Working with Stakeholders: Integrated Knowledge Translation

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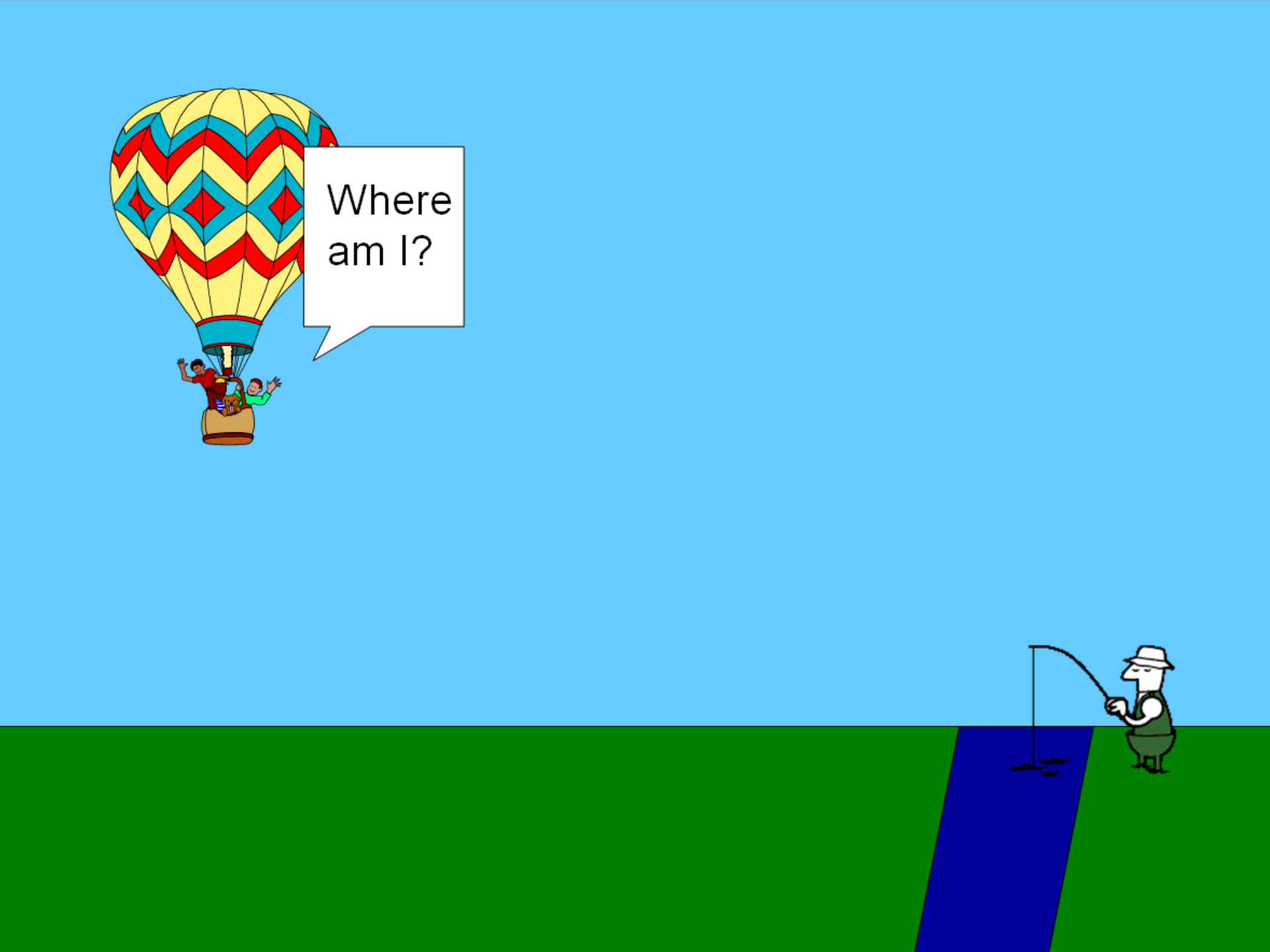
Outline

