

Adaptive Management



**A SERIES OF WORKSHOPS FOR PARTNERS ON THE
SOUTH ASIA GOVERNANCE PROGRAM**


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The Asia Foundation

Improving Lives, Expanding Opportunities



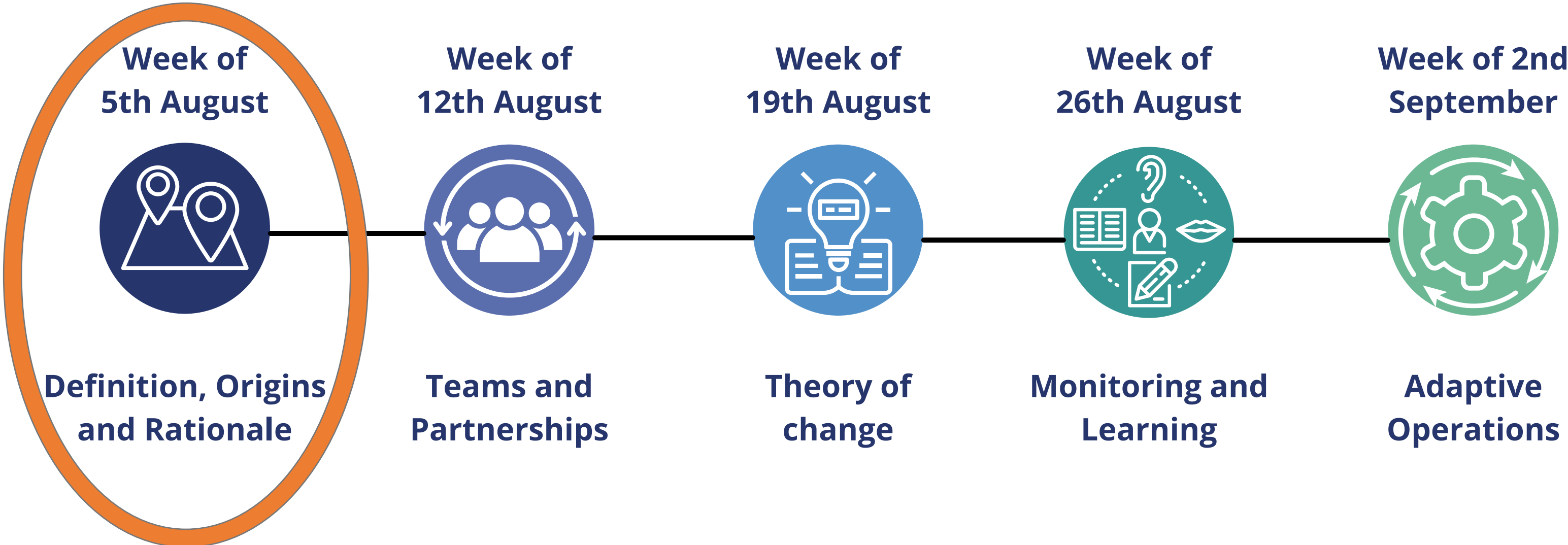
Introduction

MEET & GREET

MAKING THE TECH FRIENDLY



LEARNING JOURNEY



YOUR ASPIRATIONS FOR THE SESSION

An understanding of how to practically apply adaptive management.

Clear understanding on the approach, as I am less familiar.

Learn how AM help to manage development projects in more volatile situations.

Some concrete guidelines on management strategies

YOUR ASPIRATIONS FOR THE SESSION

Strategies to cope in a dynamic environment

“ an understanding of techniques and strategies to enable my organisation to change, function and even thrive in new circumstance; motivate my team to be able to adapt and feel that their work continues to have meaning. ”

