

EU – Agricultural Outlook Conference

Global Food Security Challenges Lessons from EXPO Milan Conference

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Global Food Security

occurs when all people at all times have access to **sufficient, safe and nutritious** food that meets their dietary needs and preferences for an **active and healthy life**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

SDG 2:

- End hunger
- Achieve food security
- And improved nutrition
- Promote sustainable agriculture

The Scientific Steering Committee

IDEA:

... to establish the EU's role as a key player in the debate about Global Food and Nutrition Security and to work towards a fruitful collaboration on these matters with other stakeholders, both public and private (COM 2013)

INITIATIVE:

... is a joint initiative of the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Italian Government, launched on March 21, 2014



Four recommendations

Rec 1) Systems Thinking and Interdisciplinarity

Rec 2) Innovating Engagement in the “Sustainable Food Challenge”

Rec 3) Driving the Innovation Environment

Rec 4) Towards an International Panel on Food and Nutrition Security



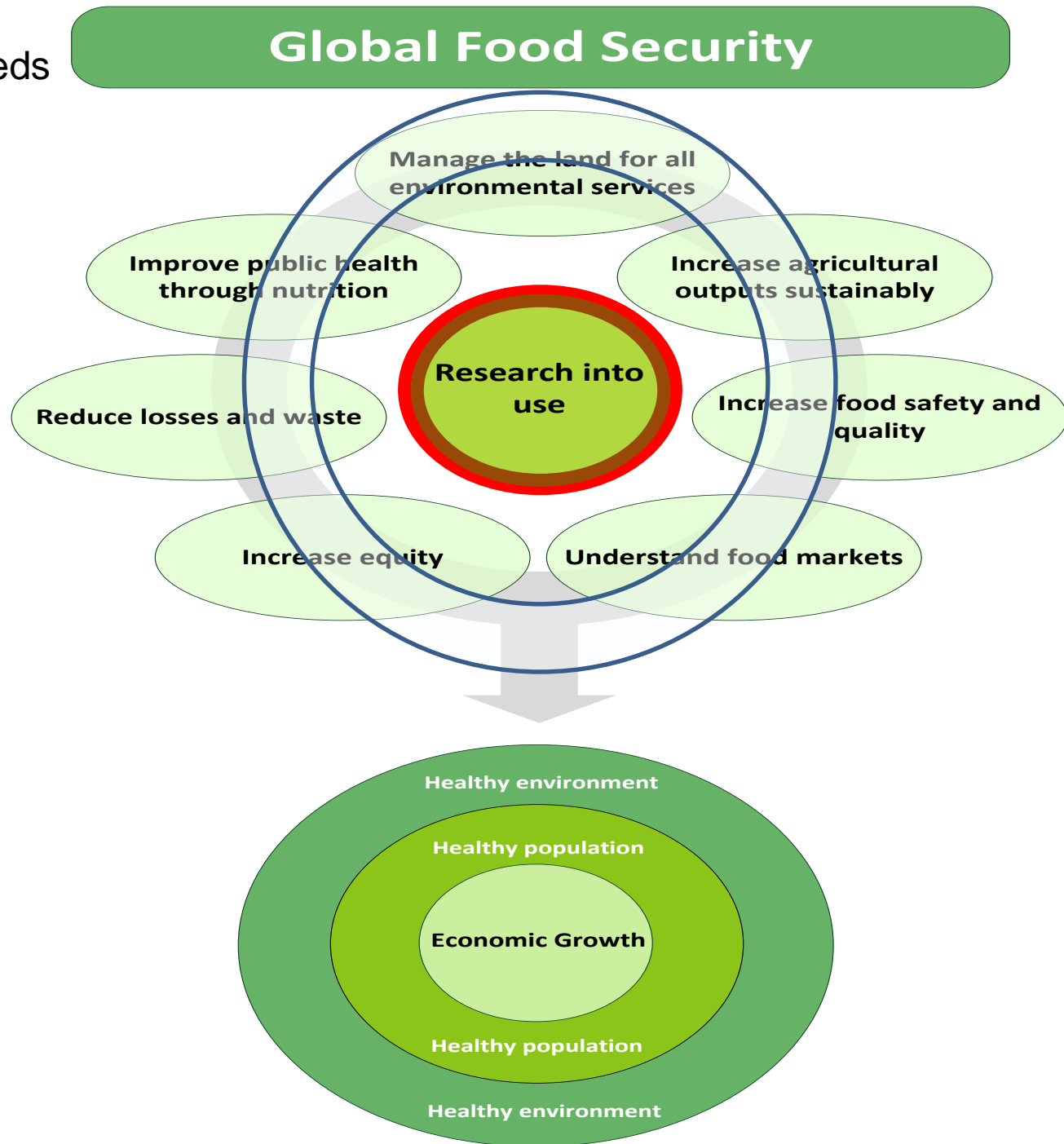
The VISION: sustainable, nutritious food to meet needs for a healthy diet for all

