Smart specialisation : the concept

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Pr. Dominique Foray

Chair Economics of Innovation

College of Management

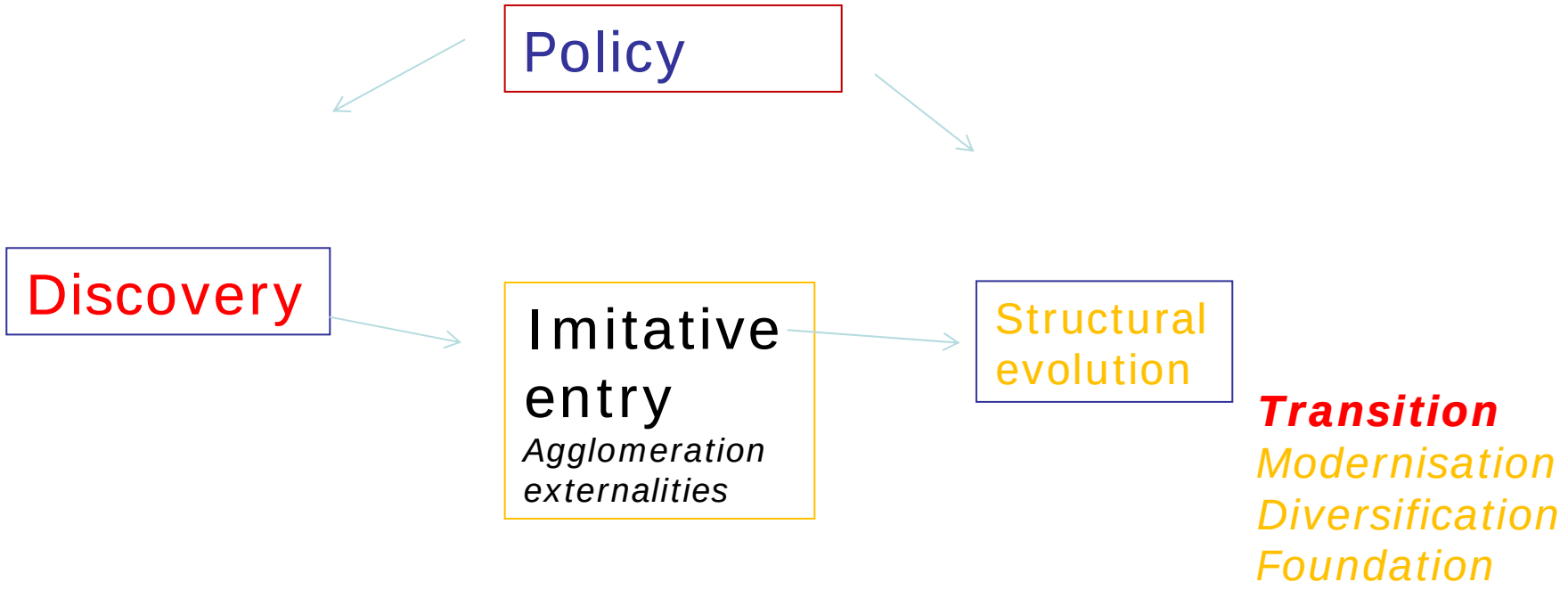
Lunettes Léon Jeantet
LES FILS D'AIMÉ LAMY A MOREZ DU JURA
FABRIQUE DE LUNETTERIE EN TOUS GENRES
Spécialité d'articles soignés pour opticiens

