Researching Winnet8, Summary and results

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Redefining aims!

- Aim of Winnet8:

”to redistribute power and resources in regional growth policies” (Malin Lindberg 2011)

- Aim of the research in Winnet 8:

”to domcument and analyse the W8 aims, partly through action research”

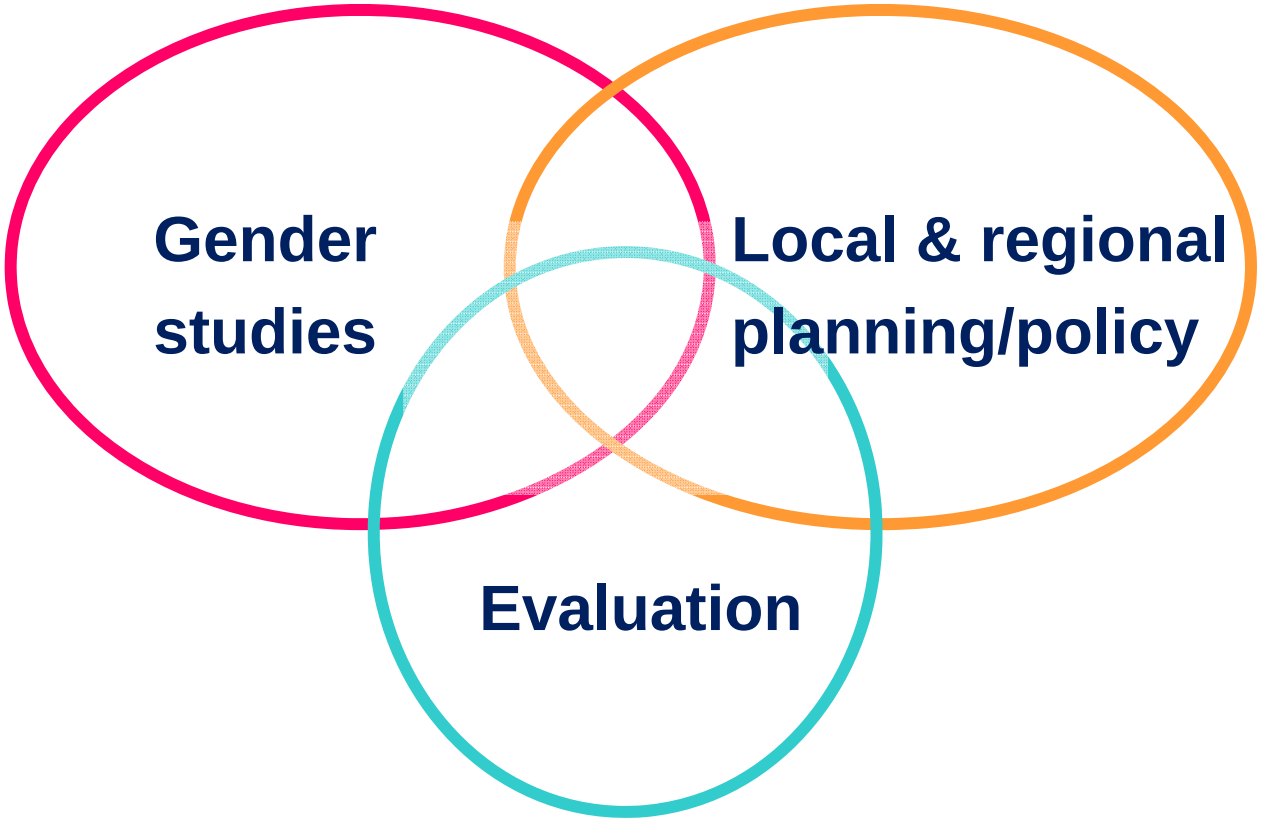
Structure of the presentation

- Research questions
- Methodology (framework & strategy)
- Documents & measures
- Conclusions & Discussion

