

Commissioning Evaluations



EQUINET Evaluation Lab

29/1/16 Brussels

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What's your **image** of an evaluation?



Could it be one of these?



dreamstime.com



What business are you in?



So, we are the agents of change



So, why bother looking back?

"THE SECRET OF
CHANGE IS TO FOCUS
ALL OF YOUR ENERGY,
NOT ON FIGHTING THE
OLD, BUT ON BUILDING
THE NEW."

— SOCRATES

Because you have to have to
understand...



...and remember



Or, you become disconnected from
your reality



Evaluation is facilitation of **learning** – in the collective space



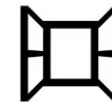
Are we
delivering?



What's
our
impact?



What
have we
learned?



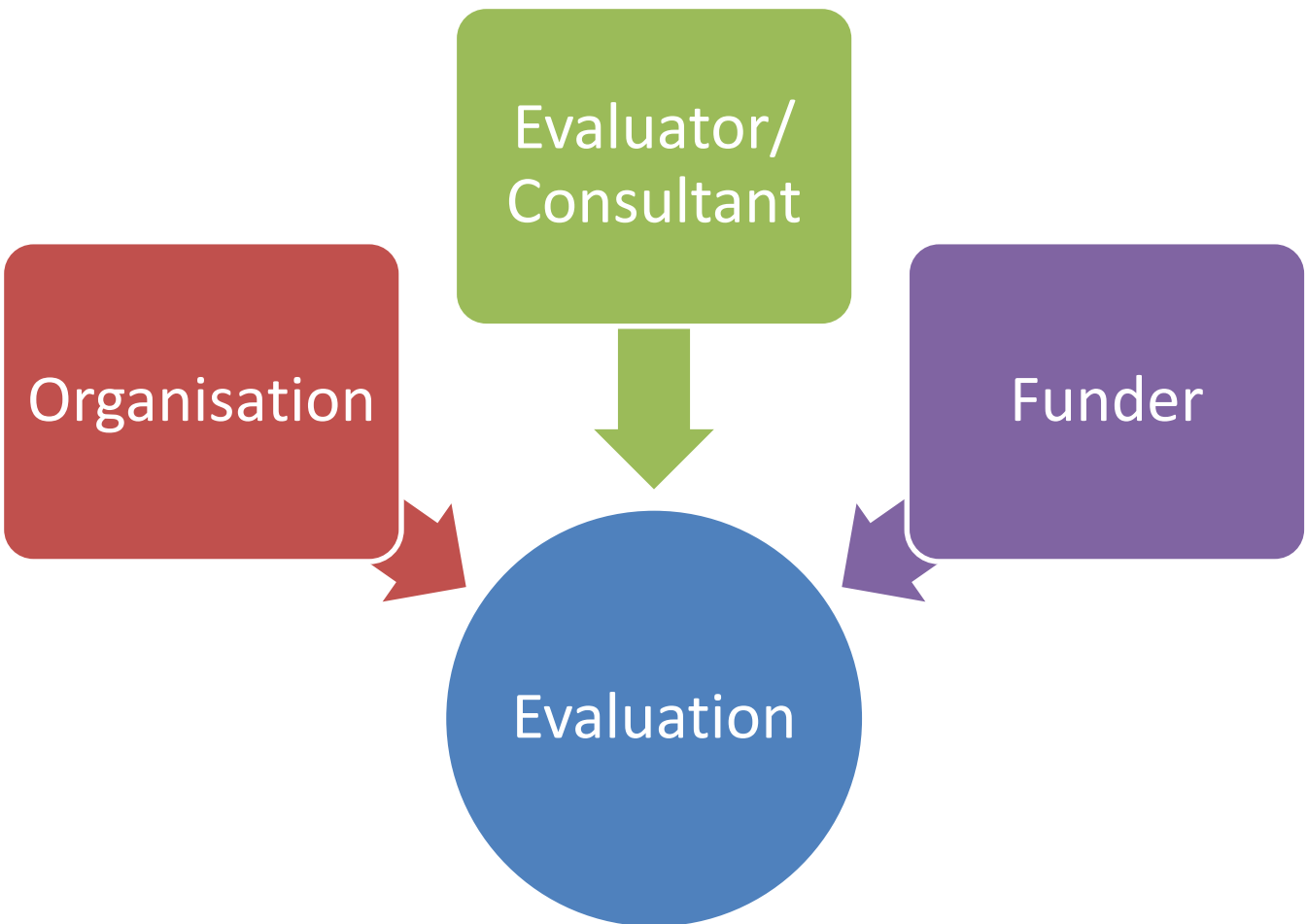
How do
others
see us?