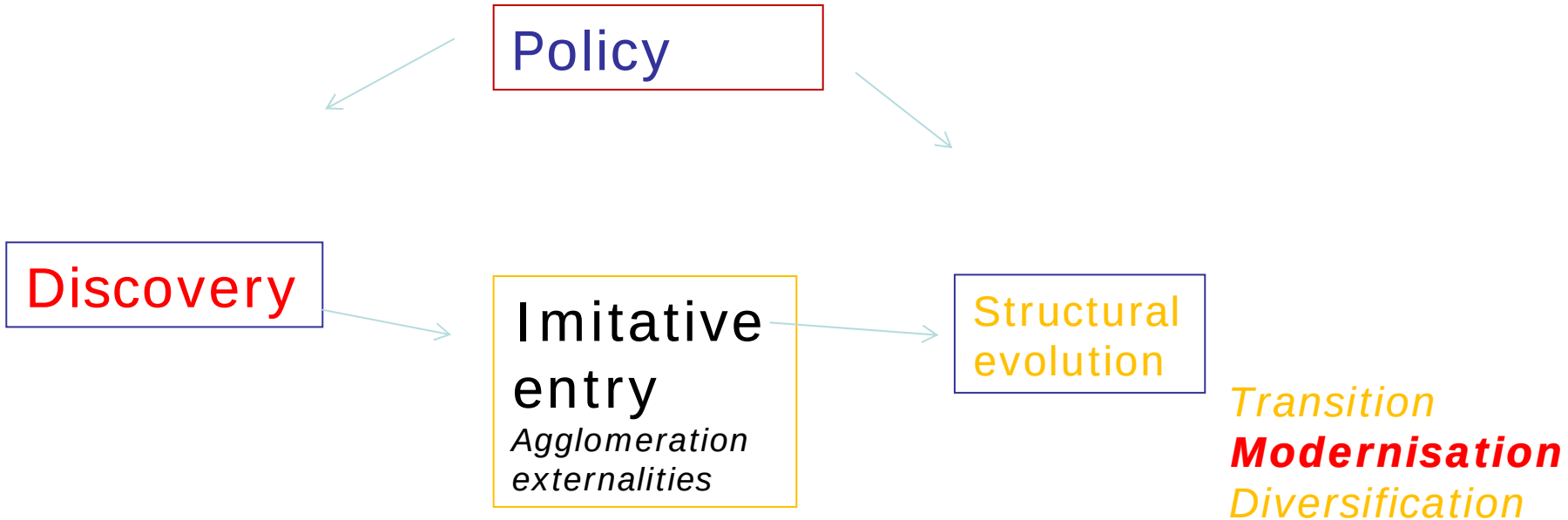
Entrepreneurial discovery

Imitative entry

Policy

Structural evolution


Policy
Discovery
Imitative entry
Agglomeration externalities
Structural evolution
Transition
Modernisation
Diversification
Foundation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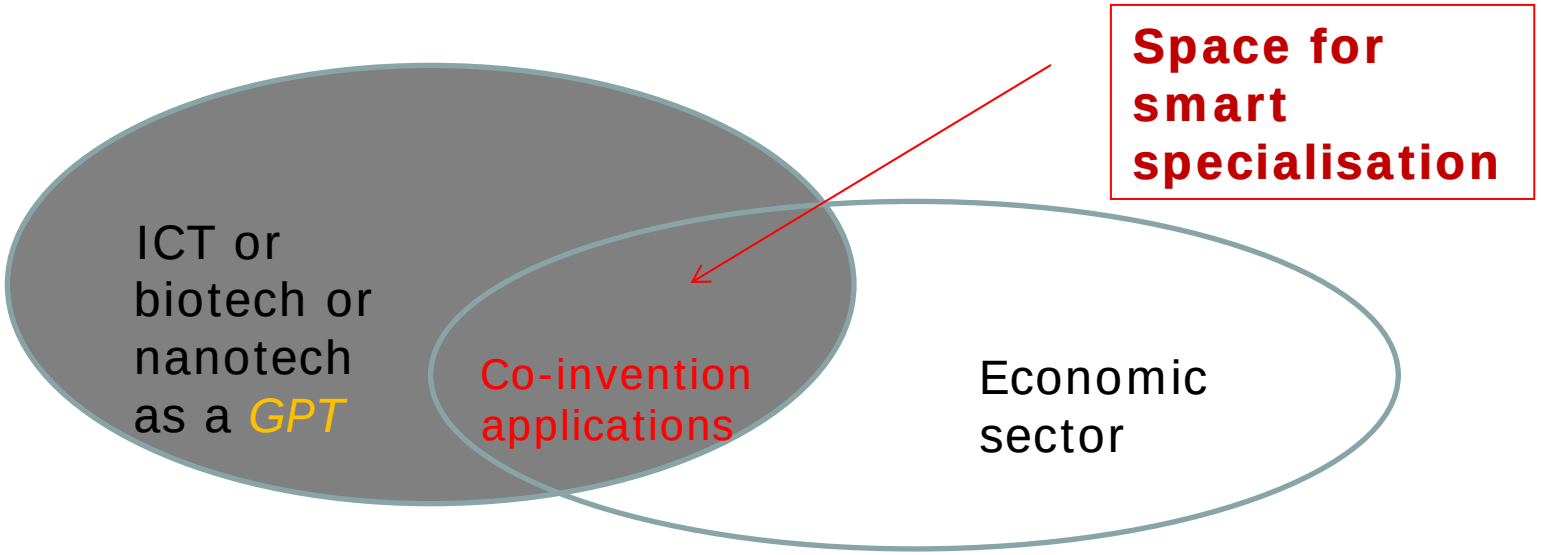
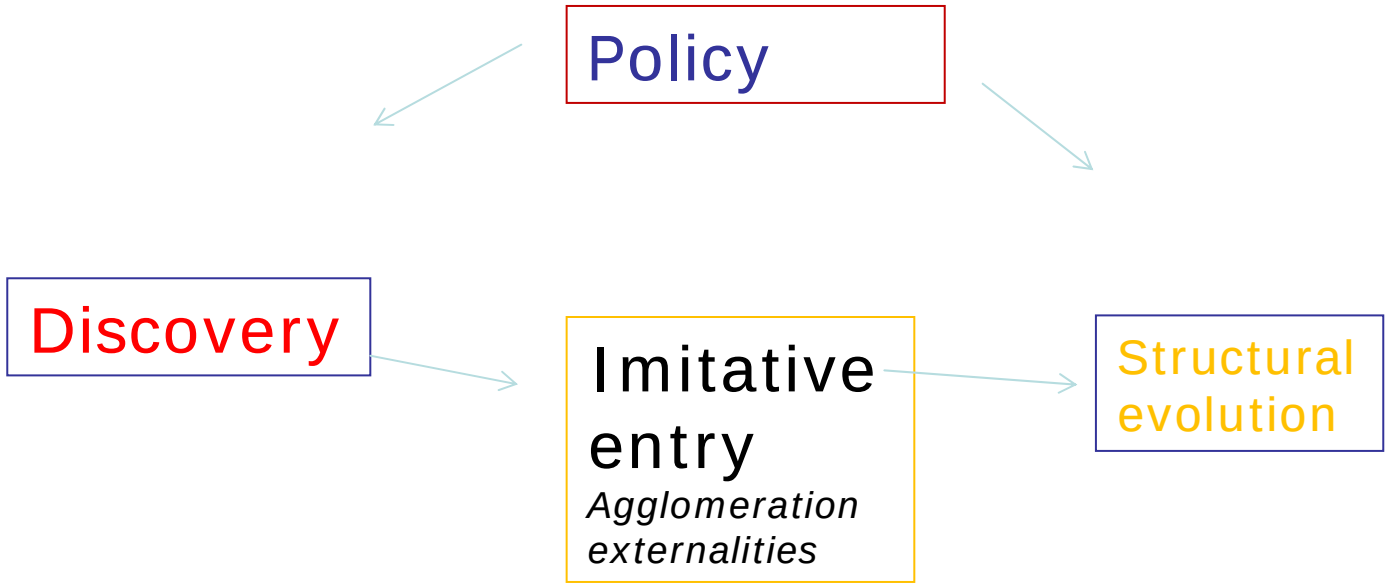


