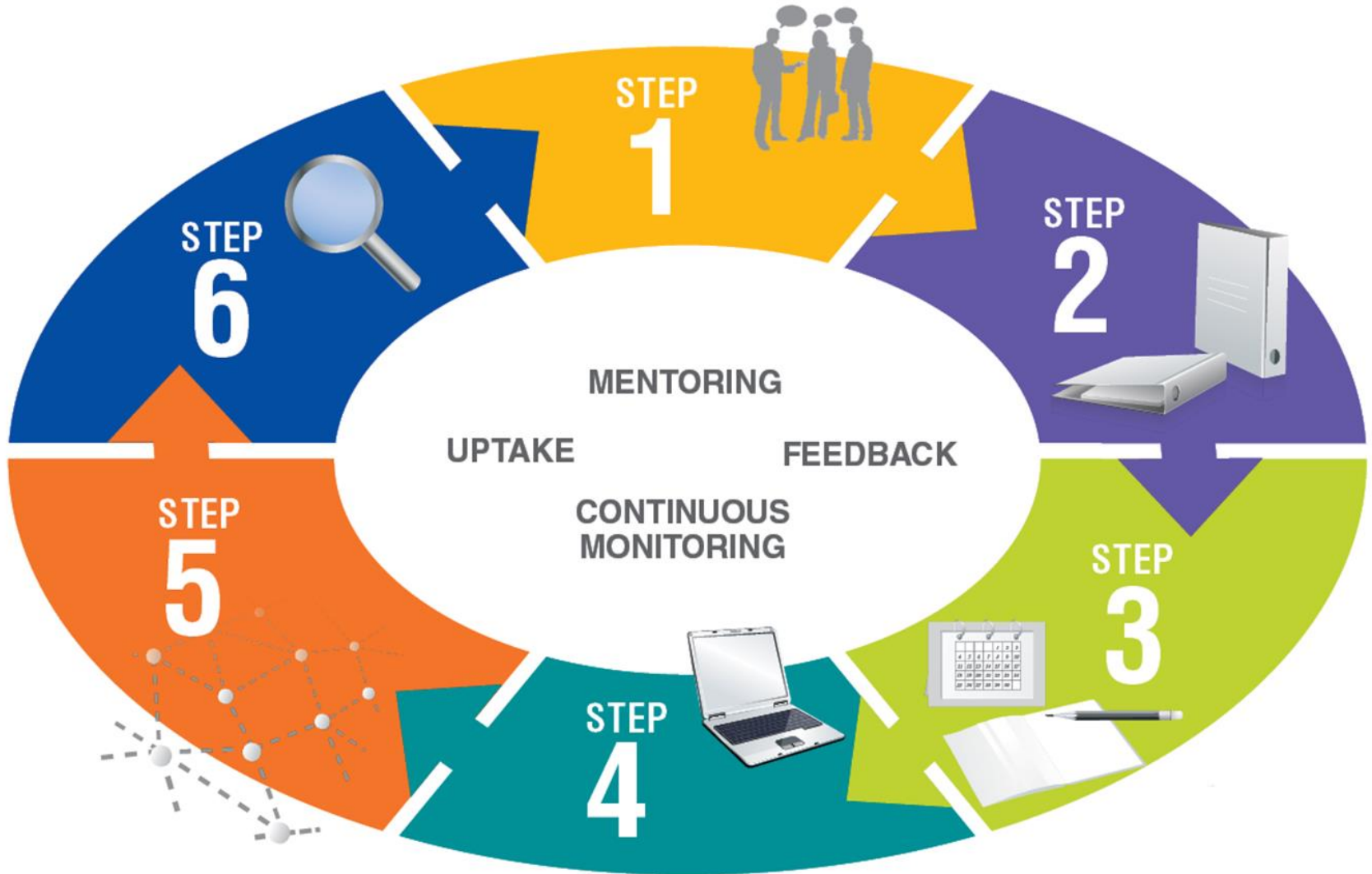
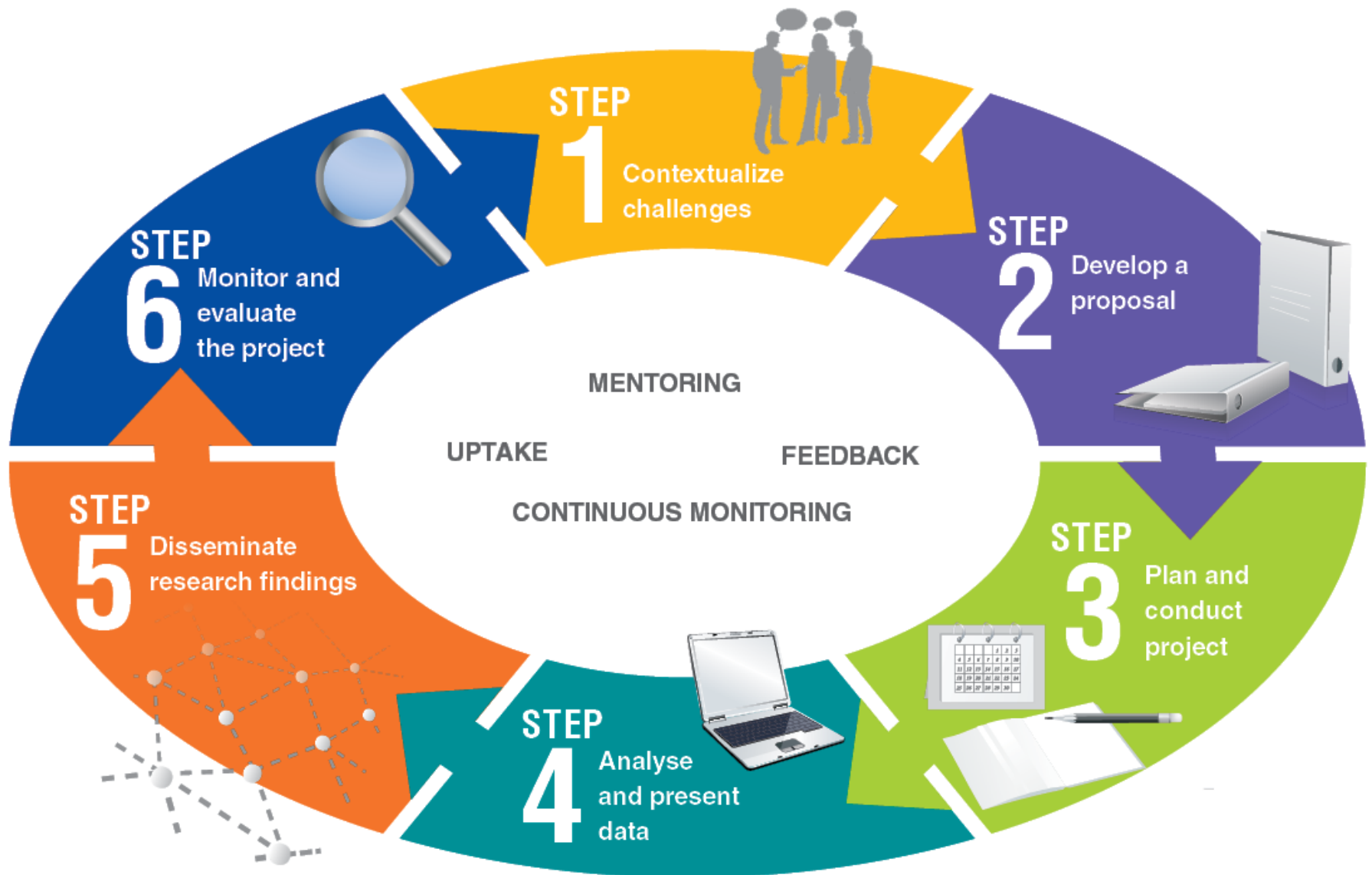


