

# Knowledge for Sustainable Consumption Policies

Experiences from CORPUS, a European Project on Knowledge Brokerage



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funded in



# CORPUS – basic idea

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innovative ways of  
**KNOWLEDGE BROKERAGE**



at the example of  
**SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION POLICIES**

# Different rationales hamper knowledge flow

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## RESEARCH

## POLICY-MAKING

scientific excellence



problem-orientation

specialisation



broader solutions

ambivalence / uncertainties



clearness

constant foci / coherence



varying foci / evolving issues

project-related time frames  
(2-5ys.)



immediate decisions /  
near future

peer group orientation



stakeholder orientation

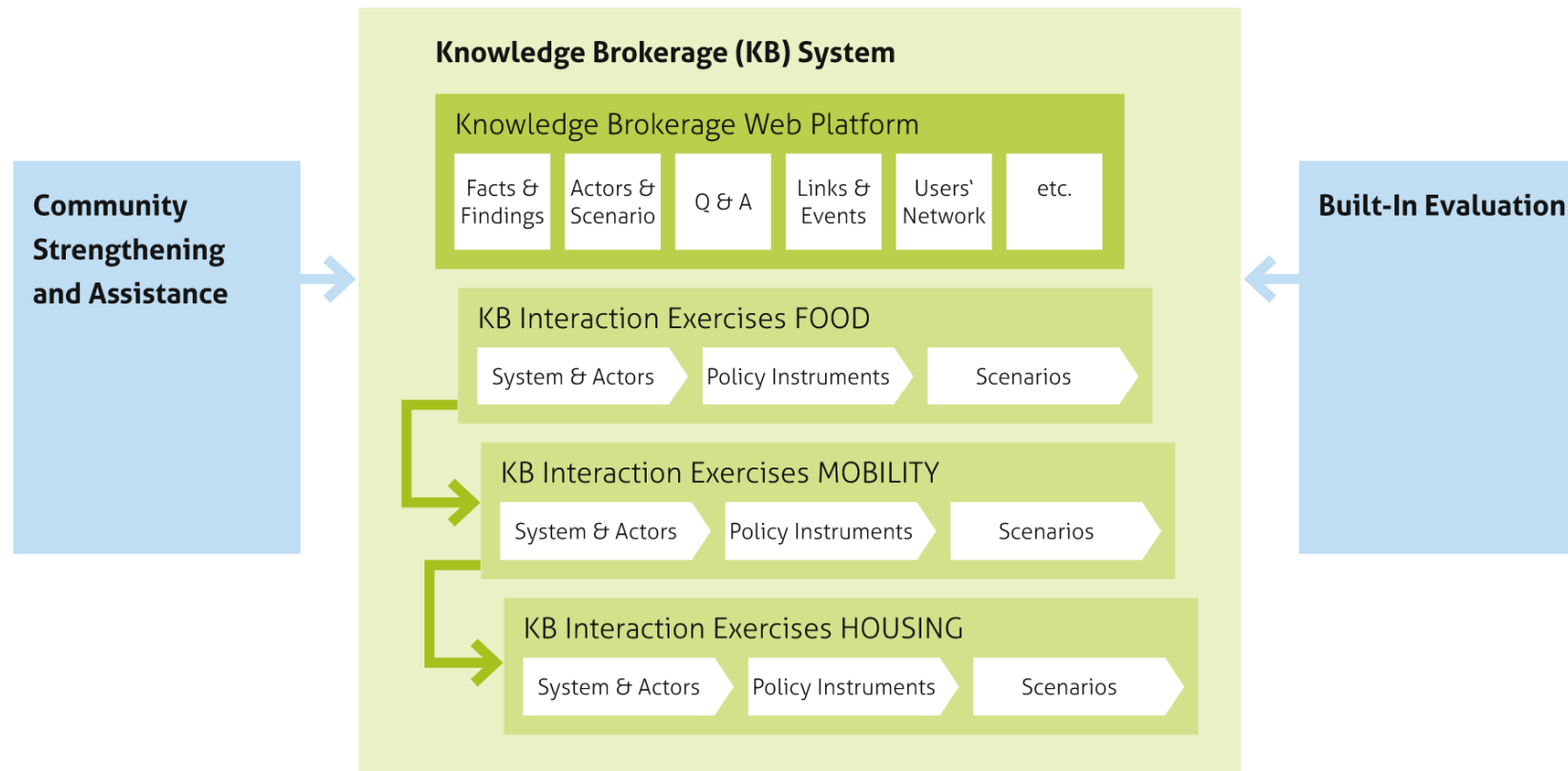
# Objectives of CORPUS

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- develop appropriate and transferable methodologies and tools for knowledge brokerage in sustainable development
- foster evidence-based policy-making and policy-led research in sustainable consumption policies
- stimulate community-building across the involved research and policy-making communities

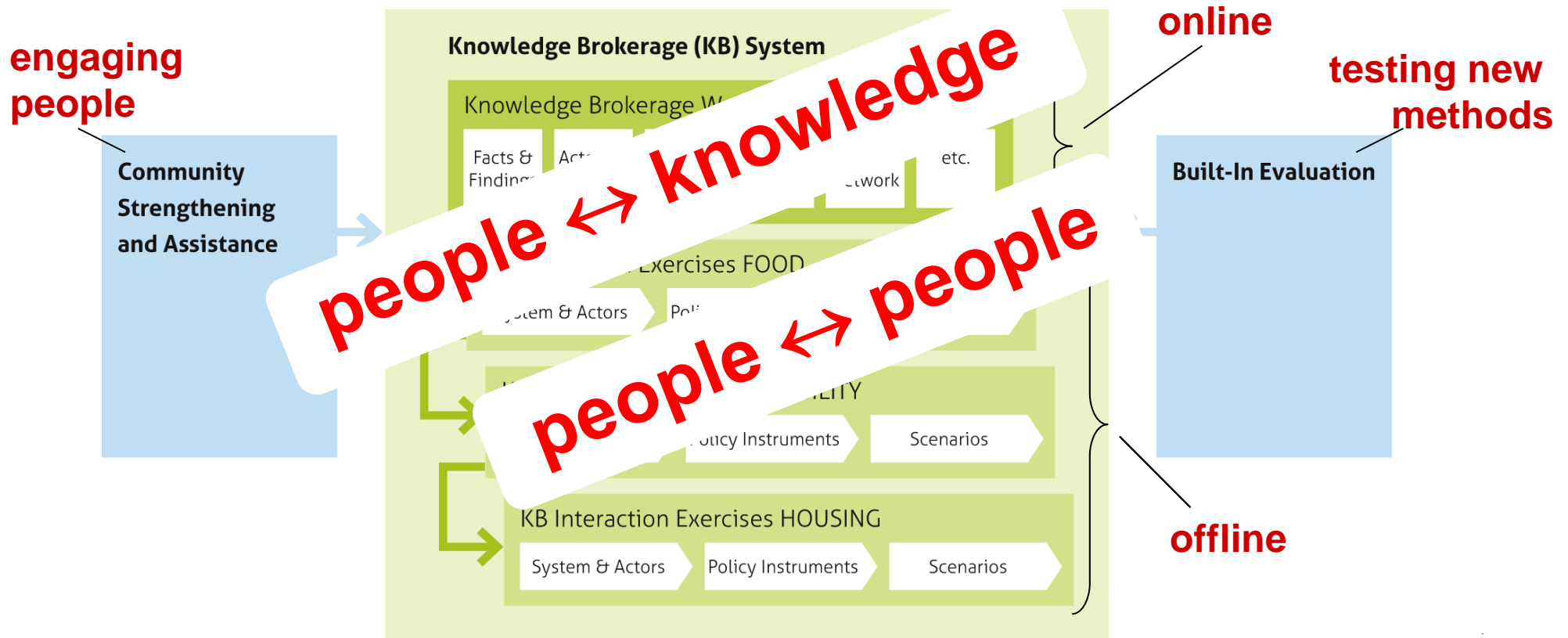
# CORPUS – the project

Enhancing the Connectivity Between Research and Policy-Making in Sustainable Consumption (2010-2012, EU FP7)