Modernisation (re-tooling)

Smart specialisation implies rejecting the principle of a sharp division of labour between knowledge producers and knowledge users



What are the structural conditions and policies which will increase the likelihood of such event?

Inside the policy process

- A simple idea…
- ..but a very complex process in practice
  - Discovering the right domains
  - Fixing coordination failures
- Discovering the right domains is by no means trivial
- The role of entrepreneurial discovery

The centrality of entrepreneurial discovery

At the regional government, we search and select our smart specialisations

I know it's here somewhere: the area of copyright law has generated the most public attention and much cutting-edge litigation Corbis

At the regional government, we search and select our smart specialisations

NO !

I know it's here somewhere: the area of copyright law has generated the most public attention and much cutting-edge litigation Corbis

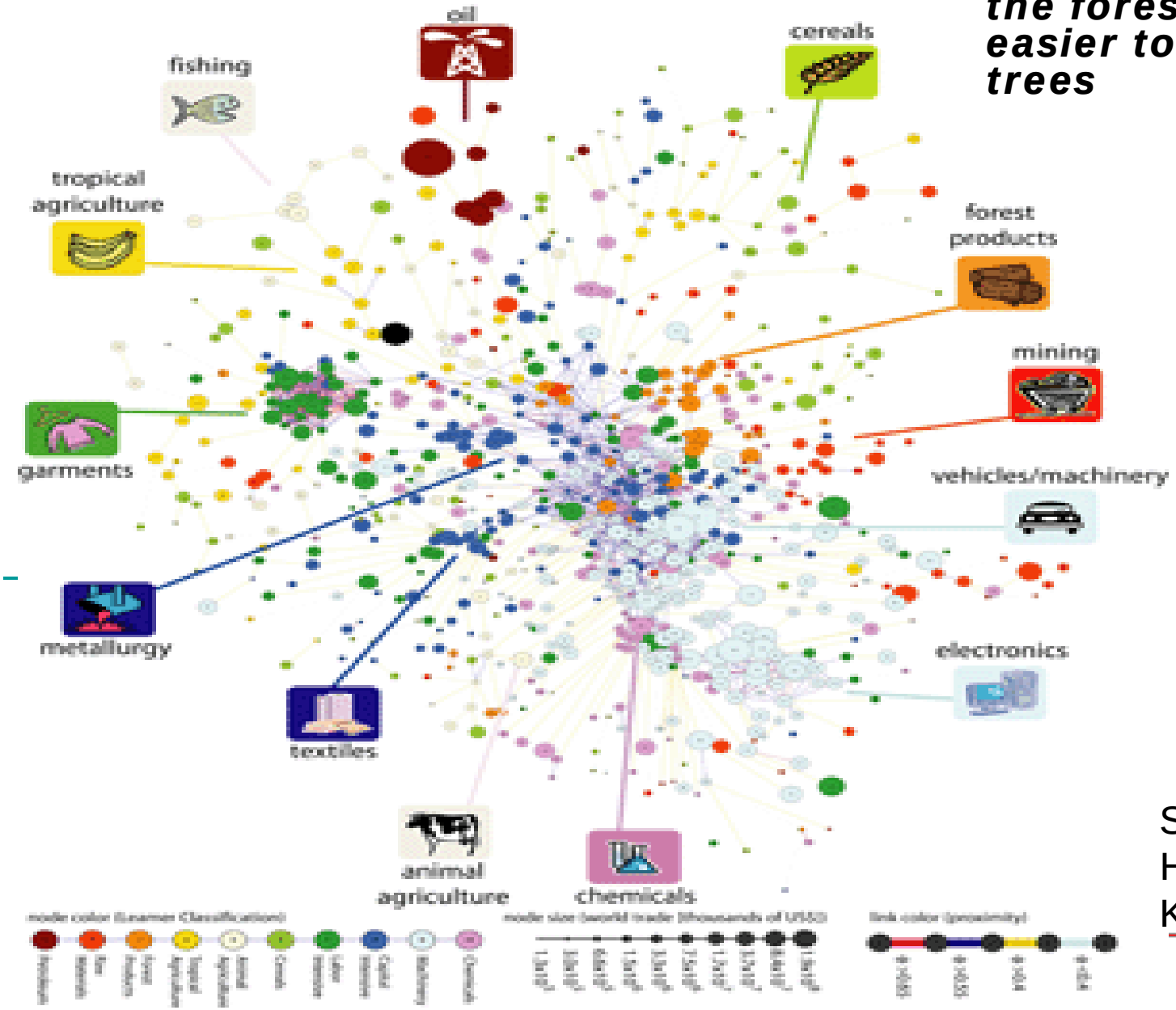
Inside the policy process

- However such emphasis on entreneurial discovery should not result in narrowing the scope of policy intervention
- What is top down, what is bottom up?

