

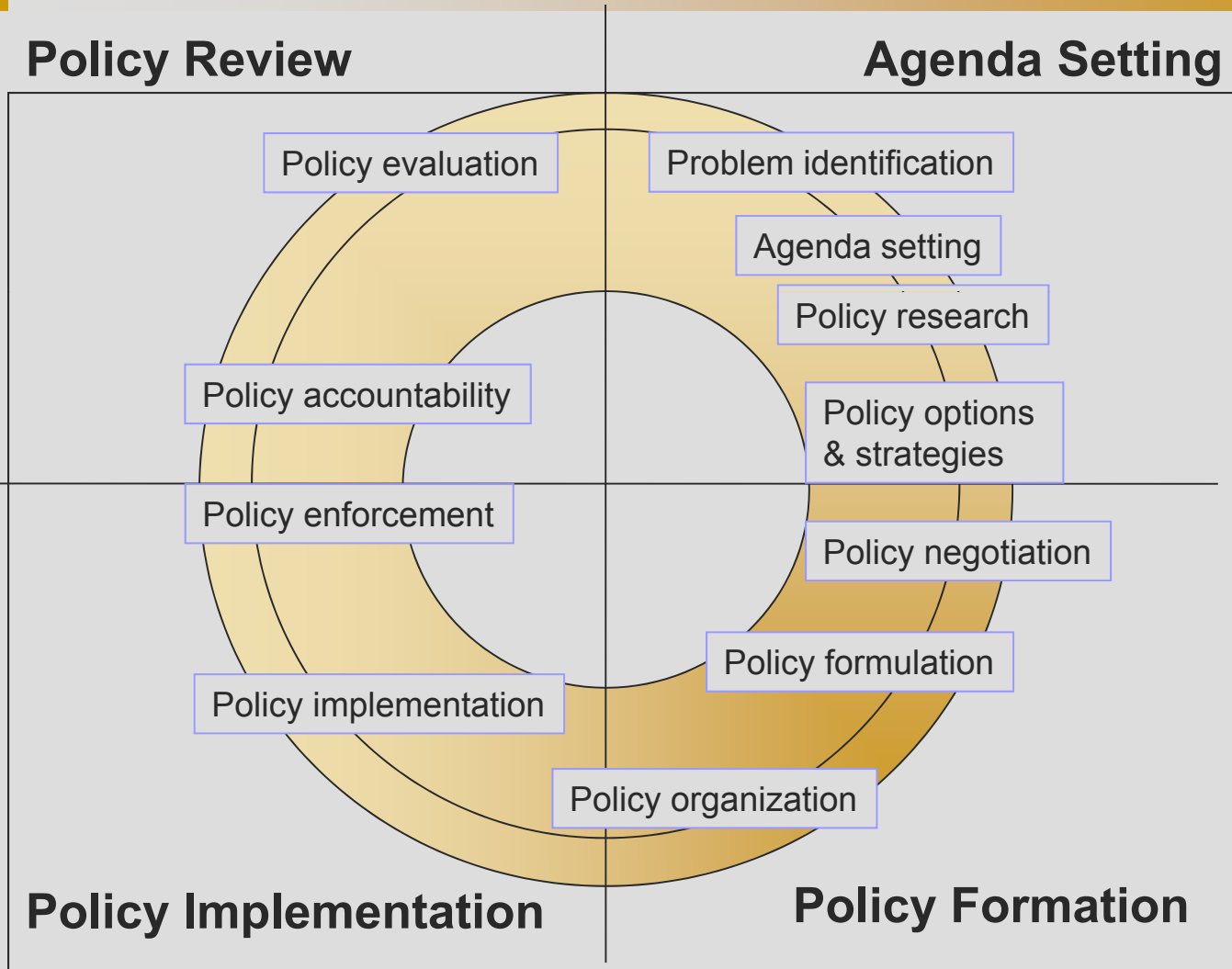


External Evaluation: LIRNEasia's Influence on Policy

[Learning from LIRNEasia]

- What can be done to make research (more) influential in policy-making (and practice)?
- Under what conditions?

The Policy 'Cycle'



What is 'policy influence'?

In an 'issue domain'....

e.g. 'USO policy and regulation in India';

or

'Early warning systems in Sri Lanka'

....expect / be alert to changes in....

