ClearlyDefined at SAP

How ClearlyDefined, crowd-sourcing, and automation helps us improve our open-source review pipe

Brian Duran, Integration Project Lead
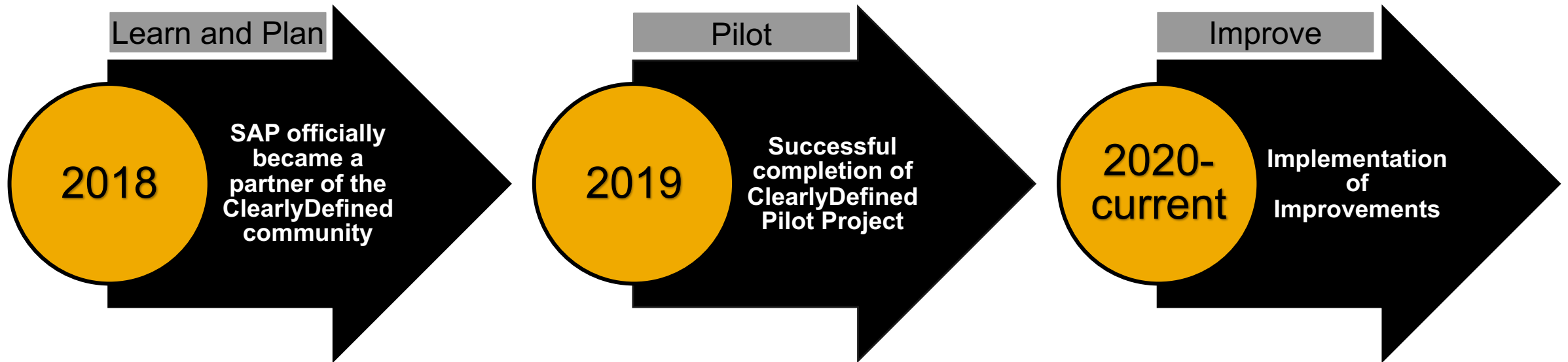SAP
October, 2021

THE BEST RUN **SAP**

SAP & ClearlyDefined

Since late 2018, SAP has been piloting various aspects of ClearlyDefined to determine its capabilities and identify potential use-cases. Throughout, we have participated as both consumers of the data as well as curators.

Our core criteria to adopt ClearlyDefined in any capacity includes solution efficacy, community participation, and most importantly, recognition or reputation growth to meet that of proprietary solutions.

Learn and Plan

2018 — SAP officially became a partner of the ClearlyDefined community

Pilot

2019 — Successful completion of ClearlyDefined Pilot Project

Improve

2020-current — Implementation of Improvements

SAP & ClearlyDefined

Our efforts in numbers (2019-2021):

