

Applying the Agile Methodology to M&E data collection systems

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ActivityInfo

Presentation outline

1. What is “Agile”?
2. Applying Agile to Monitoring & Evaluation
3. Agile methodologies
4. Agile M&E with ActivityInfo

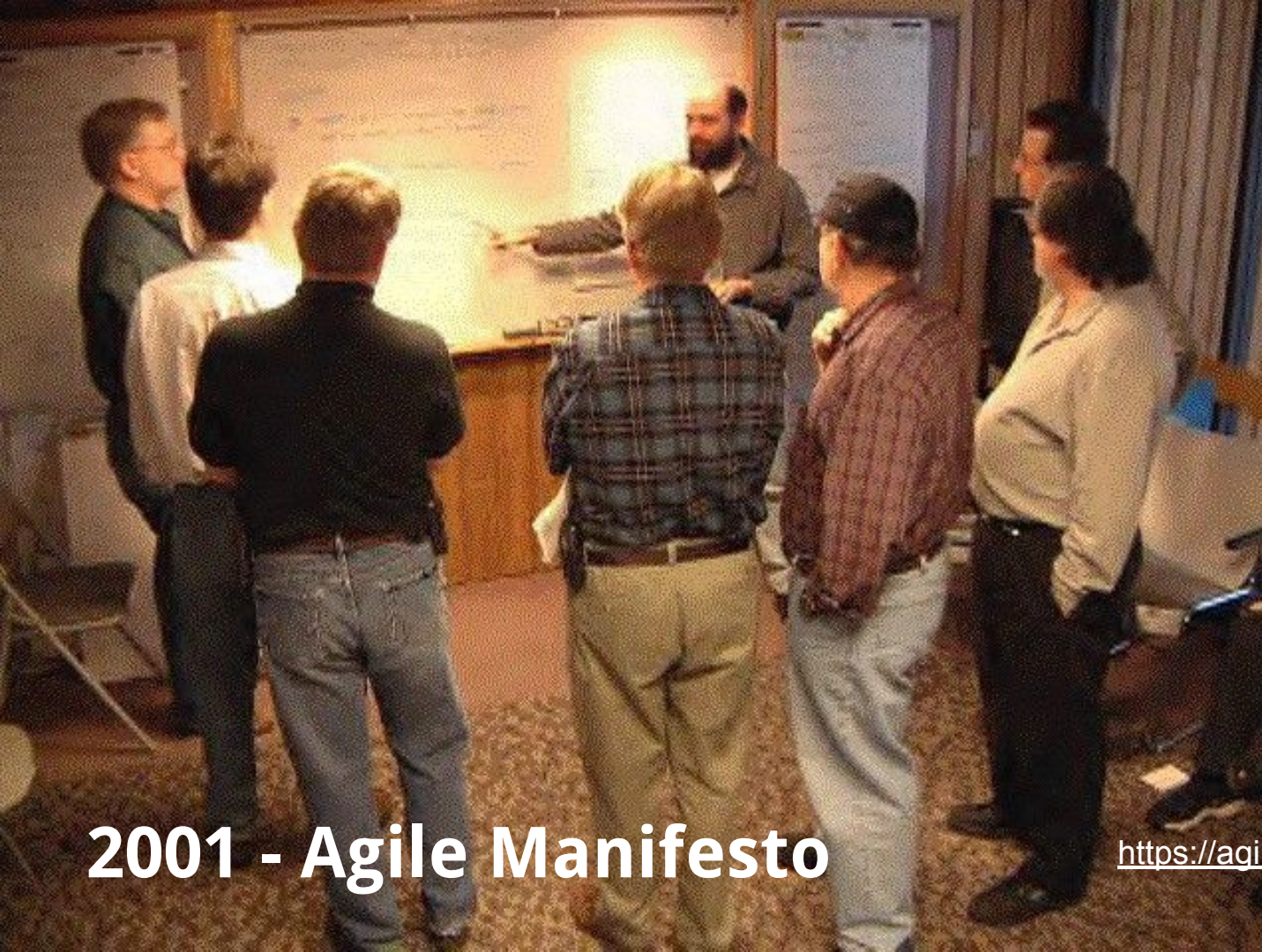


What is “Agile” ?

agile /'ædʒ.əl/

adjective

able to move quickly and easily



2001 - Agile Manifesto

<https://agilemanifesto.org/>

4 Values

**Individuals and
interactions**

over

Processes and
Tools

**Working
Software**

over

Comprehensive
Documentation

**Stakeholder
Collaboration**

over

Contract
Negotiation

**Responding to
Change**

over

Following a
Plan

2001 - Agile Manifesto

12 Principles

1

Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software.

5

Build projects around motivated **individuals**. Give them the environment and support they need, and trust them to get the job done.

9

Continuous attention to technical excellence and good design enhances agility.

2

Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage.