Research questions

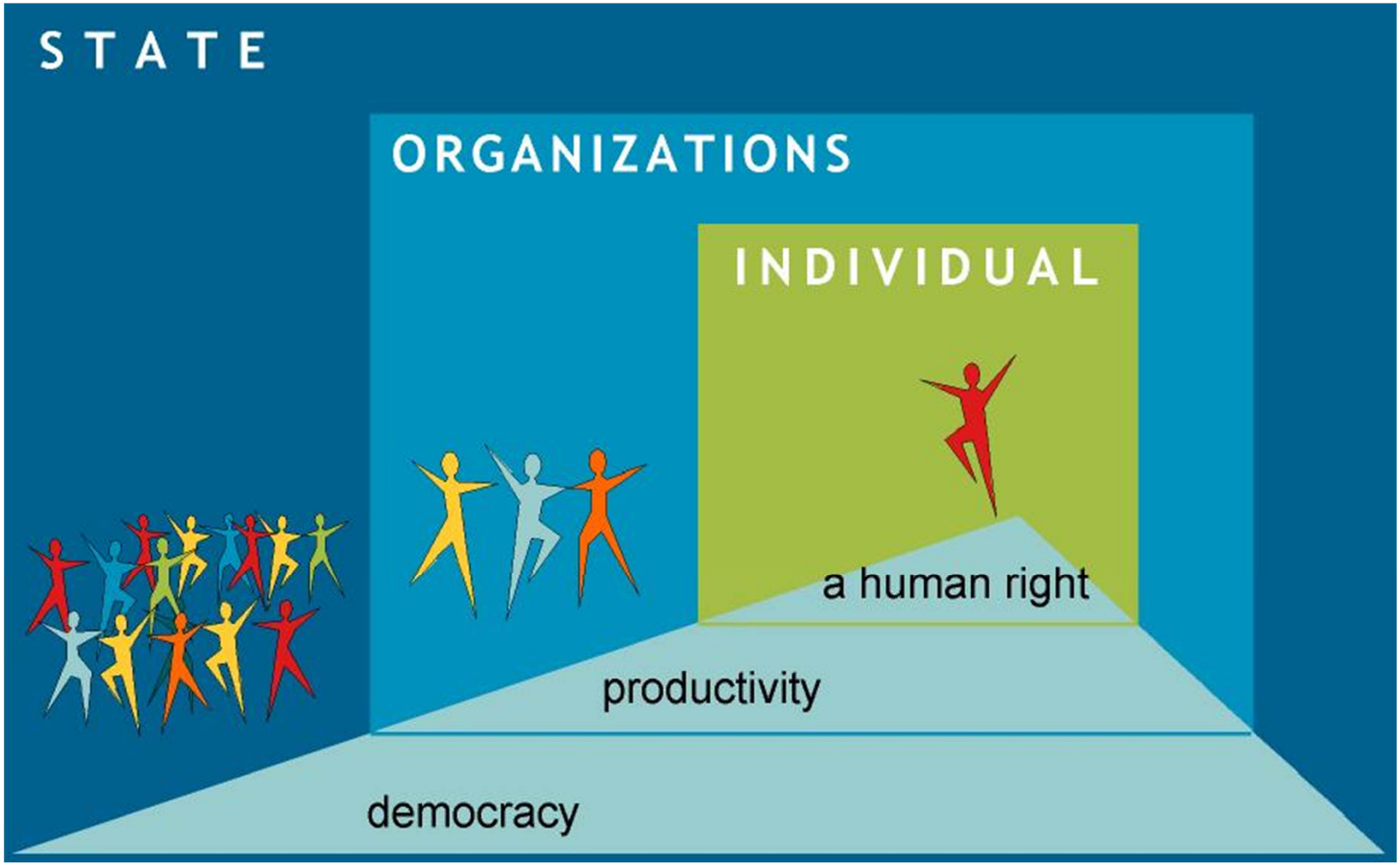
- **What have the researchers carried out?**
- **What are the results and impact of Winnet8 from the perspective of researchers?**

Theoretical framework



Gender studies:

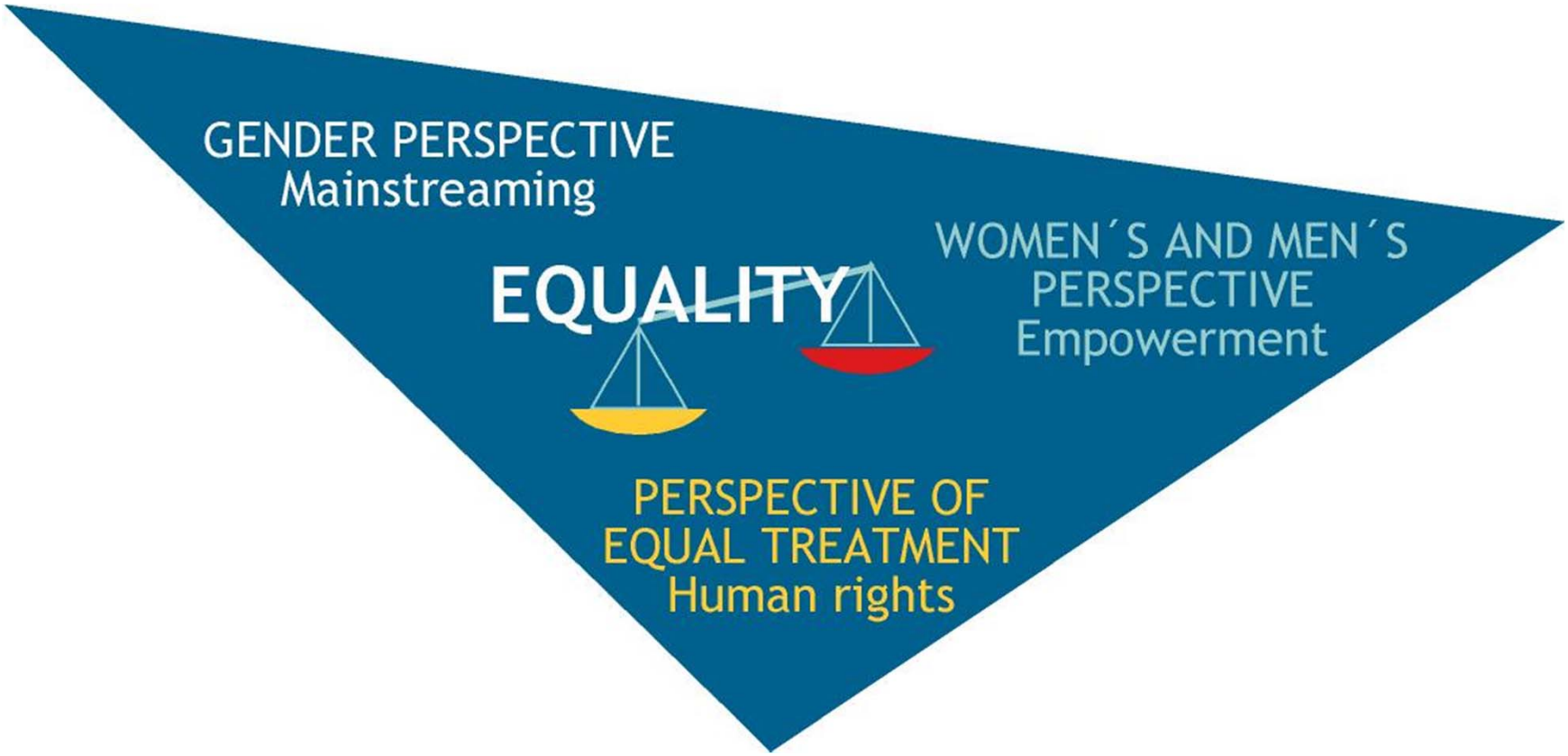
Equality as



Equality?

- A variety of definitions & arguments
- Equal opportunities and power of women and men to shape the society and their lives (Swedish Parliament, 2006)
- Equal roles of women and men in production and reproduction
- Equality cannot be separated from diversity and intersectionality

Historical perspectives to equality & its strategies due to context



Gender as an individual, interrelational & institutional phenomenon

- relational, fluid and dynamic (**doing gender in context**), but gender norms are long lasting
- an **institutionalized gender system** of social practices that constitutes people as two significantly different categories, men and women (Ridgeway & Correll 2004)
- Gender + (race, age, class, ethnicity etc.)

Three types and models of gender mainstreaming (Squires 2005):

- **Inclusion/integrationist** (liberal feminism; equality policy; positivist methodology)
- **Reversal/agenda setting** (radical feminism; politics of difference; interpretative methodology)
- **Displacement/transformative** (post modern feminism; diversity politics; methodology of intersectionality)

Gender mainstreaming local and regional development

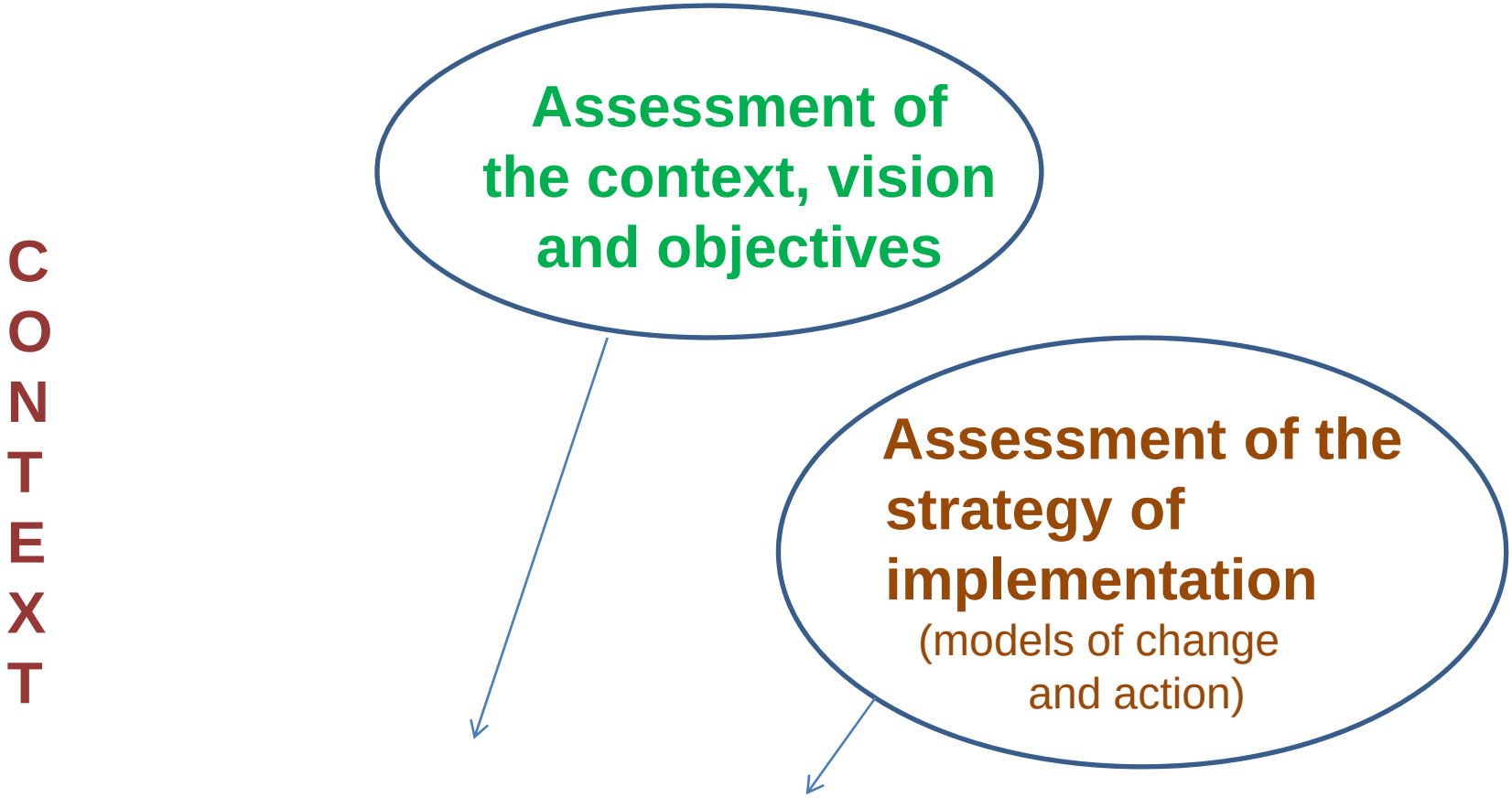
refers to ”the application of a set of gender-sensitive visions, concepts, strategies, and practices in the different phases and arenas of the planning, development and evaluation cycle”

+ POSITIVE ACTION

The spiral of mainstreaming in context

Evaluation:

Gendered monitoring and evaluation comprises:



Structured by evaluation questions and measured through indicators

What have we done?

