Science Policy Interfaces

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Many successful Approaches


- Reports (eg GEO, Making Peace with Nature, Litter ….)

- Science-Policy Platforms (independent Resources Panel, IPBES, IPCC, Science-Policy Business Forum)

- Actor coalitions (e.g. Climate and Clean Air Coalition, UNEP FI, WWQA)

Photo: UN Photo/Fred Noy

- Campaigns (Breathe Life, Green Nudges

- Formal UN collaborations

- Environment Initiative

- International Regimes

https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/content/short-lived-climate-pollutants-slcps

A common model of SPI
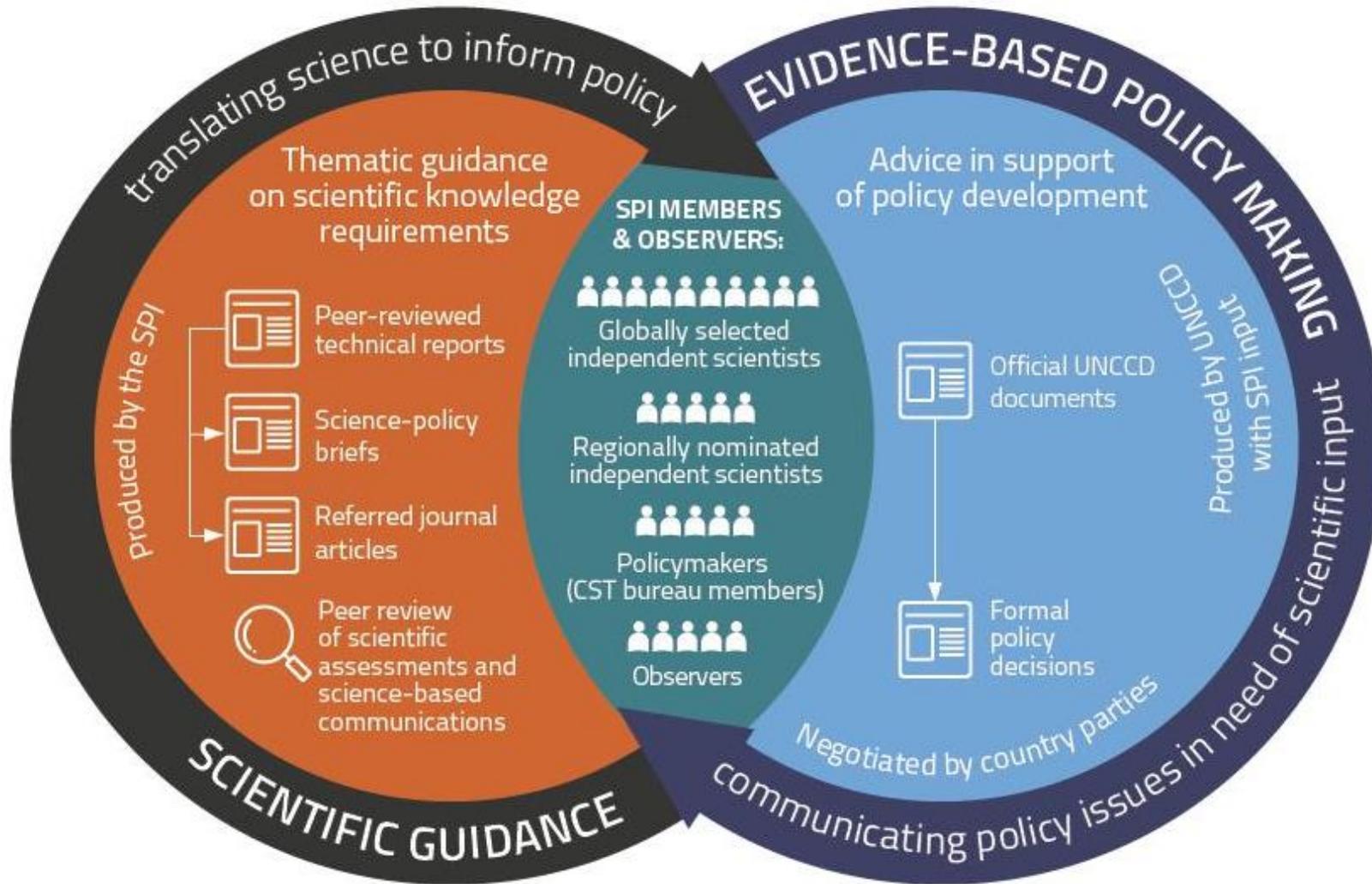
Lessons learnt

Socio-political-economic contexts have changed

Science evolving rapidly but policy struggles to keep up the speed

Social consciousness and awareness increasing

Interactions between sector in society are changing

Uncertainty and risks challenge decision making

Key Observations

A SPI is non-linear

B Political processes are integral to SPI functioning and evolution

C SPI movement towards crafting solutions than stating problems

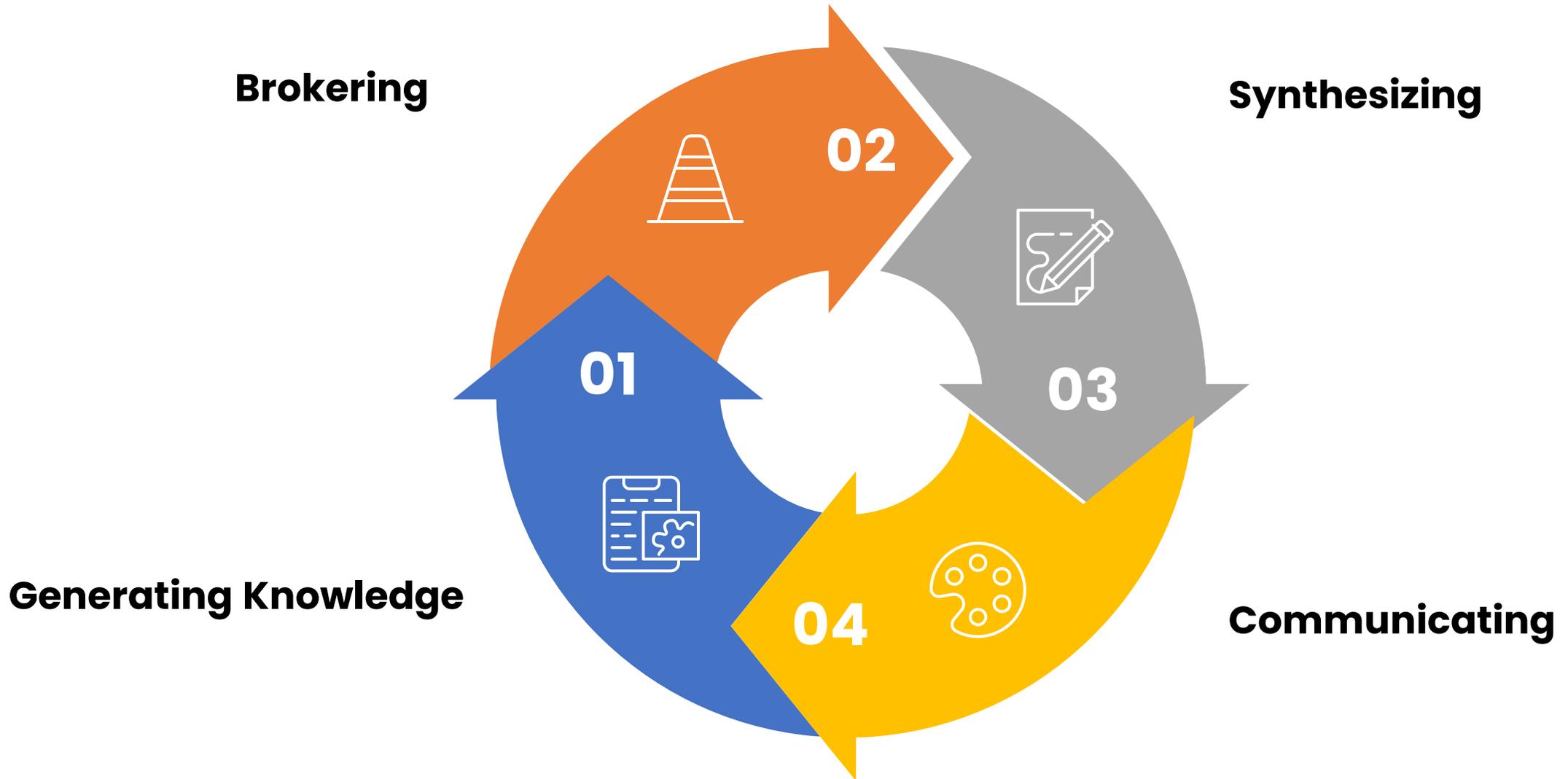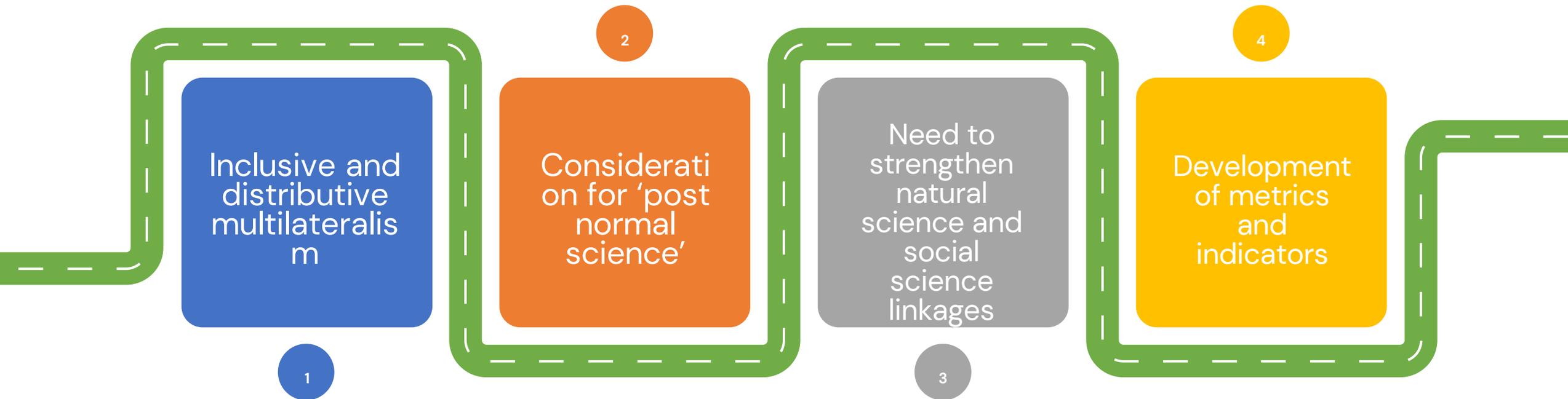**D** Need right actors, right evidence and productive exchange

