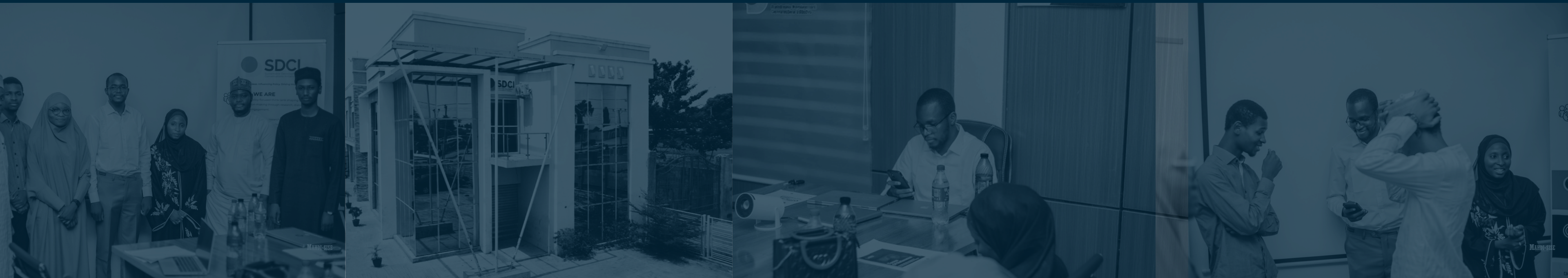




SDCI 2026–2031

Strategic Direction & Implementation Roadmap



SDCI 2026–2031

Strategic Direction & Implementation Roadmap

Why SDCI?

Despite significant investments in governance and development initiatives, many communities continue to face persistent challenges due to three **critical gaps**:

1. The Policy–Implementation Gap

Policies and development plans are often well designed but poorly implemented, resulting in limited impact on citizens' lives.

2. The Data & Intelligence Gap

Decision-makers frequently lack reliable, localized, and actionable data needed to make evidence-based policy and development decisions.

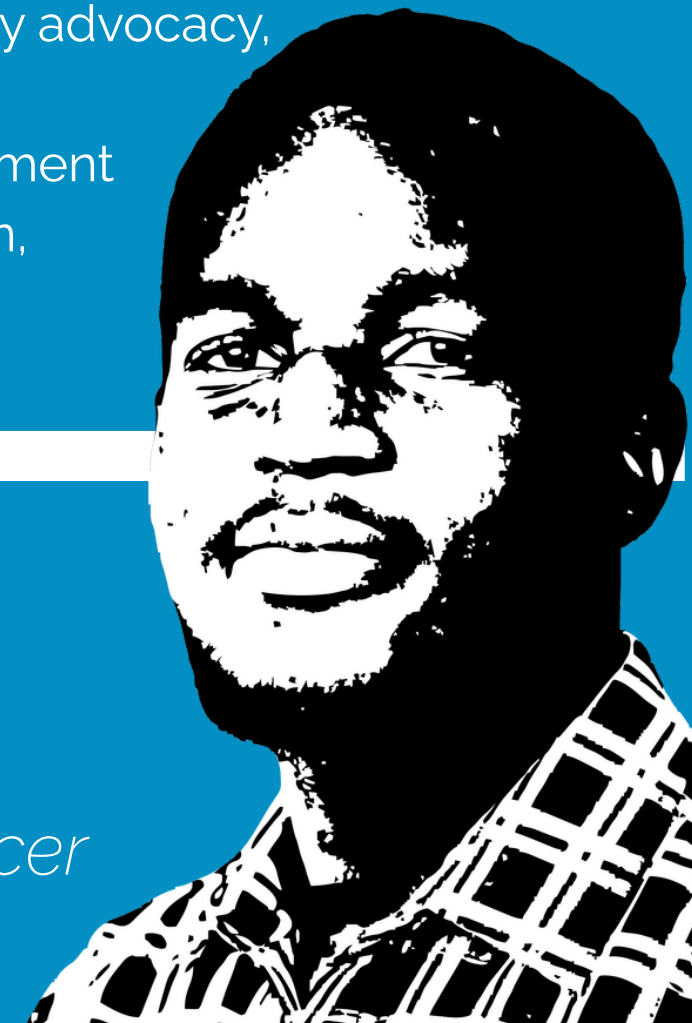
3. The Participation Gap

Citizens, youth, traditional institutions, civil society organizations, and grassroots stakeholders are often excluded from meaningful policy conversations and development processes.



SDCI was established to bridge these *gaps* by:

- Generating credible governance and development intelligence;
- Creating platforms for stakeholder engagement and civic participation;
- Strengthening institutions through evidence-based research, policy advocacy, and capacity development; and
- Promoting sustainable development outcomes through collaboration, innovation, and accountability.



Chief Executive Officer

The strategy spans five years and is implemented through three sequential phases.

To build a future where public policy is informed by evidence, institutions are strengthened through collaboration, and development outcomes are shaped by the voices and realities of the people they serve.

Executive Overview

This strategy seeks to transform SDCI from:



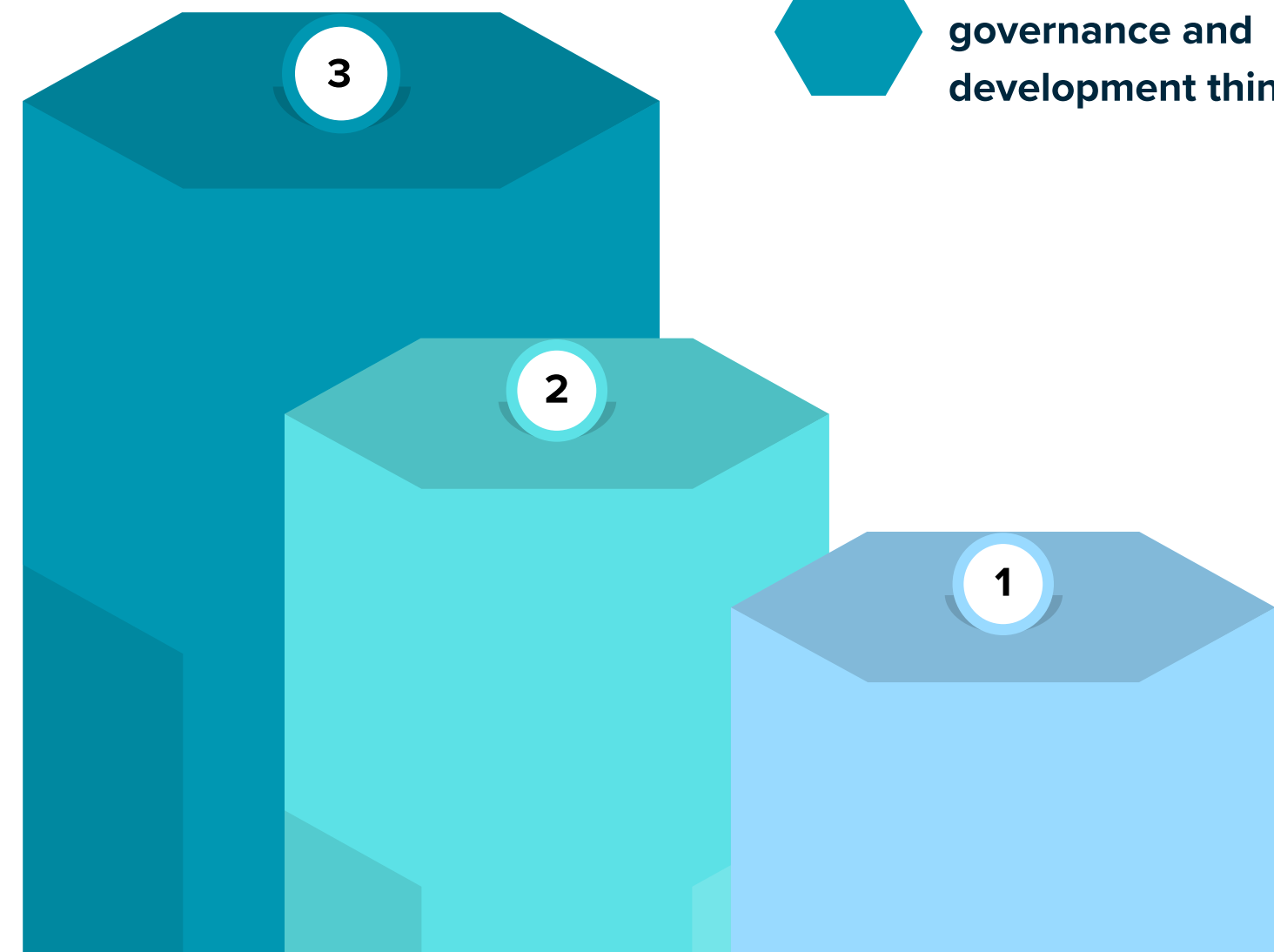
Idea Testing



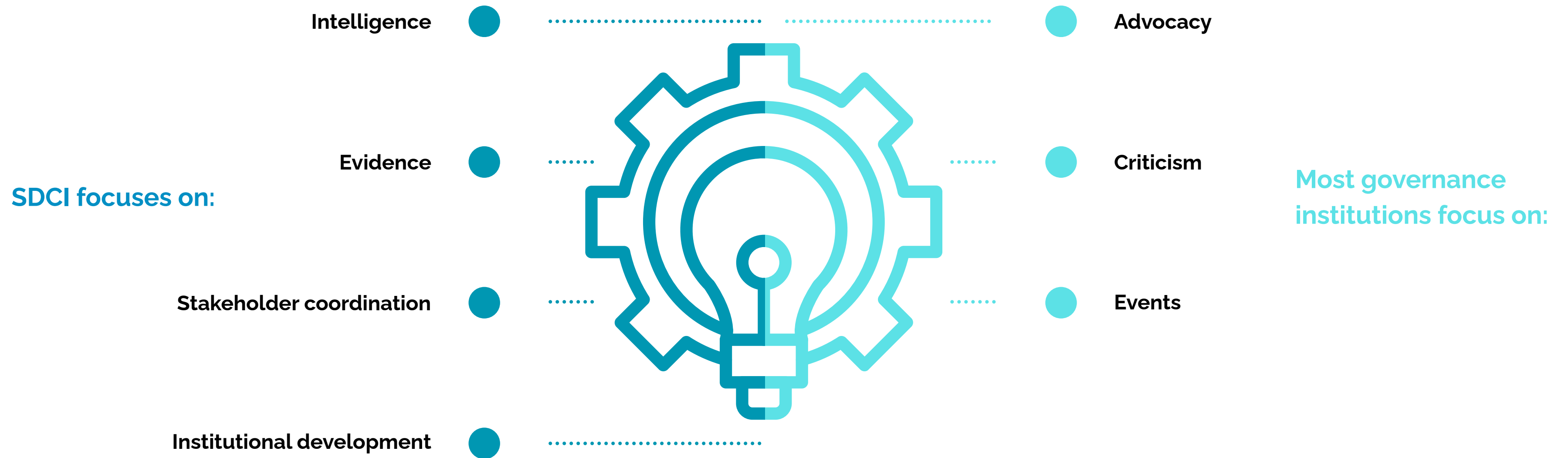
A regional policy institution



A nationally recognized governance and development think tank.



Our Theory of Change



Our belief is:

Better data + better engagement + stronger institutions = better governance outcomes.

Five-Year Destination

By 2031 SDCI intends to become:

Research Institution

Producing governance intelligence.

Convening Institution

Hosting policy conversations.

**Capacity Development
Institution**

Training future policy leaders.

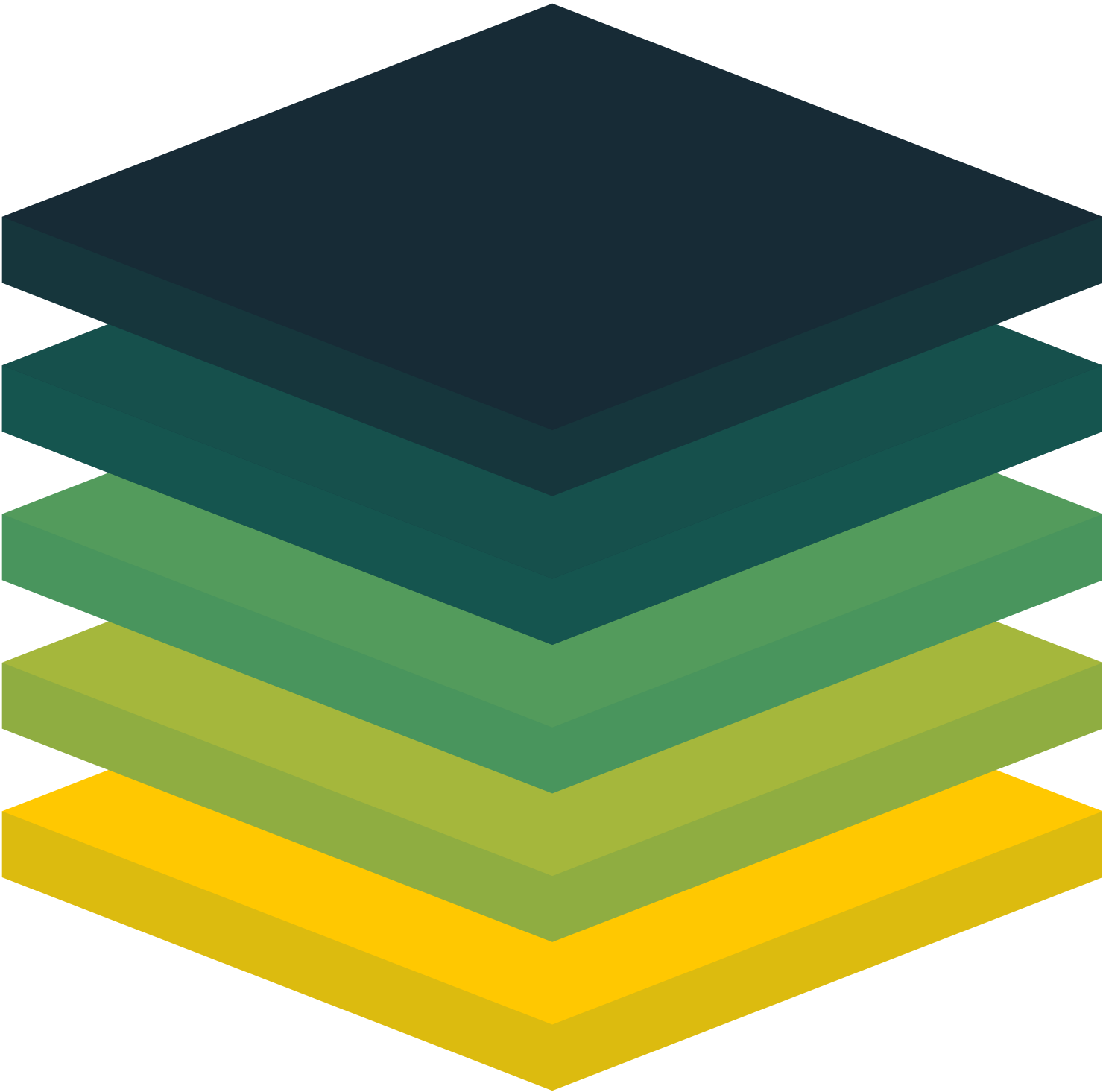
Civic Media Institution

Simplifying governance for citizens.

Trusted Partner

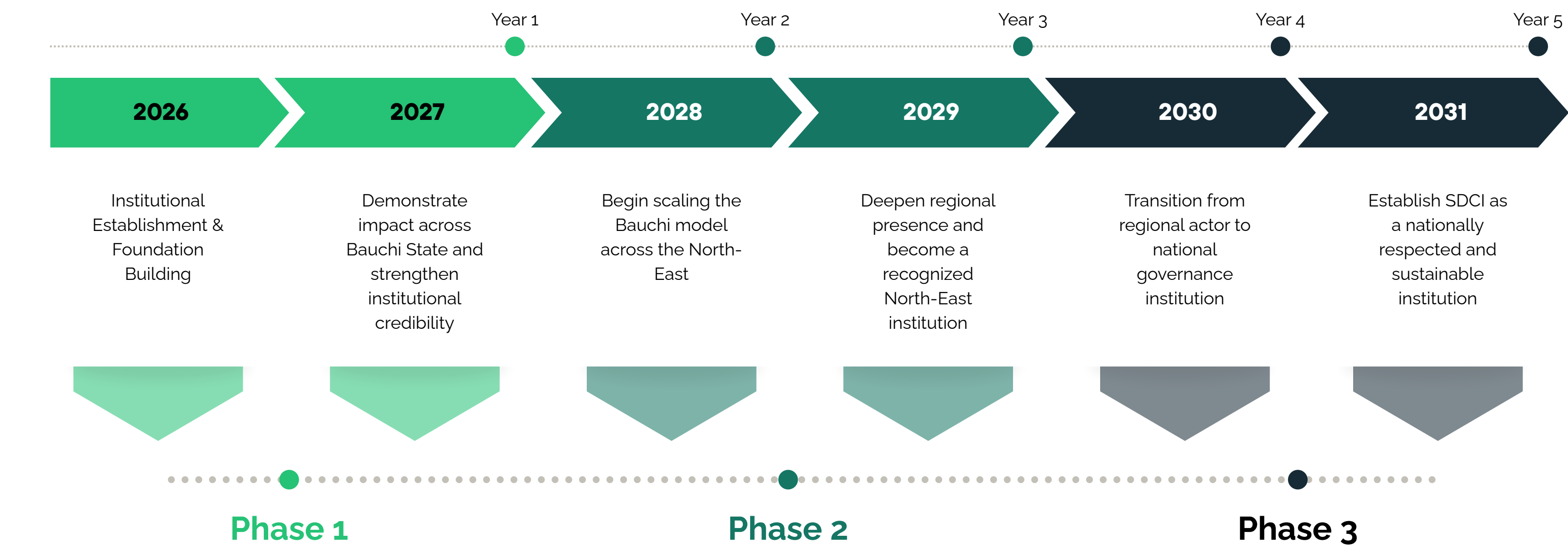
For government, development partners and
communities.

