

Political economy as a critical factor in shaping approaches to **M&E capacity building** interventions

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“While the role of the State has changed and evolved during recent history , it is now readily apparent that **good governance** is the key to achieving sustainable socioeconomic development”

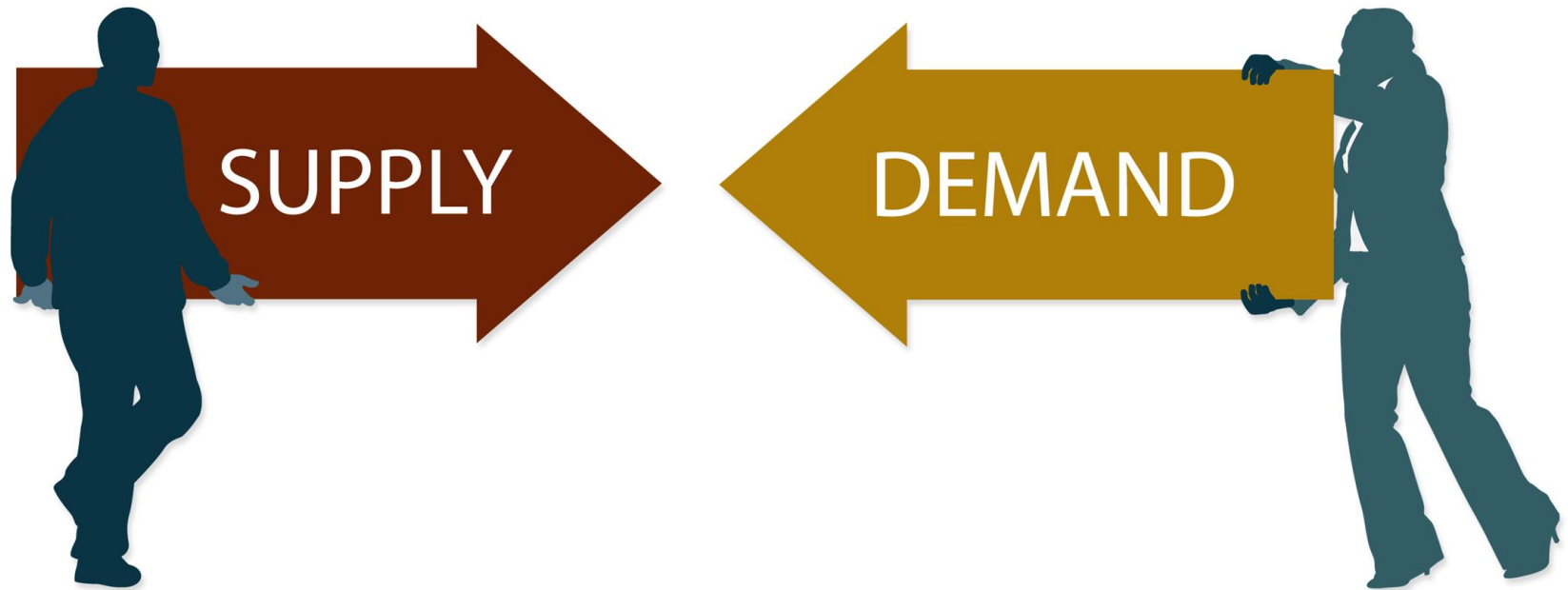
(Kusek & Rist, 2004, p.1)

Results based
monitoring and evaluation
a powerful tool that builds
accountability within
government and improves
its overall functioning

(Kusek, Rist, 2004, p.1)

Evidence of emerging country-led demand for evaluation (Porter and Goldman2013)