- ***UNEA Resolutions* (*UNEP/EA.4/Res.23 & 4/8*)**: underscore the need to enhance the science-policy interface at all levels

- **MTS 2022-25**: Seeks to improve the delivery, coherence and uptake of science for transformative action; reduce time lapse between knowledge, solutions & policy

- ***Our Common Agenda (A/RES/76/6)***: multilateral system under considerable stress – crucial need to ensure a prominent voice for science; system-wide solutions to the challenges of the 21st century

- **UNEP@50:** Reflecting on the Past and Imagining the Future: A contribution to the dialogue on the Science-Policy Interface
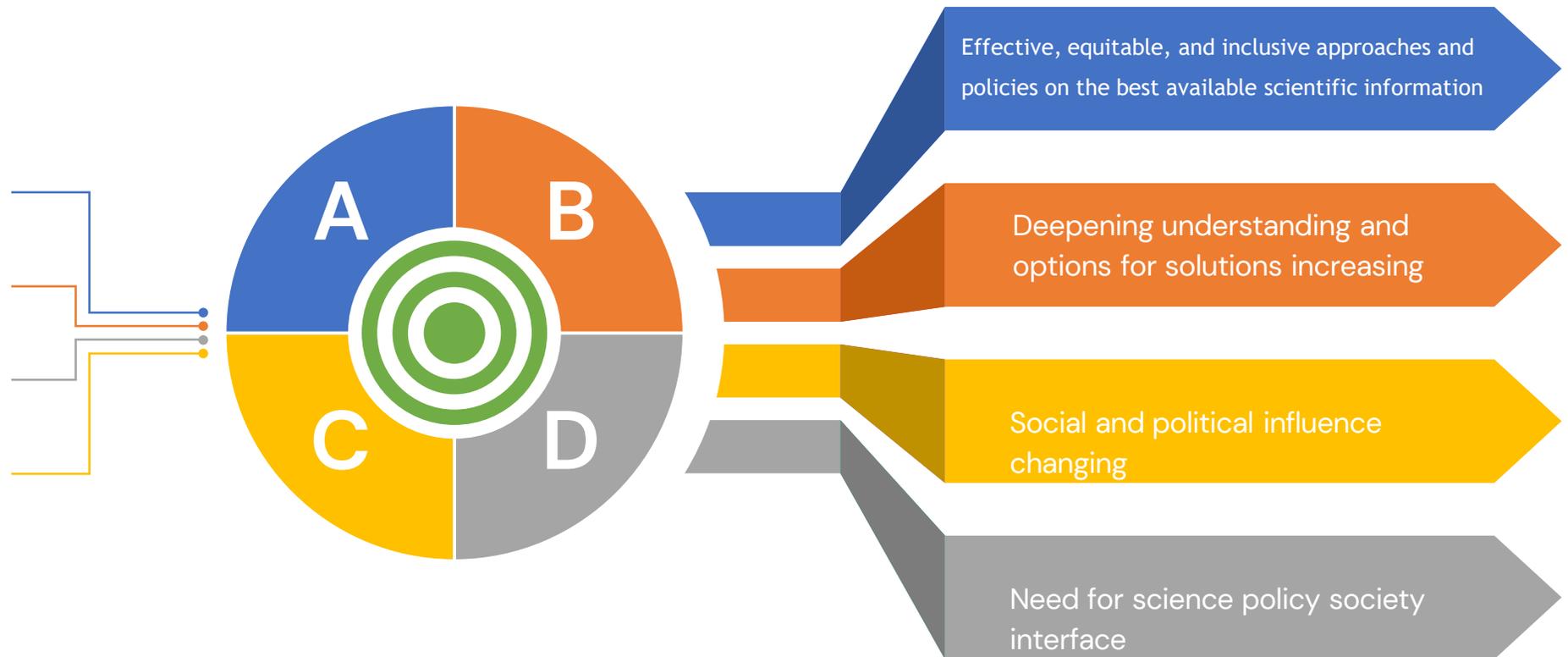
Considerations for SPI