6

The most efficient and effective method of conveying information to and within a development team is **face-to-face** conversation.

10

Simplicity--the art of maximizing the amount of work not done--is essential.

3

Deliver working software **frequently**, from a couple of weeks to a couple of months, with a preference to the shorter timescale.

7

Working software is the primary measure of progress.

11

The best architectures, requirements, and designs emerge from **self-organizing teams**.

4

Business people and developers must **work together daily** throughout the project.

8

Agile processes promote **sustainable** development. The sponsors, developers, and users should be able to maintain a constant pace indefinitely

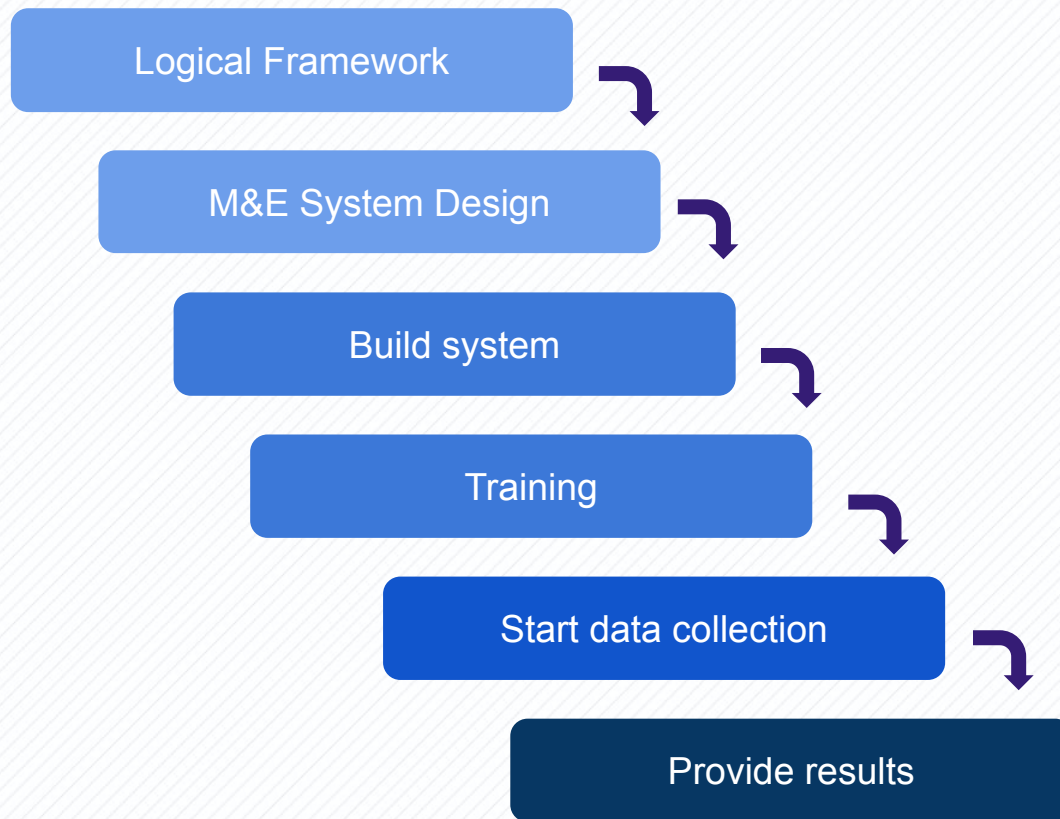
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At regular intervals, the team **reflects** on how to become more effective, then tunes and adjusts its behavior accordingly