Interventions to support growing use of evidence in Policy Making



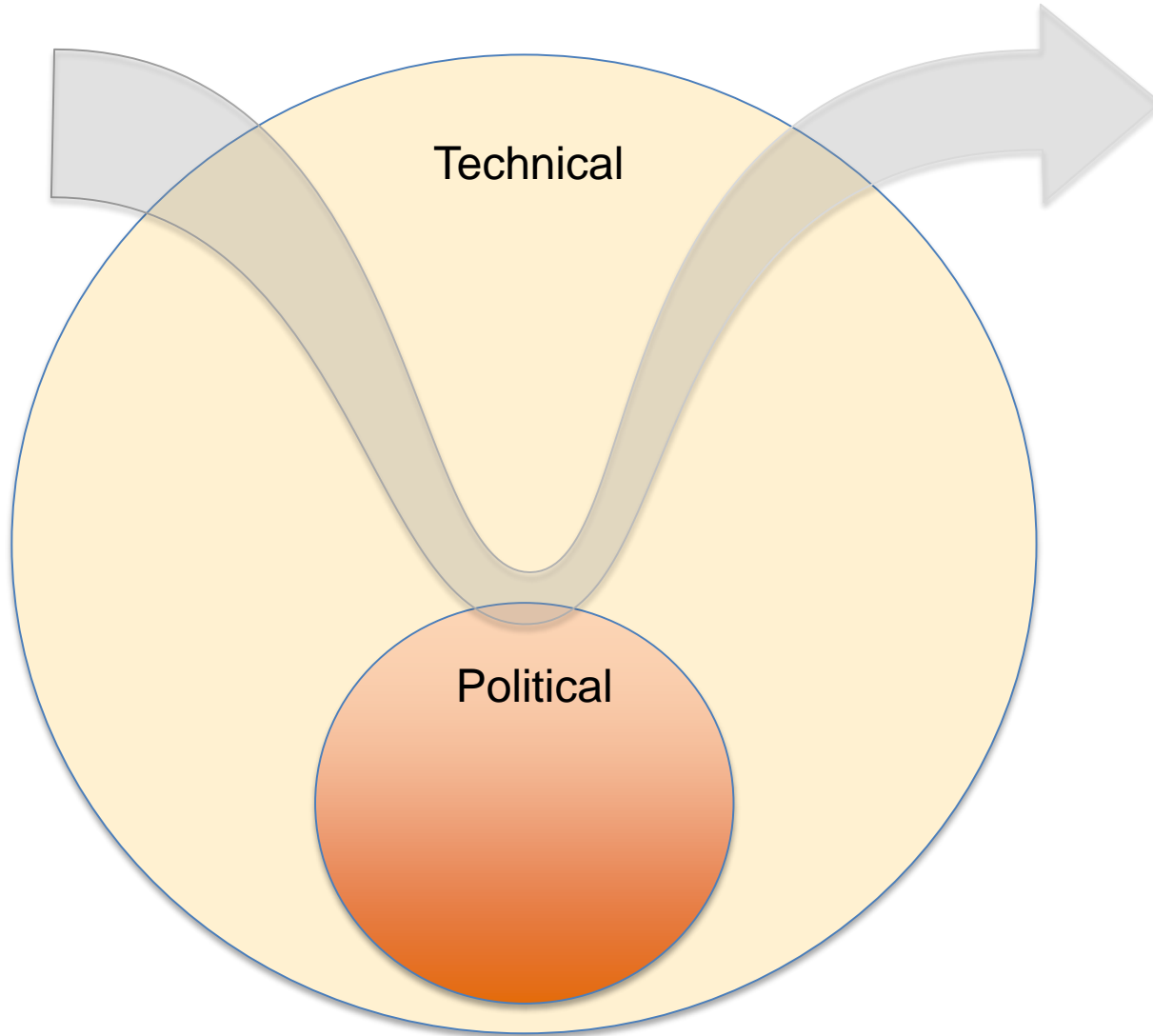
**Technical
Capacity Building**

**Nurturing potential
demand**

Conventional Approach to M&E Capacity Building

Focus on
**capacity
building**

some work
to influence
**political
champion
s**



Conventional Approach to M&E Capacity Building assumes...

- A foundation of **technical capacity** upon which to build.
- Demand from citizens and others (Donors) in promoting greater **transparency** and **accountability** within organizations/government,
- A political context that is open to the emergence of **M&E champions**,
- Movement towards **democratic** systems and a belief in equitable development,

Conflict
9 conflict affected
States

Dictatorship
20 Authoritarian
Regimes

Failing States
1 Failed State

Results based
monitoring and evaluation
is a powerful tool that builds
“good governance is the key
to achieving sustainable
socioeconomic within
development”
government and improves
its overall functioning

