

A connected research ecosystem through trust and identity

Introduction

The Australian Access Federation (AAF) is the national capability that delivers trust and identity services. We facilitate trusted connection and collaboration between education and research institutions, nationally and internationally. Through our Trust and Identity Pathfinder Project we're partnering with national research infrastructures (NRI) to build a system-wide approach to identity and access management, which will improve connectivity across the NRI ecosystem.

Objectives



Easier access to national research infrastructure through seamless services

Creating a more researcher-centric NRI ecosystem that reduces the time and complexity for researchers to access multiple services.



Easier access to international research infrastructure

Working in step with global best practice developments in interoperability and collaboration.



A connected NRI ecosystem for better industry collaboration

Partnering with industry and global identity providers to build and implement the next generation of T&I solutions.



A safer and more secure NRI ecosystem

Ensuring the safety and security of our national assets by protecting them against cyber security risks.



Transformation across research themes

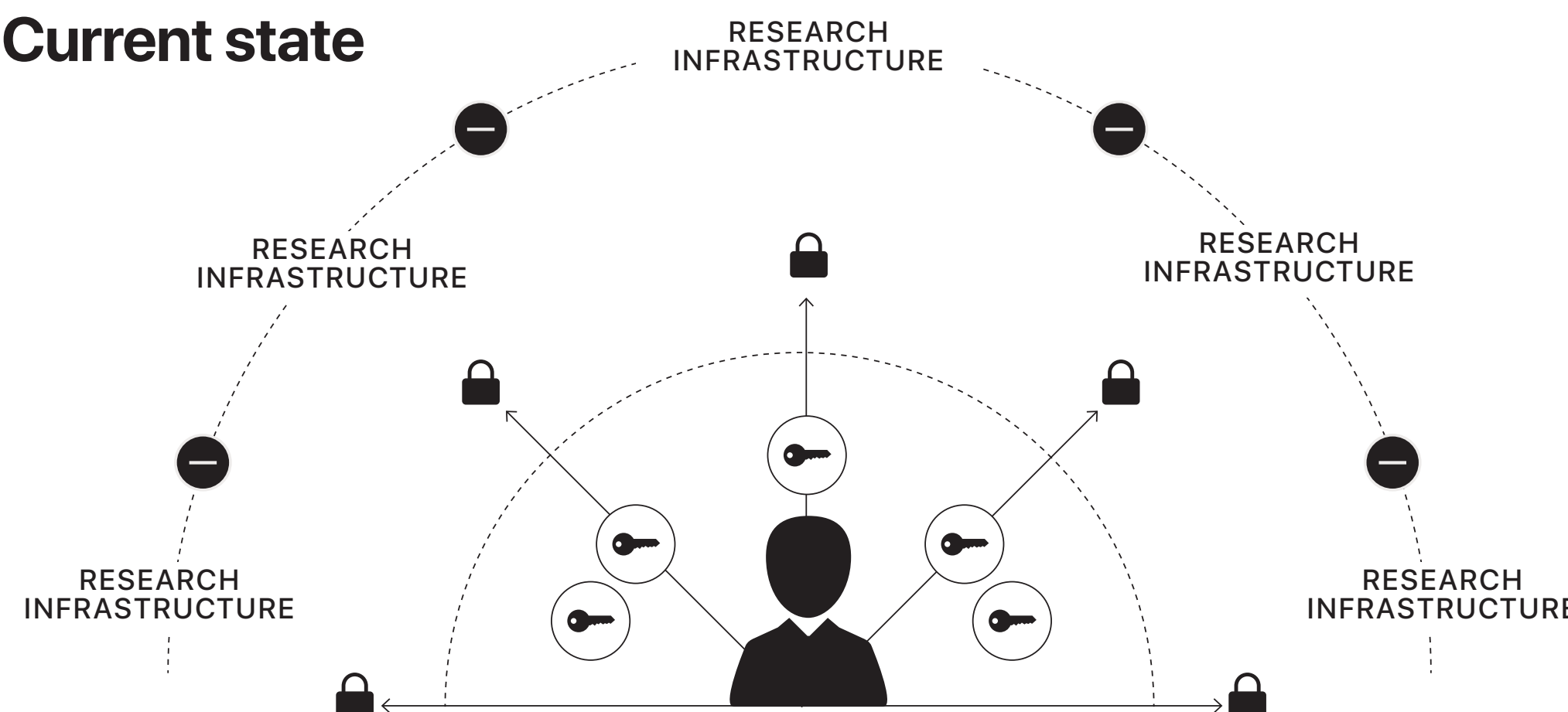
Opening up data and opportunities for collaboration across research themes such as environmental science, space, health sciences and more.

