

***THE LEGACIES OF THE  
NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT  
(NWP)***

***30 YEARS OF DEVELOPING WORKING  
ASSETS FOR ONGOING IMPROVEMENT***

# ***THE INVERNESS PERSPECTIVE ON NWP'S 30 YEAR LEGACY***

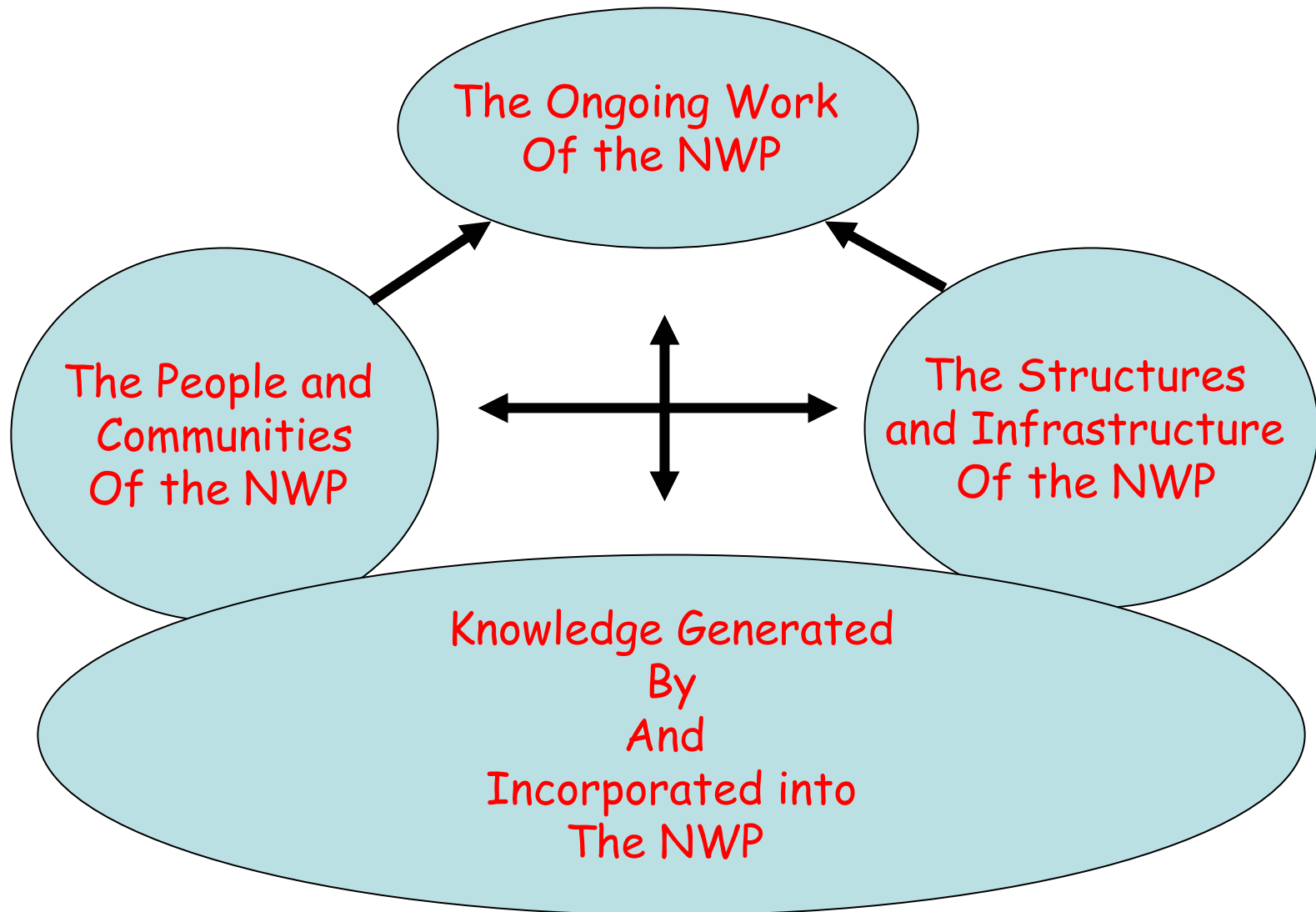
***Inverness Research is an evaluation group  
that studies investments made in the  
improvement of education.***



**PROJECTS**



# *THE NWP LEGACY COMES IN FOUR DIFFERENT FORMS*



# ***AFTER 30 YEARS: THE ONGOING WORK OF THE NWP***

## **ANNUAL PRODUCTIVITY—**

- ***3,200 institute participants***
- ***6,000 TCs engaged in site-sponsored leadership***
- ***6,500 programs***
- ***100,000 program hours***
- ***92,000 teachers served***
- ***2.5 million contact hours***