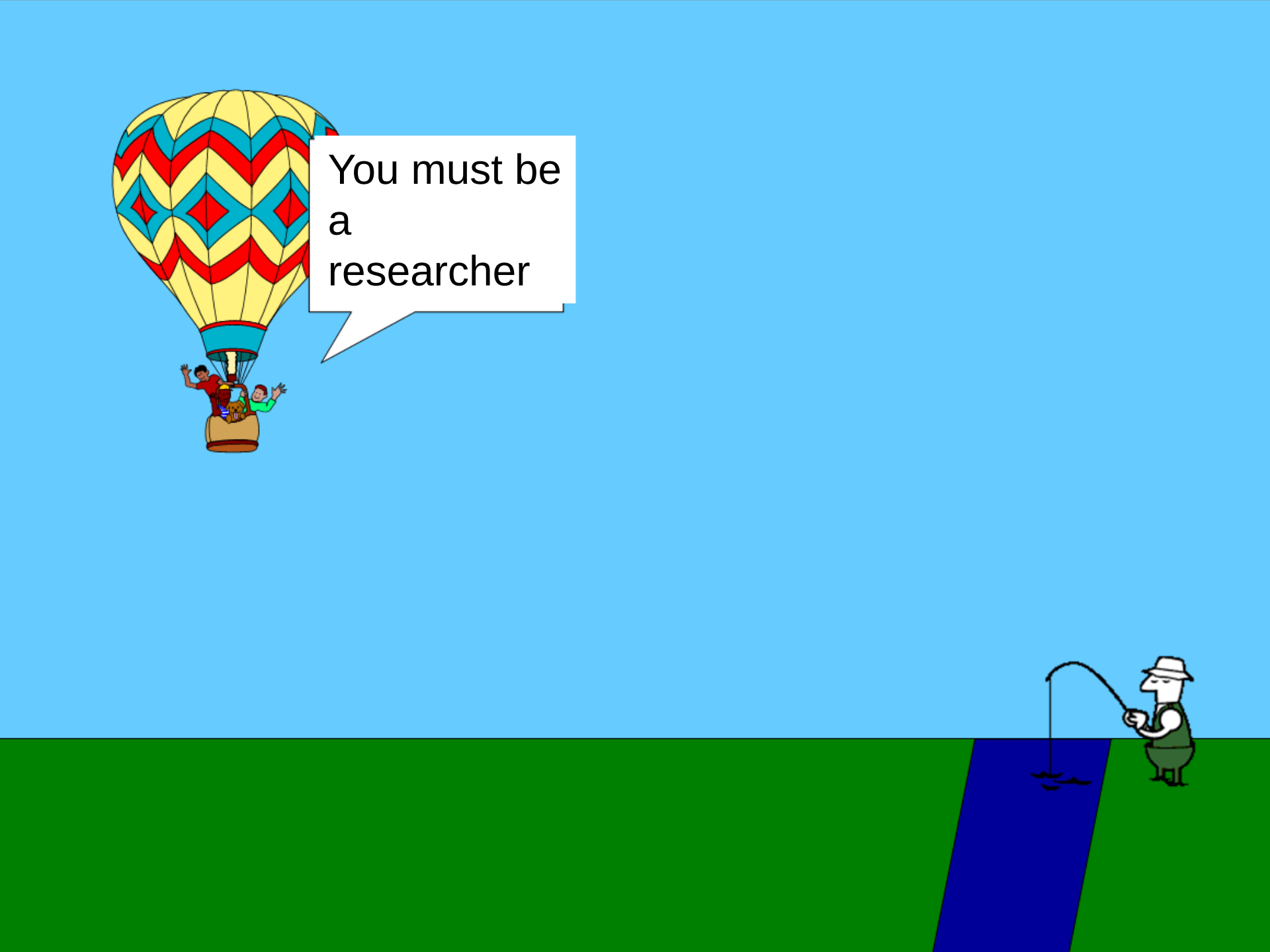
- The implementation problem
- The role of stakeholders & Integrated Knowledge Translation (IKT)
- Benefits and challenges of IKT
- The Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network

