

# ATV Technology Leader Network Corporate investments, a call for Board-action and involvement

Jes Broeng, Professor & Director DTU Entrepreneurship



### Hyper growth and transformations





#### DTU Board Education

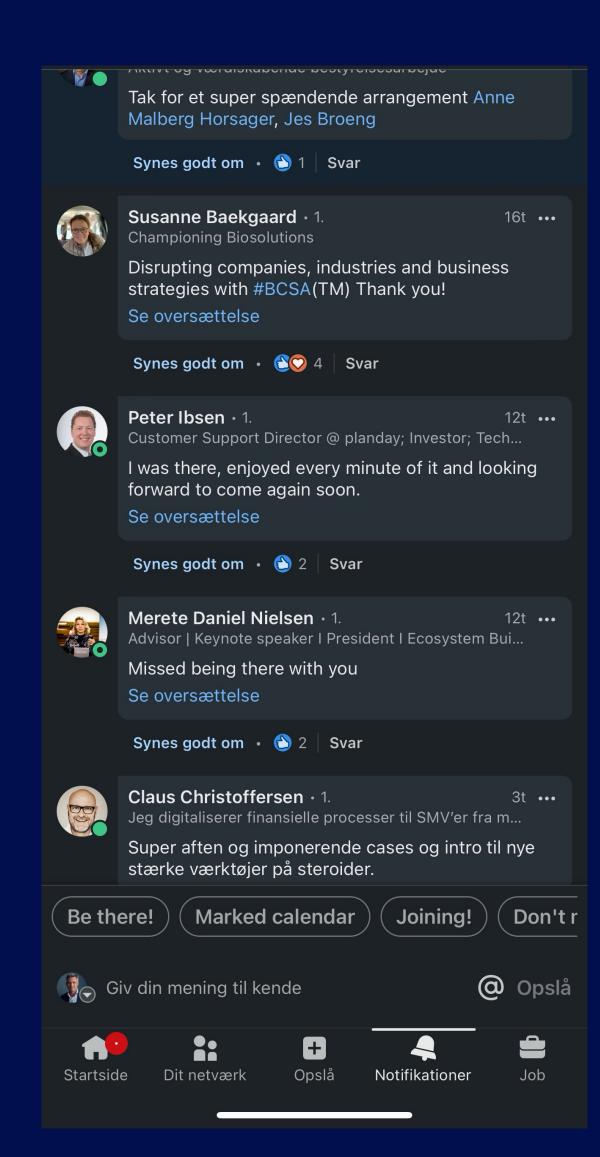
2.319 følgere 19t • 🔇

DTU - Technical University of Denmark Board Club is hosting #DTUBoardDay today with Nordic Alpha Partners 🚀 We were thrilled to welcome senior partner Laurits Bach **Soerensen**, who share valuable insights ? and practical tools on the investment dynamics of the accelerating green transition 🥕

Laurits highlighted the importance of radical scale for achieving significant impact 🦙 We learned from Nordic Alpha Partners's successful exits with **Spirii**, an e-mobility software and operator sold to Edenred, and Wiferion - industrial wireless charging - a PULS brand, a wireless charging company sold to Tesla last summer 🕓

The session showcases the critical role of innovative tech and scalable solutions in driving sustainable growth and tackling climate challenges 🌍







### Outline

Background: Global perspectives and local perspective

Learnings from the startup word?

- Why do corporate innovation fail vs. why startups fail

Leading and organizing for innovation



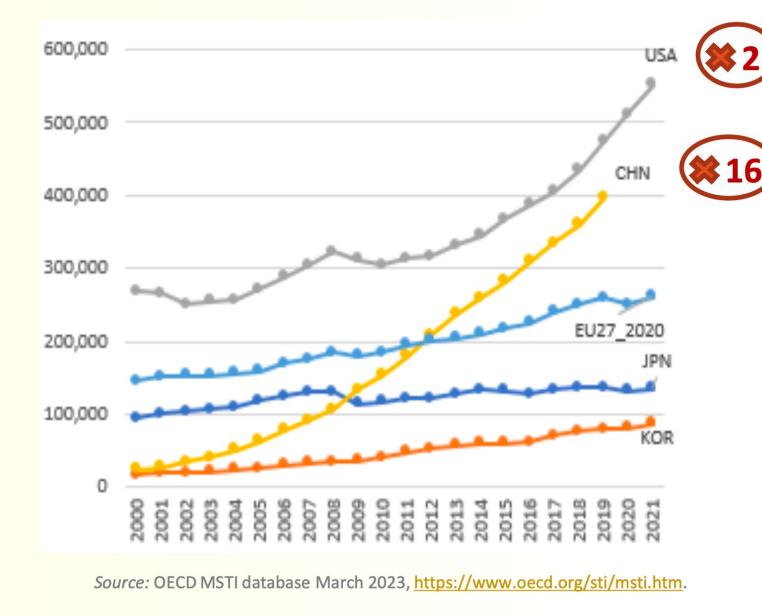
# European corporates invest too little in deep tech...

