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# Setting the Framework

Finn Børlum Kristensen,

EUnetHTA Secretariat,

National Board of Health, Denmark

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# What is HTA ?

- **Healthcare technology** is defined as prevention and rehabilitation, vaccines, pharmaceuticals and devices, medical and surgical procedures, and the systems within which health is protected and maintained
- **Technology assessment** in health care is a *multidisciplinary field of policy analysis*. It studies the *medical, social, ethical, and economic implications* of development, diffusion, and use of health technology

# HTA definition

*HTA* is a multidisciplinary process that summarises information about the medical, social, economic and ethical issues related to the use of a health technology in a **systematic, transparent, unbiased, robust** manner



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# HTA aim

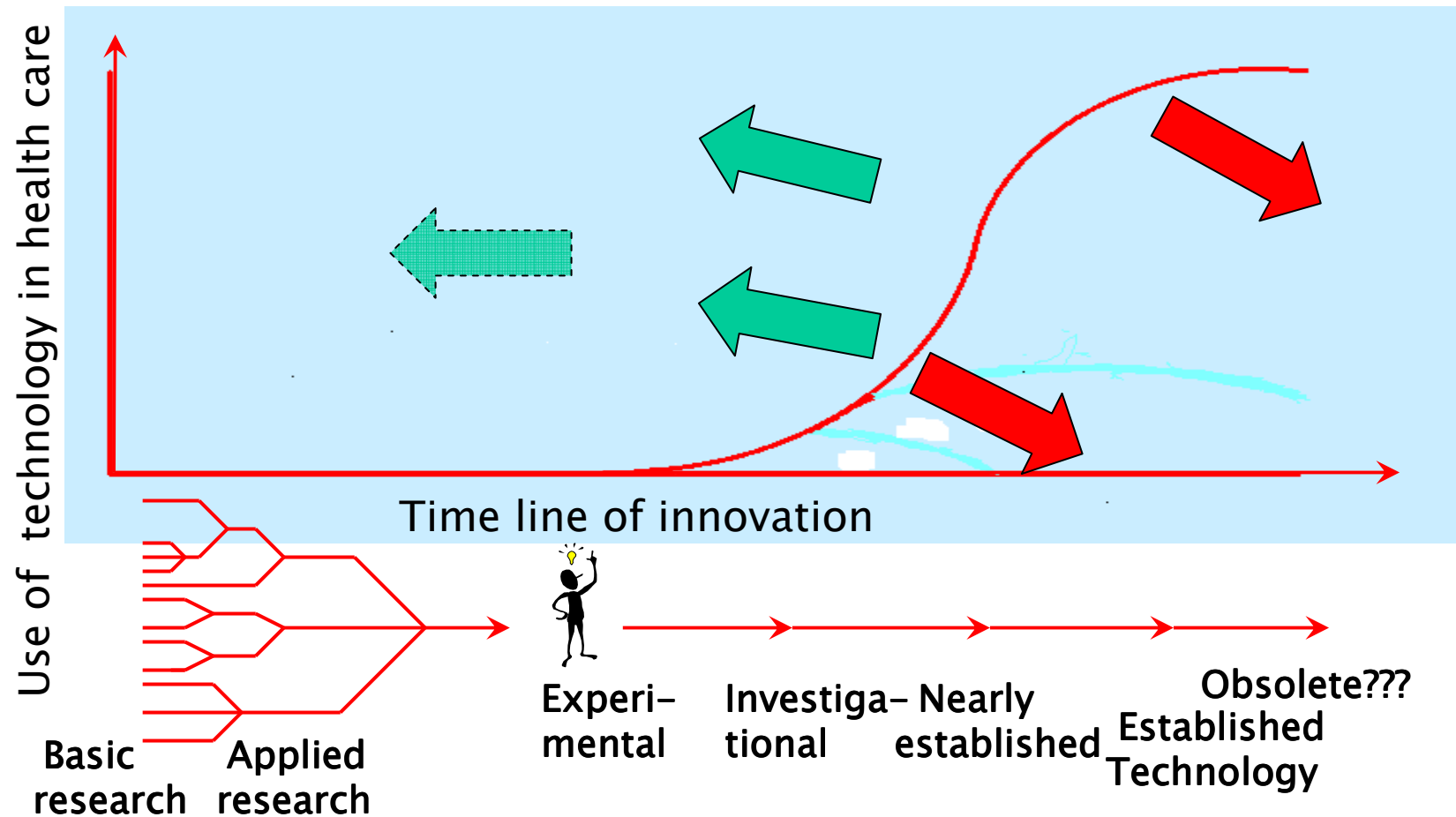
The aim of HTA is to **inform** the formulation of safe, effective, **health policies** that are **patient focused** and seek to achieve **best value**

