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Environmental Affairs and Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEAT's concept for a strategy on evidence-based policy-making

19-20 November 2008



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CSIR
our future through science



defra
Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

Outline

- Rationale
 - Eras of technology
- The National System of Innovation
- Technology transfer for policy making
 - Evidence-based NFSD
 - Evidence-based LTMS
 - Moving Forward



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Key Abbreviations

- CSIR: Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
- DEAT: National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism
- DST: National Department of Science and Technology
- IFR: Institute for Future Research
- LTMS: Long Term Mitigation Scenarios
- NFSD : National Framework on Sustainable Development
- SANAP: South African National Antarctic Programme
- SANBI: South African National Biodiversity Institute
- SAWS: South African Weather Services
- UCT: University of Cape Town
- WSSD: World Summit on Sustainable Development



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Rationale

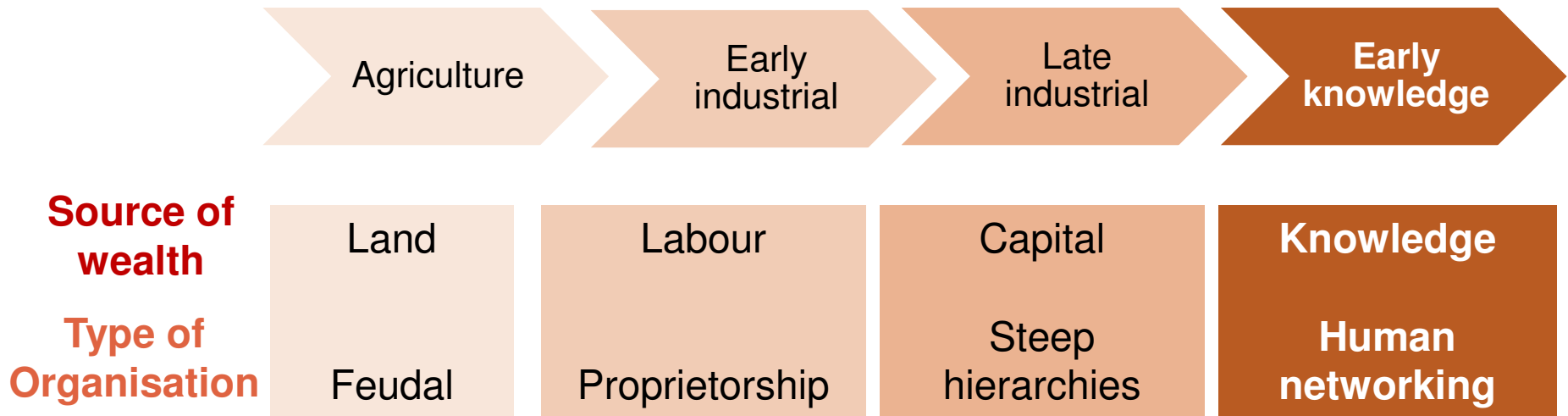
- A need for a common **evidence collection** framework for DEAT's policy decisions
- A system that will ensure **undisputed evidence** based policy decision that stand up to intense scrutiny
- A **sound science and research** informing DEAT policies and strategies
- The **quality evidence** and the processes through which this evidence is put into policy options



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Eras of technology



The 4th Generation R & D (CSIR Model)

