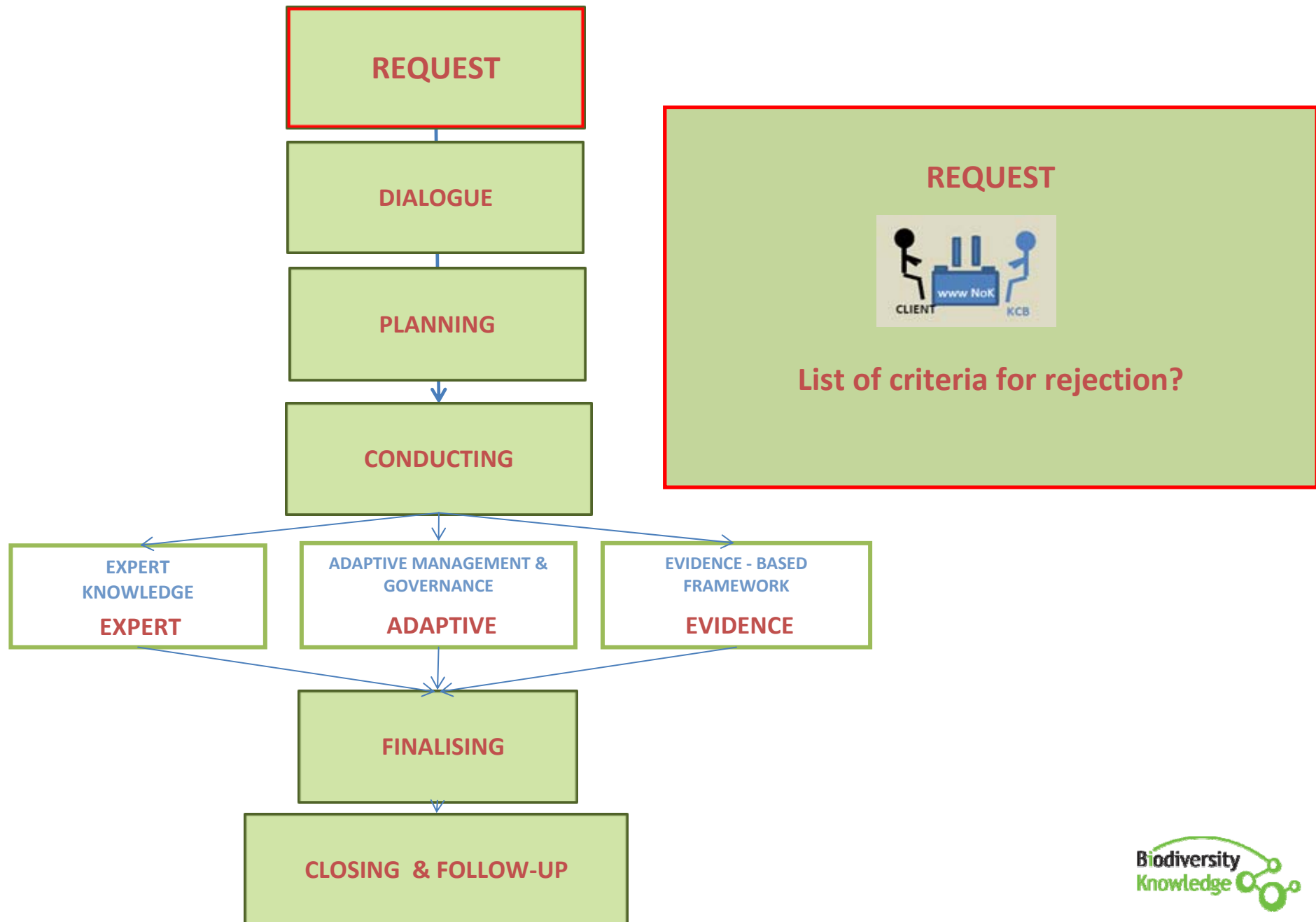
The steps



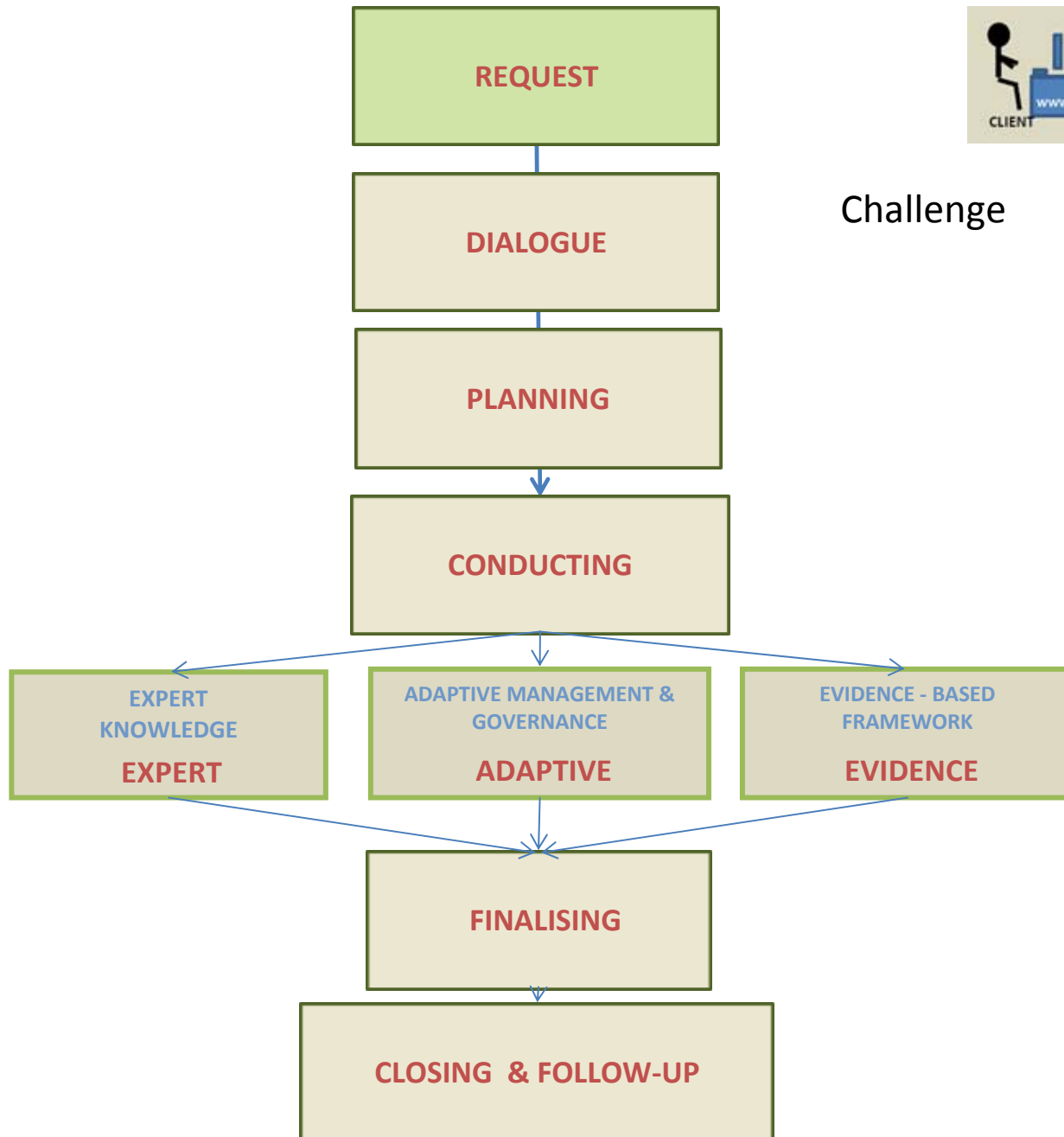
The steps



The steps

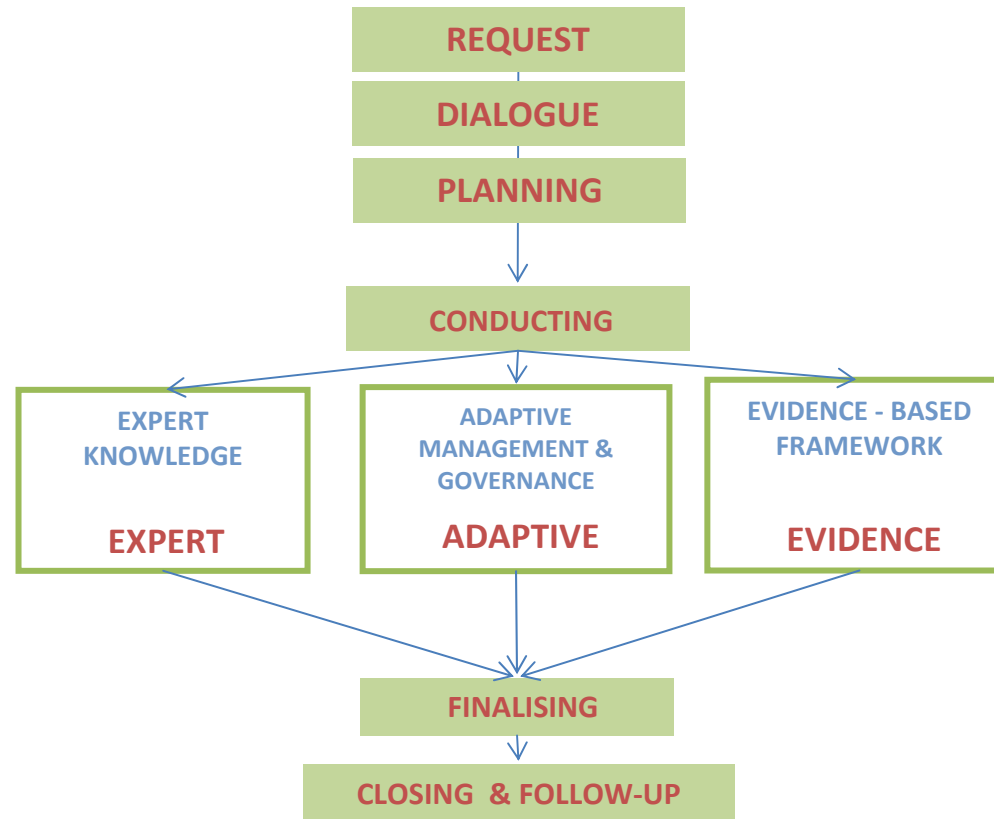


The steps

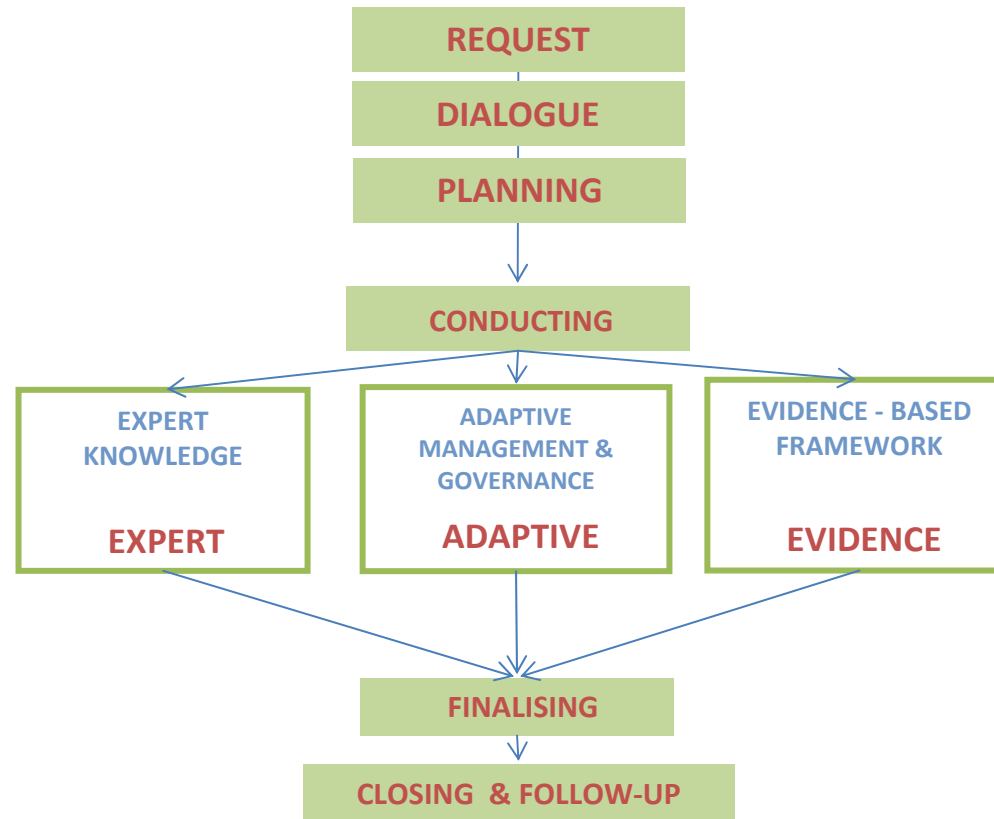


Challenge

THE STEPS



