

Final presentation - Master thesis - Mayke Giesen - 4713567 - Planning Complex Cities

GRIEVING ECOLOGICAL LOSSES

Creating space for ecological grief
in the **urban context**
to contribute to a **societal transition**
towards **ecocentric values**.

Ecological grief; environmental crisis; citizen engagement; citizen empowerment

MOTIVATION: PERSONAL LOSS

experience of loss



MOTIVATION: PERSONAL LOSS



experience of loss

reflects on what is important

unknowingness

exposes and deepens relations

mindfull of other losses

MOTIVATION: PERSONAL LOSS

the need for grief literacy & rituals



MOTIVATION: PERSONAL LOSS

the need for grief literacy & rituals

acknowledging loss

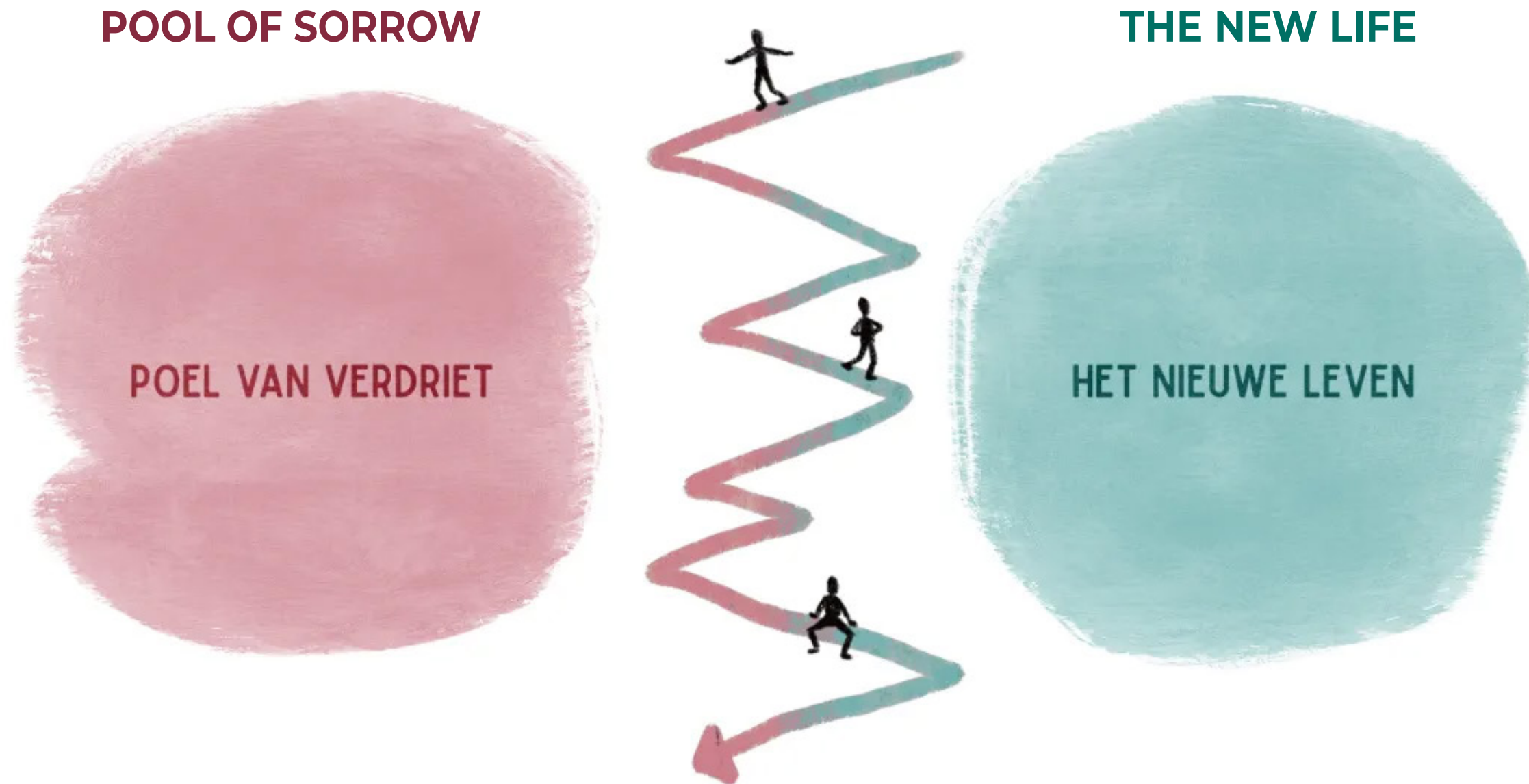
find meaning

to guide in times of despair



MOTIVATION: PERSONAL LOSS

GRIEF CAN NOT BE SOLVED
YOU WEAVE THE LOVE INTO YOUR LIFE



ROUW LOS JE NIET OP.
JE VERWEEFT DE LIEFDE IN JE LEVEN.

THE CONCEPT OF ECOLOGICAL GRIEF

Eco-grief:

*'the **grief** felt in relation to **experienced or anticipated ecological losses**, including the loss of species, ecosystems and meaningful landscapes due to acute or chronic environmental change'.*

- Cunsolo & Ellis (2018)

THE CONCEPT OF ECOLOGICAL GRIEF

interconnectedness

dependency

scale

Eco-grief:
*'the ***grief*** felt
in relation to
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or anticipated
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including the loss of
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THE CONCEPT OF ECOLOGICAL GRIEF