12K

components posted to
ClearlyDefined for
harvesting

110

components of those curated

30-50%

reduction in turnaround for reviews
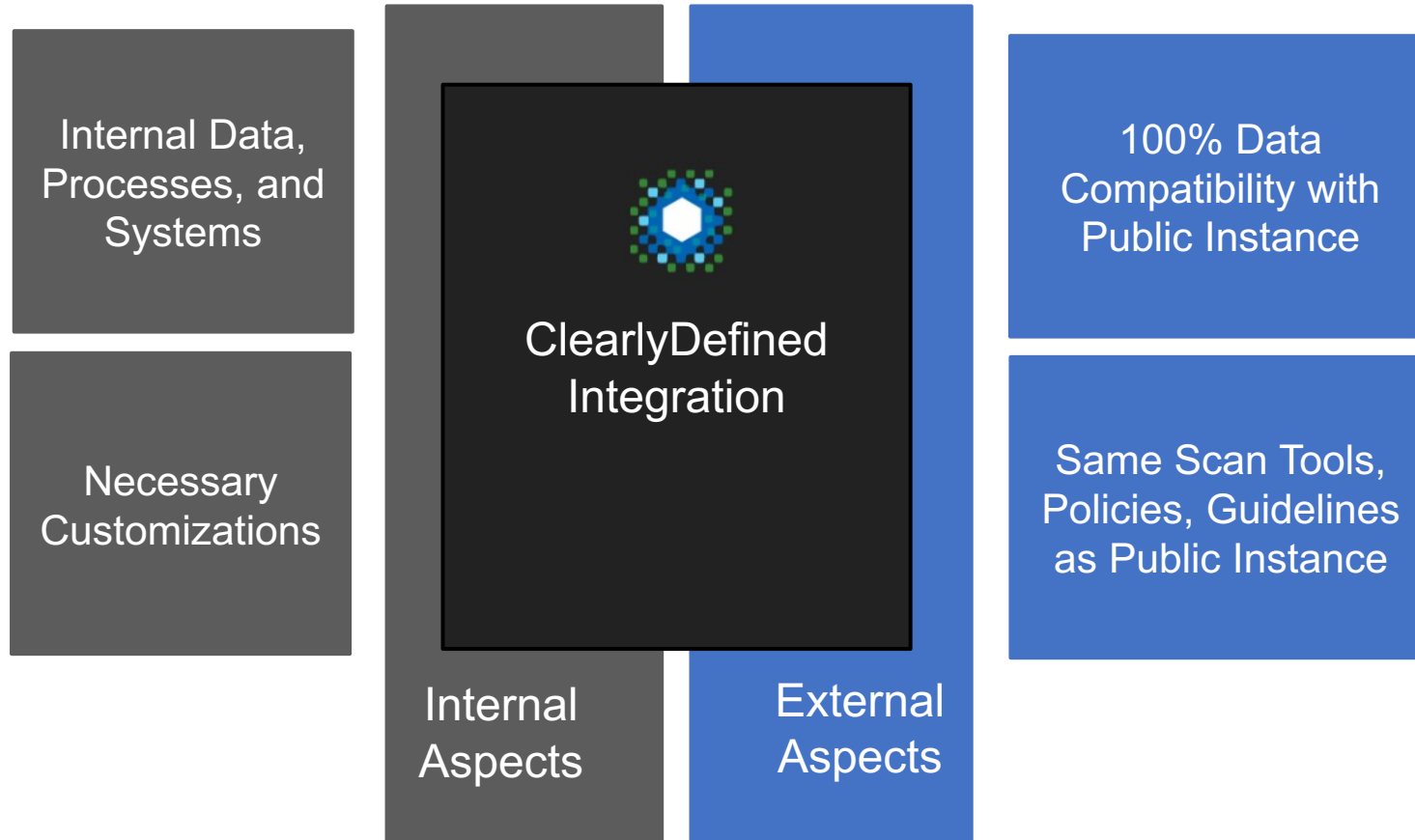using CD compared to our legacy
process*

*based on average time of 1 hour per component, including time saved through automation.

Learn and Plan

ClearlyDefined is a Collaborative Effort!

Side A

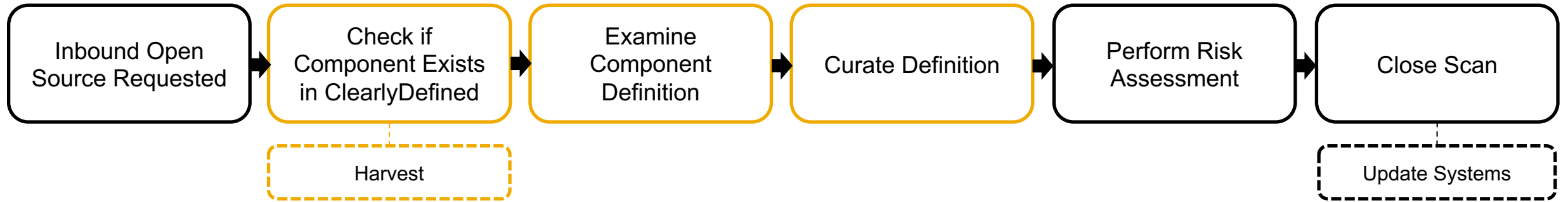We need flexibility to adapt to meet our own implementation mandate.

