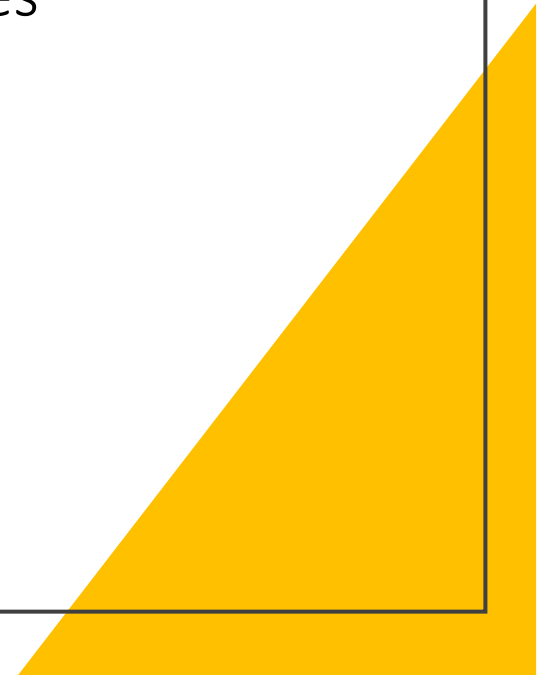


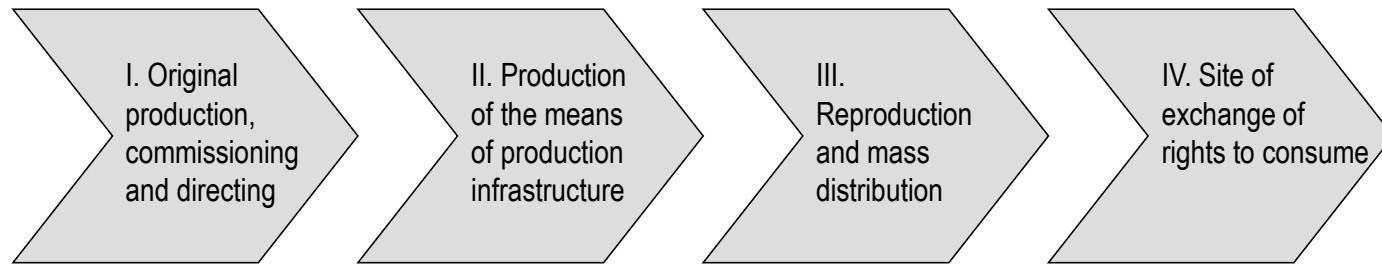
Understanding networks, ecosystems and creative careers: complexity, scales and lifecycle.

Prof. R Comunian, King's College London

- 1) Complexity, networks and ecosystems
- 2) Scale (micro-meso-macro), interdisciplinary dialogues
- 3) Creative work: Lifecycles and capabilities connecting



1) Complexity, networks and ecosystems



Creative Industries Production System (Pratt, 1997)

Nothing is linear in the creative economy

- a plurality of people/identities
- a plurality of sites where CCI production happens (adding only)
- a plurality of business models
- a plurality of dimensions and values: economic, socio-cultural, religious ...
- a plurality of ...