Module 1: Contextualizing Implementation Research Issues

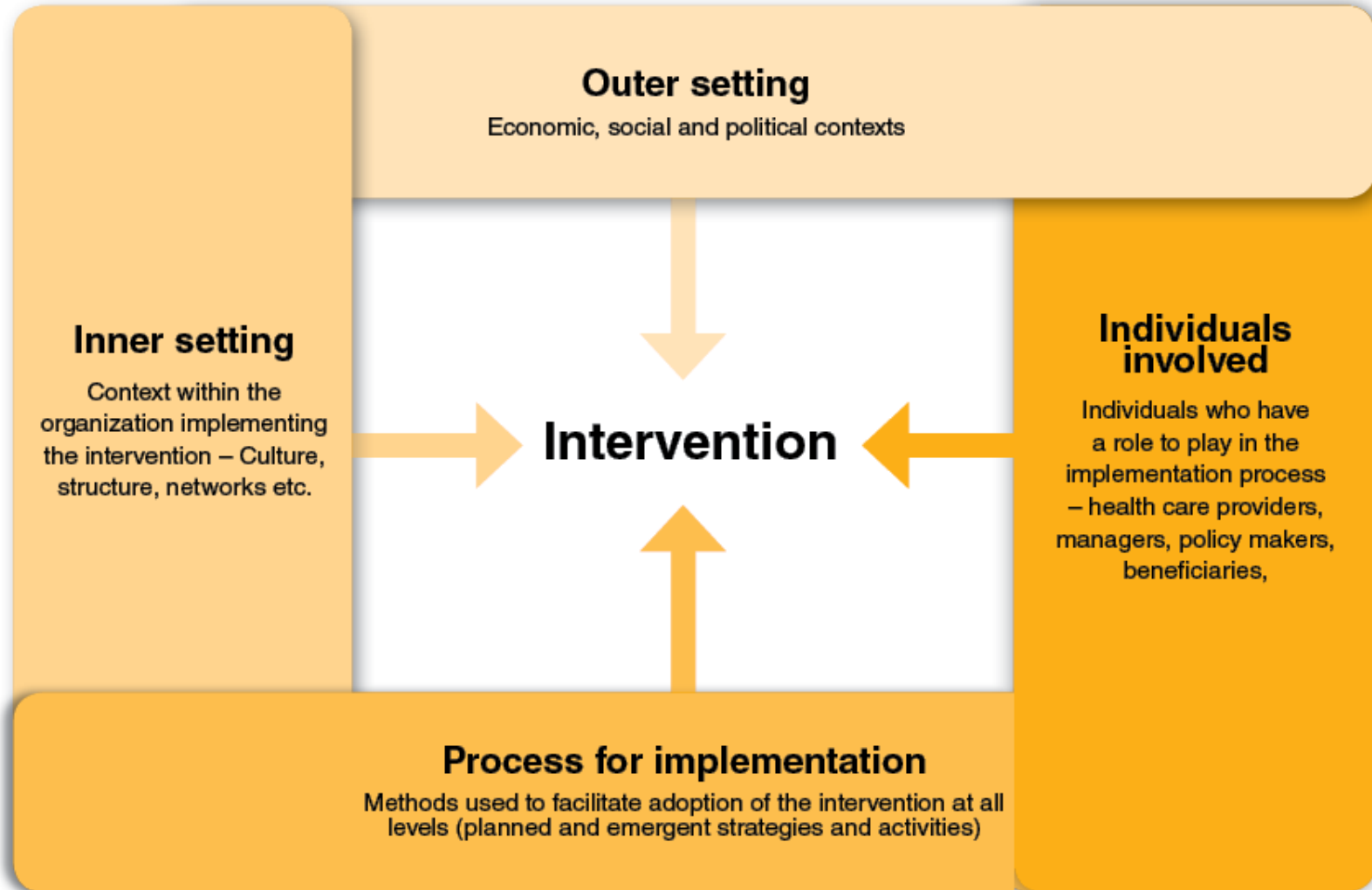




Six steps in the IR process



Interacting domains in implementation research



Presentation outline

Objective

Expected outcomes

Key concepts

Understanding the context

Understanding the intervention

Ethical considerations in IR

Application of key concepts

Learning Objective

Increase your understanding of and knowledge regarding contextual issues related to IR, the planned intervention and ethical considerations

Expected outcomes

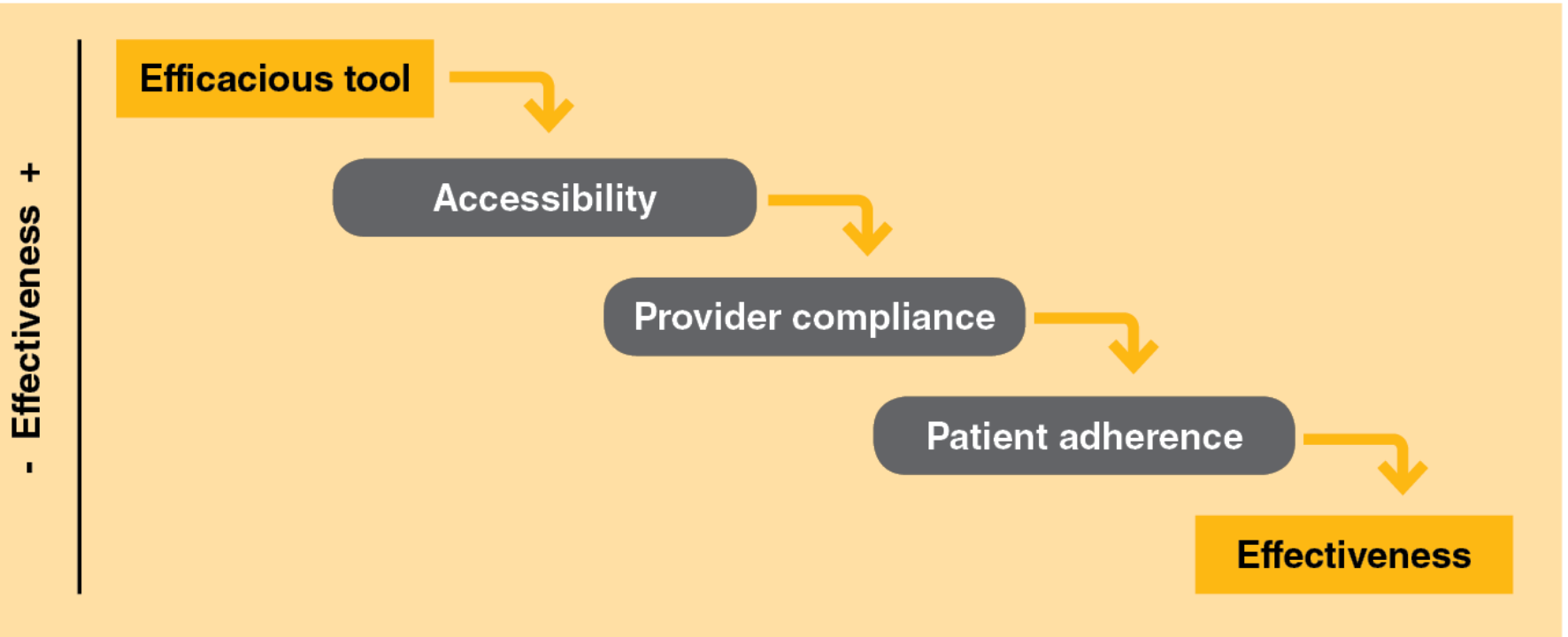
Able to:

- Analyse the contexts in which IR projects are conducted
- Understand and appreciate the context relevant to the proposed/planned intervention
- Describe the ethical principles and dilemmas related to IR

Key Concept 1: Understanding the context

Why do we need to understand the context in which we will be implementing our projects?

