

Our Blue Future

The Multi-Stakeholder Initiative for an Inclusive & Sustainable Blue Economy in the WIO Region

Robin Farrington, Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative
(WIOGI), GIZ Kenya



We need a **virtuous cycle** in which people, economies and nature thrive



FOCUS OF OBF

Communities
Empowered stewards with sustainable livelihoods

Governments
Capacity & incentives to deliver on mandates

Businesses
Clear options, incentives & support to become "bluer"

Common enablers:
Joint accountability & good governance
Trust & cooperation
Expertise & investment
Clear case for SBE

Communities become healthier, more prosperous & resilient

Inclusive & Sustainable Blue Economy

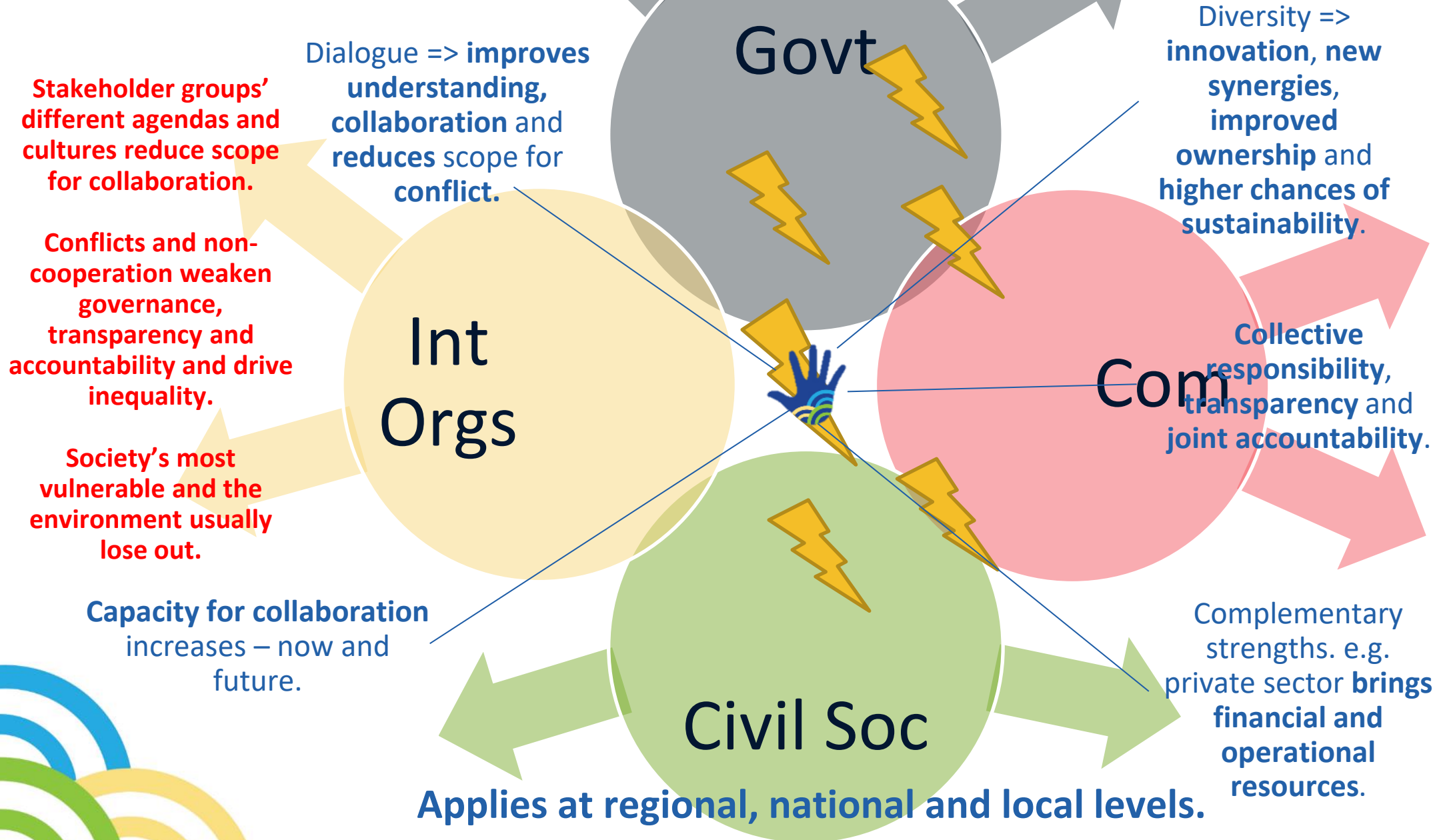
Healthy marine & coastal ecosystems

Improved economic enabling environment, investment, jobs, sustainable growth

HOLISTIC, MULTI-STAKEHOLDER SOLUTIONS



Our **multi-stakeholder approach** improves the enabling environment for an ISBE



We are a growing multi-stakeholder alliance with a common vision...



Funding partner



...whose development has been endorsed by Nairobi Convention CoP

We partner to **deliver value** through four key functions:

1. **Common ISBE agenda:** advocacy and awareness for blue-economy policy, investment, business and society.
 2. **Enhanced ISBE capacity:** training, effective learning, pooled expertise, incubators and new connections.
