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Open
COLlaboration for
POLicy MOdelling



COLLABORATIVE SCENARIO BUILDING FOR POLICY MODELLING

tGov workshop, West London (UK), 18th March 2011

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Agenda



- ❖ Challenges to use ICT in policy making
- ❖ The OCOPOMO project
- ❖ Integrating collaborative scenario texts with formal policy models
- ❖ Innovation and expected impact of OCOPOMO

Current Demands for Open Government in Policy Modelling



Transparency, accountability, openness, participation ...



- ❖ Means of improving democratic performance
- ❖ Enhances transparency and accountability, public participation and builds civic capacity
- ❖ Offers a way for governments to improve their policy performance
 - by working with citizens, civil society organisations, businesses and other stakeholders
 - to deliver concrete improvements in policy outcomes and quality of public services

“Focus on Citizens: Public Engagement for Better Policy and Services”
OECD Studies on Public Engagement, OECD Publishing, 2009

Challenges in Policy Development



- ❖ Appropriate ICT support in policy planning not deployed widely
- ❖ Management of complexity in strategy and policy formation
- ❖ Development, visualisation and simulation of appropriate policy models usually done by experts
 - black-box approach
- ❖ Lack of open collaboration and therewith transparency in identifying the crucial features of complex social environments to inform policy models
- ❖ Online participation means not yet deployed widely in strategic decision making

Need for ICT Support in Policy Development



- ❖ Comprehensive IT solutions to support
 - policy analysis, modelling and simulation
 - collaboration among
 - policy analysts and policy operators
 - wider stakeholder groups
 - general public
- ❖ Support along the whole policy development and stakeholder participation process

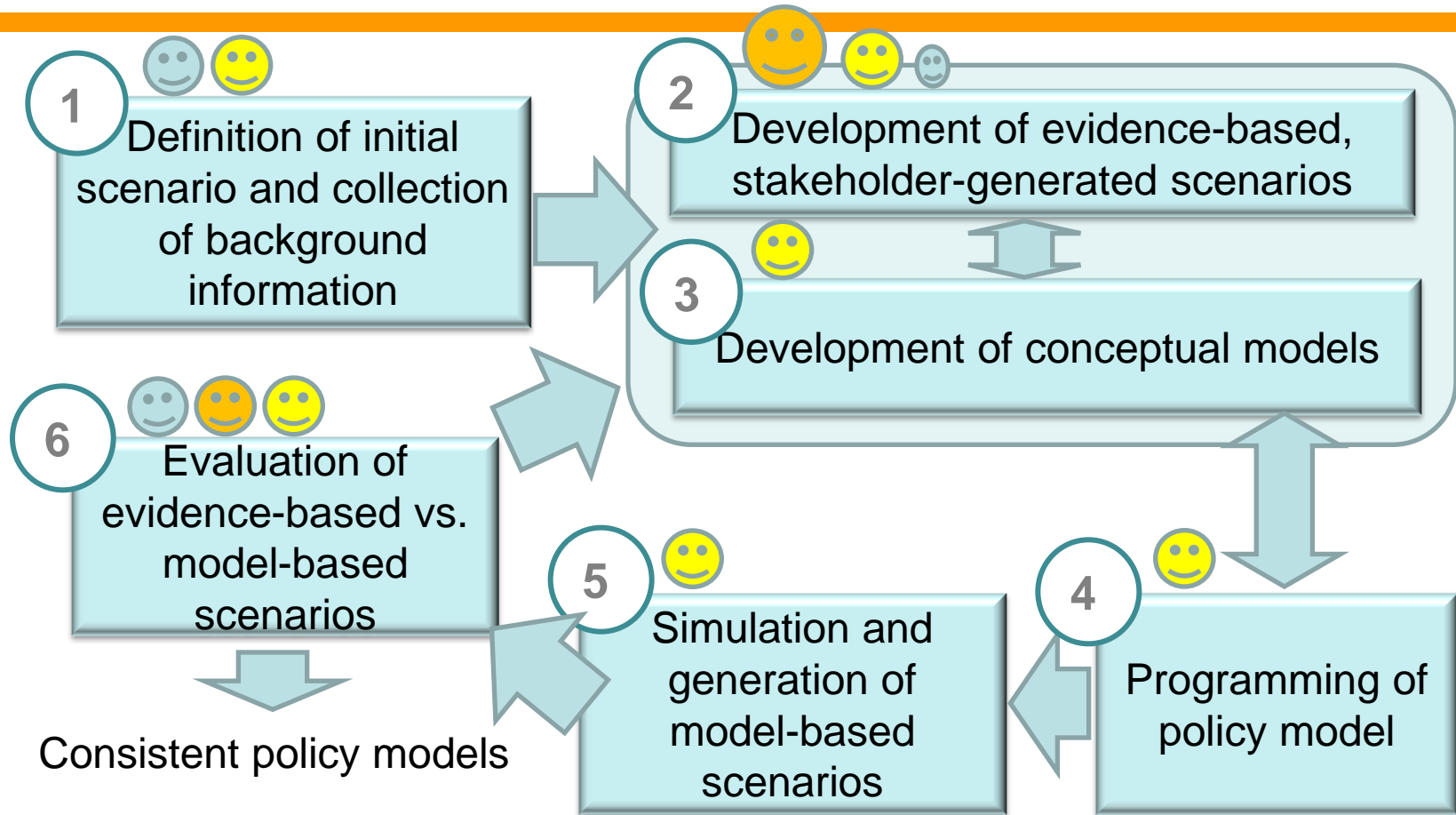
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- ❖ Challenges to use ICT in policy making
- ❖ **The OCOPOMO project**
- ❖ Integrating collaborative scenario texts with formal policy models
- ❖ Innovation and expected impact of OCOPOMO

