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STRC: STRUCTURED TRUST AND RESPONSIBILITY CHAIN WHITE PAPER V4.0

**A RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARY AND
CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK
FOR REUSABLE EVIDENCE ECOSYSTEMS**

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DEFINITION STATEMENT

Governing Responsibility Through Continuity

The Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain (STRC) is a Responsibility Boundary and Continuity Governance Framework operating within the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture.

The framework establishes governance conditions through which evidence continuity disruptions, responsibility allocation, corrective actions, and governance recovery pathways may be managed across reusable evidence ecosystems.

STRC is built upon five foundational components:

- PADV establishes how participation becomes verifiable evidence.
- NTCC establishes how evidence can be accumulated.
- InstiTech establishes how evidence can be preserved and governed.
- ICTF establishes how Evidence Maturity can be represented.
- EIV-Layer establishes how evidence can be reused across governance environments.

Operating above these components, STRC establishes a structured framework through which responsibility boundaries and continuity governance may be represented and managed.

The framework does not determine intent.

The framework does not determine morality.

The framework does not determine legal liability.

The framework does not determine regulatory compliance.

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The framework does not determine procurement eligibility.

The framework does not determine financing outcomes.

The framework does not determine organizational trustworthiness.

Instead, STRC governs responsibility allocation, continuity disruptions, corrective pathways, and continuity restoration mechanisms supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

Accordingly, STRC is defined as:

A framework for governing responsibility boundaries and continuity restoration through structured evidence governance mechanisms.

VALUE STATEMENT

Trust Requires Continuity Governance

Evidence may be generated.

Evidence may be accumulated.

Evidence may be preserved.

Evidence may be classified.

Evidence may be reused.

However, reusable evidence ecosystems require governance mechanisms capable of managing continuity disruptions, responsibility allocation, corrective actions, and continuity restoration.

Without continuity governance:

- Evidence may become fragmented.
- Evidence integrity may become difficult to interpret.
- Responsibility boundaries may become unclear.
- Evidence reuse may become increasingly contested.

STRC addresses this challenge by introducing a structured governance architecture through which continuity conditions may be protected, restored, and continuously governed.

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Within the broader architecture:

- PADV establishes how participation becomes evidence.
- NTCC establishes how evidence accumulates.
- InstiTech establishes how evidence is preserved.
- ICTF establishes how evidence maturity is represented.
- EIV-Layer establishes how evidence is reused.
- STRC establishes how continuity disruptions are governed and restored.

The objective of STRC is not to punish participants.

The objective of STRC is to restore continuity conditions supporting evidence integrity.

Accordingly:

Trust is not restored through declarations.

Trust is restored through demonstrated continuity over time.

ABSTRACT

The Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain (STRC) introduce a standardized governance framework for responsibility allocation, continuity governance, corrective actions, and continuity restoration across reusable evidence ecosystems.

Operating within the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture, STRC provides a structured mechanism through which continuity disruptions may be identified, governed, corrected, and restored over time.

The framework is built upon five foundational layers.

Within this architecture:

- PADV establishes how participation becomes verifiable evidence.
- NTCC establishes how evidence can be accumulated.
- InstiTech establishes how evidence can be preserved and governed.

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- ICTF establishes how Evidence Maturity can be represented.
- EIV-Layer establishes how evidence can be reused across governance environments.

As evidence becomes reusable across governance ecosystems, new challenges emerge regarding responsibility allocation, continuity preservation, evidence integrity, corrective actions, and governance recovery.

STRC addresses these challenges through a structured Continuity Governance Model.

The framework introduces:

- Responsibility Boundary Architecture
- Continuity Disruption Classification
- MCP Governance Escalation
- Corrective Governance Pathways
- Continuity Restoration Mechanisms

The framework does not function as a legal determination mechanism.

The framework does not function as a regulatory enforcement system.

The framework does not determine organizational trustworthiness.

Instead, STRC provides a structured governance architecture through which evidence continuity may be protected, restored, and governed over time.

Within the broader architecture, STRC functions as the Continuity Governance Layer supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

PREFACE

From Evidence Reuse to Continuity Governance

Over the past decade, organizations have increasingly invested in systems designed to generate, preserve, classify, and exchange evidence across governance environments.

As sustainability reporting, supply chain management, assurance activities, procurement ecosystems, and institutional governance continue to evolve, evidence is becoming increasingly reusable across organizational boundaries.

PADV established how participation becomes verifiable evidence.

NTCC established how evidence can be accumulated.

InstiTech established how evidence can be preserved and governed.

ICTF established how Evidence Maturity can be represented.

EIV-Layer established how evidence may be reused across governance environments.

Together, these components provide the foundation for reusable evidence ecosystems.

However, the existence of reusable evidence introduces a new challenge.

Evidence may be generated.

Evidence may be accumulated.

Evidence may be preserved.

Evidence may be reused.

Yet responsibility remains difficult to define when continuity disruptions occur.

Questions emerge such as:

- Who generated the evidence?
- Who verified the evidence?
- Who preserved the evidence?
- Who reused the evidence?
- Who interpreted the evidence?
- Who is responsible when evidence continuity is disrupted?

A common governance framework is therefore required to establish responsibility boundaries and continuity governance conditions across reusable evidence ecosystems.

STRC was developed to address this need.

The framework introduces a structured Continuity Governance Model through which responsibility allocation, continuity disruptions, corrective actions, and continuity restoration may be represented and governed.

Rather than focusing on punishment, exclusion, or enforcement, STRC focuses on continuity restoration.

Within the broader architecture:

- PADV establishes how participation becomes evidence.
- NTCC establishes how evidence accumulates.
- InstiTech establishes how evidence is preserved.
- ICTF establishes how evidence maturity is represented.
- EIV-Layer establishes how evidence is reused.
- STRC establishes how continuity conditions are governed and restored.

Accordingly, STRC functions as the Continuity Governance Layer within the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture.

Its purpose is not to determine trust.

Its purpose is not to determine credibility.

Its purpose is not to assign blame.

Its purpose is to provide a structured framework through which continuity conditions supporting evidence integrity may be preserved, restored, and governed over time.

This document presents the principles, governance architecture, continuity disruption model, MCP escalation framework, corrective governance pathways, and continuity restoration mechanisms underlying the Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain.

CHAPTER 1: THE CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE CHALLENGE

Subtitle: Why Reusable Evidence Requires Continuity Governance

1.1 THE EMERGENCE OF REUSABLE EVIDENCE

Over the past decade, organizations have increasingly invested in systems designed to generate, preserve, classify, and exchange evidence across governance environments.

As sustainability reporting, supply chain management, assurance activities, procurement ecosystems, and institutional governance continue to evolve, evidence is becoming increasingly reusable beyond its original context.

Historically, evidence was often generated for a single purpose.

A sustainability report generated evidence for reporting.

A procurement process generated evidence for procurement.

An assurance engagement generated evidence for assurance.

A compliance review generated evidence for compliance.

These evidence assets were frequently created, verified, and stored independently.

As a result, organizations repeatedly generated similar evidence for different governance purposes.

Recent developments in evidence infrastructure have introduced a different possibility.

Rather than generating evidence separately for each governance environment, organizations may increasingly generate evidence once and reuse it across multiple governance environments.

This shift represents a fundamental transition in how evidence is produced, preserved, and utilized.

Within the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture, this principle is represented as:

Generate Once → Use Many Times

The emergence of reusable evidence creates new opportunities for efficiency, interoperability, and continuity.

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At the same time, it introduces new governance challenges that extend beyond evidence generation alone.

1.2 WHEN EVIDENCE MOVES, RESPONSIBILITY MOVES

The ability to reuse evidence across multiple governance environments fundamentally changes the nature of responsibility.

When evidence remains within a single organizational process, responsibility is often relatively clear.

The organization generating the evidence typically controls how the evidence is interpreted and applied.

However, reusable evidence ecosystems operate differently.

Evidence may be generated in one environment and reused in another.

Evidence may be interpreted by parties that did not generate the original evidence.

Evidence may support decisions beyond its original purpose.

As evidence moves across organizational and governance boundaries, responsibility becomes increasingly distributed.

Questions emerge such as:

- Who generated the evidence?
- Who verified the evidence?
- Who preserved the evidence?
- Who reused the evidence?
- Who interpreted the evidence?
- Who bears responsibility when continuity conditions are challenged?

These questions cannot be answered solely through evidence generation mechanisms.

They require governance mechanisms capable of defining responsibility boundaries across reusable evidence ecosystems.

1.3 THE LIMITATIONS OF EVIDENCE ALONE

Evidence is necessary.

However, evidence alone is not sufficient to govern reusable evidence ecosystems.

Evidence may demonstrate that an activity occurred.

Evidence may support continuity.

Evidence may support maturity classification.

Evidence may support interoperability.

Yet evidence alone does not establish responsibility.

The existence of evidence does not automatically determine:

- **Intent** • **Motivation** • **Organizational conduct** • **Regulatory interpretation** • **Procurement suitability** • **Financing eligibility** • **Decision outcomes**

These determinations remain the responsibility of evidence users and decision-making parties.

Accordingly, reusable evidence ecosystems require governance structures that distinguish evidence occurrence from evidence interpretation and decision-making.

Without such distinctions, responsibility boundaries become increasingly difficult to define.

1.4 THE CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE GAP

The emergence of reusable evidence ecosystems reveals a governance gap.

Existing evidence frameworks primarily focus on:

- **Evidence Generation** • **Evidence Accumulation** • **Evidence Preservation** • **Evidence Classification** • **Evidence Reuse**

However, fewer frameworks address how continuity disruptions should be governed when evidence is reused across multiple governance environments.

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Examples include:

- **Inconsistent evidence records** • **Verification disputes** • **Documentation deficiencies** • **Repeated governance anomalies** • **Evidence integrity concerns**

Without structured governance mechanisms, organizations may struggle to determine how such situations should be addressed.

A common governance architecture is therefore required to support continuity restoration and responsibility allocation.

1.5 INTRODUCING THE STRUCTURED TRUST AND RESPONSIBILITY CHAIN

The Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain (STRC) was developed to address the continuity governance challenges emerging within reusable evidence ecosystems.

Rather than functioning as a compliance framework, enforcement mechanism, or regulatory system, STRC establishes governance conditions supporting continuity restoration.

The framework introduces:

- **Responsibility Boundary Architecture** • **Continuity Disruption Classification** • **MCP Governance Escalation** • **Corrective Governance Pathways** • **Continuity Restoration Mechanisms**

Together, these components provide a structured governance model through which evidence continuity may be protected, restored, and governed over time.

Accordingly, STRC functions as the Continuity Governance Layer within the broader PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture.

FIGURE 1.1
THE CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE CHALLENGE

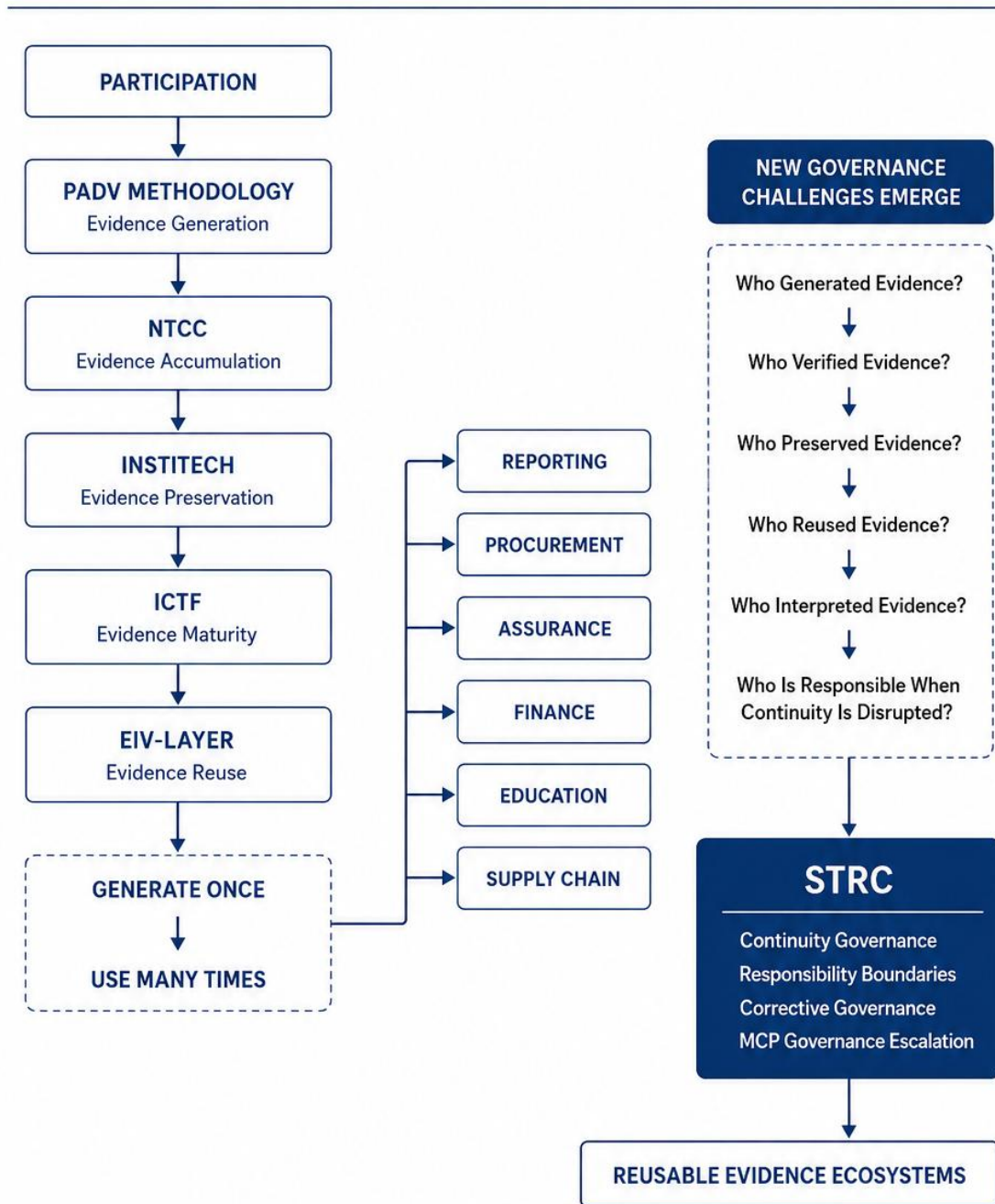


Figure 1.1. The Continuity Governance Challenge

As evidence evolves from generation, accumulation, preservation, maturity representation, and reuse, evidence increasingly moves across organizational and governance boundaries. While reusable evidence ecosystems create new opportunities for interoperability and efficiency, they also introduce new challenges regarding responsibility allocation, continuity disruptions, corrective actions, and governance recovery. STRC addresses these challenges by establishing a

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Continuity Governance Layer supporting responsibility boundaries and continuity restoration across reusable evidence ecosystems.

1.6 SUMMARY

Reusable evidence ecosystems create new opportunities for interoperability, efficiency, and long-term evidence continuity.

At the same time, reusable evidence introduces new governance challenges associated with responsibility allocation, continuity disruptions, corrective actions, and continuity restoration.

These challenges cannot be addressed through evidence generation alone.

They require structured governance mechanisms capable of defining responsibility boundaries and supporting continuity governance across reusable evidence ecosystems.

STRC was developed to fulfill this role.

The following chapter introduces the Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain and the responsibility architecture underlying the framework.

CHAPTER 2: THE STRUCTURED TRUST AND RESPONSIBILITY CHAIN

Subtitle: Mapping Responsibility Across the Evidence Lifecycle

2.1 THE EVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

Traditional evidence systems often operate within isolated organizational environments.

Evidence is generated.

Evidence is reviewed.

Evidence is used.

Responsibility is generally confined within a single organizational boundary.

Reusable evidence ecosystems operate differently.

Evidence may move across organizations.

Evidence may move across governance environments.

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Evidence may be interpreted by parties that did not generate the original evidence.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, responsibility becomes increasingly distributed.

Accordingly, reusable evidence ecosystems require a structured mechanism capable of defining how responsibility moves alongside evidence.

STRC introduces this mechanism through the Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain.

2.2 THE RESPONSIBILITY CHAIN

Within STRC, responsibility is represented as a sequence of interconnected governance roles.

