



Agroecology and Safe food System Transitions (ASSET) project

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South East Asian context

- **Rapid intensification** of agricultural systems:
- Driven by rapid **urban and demographic growth**
- And a growing integration into the regional and global economy

- Increasing **environmental and social impacts, and vulnerabilities to climate change**
- With a rising demand for **safe food products**

- **Emerging transitions towards innovative agroecological systems**, not only in production systems but also in market systems and the enabling policy environment
- But that still largely needs to be consolidated



Province de Lao Cai, Vietnam
(Blanchard © Cirad)

From ACTAE to the ASSET project



2015-2019, funded by AFD, implemented by CIRAD & GRET
Lao PDR, Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam



3 main achievements :

- An **Agroecology Learning Alliance in South East: ALiSEA** which brought up stakeholders' concerns
- A consolidated **R4D partnerships** at regional level: from CANSEA to **ASEA** platform
- A strengthened **ASEAN Lao initiative for conservation agriculture and agro-ecology: LICA**

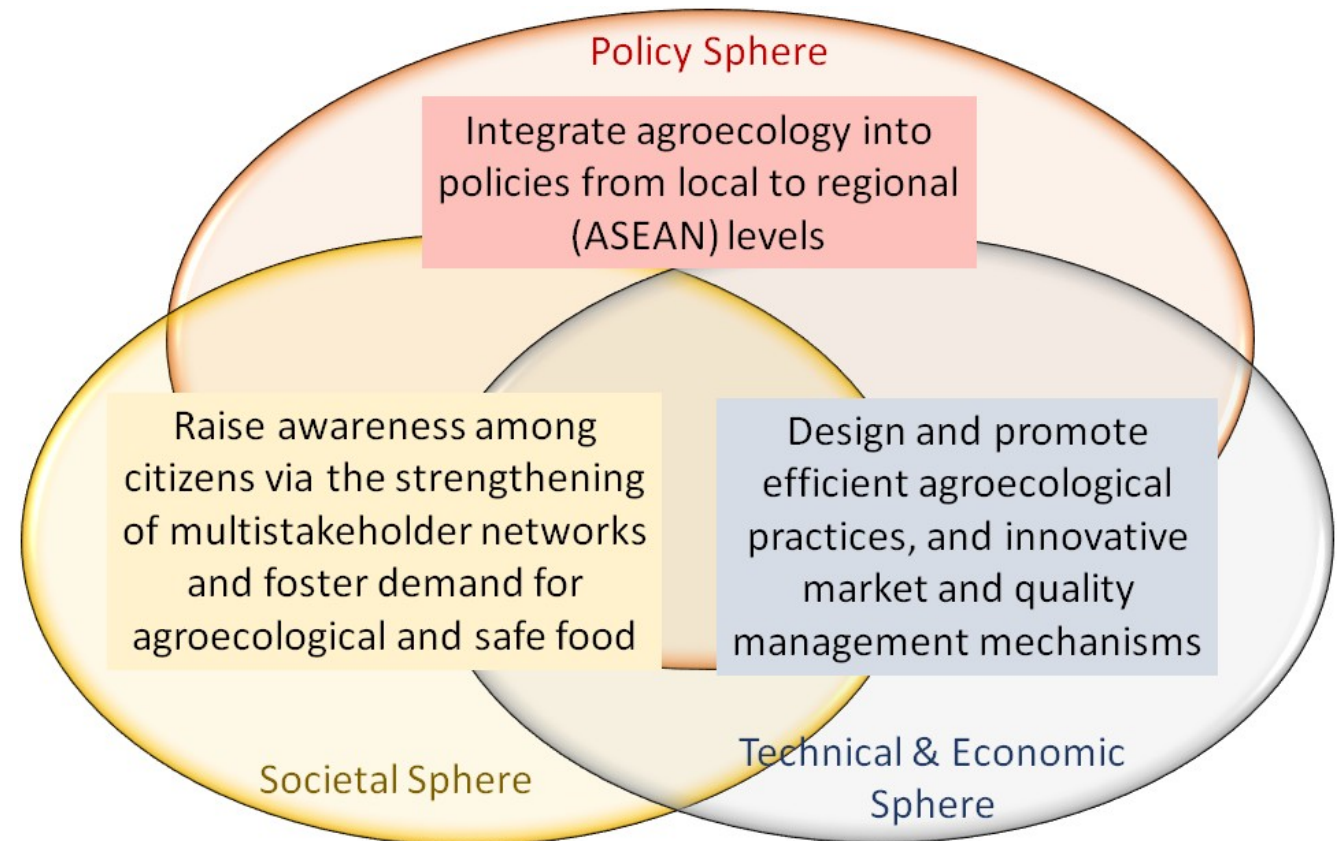


Integration of the **R4D partnerships MALICA** to address agricultural transitions as an integral part of food system transformations



ASSET project: General objective and approach

- Harness the potential of agroecology in Southeast Asia to transform food and agricultural systems into more sustainable systems, notably safer and inclusive
- Integrated approach to activate a variety of levers of the transitions:



The project in a nutshell

- General coordination: GRET (Lucie Reynaud, Laos)