Global deep tech development driven by the US and China



#### The tech race is led by the US and China





OECD BERD estimated at 1,18 trillion (million million) USD, i.e. almost doubled in two decades

- US at more than 550K million USD more than doubled over the period
- EU at more than 260K million USD
- JPN at 135K million USD
- CHN at 395K million USD (2019) multiplied by a factor of 16 over +/- the same time (underestimated?)

© OECD | Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities | @OECD\_Local |

### The micro-geography of innovation

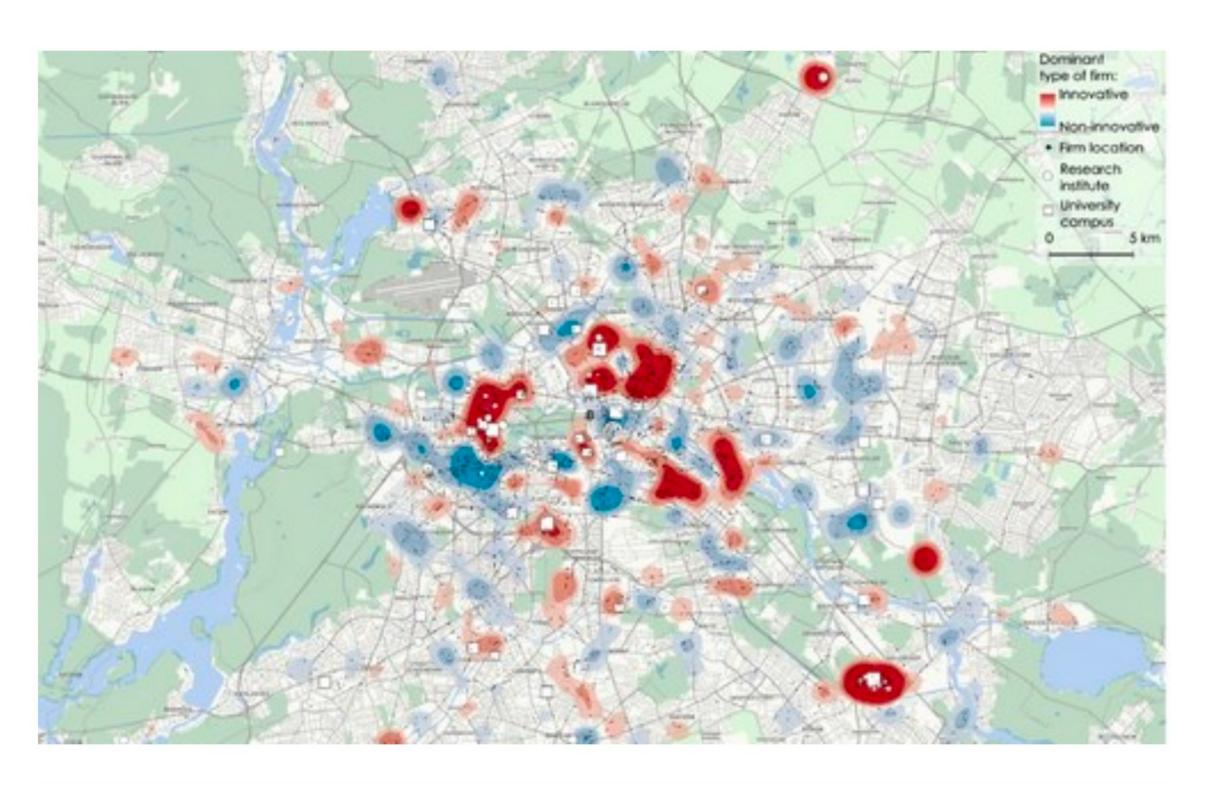


Knowledge exchange – particularly of tacit - knowledge may be very spatially constrained

Knowledge climates may differ significantly over very short distances in an urban setting

