Republic of Uganda

Office of the President

FOSTERING AN EVIDENCE-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING (EIDM) CULTURE FOR POLICY PROCESSES

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Content

01 Introduction

02 Define Evidence and EIDM
Importance of EIDM

03 Case of the APEX PLATFORM

04 APEX Evidence Ecosystem

05 APEX evidence creation domain

06 APEX evidence Application domain

07 Expected Outcomes

Introduction

This Presentation is focused on EIDM in Public Policy Management

Justification

The mandate of Office of the President and Specifically the Directorate of Socio-economic Monitoring and Research is to oversee effective implementation of Government Policies, Programs and Projects and generate evidence based reports to guide Executive decisions. which in line with the Mission of the Office ofthe President “is; “Provision of overall Leadership in Public Policy Management and Promotion of Good Governance Practices for National Development”

WHAT IS EVIDENCE?

Evidence for **Policy making** is any information that helps policymakers make decisions and get results that are **concrete, manageable and achievable** (Shaxson, 2005).

Relevant, actionable evidence is the backbone of safe and effective public policies and programmes.

EVIDENCE-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

Is a **strategic** and **deliberate** method of applying empirical knowledge, research and evidence from Practice and Policy implementation to inform Decision Making

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Evidence-informed decision-making aims at ensuring that Public Policies and Programs are informed by the best available research evidence, which is identified and appraised through systematic and transparent processes.

EIDM .....

Investing in strong research in Policy process is of both high intrinsic and instrumental value.

Leveraging the best available evidence for effective Public Policies and interventions increases

The failure of Practitioners to link evidence to Policy and Practice, produces Policies/Programmes/Projects that can not be optimally used; impedes innovation, and allows the practice of isomorphic mimicry to thrive.

IMPORTANCE OF EIDM - A CASE FOR PUBLIC POLICY EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT FORUM (APEX PLATFORM) IN MANAGING FOR RESULTS

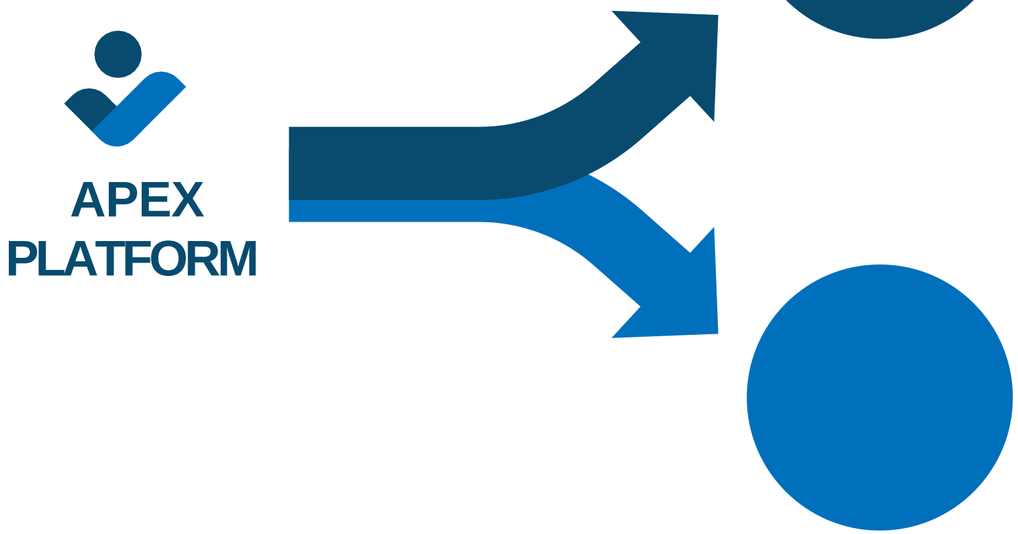
What is APEX?

This is a High-Level Public Policy Management Forum convened by the Office of the President for **Uptake, Learning and Decision Making based on Research and Evidence**

- The Platform (APEX) was approved by Cabinet in 2018 under Minute 482 (CT 2018), Decision 4(g).

- It was adopted under NDP III as a new Reform to Strengthen Executive Oversight of Plan's implementation.