- Scientific coordination: CIRAD (Estelle Biénabe, Mélanie Blanchard, Vietnam)
- Great Mekong Delta sub region: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and ASEAN
- Project duration: 2020-2025
- 15 million €, funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), the European Union (EU) and the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM)



A strong partnership



- **National partners (12) :**

- Cambodia : ITC, GDA
- Vietnam : VAAS (CASRAD, FAVRI, NOMAFSI), NIAS, IPSARD
- Lao PDR : DOPLA, DALAM, NAFRI, NuOL
- Myanmar : DAR, DOA, U. Yezin.

- **European partners (10) :** U. Firenze, U. Hohenheim, U. Bern (CDE), SEI, UNI4Coop, Mediaseeds, Swisscontact, IRD, GRET, CIRAD

- **International partners (3) :** APAARI, CIAT, ILRI

- **United nations agencies (2) :** FAO, UN ESCAP



The vision

- Food and agricultural systems in Southeast Asia are more sustainable, safer and inclusive by harnessing the potential of agroecology to transform them
- This will be achieved through synergizing initiatives contributing to ***Agroecological and Safe food System Transitions (ASSET)*** from local to regional levels



Sowing of rice in paddy field, Pu Luong, Vietnam
(Blanchard © Cirad)



Rolling and sowing of maize, Bos Khnor (© CIRAD)



Organic market Vientiane, Laos
(© GRET)

Ultimate and intermediate impacts

- Increased food security and food safety for smallholder farmers, and SMEs in South East Asia
1. A paradigm shift for the recognition and adoption of agroecology principles and activities into policies and society feeding into safe food system transitions
 2. Multiple diversified production and marketing models with increasingly diverse connections to export and domestic value-chains and food systems are available and coexist