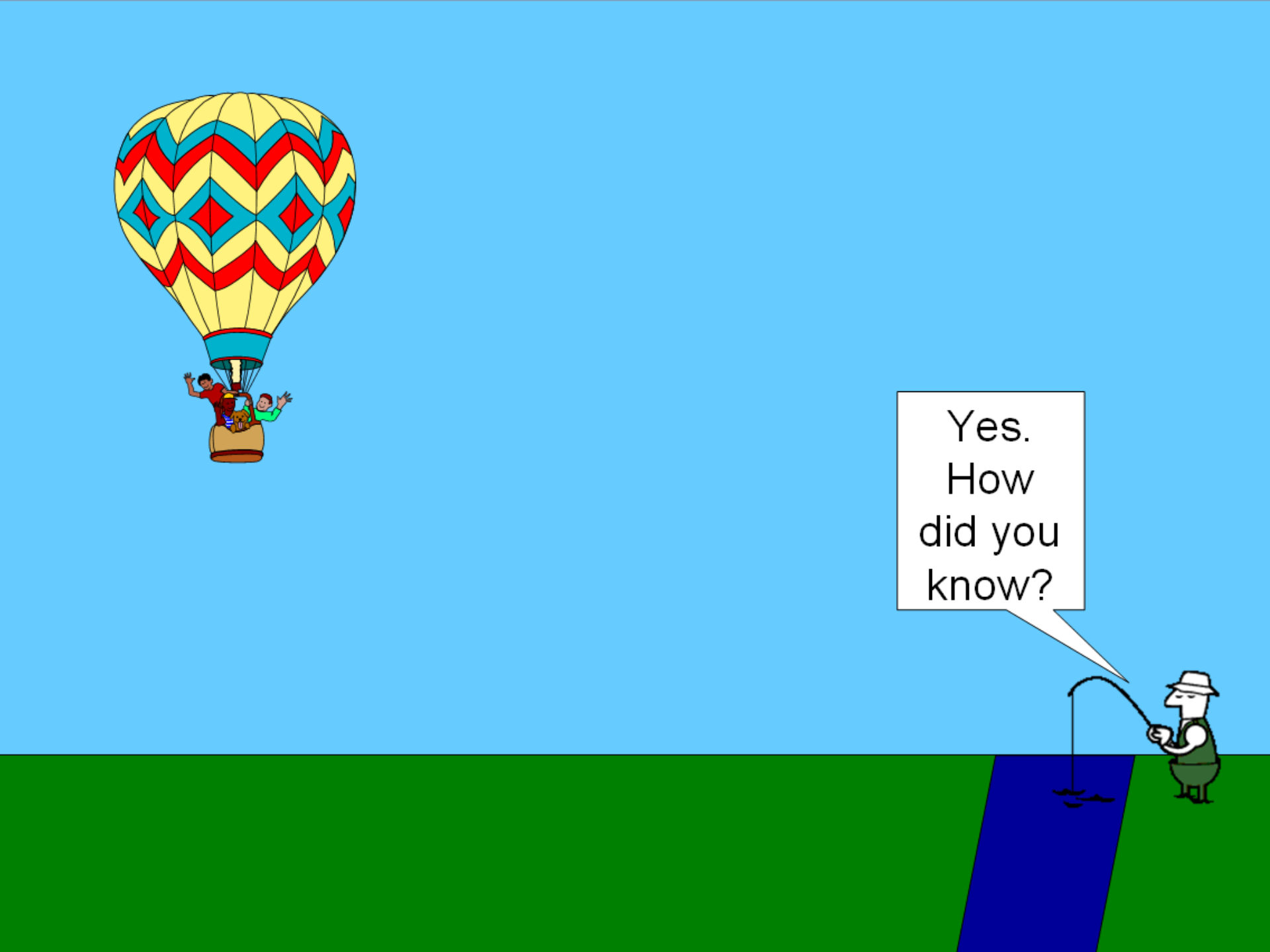
The Implementation Problem

