UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD

Market Transparency Tools for Economic Development

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6 November 2017

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Market Transparency

- …is a key component to traceability of products
- …reduces transaction costs for business and government
- …reduces the impact of food prices shocks and panicks
- …improves the supply chain governance
- …allows for analysis and forecasts
- …
- And more.

Market Information System (MIS)

- … is a repository of strategic market information
  - By different level in the production chain
  - Coverage can include prices, costs, stocks, quantitates
  - Can cover all inputs
- … contains information on the key players (stakeholders) that participate
- … produces reports and analytics for different purposes

International Experience on MIS

- EU sets up Market Observatories on the basis of their market monitoring system
- Infotrade Market Information Services (Uganda)
- AMITSA (Agricultural Input Marker Information and Transparency System)has been developed into the regional network in East Africa
- Jamaican Jamis produces weekly reports to all subscribers

Challenges and Benefits of MIS

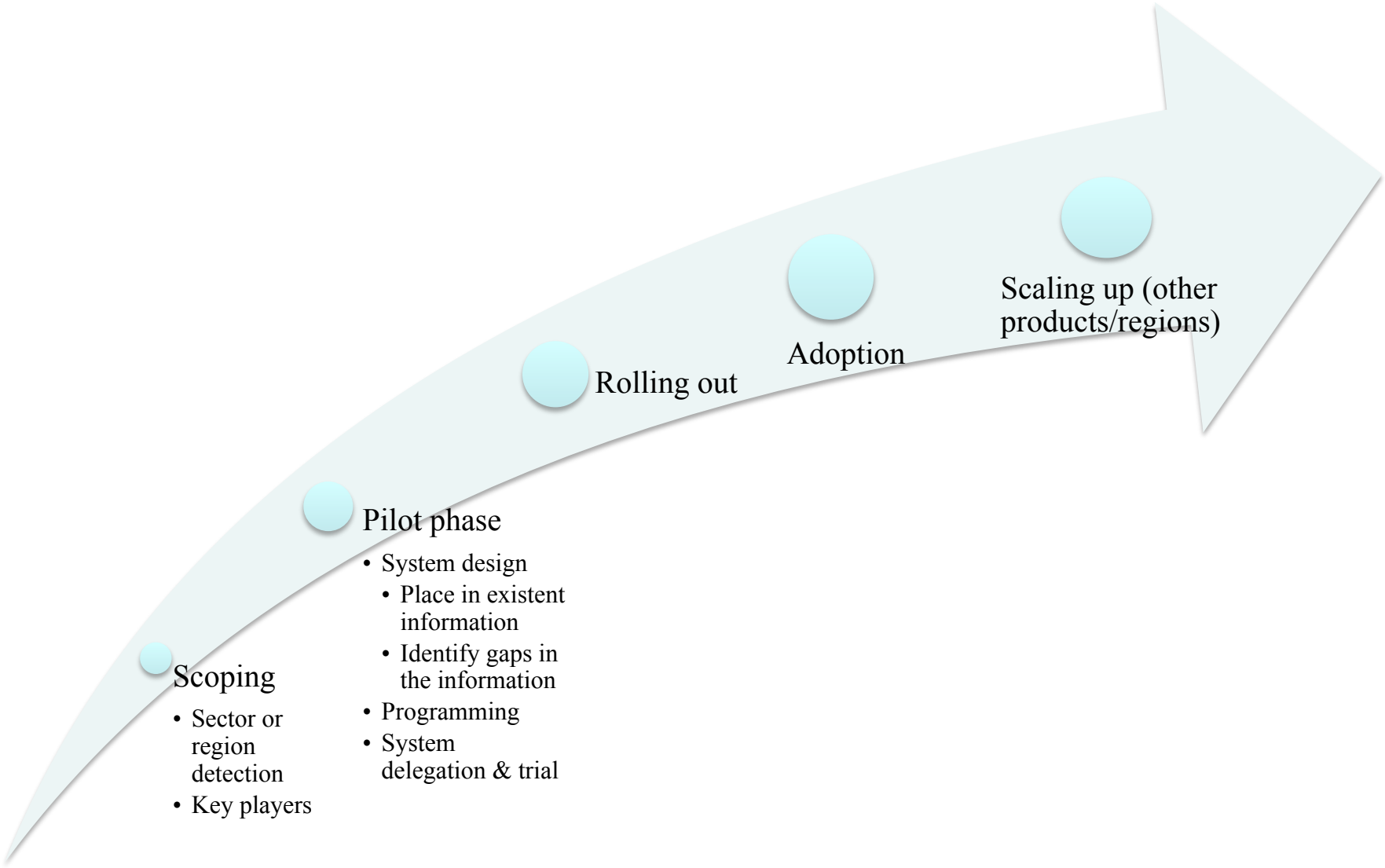
Short-Term

- System design to market's needs
- Time and information needs set-up
- Training in usage
- Current Information Sharing