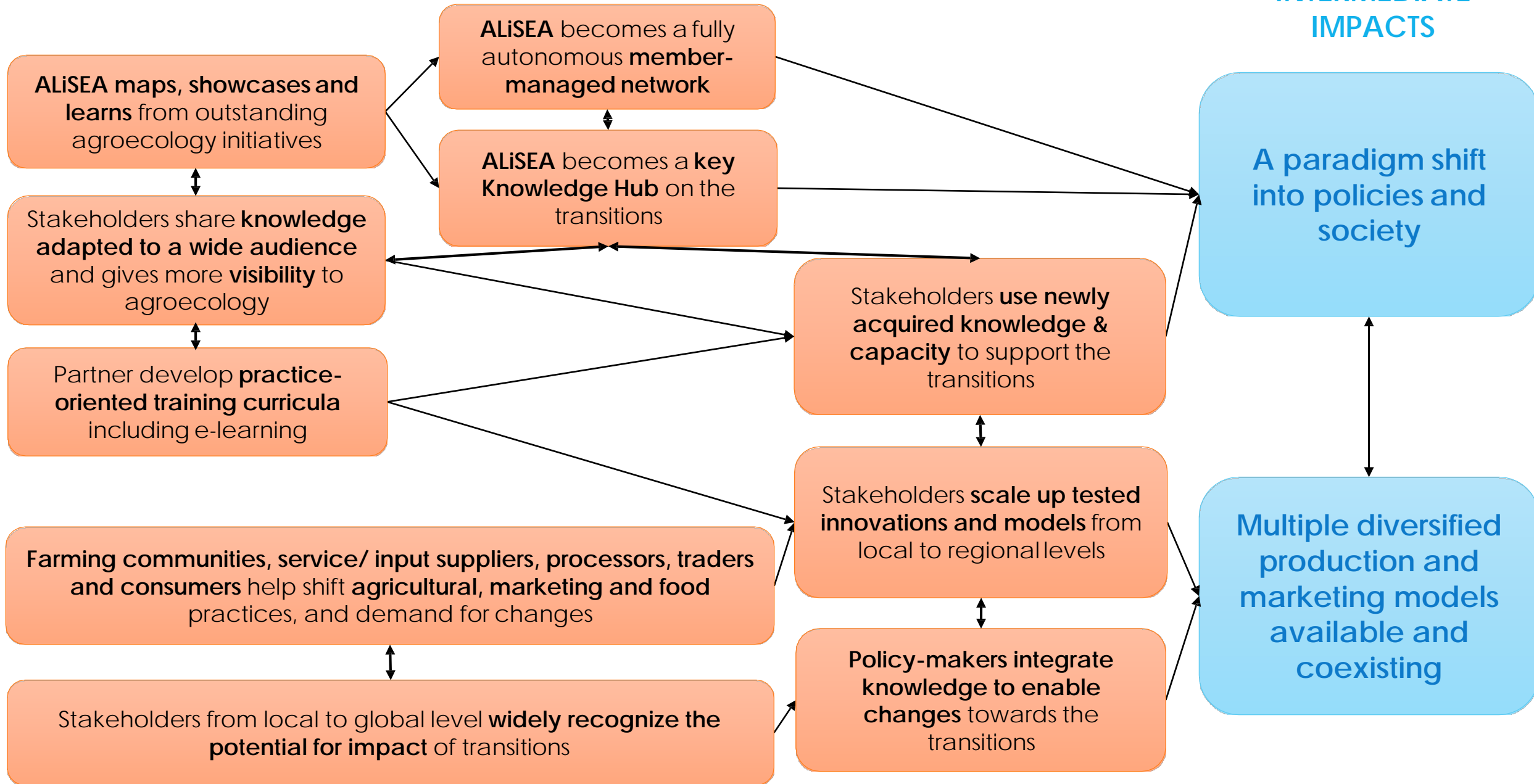


Cover crop (© CIRAD)



Plants diversity in Bos Khnor

OUTCOMES



OUTCOMES

INTERMEDIATE IMPACTS

Assumption 1: Strengthening capacity and increasing knowledge and ownership of targeted stakeholders enables them to shift towards a more agroecological and safe food system transitions

Assumption 2: Providing multi-scale evidence of the performance and multidimensional impacts of agroecological practices within safe food systems enables multiple stakeholders to support and implement the shift towards the system transitions

A paradigm shift into policies and society

Multiple diversified production and marketing models available and coexisting



ASSET project structure

C1 - Impact-oriented stakeholder engagement into ASSET

SC 1.1

Strengthening ALiSEA through networking and sharing a common vision of the ASSET

SC 1.2

Transforming ALiSEA multimedia into a knowledge hub

SC 1.3

Promoting ASSET through Capacity development, communication and visibility actions

C 2 – Scaling up agroecological and safe food innovations from local to regional levels