SDCI STRATEGIC PILLARS (2026–2031)

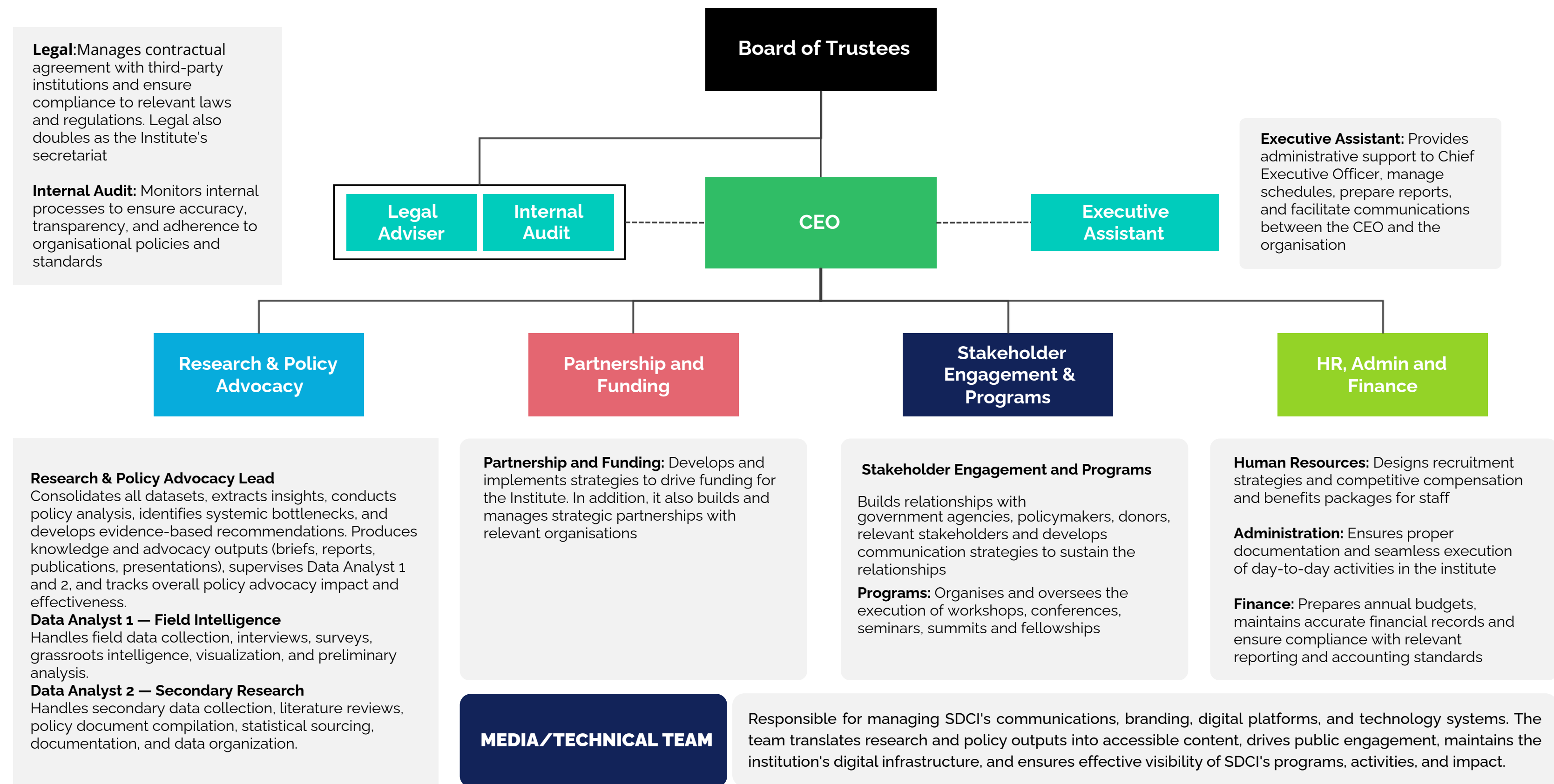


	Pillar	Core Question It Answers
01	Research & Policy Advocacy	What do we know?
02	Stakeholder Engagement & Programs	Who are we engaging?
03	Partnership & Funding	How do we sustain ourselves?
04	Media & Brand Presence	How do we influence and communicate?
05	HR, Admin & Finance	How do we operate effectively?

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE



Organizational Structure



PHASE I

BAUCHI VALIDATION LAYER

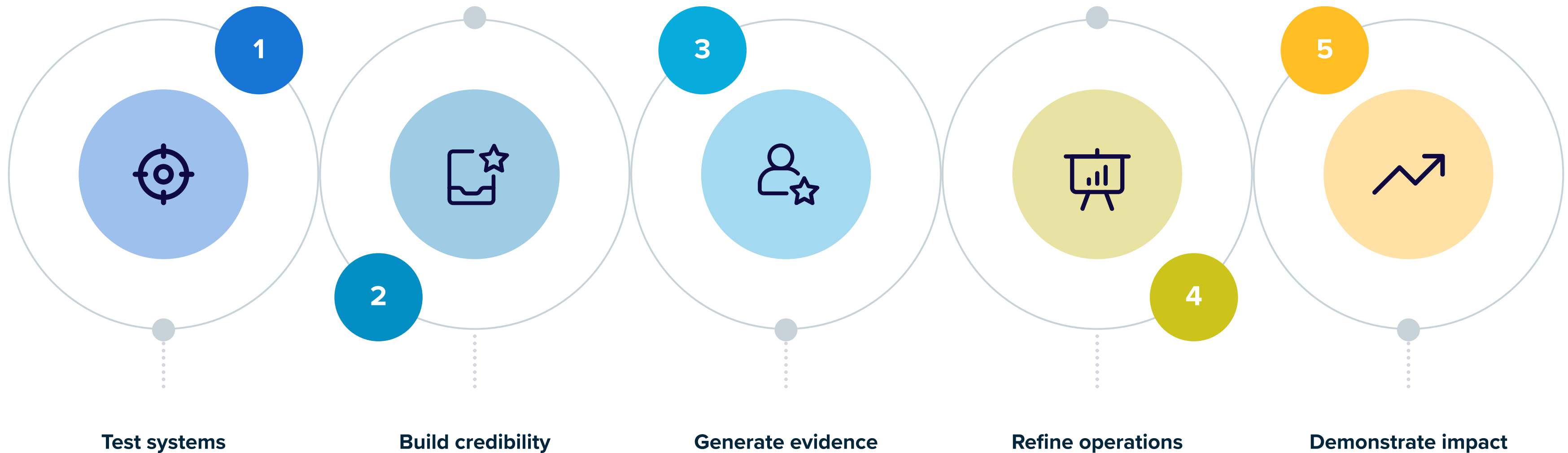
2026
2027



Why *Bauchi* First?

Every sustainable institution starts with a proof of concept.

Phase I allows SDCI to:



before expansion.

PHASE I STRATEGIC GOAL

Create the most credible governance intelligence and stakeholder engagement platform in Bauchi State.