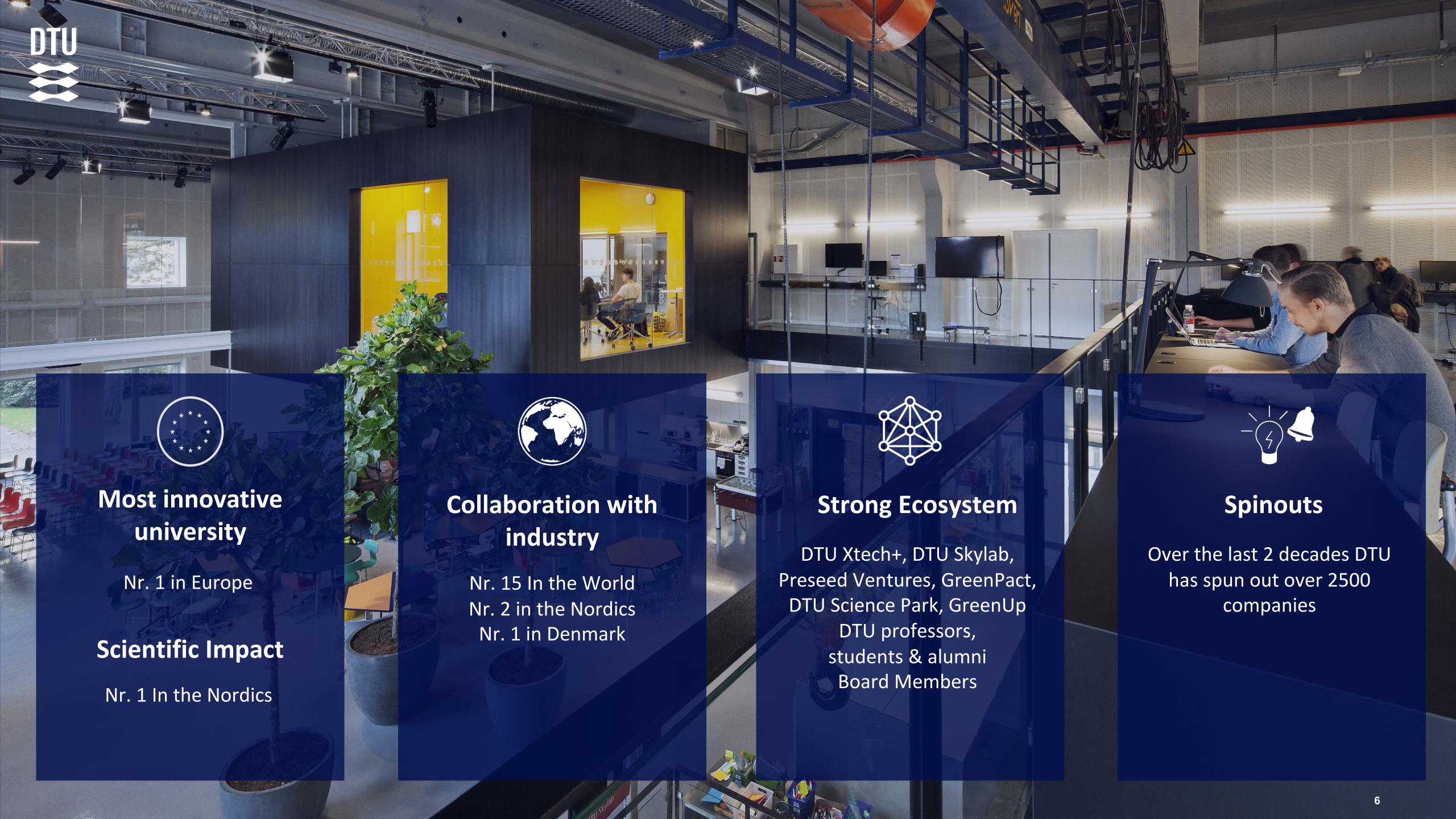
Berlin Innovation Panel data suggests proximity to research institutes is also critical:

'The innovation dynamics in a firm's neighborhood in the recent past (defined as changes in innovation activities in other firms located within a 250 m radius) do show some relation to current innovation in firms'.



... micro-geographies of innovation may also matter again raising issues about the optimal spatial scale of innovation policy...

Source: Rammer, C., Kinne, J., & Blind, K. (2020). Knowledge proximity and firm innovation: A microgeographic analysis for Berlin [Article]. *Urban Studies*, 57(5), 996-1014.