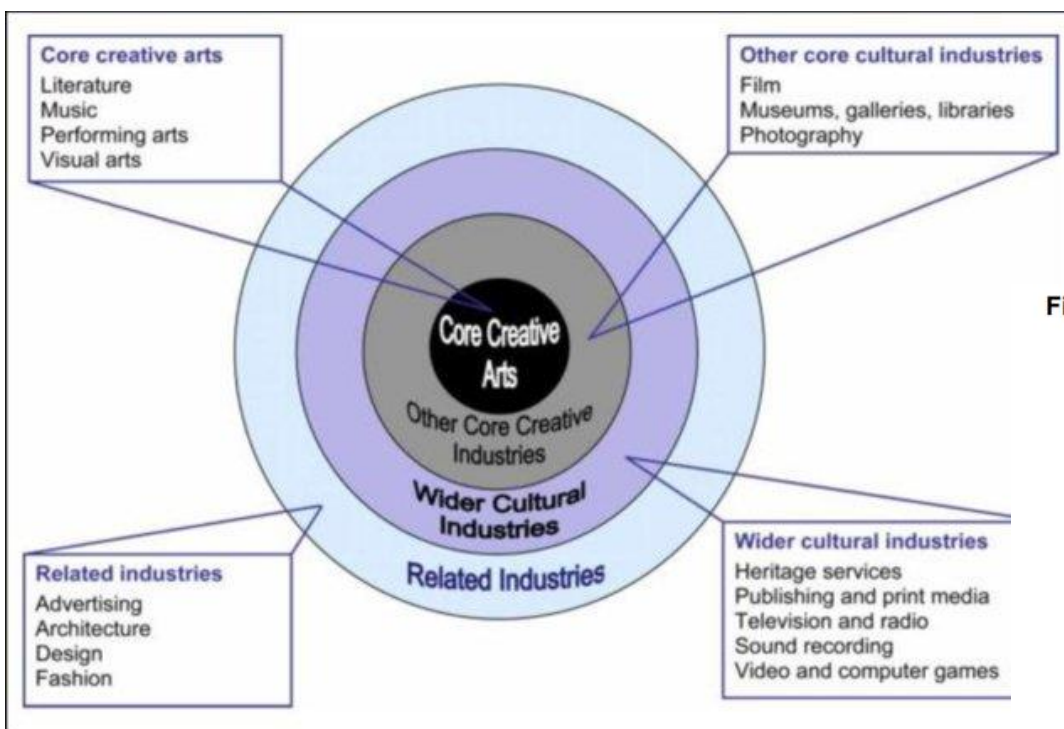
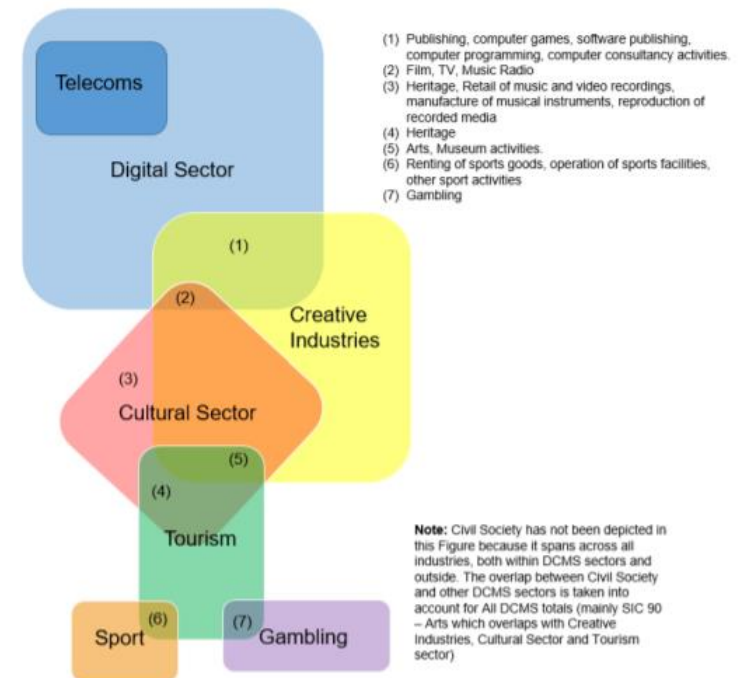


Figure 2.1: Overlap of SIC codes within DCMS Sectors



<https://cmcikings.wordpress.com/2021/05/28/creative-and-cultural-ecosystems-visual-models-and-visualisation-challenges/>