Proven interventions lose impact in health systems



Key Concept 1: Understanding the context

The four dimensions of the context

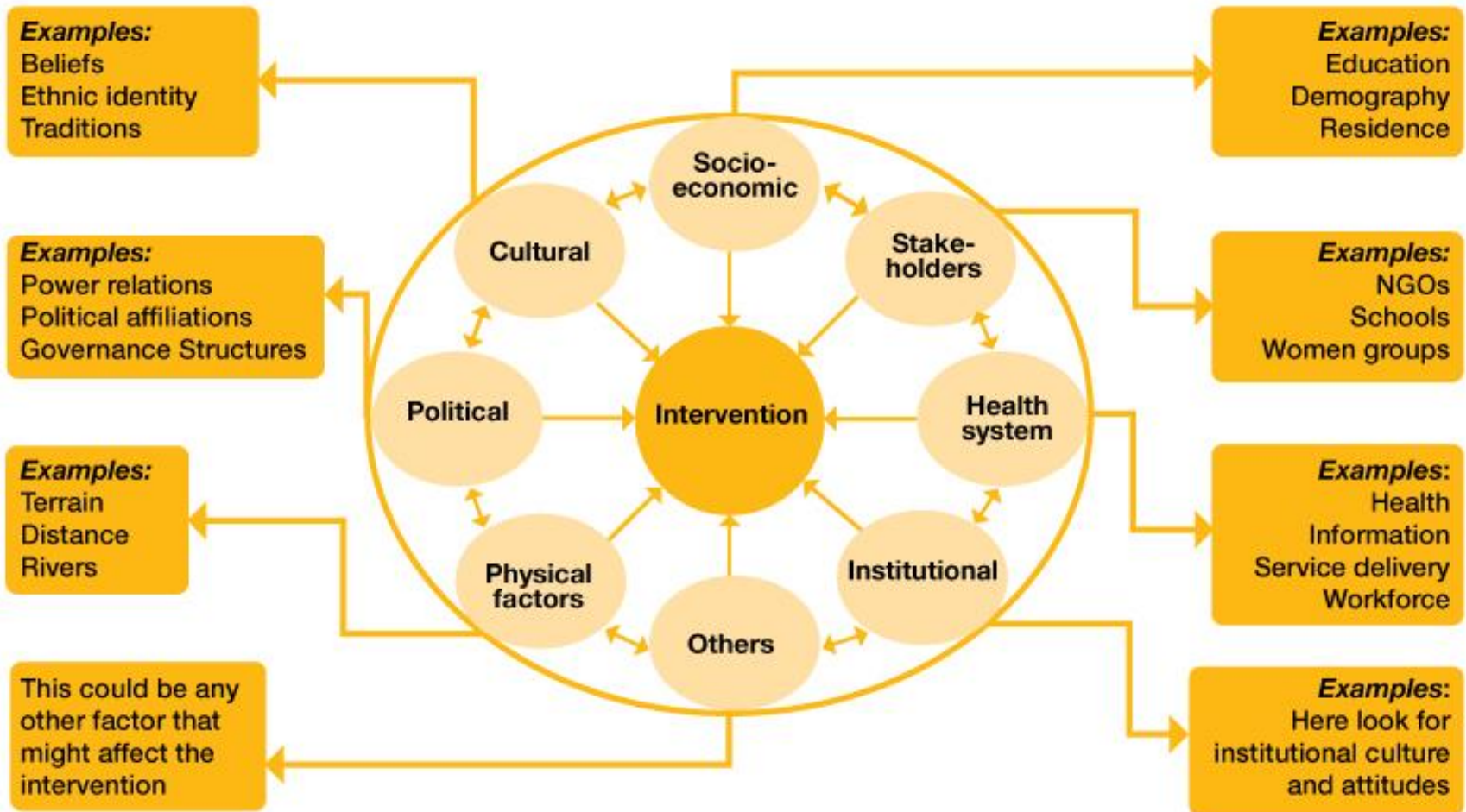
Physical, socioeconomic and cultural context

