



**PhD Career
Consultancy**



Royal Society of
Biology

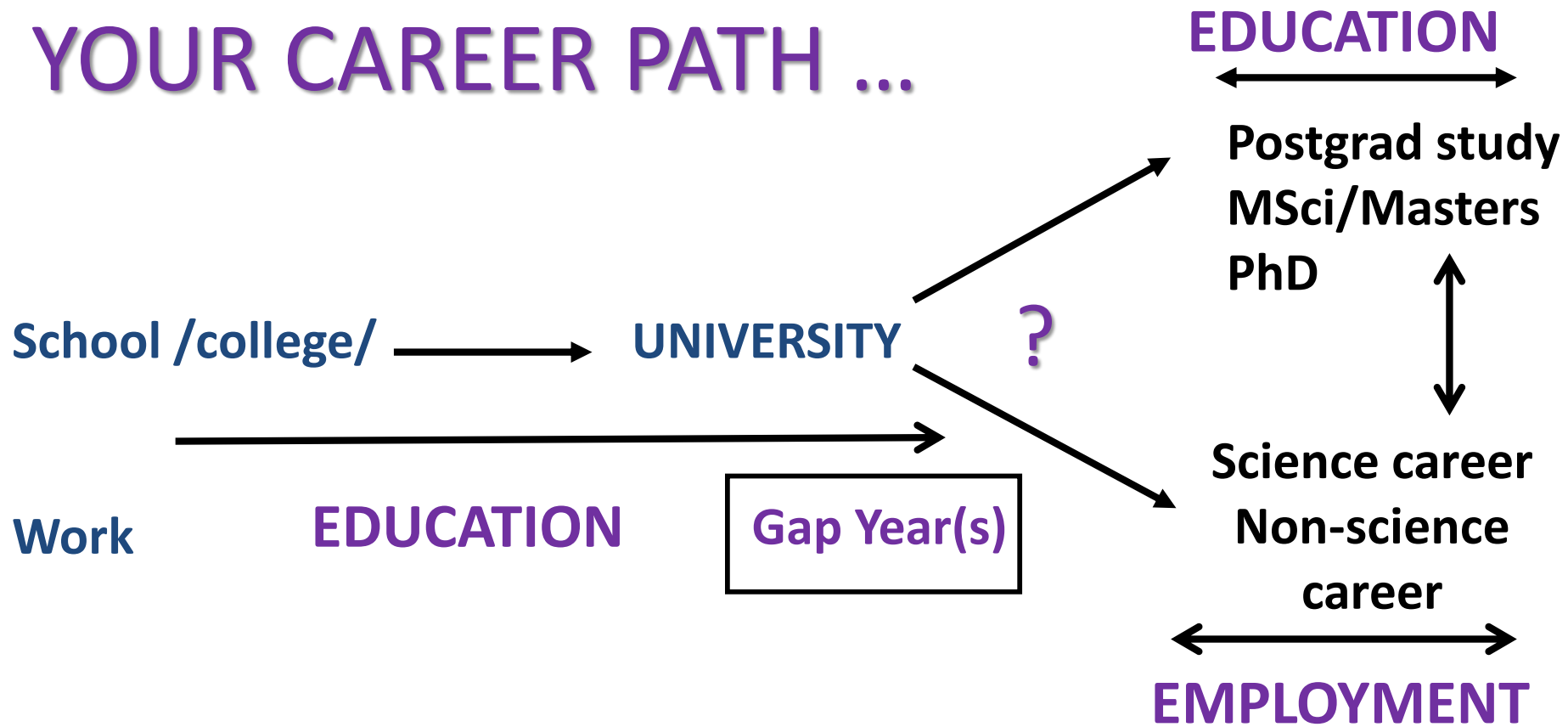
Bridging the gap between university and the world of work



Sarah Blackford, SFHEA

Independent Science Careers Adviser
Honorary Teaching Fellow, Lancaster University

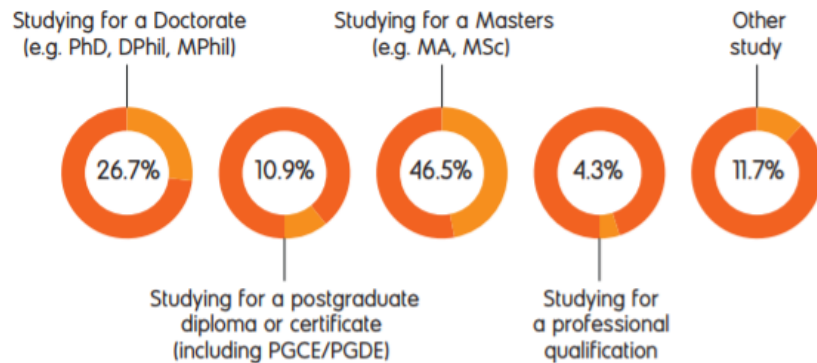
YOUR CAREER PATH ...



Career Transitions.....

