

# Targeted FAIR Skills Training and Support for the Australian Grains Industry

**Melanie Dixon**

DataHarvest Extension coordinator

Curtin University



# Outline

1. Introduction to the DataHarvest Project
2. Complexity within the Australian Grains Industry
3. Community adoption of an innovation
4. RDM workshop structure and design
5. Assessing participant confidence
6. Post-workshop support and future directions

# DataHarvest

A partnership to unlock the value of RD&E data for the Australian grains industry.

DataHarvest is an investment of the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC). It is led by Curtin University through the Centre for Crop and Disease Management (CCDM).

GRDC code: CUR2401-001BGX

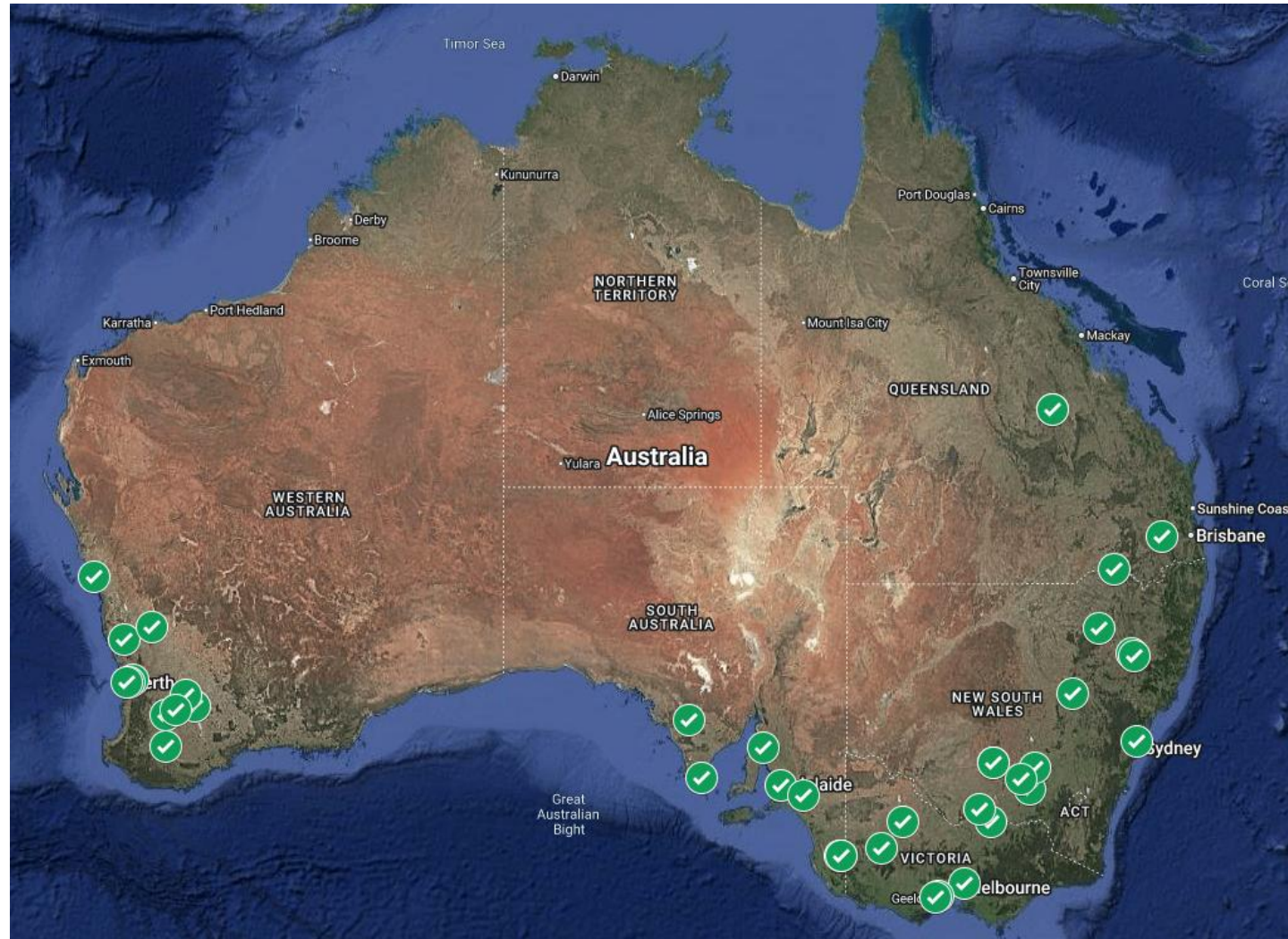


# GRDC RD&E Data Management Policy

- GRDC RD&E data to be **as open as possible** and **as closed as necessary**
- GRDC is committed to making RD&E data from GRDC projects **FAIR**
- GRDC's Data Management Guidelines support the policy by guiding research partners how to fulfill their obligations to capture and securely store valuable data.