Long Term

- Decrease in transaction costs for participants
- Large-scale MIS provides full benefit of an information system
- Coherence of business/policy nexus

Timeline for setting up MIS



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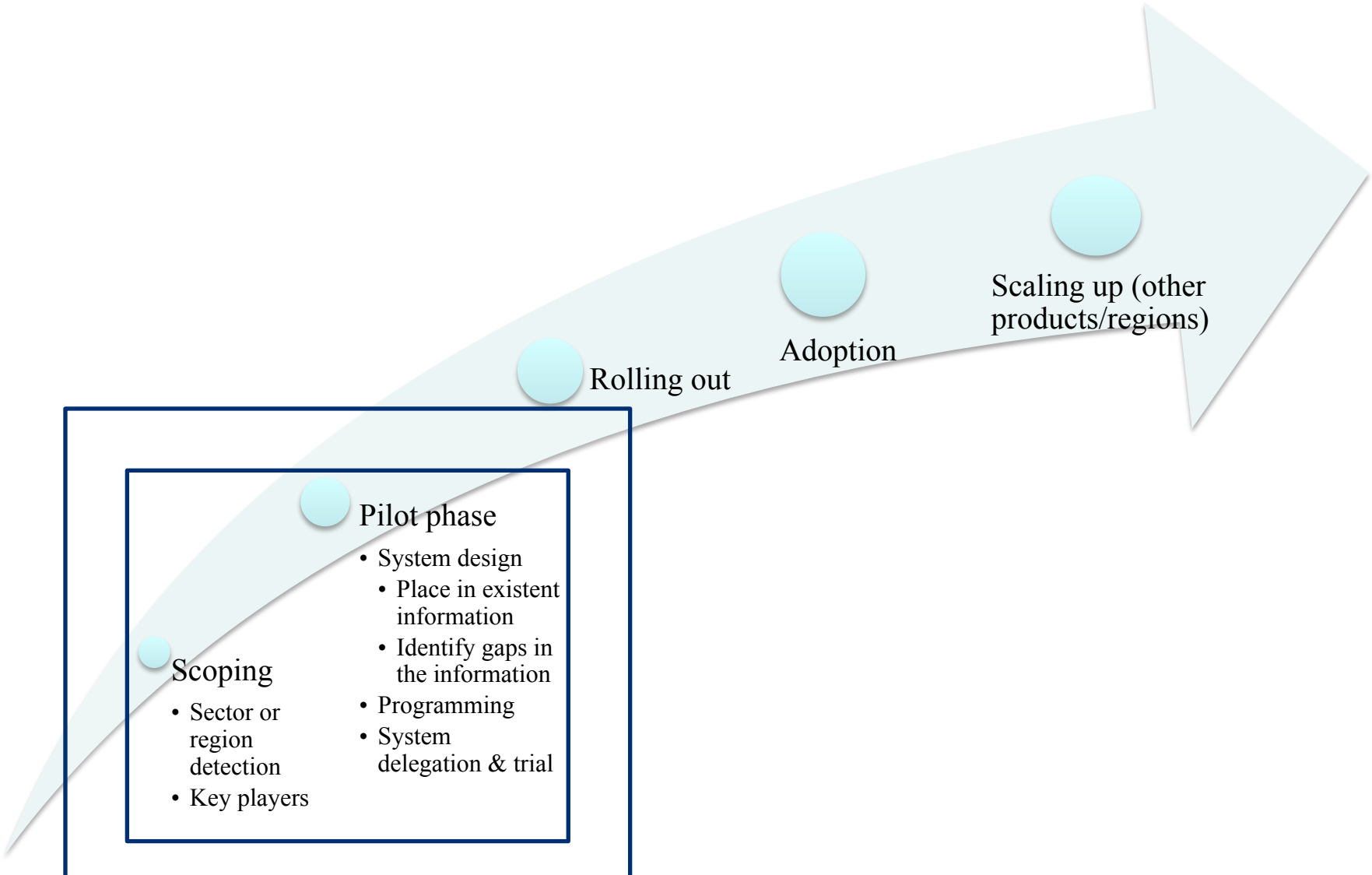

Inception phase: UNCTAD pilot MIS

"[Overall there are]…*as many marketing systems as there are countries and it is therefore not possible to specify a "model" MIS*"