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# The consortium partners of CORPUS

## RESEARCH



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER



## POLICY-MAKING



lebensministerium.at



# Expected outcomes from CORPUS

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- [www.scp-knowledge.eu](http://www.scp-knowledge.eu) as **knowledge brokerage gateway**
- **community/network** of professionals (policy & science) in sustainable consumption
- more **evidence-based policy-making** in sustainable consumption
- more/other **policy-led research** in sustainable consumption



# CORPUS web platform: [www.scp-knowledge.eu](http://www.scp-knowledge.eu)



Mobility Housing Food

## THE SCP KNOWLEDGE HUB



This website connects policy makers and researchers providing a space to exchange knowledge and access the latest information on Sustainable Consumption and Production specifically in the areas of mobility, housing and food.

Join the community and stay informed

Log in

Sign up now



[About](#) [Contact](#) [Legal notices](#) [Press](#) [Newsletter](#)

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# Innovation in knowledge access & exchange

knowledge according to personal interests

The screenshot displays the CORPUS website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Mobility', 'Housing', and 'Food'. The main content area is titled 'My CORPUS' and includes an announcement about a poll, a list of 'Latest Activities' (including new members and knowledge items), and a 'Workshop Groups' section. A user profile for 'Gerd Scholl' is shown on the right, with a list of options: 'My CORPUS', 'Members', 'Messages', 'My Groups', 'My account', 'Question and Answers', 'Create content', and 'Log out'. A search bar is located at the bottom right, with options for 'Knowledge Search', 'Event Search', and 'Member Search'. Red circles and arrows highlight specific elements: the 'Announcement' and 'Latest Activities' sections, the 'Workshop Groups' section, and the 'Messages', 'My Groups', 'My account', 'Question and Answers', and 'Create content' options in the user profile.

# CORPUS web platform – status quo

as of 01.06.2012

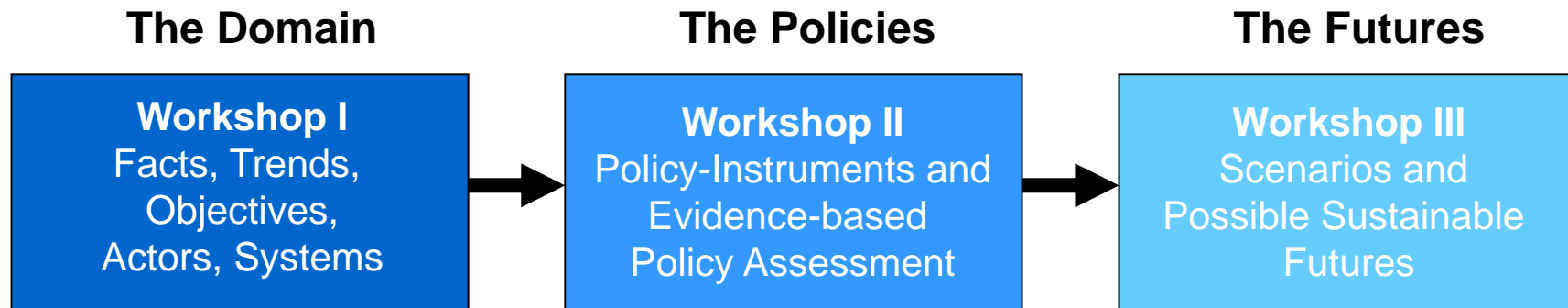
- **Almost 800 registered users**
  - in more than 60 countries
  - 13% policy-makers, 50% researchers
- **Over 500 documents**
  - 300 scientific publications, 128 policy documents, etc.
  - prepared by CORPUS team
    - 25 „knowledge units“ (KU) (evidence reviews)
    - 7 discussion papers