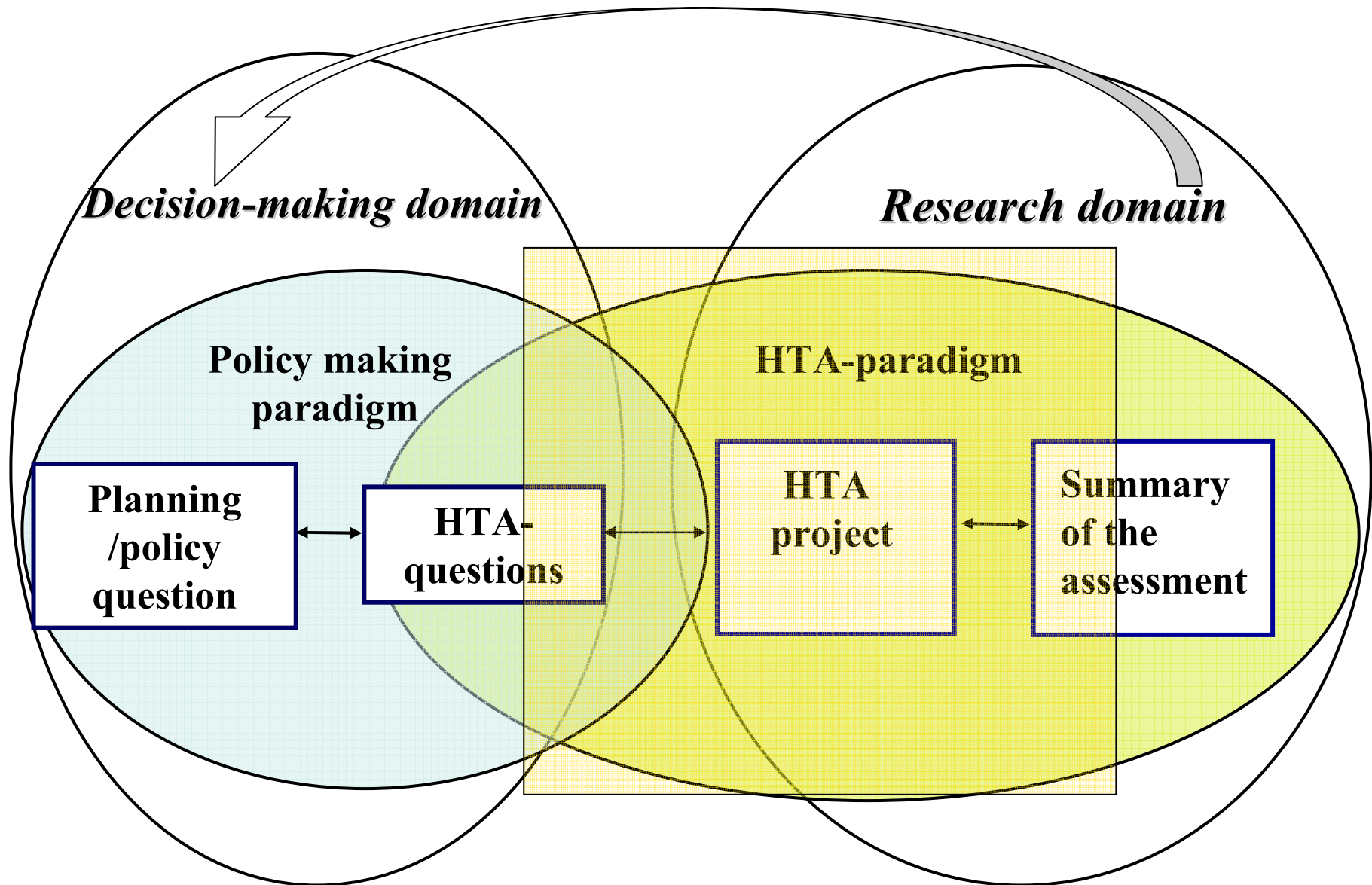
Despite its policy goals, HTA must always be **firmly rooted** in **research** and the **scientific method**