Increasing demand for
performance from
government

Accountability and
Transparency

Emerging
Democracies
10 Flawed
Democracies

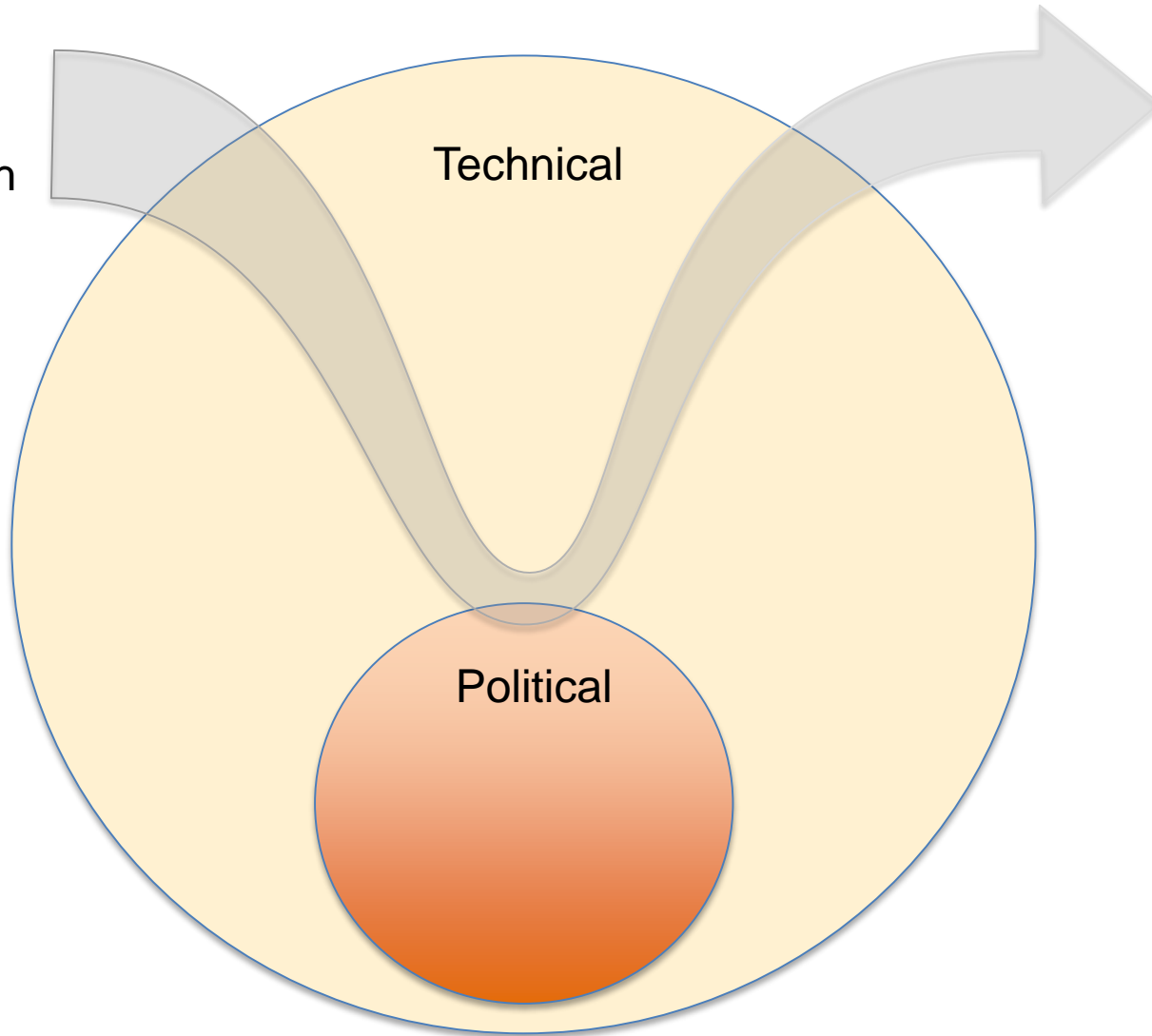
Fragility
17 States classified as
Fragile

(Kusek, Rist, 2004)