SC 2.1

Knowledge production and support to innovations at territorial level

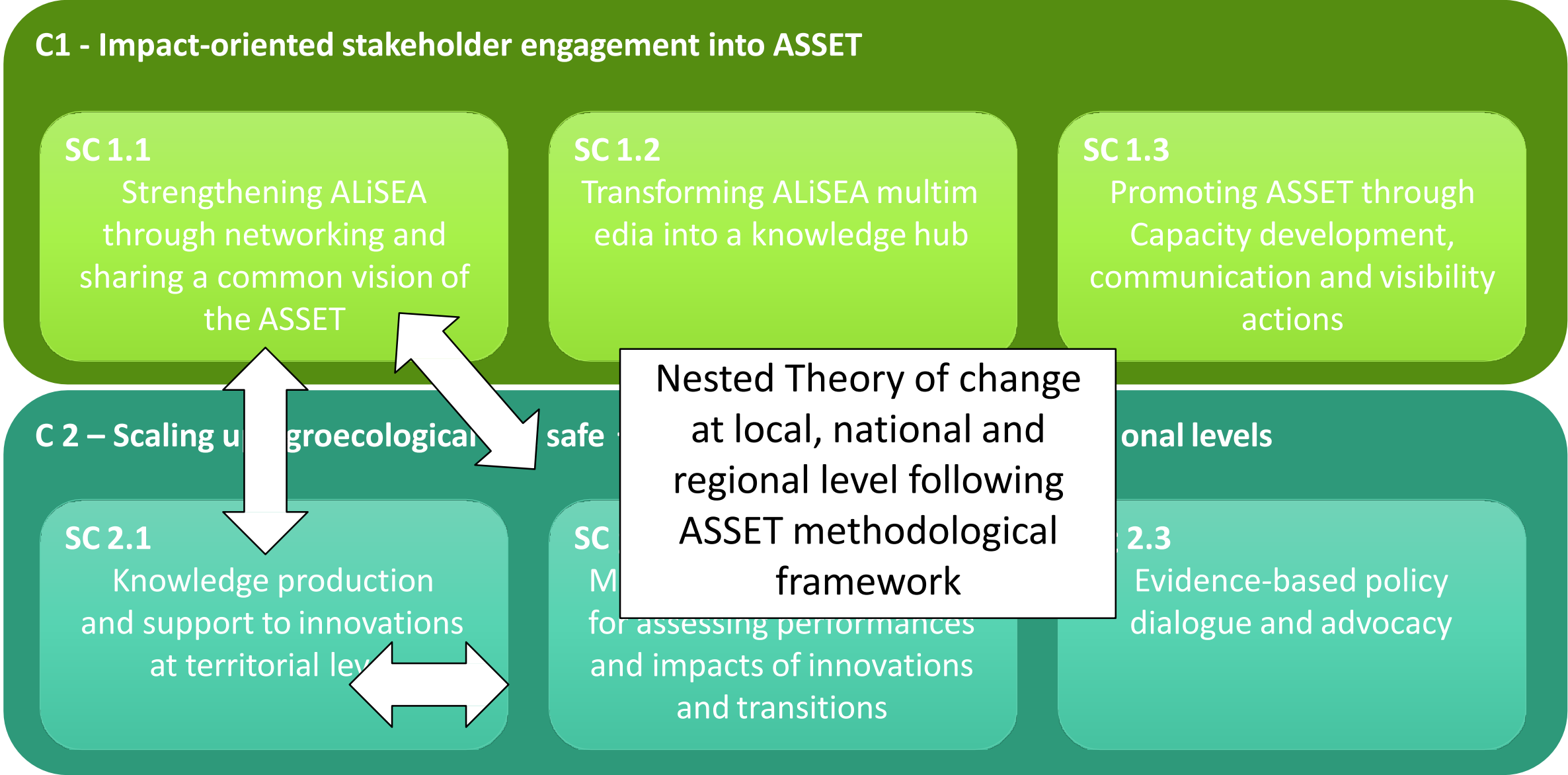
SC 2.2

Methodological framework for assessing performances and impacts of innovations and transitions

