



CRIS developments at Hasselt University

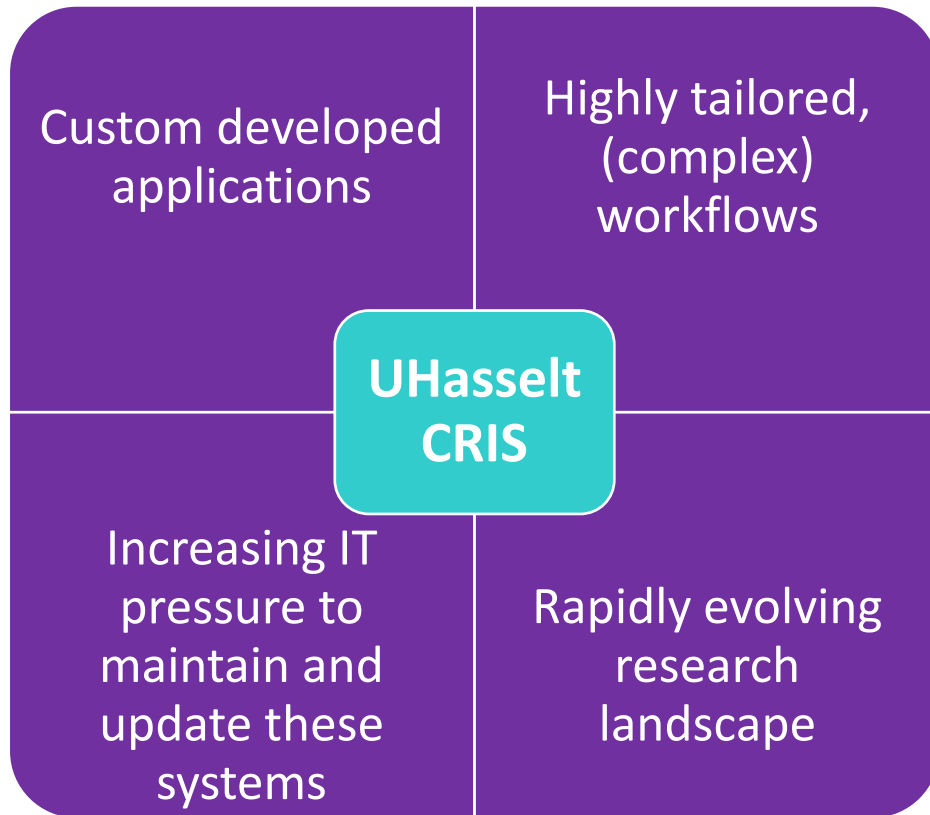
euroCRIS

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Time to rethink our research information systems