So, **evaluation** fits in, as we execute our plans and as we reflect on that execution

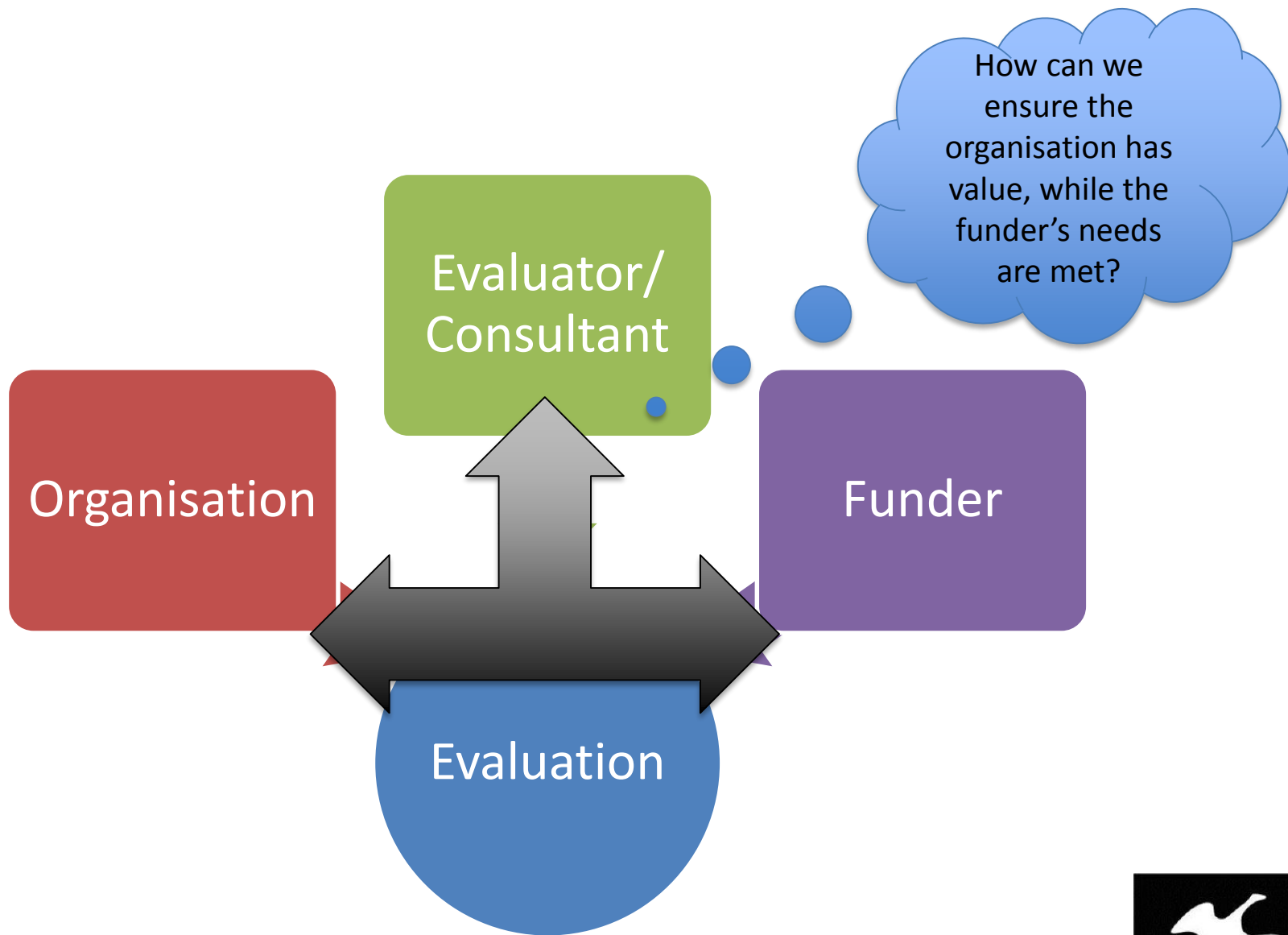
Evaluation is often an afterthought - not designed in from the initiation stage



But what about **the funder**, who may require the evaluation?



