



Presentation at Varjo HQ
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Upgrading academic skills and innovative caPacities through virTuAlly Enclusive hybRid Studios

Prof. Dr. Eng. Eden Mamut
Ovidius University of Constanta

UPTAKERS PROJECT CONSORTIUM



- Coordinator: Ovidius University of Constanta, Romania
- P1- “La Sapienza” University of Rome, Italy
- P2- Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain
- P3- Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Egypt
- P4- Future University in Egypt, Egypt
- P5- Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan
- P6- Al-Balqa’ Applied University, Jordan
- P7- University of Sousse, Tunisia
- P8- University of Monastir, Tunisia
- P9- Centre de Calcul El-Khawarizmi, Tunisia



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



مركز الحساب الخوارزمي
Centre de Calcul El-Khawarizmi

| a story that started with COVID 19



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Crisis

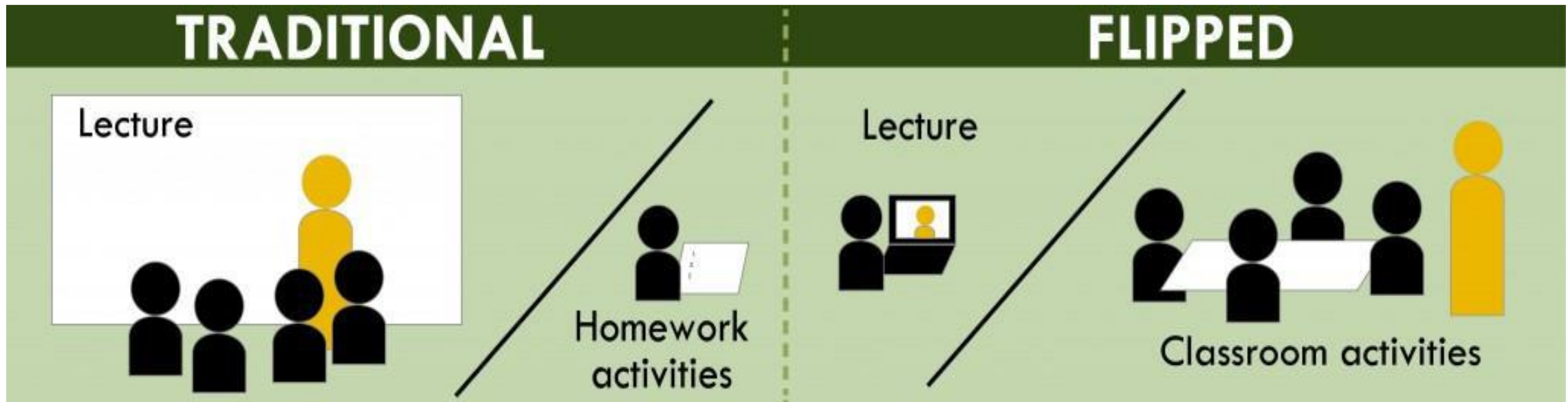
危機

Danger

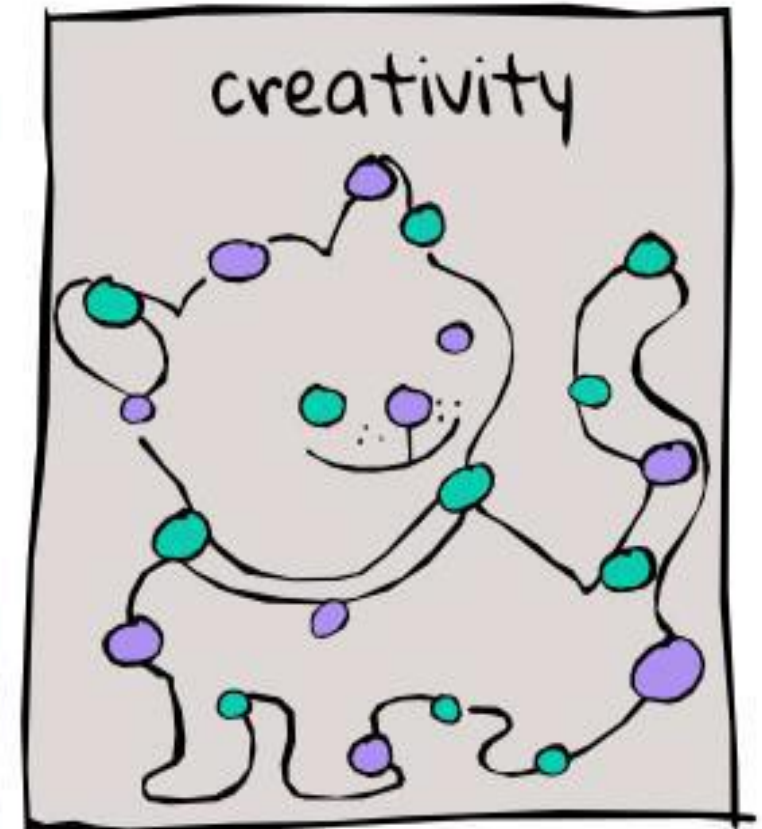
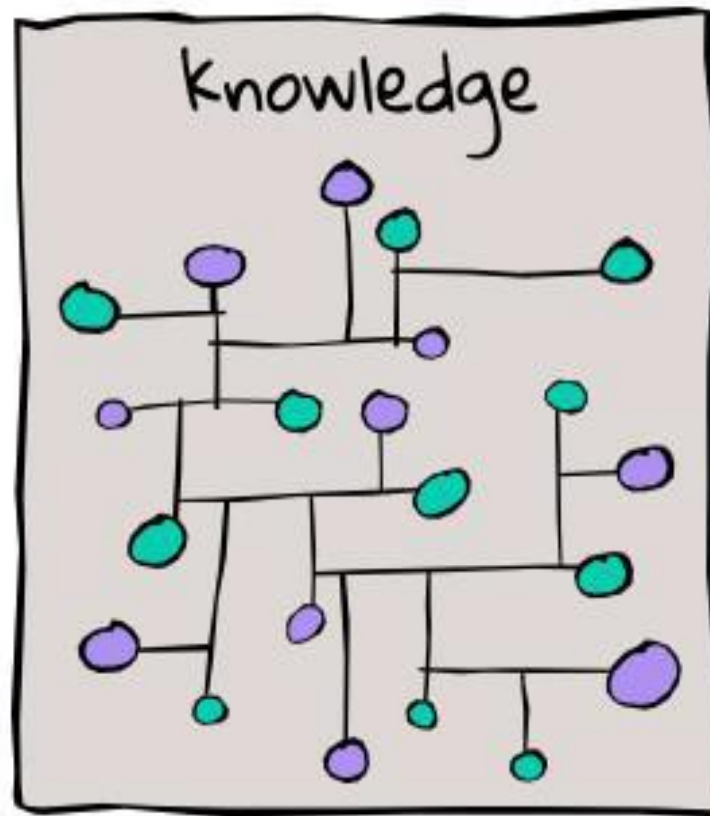
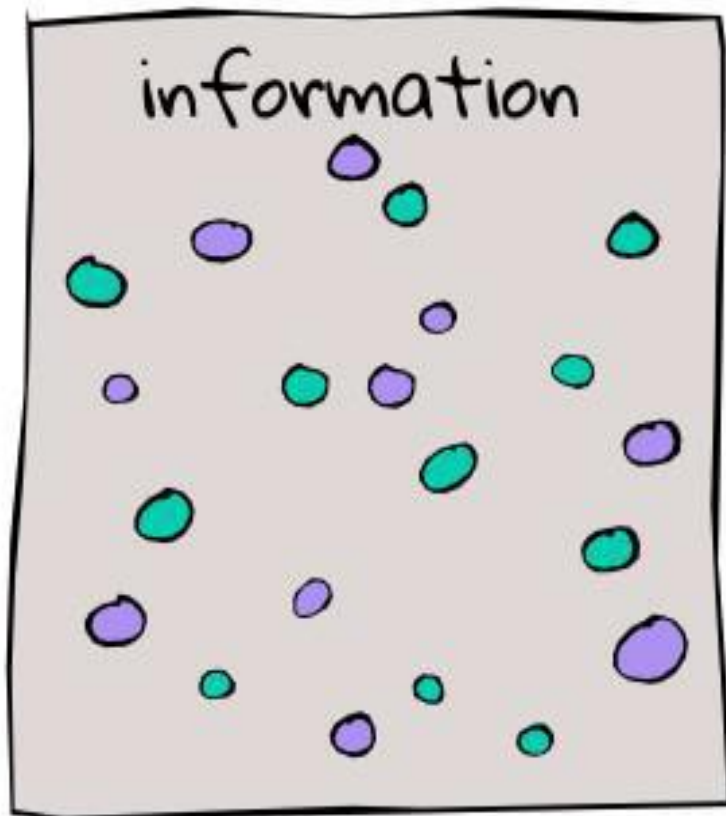
Opportunity



