

Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (ZALF) e.V.

## Panel III: Content, adaption to (complex) research agenda

## Staff skills and technical development

*Frank A Ewert, Scientific Director, ZALF  
Professor of Crop Science, University of Bonn*

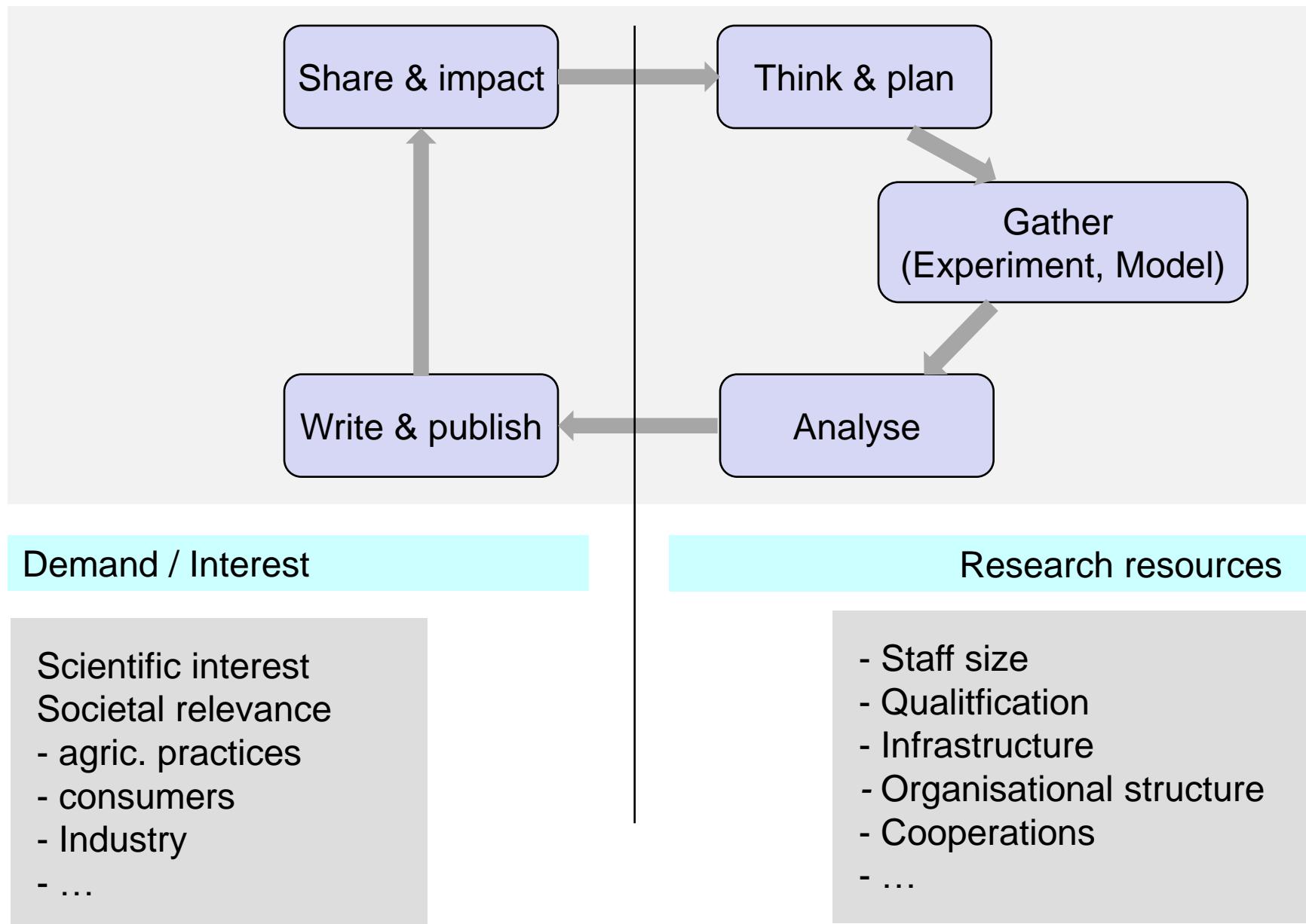
[www.lap.uni-bonn.de](http://www.lap.uni-bonn.de) universität**bonn**