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# Acceleration / deceleration of technology "diffusion"







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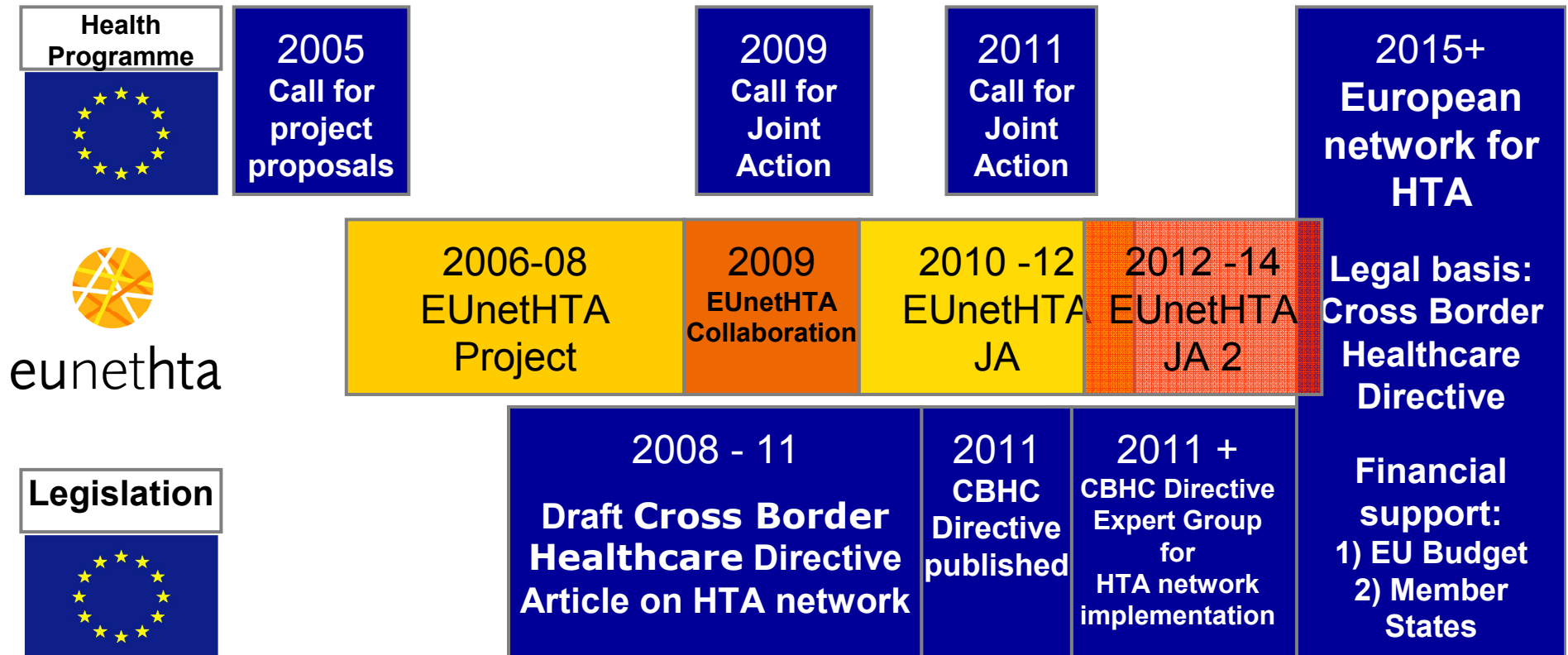
# European network for HTA Joint Action between European Commission and EU Member States

A total of 35 government appointed organisations from 24 EU Member States, Norway and Croatia and a large number of regional agencies and non-for-profit organisations that produce or contribute to HTA

EUnetHTA Joint Action 2010–2012 | [www.eunethta.eu](http://www.eunethta.eu)



# The time-line of reaching a sustainable and permanent HTA network in Europe



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# EUnetHTA Joint Action

Focus on HTA in Europe to

- facilitate efficient use of resources available for HTA,
- create a sustainable system of HTA knowledge sharing, and
- promote good practice in HTA methods and processes.