### Outline

Background: Global perspectives and local perspective

#### Learnings from the startup word?

- Why do corporate innovation fail vs. why startups fail

Leading and organizing for innovation

#### Iværksætteri på DTU gennem to årtier – indsats, resultater og samfundsøkonomiske effekter

Udarbejdet for DTU, juni 2018



IRISGROUP

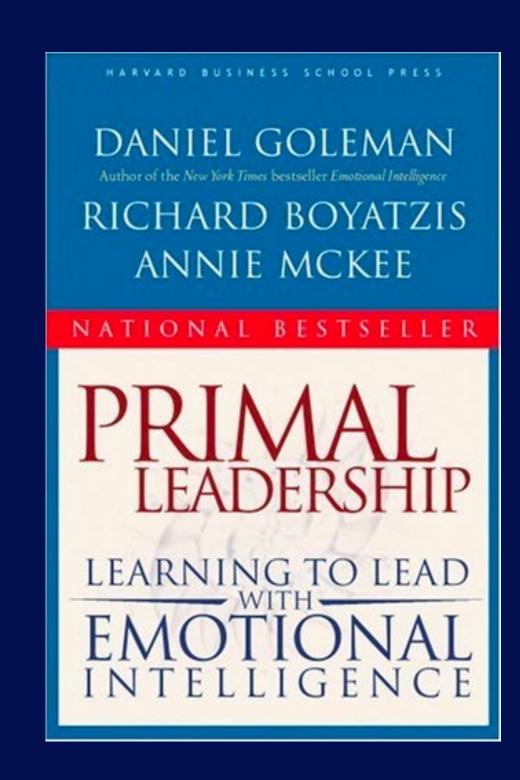
Early engagement of mentors, advisory boards and professional Board of Directors have significant positive impact on the company growth



## Leadership styles

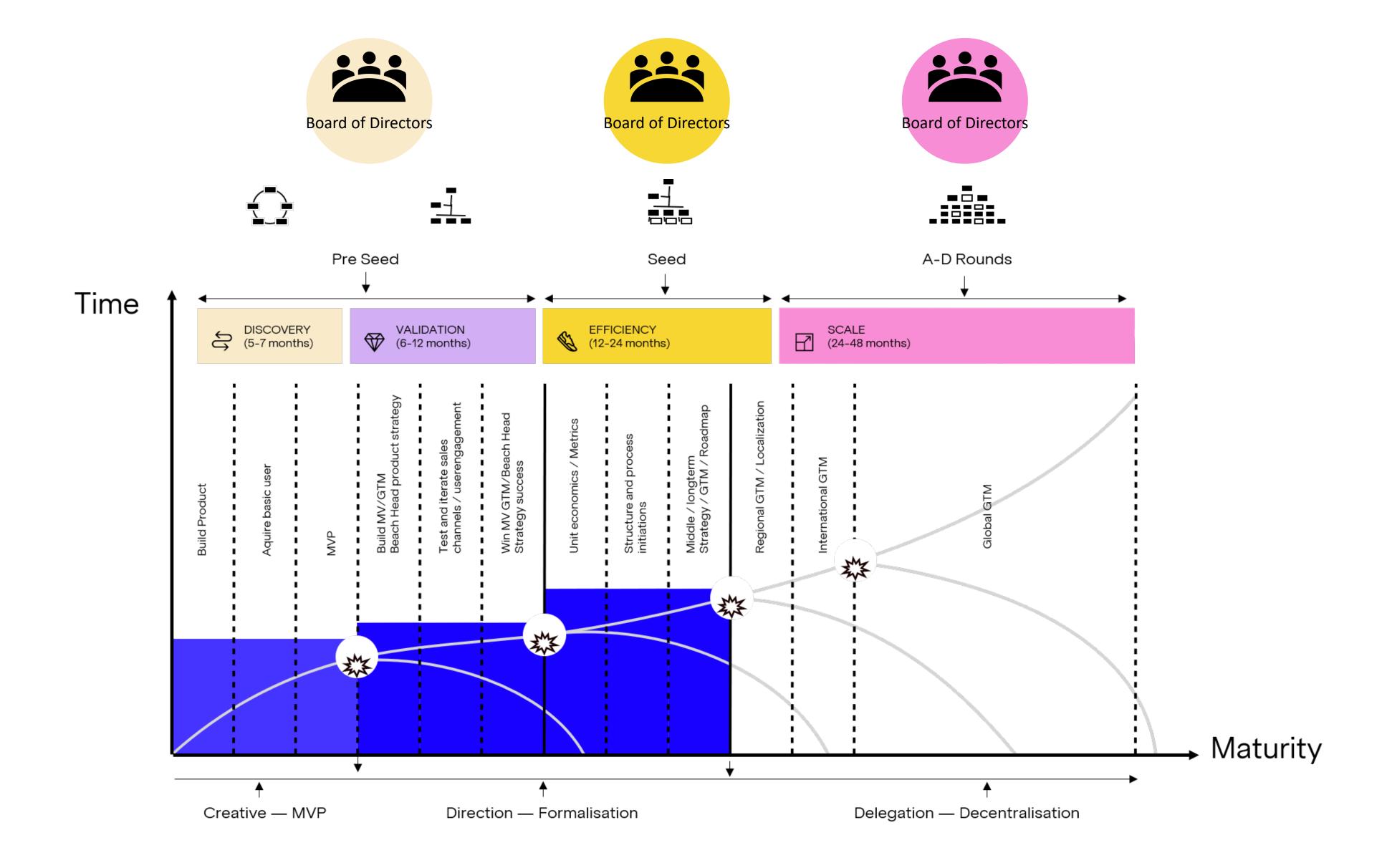
#### Inspiration from Daniel Golemann's research in Emotional intelligent

