



Auckland, 16 June 2015

# unConference on Interdisciplinary Innovation and Collaboration

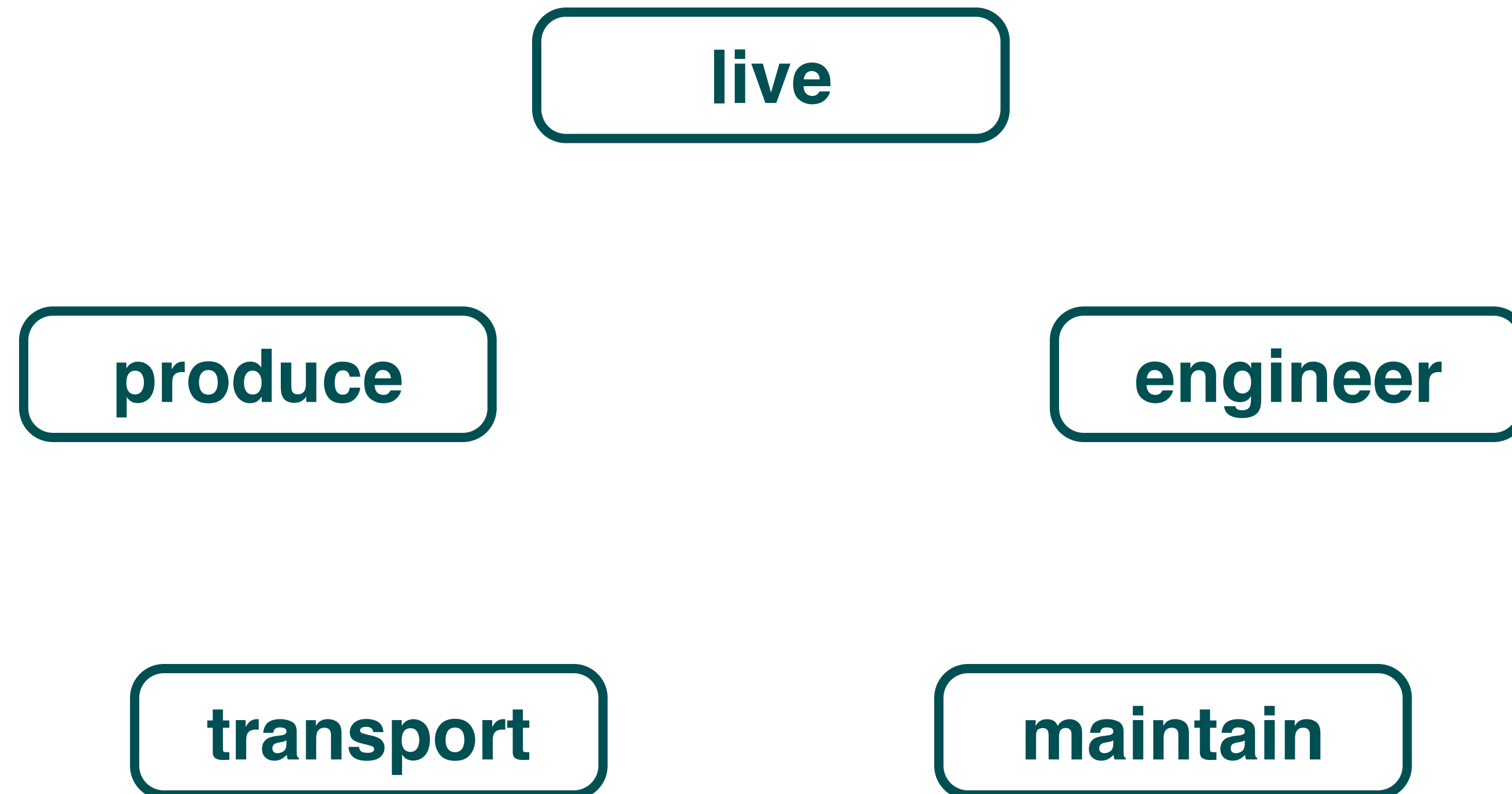
# Setting the agenda

1. Introductions (15 minutes)
2. A simple thinking tool (15 minutes)
3. Creating open space (15 minutes)
4. Market of ideas (15 minutes)
- 5. Working sessions (10 am – 3:30 pm)**
6. Closing circle – presentation of results (3:30 pm – 4:30 pm)
- 7. Next steps & next CLIC event (4:30 pm – 5 pm)**