Inside the policy process

- Creating structural conditions for having enough experiments and discoveries
- Observing and assessing the emerging specialisations (potential of innovation, size of the sector, connectedness -see next slide); and constructing and sharing a strategic vision

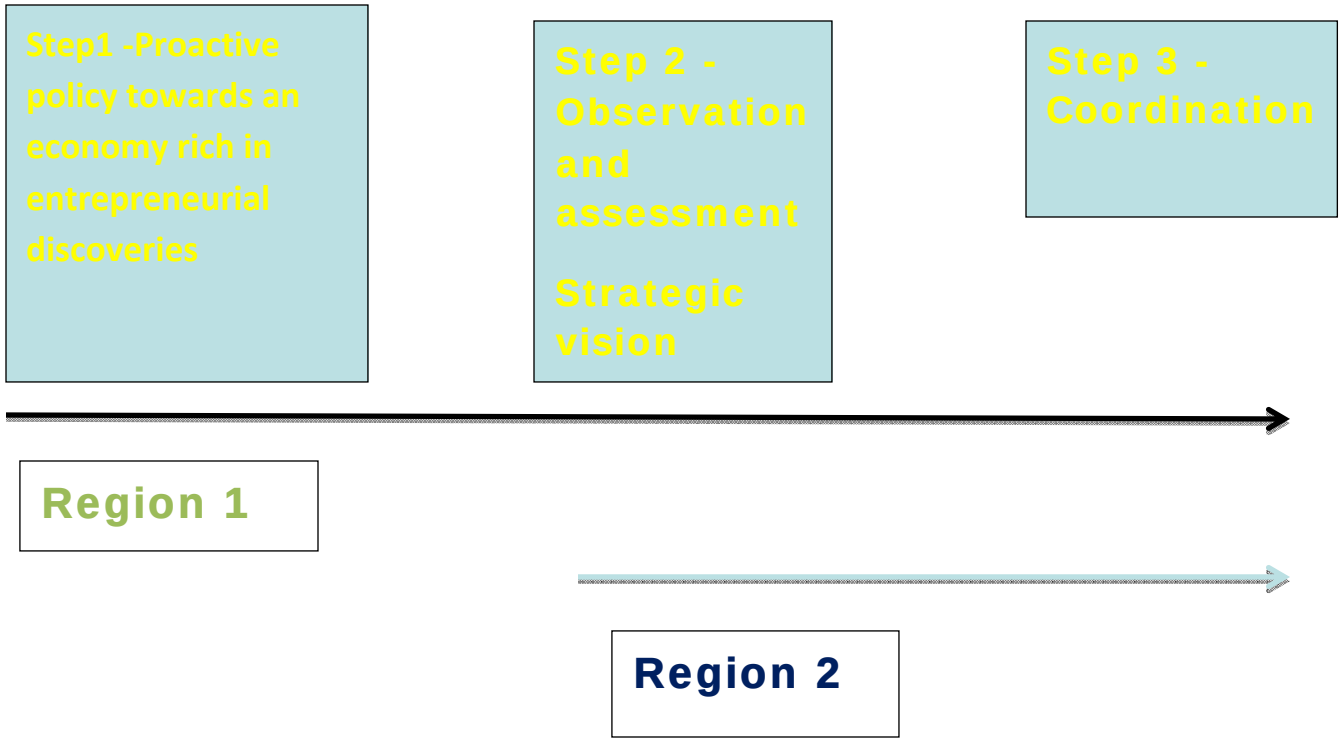
Occupy the rich parts of the forest where it is easier to jump to other trees