Current state

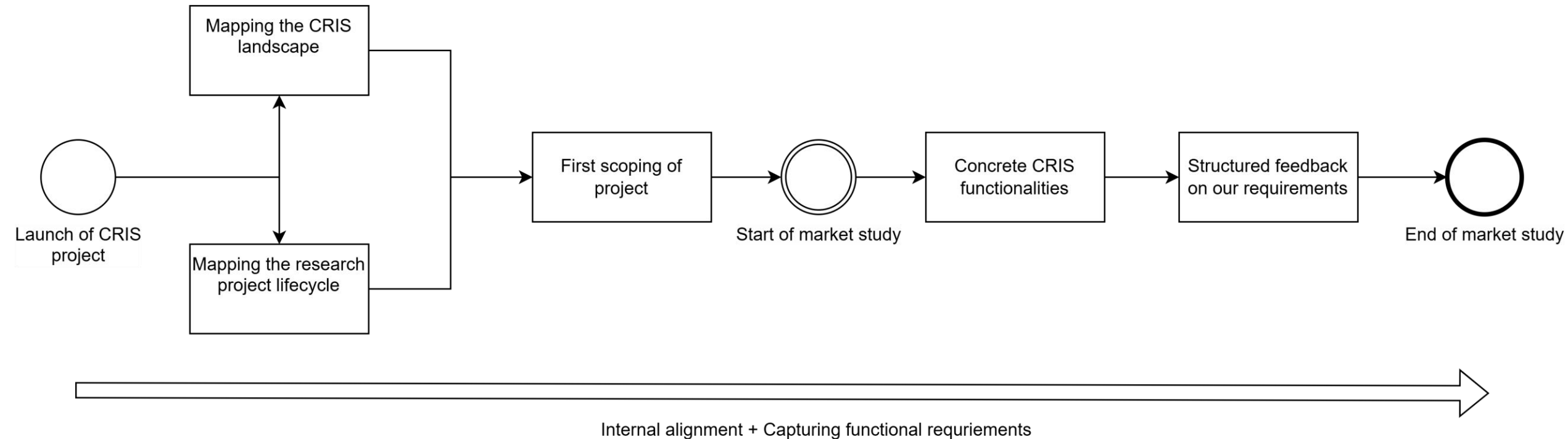


Strategic concerns

- Not future proof
- Not scalable
- Increasing maintenance
- Increasing complexity

Sustainable?

Laying the foundations for our future CRIS



Mapping the CRIS landscape

Peer exchange

- Talk to other Flemish universities about their systems and experiences

Core components

- Standard CRIS component: researchers, organizations, project, publications, datasets, reporting...

Reporting

- FRIS
- Internal/external reporting needs
- Rankings

Standards and best practices

- International literature
- CERIF

First scoping: Mapping of internal tools/applications to CRIS components

Mapping the research project lifecycle

Current challenges	What we did?	Outcome
What does the entire research project lifecycle look like?	Model workflows of different departments	Interdepartmental view of the entire process
What are business users needs?	Engage business users on their specific processes	Align requirements with user needs
Bottlenecks and inefficiencies in processes	Identification of pain points, bottlenecks and “must haves”	Identify possible optimization: • Decrease of email usage • Parallelization • Automate repetitive steps

Start capturing user requirements

From abstract CRIS to concrete functionalities

What?

- Invited vendors for non-evaluative demos
- Let users explore different CRIS models

Goal

- Shift mindset from abstract to real CRIS functionalities

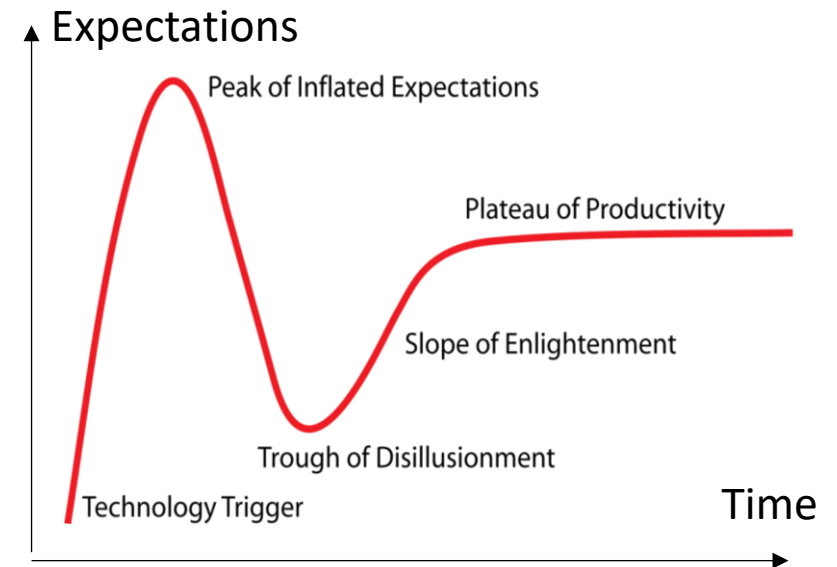
Why?