- ❖ Develop an integrated ICT platform for efficient policy making
 - Integrating methods of evidence-based scenario generation with formal policy modelling and open collaboration
 - Integrating the methods into a platform of open collaboration among key stakeholders
 - policy analysts, policy operators, wider stakeholder groups of specific policy domains
 - Supporting engagement of wide stakeholder groups in social and economic policy areas of two pilots

OCOPOMO's Integrated Policy Process and Involved Actors



Legend: # Process phase

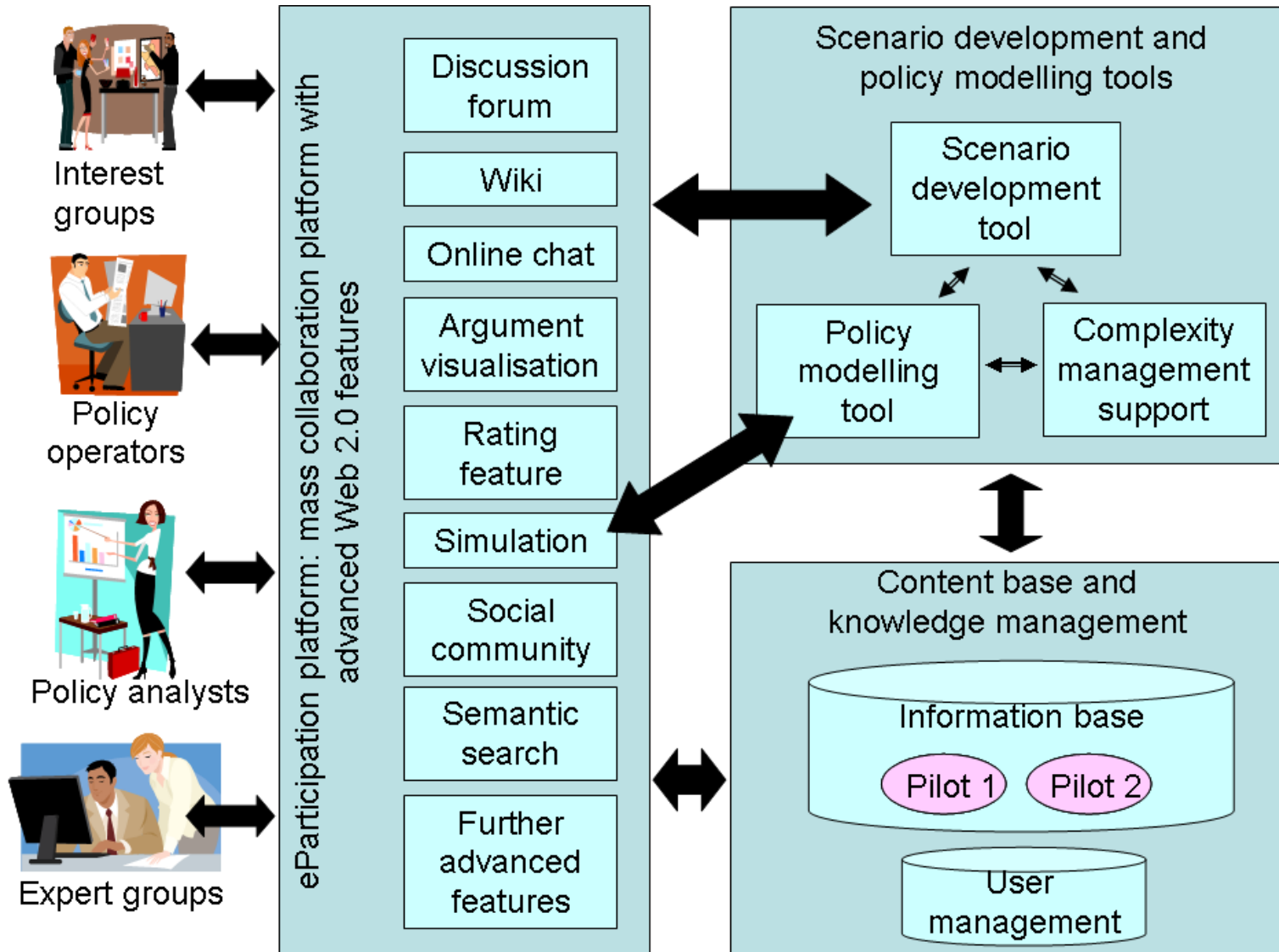
➔ Transition to next phase

Actors: Domain Experts (Policy Planner / Strategic Decision Maker)

Stakeholders involved

Experts for Policy Analysis / Policy Modelling

ICT Toolbox



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- ❖ Foresight processes, IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) scenarios
 - Usually top-down: specifying social characteristics and group behaviour
 - Some research projects bottom-up: eGovRTD2020
- ❖ OCOPOMO process
 - Bottom-up
 - Issues identified by stakeholders
 - Scenarios generated without constraints by stakeholders
 - Using integrated ICT-based participation platform

- ❖ Economic policy models
 - Top-down and theory-driven
 - Statistical usually; Verhagen is “evolutionary”
- ❖ Environmental policy models
 - Many models – usually economic
 - Significant proportions of papers about policy modelling in social contexts (Yearley, van Daalen et al.)
 - Found no papers incorporating institutional evidence for a particular place, time or policy
- ❖ Evidence-driven policy models
 - All agent-based and bottom-up
 - Relate to specific institutions and policies

❖ Approach

- Scenarios generated by stakeholders
 - Using integrated ICT-based participation platform
- Model designs driven by information from scenarios
 - Stakeholder concerns and expectations
- Interactive, parallel development of models and scenarios