 3. **Joint resource mobilisation:** leveraging diverse technical expertise for local solutions, matching and mobilising funding and access to financing mechanisms.
 4. **Multi-stakeholder projects:** joint project identification, incubation and implementation for sustainable enterprises, value chains, technologies, livelihoods and infrastructure.
- 

We implement through a **Regional Collaboration System** at three levels



1. Core Structure

2. Thematic focused Innovation Teams



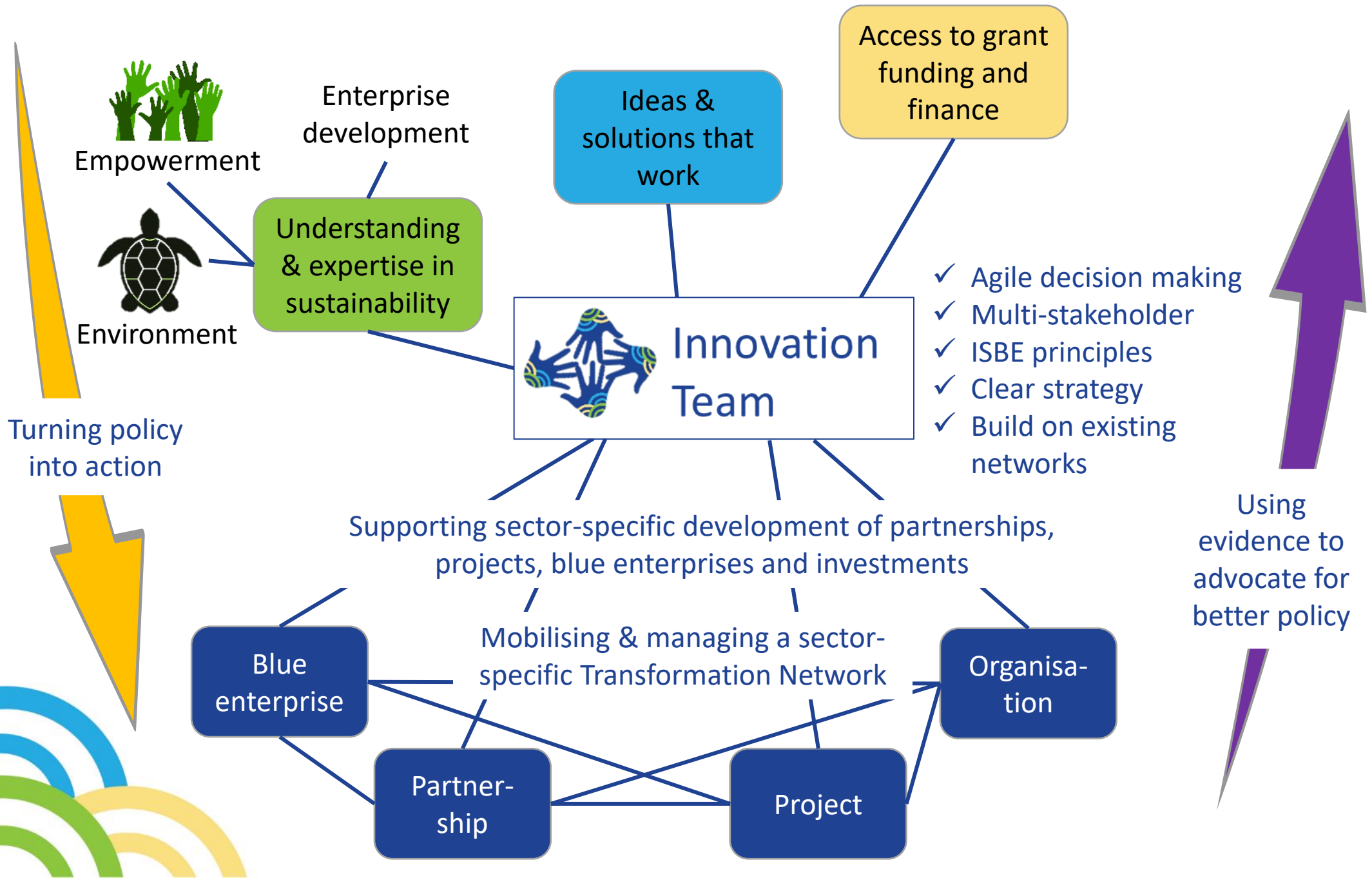
- Blue tourism
- Community livelihoods
- Circular economy
- Fisheries
- Ports and shipping
- Blue finance