EURAGRI, Dublin, 25-26 September 2017



# Research Cycle



# Background ZALF (status 2016)

- 6 Institutes
- 339 Employees
- 28,5 Mio. EUR total budget
- Sustainability of land use and ecosystems (ecosystem services)
- Multi-scale approaches  
→ from field to landscape ... to globe



intensive cropland



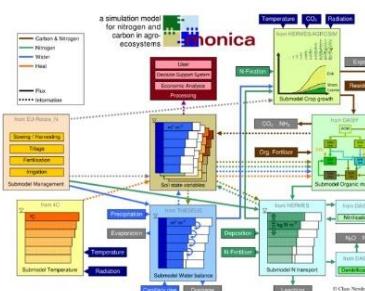
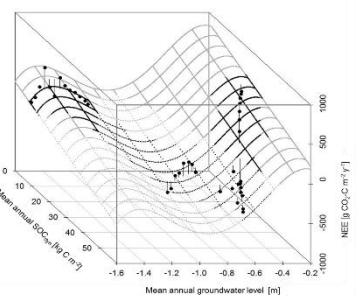
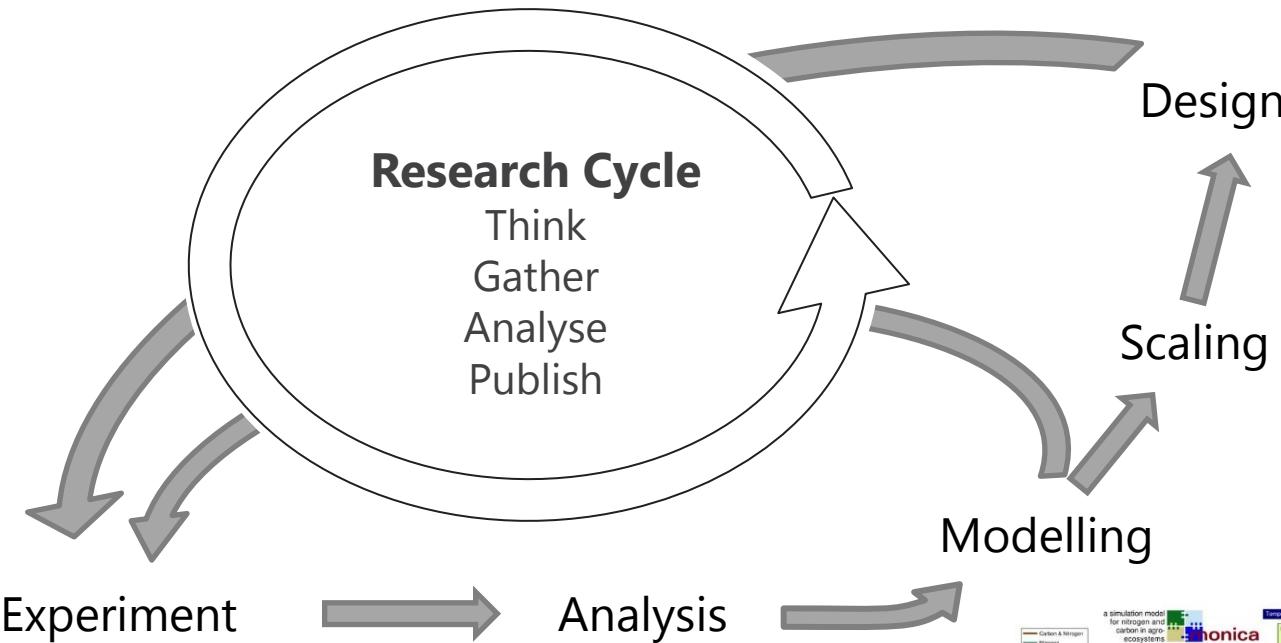
cropland with restored ecosystem services