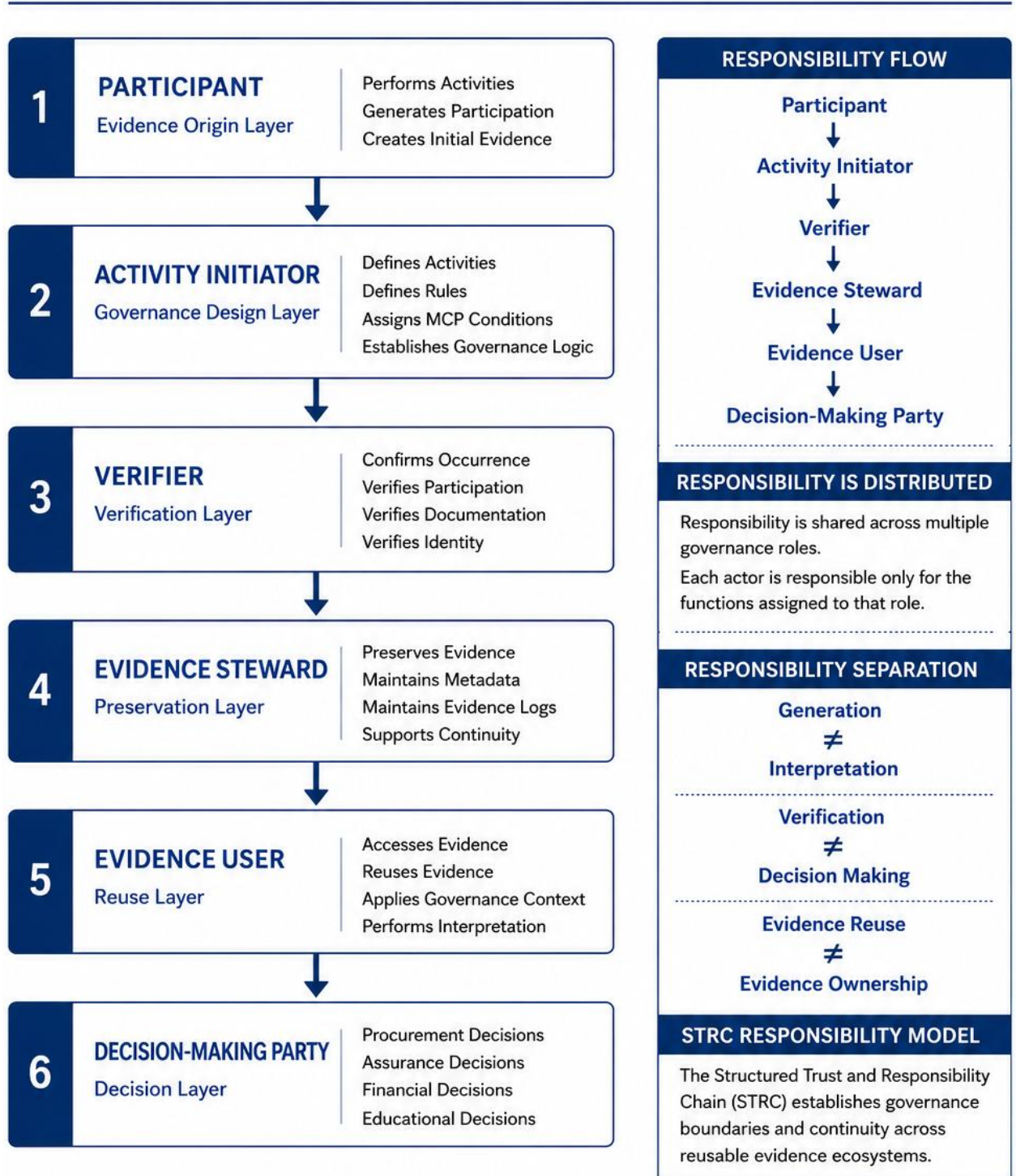
Each role performs a distinct function supporting evidence continuity across governance environments.

Responsibility is therefore distributed rather than centralized.

Figure 2.1. The Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain

The Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain (STRC) distributes responsibility across the lifecycle of reusable evidence. Rather than assigning responsibility to a single actor, the framework separates responsibilities among Participants, Activity Initiators, Verifiers, Evidence Stewards, Evidence Users, and Decision-Making Parties. This separation establishes clear governance boundaries supporting evidence continuity, evidence reuse, and responsibility allocation across reusable evidence ecosystems.

**FIGURE 2.1
THE STRUCTURED TRUST
AND RESPONSIBILITY CHAIN**



2.3 PARTICIPANTS

Function

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Evidence Origin Layer

Participants perform activities that generate evidence through governed participation processes.

Examples include:

- **Employees • Students • Suppliers • Customers • Volunteers • Community**

Participants

Participants are responsible for activity execution.

Participants are not responsible for downstream interpretation of evidence.

2.4 ACTIVITY INITIATORS

Function

Governance Design Layer

Activity Initiators establish the conditions under which participation activities occur.

Examples include:

- **Enterprises • Institutions • Program Operators • Event Organizers • Supply Chain**

Coordinators

Activity Initiators are responsible for:

- **Activity Design • Participation Rules • Governance Conditions • MCP Assignment**

They are not responsible for how evidence is ultimately interpreted by external users.

2.5 VERIFIERS

Function

Evidence Verification Layer

Verifiers confirm whether activities satisfy verification requirements established by governance conditions.

Verification may include:

- **Identity Verification • Activity Verification • Participation Verification • Documentation Verification**

Verifiers confirm occurrence.

Verifiers do not determine future suitability or decision outcomes.

2.6 EVIDENCE STEWARDS

Function

Evidence Preservation Layer

Evidence Stewards preserve and govern evidence after verification.

Within the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech architecture, stewardship functions may include:

- **Evidence Preservation • Metadata Management • Evidence Logging • Continuity Maintenance • Reference Management**

Evidence Stewards preserve evidence.

They do not determine how evidence should be interpreted.

2.7 EVIDENCE USERS

Function

Evidence Reuse Layer

Evidence Users access evidence for specific governance purposes.

Examples include:

- **Procurement Teams • Sustainability Teams • Assurance Providers • Financial Institutions • Educational Institutions • Supply Chain Participants**

Evidence Users determine how evidence may be applied within their own governance environments.

Responsibility for interpretation resides with the Evidence User.

2.8 DECISION-MAKING PARTIES

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Function

Decision Layer

Decision-Making Parties utilize evidence as one input supporting broader governance decisions.

Examples may include:

- **Procurement Committees • Auditors • Investors • Financial Institutions • Regulatory Bodies • Educational Institutions**

Evidence informs decisions.

Evidence does not determine decisions.

Decision outcomes remain the responsibility of decision-makers.

2.9 RESPONSIBILITY IS DISTRIBUTED

A common misconception is that responsibility follows evidence ownership.

Reusable evidence ecosystems operate differently.

Responsibility is distributed across multiple governance roles.

Each participant within the responsibility chain is accountable only for the responsibilities assigned to that role.

The framework therefore distinguishes:

Evidence Generation → Evidence Verification → Evidence Preservation → Evidence Reuse → Evidence Interpretation → Decision Making

Each stage carries distinct responsibilities.

No single actor assumes responsibility for the entire lifecycle.

2.10 THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY SEPARATION

STRC is founded upon a Responsibility Separation Principle.

The principle states that:

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Generation is not Interpretation**Verification is not Decision Making****Evidence Reuse is not Evidence Ownership**

Accordingly:

Responsibility should remain attached to governance functions rather than evidence itself.

This principle establishes the foundation for continuity governance across reusable evidence ecosystems.

2.11 SUMMARY

Reusable evidence ecosystems require responsibility structures capable of supporting evidence movement across governance environments.

STRC addresses this need through the Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain.

The framework distributes responsibility across Participants, Activity Initiators, Verifiers, Evidence Stewards, Evidence Users, and Decision-Making Parties.

Through Responsibility Separation, STRC establishes the governance foundation supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

CHAPTER 3: RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARIES**Subtitle: Occurrence, Interpretation, and Decision-Making****3.1 WHY RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARIES MATTER**

Reusable evidence ecosystems enable evidence to move beyond its original operational environment.

Evidence may be generated in one context and reused in another.

Evidence may be interpreted by parties that did not participate in the original activity.

Evidence may support decisions that extend beyond the original purpose of evidence generation.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, the distinction between evidence and responsibility becomes increasingly important.

Without clearly defined responsibility boundaries, governance roles may become confused, and accountability may become difficult to establish.

Accordingly, STRC introduces a Responsibility Boundary Model that distinguishes evidence occurrence, evidence interpretation, and decision-making.

3.2 THE RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARY PRINCIPLE

The foundation of STRC is the Responsibility Boundary Principle.

The principle recognizes that evidence-related activities occur at different governance layers.

These layers should not be treated as equivalent.

Within STRC:

Occurrence ≠ Interpretation ≠ Decision

Each layer represents a distinct governance function.

Each layer carries distinct responsibilities.

Each layer operates under different governance conditions.

The framework therefore separates responsibility according to governance function rather than evidence ownership.

3.3 OCCURRENCE

Function

Evidence Formation Layer

Occurrence refers to the execution of an activity according to established governance conditions.

Examples include:

- **Participation in an approved activity**
- **Completion of a defined task**
- **Submission of required documentation**
- **Verification of participation conditions**

Occurrence addresses a single question:

Did the activity occur according to the defined process?

Within the PADV architecture, occurrence forms the basis of evidence generation.

The framework confirms occurrence through governed participation and verification mechanisms.

3.4 INTERPRETATION

Function

Evidence Reuse Layer

Interpretation occurs when evidence is examined, analyzed, or applied within a governance environment.

Interpretation may vary according to context.

The same evidence may be interpreted differently by different evidence users.

Examples include:

- **Procurement assessments**
- **Sustainability reporting**
- **Assurance reviews**
- **Financial evaluations**
- **Educational evaluations**

Interpretation addresses the question:

What does the evidence mean?

Interpretation is not determined by the framework.

Interpretation remains the responsibility of evidence users.

3.5 DECISION-MAKING

Function

Governance Action Layer

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Decision-making occurs when interpreted evidence contributes to a governance action or institutional outcome.

Examples include:

- **Supplier selection** • **Procurement approval** • **Financing decisions** • **Assurance conclusions** • **Educational recognition**

Decision-making addresses the question:

What action should be taken?

The framework does not determine decisions.

Decisions remain the responsibility of decision-making parties.

3.6 THE LIMITS OF STRC

A common misconception is that evidence frameworks determine organizational trustworthiness.

STRC does not perform this function.

The framework does not determine:

- **Intent** • **Motivation** • **Moral conduct** • **Legal liability** • **Regulatory compliance** • **Procurement eligibility** • **Investment suitability** • **Future organizational performance**

Instead, STRC governs responsibility boundaries associated with evidence continuity and evidence governance.

Accordingly:

The framework confirms occurrence.

The framework does not determine intent.

This distinction forms one of the most important governance principles underlying reusable evidence ecosystems.

3.7 WHY OCCURRENCE DOES NOT EQUAL INTENT

Evidence may demonstrate that an activity occurred.

Evidence cannot always determine why an activity occurred.

Intent exists beyond the scope of evidence continuity governance.

For example:

An organization may complete a sustainability activity.

The framework may verify that the activity occurred.

However, the framework does not determine:

- **Organizational motives**
- **Strategic objectives**
- **Ethical considerations**
- **Future actions**

These determinations remain external to the responsibility boundaries established by STRC.

Accordingly, occurrence should not be interpreted as intent.

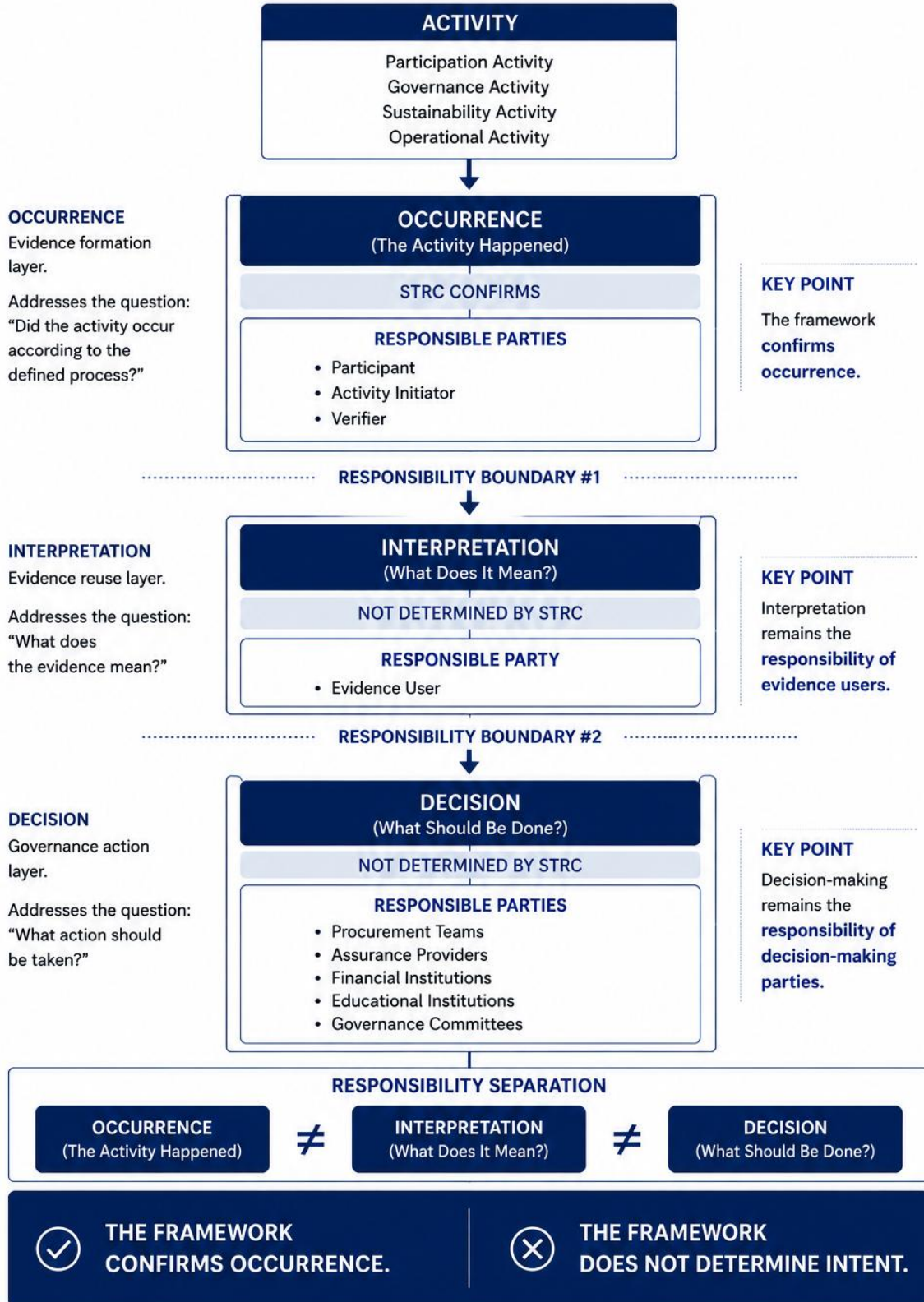
3.8 RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARY MODEL

The Responsibility Boundary Model separates governance responsibilities across three distinct layers.

Figure 3.1. Responsibility Boundary Model

The Responsibility Boundary Model separates evidence-related responsibilities into three distinct governance layers: Occurrence, Interpretation, and Decision-Making. STRC confirms whether an activity occurred according to established governance conditions, while interpretation remains the responsibility of evidence users and decision-making remains the responsibility of decision-making parties. This separation establishes clear governance boundaries supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

FIGURE 3.1 RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARY MODEL



The model establishes clear governance boundaries supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

3.9 SUMMARY

Reusable evidence ecosystems require responsibility boundaries capable of distinguishing evidence formation, evidence interpretation, and decision-making.

STRC addresses this need through the Responsibility Boundary Principle.

Within the framework:

- Occurrence confirms that an activity happened.
- Interpretation determines what the evidence means.
- Decision-making determines what actions should be taken.

Accordingly, STRC confirms occurrence while leaving interpretation and decision-making to evidence users and decision-making parties.

This distinction forms the foundation of continuity governance across reusable evidence ecosystems.

CHAPTER 4: RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION ACROSS THE ARCHITECTURE

Subtitle: From Evidence Generation to Evidence Use

4.1 RESPONSIBILITY ACROSS THE EVIDENCE LIFECYCLE

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture establishes a structured pathway through which participation becomes evidence, evidence becomes continuity, continuity becomes maturity, and maturity becomes reusable across governance environments.

Each layer performs a distinct governance function.

As evidence moves through the architecture, responsibilities also evolve.

Accordingly, responsibility should not be viewed as a single governance obligation.

Instead, responsibility should be understood as a distributed governance structure spanning multiple evidence lifecycle stages.

STRC introduces a Responsibility Allocation Model that maps responsibilities across each architectural layer.

4.2 PADV

Evidence Generation Layer

PADV establishes how participation activities become verifiable evidence.

The framework governs:

- Participation Activities
- Verification Conditions
- Proof Record Formation
- Evidence Creation

Within PADV, responsibility focuses on evidence generation.

Key responsibilities include:

- Activity Execution
- Participation Verification
- Activity Documentation
- Proof Record Creation

PADV addresses the question:

Did the activity occur according to the defined process?

The layer does not determine evidence meaning or future decisions.

4.3 NTCC

Evidence Accumulation Layer

NTCC establishes how evidence may be accumulated through repeated participation activities.

The framework governs:

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- NTCC Accumulation
- Continuity Formation
- Participation Persistence
- Evidence Growth

Within NTCC, responsibility focuses on evidence accumulation.

Key responsibilities include:

- Continuity Maintenance
- Participation Persistence
- Accumulation Integrity
- Historical Evidence Preservation

NTCC addresses the question:

How much evidence continuity has been accumulated?