interconnectedness

dependency

scale

unnatural losses

complicity

guilt

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- Cunsolo & Ellis (2018)*

disenfranchised

no societal rituals

CONTENT

Problem statement

Thesis aim

Theory

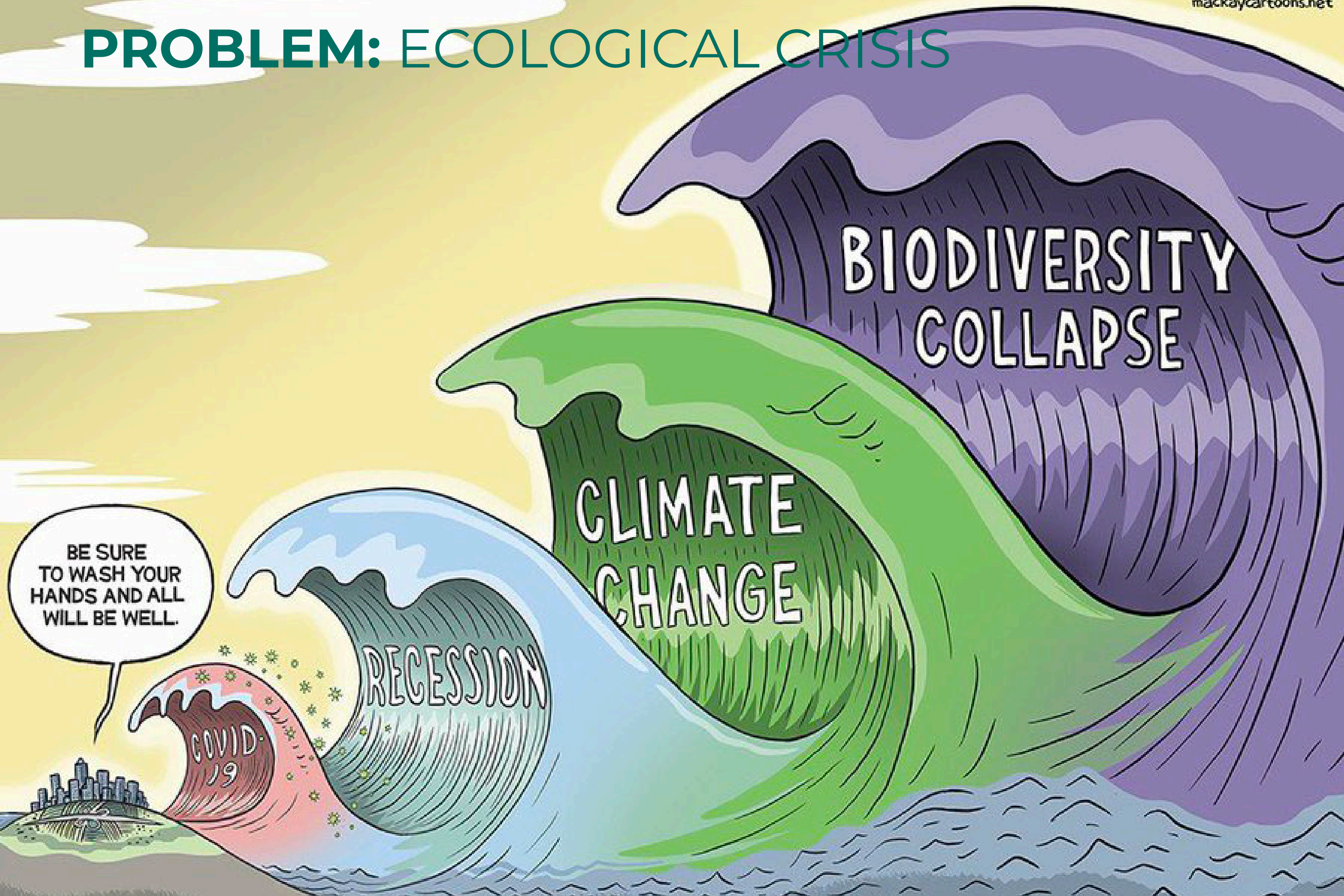
Methods

Location

Strategy: Urban Eco-Grief Cycle

Application on site

PROBLEM: ECOLOGICAL CRISIS



PROBLEM: NO ACTION & RISING EMOTIONS

disbelief

frustration

doubt

anger

disappointment

fear

isolation

guilt

anxiety

shock

loneliness

despair

helplessness

sorrow



PROBLEM: NO ACTION & RISING EMOTIONS

disbelief

frustration

doubt

*Emotions reveal
our attachments
& values.*

anger

disappointment

fear

isolation

guilt

anxiety

shock

loneliness

despair

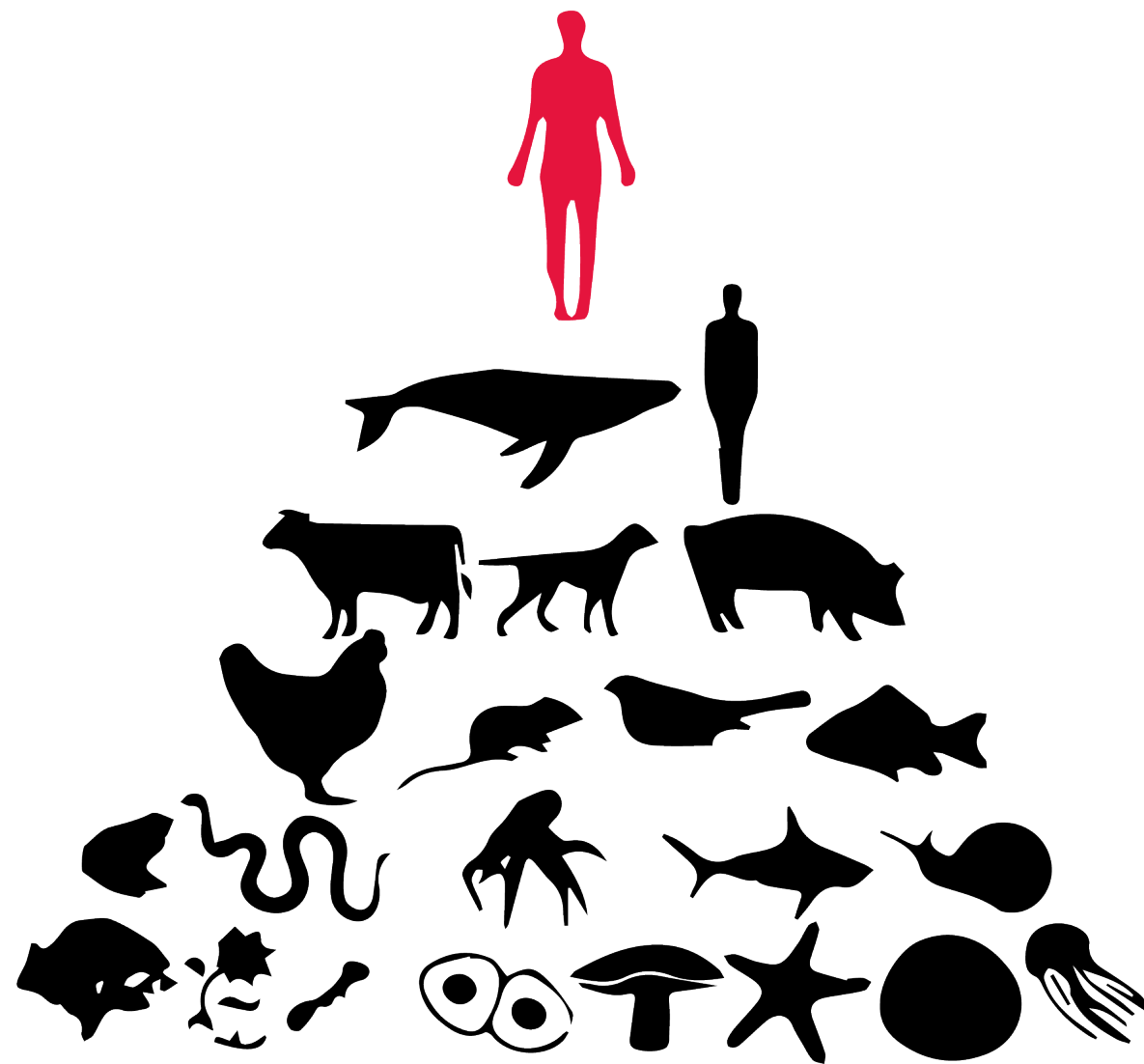
helplessness

sorrow

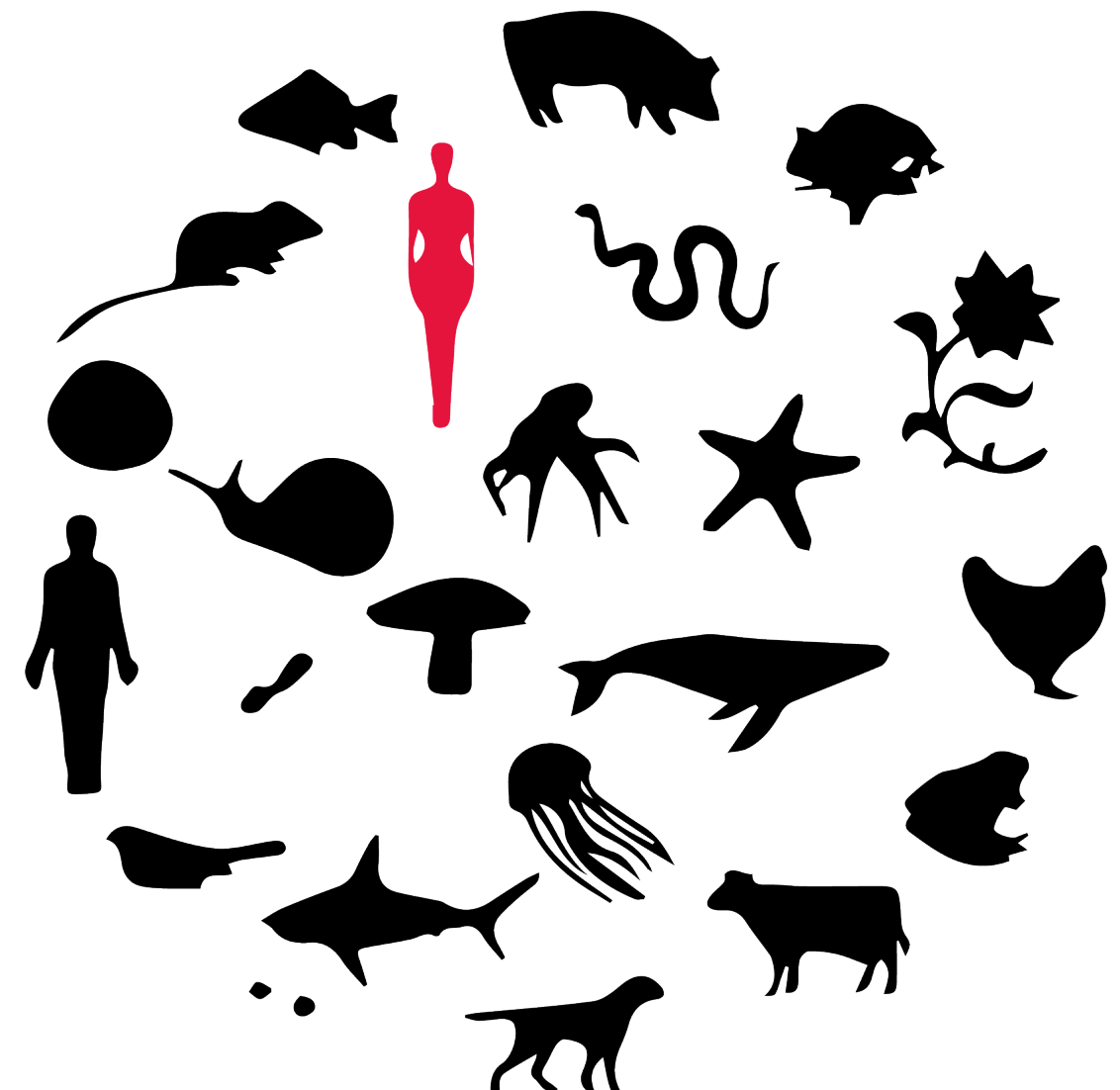
THESIS AIM: *RESEARCH QUESTION*

*'HOW
CAN
ECOLOGICAL
GRIEF
CONTRIBUTE
TO A
SOCIETAL
TRANSITION
TOWARDS
ECOCENTRIC
VALUES?'*

THESIS AIM: RESEARCH QUESTION

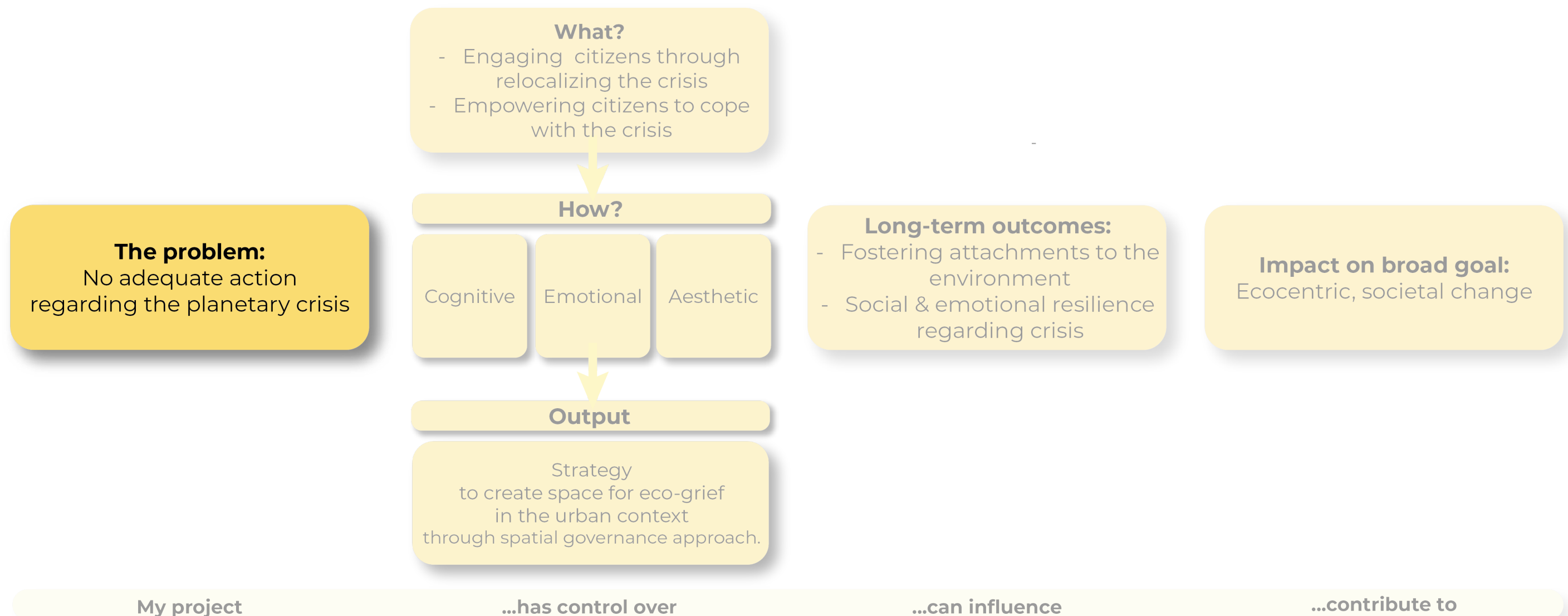


Anthropocentrism

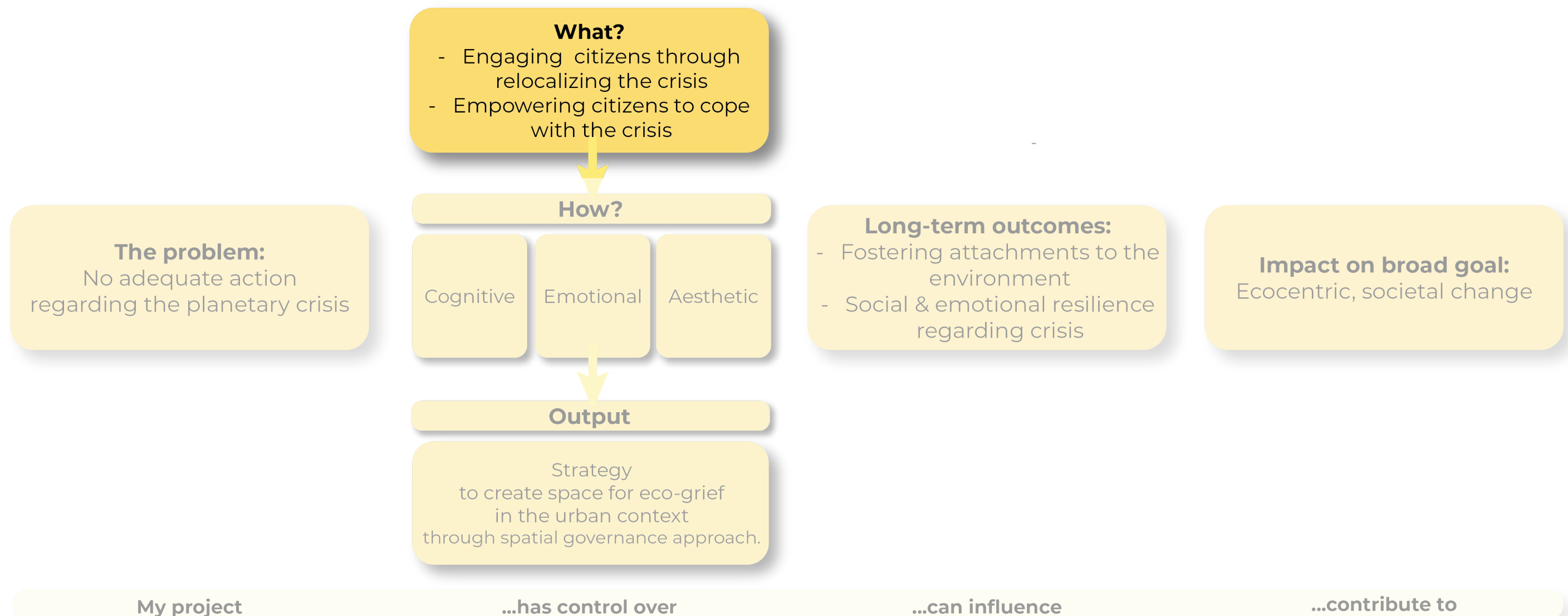


Ecocentrism

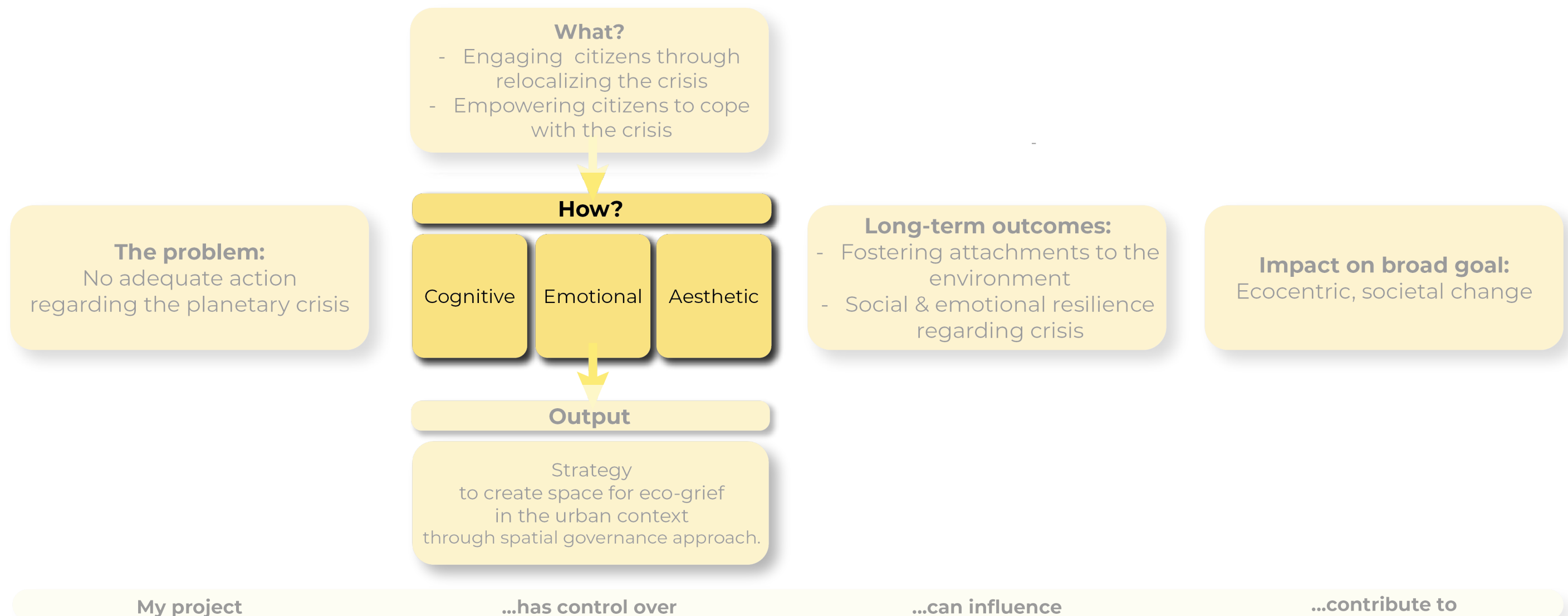
THESIS AIM: THEORY OF CHANGE



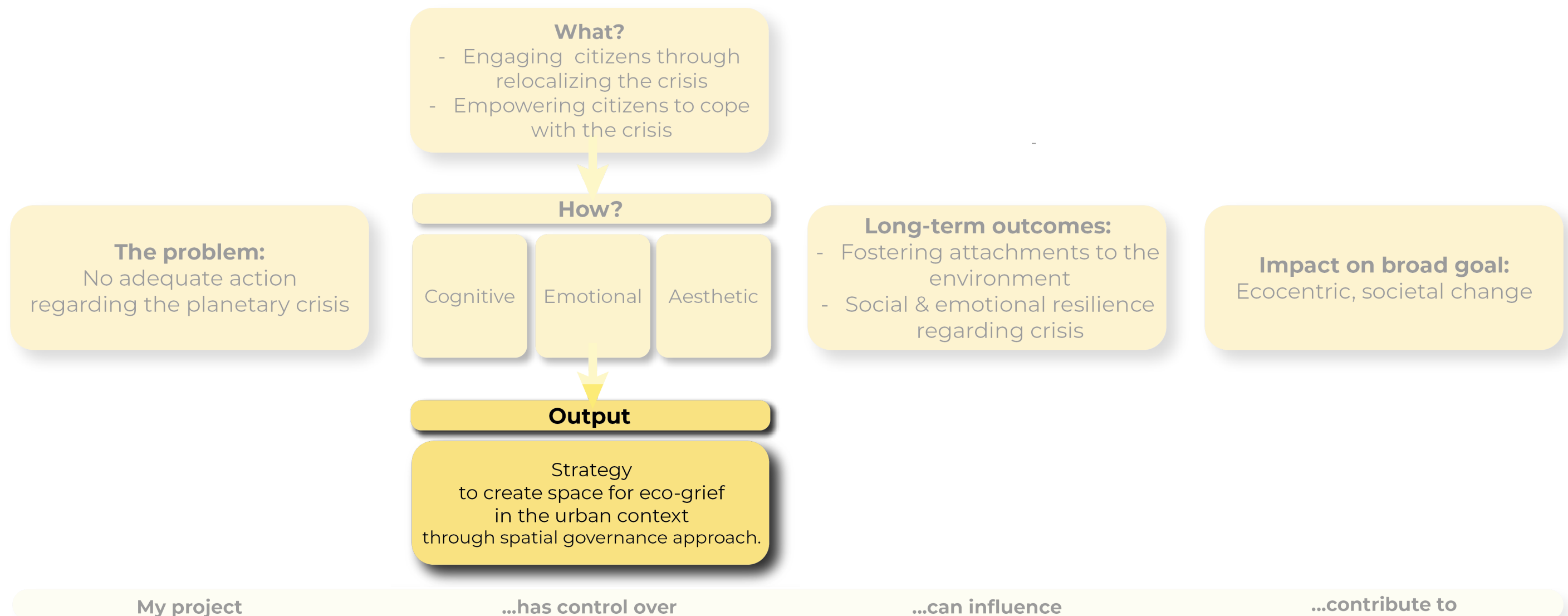
THESIS AIM: THEORY OF CHANGE



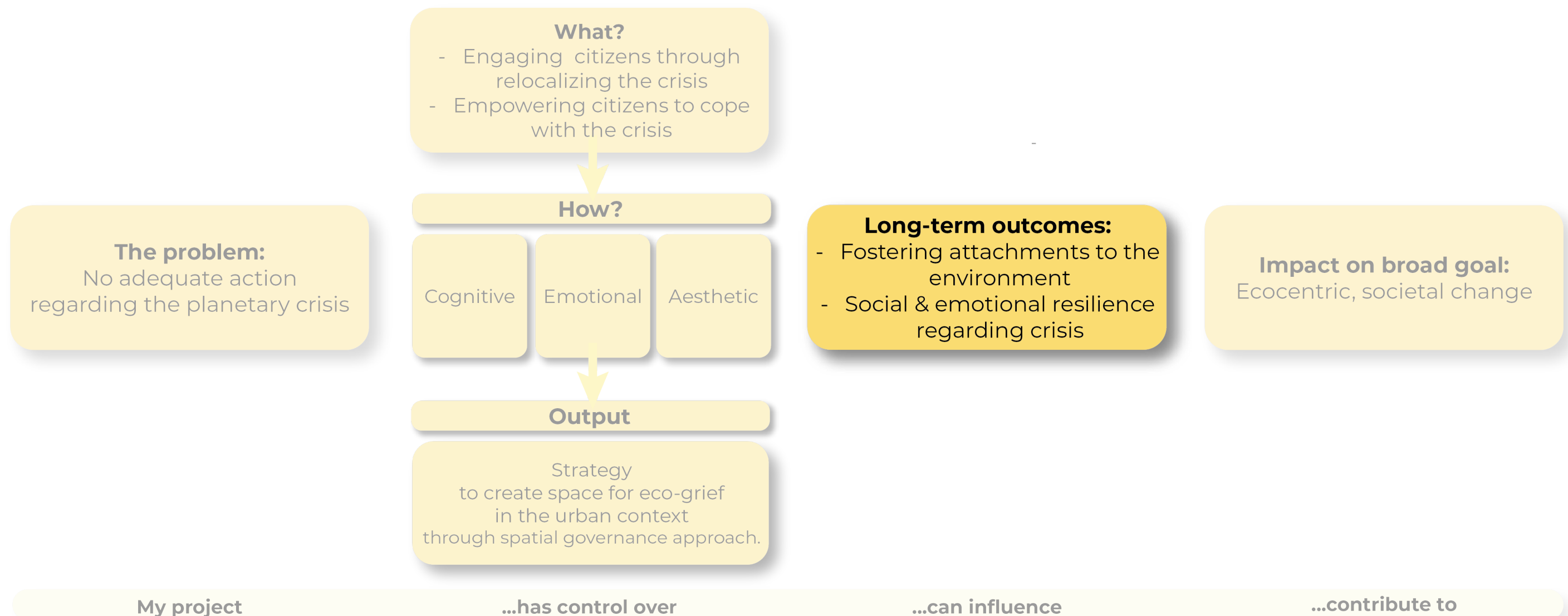
THESIS AIM: THEORY OF CHANGE



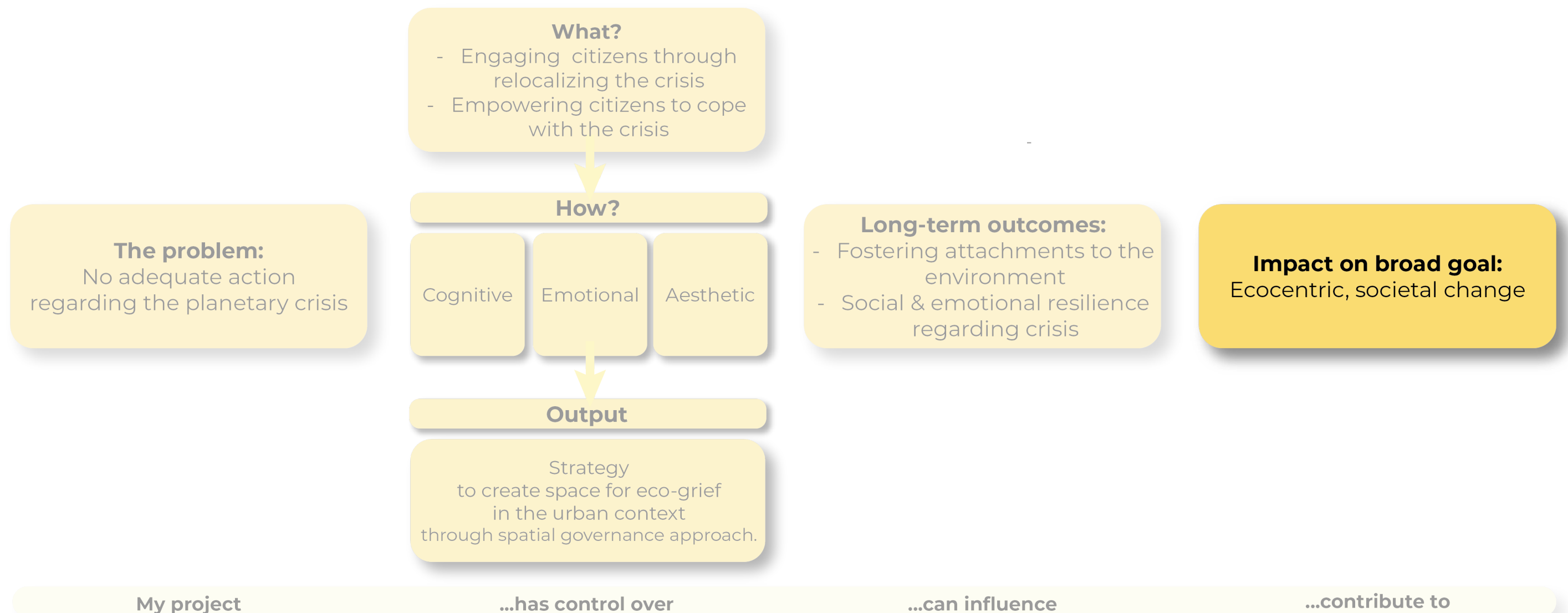
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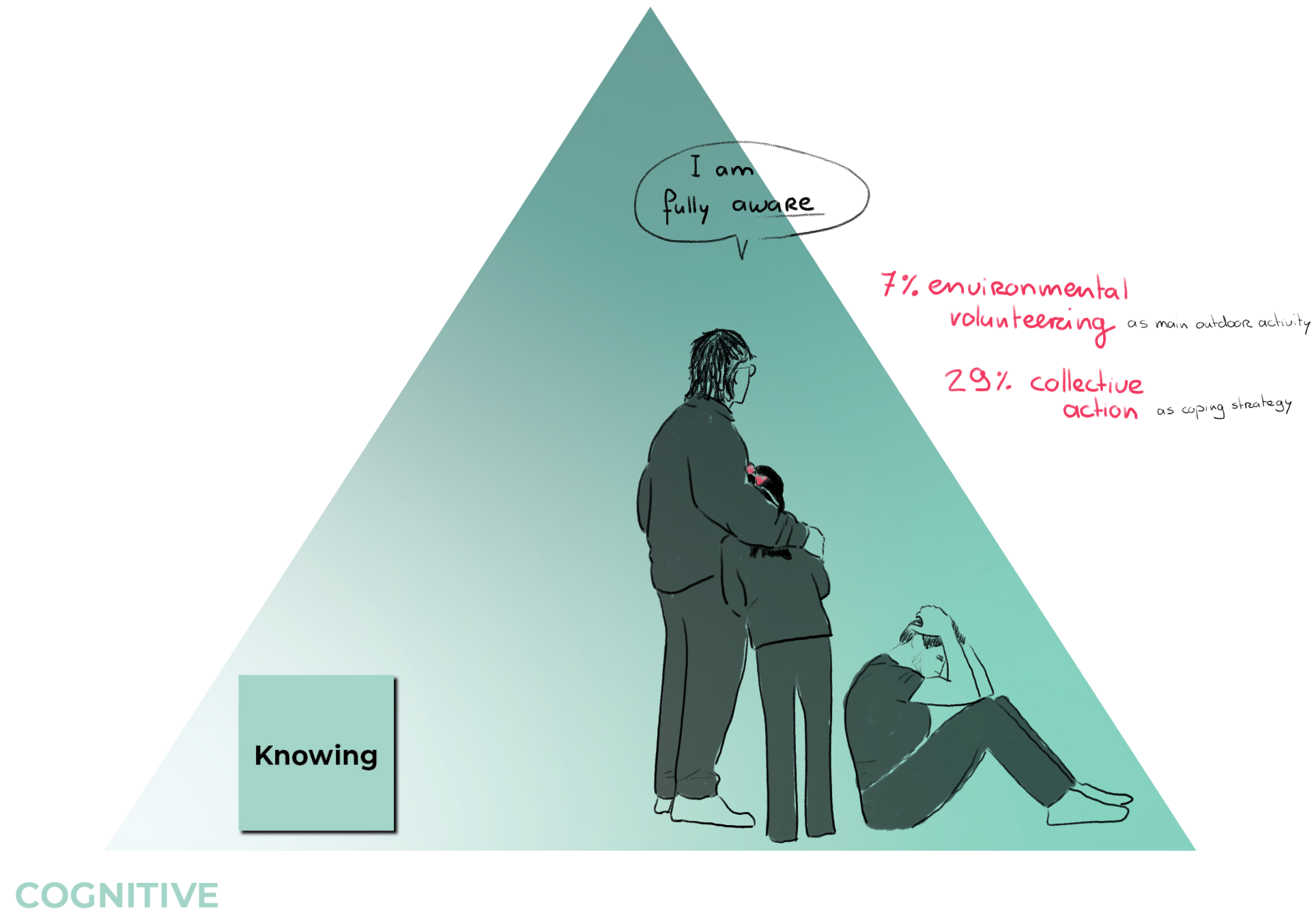
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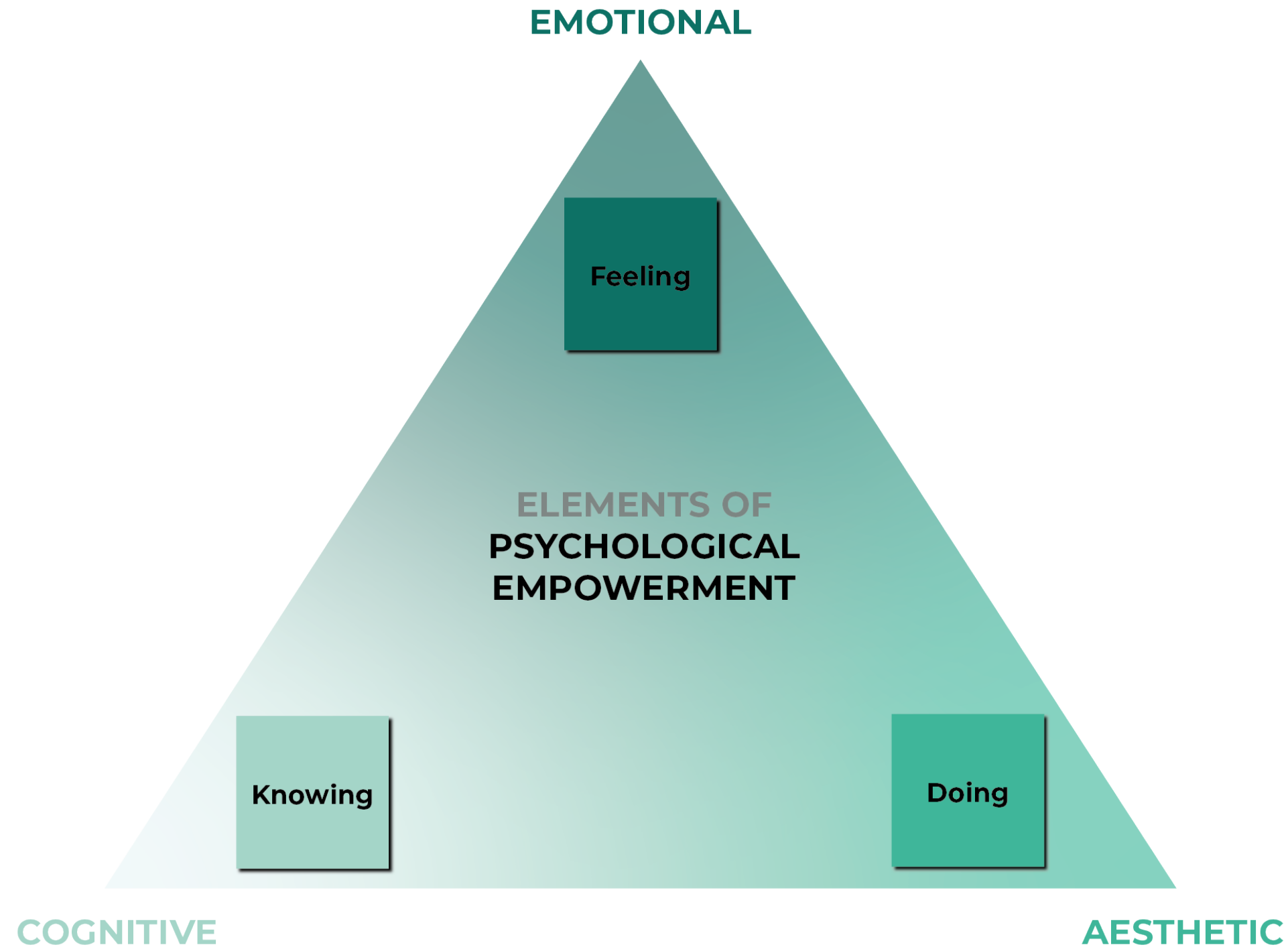
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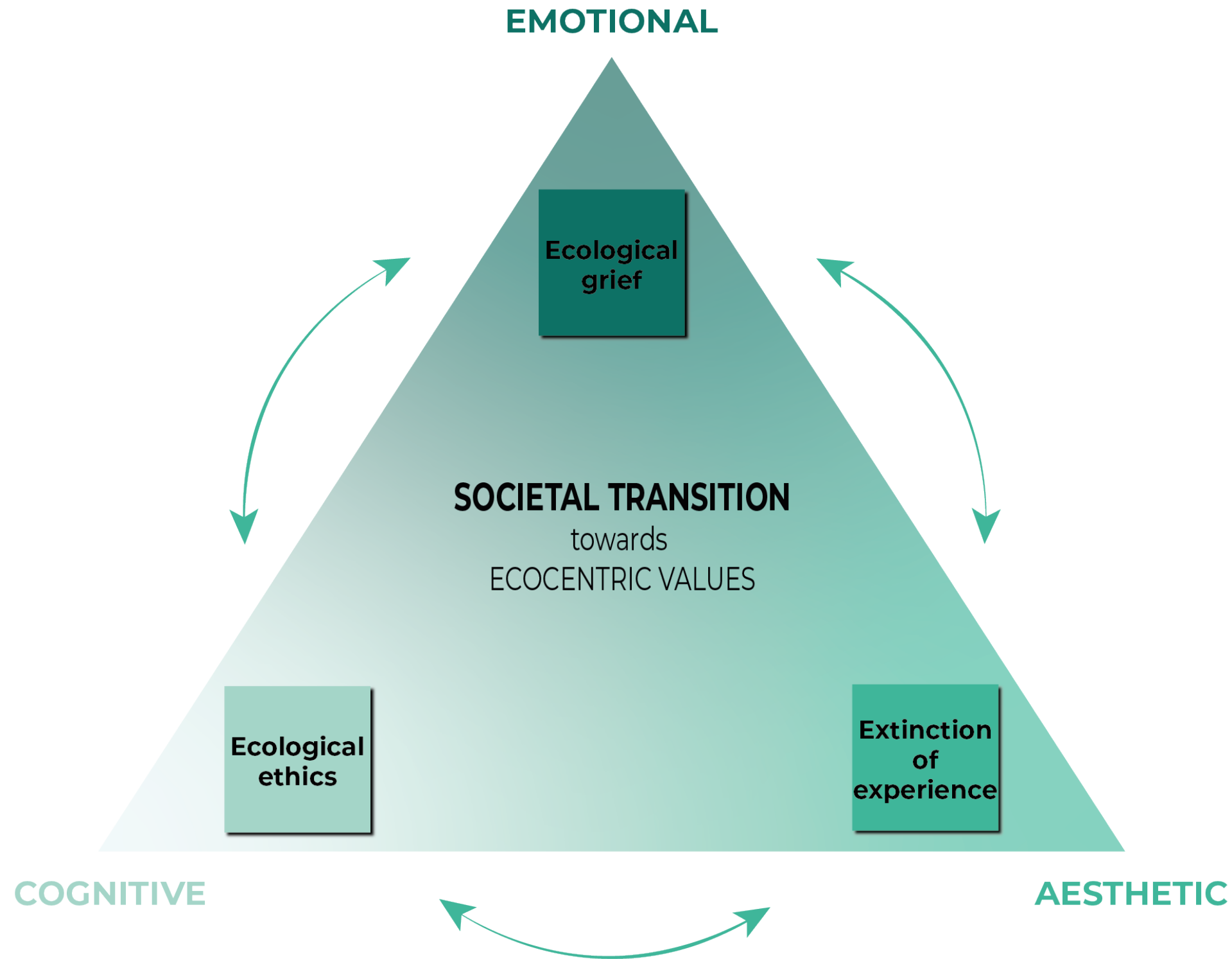
THEORY: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



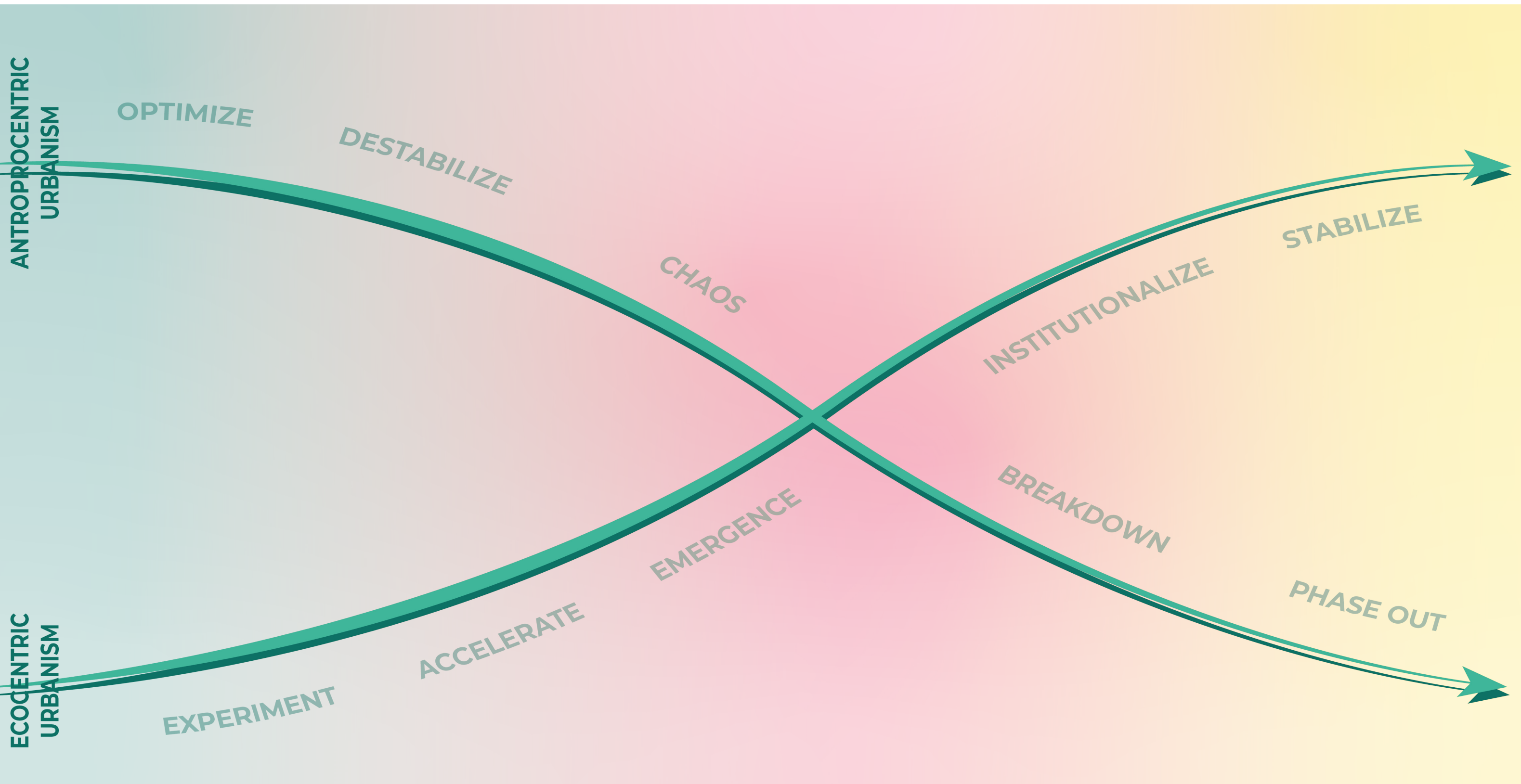
THEORY: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



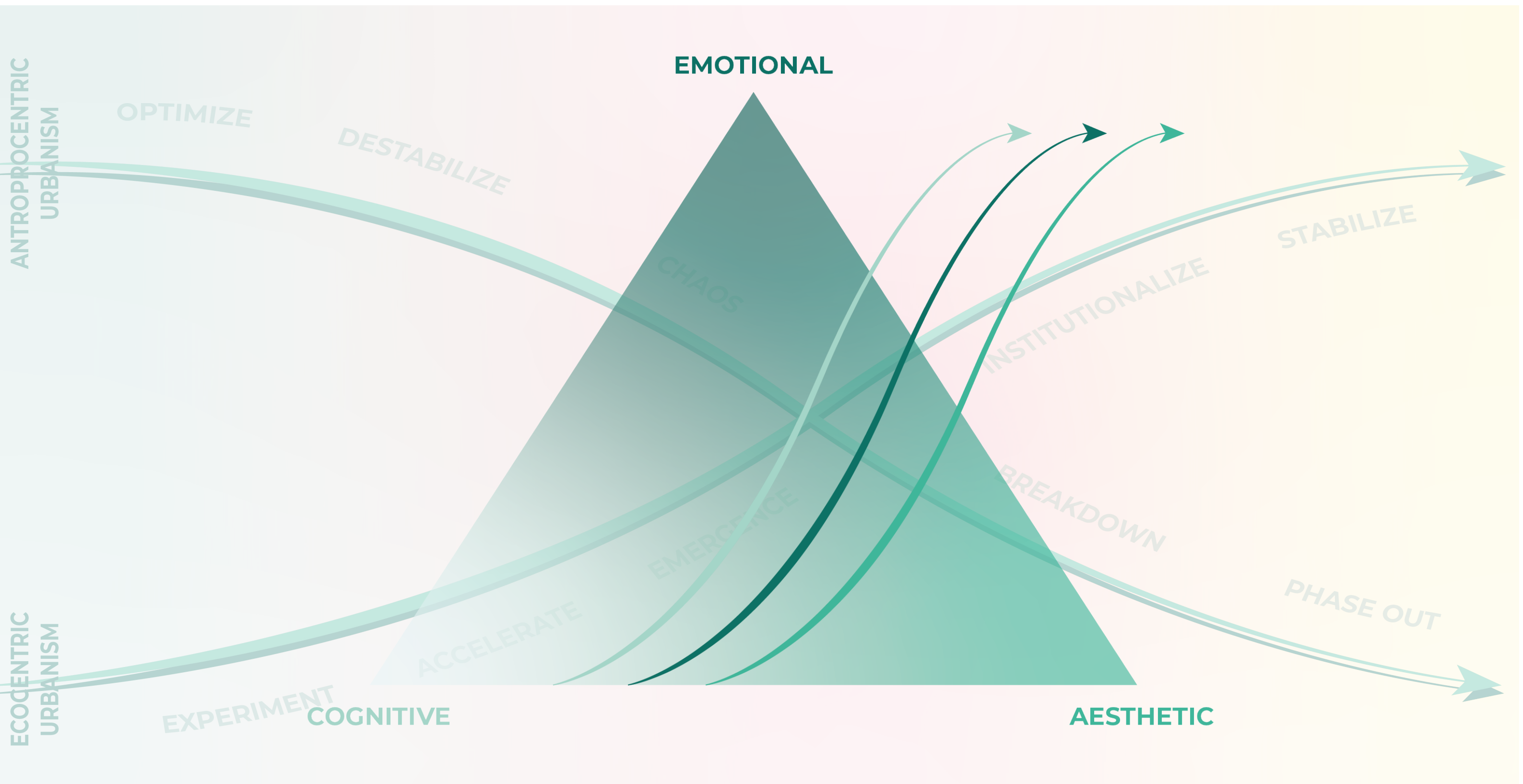
THEORY: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