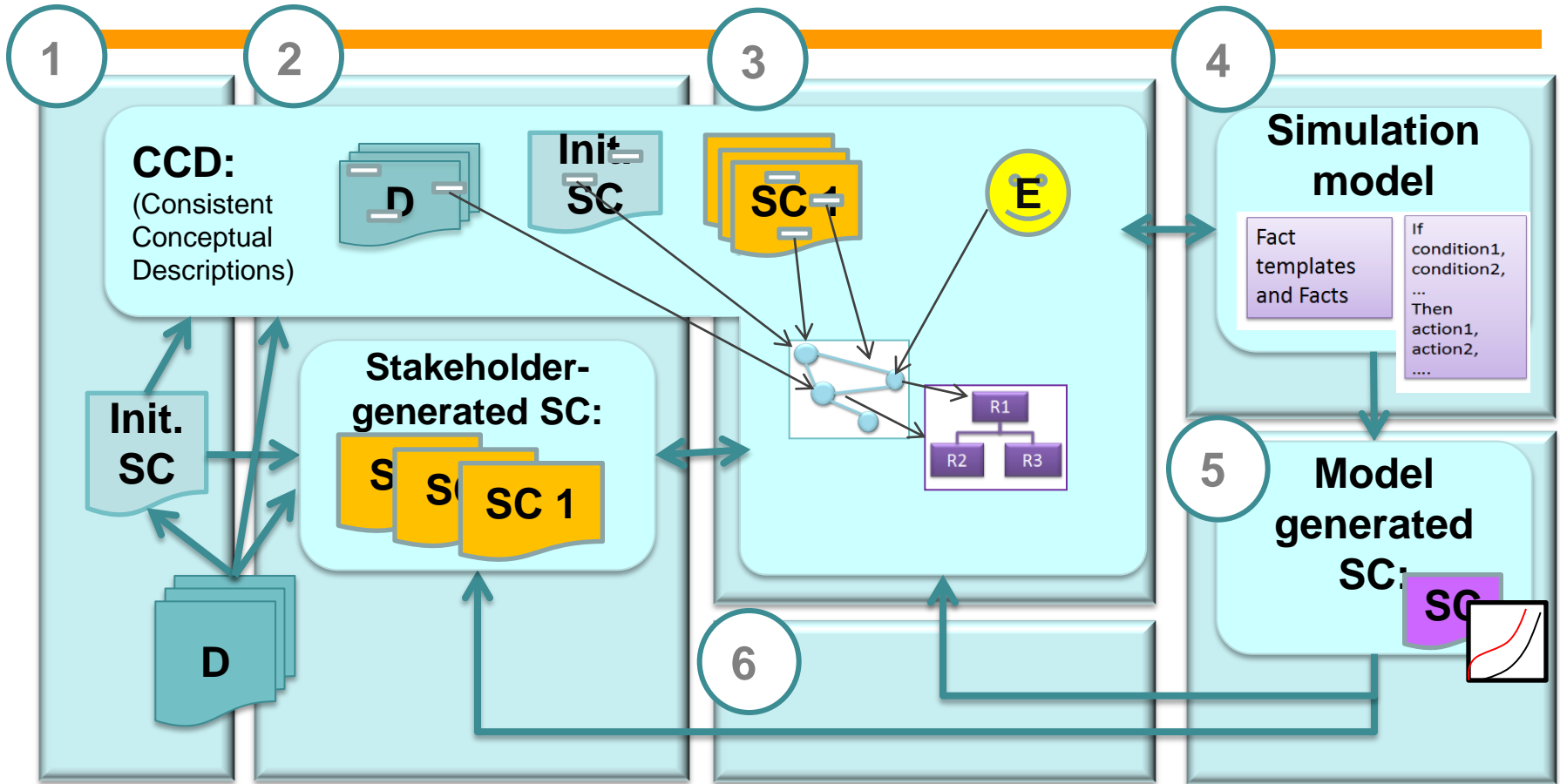
❖ Type of model

- Evidence-driven
- Agent-based

❖ Role of modelling

- Precision
- Exploitation
- Exploration

Artefacts along the Process Phases



Legend:



Process phase



Expert knowledge



Relevant aspect



Information flow



Documents



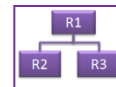
Network of social relationships



Information flow detailed steps

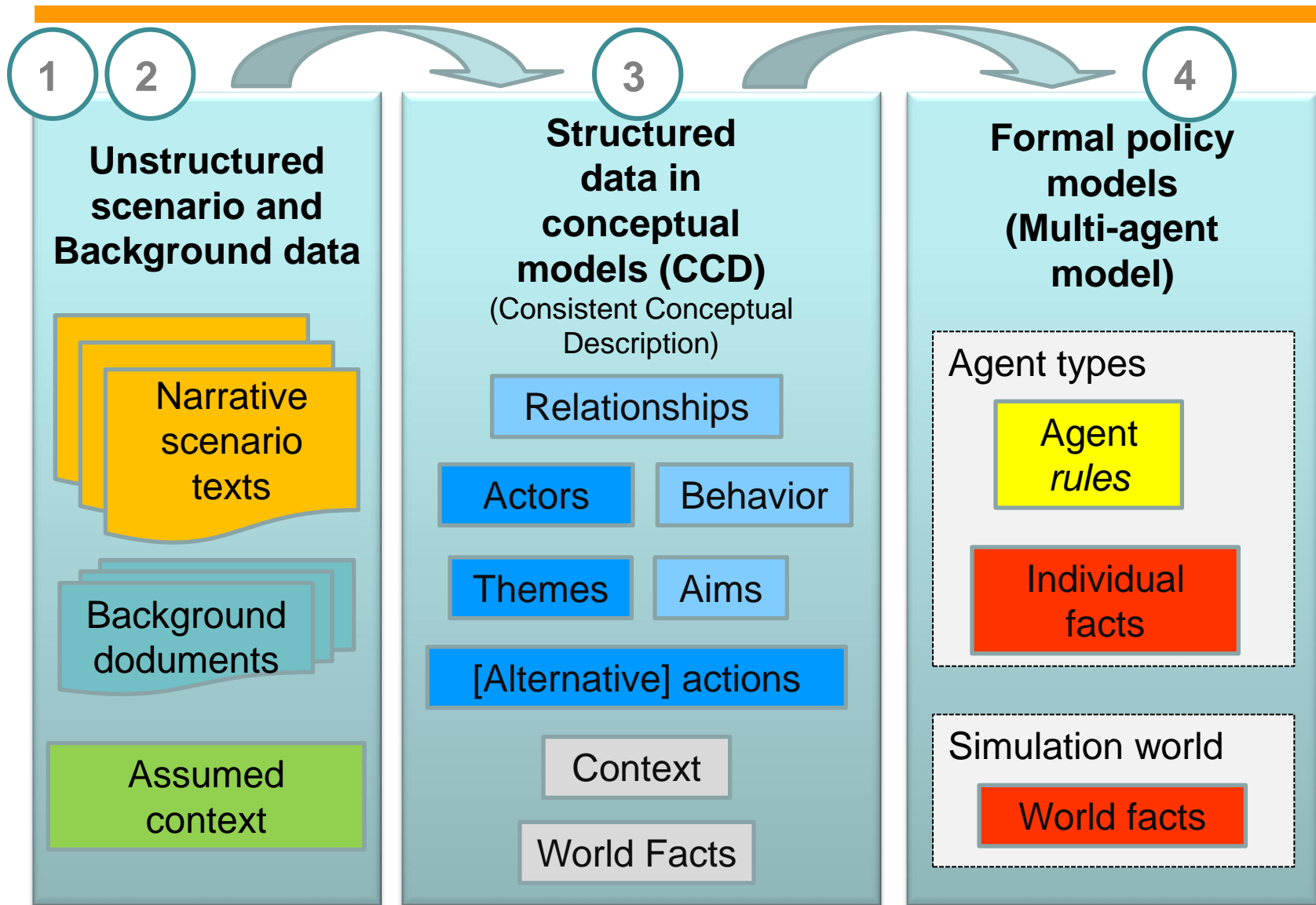


Scenarios

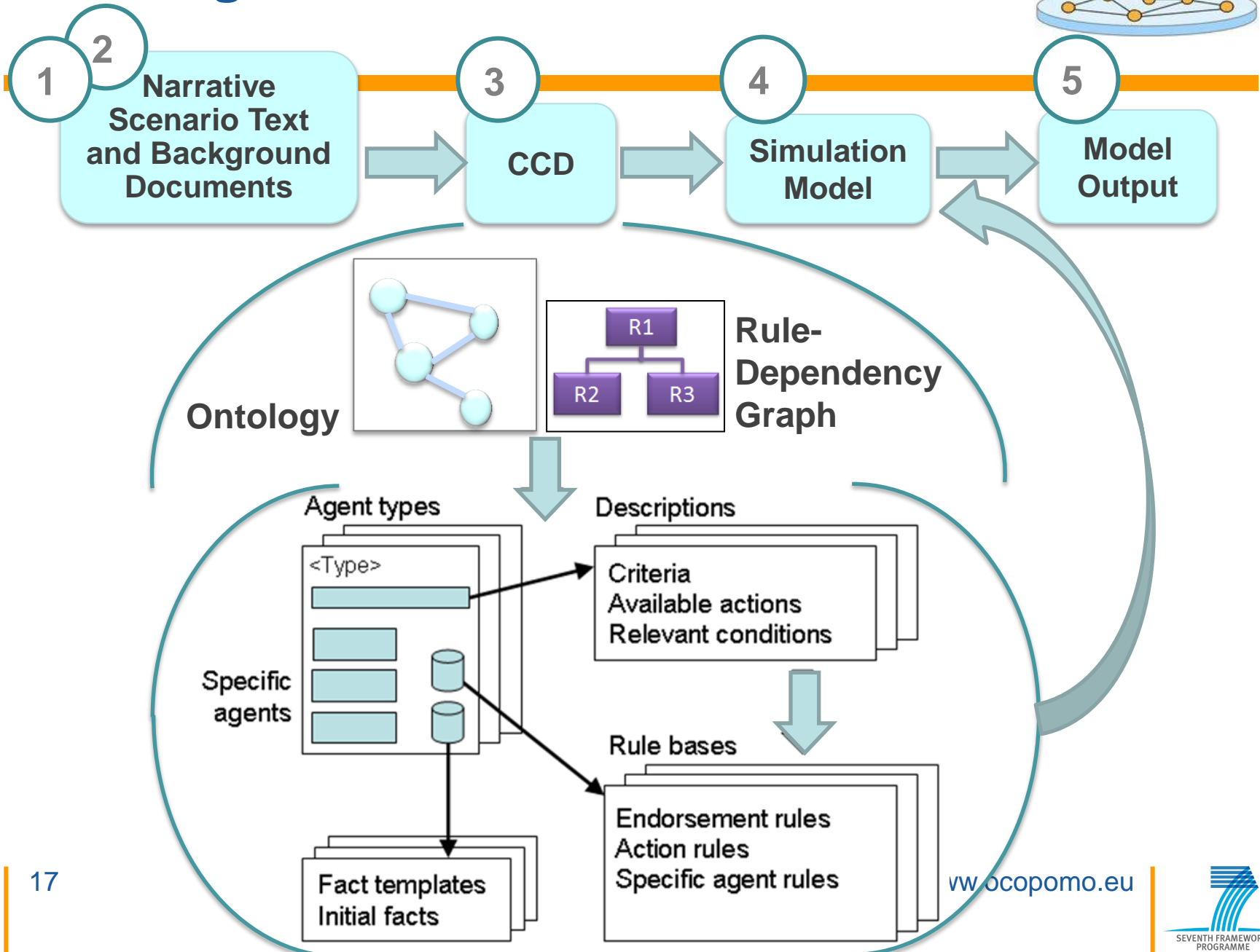


Rule-Dependency-Graph

Transformation Needs



Zooming into the CCD



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- ❖ OCOPOMO policy development process: integrated approach from narrative scenarios to formal policy models
 - Iterative process of identifying the parameters and features informing formal policy models
- ❖ Consistent conceptual description (CCD): Incorporating traceability in the iterative policy development process
- ❖ Open collaboration in policy development through integrated web 2.0 based e-participation toolbox
 - Enabling policy analysts, policy operators and wider stakeholder groups to work together collaboratively

Expected impact



- ❖ Contribute to strategic policies and the work programme's objective
- ❖ Contribute to implement open government and to realize the good governance principles
- ❖ Provide ICT-supported integrated approach to reengage citizens
- ❖ Improve transparency of decision-making through the involvement of different stakeholders in the participative process via the open collaboration platform



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Many thanks for your attention!

Project partners:



KSR



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