

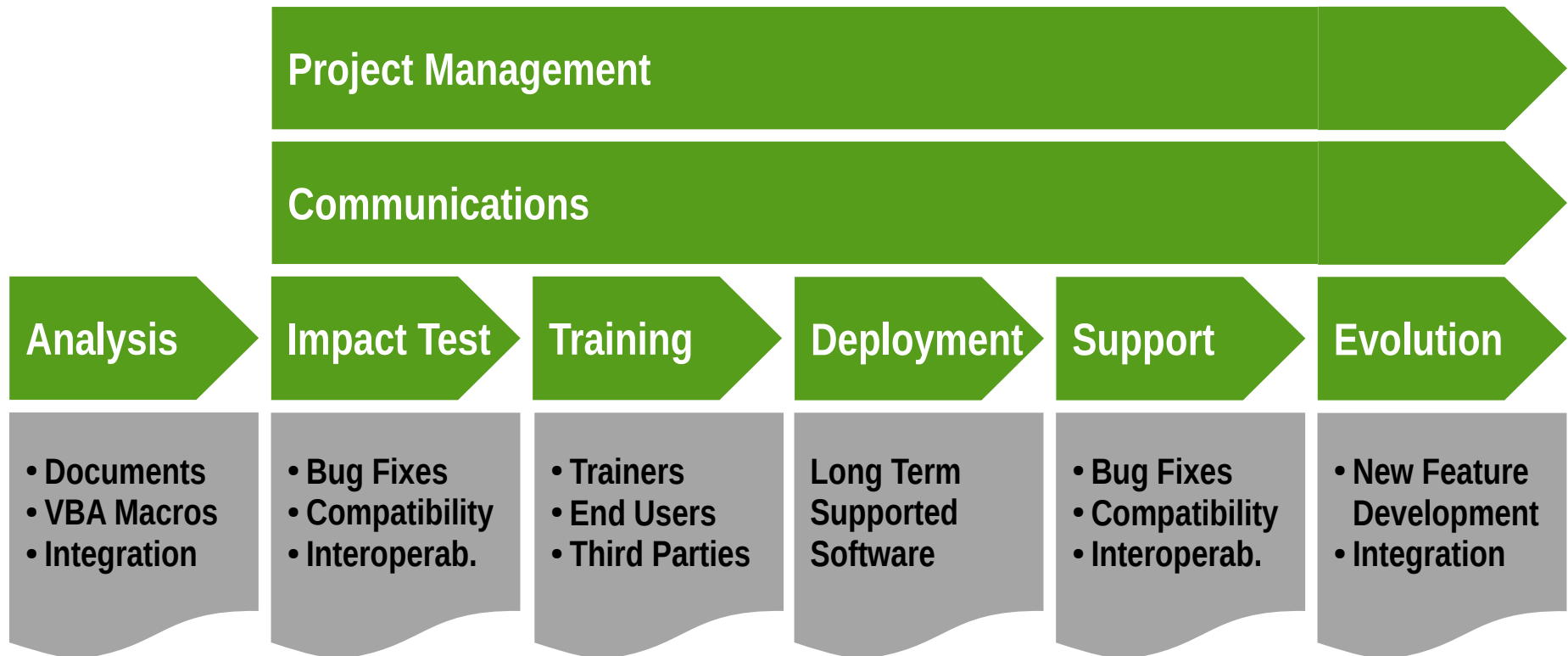


# Migration Protocol to LibreOffice

M. Latini - I. Vignoli



# Migration Protocol





**Migration**  
**≠**  
**Replacement**



**Migration  
=  
Change**



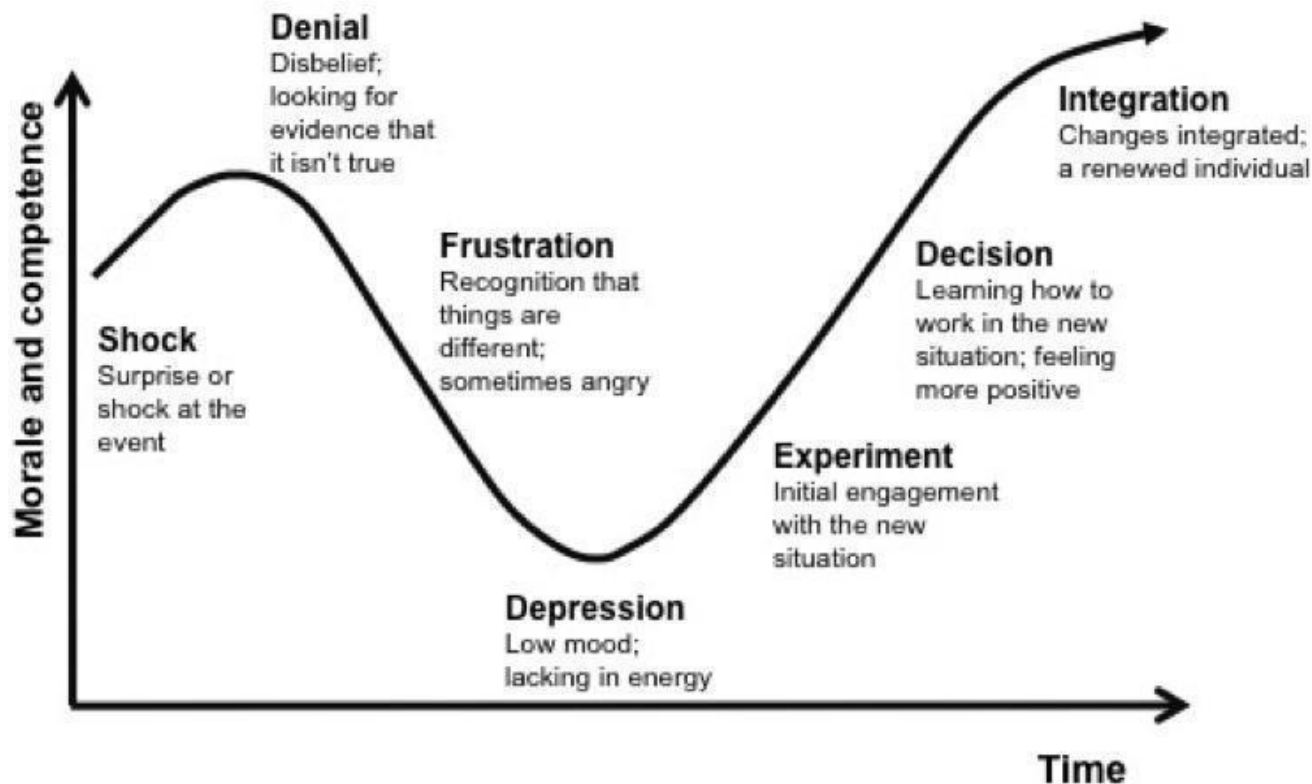
**The secret of change  
is to focus all your energy  
not on fighting the old  
but on building the new**