Dissonant	Resonant	
Reaching goals KPI / Must-Win-Battles Pacesetting Commanding "Dictatoric"	Visionary Low need of control Less detailed-oriented Drives teamwork – focus on strengths Inspires loyalty "Democratic"	
Short term (3-6 months):	Short term (3-6 months):	
Good results	Little results	
Long term:	Long term:	
Status quo	Greater results	



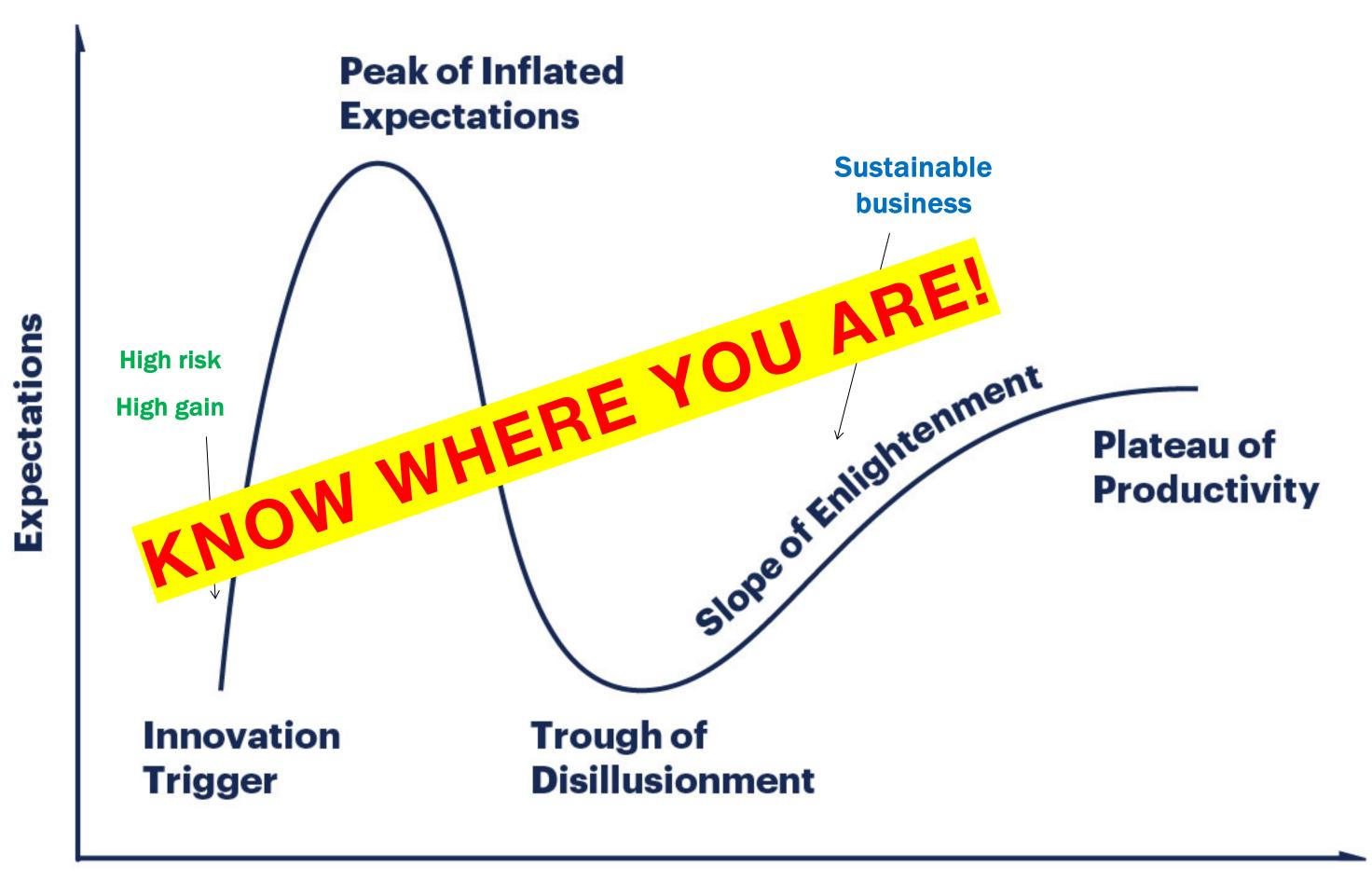
#### **PreSeed Ventures**

### The venture capitalist's view



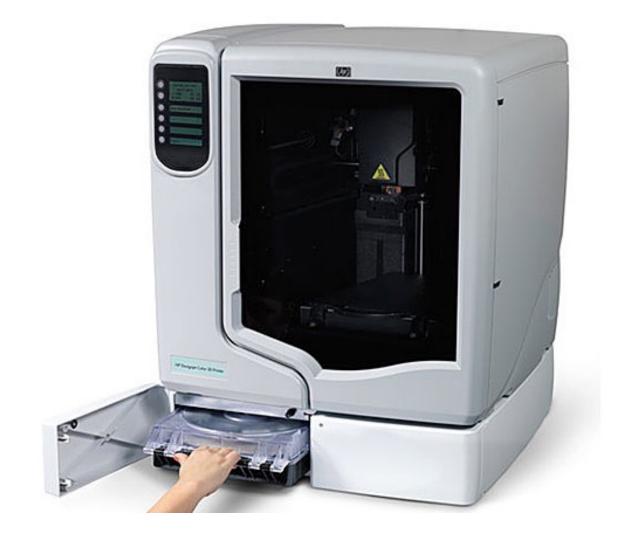


### Hyped startup or Steady industry?



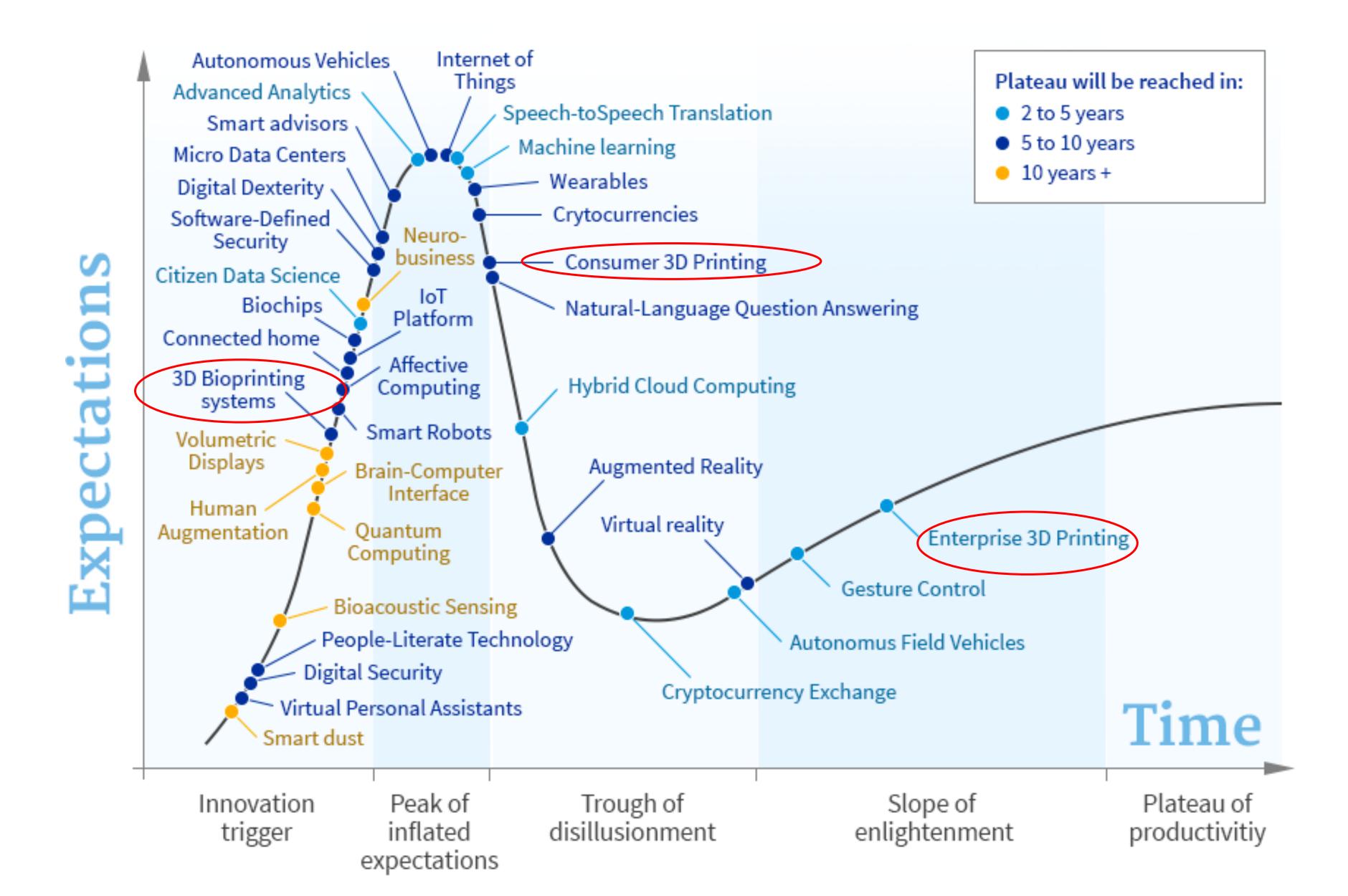
#### Where are we on the Hype curve?