- List of basic studies
- Template for the study visits(ML)
- Learning cafe summary (LH)
- Presentatation of L&R dev. in Venice (LH)
- Study visits (LH & ML)
- Study visit report (LH & ML)
- Visioning in gender-aware regional development (LH)
- Comparative analysis of WRCs (LH)
- Presentations at Seinäjoki
- Analysis of action plans (ML)
- Women Resource Centres as a research topic (ML)
- Summary of research (LH)
- Networking the researchers in W8 (LH & ML)
- Proposal for a Centre of Excellence (ML)
- Analysis of the reports of the Round Tables, Consultation process, Best practices and the Policy recommendations

Highlights in the W8 research journey:

Gendering local & regional dev. in Venice

An integrative framework helps understanding where we stand and the preconditions of collective action (know how; money; mobilisation capacity)

Sustainable, gendered growth is a hybrid with foci on both reproduction and production

The mechanisms of change are complex and multi-level, historically, culturally and locally intertwined, but the spiral of change with a vision and strategy might brake old patterns

The role of WRCs is to support and coordinate a variety of gendered activities, and to embed them in the glocal everyday life context

Messages from the study visits

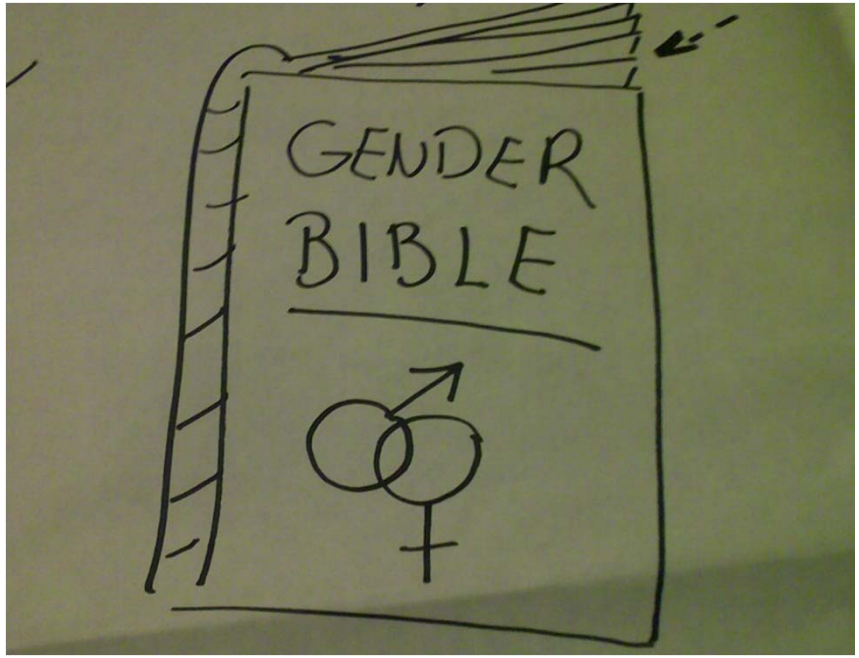
- Summa summarum: a great idea and well implemented
- A variety of actors (quadrup helix pattern)
- Many needs & problems identified
- A lack of shared visions
- A variety of measures, but a lack of coordinated, multi-level strategies

Learning points in Venice:

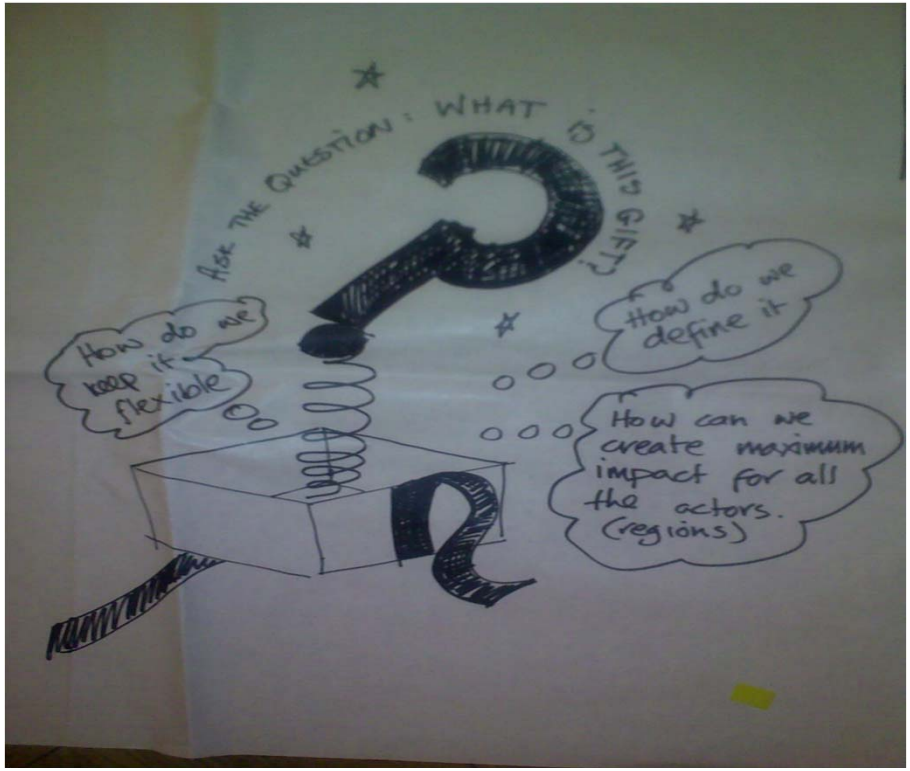
- **Equal opp. structures** with resources to all levels; national, regional and local
- **Equality as an economic resource**, not a constraint; segregation = market failure
- **Modelling different types of WRCs?**
- **EU Gender Charter & Strategy** + The European Charter for Equality in Local life