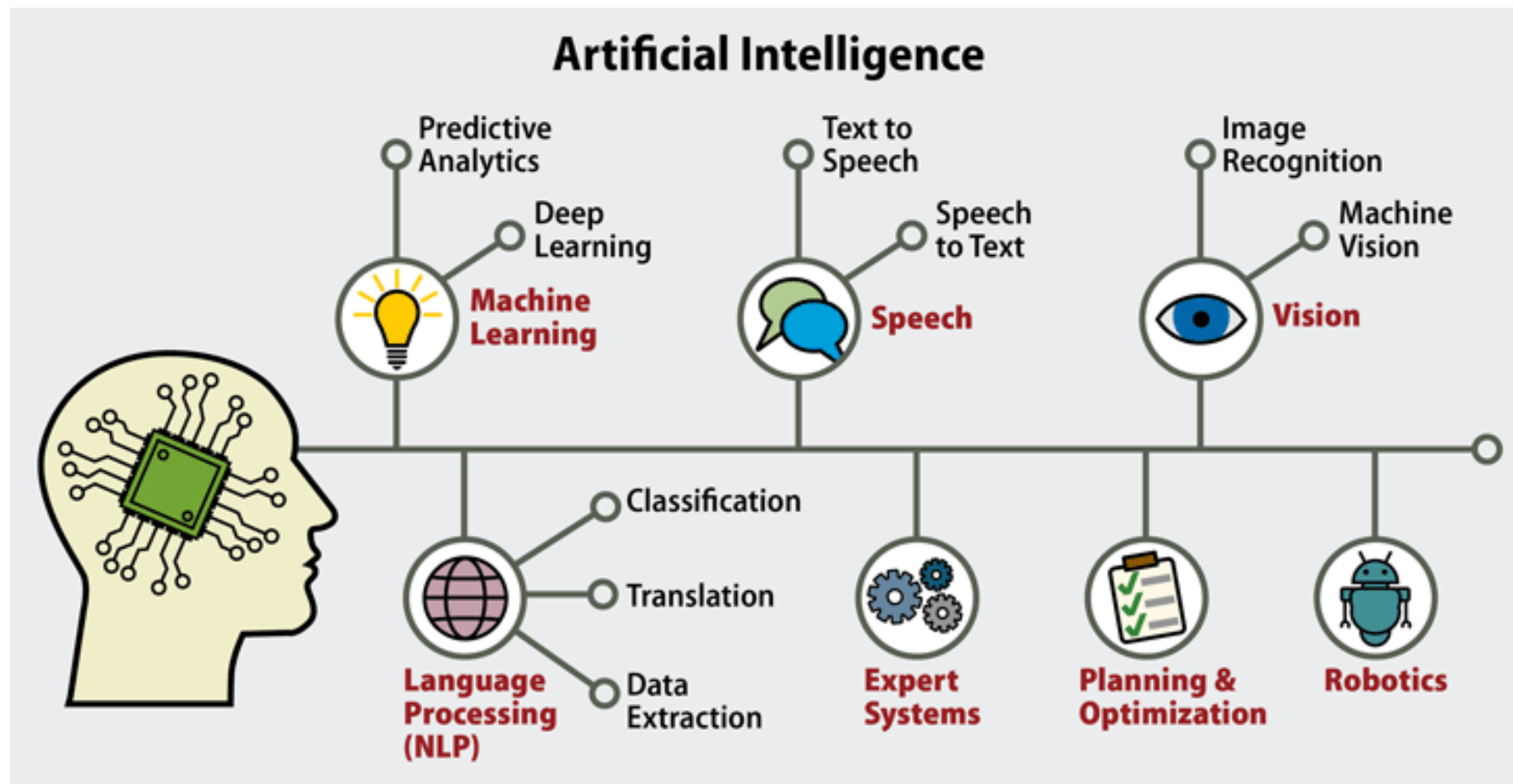
The transformational impact of IT&C



Empowering learning environments



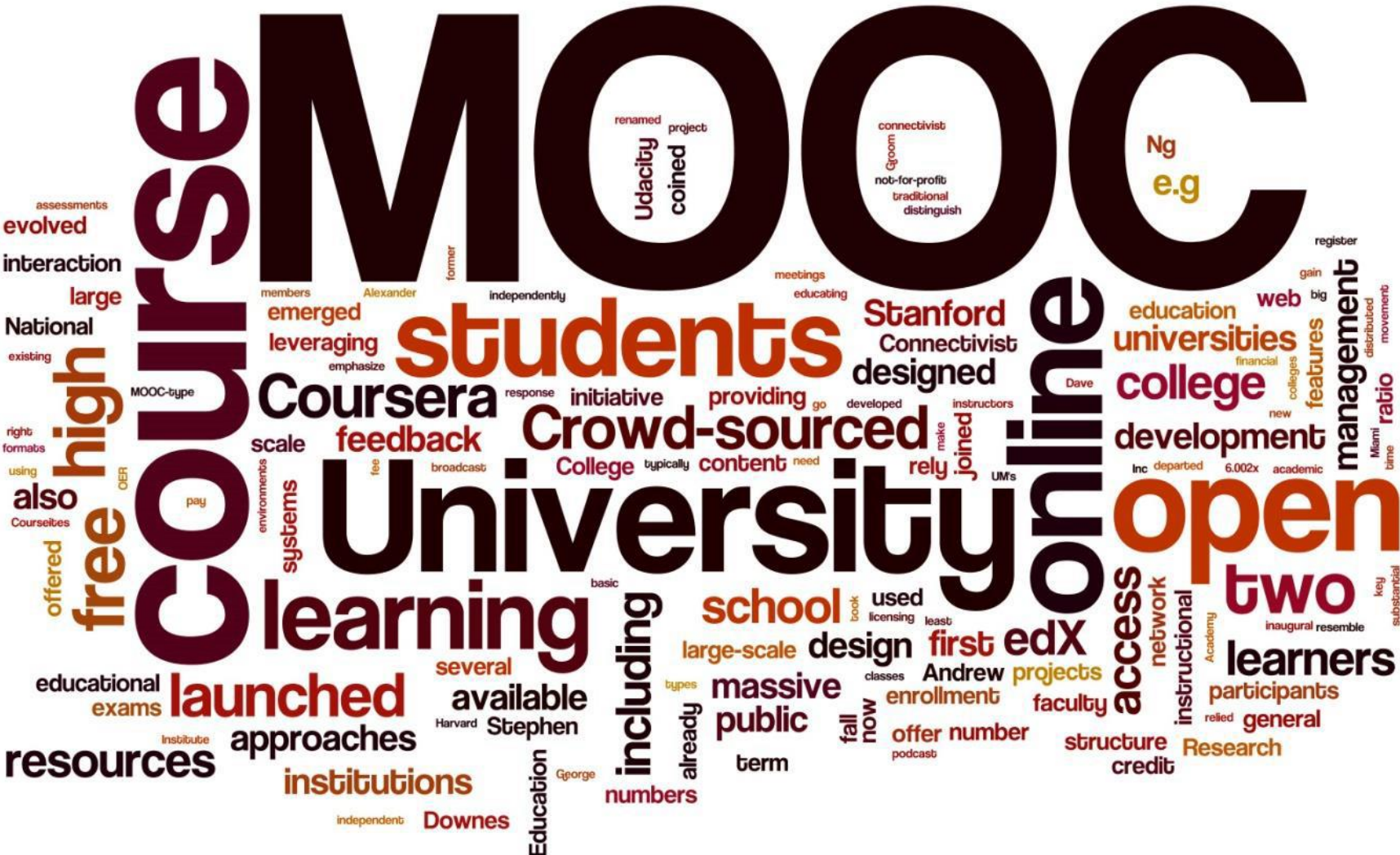
Opening the doors to AI



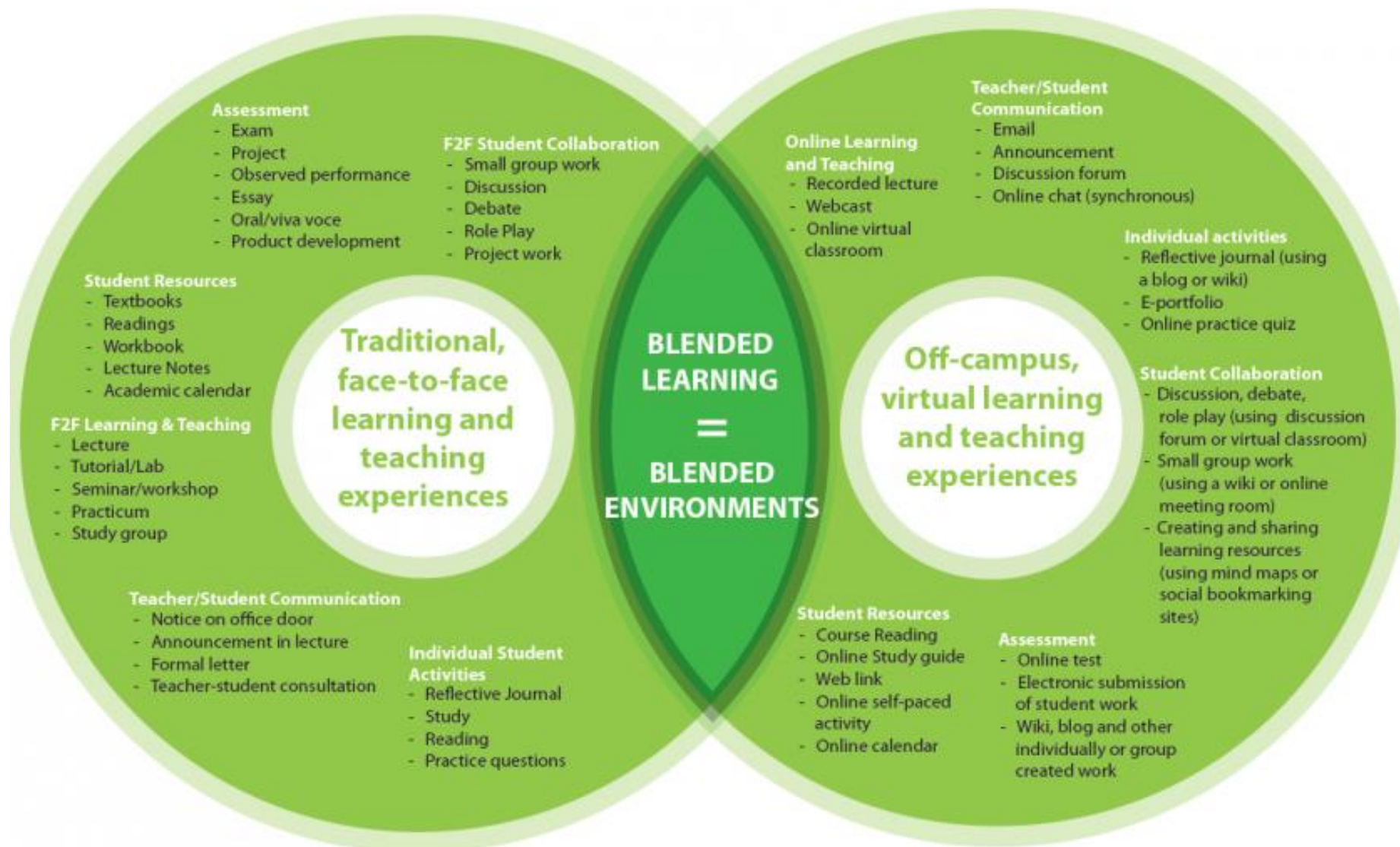
| and other disruptive technologies



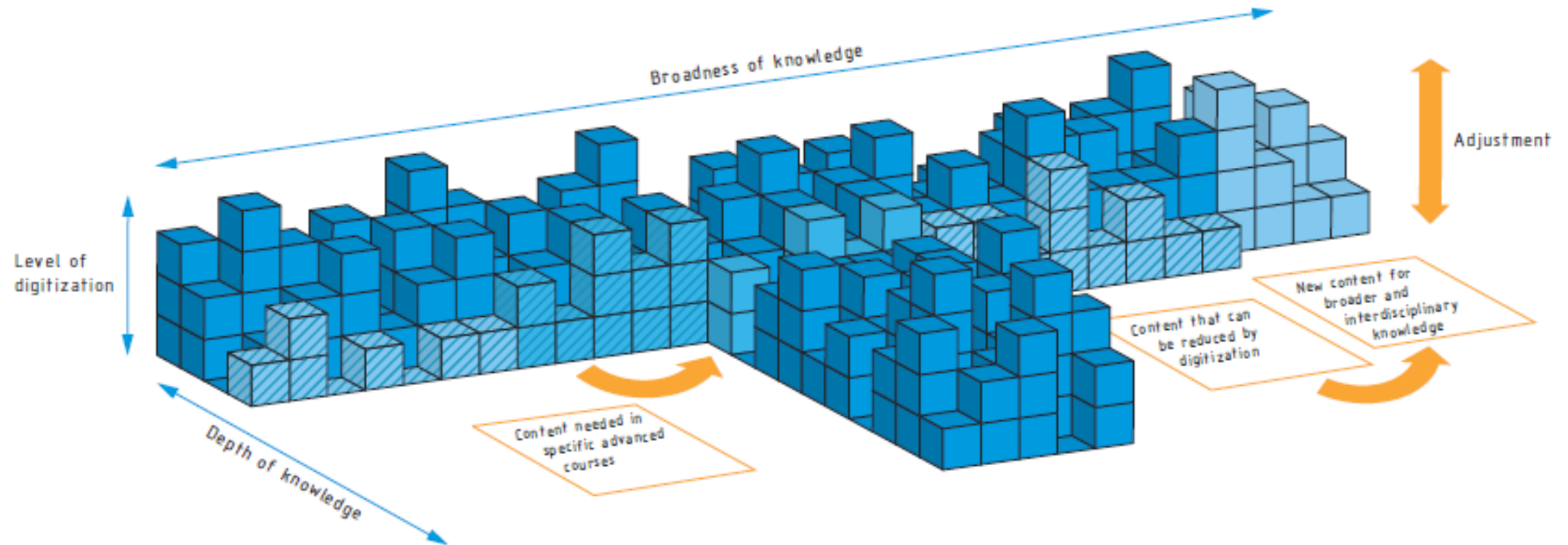
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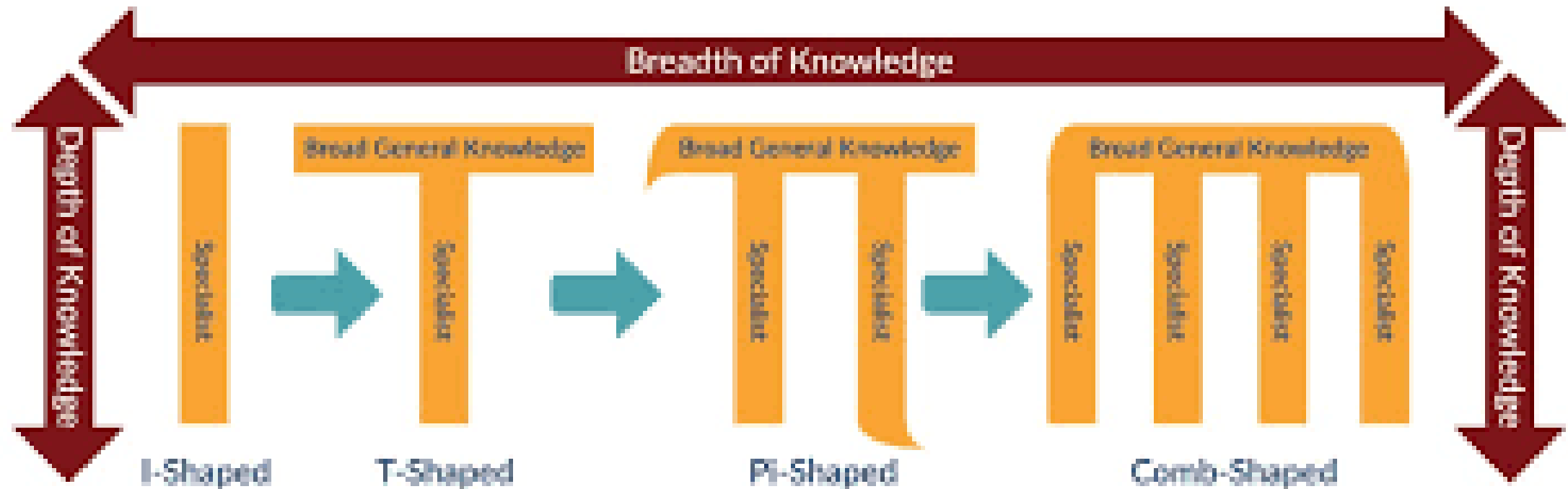
To blend them upon demand



T-Shaping the future engineers



And melting down all models



Building skills for the future



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Top 10 skills of 2025

Type of skill

- Problem-solving
- Self-management
- Working with people
- Technology use and development

-  Analytical thinking and innovation
-  Active learning and learning strategies
-  Complex problem-solving
-  Critical thinking and analysis
-  Creativity, originality and initiative
-  Leadership and social influence
-  Technology use, monitoring and control
-  Technology design and programming
-  Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility
-  Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation

Source: Future of Jobs Report 2020, World Economic Forum.

