

A relational approach to energy system transitions

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Realising Transition Pathways Final
Conference

Friday 26th February

Introduction

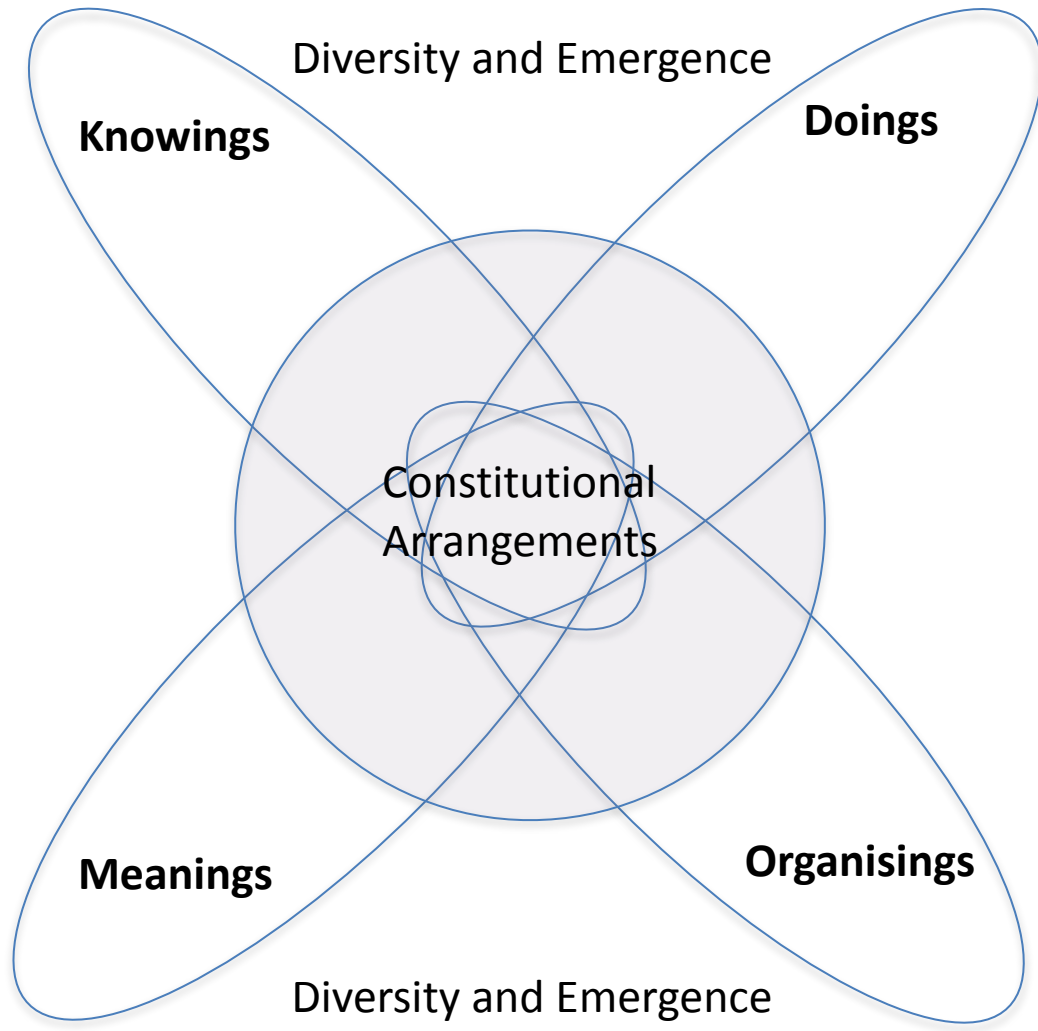
- TP1 made significant progress in exploring questions of actor dynamics – e.g. ‘action space’ and different governance logics
- Our role in RTP was to build on this...in particular to address questions of **societal dimensions** and **actor dynamics**
- Developed an experimental whole systems social science approach to conceptualizing transitions: “**relational – co-productionist**”
- Also undertook five sub-projects which focused on different aspects of the system. These involved interviews, documentary analysis, and digital methods
- This presentation is just a flavour – various publications are available



3 Key strengths of Relational co-productionist approach

1. Attend to the politics and directionality of transitions (Shove and Walker, 2007)
2. Provide a different perspective on stability and change (Smith et al, 2010)
3. Account for diversities (vision, actors, issues, technologies) (Lawhon and Murphy, 2011)





