



Energy Evaluation in New Zealand: *Report from the field*

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TE TARI TIAKI PŪNGAO
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



EECA revising its strategy and impact

Our purpose

Mobilise New Zealanders to be world leaders
in clean and clever energy use

Our strategic principles

Focus on impact

Pursue high-impact change with agility and at pace.

Understand the customer

Focus on those it is important to influence and influence them based on what they care about.

Define the problem

Identify what's blocking progress and tackle it head on.

Join the dots

Work with and connect people and organisations who can be part of achieving our purpose.

Display leadership

Be proactive, have a fact-based point of view, own it.

Our strategic focus areas

Productive and low-emissions business

Mobilise decision makers and technical experts to accelerate action.

Efficient and low-emissions transport

Switch the fleet to low-emissions technology while ensuring that any remaining fossil-fuelled vehicles are as efficient as possible.

Energy efficient homes

Optimise New Zealanders' use of renewable energy through energy efficient homes, technologies and behaviours.

Government leadership

Equip the public sector to innovate and lead the transition to clean and clever energy use.

Engage hearts and minds

Foster a society in which sustainable energy is expected and demanded.



Taking a multiple benefits approach

- Pay more attention to impact assessment
 - Implement an Evaluation Strategy for EECA
 - Consider the full range of potential benefits of each programme from the planning & design stages
- Be willing to take an innovative approach to measurement
 - Engage a broader range of govt stakeholders; external experts
 - Adapt existing tools to capture hard-to-measure impacts
- Support development of the evidence base by sharing learning widely



Current government policy is supportive of good evaluation

The Four Capitals

Intergenerational wellbeing relies on the growth, distribution, and sustainability of the Four Capitals. The Capitals are interdependent and work together to support wellbeing. The Māori-Crown relationship is integral to all four capitals. The LSF is being continually developed and the next iteration of the framework will consider the role of culture, including Māori culture, as part of the capitals approach in more detail.



Natural Capital



This refers to all aspects of the natural environment needed to support life and human activity. It includes land, soil, water, plants and animals, as well as minerals and energy resources.



Social Capital



This describes the norms and values that underpin society. It includes things like trust, the rule of law, cultural identity, and the connections between people and communities.

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Human Capital



This encompasses people's skills, knowledge and physical and mental health. These are the things which enable people to participate fully in work, study, recreation and in society more broadly.