3. Transformation Network of projects, enterprises & champions



Our Innovation Teams catalyse local transitions to an ISBE



E.g. Coastal Community Venture Builder



The initiative seeks to build sustainable and impactful enterprises to meaningfully contribute to and support the development and long-term security of a sustainable and inclusive blue economy across the SWIO region.



Starting with a **minimum-viable-product (MVP)**, a bespoke regional Venture Builder will aim to **facilitate, support and bring to scale** coastal sustainable livelihood businesses that **sustain, protect and restore the marine and coastal ecosystems**.



The programme will offer both financial and technical support to **first build a pipeline of financially sustainable** coastal community-led sustainable marine and coastal enterprises, then explore appropriate opportunities to **develop them further to investment-readiness**.

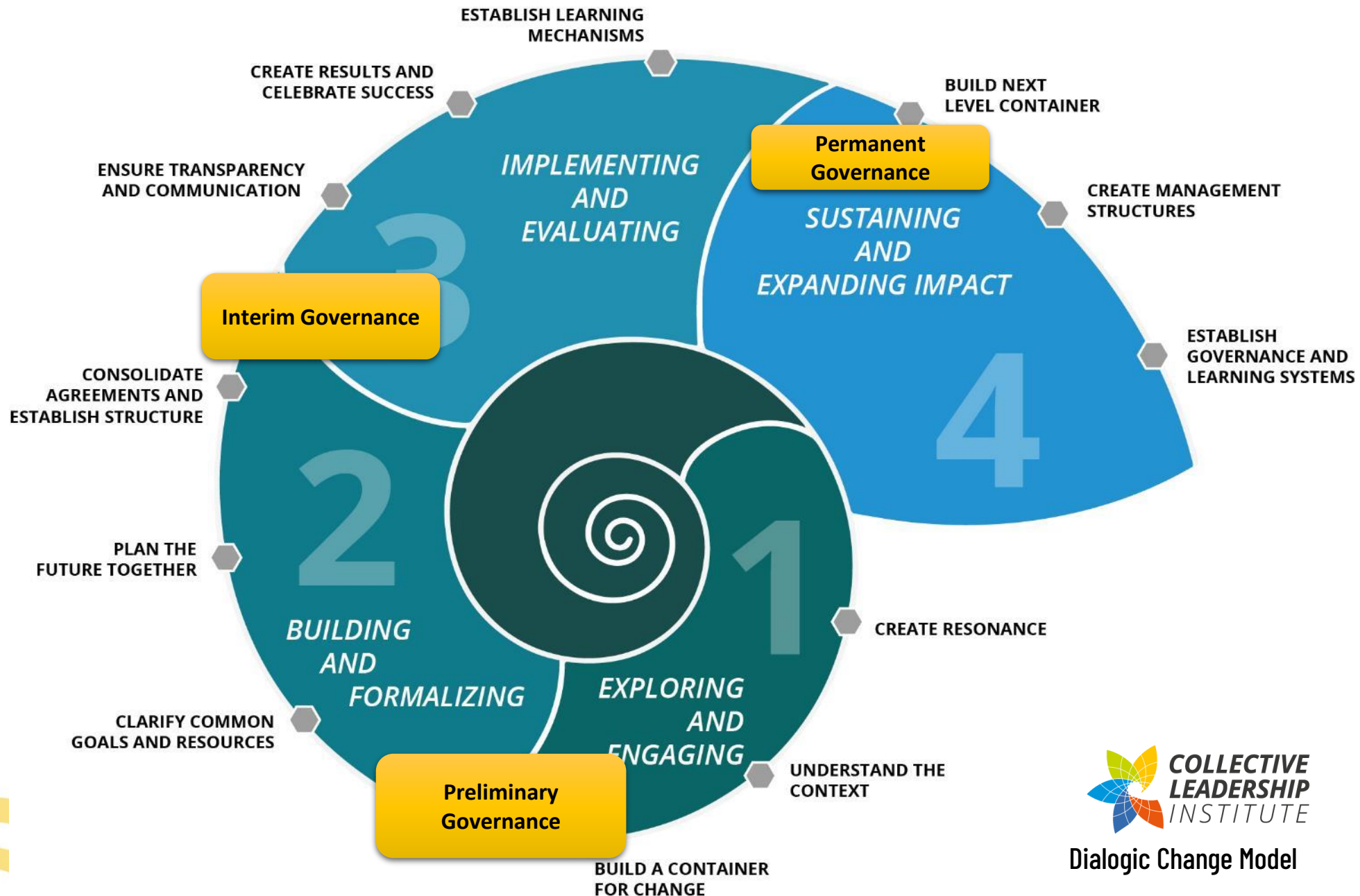


The aim is to help **to build capacity and unlock finance** at-scale for the region's underserved MSMEs whilst supporting **the development and scaling of a sustainable blue economy across the region**



This seeks to **build on, add value and leverage existing activities** of key NGOs and support organisations in this region, and **seek to align, expand, and deploy** existing Innovation Support Organisations (ISOs) and Entrepreneurial Support Organisations (ESOs).