Learning cafe: What have we learnt & how will we apply it in the future?

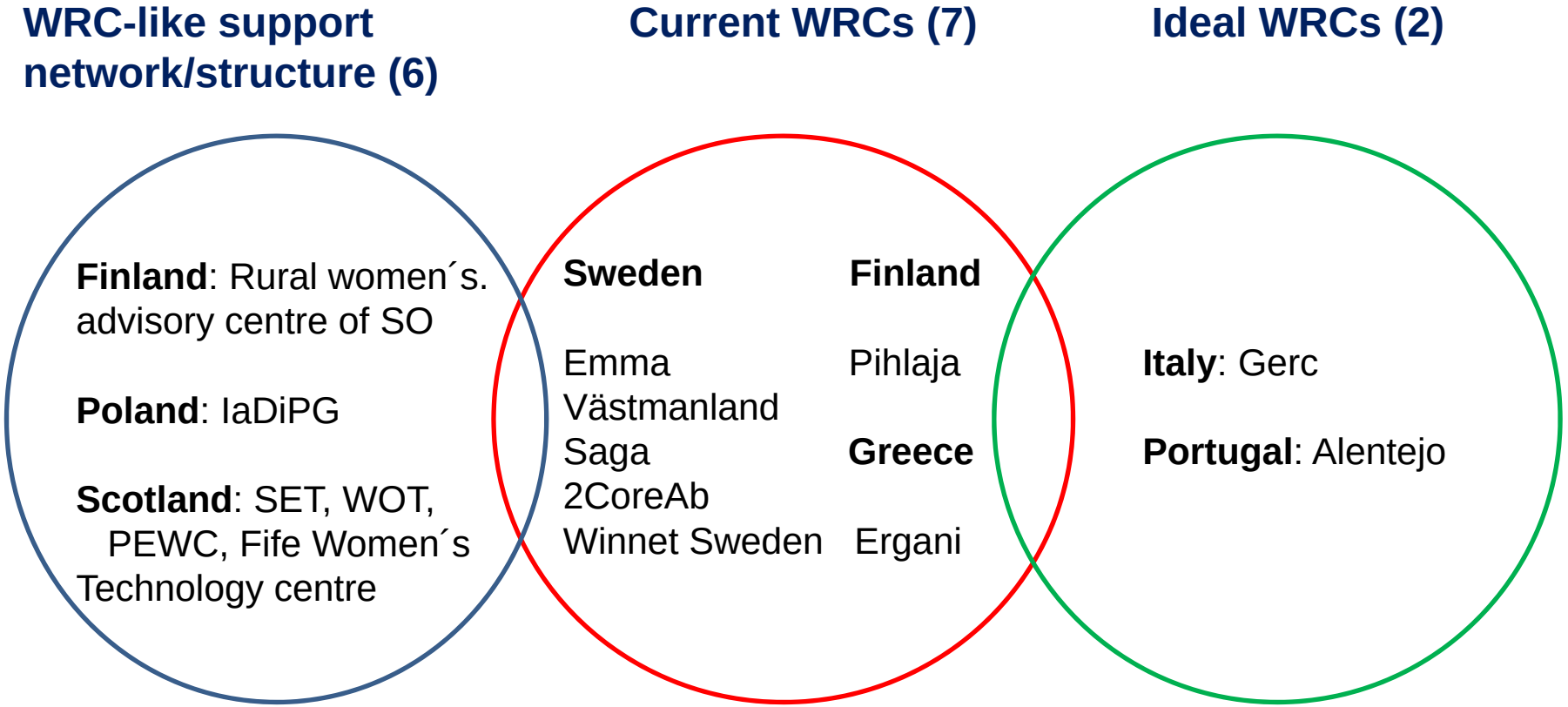
- A huge partnership with many priorities
- Differencies & similarities
- Fragile but complex networks
- A need for shared visions