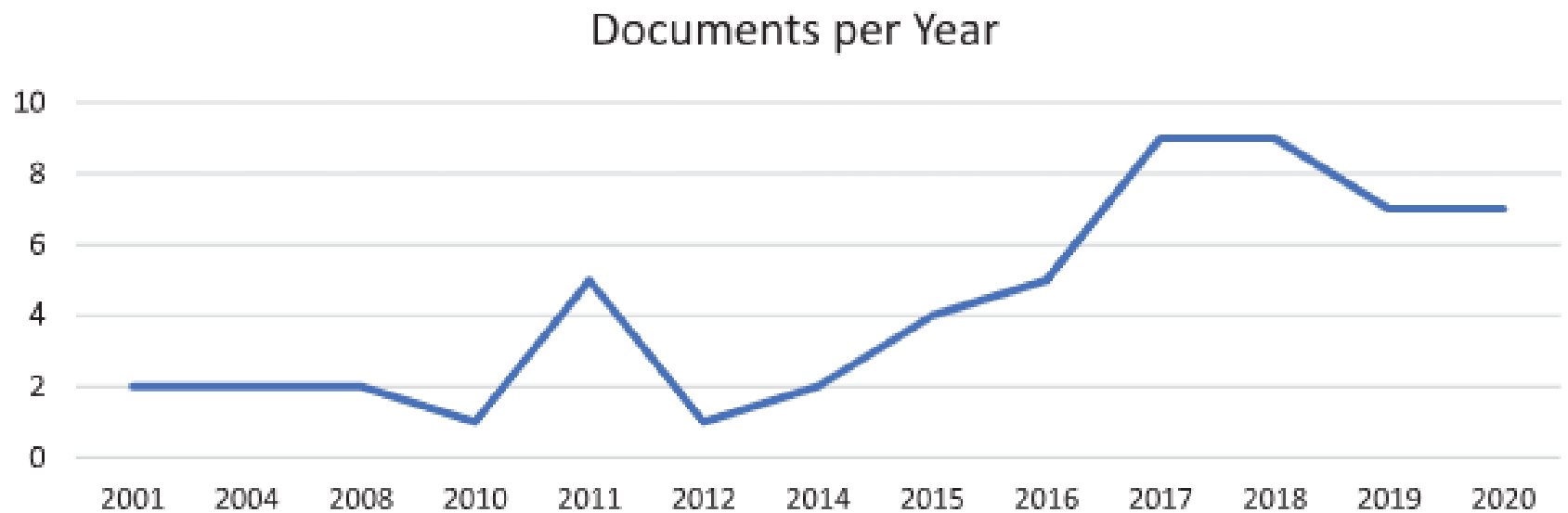


Figure 3. Growth of CCE&E publications over time (2001–2020).

De Bernard et. al (2020)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09548963.2021.2004073>

