


Climate Educators Network

Driving a rich and forward-looking climate education for active citizens of the future.



Paula Ikonen, Aybars Senyildiz, Zhiwen (Wen) Yap, Felix Zelck
Design for Government 2020

WHO ARE WE?



Paula Ikonen
MA Creative Sustainability



Aybars Senyildiz
MA Creative Sustainability



Zhiwen (Wen) Yap
MA Collaborative and
Industrial Design

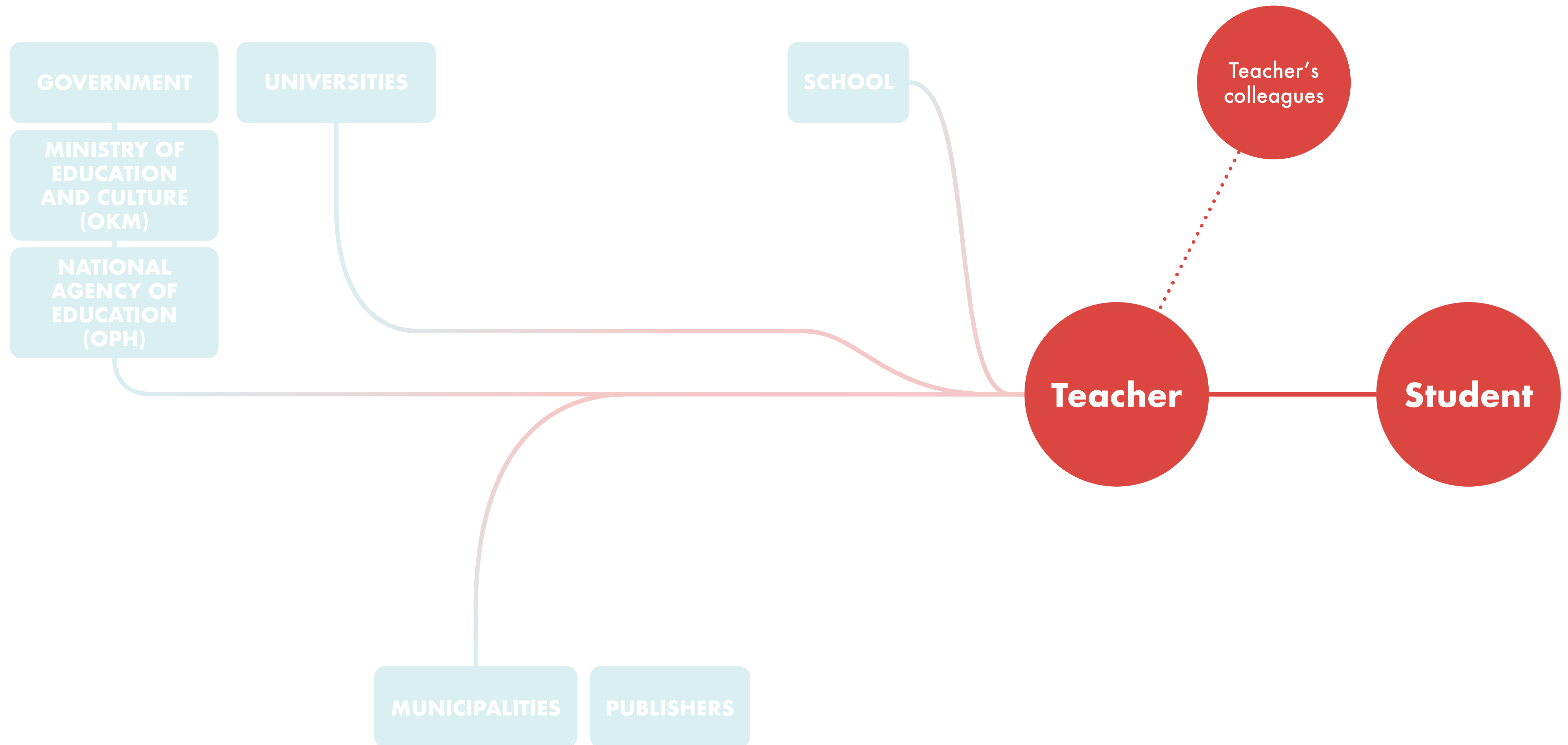


Felix Zelck
MA Collaborative and