Success means:



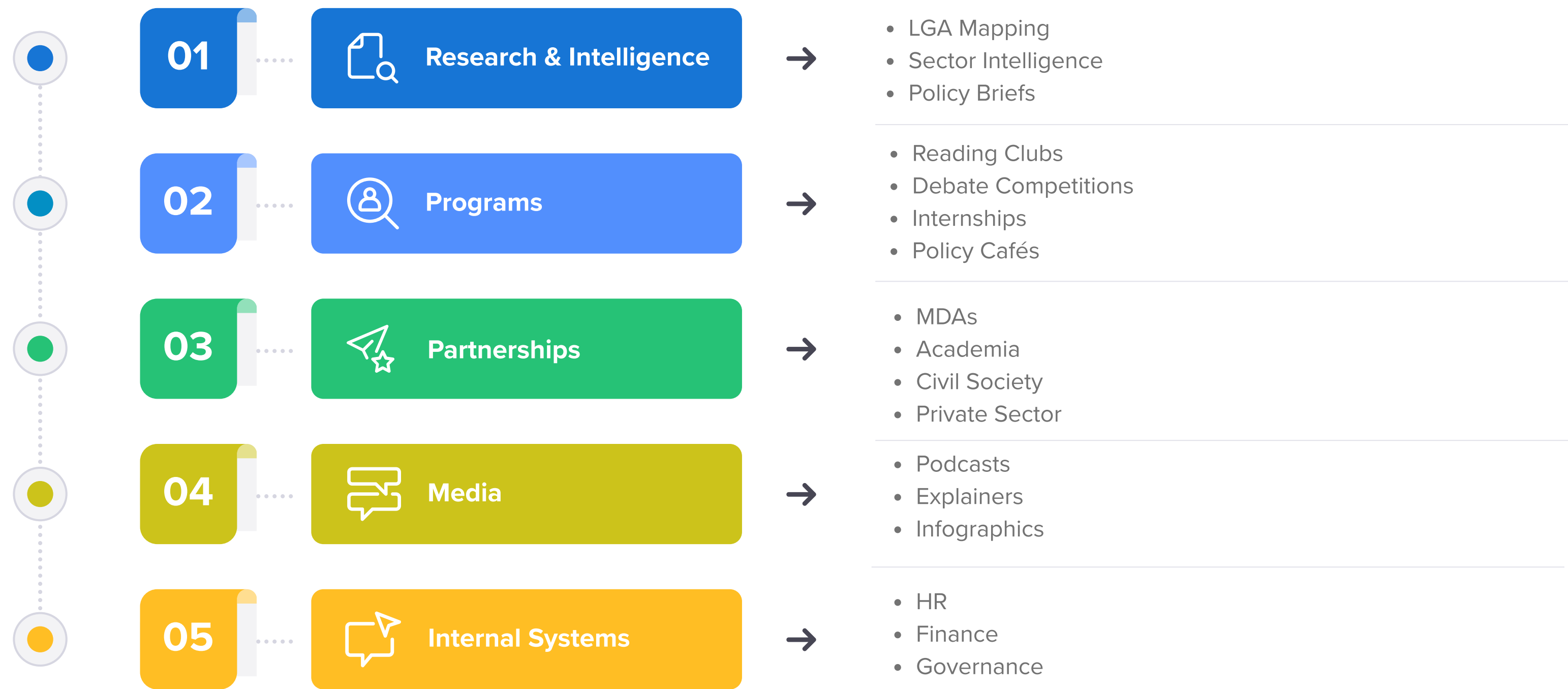
Presence in all 20 LGAs

Recognized by MDAs

**Recognized by
stakeholders**

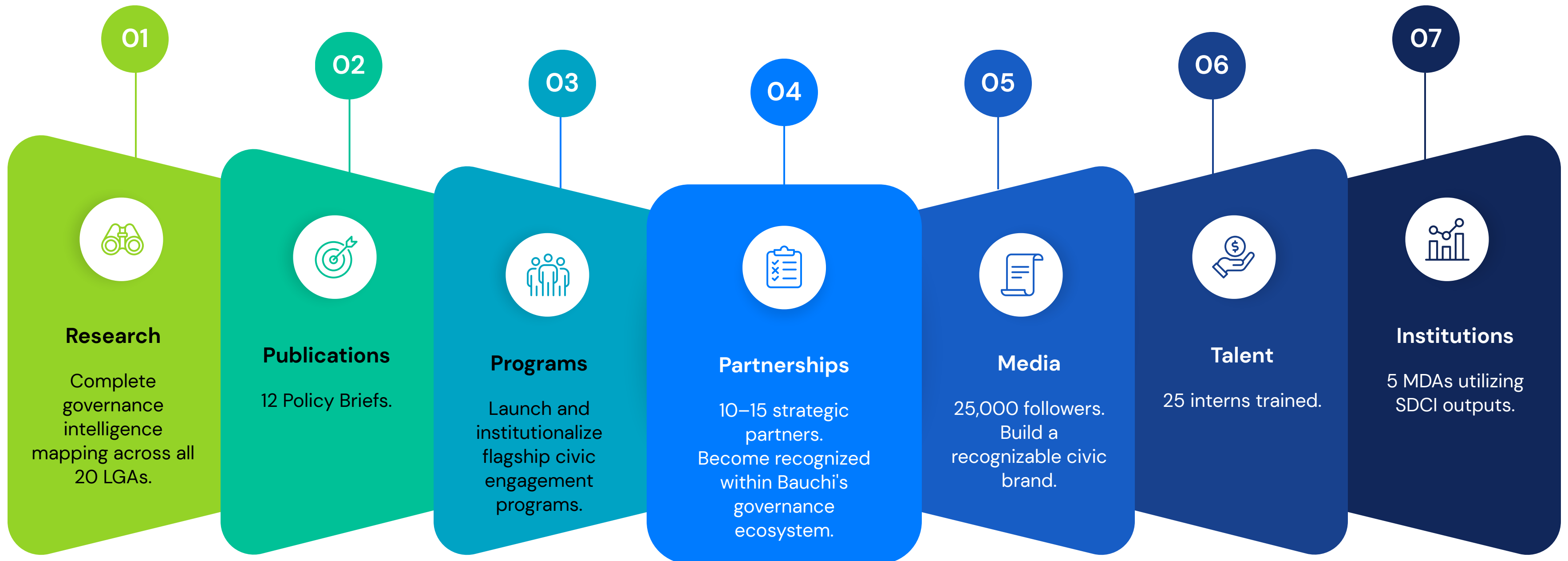
**Producing actionable
policy intelligence**

PHASE I WORKSTREAMS



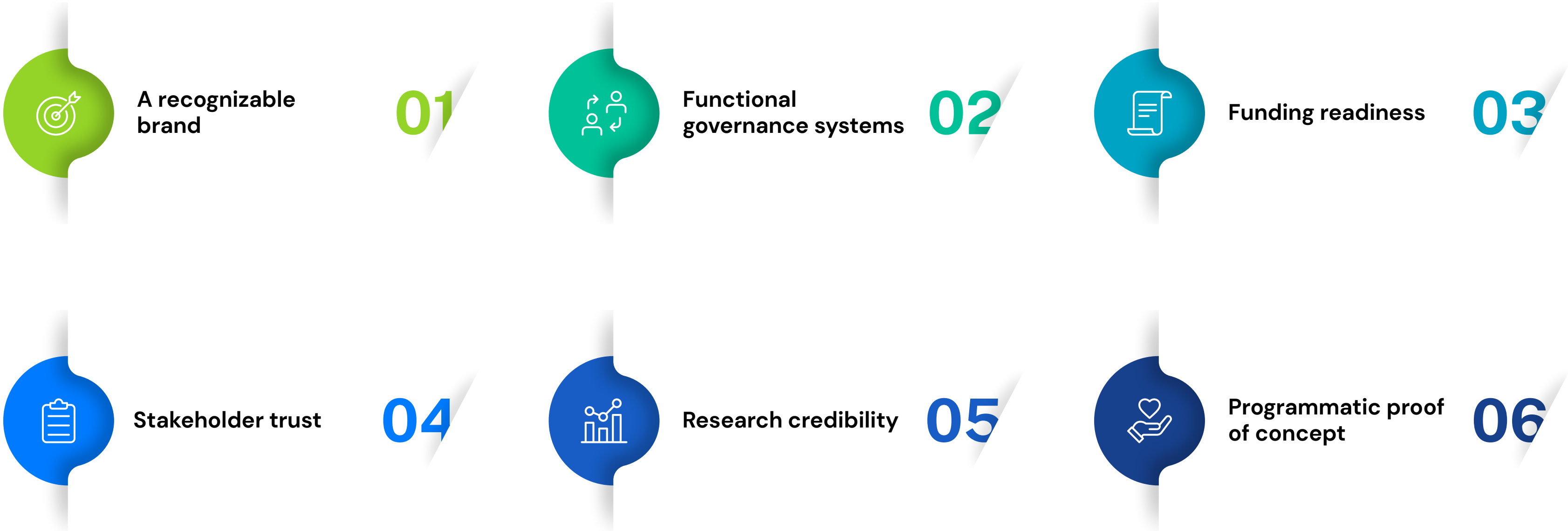
PHASE I SUCCESS INDICATORS

By December 2027:



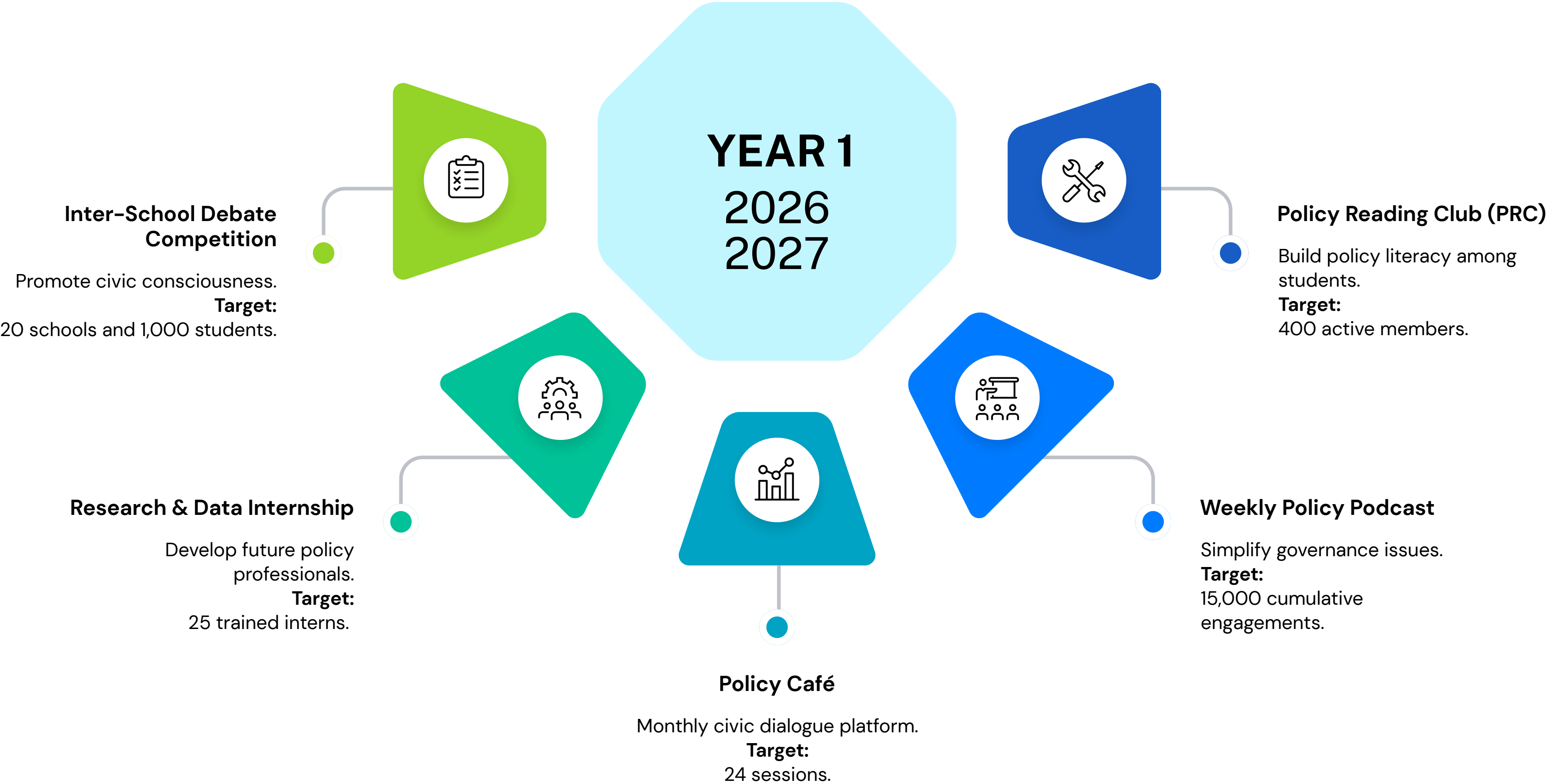
WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE AT THE END OF PHASE I

At the end of 2027 SDCI should have:



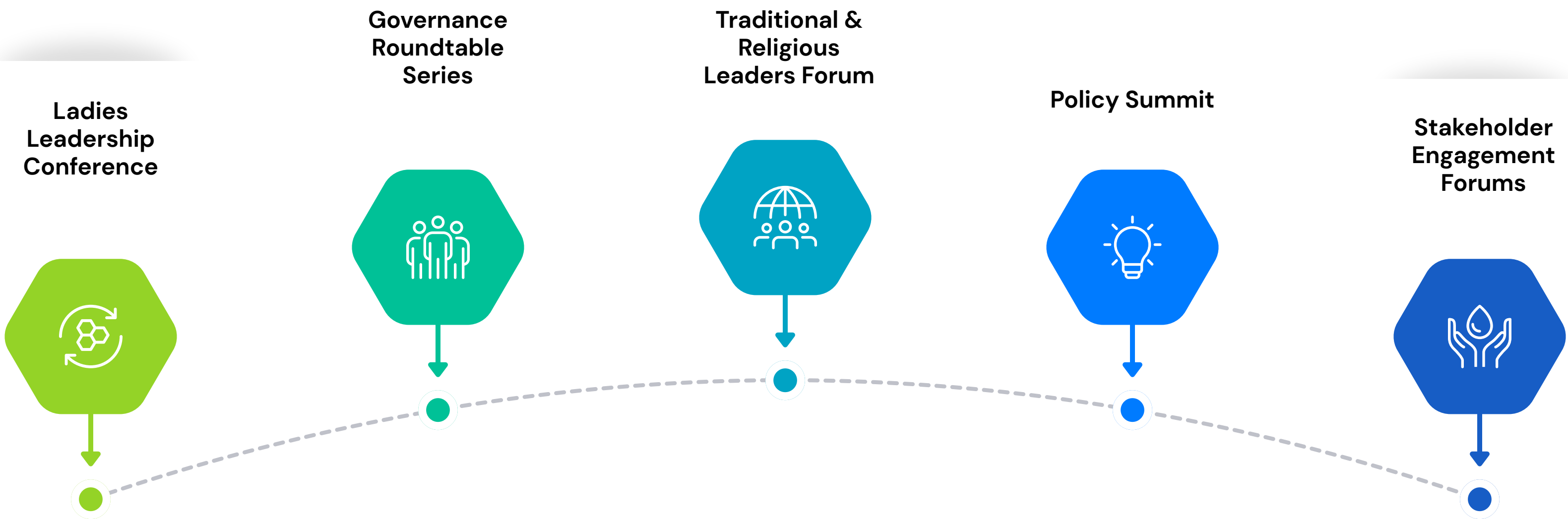
ONLY THEN DO WE EXPAND.

PHASE 1 FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS



ADDITIONAL YEAR 1 PROGRAMS

These strengthen inclusion and institutional legitimacy.



PHASE II

NORTH-EAST REPLICATION

2028
2029



What *Changes* In Phase II? →

Phase I asks:
Can the model work?

Phase II asks:
Can the model scale?