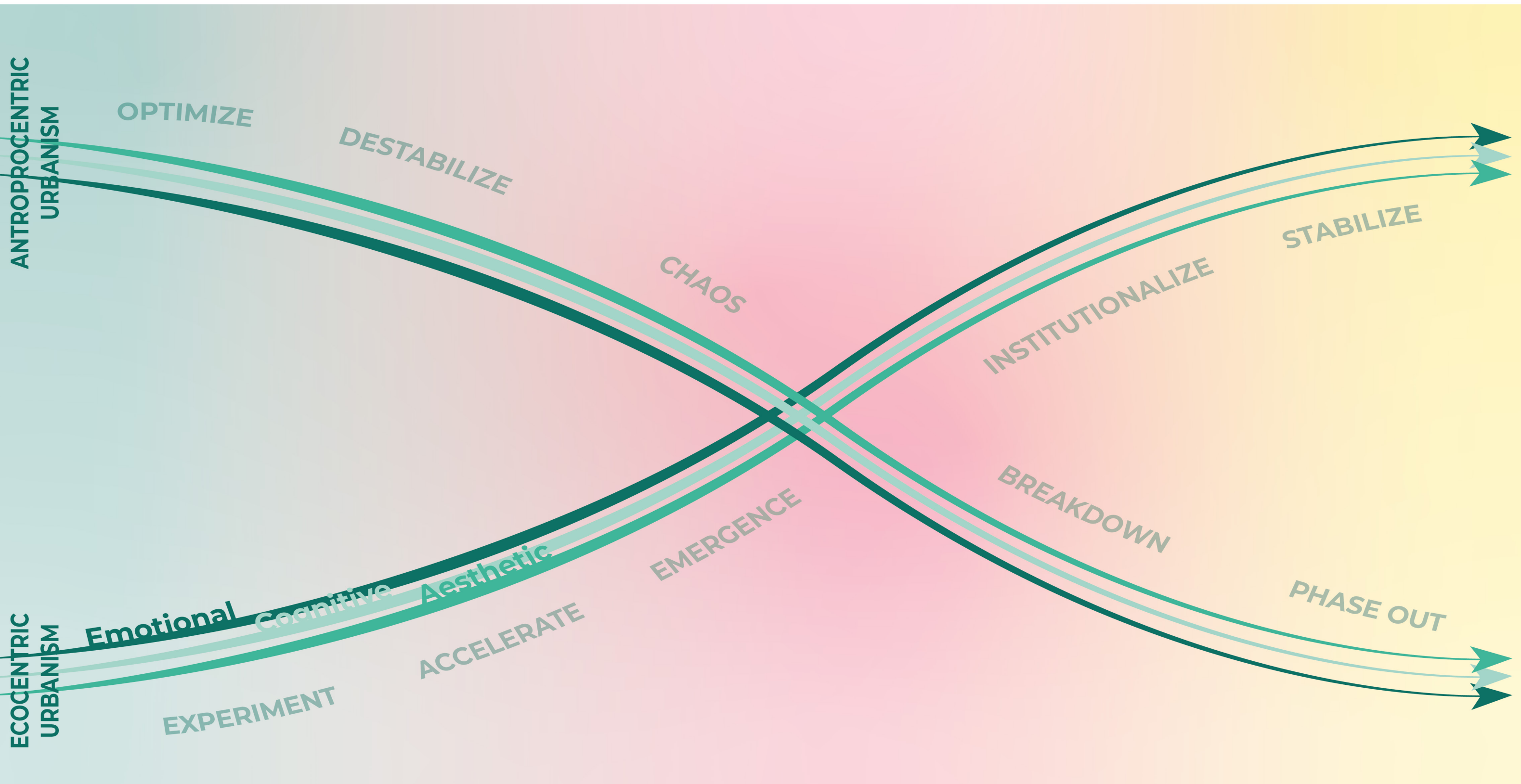
THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (1/4)



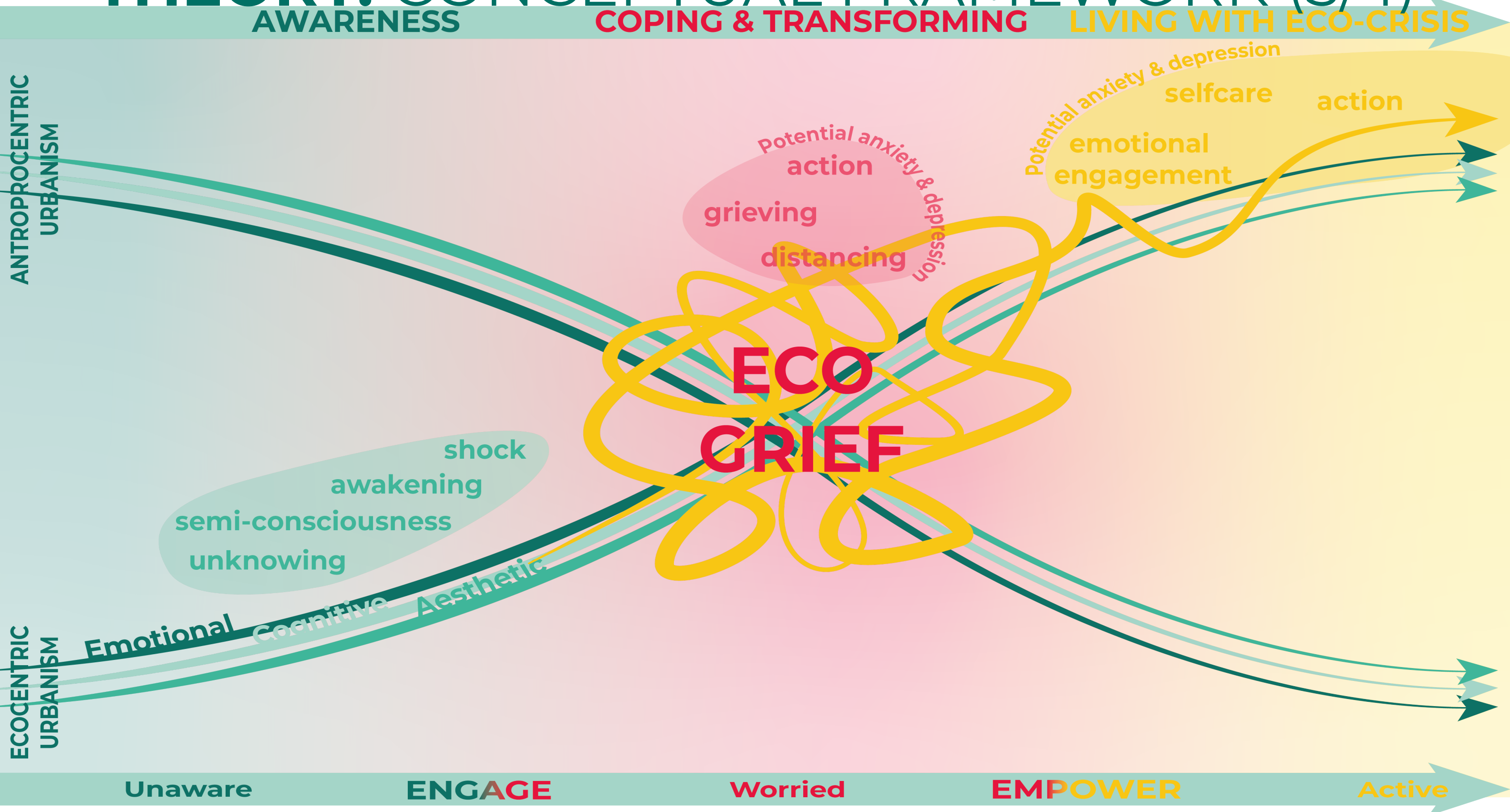
THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (2/4)



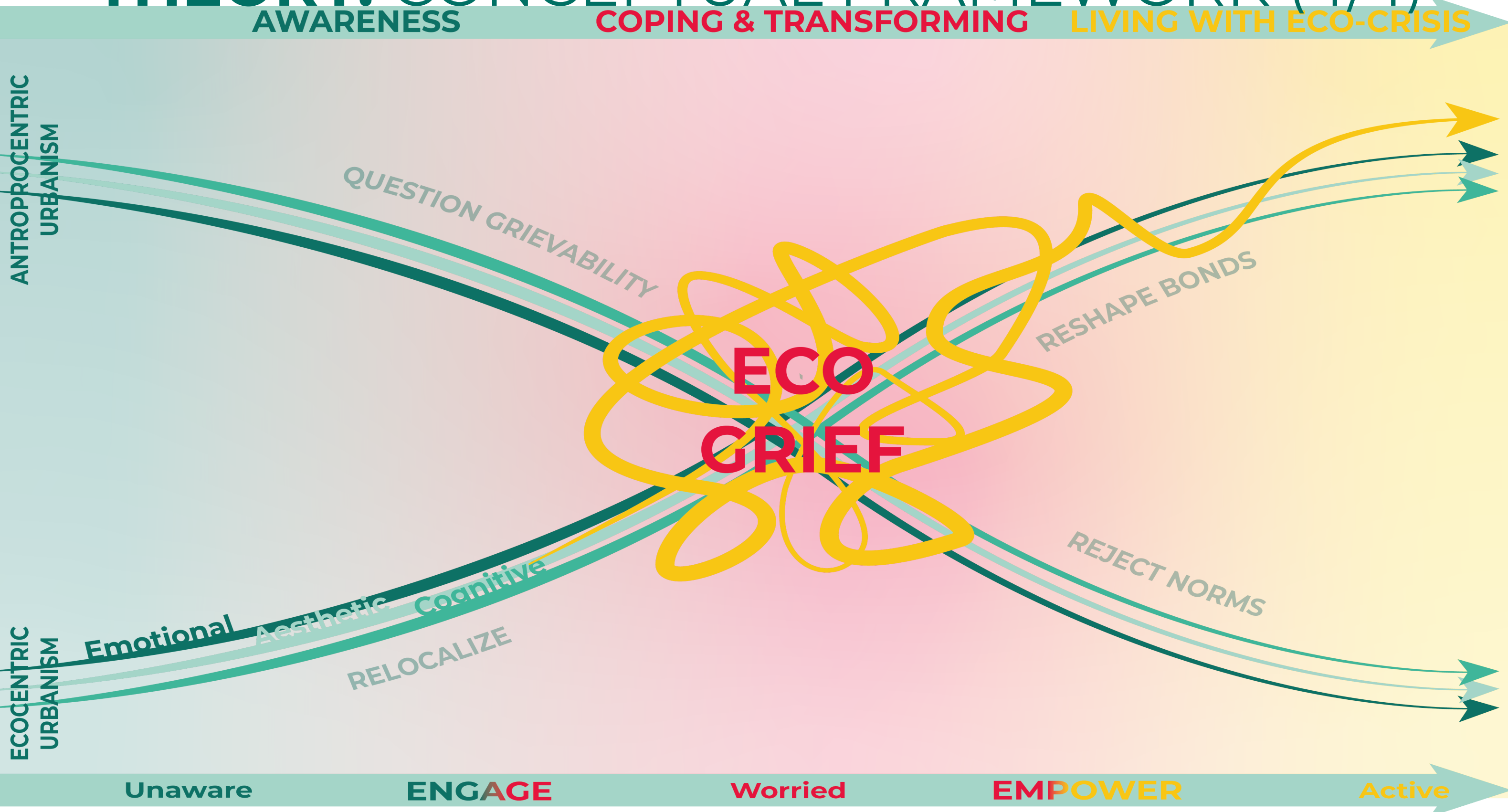
THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (2/4)



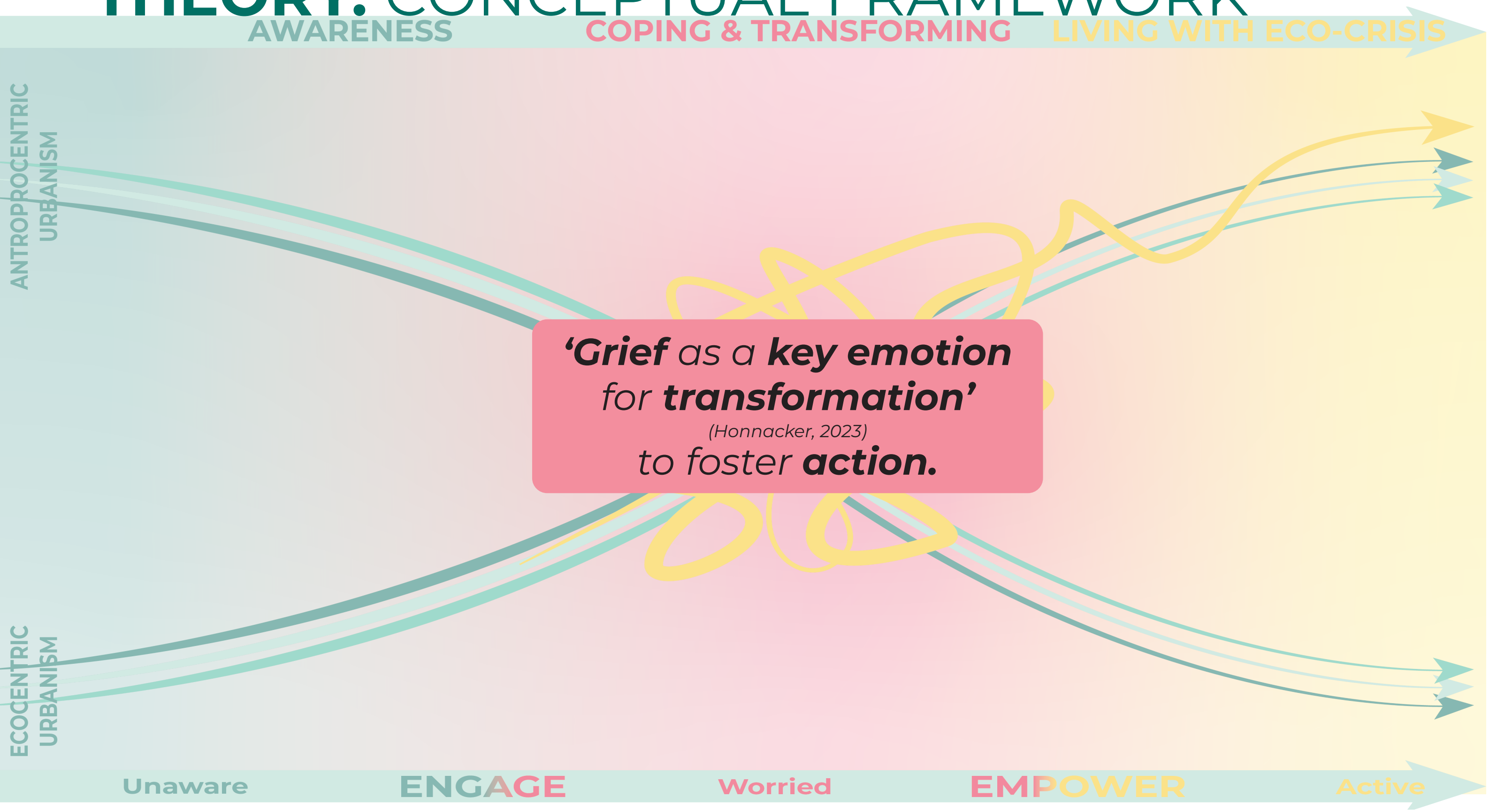
THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (3/4)



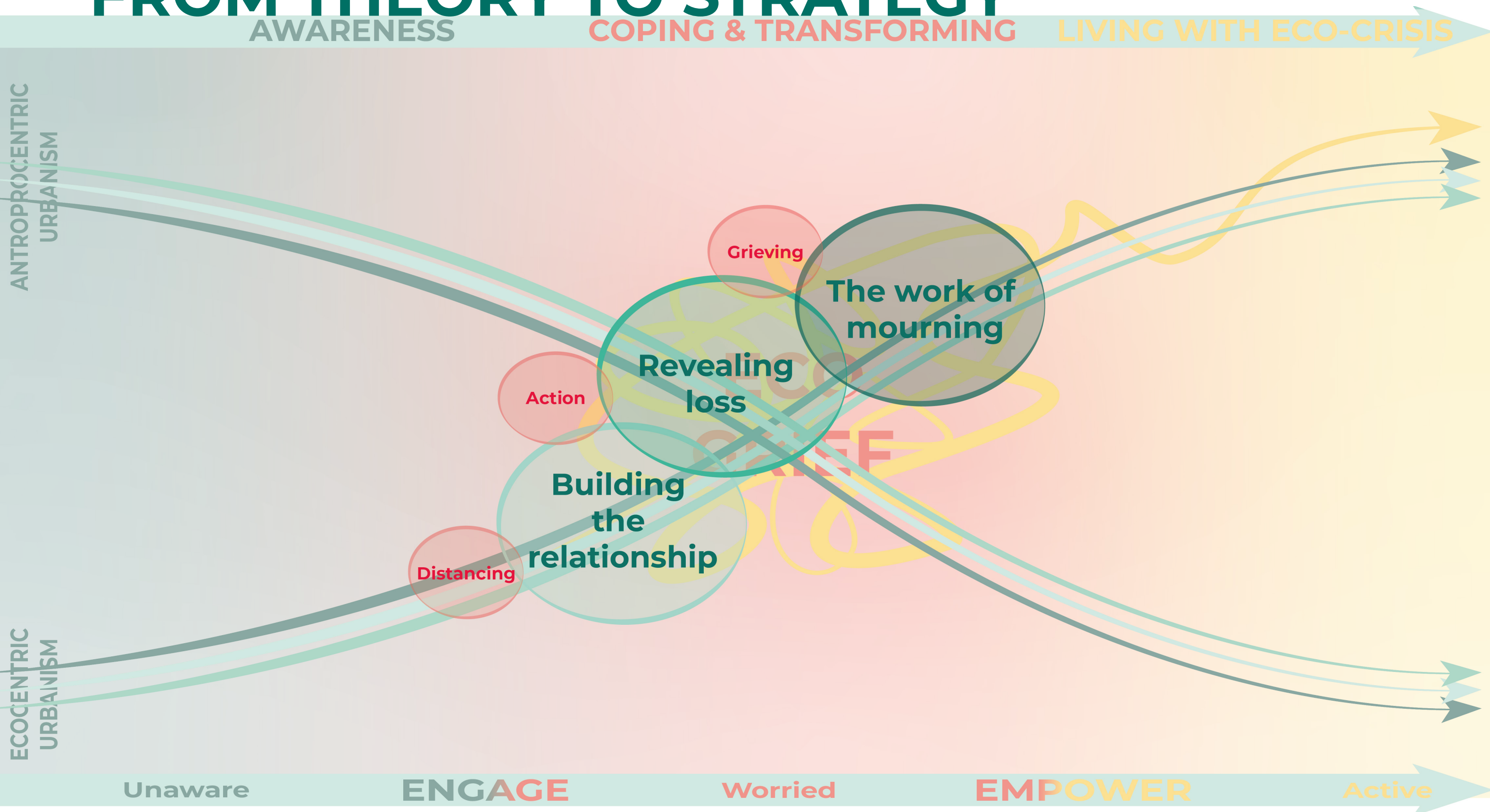
THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK (4/4)



