

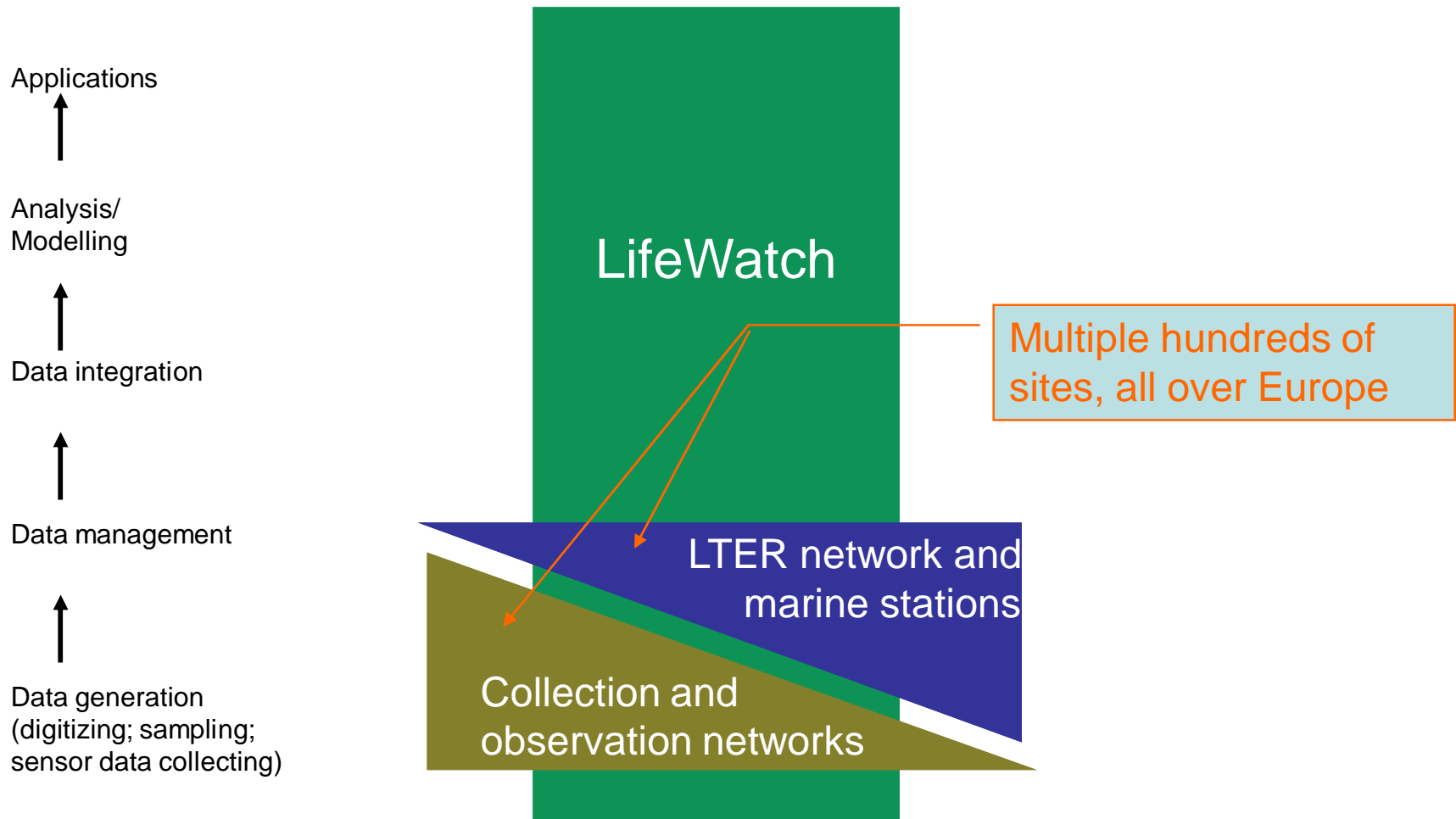
Governance of the distributed construction and operations of the LifeWatch e-Infrastructure



Organizing the distributed process

- LifeWatch, a distributed structure
- The organisational picture
- The governance model
- Governance issues