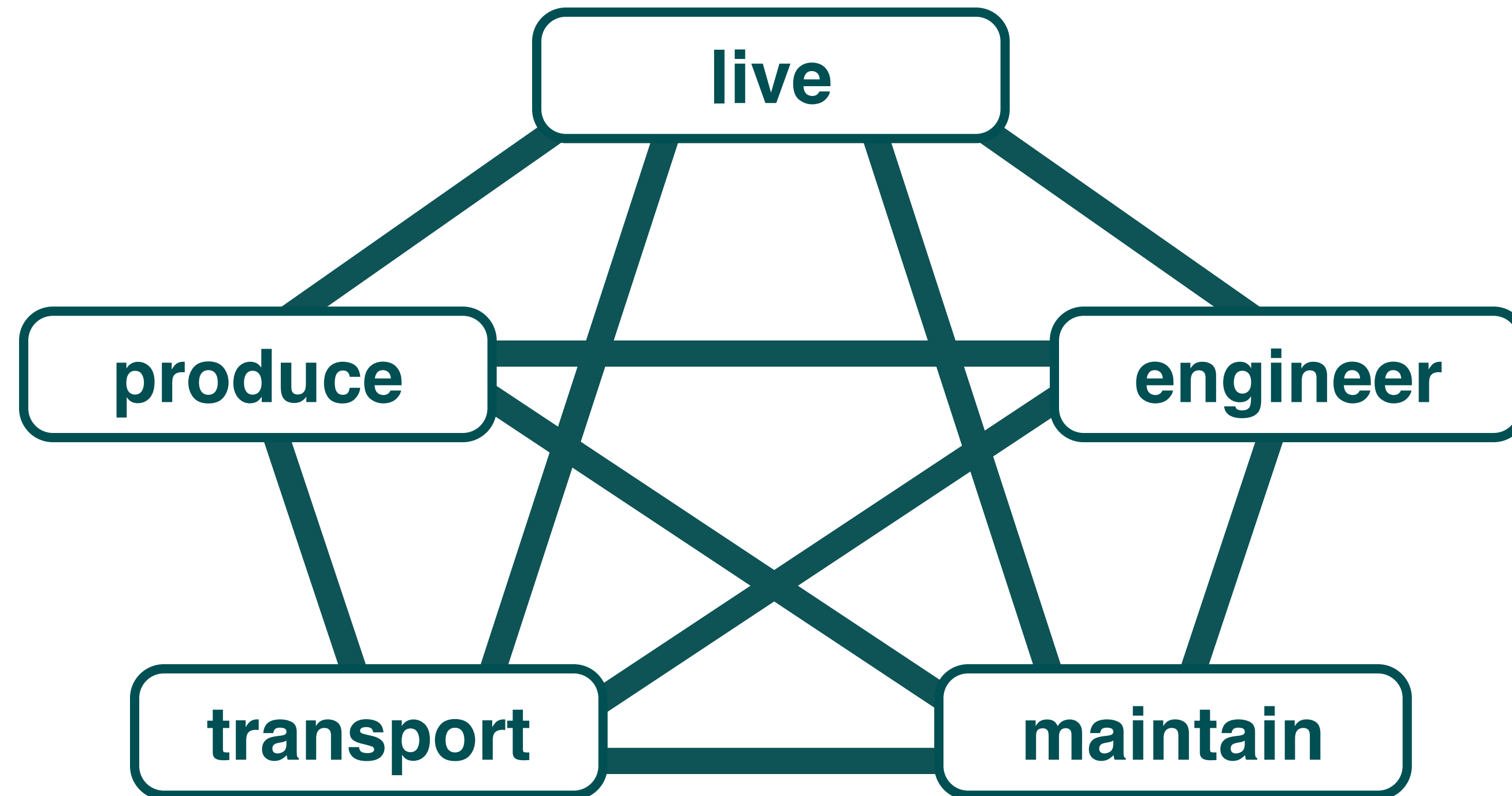
# Introductions

# A simple **thinking tool**

# The 5 basic economic **activities**



# Collaboration = Economic interdependencies



# A basic **language** for economic activity

# Culture = to live

1. **learn**
2. **think**
3. **play**
4. **decide**
5. **agree**
6. **disagree**
7. **teach**