1 Inclusive and distributive multilateralism

2 Consideration for 'post normal science'

3 Need to strengthen natural science and social science linkages

**4** Development of metrics and indicators

Preparing for the future!

- Addressing traditional knowledge

- Engaging a broader array of stakeholders

- Efficiency and transparency in scientific effort

- Open and accessible data information and knowledge

- Need to be able to deal with more complexity, more reflexive dynamic, agile models

- SPIs processes must help facilitate the exchange of scientific evidence and place it in the context of surrounding social values and make use of the social and behavioural sciences

The UNEP@50 Report

Future science policy interfaces in the context of environmental management and governance
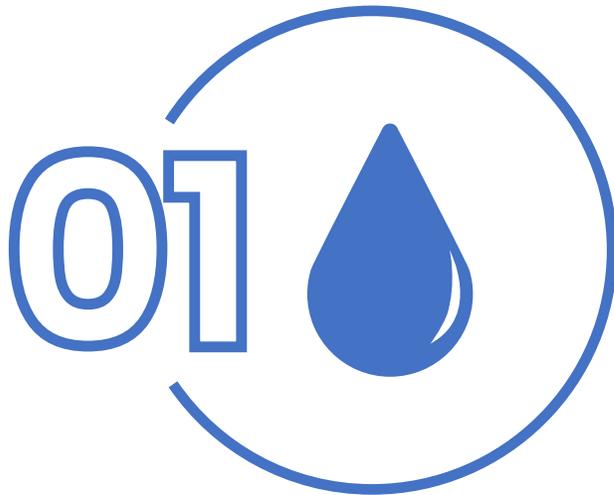
1 Functioning of Science policy interfaces