An infrastructure with major contributors



LifeWatch will be a distributed research infrastructure

Data grid

- monitoring sites
- sensors
- collections
- ... scattered all over Europe

Soft/Middleware grid

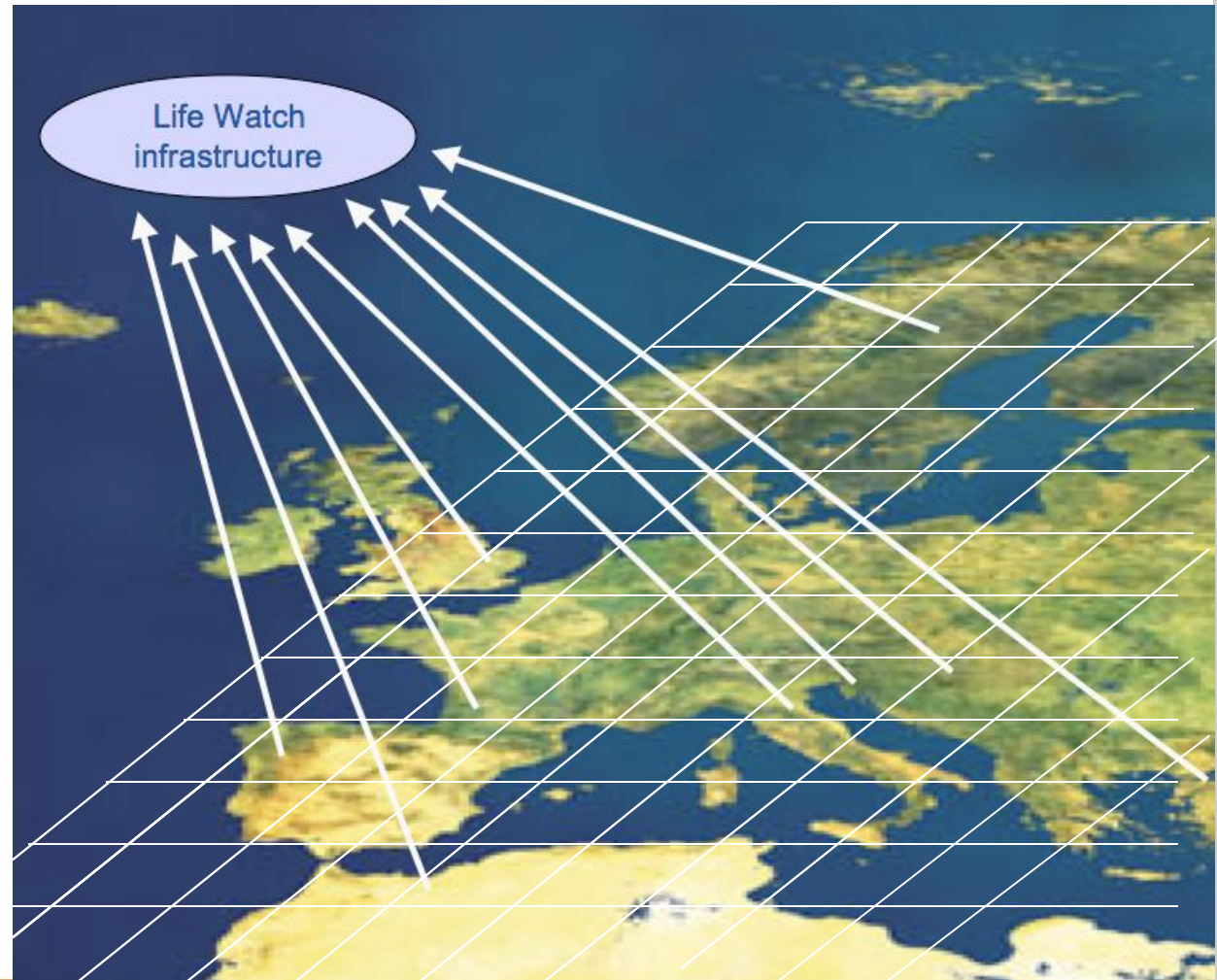
- ... independent from location

Computing power

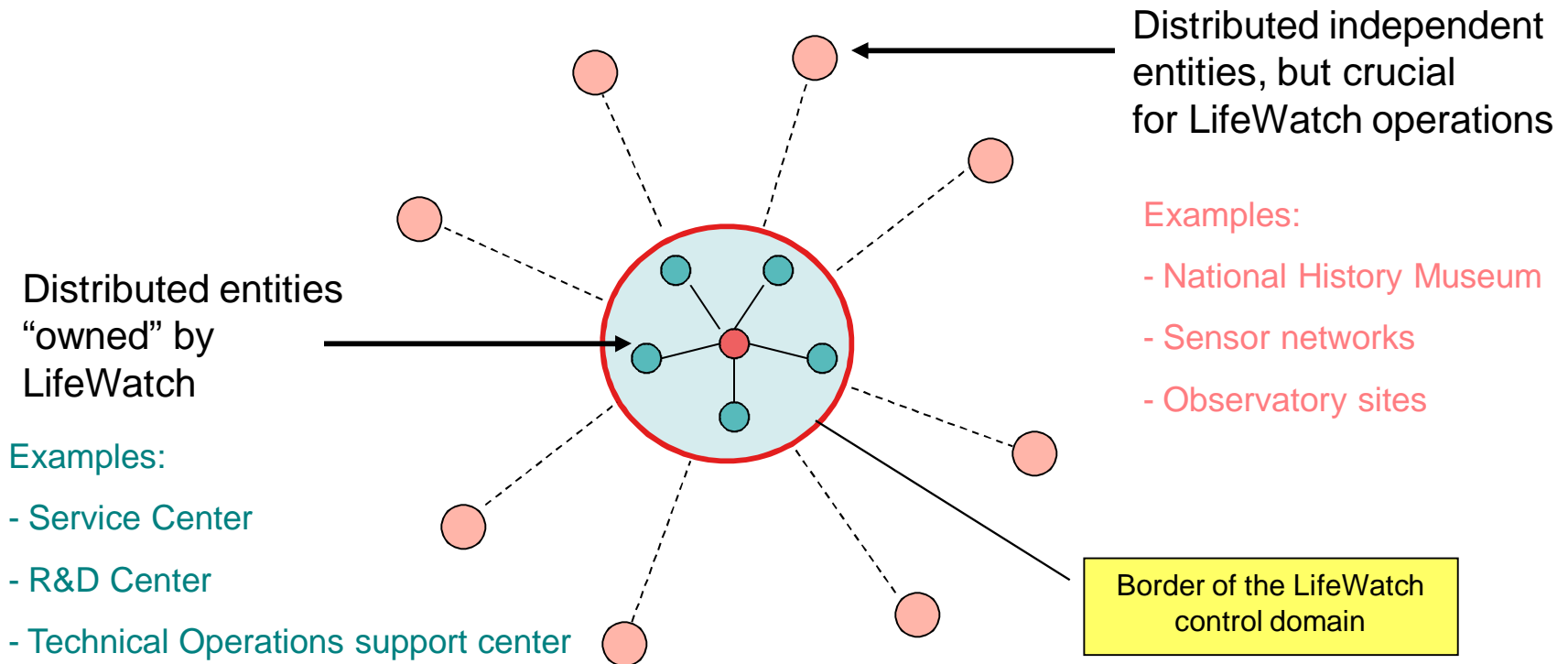
- ... Grid service
- ... HPC service
- ... User's computer
- ... dependent on researchers needs only

