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## WHAT IS SOFI?

Sofi is a national experimental initiative focusing on building next generation science advice ecosystem in Finland (2019–2021).

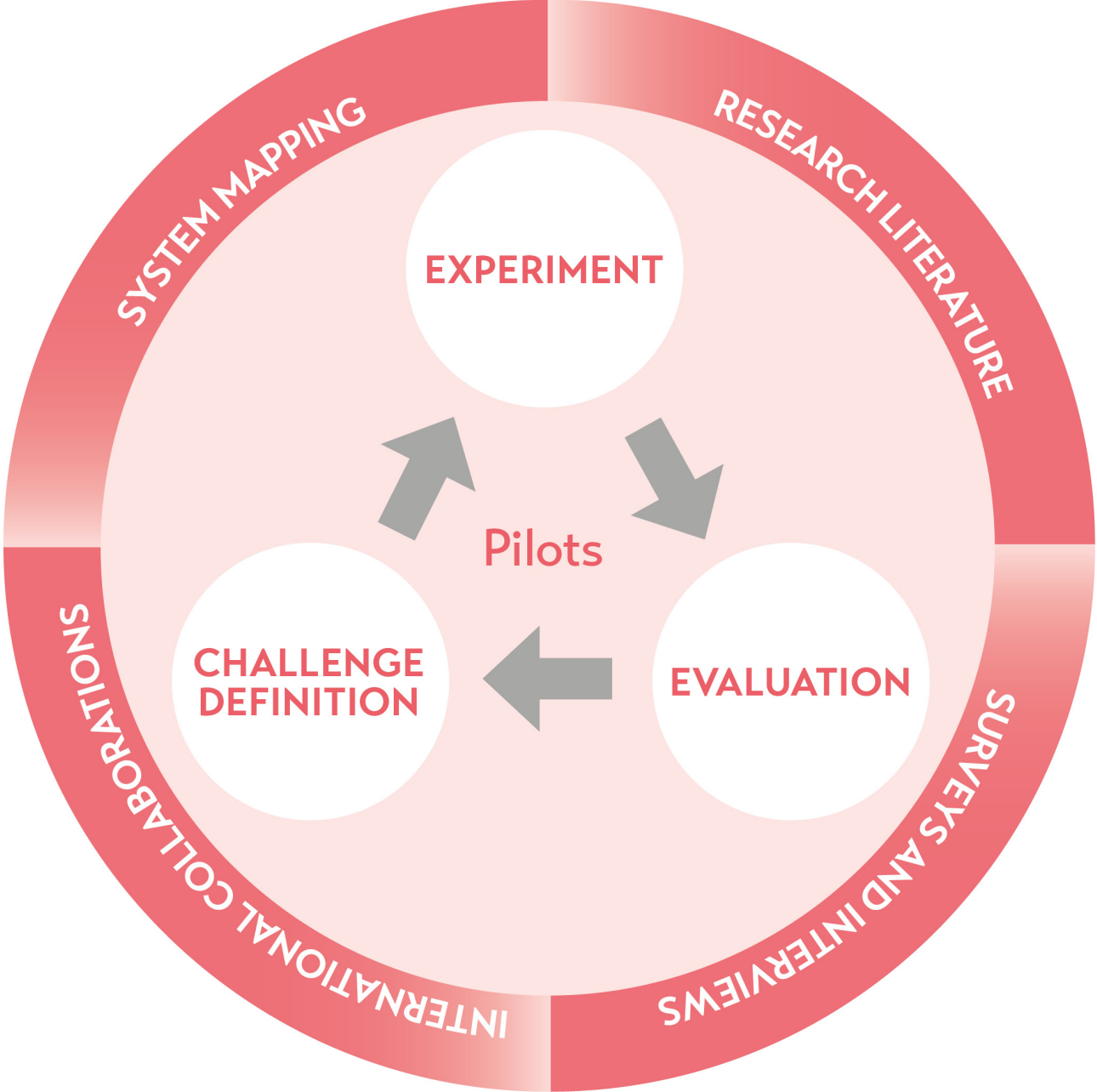


**Sofi is a joint venture of the four Finnish science academies (*The Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, the Finnish Society of Science and Letters, the Finnish Academy of Technical Sciences and the Swedish Academy of Engineering Science in Finland*). It is funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture.**

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

- > Build a new permanent science-policy platform in Finland
- > Promote dialogue between researchers and decision-makers
- > Facilitate discussions on the future of science advice

# METHODOLOGY



## CHALLENGE MAP

- > **Policy-makers have challenges in making sense of the totality of available evidence.**
  - Drivers: *multiple evidence streams, quantity of available evidence, varying methodologies, time pressure, lack of scientific skills, lack of dialogue with researchers.*
- > **Lack of fit-for-purpose high-quality evidence syntheses.**
  - Drivers: *Lack of methodological skills, high quantities of available evidence, researcher career incentives, time pressures, lack of iterative dialogues.*
- > **Path-dependence in utilisation of experts.**
  - Drivers: *time pressure, politisation of evidence, lack of operating models for expert mapping, lack of brokers.*
- > **Researchers have challenges in contextualising their work for policy setting.**
  - Drivers: *Limited understanding of policy-making, narrow view on impact, lack of brokers*