Recommendation 1:
“systems thinking” and interdisciplinary research

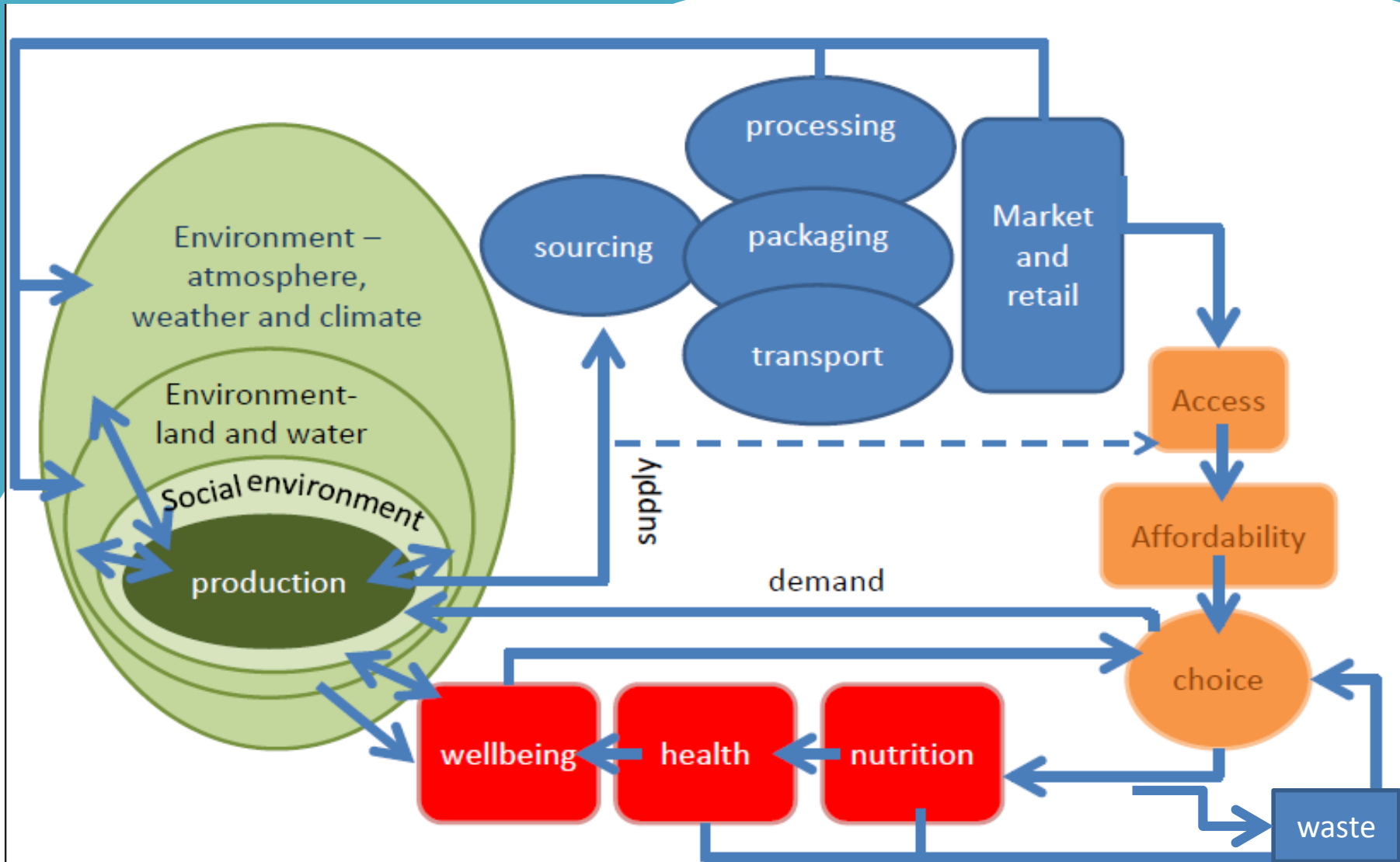
Recommendation 2:
innovating engagement in the “sustainable food” challenge