***Socrates***

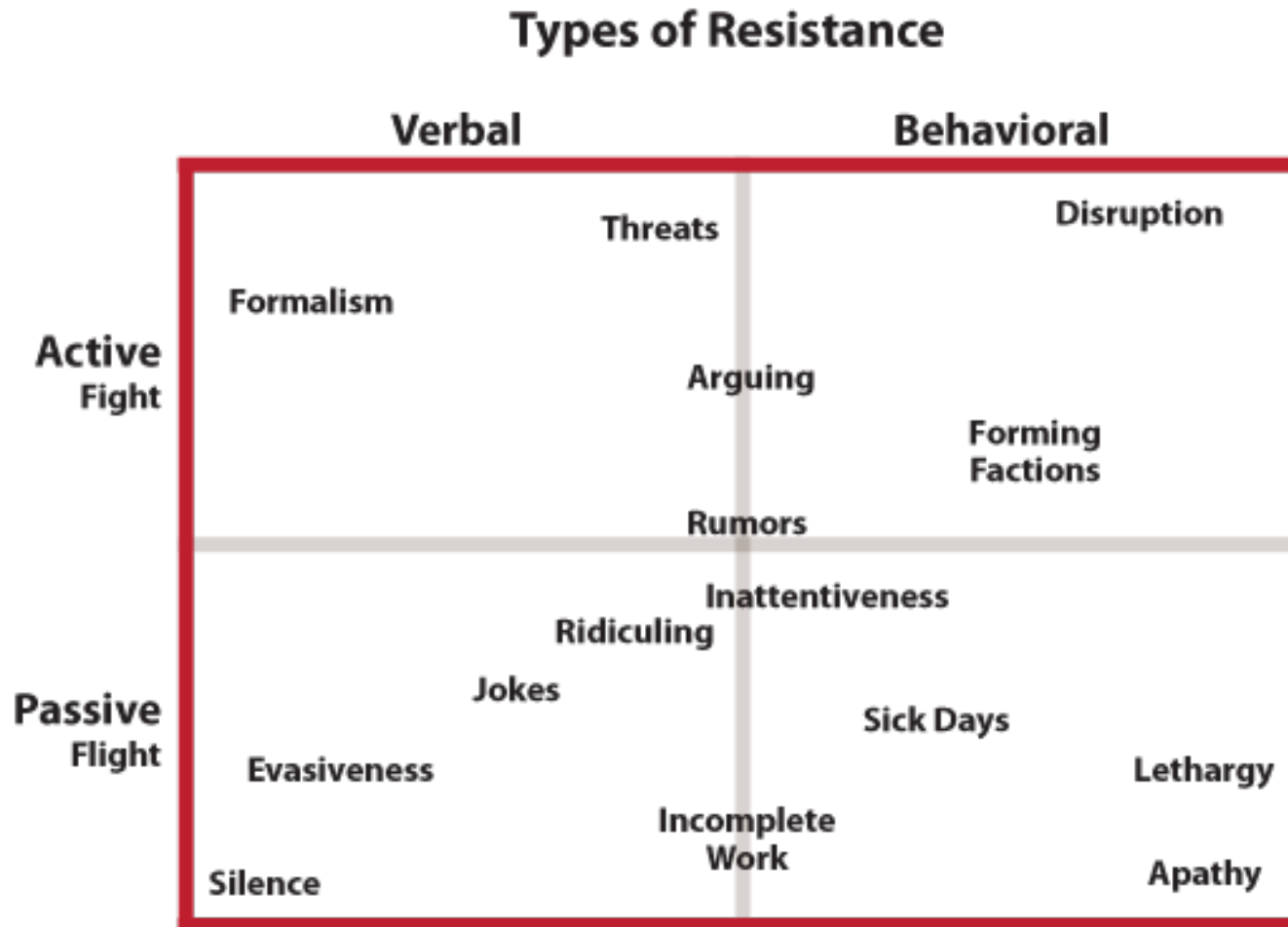
# Resistance to Change



## The Kübler-Ross change curve

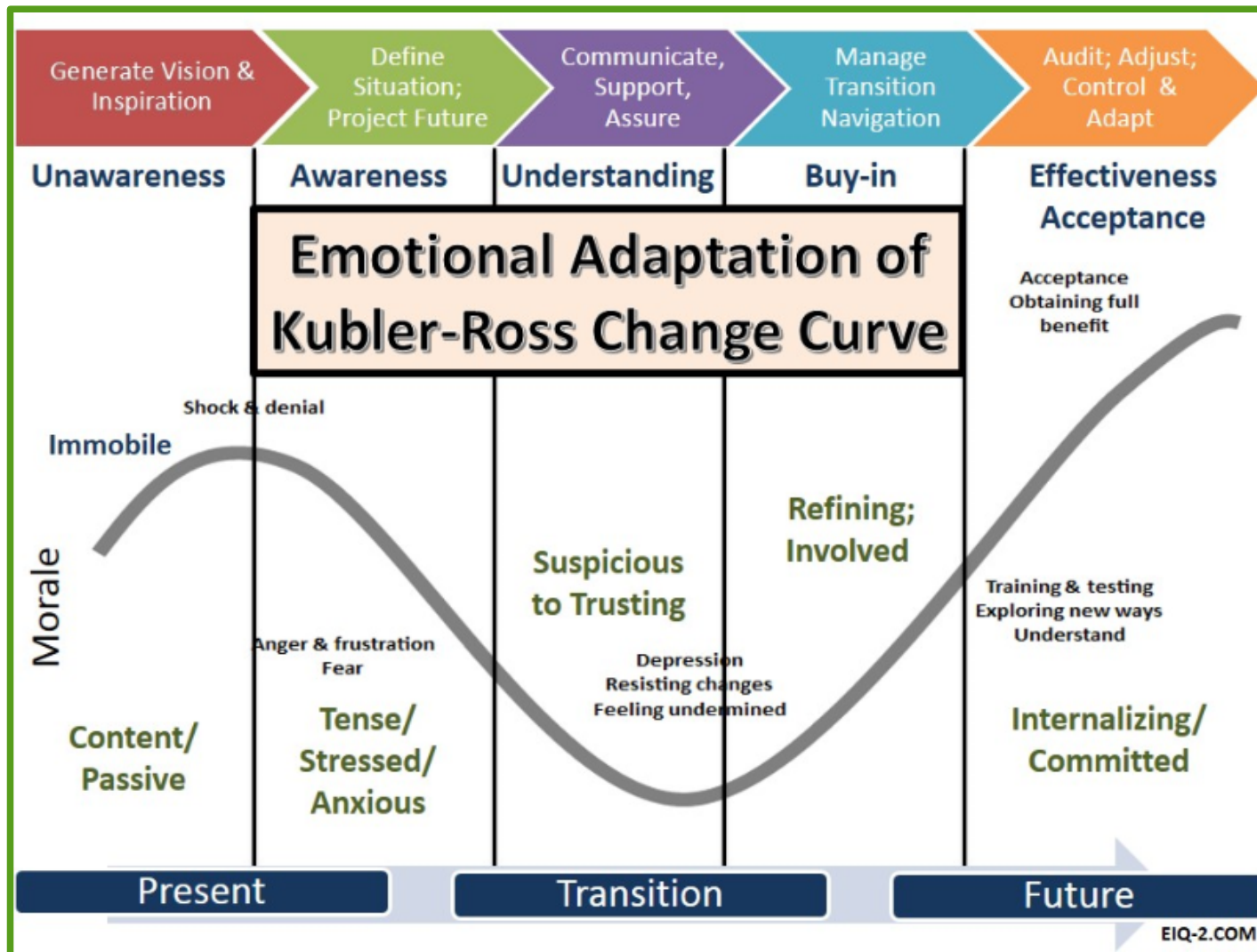


# Types of Resistance to Change



Source: Doppler and Lauterburg

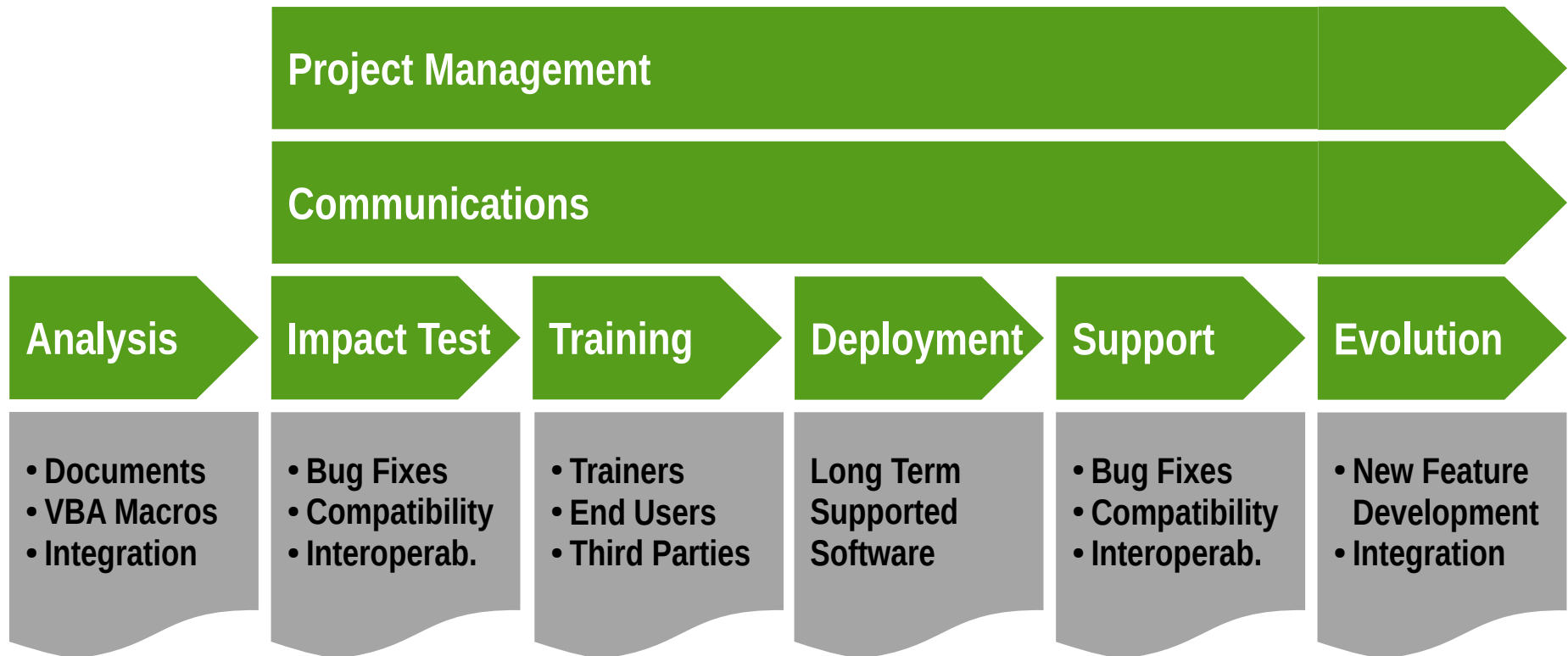
# Manage Resistance to Change







# Migration Protocol





**Analisis**

**Project Management & Communications**

**Impact Test**

**Support**

**Training**

**Deployment**



# Real Issues

- Technical
  - Management of new document formats
  - Conversion of documents to the standard format
  - Learning curve for the basic rules of interoperability
- Psychological
  - Learn a completely new office suite after 20 years
  - Resistance to change and lack of motivation
  - If it is free then there is a hidden trap



# False Issues

- Key features are missing
- Some features are in the wrong place
- The file format is different and not popular
- Opening documents messes up the format
- Free software is for technical people



# Strengths

- ODF: ISO / IEC 26300 standard, supported by Microsoft Office 2010 (plug-in), 2013 and 2016
- LibreOffice flexibility in expanding the functionality with PHP/Python extensions and scripts (no macro)
- Possibility of using the same office suite independently from the number of workstations