Industrial Design

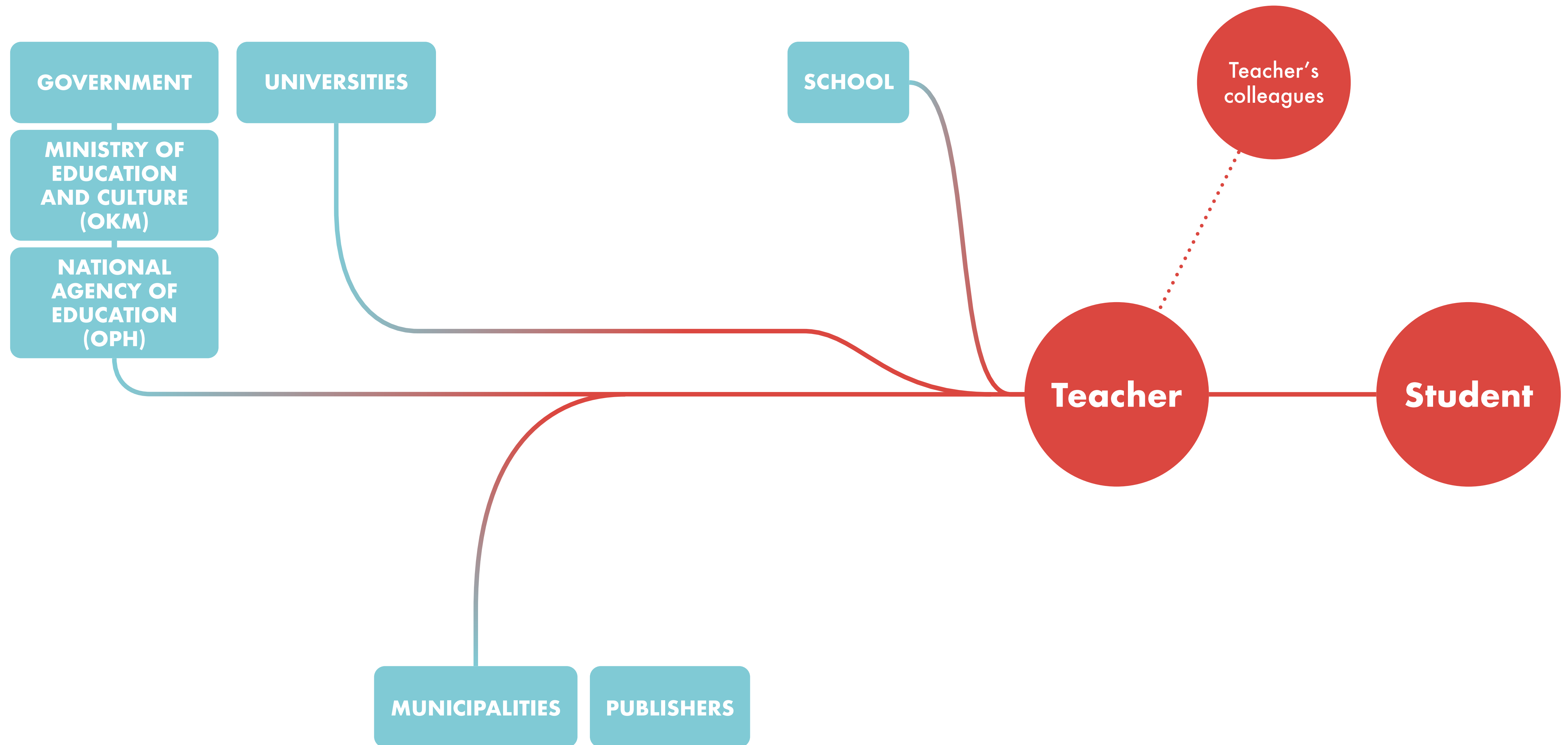
OUR RESEARCH PROCESS



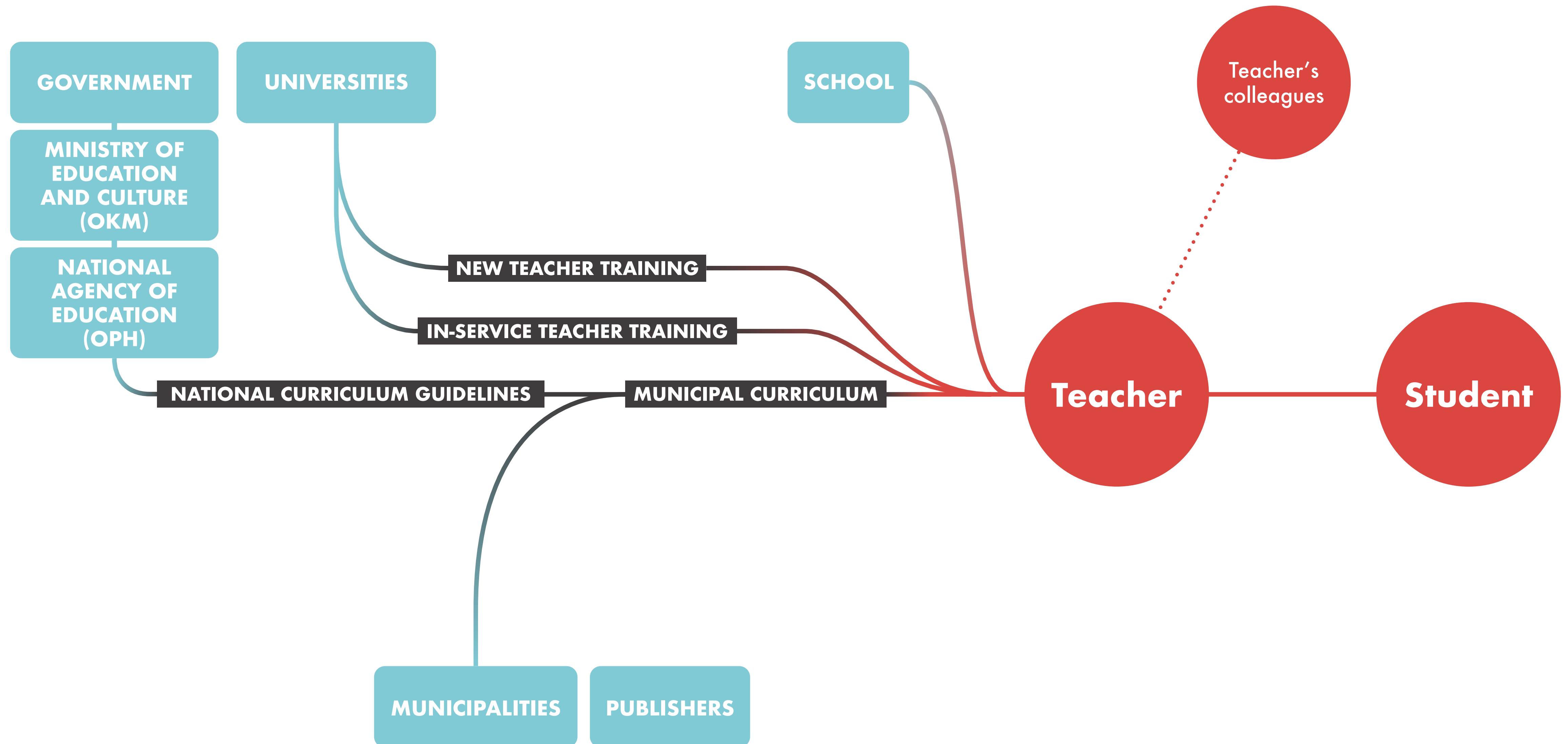
EDUCATION SYSTEM IN FINLAND



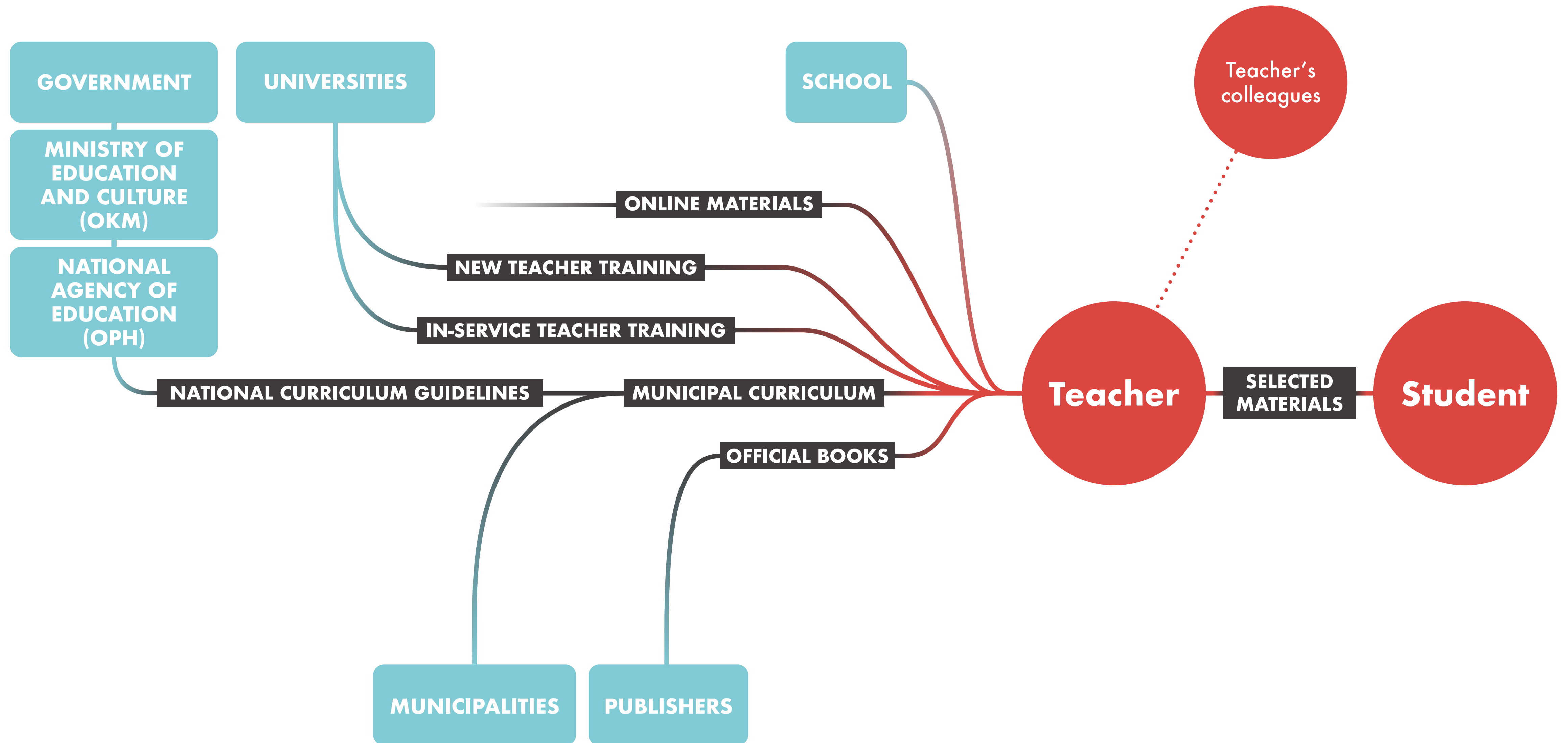
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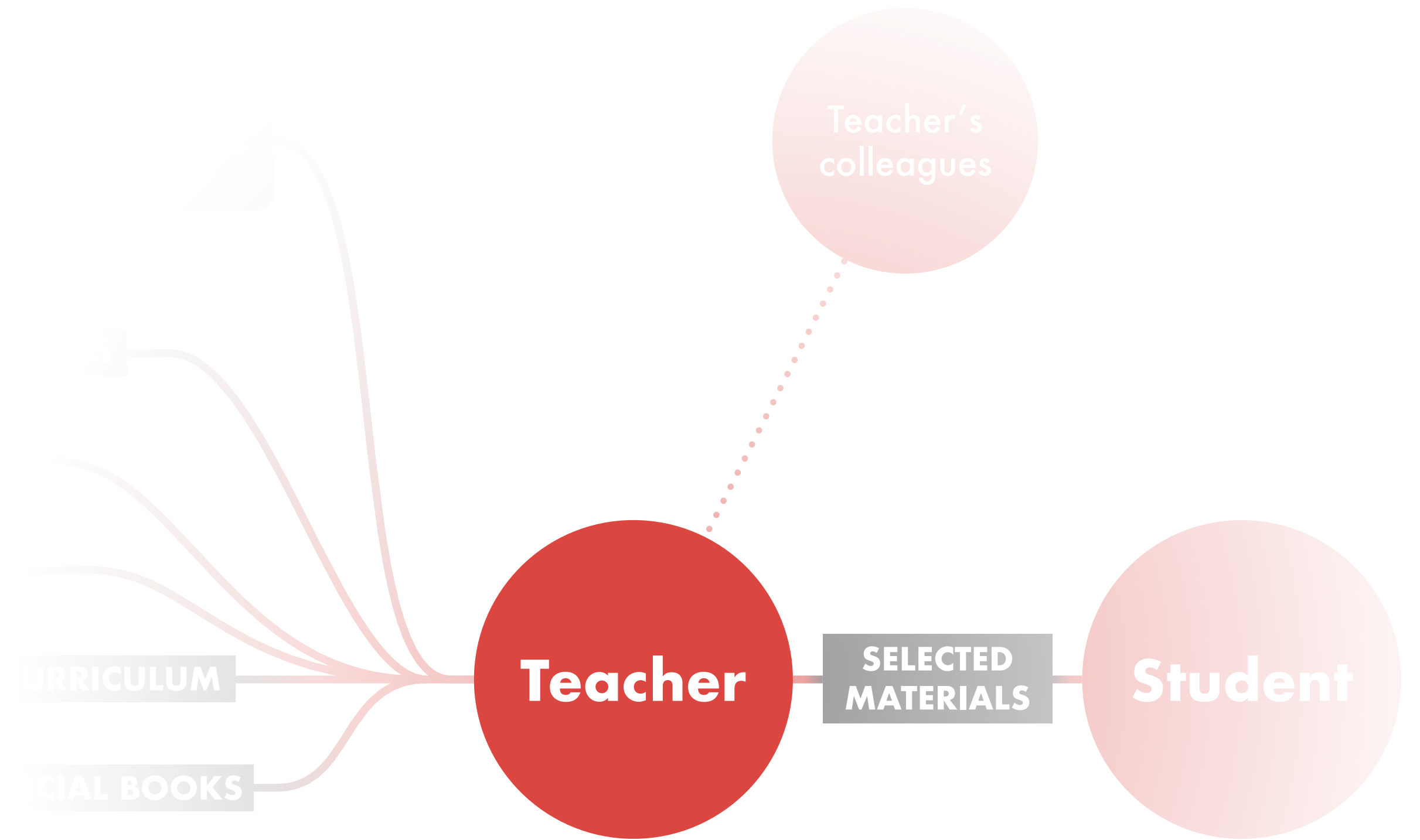


EDUCATION SYSTEM IN FINLAND



TEACHERS AS FUNNELS

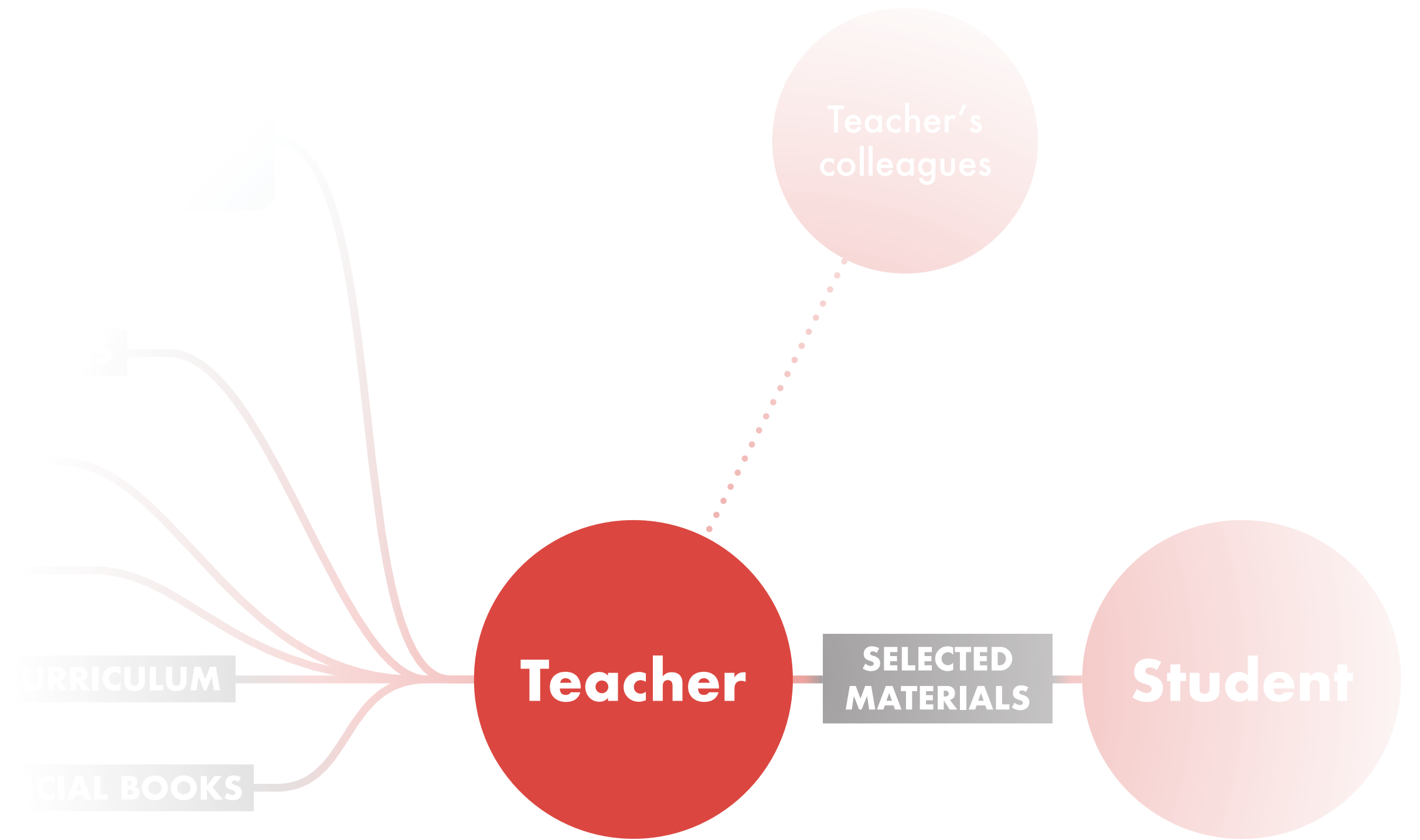
Open-ended Curriculum and Trust in Teachers enable **“Teacher Autonomy”**.