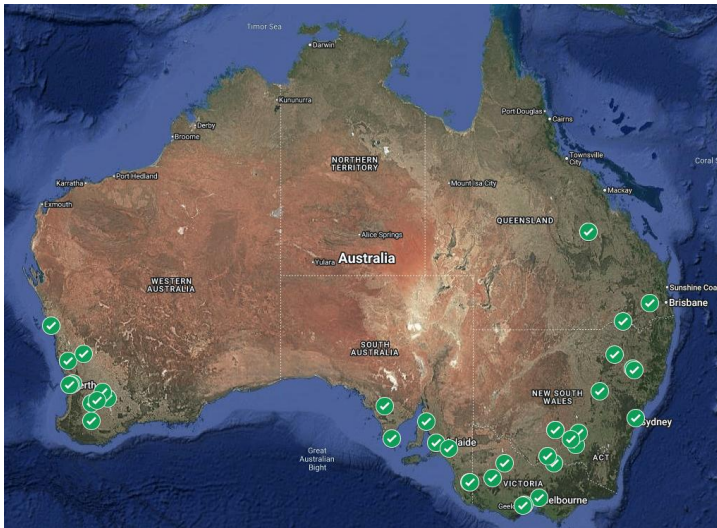
# Prioritising teaching RDM face-to-face



Workshops delivered across major grain-growing regions of Australia:

- 21 workshops
- 39 organisations
- 213 Individuals

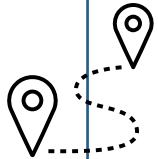
# Workshops build trust with partners



# Who, What and How Data in the Australian Grain Industry



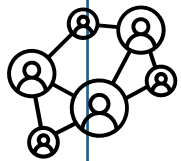
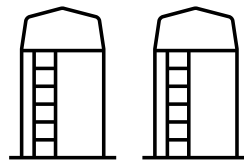
Digital technologies



Complex and multifaceted  
datasets



Siloed data



Diverse web of stakeholders



# The FAIR Principles



## Challenges:

1. Vague, ambiguous
2. Training opportunities for those directly involved in Grains Industry
3. Limited incentives to implement to a high standard

# How does an innovation spread through a community?

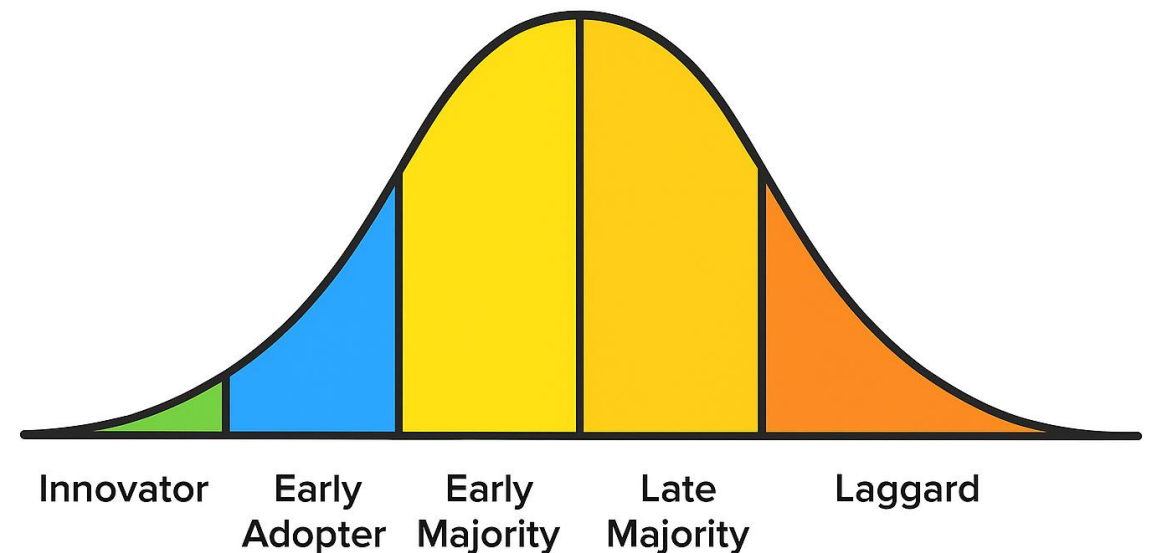
## Understanding Diffusion of Innovation