THEORY: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



FROM THEORY TO STRATEGY

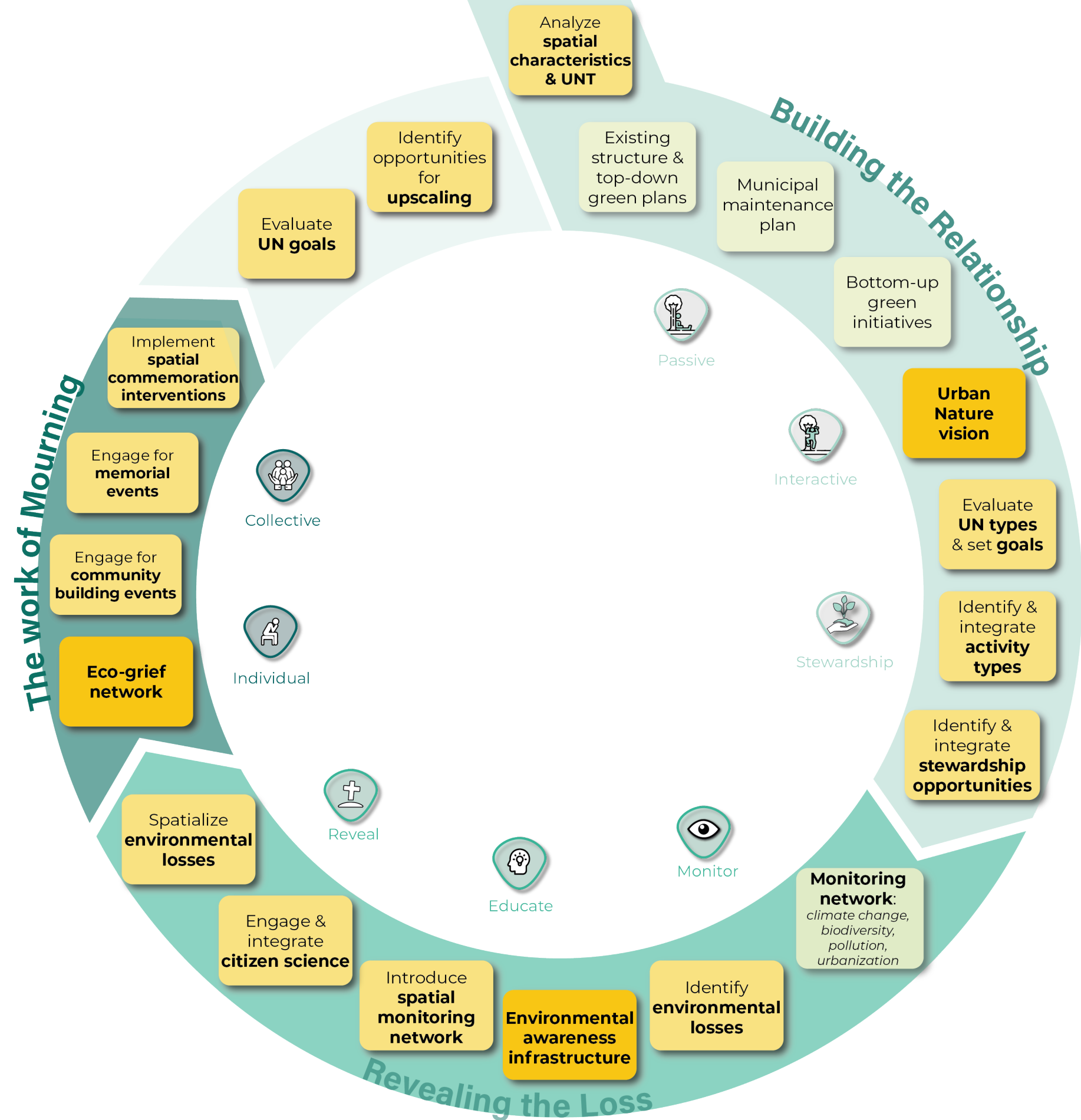


STRATEGY: URBAN ECO-GRIEF CYCLE

TOWARDS A COMMUNITY OF CARE & AWARENESS

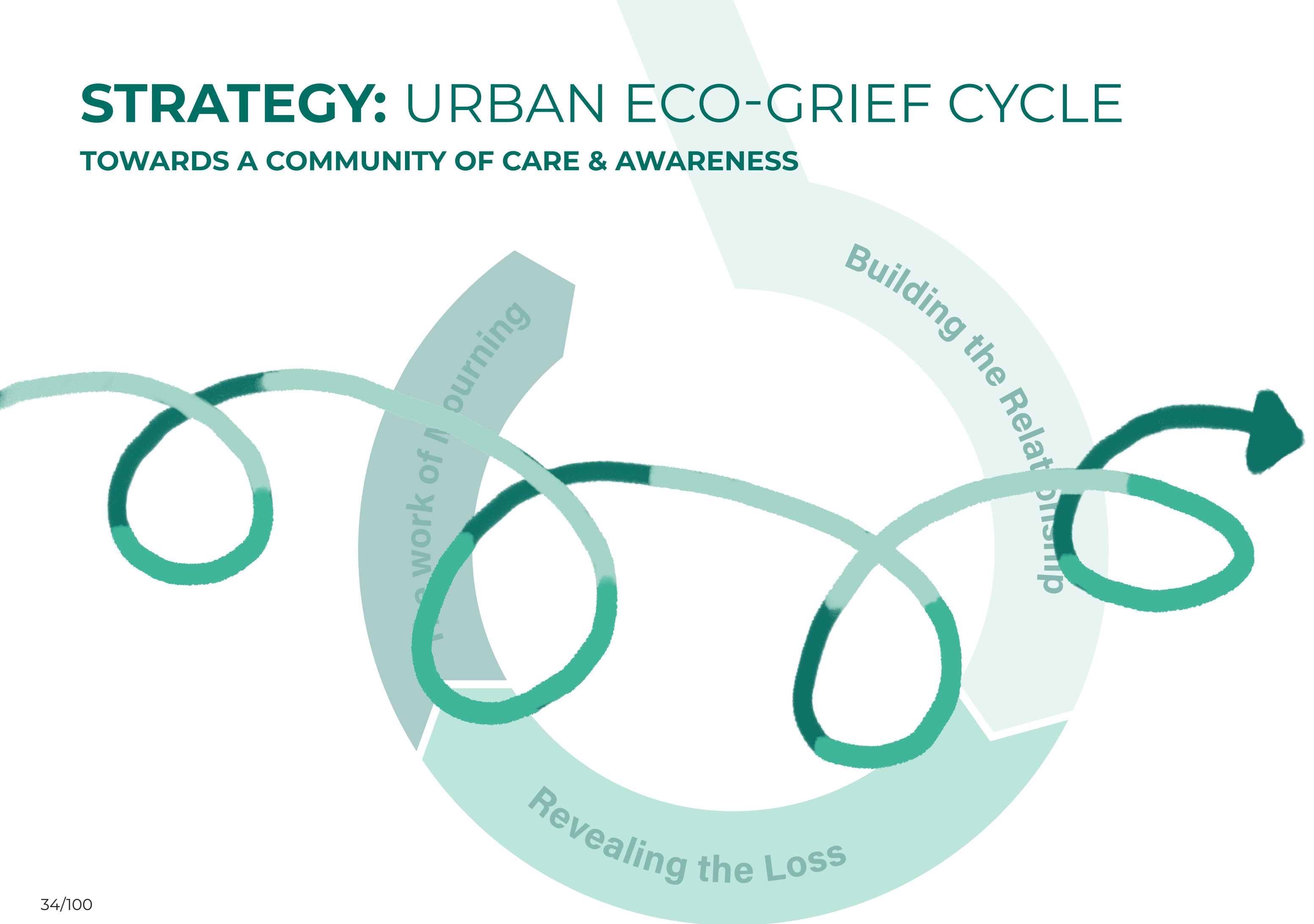


STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE CYCLE

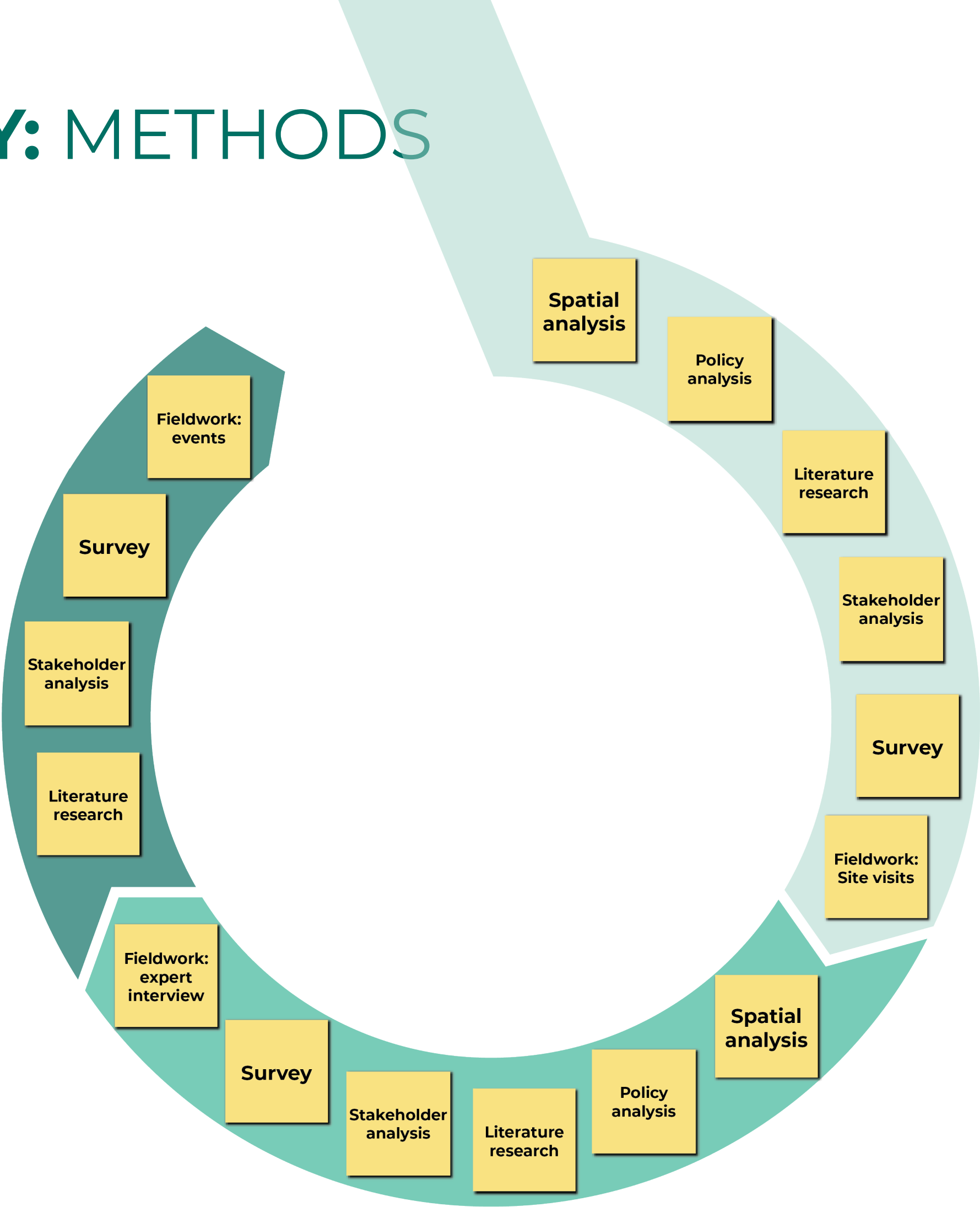


STRATEGY: URBAN ECO-GRIEF CYCLE

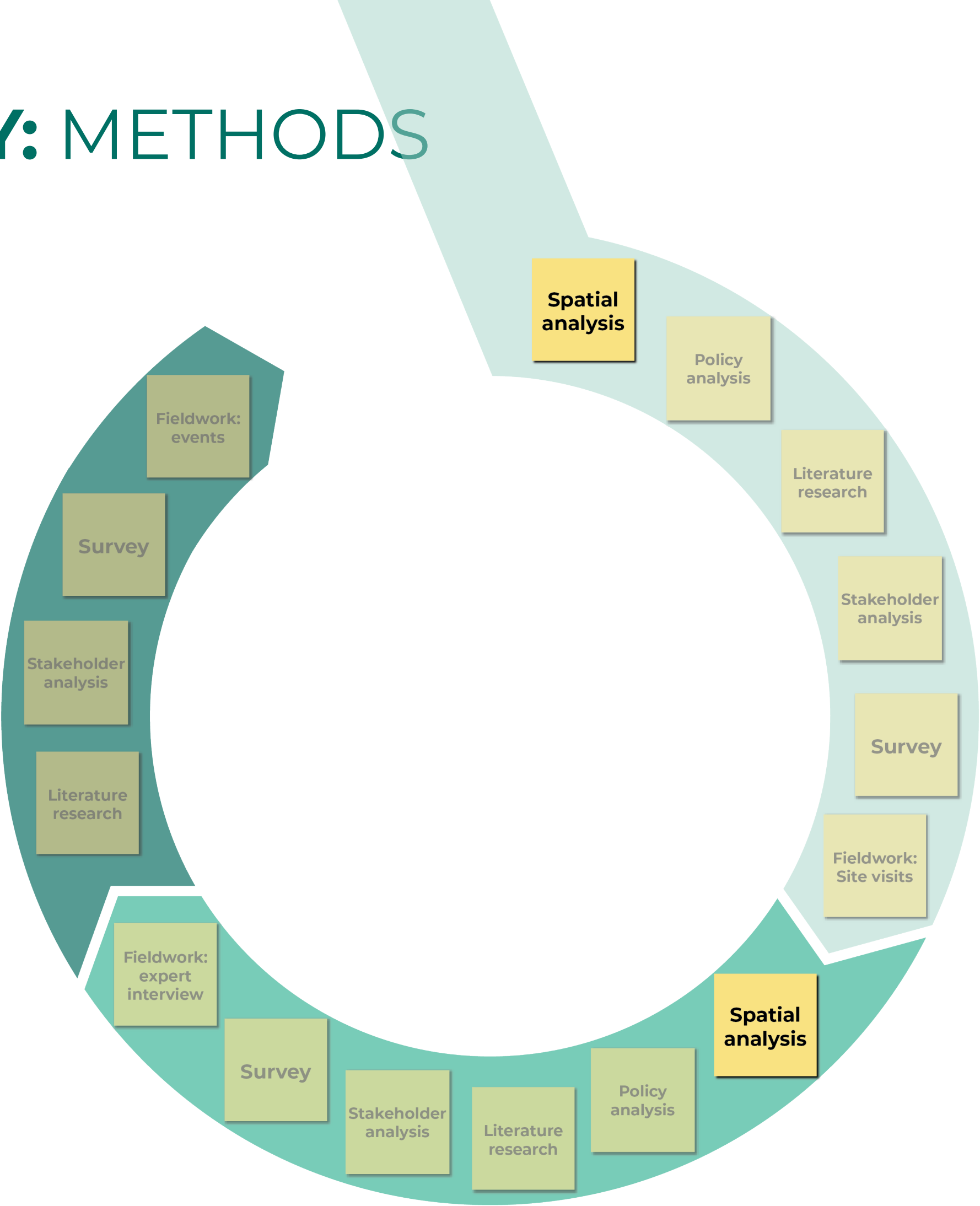
TOWARDS A COMMUNITY OF CARE & AWARENESS



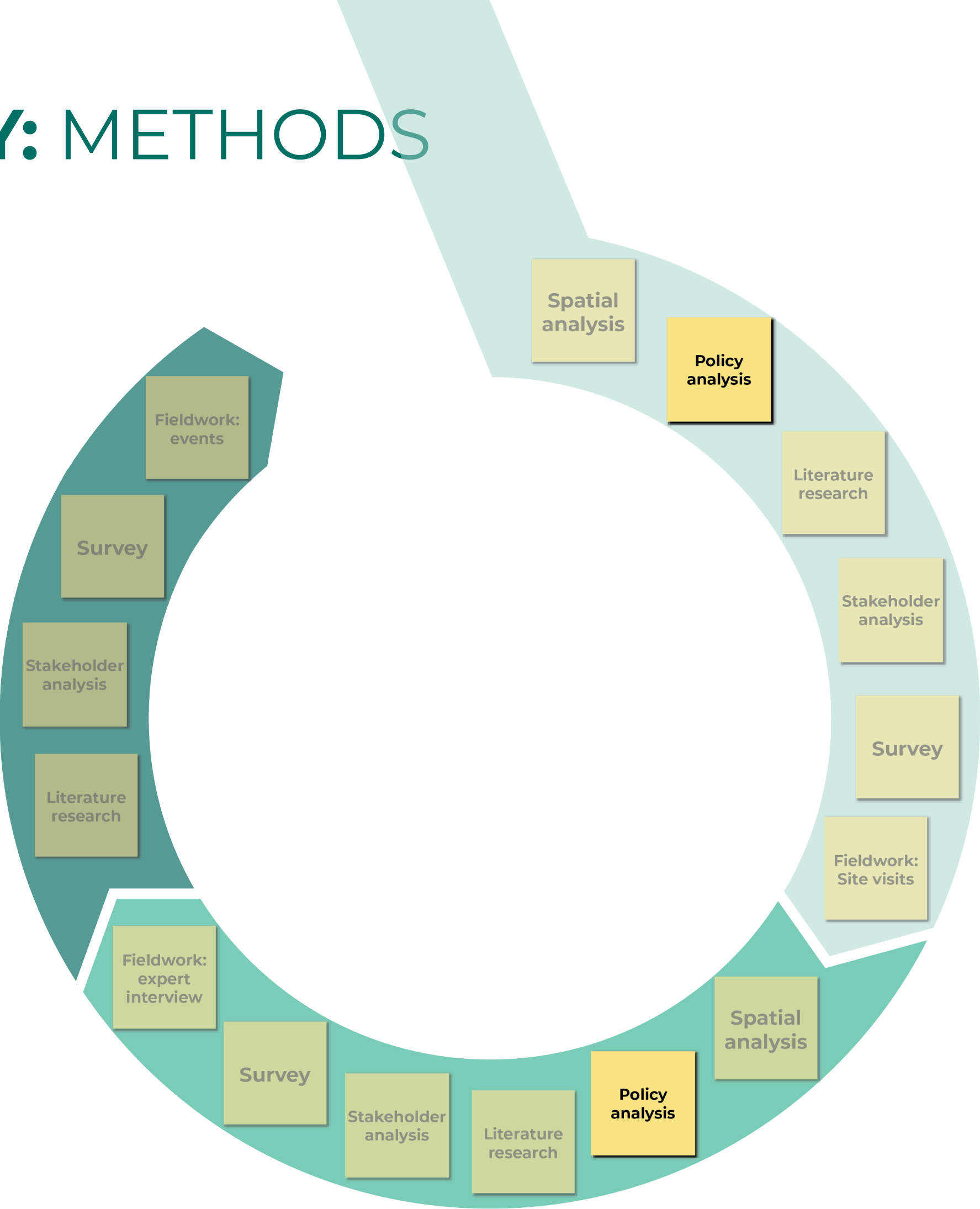
STRATEGY: METHODS



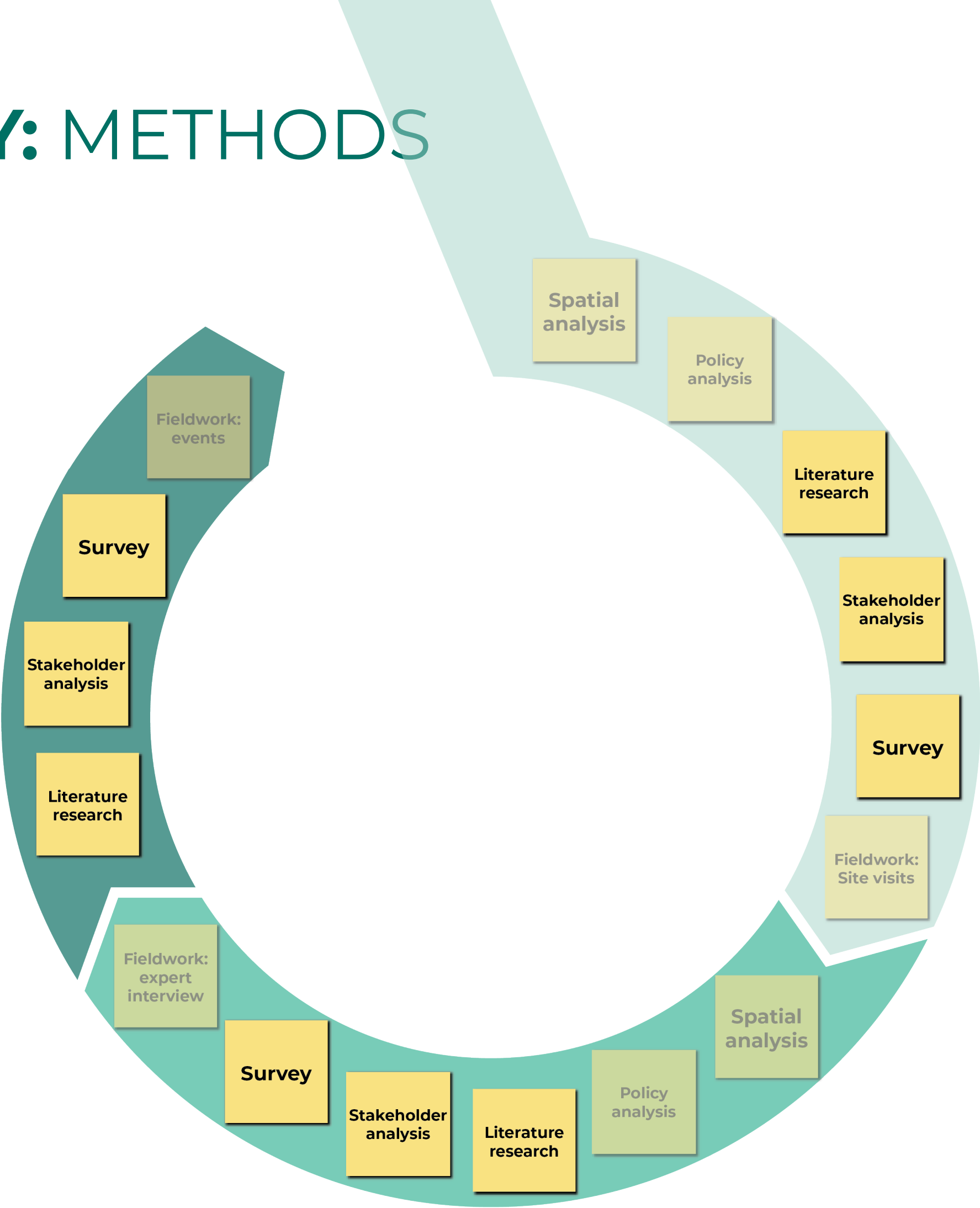
STRATEGY: METHODS



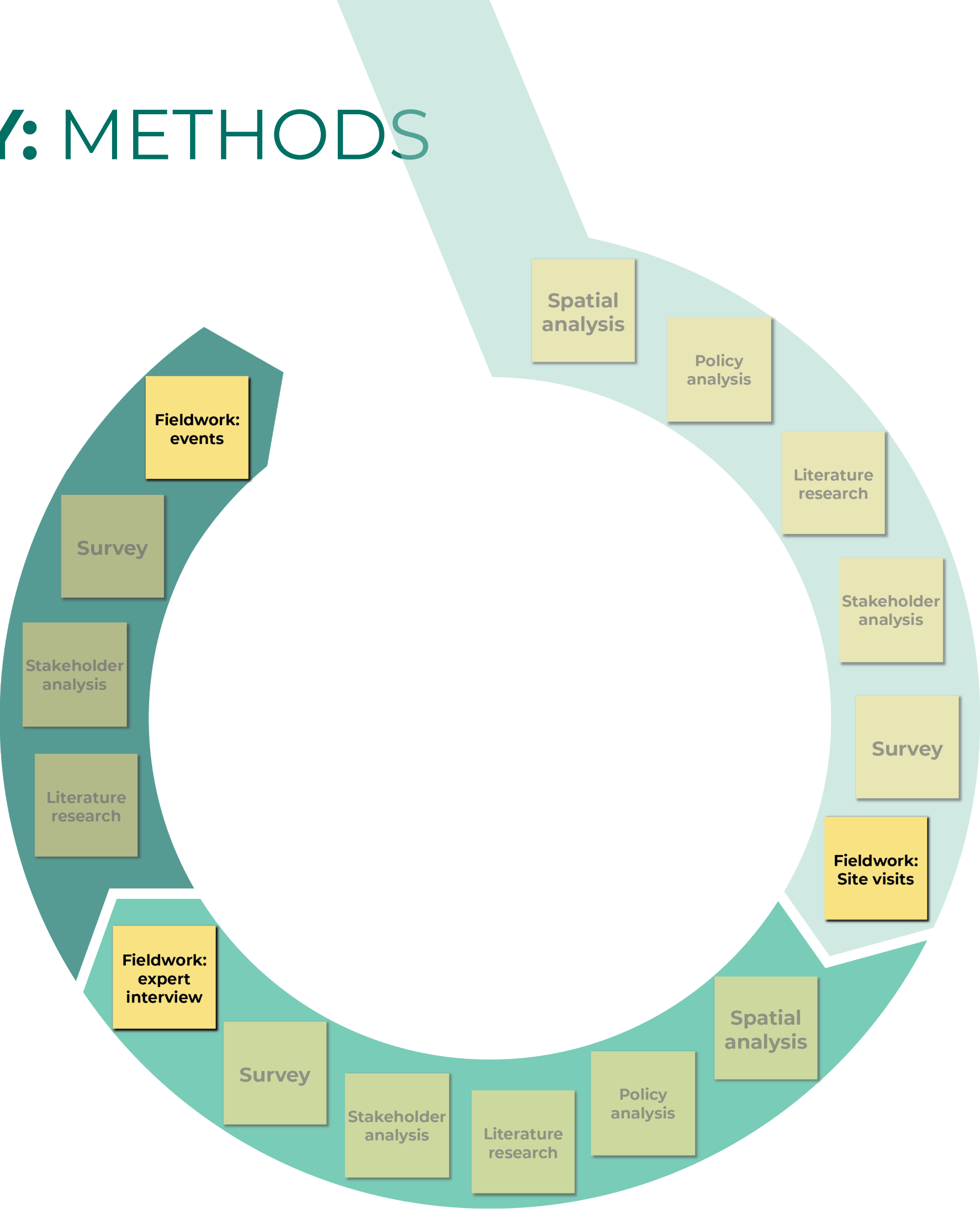
STRATEGY: METHODS



STRATEGY: METHODS



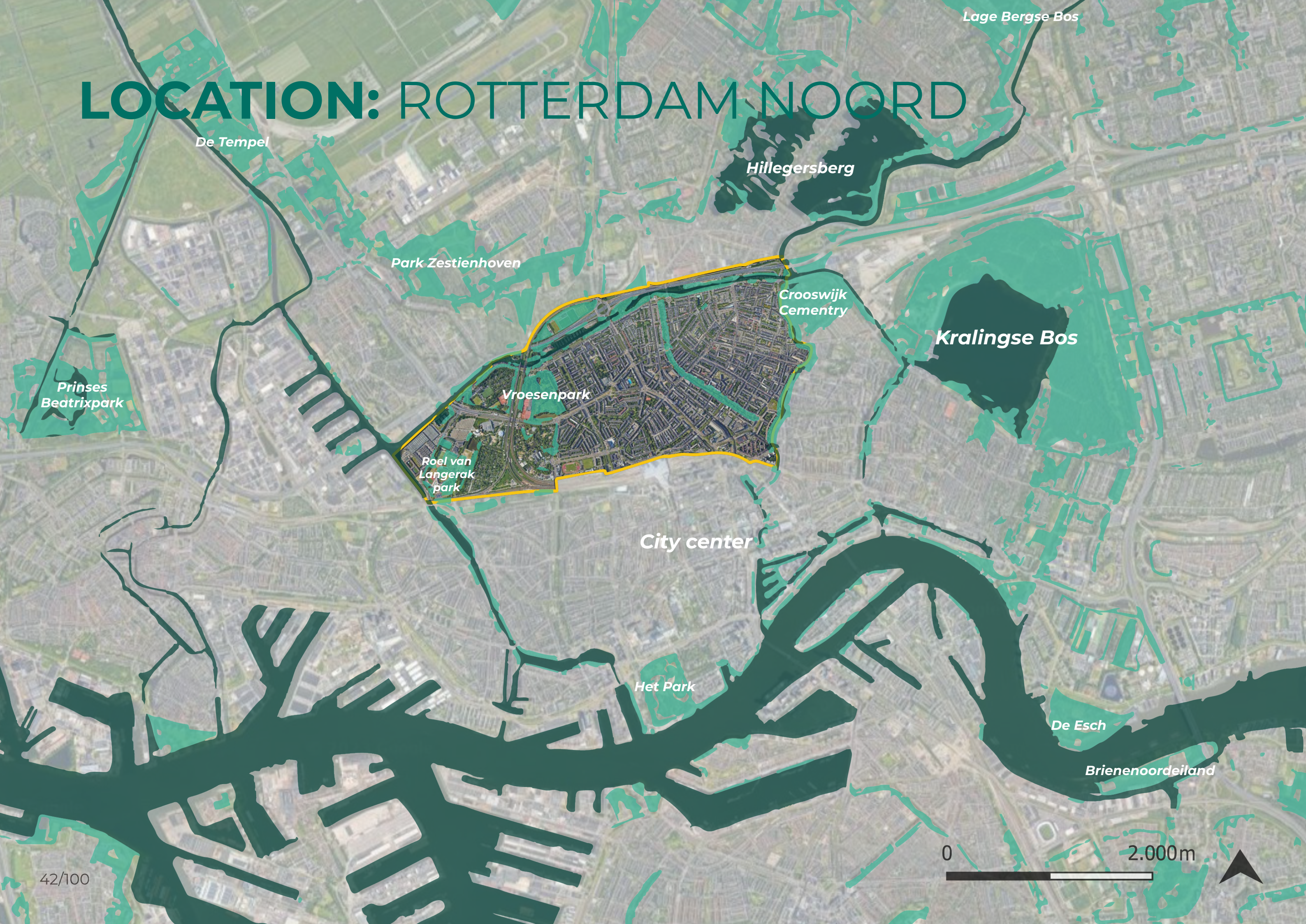
STRATEGY: METHODS



LOCATION: ZUID-HOLLAND



LOCATION: ROTTERDAM NOORD



De Tempel

Hillegersberg

Lage Bergse Bos

Park Zestienhoven

Crooswijk
Cementry

Kralingse Bos

Prinses
Beatrixpark

Vroesenpark

Roel van
Langerak
park

City center

Het Park

De Esch

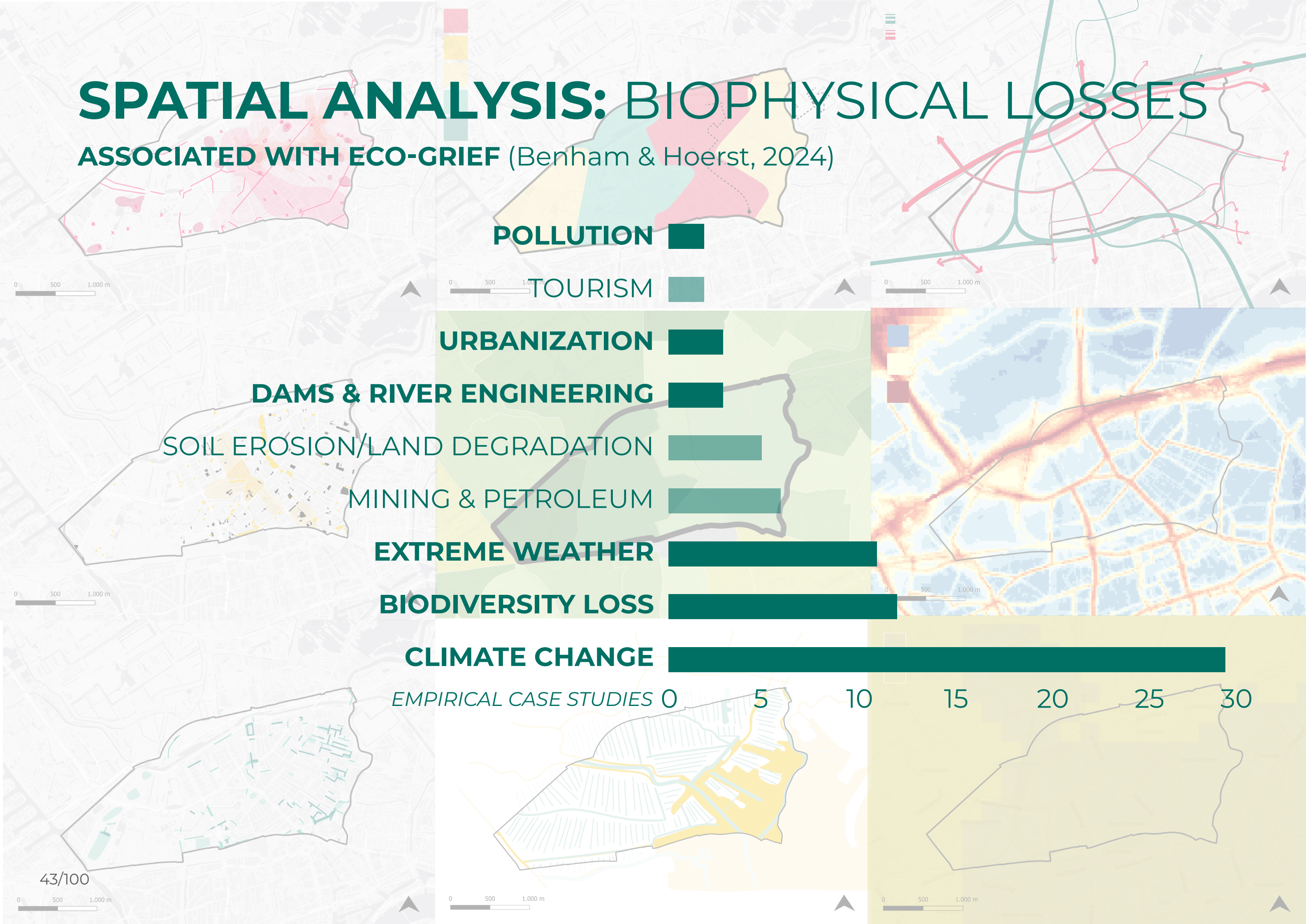
Brienoordeiland

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2.000m

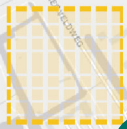








SPATIAL ANALYSIS: BIOPHYSICAL LOSSES

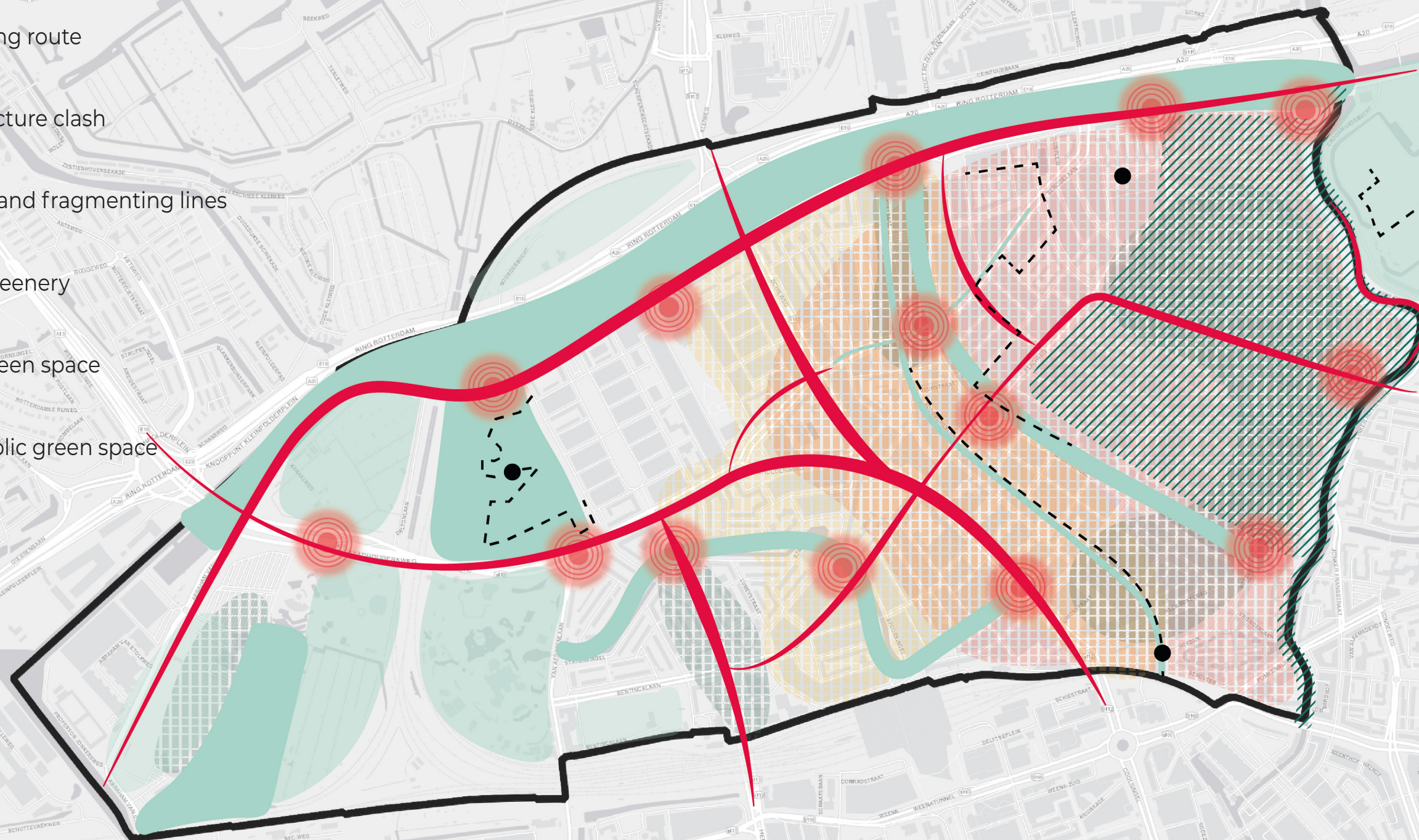
ASSOCIATED WITH ECO-GRIEF (Benham & Hoerst, 2024)