Part of an international network infrastructure

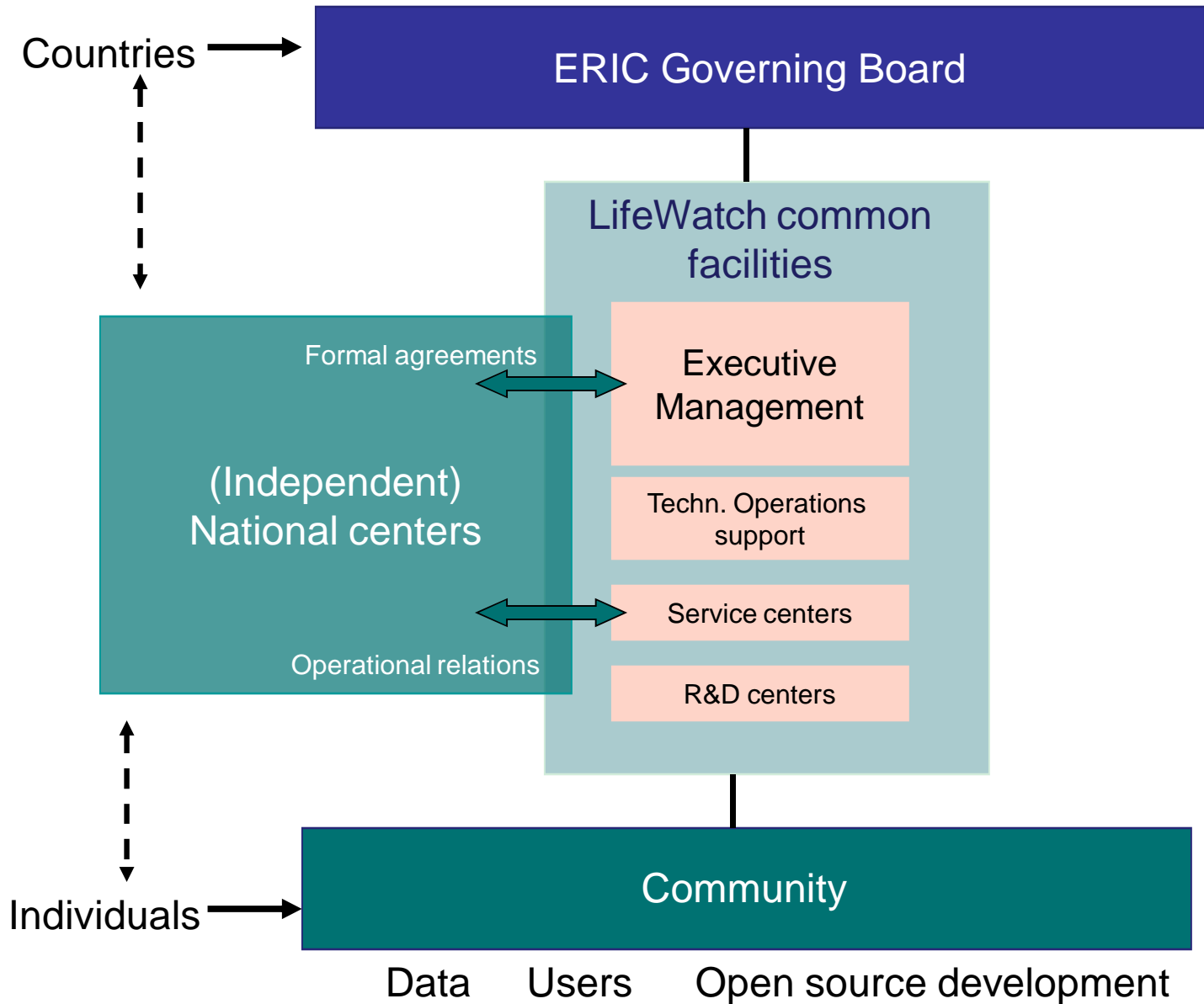
- ... connectivity
- ... collaboration
- ... governance
- ... standards



Governance in a distributed research infrastructure



LifeWatch organisation model



Governance issues

1. Empowering the user community

Users of the LifeWatch e-Infrastructure are a large, dispersed group of people and institutions that have diverging needs. Scientists, resource providers, policymakers, and so on have to be engaged to join the LifeWatch user community and to stay connected. This requires specific governance structures to involve all user groups in the construction and the design of the operations of LifeWatch.

2. Distributed European research infrastructure

The governance model serving all participating countries, users and other stakeholders tends to become rather complex. We are looking for a simpler model that serves all stakeholders in a fair manner, ensuring fruitful development of the LifeWatch ERI.

Governance issues (continued)

3. Continuity beyond the project stage

LifeWatch is different from other ESFRI construction projects in that it is merely a true infrastructure than a project. E.g. the LHC or the Aurora Borealis: those facilities have to be built first before scientists can start using them for research operations.

The LifeWatch infrastructure will be used scientifically from the first release, long before construction will be completed. Construction and operations will have a large overlapping period. LifeWatch is characterized as an ecosystem offering scientists tools, data and resources to conduct top level biodiversity research.

What measures, checks and balances do we have to put in place in order to create continuity after the construction phase?

4. Will the LifeWatch governance model ensure user happiness?

In the LifeWatch organisational model, users as well as data are at the very bottom of the picture. Does this symbolize a sound basis for the LifeWatch organisation building or is it rather to be seen as a signal that the user is at the bottom of the LifeWatch food chain?

Happy researchers should be the ultimate goal of any research infrastructure. So, how will our governance model ensure that the researchers (and all other users, by the way) will be happy Lifewatch users?

Thank you

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