FAO, MIS Guidelines

- Research on the setting of MIS is needed:
  - Specificity of the country's needs
  - Specificity of links and information

- Ultimate result:
  - More sustainable system
  - Higher efficiency for the end-users
  - Easier to "explain" to the end users (->higher coverage)

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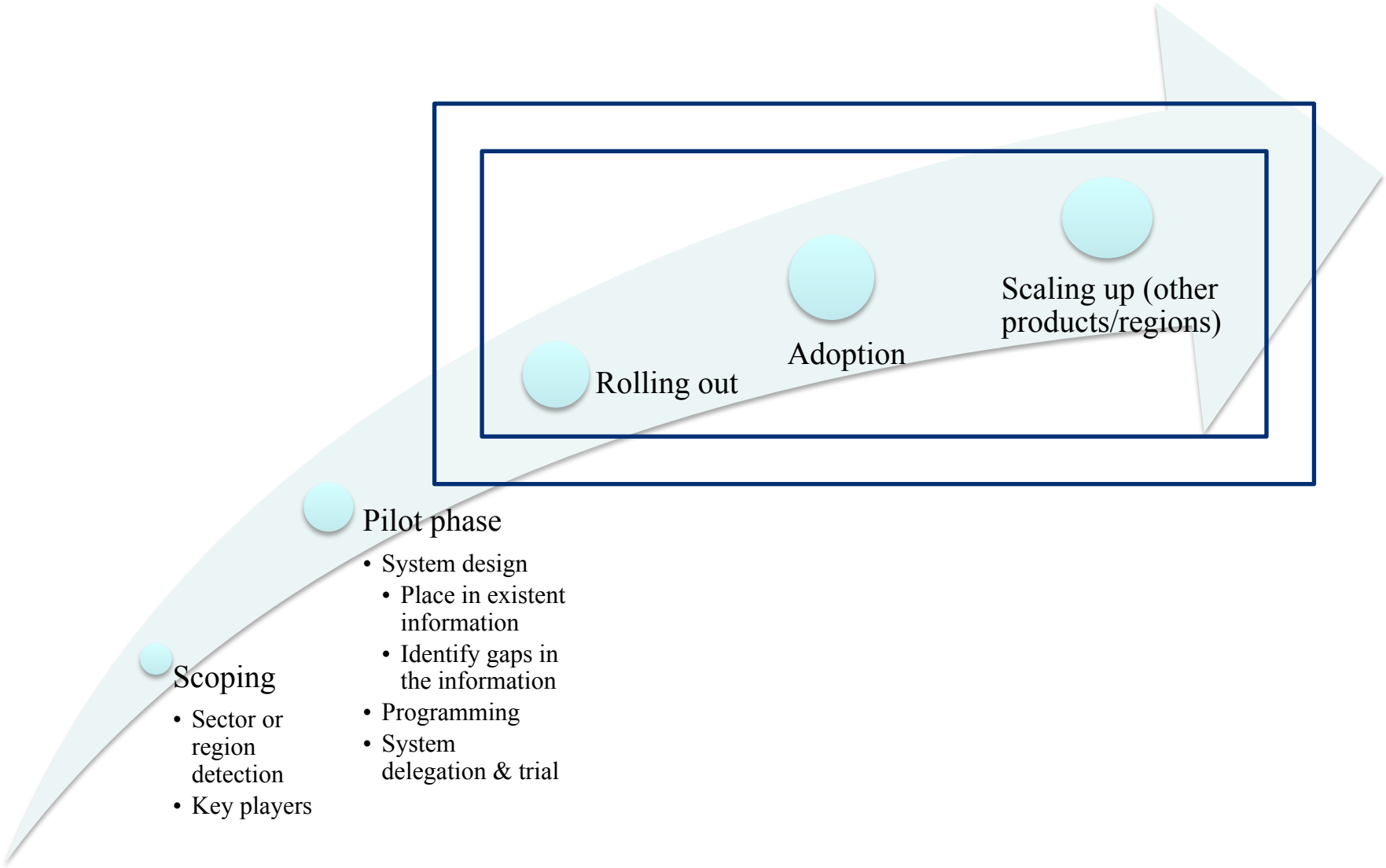

Implementation phase: Keeping MIS in action

- Timely feeding in of the new information
- Staying up to date technologically
- Adjustment to market changes
- Clear administration structure of data inputs (roles)

In practice, the most successful cases are in public-private (or NGO) combinations

Tomorrow

- Introduction and Guide to Market Directory
  - Based on cocoa and coconut sectors
  - Can be easily replicated in other sectors
- Scoping the Market Repository
  - Functionality of the shell
  - Data needs/benefits
  - Model cases for further implementation

Open discussion