WHAT DO GRADUATES DO ? BIOLOGY

Type of course for those in further study



TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN FURTHER STUDY: 1,110

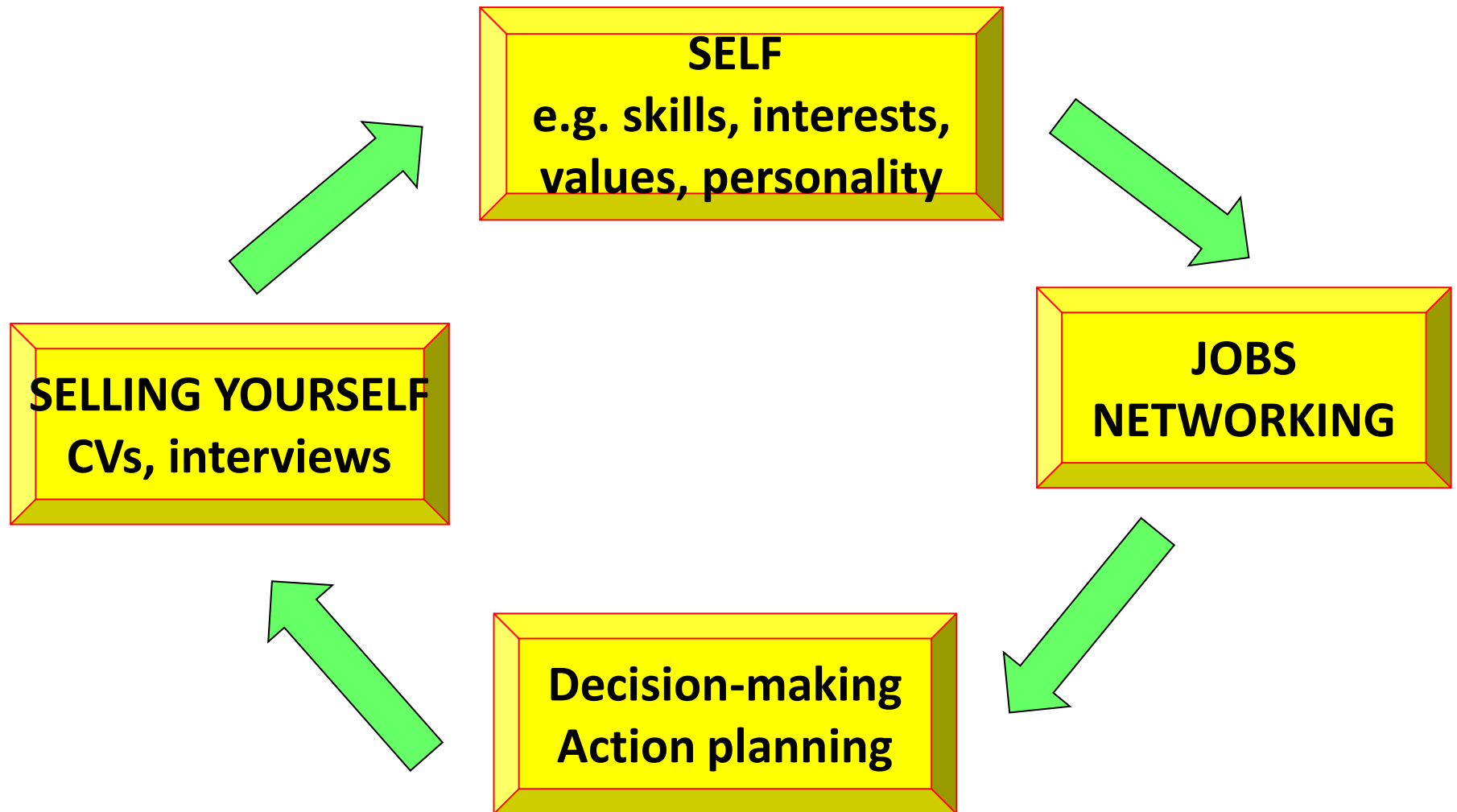
Top 10 professional jobs

Laboratory technicians	15.4%
Secondary education teaching professionals	7.9%
Biochemists, medical scientists	5.8%
Business and related associate professionals n.e.c.	5.1%
Conservation professionals	4.1%
Marketing associate professionals	3.7%
Business sales executives	2.8%
Chartered and certified accountants	2.3%
Conservation and environmental associate professionals	2.2%
Natural and social science professionals n.e.c.	2.0%