2 Influence on environmental management and governance

3 Key lessons learnt
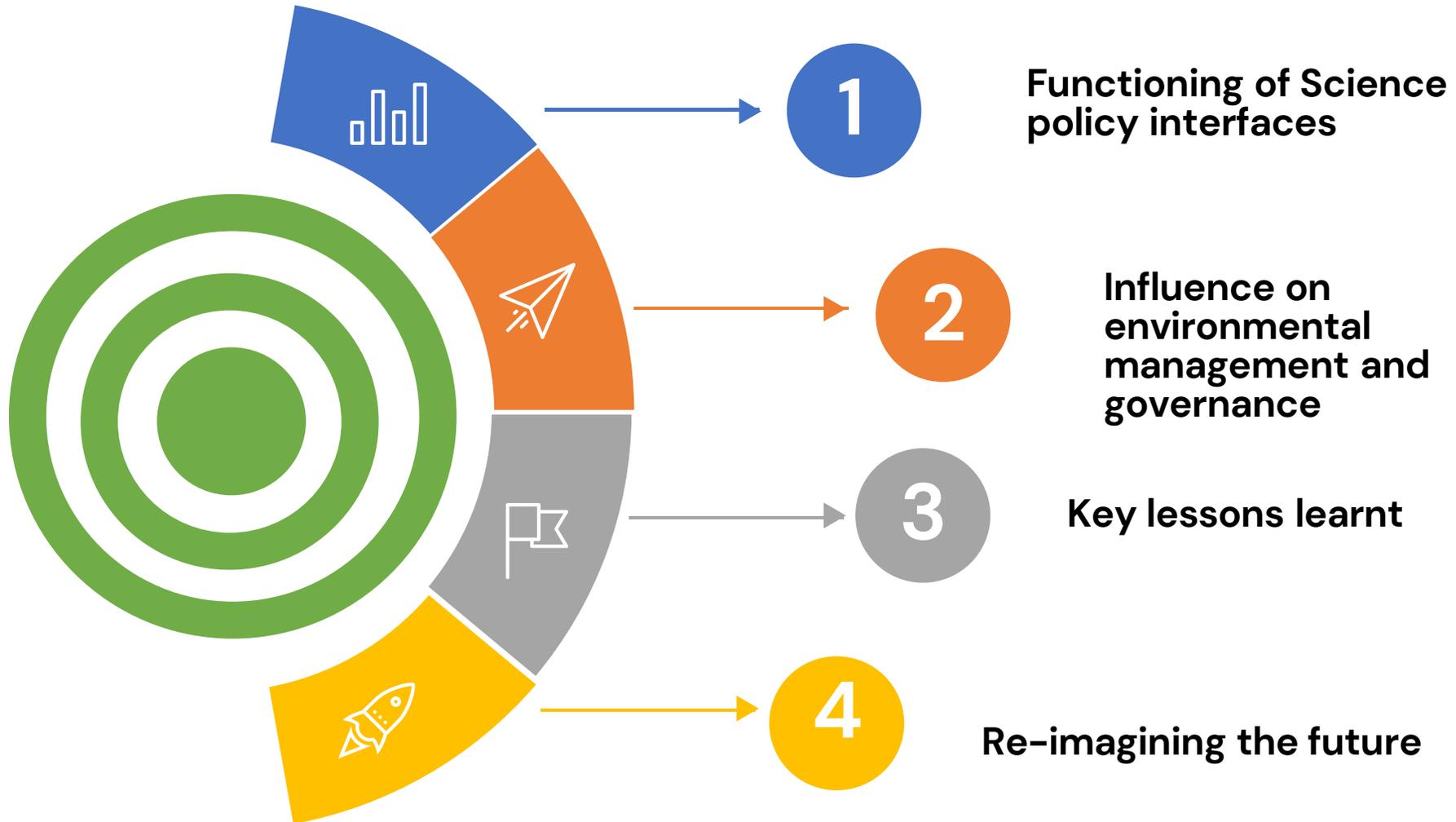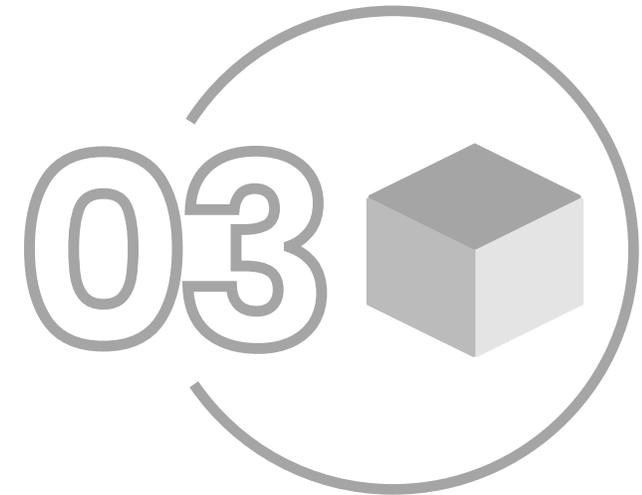
4 Re-imagining the future