2001 - Agile Manifesto

Waterfall Model

M&E EDITION

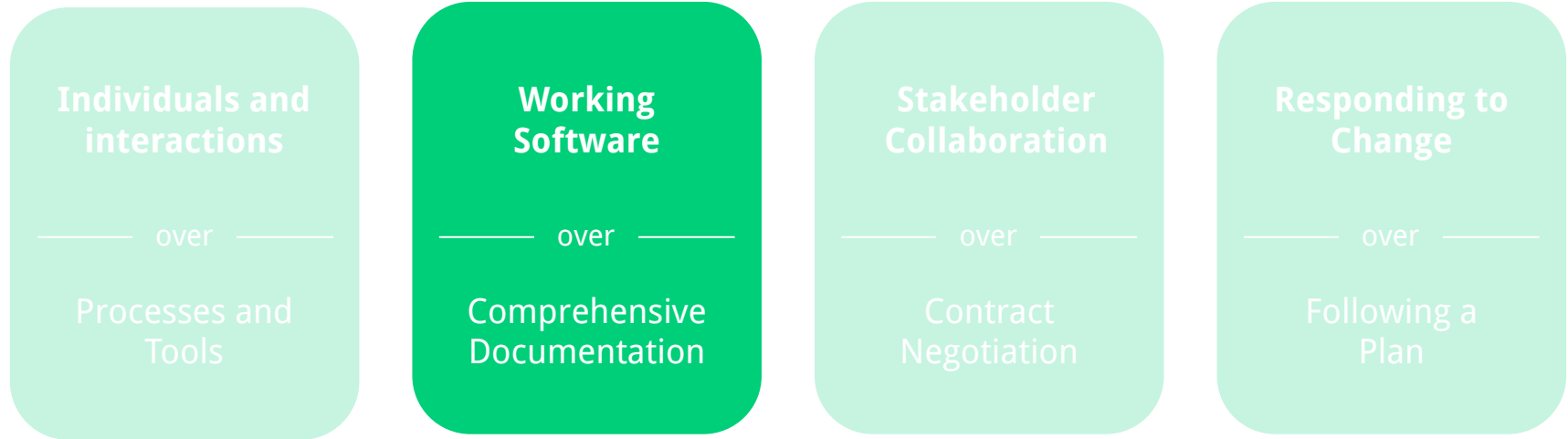


What can M&E learn from Agile?

- **Value** for stakeholders
- Responding to **change**
- Importance of **teams**

Value for stakeholders

4 Values



2001 - Agile Manifesto

How does M&E provide “value” ?

Donor reporting



Our organization will continue to have resources to support our beneficiaries.

Project status reports



Project managers can take early action to ensure an effective implementation

Impact analysis



Program design can be adapted to better serve beneficiaries

(In)validate assumption



Our Theory of Change can be updated and improved

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M&E EDITION

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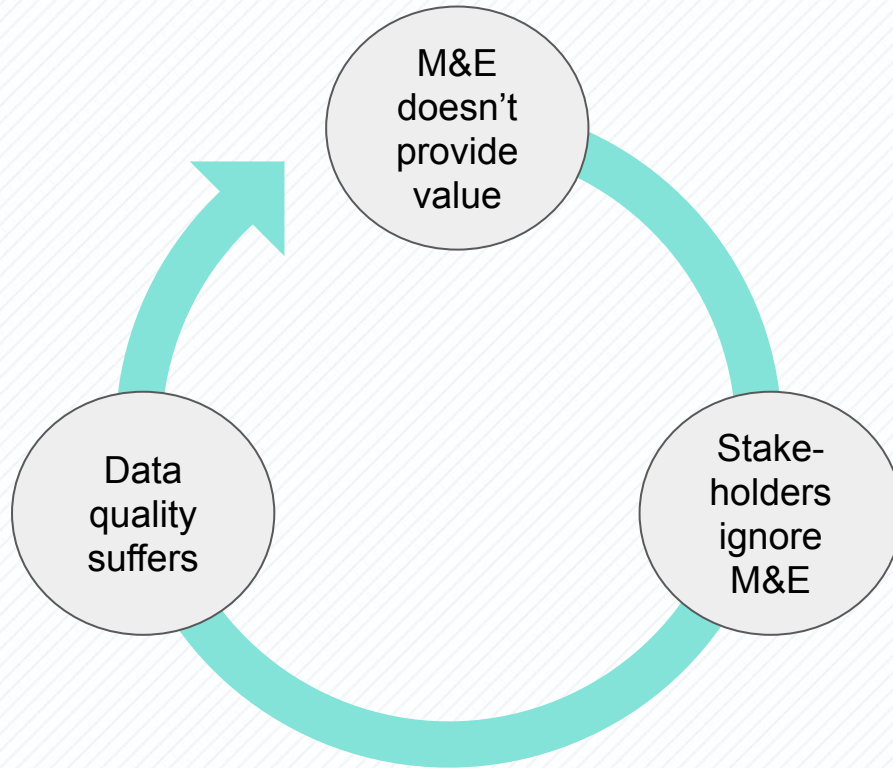
2001 - Agile Manifesto