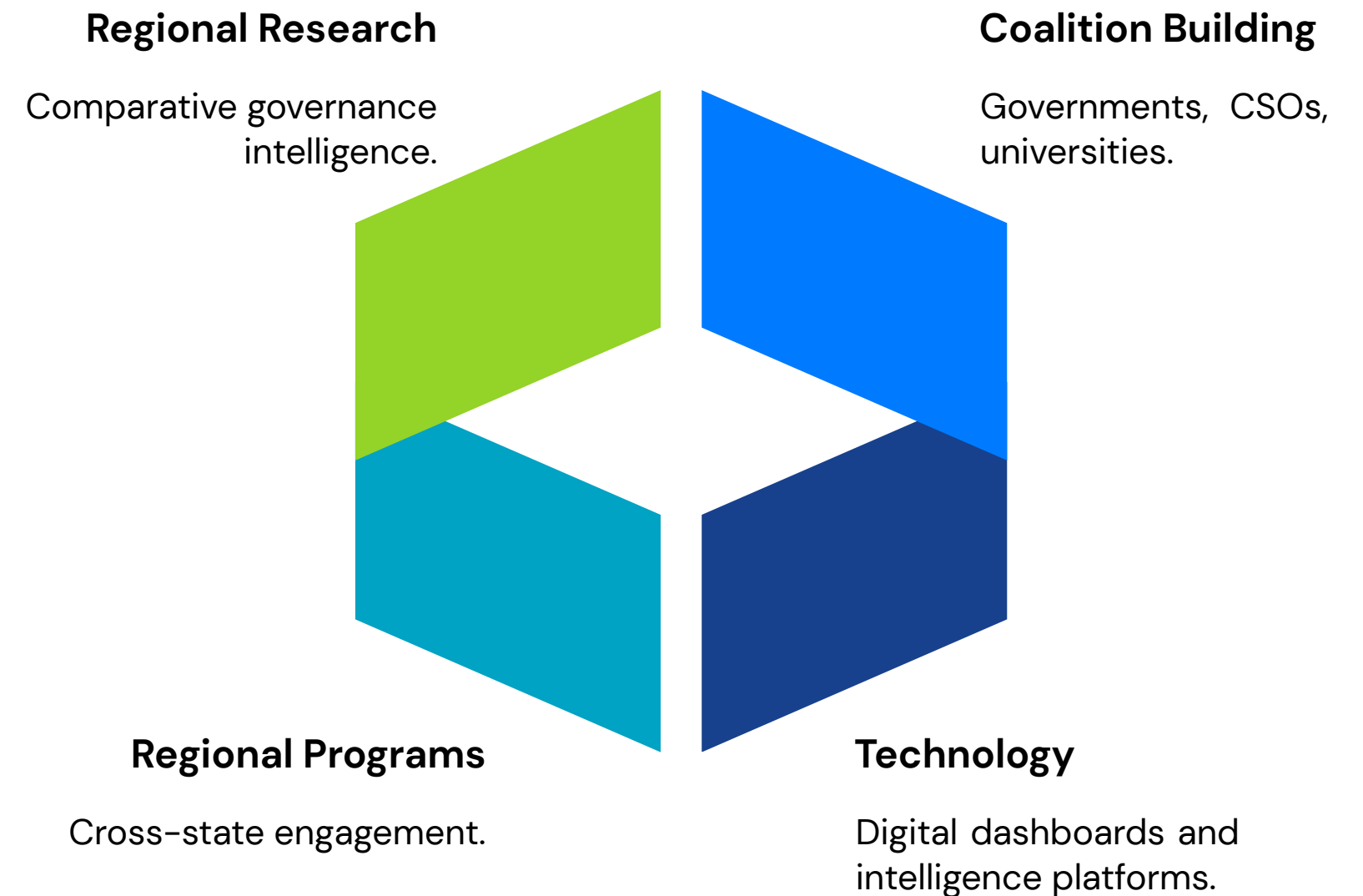
Strategic Objective

Replicate the Bauchi model across North-East Nigeria.

Target states include:

- Gombe
- Yobe
- Adamawa
- Taraba
- Borno

based on readiness and partnerships.

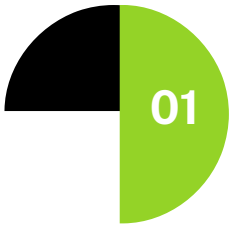


MAJOR REGIONAL INITIATIVES

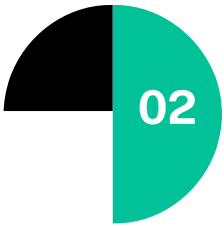
- North-East Policy Summit
- Young Leaders Fellowship
- Regional Debate Championship
- Regional Research Internship
- Governance Performance Index
- Civic Participation Index
- Development Conversation Network

What Success Looks Like At
The End Of Phase II

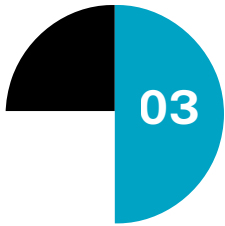
SDCI becomes:



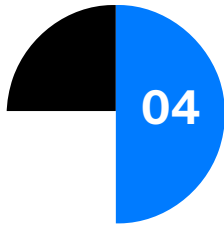
A recognized
North-East
institution.



A regional
convening
platform.



A trusted
governance
intelligence
partner.



A major
stakeholder
within
development
ecosystems.

Success Area	2029 Target
Geographic Coverage	Active SDCI presence and operations established in at least 3 North-East States, with a functioning regional coordination structure.
Stakeholder Network	A verified database of 1,500+ governance, development, academic, media, and civil society actors across the region.
Research & Publications	Publication of at least 10 Regional Governance and Development Intelligence Reports informing policy discussions and decision-making.
Digital Infrastructure	Deployment of a fully functional North-East Governance Intelligence Platform and Regional Dashboard for data collection, analysis, and dissemination.
Strategic Partnerships	Establishment of 20+ active strategic partnerships with governments, universities, CSOs, donor agencies, media institutions, and development organizations.
Funding & Sustainability	Development of a stable regional donor and sponsorship pipeline capable of supporting multi-state operations and programme expansion.
Policy Influence	SDCI intelligence products referenced or utilized by at least 3 State Governments in planning, policy review, or development programming.
Regional Visibility	Recognition of SDCI as a leading North-East governance and policy dialogue platform, convening key stakeholders across the region.
Institutional Capacity	A trained multi-state workforce with 100% regional staff trained in governance intelligence, stakeholder engagement, and evidence-based research methodologies.
Regional Convening Power	Successful institutionalization of flagship regional platforms including the North-East Policy Summit, Governance Roundtables, and Development Conversation Network (NDCN).

PHASE III

NATIONAL SCALE

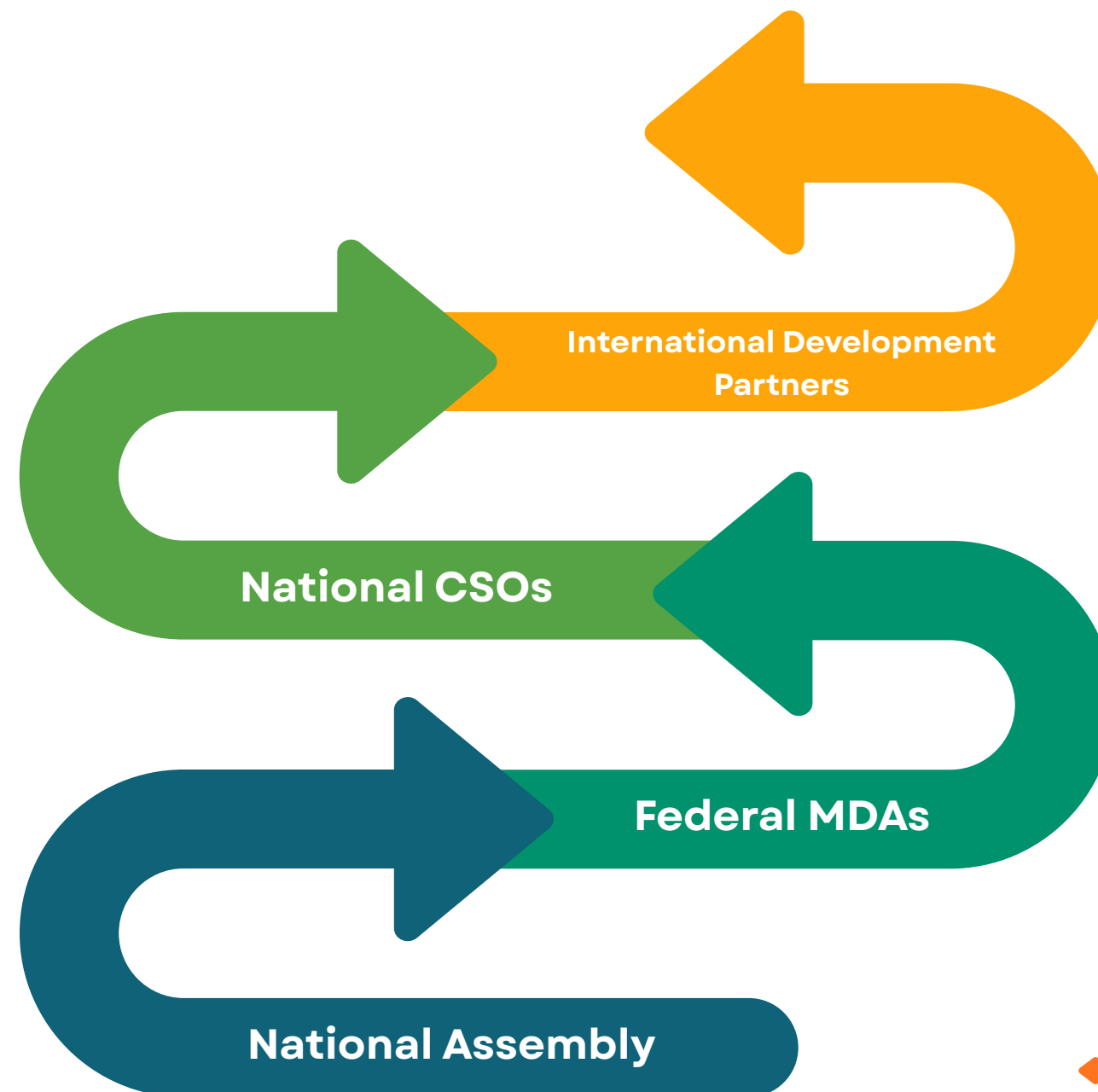
2030
2031



What *Changes* In Phase III? →

Strategic Objective

Position SDCI as a nationally respected governance and development institution.