The layer does not determine organizational quality or suitability.

4.4 INSTITECH

Evidence Preservation Layer

InstiTech establishes the infrastructure through which evidence is preserved and governed.

The framework governs:

- Evidence Preservation
- Metadata Management
- Evidence Logging
- Reference Continuity
- Governance Traceability

Within InstiTech, responsibility focuses on evidence stewardship.

Key responsibilities include:

- Evidence Preservation
- Metadata Integrity
- Traceability Maintenance
- Reference Governance

InstiTech addresses the question:

Can evidence remain accessible and traceable over time?

The layer does not determine evidence interpretation.

4.5 ICTF

Evidence Maturity Layer

ICTF establishes a standardized mechanism for representing Evidence Maturity.

The framework governs:

- Evidence Maturity Classification
- Tier Representation
- Continuity-Based Maturity Assessment
- Accumulated Evidence Visibility

Within ICTF, responsibility focuses on maturity representation.

Key responsibilities include:

- Tier Classification
- Maturity Representation
- Continuity Visibility

- Classification Governance

ICTF addresses the question:

What level of evidence maturity has been achieved?

The layer does not determine organizational trustworthiness.

4.6 EIV-LAYER

Evidence Reuse Layer

EIV-Layer establishes how evidence may be reused across governance environments.

The framework governs:

- Evidence Exchange
- Evidence Reuse
- Evidence Interoperability
- Governance Reusability
- Evidence Documentation Packages

Within EIV-Layer, responsibility focuses on evidence accessibility and reusability.

Key responsibilities include:

- Evidence Exchange
- Metadata Portability
- Documentation Readiness
- Cross-Governance Reuse

EIV-Layer addresses the question:

How can evidence be reused across multiple governance environments?

The layer does not determine how evidence should be interpreted.

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4.7 STRC

Responsibility Governance Layer

STRC establishes governance mechanisms through which responsibilities are allocated across the architecture.

The framework governs:

- Responsibility Boundaries
- Continuity Disruptions
- MCP Governance Escalation
- Corrective Governance
- Continuity Restoration

Within STRC, responsibility focuses on governance allocation rather than evidence generation.

Key responsibilities include:

- Responsibility Separation
- Governance Escalation
- Continuity Governance
- Recovery Governance

STRC addresses the question:

Who is responsible when evidence moves across governance environments?

Unlike previous layers, STRC does not generate, accumulate, preserve, classify, or reuse evidence.

Instead, STRC governs responsibility associated with those activities.

4.8 RESPONSIBILITY EVOLUTION ACROSS THE ARCHITECTURE

As evidence moves through the architecture, responsibility evolves accordingly.

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The progression may be represented as:

Participation → Evidence Generation → Evidence Accumulation → Evidence Preservation → Evidence Maturity → Evidence Reuse → Responsibility Governance

Each layer adds a distinct governance function.

Together, these layers establish the conditions supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

4.9 THE ROLE OF STRC

STRC should not be interpreted as a replacement for previous architectural layers.

Instead, STRC operates above those layers.

The framework governs how responsibilities are allocated when evidence is generated, accumulated, preserved, classified, reused, interpreted, and applied.

Accordingly, STRC functions as the governance layer supporting continuity across the broader architecture.

4.10 SUMMARY

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV architecture establishes a structured pathway through which participation becomes reusable evidence.

Each layer performs a distinct governance function.

PADV governs Evidence Generation.

NTCC governs Evidence Accumulation.

InstiTech governs Evidence Preservation.

ICTF governs Evidence Maturity.

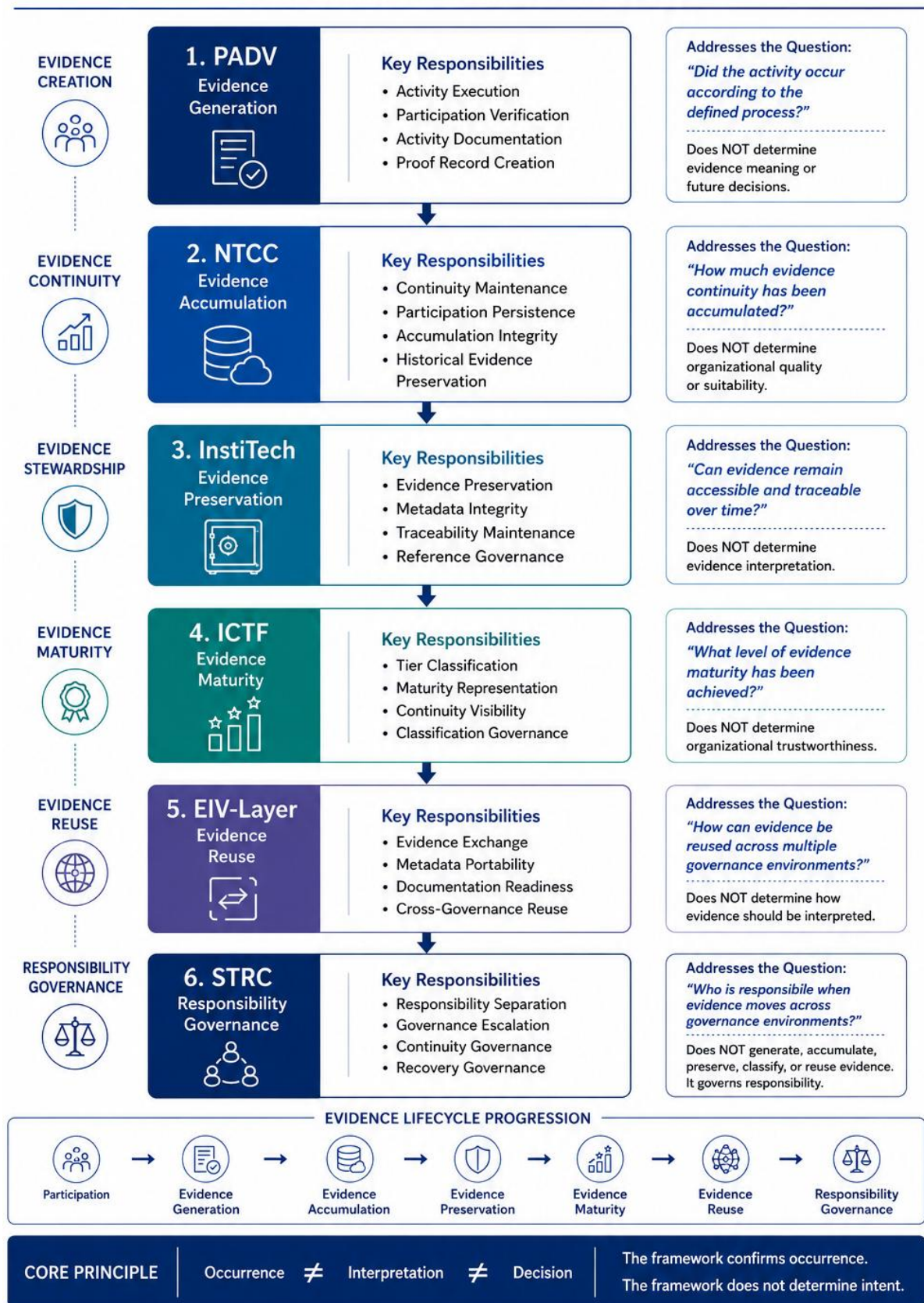
EIV-Layer governs Evidence Reuse.

STRC governs Responsibility Allocation and Continuity Governance.

Together, these layers establish the governance foundation supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

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FIGURE 4.1
RESPONSIBILITY ACROSS THE ARCHITECTURE
From Evidence Generation to Evidence Use



CHAPTER 5: CONTINUITY DISRUPTION FRAMEWORK

Subtitle: Identifying Governance Disruptions

5.1 WHY CONTINUITY DISRUPTIONS MATTER

Reusable evidence ecosystems depend upon continuity.

Evidence may be generated.

Evidence may be accumulated.

Evidence may be preserved.

Evidence may be classified.

Evidence may be reused.

However, the value of reusable evidence ecosystems depends upon the continuity conditions supporting these activities.

When continuity conditions are disrupted, evidence governance becomes increasingly difficult to maintain.

Accordingly, STRC introduces a Continuity Disruption Framework through which governance disruptions may be identified and classified.

The purpose of the framework is not to determine guilt.

The purpose of the framework is not to assign legal liability.

The purpose of the framework is to identify disruptions that may affect evidence continuity and governance integrity.

5.2 THE CONTINUITY DISRUPTION PRINCIPLE

STRC recognizes that not all governance disruptions carry the same level of significance.

Some disruptions may be isolated and easily corrected.

Others may indicate broader governance concerns.

Accordingly, continuity disruptions are classified into three escalation levels.

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The escalation model provides a structured mechanism through which governance responses may remain proportional to the severity of continuity disruption.

The model therefore distinguishes between:

Minor Continuity Disruption → Material Continuity Disruption → Severe Continuity Disruption

Each level triggers different continuity governance responses.

5.3 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION LEVEL 1

STRIKE 1

MINOR CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

Strike 1 represents a limited disruption affecting evidence continuity without materially compromising the overall governance structure.

Examples may include:

- **Incomplete supporting records • Documentation inconsistencies**
- **Verification omissions • Metadata deficiencies • Administrative irregularities**

These situations may affect evidence continuity but generally remain correctable through standard governance processes.

Strike 1 does not indicate systemic governance failure.

Instead, Strike 1 indicates that continuity conditions require attention and correction.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore continuity

before broader governance impacts emerge.

5.4 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION LEVEL 2

STRIKE 2

MATERIAL CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

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Strike 2 represents a governance disruption that materially affects evidence continuity and may indicate repeated governance weaknesses.

Examples may include:

- **Repeated documentation irregularities**
- **Repeated verification deficiencies**
- **Evidence inconsistencies across activities**
- **Failure to resolve prior governance issues**
- **Governance conditions affecting multiple evidence records**

These situations suggest elevated continuity risk and require stronger governance intervention.

Strike 2 does not necessarily imply intentional misconduct.

However, it indicates that continuity governance conditions have become materially impaired.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Prevent continuity degradation

from affecting broader evidence ecosystems.

5.5 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION LEVEL 3

STRIKE 3

SEVERE CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

Strike 3 represents a disruption that materially undermines confidence in continuity conditions supporting evidence governance.

Examples may include:

- **Systematic governance failures • Persistent unresolved disruptions**
- **Material evidence integrity concerns • Repeated escalation events**
- **Conduct substantially impairing continuity conditions**

Strike 3 represents the highest continuity disruption classification within STRC.

The classification does not constitute a legal determination.

The classification does not constitute a regulatory finding.

The classification constitutes a governance determination within the STRC framework.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore continuity conditions

through extended governance recovery.

5.6 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION IS NOT INTENT

One of the most important principles within STRC is the distinction between continuity disruption and intent.

A continuity disruption classification does not determine:

- **Motivation** • **Intent** • **Moral conduct** • **Legal liability** • **Regulatory compliance**

The framework evaluates continuity conditions.

The framework does not determine intent.

Accordingly:

Continuity Disruption ≠ Intent Determination

This distinction preserves the responsibility boundaries established in Chapter 3.

5.7 ESCALATION LOGIC

The Continuity Disruption Framework operates through progressive escalation.

The objective is not punishment.

The objective is continuity restoration.

The escalation pathway may therefore be represented as:

Strike 1 → Correction → Recovery

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Strike 2 → Governance Escalation → Recovery

Strike 3 → Extended Recovery → Continuity Restoration

The framework emphasizes governance recovery rather than exclusion.

5.8 RELATIONSHIP WITH MCP GOVERNANCE

Continuity disruption classifications do not directly determine penalties.

Instead, disruption classifications activate governance responses through the MCP Governance Escalation Framework described in Chapter 6.

Accordingly:

Chapter 5: Classifies Disruptions → Chapter 6: Determines Governance Response

This separation ensures that disruption identification remains independent from governance escalation decisions.

5.9 SUMMARY

Reusable evidence ecosystems require governance mechanisms capable of identifying continuity disruptions before broader evidence governance conditions are affected.

STRC addresses this need through a structured Continuity Disruption Framework.

The framework establishes three disruption classifications:

- **Strike 1: Minor Continuity Disruption**
- **Strike 2: Material Continuity Disruption**
- **Strike 3: Severe Continuity Disruption**

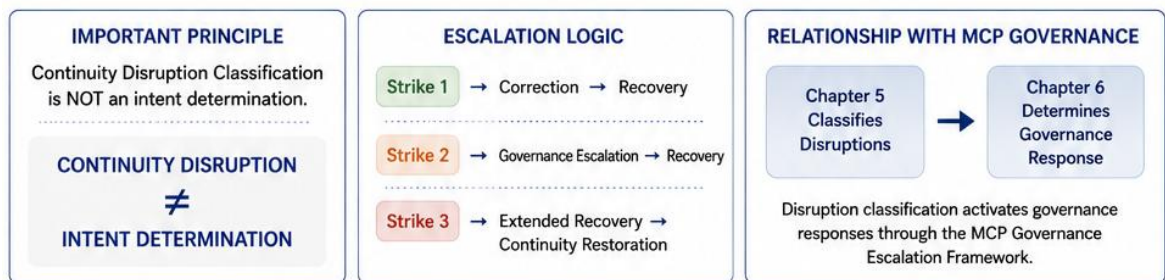
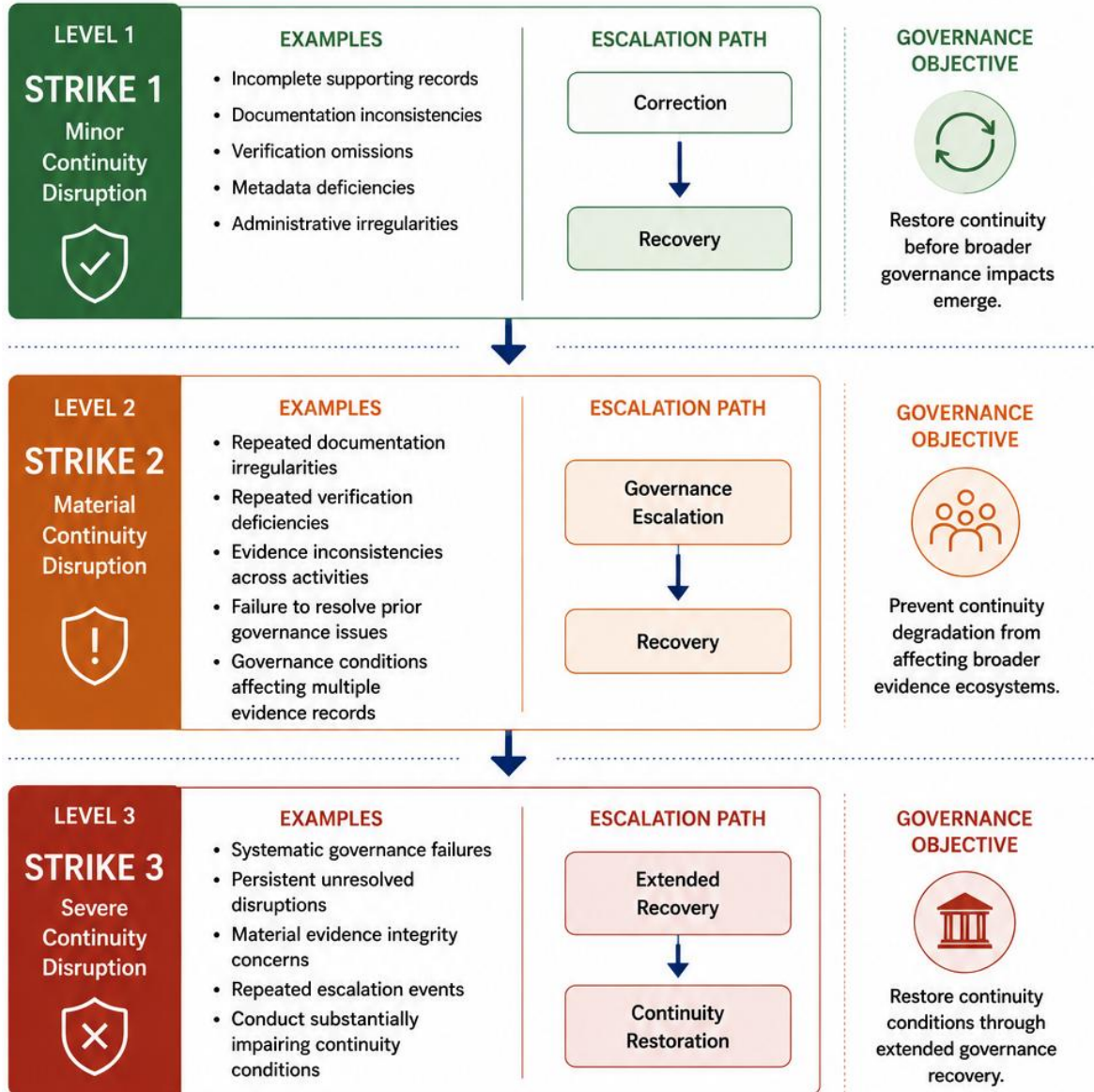
The purpose of these classifications is not punishment.