UPTAKERS PROJECT AIM & OBJECTIVES



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- The **UPTAKERS project** actively embraces this digital shift, moving beyond traditional Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs) to create a Mixed Reality learning environment. This platform integrates VR and AR technologies, fostering interactive and connected learning experiences across diverse disciplines. This innovation promises to elevate student engagement, stimulate their imagination, and deepen their understanding of the curriculum. Moreover, UPTAKERS aims to empower its target groups by enhancing their skills, competences, and employability potential, contributing significantly to regional development.

Specific objectives

- **Training and Development:** Faculty and students will participate in a comprehensive Training of Trainers (T.O.T.) program, designed to enhance their skills and facilitate knowledge sharing. This collaborative effort fostered a more empowered and engaged learning environment.
- **Curriculum Expansion:** 2 new generic courses will be delivered, broadening the department's educational offerings and catering to a wider range of learners. This expansion will allow a greater flexibility and diversification within the curriculum.
- **Curriculum Enhancement:** Four existing specialized courses will go to a thorough content revision, ensuring their continued relevance and alignment with current advancements in the field. This commitment to ongoing modernization will keep the curriculum dynamic and at the forefront of knowledge.
- **Skill Development:** To promote innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, two online workshops focused on "Creation and Entrepreneurship using VR" to be conducted. These immersive sessions will equip participants with valuable skills and insights into utilizing this technology for creative and commercial purposes.
- **Dedicated VR spaces:** A well-equipped lab with high-end VR headsets, motion capture systems, haptic feedback devices, and software development tools.
- **Knowledge Exchange:** The period will culminate in a vibrant exhibition and forum event. This public platform will serve as a space for showcasing departmental achievements, facilitating knowledge exchange, and fostering connections within the broader community.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES



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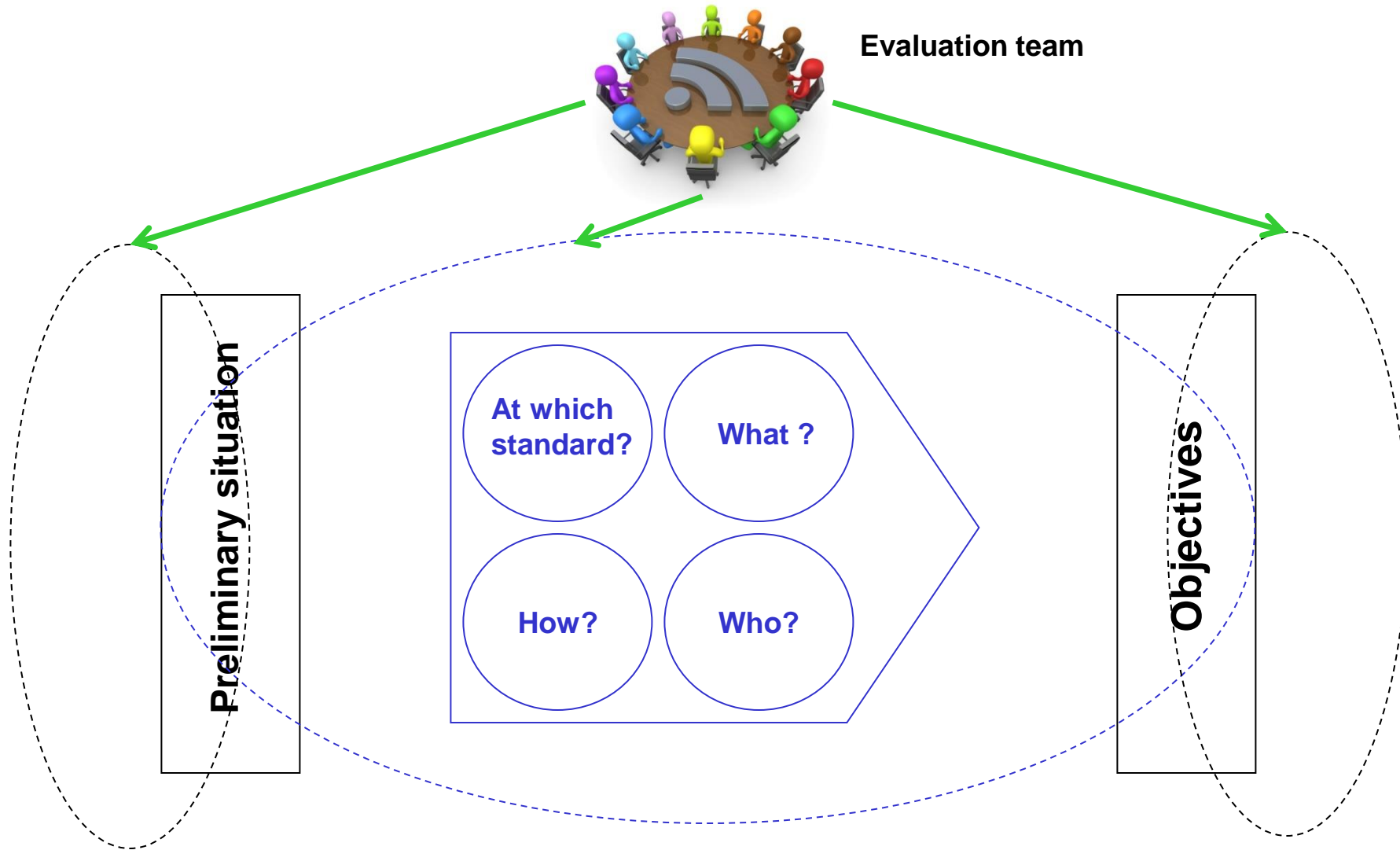
- A detailed set of XR tools that Beneficiary Universities can use to prepare their updated courses for undergraduate, postgraduate levels, staff, and graduates;
- Curricular Reform promoting the Modernisation of curricula in the higher education institutions (HEIs) from the MENA countries;
- Accreditation of developed new and updated courses;
- Educational material delivery to both undergraduate and post graduate levels and professional workshops at each beneficiary;
- Set-up and running of 6 XR laboratories (1 laboratory/ MENA partner);
- Providing to the market sector XR services through the 6 laboratory units developed in MENA HEI campus;
- Training of lecturers from MENA Region in the EU Programme Universities, in order to facilitate the transfer of knowledge from EU to MENA partners.
- Technical training of academic and technical staff on the purchased XR equipment, in order to empower them for innovative teaching.
- The organization a Final Dissemination Exhibition and Forum, where students, staff, researcher from partner universities have the opportunity to interact and deliver formats of XR alongside to entrepreneurs, artists, and enterprises from the market.