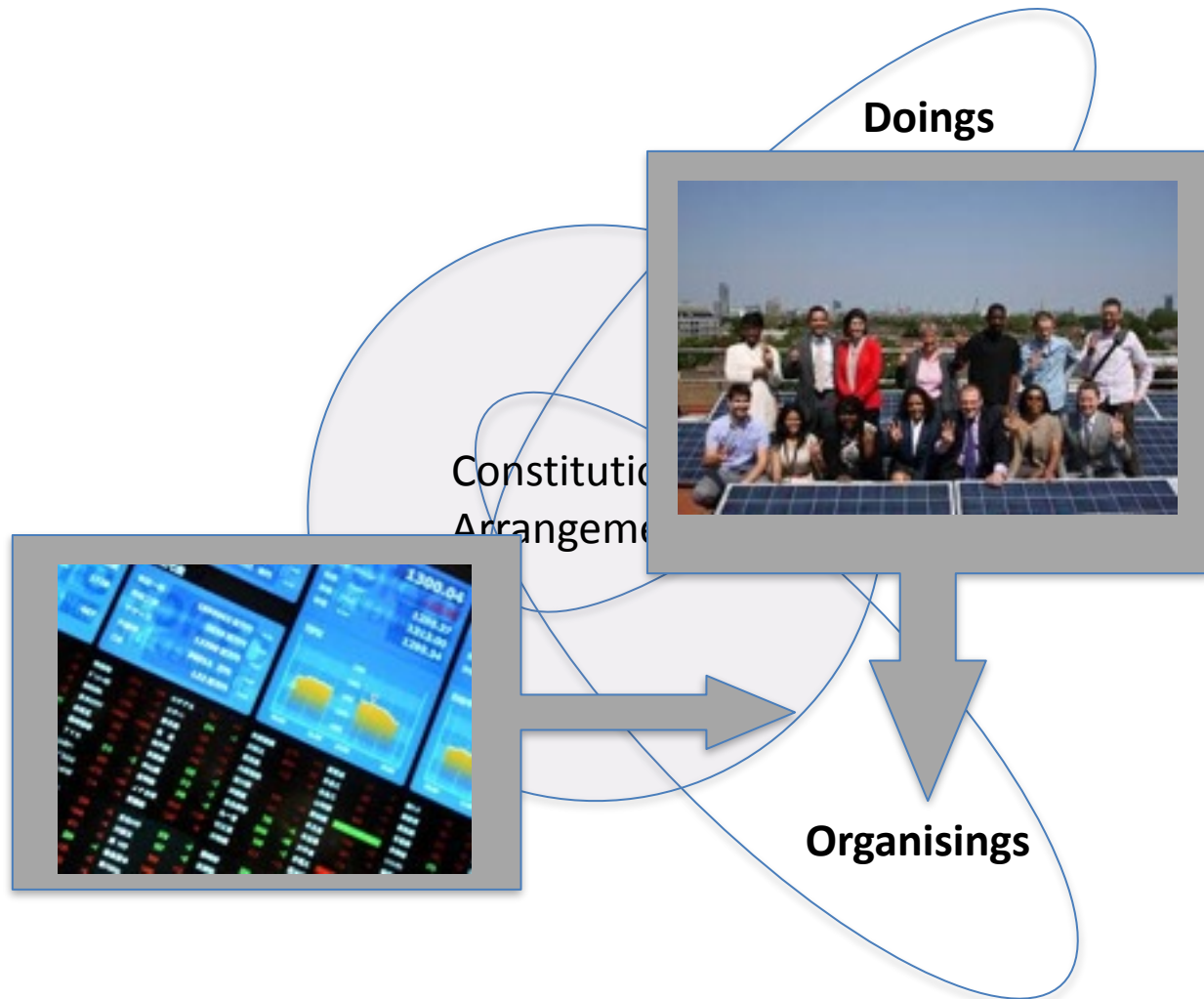
...the technologies and social practices (activities) that make up and shape the material aspects of the electricity system