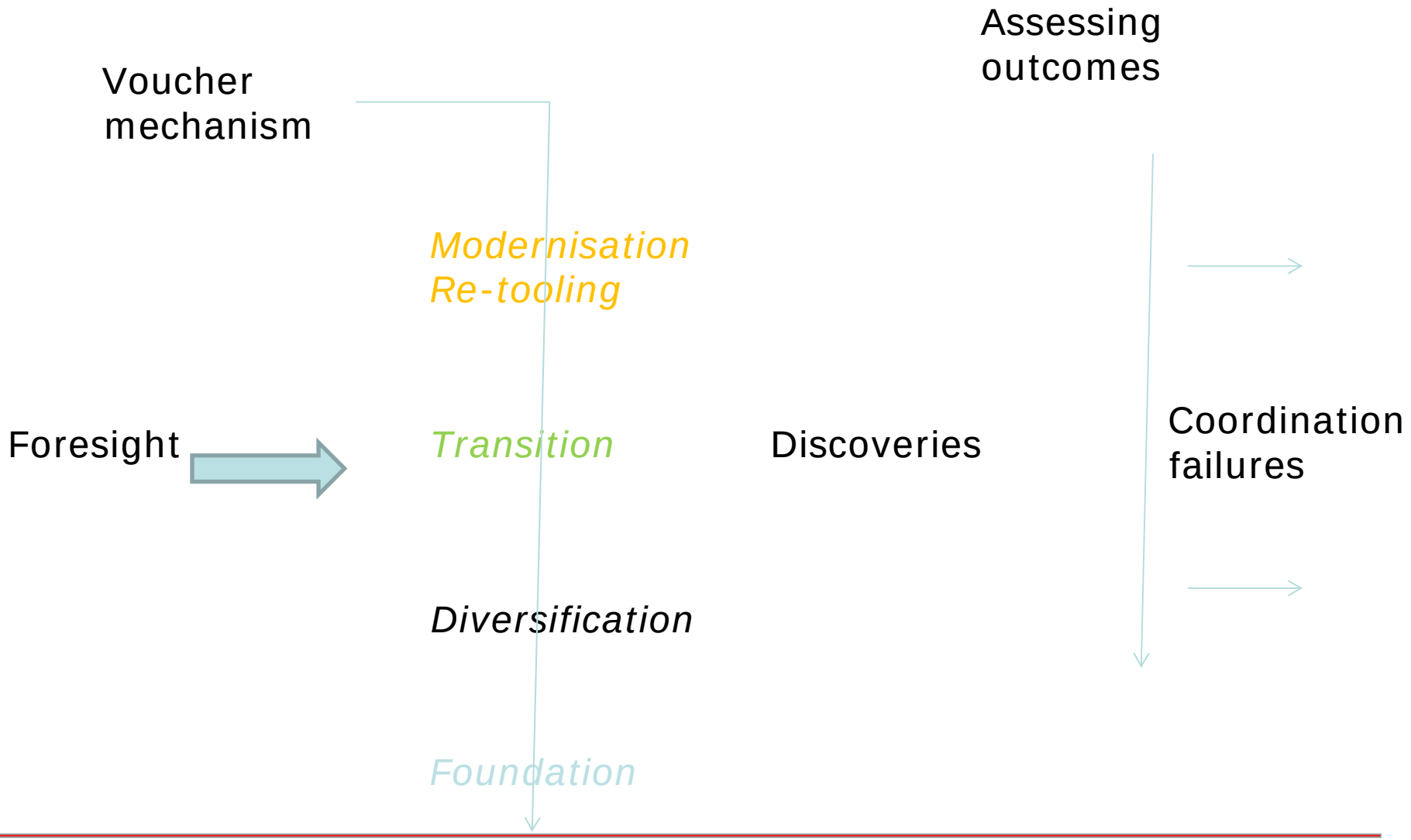
Source: Hausman and Klinger, 2007

Inside the policy process

- Creating structural conditions for having enough experiments and discoveries
- Observing and assessing outcomes; strategic vision
- Fixing coordination failures