TEACHERS AS FUNNELS

Open-ended Curriculum and Trust in Teachers enable **“Teacher Autonomy”**.

Climate Change is a **complex** and **politically charged** topic which may cause **lack of confidence** for some teachers.

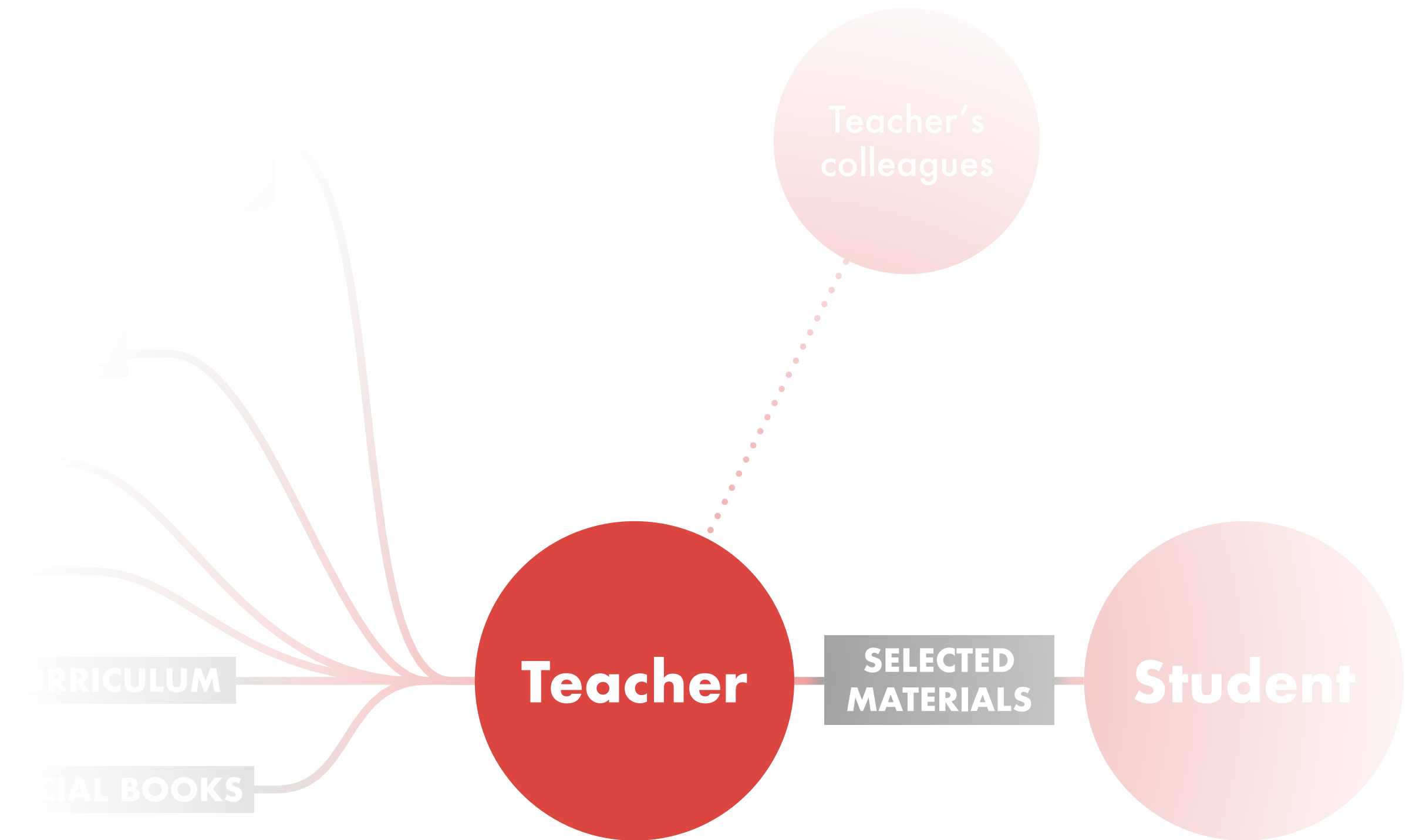


TEACHERS AS FUNNELS

Open-ended Curriculum and Trust in Teachers enable **“Teacher Autonomy”**.

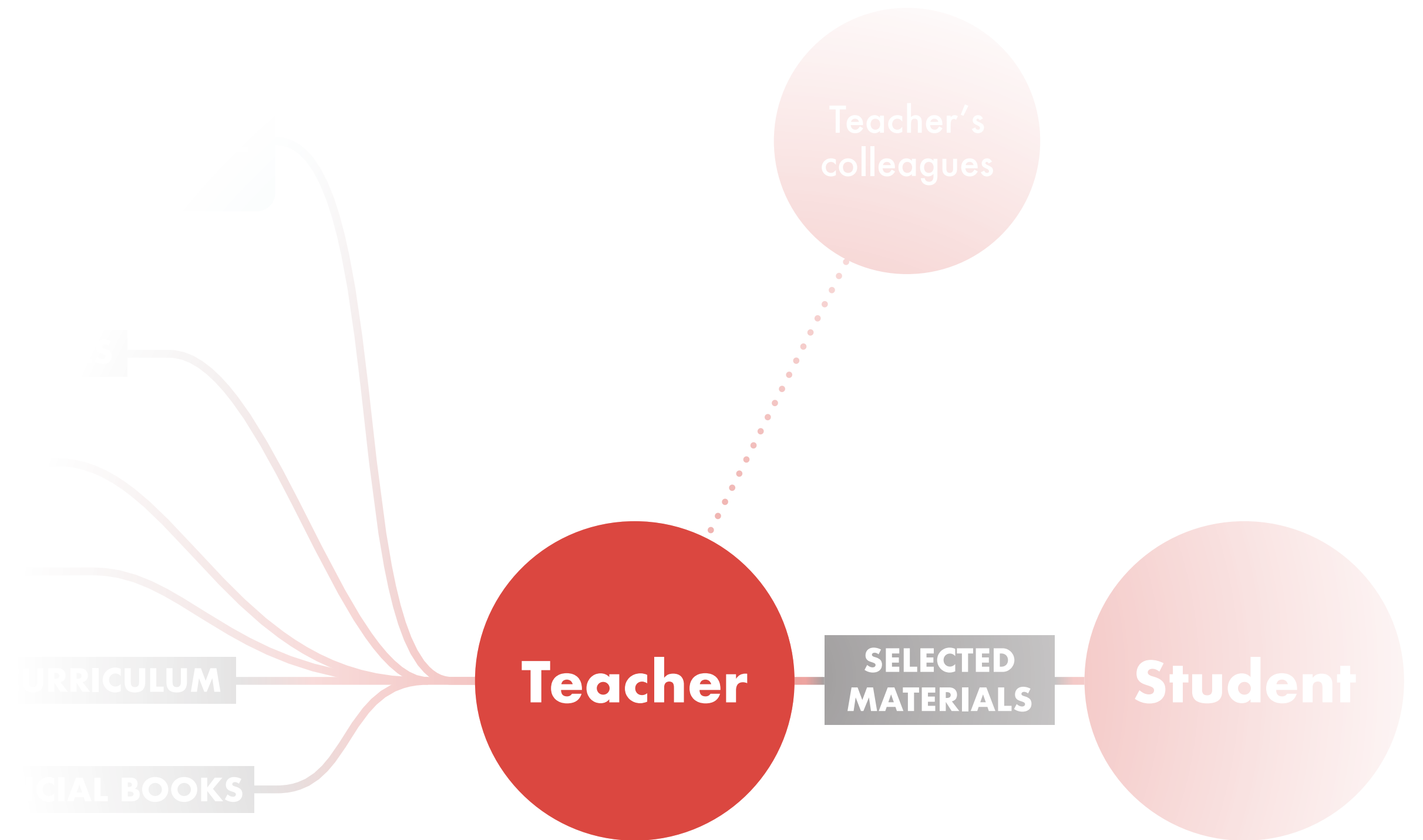
Climate Change is a **complex** and **politically charged** topic which may cause **lack of confidence** for some teachers.

Peer support could help unconfident teachers, however it depends on **time availability**.



TEACHERS AS FUNNELS

Hence, whether or not each teacher incorporates CE into teaching depends on their **time availability**, **personal interest**, and **confidence** handling this complex topic.



“ Teachers are really eager to do climate change education, but some are totally lost about what to do.

- Climate Education Researcher, WWF Finland

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“ Teachers have too much work and too many things on their minds. There's no time that's devoted only for developing climate change education.