- Opportunity to train all staff, to standardize computer skills
- Opportunity to reorganize/rationalize the document management process



# Technical Strengths

- Open source application with copyleft (MPL) license that guarantees the commitment of the community, and the (obvious) availability of source code
- Ease of customization and creation of automation tools with PHP/Python scripts
- Use of a standard document format (ODF), to ensure interoperability and integration in heterogeneous environments
- Compatibility with all Microsoft formats, both legacy and pseudo-standards
- Complete technological independence from IT vendors



# Economic/Financial Strengths

- Lowering licensing fees, freeing financial resources for investments in other areas
- Reduced obsolescence of personal computer platforms
- Flexibility in planning investments
- Managed planning of expenses and investments terms



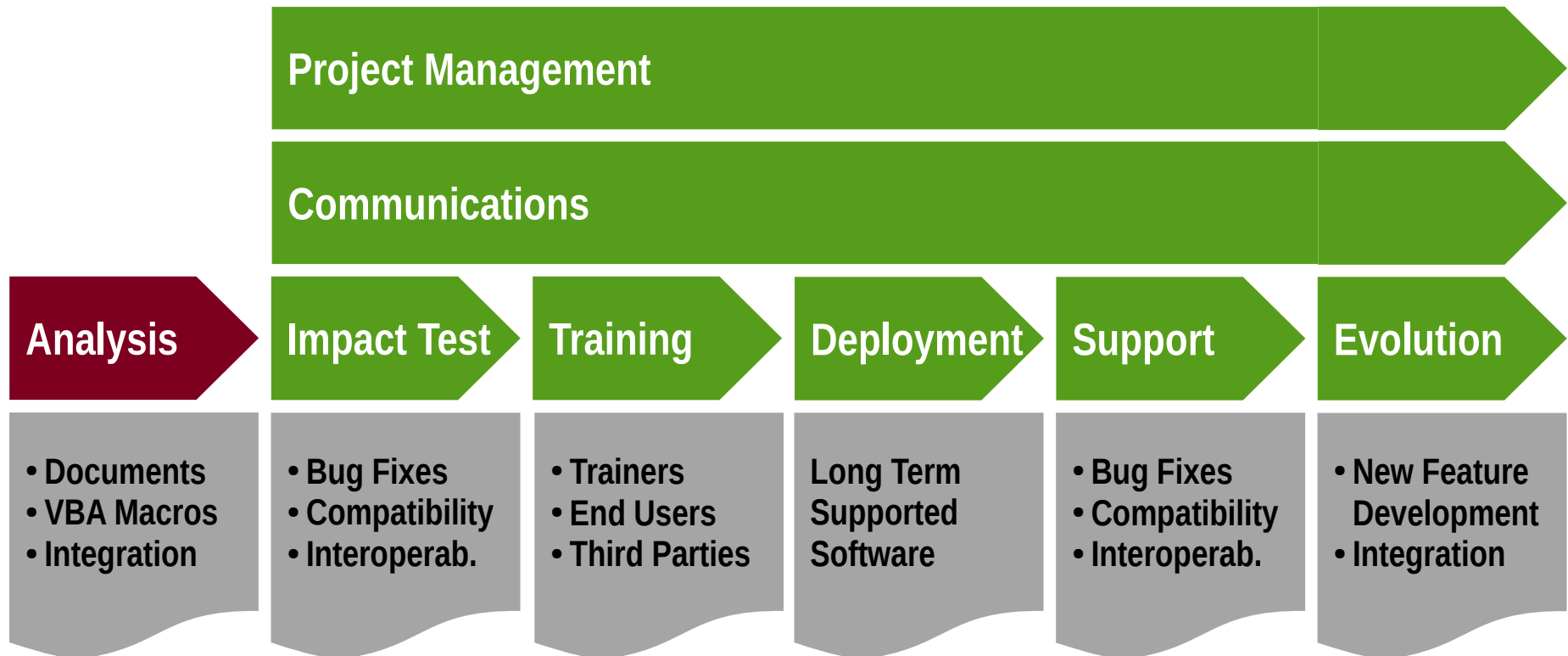
# Process Optimization

- Reorganization of business models (templates)
- Optimization of document creation, management and electronic archiving processes
- Opportunity to discover, enumerate and manage applications developed outside IT management control
- Definition of guidelines for external suppliers for the development or the acquisition of software applications