The purpose is to support continuity restoration through structured governance responses.

These responses are introduced in the following chapter through the MCP Governance Escalation Framework.

FIGURE 5.1 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION ESCALATION MODEL

Identifying Governance Disruptions



OBJECTIVE OF THE FRAMEWORK:
RESTORE CONTINUITY, NOT PUNISHMENT.

- ✓ Identify governance disruptions early
- ✓ Apply proportional governance responses
- ✓ Support continuity restoration

CHAPTER 6: MCP GOVERNANCE ESCALATION

Subtitle: Restoring Continuity Through Governance Cooling Periods

6.1 FROM DISRUPTION TO GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

Chapter 5 introduced the Continuity Disruption Framework.

The framework classifies governance disruptions into three escalation levels:

- **Strike 1** • **Strike 2** • **Strike 3**

However, disruption classifications alone do not determine governance outcomes.

A governance mechanism is required to translate disruption classifications into continuity restoration actions.

STRC addresses this need through MCP Governance Escalation.

Rather than relying upon exclusion, suspension, or permanent disqualification, the framework applies structured cooling periods designed to restore continuity conditions through demonstrated participation over time.

6.2 MCP AS A GOVERNANCE MECHANISM

Within the PADV architecture, Module Cooldown Periods (MCPs) establish minimum participation intervals governing how frequently activities may be repeated.

MCPs were originally designed to support participation integrity and evidence continuity.

STRC extends this concept by utilizing MCPs as continuity governance instruments.

Accordingly, governance disruptions do not automatically result in exclusion.

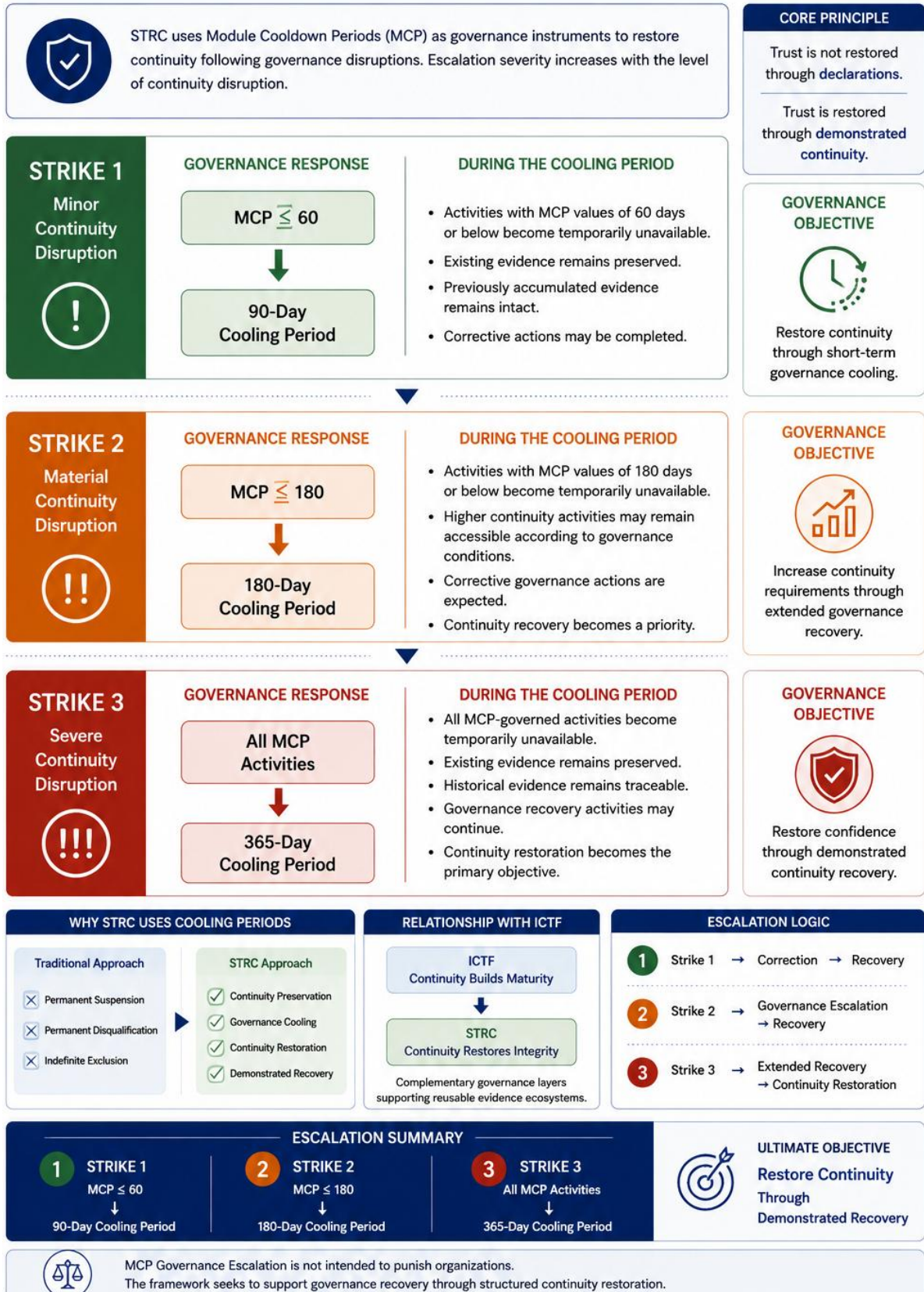
Instead, governance disruptions trigger temporary increases in continuity requirements through MCP Governance Escalation.

This approach preserves continuity while encouraging corrective participation behavior.

FIGURE 6.1

MCP GOVERNANCE ESCALATION MODEL

Restoring Continuity Through Governance Cooling Periods



6.3 STRIKE 1 GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

STRIKE 1

MINOR CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

A Strike 1 classification activates a limited governance response affecting short-cycle activities.

Governance Response:

MCP ≤ 60 → 90-Day Cooling Period

During the cooling period:

- **Activities with MCP values of 60 days or below become temporarily unavailable.**
- **Existing evidence remains preserved.**
- **Previously accumulated evidence remains intact.**
- **Corrective actions may be completed.**

The purpose of this response is to encourage continuity correction before broader governance impacts emerge.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore continuity

through short-term governance cooling.

6.4 STRIKE 2 GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

STRIKE 2

MATERIAL CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

A Strike 2 classification activates a broader governance response affecting short- and medium-cycle activities.

Governance Response:

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MCP ≤ 180 → 180-Day Cooling Period

During the cooling period:

- **Activities with MCP values of 180 days or below become temporarily unavailable.**
- **Higher continuity activities may remain accessible according to governance conditions.**
- **Corrective governance actions are expected.**
- **Continuity recovery becomes a priority.**

The purpose of this response is to prevent continuity degradation from affecting broader evidence ecosystems.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Increase continuity requirements

through extended governance recovery.

6.5 STRIKE 3 GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

STRIKE 3

SEVERE CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

A Strike 3 classification activates the highest governance response within STRC.

Governance Response:

All MCP Activities → 365-Day Cooling Period

During the cooling period:

- **All MCP-governed activities become temporarily unavailable.**
- **Existing evidence remains preserved.**
- **Historical evidence remains traceable.**
- **Governance recovery activities may continue.**

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- **Continuity restoration becomes the primary objective.**

The cooling period provides a structured pathway through which continuity conditions may be rebuilt over time.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore confidence through

demonstrated continuity recovery.

6.6 WHY STRC USES COOLING PERIODS

Traditional governance systems frequently rely upon exclusion mechanisms.

Examples include:

- **Permanent suspension** • **Permanent disqualification** • **Indefinite exclusion**

STRC adopts a different approach.

The framework recognizes that continuity is accumulated over time.

Accordingly, continuity should also be restored through time.

Governance cooling periods therefore serve as continuity restoration mechanisms rather than punitive measures.

This principle may be summarized as:

Trust is not restored

through declarations.

Trust is restored

through demonstrated continuity.

6.7 RELATIONSHIP WITH ICTF

ICTF establishes Evidence Maturity through accumulated continuity.

STRC extends this logic.

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When continuity disruptions occur, governance responses should likewise be continuity-based.

Accordingly:

ICTF-Continuity Builds Maturity → STRC-Continuity Restores Integrity

The two frameworks therefore operate as complementary governance layers.

6.8 MCP GOVERNANCE ESCALATION MODEL

The escalation pathway may be represented as:

STRIKE 1

MCP ≤ 60 → 90-Day Cooling Period

STRIKE 2

MCP ≤ 180 → 180-Day Cooling Period

STRIKE 3

All MCP Activities → 365-Day Cooling Period

The severity of governance response increases according to the severity of continuity disruption.

6.9 GOVERNANCE RECOVERY PRINCIPLE

MCP Governance Escalation is not intended to punish organizations.

The framework seeks to support governance recovery through structured continuity restoration.

The escalation model therefore follows a simple principle:

Disruption → Cooling Period → Recovery → Restored Continuity

This principle forms the foundation of STRC governance escalation.

6.10 SUMMARY

The MCP Governance Escalation Framework translates continuity disruption classifications into structured governance responses.

Rather than relying upon permanent exclusion mechanisms, the framework utilizes governance cooling periods proportional to disruption severity.

Strike 1 activates a 90-day cooling period for activities with MCP values of 60 days or below.

Strike 2 activates a 180-day cooling period for activities with MCP values of 180 days or below.

Strike 3 activates a 365-day cooling period affecting all MCP-governed activities.

Together, these governance responses support continuity restoration while preserving the integrity of reusable evidence ecosystems.

CHAPTER 7: CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE

Subtitle: Correction, Remediation, and Recovery

7.1 FROM ESCALATION TO RECOVERY

The Continuity Disruption Framework introduced in Chapter 5 establishes how governance disruptions may be classified.

The MCP Governance Escalation Framework introduced in Chapter 6 establishes how governance responses may be activated.

However, governance escalation alone does not restore continuity.

Continuity restoration requires structured corrective actions capable of addressing the underlying causes of governance disruption.

Accordingly, STRC introduces a Corrective Governance Framework through which continuity conditions may be restored following governance disruptions.

The objective of Corrective Governance is not punishment.

The objective is recovery.

7.2 THE CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE

STRC recognizes that governance disruptions may originate from different causes.

Some disruptions result from administrative deficiencies.

Others may involve verification failures.

Others may require participation-level remediation.

Accordingly, corrective actions should be proportional to the nature of the disruption.

STRC therefore introduces a four-level Corrective Governance Pathway.

The pathway progresses from documentation correction to full governance recovery.

7.3 LEVEL 1

DOCUMENTATION CORRECTION

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTINUITY RESTORATION

Level 1 addresses governance disruptions arising from incomplete or inaccurate supporting information.

Examples may include:

- **Missing documentation**
- **Metadata deficiencies**
- **Incomplete supporting records**
- **Administrative inconsistencies**

Corrective actions may include:

- **Documentation updates**
- **Metadata correction**
- **Supporting record completion**
- **Administrative review**

The objective is to restore continuity through documentation completeness.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore documentation integrity.

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7.4 LEVEL 2

EVIDENCE REVALIDATION

VERIFICATION CONTINUITY RESTORATION

Level 2 addresses disruptions affecting evidence verification conditions.

Examples may include:

- **Verification inconsistencies**
- **Identity confirmation deficiencies**
- **Verification process irregularities**
- **Incomplete validation records**

Corrective actions may include:

- **Reverification**
- **Identity reconfirmation**
- **Validation review**
- **Verification record updates**

The objective is to restore confidence in evidence verification.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore verification integrity.

7.5 LEVEL 3

PARTICIPATION REMEDIATION

PARTICIPATION CONTINUITY RESTORATION

Level 3 addresses situations in which corrective actions require renewed participation activity.

Examples may include:

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- **Invalid participation records**
- **Incomplete activity execution**
- **Unverifiable activity outcomes**
- **Evidence continuity interruptions**

Corrective actions may include:

- **Activity repetition**
- **Additional participation requirements**
- **New Proof Record generation**
- **Continuity rebuilding activities**

The objective is to restore continuity through renewed participation.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore participation continuity.

7.6 LEVEL 4

GOVERNANCE RECOVERY

INSTITUTIONAL CONTINUITY RESTORATION

Level 4 represents the highest corrective governance level.

This level applies when continuity disruptions require broader governance recovery actions.

Examples may include:

- **Extended governance escalation**
- **Repeated continuity disruptions**
- **Significant continuity degradation**
- **Strike 3 recovery pathways**

Corrective actions may include:

- **Governance review**
- **Recovery monitoring**
- **Extended continuity rebuilding**
- **Governance restoration planning**
- **MCP recovery completion**

The objective is to restore continuity conditions supporting long-term evidence integrity.

GOVERNANCE OBJECTIVE

Restore governance continuity.

7.7 THE CONTINUITY RECOVERY MODEL

Corrective Governance operates through progressive recovery.

The model may be represented as:

Disruption → Correction → Validation → Remediation → Recovery → Restored Continuity

Each stage contributes to continuity restoration.

The model therefore emphasizes recovery rather than exclusion.

7.8 RELATIONSHIP WITH MCP GOVERNANCE

Corrective Governance operates alongside MCP Governance Escalation.

The two frameworks perform different functions.

Chapter 6 determines governance cooling periods.

Chapter 7 determines recovery actions.

Accordingly:

MCP Governance → Controls Cooling Periods

Corrective Governance → Controls Recovery Actions

Together, these mechanisms support continuity restoration.

7.9 WHY RECOVERY MATTERS

Evidence continuity is accumulated over time.

When continuity is disrupted, restoration likewise requires time.

The purpose of recovery is not merely to correct isolated issues.

The purpose is to rebuild confidence in continuity conditions.

Accordingly:

Trust is accumulated.

Trust may be disrupted.

Trust must be rebuilt.

This principle forms the foundation of Corrective Governance.

7.10 SUMMARY

The Corrective Governance Framework establishes structured pathways through which continuity disruptions may be addressed and resolved.

The framework introduces four governance levels:

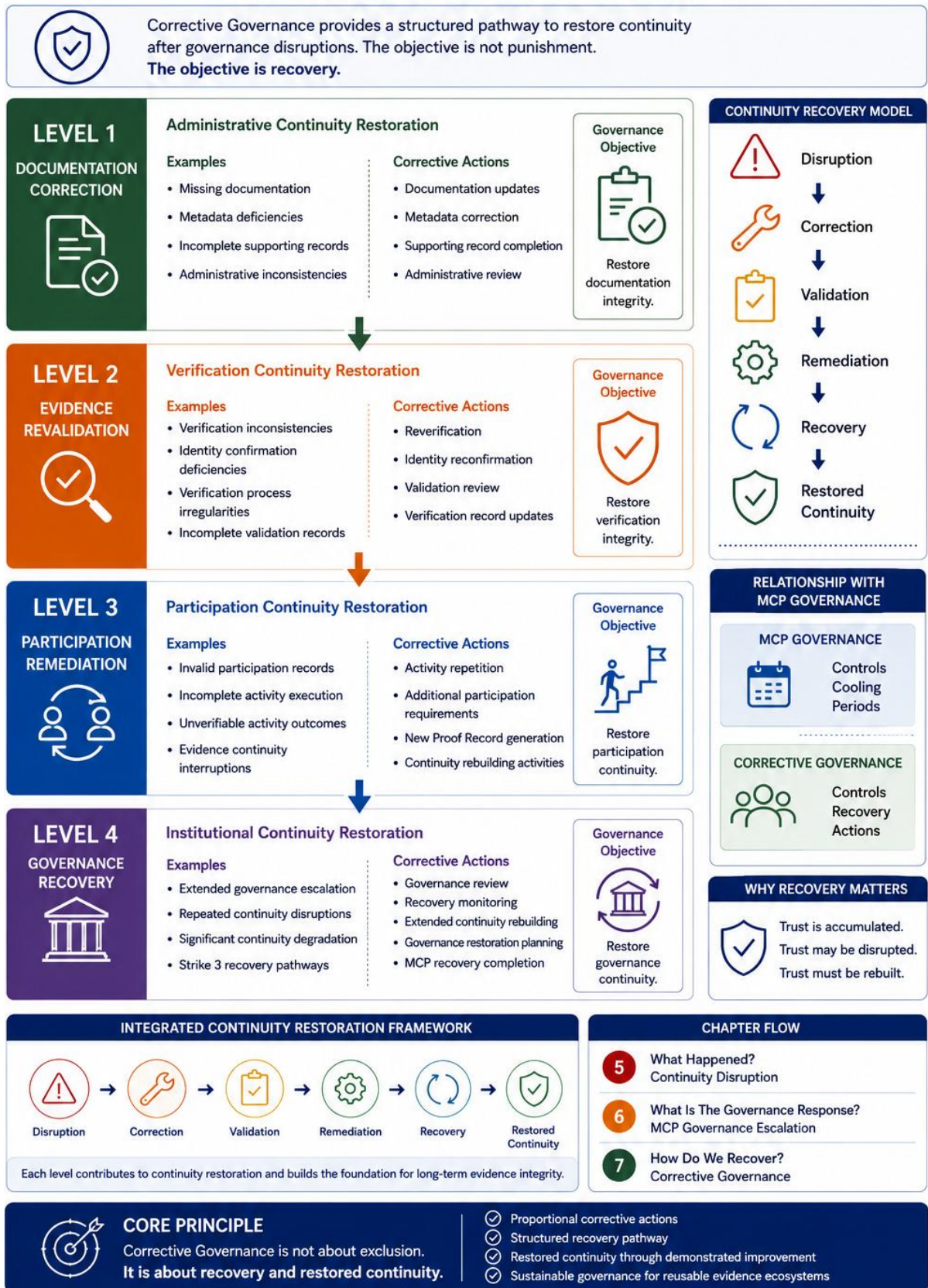
- **Level 1 — Documentation Correction**
- **Level 2 — Evidence Revalidation**
- **Level 3 — Participation Remediation**
- **Level 4 — Governance Recovery**

Together, these mechanisms support continuity restoration across reusable evidence ecosystems. Rather than emphasizing exclusion or punishment, the framework emphasizes recovery, remediation, and long-term continuity restoration.