Future Considerations

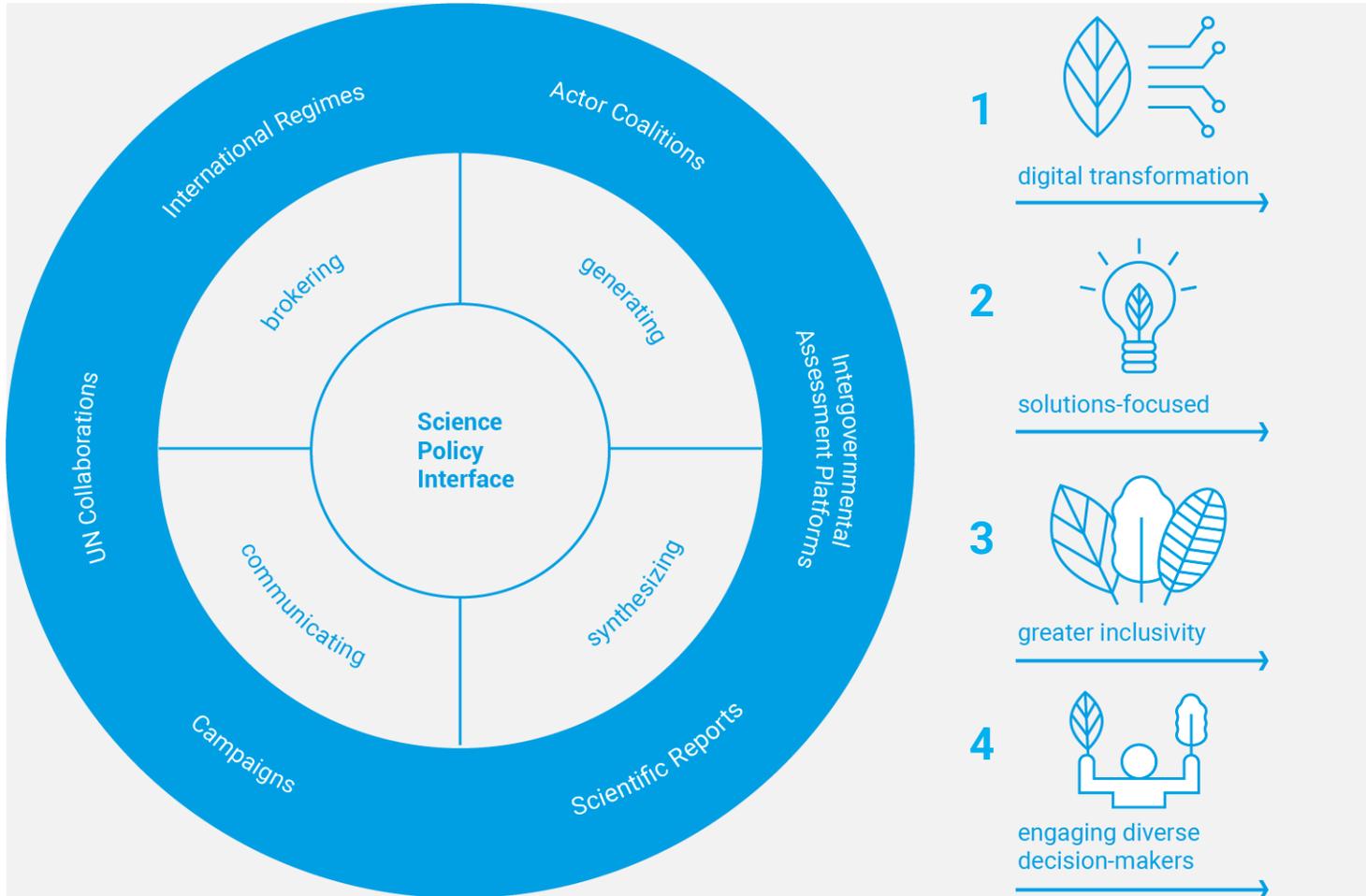**01** Environmental multilateralism relies of effective SPS interface

02 Focus on science policy society links critical making policy making transdisciplinary and multi-sectoral

03 SPS should consider knowledge as a factor than information

UNEP's Future SPI:
Four pre-conditions for success

Science Policy Interface

- International Regimes
- Actor Coalitions
- brokering
- generating
- UN Collaborations
- Intergovernmental Assessment Platforms
- communicating
- synthesizing
- Campaigns
- Scientific Reports

1 digital transformation — Enabling open accessible and transparent data, information and knowledge

2 solutions-focused — Placing significantly more emphasis on solutions, rather than challenges and barriers

3 greater inclusivity — Embracing a more diverse range of stakeholders, partners and

4 engaging diverse decision-makers — Engaging with a variety of decision-makers and influencers