WORK PACKAGES

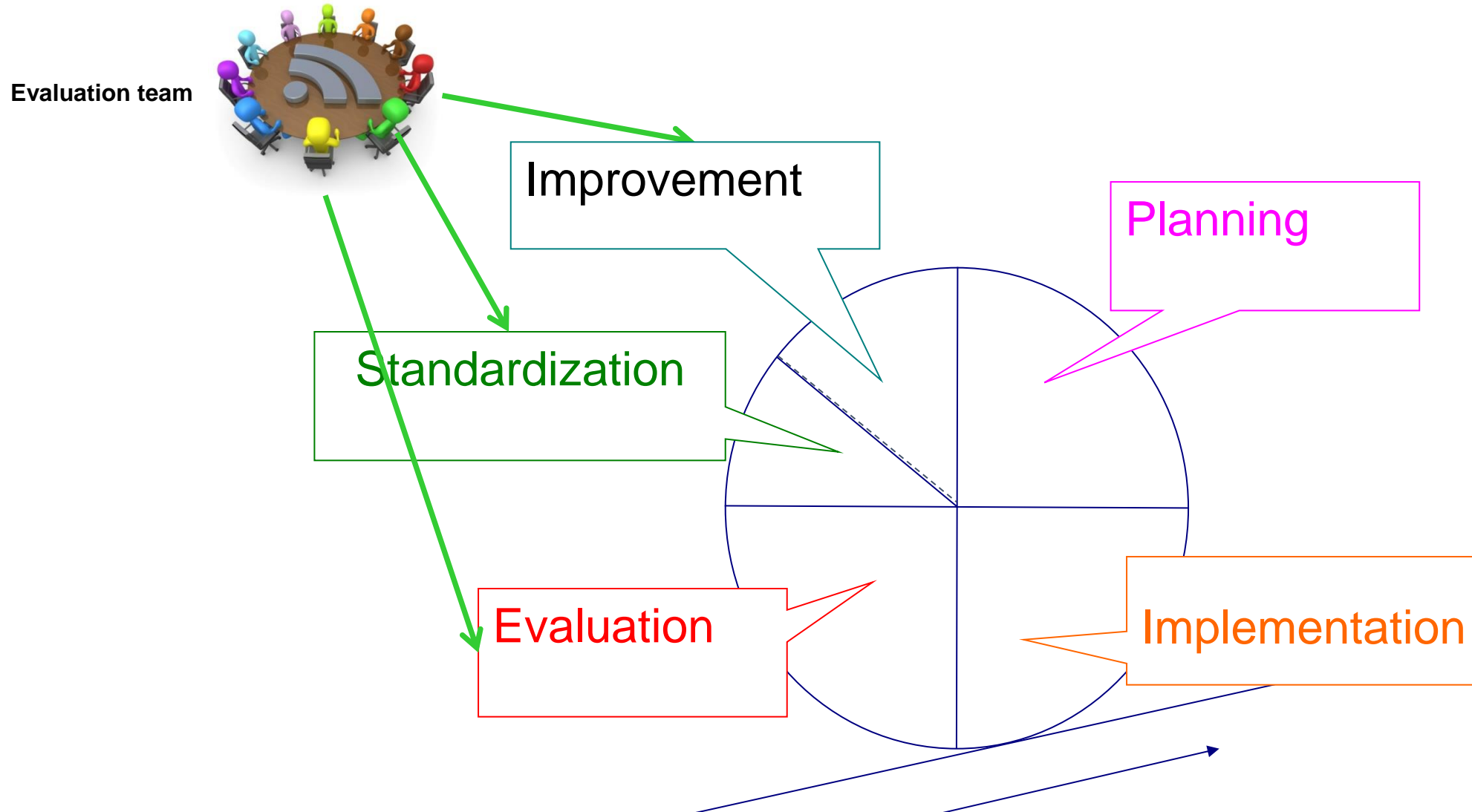


- WP1 Management and Coordination
- WP2 QUALITY PLAN – Quality, Monitoring, and Sustainability Control
- WP3 XR-based educational materials' development
- WP4 XR Laboratories setup, run, and inauguration
- WP5 Digitized course delivery and outputs exploration
- WP6 Capacity Building & Training of Academia, Technicians, and Students of XR material
- WP7 DISSEMINATION & EXPLOITATION – Publicity and Dissemination