# „Policy Meets Research“ Workshops

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food / mobility / housing



- **8 out of 9 workshops accomplished (3 x food, 3 x mobility, 2 x housing)**

# „Policy Meets Research“ Workshops



walk-around  
poster session



snapshots of  
the future



scenario building



good examples /  
policy learning



flashlights on  
national policies



co-development of  
research agenda



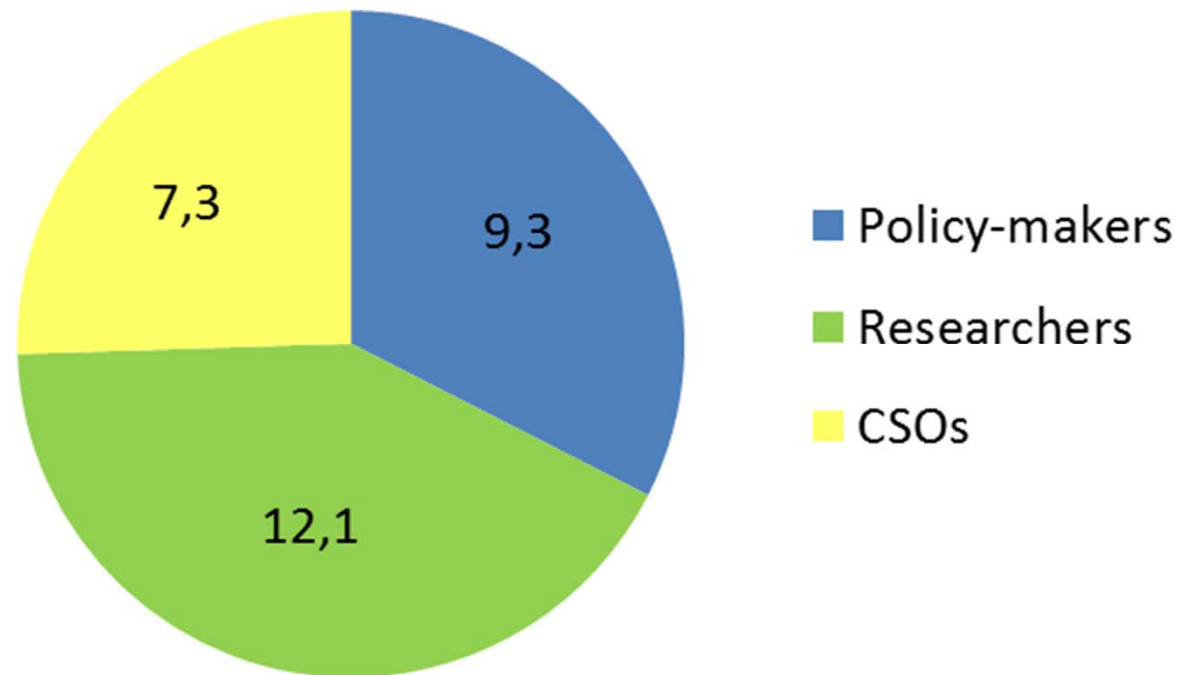
networking

CORPUS			
3.3.3 How did you experience the impact provided by the workshop? Did you feel there was any difference? How big was it?			
Excellent Paper	Very good	Good	Not good at all
Excellent title	Very good	Good	Not good at all
3.3.4 How did you feel the impact of this paper?			
Excellent Paper	Very good	Good	Not good at all
Excellent title	Very good	Good	Not good at all
3.3.5 Looking specifically for knowledge links, how did you feel the workshop?			
Very relevant	Quite relevant	Not relevant at all	
3.4. Workshop progression			
3.4.1 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable housing'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.2 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable communities'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.3 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable transport and mobility'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.4 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable energy'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.5 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable water'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.6 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable policy integration'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all
3.4.7 How did you feel the workshop on 'Sustainable research'?			
Very good	Good	Not good enough	Not good at all