**Innovation:** key GRDC Data Management tasks – informed by FAIR principles and best practice RDM

**Community:** Australian grains industry research providers (GRDC partners)

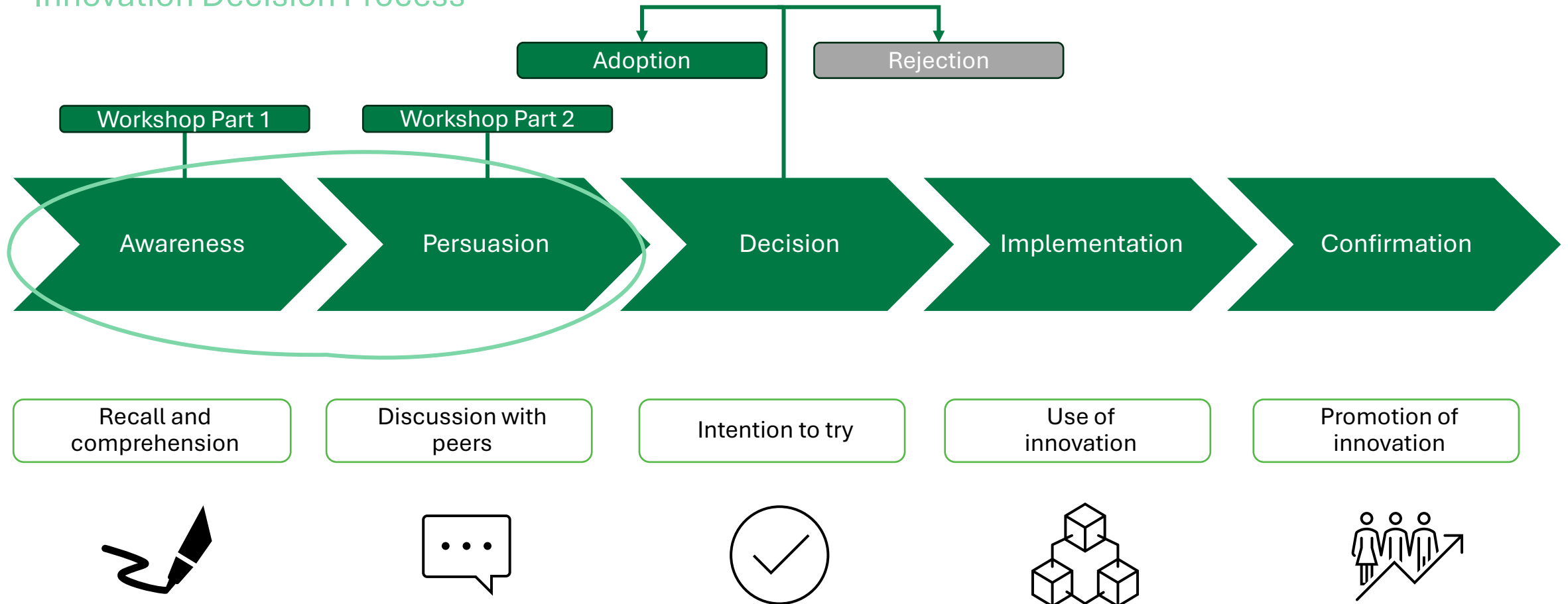
### Drive FAIR adoption through training

The DataHarvest project was created to develop the capacity and capability in GRDC research partners to deliver against the GRDC RD&E Data Management Policy



# Applying Diffusion of Innovation to teach RDM

## Innovation Decision Process



# Create a baseline of FAIR knowledge

Innovation Decision Process (workshop design)



Awareness

Persuasion

Decision

Implementation

Confirmation

FAIR Principles

Key GRDC Data Management  
tasks

## Workshop Part 1 Aim:

Set foundations for understanding the key GRDC Data Management task and the underlying FAIR principles.