Health system

Stakeholders

Institutional/organizational

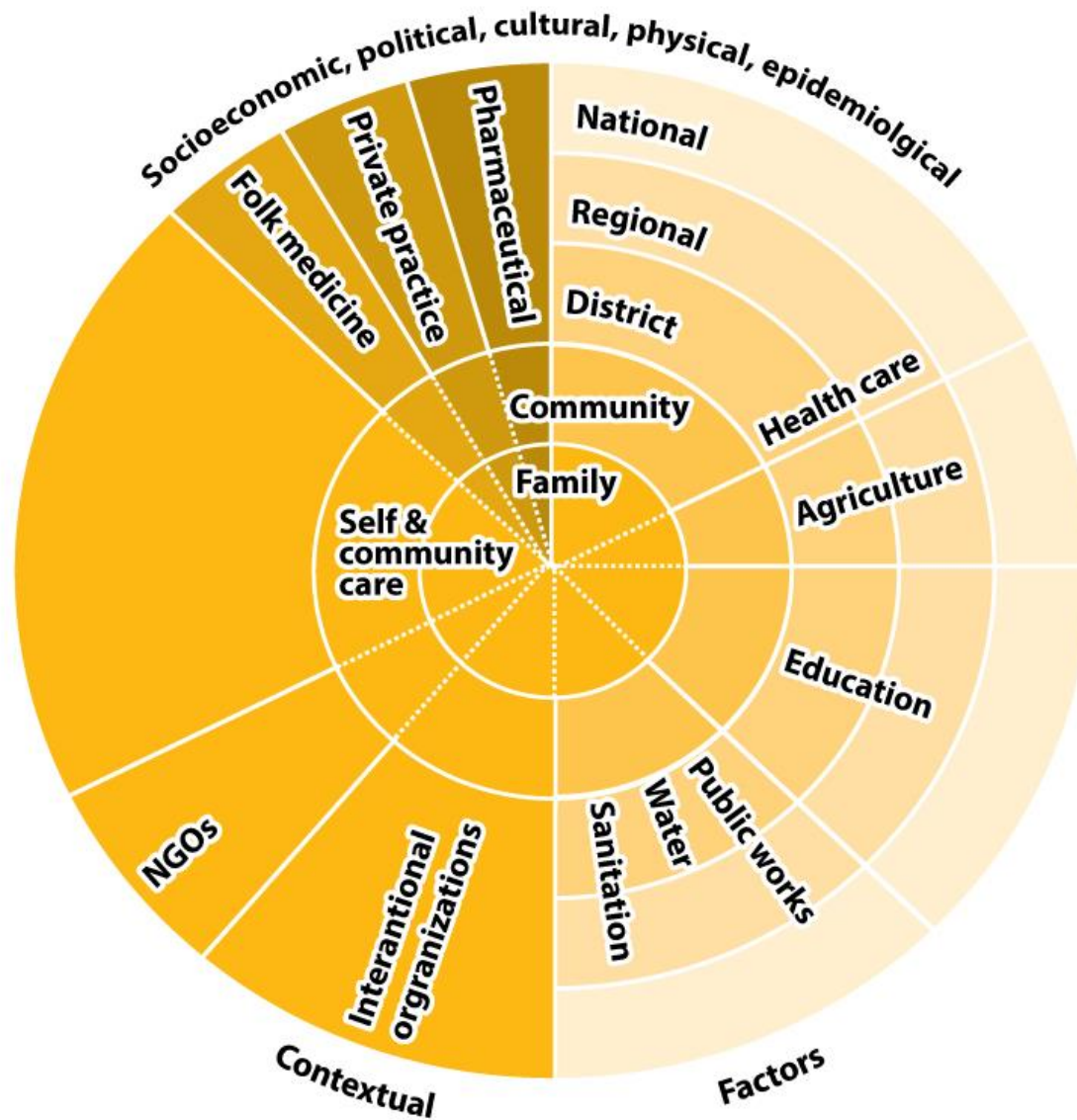
Contextual factors for implementation research



Key Concept 1: Analysis of the Environment

**Physical and demographic factors
Socio-Economic Status Cultural and
Political Factors**

Key Concept 1: Health system analysis



Key Concept 1: Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholders

Who are they?

Why do you need them?

How can you identify and engage them?

What role should they play in your study project?

Key Concept 1: Institutional analysis

Ask:

Which institutions?

Why does the intervention need them?

How can you identify them?

What role can they play in the project?

Conduct SWOT analysis

Reflection activity

What are the sociocultural and political systems in your project area?

How is the health system structured (public and private)?

How might the health system impact your project?

Who are the stakeholders?

What specific knowledge and (or) skills does each stakeholder bring to the research project?

How will the consideration of these factors impact the planning of your project?