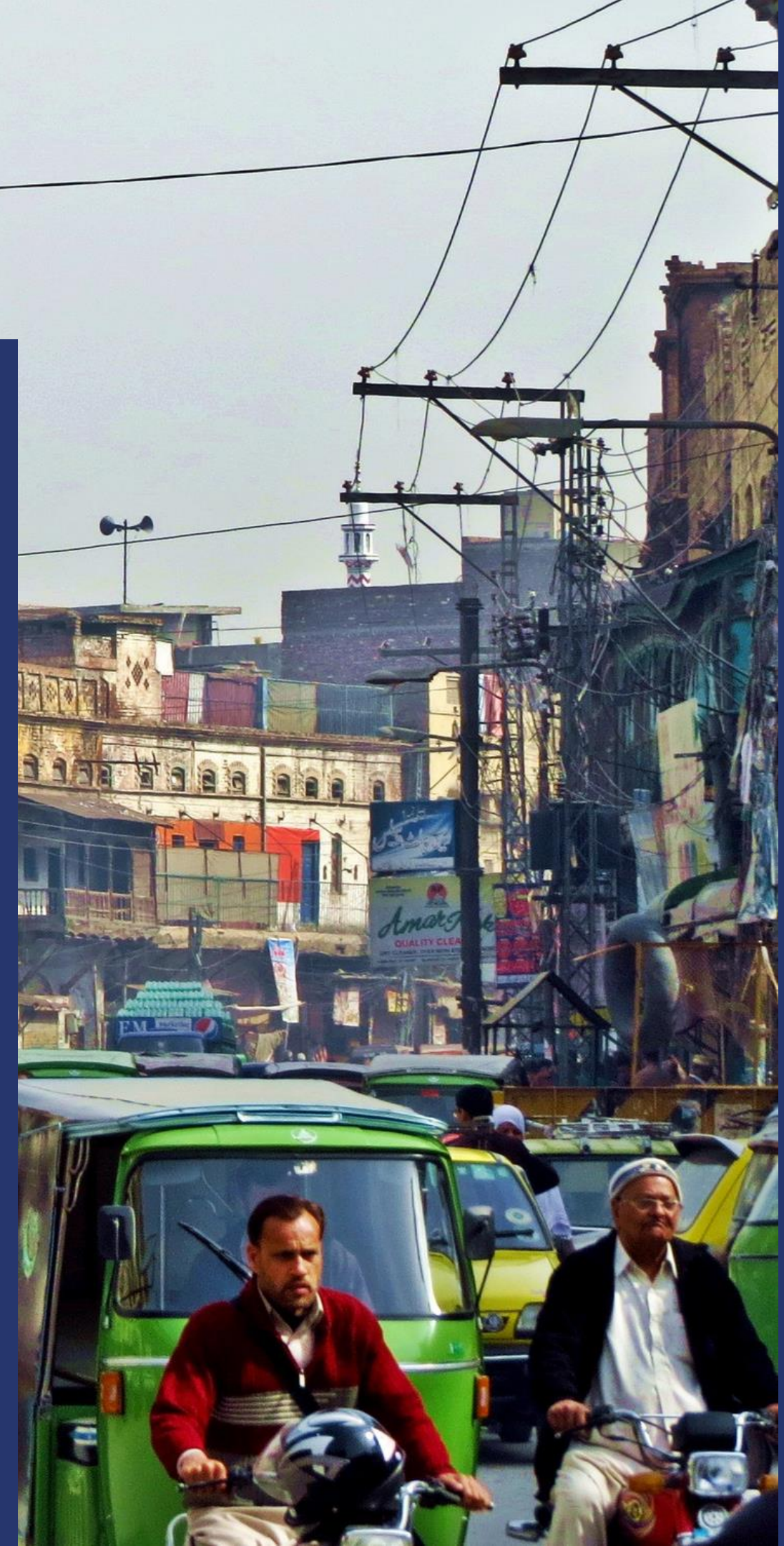


“ Overall knowledge about adaptive management, contemporary trends and strategies ”

“ strategy of grassroots engagement, networking and expedience sharing. ”

SESSION ONE

Definition, Origins and Rationale



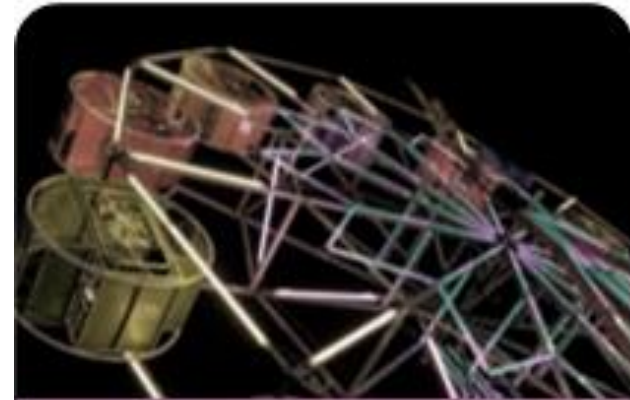
Why Adaptive?