Not all regions need to go through the three steps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Voucher mechanism
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Re-tooling
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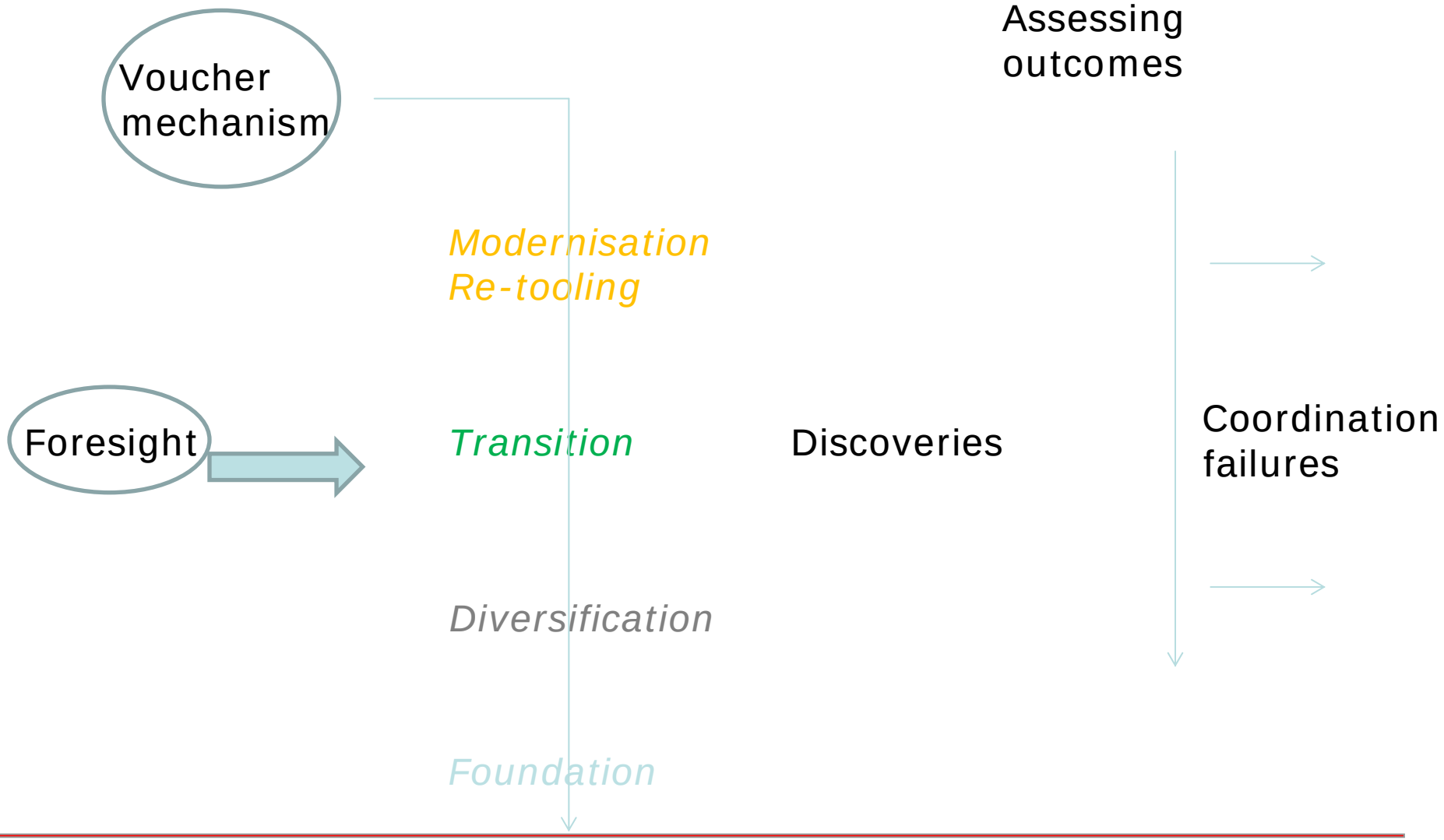