# Engineering = to engineer

1. live

2. **design**

3. **construct**

4. **decommission**

5. produce

6. transport

7. maintain

# Energy = to produce

1. live

2. **grow**

3. **generate**

4. engineer

5. transport

6. maintain

# Transportation = to transport

1. live

2. **communicate**

3. **move**

4. engineer

5. produce

6. maintain

# Maintenance = to maintain

1. live

2. **observe**

3. **correct**

4. **replace**

5. engineer

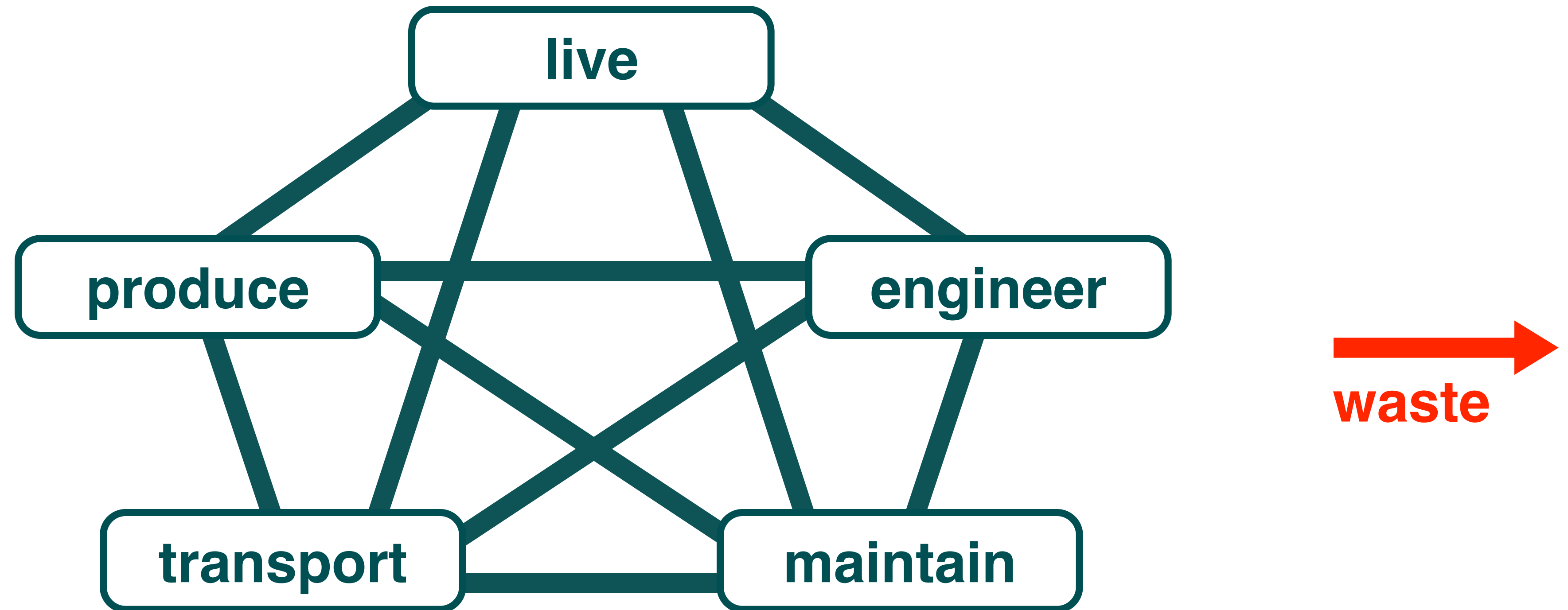
6. produce

7. transport

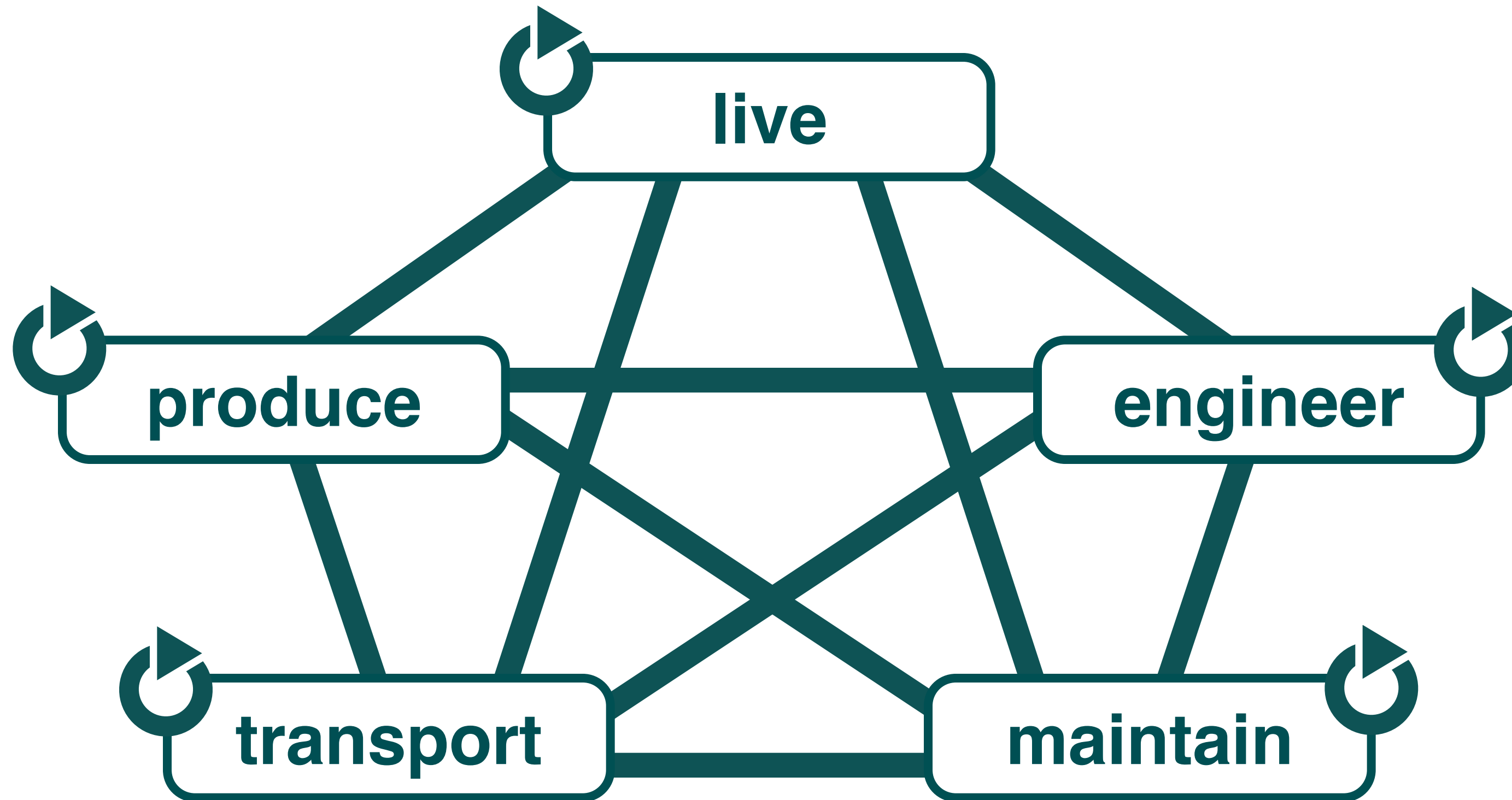
# What is the **purpose** of your organisation?