Delivering value more frequently in M&E

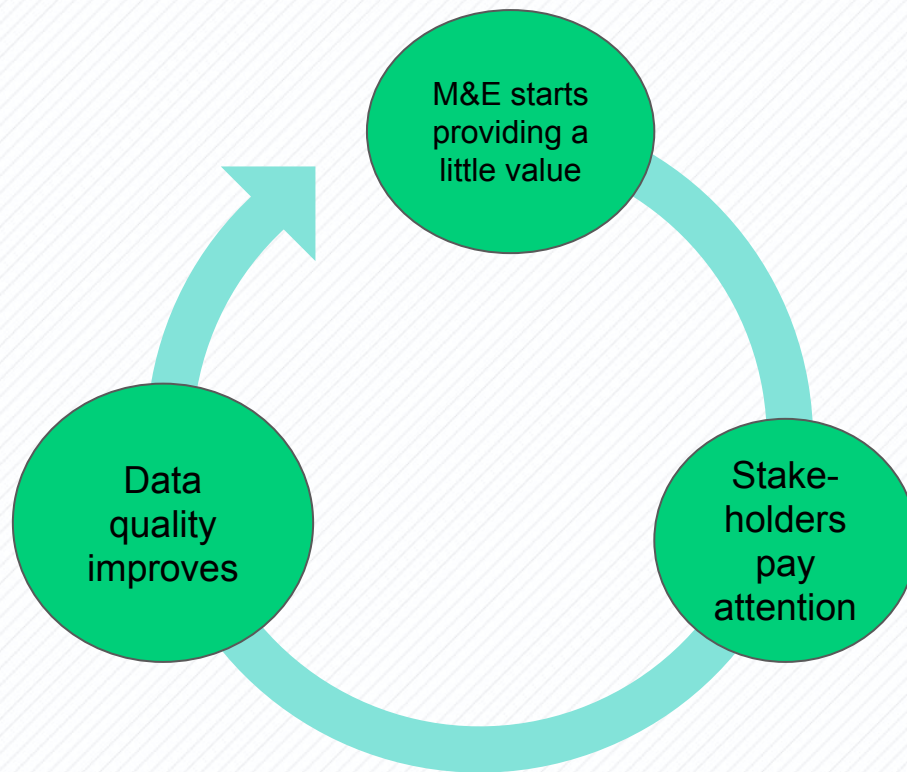
- Set smaller goals, execute more frequently
- Examples:
 - Implement monthly project reports with 3 key indicators
 - Proactive donor updates every 2 months
 - Conduct small impact surveys every 6 months
 - Provide quarterly summary and analysis of all collected data