# Research Cycle - ZALF

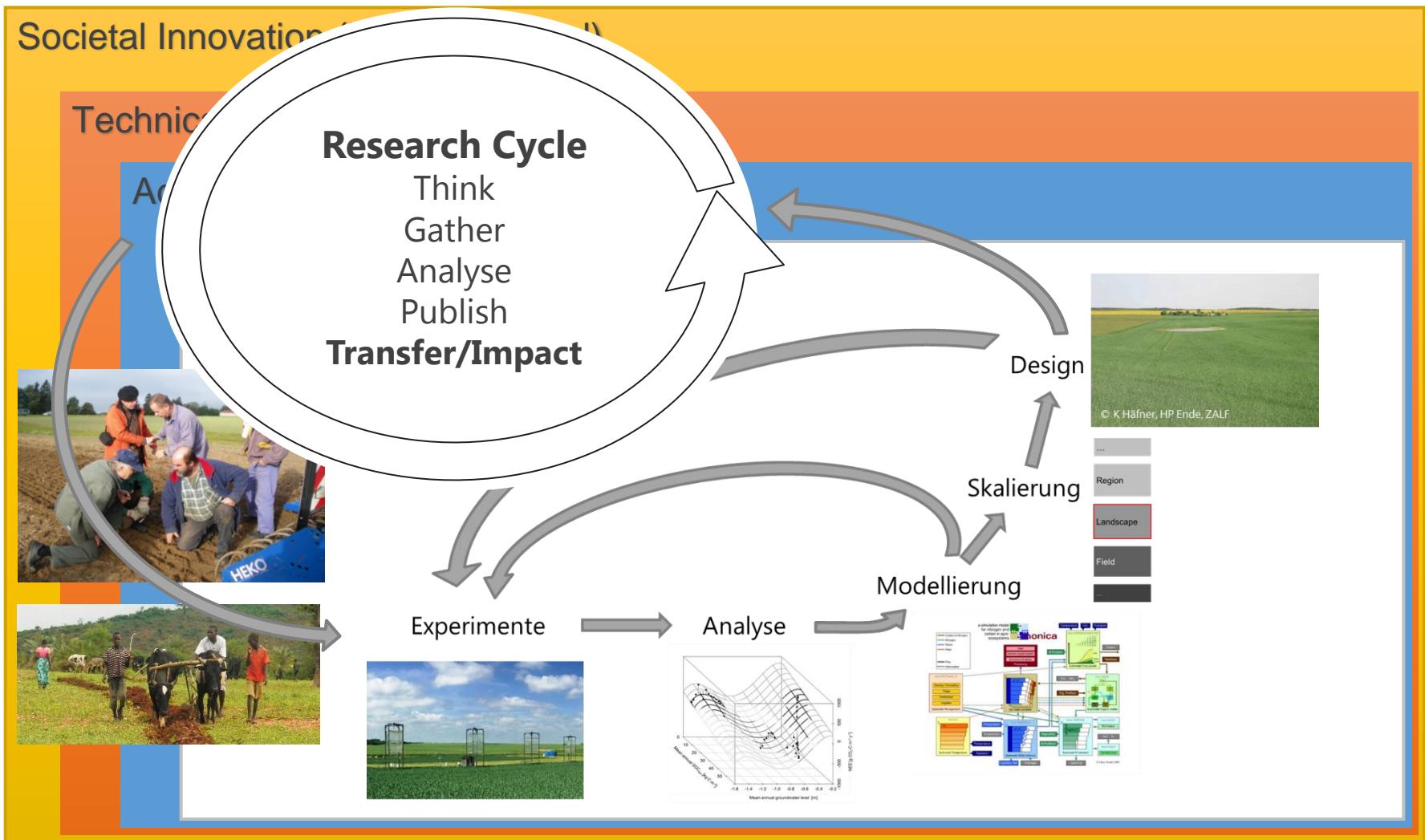
Knowledge through experimentation, data and models