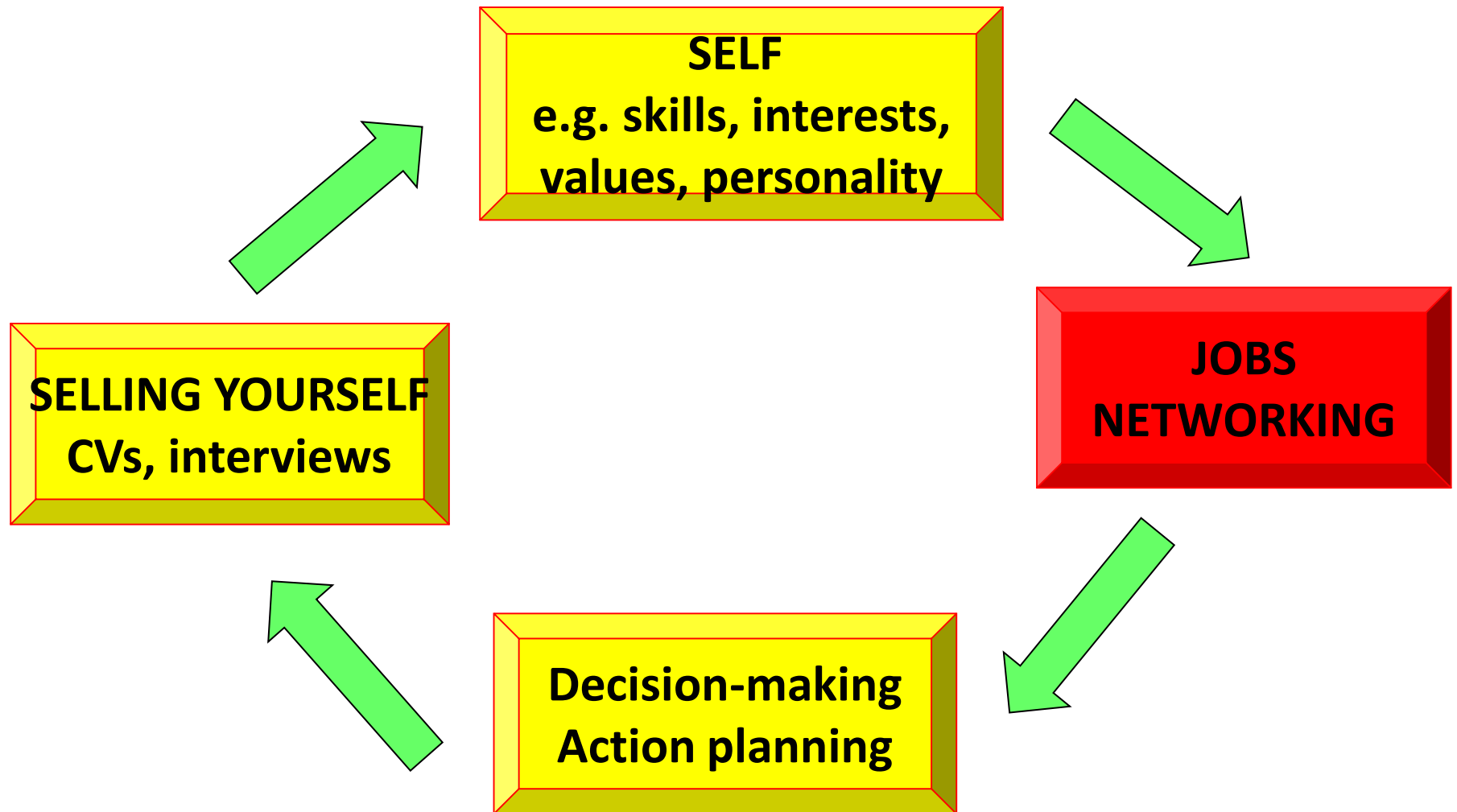
Outcomes 15 months after graduation



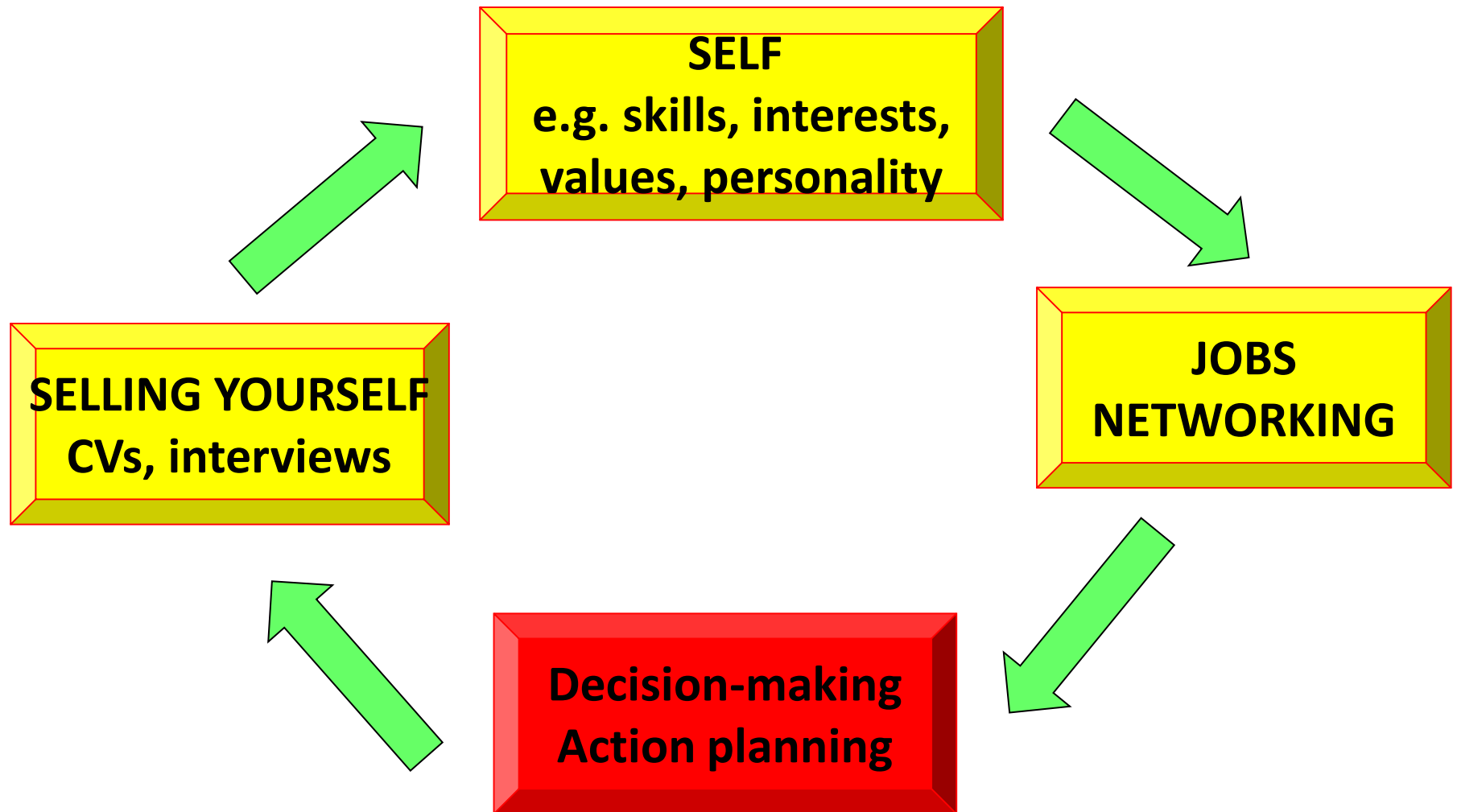
Career Planning Process



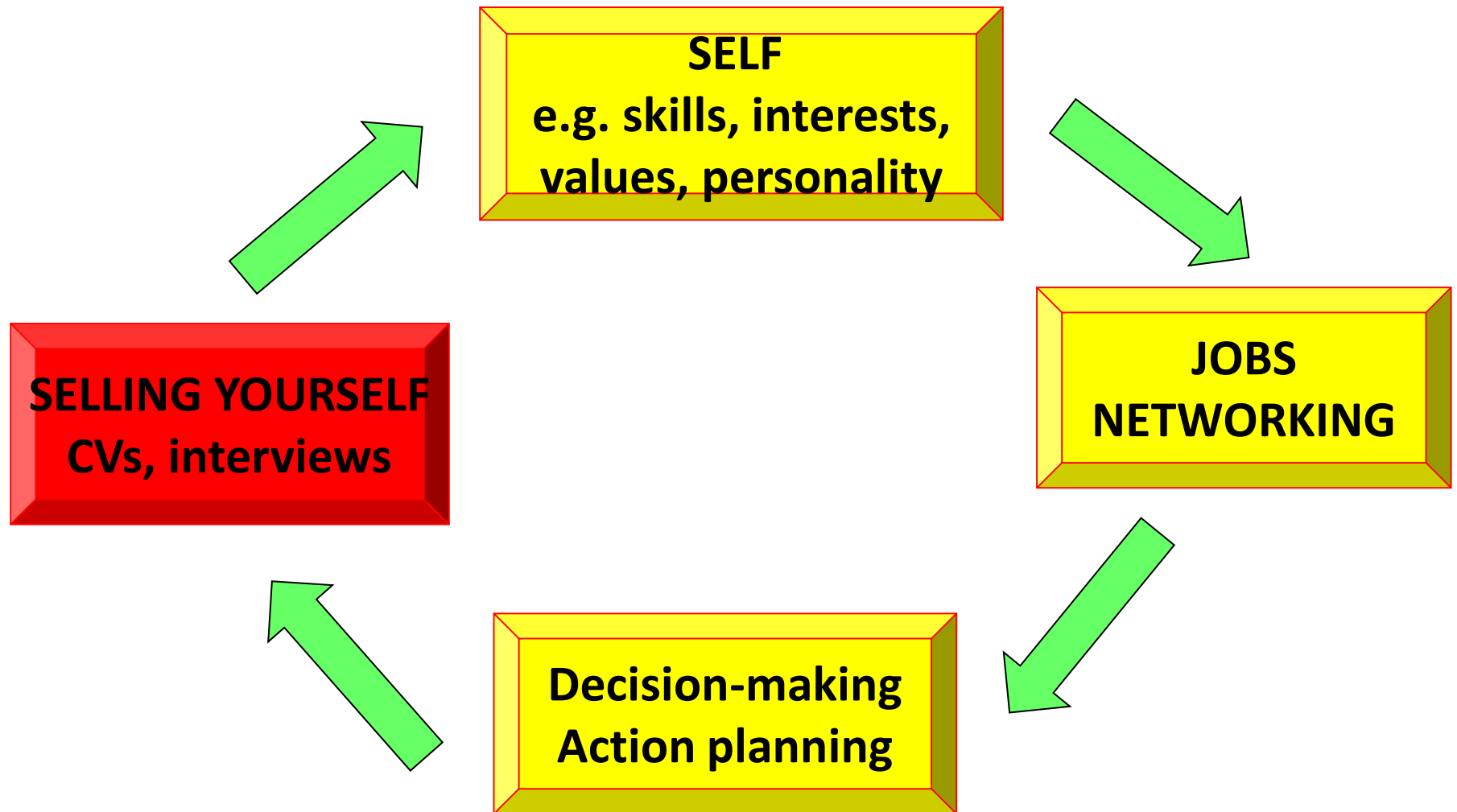
Career Planning Process