Method

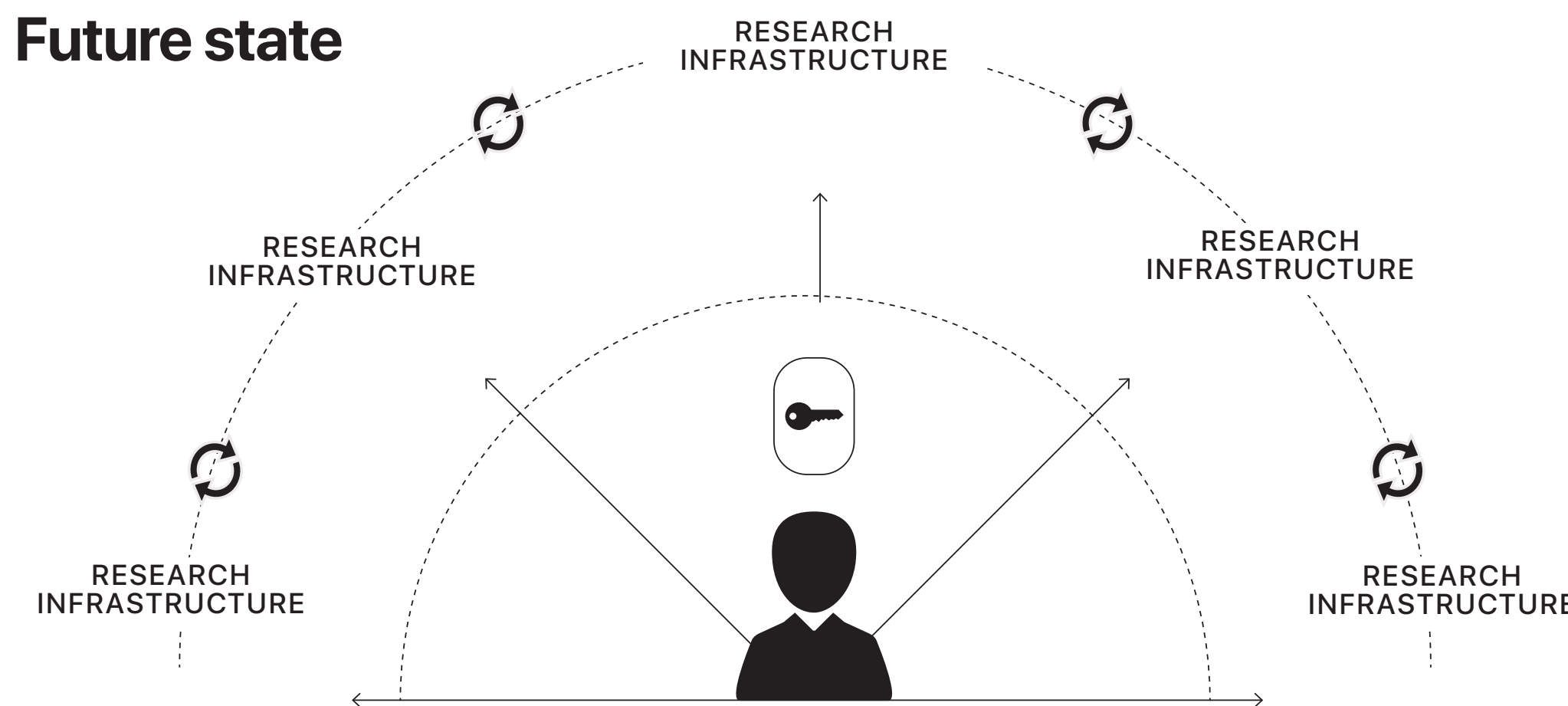
Unlocking national research infrastructure through a shared understanding of a digital identity

A system-wide approach to identity and access management, through technology and policy, will improve connectivity across the NRI ecosystem. Researchers will be able to login once, have their identity verified and seamlessly access resources across organisational boundaries to collaborate.