IKT Research Network

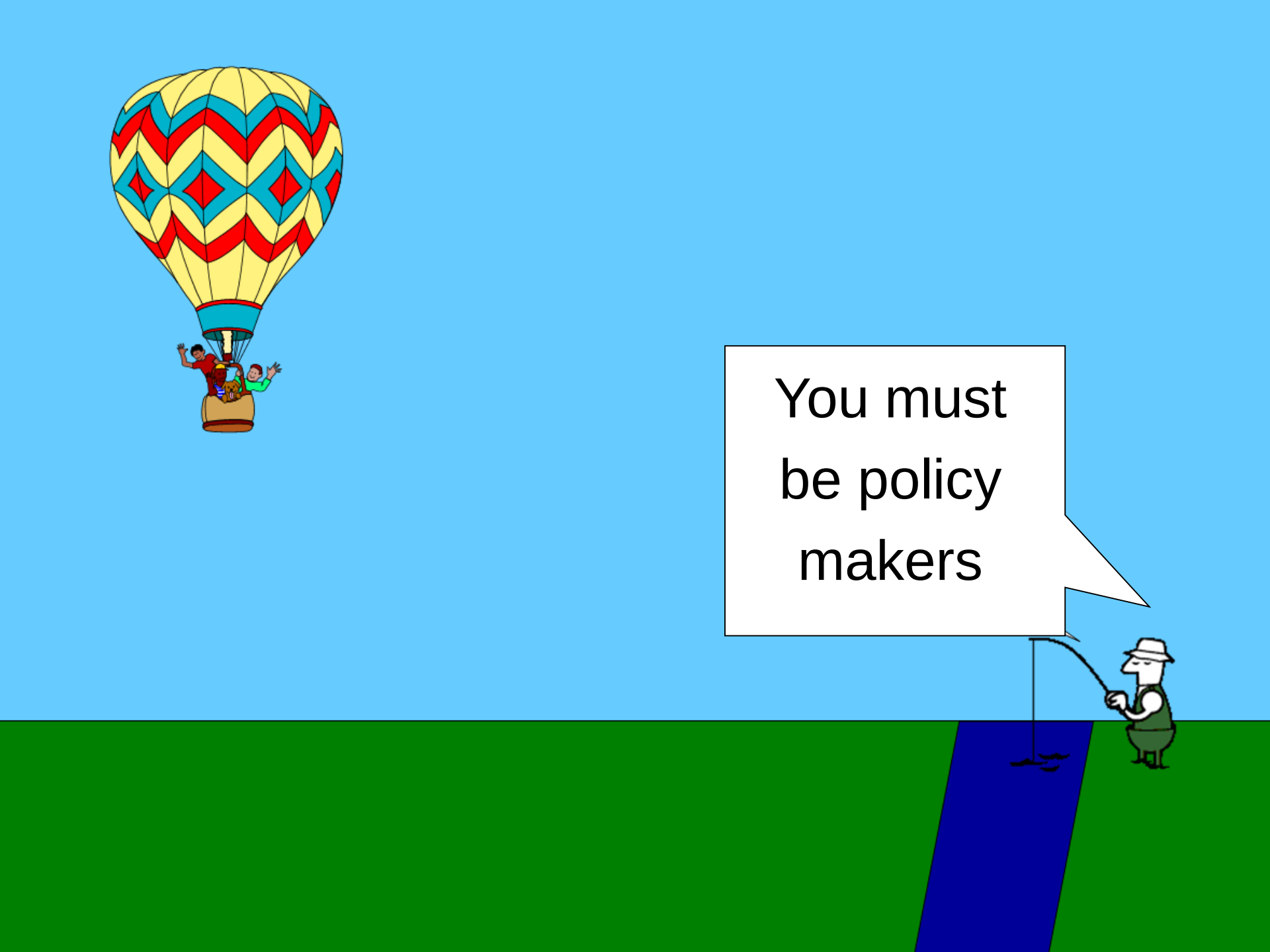

Where am I?