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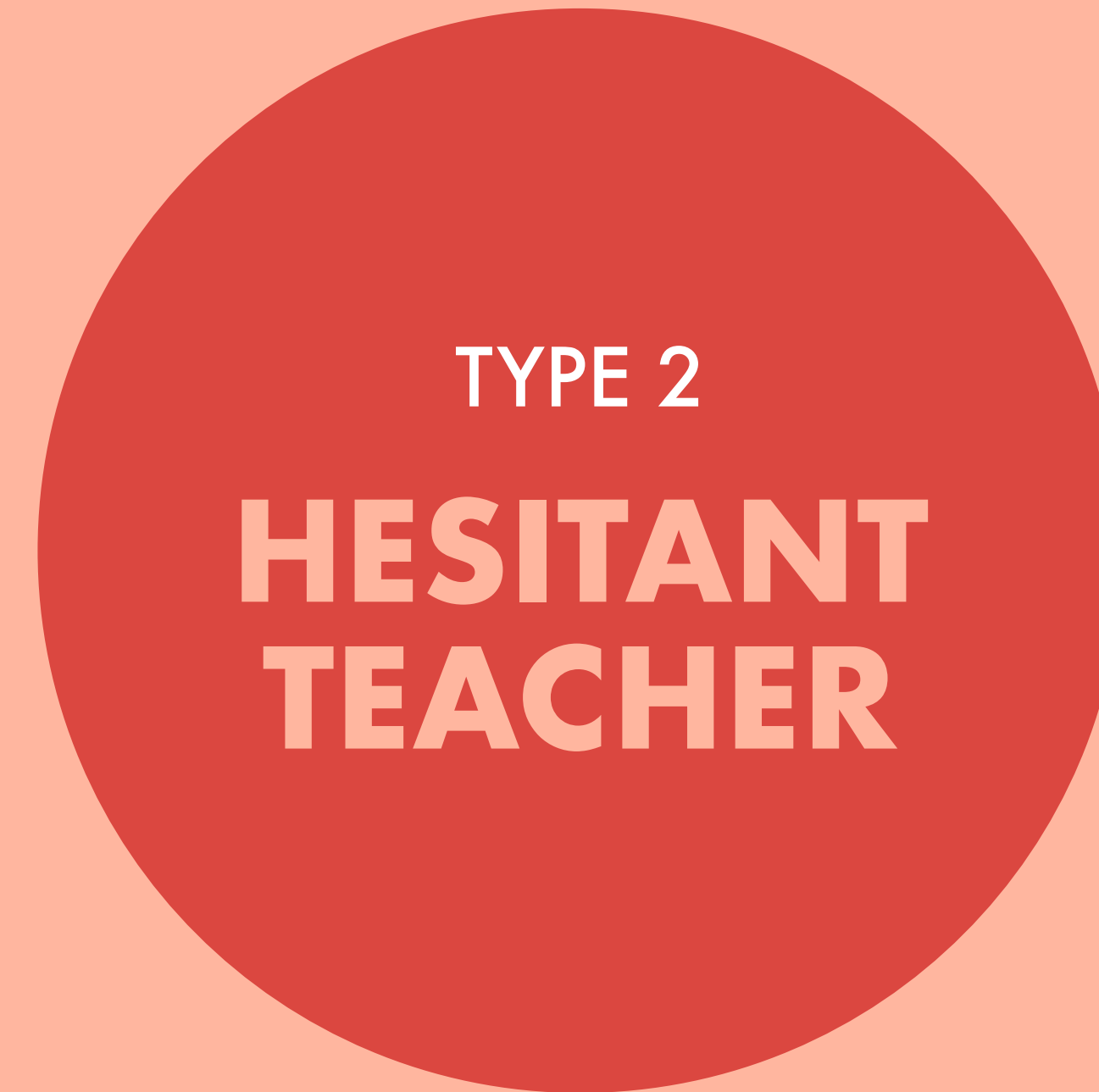
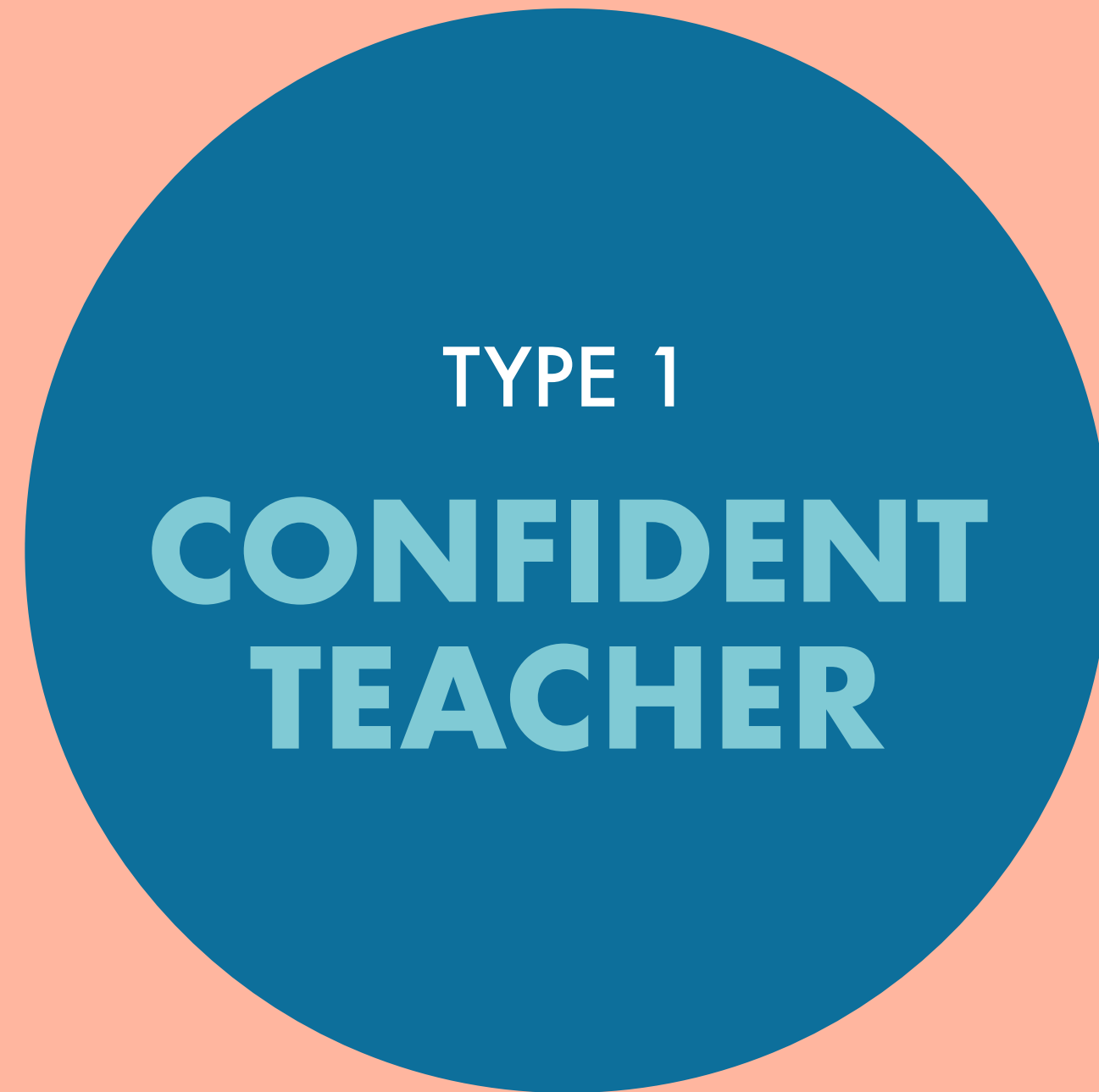
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“ Teachers have too much work and too many things on their minds. There's no time that's devoted only for developing climate change education.

- Climate Education Researcher, WWF Finland

“ We don't know everything, but we know how to find information ... These human skills — talking, speaking — are the most important skills that we need.

- Middle School Principal, Uusimaa



Saara



**CONFIDENT
TEACHER**

Jukka



**HESITANT
TEACHER**

Jukka

Hi,
I'm Jukka!



..... Chemistry teacher
at a middle school
in Tampere

..... Over 10 years
of experience

Jukka



I want to do climate education, but climate change is such a complex topic that I don't know enough to teach it confidently!

**CONFIDENT
TEACHER**

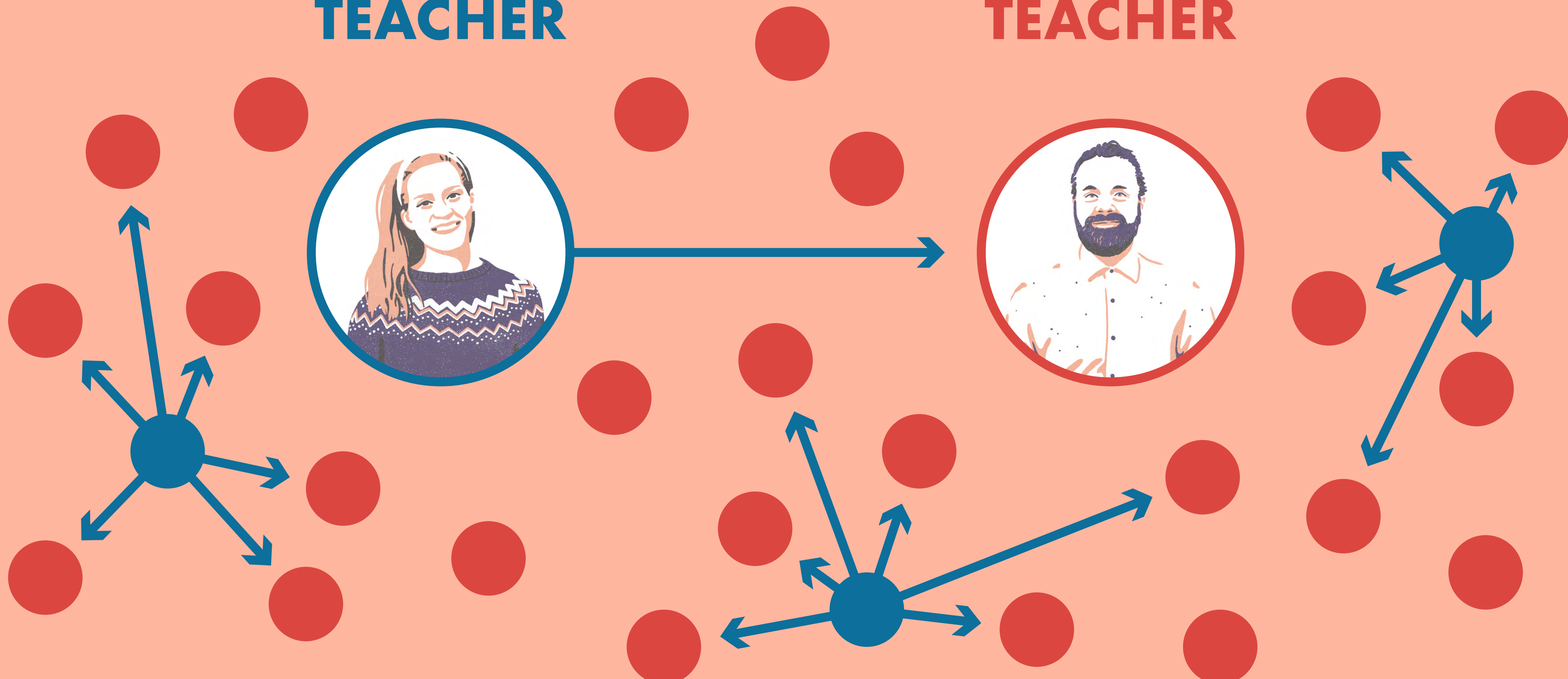


**HESITANT
TEACHER**



CONFIDENT TEACHER

HESITANT TEACHER



OUR INTERVENTION AIMS TO...



1

Empower teachers to be confident, not uncomfortable or fearful of, facilitating discussions on climate change with students.

OUR INTERVENTION AIMS TO...