- **A technical exercise by experts from donor countries with pre-defined solutions**
- **Focus on best practices, despite lack of fit**
- **Result: thin reforms**



Contemporary Development Practice

Three Core Principles



Politically
informed

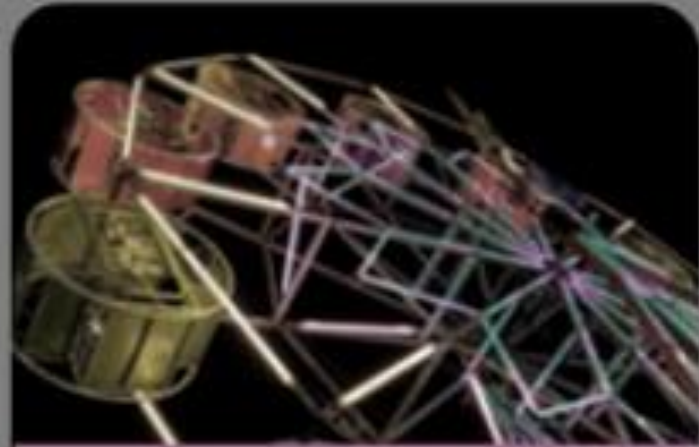


Locally
Led



Flexible &
Adaptive

Three Core Principles



Politically
Informed



Locally
Led



Flexible &
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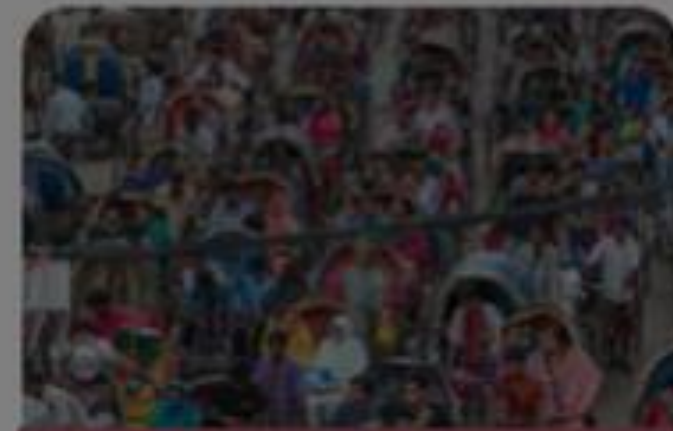
Three Core Principles