- Gartner Hype Cycle

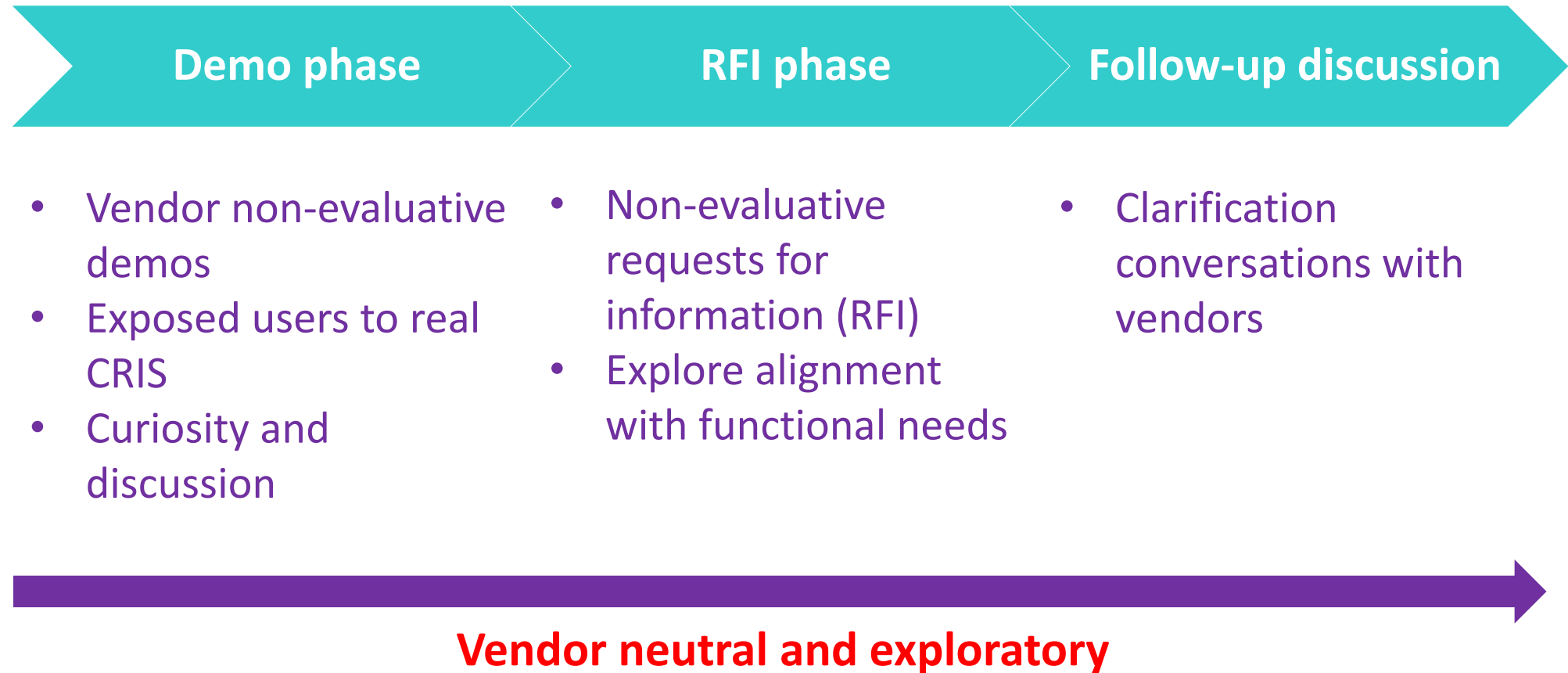
Initial reactions

- Growing interest
- Curiosity
- Unknowns and uncertainty

Gartner Hype Cycle

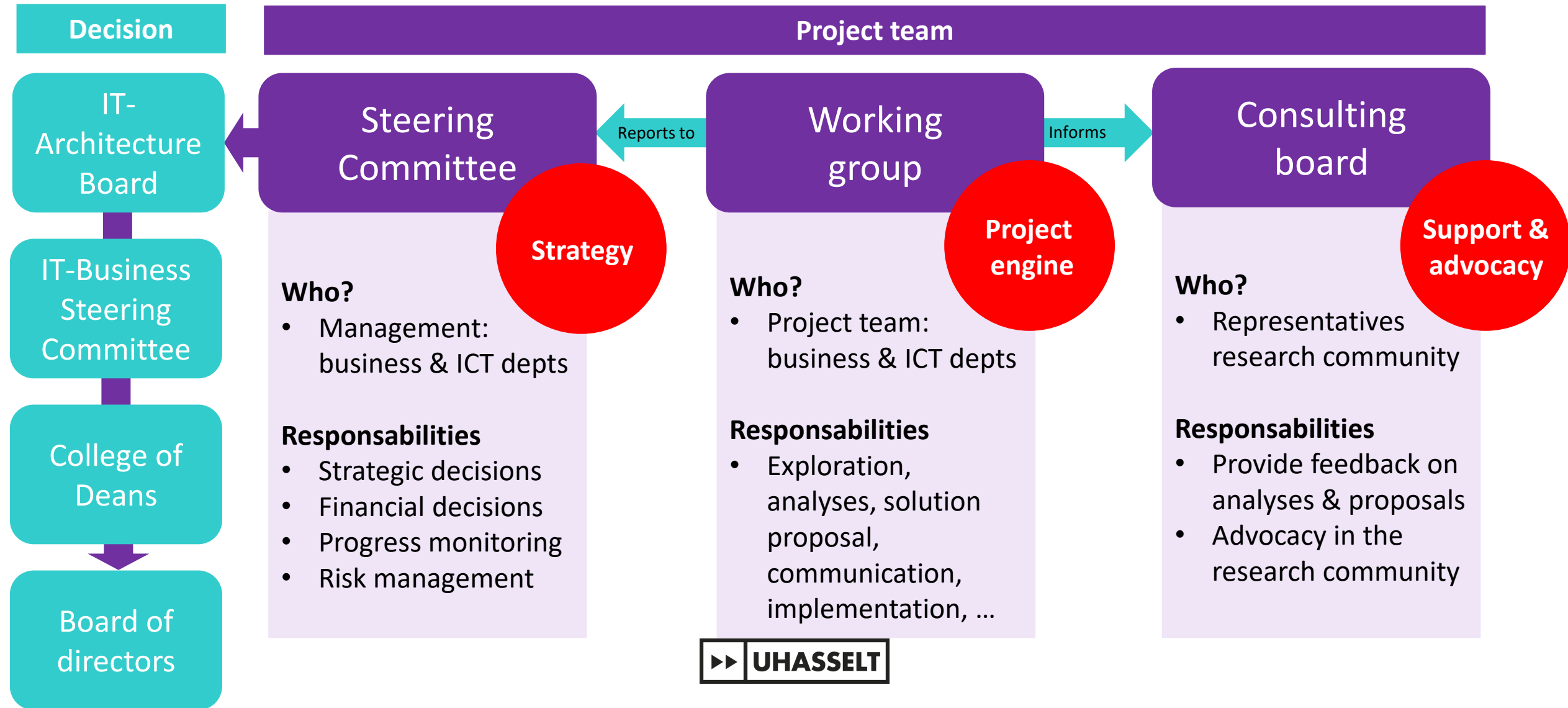


Structured feedback and functional follow-up




UHASSELT

Internal alignment: Governance structure



Internal alignment: A critical success factor

Cross-Departmental Coordination

- Regular sessions with ICT: project management, product owners, architecture
- Ongoing check-ins to ensure technical feasibility and system compatibility
- Tracked dependencies and identified integration needs early

Stakeholder Engagement

- Discussions with researchers, policy staff, and research administration
- Captured diverse needs and expectations
- Built shared ownership and reduced resistance to change