Doings

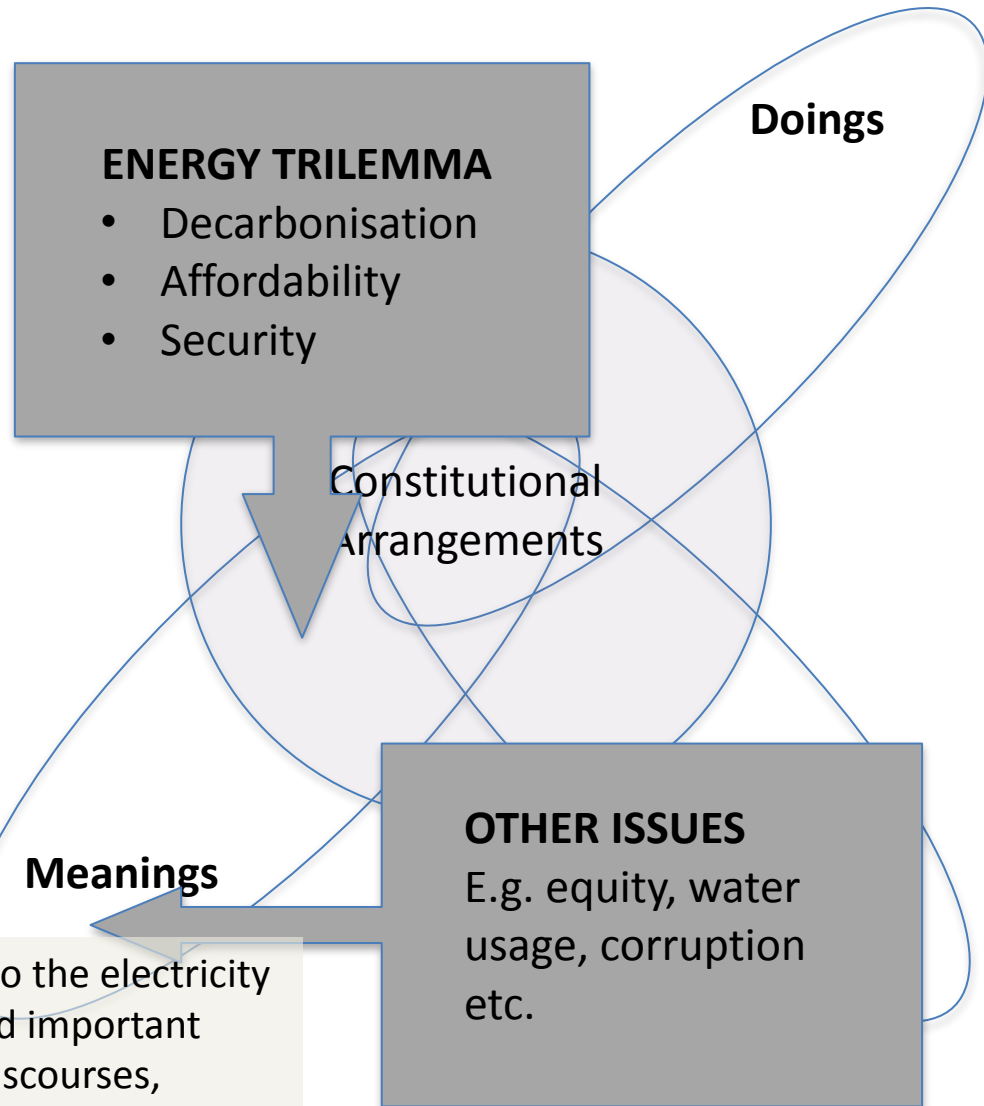


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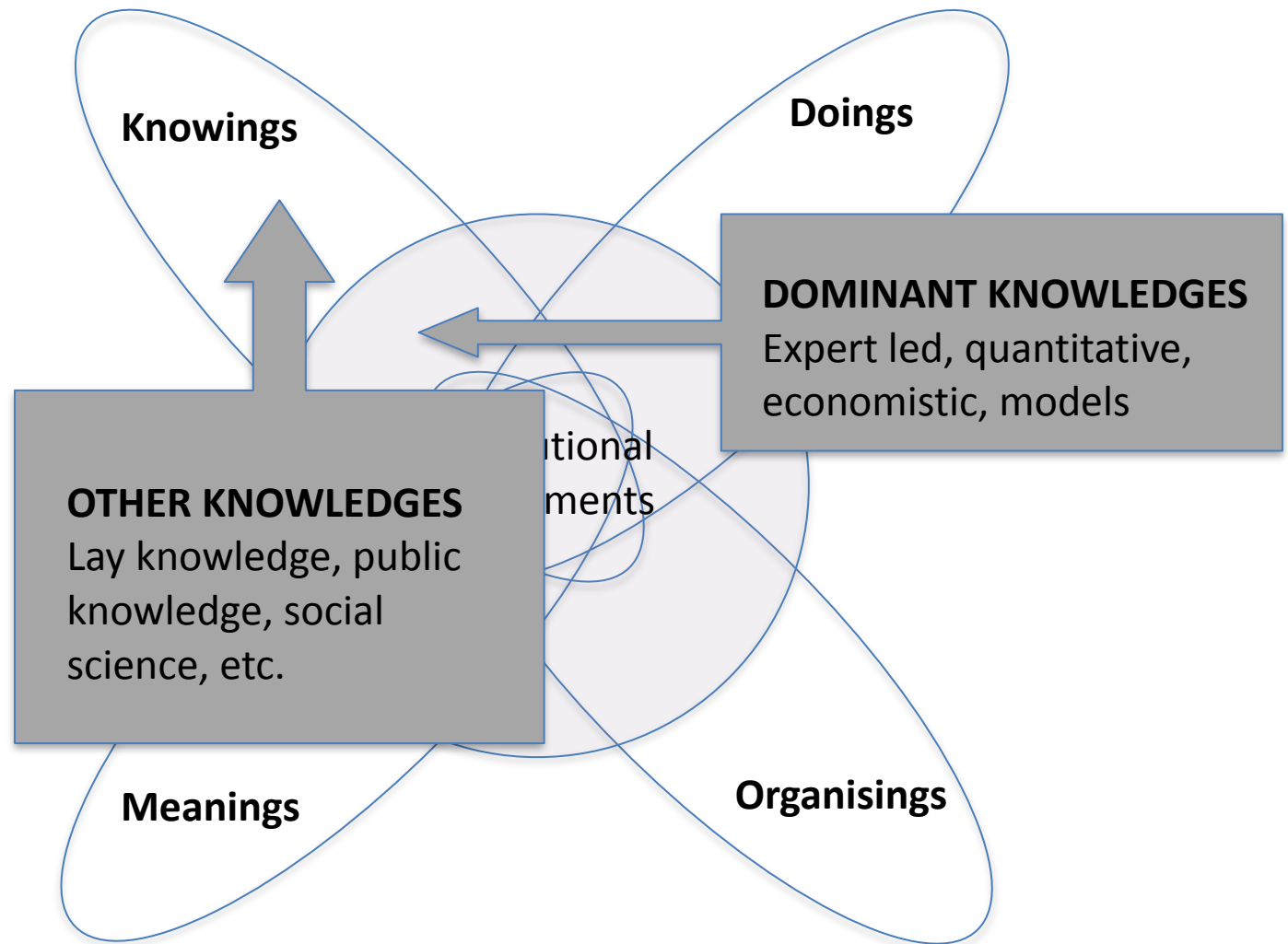