FIGURE 7.1

CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE

Correction, Remediation, and Recovery



CHAPTER 8: RESPONSIBILITY IN REUSABLE EVIDENCE ECOSYSTEMS

Subtitle: When Evidence Moves Beyond Organizational Boundaries

8.1 THE EXPANSION OF EVIDENCE USE

Historically, evidence was primarily generated and consumed within the same organizational environment.

A procurement department generated procurement evidence.

A sustainability team generated reporting evidence.

An educational institution generated educational records.

Responsibility boundaries were therefore relatively straightforward.

However, reusable evidence ecosystems fundamentally alter this relationship.

Evidence increasingly moves across organizations, governance systems, and institutional environments.

As evidence becomes reusable, responsibility must also become portable.

Accordingly, STRC extends responsibility governance beyond organizational boundaries.

8.2 FROM EVIDENCE OWNERSHIP TO EVIDENCE USE

Traditional governance models frequently associate responsibility with evidence ownership.

Reusable evidence ecosystems operate differently.

Evidence may be preserved by one organization.

Evidence may be reused by another organization.

Evidence may support decisions in a third environment.

Responsibility therefore follows governance function rather than ownership.

The framework consequently focuses on:

Evidence Use rather than Evidence Ownership

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This distinction enables reusable evidence ecosystems to operate across diverse governance environments.

8.3 SUPPLY CHAIN

EVIDENCE ACROSS VALUE CHAINS

Supply chains frequently involve multiple independent entities.

Evidence may originate from:

- **Suppliers • Manufacturers**
- **Logistics Providers**
- **Distributors • Retailers**

Evidence may subsequently be reused across the value chain.

STRC establishes responsibility boundaries across these participants.

The framework confirms occurrence.

Each supply chain participant remains responsible for how evidence is interpreted and utilized within its own governance environment.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible

when evidence moves

across supply chain participants?

8.4 SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

EVIDENCE ACROSS DISCLOSURE ENVIRONMENTS

Evidence supporting sustainability disclosures may originate from operational activities occurring throughout an organization.

Reusable evidence enables:

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- **Reporting Reuse**
- **Disclosure Support**
- **Evidence Traceability**
- **Documentation Portability**

STRC clarifies that:

Evidence generation responsibilities remain distinct from reporting interpretation responsibilities.

The framework confirms occurrence.

Reporting entities determine disclosure interpretation.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible for disclosure interpretation?

8.5 PROCUREMENT

EVIDENCE ACROSS PURCHASING DECISIONS

Procurement processes increasingly rely upon evidence originating outside procurement systems.

Examples include:

- **Supplier Participation Records**
- **Sustainability Activities**
- **Verification Records**
- **Evidence Documentation Packages**

STRC clarifies that procurement decisions remain the responsibility of procurement organizations.

Evidence may support decisions.

Evidence does not determine decisions.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible for procurement outcomes?

8.6 ASSURANCE

EVIDENCE ACROSS ASSURANCE ACTIVITIES

Reusable evidence may support assurance activities through:

- **Evidence Traceability**
- **Documentation Readiness**
- **Verification Histories**
- **Governance Records**

STRC clarifies that assurance conclusions remain the responsibility of assurance providers.

The framework supports evidence continuity.

It does not determine assurance outcomes.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible for assurance conclusions?

8.7 FINANCE

EVIDENCE ACROSS FINANCIAL DECISION ENVIRONMENTS

Financial institutions increasingly utilize non-financial information supporting:

- **Credit Evaluation**
- **Risk Analysis**
- **Sustainability Finance**
- **Supply Chain Finance**

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Reusable evidence may contribute to these processes.

STRC clarifies that financial decisions remain the responsibility of financial institutions.

Evidence may inform decisions.

Evidence does not determine financing outcomes.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible for financing decisions?

8.8 EDUCATION

EVIDENCE ACROSS LEARNING ECOSYSTEMS

Educational institutions increasingly rely upon participation-based evidence.

Examples include:

- **Learning Activities**
- **Competitions**
- **Projects**
- **Sustainability Programs**
- **Institutional Participation Records**

Reusable evidence may support educational recognition.

STRC clarifies that educational outcomes remain the responsibility of educational institutions.

Evidence may support recognition.

Evidence does not determine recognition outcomes.

GOVERNANCE QUESTION

Who is responsible for educational recognition?

8.9 CROSS-GOVERNANCE RESPONSIBILITY

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Although governance environments differ significantly, the responsibility principle remains consistent.

Across all governance environments:

Occurrence → Interpretation → Decision

remain separate governance functions.

STRC therefore applies a consistent responsibility model regardless of governance environment.

8.10 RESPONSIBILITY ACROSS GOVERNANCE ENVIRONMENTS

The model may be represented as:

Evidence → Supply Chain → Reporting → Procurement → Assurance → Finance →

Education → Decision-Making

At every stage:

The framework confirms occurrence.

The framework does not determine intent.

The framework does not determine decisions.

8.11 SUMMARY

Reusable evidence ecosystems extend evidence beyond organizational boundaries.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, responsibility governance becomes increasingly important.

STRC addresses this challenge through a cross-governance responsibility framework applicable across:

• Supply Chain • Sustainability Reporting • Procurement • Assurance • Finance • Education

The framework maintains consistent responsibility boundaries across governance environments while preserving the distinction between occurrence, interpretation, and decision-making.

FIGURE 8.1
RESPONSIBILITY ACROSS GOVERNANCE ENVIRONMENTS
When Evidence Moves Beyond Organizational Boundaries



CHAPTER 9: THE FUTURE OF CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE

Subtitle: Toward Shared Responsibility Ecosystems

9.1 THE EVOLUTION OF EVIDENCE INFRASTRUCTURE

Over the past decade, evidence systems have evolved significantly.

Traditional governance models are often focused on individual records, isolated reporting processes, and organization-specific evidence management practices.

These approaches were largely designed for single-use evidence environments.

Evidence was generated for a specific purpose.

Evidence was reviewed within a specific governance process.

Evidence was rarely reused beyond its original context.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, governance requirements also evolve.

The future of evidence infrastructure is no longer solely concerned with generating evidence.

It is increasingly concerned with preserving, governing, exchanging, and continuously reusing evidence across governance environments.

This evolution requires corresponding governance architectures capable of supporting long-term continuity.

9.2 FROM PARTICIPATION TO RESPONSIBILITY

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–STRC architecture represents a progression rather than a collection of independent frameworks.

Each framework addresses a different stage of the evidence lifecycle.

The progression may be summarized as:

Participation → Evidence → Continuity → Maturity → Reuse → Responsibility

Together, these stages establish the foundations of reusable evidence ecosystems.

9.3 THE EMERGENCE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

As evidence increasingly moves across organizational boundaries, responsibility also becomes distributed.

Traditional governance models often assume that evidence remains within a single organization.

Reusable evidence ecosystems challenge this assumption.

Evidence may be generated by one organization.

Evidence may be preserved by another.

Evidence may be reused by multiple governance participants.

Evidence may support decisions made by entirely different institutions.

Accordingly, governance increasingly becomes a shared responsibility.

No single participant governs the entire evidence lifecycle.

Responsibility is distributed across evidence ecosystems.

This transition represents one of the most significant shifts in modern evidence governance.

9.4 SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

Shared Responsibility Ecosystems emerge when evidence continuity is supported collectively across multiple governance participants.

Within these ecosystems:

- **Participants generate evidence.**
- **Institutions govern activities.**
- **Verifiers confirm occurrence.**
- **Evidence Stewards preserve records.**
- **Evidence Users interpret evidence.**
- **Decision-Making Parties determine outcomes.**

Responsibility therefore becomes distributed while remaining clearly defined.

The objective is not centralized control.

The objective is coordinated governance.

9.5 THE ROLE OF CONTINUITY GOVERNANCE

As evidence ecosystems expand, continuity governance becomes increasingly important.

Evidence continuity enables:

- **Traceability**
- **Reusability**
- **Governance Consistency**
- **Evidence Portability**
- **Long-Term Referenceability**

Without continuity governance, reusable evidence ecosystems may become fragmented.

Accordingly, STRC provides governance conditions supporting continuity preservation and continuity restoration across evidence ecosystems.

9.6 THE FUTURE OF STRC

STRC should not be viewed as a static governance framework.

The framework is designed to evolve alongside reusable evidence ecosystems.

Future developments may include:

- **Expanded governance environments**
- **Additional interoperability layers**
- **Advanced continuity governance models**
- **Cross-institutional governance coordination**
- **Shared evidence governance networks**

These developments remain consistent with the core principles established by STRC.

9.7 THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY PRINCIPLE

At the center of STRC lies a simple principle.

Evidence may be reused.

Responsibility must remain accountable.

Accordingly:

Reusable Evidence

Requires

Reusable Responsibility

This principle forms the foundation of future continuity governance.

9.8 FROM EVIDENCE INFRASTRUCTURE TO RESPONSIBILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

The evolution of the architecture may be understood as a progression from evidence infrastructure toward responsibility infrastructure.

PADV established evidence formation.

NTCC established continuity accumulation.

InstiTech established evidence preservation.

ICTF established maturity representation.

EIV-Layer established evidence reusability.

STRC established continuity governance.

Together, these frameworks establish the conditions through which evidence and responsibility may coexist across reusable evidence ecosystems.

9.9 TOWARD SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

The future of continuity governance is not based upon centralized control.

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It is based upon coordinated responsibility.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, governance architectures must increasingly support responsibility portability, continuity preservation, and cross-governance accountability.

Shared Responsibility Ecosystems represent one possible direction for this evolution.

Within these ecosystems:

Evidence Travels

Responsibility Remains Defined

This principle forms the ultimate objective of STRC.

9.10 SUMMARY

The future of evidence infrastructure extends beyond evidence generation and evidence reuse.

It increasingly requires governance architectures capable of supporting continuity, responsibility allocation, corrective governance, and long-term accountability across governance environments.

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–STRC architecture represents one possible pathway toward this future.

Together, these frameworks establish the foundations of Shared Responsibility Ecosystems.

FIGURE 9.1 THE EVOLUTION TOWARD SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

Toward Shared Responsibility Ecosystems



APPENDIX A: CORE TERMINOLOGY

A.1 PURPOSE

This appendix establishes a common terminology reference supporting the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–STRC architecture.

The objective is to promote consistent interpretation of key concepts used throughout reusable evidence ecosystems.

Unless otherwise specified, the definitions presented in this appendix apply across all framework components.

A.2 EVIDENCE

Evidence

Structured information generated through governed participation, verification, preservation, and continuity processes.

Within the architecture, evidence serves as the foundational unit supporting continuity, maturity, interoperability, and governance activities.

A.3 EVIDENCE CONTINUITY

Evidence Continuity

The ability of evidence to remain preserved, traceable, referenceable, and reusable across time and governance environments.

Evidence Continuity represents a foundational condition supporting long-term evidence governance.

A.4 PARTICIPATION

Participation

The execution of an activity according to predefined governance conditions.

Participation represents the starting point of evidence formation within PADV.

A.5 PROOF RECORD

Proof Record

A structured evidence record generated following successful completion and verification of a governed participation activity.

Proof Records serve as the primary evidence formation mechanism within PADV.

A.6 MCP

Module Cooldown Period (MCP)

A governance-controlled interval specifying the minimum period required before a participation activity may be repeated.

MCPs support participation integrity, evidence continuity, and governance consistency.

A.7 NTCC

Non-Tradable Commitment Credit (NTCC)

A continuity-based evidence accumulation mechanism representing sustained participation over time.

NTCC functions as an evidence accumulation layer rather than a financial instrument.

A.8 EVIDENCE MATURITY

Evidence Maturity

The degree to which accumulated evidence demonstrates continuity, persistence, governance consistency, and long-term evidence formation.

Evidence Maturity is represented through the ICTF framework.

A.9 EVIDENCE DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE

Evidence Documentation Package (EDP)

A structured package containing evidence records, metadata, references, continuity information, and supporting documentation prepared for evidence reuse.

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The EDP serves as the primary exchange mechanism within EIV-Layer.

A.10 EVIDENCE REUSE

Evidence Reuse

The ability to utilize a single evidence set across multiple governance environments without requiring repeated evidence generation.

Evidence Reuse forms the foundation of EIV-Layer.

A.11 OCCURRENCE

Occurrence

The confirmation that an activity was executed according to predefined governance conditions.

Within STRC:

Occurrence ≠ Interpretation ≠ Decision

Occurrence represents the scope of framework confirmation.

A.12 INTERPRETATION

Interpretation

The process through which evidence is analyzed, contextualized, and assigned meaning within a governance environment.

Interpretation remains the responsibility of evidence users.

A.13 DECISION

Decision

A governance action taken based upon interpreted evidence and additional organizational considerations.

Decision-making remains outside the scope of STRC confirmation.

A.14 RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARY

Responsibility Boundary

A governance distinction defining where responsibility begins and ends within reusable evidence ecosystems.

Responsibility Boundaries separate occurrence, interpretation, and decision-making functions.

A.15 CONTINUITY DISRUPTION**Continuity Disruption**

A condition that materially affects evidence continuity, governance consistency, or continuity preservation mechanisms.

Continuity Disruptions are classified through the STRC Continuity Disruption Framework.

A.16 STRIKE**Strike**

A governance classification assigned to a continuity disruption event.

Within STRC:

- **Strike 1: Minor Continuity Disruption**
- **Strike 2: Material Continuity Disruption**
- **Strike 3: Severe Continuity Disruption**

Strike classifications do not constitute legal determinations.

A.17 GOVERNANCE COOLING PERIOD**Governance Cooling Period**

A temporary continuity restoration mechanism activated through MCP Governance Escalation.

Cooling periods are designed to support continuity recovery rather than punitive exclusion.

A.18 CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE**Corrective Governance**

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A structured recovery process through which continuity disruptions may be corrected, validated, remediated, and restored.

Corrective Governance represents the primary recovery mechanism within STRC.

A.19 SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEM

Shared Responsibility Ecosystem

A governance environment in which evidence may be generated, preserved, reused, interpreted, and applied across multiple organizations while maintaining clearly defined responsibility boundaries.

Shared Responsibility Ecosystems represent the long-term governance objective of the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–STRC architecture.

A.20 EVIDENCE INFRASTRUCTURE

Evidence Infrastructure

The collection of governance frameworks, evidence systems, continuity mechanisms, interoperability structures, and responsibility architectures supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

Within this publication series, Evidence Infrastructure encompasses:

PADV → NTCC → InstiTech → ICTF → EIV-Layer → STRC

Together, these components establish the governance conditions supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

APPENDIX B: APPENDIX B: RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION MATRIX

B.1 PURPOSE

This appendix provides a structured responsibility allocation reference supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

The matrix establishes responsibility boundaries across the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–STRC architecture.

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The objective is to clarify:

- **Who performs each governance function**
- **Who maintains responsibility**
- **Who interprets evidence**
- **Who makes decisions**
- **Where responsibility begins and ends**

The matrix supports consistent responsibility allocation across governance environments.

B.2 RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION PRINCIPLE

The Responsibility Allocation Matrix is based upon the STRC Responsibility Boundary Principle:

Occurrence ≠ Interpretation ≠ Decision

Accordingly:

- **Evidence generation responsibilities remain separate from evidence interpretation responsibilities.**
- **Evidence interpretation responsibilities remain separate from decision-making responsibilities.**
- **No single participant assumes responsibility for the entire evidence lifecycle.**

B.3 RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION MATRIX

Governance Function	Participant	Activity Initiator	Verifier	Evidence Steward	Evidence User	Decision-Making Party
Activity Execution	Primary	Support	—	—	—	—

Governance Function	Participant	Activity Initiator	Verifier	Evidence Steward	Evidence User	Decision-Making Party
Governance Design	—	Primary	—	—	—	—
MCP Assignment	—	Primary	—	—	—	—
Participation Verification	—	—	Primary	—	—	—
Identity Verification	—	—	Primary	—	—	—
Proof Record Creation	Support	Support	Primary	—	—	—
Evidence Preservation	—	—	—	Primary	—	—
Metadata Management	—	—	—	Primary	—	—
Evidence Logging	—	—	—	Primary	—	—
Evidence Exchange	—	—	—	Support	Primary	—
Evidence Reuse	—	—	—	Support	Primary	—
Evidence Interpretation	—	—	—	—	Primary	—

Governance Function	Participant	Activity Initiator	Verifier	Evidence Steward	Evidence User	Decision-Making Party
Governance Evaluation	—	—	—	—	Primary	Support
Procurement Decision	—	—	—	—	Support	Primary
Assurance Conclusion	—	—	—	—	Support	Primary
Financing Decision	—	—	—	—	Support	Primary
Educational Recognition	—	—	—	—	Support	Primary
Governance Escalation	—	Support	Support	Support	Support	Primary
Corrective Actions	Support	Primary	Support	Support	—	—
Governance Recovery	Support	Primary	Support	Support	—	—

B.4 RESPONSIBILITY LIFECYCLE

Responsibility evolves alongside evidence.