Taking a participatory approach to create solid foundations

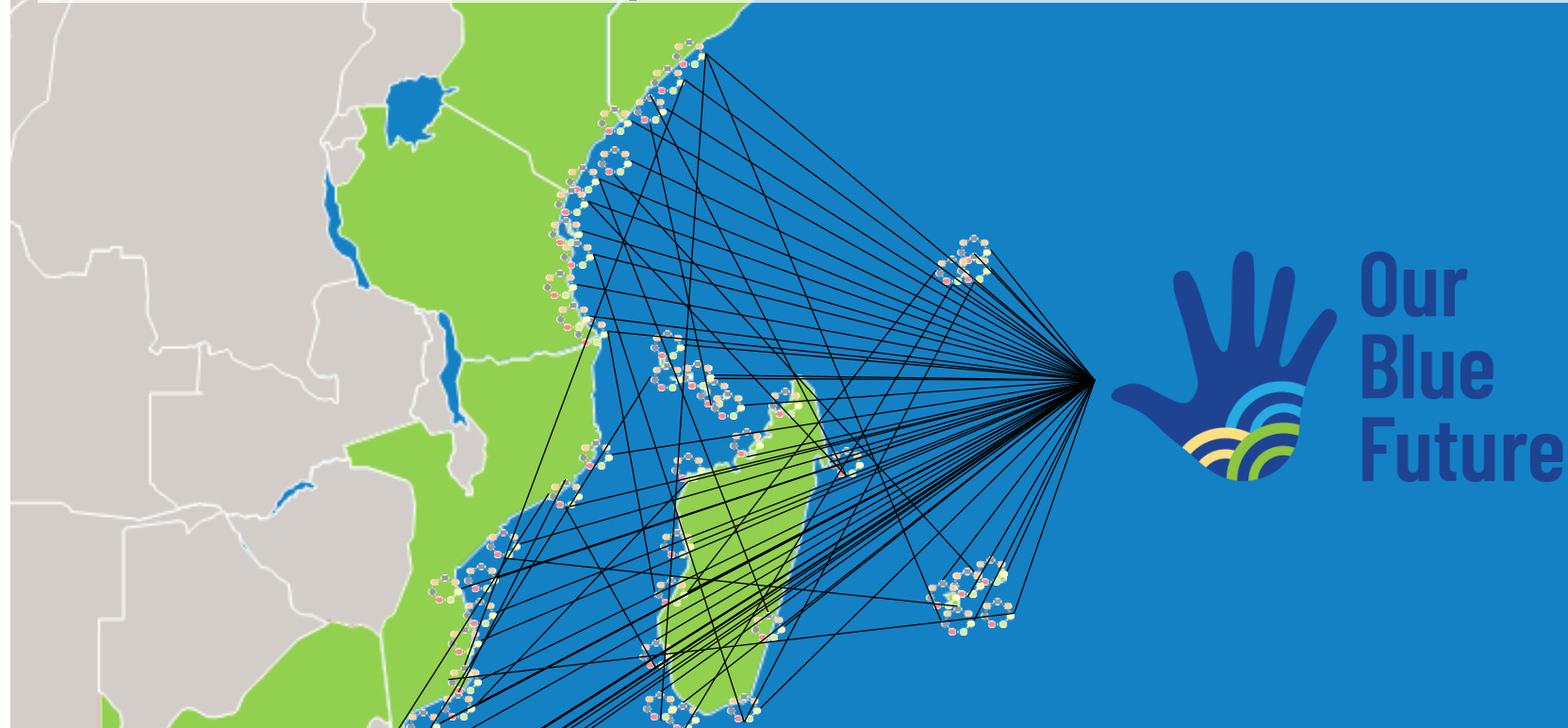


We are setting goals with tangible impacts:

- New **sustainable livelihoods**
- More **sustainable enterprises, infrastructure & communities**
- Empowered **youth & women** (schools, skills, TVET etc)
- Effective & empowered **local governance** structures
- New **partnerships** forged
- New “blue” **investments levered**
- **Pollution** prevented, **habitats** protected
- **Policies** and **capacities** strengthened



We aspire to develop & support a diverse transformation network of projects, partnerships & champions across the WIO



We aspire to be a technical facility - developing pipelines of bankable projects for regional financing mechanisms



Your four “calls to action”!

1. **Provide feedback!** Let us know how OBF can best support you!
2. **Join OBF!** Get involved to help shape, contribute to and benefit from OBF.
3. **Network us!** To projects, enterprises, organisations that can become part of OBF’s Transformation Network.
4. **Strengthen our mandate and connection to NC!** Endorsement at the Conference of Parties next year.



Our Blue Future

Join the action!

www.our-blue-future.org

robin.farrington@giz.de