

Transforming ORD: Building a successful future





Why Transform ORD

- Current & emerging problems require more ambitious research programs and need to:
 - Consider differences in scale (spatial, temporal, economic)
 - Transcend EPA regulatory structures, environmental media, scientific and engineering disciplines
 - Be accommodated in both planning (cross-media) and implementation (integrated, multidisciplinary)
- Scientific needs outstrip resources. ORD must:
 - Not be mile wide, inch deep
 - Be smarter in planning research agenda to “target” highest priority program / regional office needs (dialogue issue)
 - Be more nimble in moving programs to address high-priority needs (implementation issue)
 - Be effective – informing in most useful way
 - Leverage resources



Partnering to Solve Complex Environmental Issues

- Partner closely with Program and Regional Offices, stakeholders, and practitioners, starting from problem definition thru to the use of research results to achieve success
- Fully employ unique integrated, multidisciplinary capability to solve complex environmental issues and best fulfill mission

Building on ORD's Strengths

Transforming ORD along two dimensions:

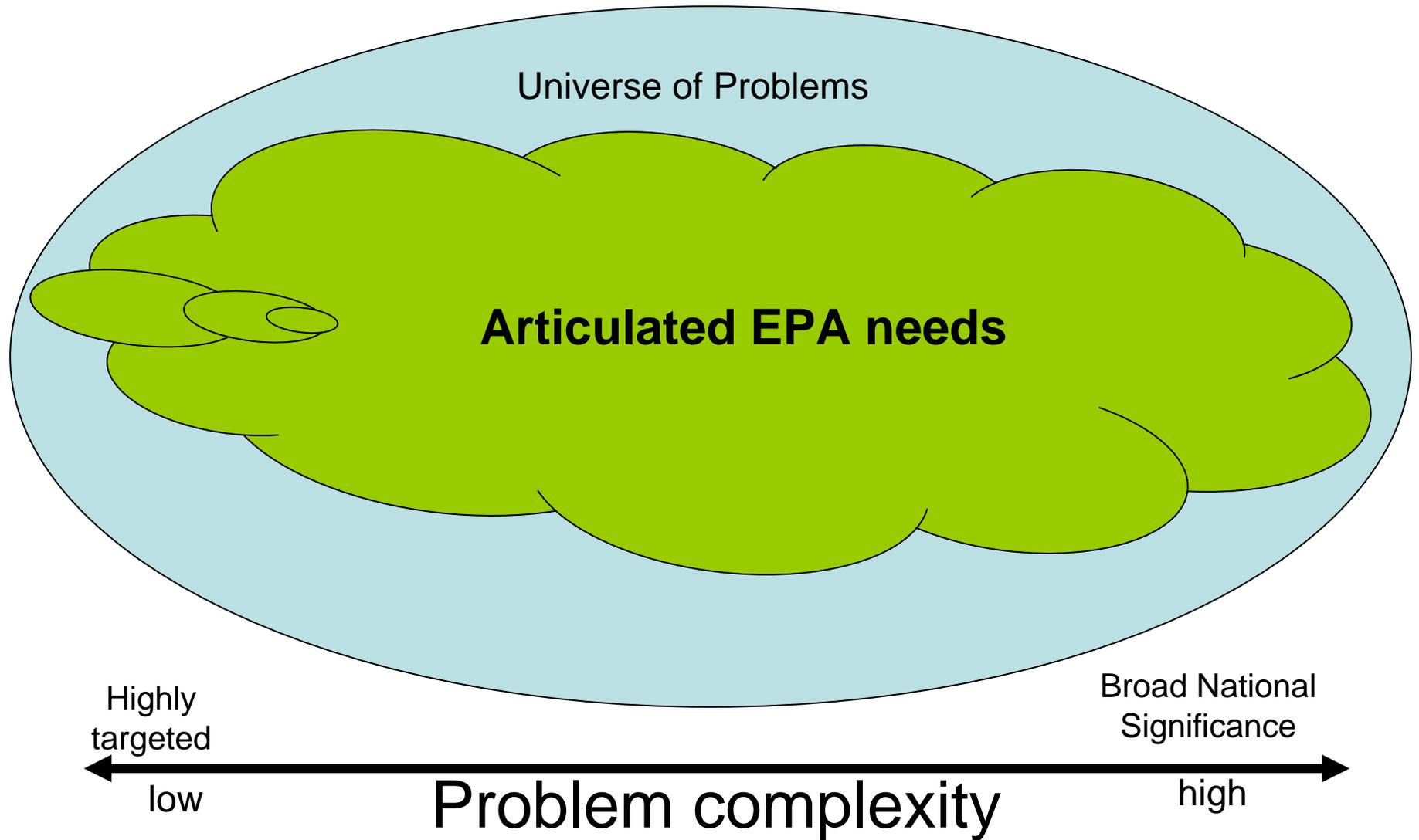
- What we do: Ensure our research addresses the most important environmental problems facing the Agency and Nation.