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# EUnetHTA JA main objective

To put into practice an effective and sustainable HTA collaboration in Europe that brings added value at the European, national and regional level



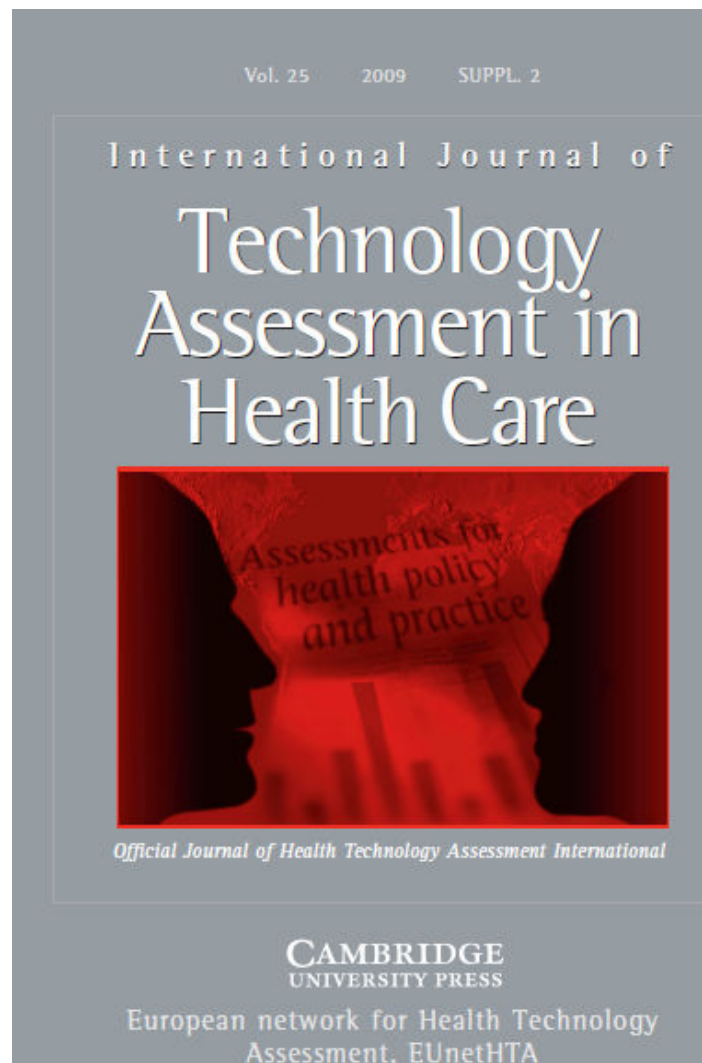
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# EUnetHTA JA Strategic position

All activities of the EUnetHTA Joint Action arise from the premise that its outputs will be used **to inform but not mandate** the content of national / regional / institutional HTA reports