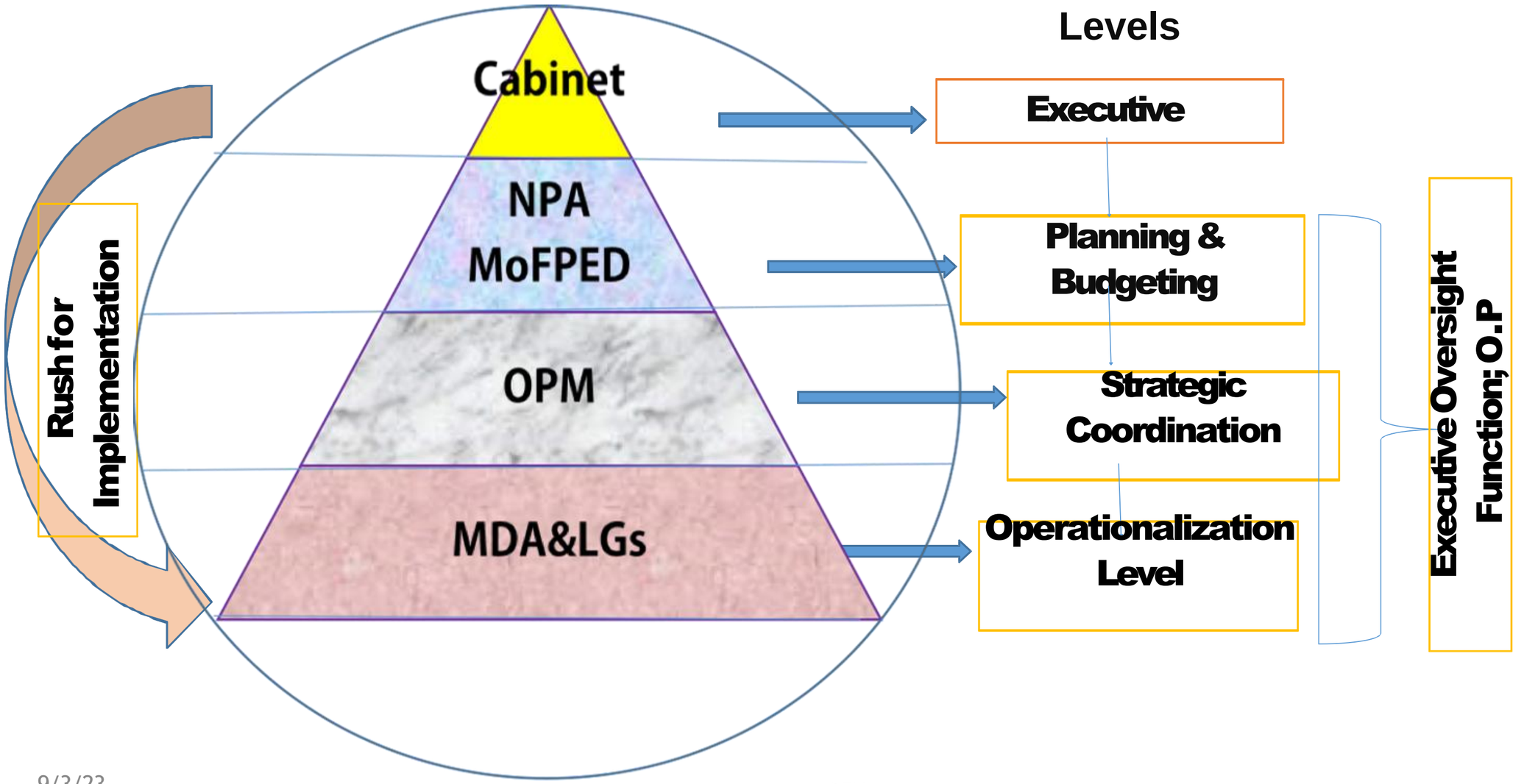
APEX PLATFORM OVERSIGHT GOALS



To Provide Effective Leadership in Public Policy Management and Promotion of Good Governance for Results.