Example: 3D printing











### Top reasons why innovation fails?

#### Opposite sides of the spectrum...

Corporate innovation	Startups	
<ol> <li>Not thinking long term</li> <li>Lack of innovative mindset</li> <li>Fear of failing</li> <li>Lack of innovation structure and processess</li> <li>Not understanding your customer's need (disruptive breakthroughs)</li> <li>Lack of team motivation</li> <li>Lack of budget</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>No market need</li> <li>Running out of cash</li> <li>Not the right team</li> <li>Get outcompeted</li> <li>Wrong pricing</li> <li>Un-friendly product</li> <li>Product without a business model</li> </ol>	



### When innovation succeeds

Corporate innovation	Startups (high-tech)		
<ol> <li>Degree of uniqueness of the product in comparison to its alternatives.</li> <li>Innovators knowledge of the market and feeling of future market developments.</li> <li>Product's synergy with firm's overall technological and manufacturing resources</li> <li>Timing of introduction into the market</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Target a large market</li> <li>Focus on one product</li> <li>Build a patent portfolio</li> <li>Create a complementary team</li> <li>Keep inventor involved</li> <li>Exploit social ties to raise money</li> <li>Tap public funds</li> </ol>		



### Outline

Background: Global perspectives and local perspective

Learnings from the startup word?

- Why do corporate innovation fail vs. why startups fail

Leading and organizing for innovation



Psychological Safety

Team members feel safe to take risks and be vulnerable in front of each other.

2 Dependability

Team members get things done on time and meet Google's high bar for excellence.

3 Structure & Clarity

Team members have clear roles, plans, and goals.

Meaning

Work is personally important to team members.

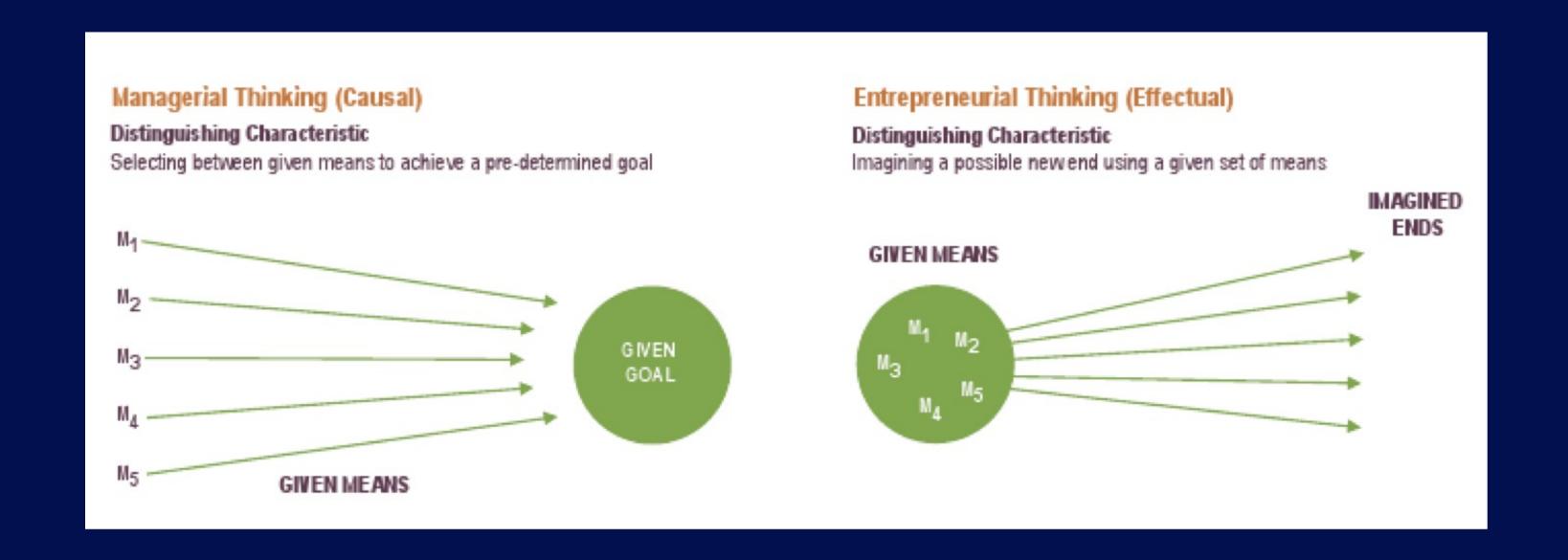
Impact
Team members think their work matters and creates change.