# Protocol > Analysis



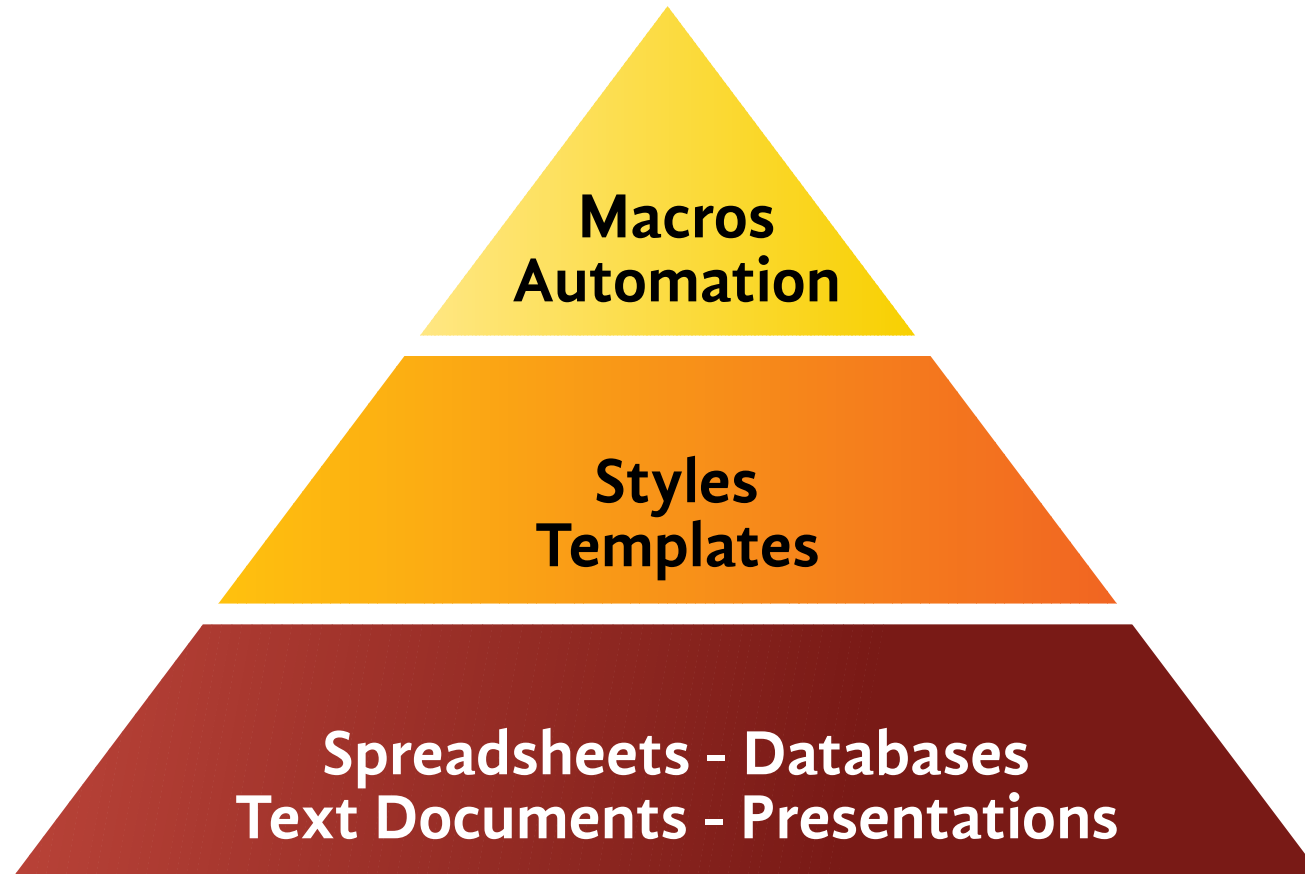


# Analysis

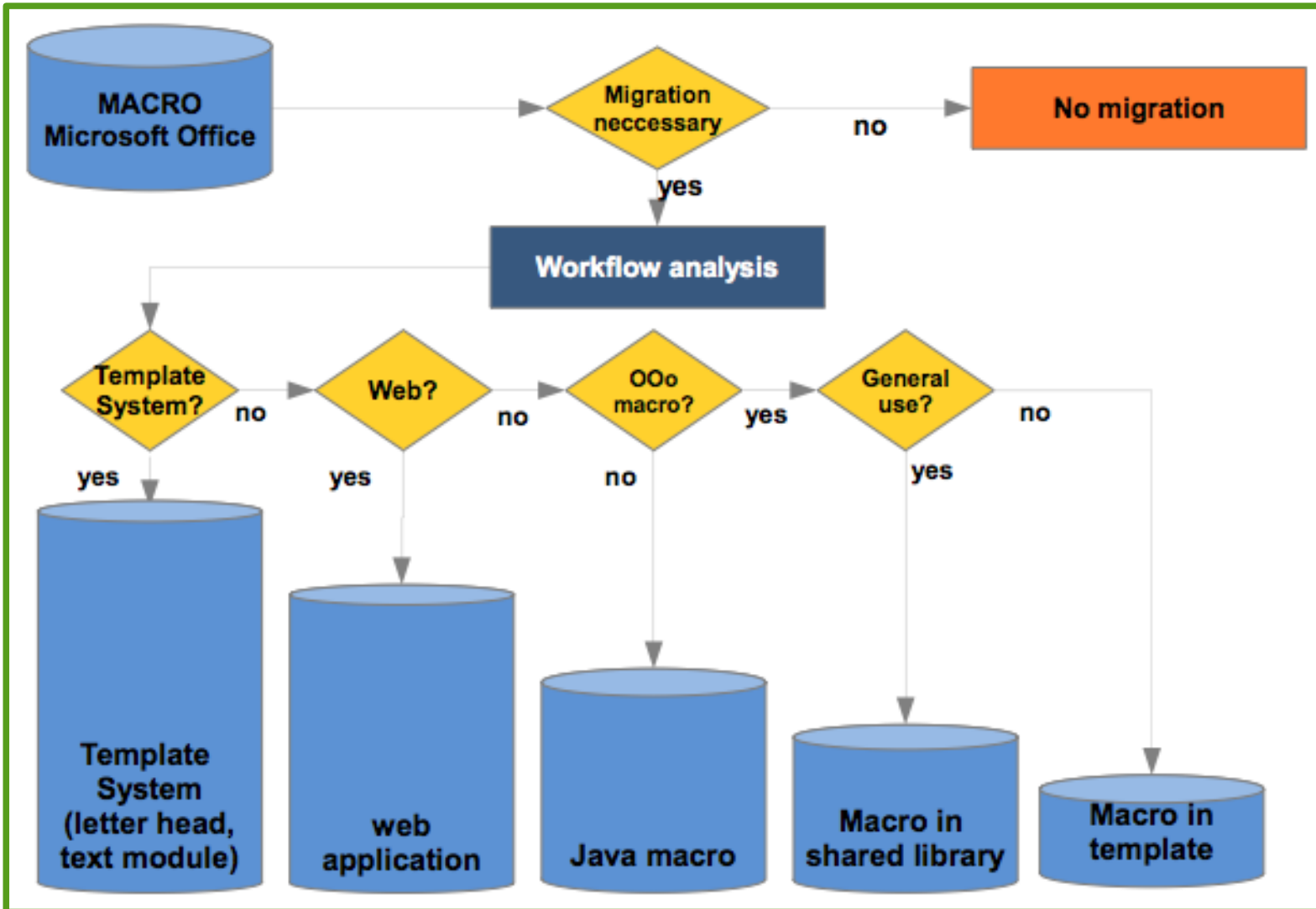
- Templates/styles used in Documents
- Document Automation (macros)
- Document flow (internal and external)
- Specifications to create documents
- All document interoperability policies



# Documents



# Migration of Macros





# Document Analysis

- Evaluation of document templates, and opportunities of restructuring and recreating them
- Evaluation of critical issues related to the conversion of document formats from closed and proprietary to open and standard
- Analysis of the functions most frequently used, for the personalization of the training program



# Organization Analysis

- Document production
- Organization of productivity resources
- Document production and exchange processes
- Applications for personal productivity
- Software which interact with personal productivity applications
- Software which produce documents managed with personal productivity applications



# StakeHolder



**Shareholders**



**Managers**



**Power Users**



**Basic Users**



**Clients**



**Suppliers**

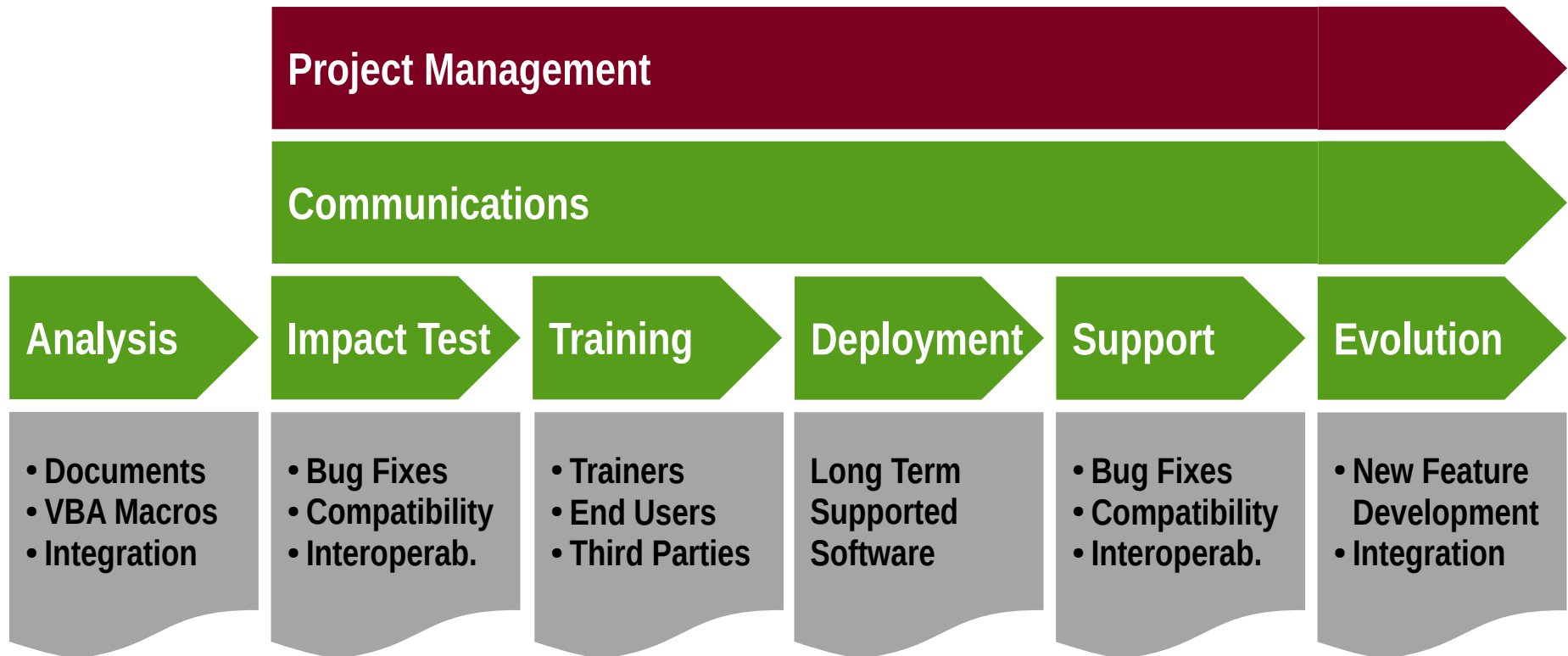


**Partners**



**Third Parties**

# Protocol > Project Management







# Organization

- Technology Leader
- Department Project Manager
- User clusters by role, task & skills
- In/Out interoperability flows
- Potential obstacles