Data quality: Vicious Circles

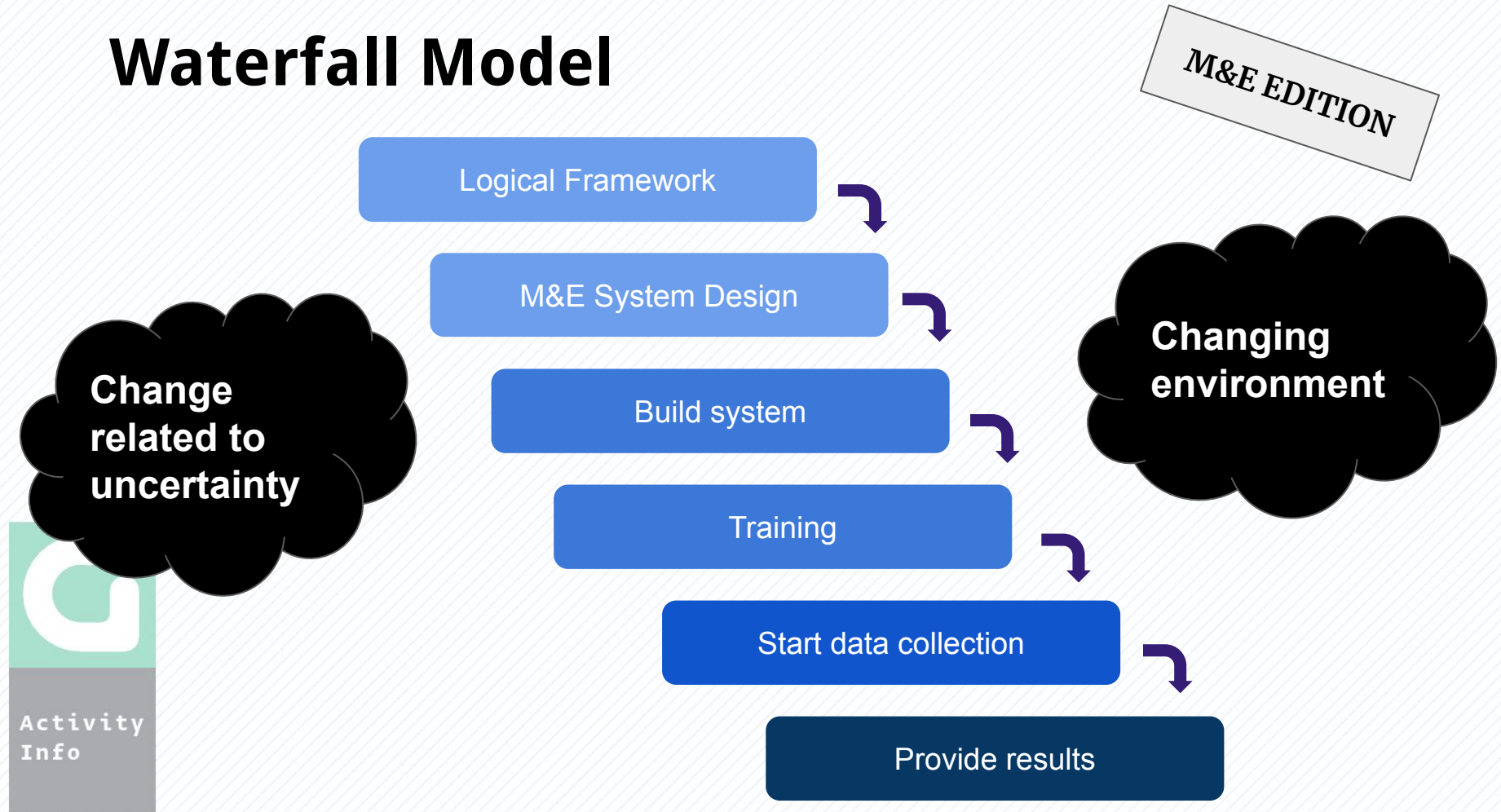


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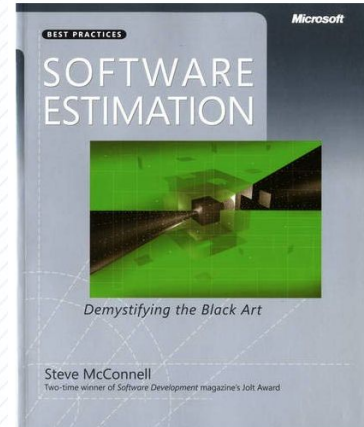
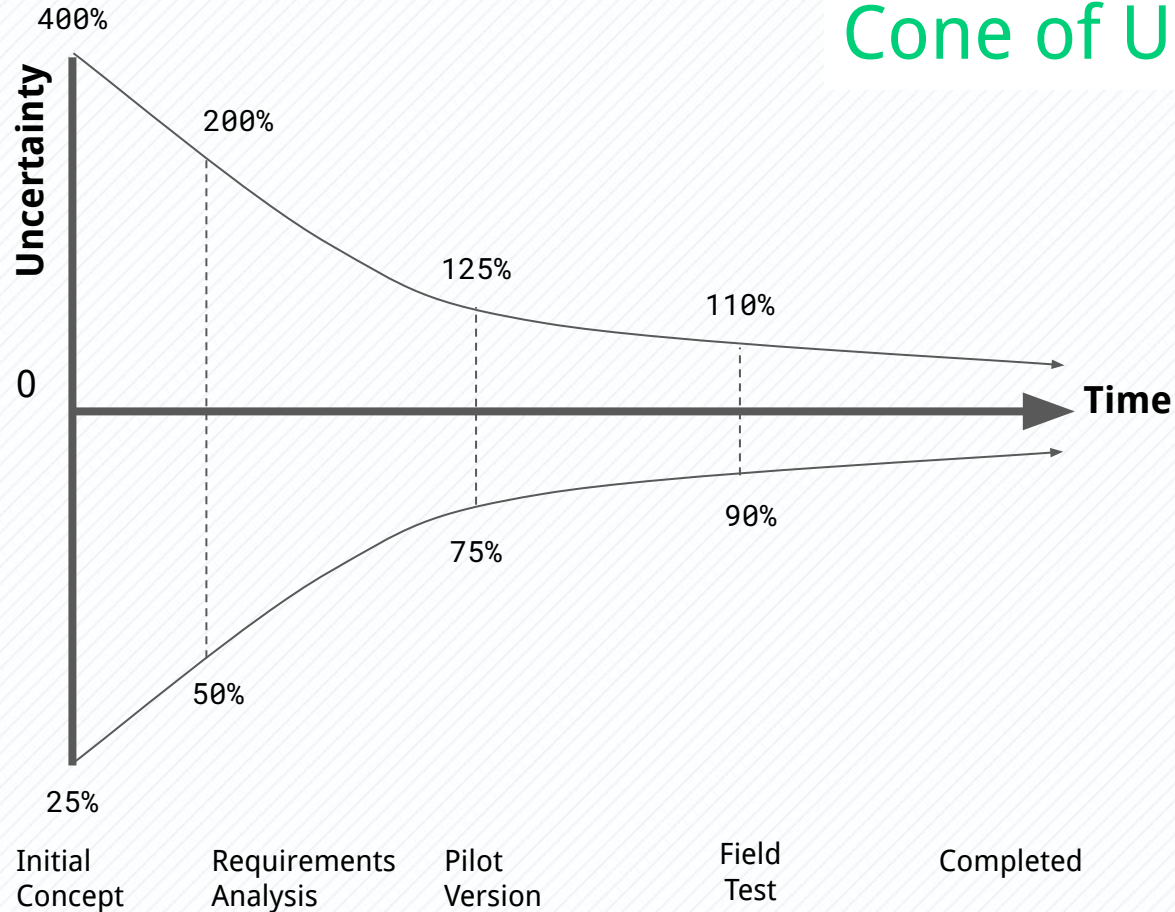