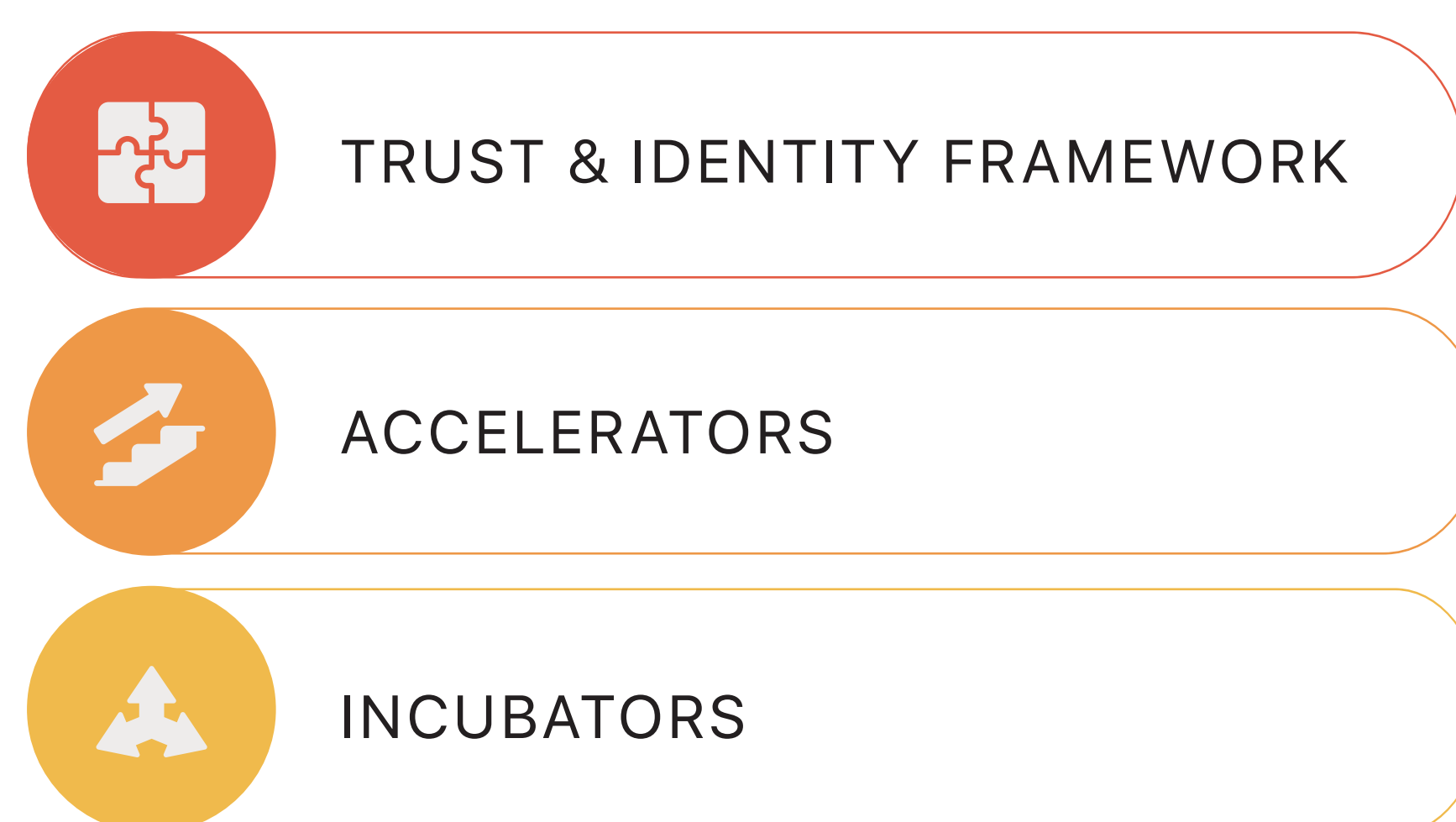
Current state



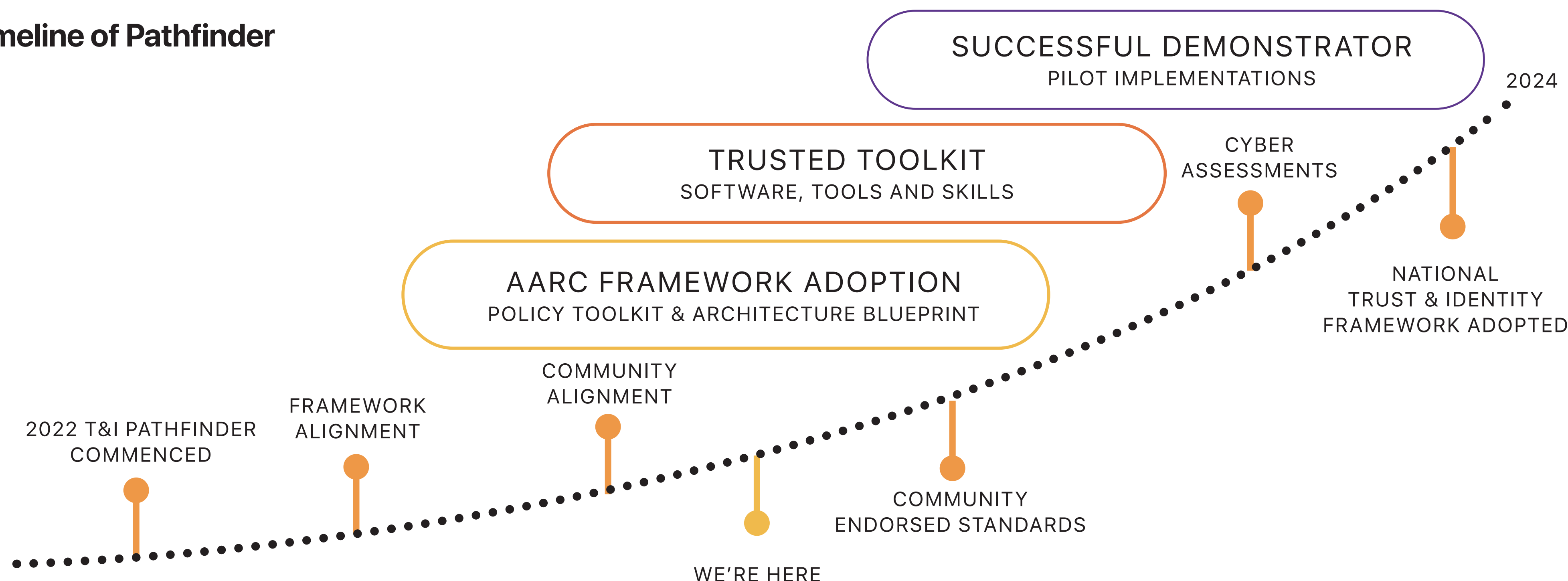
Future state



AAF's Trust and Identity Pathfinder Project consists of three components



Timeline of Pathfinder



Results

We're half way through the Trust and Identity Pathfinder Project which commenced in 2022.

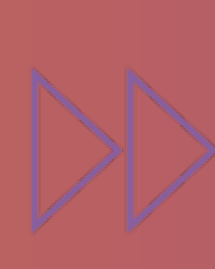
We have undertaken landscape scans, engaged with potential incubators and commenced the establishment of a Policy Working Group.

We're on the path to achieving the project's goal of transforming Australian research through the following Strategic Drivers.



Enhanced collaboration

Designing infrastructure and resources for a connected research ecosystem, that enables easy access for collaboration by researchers, industry, and government.



Amplified capability for efficiency

Delivering faster access to data and tools that researchers need, through a world leading suite of trust and identity tools, services, and skills.



Connectivity for global collaboration

Connecting Australian researchers to increase their ability to lead and participate in international research programs.



Thematic deployment for impact

Harnessing the full potential of research infrastructure by deploying trust and identity solutions to national challenges, creating impactful collaborative partnerships across the NRI ecosystem.



Cyber security for trusted environments

Building a trusted and secure NRI ecosystem for improved national security, economic competitiveness, and scientific advancement.



Trust & Identity for the future

Enabling enduring and system-wide trust and identity improvements for NCRIS.