# ***AFTER 30 YEARS: THE NWP NOW SERVES THE NATION***

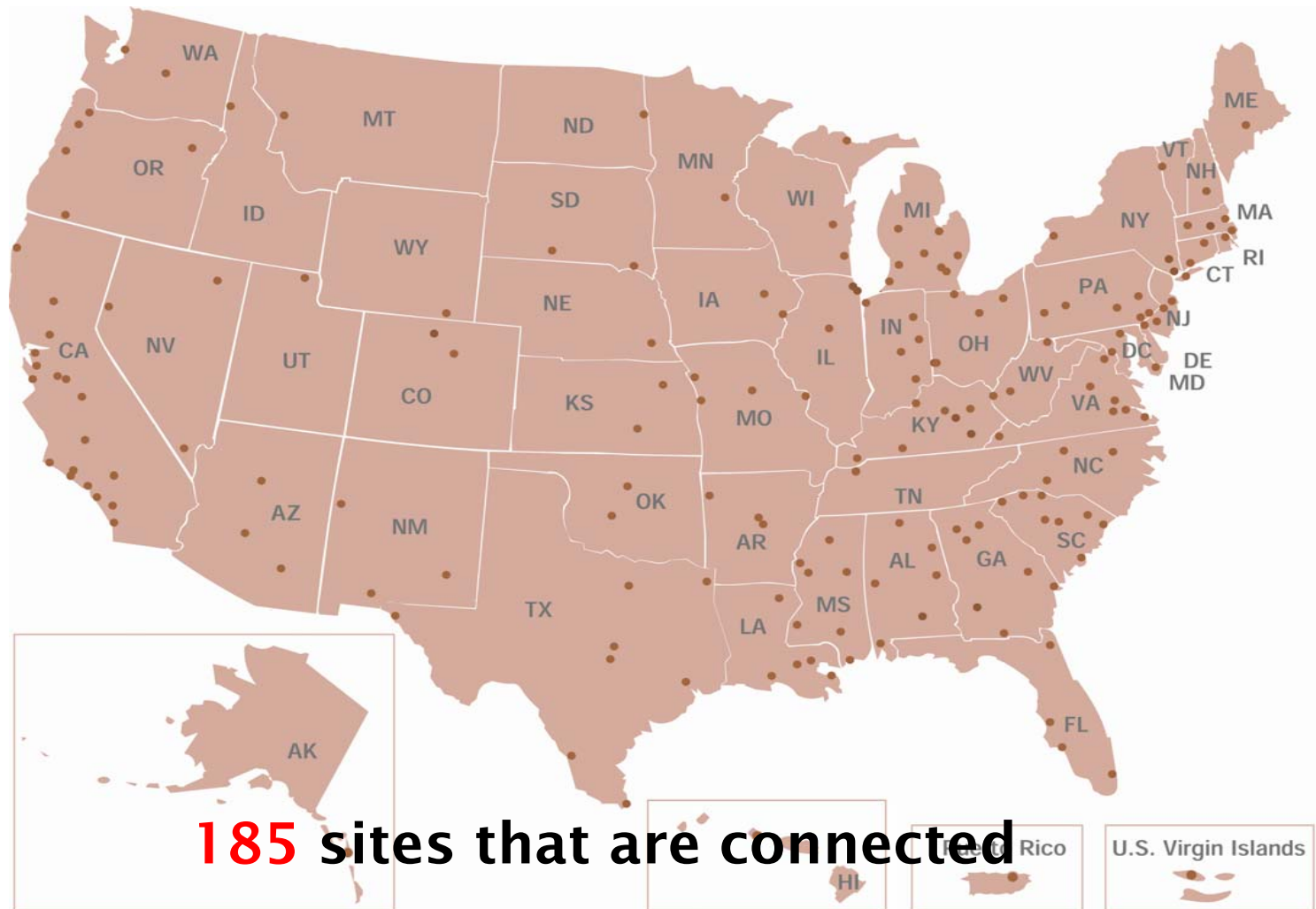
- ***1 in 8 High School Language Arts teachers***
- ***1 in 9 Middle School Language Arts teachers***
- ***1 in 35 Elementary School teachers***

# ***AFTER 30 YEARS: THE STRUCTURES OF THE NWP***

***The NWP is a national professional  
development infrastructure***

***And the NWP has its own internal network  
infrastructure***

*A 30-YEAR INVESTMENT IN A NETWORK OF LOCAL SITES THAT  
COMPRISE A NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE*