Responding to change

Waterfall Model

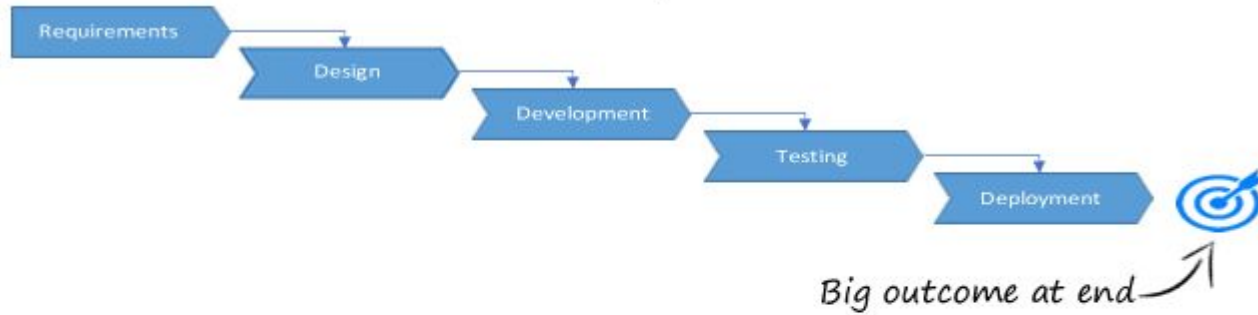


Cone of Uncertainty

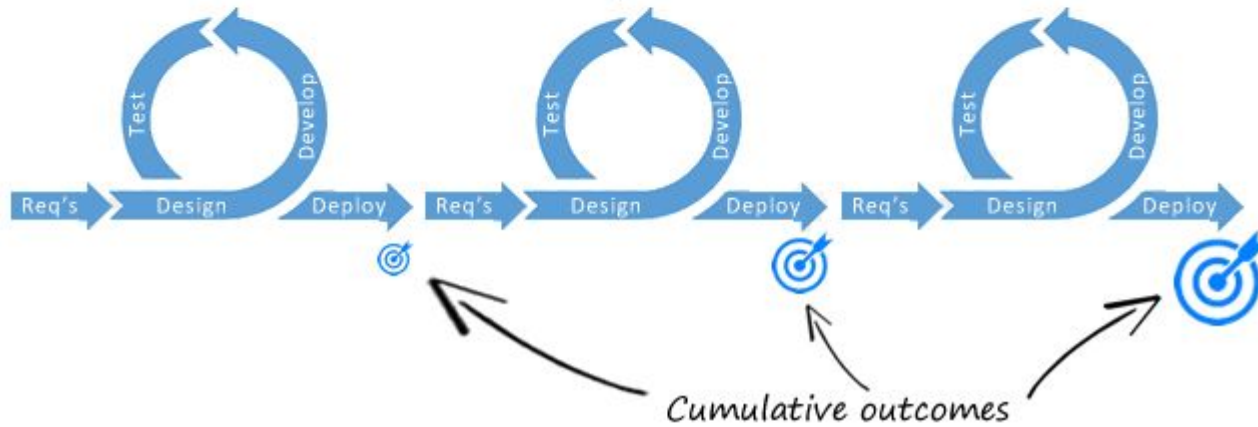


Source: [Software Estimation](#), Steve McConnell

Waterfall

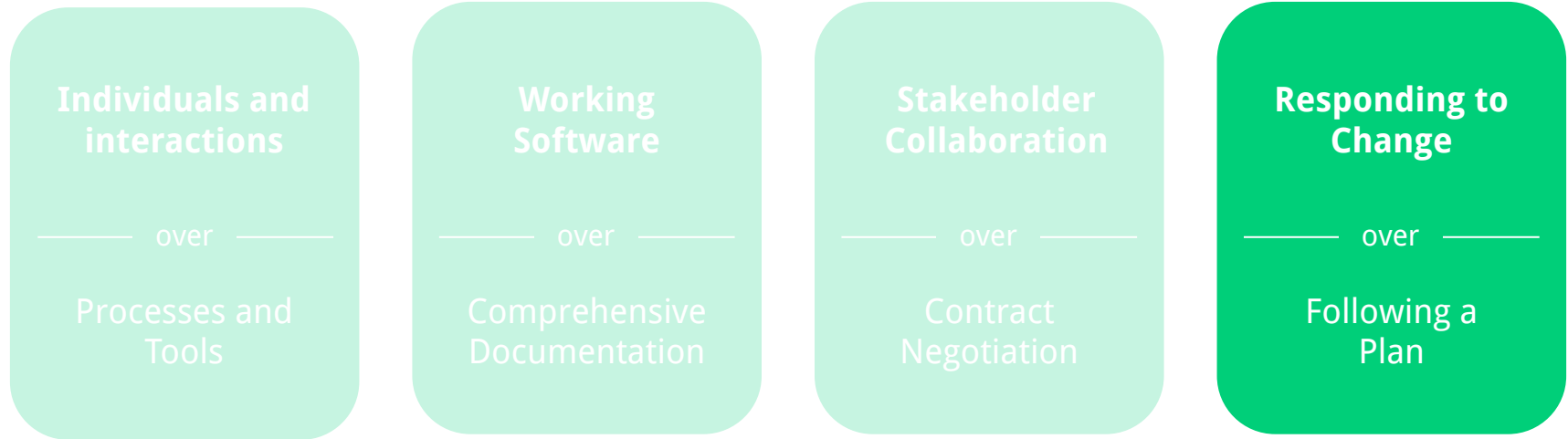


Agile