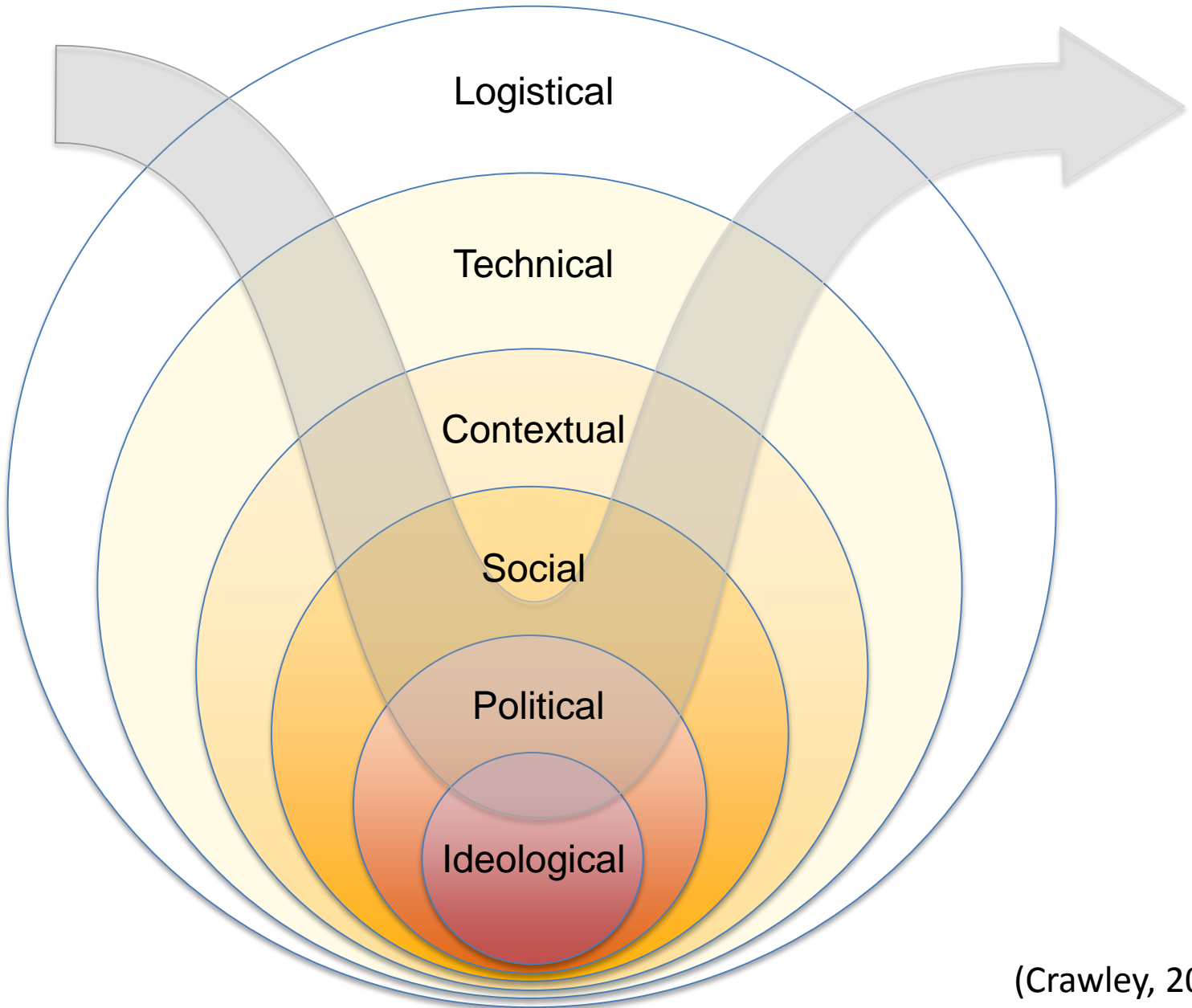
Poverty and Under
Development
25 States with low or very low HDI

Conventional Approach to M&E Capacity Building

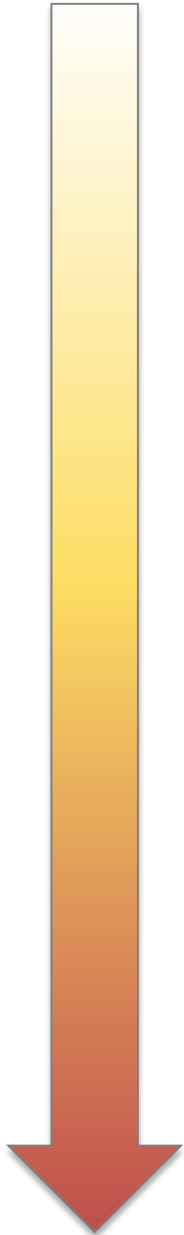
Focus on capacity building with some work to influence political champions



(Crawley, 2013)



(Crawley, 2013)



SPHERE	KEY QUESTIONS for M&E in states
LOGISTICAL	Are sufficient RESOURCES available (time and money) to invest in M&E?
TECHNICAL	Do data flows and TECHNICAL CAPACITY exist at critical points to support M&E?
CONTEXTUAL	Are structural/cultural aspects of the ENVIRONMENT conducive to M&E?
SOCIAL	To what extent is there the necessary trust and commitment amongst key stakeholders that will make an M&E system work?
POLITICAL	To what extent is there a common VISION for M&E as a source of evidence to guide development policy?
IDEOLOGICAL	To what extent is there a common BELIEF amongst stakeholders in the importance of equitable development?

Conclusions

The theory of Change linking Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity, Development and Democracy in Africa is **COMPLEX**

Supporting development of a National M&E Capacity is a **TECHNICAL** undertaking with a significant **POLITICAL** dimension

Technical capacity, systems and resources are **NECESSARY** but ultimately not **SUFFICIENT** to build national M&E systems

Ideologies, political economies and cultural contexts constitute potential **HURDLES**

M&E with its associated link to accountability and transparency of government is intimately tied with **DEMOCRATISATION**

References

- Kusek, J., & Rist, R. (2004). Chapter 1. In *Ten steps to a results based monitoring and evaluation system*. Washington: The World Bank.
- Porter, S., & Goldman, I. (2003) 'A Growing Demand for Monitoring and Evaluation in Africa', *African Evaluation Journal*, 1(1), 9.