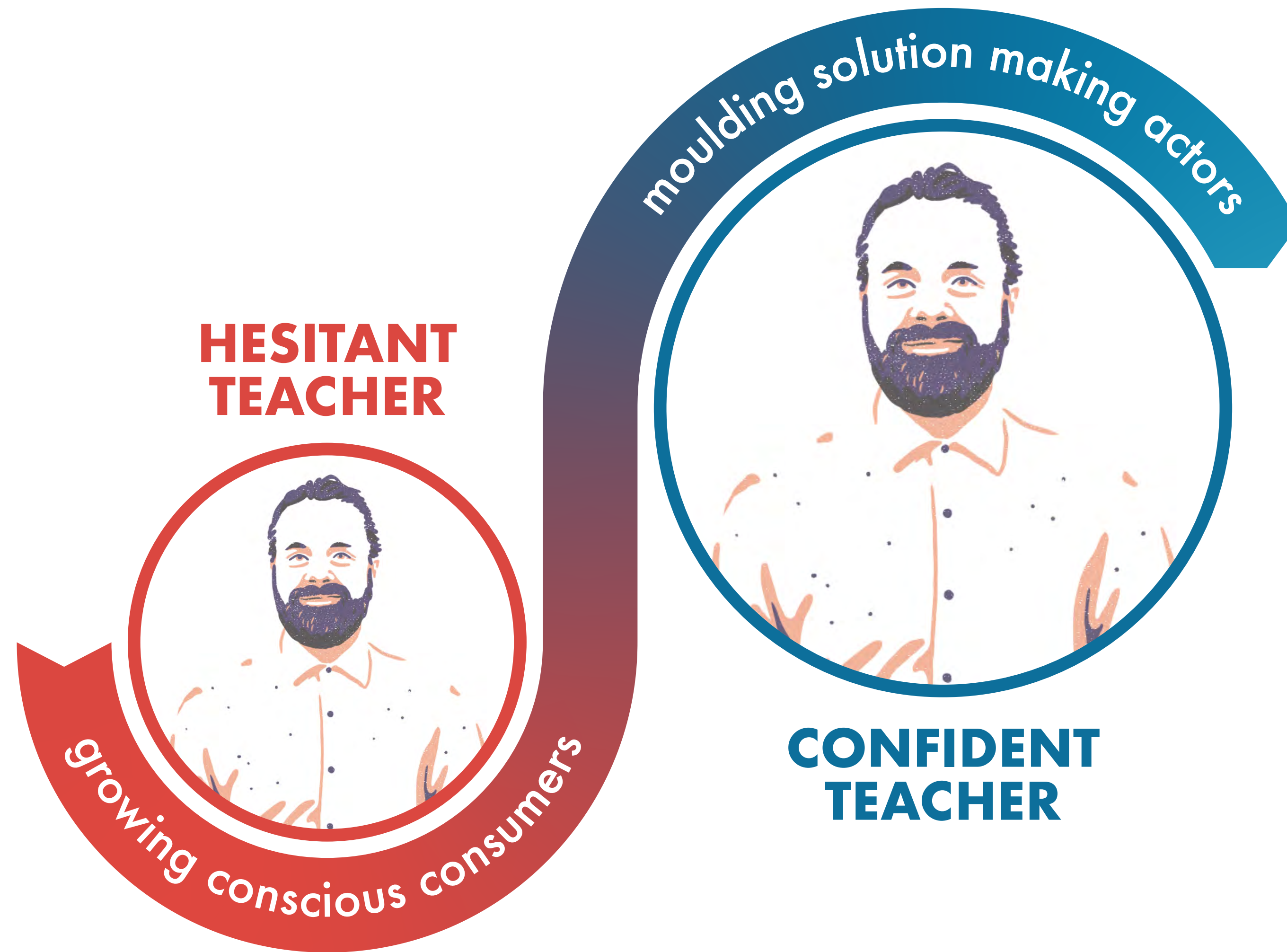


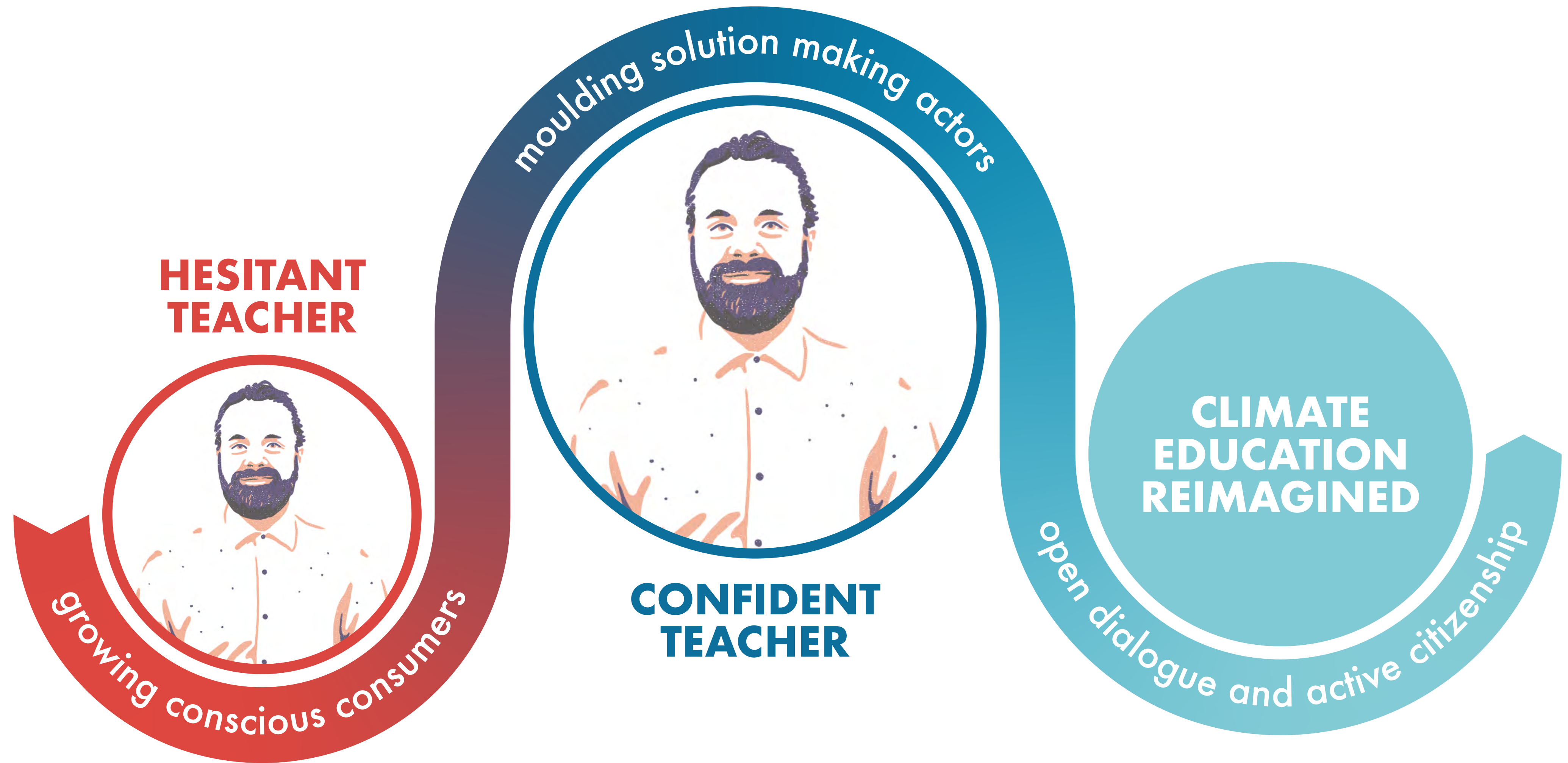
1

Empower teachers to be confident, not uncomfortable or fearful of, facilitating discussions on climate change with students.

2

Embed climate education into every class and subject.





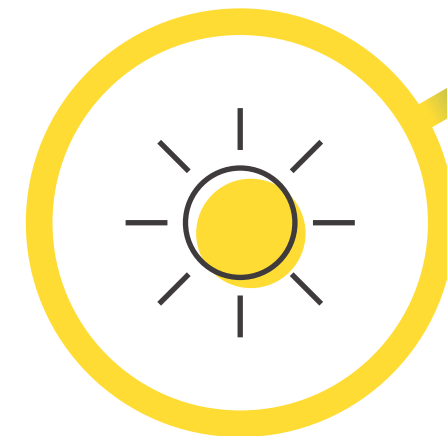
CONFIDENT TEACHER



CONFIDENT TEACHER



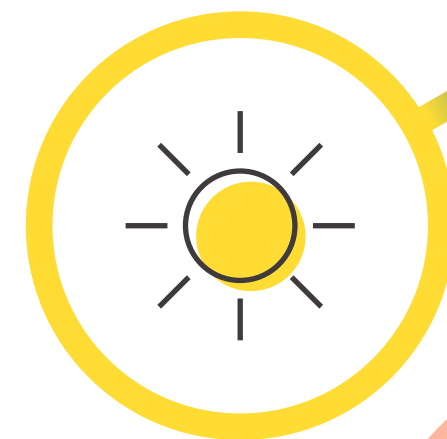
Communication about
emotions to maintain **HOPE**



CONFIDENT TEACHER



Communication about
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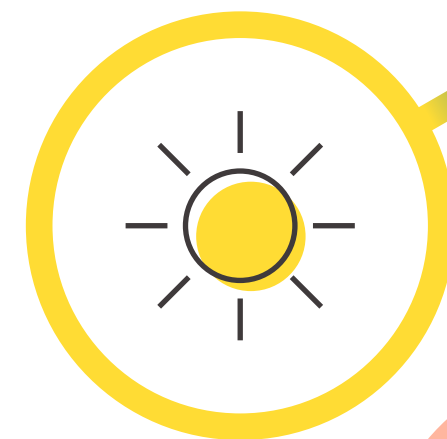


EMPOWERMENT
through participatory methods
and environmental action



CONFIDENT TEACHER

Communication about
emotions to maintain **HOPE**

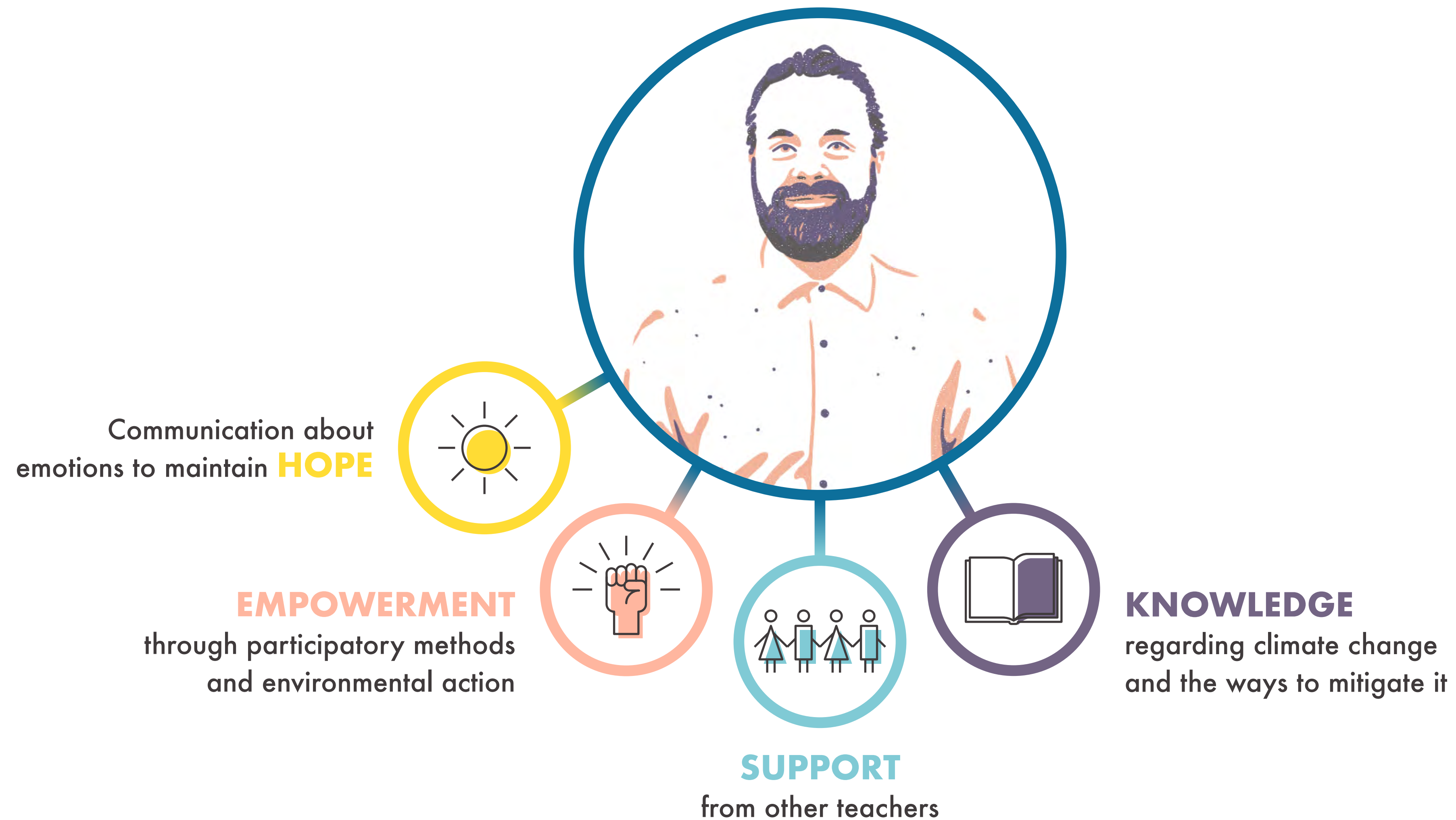


EMPOWERMENT
through participatory methods
and environmental action



SUPPORT
from other teachers

CONFIDENT TEACHER



CONFIDENT TEACHER



Climate Educators Network

INSIGHTS

Incorporating Climate
Education depends on:

**TEACHER'S
CONFIDENCE**

**TIME
AVAILABILITY**

**PERSONAL
INTEREST**

Climate Educators Network

INSIGHTS

Incorporating Climate Education depends on:

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SOLUTION

A starter kit and platform to onboard teachers to a new climate education approach, and kickstart a growing exchange of knowledge and experience.