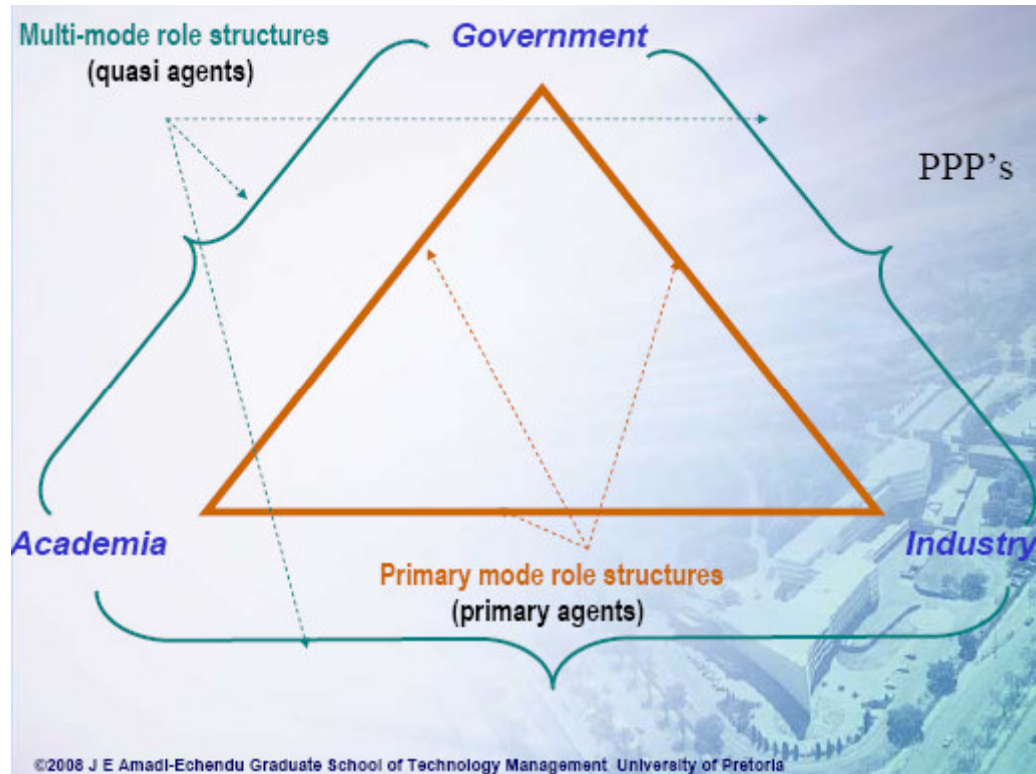
- Knowledge era R&D
- Driven by the synthesis of new technology
- Convergence of new market and S&T knowledge
- Integration with partners and customers
- Knowledge Intensive Technology Organisations (KITO)
- Management of knowledge and IP



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The National System of Innovation