# Opportunities to evaluate FAIR

## Innovation Decision Process



Demonstrations

Discussion

Hands on tasks

### Workshop Part 2 Aim:

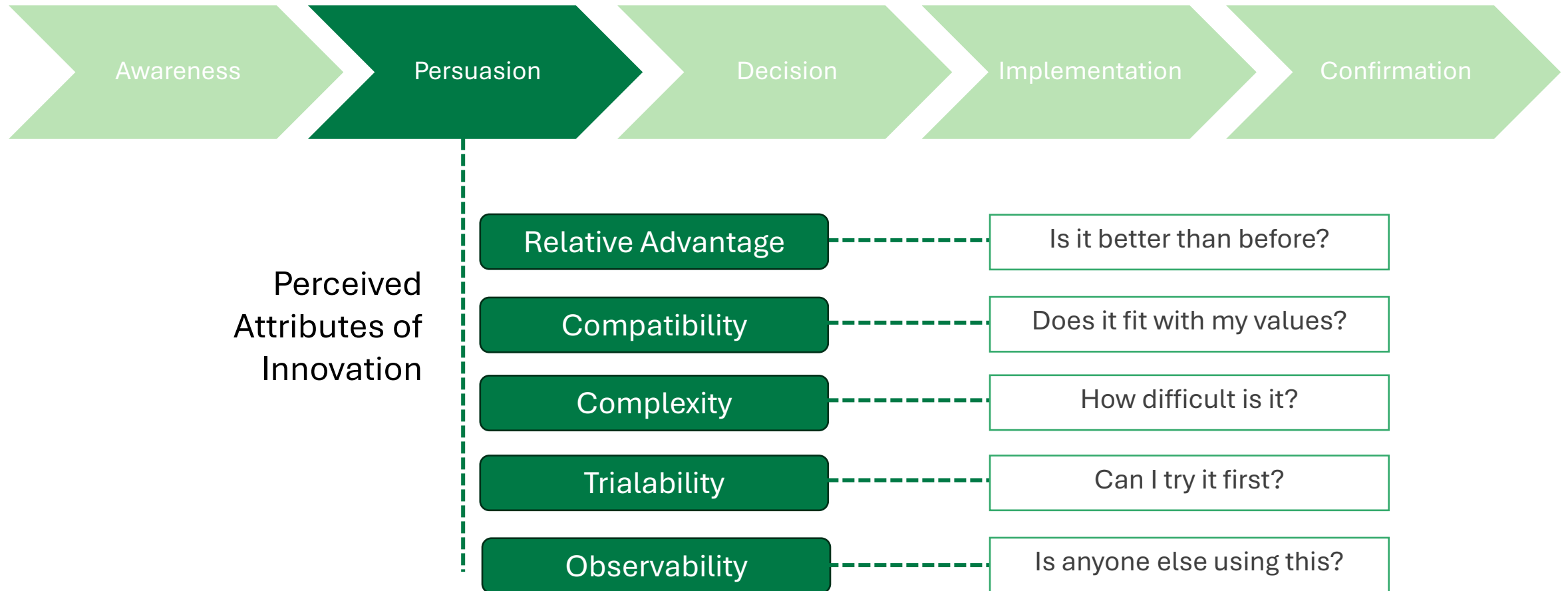


Help participants evaluate the key GRDC data management tasks, identify and alleviate pain points

Apply the FAIR Principles

# What do we need to consider about FAIR?

## Innovation Decision Process: Persuasion



# Teaching FAIR through the Perceived Attributes of Innovation

## Relative Advantage

- Value proposition of FAIR



## Compatibility

- Peer led discussion – presence of a Data Champion
- DataHarvest created resources
- Post workshop support



## Complexity

## Trialability

- Hands on activities for a small-scale trial of creating metadata.