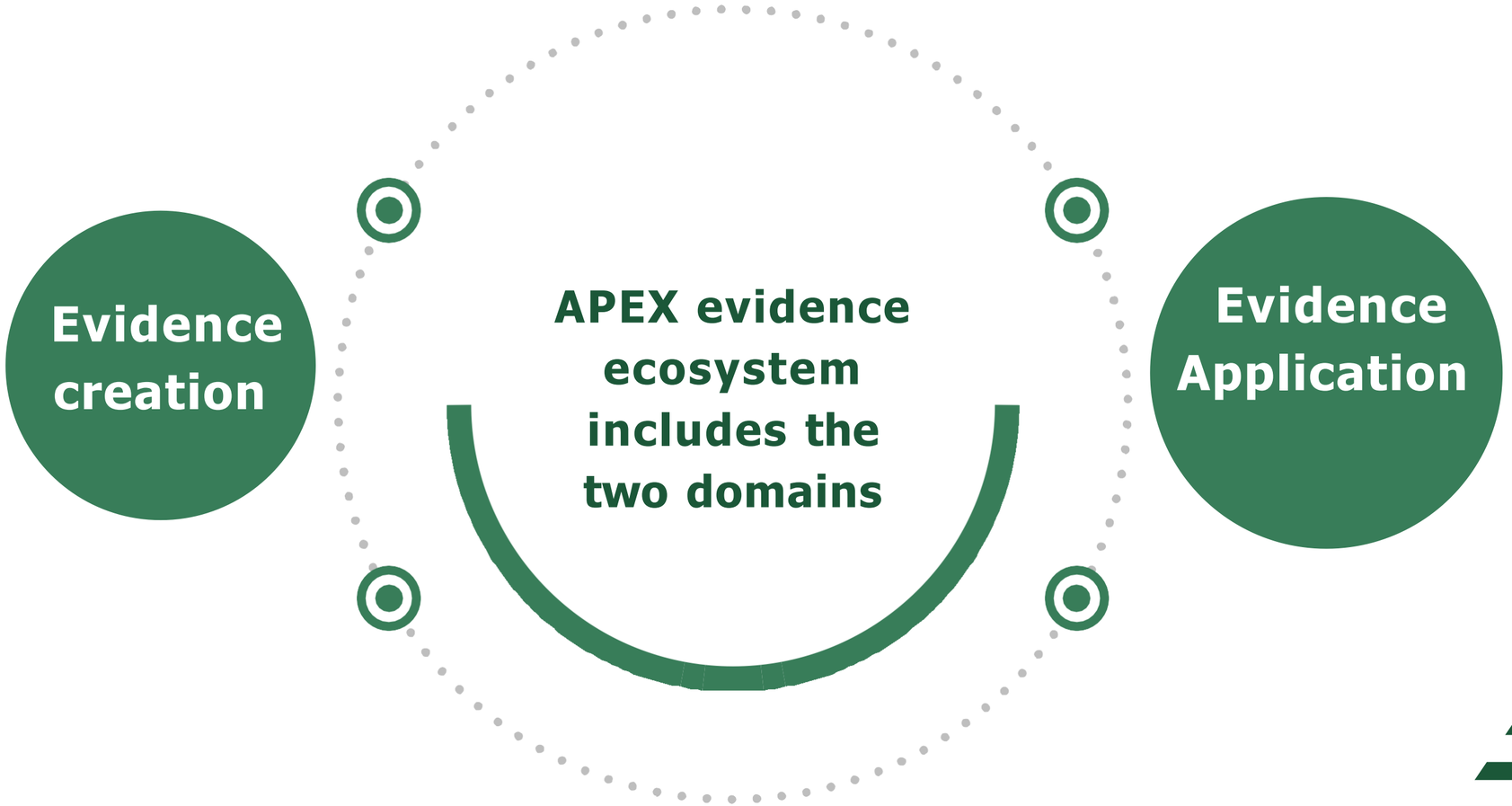
To facilitate **utilisation of evidence based action-focused recommendations** in aiding Executive Decisions to address effective implementation of Socio-Economic Development Interventions