THE STEPS



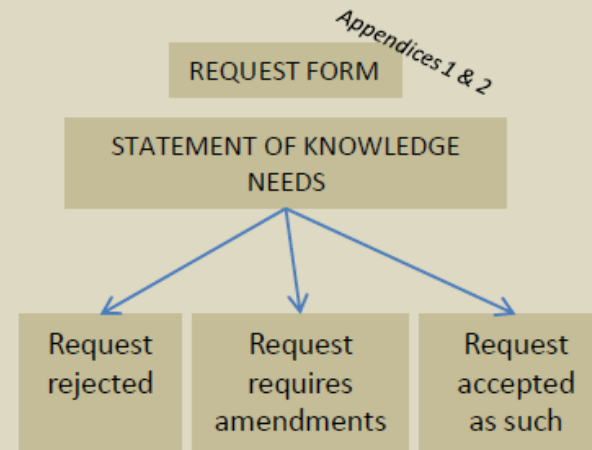
PROCESS

ACTORS

OUTCOME

Comments

CLIENT SENDS A REQUEST TO NOK - KCB



The client completes a request form available online (NoK portal) See Appendices. Completing a request form simplifies work, saves time, and « encourages » the client to deposit a well-defined request

NoK SECRETARIAT

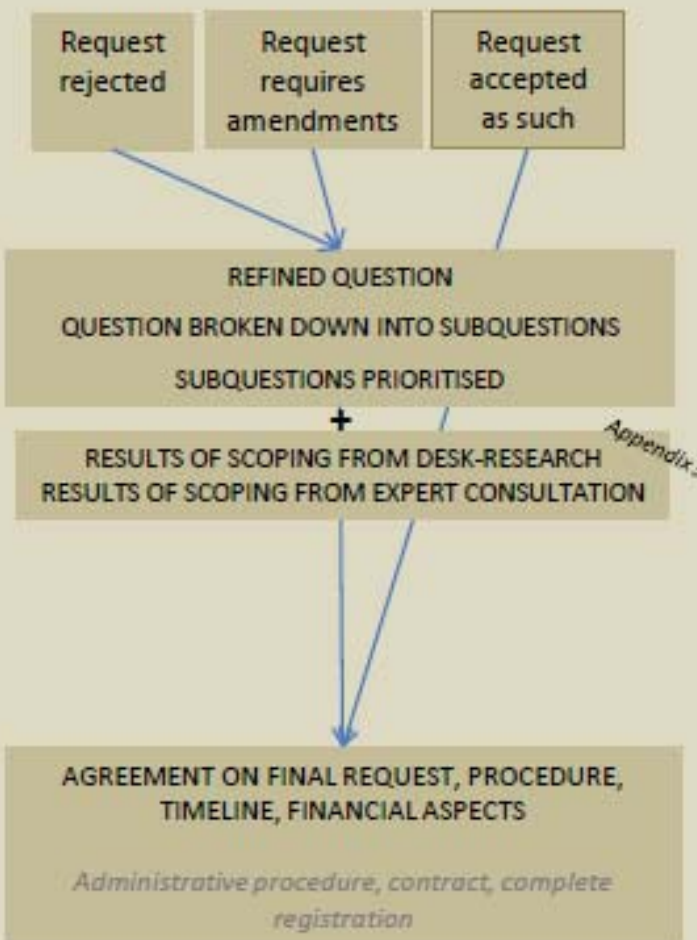
*Request recorded and tracked
Preliminary financial negotiations*

PROCESS

ACTORS

OUTCOME

Comments



* Scoping: preliminary rapid procedure to get insight about feasibility, quantity of knowledge and type of knowledge in order to facilitate planning and choice among knowledge synthesis options/methodologies