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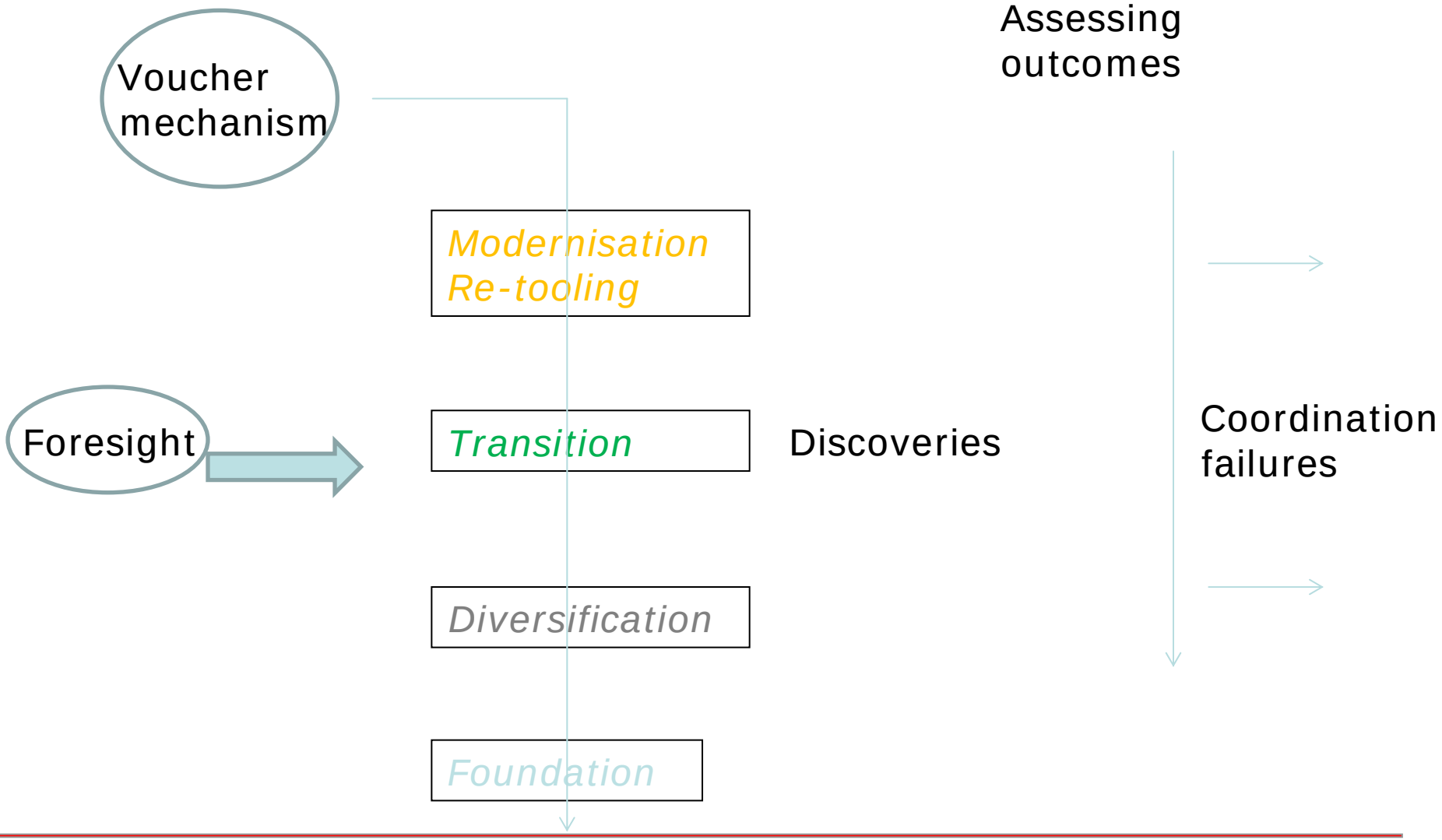
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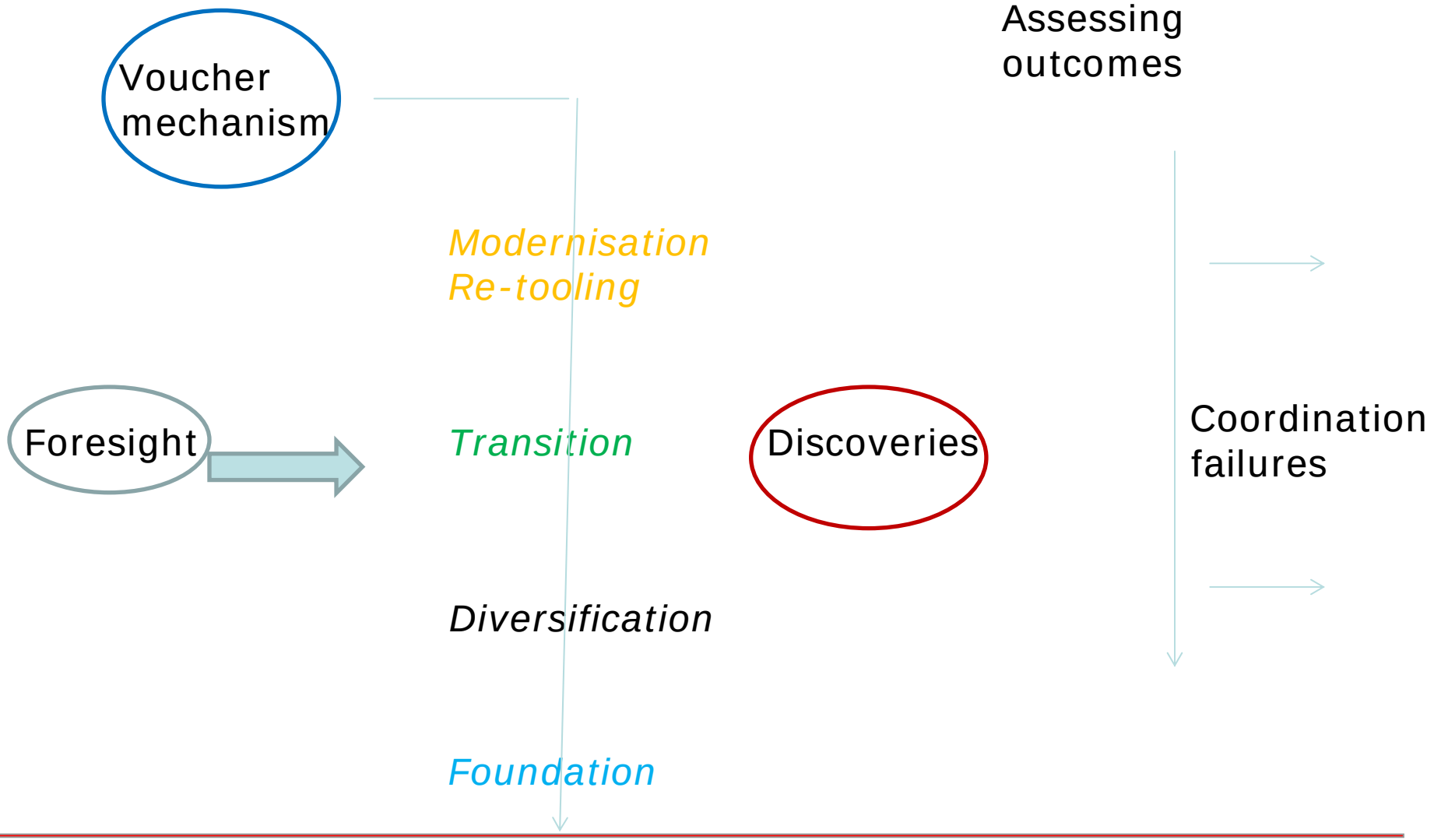
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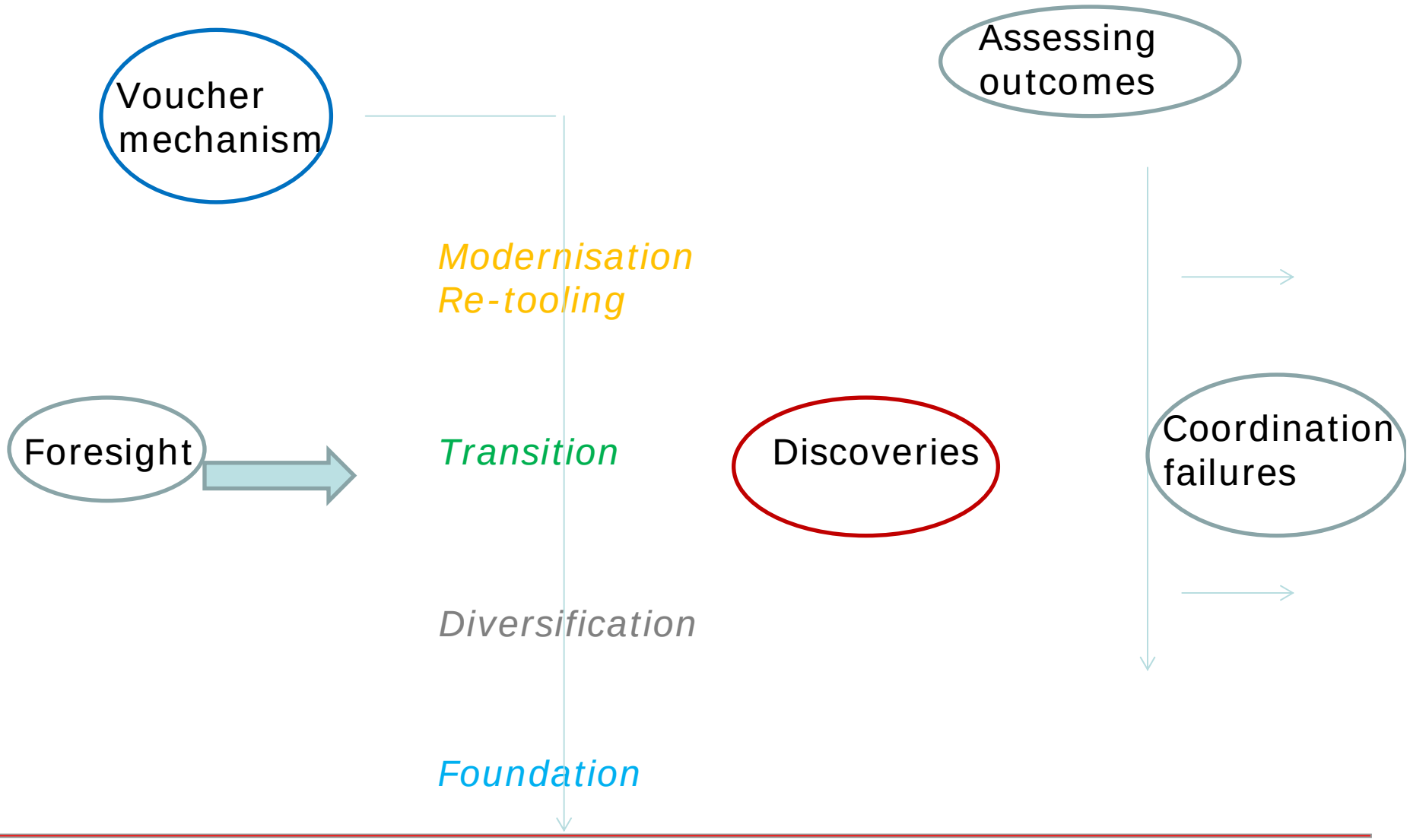
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D.Foray, P.A. David and B.Hall