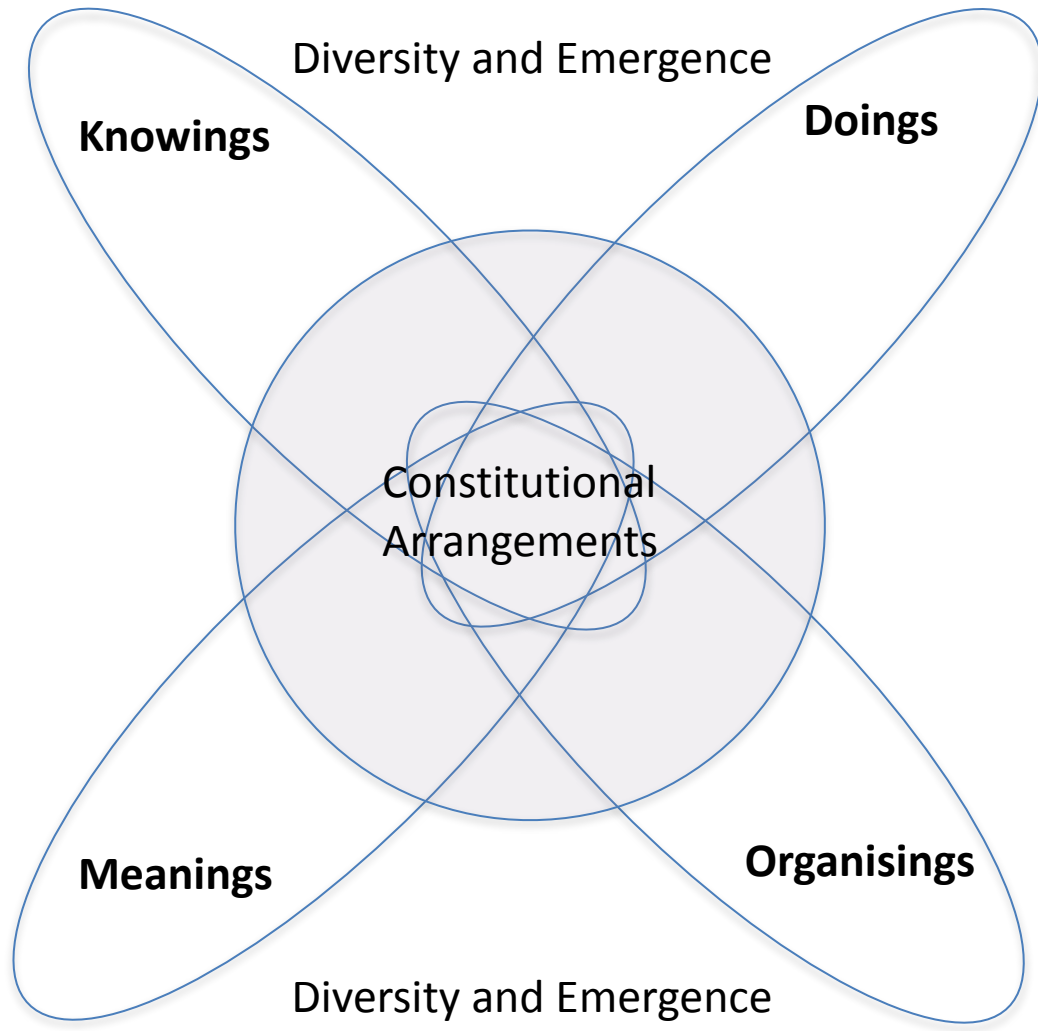
...the different ways in which the system is **organized** and **governed** (e.g. different forms of governance, regulations, rules, markets, norms, self-regulation, community organising)