WHY THE APEX PLATFORM



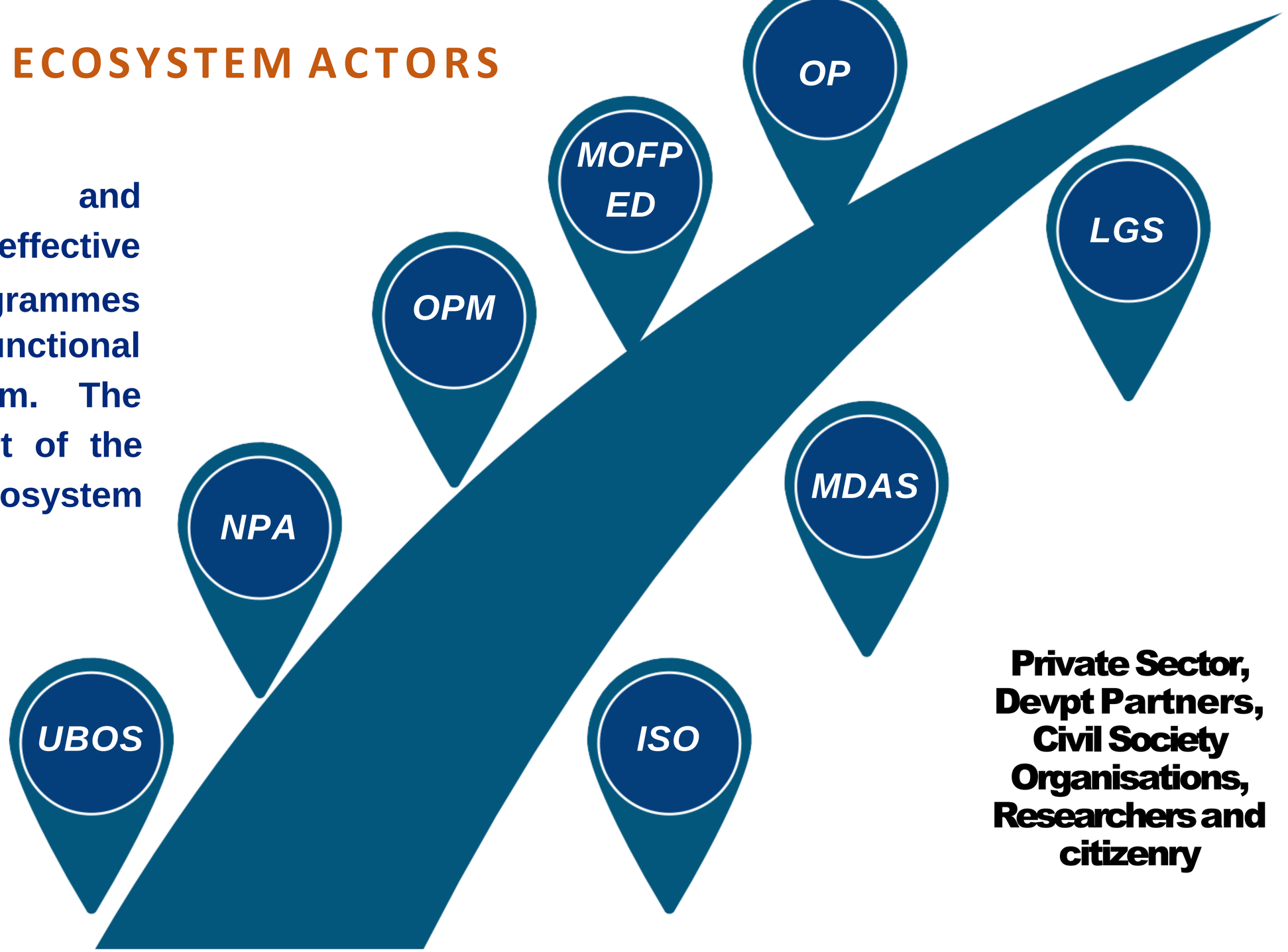
APEX Evidence Ecosystem: Turning Evidence Into Action

An evidence ecosystem can be defined as “a system reflecting the formal and informal linkages and interactions between different actors (and their capacities and resources) involved in the production and use of evidence”



APEX EVIDENCE ECOSYSTEM ACTORS

- The formulation and adoption of effective policies and programmes depends on a functional evidence ecosystem. The actors that are part of the APEX evidence ecosystem include;