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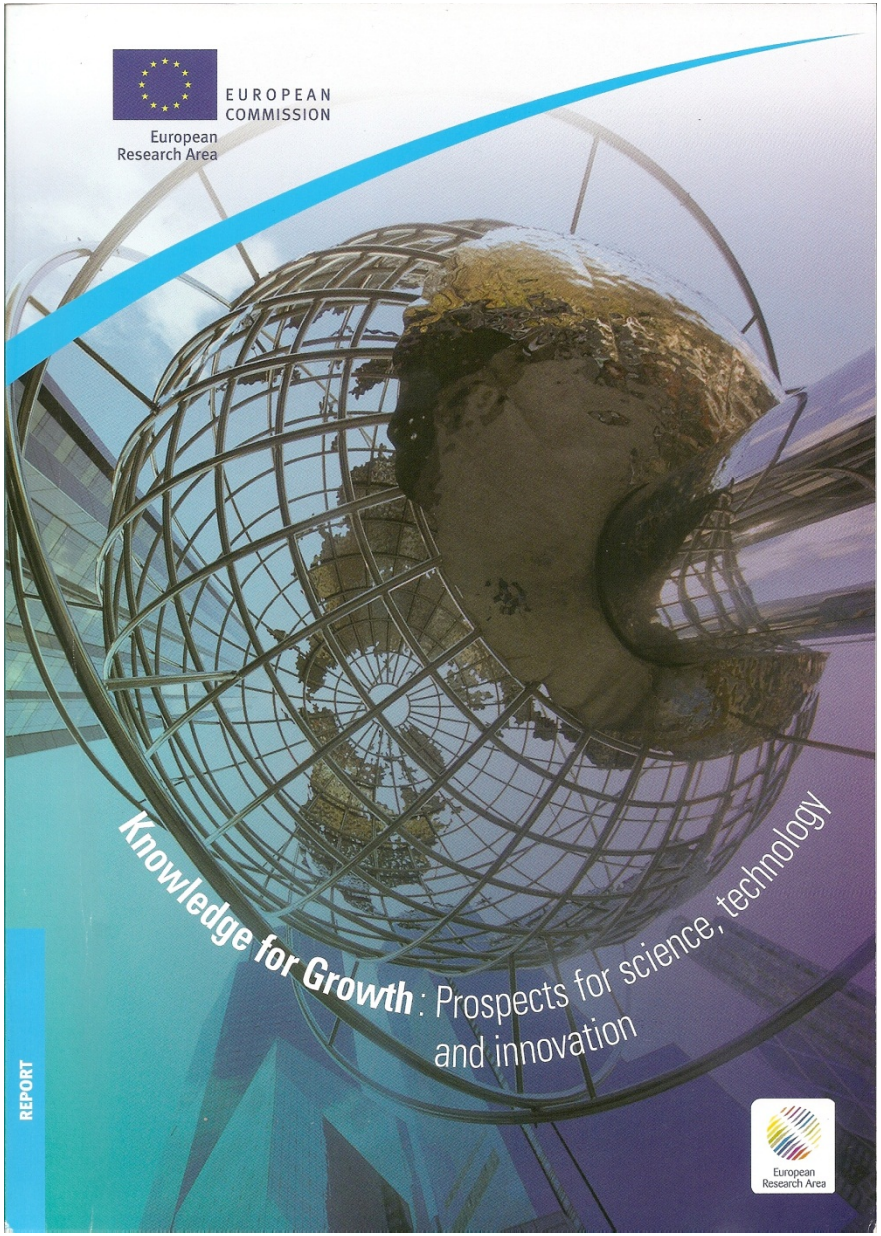
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