# Preparation

- Identify technology leaders
- Install LibreOffice on their computers
- Conversion of templates and macros
- Start the communication process
- Organization of training of trainers
- Preparation of support material



# Organization Check

- User clusters based on technical skills and psychosocial characteristics
- Main contacts within the various operating units
- Technology leaders (typically, recognized "geeks")
- Interchange relationships within the company
- Interchange relationships outside the company



# Project Management

- Definition of the migration strategy
- Splitting process into tasks and sub-projects
- Planning
- Training, project marketing, service, support, installation, development, etc.
- Process re-engineering inside company units
- Assessment of TCO and ROI



# Migration of Documents/Templates

- Opportunity to reorganize templates
- Review of document management procedures
- Archiving of read-only documents
- Definition of procedures to create “interoperable” documents
- Conversion of “live” documents, often by mean of rebuilding them according to best practices



# Kick Off

- Meeting Technology Leader
- Presentation of LibreOffice to Tech Leader
- Conversion of Document and Style Templates
- Communication Kick Off
- Training the Trainers (who will train employees)
- Production of Document Masters

# Protocol > Communication



Project Management

Communications

Analysis

Impact Test

Training

Deployment

Support

Evolution

- Documents
- VBA Macros
- Integration

- Bug Fixes
- Compatibility
- Interoperab.

- Trainers
- End Users
- Third Parties

Long Term  
Supported  
Software

- Bug Fixes
- Compatibility
- Interoperab.

- New Feature  
Development
- Integration



# Communication

- KEY STEP (NOT TO BE MISSED)
- Managers must be involved in communications
- "technology leaders" must learn to communicate
- Internal marketing (intranet, email, pin boards)
- "motivational" end user training





# Communication Strategy

- Start with internal communications
- Involve immediately politicians/top managers
- Officially announce the migration project
- Involve "technology leaders"
- Create a website/blog and publish on social media
- Publish all documents in a transparent way

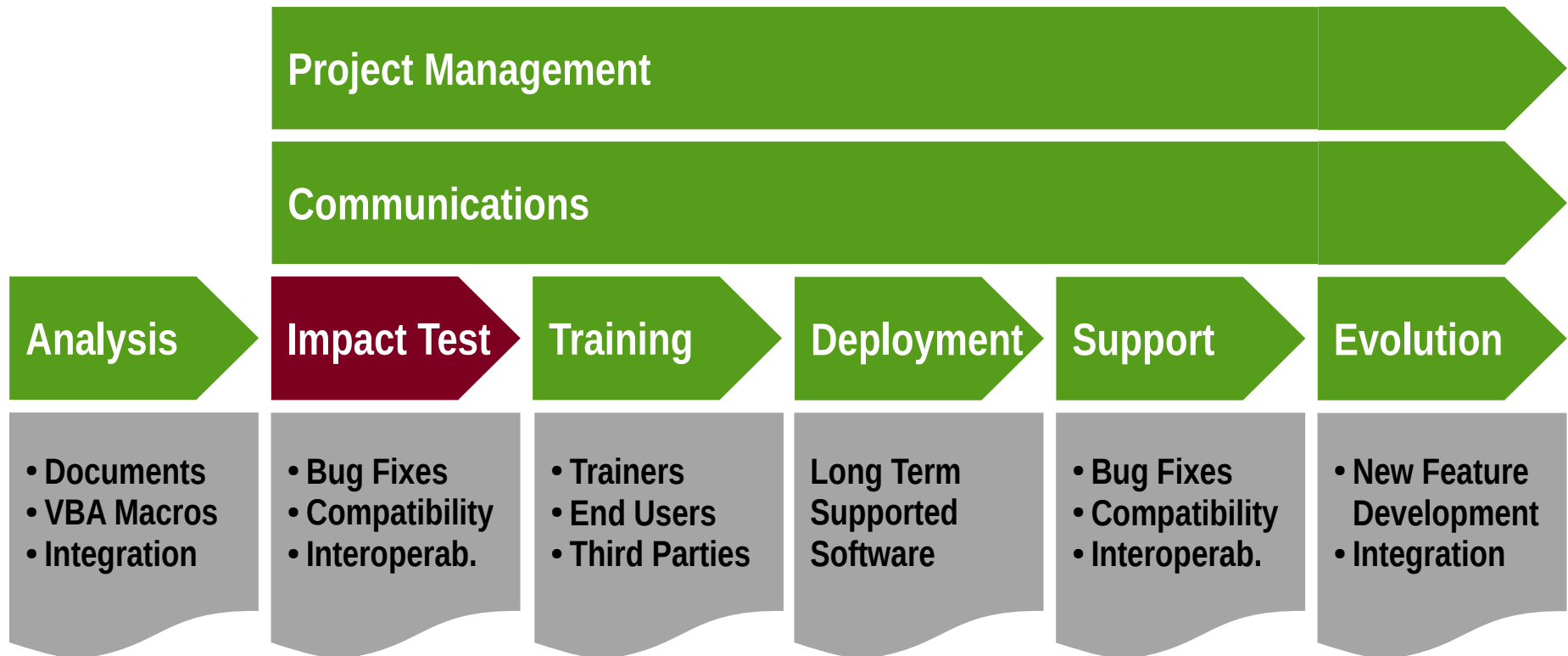


# Internal Marketing

- Ongoing project communications
- Internal portal (project status, online support, tickets, documentation, downloads, forms for training courses, self-evaluation forms)
- Collection of all articles published on online and offline media, and dissemination on social media
- Specific informations and materials about LibreOffice and the standard Open Document Format
- Tips and tricks, and suggestions



# Protocol > Impact Test





# Impact Test

- Significant and meaningful group of users
- Pointing out critical issues and potential obstacles
- Analysis of all document productions process
- Evaluation of migration risks
- Definition of pre-requisites for executive project
- Potential scenarios and financial evaluation