Internal Data, Processes, and Systems

Necessary Customizations

ClearlyDefined Integration

Internal Aspects

External Aspects

100% Data Compatibility with Public Instance

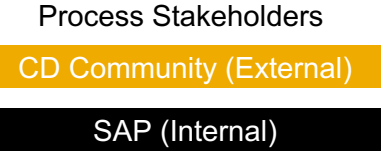Same Scan Tools, Policies, Guidelines as Public Instance

Side B

Our implementation needs to remain 100% compatible with the public instance.
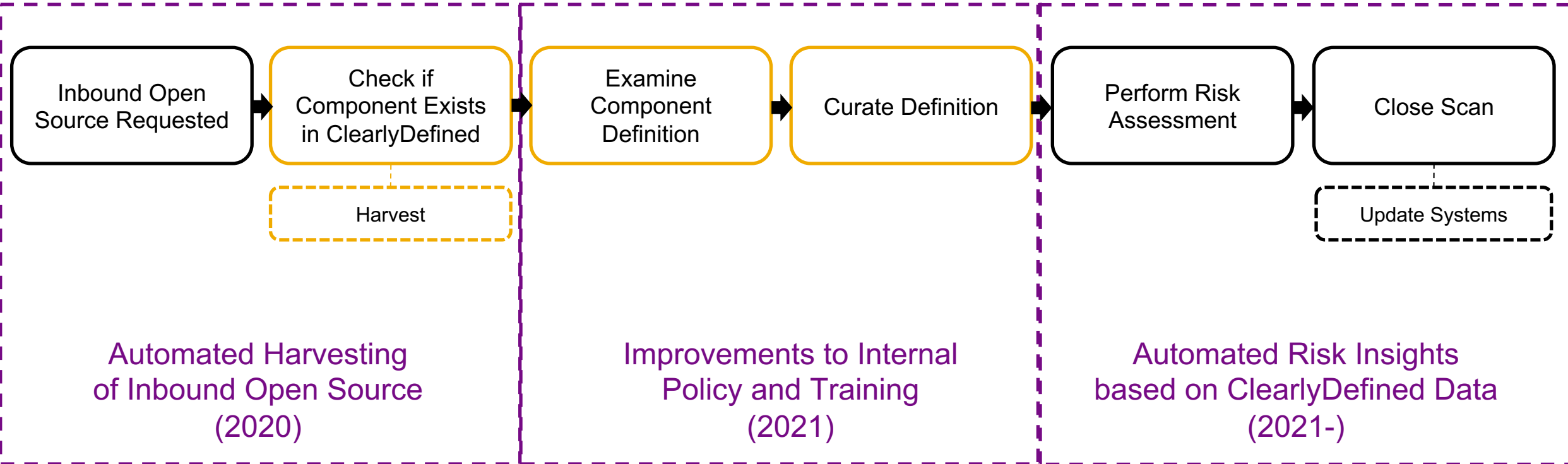
Pilot

FOSS Review Process (2019)

Inbound Open Source Requested → Check if Component Exists in ClearlyDefined → Examine Component Definition → Curate Definition → Perform Risk Assessment → Close Scan

Harvest

Update Systems

Improve and Scale

Process Stakeholders

CD Community (External)

SAP (Internal)

FOSS Review Process (2020)

Inbound Open Source Requested → Check if Component Exists in ClearlyDefined → Examine Component Definition → Curate Definition → Perform Risk Assessment → Close Scan

Harvest

Update Systems

Automated Harvesting of Inbound Open Source (2020)

Improvements to Internal Policy and Training (2021)

Automated Risk Insights based on ClearlyDefined Data (2021-)

Automation - Harvesting

ClearlyDefined

ClearlyDefined Harvest API

Qualified Component

Pointer to Component

Internal OSS Data Repository

Harvest Automation Service

Email notification of failures

Name	Version	Homepage	Requested Date ↓	Qualified	Validate Status	Harvest Status	Definition Url	Need Harvest
jquery - jquery/jquery	3.3.1	https://github.com/jquery/jquery	2018-03-13	Yes	VALID	FULLY_HARVESTED	↗	☐

Items per page: 10 ▼

Dashboard ⊳|

Wrapping up
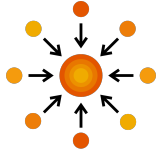
The crowd-sourced nature of ClearlyDefined makes for a unique option that organizations can consider incorporating into their open-source compliance programs.

Establishment of a solid internal strategy becomes critical to scale usage effectively.

Some effort is required to learn about ClearlyDefined and contribute, but there is also a very knowledgeable and approachable community to help you along.

Use of tooling to automate manually intensive tasks (e.g. harvesting) can help with scale.

Thank you.

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