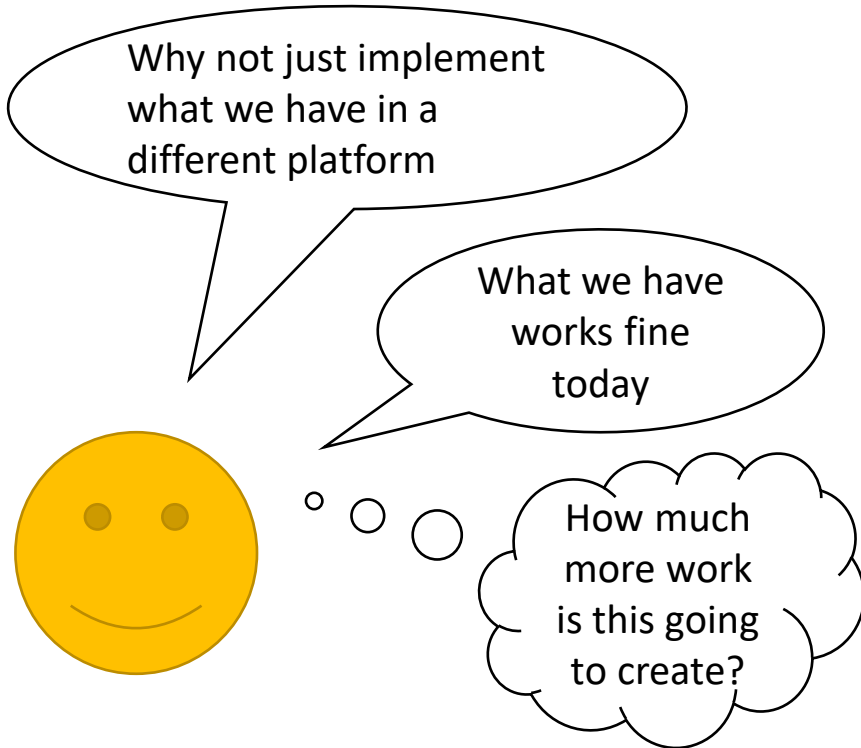
Why This Matters

- Ensures system design reflects actual workflows
- Prevents misalignment between business and IT
- Builds trust and readiness across the organization
- Creates a strong foundation for a successful tender and implementation

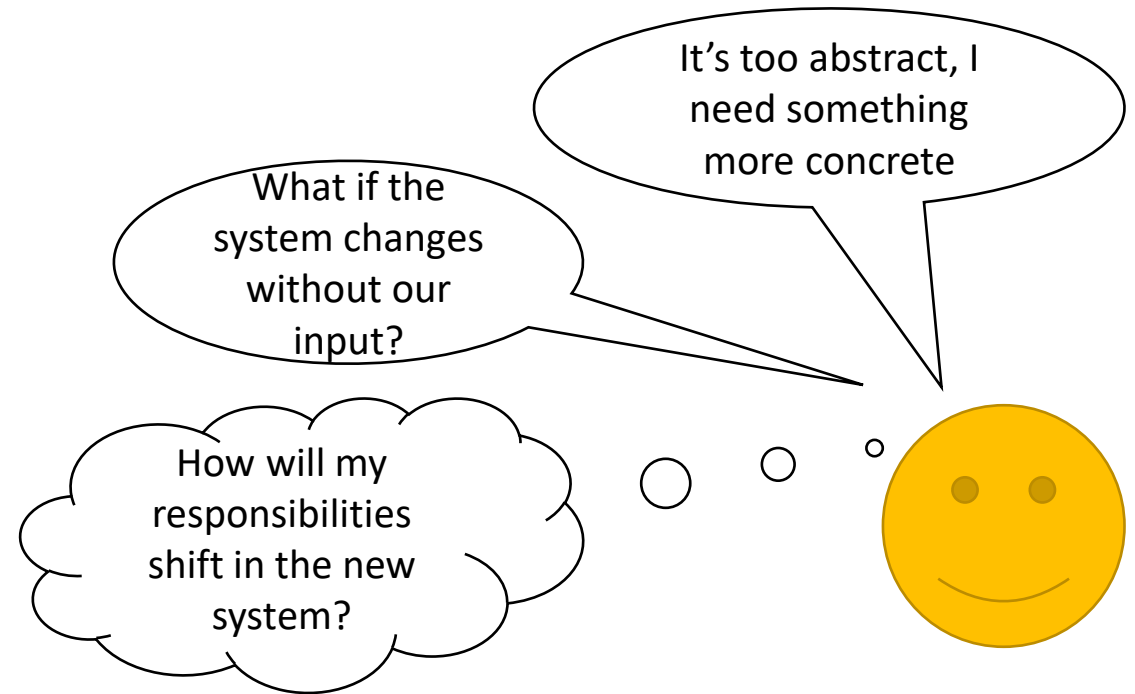


Current and future barriers to transformation

Resistance to change



Cognitive & Emotional Barriers



Between exploration and procurement

Current status

- Almost finished consulting market
- No procurement decision yet

Preparing for the next steps

- Internal approvals
 - Ensuring alignment and securing the necessary approvals
- Refining requirements
 - Fine-tuning system needs based on stakeholder feedback

We're committed to making informed decisions that best serve the needs of the organization, without favoring any vendor at this stage.



Disclaimer: No vendor specific info will be shared

We are learning — and are open to learning more

Have you been through a similar journey?

- Implemented a CRIS platform?
- Navigated internal alignment or stakeholder challenges?
- Tackled abstract requirements or resistance to change?

**We would love to hear from you!
Come find us — let's exchange experiences.**