Recommendation 3:
driving the innovation environment

END GAME:
healthy environment,
population and
economy



“Rec 1: Systems Thinking and Interdisciplinarity



Rec 1: Systems Thinking and Interdisciplinarity

- **Innovate to create a culture of systems thinking embedded in universities, government and industry.** For example by framing disciplinary challenges within interdisciplinary thinking. In particular:
 - foster **more interdisciplinary research** through investments in research in programmes, projects and encouragement for interdisciplinary training, and discipline hopping
 - in conjunction with Recommendation 4, develop a funded **programme of foresighting/horizon scanning exercises that are systemic and not sectoral** to set the challenges jointly across policy, industry and academic communities and across sectors.
 - **reflect the leverage points identified by such inclusive foresighting programmes in research funding programmes** and, where appropriate via partnership with national and regional funders in the EU and internationally

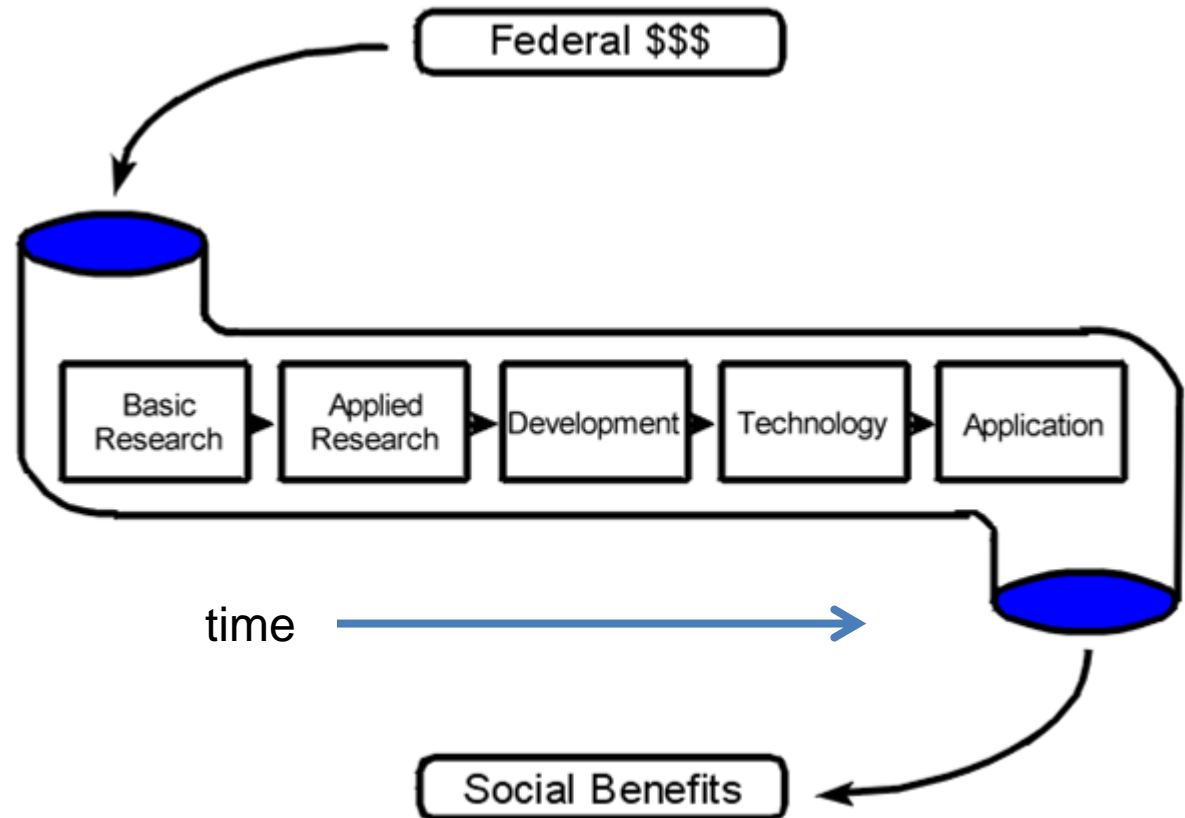
Rec 2: Innovating Engagement in the “Sustainable Food Challenge”

"It's definitely a question of re-educating yourself. I do find myself wandering around [the supermarket] thinking 'can I buy that? Should I buy that?' Whereas before I would probably just run around, shoving into the basket anything I wanted to buy."
(London, Female)