1. **Live** – learn, think, play, decide, agree, disagree, teach
2. **Engineer** – design, construct, decommission
3. **Produce** – grow, generate
4. **Maintain** – observe, correct, replace
5. **Transport** – move, communicate

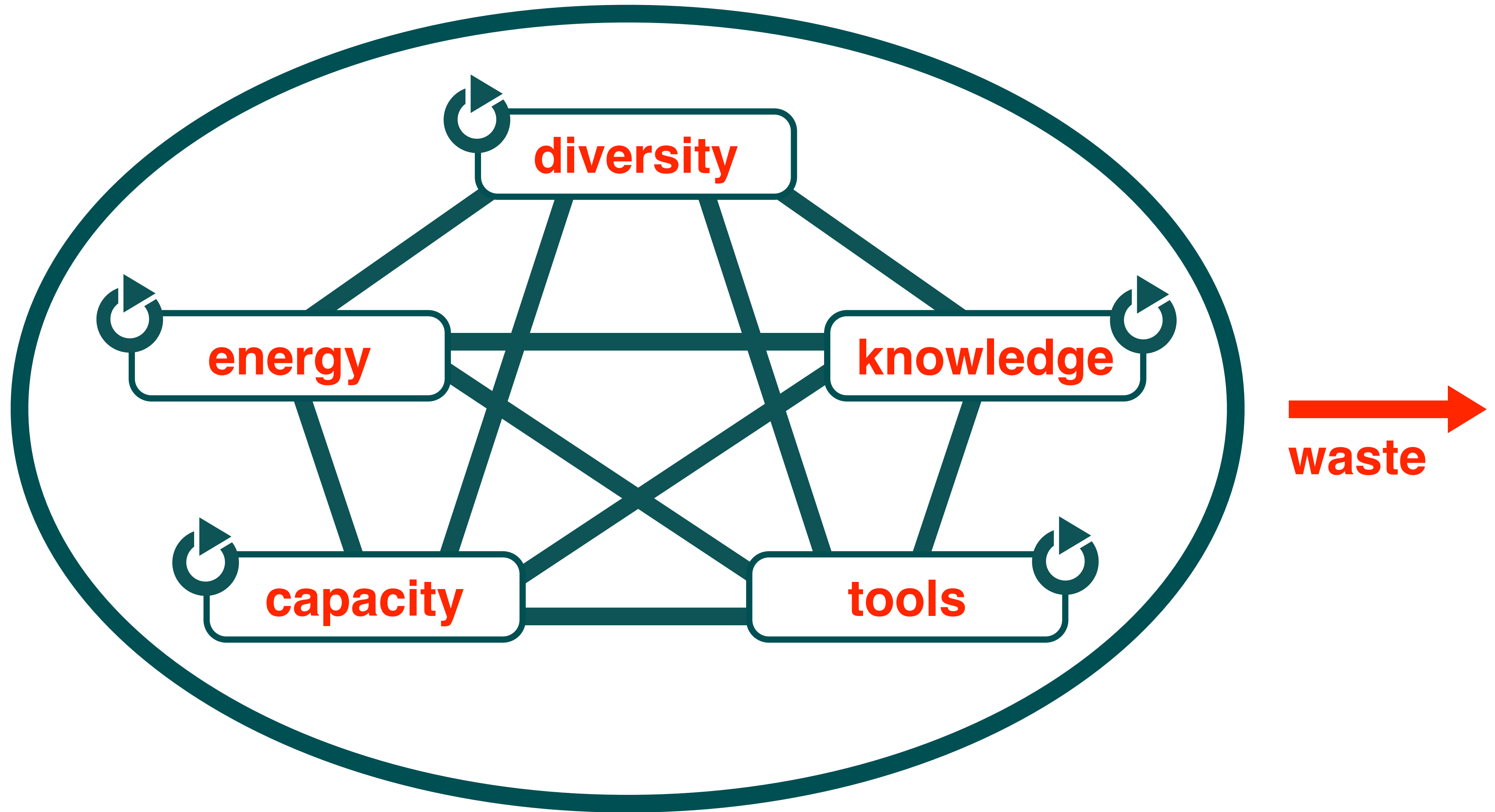
# The waste flow



# Reuse flows

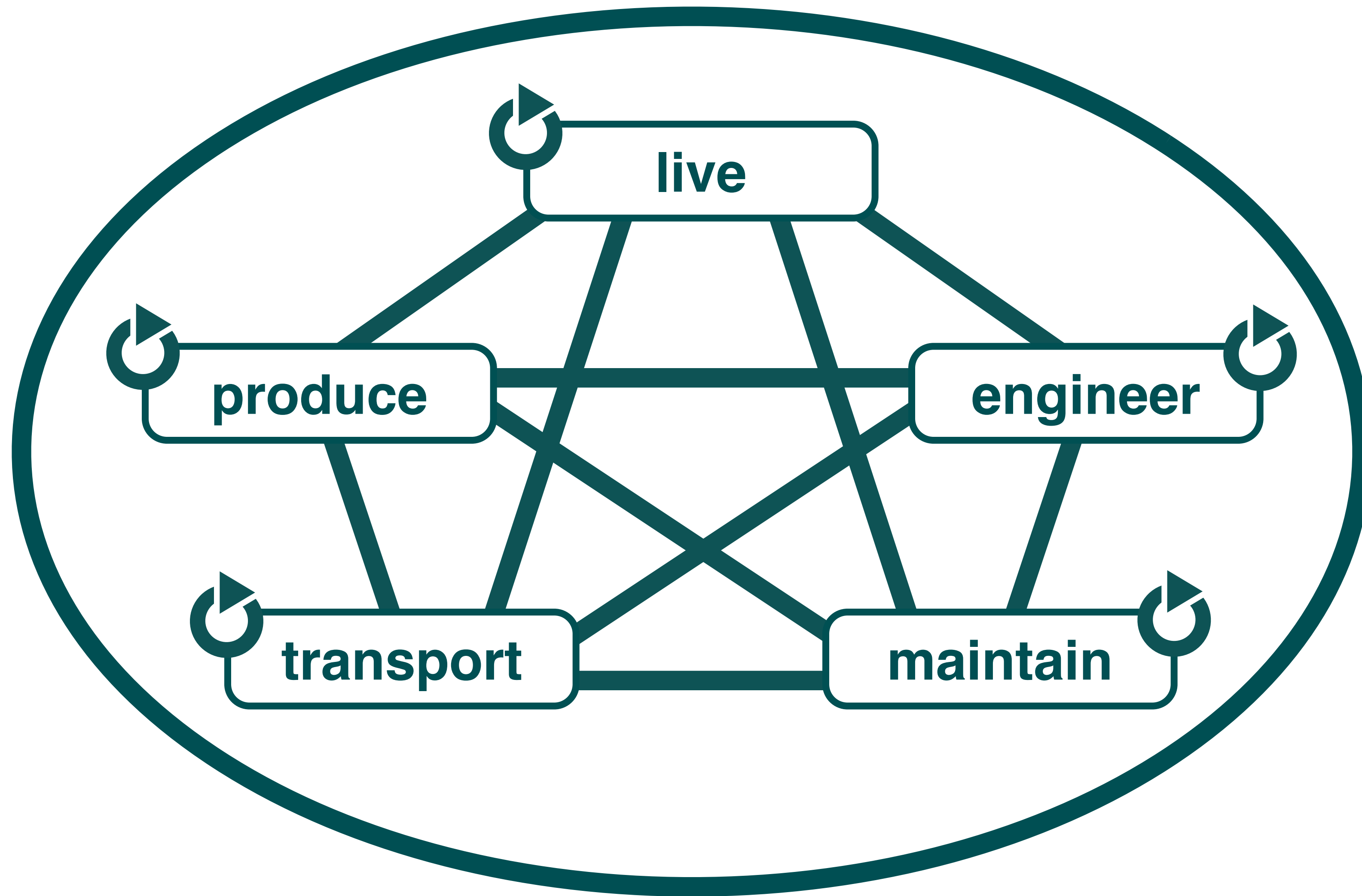


# Economic constraints





# The goal of a **resilient** economy

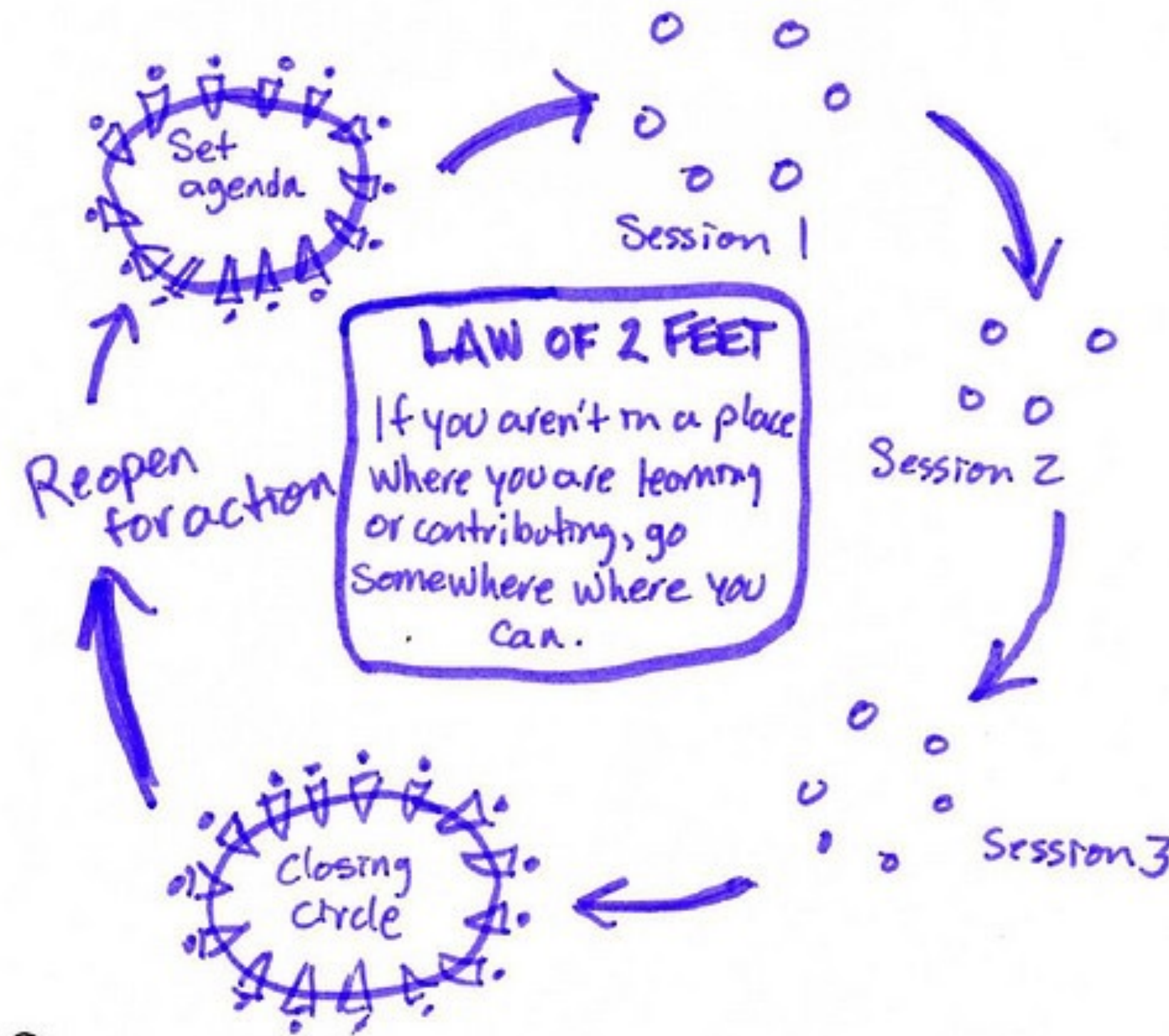


**zero  
waste**

# Creating open space

# OPEN SPACE TECHNOLOGY

Whoever comes are the right people.  
Whatever happens is the only thing that could have  
When it starts is the right time.  
When it's over, it's over.



Source: Owen

# Appendix

## Agents, purpose, and learning

# Agents

1. **Collaboration**—The quality of artefact flows between agents defines the potential for **collective intelligence** and stupidity.
2. **Neurodiversity**—Differences in cognitive lenses and learning styles define **the creative potential** and limitations of an organisation.