SPATIAL ANALYSIS: PROBLEM MAP

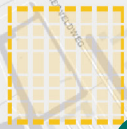




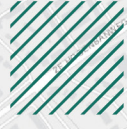


ROTTERDAM NOORD

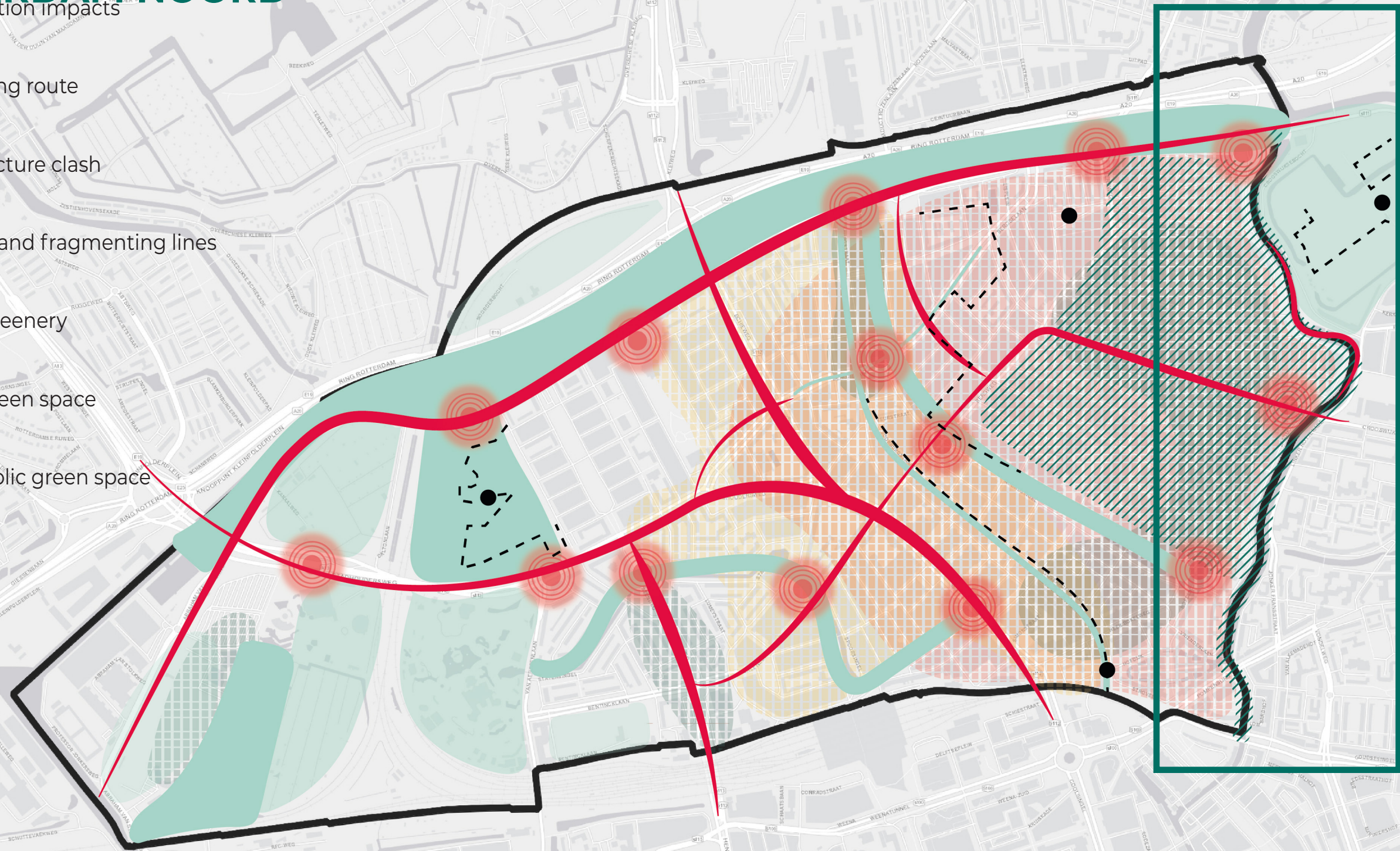
-  = soil impacts
-  = heat impacts
-  = precipitation impacts
-  = monitoring route
-  = infrastructure clash
-  = polluted and fragmenting lines
-  = lack of greenery
-  = public green space
-  = semi-public green space



SPATIAL ANALYSIS: PROBLEM MAP

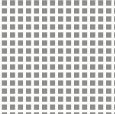
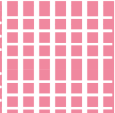




ROTTERDAM NOORD

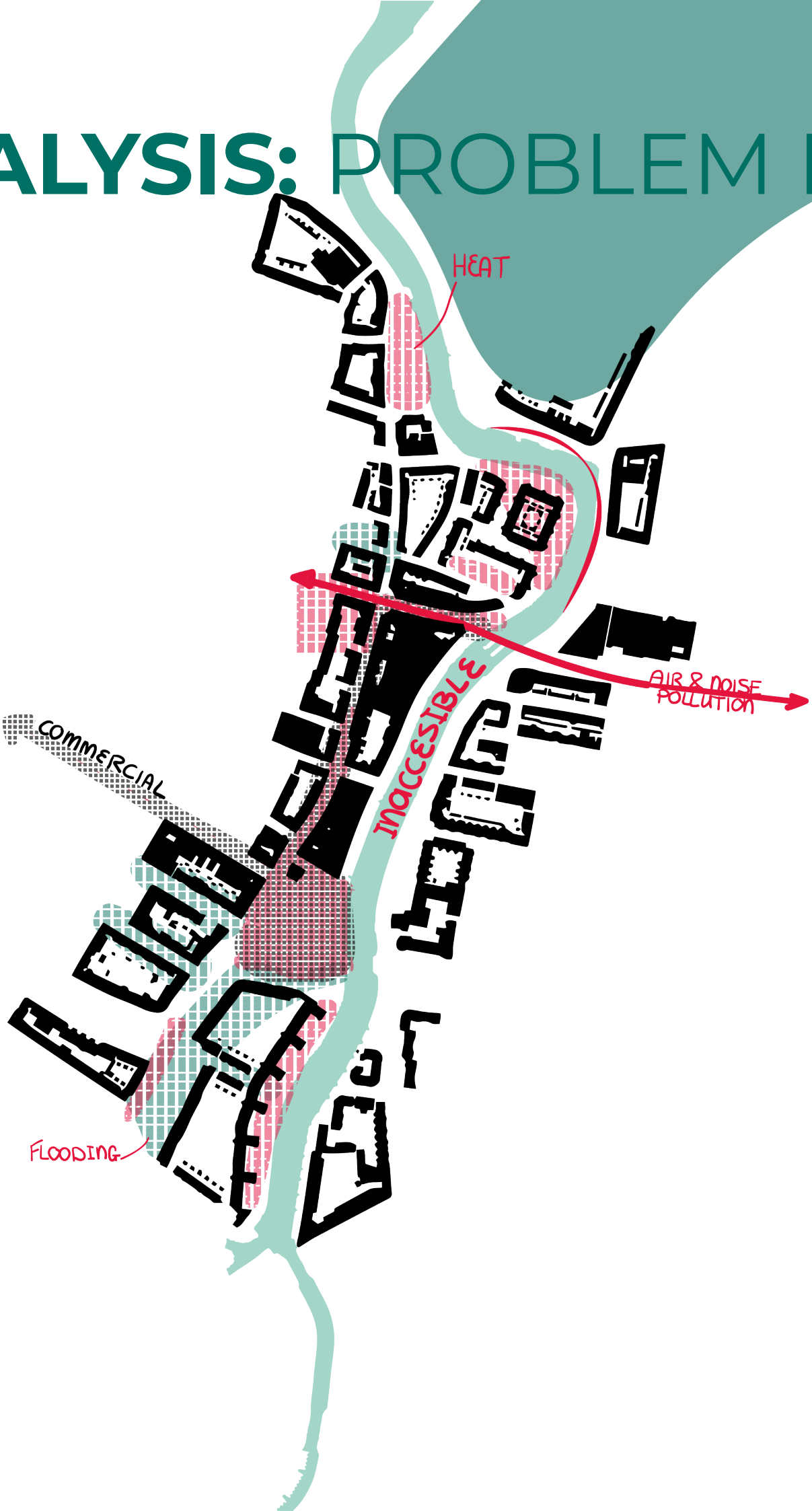
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SPATIAL ANALYSIS: PROBLEM MAP

ALONG THE ROTTE

-  = commercial area
-  = heat impacts
-  = precipitation impacts
-  = water
-  = cemetery
-  = polluted and fragmenting lines

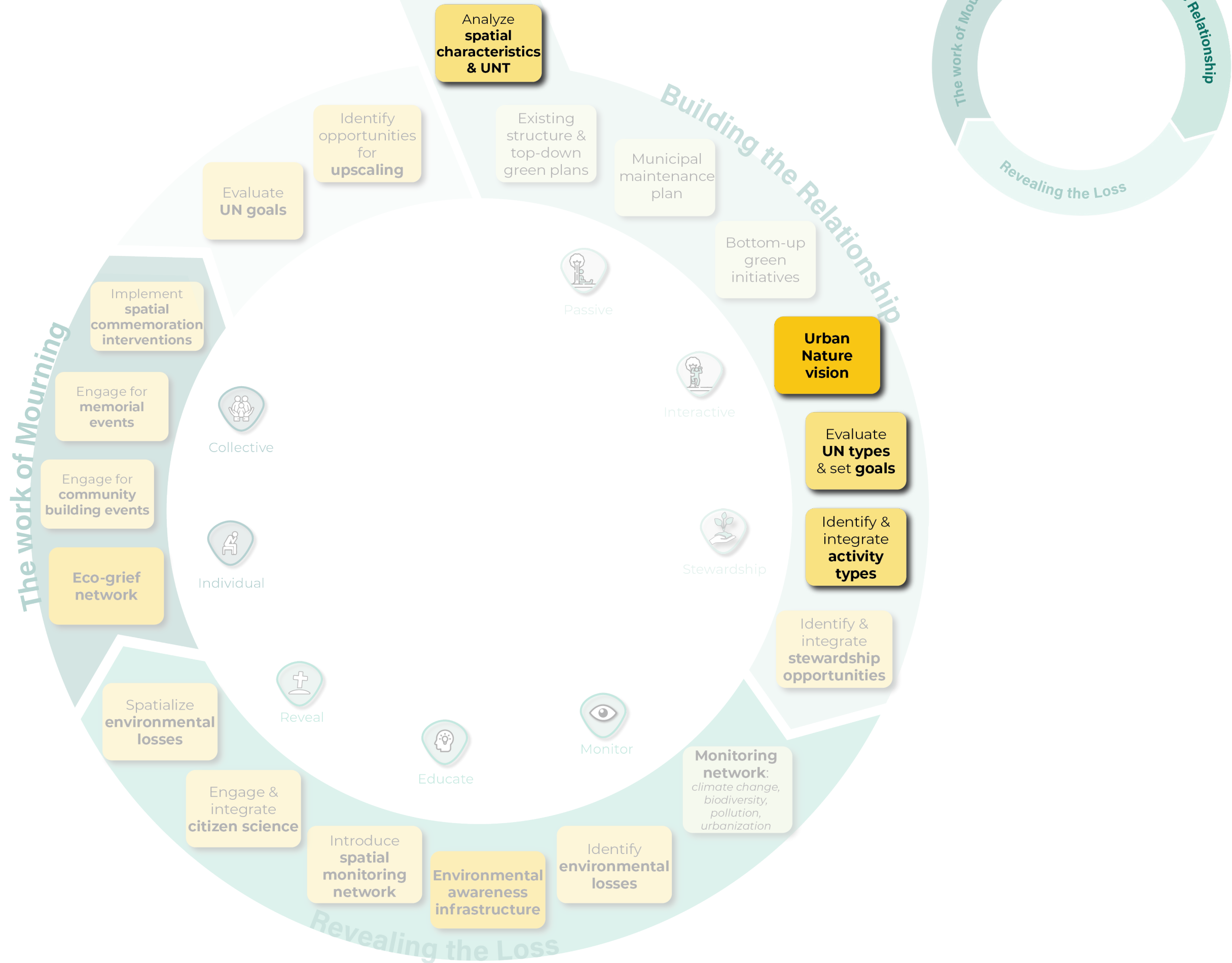


STRATEGY: URBAN ECO-GRIEF CYCLE

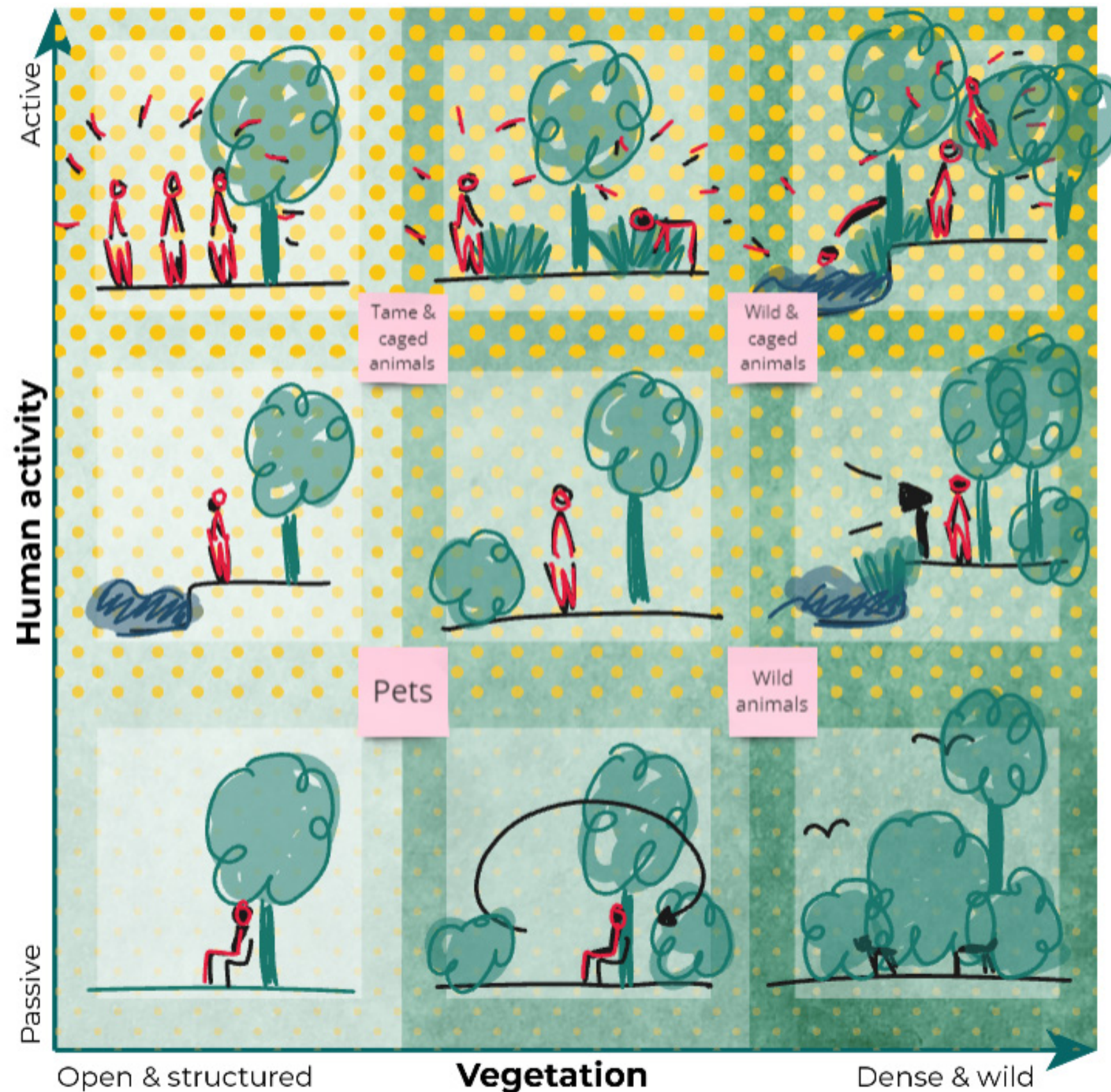
TOWARDS A COMMUNITY OF CARE & AWARENESS



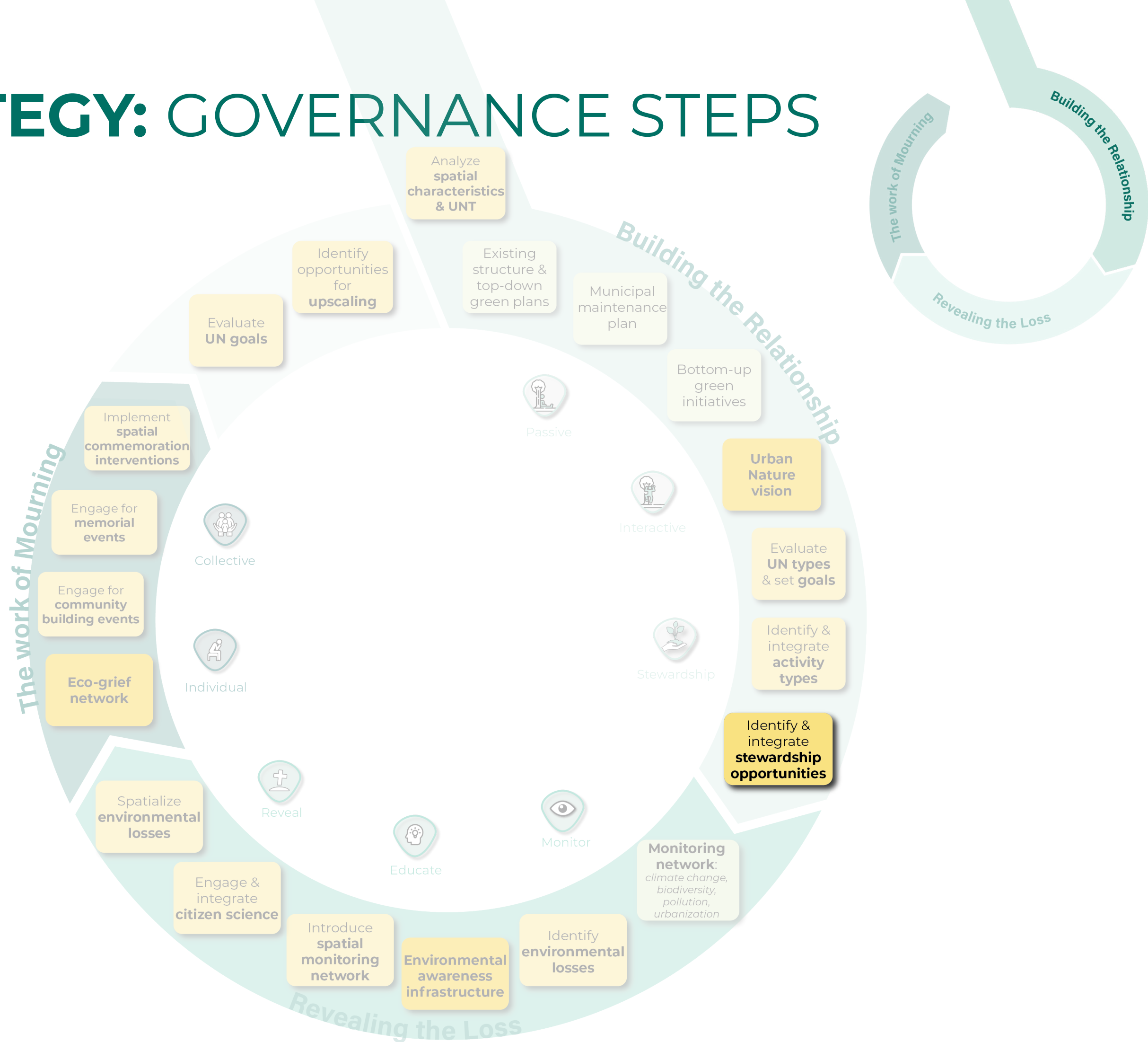
STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE STEPS



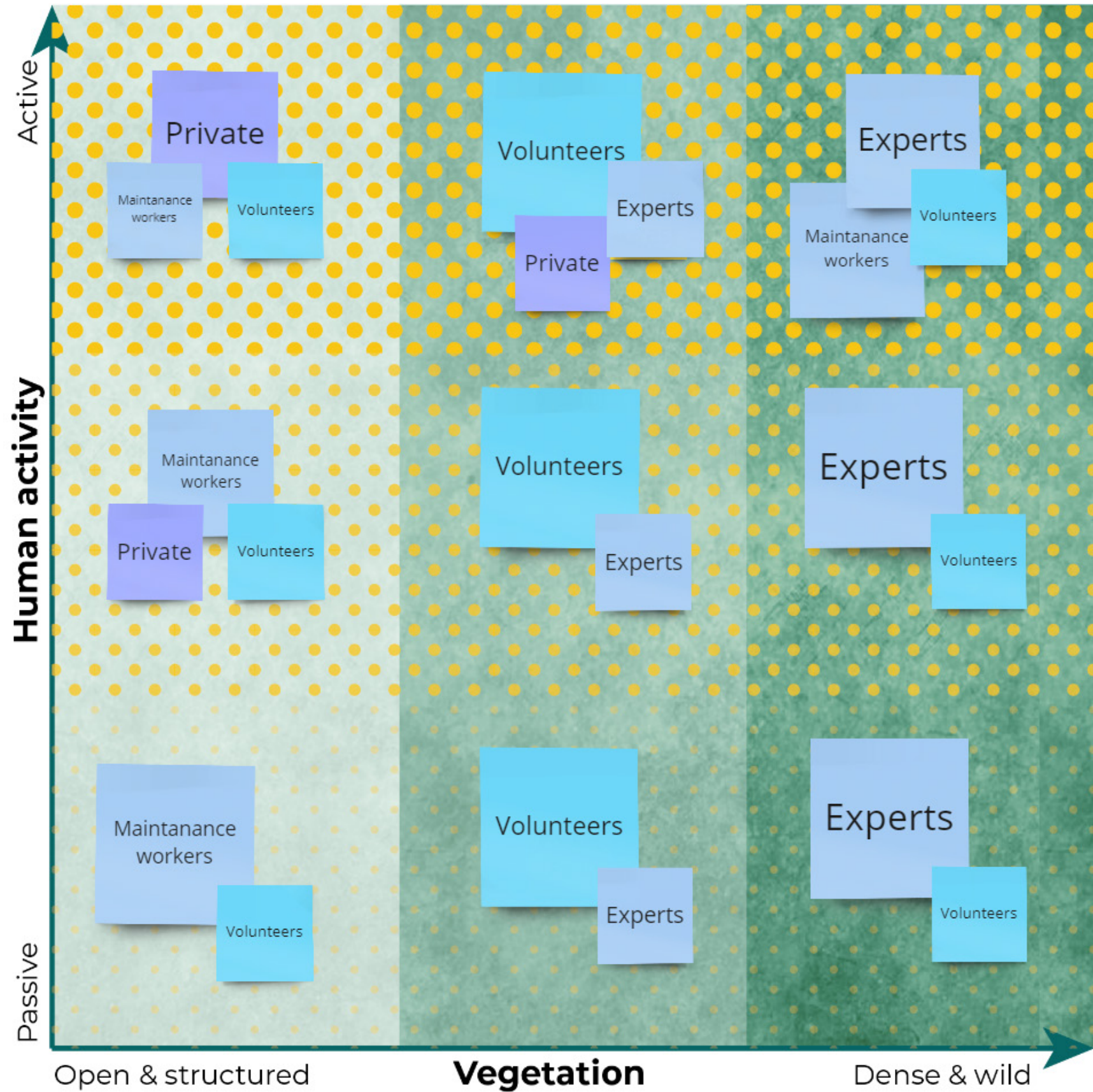
STRATEGY: URBAN NATURE TYPES



STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE STEPS

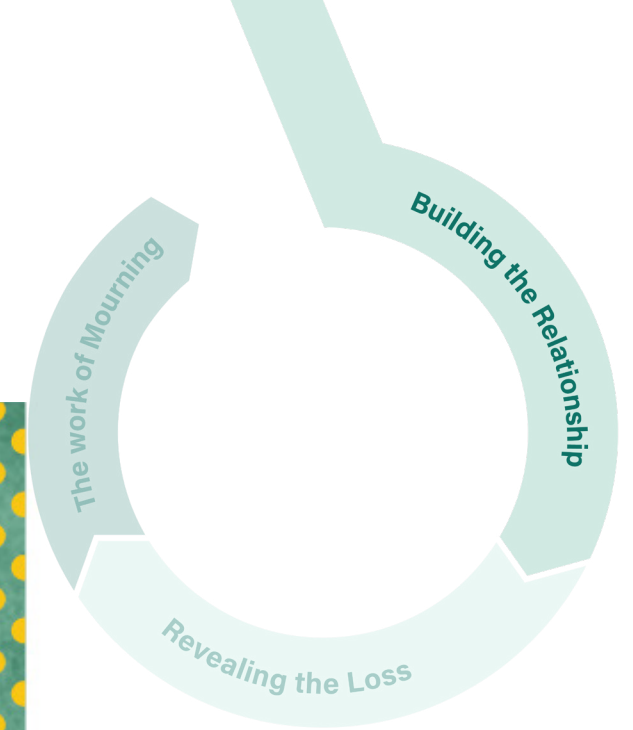
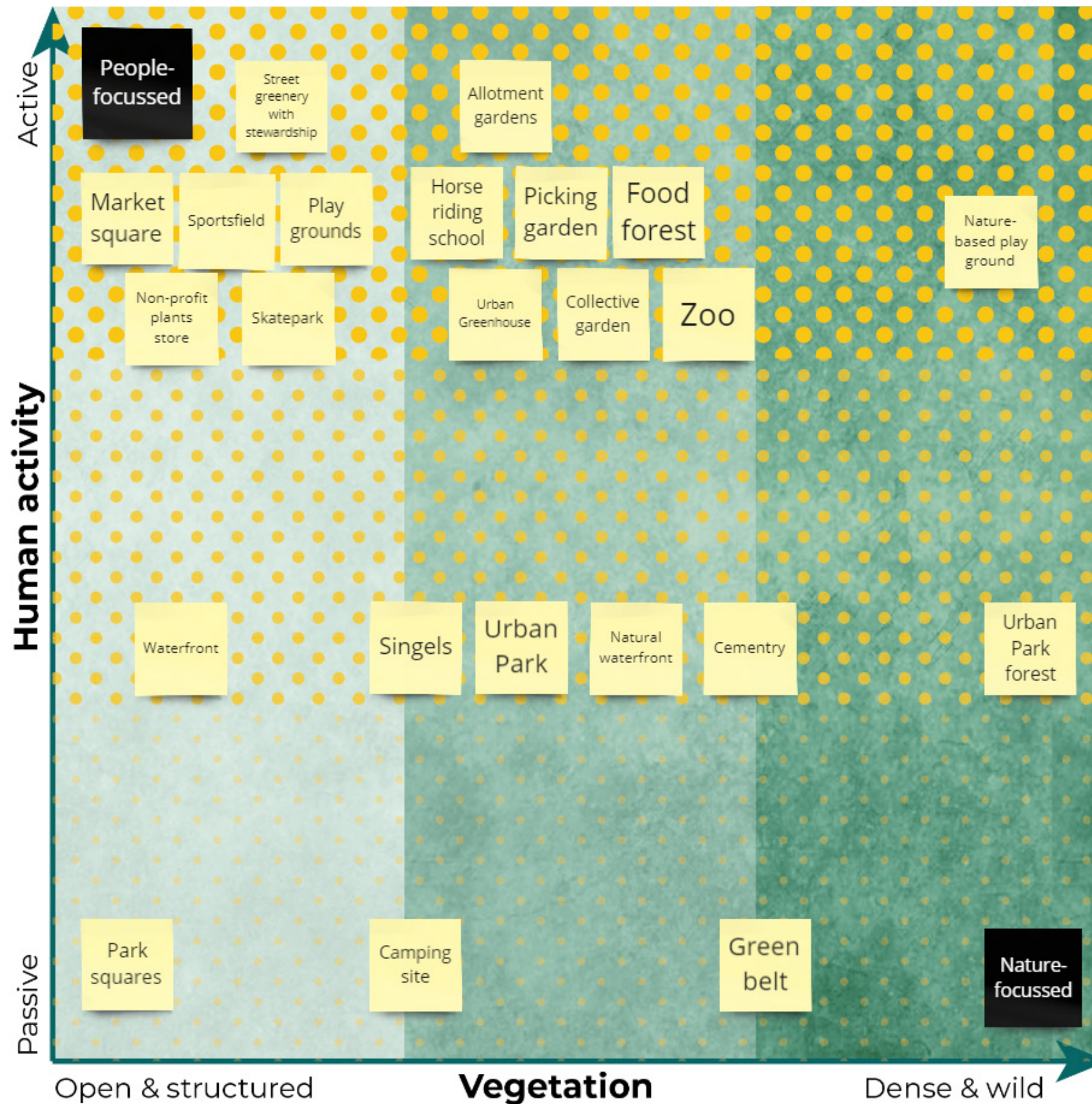