Climate Educators Network

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SOLUTION

A starter kit and platform to onboard teachers to a new climate education approach, and kickstart a growing exchange of knowledge and experience.

OUTCOME

A network driving a rich and forward-looking climate education for active citizens of the future.

PART 1

Conversation Starter Kit



TOOLKIT distributed by government to schools for teachers to start climate education

INTRODUCES AND ANCHORS new climate education framework

INVITATION for teachers to join Climate Educators platform and network

Conversation Starter Kit

Introducing a new approach to climate education

Letter with call to action



OPETUSHALLITUS
UTBILDNINGSTYRELSEN

Dear Teacher,

Climate change is the greatest and most complex challenge faced by our generation, and the younger generation with whom you interact daily. We have no time to lose in this battle, which needs to be fought across all segments of society, business, and government.

Hence, **Finland is introducing a new national framework for climate education, with focus on fostering open dialogue and active citizenship.** This toolkit you are receiving, alongside our newly launched online platform, are central elements of our nationwide drive to improve the way climate education is done in Finland.

As teachers, you play an influential role in educating the younger generation in their understanding of and response to climate change. Your students are our future, and will grow up to shape our society's collective response to climate change. This is why we are calling on you to embed climate change education into your teaching, to openly discuss this topic with your students (no matter how complex it might seem), to empower them to see themselves as part of the solution now and in the future.

Let's Talk About Climate is a set of conversation starters for you to use with students. The questions cover a range of topics and entry points to the issue of climate change. Some will help students open up about their emotions and thoughts relating to climate change, some guide them to investigate causes and potential solutions to specific problems, while others trigger broader reflections on systemic interventions. You may need to select the cards that are most relevant to your students, based on their age, level, and subject(s) you teach. Some suggestions for how to make these selections are also included in this toolkit.

We have also launched an **online platform — Climate Educators** (ilmastokasvattajat.fi). The platform features more curated climate education materials and guidance on their use, and channels for you to give and receive advice to fellow teachers. We hope this interactive resource will support you in initiating climate education in your schools, and connect you with teachers doing the same in other schools across Finland.

This is just the beginning of what we hope to achieve for climate education in Finland. We hope what we have started here will continue to grow and evolve, with your involvement and support. Thank you for joining us to shape our new generation of climate active citizens!

Warmly,
Anni Miettunen
Director, Learning and Internationalisation
Opetushallitus

Letter with call to action

Introduce new national framework for climate education



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What do you think and feel when you hear 'climate change'?

share openly, there are no wrong answers!

Invitation to platform



LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE?
ILMASTOKASVATTAJAT.FI

What does a climate-friendly future look like to you?

LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE?
ILMASTOKASVATTAJAT.FI

What do you think and feel when you hear 'climate change'?

share openly, there are no wrong answers!

How does climate change affect you, your society, and the world?

LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE?
ILMASTOKASVATTAJAT.FI

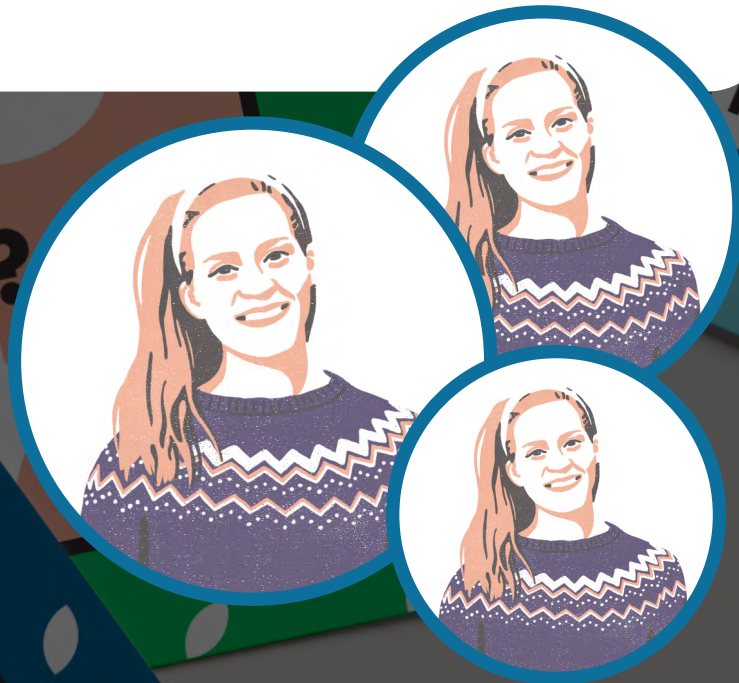
Who and what are benefited from or harmed by it?

What systems cause and perpetuate this problem?

LET'S TALK ABOUT CLIMATE?

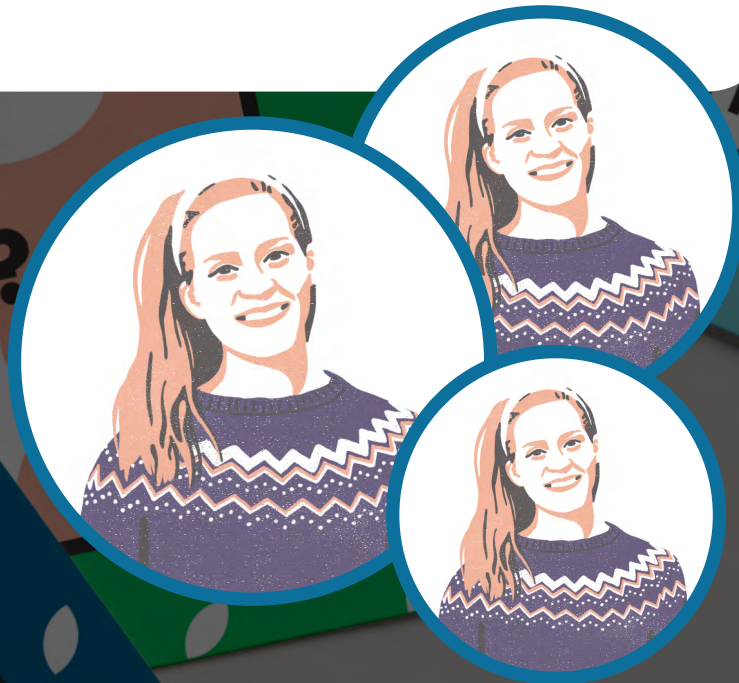
Conversation Starter Kit

Co-created with active agents in climate education



Conversation Starter Kit

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Kits for 3 different school levels

Complexity of the prompts in each kit is tailored for primary school, middle school, and high school levels

PART 1

Conversation Starter Kit



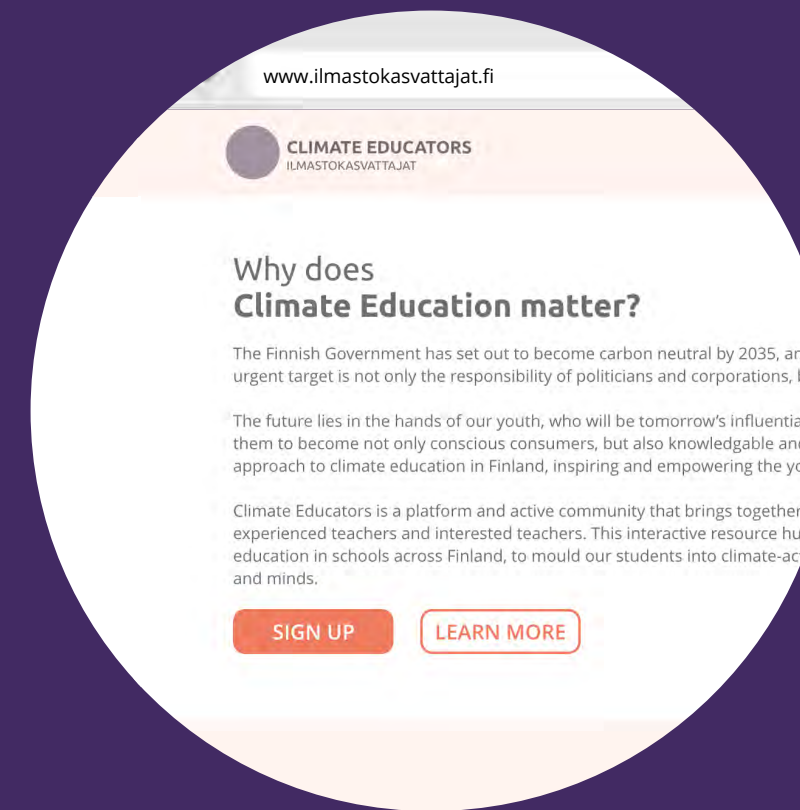
TOOLKIT distributed by government to schools for teachers to start climate education

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INVITATION for teachers to join Climate Educators platform and network