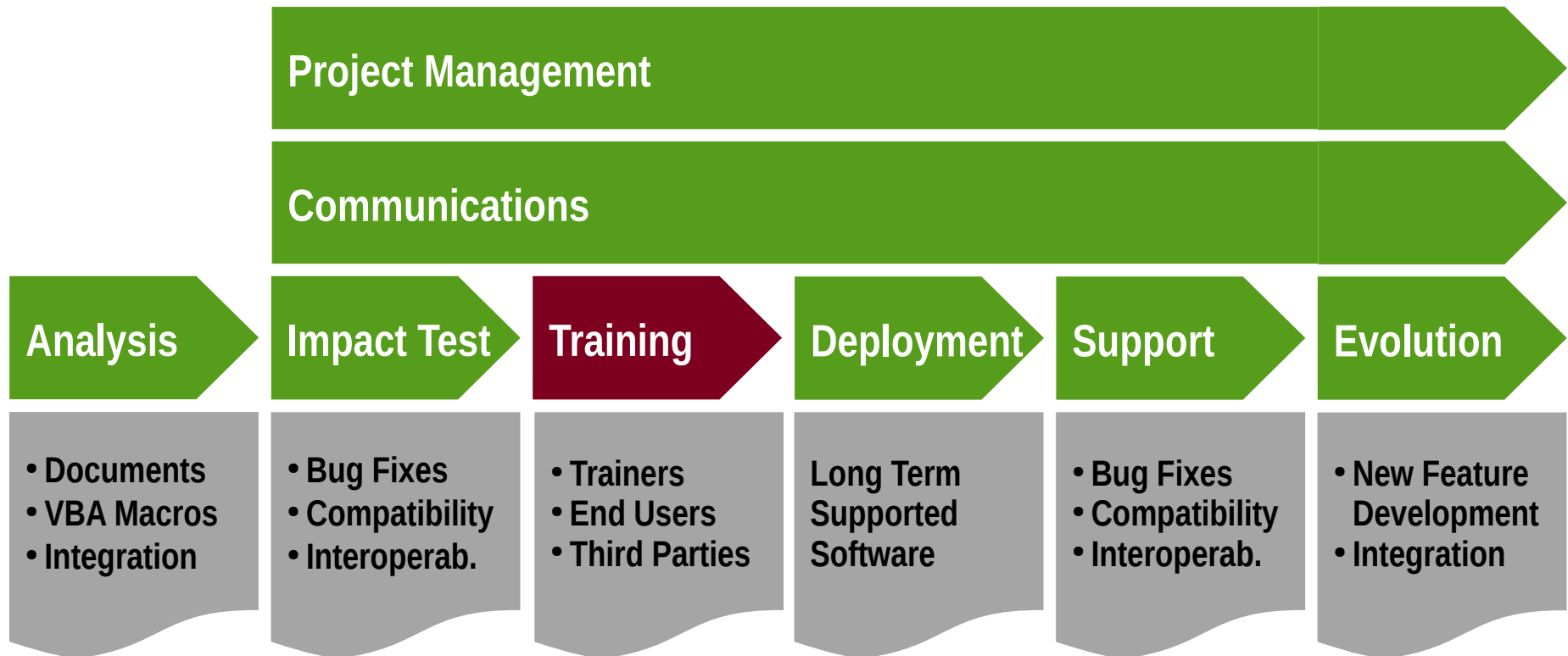


# Technology Leaders

- They are the unofficial but authoritative reference for technology inside the company
- They are technology opinion leaders for their colleagues
- They must be the first evangelists of the new personal productivity tools
- Focused and personalized training, with events to involve and motivate



# Protocol > Training





# Training

- Basic training for all users
- Advanced training for technology leaders and power users
- Motivational training for all managers and technology leaders
- Technical training for technology leaders and technical support staff
- Motivational training for users, focused on document standards and interoperability



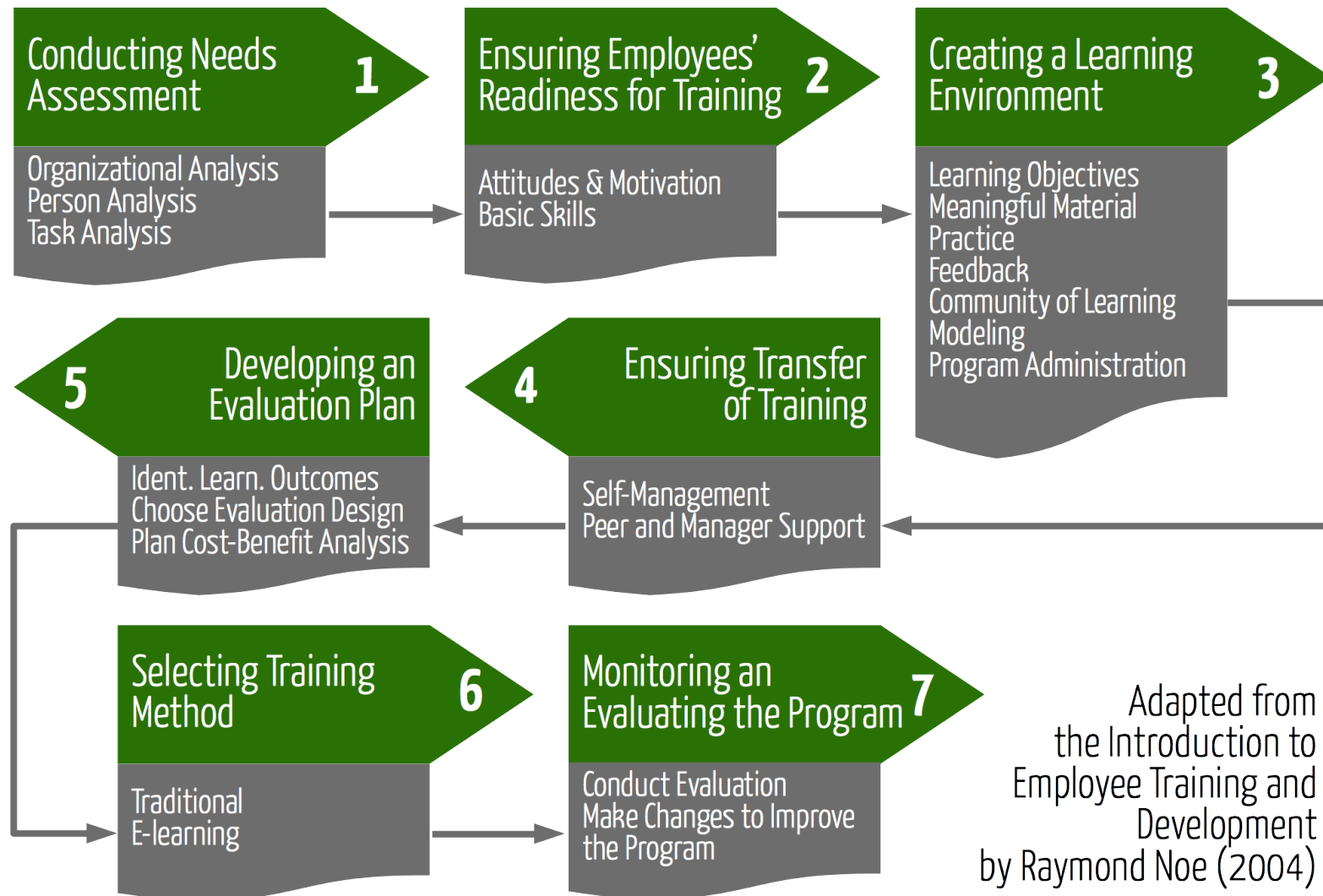
# Training

- Training of trainers
  - Basic, Intermediate and Advanced
- User training
  - Basic training on Writer and Calc
  - Focused training on Impress and Draw
  - Advanced training on demand





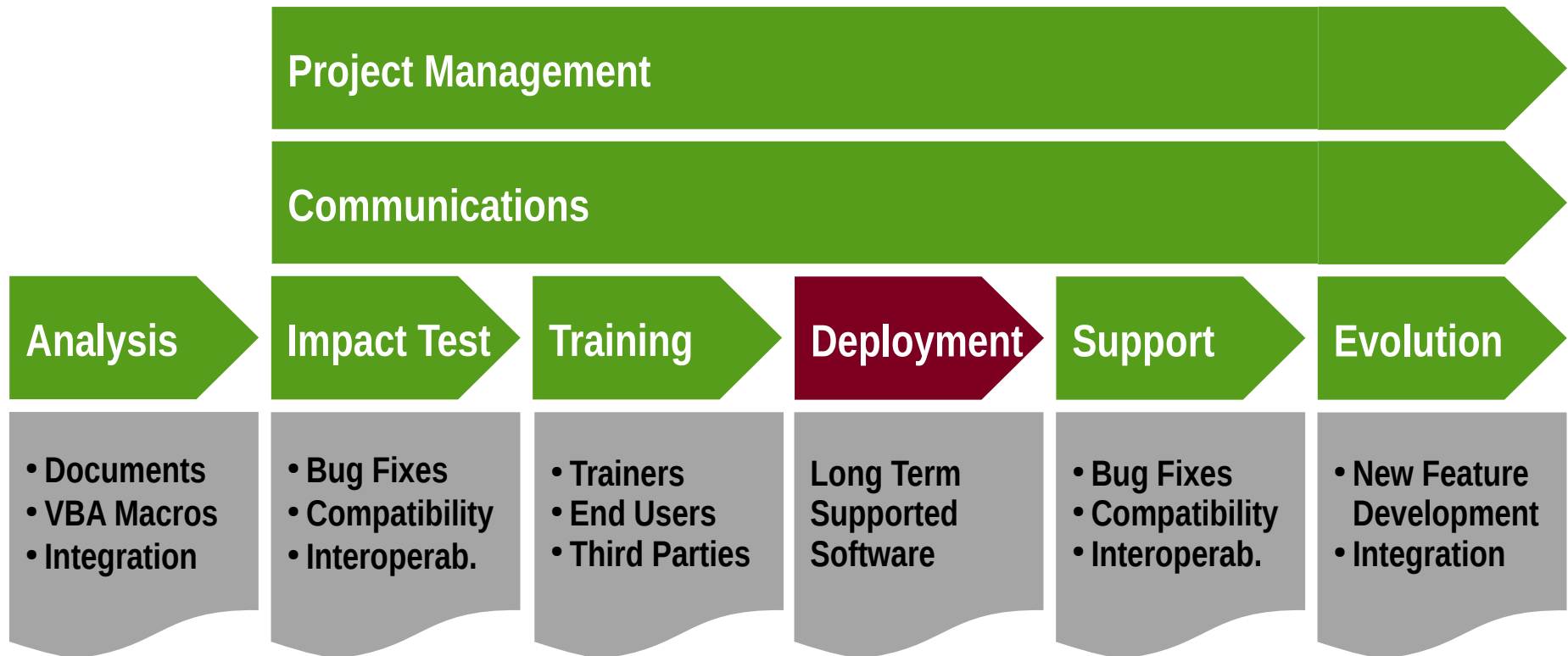
# Training Protocol



Adapted from  
the Introduction to  
Employee Training and  
Development  
by Raymond Noe (2004)