The lifecycle may be represented as:

**Participant → Activity Initiator → Verifier → Evidence Steward → Evidence User →
Decision-Making Party**

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Each stage introduces a distinct governance function.

Responsibility therefore becomes distributed rather than centralized.

B.5 RESPONSIBILITY OWNERSHIP VS RESPONSIBILITY FUNCTION

A common misconception is that evidence ownership determines responsibility.

Within STRC, responsibility follows governance function rather than ownership.

Examples include:

EXAMPLE 1: SUPPLY CHAIN

Supplier → Evidence Generated → Buyer Reuses Evidence

The buyer becomes responsible for interpretation.

The supplier remains responsible for occurrence-related activities.

EXAMPLE 2: SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

Operational Activity → Evidence Generated → Reporting Team Uses Evidence

The reporting team becomes responsible for disclosure interpretation.

The framework confirms occurrence only.

EXAMPLE 3: ASSURANCE

Evidence Package → Assurance Review

The assurance provider remains responsible for assurance conclusions.

Evidence continuity does not determine assurance outcomes.

B.6 RESPONSIBILITY LIMITATIONS

The matrix does not assign responsibility for:

- **Intent • Motivation • Legal liability • Regulatory compliance • Procurement eligibility**
- **Financing suitability • Organizational trustworthiness**

These determinations remain external to STRC.

B.7 THE RESPONSIBILITY SEPARATION MODEL

The matrix ultimately supports a simple governance structure:

Occurrence → Confirmed by Framework

Interpretation → Performed by Evidence Users

Decision → Performed by Decision Makers

Accordingly:

The framework confirms occurrence.

The framework does not determine intent.

The framework does not determine decisions.

B.8 SUMMARY

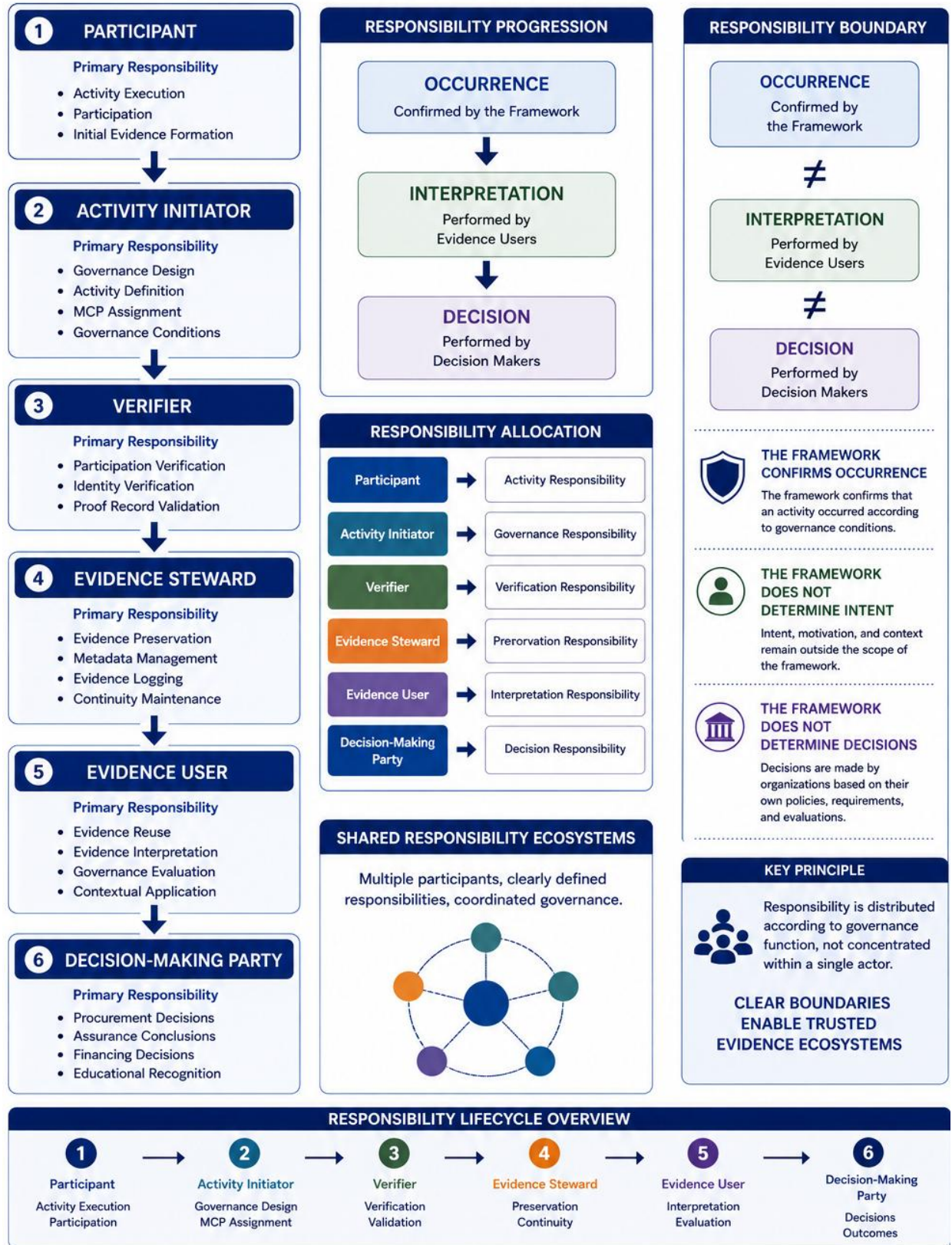
The Responsibility Allocation Matrix establishes a common governance reference supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

The matrix distributes responsibilities across:

- **Participants**
- **Activity Initiators**
- **Verifiers**
- **Evidence Stewards**
- **Evidence Users**
- **Decision-Making Parties**

Together, these roles establish the responsibility architecture underlying STRC and Shared Responsibility Ecosystems.

FIGURE B.1 RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION MATRIX



APPENDIX C: CONTINUITY DISRUPTION CLASSIFICATION FRAMEWORK

Subtitle: Automatic Detection and Governance Escalation Criteria

C.1 PURPOSE

This appendix establishes the automated classification criteria supporting the STRC Continuity Disruption Framework.

The objective is to provide transparent governance conditions through which continuity disruptions may be identified and classified.

The framework is designed to support consistency, predictability, and governance neutrality across reusable evidence ecosystems.

C.2 GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE

Strike classifications are triggered by continuity conditions.

Strike classifications are not triggered by:

- **Organizational reputation**
- **Organizational size**
- **Financial performance**
- **Public opinion**
- **Regulatory status**
- **External allegations**

Accordingly:

The framework evaluates continuity conditions.

The framework does not evaluate intent.

C.3 AUTOMATED DETECTION CATEGORIES

Continuity disruptions may be detected through four governance categories.

Documentation → Verification → Participation → Governance Continuity

These categories form the basis of automatic Strike classification.

C.4 CATEGORY A**Documentation Integrity Events**

Examples:

- **Missing mandatory records**
- **Missing metadata**
- **Invalid evidence references**
- **Incomplete Evidence Documentation Packages**
- **Broken evidence traceability chains**

The framework may automatically flag these events for review.

Repeated unresolved events may trigger Strike classifications.

C.5 CATEGORY B**Verification Integrity Events**

Examples:

- **Identity verification failures**
- **Verification mismatches**
- **Duplicate verification records**
- **Verification record inconsistencies**
- **Unverifiable evidence submissions**

These events affect evidence validity and may trigger escalation.

C.6 CATEGORY C

Participation Integrity Events

Examples:

- **Duplicate participation attempts**
- **MCP circumvention attempts**
- **Repeated invalid activity submissions**
- **Activity execution inconsistencies**
- **Repeated participation anomalies**

These events affect participation continuity.

C.7 CATEGORY D

GOVERNANCE CONTINUITY EVENTS

Examples:

- Repeated unresolved disruptions
- Repeated governance escalation events
- Multiple active continuity deficiencies
- Persistent recovery failures
- Failure to complete corrective governance actions

These events represent elevated governance risks.

C.8 STRIKE 1 CRITERIA

Minor Continuity Disruption

Strike 1 may be triggered when:

Single Event OR Limited Number Of Related Events

Examples:

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- **First documentation failure**
- **First verification inconsistency**
- **First MCP anomaly**
- **Isolated continuity deficiency**

Strike 1 indicates localized continuity disruption.

C.9 STRIKE 2 CRITERIA

MATERIAL CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

Strike 2 may be triggered when:

Repeated Events OR Multiple Categories Affected

Examples:

- **Repeated documentation failures**
- **Repeated verification failures**
- **Multiple unresolved Strike 1 events**
- **Multiple continuity deficiencies**

Strike 2 indicates material continuity degradation.

C.10 STRIKE 3 CRITERIA

SEVERE CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

Strike 3 may be triggered when:

Systemic Failure OR Persistent Governance Breakdown

Examples:

- **Repeated Strike 2 events**
- **Repeated governance recovery failures**

- **Persistent continuity disruption**
- **Multiple governance categories simultaneously affected**

Strike 3 indicates severe continuity disruption.

C.11 PROGRESSIVE ESCALATION LOGIC

The framework operates through progressive escalation.

Anomaly → Strike 1 → Strike 2 → Strike 3

The objective is early detection and continuity restoration.

C.12 AUTOMATED CLASSIFICATION SAFEGUARD

To preserve governance neutrality:

Strike classifications are not triggered solely by:

- **Manual opinions**
- **Public accusations**
- **Third-party claims**
- **Market rumors**
- **Social media statements**

Instead, classifications must be supported by continuity-related governance signals recorded within the evidence ecosystem.

C.13 RELATIONSHIP WITH CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE

Strike classification does not determine final outcomes.

Instead:

Strike → MCP Governance → Corrective Governance → Recovery

The purpose of classification is to initiate recovery pathways.

C.14 SUMMARY

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The Continuity Disruption Classification Framework establishes transparent criteria through which continuity disruptions may be identified and classified.

The framework evaluates:

- **Documentation Integrity**
- **Verification Integrity**
- **Participation Integrity**
- **Governance Continuity**

These categories support automated detection, progressive escalation, and continuity restoration across reusable evidence ecosystems.

APPENDIX D: MCP GOVERNANCE ESCALATION MATRIX

Subtitle: Governance Cooling Period Impacts Across PADV Activities

D.1 PURPOSE

This appendix establishes the MCP Governance Escalation Matrix supporting STRC Strike classifications.

The matrix defines how governance cooling periods affect PADV whitelist activities according to their assigned MCP classifications.

The objective is to ensure:

- **transparency**
- **predictability**
- **consistency**
- **governance neutrality**

across continuity recovery processes.

D.2 GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE

MCP Governance Escalation operates through existing PADV cooldown structures.

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The framework does not create new activity classifications.

Instead, STRC temporarily extends existing MCP conditions according to continuity disruption severity.

Accordingly:

Strike 1 Impacts MCP ≤ 60

Strike 2 Impacts MCP ≤ 180

Strike 3 Impacts All MCP Activities

D.3 MCP CLASSIFICATION TIERS

Based on PADV governance definitions:

MCP Tier	Meaning
MCP-7	High-Frequency Participation
MCP-14	Short-Cycle Participation
MCP-30	Monthly Participation
MCP-90	Quarterly Continuity
MCP-180	Strategic Continuity
MCP-365	Long-Cycle Governance

D.4 STRIKE 1 IMPACT MATRIX

MINOR CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

MCP ≤ 60 → 90-Day Cooling Period

IMPACTED ACTIVITIES

A-MCP-7

Examples:

- A06-2 Remote Work Log
 - A06-3 Attendance Verification
 - A08-1 Low-Carbon Meal Ordering
 - A08-6 Healthy Veggie Day
 - A08-7 Sugar-Free Beverage Day
 - A14-1 Passenger Check-in
 - A14-2 Commuting Log
 - A14-3 Ticket Verification
-

A-MCP-14

All A-MCP-14 Activities

A-MCP-30

All A-MCP-30 Activities

B-MCP-30

Examples:

- B04-3 Food Waste Governance
 - B05-2 Green Electricity Usage Upload
 - B09-1 Waste Classification Upload
 - B10-1 Water Consumption Upload
-

NOT IMPACTED

MCP-90 | MCP-180 | MCP-365 remain active.

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D.5 STRIKE 2 IMPACT MATRIX

MATERIAL CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

MCP ≤ 180 → 180-Day Cooling Period

IMPACTED ACTIVITIES

All:

A-MCP-7 | A-MCP-14 | A-MCP-30 | B-MCP-30 | B-MCP-90 | B-MCP-180

Examples include:

- Supplier Onboarding
- ESG Material Traceability
- Renewable Procurement Proof
- Carbon Inventory Upload
- Supplier ESG Verification
- Scope 3 Synchronization
- Climate Risk Assessment
- Sustainable Loan Issuance
- Procurement Audit

and all equivalent MCP tiers.

NOT IMPACTED

B-MCP-365 remain active.

Examples:

- Equipment Replacement

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- Water Governance Review
- ESG System Integration
- Climate Governance Review
- ESG Governance Framework
- Net-zero Roadmap Update

D.6 STRIKE 3 IMPACT MATRIX

SEVERE CONTINUITY DISRUPTION

GOVERNANCE RESPONSE

All MCP Activities → 365-Day Cooling Period

IMPACTED ACTIVITIES

Entire PADV Ecosystem

A-Series + B-Series

including:

MCP-7 | MCP-14 | MCP-30 | MCP-90 | MCP-180 | MCP-365

All whitelist modules become subject to governance recovery conditions.

D.7 ESCALATION SUMMARY

Strike	MCP Scope	Cooling Period
Strike 1	MCP ≤ 60	90 Days
Strike 2	MCP ≤ 180	180 Days
Strike 3	All MCP Activities	365 Days

D.8 GOVERNANCE LOGIC

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The escalation model follows a proportional governance principle.

Minor Disruption → Limited MCP Restriction

Material Disruption → Expanded MCP Restriction

Severe Disruption → Full Governance Cooling

The objective is continuity restoration rather than exclusion.

D.9 RELATIONSHIP WITH PADV

MCP Governance Escalation does not replace PADV.

PADV defines:

Participation Conditions

STRC defines:

Continuity Recovery Conditions

Together:

PADV → Participation Governance → STRC → Continuity Governance

APPENDIX E: CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND RECOVERY PATHWAYS

Subtitle: Structured Recovery Mechanisms for Continuity Restoration

E.1 PURPOSE

This appendix establishes structured recovery pathways supporting continuity restoration following governance disruptions.

The objective is to provide a transparent governance framework through which organizations may address continuity deficiencies and restore evidence continuity conditions.

The framework emphasizes:

- correction
- remediation

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- recovery
- continuity restoration

rather than punitive exclusion.

E.2 RECOVERY PRINCIPLE

The STRC framework recognizes that continuity may be disrupted.

Accordingly, governance systems should provide structured mechanisms supporting recovery.

The recovery principle may be summarized as:

Disruption → Correction → Recovery → Restored Continuity

The objective is restoration rather than punishment.