APEX EVIDENCE GENERATION DOMAIN

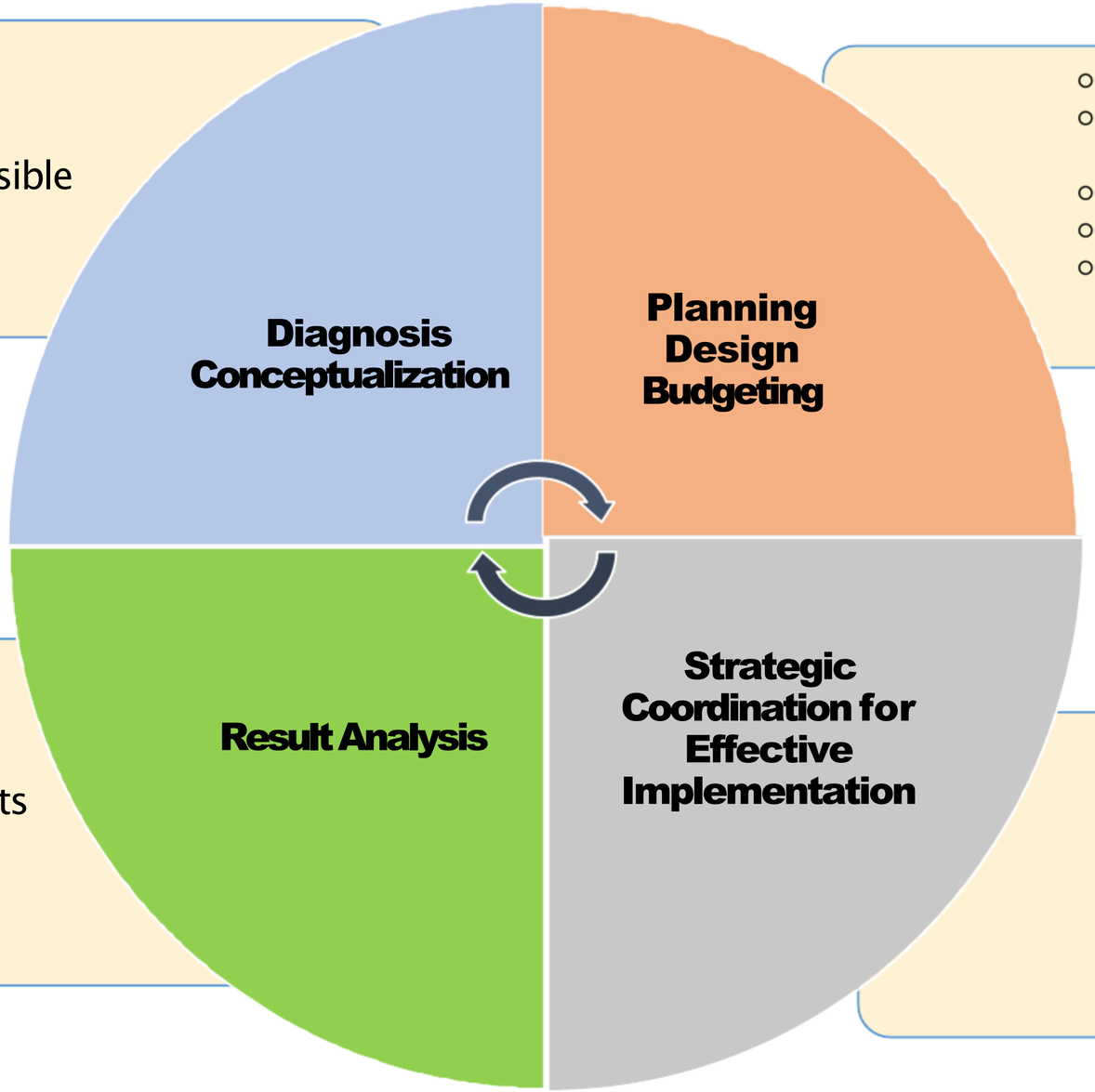
The evidence creation domain consists of a number of phases:

A mix of tools and methods, regular dialogue and in-depth understanding between the actors of the APEX ecosystem supports Primary, Secondary and tertiary **evidence production and enhances synergy in the use of research evidence.**

APEX EVIDENCE ECOSYSTEM FOR IMPACTFUL RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Understanding the Problem

- What are the Problems?
- What are the Causes?
- What are the Alternative Feasible Options?



- Pertinent Policy Framework
- What is required to be achieved?
- In what Design and How?
- Under what Baseline?
- Resource Implication?

- Intended Outcomes
- To what extent are the results attained?
- Impact Analysis

- Coordination of MDAs, DLGs & Other Key Stakeholders
- Implementation M&E Mechanisms for Performance Mgt

To effectively implement the APEX framework and strengthen the interconnections between stakeholders, three cross-cutting activities are of vital importance.

Cross-cutting activities

- Capacity-building at different Levels
- Continuous communication interactions and collaboration among the stakeholders
- Building relationships, trust and mutual respect

Principles

There are a number of principles that are explicitly included in the work of APEX PLATFORM

01

Needs-based approaches

Every stage of the APEX framework (both in evidence creation and application) the needs of the target audience at the national or local level considered.

Use of systematic and transparent processes

02

03

Inclusive approaches

The perspectives of diverse stakeholders are incorporated in the APEX framework to develop evidence-based Recommendations.

Integration

The methods of "APEX framework" are conceived as a benchmark and can be applied at any policy/programme/Project aimed at promoting the use of evidence in decision-making processes for impactful results

04

THE APEX EVIDENCE APPLICATION DOMAIN

On the evidence user side, a range of activities are done to enhance application of the evidence to achieve the intended goal of the APEX Platform .

01

In the evidence application process
Evidence generated by APEX is used as
an input

02

Evidence is also produced as part of the process to help achieve the desired impact of the
Policies/Programmes/Project

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF APEX

Increased use of Evidence and Results based information to guide Executive Decisions

- A Standardized /Harmonized Framework for best practices to address Socio-Economic Development Challenges.
- Increased Utilization of State and Non-State Actors' Actionable Recommendations in the Executive Oversight sphere.
- Enhanced Public Accountability for Results
    - Internal and External Synergies in the Management for Results Strengthened.

THANK YOU