Operating Model	What?	Case
<b>SCIENTIFIC RED TEAMS</b>	Interactive and iterative dialogues anchored in policy documents under preparation.	<i>Climate impact assessment</i> <i>Nature Conservation Act</i> <i>Public Sector Strategy</i> <i>National Transportation Plan</i> <i>Roadmap to Fossil-Free Transportation</i> <i>Climate Adaptation Programme</i>
<b>PHENOMENON MAPS</b>	Co-created evidence syntheses on emerging complex policy issues	<i>Impacts of Digital Media for Youth</i> <i>Societal Impacts of Quantum Technology</i>
<b>EXPERT SCANS</b>	New models for researcher brokering.	<i>Covid-19-research Reviews</i> <i>Prime Minister's Office Science Advice Panels</i>
<b>IMPACT TRAINING PROGRAMME</b>	Capacity-building of researchers' impact skills and mindsets.	<i>Young Academy Researcher Training</i> <i>JRC National Trainers</i>
<b>INTERNATIONAL EVIDENCE SYNTHESSES</b>	"Domesticating" international high-quality scientific reports for national policy-making.	<i>EASAC Decarbonisation of Transport</i> <i>EASAC Decarbonisation of Buildings</i>

**OBSERVATIONS ON EXPERIMENTAL  
DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE-POLICY**



## **OBSERVATION #1:**

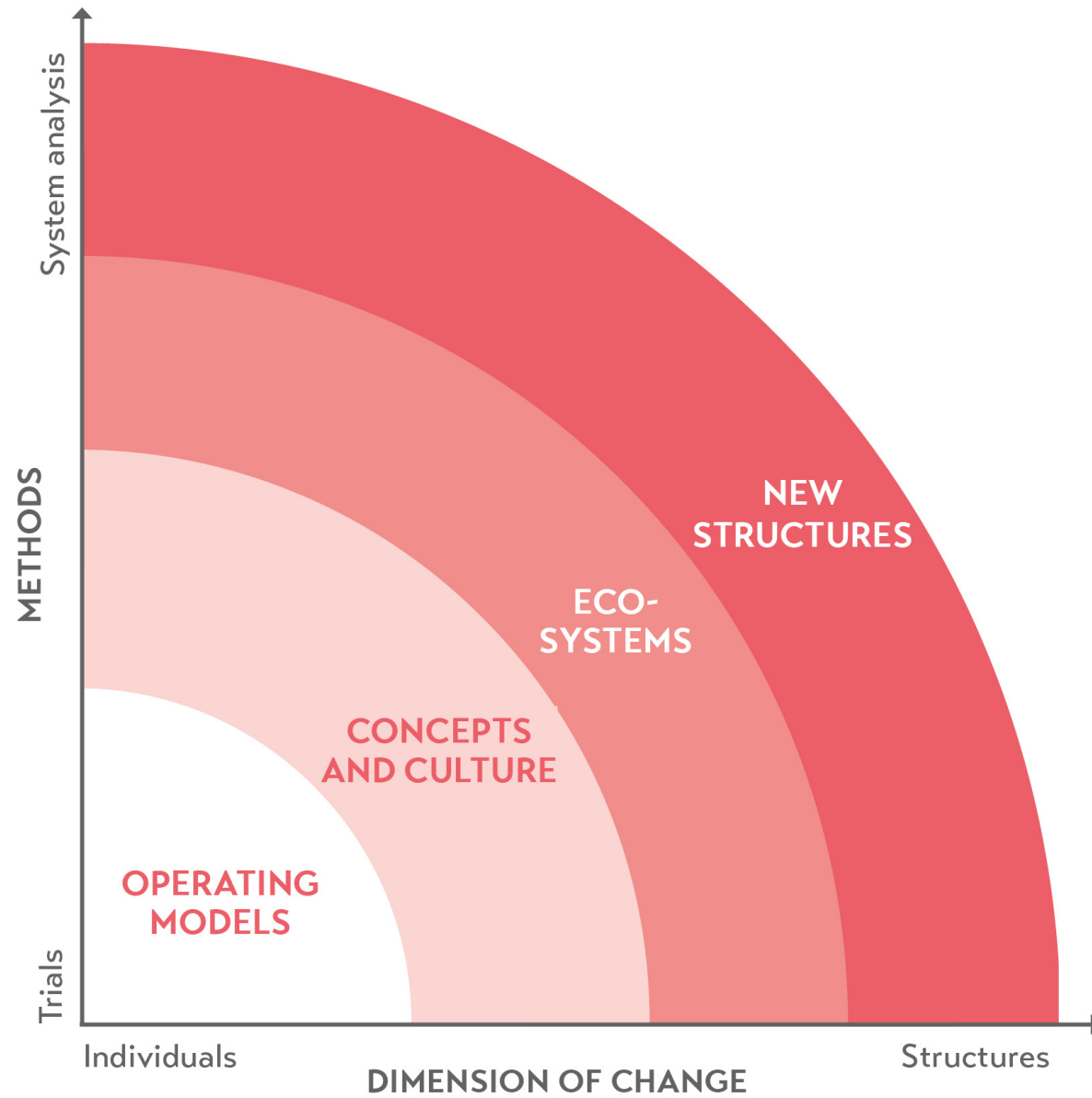
- > Significant opportunity windows exist for improvement of the science-policy ecosystem (but this requires collaborative exploration!)

## **OBSERVATION #2:**

- Interaction in science-policy ecosystem is unsystematised and professional brokers are under-utilised

## **OBSERVATION #3:**

- Never underestimate the power of language - it can be the pathway or the barrier to transforming new operating models into permanent structures.



## **NEXT STEPS:**

- A new permanent collaborative science-policy platform is established at the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters.

**THANK YOU!**

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