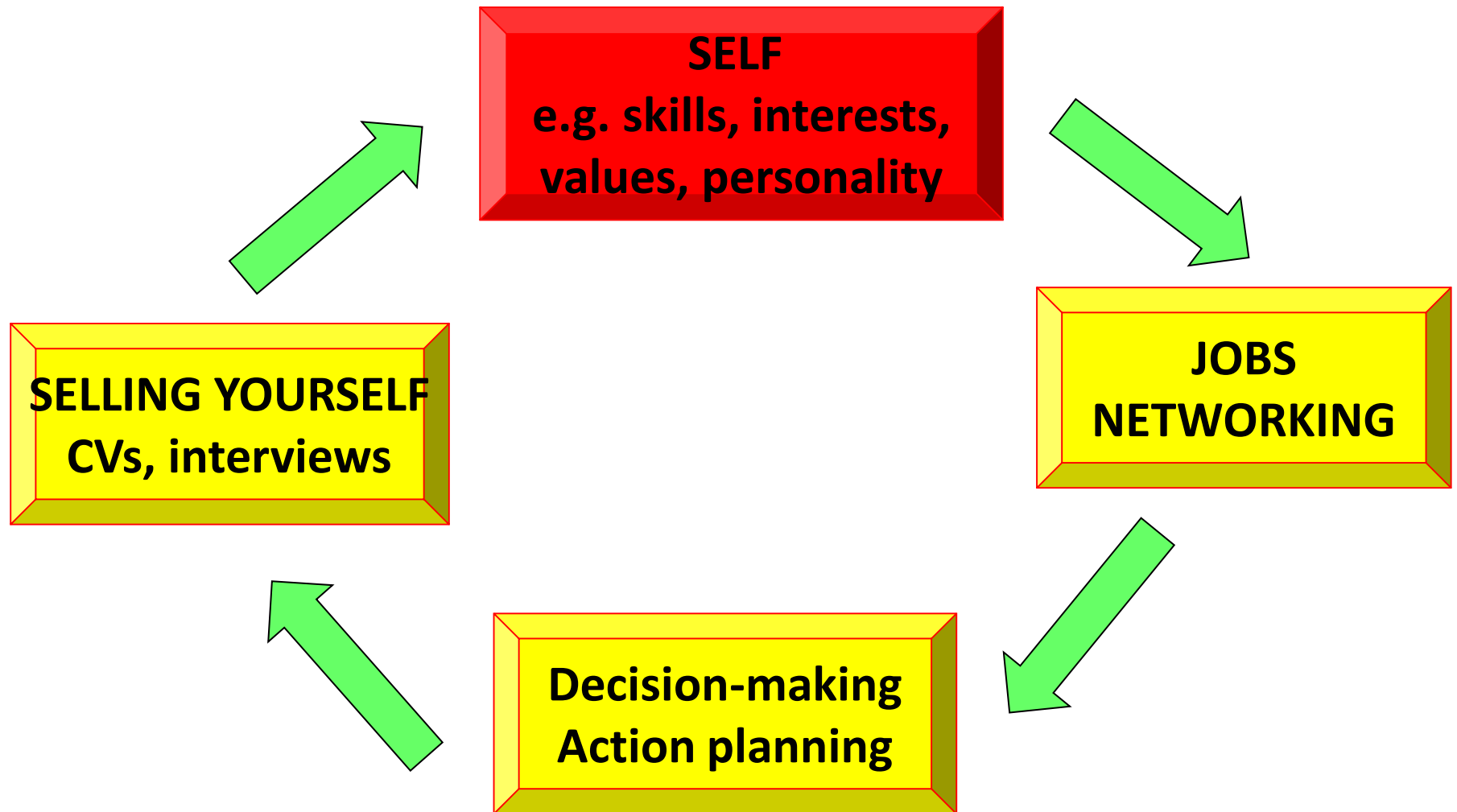
Career Planning Process



Career Planning Process



Career Planning Process





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WHO COULD I BE ?

HOW DO I CHOOSE ?