→ Integrated systems research

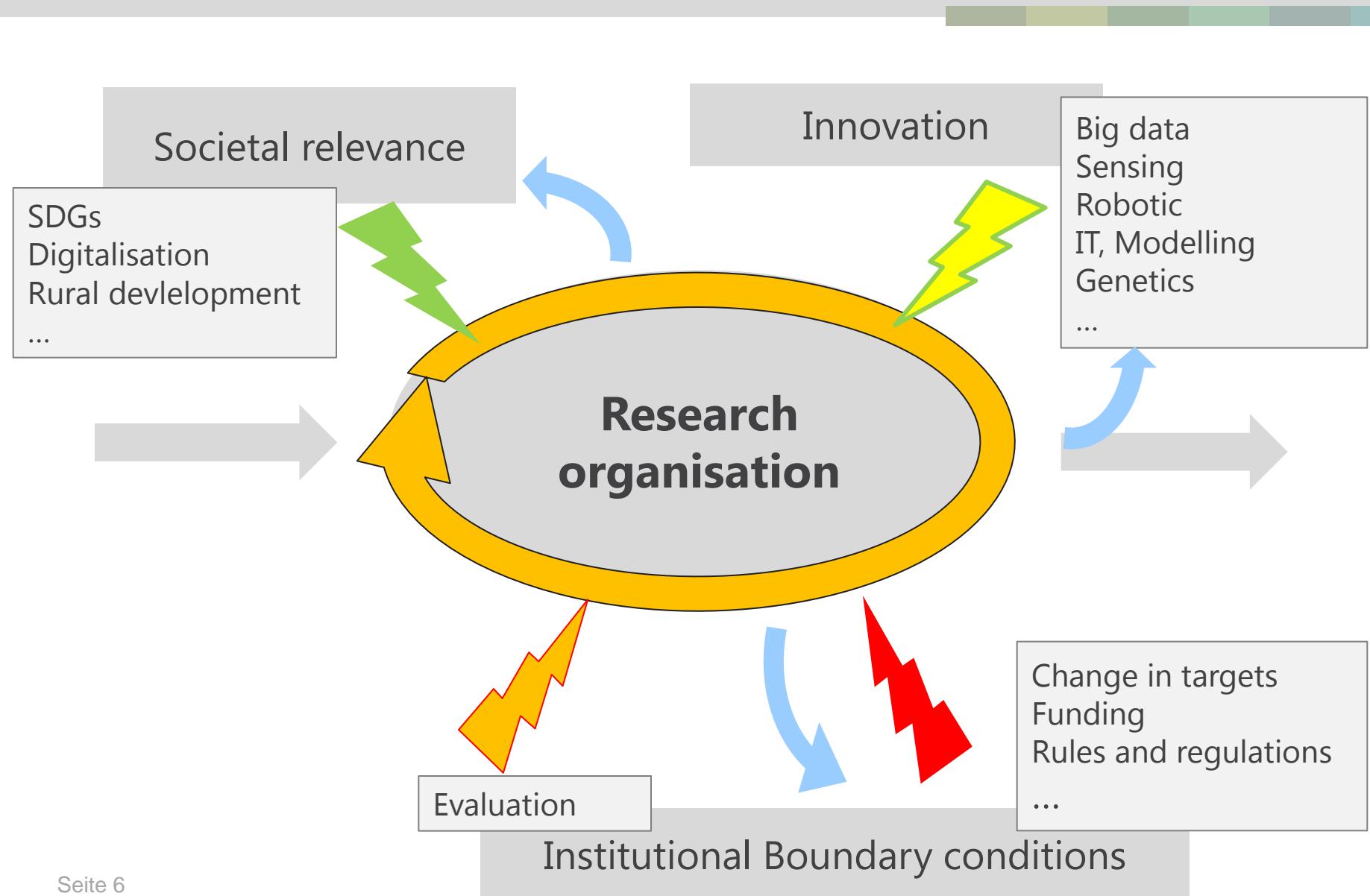


# Research Cycle - ZALF

Research, application and transfer



# Research structure and disruptions



# New technologies

New technologies will influence experimental activities and their use for modelling

- Sensing (near and far)
- Robotik
- IT (soft- and hardware)
- Data assimilation
- Big data
- ...