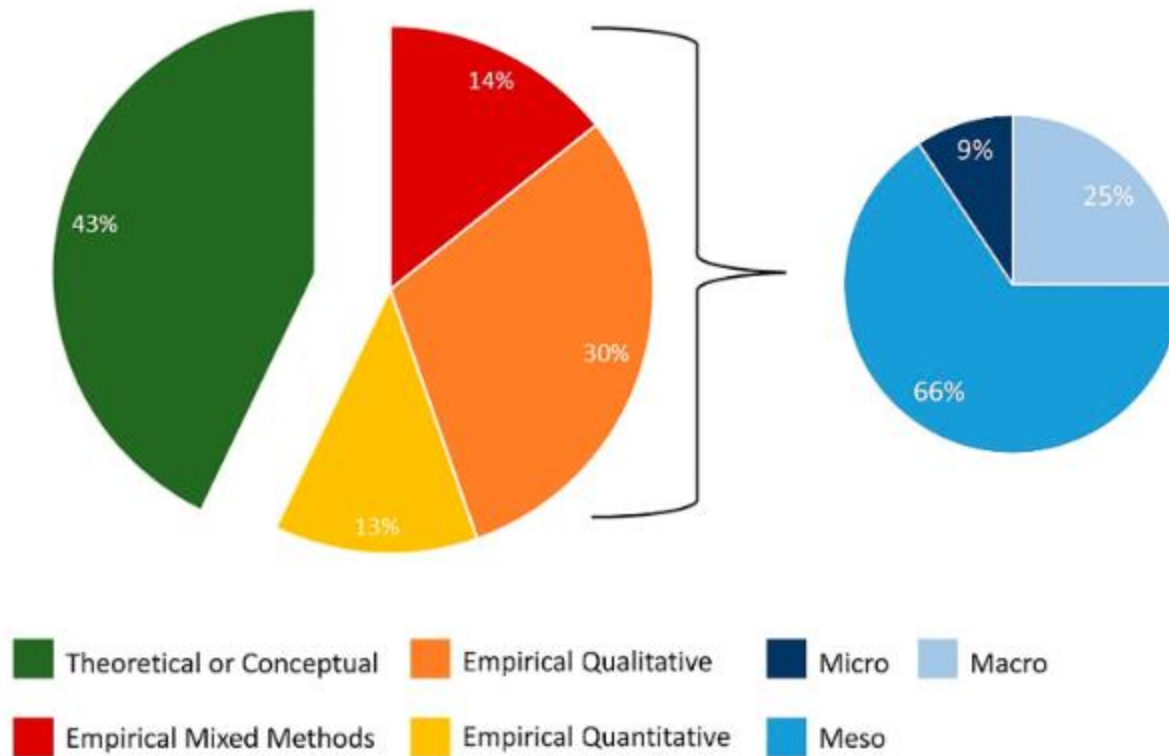


Figure 4. Level of analysis.

De Bernard et. al (2020)

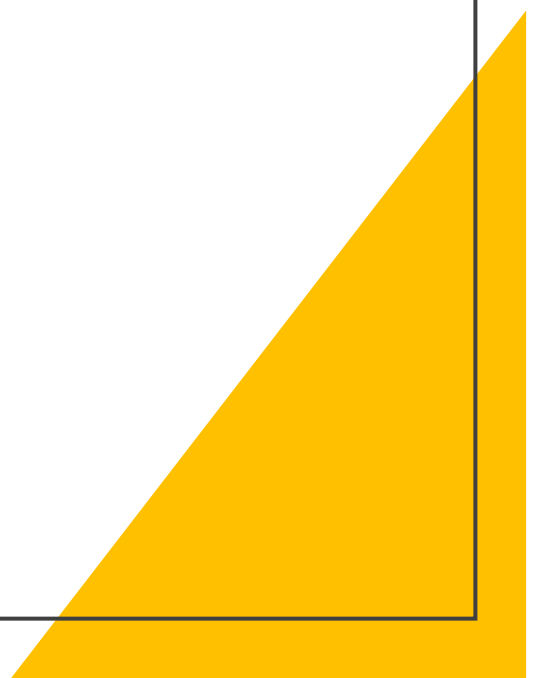
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09548963.2021.2004073>

Importance of
ecosystemic/ecological
understanding is
acknowledged widely

A solid yellow triangle is located in the bottom right corner of the slide, pointing towards the top right.

Challenge

where are the
boundaries that we
impose to our study
of the ecosystem?