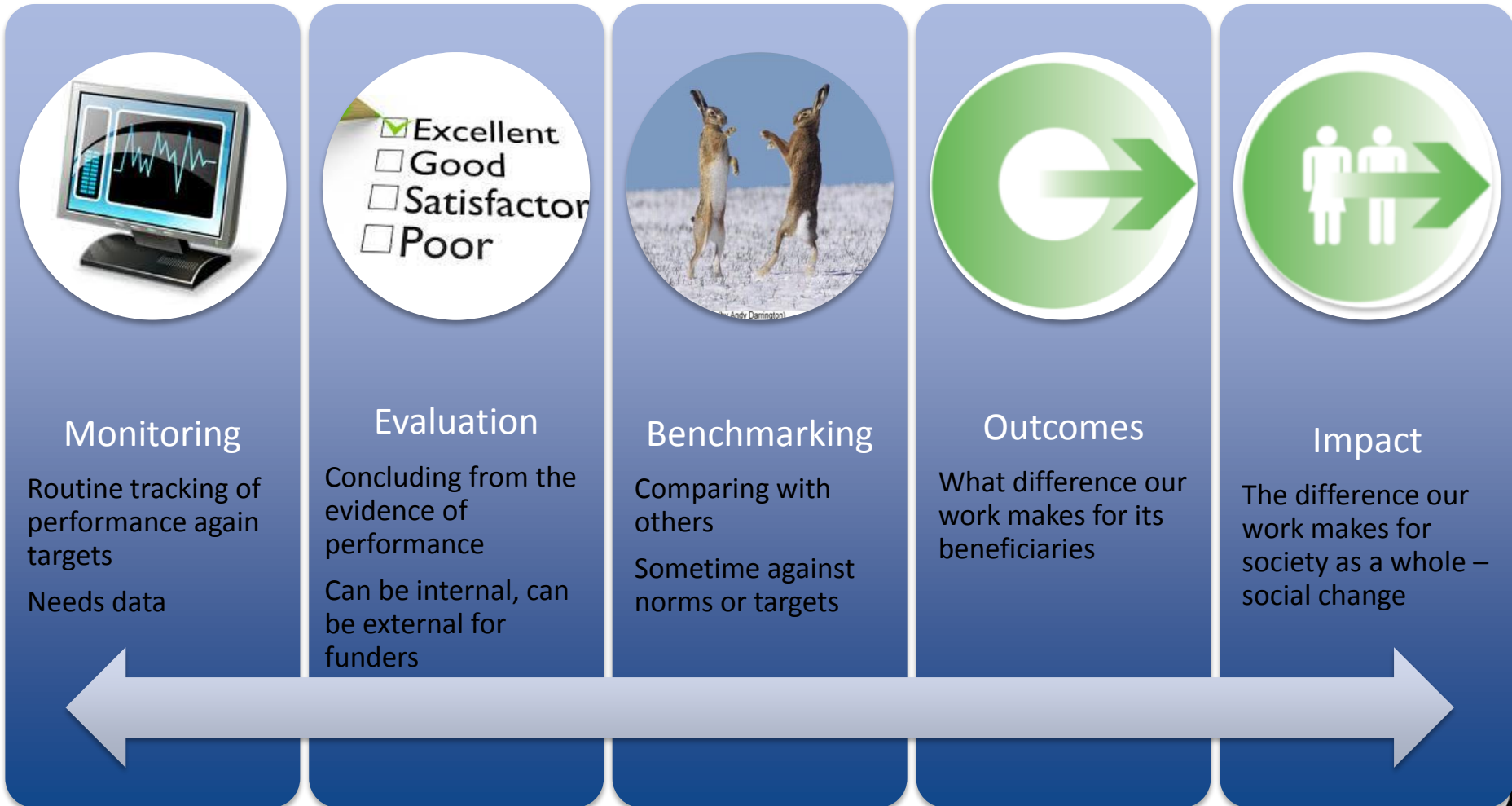
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So, we need evaluation tools to help
keep the connection