BoniRob  
deepfield-robotics



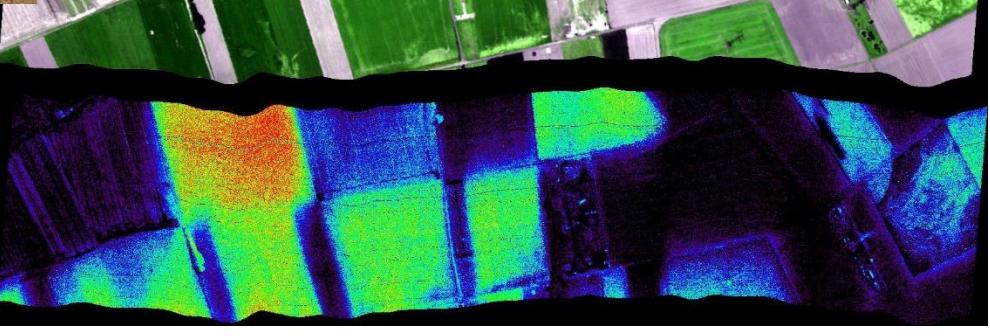
Drone at ZALF



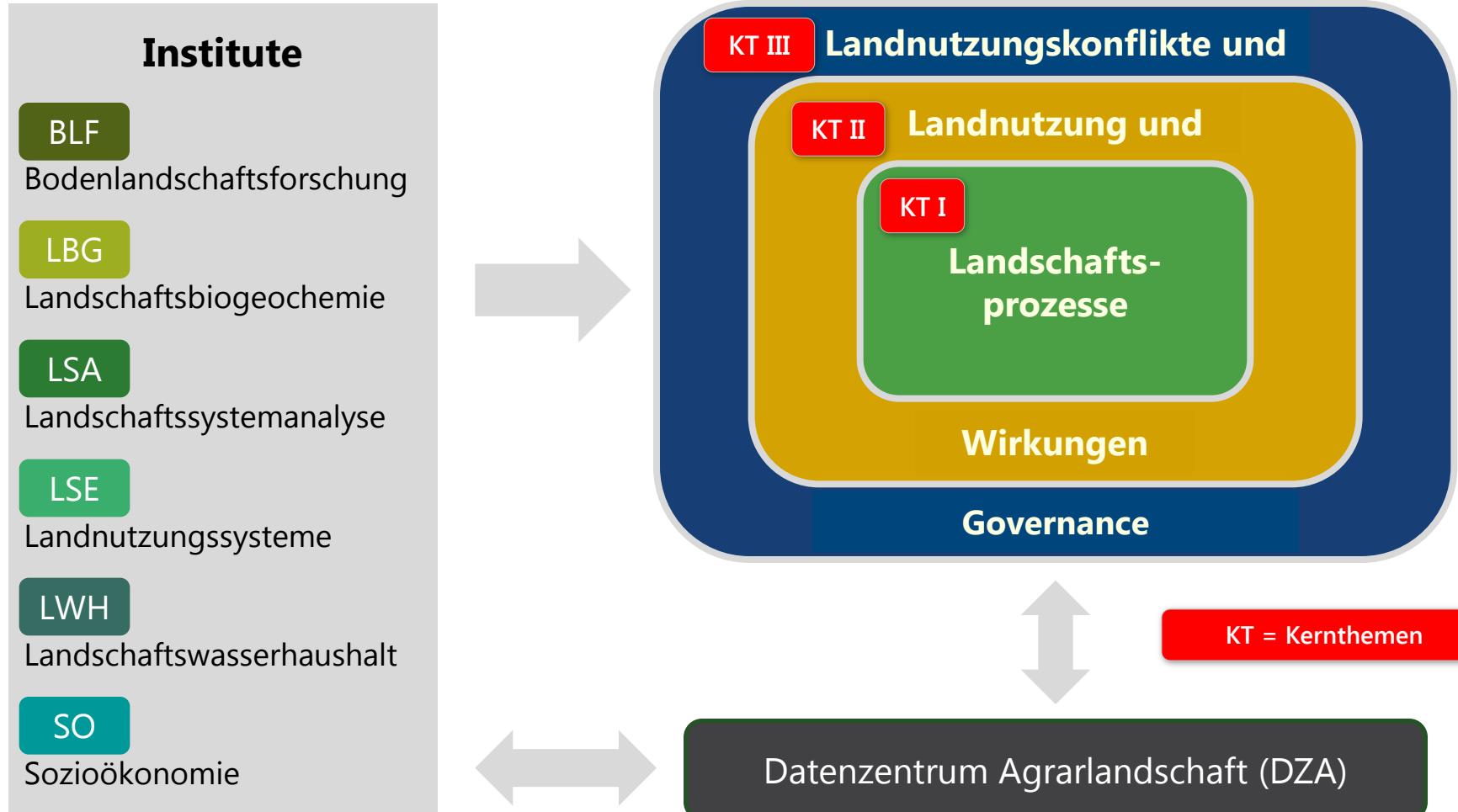
FLEX/Sentinel 3  
Tandem Mission,  
Photosynthesis  
Study