**FOCUS SHIFTS FROM
STATE GOVERNMENTS
TO *FEDERAL*
INSTITUTIONS**

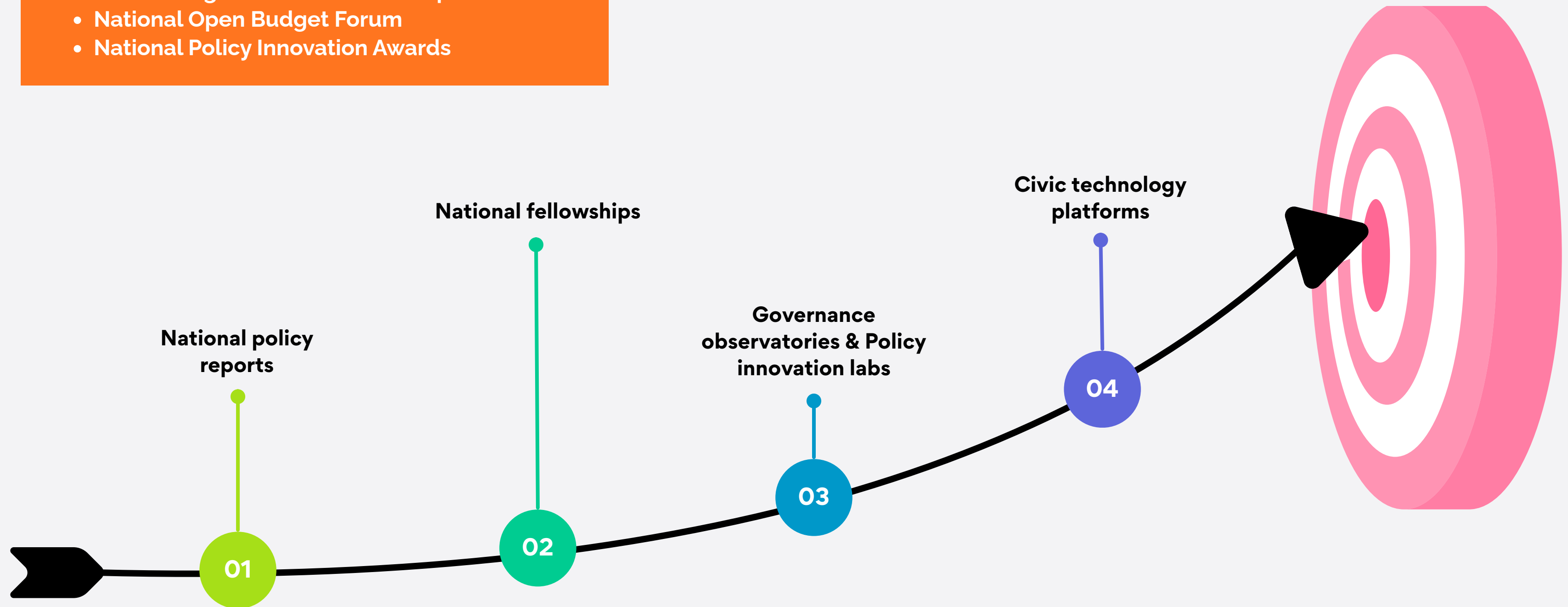
NATIONAL FLAGSHIP INITIATIVES

- Nigeria Policy Summit
- National Governance Observatory
- National Policy Labs
- State of Nigerian Governance Report
- National Open Budget Forum
- National Policy Innovation Awards

What Success Looks Like At The End Of Phase III

SDCI becomes:

Nigeria's Governance Intelligence Platform



PHASE III SUCCESS INDICATORS

By 2031:

01

National Reach

All six geopolitical zones.



02

Federal Influence

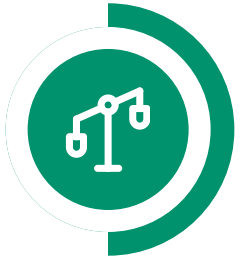
5 federal policy integrations.



03

International Partnerships

10+ collaborations.



04

Technology

National civic intelligence platform.



05

Trust

85% institutional credibility rating.