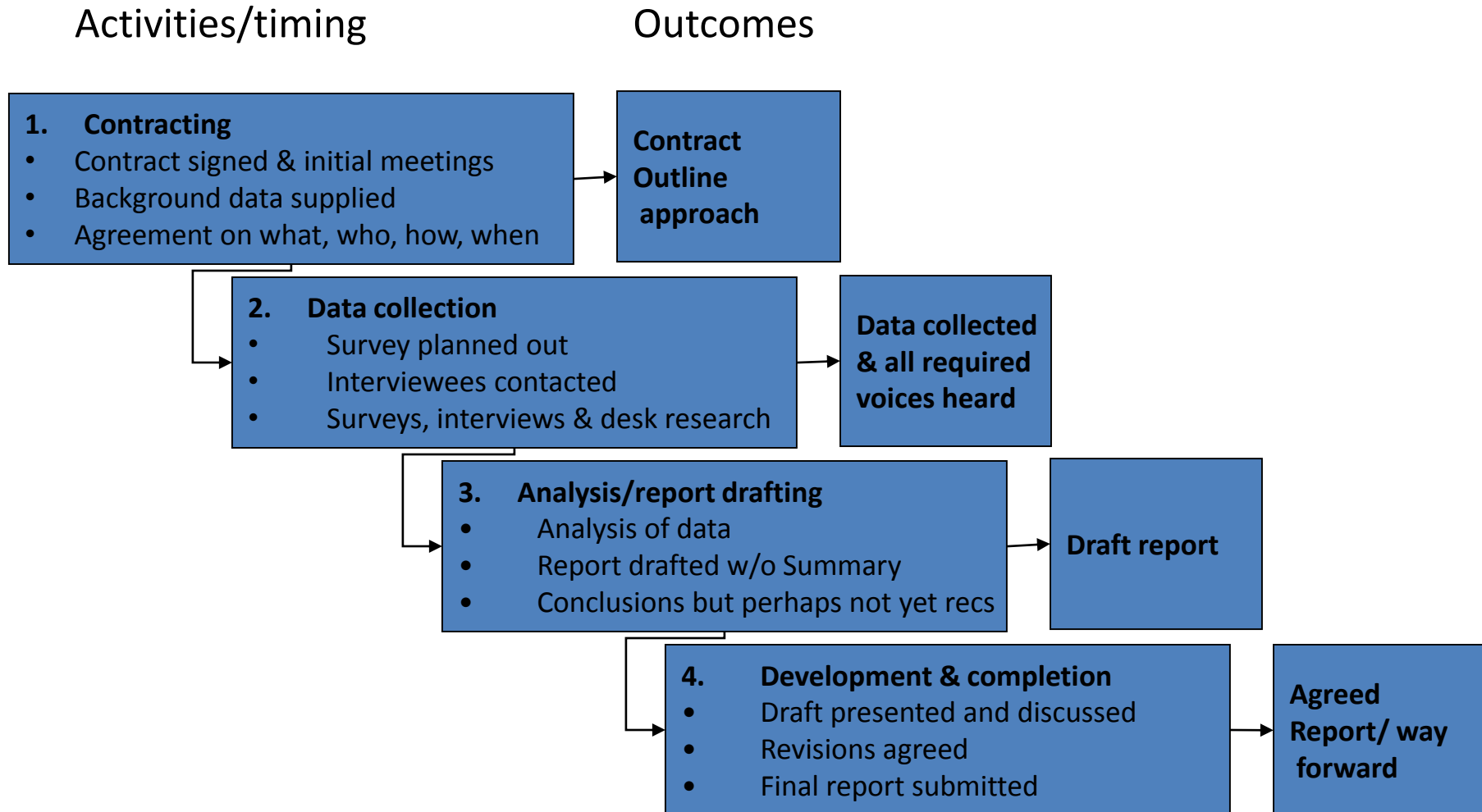


The Most Common ones are:



BUT IT'S ALL ABOUT ORGANISATIONAL LEARNING...AND SOMETIMES REPORTING TO DONORS

Typically there are **four stages** to any evaluation



Other terms



(K)PIs



Balanced Scorecard



What else?

What to ask for when commissioning an evaluation consultant

- ✓ Clarity about purpose
- ✓ Clarity about scope
- ✓ Clarity about timescales
- ✓ Clarity about budget

X Methodological details

X Fee rates



Let the consultant figure how to achieve your goals imaginatively!

Assessing a Tender...not that hard!

1. **CVs:** Have they done what we want before?
2. **Scope:** Do they respond to exactly what we've asked for?
3. **Time & money:** Do they do that in the timescales and budget?
4. **Activities:** Are we happy with their approach?
5. **Sparkle:** Is there a sign of imagination as well as evidence of rigour?
6. **Relationships:** As people, are we confident we can work with them and our values are compatible?



What's our experience? How could we exploit it?

1 In threes, describe your experience of or commissioning, assessing tenders or supervising evaluations

2 Combining two groups of three, share and evaluate the success of each of the main methods

3 What are the key messages across the group?

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Could the big groups now share their three key points with the others?



How did we do?



THANK YOU!

Many Happy Evaluations!

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