The process-oriented approach



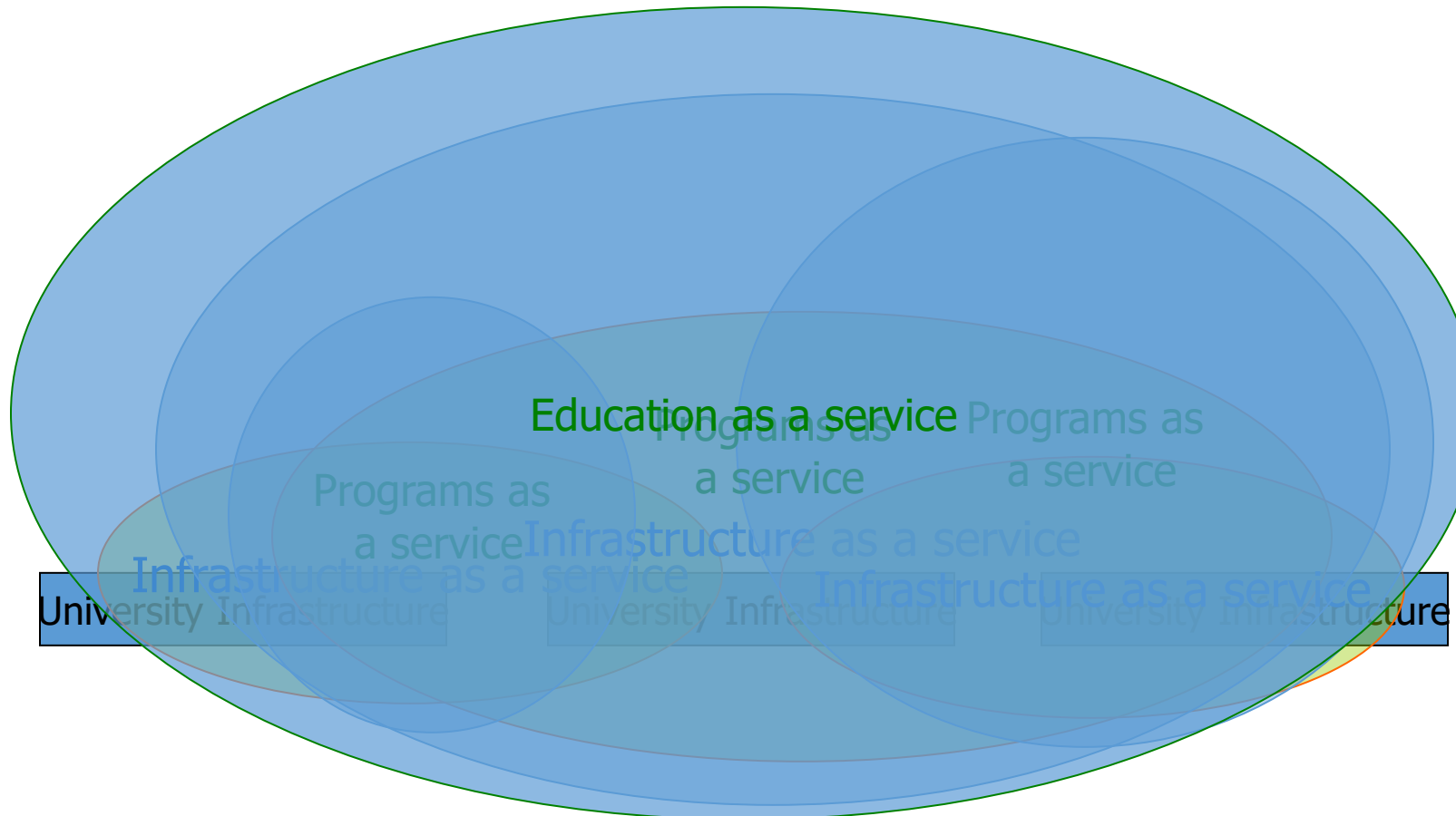
Continuous improvement



Collaboration & Co-education



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| Open education



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KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)



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No.	KPI	Name	Selected
1	Courses and study programmes	Number of new courses	12
2	Courses and study programmes	Number of new study programmes	0
3	Courses and study programmes	Number of updated courses	24
4	Courses and study programmes	Number of updated study programmes	6
5	Courses and study programmes	Number of study programmes with practical placements	0
6	Structures and infrastructure	Number of new or modernised structures/units/centres/hubs	6
7	Structures and infrastructure	Number of new or modernised labs	6
8	Persons reached	Number of persons reached	350, Male 287, Female 63
9	Persons with fewer opportunities addressed by the project	Number of people with disabilities	3
10	Persons with fewer opportunities addressed by the project	Number of people who are facing geographical barriers	17
11	Students/university staff reached	Number of students/university staff reached	419

Thank you for attention!

Prof. Dr. Eng. Eden Mamut
Ovidius University of Constanta
emamut@univ-ovidius.ro