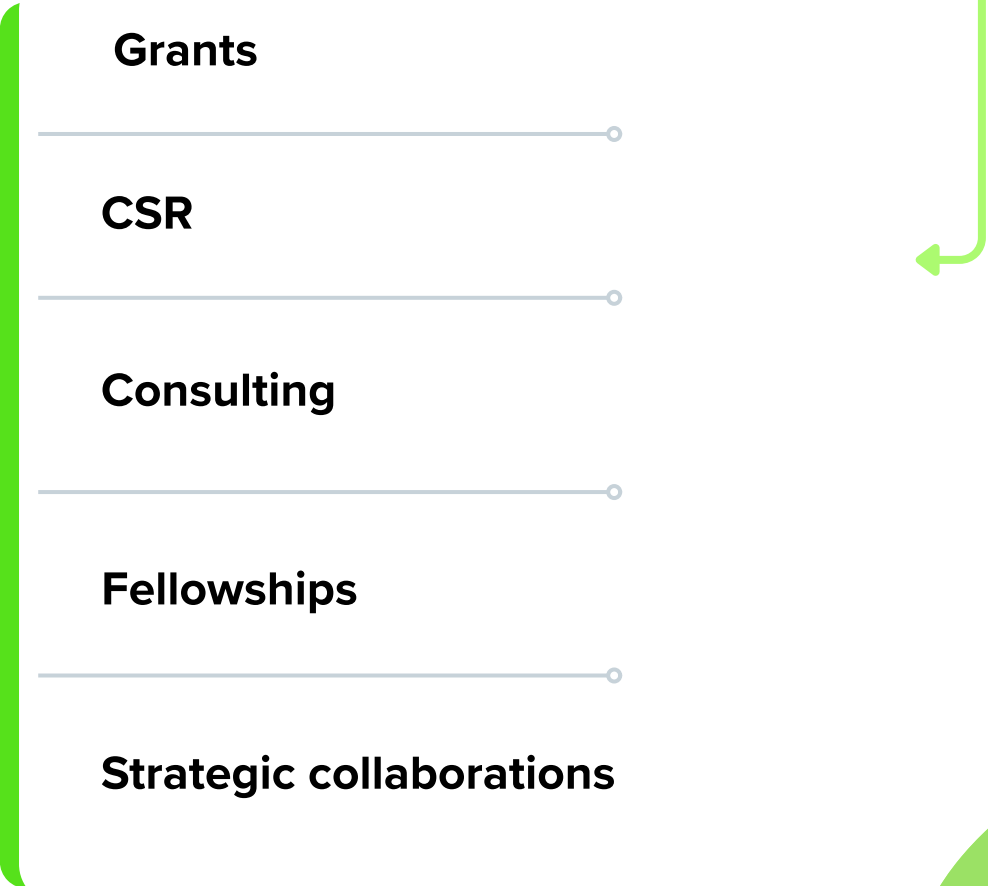
06

Sustainability

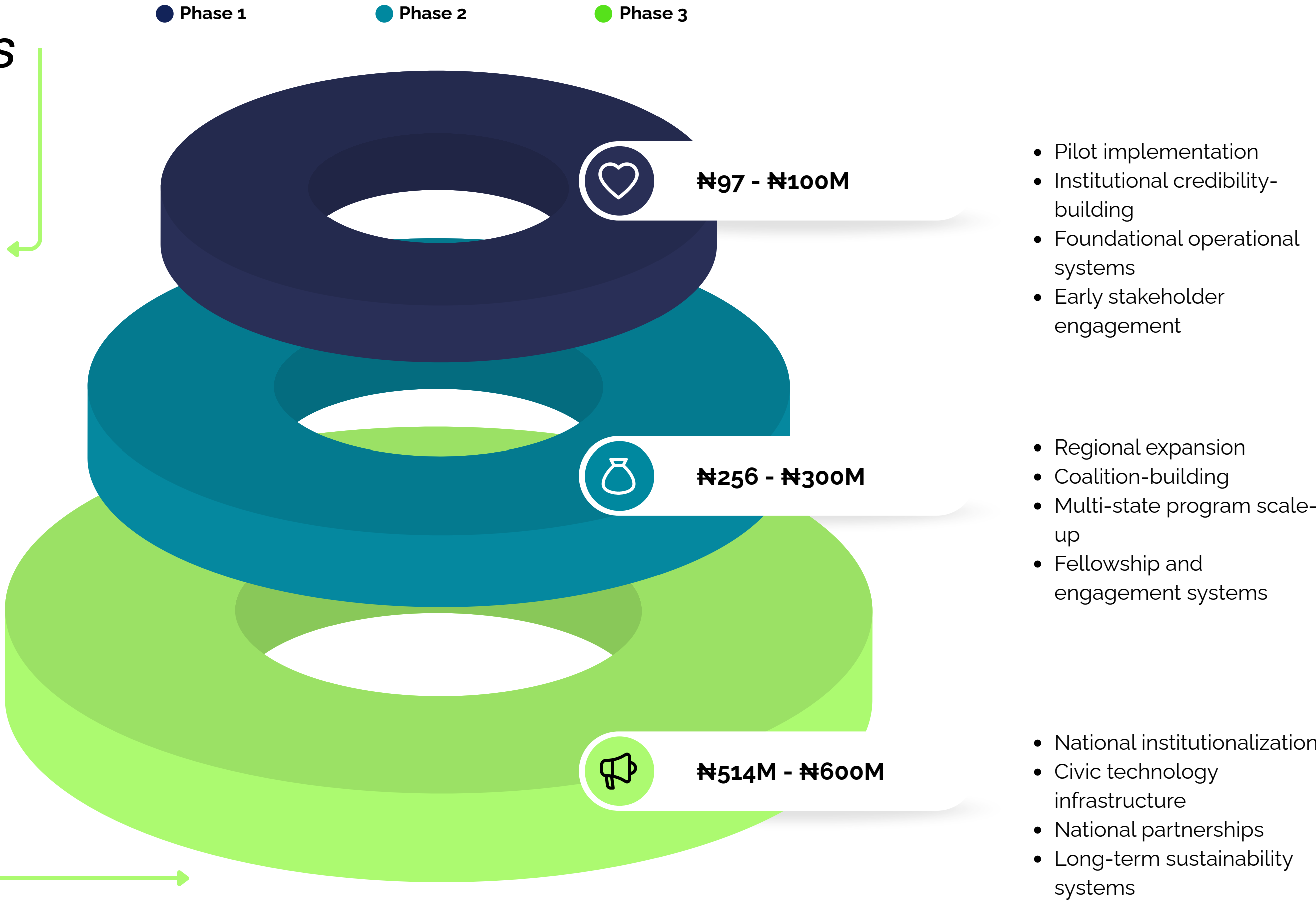
70% of programs supported through long-term partnerships.



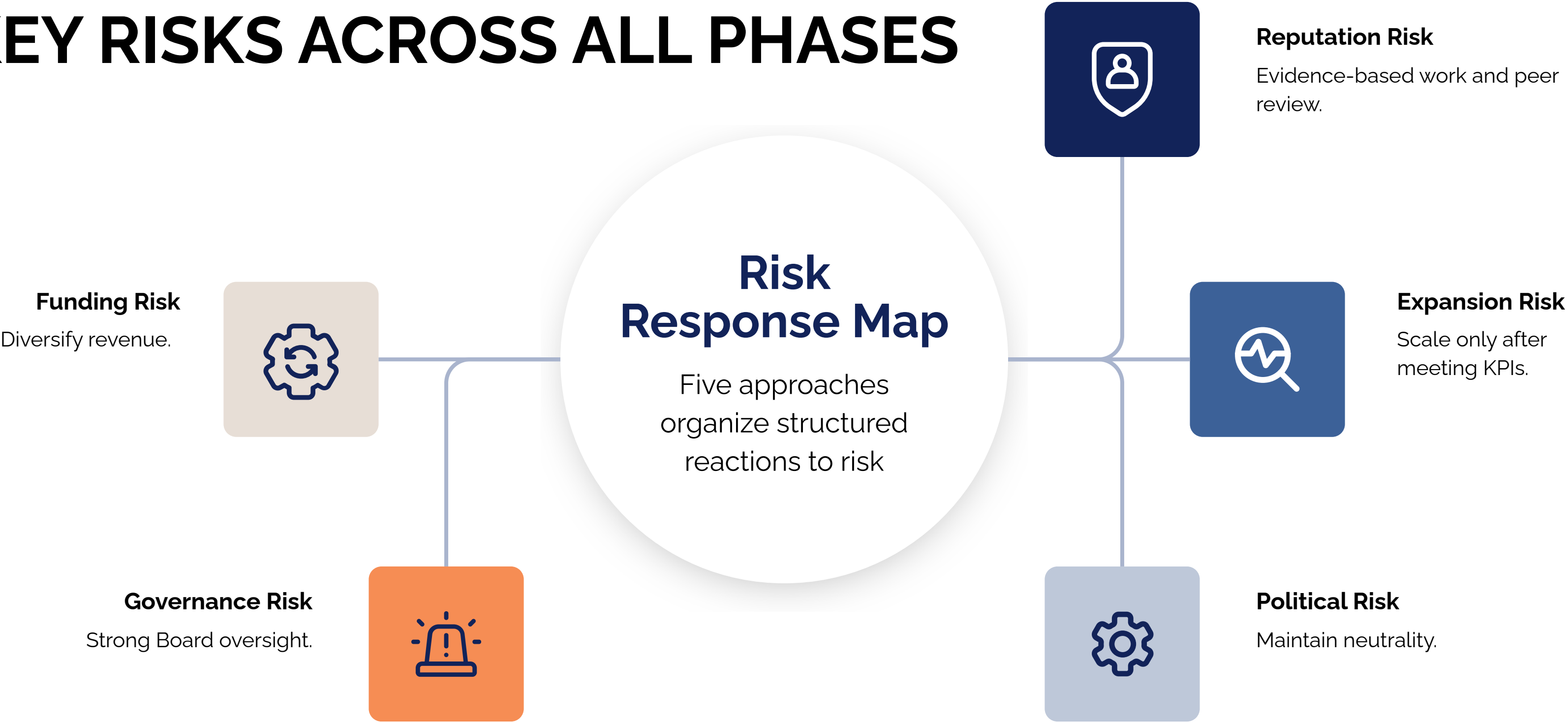
Funding Sources



Funding Evolution



KEY RISKS ACROSS ALL PHASES



01

Adoption of the Strategic Blueprint

Approve the **SDCI Five-Year Strategic Blueprint (2026–2031)** as the institution's guiding strategic framework for growth, governance, and impact.

02

Approval of Phase I Implementation

Approve the commencement of Phase I (2026–2027): Bauchi State Validation & Institutional Foundation, including all approved activities, programs, and operational priorities.

03

Approval of Strategic Pillars

Approve the implementation of the institution's Five Strategic Pillars as the core framework for achieving SDCI's vision and mission.

04

Approval of Organizational Structure

Approve the proposed governance and management structure, including reporting lines, departmental responsibilities, and institutional oversight mechanisms.

05

Approval of Program Portfolio

Approve the Year One flagship programs and stakeholder engagement initiatives as outlined in the strategy document.

06

Approval of Funding & Partnership Strategy

Approve the institutional resource mobilization framework, including grants, sponsorships, strategic partnerships, consulting services, and other approved funding mechanisms.

07

Approval of Governance, Compliance & Accountability Frameworks

Approve the development and adoption of all supporting institutional frameworks, policies, and systems required.

08

Authorization for Implementation

Authorize Management to commence implementation of the approved strategy and undertake all necessary administrative, operational, partnership, and fundraising activities required to achieve the objectives of Phase I.

Resolutions Sought

Closing Remarks

”

I respectfully submit this strategy for your consideration, your guidance, your improvement, and ultimately your approval.

Thank you for your time, your trust, and your commitment to the future we are all trying to build together.

I welcome your observations, recommendations, and questions.

Chief Executive Officer

Sulaiman Fenty



A photograph of a modern, two-story building with a flat roof and large glass windows. The building has a balcony with a glass railing. The text "Thank you" is overlaid in a large, white, cursive font. The background shows a parking lot with a car and some trees.

Thank
you

SDCI