# Protocol > Deployment





# Deployment

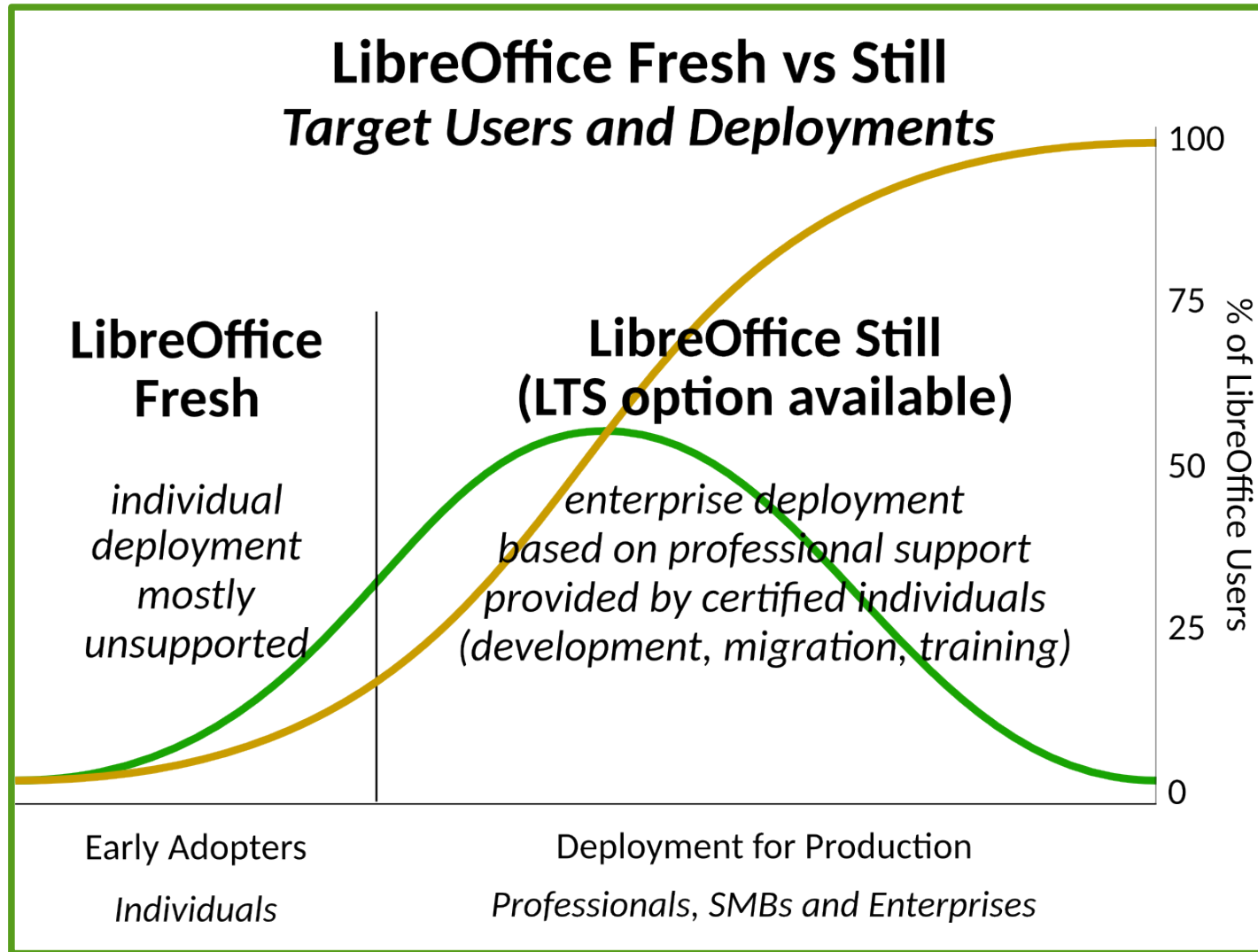
- Organize trainings
- Install LibreOffice during the training session
- Handle each user the LibreOffice Welcome Kit
- Present first level internal support
- Immediately update the document flow



# LibreOffice available versions

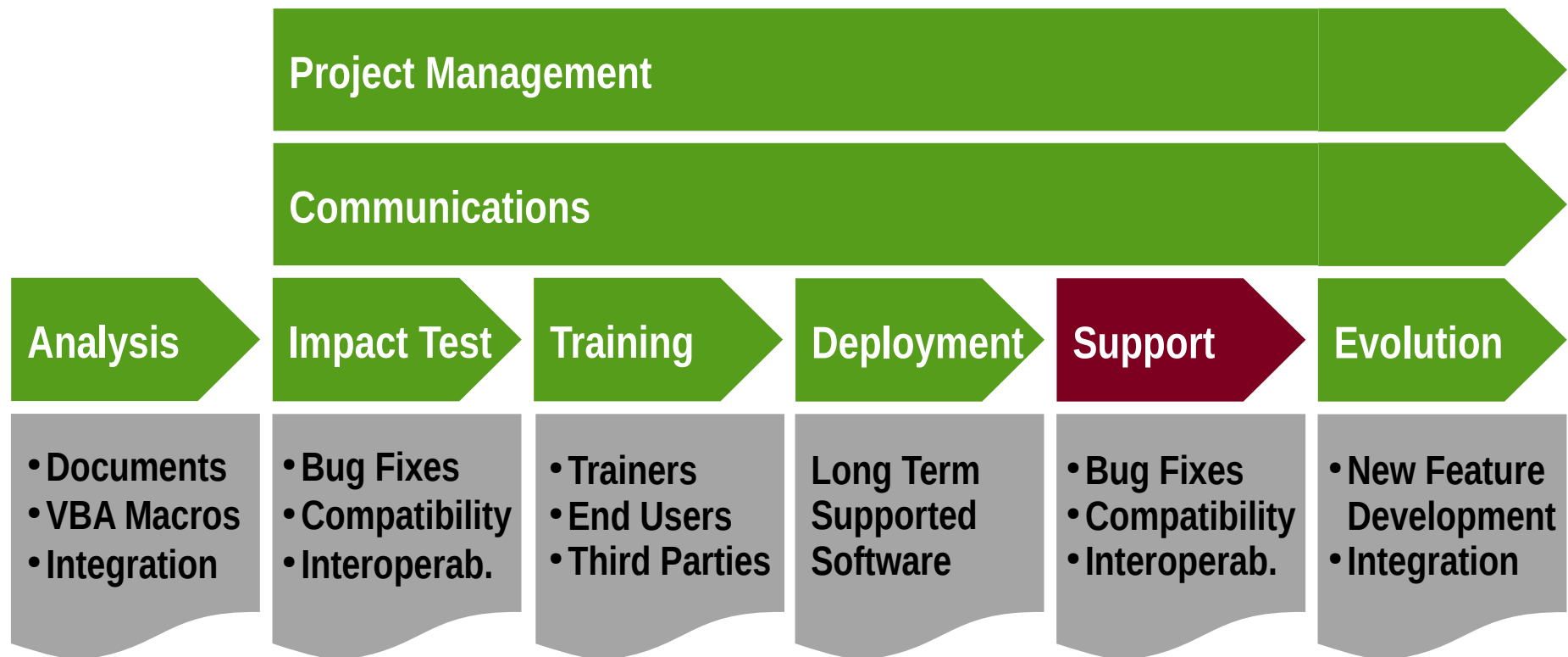
- **Vanilla**
  - Installer for Linux, MacOS and Windows
  - Installation of the entire package
- **LTS with incremental updates**
  - Provided by different ecosystem members
  - Configurable MSI with MSP updates