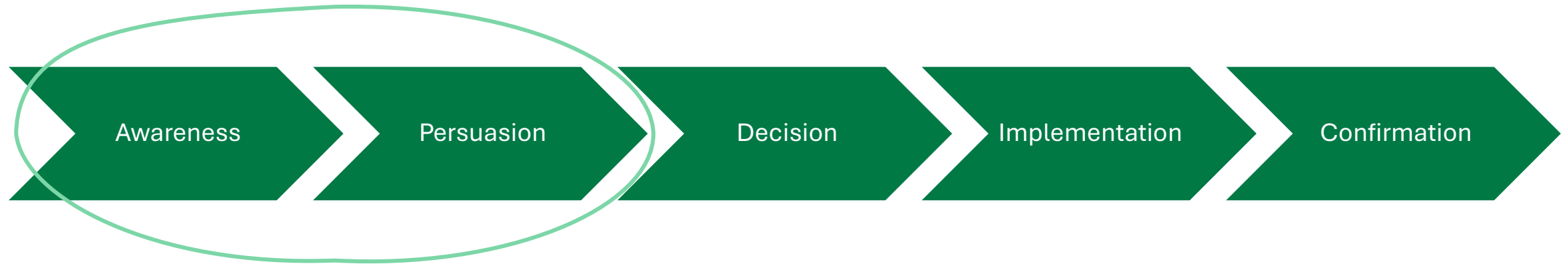
## Observability

- GRDC Data Catalogue
- Collaborative nature of the industry



# Summary:

## DataHarvest Workshop Aim and Design



### Workshop Aim:

To deliver capacity and capability in GRDC partners to deliver against the GRDC Data Management Policy (which has been informed by the FAIR principles)

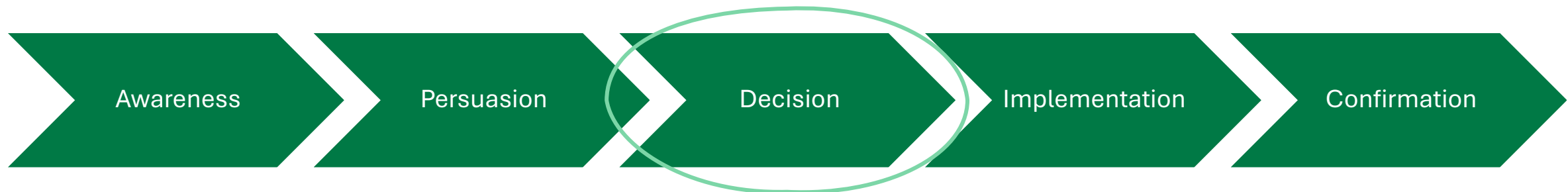
### Key workshop choices:

- Clear differentiation between Part 1 and Part 2, informed by Innovation Decision process
- Hands on activities
- Emphasis on practical benefit (may be different for each organisation)

# Evaluation of participant confidence post-workshop

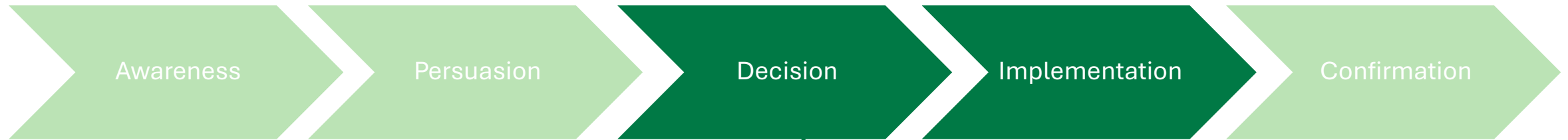
Assessed the confidence of workshop participants pre and post workshop across the key GRDC Data Management tasks:

1. FAIR Principles: *To what extent do you feel capable to apply the FAIR principles to a dataset derived from a GRDC Investment?*
2. Create metadata
3. Use and upload data to a GRDC approved repository
4. Complete a GRDC Data Management Plan
5. Register metadata to the GRDC Data Catalogue



# Ongoing and Confident FAIR Implementation with a Dedicated Support

DataHarvest Support Services Centre



Support Services Centre Aim:

- Translate early confidence into long term adoption
- Ensure participants can access support when they need it

Data Management Officer

DataHarvest Resources

# DataHarvest supports FAIR adoption in the Grains Industry

1. Teaching FAIR in the Australian Grains industry required a targeted, context-specific approach
2. The Diffusion of Innovation theory has been used to design the DataHarvest workshop
3. The DataHarvest workshop builds a knowledge base of the FAIR principles and supports participants to evaluate its usefulness for their organisation.
4. Post workshop support ensures participants are supported throughout the RDM journey



# Acknowledgements

Fatima Naim, CCDM

Erin Elstermann, CCDM

Jane Gibberd, Curtin University

John Brown, Curtin University

Washy Gapare, GRDC

Mark Gibberd, CCDM

Lisa Smith, CCDM

Janice Chan, Curtin University



# THANK YOU