“... the Agency must undertake a larger program of research that goes beyond its immediate regulatory needs...” (SAB 2008)

- How we do it: Fully capitalize on ORD's special ability to conduct integrated, multidisciplinary research to solve these problems.

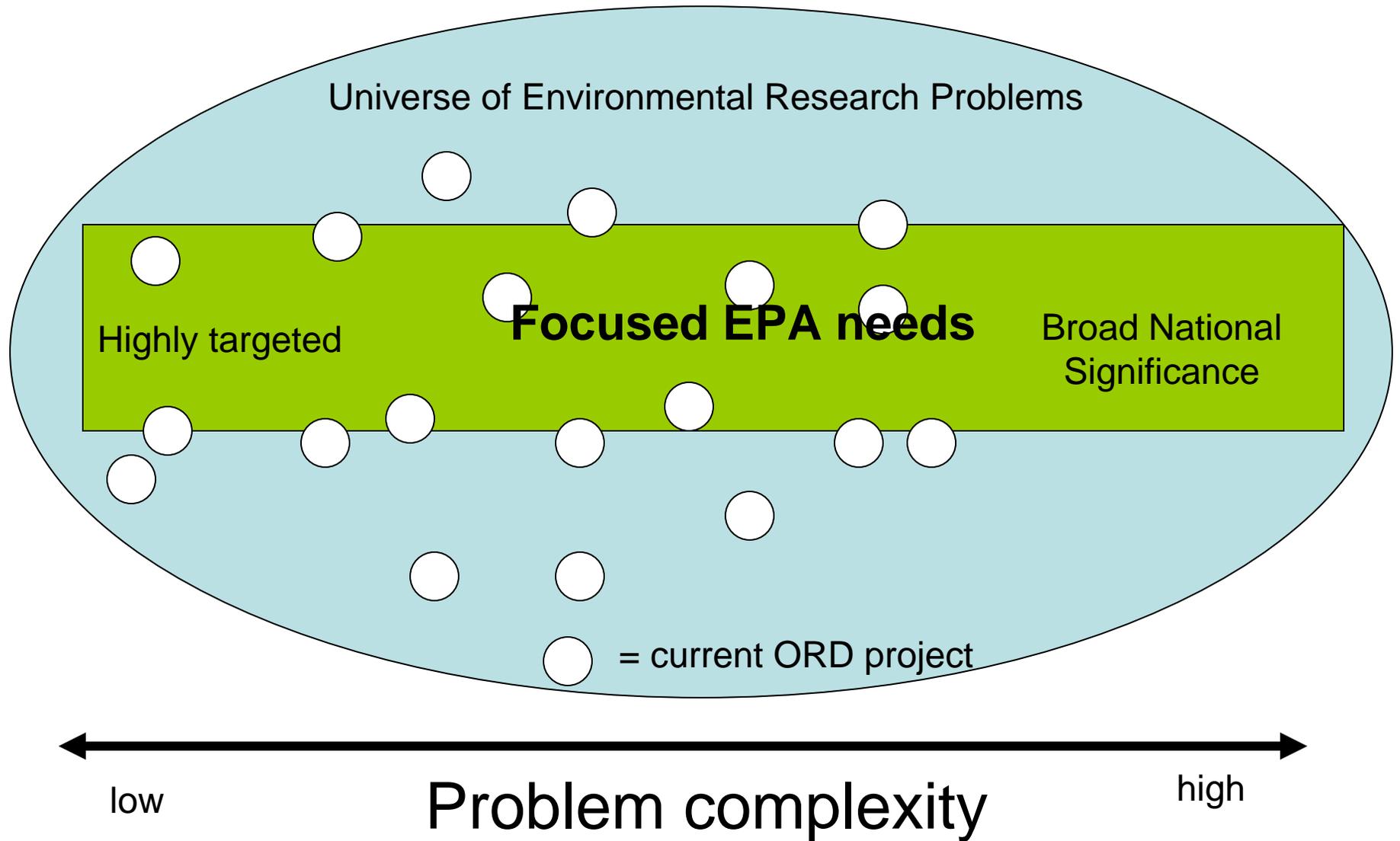
“...EPA's research program will have to adopt a more integrated view... on the relevant scales of each issue.” (SAB 2008)