3. **Learning**—A trusted and supportive environment allows agents to learn and **to create new knowledge**; a competitive environment leads to corrupt knowledge and behaviour.
4. **Complementary strengths**—Allow complex problems to be tackled in a scalable manner via **a multi-disciplinary and modular approach**; a lack of deep domain knowledge limits an organisation to the provision of trivial services.

# Purpose

1. **Economic sectors**—Provide **context** for the purpose of individual and organisational behaviour.
2. **Applications**—Are translations of knowledge into **useful services**.
3. **Space, time, and scale**—Are the sources of **intrinsic variations in purpose**.
  - Spacial context may dictate constraints
  - New knowledge is created and old knowledge is forgotten over time
  - Scale may dictate constraints
4. **Culture**—Is a source of **local variation** in individual and organisational behaviour, influencing the way in which purpose is framed.

# Learning

1. **Questions**—Sharing of questions **enables the search for answers to be scaled** and delegated to those with the deepest domain specific knowledge.
2. **Variability**—Valuable **knowledge is created by uncovering the sources** of variability.
3. **Knowledge**—Valuable knowledge is created by **connecting the dots** between different dimensions of knowledge.
4. **Communication**—Flow of artefacts via a common semantic knowledge sharing pattern between trusted agents allows the **scaling of knowledge validation and learning**.

# How to measure progress?



# Culture independent **dimensions of progress**

- Reduction of **physical waste**
- Reduction in the **use of non-renewable resources**
- Increase in **biodiversity**

# The human perspective and **cultural context** ...

... heavily influences all **other dimensions of progress**

- Value judgements relate to **specific behaviours** that occur in life
- Very few values are consistent across all major **religions** and **philosophical systems**
- Most **values reflect a specific cultural point of view**

# Stepping outside the box of cultural perspective

The anthropological perspective:

- **Cultural diversity** is a form of **biodiversity**
- All **cross-cultural values are important** and lead to universally understood metrics
- **Respect for cultural diversity** is a good foundation for progress
- **Using physical/psychological/economic force** to suppress cultural diversity to increase the number of cross-cultural values **is a really bad idea** – usually with huge negative impact on the culture independent dimensions of progress

# Thank you!

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*Nothing beats capturing the knowledge flow  
of leading domain experts to co-create  
organisations & systems that are  
understandable by future generations of  
humans & software tools.*