PART 2

Climate Educators Online Platform

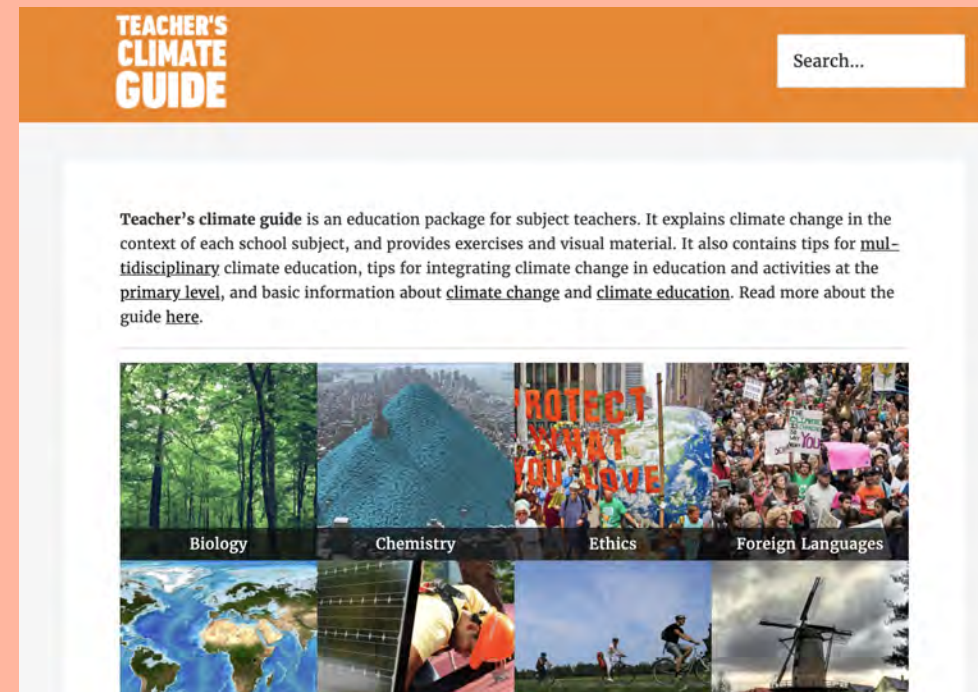


CURATED climate education resources

FORUM for teacher-to-teacher sharing

FEATURE and reward best practices

CONNECT climate educators across Finland to increase collaboration



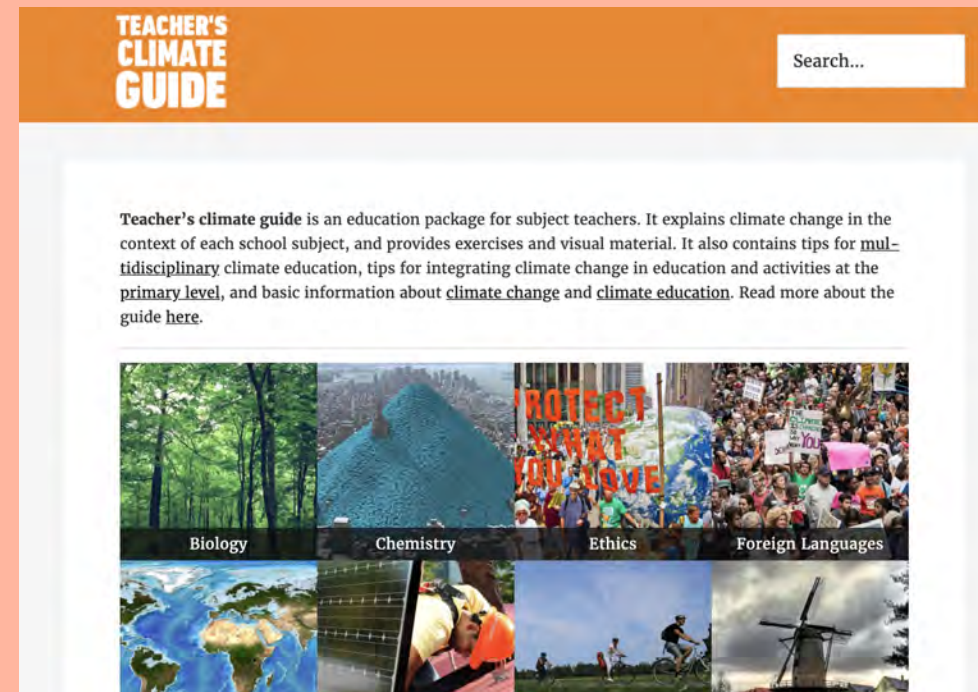
Open Ilmasto-Opas



Mappa Material Bank

BUILDING ON EXISTING PLATFORMS

- ✓ rich information
- ✓ subject insight
- ✓ material



Open Ilmasto-Opas



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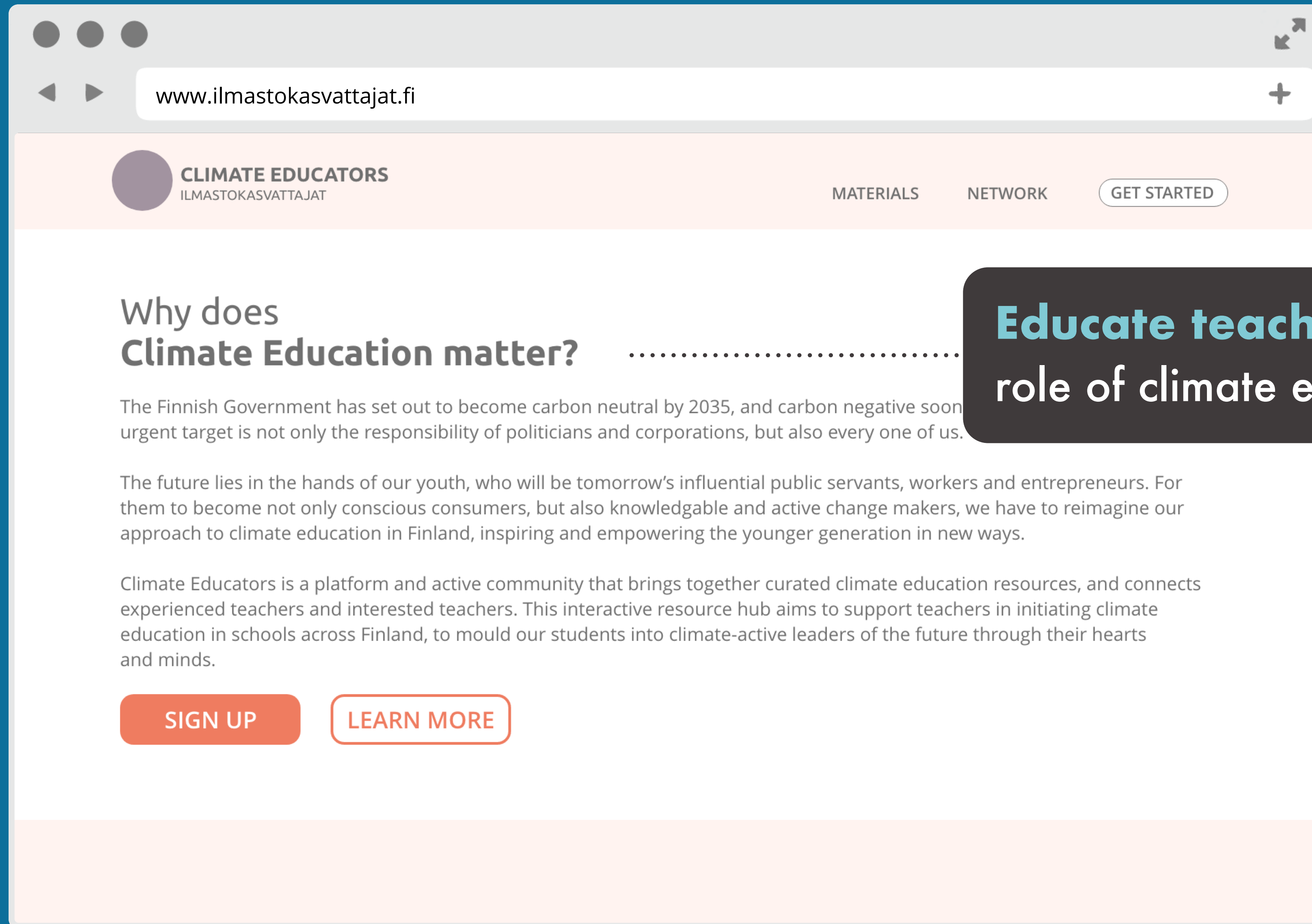
✓ material

✗ step-by-step guide

✗ material curation

✗ teacher network

Climate Educators Online Platform



Educate teachers on the role of climate education.

Understand

Utilise

Share

Climate Educators Online Platform

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL www.ilmastokasvattajat.fi. The page header includes the logo for "CLIMATE EDUCATORS ILMASTOKASVATTAJAT" and navigation links for "MATERIALS", "NETWORK", and a "GET STARTED" button. The main content area features a heading: "Pick your personal level of experience with climate education, your type of school, and subject so we can lead you to the best material to start with." Below this, there are three selection steps: 1. Experience Level (represented by three stars), 2. School Type (represented by a schoolhouse icon), and 3. Subject (represented by a book icon). A red arrow points from step 1 to step 3. Below the selection steps, there is a list of options for the Experience Level: "I want to give climate education for active citizens for the first time" (selected), "I am looking for advanced material", and "I am experienced and just looking for new material".

Guide teachers to suitable material.

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Climate Educators Online Platform

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Help to find **curated material.**

Certified by educational authorities.

Reviewed by teachers.

Understand

Utilise

Share

Climate Educators Online Platform

www.ilmastokasvattajat.fi

SIGNIFICANT GREENHOUSE GASES
started by Jukka Keinonen get the material: [Significant Greenhouse Gases](#)

Hi all,

Just a quick message to let you know that Opetushallitus has uploaded a new certified debate pack on the issue of plastic pollution.

It is 4-5 lessons long and it can be taught as part of the Chemistry, Geography, Science, English, Citizenship and SMSC curriculums.

Plastic: Whose responsibility?
Plastic isn't, in itself, the problem. It's what we do with it. We are already unable to cope with the amount of plastic we generate, with

[read more](#) [reply](#)

by Saara Lehtinen

Hey Jukka,

thank you for the great material but I wonder where the students can find out about the plastics. Do you have any starting point for that?

[reply](#)

by Fanny Korhonen get the material: [Oil and the extraction, Distillation and types of plastic](#) ..

There is some excellent material for the students research on plastics in the material database. I have it linked.

Enable **mutual support** and **knowledge exchange**.

Linking to **Resources**.

Understand

Utilise

Share

PART 1

Conversation Starter Kit



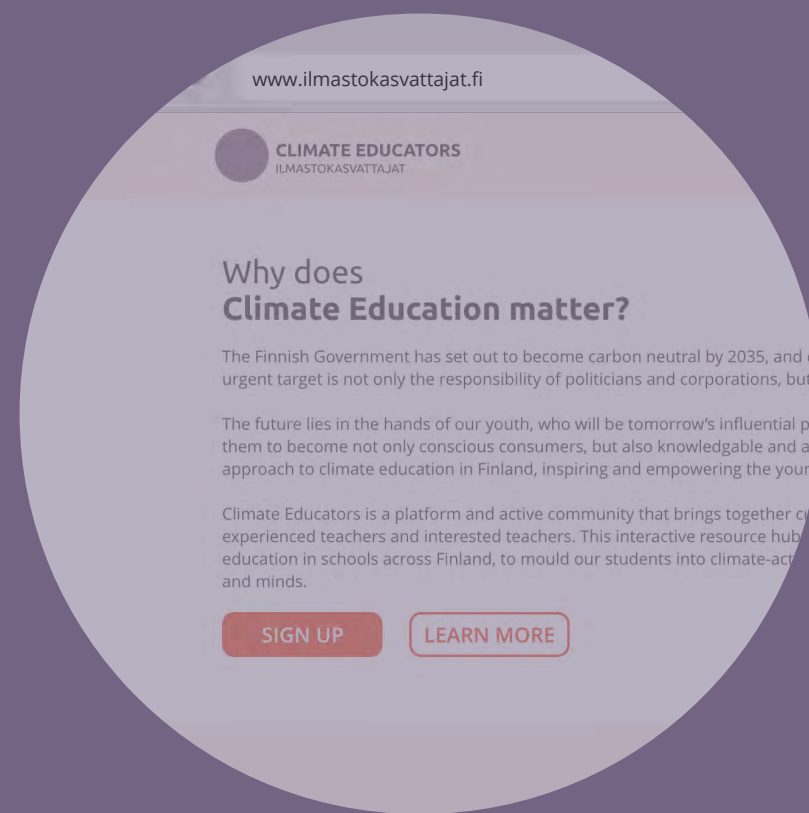
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PART 3