STRATEGY: STEWARDSHIP



- Public
- Private
- Civil society

STRATEGY: UNT-ANALYSIS

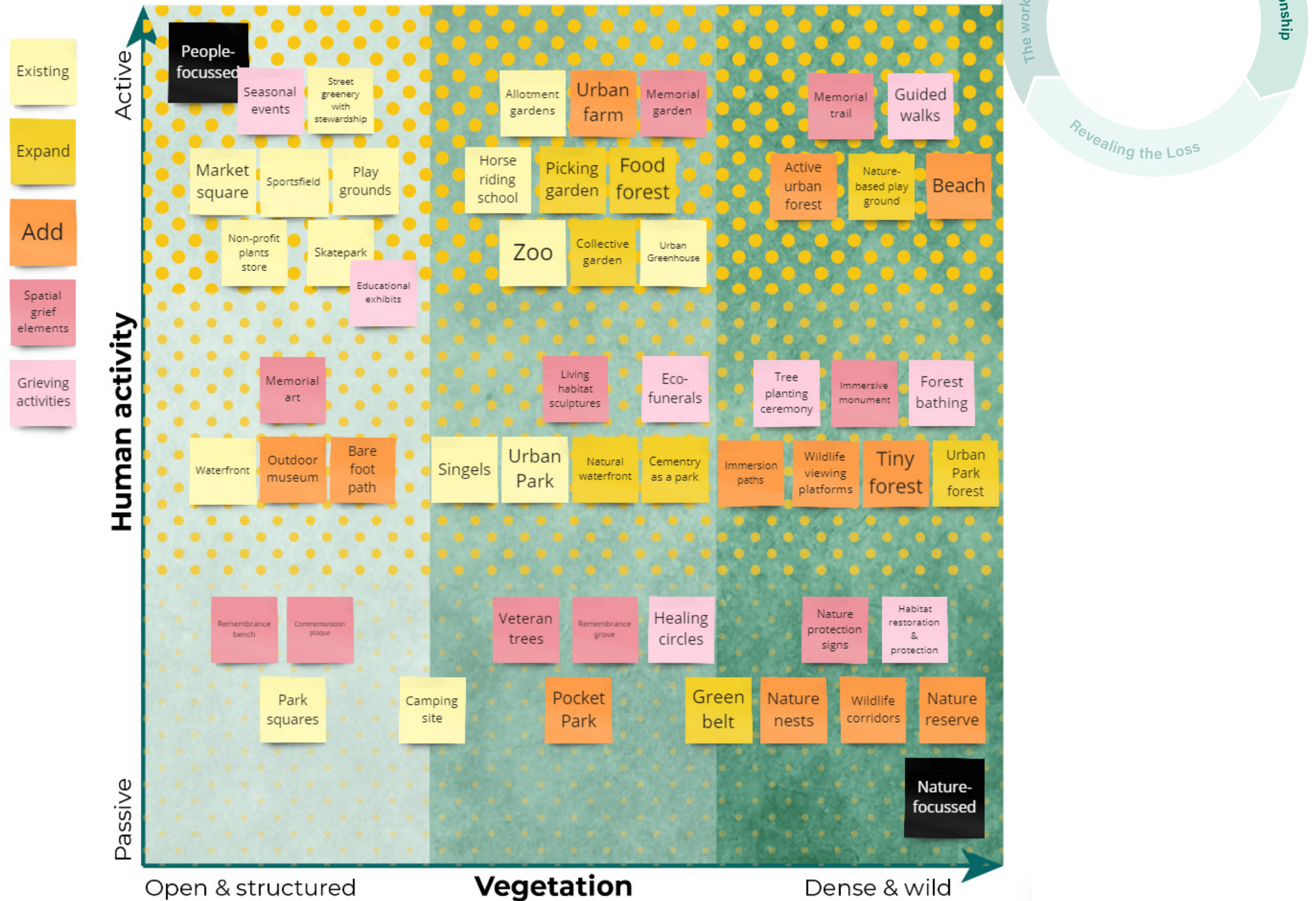


STRATEGY: UNT-ANALYSIS

- = heat impacts
- = precipitation impacts
- = commercial area



STRATEGY: UNT-VISION



STRATEGY: UNT-VISION



= heat impacts

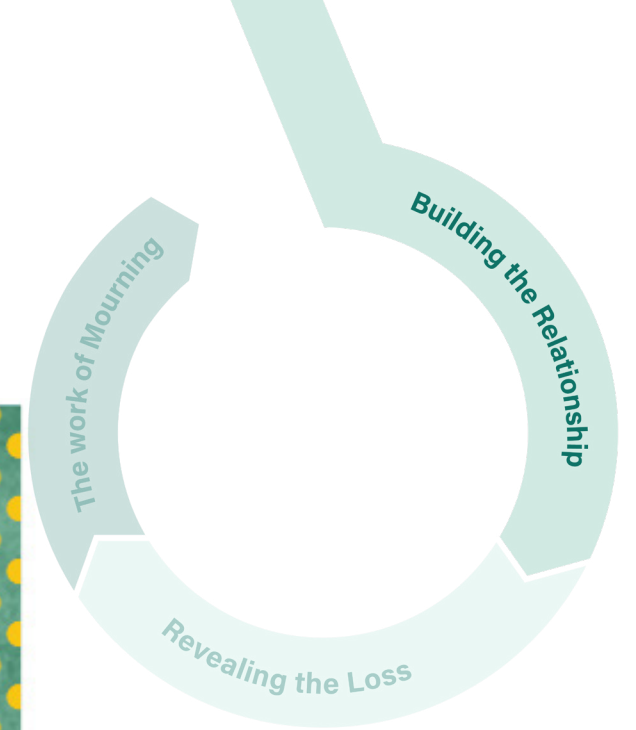
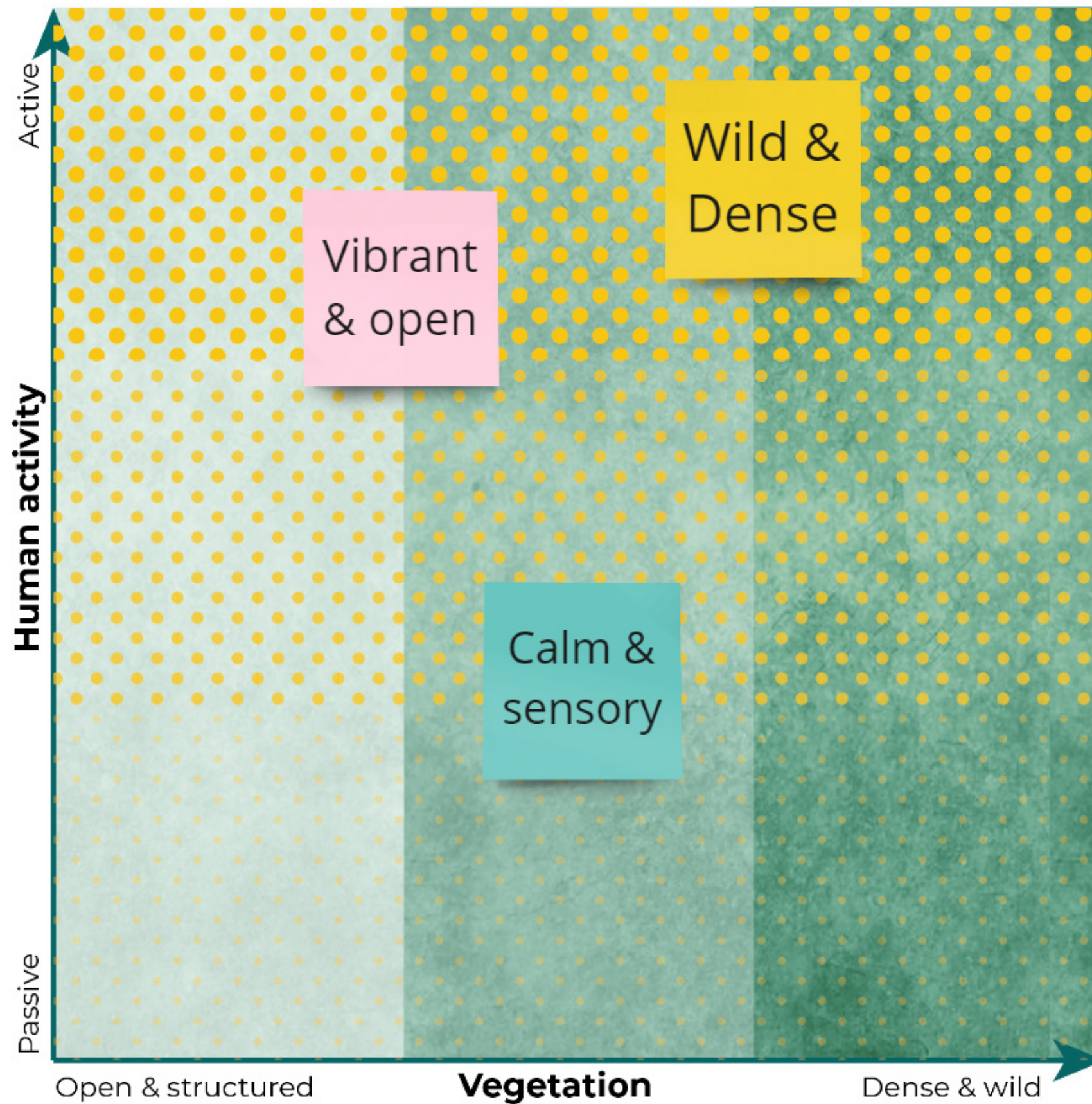


= precipitation impacts

= commercial area



STRATEGY: UNT-VISION

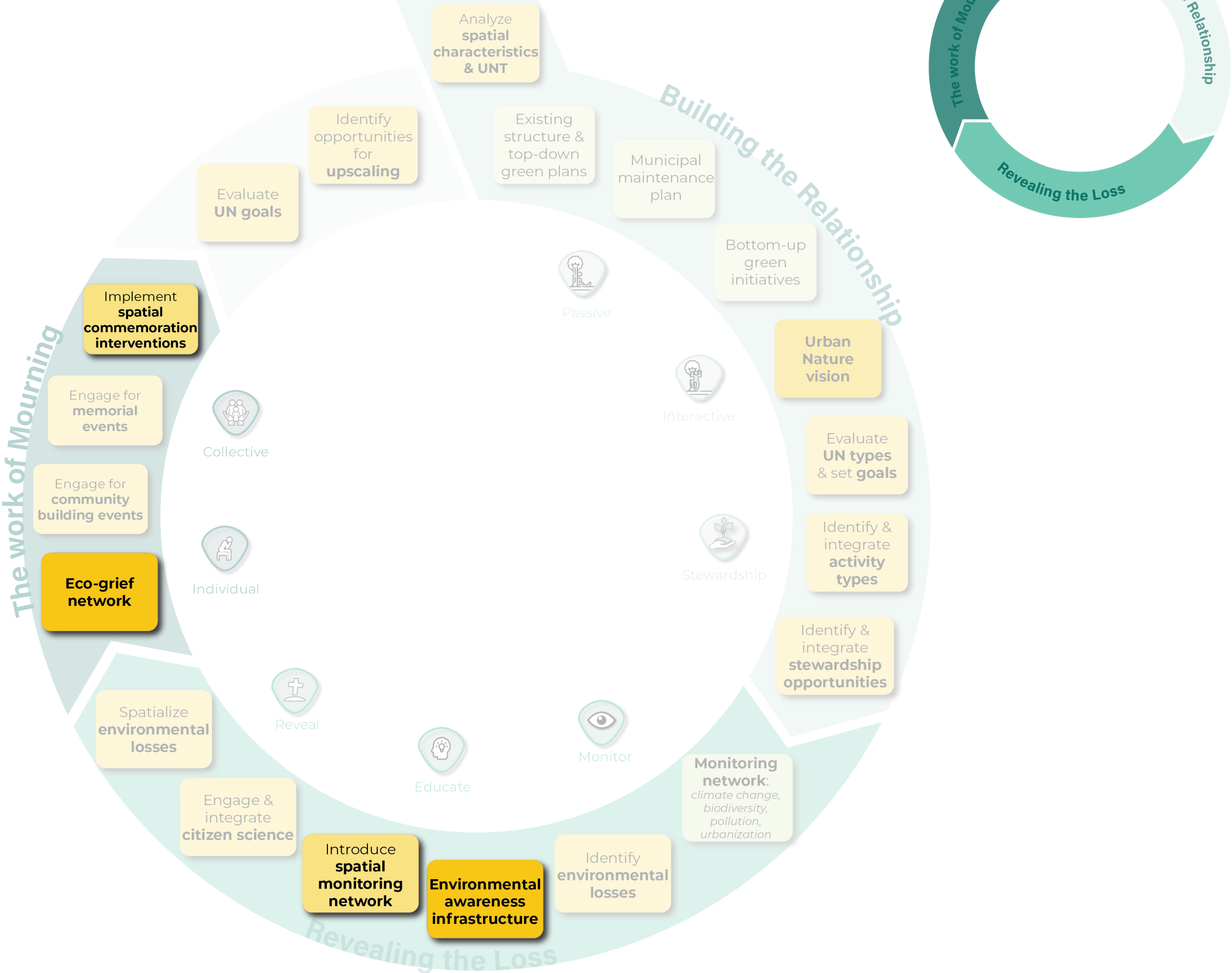


STRATEGY: UNT-VISION

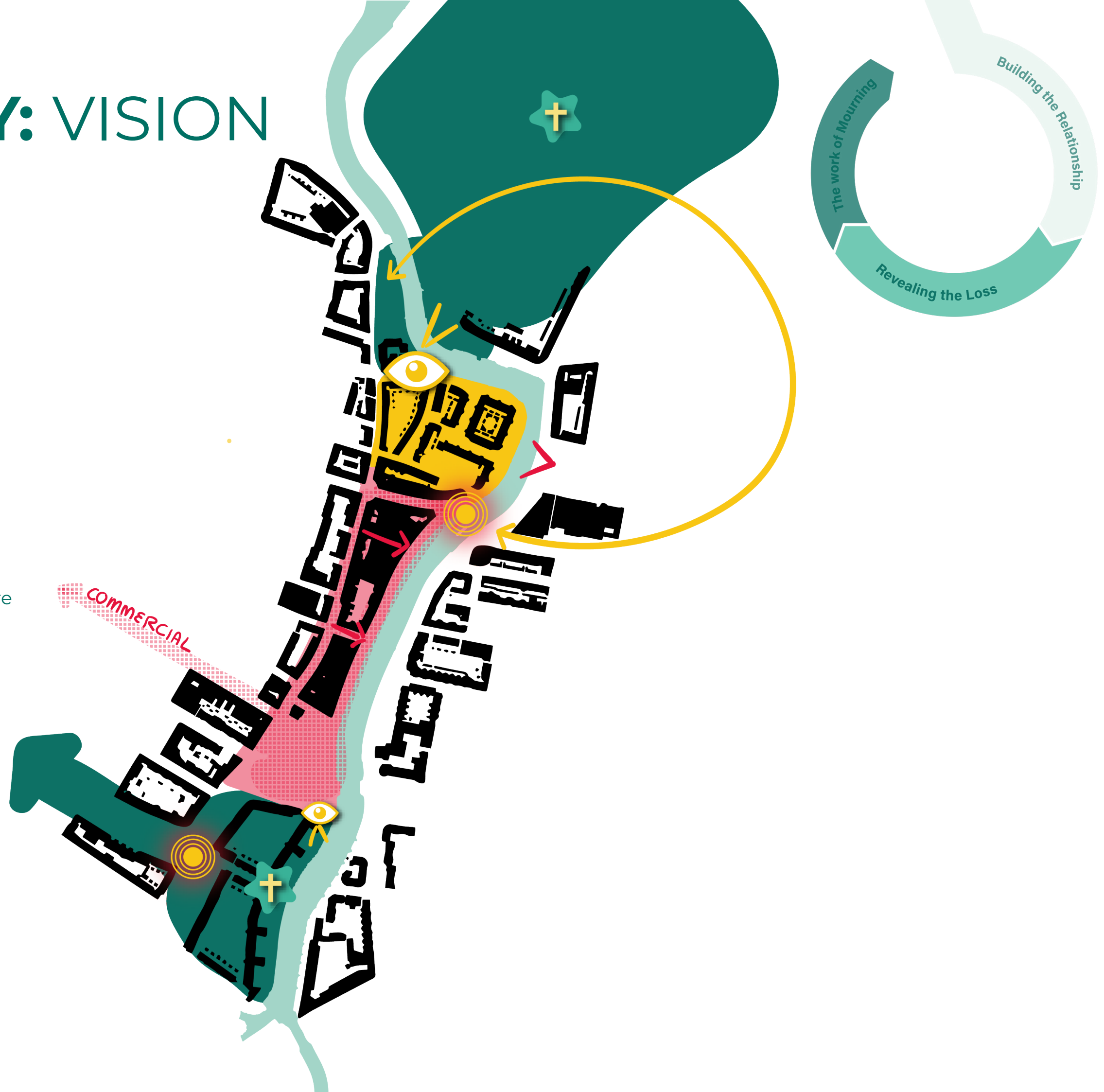
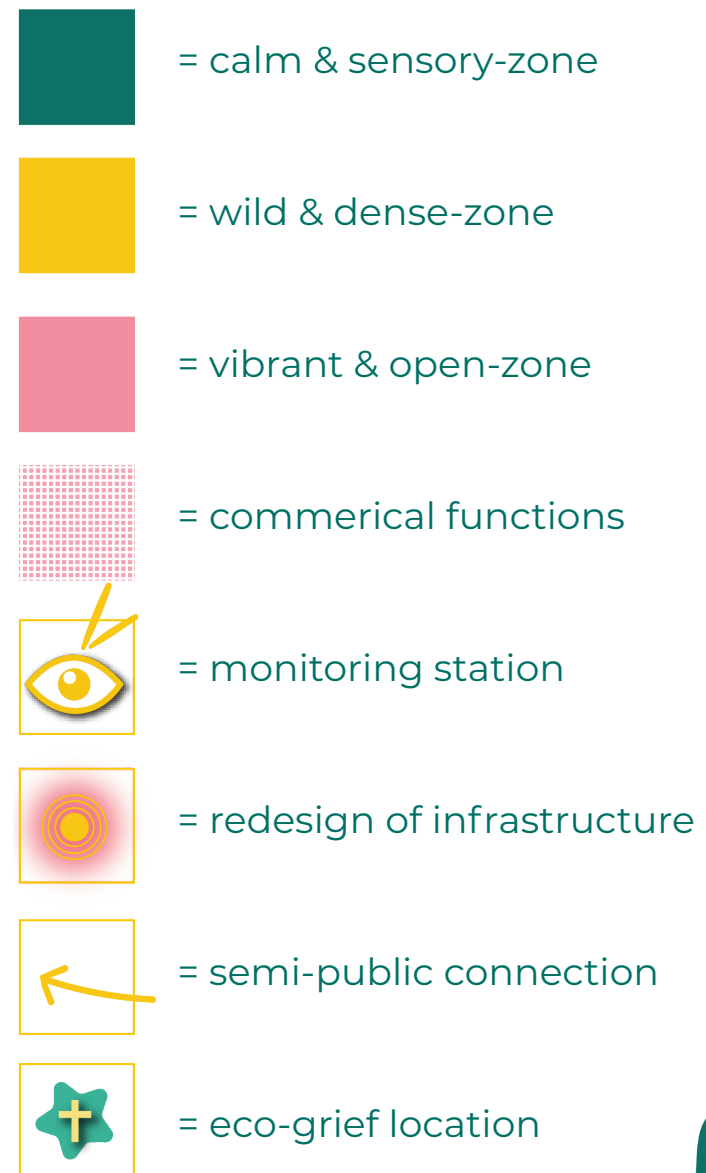
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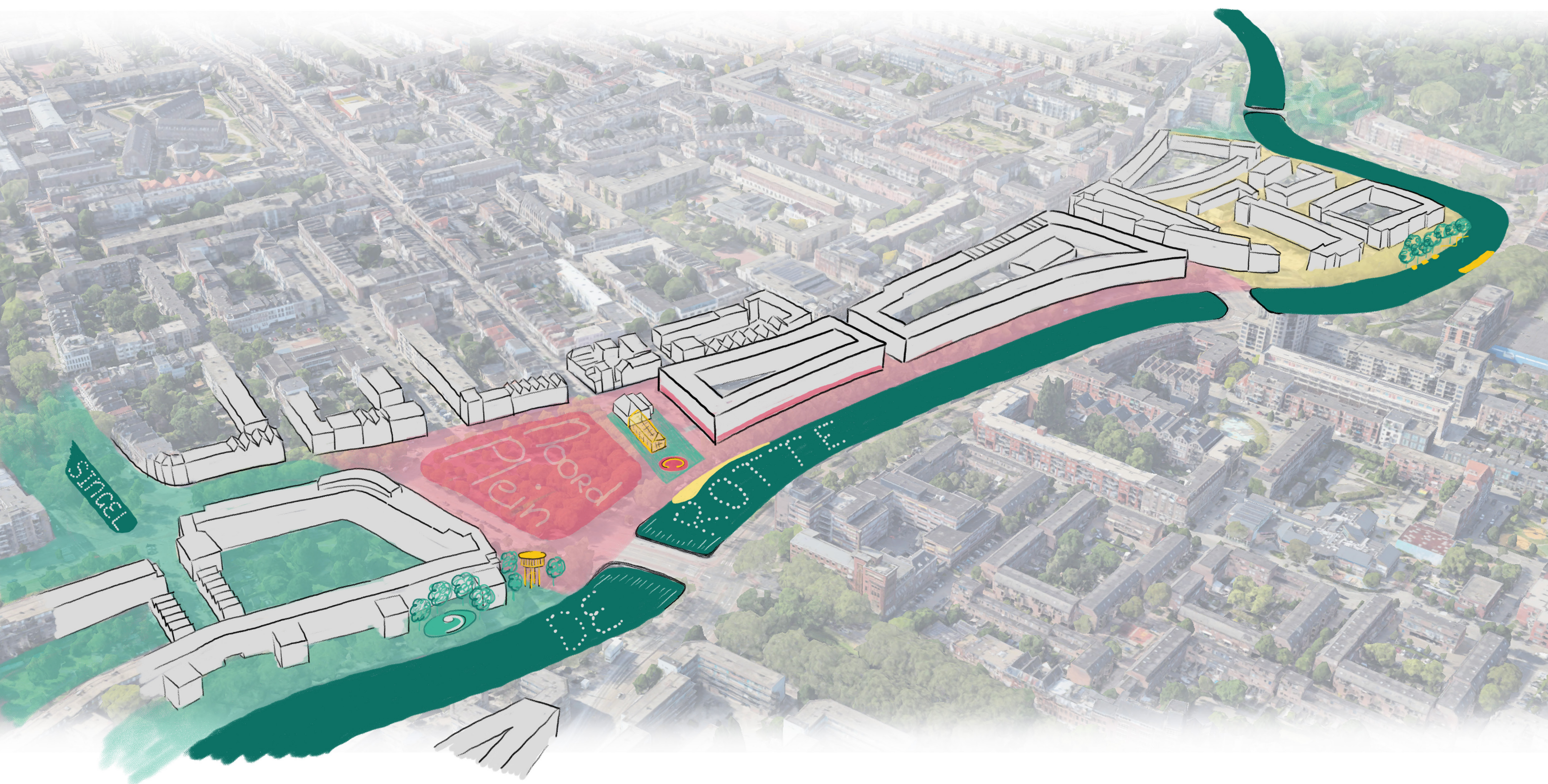
STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE STEPS