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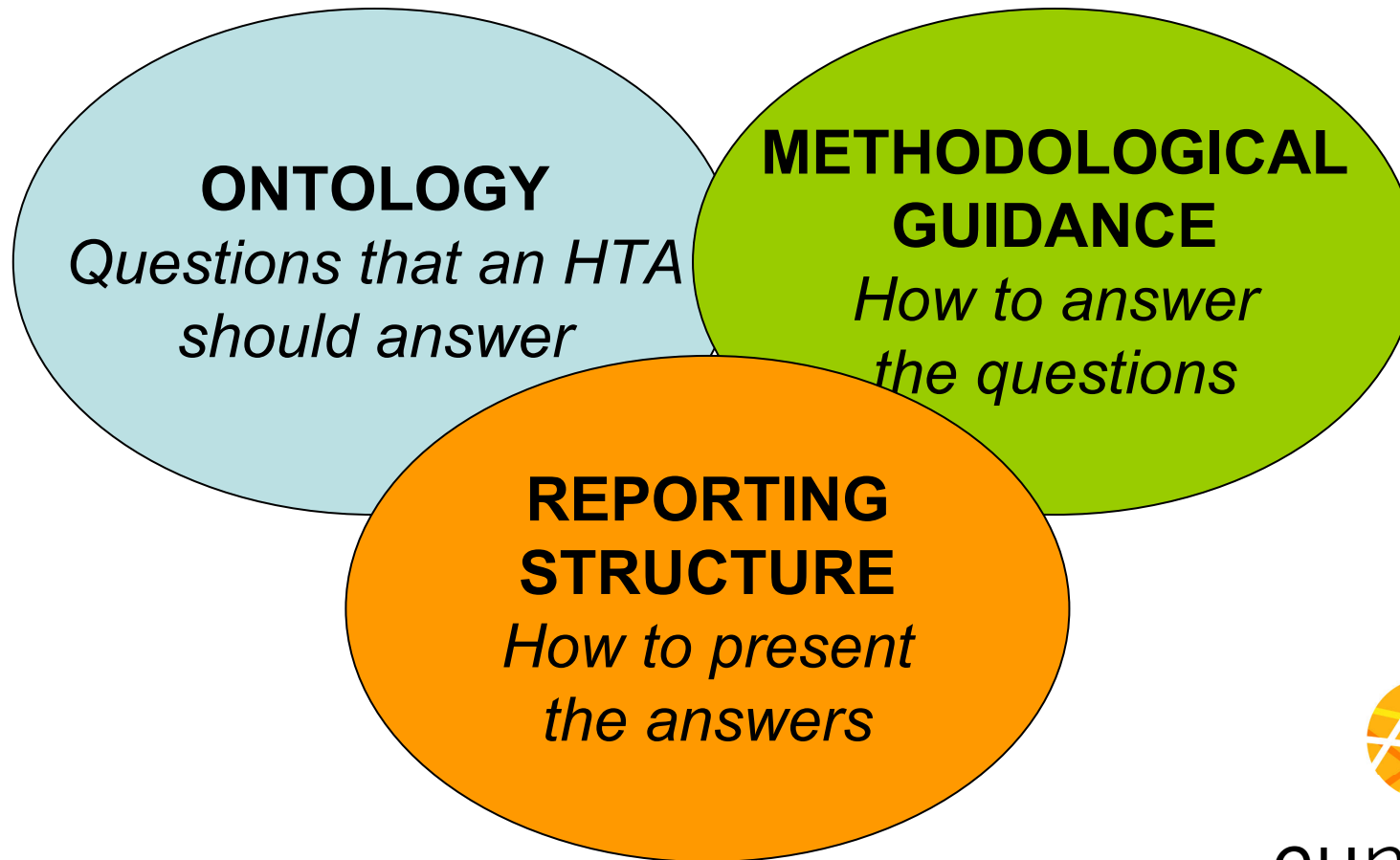
# EUnetHTA Joint Action 2010-12

- **Coordination**
- **Core HTA including adaptation**
- **Relative Effectiveness Assessment (REA) of Pharmaceuticals**
- **New Technologies. Facilitating Evidence Generation and Collaboration on (Pre-coverage) Assessments**
- **Information management system**
- **Strategy development (Business model for sustainability including capacity building to do HTA)**
- **Communication**
- **Evaluation**



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# The HTA Core Model



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# HTA Core Model (in brief) is...

- **An ontology**

- A formal representation of the information contents of an HTA (e.g. "the effect of technology on reduction of symptoms") and relationships between various parts of the content
- **Assessment elements** as building blocks (each provides information on certain aspect of technology)
- Assessment elements defined by
  - **9 domains (wider angle of viewing, e.g. clinical effectiveness),**
  - **topics within domains (more specific areas of investigation, and**
  - **issues within topics (practical questions)**



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# HTA Core Model (in brief) is...

- **Methodological guidance**
  - On domains and individual assessment elements
  - Mostly as reviews of state-of-the-art methodology and links to detailed guidance
- **A reporting structure for Core HTAs**
  - Assessment elements organized by domains and topics
  - Discussions within domains
  - Common summary, no recommendations



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## ***Domains***

1. Health problem and current use of the technology
2. Description and technical characteristics
3. Safety
4. Clinical effectiveness
5. Costs and economic evaluation
6. Ethical analysis
7. Organisational aspects
8. Social aspects
9. Legal aspects

## **Clinical effectiveness:**

### **Topics**

- ***Mortality***
- ***Morbidity***
- ***Function***
- ***HRQL***
- ***Patient satisfaction***
- ***Change-in-management***



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**Domain: Clinical effectiveness:**

***Topic: Mortality***

***Issues:***

- What is the effect of the intervention on overall mortality?***
- What is the effect of the intervention on the mortality caused by the target disease?***
- What is the effect of the intervention on the mortality due to other causes than the target disease?***
- etc***