PROCESS

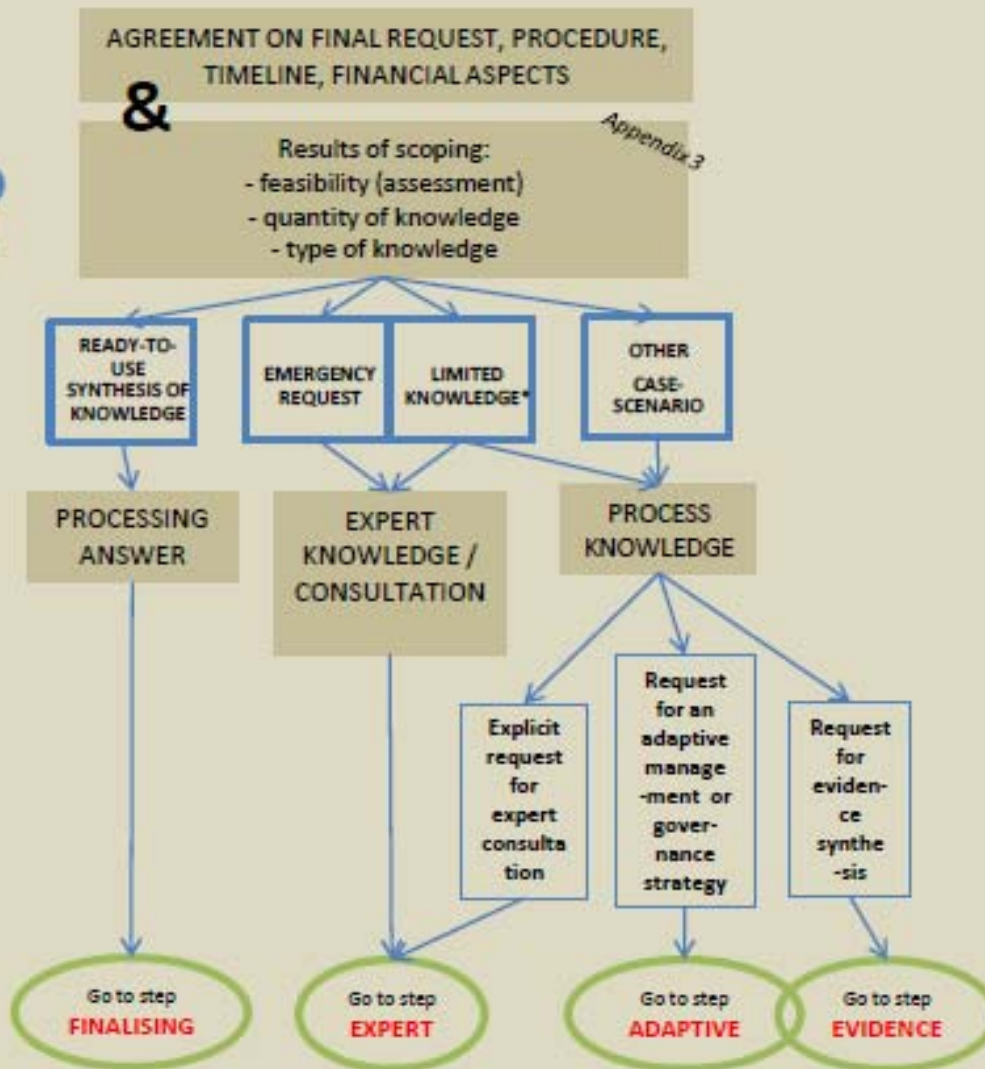
ACTORS

OUTCOME

Comments



KNOWLEDGE HUBS, HOLDERS, PROVIDERS



* Nota: limited knowledge in quality and/or quantity



KNOWLEDGE HUBS,
HOLDERS, PROVIDERS

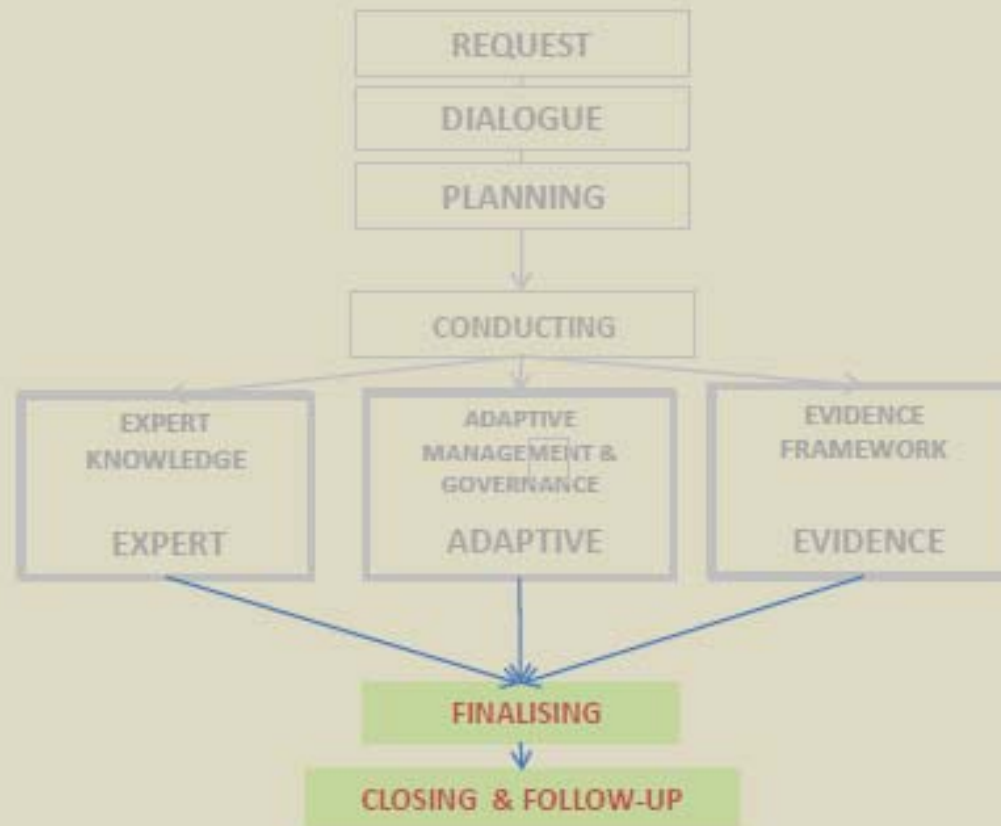


A WORKING GROUP IS CREATED
OR CHOSEN TO « structure,
organise and conduct the handling
of a question/problem raised
towards the NoK, using different
methods and produce a report »

THE STEPS



THE STEPS

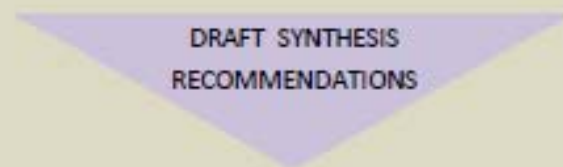


PROCESS

ACTORS

OUTCOME

Comments



feed-back client
open consultation
peer-review
Feedback Coord. Body



FEEDBACKS

(also see checklists in Rundall et al 2007)

Quality assurance
Accuracy of information, external/internal validity, reliability, « risk assessment » / confidence, level of transparency & replicability

Limitations: relevance to real-world conditions, measurable indicators of performance, applicability, adequacy of the information, actionability of the evidence

Alternative options: if a dominant answer is not obvious (multiple options present themselves), the client should be informed of the potential trade-offs associated with each option

Expected barriers: to use of synthesis, including time pressure, perceived threats to autonomy, preference for colloquial knowledge, lack of resources. Suggests performance indicators

Lifespan of the answer: Anticipate need for future updating?

FINAL SYNTHESIS

VALIDATION BY CLIENT / PEER-REVIEWERS / KNOWLEDGE COORDINATING BODY

PROCESS

ACTORS

OUTCOME

Comments

CLOSING-UP

PUBLICATION

NoK
SECRETARIAT

CLIENT POST-
OPERATIONAL
FEEDBACK TO
NoK



FINAL SYNTHESIS

(Policy) briefs, fact-sheets
Confidential reports?
Press releases
Archives / open-access database
Knowledge transfer tailored to end-users (scientists, policy-makers, managers, business, conservation bodies, consultants, media, general public...)