# LibreOffice Fresh vs Still





# Protocol > Support



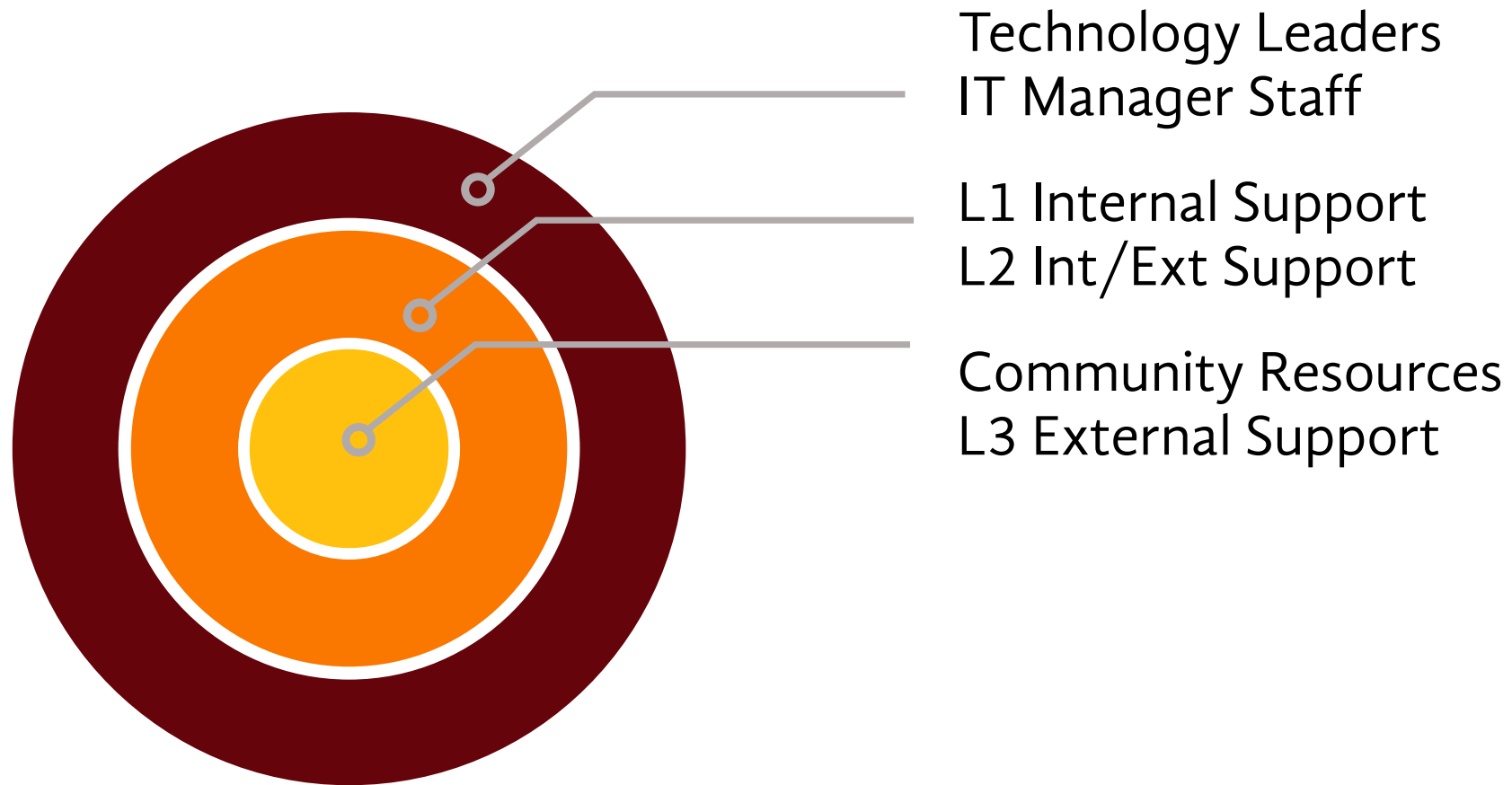


# Technical Support

- Support for users facing technical issues during the migration process
- L0 support
  - Intranet (documentation, how to, FAQ, news)
  - Collect and share information amongst users
- L1 and L2 technical support
- L3 external support (certified)



# Support Model





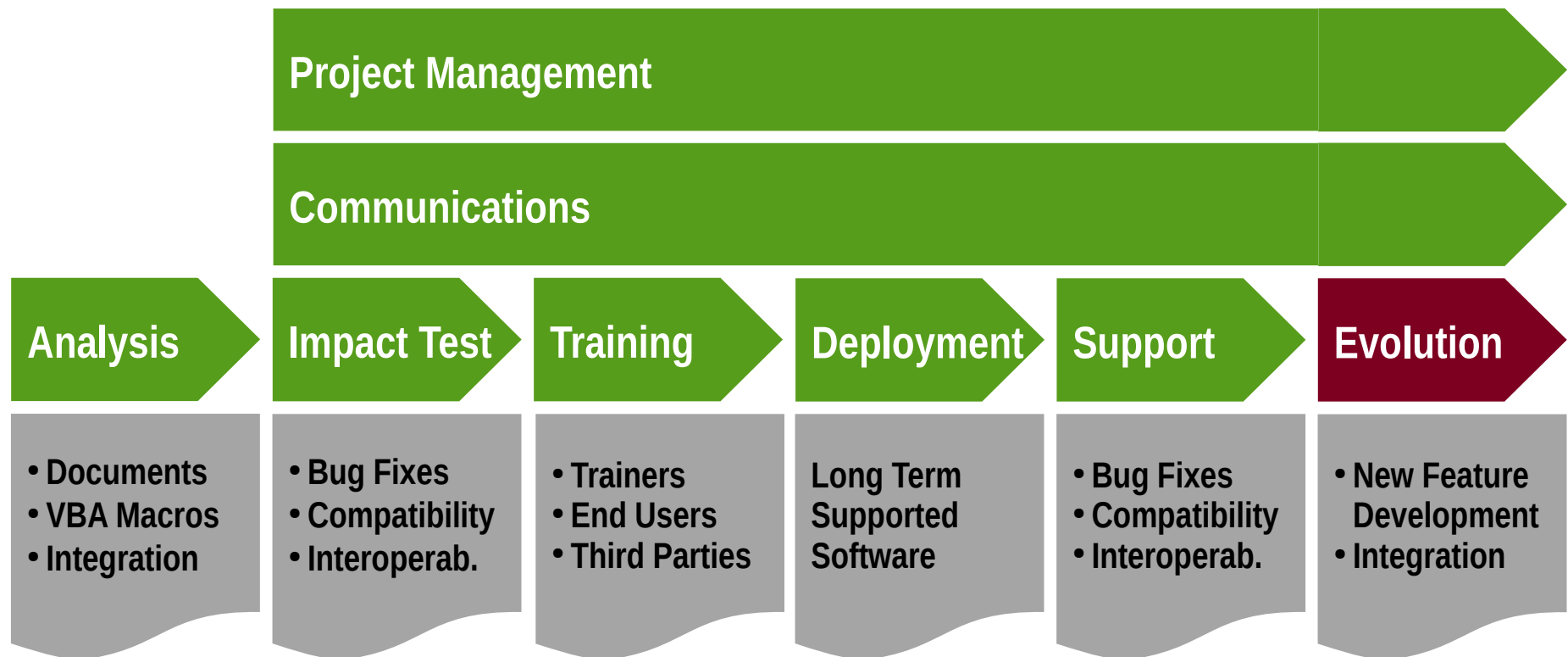


# Support Structure

- Intranet with Documents and Manuals
- Technology Leaders for First Aid Support
- L1/L2 Internal Support
- L3 Certified External Support for Bugs
- Interaction with LibreOffice community
- Bug Reporting on Bugzilla



# Protocol > Evolution





# Interoperability ?

- We learn to create nice docs for printing
- We do not learn to create interoperable docs
- We use fancy formatting and fonts
- We do not respect the semantics of XML tags
- ... but we complain if the doc is messed up



# Learning Interoperability

- Use true open document standards
- Use free fonts available on any platform
- Create "interoperable" documents
- ... good to open with a different software
- ... good to open with a different OS



# Interoperability > Applications

- Use interoperable data formats
- Teach users how to use the product in an interoperable way
- Include document templates and defaults that encourage interoperability
- Allow validation of interoperable documents



# Interoperability > Data Formats

- Separation of content, attributes, behaviours and metadata
- Reuse of existing, established open standards
- Thorough review of document formats
- Use of standard components



# Interoperability > Organization

- Adopt of a single standard open document format
- Adopt applications with proven conformance to that open document standard format
- Teach users how to create interoperable documents



# Interoperability > Users

- Capture information at the highest level
- Add document metadata
- Provide annotations for accessibility
- Use templates and styles





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