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What are you good at?
What do you enjoy doing?





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For Example:

Doing practical project work
Thinking and analysing
Resolving problems
Being artistic and creative
Socialising and being with others
Helping people
Organising yourself and others
Having ideas
Traveling and discovery
Talking to others
Listening to others

Teaching others
Being innovative/enterprising
Learning about new things
Writing / Blogging
Making presentations
Doing outreach with schools
Getting involved in things
Doing team sports
Health and well being
Designing new ways to do things
Working for a good cause

CATEGORISING INTERESTS

FUNCTIONAL

Being practical, doing experiments, hands-on, field work, being active, etc.

INVESTIGATIVE

Discovering new things, having ideas, analysing, learning about new research, etc.

MANAGEMENT

Being organised and organising things, planning projects, events, order, etc.

ARTISTIC

Being creative, doing science communication and outreach, photography, drawing, etc.

ENTERPRISING

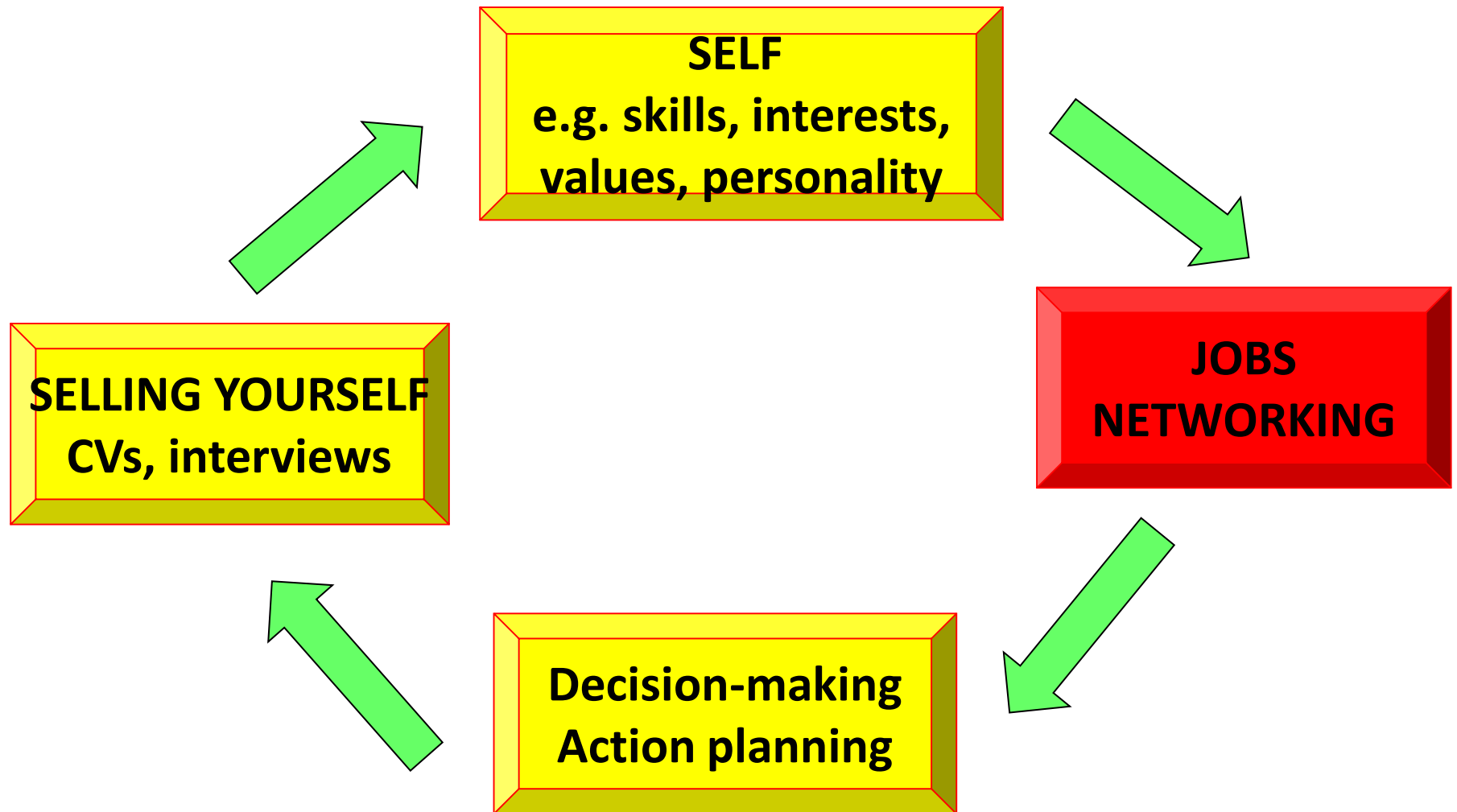
Innovative and interested in commercial applications, persuasive, taking a risk, stocks, etc.

SOCIAL

Helping and advising others, socialising, cooperating, teaching, empathy, listening, etc.



Career Planning Process



POSSIBLE CAREERS (CATEGORISED)

FUNCTIONAL

Specialist scientist, technical specialist, data scientist, programmer

INVESTIGATIVE

Researcher (Industry, university, PhD), investigator, editor, journalist

MANAGEMENT

Graduate manager, accountant, administrator, events organiser

ARTISTIC

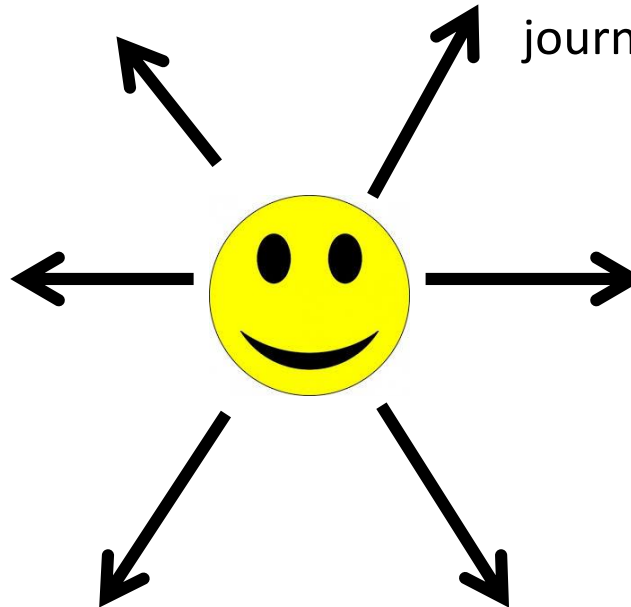
Science/medical communications, outreach, creative industries

ENTERPRISING

Self employed, sales, consultancy, innovation

SOCIAL

Teacher, adviser, medical liaison, coach, counsellor





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HOW DO I GET FROM
HERE
TO
THERE ?