Source: <https://scrumble.nl/blog/innovatie-strategie/agile-vs-waterval/>

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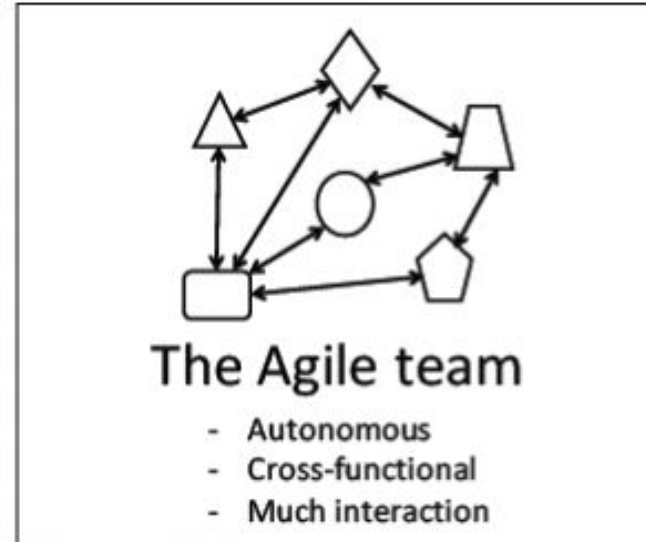
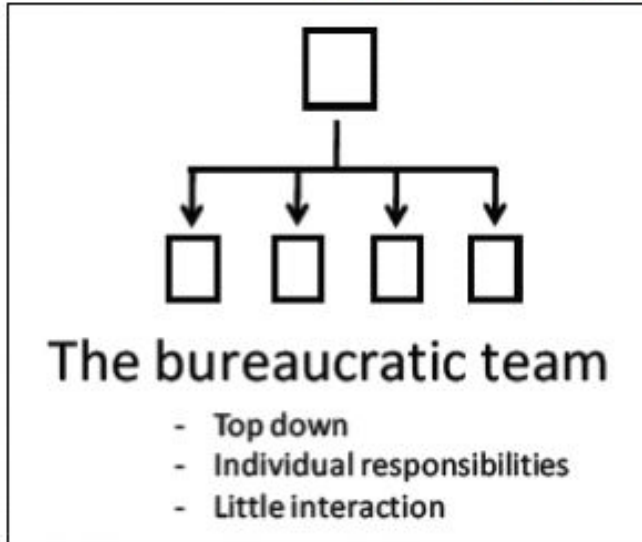
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Importance of teams