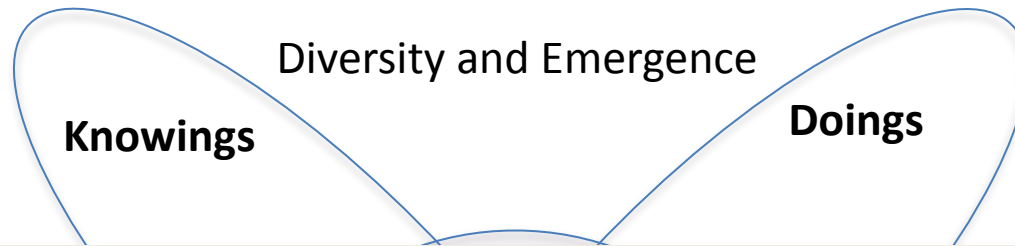


...different meanings attached to the electricity system that **frame** what it is and important **issues** associated with it (e.g. discourses, narratives and visions that define the energy problem and the purpose of the electricity system).

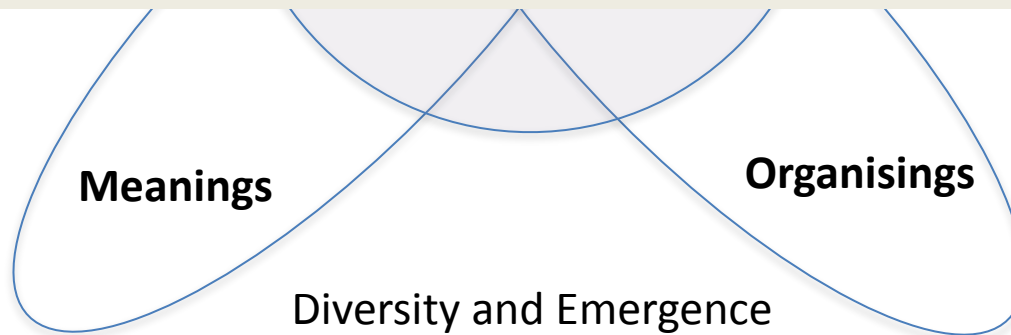
...the different forms of **knowledge** associated with the electricity system (e.g. ranging from formal disciplinary scientific knowledge through to lay/experimental knowledge in everyday life).