STRATEGY: VISION



STRATEGY: APPLICATION ON SITE



STRATEGY: FUNCTIONS IN SPACE



STRATEGY: ECO-GRIEF PERSONAS

Young girl
Represents children in the city



DISCONNECTION GRIEF

Teenage activist
Represents unheard voices & the next generation



GLOBAL GRIEF

Urban tree specialist
Represents practical professionals



LOCAL GRIEF

Ecologist
Represents theoretical professionals



ECO-ANXIETY

Fisherman
Represents sub-cultures related to the landscape



CULTURAL GRIEF

Wildlife observer
Represents those who lost hope



DOOMERISM

Buddhist monk
Represents the ones that guide us



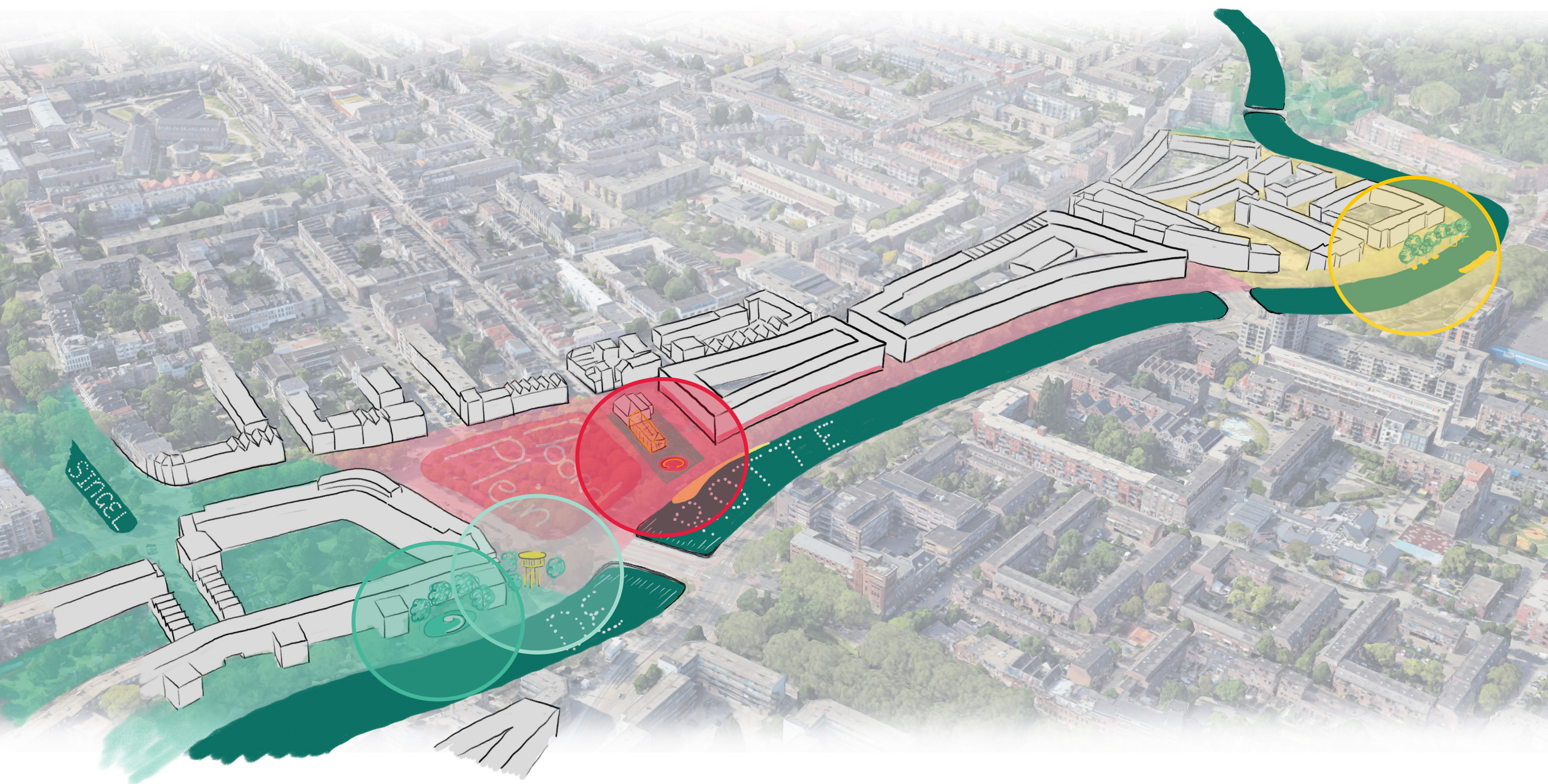
COMPASSIONATE GRIEF

Immigrant gardener
Represents those who moved to the city

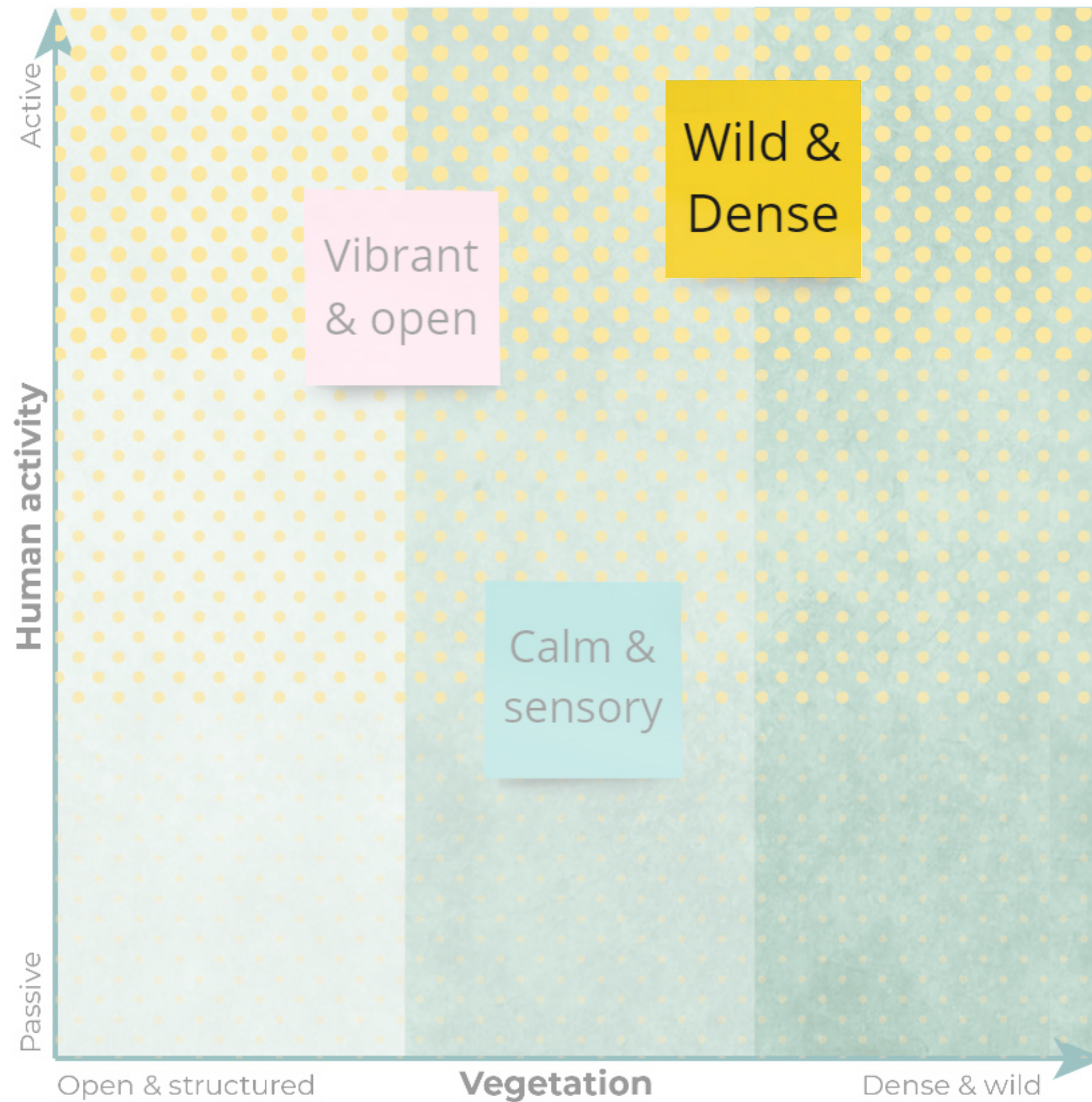


NOSTALGIC GRIEF

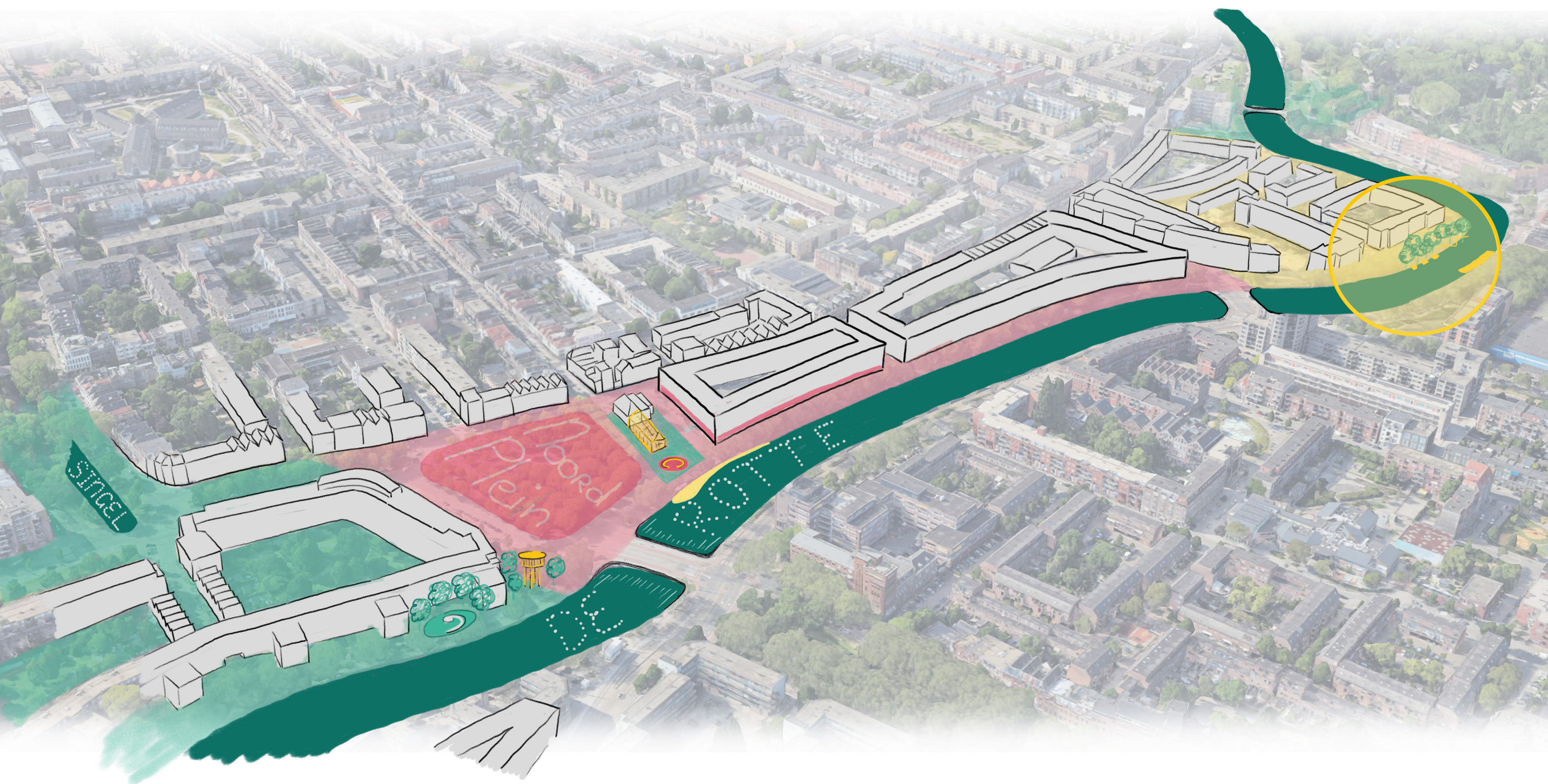
STRATEGY: ZOOM INS



STRATEGY: URBAN NATURE STRUCTURE



STRATEGY: VISION IN BIRDS EYE VIEW



STRATEGY: WILD & DENSE-ZONE



STRATEGY: WILD & DENSE-ZONE



STRATEGY: WILD & DENSE-ZONE



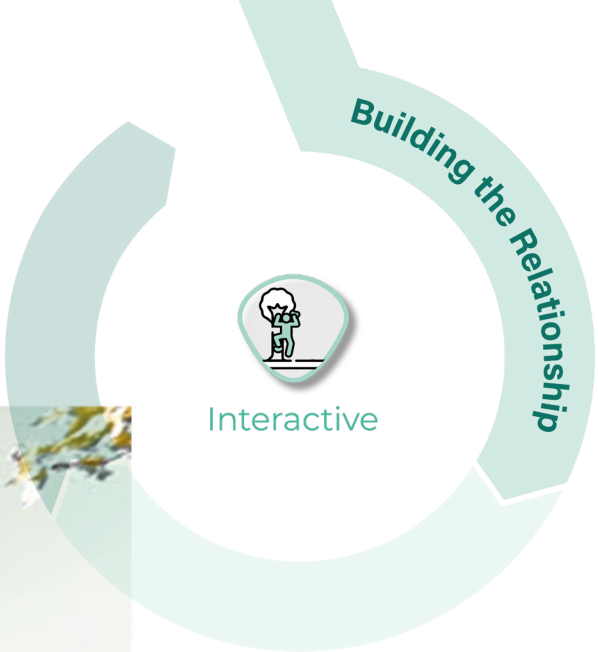
Fisherman
Represents sub-cultures related to the landscape



CULTURAL CRIER



STRATEGY: WILD & DENSE-ZONE



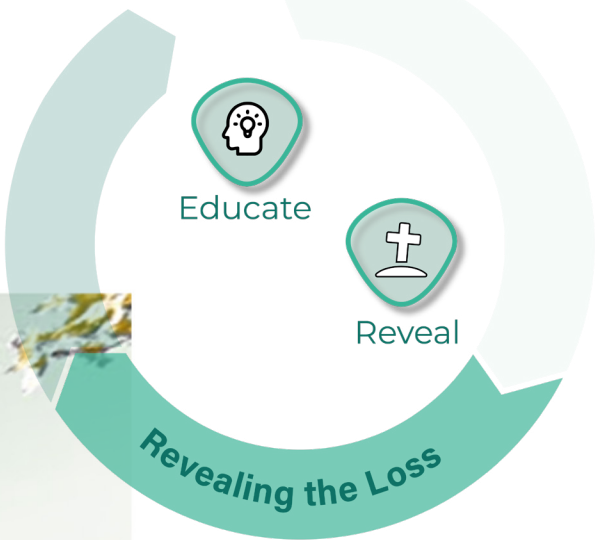
Young girl
Represents children in the city



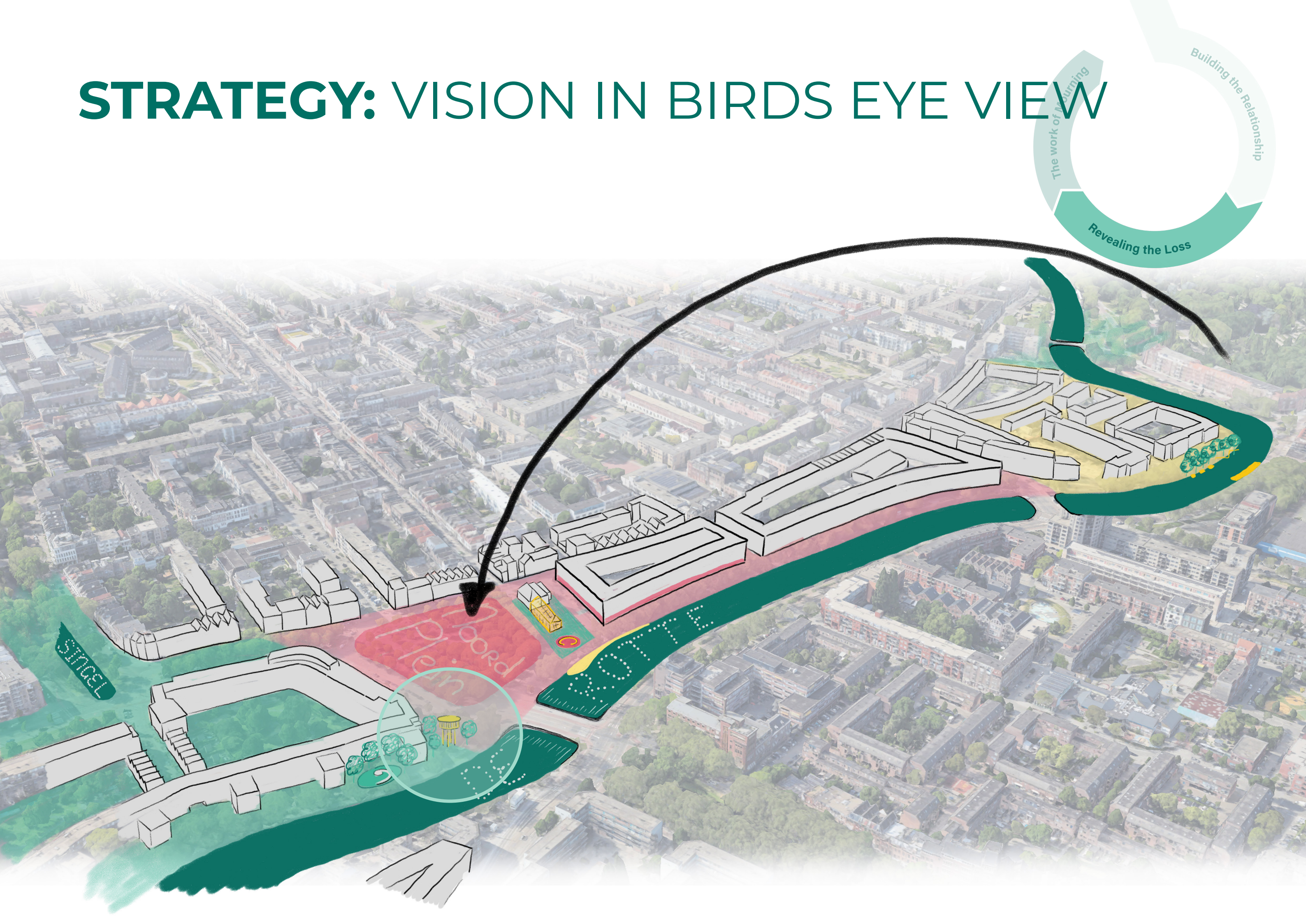
DISCONNECTION GRIEF



STRATEGY: WILD & DENSE-ZONE



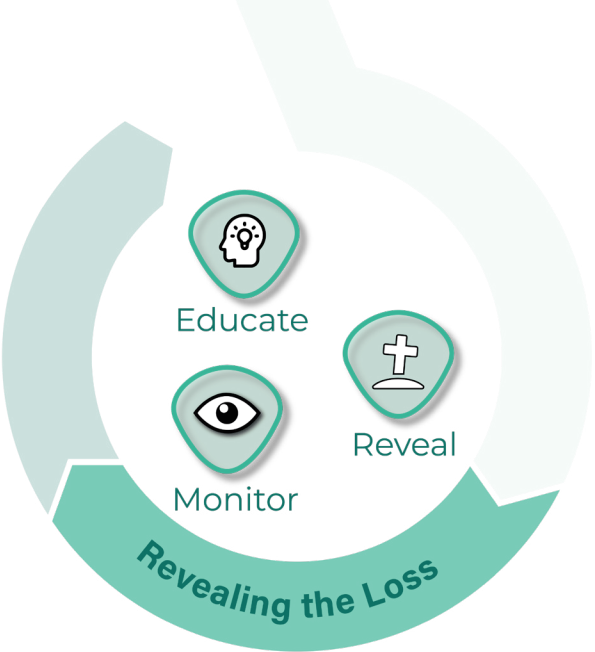
STRATEGY: VISION IN BIRDS EYE VIEW



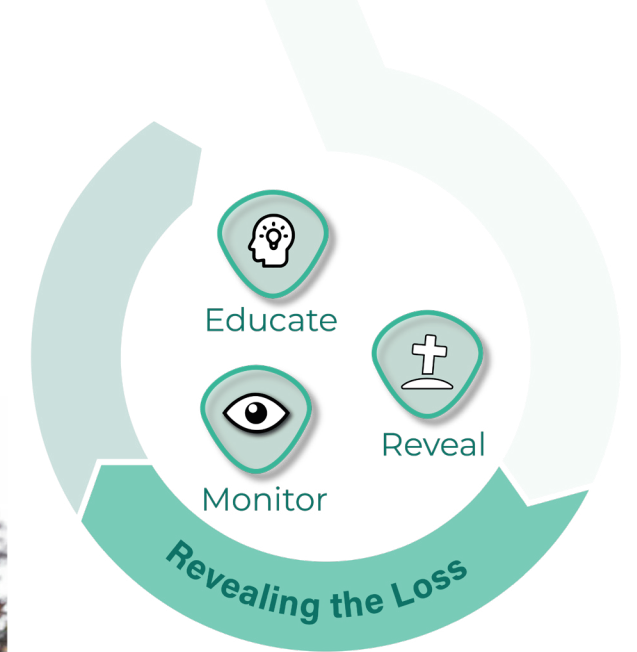
STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



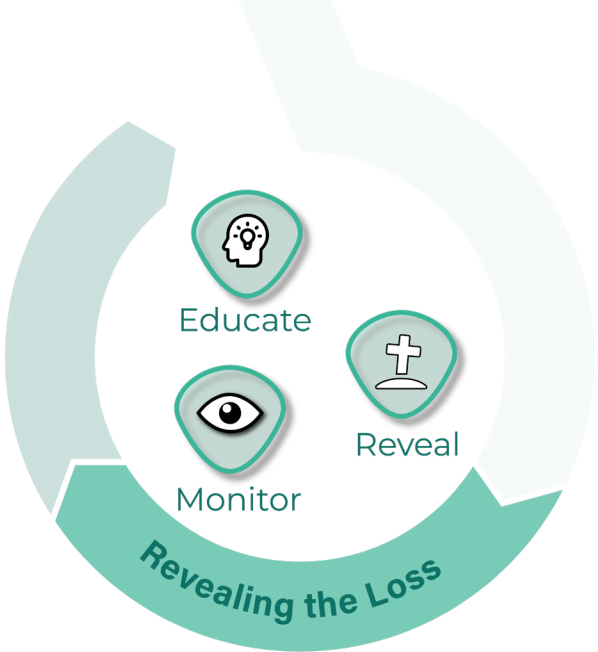
STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



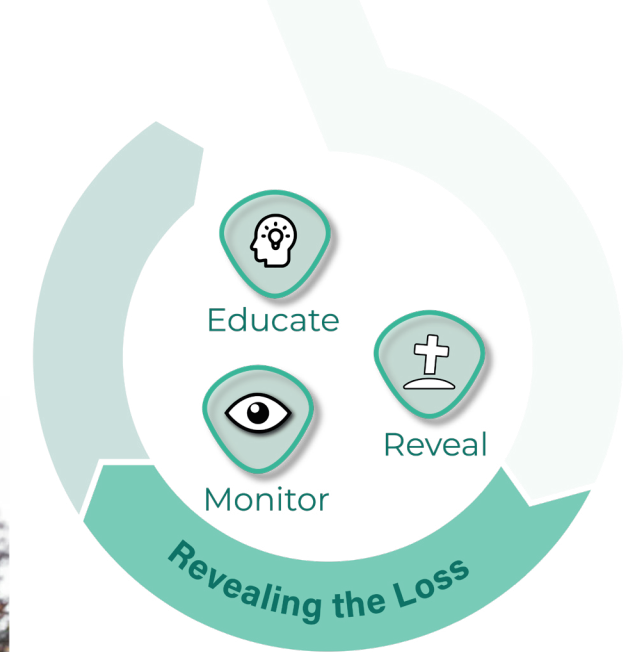
STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



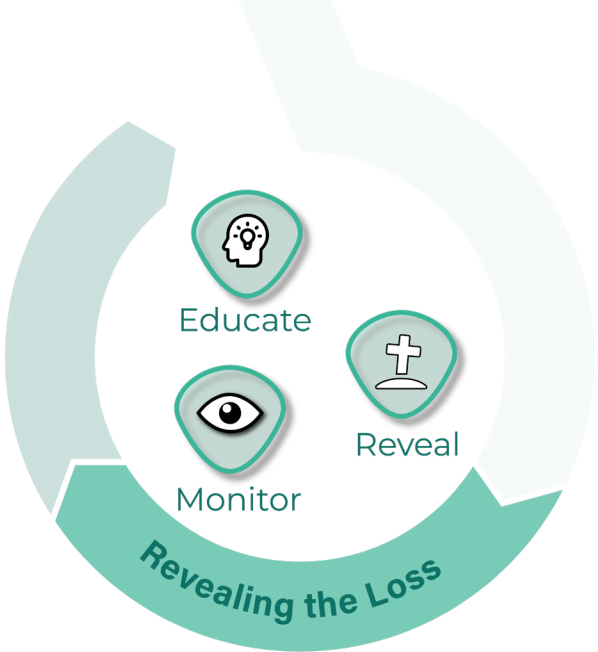
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STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



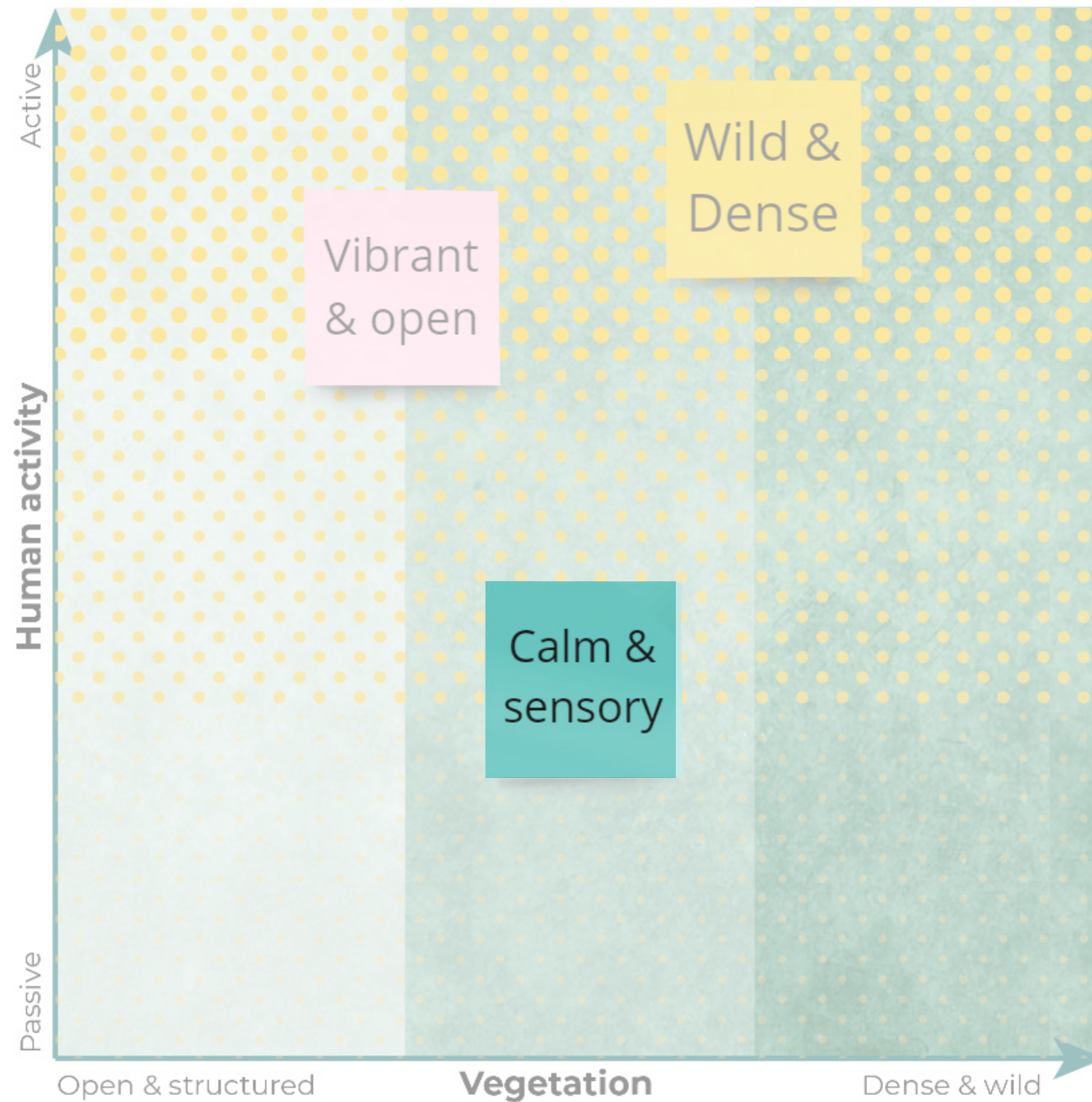
STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