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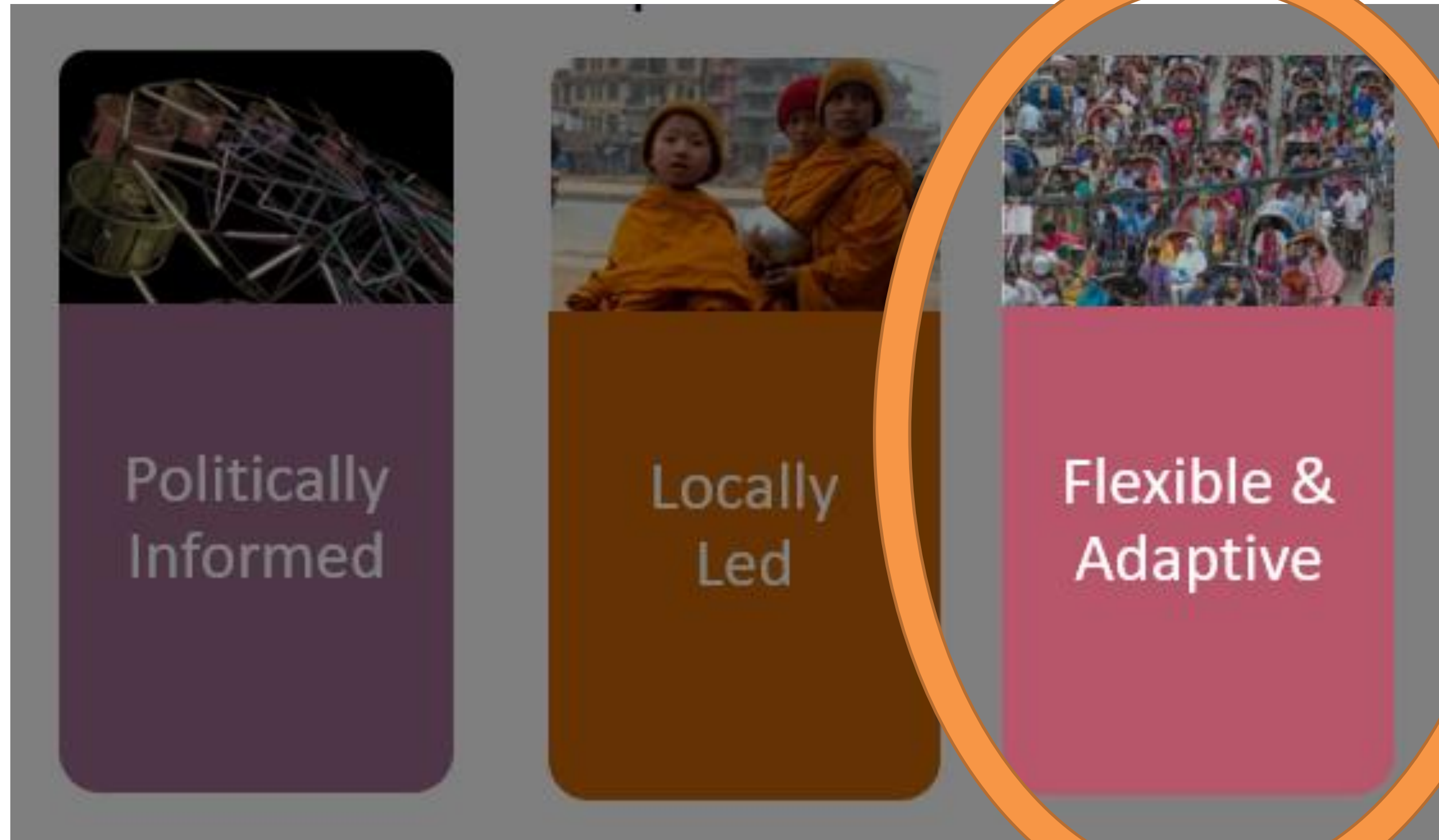