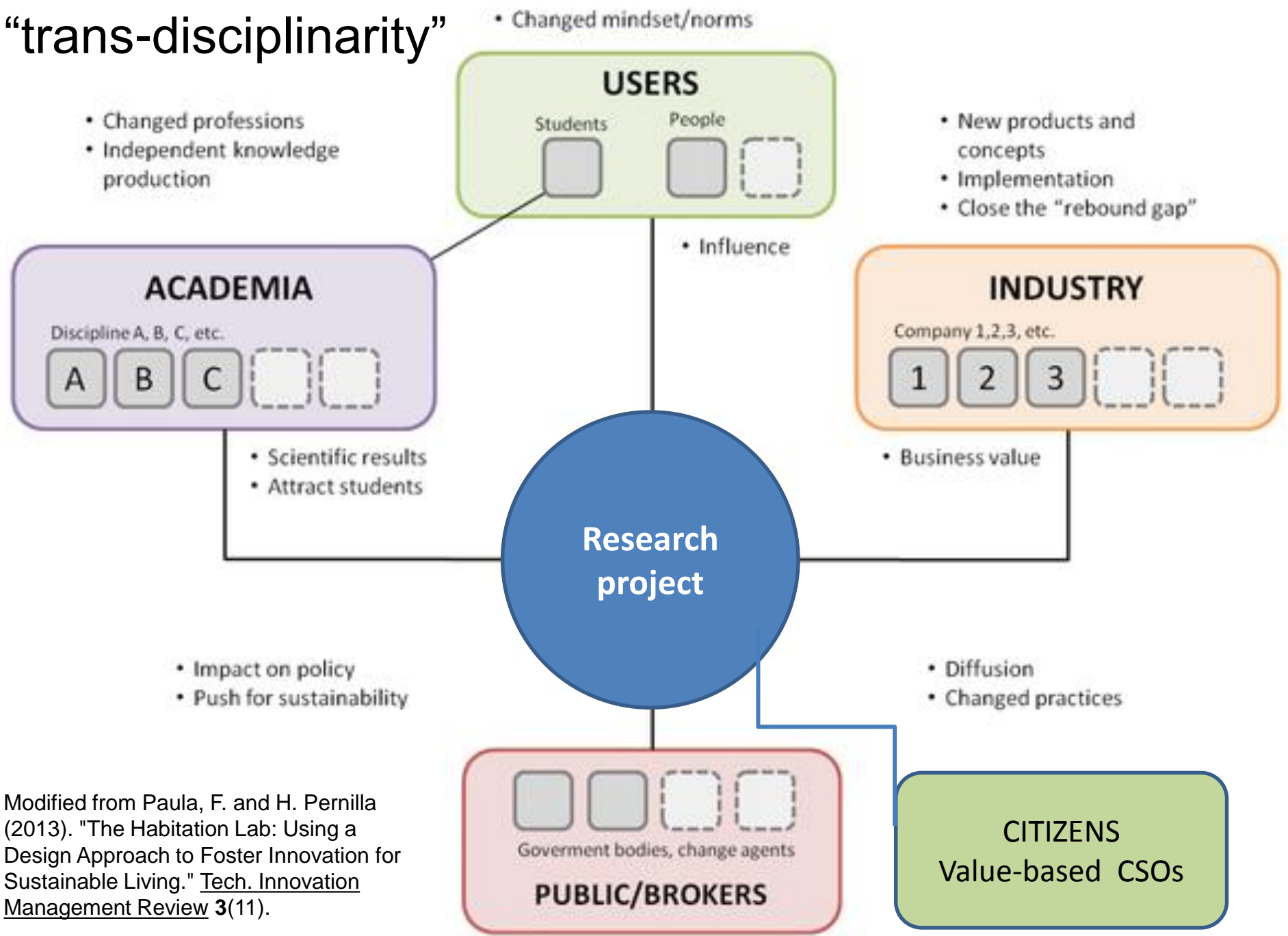
"I didn't really have much to do with food. I went to the supermarket, I bought my food every week and never gave it much thought but now I'm thinking about it. I'm thinking about what we buy and what we eat as well."
(Cardiff, Male)

- Using syntheses developed by inter-disciplinary and systems analysis (Recommendations 1 and 4), **create increased societal awareness of, and engagement in, the importance of food for a healthy life and environment,** and the challenges to develop a sustainable food system in the face of climate change.