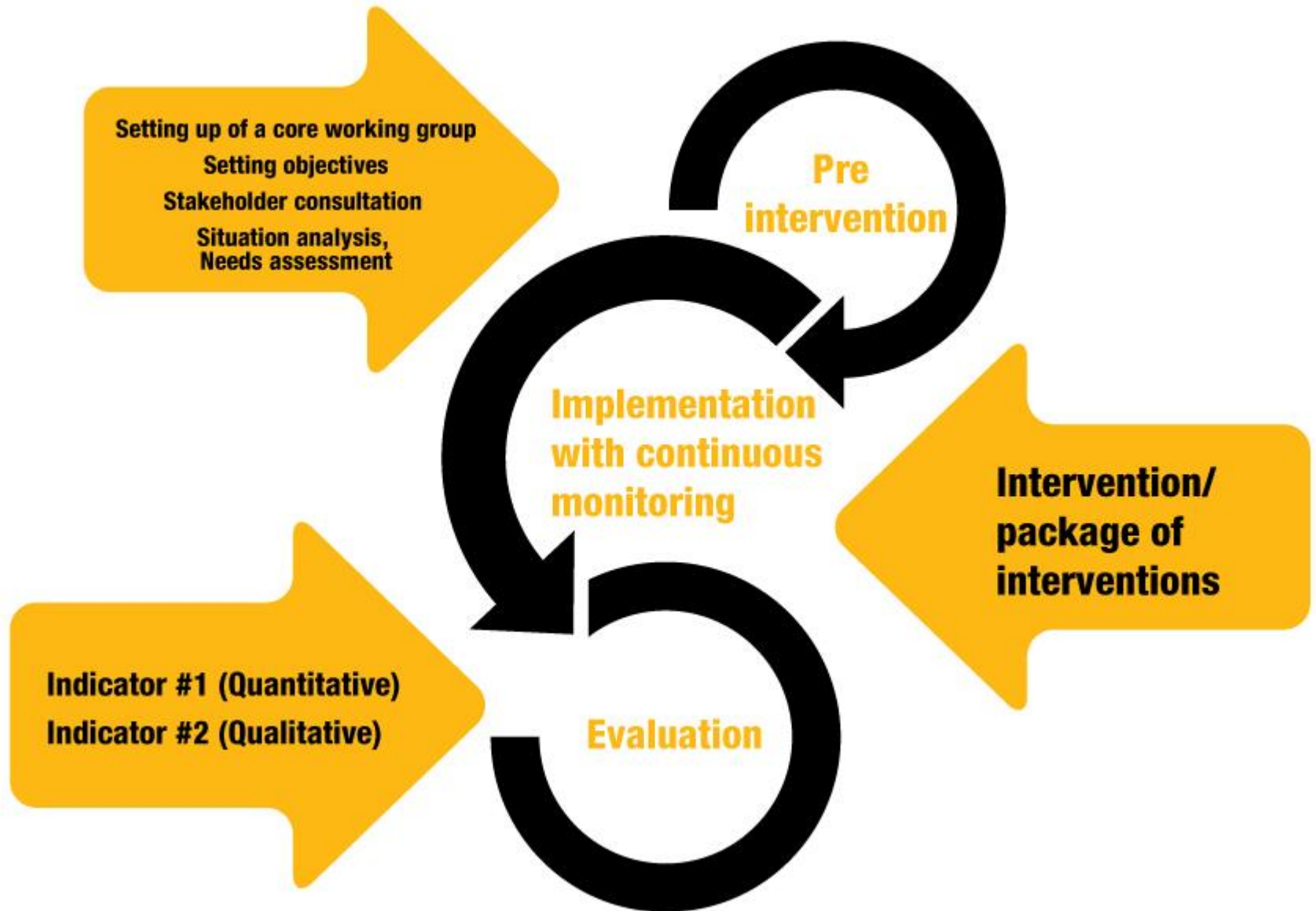
Key Concept 2:

Understanding the intervention

Intended intervention