Actors in the domain
(their goals, interests, beliefs, behaviors, strategies, resources)

Institutions that enable and constrain interactions among these actors

Framing, discourse and agendas related to the issue

Existing policies of relevant actors

Policy influencing can take many shapes (Lindquist)

Expanding Policy Capacities

- **Improving the knowledge** or data of certain actors
- Supporting recipients to **develop innovative ideas**
- Improving **capabilities to communicate** ideas
- Developing **new talent** for research and analysis

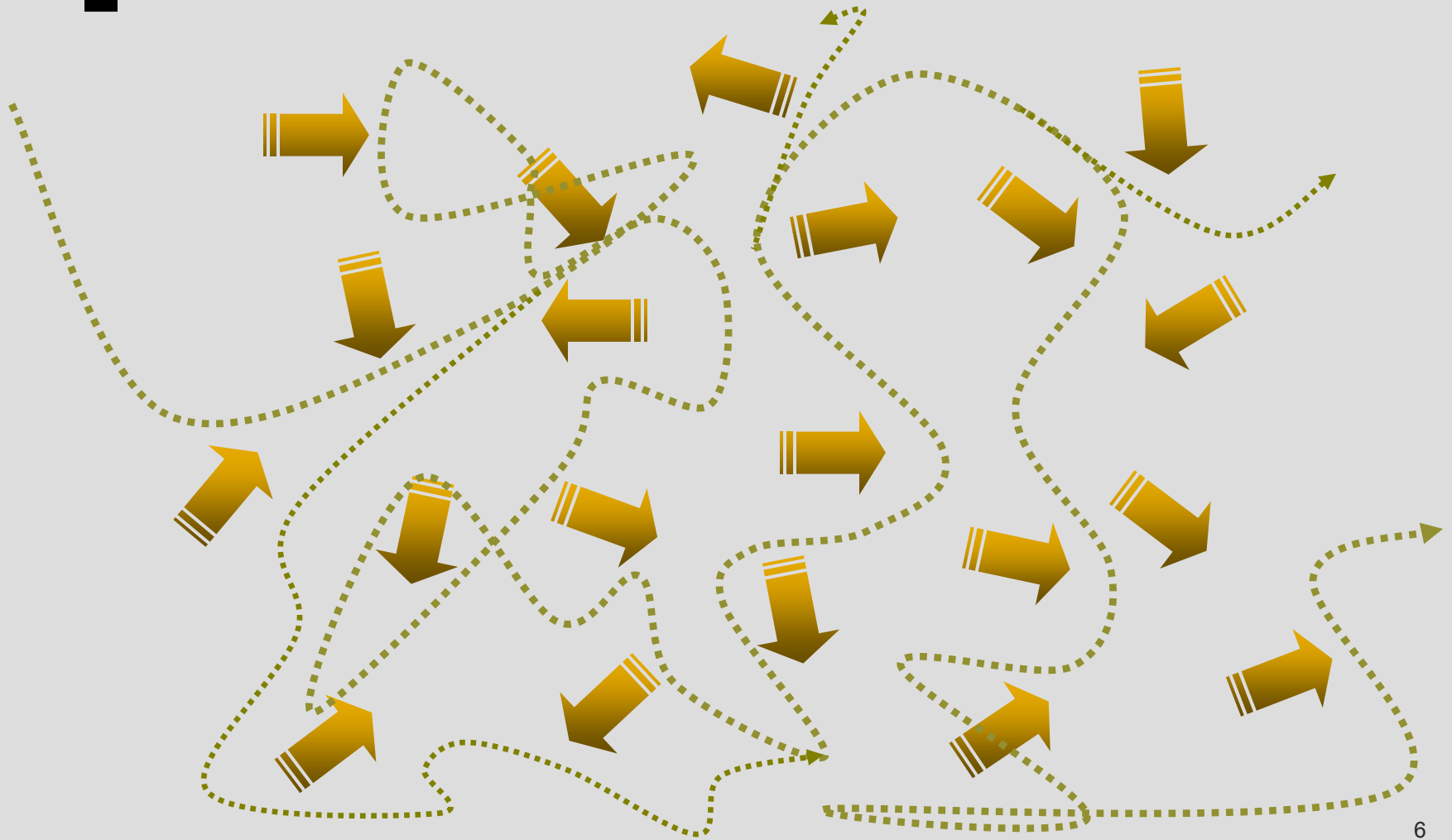
Broadening Policy Horizons

- Providing policy-makers with **opportunities for networking or learning** within their jurisdiction or with colleagues elsewhere
- **Introducing new concepts** to frame debates, putting ideas on the agenda or stimulating public debate
- **Educating researchers and others** who take up new positions with a broader understanding of issues
- Stimulating **quiet dialogue** among decision-makers (and among, or with, researchers).