Climate Educators Network

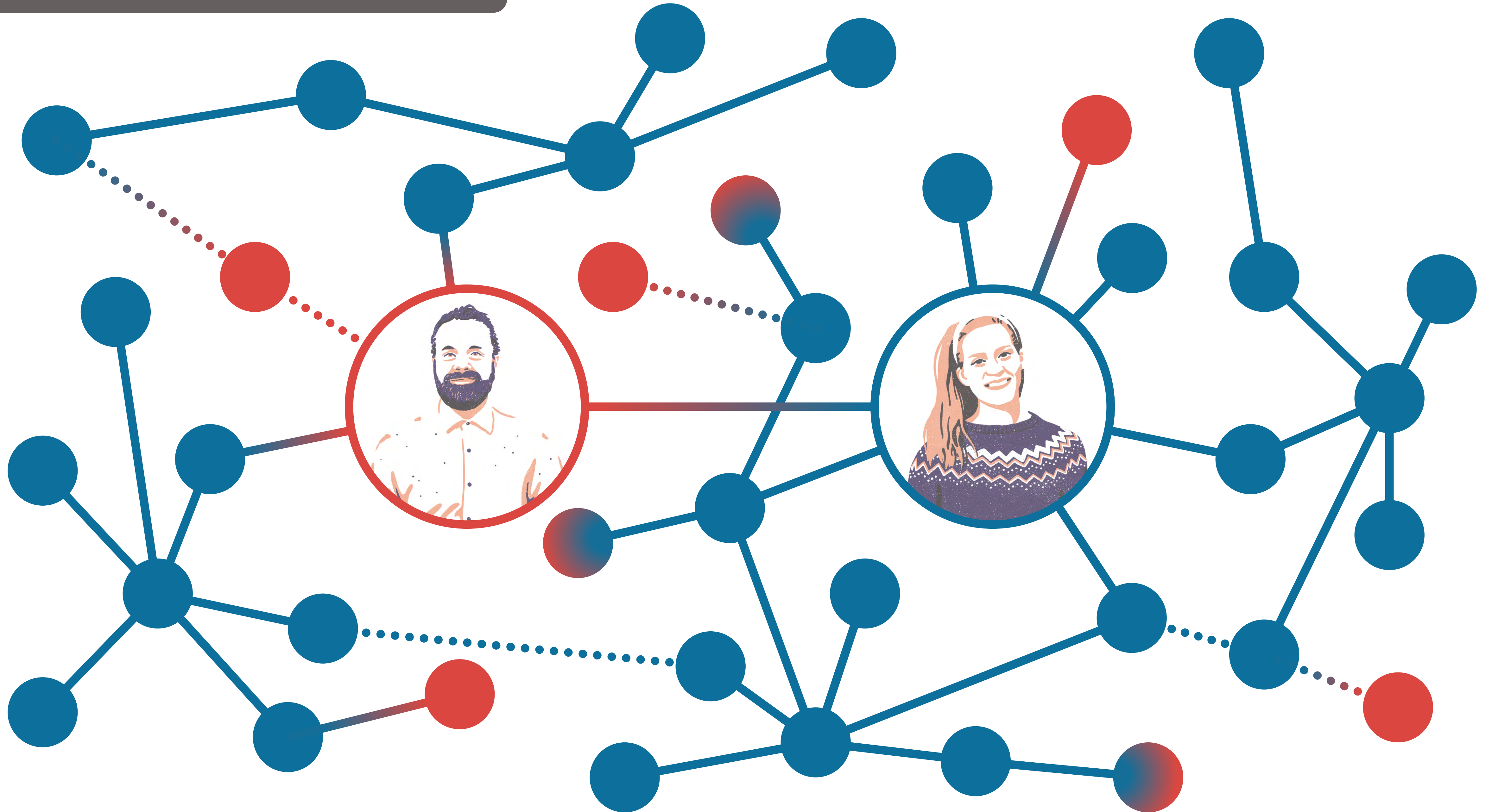


UNITED through regular social and professional events

UPDATES via e-newsletters

EVOLVE into 'community of practice' that advances climate education

CO-CREATE future curriculums continually





OUR INTERVENTION WILL...



Nudge

by providing tools and structures
that make it easy and attractive
to do climate education

OUR INTERVENTION WILL...



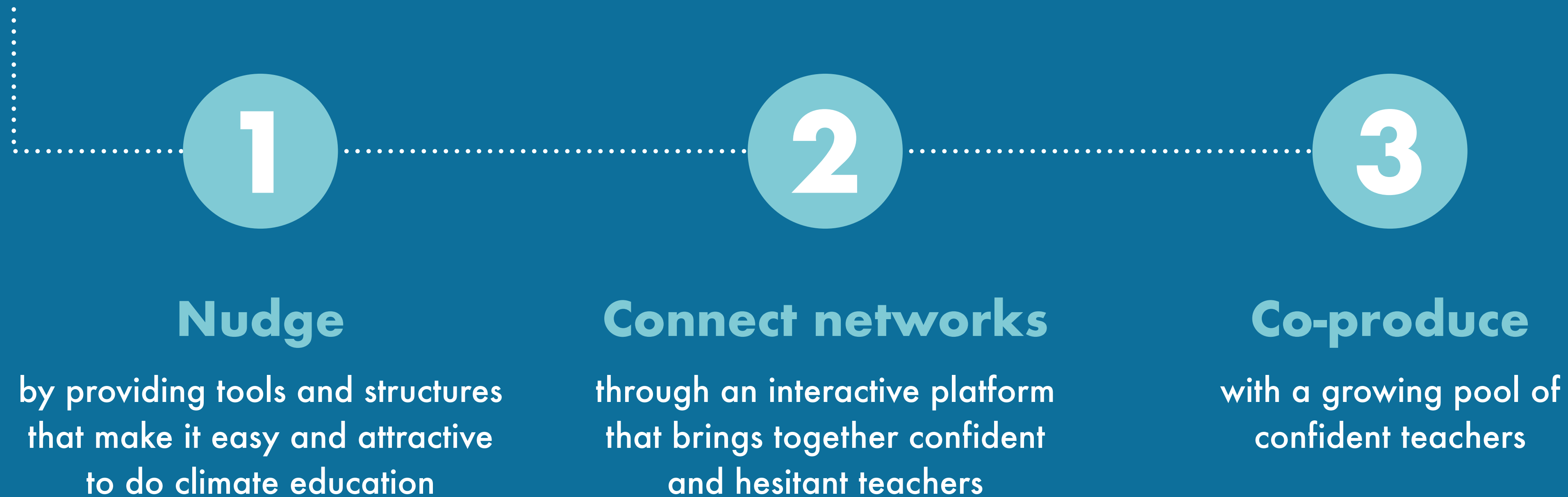
Nudge

by providing tools and structures
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Connect networks

through an interactive platform
that brings together confident
and hesitant teachers

OUR INTERVENTION WILL...





GOVERNMENT

First push

Coordinate co-creation of Conversation Starter Kit & platform with active agents



CONFIDENT TEACHER

Co-create kit & platform



HESITANT TEACHER

co-creation & setup

launch

implementation

maintenance

growth



GOVERNMENT

First push

Coordinate co-creation of Conversation Starter Kit & platform with active agents

Disseminate

Launch kit & platform as part of new national framework for climate education, and promote it via communication channels



CONFIDENT TEACHER

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HESITANT TEACHER

Discover

Receive kits and join platform

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CONFIDENT TEACHER

Co-create kit & platform

Core team that manages platform

Discussion contributors and moderators, outreach and communications teams



HESITANT TEACHER

Discover

Receive kits and join platform

Utilise

Try out new approach to climate education with kit, start engaging with other teachers via platform

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Glue network together Ongoing co-creation

Connects new and old members, fuel collaborations



HESITANT TEACHER

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Receive kits and join platform

Utilise

Try out new approach to climate education with kit, start engaging with other teachers via platform

Ongoing co-creation

Become increasingly active members of climate educators network, and participate in ongoing co-creation of future curriculums

co-creation & setup

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Try out new approach to climate education with kit, start engaging with other teachers via platform

Become increasingly active members of climate educators network, and participate in ongoing co-creation of future curriculums

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FUTURE DIRECTIONS...



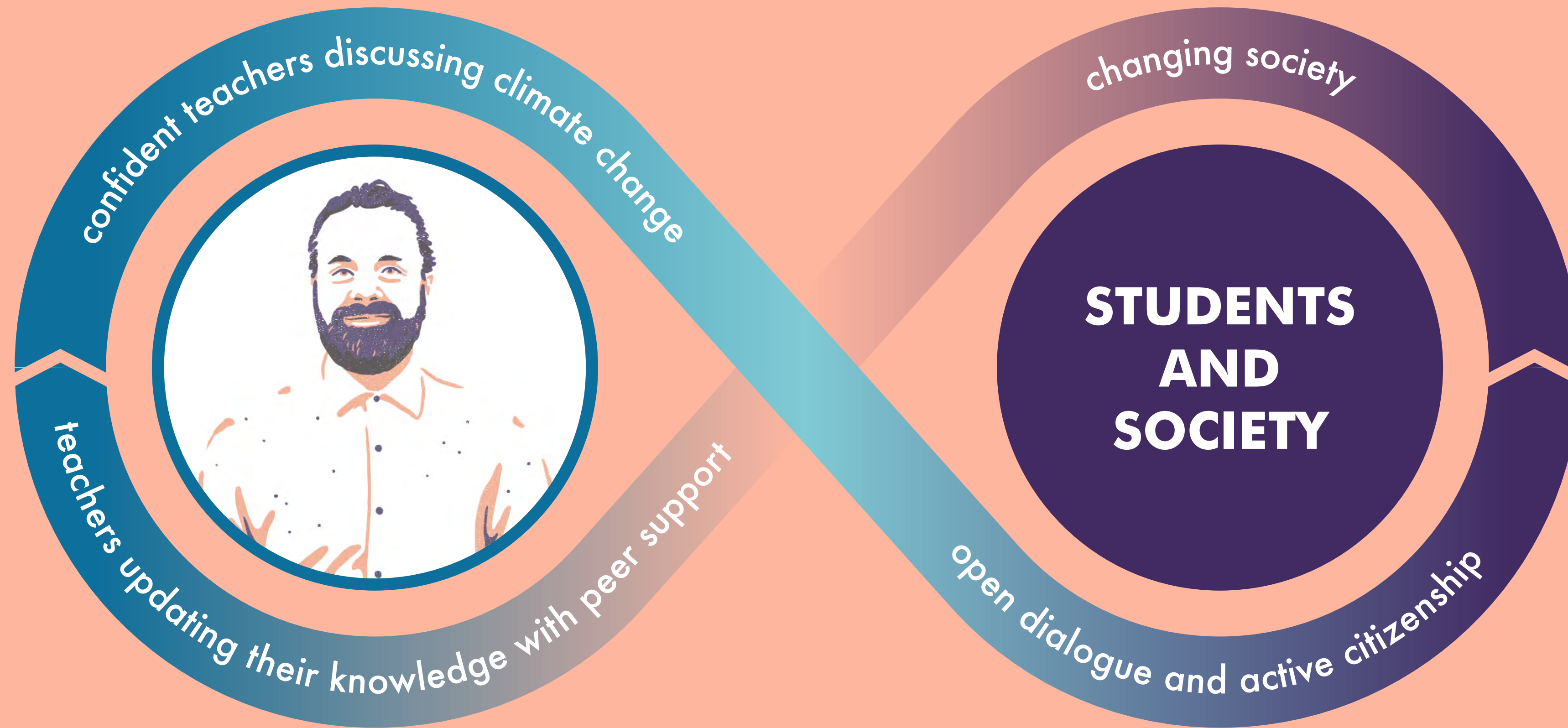
1

Platform scalability

Expand into other education areas
(e.g. democracy, social and natural sciences)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS...





Climate Educators Network

Driving a rich and forward-looking climate education for active citizens of the future.