Rec 3: Driving the Innovation Environment



“trans-disciplinarity”

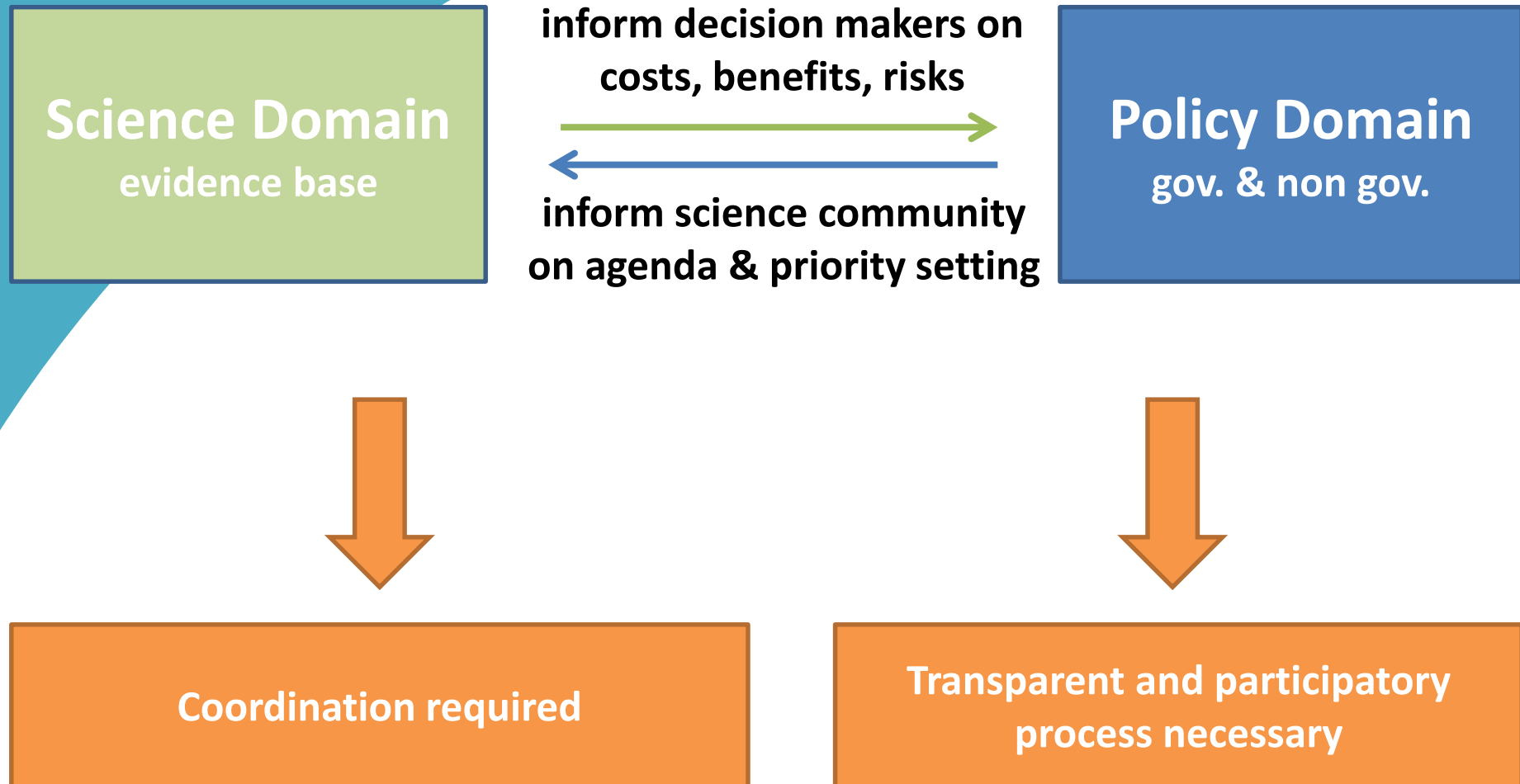


Modified from Paula, F. and H. Pernilla (2013). "The Habitation Lab: Using a Design Approach to Foster Innovation for Sustainable Living." Tech. Innovation Management Review 3(11).

Rec 3: Driving the Innovation Environment

- **Stimulating innovation should remain a high priority for the EC.** Dedicated innovation funding should remain available, and all research instruments should require the “impact and innovation agenda” to be addressed. The EU should also work with MS to encourage researchers, whatever their funding, to “make a difference”. For this to happen, *innovation needs to be broadly defined* and encouraged beyond creating an immediate economic impact

Rec 4: Towards an “International Panel on Food & Nutrition Security”



Overview on three Options

Options

1: Working within the current system

Best suitable for

Issues of disciplinary or national scope;

Implementation

- Many uncoordinated actors; informal networks
- No new initiative

2: International Panel on FN (Science in the lead)

Decision-making based on comprehensive science base; not necessarily on consensus

- Umbrella of national & internat. Res. Orgs.; Academies (IAP)
- EU+ might initiate

3: Inter-governmental Panel on FN (Policy with science bodies in the lead)

Decision making based on comprehensive science base; consensus is necessary (IPCC model)

- IPCC-like intergovernmental organization
- UN to initiate



Thank you!