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## Domain: Clinical effectiveness

### *Topic: Morbidity*

#### ***Issues:***

- How does the intervention modify the progression of disease?***
- How does the intervention modify the severity and frequency of symptoms and findings?***
- How does the technology modify the effectiveness of subsequent interventions?***
- etc***



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## **Domain: Social aspects**

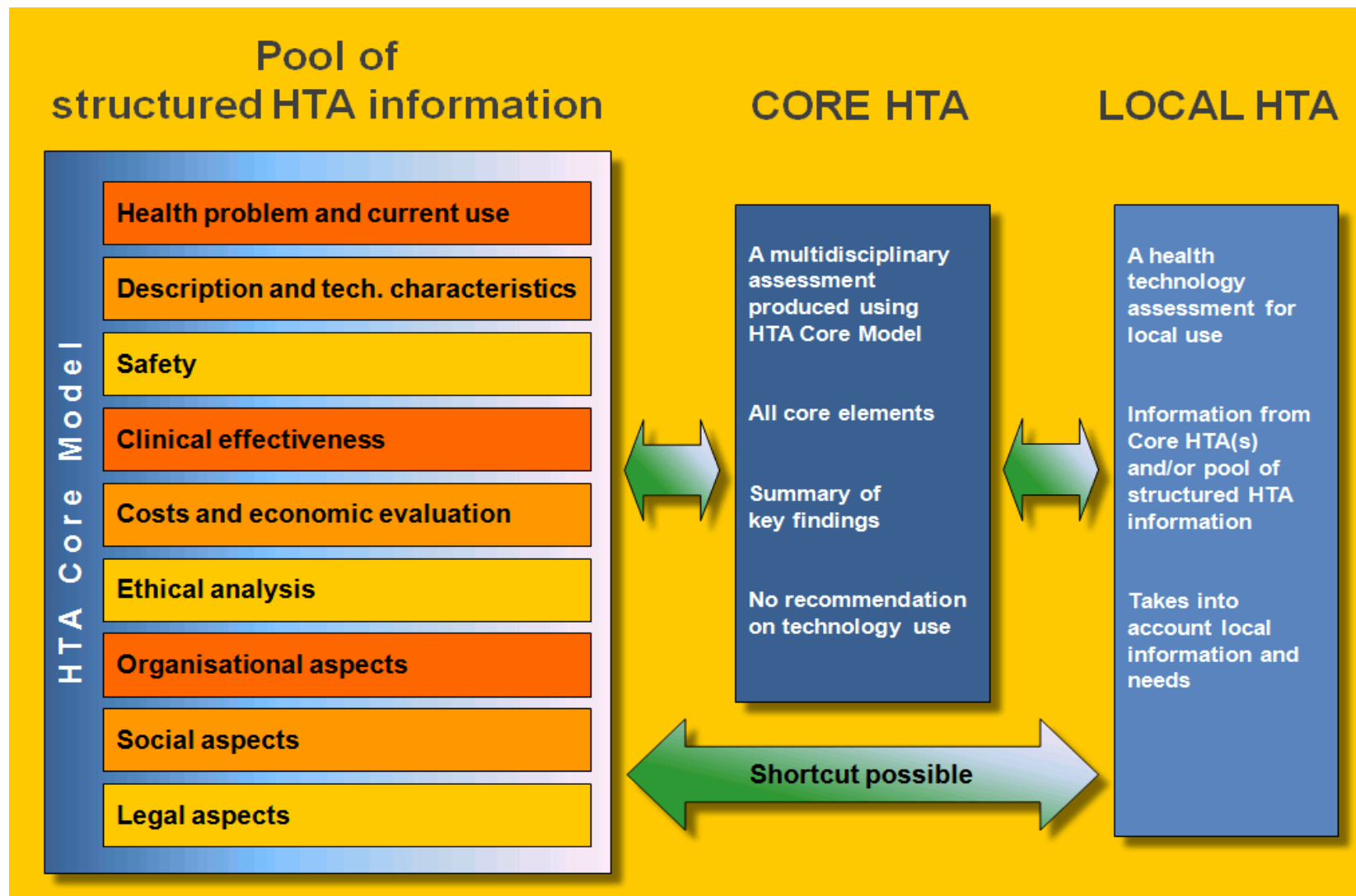
### ***Topic: Major life areas***

#### ***Issues:***

- What kinds of changes does the use of the technology generate in the patient's role in the major life areas?***
- Who are the important others that the use of the technology may affect in addition to the patient?***
- What kind of support and resources are needed or might be released as the technology is put to use?***
- etc***