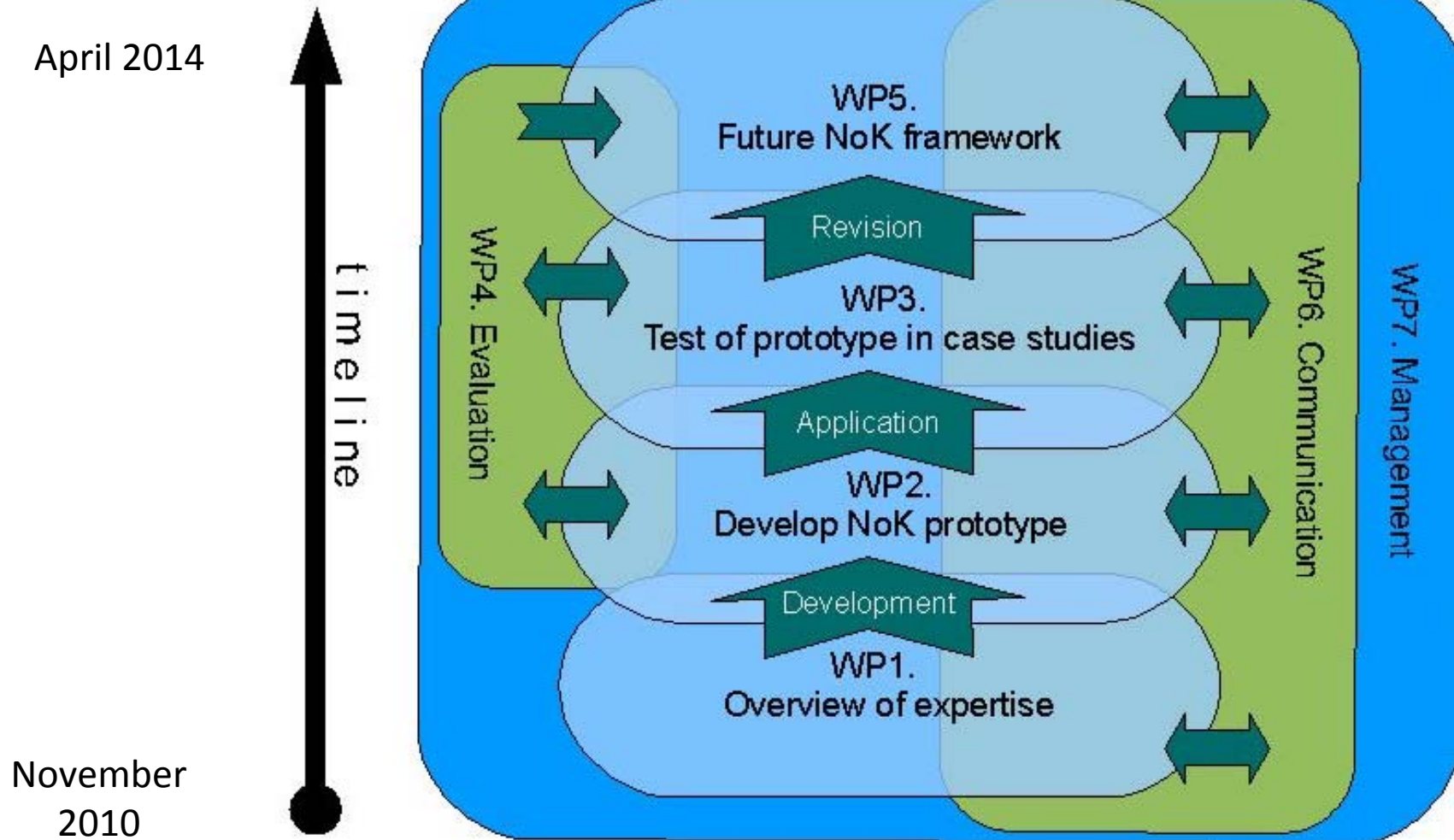
Dissemination stage:

- level of understanding, adoption/adhesion, opposition
- use, implementation (range, frequency)
- barriers to knowledge use

Monitoring

- learning cycle (adaptive mgt)
- new requests emerging from application
- consequences of intervention)