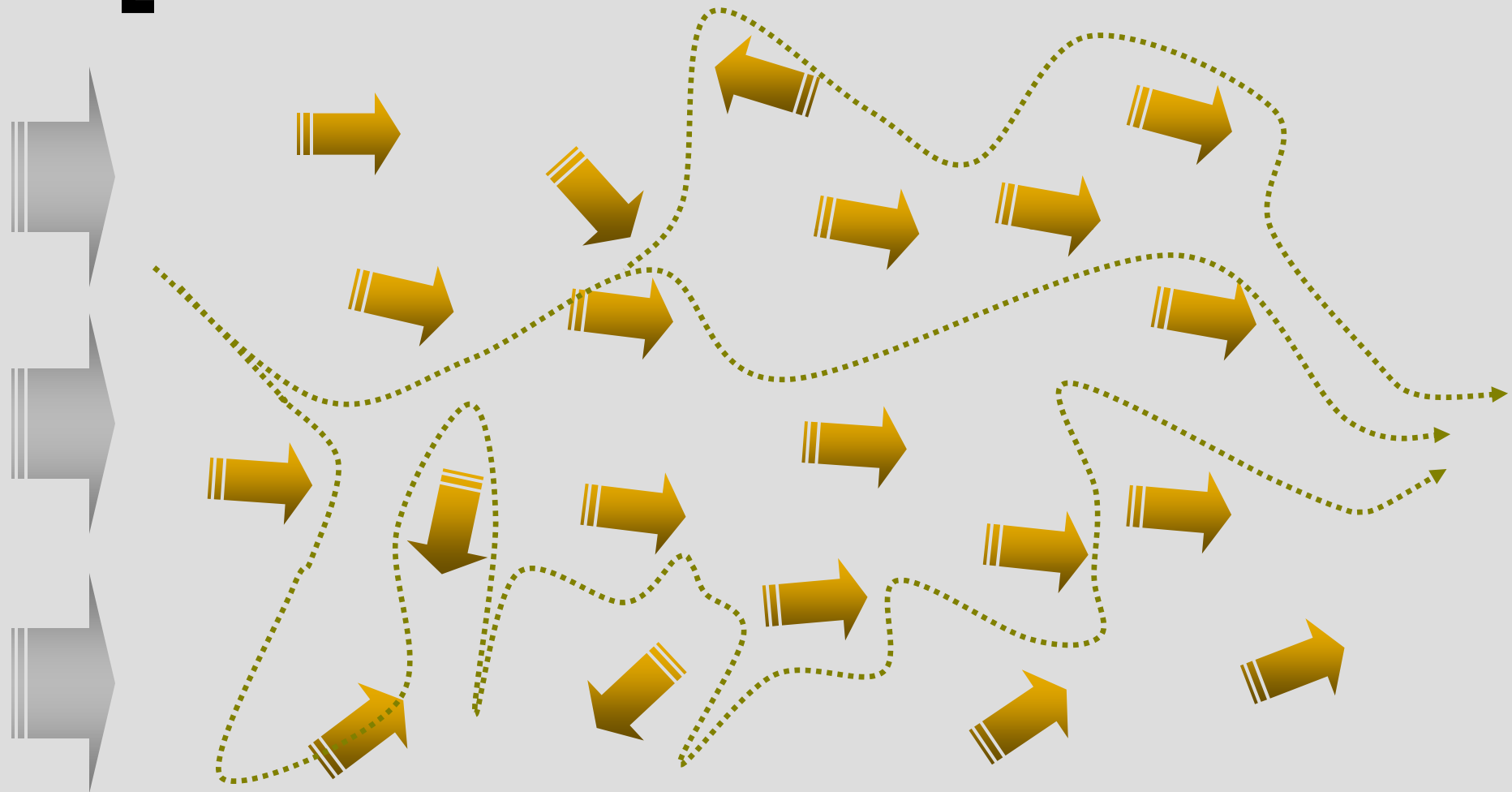
Affecting Policy Regimes

- **Modifying** existing programs or policies
- Leading to the **fundamental re-design** of programs and policies
- Helping **create a new policy regime** in an emerging field.