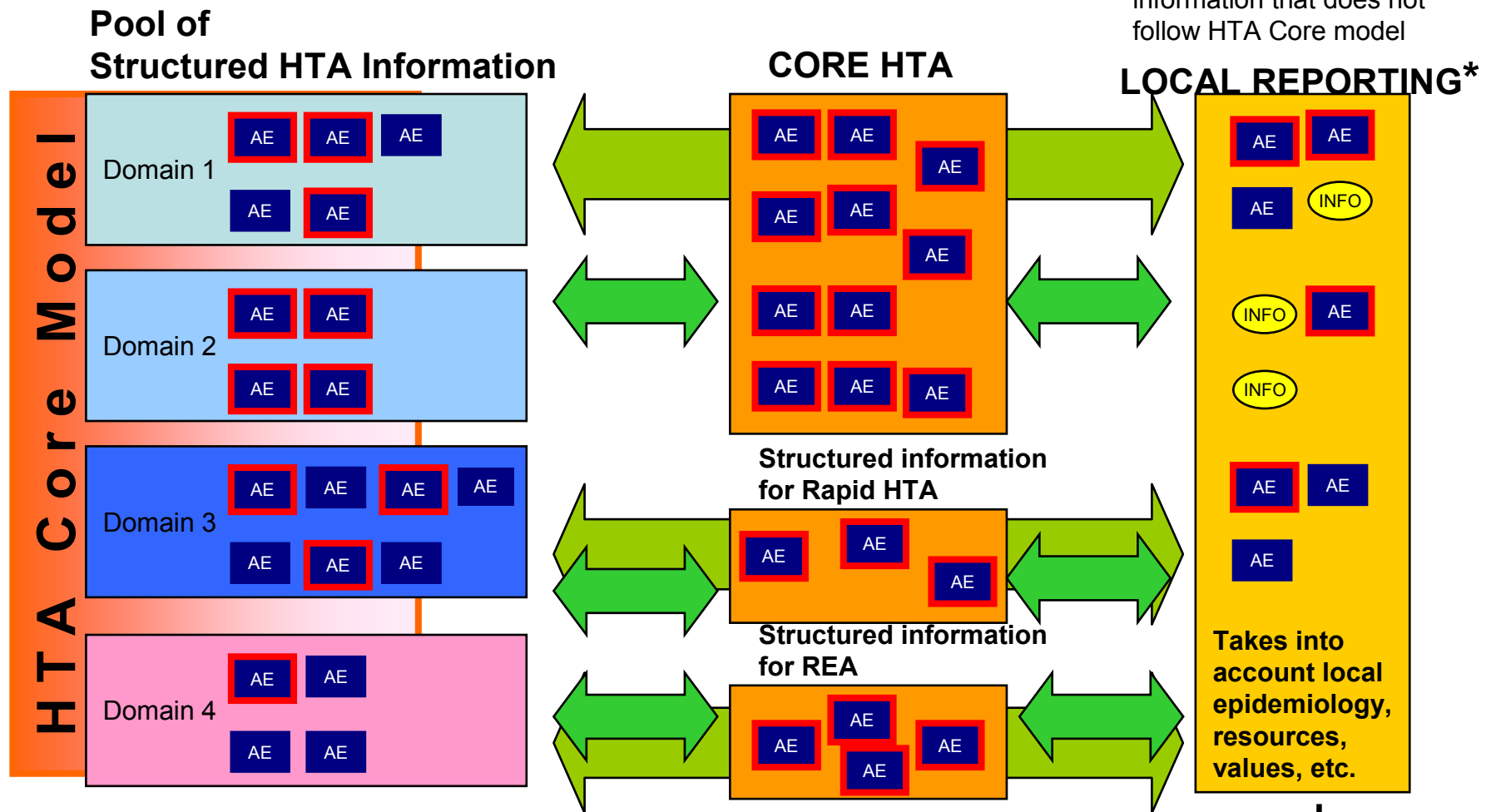


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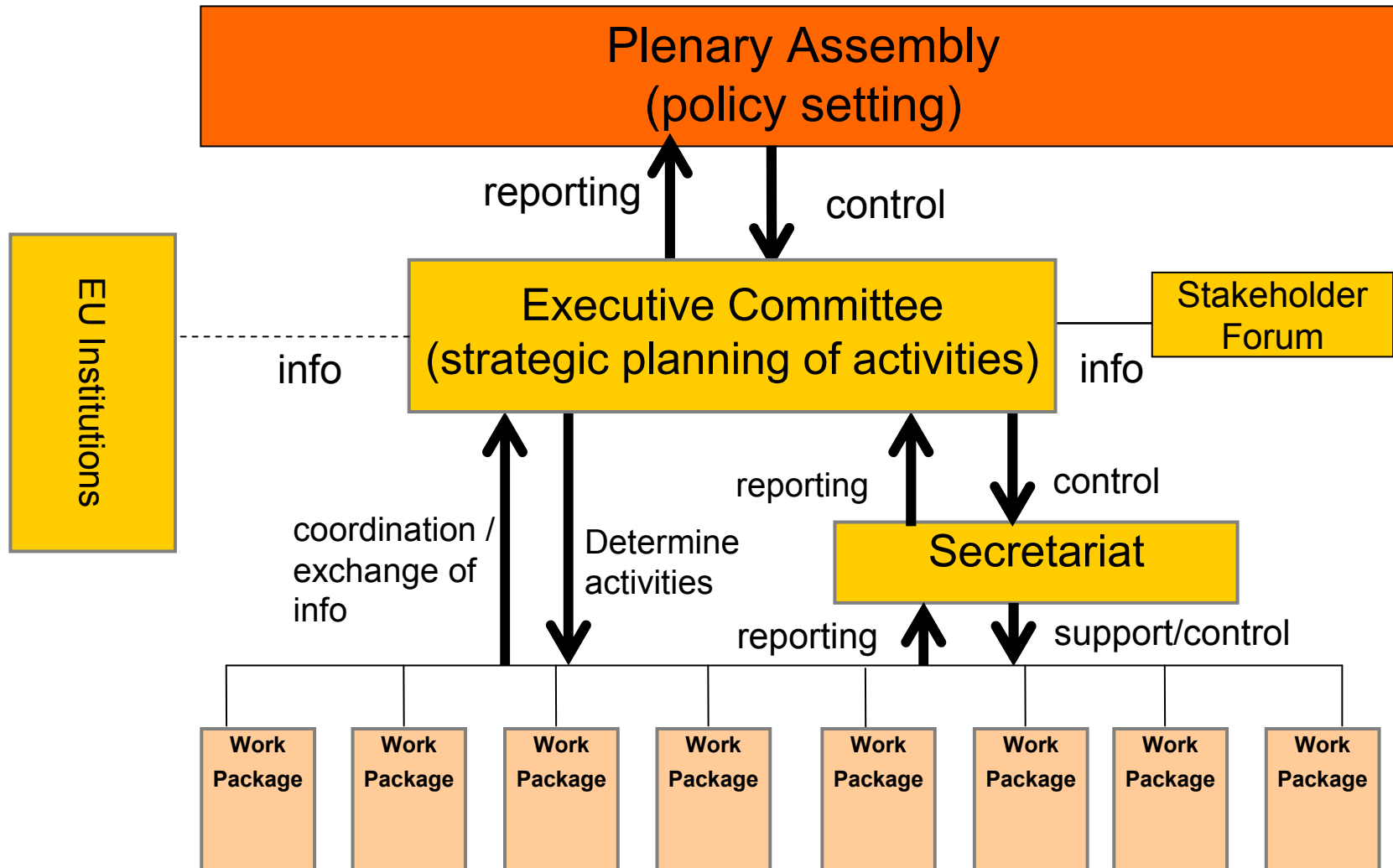
# HTA Core Model® and its application

- AE = Assessment element
- AE = Core element
- AE = Non-core element
- INFO = Locally produced information that does not follow HTA Core model



\*) e.g. Full HTA, Rapid HTA, REA

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# EUnetHTA JA stakeholder involvement policy

- overarching principle is to **provide fair opportunities for input** from the EUnetHTA Joint Action stakeholders **while ensuring scientific independence** from undue influence of external parties
- distinguishes between the involvement of stakeholders and the involvement of experts



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