EPA's research needs exist within the universe of environmental problems



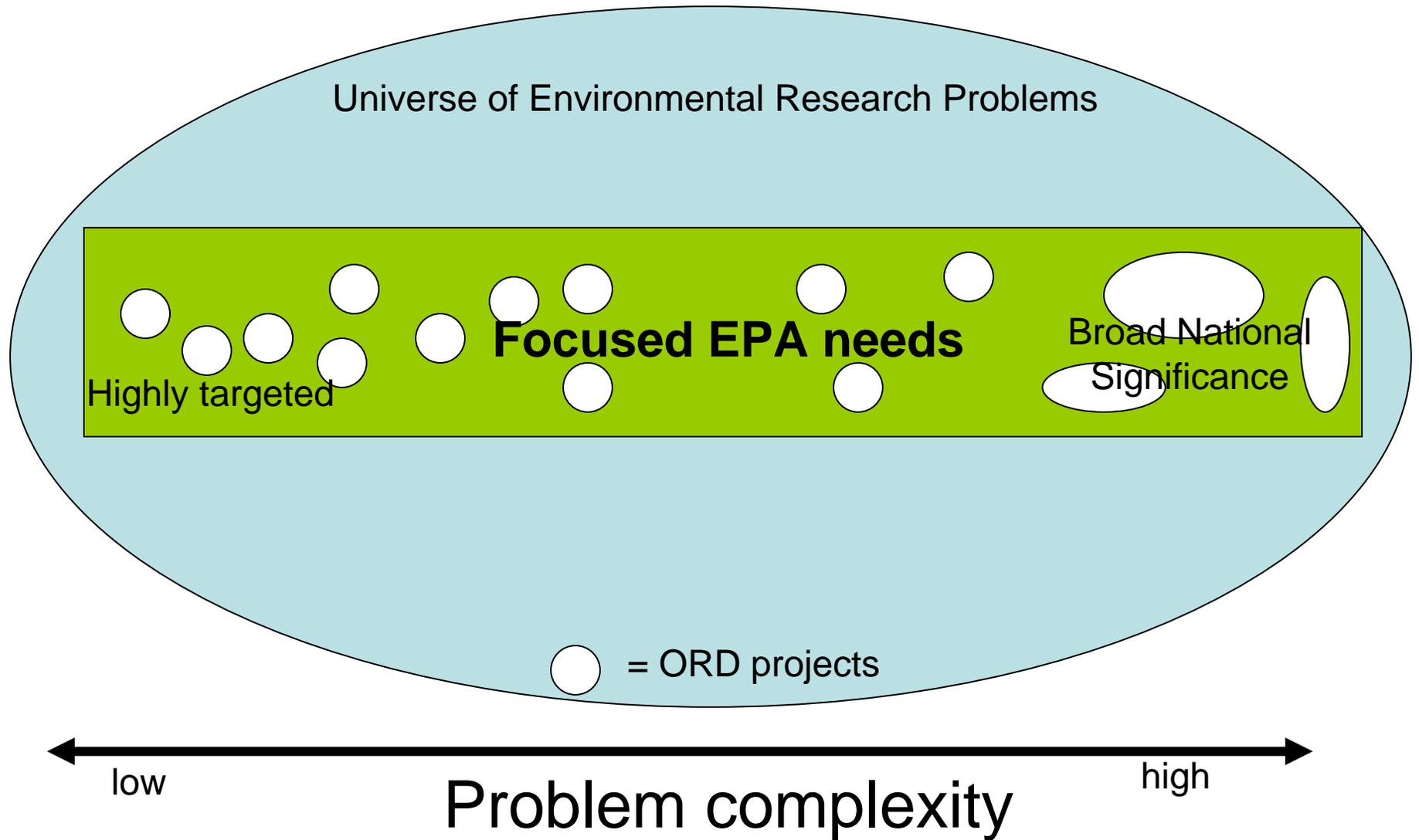
ORD's
current portfolio:

1. Not all consistent with focused Agency needs
2. Includes few of most complex problems



ORD's
future
portfolio will:

1. Focus on Agency research needs
2. Tackle some of the really big problems





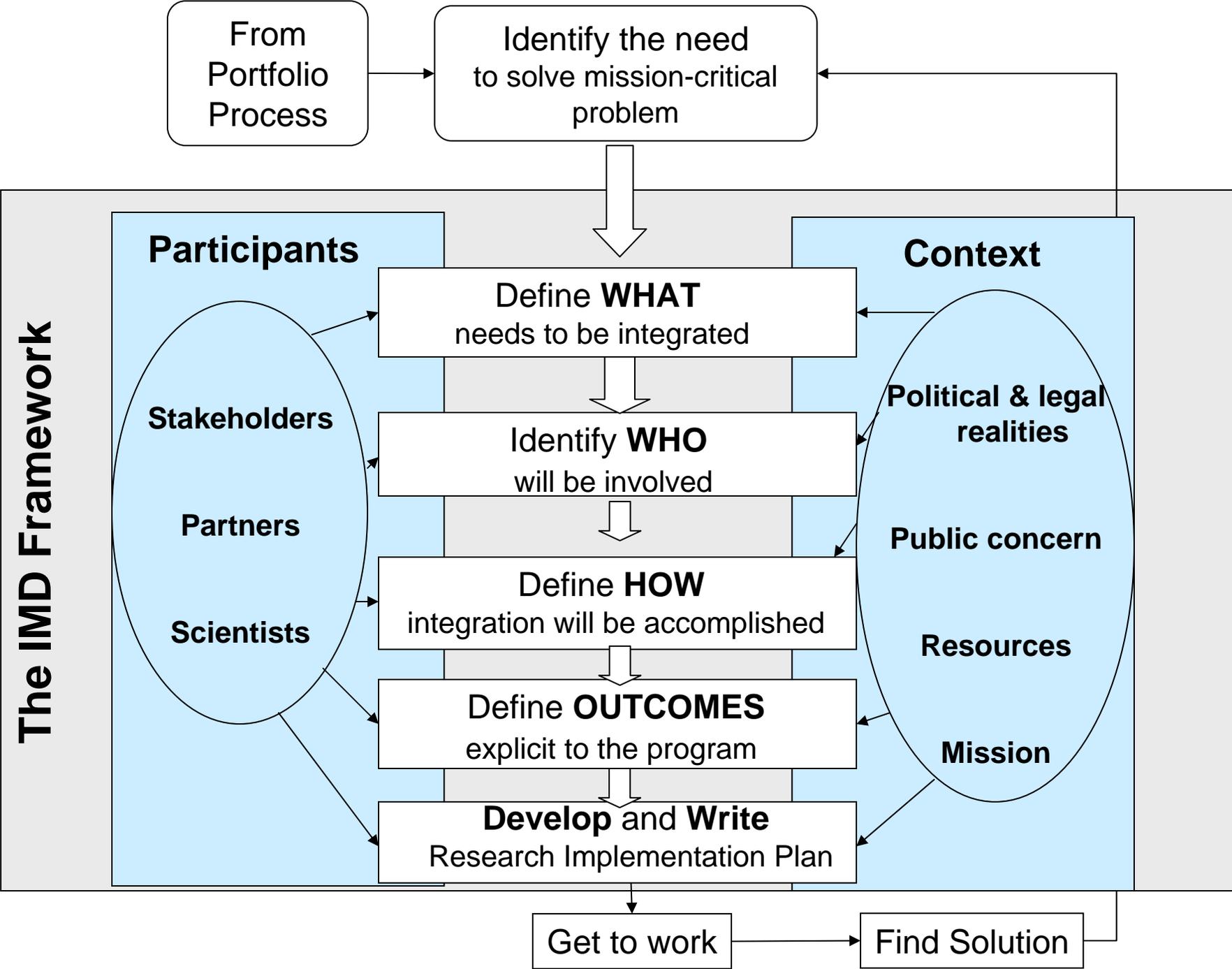
ORD's Strength: Integrated, Multidisciplinary (IMD) Research