Planned implementation process

Phases in the implementation research process



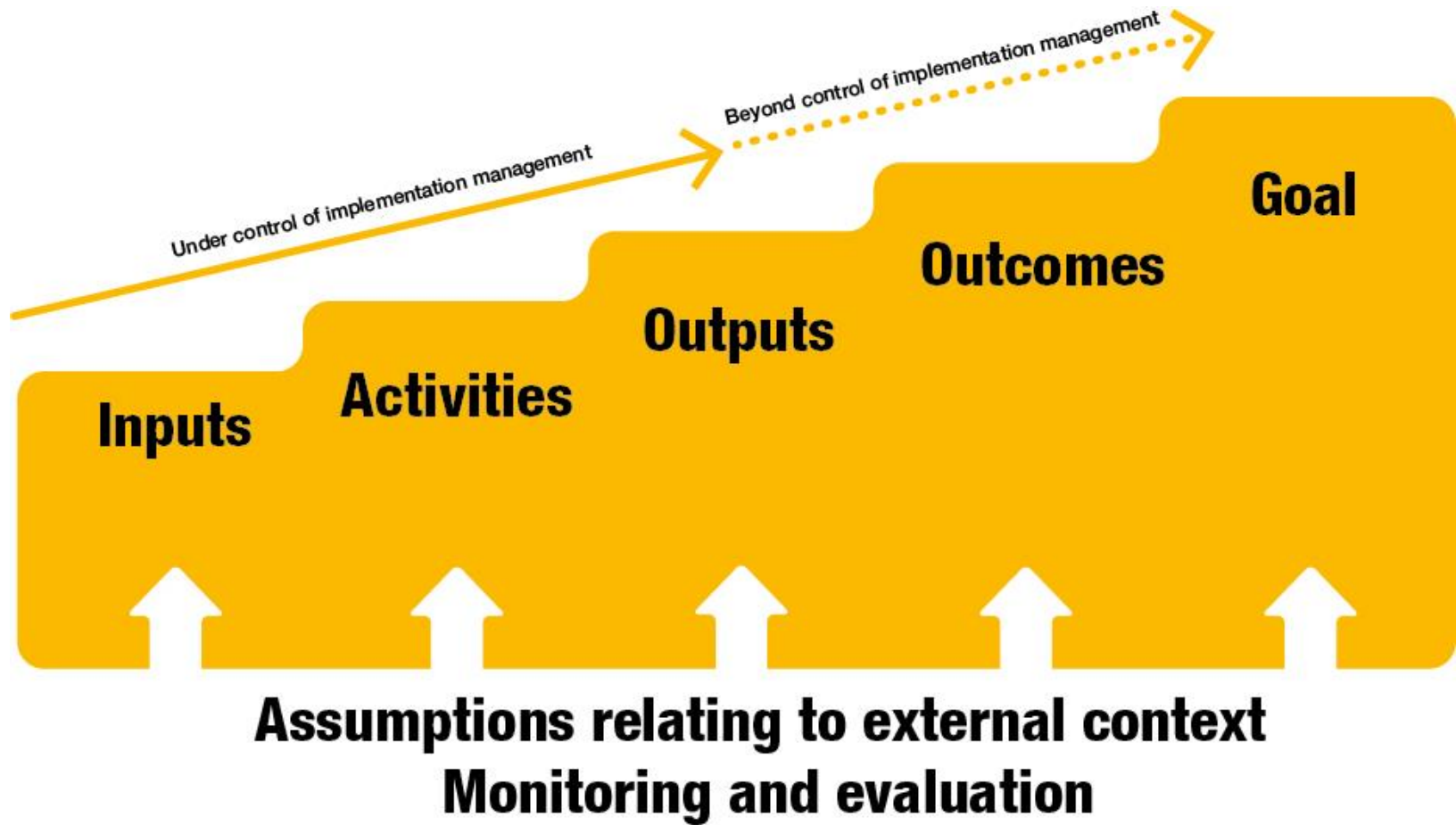
Key Concept 2:

Understanding the intervention

Intervention logic: The 'if-then' model

- **If activities are undertaken then outputs should be produced**
- **If outputs are produced then outcomes that serve the purpose should result**
- **If outcomes result then they should contribute towards achieving the goal**

The logic model



The logic model matrix

	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Goal			
Outcomes			
Outputs			
Activities			

Key Concept 2: Understanding the Intervention

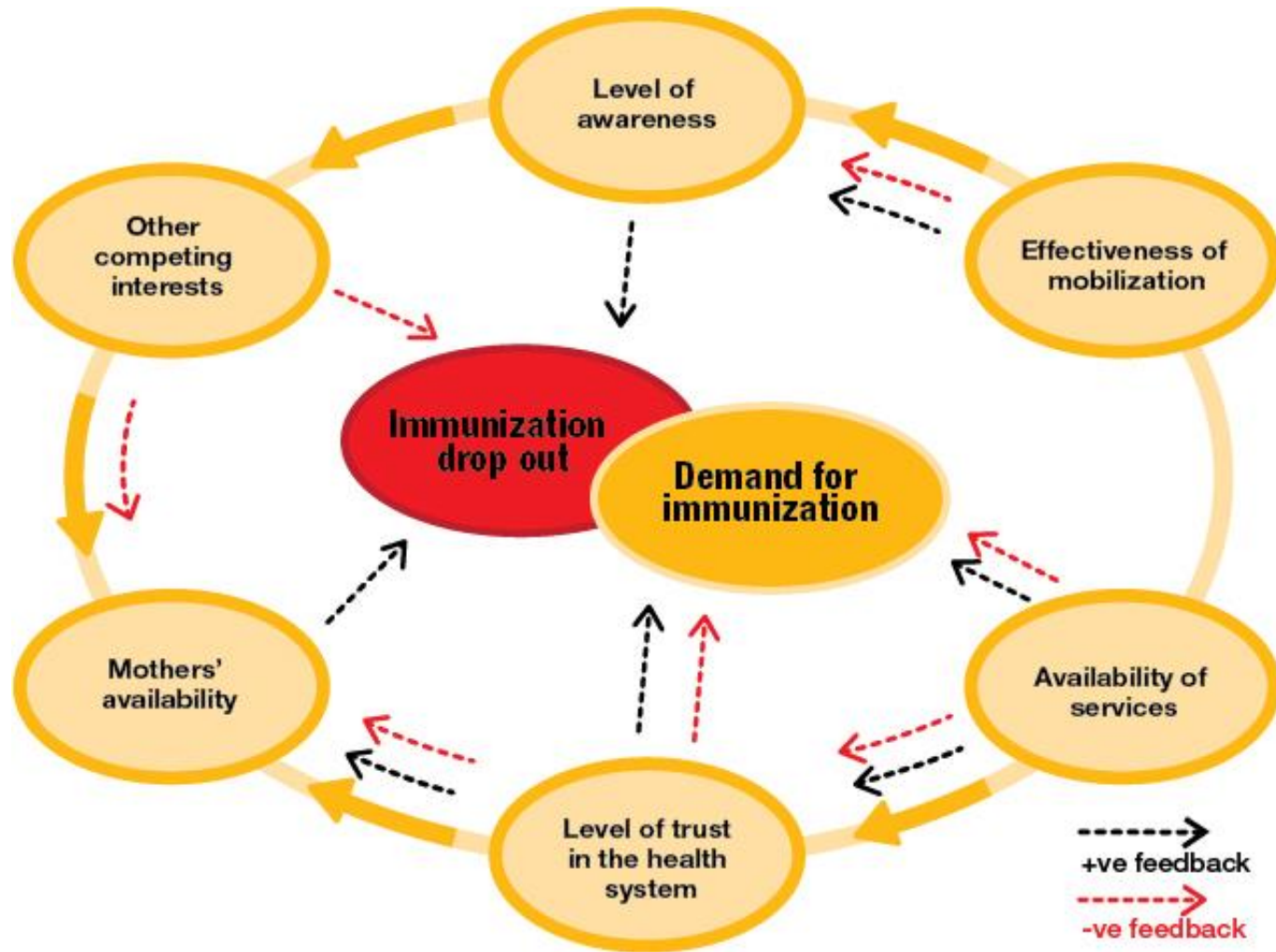
Complex adaptive systems

Interventions can succeed in one environment but not in another

Implementation may not proceed as planned because of changing behaviour(s)

Implementation managers have varying degrees of control over behaviours of providers, community members etc.