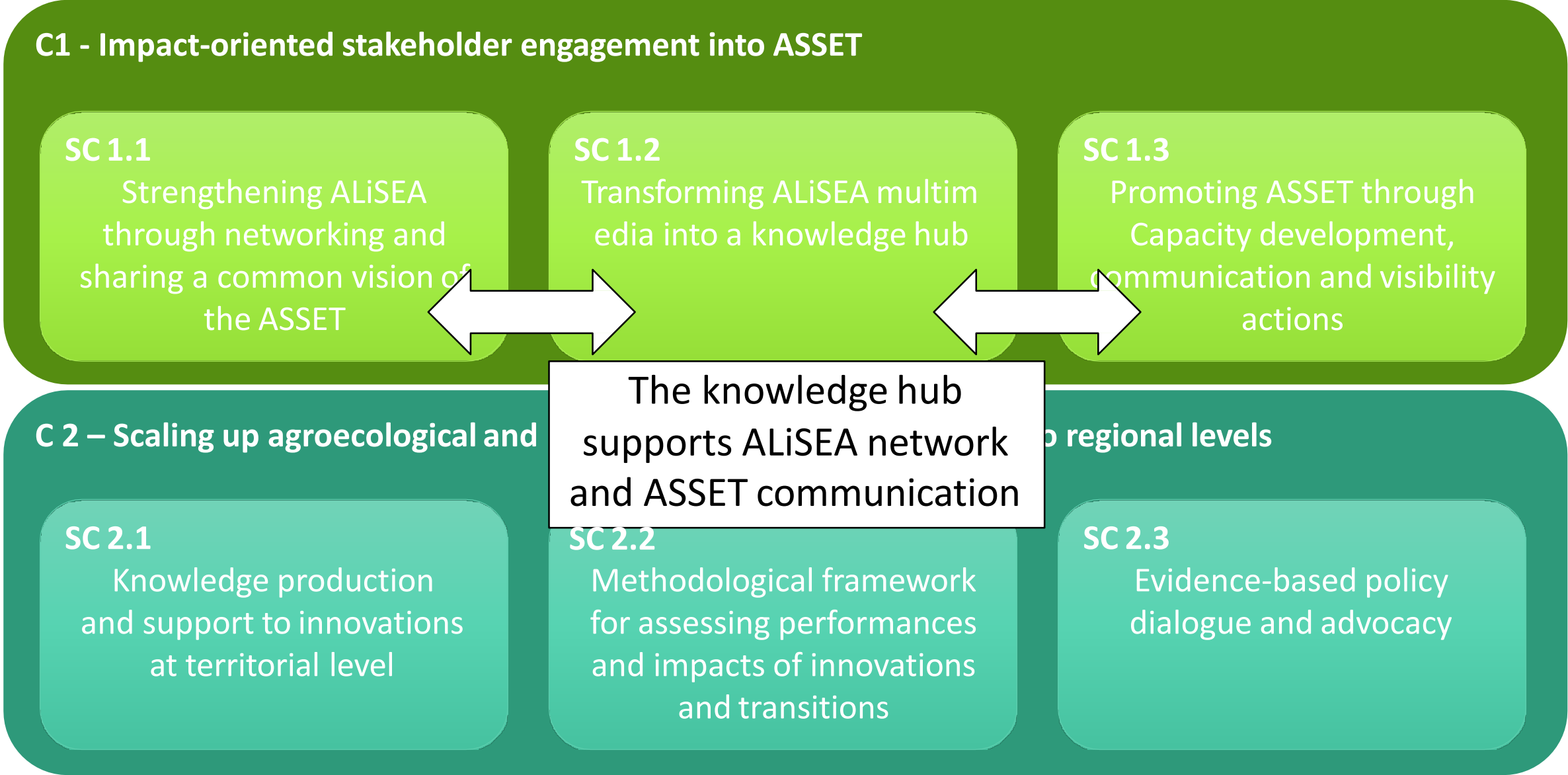
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Evidence-based policy dialogue and advocacy