Design of the project: Overall project through WPs, links and goals



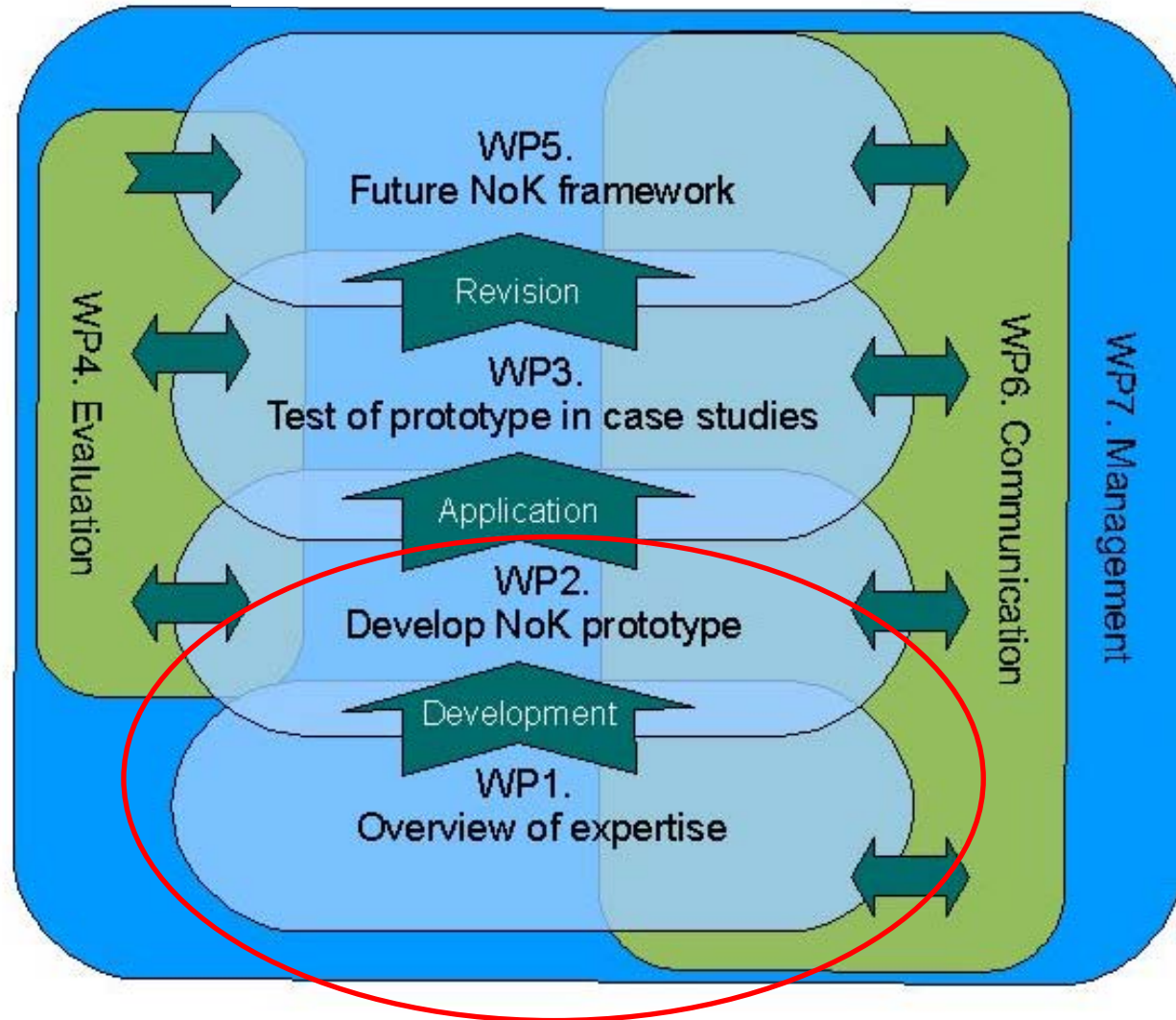
Design of the project: Overall project through WPs, links and goals



April 2014

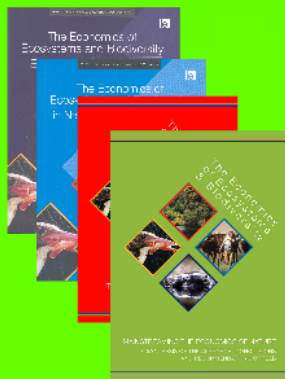


November 2010

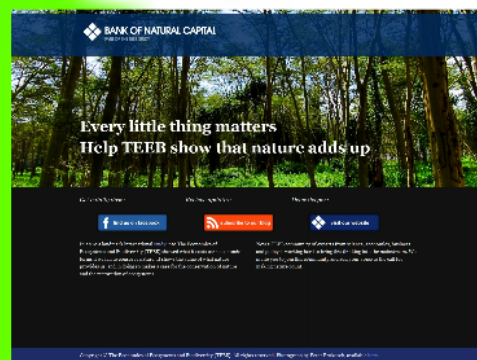


Products with policy relevance, including knowledge from research projects and networks

e.g. TEEB



reports



websites

TEEBcase Collection



best practices