Feedback loops in the demand for immunization



Reflection activity

Use family planning services as an example of an intervention currently taking place in your project area.

What are the environmental and contextual issues that are currently affecting (positively and negatively) the implementation of these services?

Key Concept 3:

Ethical considerations in IR

Ethical principles of research involving human subjects

Autonomy/respect for persons

Beneficence and non-maleficence

Justice

Ethical dilemmas in IR

Ethical issues and principles in research

Autonomy/respect for persons

Respect for autonomy of those capable of deliberation about personal choices and self-determination

Protection of persons with diminished autonomy

Beneficence and non-maleficence

Promoting the welfare of individuals as the primary goal of health research

Maximizing benefits while avoiding causation of harm

Justice

Moral obligation of treating people with respect & giving equal opportunity to the participants in both high risk or beneficial research.

Key Concept 3: Ethical dilemmas in IR

Undue expectations of research results and social/authority pressure

Multidisciplinary teams may have conflict of interest

Participants' may be over burdened

Case study

In a study to ensure prompt and effective treatment of Buruli ulcer patients, the research team created half way homes for patients to stay in so they could get their daily injections. The study was designed such that the health worker in the facility closest to the half way home provides these daily injections.

Due to a lack of staff and transportation, the health worker could not do the daily visits and trained the researcher who lived in the premises of the half way home to give the injections.

Should the researcher give the injections?

Ethical principles flawed by characteristics of the participants/setting

Language barrier

Family and individual's role in the community

Traditional and beliefs about health care and disease

Unfamiliar with research

Poverty and low education

Low access to health services and goods

Research being carried out from a health facility

Belonging to a vulnerable group

Ethical principles flawed by characteristics of the participants/setting

Variable	Consequences	Ethical principle(s) flawed
Language barrier	Misunderstanding of informed consent	
Family and individual's role in the community	<p>Presence of power relationships and dependence, hindering the individual decision-making process</p> <p>Respect for traditional figures of wisdom and authority including leaders of the community</p>	
Traditional and beliefs of health care and disease	Difference in the respect for traditional healers and doctors/researchers	
Unfamiliar with research	Sensitivity to research procedures	

Ethical principles flawed by characteristics of the participants/setting

Variable	Consequences	Ethical principle flawed
Language barrier	Misunderstanding of informed consent	Autonomy
Family and individual's role in the community	Presence of power relationships and dependence, hindering the individual decision-making process Respect for traditional figures of wisdom and authority including leaders of the community	Autonomy Beneficence Justice
Traditional and beliefs of health care and disease	Difference in the respect for traditional healers and doctors/researchers	Autonomy
Unfamiliar with research	Sensitivity to research procedures	Autonomy

Ethical principles flawed by characteristics of the participants/setting

Variable	Consequences	Ethical principle(s) flawed
Poverty and low education	<p>Difficulty in understanding the information provided by researchers</p> <p>Possibility of exploitation and coercion, inducements, financial benefits</p> <p>Increased burden to research participants</p>	
Low access to health services and goods	Possibility of exploitation and coercion, inducements, financial benefits	
Research being carried out from a health facility	Interference with public health system	
Belonging to vulnerable group	Possibility of exploitation and coercion	

Ethical principles flawed by characteristics of the participants/setting

Variable	Consequences	Ethical principle(s) flawed
Poverty and low education	<p>Difficulty in understanding the information provided by researchers</p> <p>Possibility of exploitation and coercion, inducements, financial benefits</p> <p>Increased burden to research participants</p>	<p>Autonomy</p> <p>Justice</p>
Low access to health services and goods	Possibility of exploitation and coercion, inducements, financial benefits.	<p>Autonomy</p> <p>Justice</p>
Research being carried out from a health facility	Interference with public health system	Justice
Belonging to vulnerable group	Possibility of exploitation and coercion	<p>Autonomy</p> <p>Justice</p>

Reflection activity

What are some of the ethical dilemmas specific to your project?

Case study

A case of voluntary male circumcision

Concept 1: Understanding the Environment

Concept 2: Understanding the Interventions

Concept 3: Ethical issues

Ethical principles

Ethical dilemmas

A case of voluntary male circumcision

Although randomized trials in Sub-Saharan Africa strongly suggest that male circumcision could play an important role in the struggle against the continued rise in new HIV infections.

It has proved rather difficult to translate the research on male circumcision, into policy and practice in many settings.

This has mainly been due to economic, social and ethical implications. Therefore, certain considerations should be considered when planning to implement / scale up voluntary male circumcision as a public health intervention.

Which contextual and ethical issues should be considered when planning for male circumcision as an HIV prevention intervention.

End of Module 1

Before the next module starts two teams will present a summary of:

One thing they learnt

One thing that was done well

One thing that could be improved about this module