Agile vs bureaucratic team



Activity
Info

Source: [The Age of Agile](#), Stephen Denning

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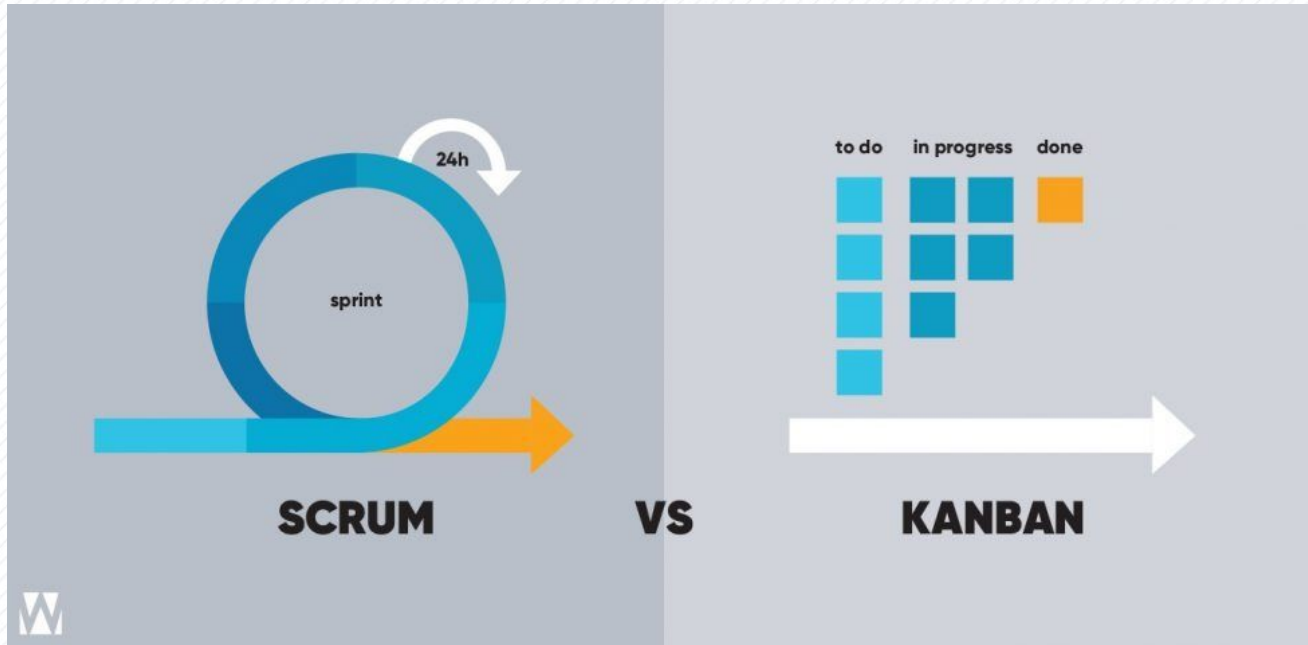
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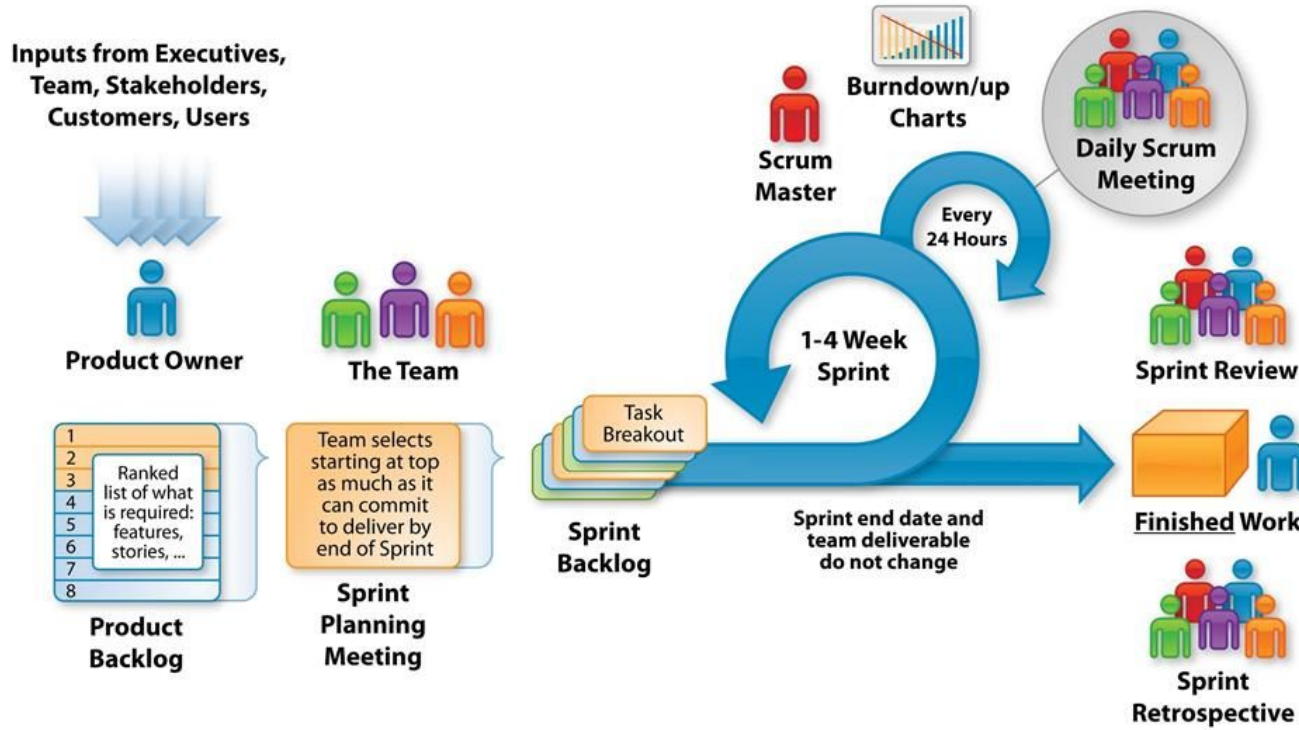
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Agile Methodologies

Agile methodologies



The Agile - Scrum Framework



Source: <https://edelalon.com/blog/2017/09/scrum/>

Agile M&E with ActivityInfo

ActivityInfo: Quick introduction

- Relational database designed for M&E
- Integrated mobile data collection app (Andr/iOS)
- Fast, easy-to-use setup
- Easy to change and adapt



ActivityInfo: Get Started today

- [Template Library](#)
- [Self-paced course](#)
- [Evaluation version](#)



Thank you!