E.3 RECOVERY LEVEL 1

DOCUMENTATION CORRECTION

TRIGGER

Examples:

- Missing metadata
- Missing references
- Incomplete Evidence Documentation Package
- Administrative inconsistencies
- Documentation deficiencies

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Update records
- Complete metadata
- Repair documentation gaps

- Resubmit supporting materials

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Documentation Integrity Restored

E.4 RECOVERY LEVEL 2

EVIDENCE REVALIDATION

TRIGGER

Examples:

- Verification inconsistencies
- Identity validation deficiencies
- Verification mismatches
- Evidence validation failures

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Revalidation
- Identity reconfirmation
- Verification review
- Evidence resubmission

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Verification Integrity Restored

E.5 RECOVERY LEVEL 3

PARTICIPATION REMEDIATION

TRIGGER

Examples:

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- Invalid participation records
- Activity execution inconsistencies
- MCP circumvention events
- Unverifiable participation

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Repeat participation
- Generate new Proof Records
- Rebuild continuity records
- Re-establish activity history

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Participation Continuity Restored

E.6 RECOVERY LEVEL 4

GOVERNANCE RECOVERY

TRIGGER

Examples:

- Strike 3
- Repeated Strike 2 events
- Systemic continuity deficiencies
- Long-term governance degradation

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- Governance review
- Recovery monitoring

- Extended cooling period completion
- Recovery audits
- Governance rebuilding

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Governance Continuity Restored

E.7 STRIKE 1 RECOVERY PATHWAY

**Strike 1 → Documentation Review → Correction → Verification → Recovery Confirmation
→ Restored Continuity**

E.8 STRIKE 2 RECOVERY PATHWAY

**Strike 2 → Governance Escalation → Evidence Revalidation → Participation Remediation
→ Recovery Monitoring → Restored Continuity**

E.9 STRIKE 3 RECOVERY PATHWAY

**Strike 3 → 365-Day Cooling Period → Governance Recovery Plan → Recovery Monitoring
→ Recovery Verification → Governance Restoration → Restored Continuity**

E.10 RECOVERY SUCCESS CONDITIONS

Recovery may be considered complete when:

DOCUMENTATION

- Required records complete
- Metadata complete
- Traceability restored

VERIFICATION

- Validation successful
- Identity confirmed

- Verification integrity restored

PARTICIPATION

- Participation continuity re-established
- MCP conditions satisfied
- New evidence generated where required

GOVERNANCE

- No active continuity disruptions
- Recovery conditions completed
- Escalation conditions resolved

E.11 RECOVERY DOES NOT REMOVE HISTORY

One important principle within STRC is:

Recovery ≠ Historical Erasure

Recovery restores continuity.

Recovery does not remove historical governance records.

Accordingly:

- Strike records remain traceable
- Recovery records remain traceable
- Governance history remains preserved

This supports transparency and accountability.

E.12 RECOVERY OUTCOMES

Successful recovery produces:

**Restored Documentation + Restored Verification + Restored Participation + Restored
Governance = Restored Continuity**

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E.13 RELATIONSHIP WITH STRC

The STRC framework consists of three connected governance mechanisms:

Disruption Detection → Governance Escalation → Recovery

Appendix E addresses the final stage.

E.14 SUMMARY

Corrective Governance and Recovery Pathways establish structured mechanisms through which continuity disruptions may be addressed and resolved.

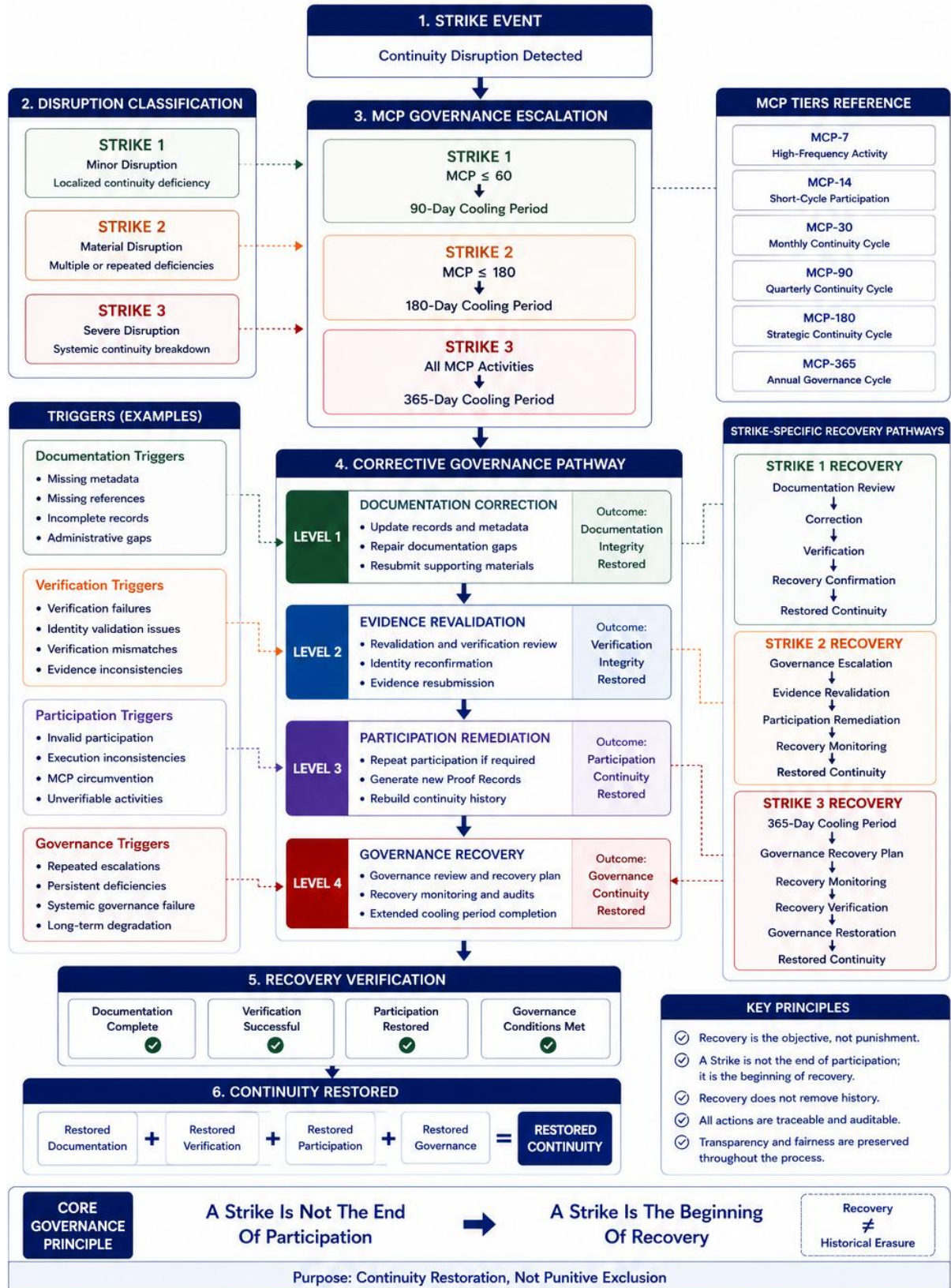
The framework supports four recovery levels:

- Documentation Correction
- Evidence Revalidation
- Participation Remediation
- Governance Recovery

Together these pathways enable continuity restoration while preserving governance transparency, traceability, and accountability.

FIGURE E.1 CORRECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND RECOVERY PATHWAYS

Structured Recovery Mechanisms for Continuity Restoration



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APPENDIX F: TRUST BOUNDARY REFERENCE MODEL

Subtitle: Defining Responsibility Boundaries Across Reusable Evidence Ecosystems

F.1 PURPOSE

This appendix establishes the Trust Boundary Reference Model supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

The objective is to clarify where trust responsibilities begin and end as evidence moves across governance environments.

The model supports:

- Responsibility Clarity
- Governance Neutrality
- Evidence Reusability
- Accountability Preservation

across multiple evidence users.

F.2 THE TRUST BOUNDARY CHALLENGE

Traditional governance systems frequently assume:

Evidence → Evidence Owner → Decision

This model becomes increasingly difficult to maintain when evidence is reused across multiple organizations.

In reusable evidence ecosystems:

Evidence → Multiple Users → Multiple Decisions → Multiple Outcomes

Trust therefore becomes distributed.

Accordingly, governance systems require clearly defined Trust Boundaries.

F.3 TRUST BOUNDARY PRINCIPLE

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The Trust Boundary Model is based upon a simple principle:

Occurrence → Interpretation → Decision

These three functions represent distinct governance domains.

Trust responsibilities therefore change as evidence moves between domains.

F.4 DOMAIN 1

OCCURRENCE DOMAIN

RESPONSIBILITY SCOPE

The Occurrence Domain confirms:

- Activity Execution
- Participation Completion
- Verification Completion
- Proof Record Creation

Within this domain:

The framework confirms

that an activity occurred.

TRUST STATEMENT

Trust Boundary 1

Occurrence Confirmed

F.5 DOMAIN 2

INTERPRETATION DOMAIN

RESPONSIBILITY SCOPE

The Interpretation Domain includes:

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- Reporting Analysis
- Procurement Evaluation
- Risk Assessment
- Assurance Review
- Financial Analysis
- Educational Evaluation

Within this domain:

Evidence is interpreted

according to context.

Interpretation responsibilities belong to evidence users.

TRUST STATEMENT

Trust Boundary 2

Interpretation Controlled

By Evidence Users

F.6 DOMAIN 3

DECISION DOMAIN

RESPONSIBILITY SCOPE

The Decision Domain includes:

- Procurement Decisions
- Financing Decisions
- Assurance Conclusions
- Reporting Judgments

- Educational Recognition
- Governance Actions

Within this domain:

Decisions remain the responsibility of decision-makers.

TRUST STATEMENT

Trust Boundary 3

Decisions Remain External

To The Framework

F.7 THE TRUST TRANSFER MODEL

As evidence moves through governance environments, trust responsibilities shift.

The model may be represented as:

Participation → Occurrence Trust → Evidence Reuse → Interpretation Trust → Decision-Making → Decision Trust

Each stage introduces a new trust boundary.

F.8 TRUST BOUNDARY TRANSITIONS

The framework recognizes three major trust transitions.

TRANSITION 1

Participation → Evidence

Trust moves from activity execution to evidence formation.

TRANSITION 2

Evidence → Interpretation

Trust moves from occurrence confirmation to evidence use.

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TRANSITION 3

Interpretation → Decision

Trust moves from analysis to action.

F.9 SHARED TRUST ECOSYSTEMS

Reusable evidence ecosystems create shared trust environments.

Within these environments:

Participants create evidence.

Verifiers confirm occurrence.

Evidence Stewards preserve continuity.

Evidence Users interpret evidence.

Decision Makers determine outcomes.

Trust therefore becomes distributed while responsibilities remain defined.

F.10 TRUST BOUNDARY LIMITATIONS

The framework does not determine:

- Intent
- Motivation
- Organizational Reputation
- Procurement Eligibility
- Investment Suitability
- Regulatory Compliance
- Assurance Conclusions

These determinations remain outside the Trust Boundary Model.

F.11 THE STRC TRUST PRINCIPLE

The STRC framework does not attempt to centralize trust.

Instead, the framework seeks to preserve trust boundaries.

Accordingly:

The framework confirms occurrence.

The framework does not determine interpretation.

The framework does not determine decisions.

This principle defines the Trust Boundary Reference Model.

F.12 SUMMARY

The Trust Boundary Reference Model establishes clear responsibility and trust boundaries supporting reusable evidence ecosystems.

The model separates:

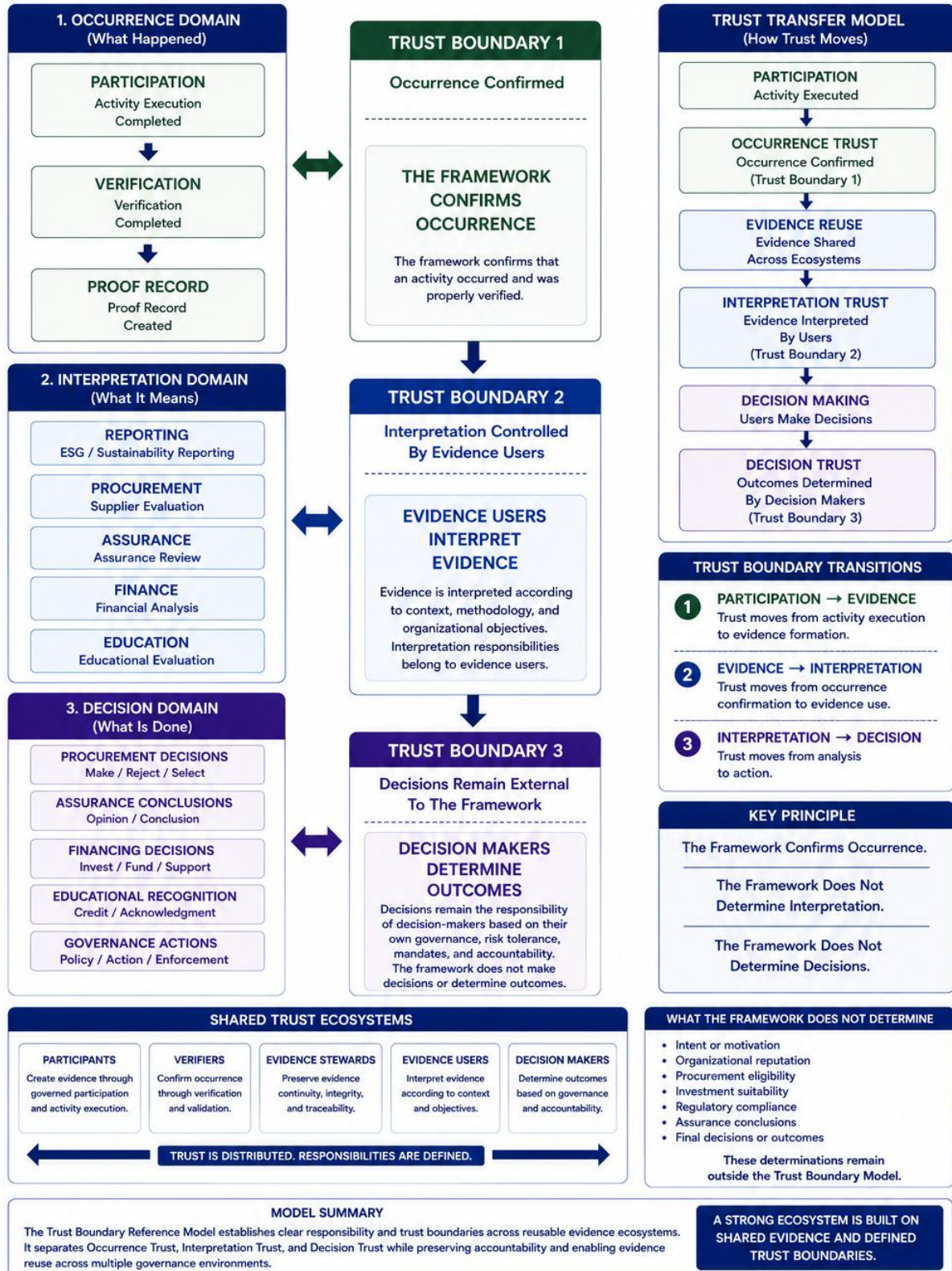
- Occurrence Trust
- Interpretation Trust
- Decision Trust

while preserving responsibility allocation across governance environments.

Together, these trust boundaries support Shared Responsibility Ecosystems.

FIGURE F.1 TRUST BOUNDARY REFERENCE MODEL

*Defining Responsibility Boundaries
Across Reusable Evidence Ecosystems*



APPENDIX G: RESPONSIBILITY USE CASES

Subtitle: Illustrative Responsibility Allocation Scenarios

G.1 PURPOSE

This appendix provides practical examples illustrating how responsibility is allocated when evidence moves across governance environments.

The objective is not to demonstrate evidence reuse.

The objective is to demonstrate responsibility continuity.

Accordingly, each use case focuses on:

- Occurrence Responsibility
- Interpretation Responsibility
- Decision Responsibility

G.2 USE CASE 1

SUPPLY CHAIN PROCUREMENT DECISION

SCENARIO

A supplier completes a sustainability-related participation activity and generates verified evidence.

The purchasing organization later reuses that evidence during supplier evaluation.

RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION

OCCURRENCE

Supplier

Responsible for:

- Activity execution
- Participation completion

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- Evidence generation

INTERPRETATION

Procurement Team

Responsible for:

- Evidence review
- Supplier assessment
- Procurement analysis

DECISION

Procurement Committee

Responsible for:

- Supplier approval
- Supplier rejection
- Procurement outcome

STRC PRINCIPLE

The framework confirms occurrence.

The procurement organization determines procurement decisions.

G.3 USE CASE 2

SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

SCENARIO

Operational evidence generated through participation activities is later incorporated into sustainability reporting.

RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION

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OCCURRENCE

Operational Participant

Responsible for activity execution.

INTERPRETATION

Reporting Team

Responsible for:

- Disclosure preparation
- Narrative development
- Materiality interpretation

DECISION

Reporting Governance Body

Responsible for:

- Disclosure approval
- Publication decisions
- Reporting accountability

STRC PRINCIPLE

Evidence supports disclosure.

Evidence does not determine disclosure conclusions.

G.4 USE CASE 3

ASSURANCE REVIEW

SCENARIO

An assurance provider reviews evidence contained within an Evidence Documentation Package.

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RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION

OCCURRENCE

Original Participant

Responsible for activity execution.

INTERPRETATION

Assurance Provider

Responsible for:

- Evidence evaluation
 - Assurance procedures
 - Assurance interpretation
-

DECISION

Assurance Provider

Responsible for:

- Assurance conclusion
 - Assurance opinion
 - Assurance statement
-

STRC PRINCIPLE

The framework supports

evidence continuity.

The assurance provider determines assurance outcomes.

G.5 USE CASE 4

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE ASSESSMENT

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SCENARIO

A financial institution reviews evidence supporting sustainability-related activities.

RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION

OCCURRENCE

Borrower

Responsible for activity execution.