# ***THE INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE NWP***

- ***Local writing project sites***
- ***Specialized cross-site networks (Urban, Rural, ELL, and state networks, etc.)***
- ***Special Initiatives (Project Outreach, New Teacher Initiative, etc.)***
- ***Task Force of writing project directors and teacher leaders***
- ***National staff and technical assistance team***



## ***AFTER 30 YEARS: THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES OF THE NWP***

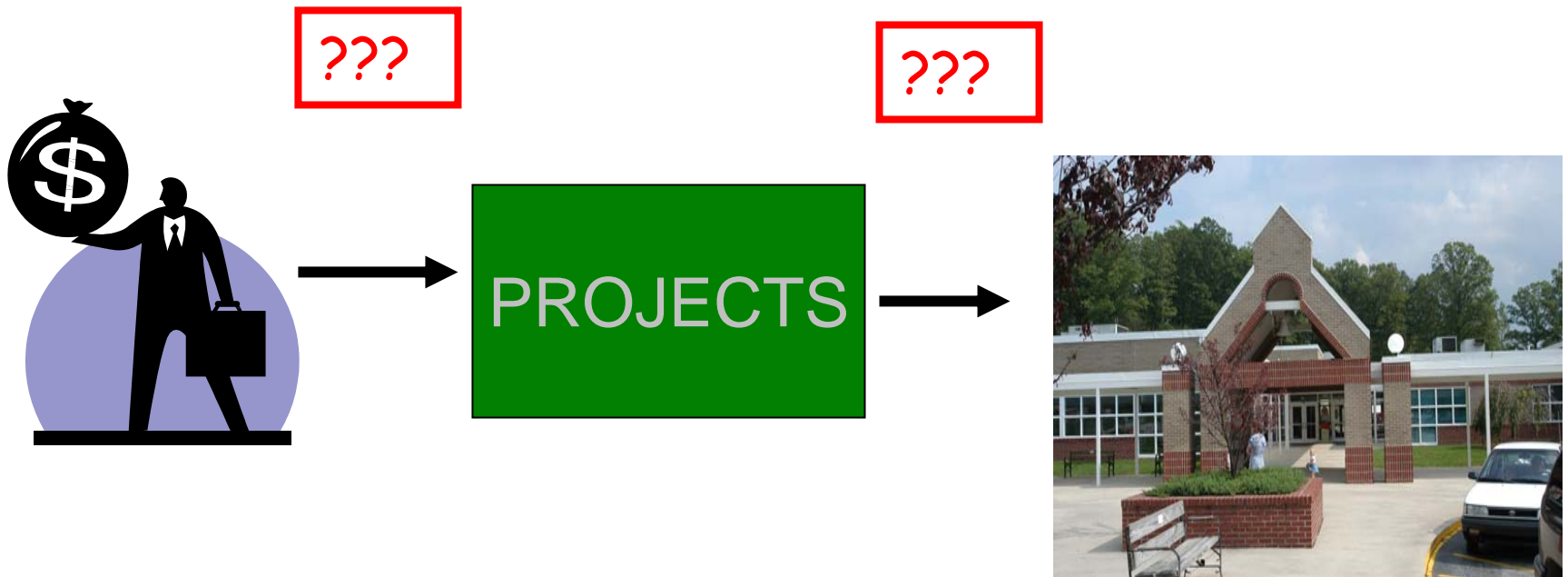
- ***~800 university faculty who have provided leadership at sites***
- ***~60,000 summer institute participants***
- ***~30,000 Teacher Consultants***
- ***~1,000,000+ teachers served***

***AFTER 30 YEARS: THE KNOWLEDGE  
GENERATED BY AND INCORPORATED  
INTO THE NWP***

***KNOWLEDGE ABOUT...***

- ***Writing and the learning of writing***
- ***The teaching of writing***
- ***The design of professional development***
- ***The NWP systems and processes that support good professional development***

# ***AFTER 30 YEARS: NWP PROVIDES KNOWLEDGE ABOUT INVESTING IN EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT***



## ***THE CHALLENGE FOR FUNDERS –***

***How can they invest very scarce dollars and bring about significant educational improvements in a massive decentralized system?***