Importance of acknowledging
the **boundaries**

- disciplines
- methods
- research focus
- time/funds

Importance of acknowledging
the **scale**

POLICY SCALES AND URBAN CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

MICRO

- Local Clusters Policy
- Neighborhoods' Cultural Strategies

MESO

- Regional / Urban Cultural Policy
- Local / Regional Art policy

MACRO

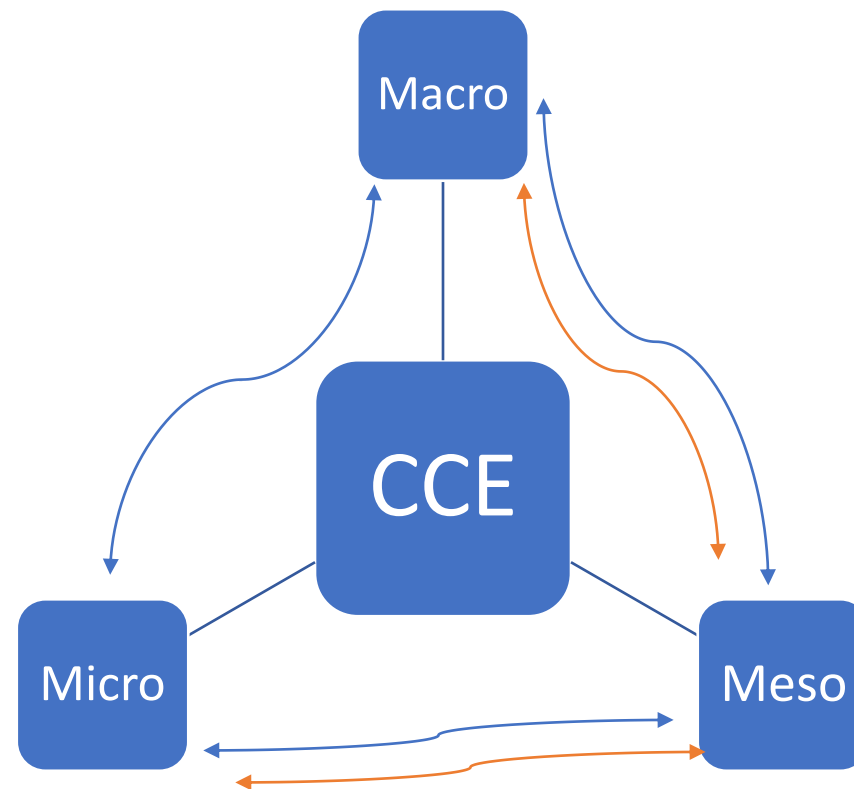
- International Policy & Cultural Diplomacy
- National Cultural Policy