What it means:

- Identifying and solving environmental problems by the continuously concerted application of multiple disciplines and partner perspectives throughout all phases of research planning, execution, and synthesis.

What is involved:

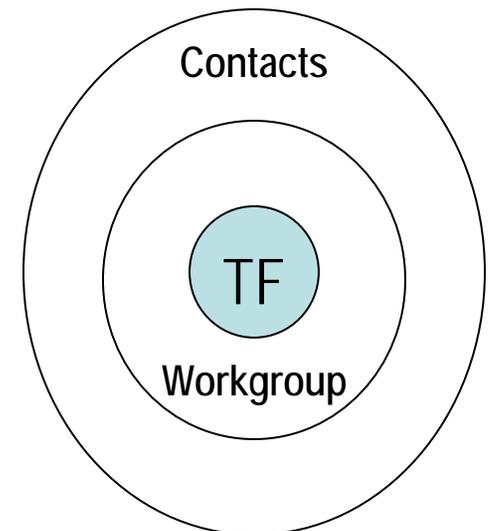
- Identifying and solving include: problem identification and bounding, research planning and implementation; and interpretation, communication and using results;
- Perspectives include: disciplines, stakeholders, practitioners, etc.
- IMD is always appropriate for problems of broad national significance, and may be appropriate for research elsewhere on the portfolio continuum.