evaluation

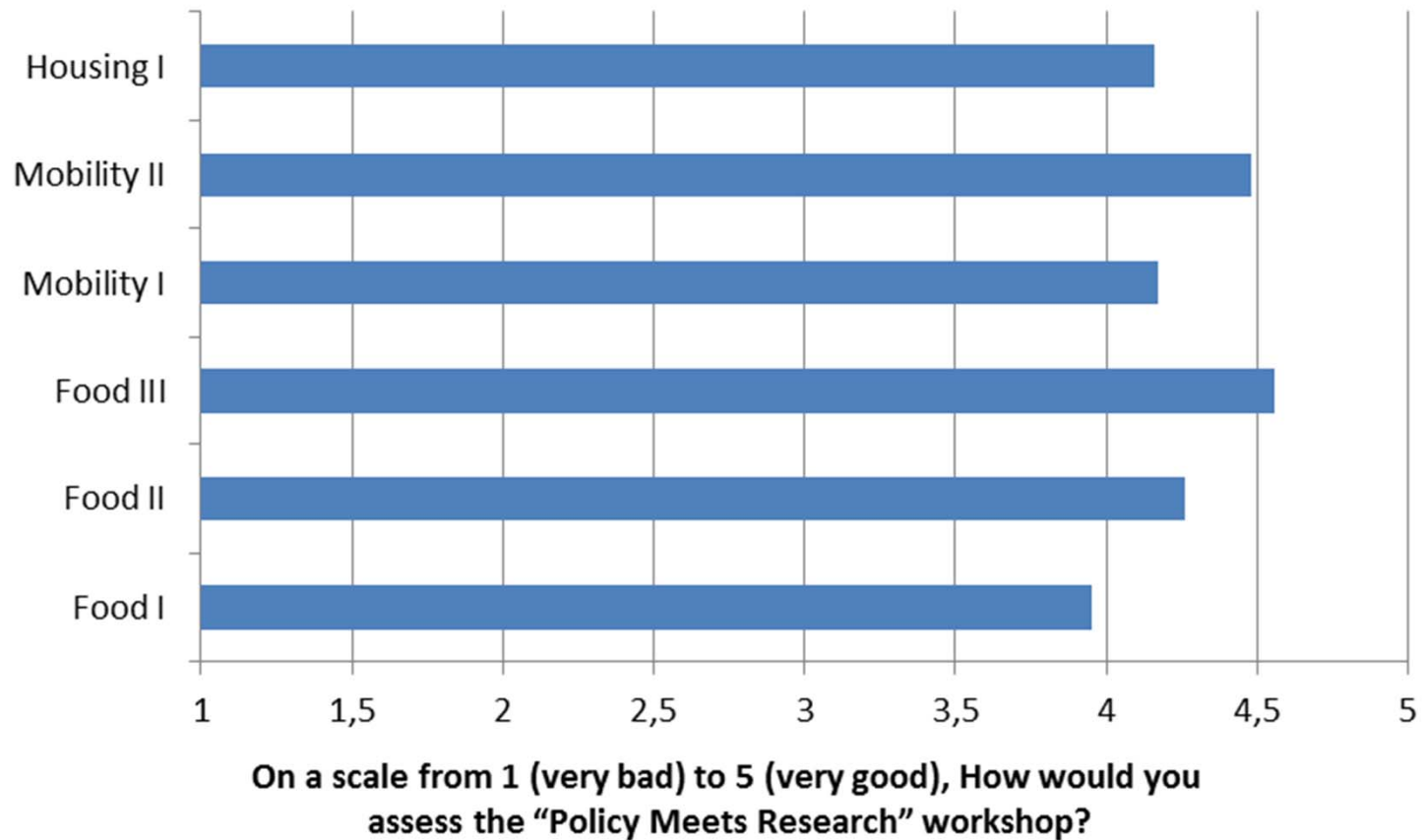
# Average composition of workshop (after 6 out of 9)