Locally
Led



Flexible &
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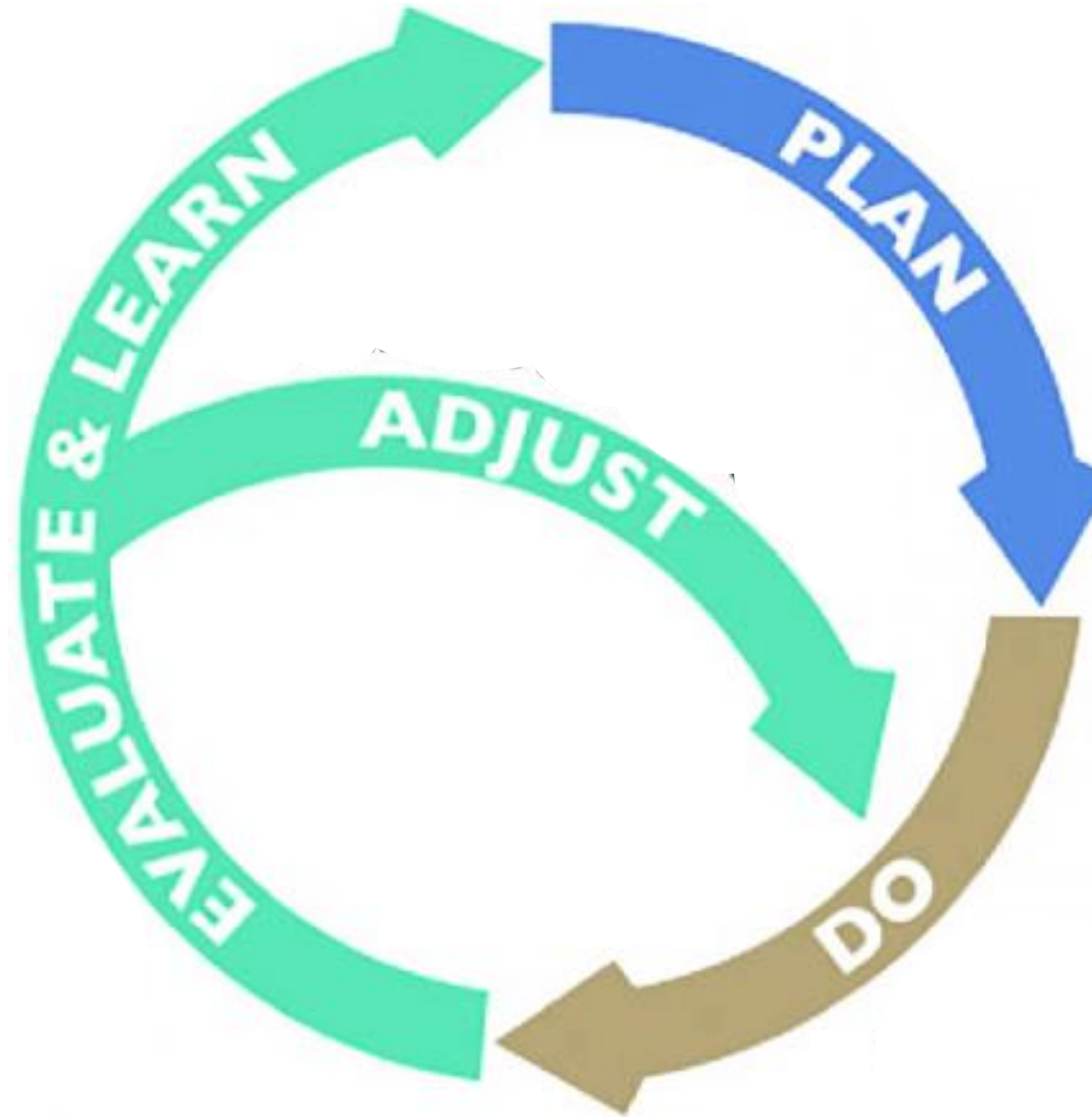
Three Core Principles



From fixed to adaptive

Discipline	Economic management/engineering	Social sciences, politics
Planning paradigm	Blueprint, detailed design, prescriptive	Testing, starting light, reflecting
Theory of Change	Linear, rational sequencing	Feedback loops, non-linear, accommodated unintended consequences
Way of working	Transactional, hierarchical, individualistic	Collective, collaborative, partnerships

From fixed to adaptive



YOUR DEFINITIONS

“ Simply, adaptive management is a methodology for achieving the goal or lets say it a approach from which we can ensure the implementation of our plan, strategies and theories. ”

“ an approach that enables achieving the programme outcomes and goals with scope of flexibility in decision making and adaptation in response to changing situations. ”

"What I understand from the term 'adaptive management' is that it is a process by which regular changes are made to management practices based on what is learnt from experience in implementing a programme and programme outcomes"

“ Adaptive management is a method combined with a set of tools to deal with uncertainty and complexities in development contexts to achieve the anticipated outcome/s. ”

YOUR DEFINITIONS

"it's a strategy to promote good governance."

A process of strong decision making in a crisis with an aim to reduce riskiness over time.

The systematic process of flexible decision making that can be adjusted in the face of uncertainties

To change the project goal and activities with changing scenario

But all programs are flexible, aren't they?



Adaptive (not just flexible) programming

Changes are:

- **Proactive not just reactive**
- **Not (only) changes in activities but outcomes and the TOC**
- **Based on evidence and a range of views**



Responding to change



THE KEY INGREDIENTS

- Creative teams and trust-based partnerships
- Realistic and well-socialized Theories of Change
- Evidence-based feedback loops
- Fit-for-purpose operations





THANK YOU

Next Session: Teams and Partnerships