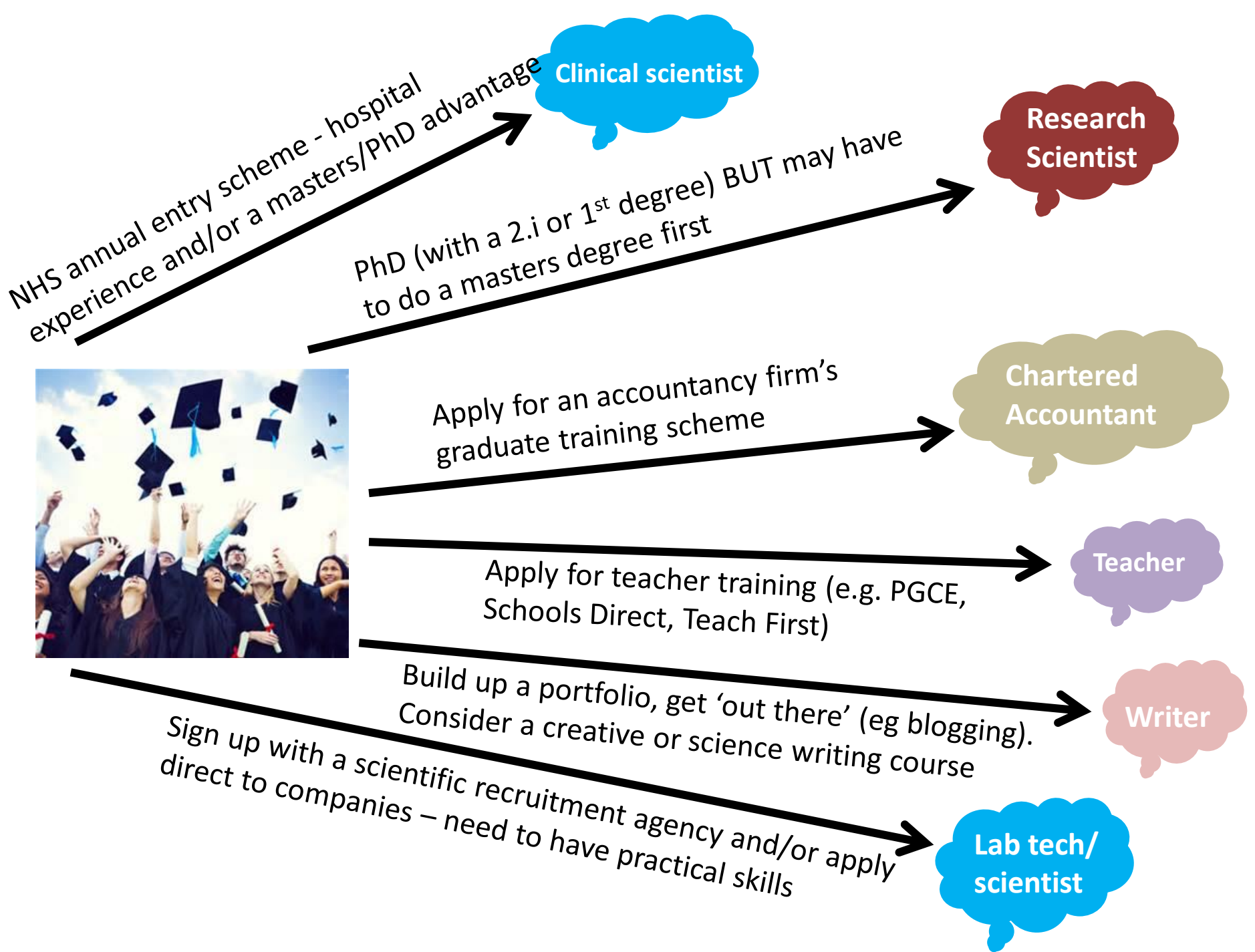
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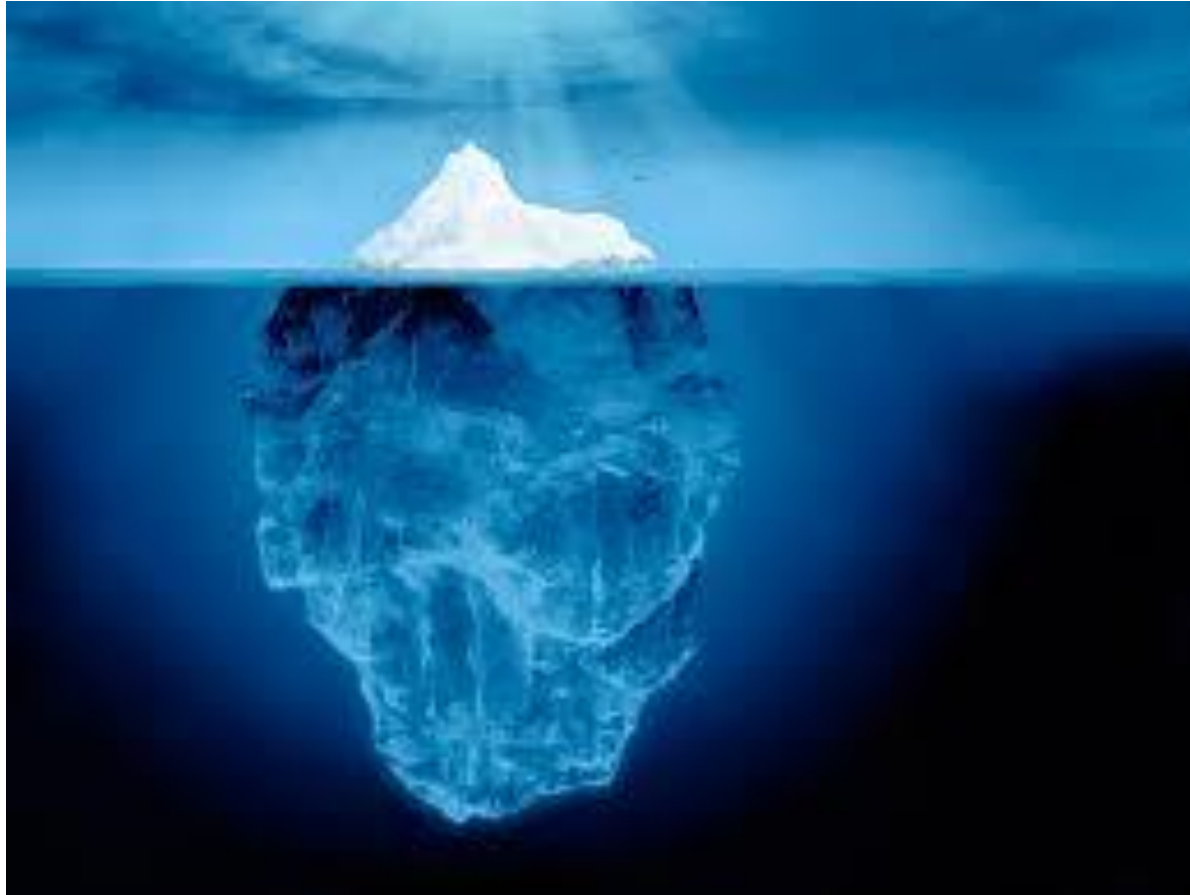
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DO YOUR RESEARCH !!