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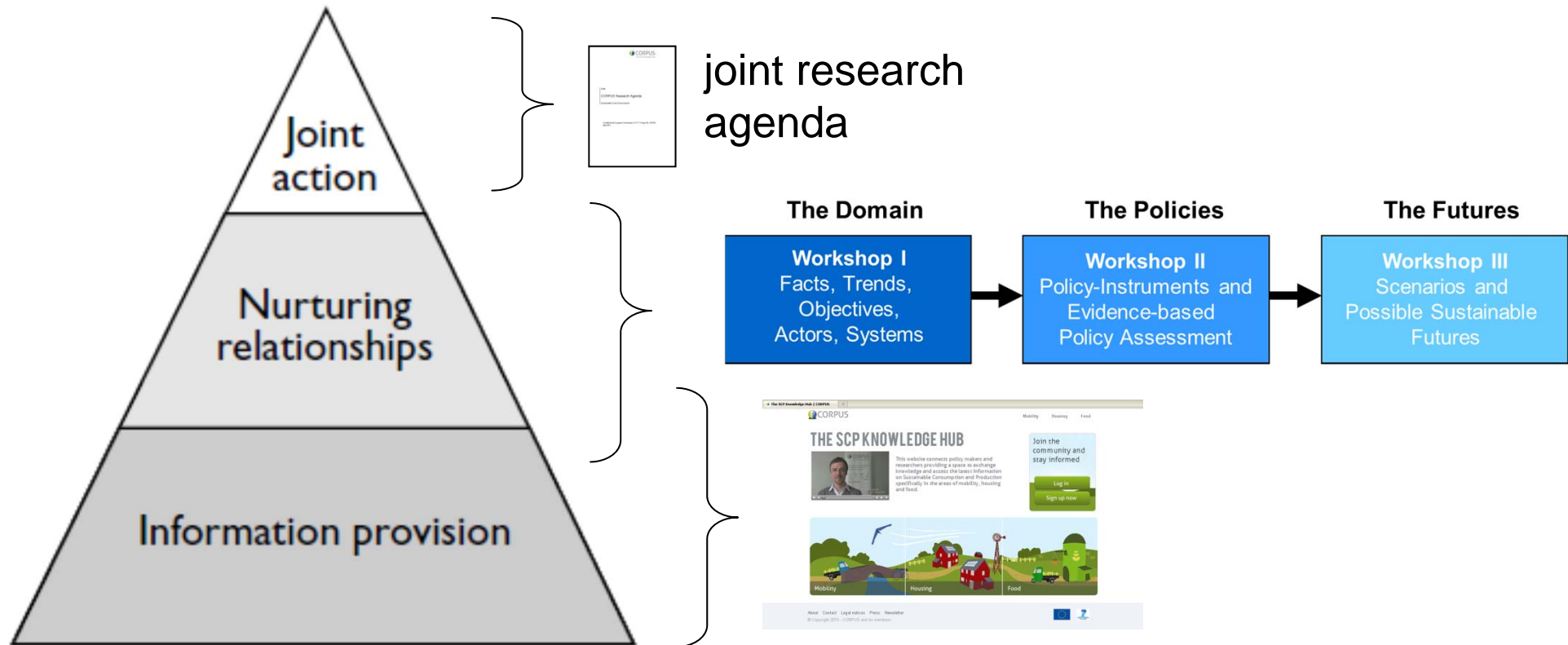