Policy influencing follows complex, generally unpredictable paths



But conditions can be created to improve the chances that research will be 'assimilated' / used > Influence



Thus a 'Theory of Change'

TOC is
used for

Planning and managing a (research)
intervention

Monitoring and evaluation

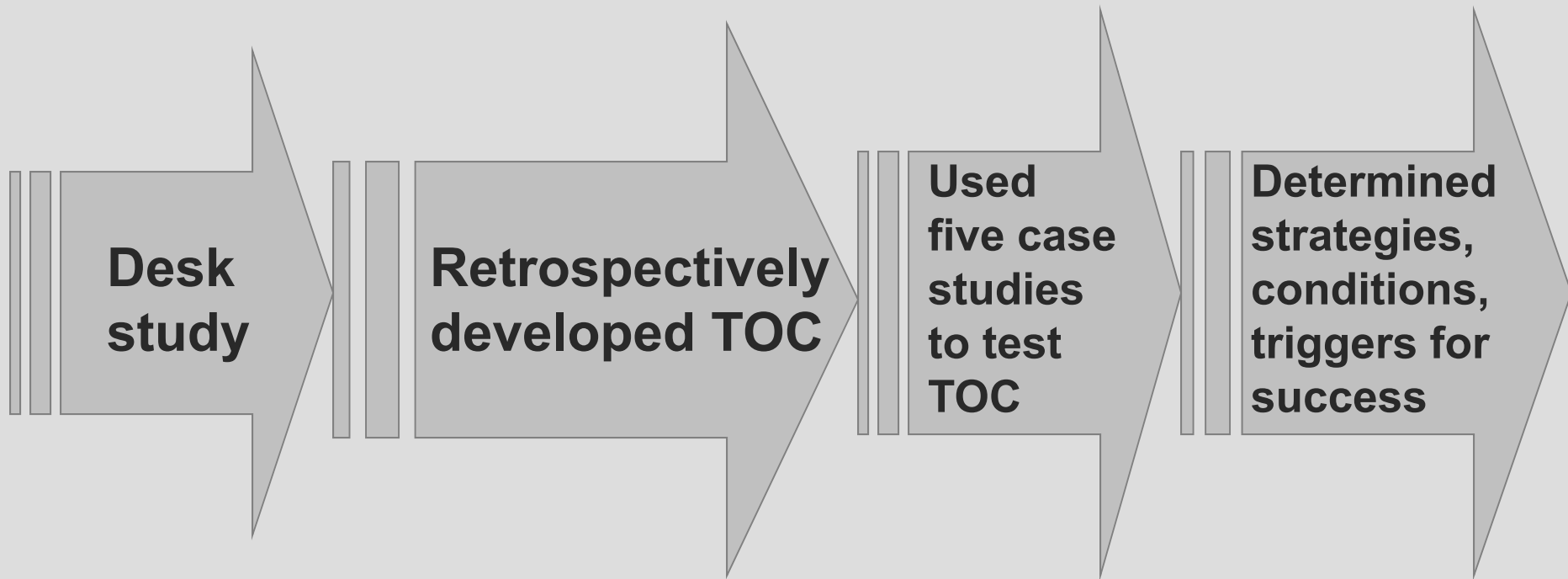
TOC
describes
the logic of
the
intervention

Causal pathways of change

If possible, measurable description
of desired changes

Underlying assumptions

The evaluation components



TOC: The 'preconditions' for success

THE POTENTIAL OF ICTs IS REALIZED TO CONTRIBUTE TO GROWTH AND IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ALL IN THE REGION, PARTICULARLY THE POOR

Sphere of interest

Precondition F:
Sector level changes in policy and practice

Precondition G:
Appropriate capacities and motivation in sector for evidence-based policy-making

Sphere of influence

Precondition D:
Good reputation of LIRNEasia and its work

Precondition E:
Influential individuals receptive to LA's research

Precondition A:
Credible, legitimate, salient research

Precondition B:
Well positioned and visible organization

Precondition C:
Research reaching target audiences

Sphere of control