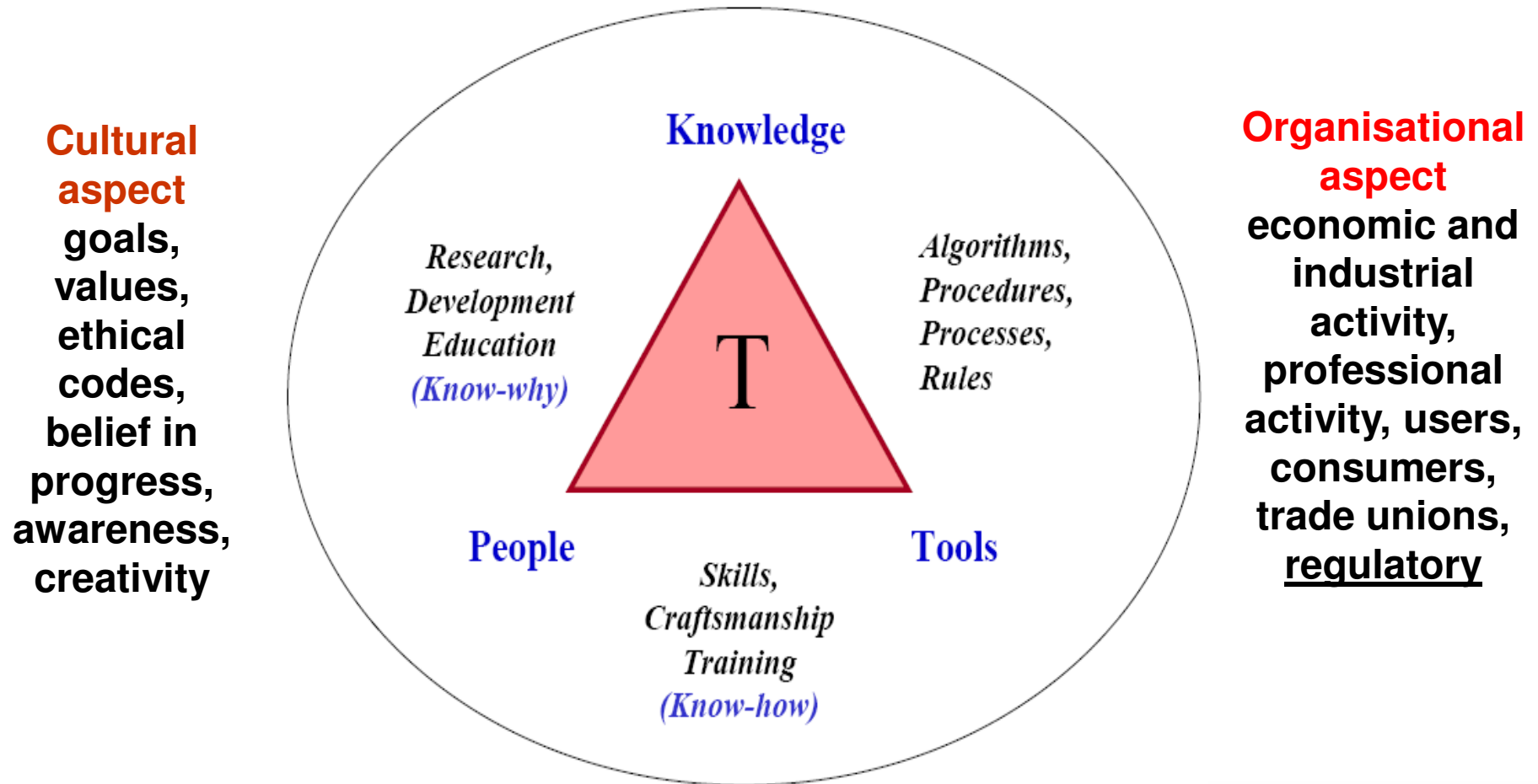
- Government structures, public hearing
- SANAP, SANBI, SAWS, DST, CSIR, SANPARKS
- UCT, Stellenbosh – Sustainability Institute and IFR, consultants, etc



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Technology transfer for policy making