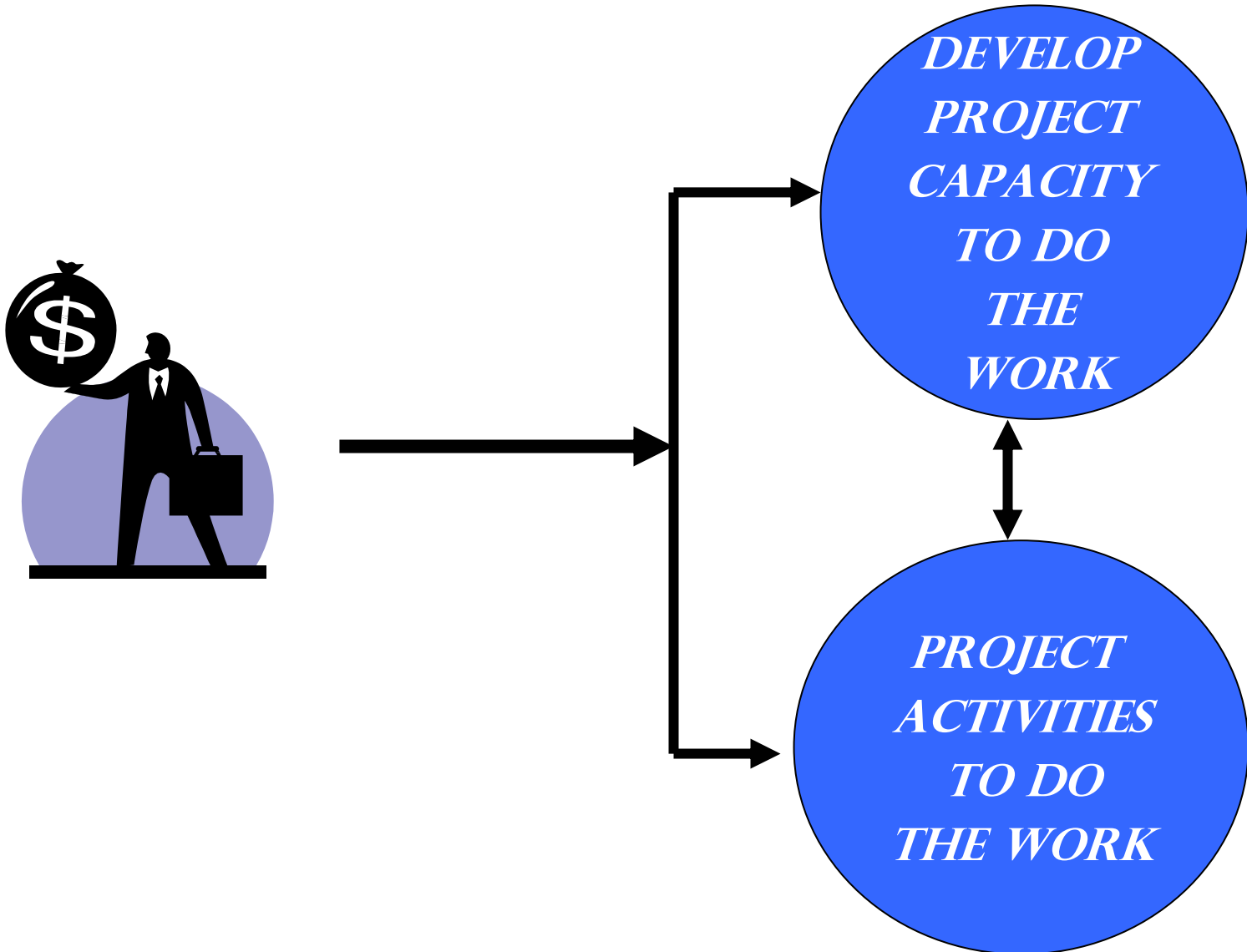
***THE CHALLENGE OF SCALE: THE NWP INVESTMENT  
COMPARED TO THE COST OF TEACHING WRITING  
IN US SCHOOLS***