# Overall assessment of workshops

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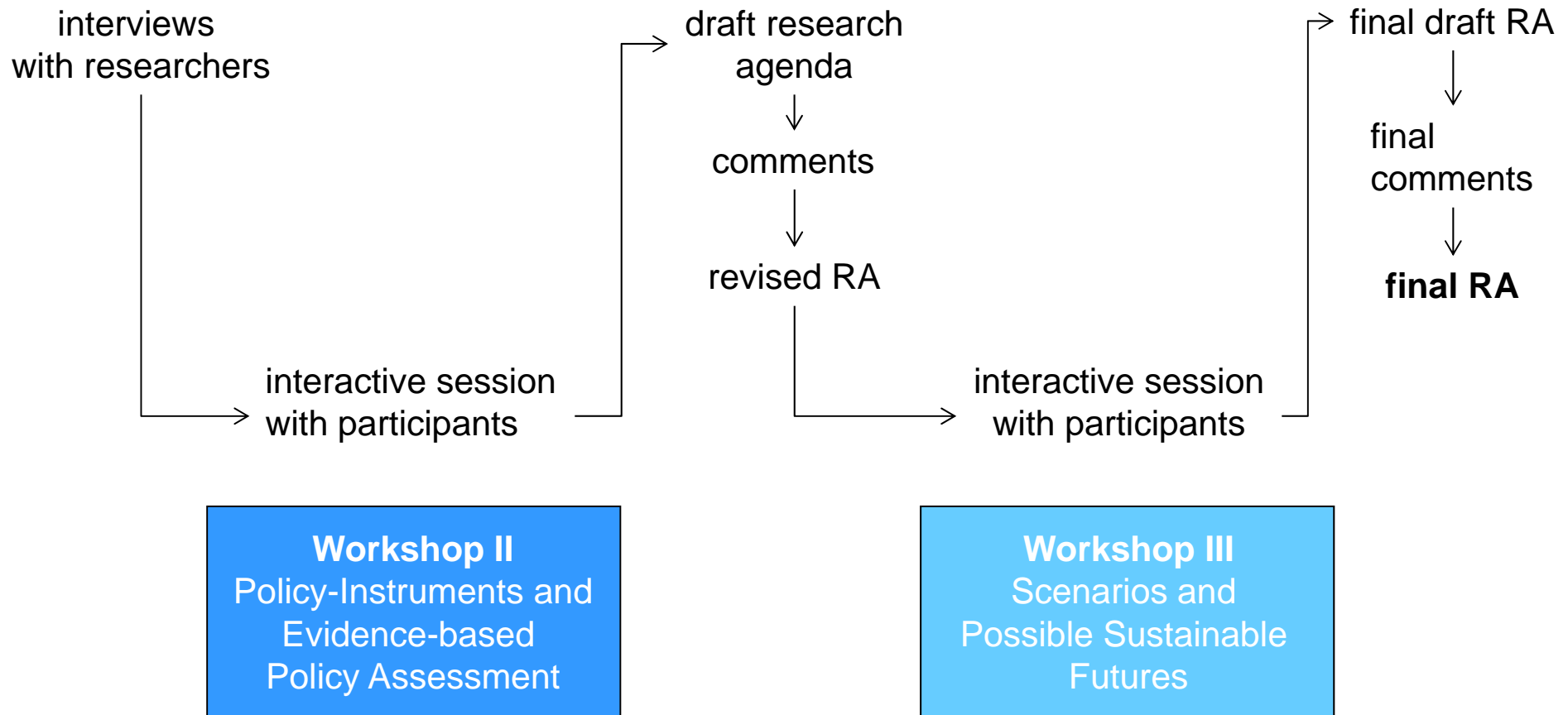
# Creating knowledge networks in CORPUS



Creech & Willard, 2001



# CORPUS research agenda on sustainable food consumption



# CORPUS research agenda on sustainable food consumption

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## SUSTAINABLE FOOD SUPPLY CHAINS

- Local food and sustainability
- Transparency of the food supply chain
- Food waste
- Retailers and sustainable food
- ...

## SUSTAINABLE DIETS

- Reduction of meat consumption
- Climate friendly and healthy diets
- Tackling obesity
- Food inequality
- ...

## DRIVERS OF FOOD CONSUMPTION

- Consumer Behaviour
- Availability & affordability of sust. food
- SPP of food
- Contextual mega-trends
- ...

## POLICY ISSUES & KB

- Policy coordination and governance
- Methods of policy research
- Knowledge brokerage
- ...

# Conclusions

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- **online knowledge brokerage tools** can provide easy and customised access to scientific evidence
    - however, social/online media **remain to be fully embraced**, in particular by policy-makers
  - **offline knowledge brokerage** requires the use of **activating moderation techniques**
    - from seating arrangements over poster walks to joint action
- online and offline tools nurture each other**

# Thank you.

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2 May 2012



funded in