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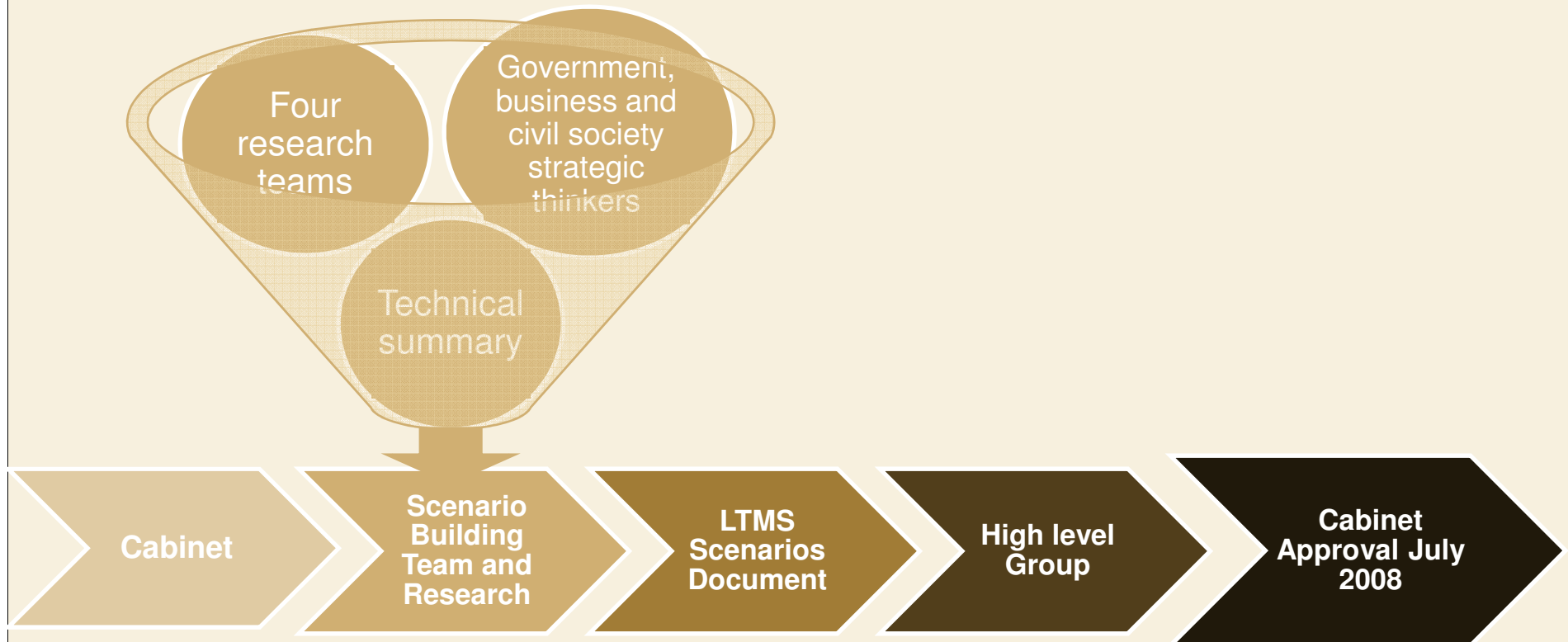
knowledge, skill, technique,
tools, machines, chemicals,
resources, products, wastes

Prof Tinus Pretorius, UP 2006

Evidence-based NFSD

- Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) of WSSD 2002
- August 2002 FOSAD MANCO mandated DEAT and DFA to formulate NSSD
- Cabinet 2004 mandated DEAT to manage NSSD stakeholder, consultative and **research-based** process
- August 2005 National Roundtable multi-stakeholder workshop on the NSSD (**specialist research team**)
- Trends Analysis process developed: long-term resource use, economic, social and governance trends
- National **Consultative Workshops**, Government Steering **Committee**
- Five pathways to sustainable development (initially referred to as Strategic Priority Areas)
- The NFSD **published** as “People – Planet – Prosperity: A Strategic Framework for Sustainable Development in SA
- Approved NFSD June 2008
- Does the NFSD reflect the evidence base gathered throughout the process?...the challenge...

Evidence-based LTMS



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Moving Forward

- Develop Sector R & D strategy / Evidence strategy
- Streamlined **forward looking** policy & research
- Careful scoping of **research questions** at a very early stage of commissioning, this scoping should involve a diverse audience to rule out duplication
- Short, medium and long term **research objectives** based on policy priorities
- **Horison scanning** and provision of quarterly analysis to allow for a long-term view of research priorities
- Strengthening of a **knowledge management system** within DEAT, a system that could provide instant access to in-house research results or evidence base



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Moving Forward

- Engagement forum for technical discussions
 - DEAT, DST and CSIR
 - Academic institutions , public entities and other partners
- Collaboration on priority issues
 - Science and Technology for Global Change
 - Climate Change, Atmospheric quality
 - Biodiversity, Tourism, Sustainable Development
 - Technology to support environmental management and regulation
 - Marine, Coastal and Antarctic Research
 - Alignment with new governance model for Science and Technology in SA
 - Waste Management, Aquaculture



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..."policy-makers and implementing agencies play a critical role in promoting sustainable development, but are often isolated from essential sources of knowledge necessary to do so prudently and effectively." Michael Burns

Thank You

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