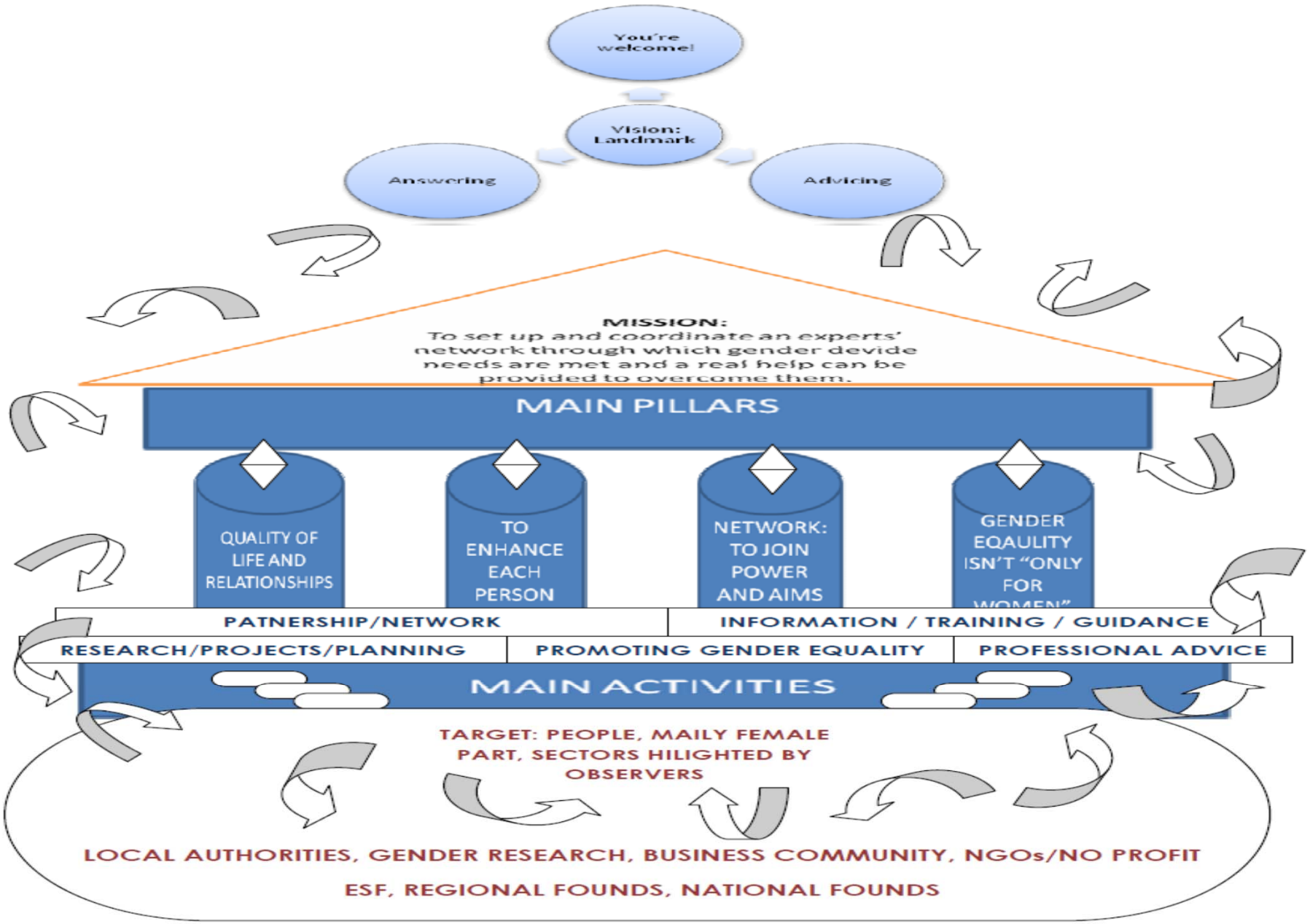
New methods and tools to the Mags from Britt-Marie & WRCs to every country!