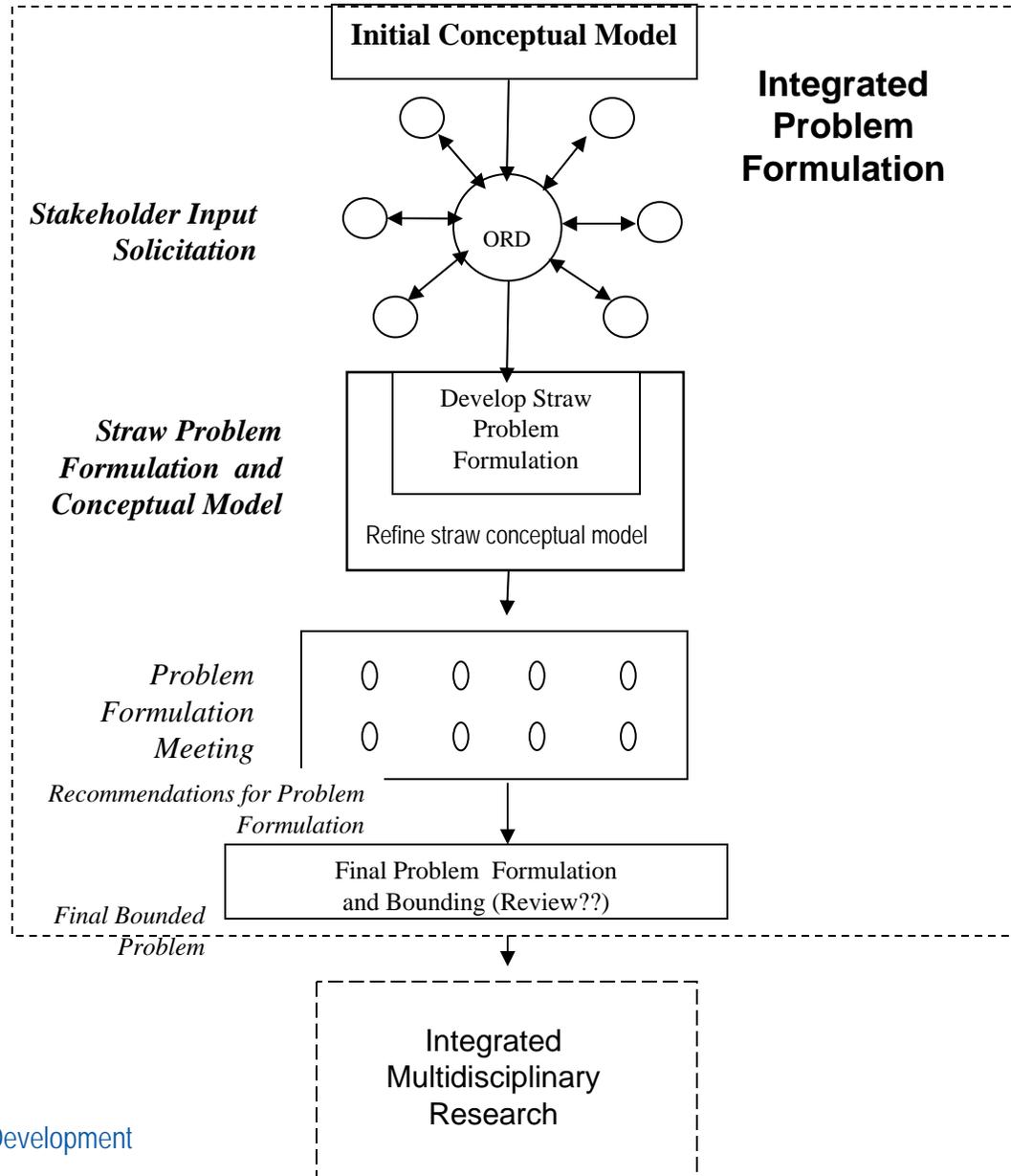
ORD Transformation Task Force

Recommend Transformation Processes for:

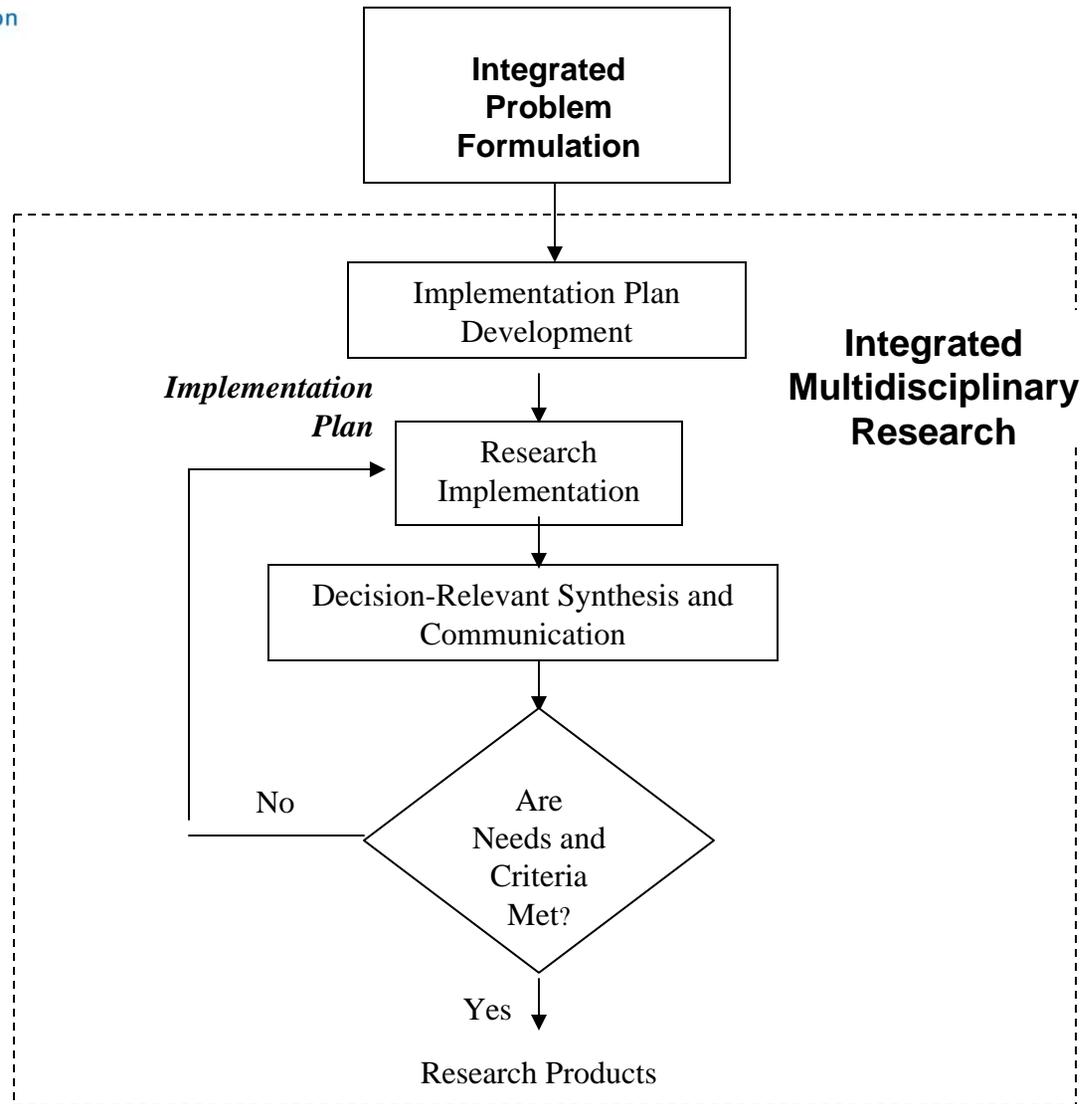
- Selecting research portfolio balanced across continuum
 - Process for identification, selection and formulation of
 - Problems of broad national significance
 - Targeted research
- Ensuring integrated multidisciplinary approaches as appropriate
 - Process for implementation plan development
 - Process to move IMD into ORD culture
- Communicating Transformation
 - What the transformation is
 - Progress on the transformation



Draft Process for Pilot PoBNS



Draft Process for Pilot PoBNS Formulation



Summary

Transformation is necessary to:

- Build on ORD's unique strengths
- Directly support Administrator's priorities and external expert advice
- Harness resources to meet even the most complex environmental challenges