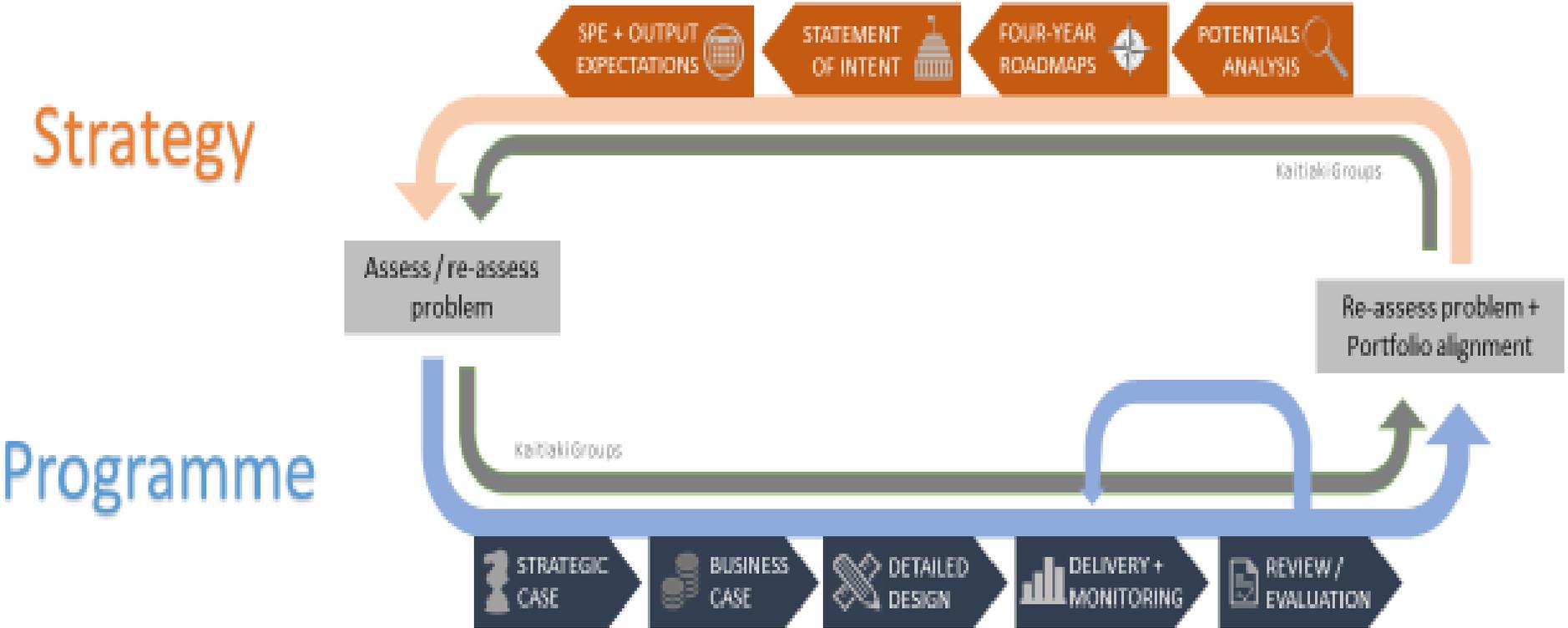
Financial / Physical Capital



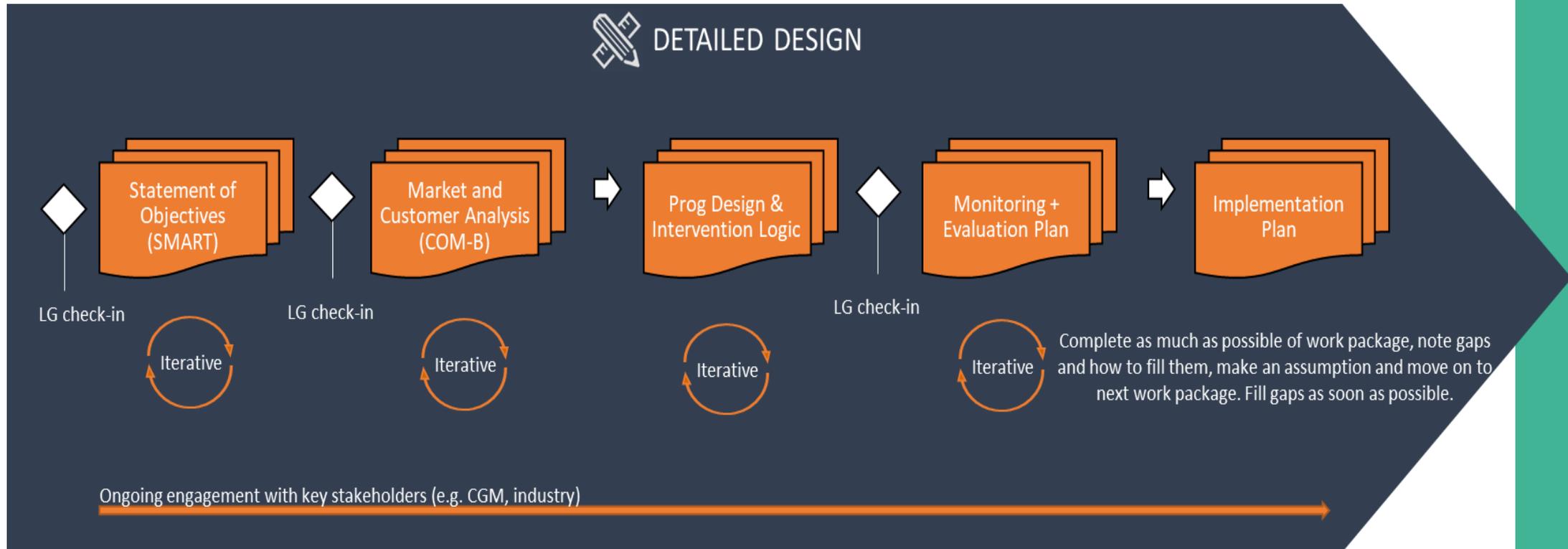
This includes things like houses, roads, buildings, hospitals, factories, equipment and vehicles. These are the things which make up the country's physical and financial assets which have a direct role in supporting incomes and material living conditions.