Comparative analysis of W8 WRCs



GENDER EQUALITY RESOURCE CENTRE



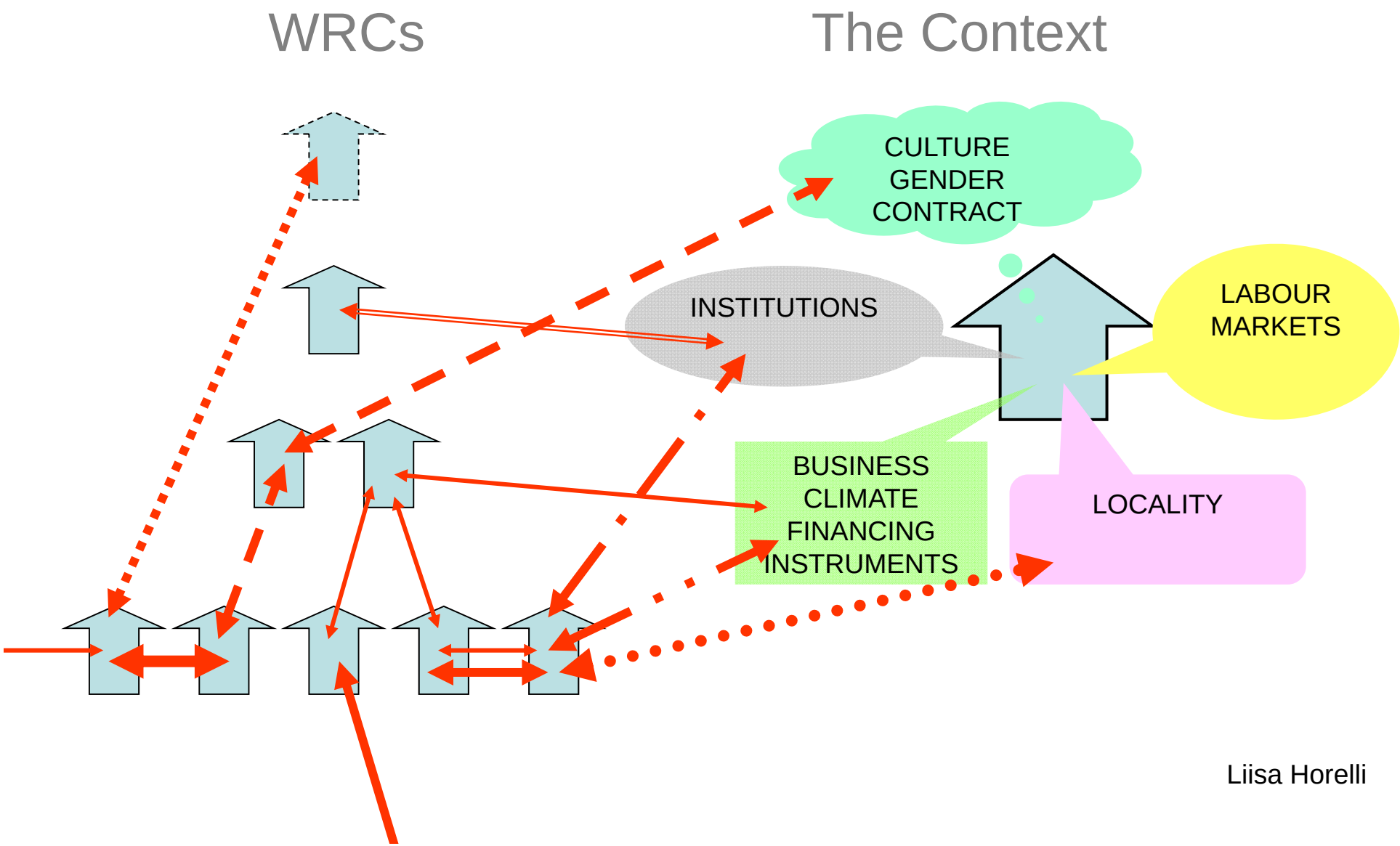
Conclusions:

A variety of WRCs and their definition

- A great variety of WRCs exists in terms of visions, activities, target groups, organisation, resources and outcomes

- WRC is a multi-level and multi-dimensional hub of networked and coordinated activities with shared purpose. It has some basic resources with open space and contact persons(s), and it can be organised in different ways

Modelling the WRC 6: a necessity to network, cluster, coordinate…



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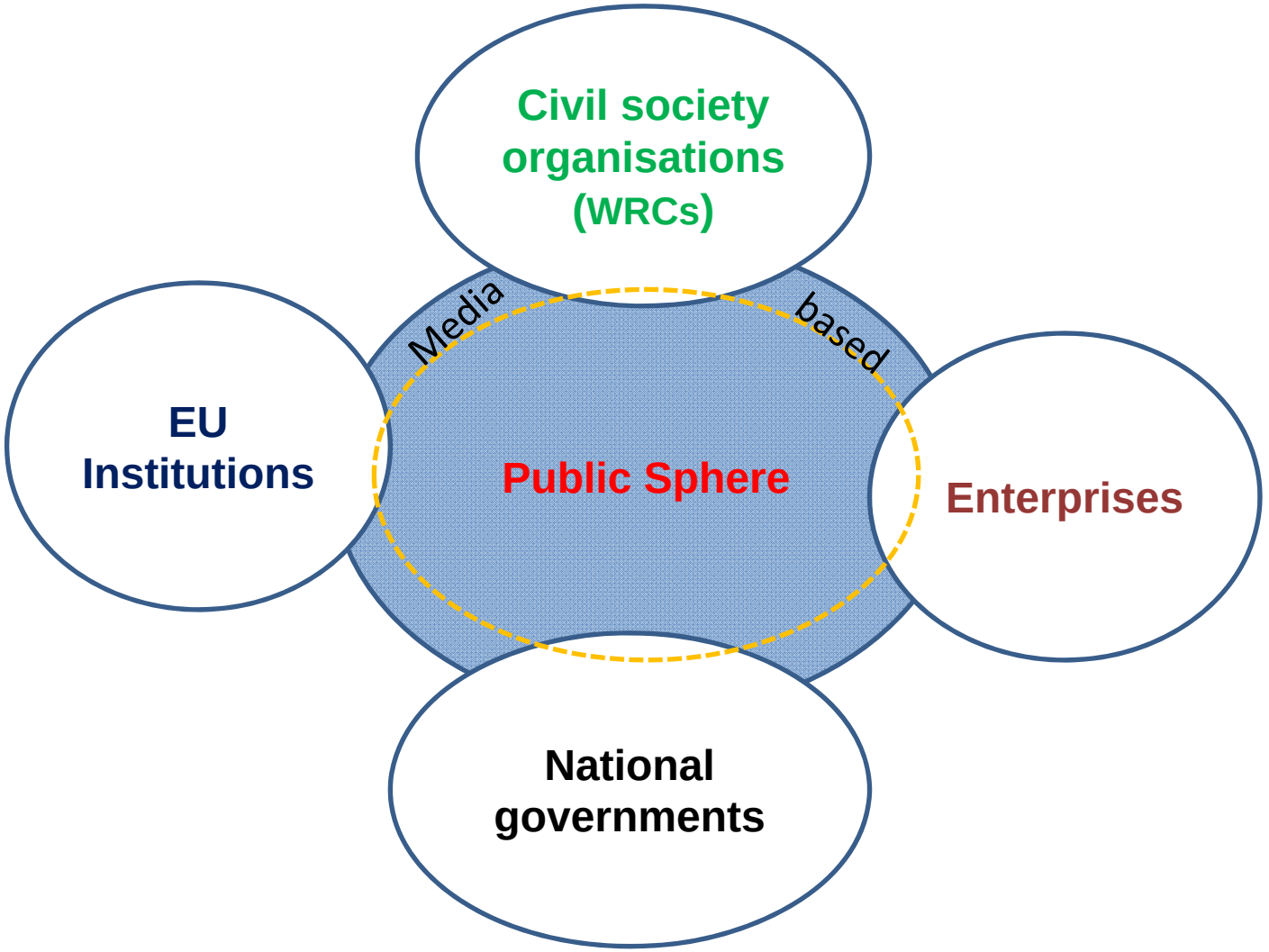
Mainstreaming gender awareness to the public sphere (Castells 2008)