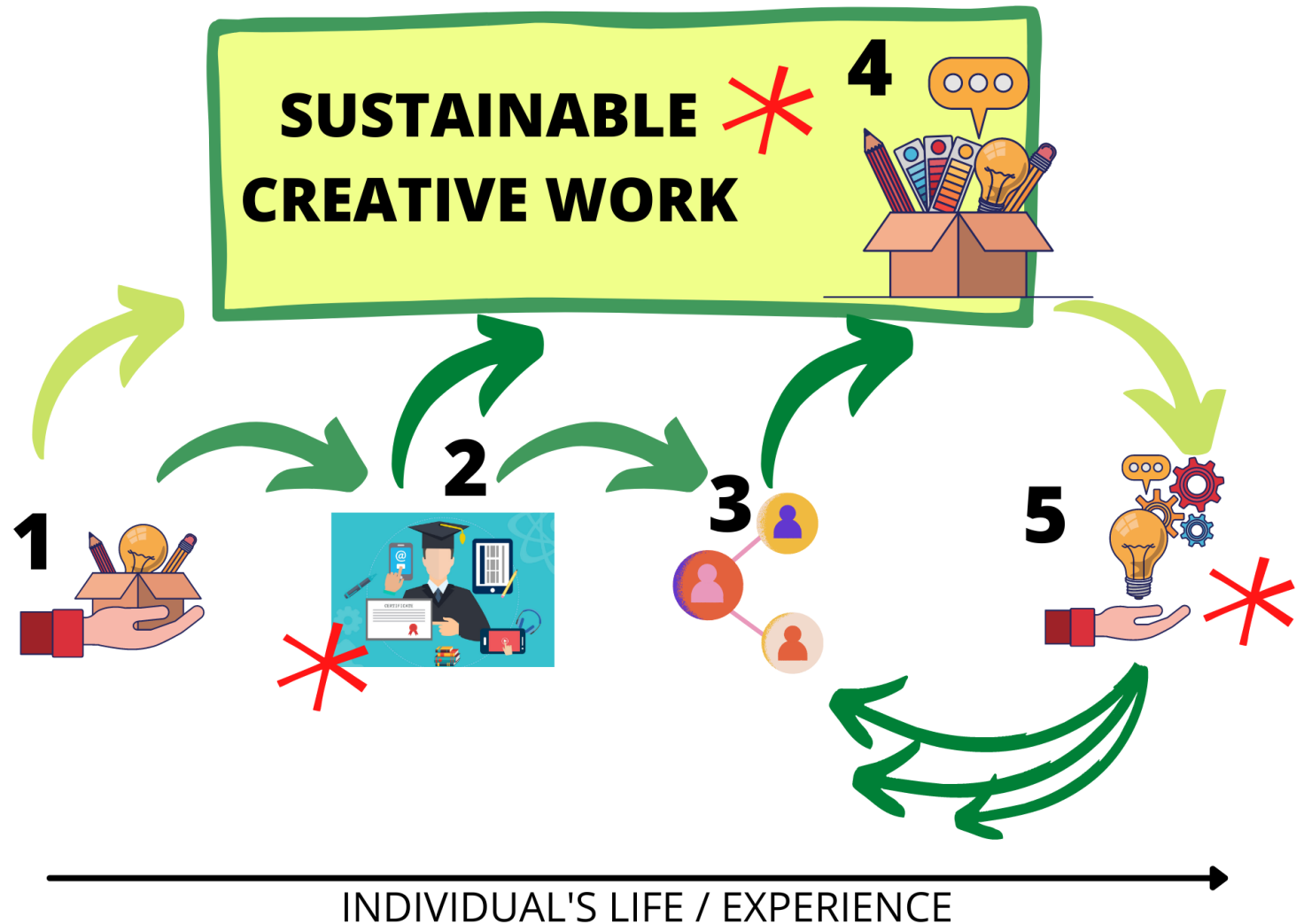
Kim and Comunian, 2020

<https://tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07352166.2020.1825091>

Importance of bridging scales and boundaries



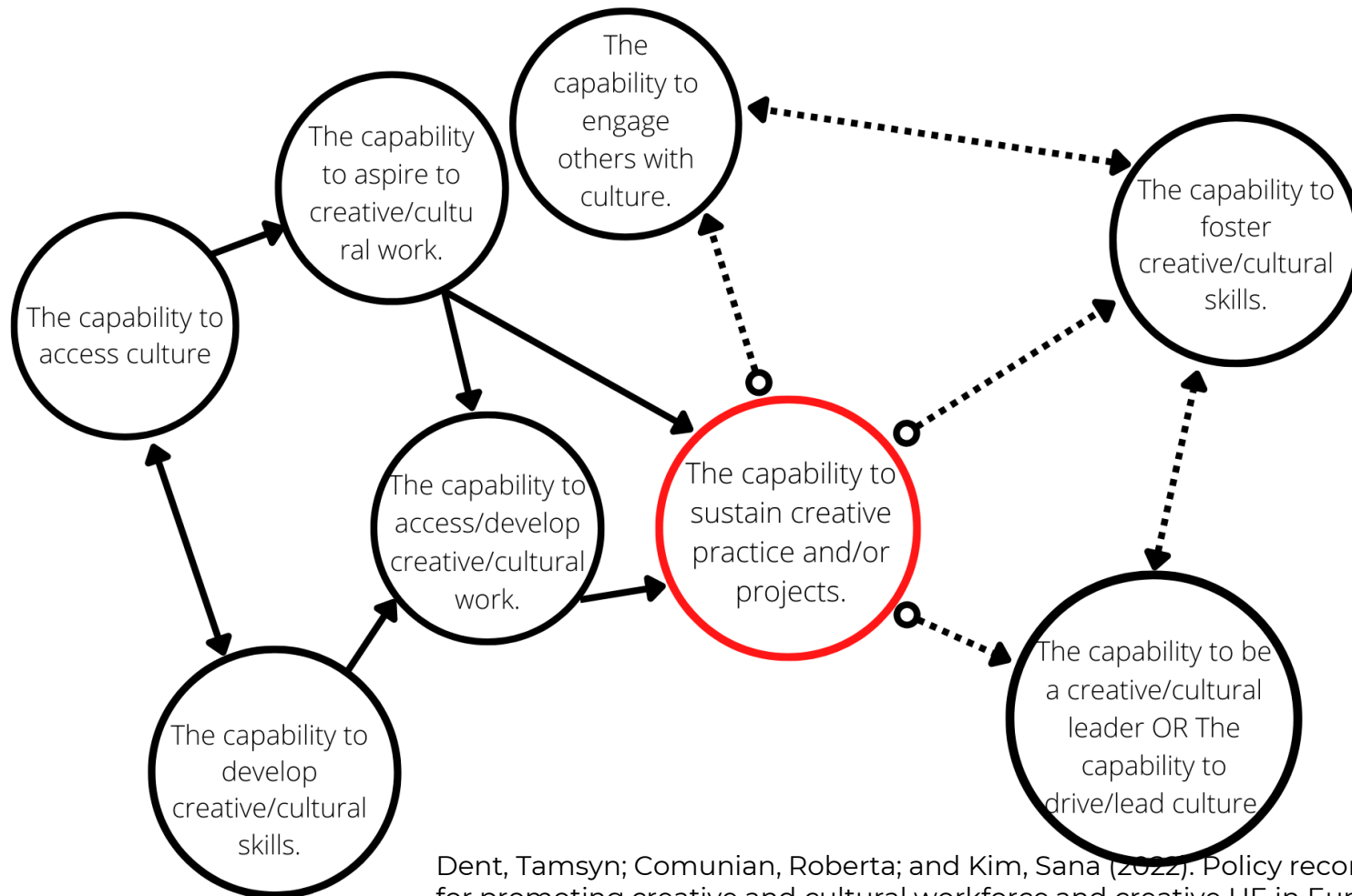
WP3 Framework to understand CCW ecologically
(Dent et al., 2022)