Evaluation now built-in at EECA



Evaluation foundations set up at design stages of all new programmes



Tailoring the basic principles of evaluation for a specific context

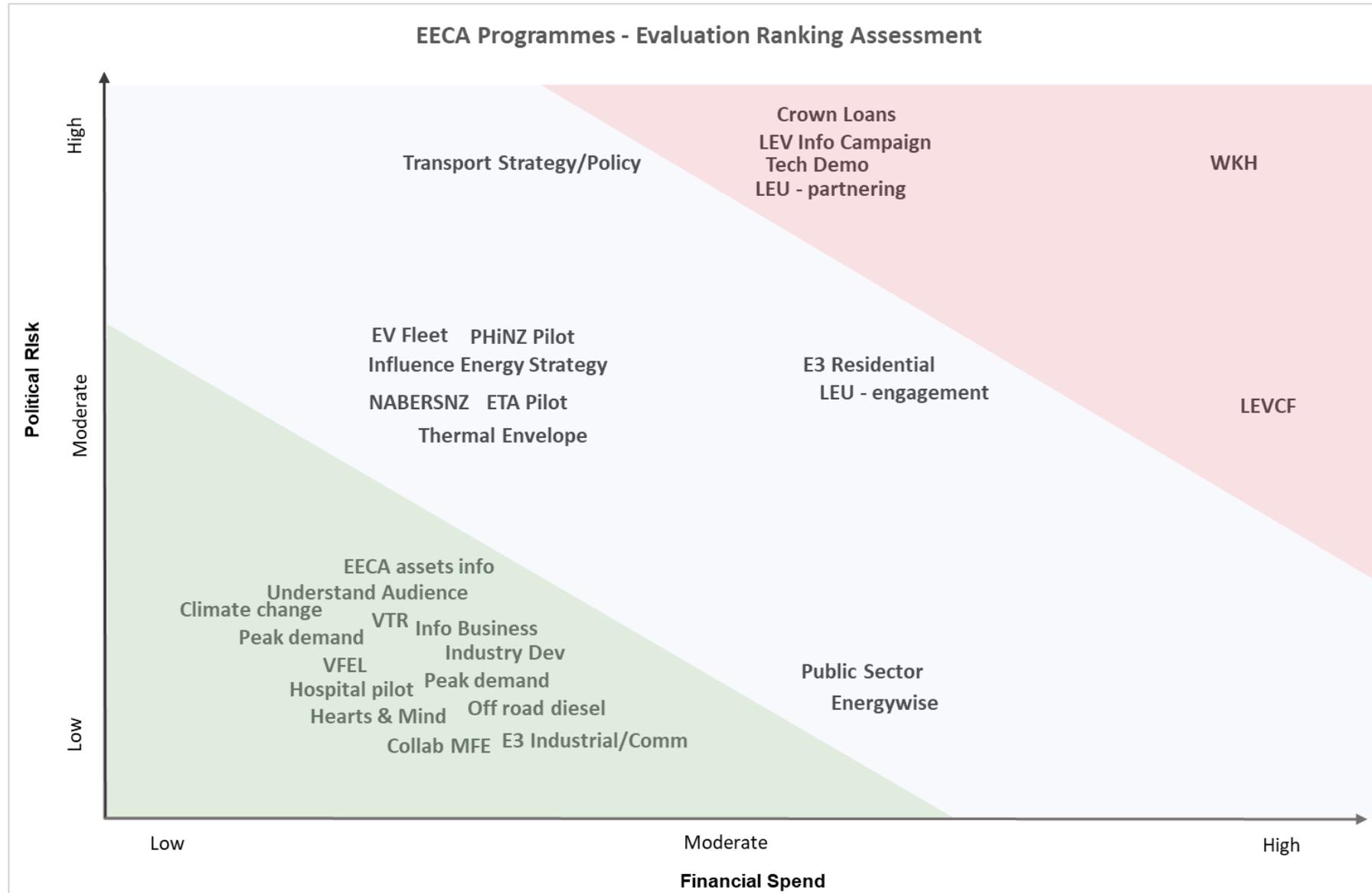
Simplified to 3 core objectives:

- Are we doing the right thing? (relevance)
- Are we doing it the right way? (efficiency)
- Are we making a difference? (effectiveness)

Must be adaptable and scaleable to be workable for EECA's fast-paced environment



Evaluation priority assessment



Rolling 4-year evaluation schedule

- Crown EE Loans (rapid evaluation, internal - **completed**);
- Energy Efficient Technology Demonstration Fund (standard evaluation, hybrid internal/external – **in progress**);
- Energy Graduate Programme (rapid evaluation, internal – **in progress**);
- Electric Vehicle Information Campaign (standard evaluation, external – **in progress**).
- EE for big Business Pilot - (rapid evaluation, internal - **planned**)
- Process Heat Optimisation Pilot - (rapid evaluation, internal - **planned**)
- Warmer Kiwi Homes (standard evaluation, external – **planned**)



Challenges faced in practice

- Misunderstanding of the purpose and value of evaluation
- Fear of scrutiny and criticism
- Programme teams' reluctance to dedicate time
- Managerial disinterest and desire for quick results

To overcome these, we:

- Conducted early, thorough scoping discussions with program team
- Emphasised the opportunity to answer *their* questions
- Developed “success factors” together
- Ensured regular check-ins with programme teams



Some reflections

- Major role for government in promoting improved evaluation with the LSF, the private sector will surely start to follow this lead.
- Critical role for evaluators supporting higher demand for evidence-based policy and programmes development in the future
- Certification does not seem to be so important at these relatively early stages of the evaluation evolution in NZ – start somewhere
- In NZ, ANZEA could play a stronger role, but lacks energy focus



Thank you

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