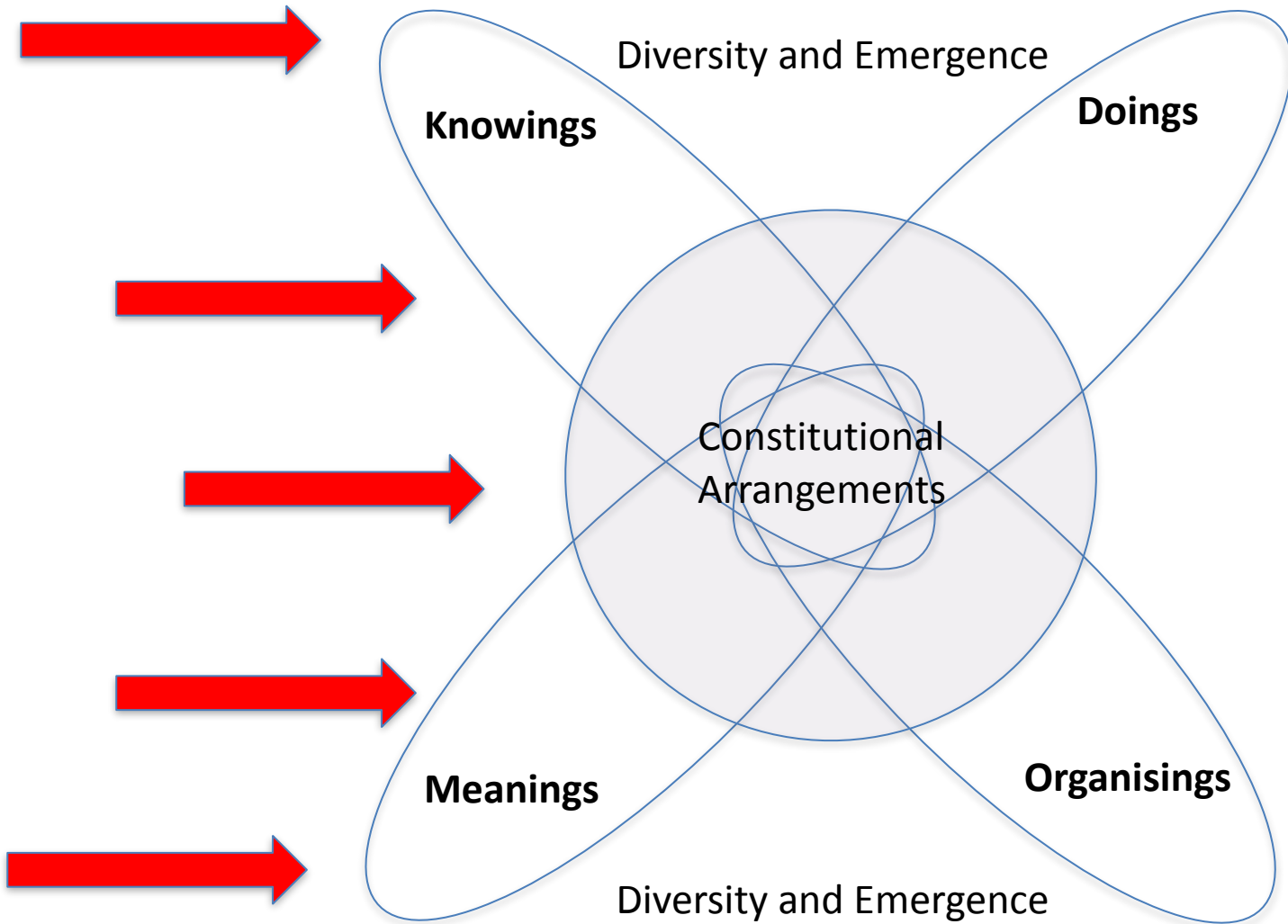


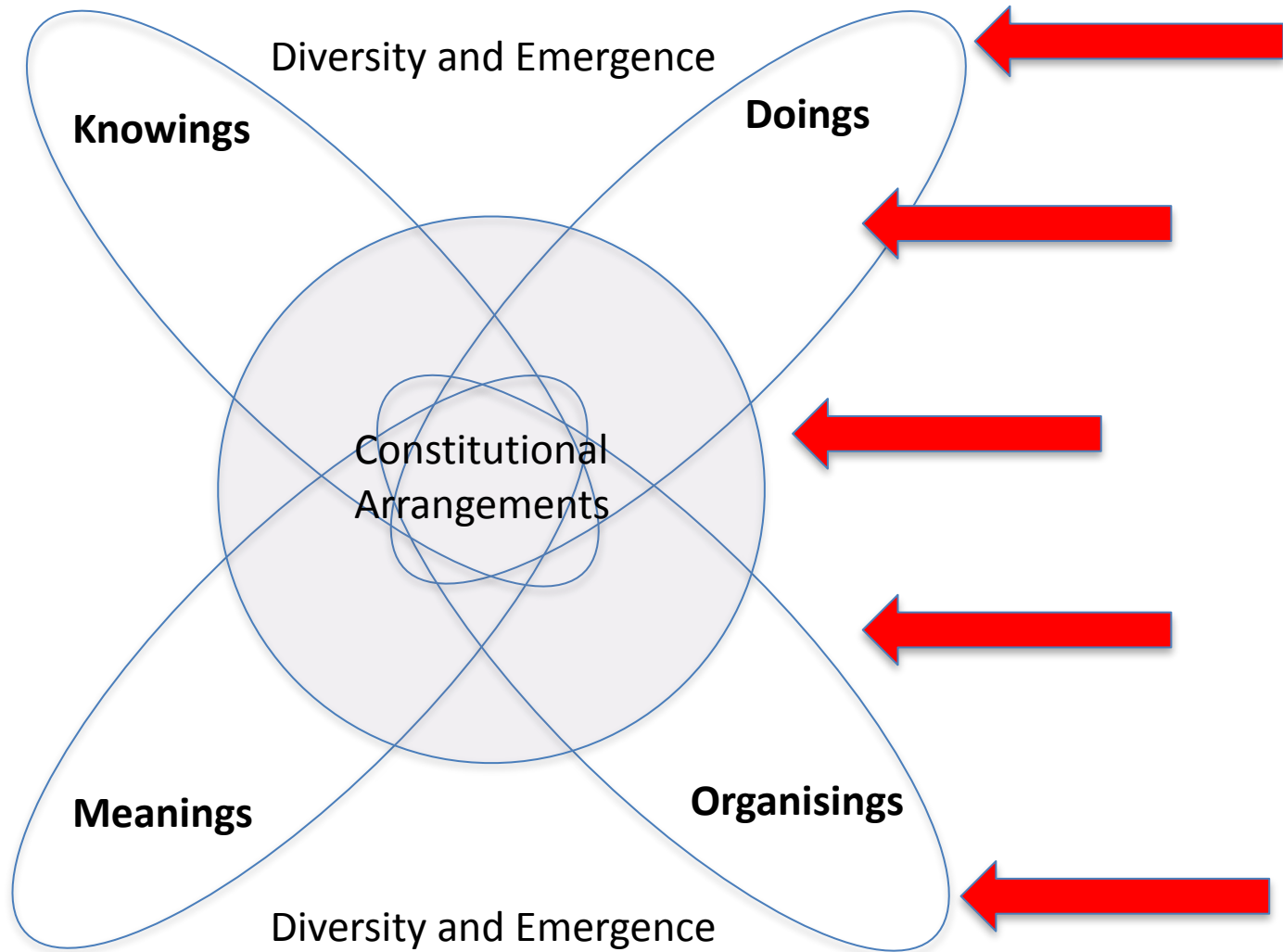


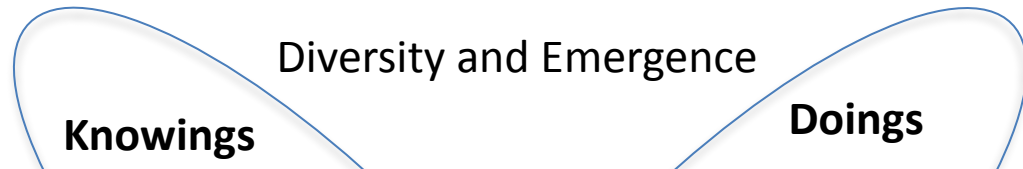


1. ENERGY SYSTEM TRANSITIONS ARE ABOUT MORE THAN TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

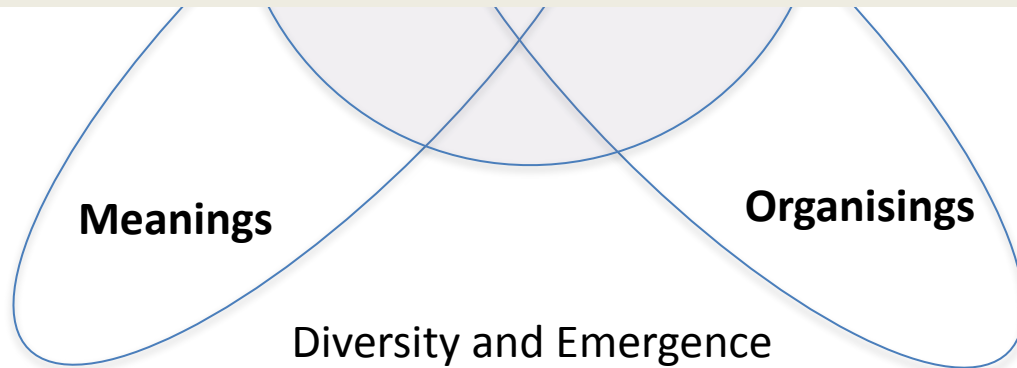