INTERPRETATION

Risk Assessment Team

Responsible for:

- Evidence review
- Risk analysis
- Credit assessment

DECISION

Financial Institution

Responsible for:

- Financing approval
- Financing rejection
- Credit decisions

STRC PRINCIPLE

Evidence informs decisions.

Evidence does not determine financing outcomes.

G.6 USE CASE 5

EDUCATIONAL RECOGNITION

SCENARIO

A university reviews participation-based evidence supporting student activities.

RESPONSIBILITY ALLOCATION

OCCURRENCE

Student

Responsible for participation.

INTERPRETATION

Educational Institution

Responsible for:

- Academic evaluation
- Activity recognition
- Learning assessment

DECISION

Academic Authority

Responsible for:

- Recognition decisions
- Credit decisions
- Certification decisions

STRC PRINCIPLE

Evidence supports recognition.

Evidence does not determine educational outcomes.

G.7 COMMON RESPONSIBILITY PATTERN

Although governance environments differ, the responsibility structure remains consistent.

Occurrence → Interpretation → Decision

This pattern applies across:

- Supply Chain
- Reporting
- Assurance
- Finance
- Education

G.8 RESPONSIBILITY TRANSFER MODEL

The use cases collectively illustrate a common governance sequence.

Participant → Evidence Generated → Evidence Reused → Evidence Interpreted → Decision Made

Responsibility evolves at each stage.

G.9 WHAT DOES NOT TRANSFER

One of the most important STRC principles is:

Evidence May Transfer

Responsibility Does Not

Automatically Transfer

Examples:

- Evidence may move.
- Accountability remains assigned.
- Decisions remain local.

- Interpretation remains contextual.

G.10 SUMMARY

These use cases illustrate how responsibility remains defined even when evidence moves across governance environments.

The framework therefore supports:

- Evidence Portability
- Responsibility Clarity
- Governance Neutrality
- Accountability Preservation

across reusable evidence ecosystems.

APPENDIX H: TOWARD SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

Subtitle: The Future Evolution of Reusable Evidence Governance

H.1 PURPOSE

This appendix explores the long-term governance implications of reusable evidence ecosystems.

The objective is not to introduce an additional framework.

Instead, this appendix summarizes how the PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–Layer–STRC architecture may collectively contribute to future evidence governance environments.

Within this architecture, evidence does not only need to be generated, accumulated, preserved, represented, and reused.

It also requires governance structures capable of preserving responsibility boundaries, accountability, and continuity as evidence moves across governance environments.

Accordingly, this appendix serves as the concluding architectural reflection of the STRC framework.

H.2 THE LIMITATIONS OF CURRENT GOVERNANCE MODELS

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Many governance systems continue to operate through isolated evidence structures.

Examples include:

- Organization-specific records
- Project-specific verification
- Single-use evidence generation
- Repeated evidence collection
- Fragmented governance processes

These approaches often result in:

- Duplication
- Inefficiency
- Interoperability challenges
- Governance fragmentation
- Unclear responsibility boundaries

Evidence frequently remains trapped within individual governance environments.

Even when evidence becomes reusable, responsibility may remain fragmented, unclear, or inconsistently assigned.

This creates a governance challenge that cannot be addressed through evidence generation alone.

H.3 THE SHIFT TOWARD REUSABILITY

Recent developments across sustainability, supply chains, assurance, procurement, finance, education, and governance increasingly point toward a common direction.

Evidence is becoming:

- More structured
- More traceable
- More interoperable
- More reusable

The challenge is no longer solely generating evidence.

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The challenge increasingly becomes governing evidence across multiple environments.

As evidence becomes increasingly reusable, governance requirements extend beyond evidence generation, preservation, and exchange.

Reusable evidence ecosystems require mechanisms capable of supporting responsibility allocation, continuity restoration, governance escalation, and accountability preservation across governance environments.

Evidence may move across institutions, sectors, jurisdictions, and governance frameworks.

Responsibility, however, remains context dependent.

This transition represents the governance challenge addressed by STRC.

The objective is not simply to reuse evidence.

The objective is to preserve governance continuity while evidence becomes reusable.

H.4 THE EVOLUTION OF THE ARCHITECTURE

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–Layer–STRC architecture may be understood as a progressive Evidence Governance Architecture.

Each framework addresses a different governance requirement within the lifecycle of reusable evidence.

PADV→ Evidence Generation

NTCC→ Evidence Continuity

InstiTech→ Evidence Preservation

ICTF→ Evidence Maturity Representation

EIV-Layer→ Evidence Reusability

STRC→ Continuity Governance and Responsibility Boundaries

Together, these layers establish the structural conditions required for reusable evidence ecosystems.

The architecture does not prescribe institutional decisions.

The architecture establishes the governance conditions under which evidence may remain reusable, traceable, interpretable, and responsibility-preserving across governance environments.

Each layer addresses a different governance challenge.

Together, they form an integrated Evidence Governance Architecture supporting long-term evidence continuity.

H.5 FROM EVIDENCE TO ECOSYSTEMS

Historically, evidence systems often followed a narrow sequence:

Evidence → Project → Archive

Future governance environments may increasingly follow a broader sequence:

**Evidence → Continuity → Preservation → Maturity Representation → Reuse → Responsibility
Governance → Shared Responsibility Ecosystems**

Evidence therefore becomes part of an ongoing governance infrastructure rather than a single-use record.

This transition changes the governance question.

The question is no longer only:

Was evidence generated?

The question increasingly becomes:

Can evidence remain reusable while responsibility remains clear?

STRC addresses this question by defining responsibility boundaries and continuity governance mechanisms across reusable evidence ecosystems.

H.6 THE ROLE OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Reusable evidence ecosystems require more than evidence portability.

They also require responsibility clarity.

As evidence moves:

- Responsibility remains defined.
- Accountability remains traceable.
- Governance remains distributed.
- Interpretation remains contextual.
- Decision authority remains local.

Accordingly:

Reusable Evidence

Requires

Defined Responsibility

This principle represents the governance foundation of STRC.

Shared responsibility does not mean that responsibility becomes collective, diluted, or transferred automatically.

It means that responsibilities remain clearly assigned across the lifecycle of reusable evidence.

H.7 CHARACTERISTICS OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

Future shared responsibility ecosystems may exhibit several characteristics.

CONTINUITY

Evidence remains referenceable across time.

REUSABILITY

Evidence supports multiple governance environments.

TRACEABILITY

Evidence origins remain visible.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Responsibilities remain allocated.

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GOVERNANCE NEUTRALITY

Evidence remains usable across diverse governance frameworks without determining outcomes.

INTEROPERABILITY

Evidence remains portable between institutional environments.

RESPONSIBILITY BOUNDARIES

Occurrence, interpretation, and decision-making remain separated across governance roles.

CONTINUITY RESTORATION

Governance disruptions can be addressed through structured recovery mechanisms rather than punitive interpretation.

H.8 WHAT SHARED RESPONSIBILITY DOES NOT MEAN

Shared Responsibility Ecosystems do not imply:

- Centralized control
- Universal governance authority
- Automated decision-making
- Delegated accountability
- Transfer of legal liability
- Transfer of institutional responsibility
- Substitution of professional judgment
- Replacement of governance frameworks

The ecosystem preserves distributed governance.

Responsibilities remain assigned to the organizations or actors performing each governance function.

Evidence may be transferred.

Responsibility does not automatically transfer.

H.9 THE FUTURE GOVERNANCE MODEL

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The future governance model may be summarized as:

**Participation→ Evidence Generation→ Evidence Continuity→ Evidence Preservation→
Evidence Maturity Representation→ Evidence Reusability→ Responsibility
Governance→ Shared Responsibility Ecosystems**

This progression represents the conceptual evolution described throughout the Architecture White Paper Series.

Within this progression, STRC functions as the Continuity Governance Layer.

Its role is not to generate evidence.

Its role is not to determine trustworthiness.

Its role is not to determine institutional outcomes.

Its role is to preserve responsibility clarity and continuity governance as evidence becomes reusable across governance environments.

H.10 THE ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLE

The architecture ultimately rests upon three principles.

PRINCIPLE 1

Generate Once.

Use Many Times.

(EIV-Layer)

PRINCIPLE 2

Responsibility Boundaries

Remain Defined.

(STRC)

PRINCIPLE 3

Reusable Evidence**Requires****Continuity Governance.**

(Shared Responsibility Ecosystems)

Together, these principles establish the foundation of reusable evidence governance.

Evidence may become more portable.

Governance must remain accountable.

Continuity must remain observable.

Responsibility must remain defined.

H. 11 SUMMARY

The PADV–NTCC–InstiTech–ICTF–EIV–Layer–STRC architecture represents a progression from participation governance toward shared responsibility governance.

The architecture does not seek to centralize evidence.

The architecture does not seek to centralize authority.

The architecture does not determine institutional outcomes.

Instead, it seeks to establish governance conditions through which evidence may remain:

- Reusable
- Traceable
- Interoperable
- Accountable
- Responsibility-preserving

across governance environments.

Shared Responsibility Ecosystems represent one possible evolution of this direction.

They describe a future governance environment in which evidence may move across systems while responsibility remains assigned, interpretation remains contextual, and decisions remain local.

H.12 CLOSING STATEMENT

The future challenge of governance may no longer be evidence generation alone.

It may increasingly become the ability to preserve continuity, support reusability, and maintain responsibility across evidence ecosystems.

Accordingly:

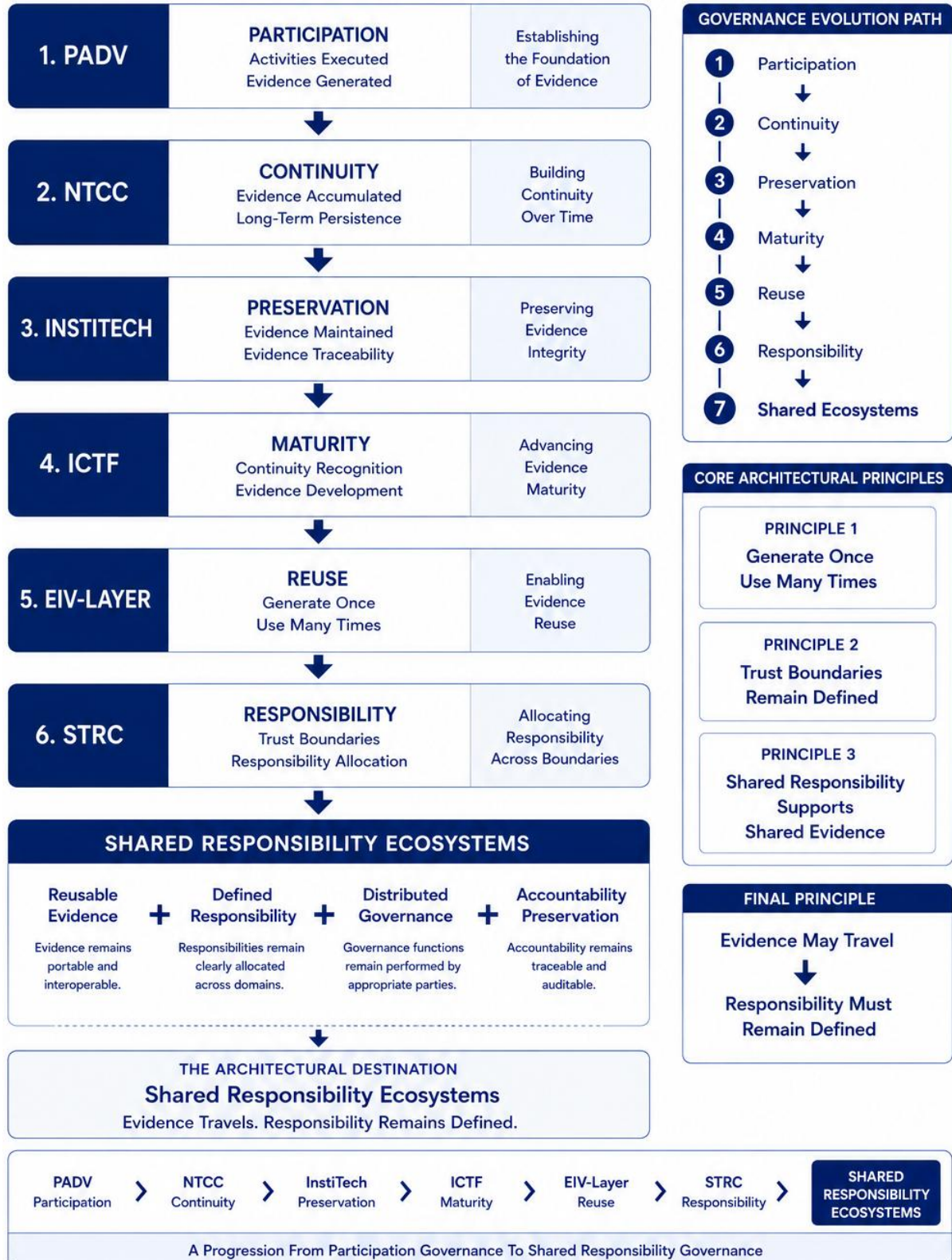
Evidence May Travel.

Responsibility Must Remain Defined.

This principle concludes the STRC framework.

FIGURE H.1 THE EVOLUTION TOWARD SHARED RESPONSIBILITY ECOSYSTEMS

*The Future Evolution of
Reusable Evidence Governance*



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Subtitle: Dialogues, Contributions, and Institutional Context

The development of the Structured Trust and Responsibility Chain (STRC) reflects an ongoing exploration of Responsibility Boundaries, Continuity Governance, Evidence Integrity, Governance Escalation, Accountability Preservation, and Reusable Evidence Ecosystems across increasingly interconnected governance environments.

This framework was not developed in isolation.

Its evolution has been informed by participation in public consultations, technical discussions, governance forums, professional exchanges, implementation experiences, sustainability-related dialogues, and evidence infrastructure development across multiple institutional ecosystems.

The author gratefully acknowledges the broader communities, institutions, practitioners, researchers, technology architects, governance professionals, assurance specialists, compliance professionals, and standards participants whose work has contributed to the development of the concepts presented in this publication.

GOVERNANCE, REPORTING, AND DISCLOSURE ECOSYSTEMS

The framework has been influenced by ongoing developments across international governance, sustainability reporting, disclosure, accountability, and interoperability environments, including public materials, consultations, and professional discussions associated with:

- International Financial Reporting Standards Foundation (IFRS Foundation)
- International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)
- Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)
- Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)
- Taskforce on Inequality and Social-related Financial Disclosures (TISFD)
- Science Based Targets Network (SBTN)

These initiatives continue to demonstrate the growing importance of evidence quality, traceability, continuity, interoperability, governance accountability, and responsibility boundaries across institutional environments.

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ASSURANCE, GOVERNANCE, AND VERIFICATION COMMUNITIES

The framework has also benefited from ongoing engagement with assurance, verification, governance, compliance, audit, legal, risk-management, and internal-control professionals operating across public and private sectors.

These discussions have contributed to the development of concepts relating to:

- Evidence Integrity
- Evidence Continuity
- Verification Governance
- Documentation Traceability
- Responsibility Allocation
- Accountability Preservation
- Continuity Restoration
- Governance Escalation

PARTICIPATION AND IMPLEMENTATION CONTEXT

The practical foundations of the framework draw upon implementation experiences, operational observations, and methodological development associated with the broader PADV, NTCC, InstiTech, ICTF, and EIV-Layer architectures.

These experiences have supported the exploration of:

- Participation Integrity
- Evidence Generation
- Evidence Continuity
- Evidence Preservation
- Evidence Maturity Representation
- Evidence Reusability
- Responsibility Boundaries
- Continuity Governance

The resulting observations have contributed to the development of the STRC architecture and the shared responsibility ecosystem concepts presented within this publication.

ACADEMIC FOUNDATIONS

The framework draws intellectual inspiration from foundational contributions in institutional theory, governance, trust theory, systems thinking, organizational economics, infrastructure studies, information systems, and decision sciences, including:

- Niklas Luhmann
- Francis Fukuyama
- Elinor Ostrom
- Douglass C. North
- Herbert A. Simon
- Donella H. Meadows
- Ronald Coase
- Susan Leigh Star
- Geoffrey C. Bowker
- Luciano Floridi

Their work continues to influence contemporary discussions concerning trust, institutional development, governance systems, collective action, organizational responsibility, information infrastructure, adaptive systems, and long-term continuity.

DISCLAIMER

The acknowledgment of institutions, organizations, initiatives, publications, professional communities, standards bodies, or individual contributors within this section does not imply endorsement, sponsorship, partnership, review, approval, validation, certification, or formal association with this framework.

The STRC framework does not determine:

- Legal liability
- Regulatory findings
- Organizational guilt
- Intent
- Moral responsibility
- Procurement eligibility
- Financing decisions

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- Investment suitability
- Assurance conclusions
- Compliance determinations
- Organizational trustworthiness

Evidence may transfer.

Responsibility does not automatically transfer.

Interpretation remains contextual.

Decision authority remains local.

The framework supports governance continuity.

It does not determine governance outcomes.

All interpretations, conclusions, methodologies, classifications, architectural models, responsibility structures, governance concepts, and recommendations contained within this publication remain the sole responsibility of EMJ LIFE Holdings Pte. Ltd.

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