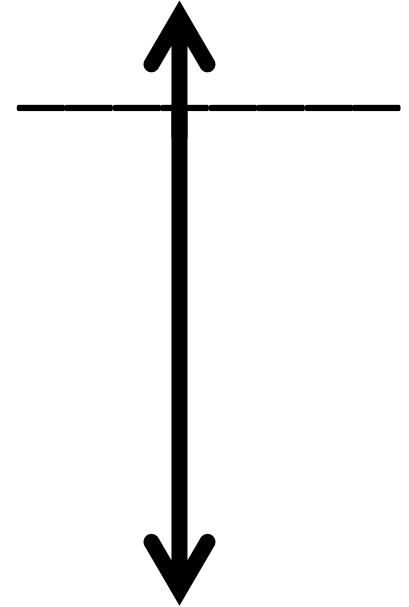
- Google careers and jobs of interest
- Talk to the Careers Service staff
- Talk to people in your department (PhD students, postdocs, academics)
- Talk to and connect with other people
- Find out about the career sector and the types of jobs of interest
- Find out how to access these jobs



WHERE ARE THE JOBS ?



Visible job
market



Hidden
job market

Job advertisement websites

JOB SITES:

Google, Indeed, Monster, Glassdoor, Stepstone

COMPANY/ORGANISATION WEBSITES (large and small)