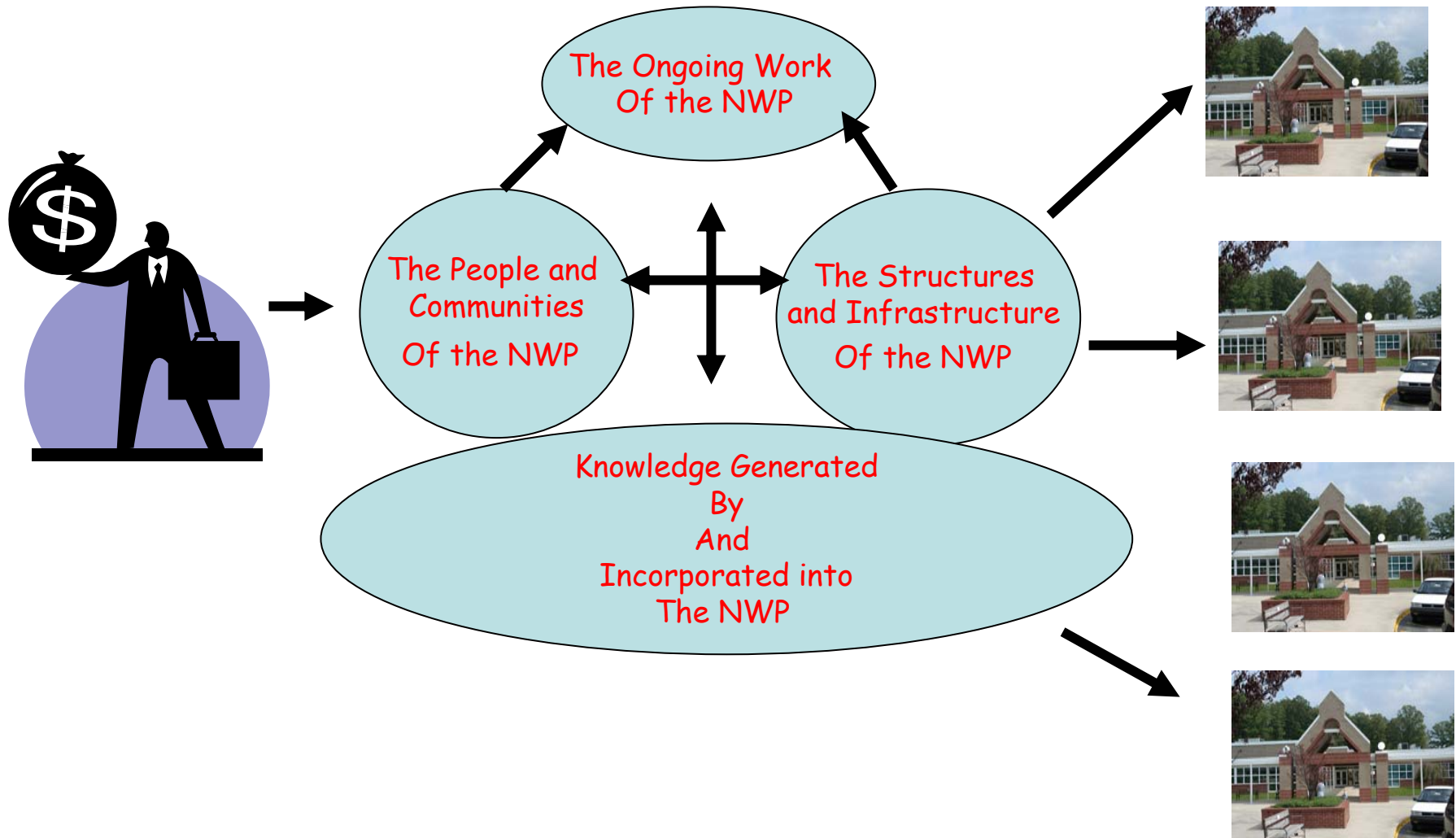
**NWP**



***THE CHALLENGE OF CAPACITY:  
SIMULTANEOUSLY FUNDING THE CAPACITY AND  
THE WORK OF THE PROJECT***



# ***AFTER 30 YEARS: NWP PROVIDES CAPACITY (WORKING ASSETS) TO IMPROVE EDUCATION AT A NATIONAL SCALE***



# ***NWP: A PRIME EXAMPLE OF AN IMPROVEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND AN IMPROVEMENT COMMUNITY***

***The most important activity we can do is to develop the improvement infrastructure... and to encourage and fund cross-functional improvement communities whose members work on common challenges to explicitly improve improvement.... This is the way to get better at getting better.***

***- Douglas Engelbart -from The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Intranet, Jennifer Stone Gonzalez***



# ***NWP LEGACY: THE ABILITY TO GET BETTER AT GETTING BETTER***

**STUDENTS GET BETTER AT WRITING**



**TEACHERS GET BETTER AT HELPING STUDENTS GET BETTER**



**THE SYSTEM GETS BETTER IN SUPPORTING TEACHERS IN GETTING BETTER**



**THE NWP – A NATIONAL IMPROVEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE**



**INVESTMENTS**

***THE CHALLENGE FOR THE NEXT 30  
YEARS***

***To Get Better at Getting Better***

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***Or***

***“ Good, Better, Best...***

***Never Let It Rest “***

***...Appalachian Mother***

*END*