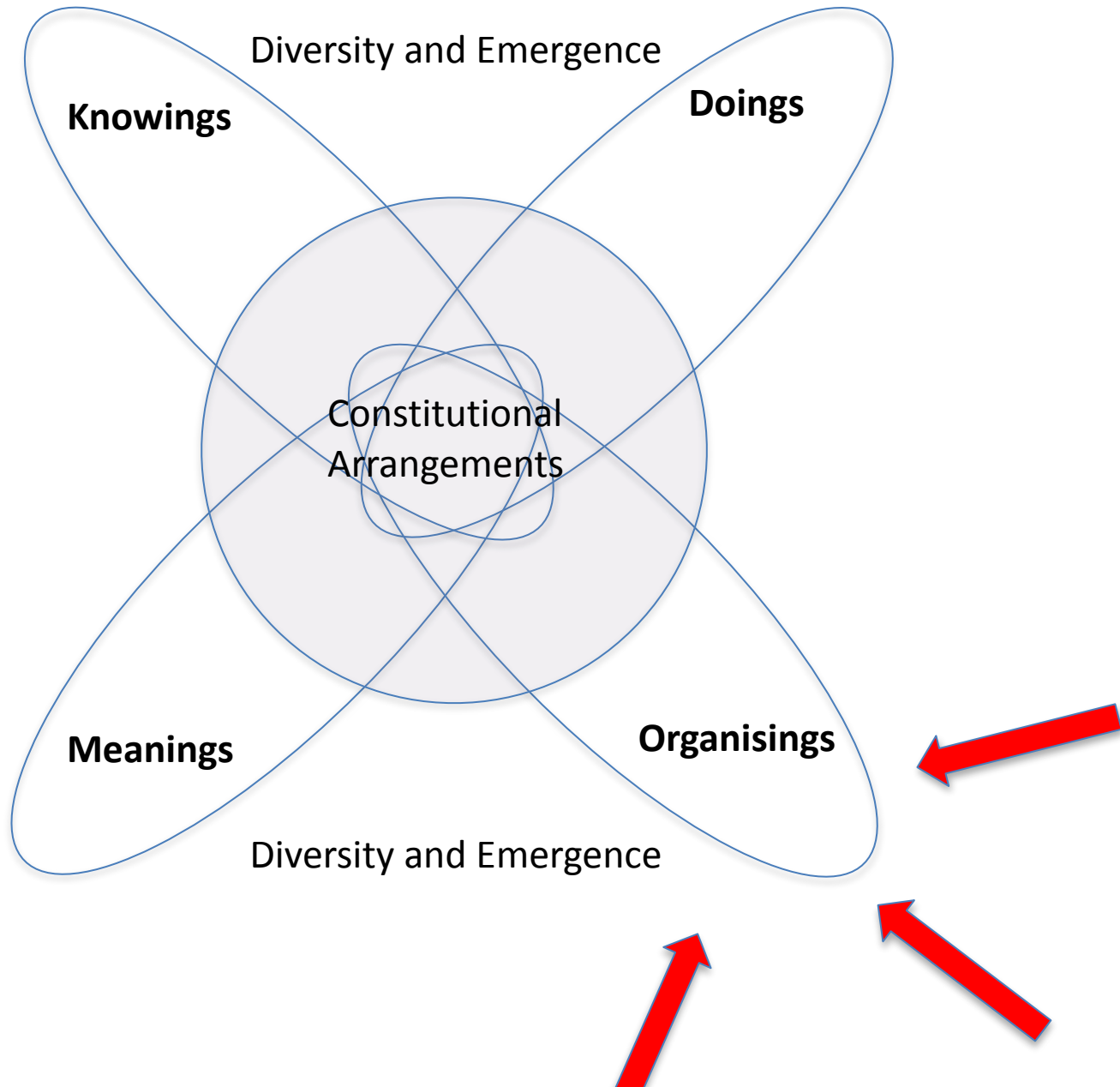






2. SOCIAL DIMENSIONS ARE INCREASING IN IMPORTANCE





Diversity and Emergence

Knowings

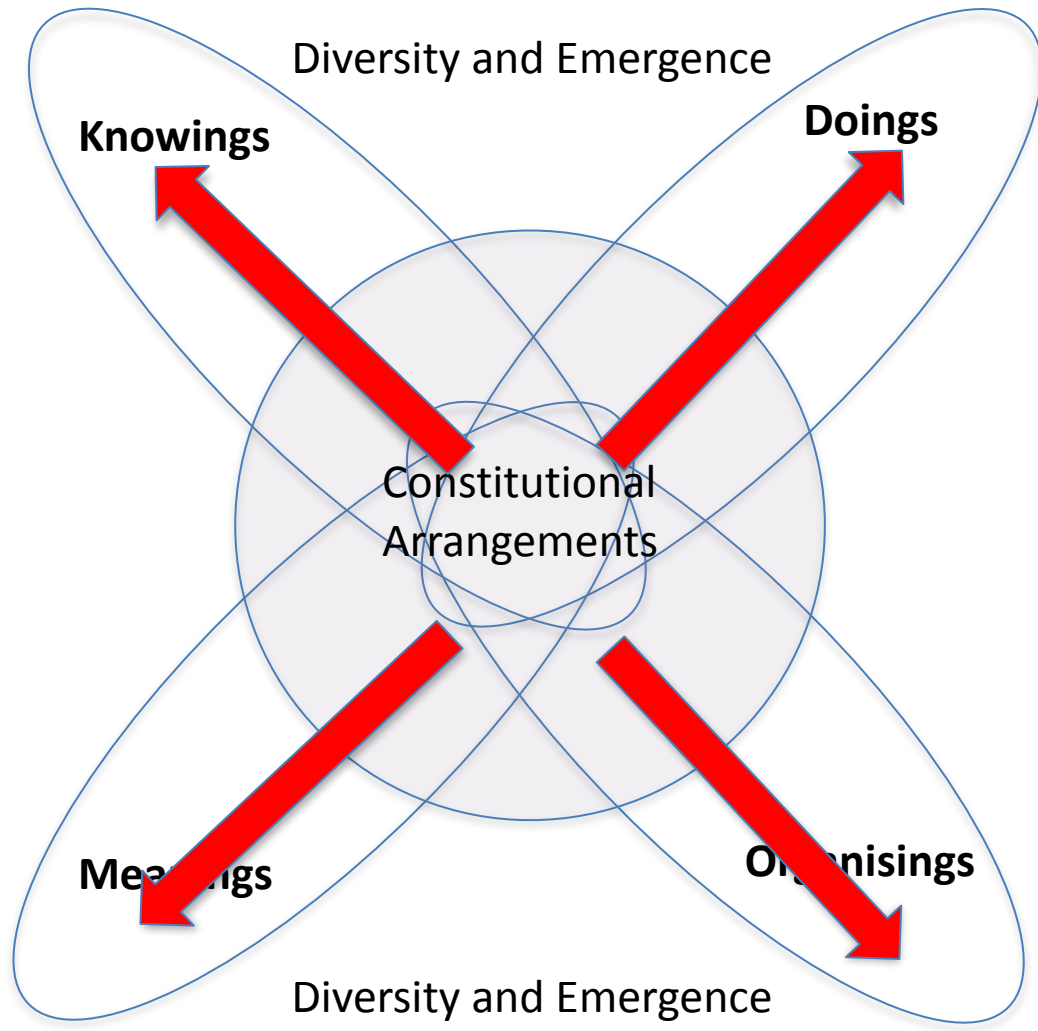
Doings

**3. MAPPING DIVERSITIES WILL
INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF
THE SOCIAL DYNAMICS, REDUCE
'BARRIERS' AND INCREASE
RESPONSIVENESS**

Meanings

Organisings

Diversity and Emergence



Thank you

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<https://3sresearch.org/>

<http://www.realisingtransitionpathways.org.uk/>