Fluorescence from  
different vegetation  
(Rascher, 2014)



# Research structure (past/present)



# Research structure (present/future)

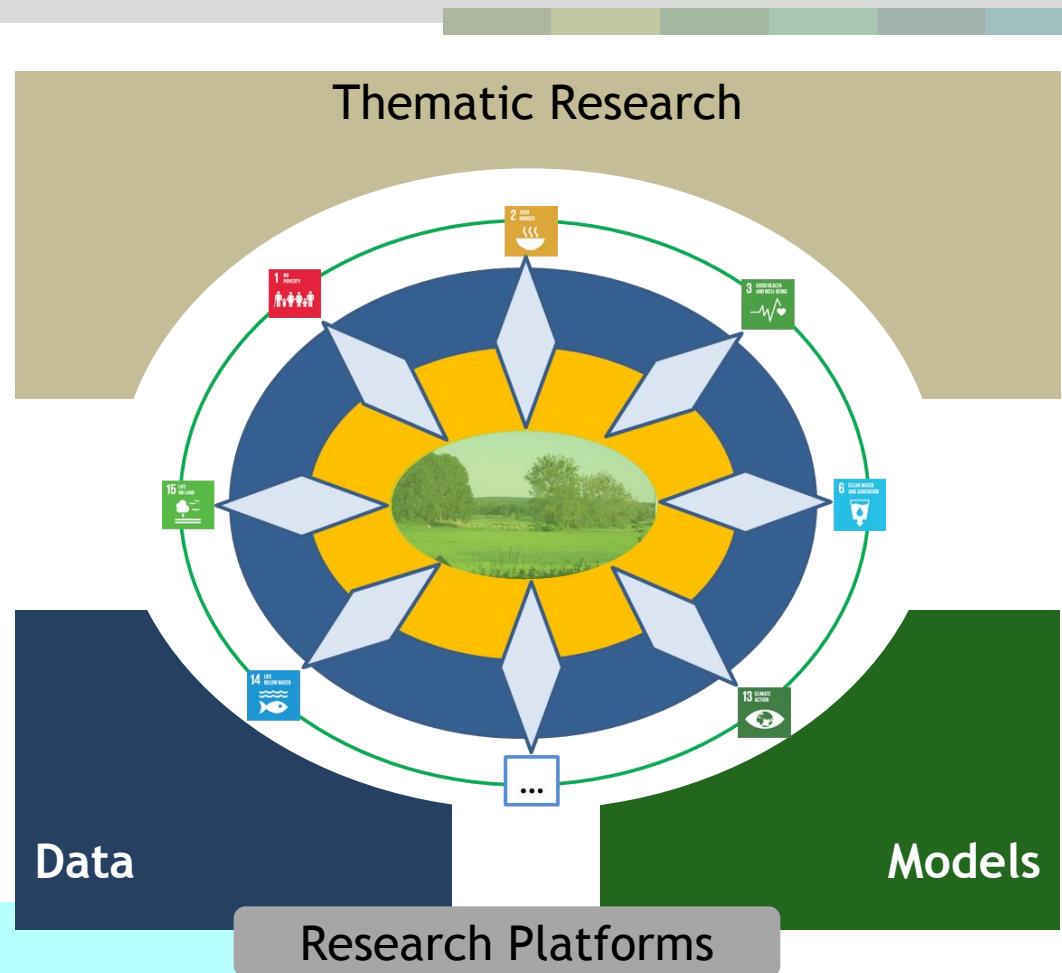
- Landscape processes
- Land use and Governance
- Synthesis of landscape research