Early access	What are the resources available to individuals in their early years that engage them with creativity and culture? How does early access to creativity and culture relate to individual's aspiration to develop skills in CCW?
Creative and cultural skills	What is the relationship between creative HE and CCW? To what extent does HE mitigate or replicate barriers to inclusion and equality in CCW? Who has access to specialized HEI courses and training? What examples of best practice in Creative HE can be gathered?
Early career	To what extent does creative HE support an individual's access of CCW? Who gets to 'be creative' i.e. who is enabled to participate and contribute to the creative economy through their labour?
Sustainable creative and cultural work	What are the realities of 'work' for CCWs? What are the strategies available to CCWs to sustain their livelihoods? What systems of support and protection do they have access to?
Fostering creative and cultural work	Who and what takes responsible for fostering CCW? What are the different forms of employment that fostering CCW offers? How does local policy and creative/cultural city level planning foster CCW?

The nine capabilities identified:

1. The capability to access culture.
2. The capability to develop creative/cultural skills.
3. The capability to engage others with culture.
4. The capability to foster creative/cultural skills.
5. The capability to aspire to creative/cultural work.
6. The capability to access/develop creative/cultural work.
7. The capability to sustain creative practice and/or projects.
8. The capability to foster creative/cultural work.
9. The capability to be a creative/cultural leader OR the capability to drive/lead culture.



Dent, Tamsyn; Comunian, Roberta; and Kim, Sana (2022). Policy recommendations for promoting creative and cultural workforce and creative HE in Europe. DISCE Publications.

Key references:

Comunian R, (2019) Complexity thinking as a coordinating theoretical framework for creative industries research, in S Cunningham and T. Flew (eds.) A research agenda for creative industries, Edward Elgar. http://www.roberta-comunian.uk/uploads/1/0/9/7/10973203/complexity_creative-economy_working-chapter.pdf

Comunian, R., Dent, T., & Kim, S. (2022). Creative workforce: understanding skills & training needs in the CCI; Inequalities and Exclusion Report. Developing Inclusive and Sustainable Creative Economies (DISCE). <https://disce.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/DISCE-D3.3-updated.pdf>

Dent, T., England, L., & Comunian, R. (2024). The challenges of developing sustainable cultural and creative ecosystems and the role of higher education institutions: Lessons from Dundee and Chatham, UK. Industry and Higher Education, <https://doi.org/10.1177/09504222231186367>

Manfredi de Bernard, Roberta Comunian & Jonathan Gross (2022) Cultural and creative ecosystems: a review of theories and methods, towards a new research agenda, Cultural Trends, 31:4, 332-353, DOI: [10.1080/09548963.2021.2004073](https://doi.org/10.1080/09548963.2021.2004073)