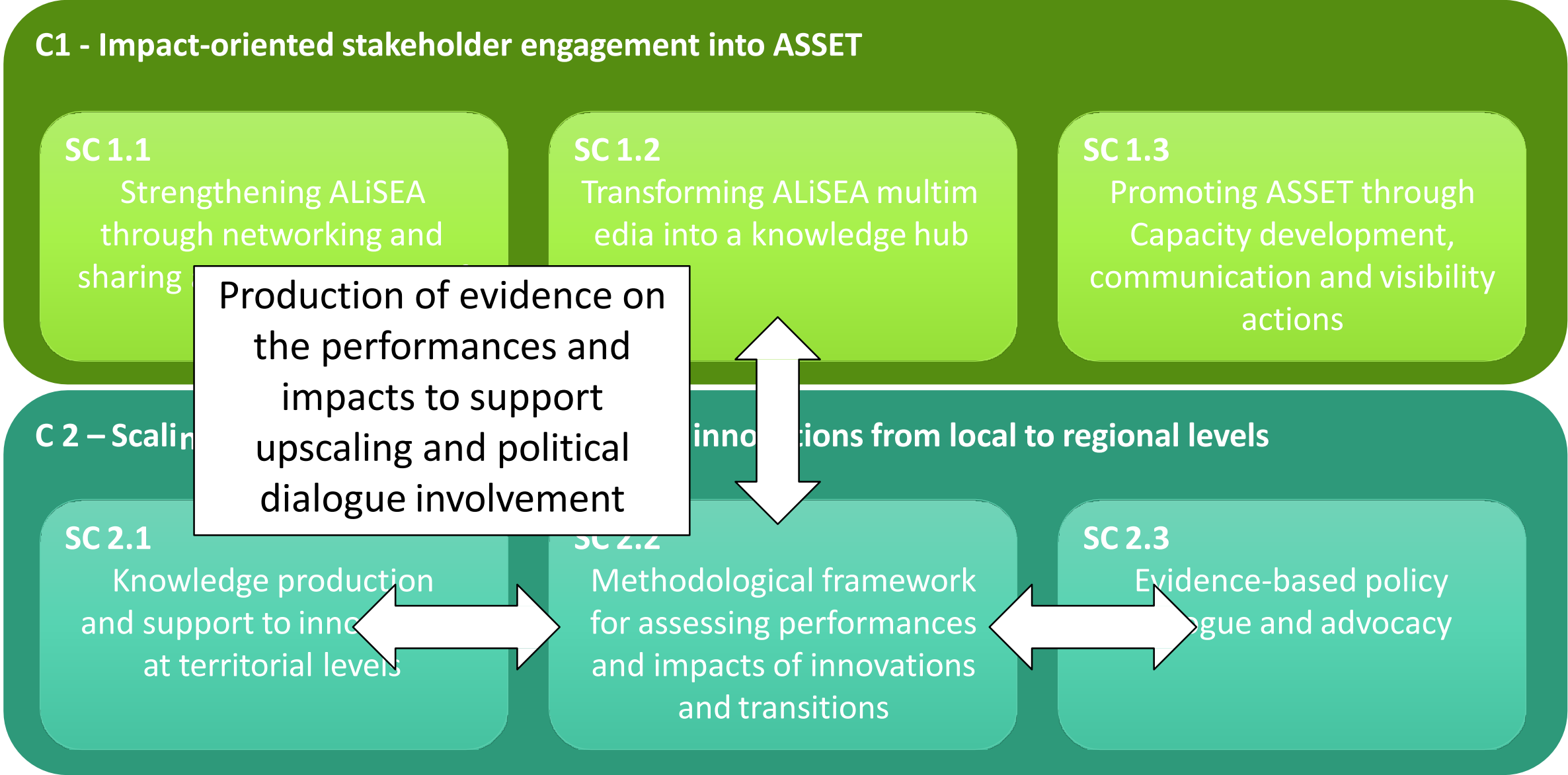
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