re: Work



# Theory of effectuation

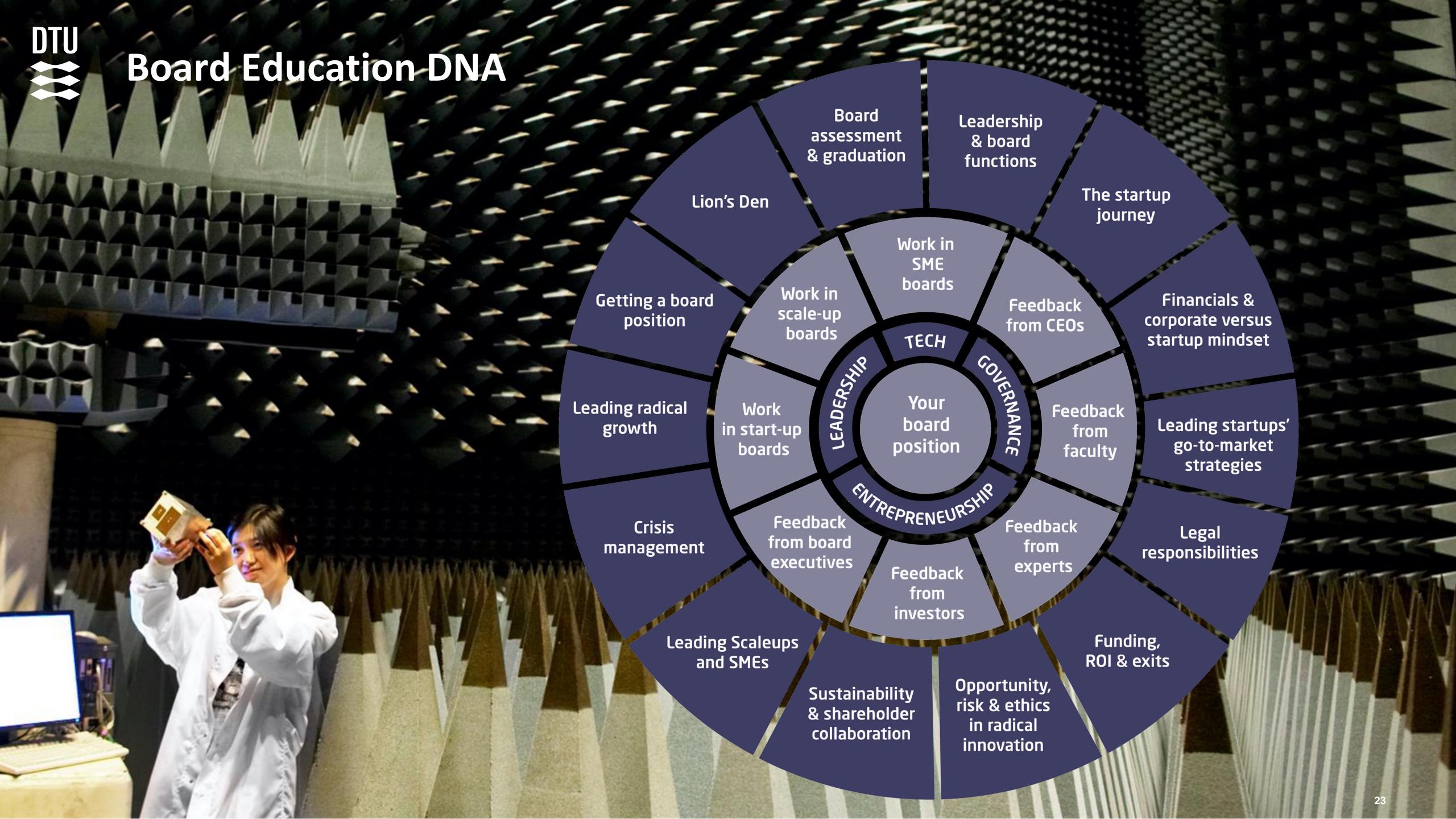
### Corporate managerial vs. entrepreneurial thinking





### Organizing for innovation

Open innovation	Internal Corporate Venturing	Venture capital as a Service	Partnerships and collaboration	Others
Involving the external ecosystem in the innovation process. Opening the product development funnel	Setting up internal venture units to invest in new startups and external innovations	Partnering with an external Venture Capital firm to drive startup investments in areas of strategic interest to the corporation	Partnering with other organizations for co-creation and co-innovation. Secondary benefits in branding, talent recruitment, thought-leadership	Innovation labs and garages





### Faculty, industry fellows, and mentors



# Thank you!