RA1  
RA2  
RA3

- Research Platform Data
- Research Platform Models

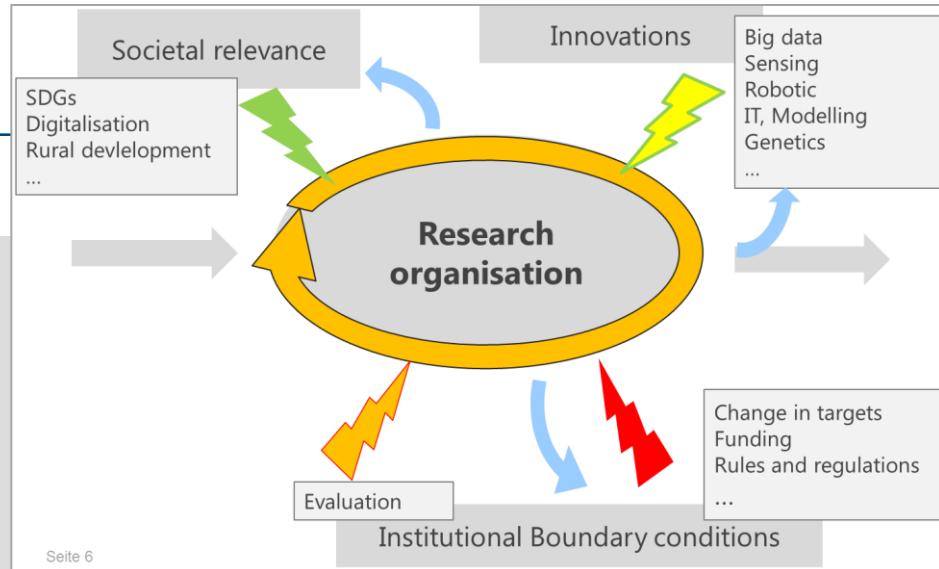
RP<sub>M</sub>  
RP<sub>D</sub>

- 3 level-structur (working groups)
  - Clearly defined sub-units with own responsibilities
  - Smaller leadership-gap
  - Better alignment of competences
  - Targeted qualification within sub-units



# Challenges

- Synchronize rates of change
- Continuous adjustment of:
  - research focus
  - Staff (size and qualifications)
  - infrastructure
- General (institutional/organizational) boundary conditions
  - Need to anticipate (rate of) change in research directions
  - Internationalization of research
- Evaluation criteria
  - Need to anticipate research demands
- ...



Seite 6

- Research input
- Research activities
- Research output
- Research outcome
- Impact