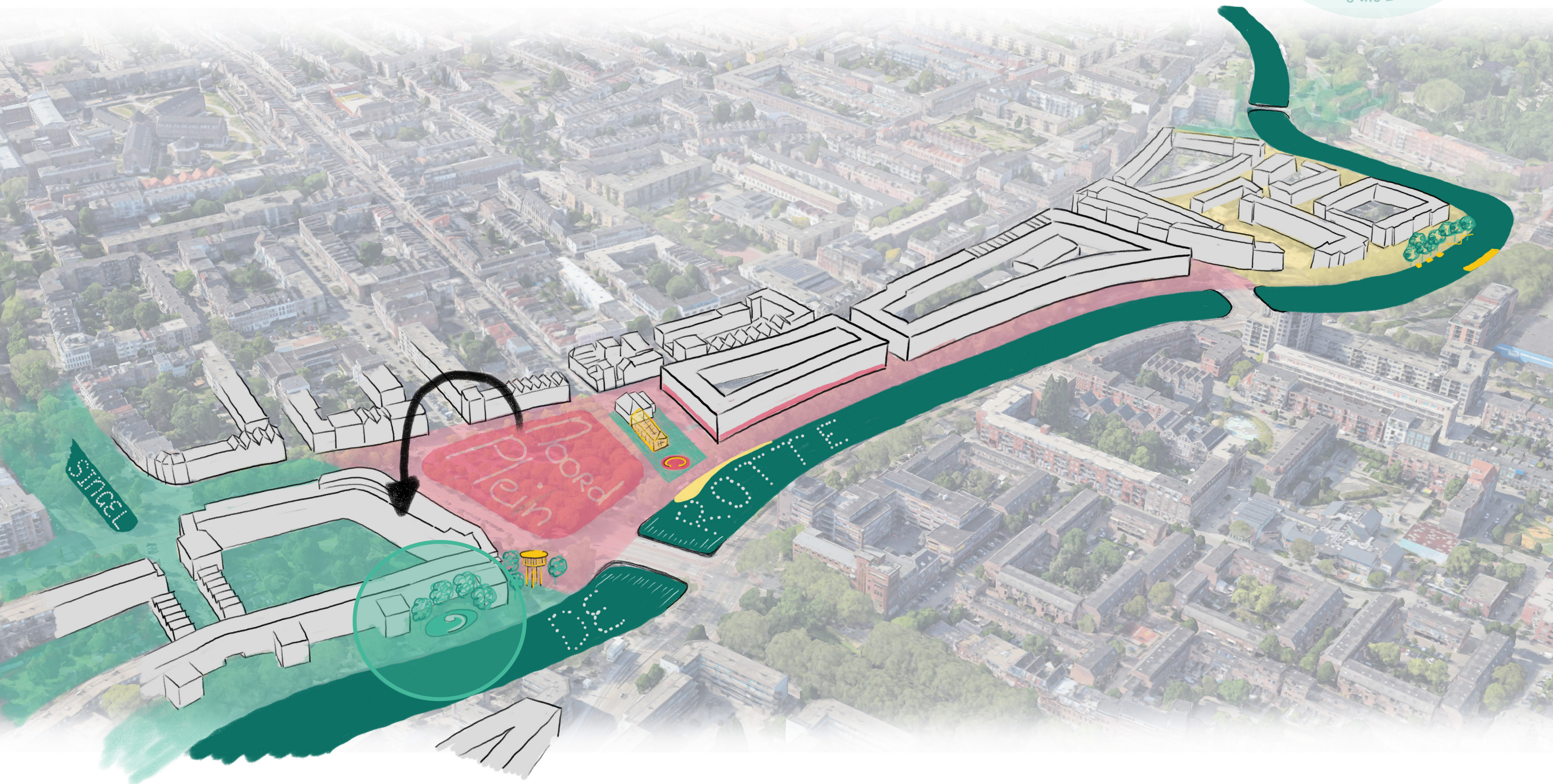
STRATEGY: TRANSITION-ZONE



STRATEGY: URBAN NATURE STRUCTURE



STRATEGY: VISION IN BIRDS EYE VIEW



STRATEGY: CALM & SENSORY-ZONE

The work of Mourning

Building the Relationship

Revealing the Loss



STRATEGY: CALM & SENSORY-ZONE

The work of Mourning

Building the Relationship



STRATEGY: CALM & SENSORY-ZONE

The work of Mourning

Building the Relationship



STRATEGY: CALM & SENSORY-ZONE

Mourning



STRATEGY: CALM & SENSORY-ZONE



Wildlife observer
Represents those who lost hope



DOOMERISM

Restorative
memorial garden

Viewpoint

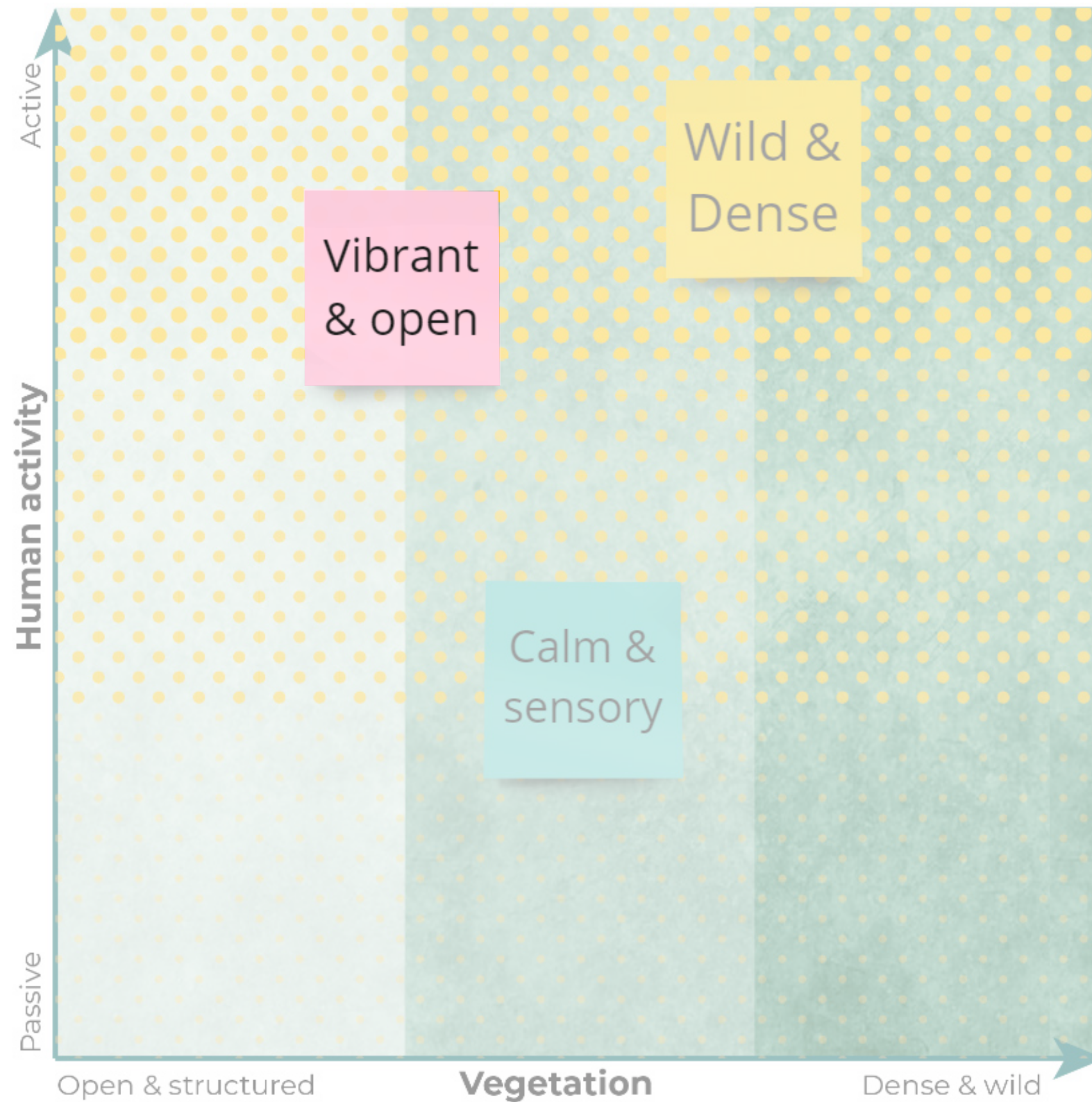
The indifference of people ...
connected to how we treat
our earth

Wild life
observer

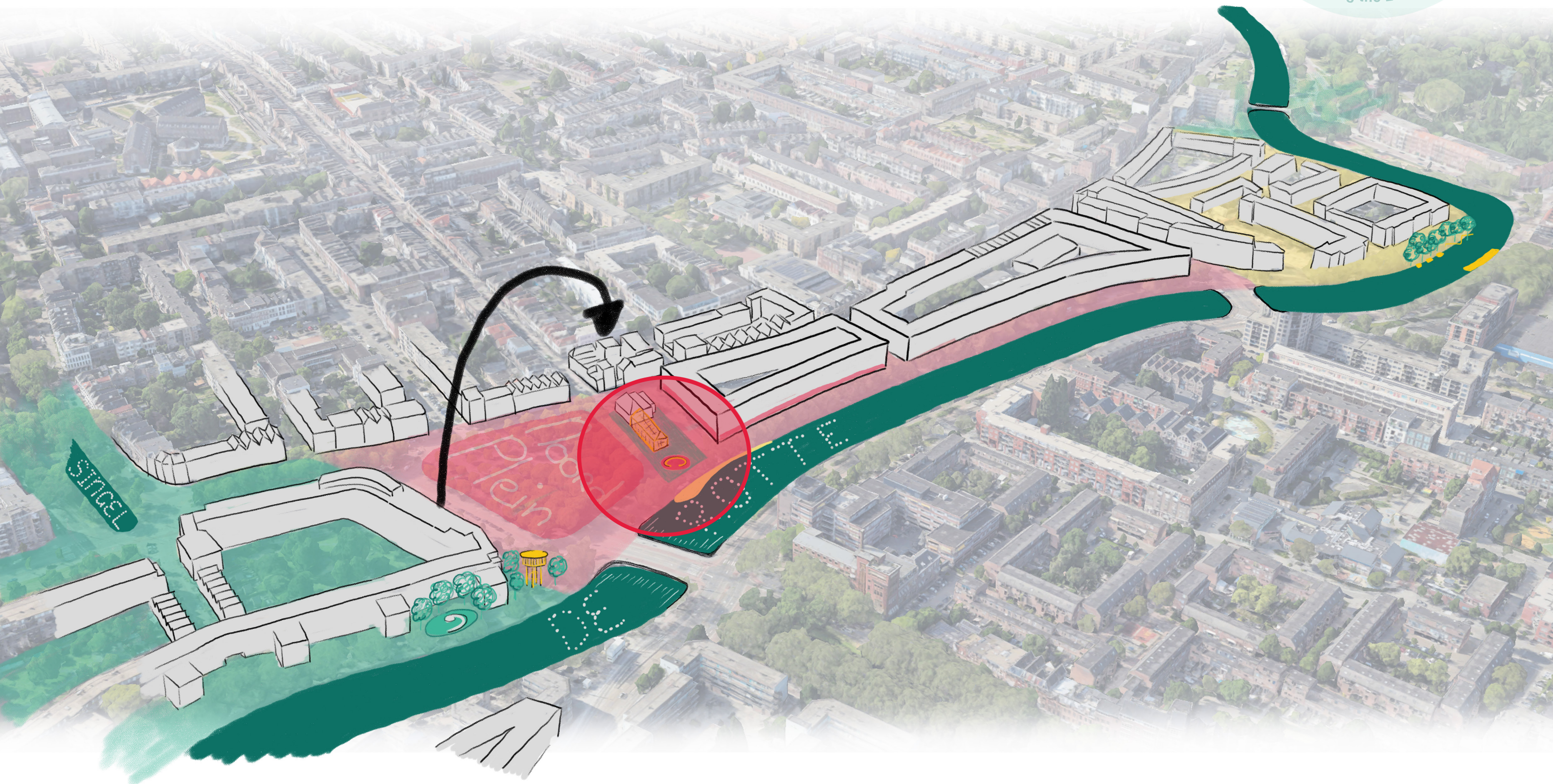
SLOW DOWN
YOU LOST SOMETHING



STRATEGY: URBAN NATURE STRUCTURE



STRATEGY: VISION IN BIRDS EYE VIEW



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE

The work of Mourning

Building the Relationship



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE

The work of Mourning

Building the Relationship



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE

Building the Relationship



Passive



Interactive



Stewardship

Urban Nature Hub



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE

Building the Relationship



Passive



Interactive



Stewardship

Immigrant gardener
Represents those who moved to the city



NOSTALGIC GRIEF

Urban Nature Hub

This reminds me of my childhood

Volunteers
I feel a sense of loss

Cause I created it,
I feel connected to it

gardener



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE



Educate



Reveal

Revealing the Loss

Teenage activist
brings unheard voices & the next generation



GLOBAL GRIEF



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE



Buddhist monk
Represents the ones that guide us



COMPASSIONATE GRIEF

Urban Nature Hub



STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE



Eco-Grief Ceremony

STRATEGY: VIBRANT & OPEN-ZONE



Gedenksteen voor gesmolten IJslandse gletsjer

Bij de eerste gletsjer die in IJsland grotendeels is verdwenen als gevolg van klimaatverandering, komt een gedenkteken te staan. Het monument is er 'om te erkennen dat we weten wat er gebeurt en dat we weten wat er gedaan moet worden'.

Het Parool 22 juli 2019, 21:33

Bréf til framtíðarinnar

Ok er fyrsti nafnunnar jökullinn til að missa titil sinn. Á næstu 200 árum er talið að allir jöklar landins fari sömu leið. Þetta minnismerki er til vitnis um að við vitum hvað er að gerast og hvað þarf að gera. Aðeins þú veist hvort við gerðum eitthvað.

A letter to the future

Ok is the first Icelandic glacier to lose its status as a glacier. In the next 200 years all our glaciers are expected to follow the same path. This monument is to acknowledge that we know what is happening and what needs to be done. Only you know if we did it.

Ágúst 2019
415ppm CO₂

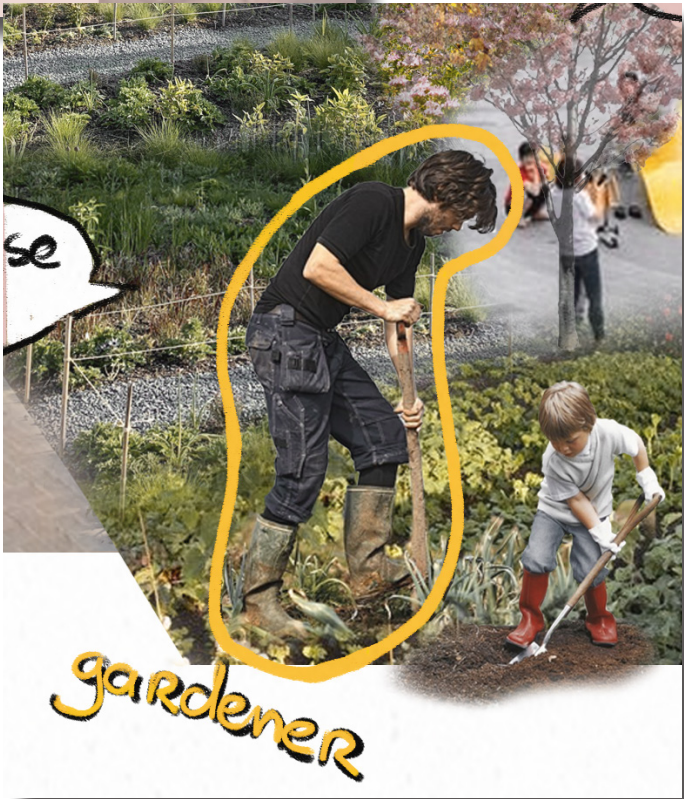
de Volkskrant

Een eigen e-mailadres, een speciaal gecomponeerde ode en een begrafenisdienst.



Eco-Grief Ceremony

STRATEGY: SIGNS OF CARE

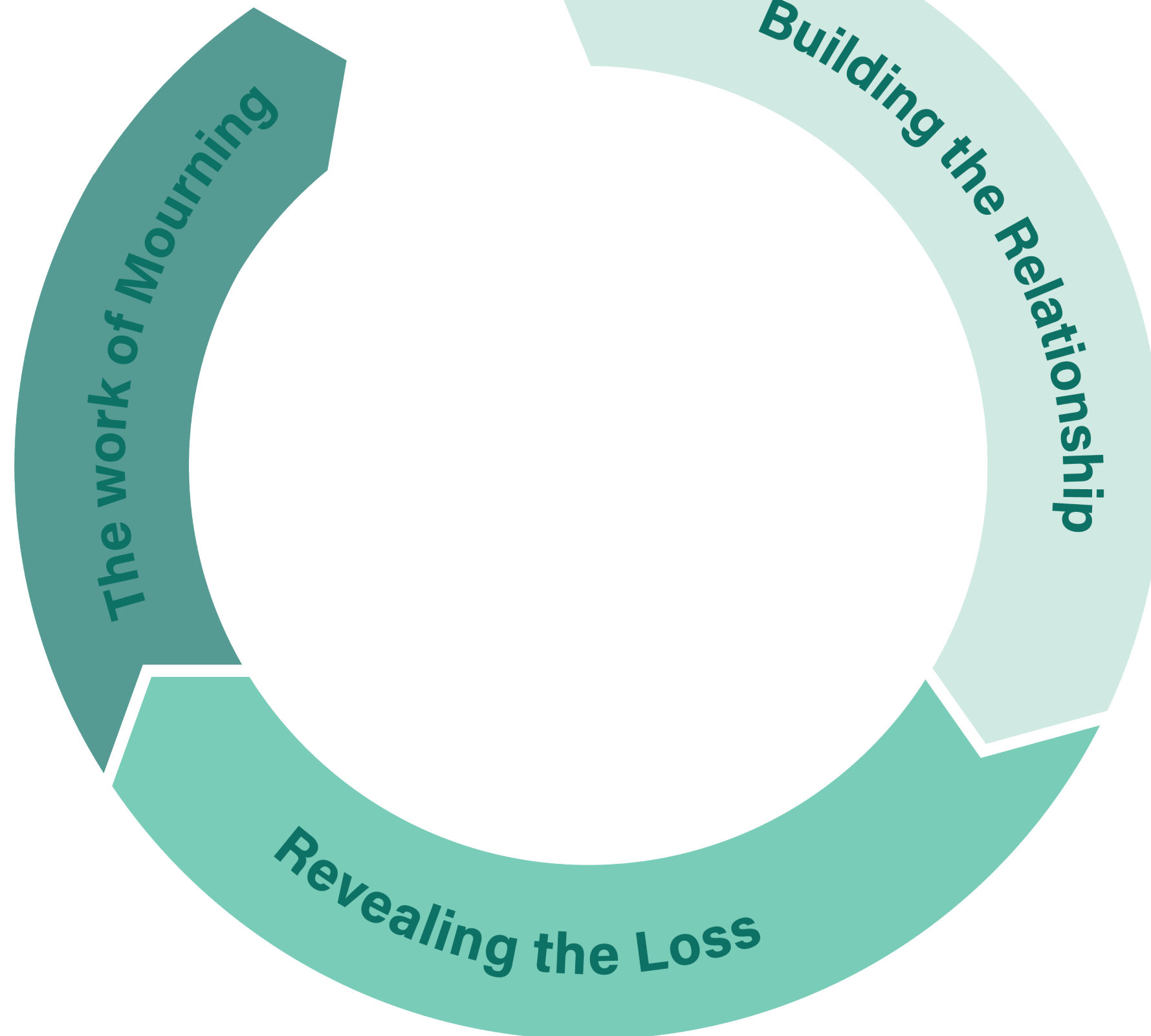


STRATEGY: SIGNS OF CARE



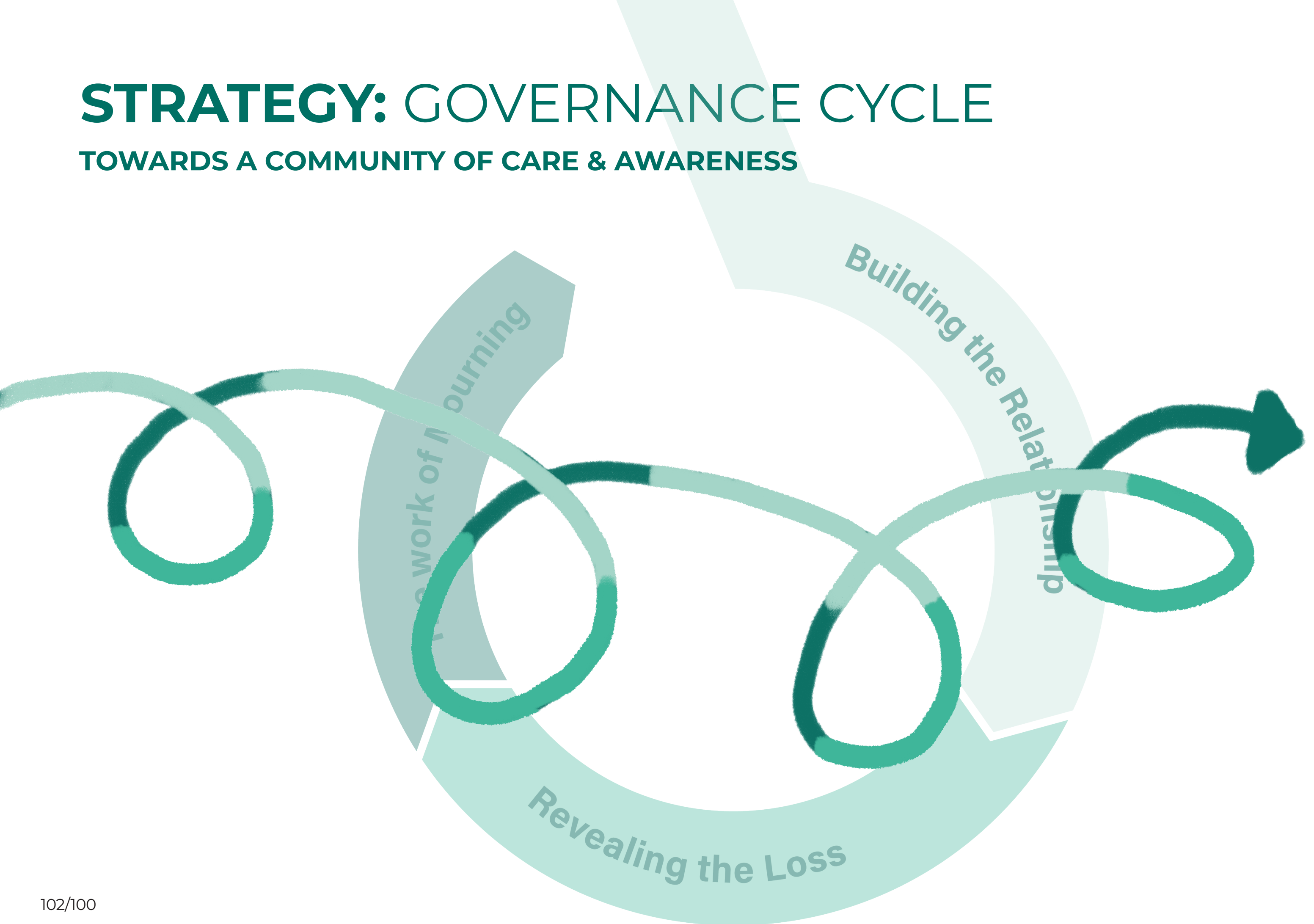
STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE CYCLE

TOWARDS A COMMUNITY OF CARE & AWARENESS



STRATEGY: GOVERNANCE CYCLE

TOWARDS A COMMUNITY OF CARE & AWARENESS



CONCLUSION

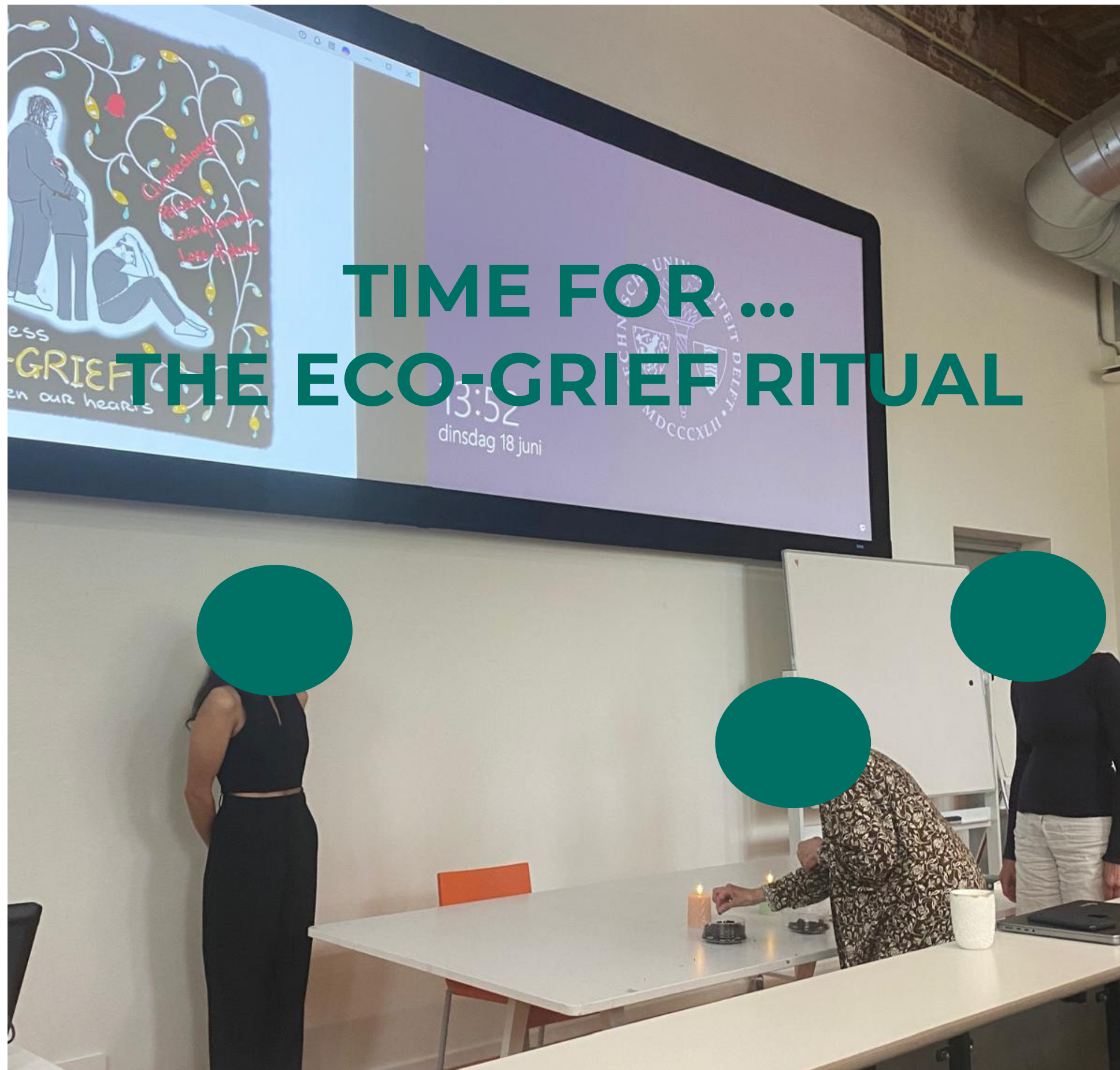
‘HOW
CAN
**ECOLOGICAL
GRIEF**
CONTRIBUTE
TO A
**SOCIETAL
TRANSITION**
TOWARDS
**ECOCENTRIC
VALUES?**’

Creating space for **ecological grief**
in the **urban context**

... to move towards
a **community** of **care** & **awareness**

... that fosters **eco-centric change**.





*'[S]ome of the most helpful guides
to achieving ecological ethics
on the ground
have turned out to be those who are
not afraid of its emotional,
personal, cultural and spiritual dimensions'
- (Curry, 2011, p.244)*