RECRUITMENT AGENCIES

SRG, STEM Graduates

ON-LINE MEDIA

LinkedIn, Twitter, email discussion lists

PROFESSIONAL BODIES/ORGANISATIONS

Regulatory Affairs, Technical managers, University teachers



NETWORKING TO NET A JOB



USE, BUILD ON AND DEVELOP YOUR NETWORKS

FAMILY

FRIENDS

PEOPLE YOU
KNOW

UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI

USE SOCIAL
MEDIA

PEOPLE
DOING THE
JOB YOU
WANT TO
DO

TUTORS



PEOPLE YOU
KNOW

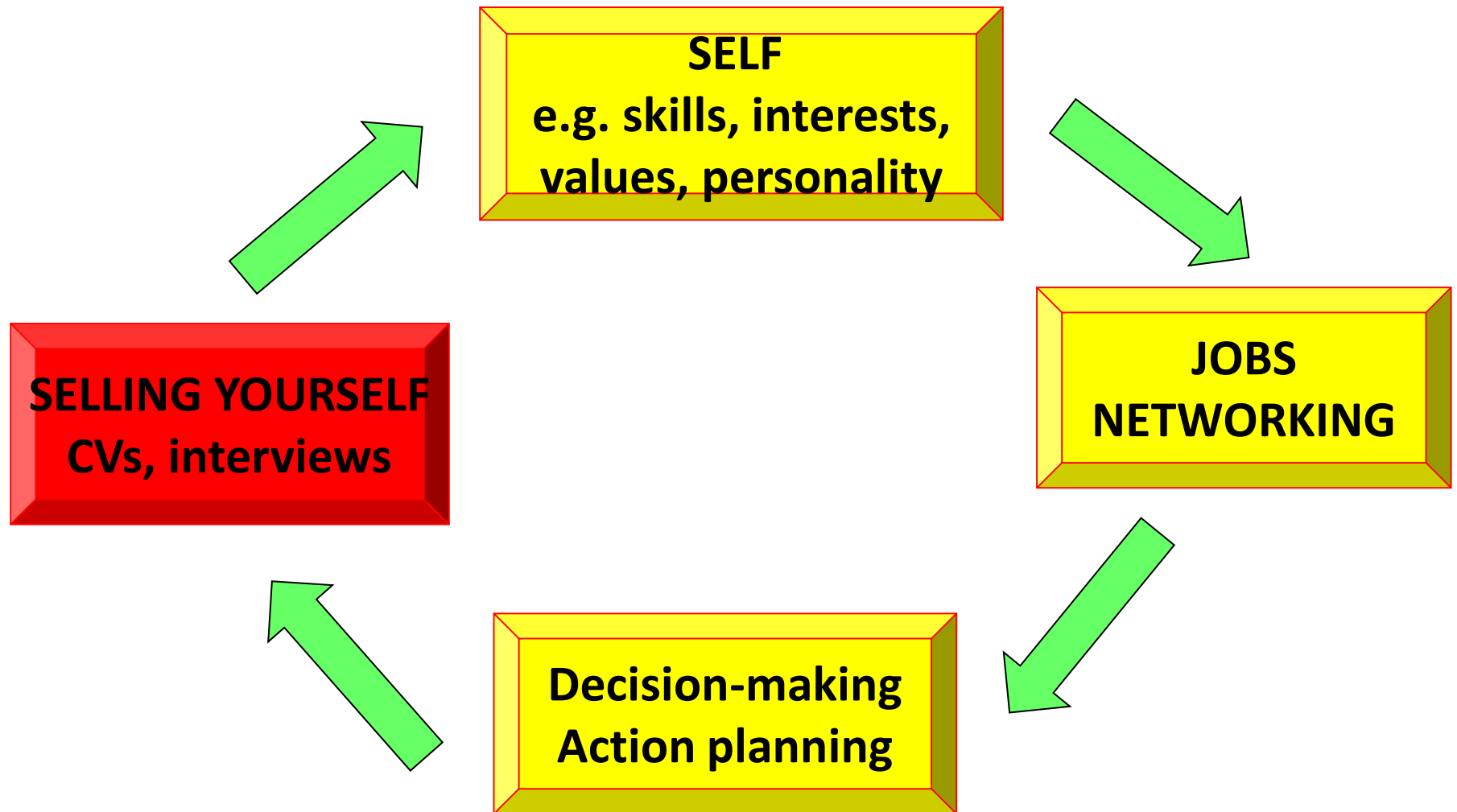
CURRENT/
FORMER
EMPLOYERS

CAREER
SPECIALISTS

Link with people and ask them about their career

- Ask to connect on LinkedIn
- Follow them on Twitter
- Look at their activity – ‘like’ and/or comment on their posts relevant to the career
- Write them a private message on social media or by email to ask if they would be willing to have an informational interview with you about their job and how they transitioned from their degree to this job
- Be professional (if they’re a bit older than you, address them more formally. Always say, ‘when you have time’ or ‘at your convenience’.

Career Planning Process



Update your CV !

Get your CV checked by a
professional !

Write a good covering letter !

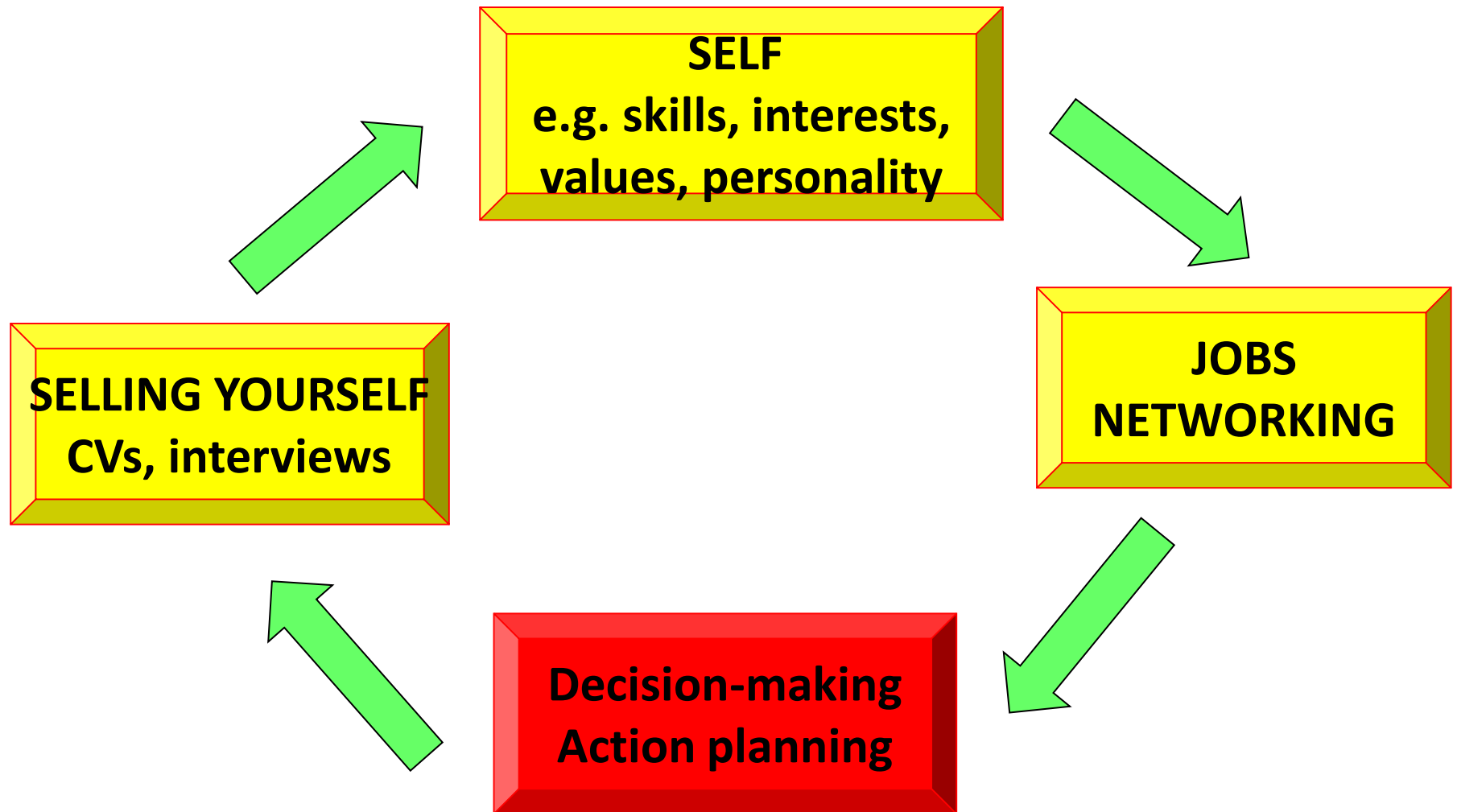
Match every application
to every job !



NEXT STEPS

OPTIONS AFTER A
BIOSCIENCE DEGREE

Career Planning Process





Information

- Career websites e.g. www.prospects.ac.uk
 - e.g. your degree in biology / Prospects Planner
- “Next Steps: options after a bioscience degree”
- Talk to tutors and postgraduate students
- Engage with social media eg LinkedIn, Twitter
- Join learned societies e.g. www.rsb.org.uk
- Contact your University Careers Service
 - events, information, CVs, advice, etc
- Attend Career Fairs such as this one!



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Enjoy the rest of the Fair !



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