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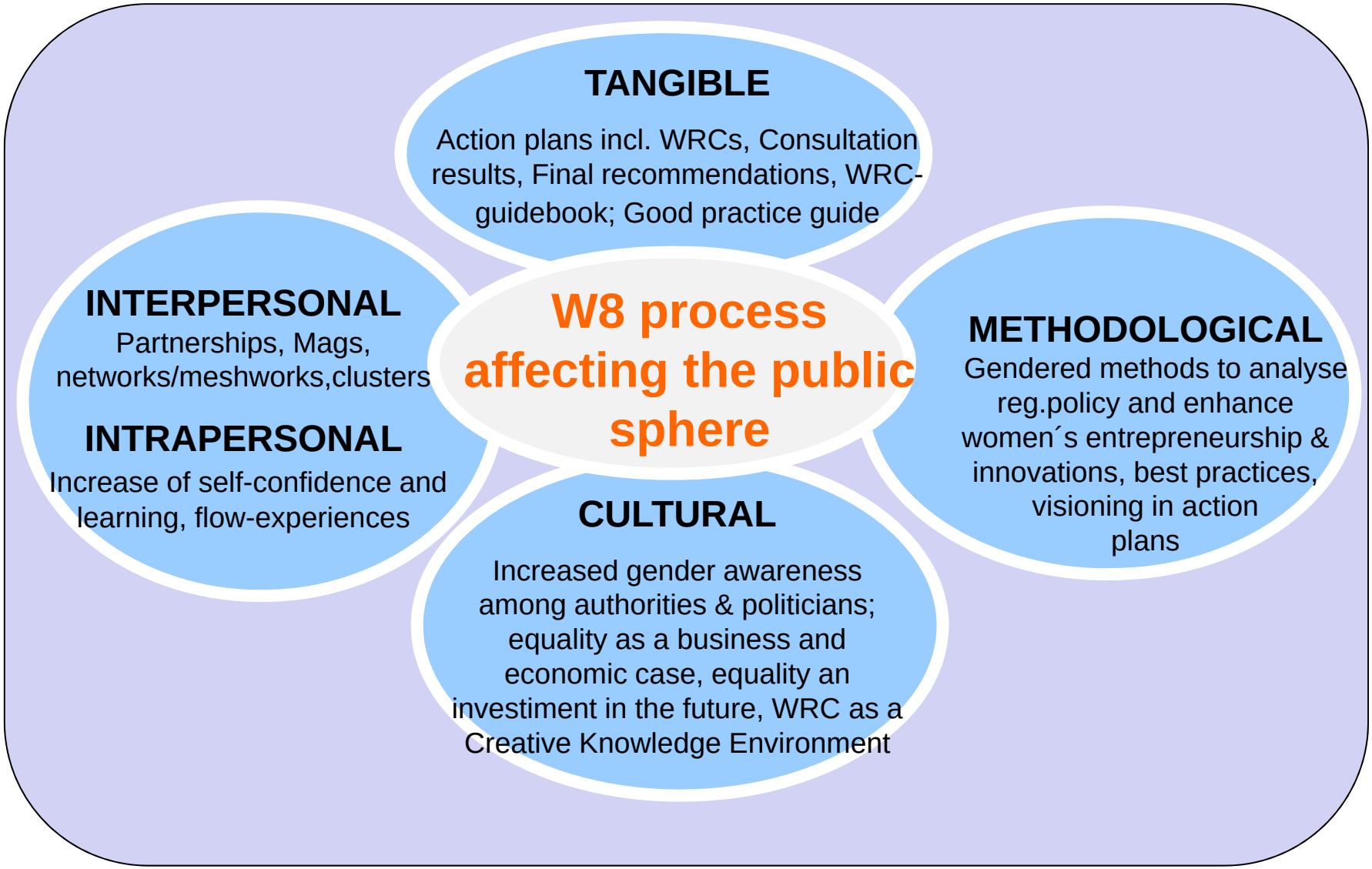
W8 outcomes seen through research



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Critical observations:

- The researchers could have been used in a more coordinated way
- Too little focus on the issues of care, sustainability vs. competitiveness and growth; and diversity
- What is the VISION of Winnet8?

But the journey with Winnet8 has been exciting and fun!

Why visioning is important?

Dreams

become visions, if shared and discussed

Visions

about the future become shared objectives

Objectives

of a community become action, based on a multi-level strategy