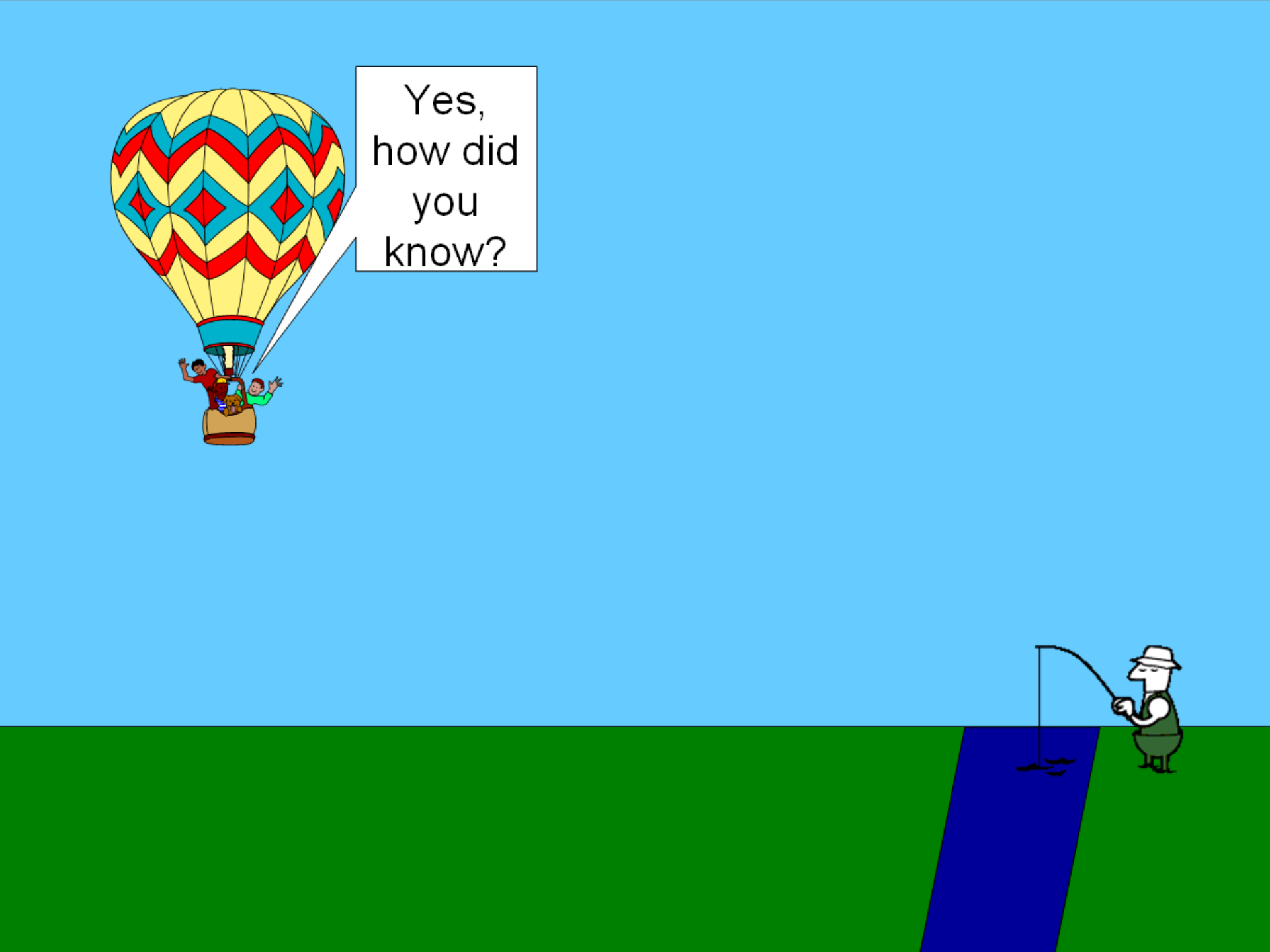
You're 30 metres above the ground in a balloon


You must be a researcher


Yes. How did you know?

Because what you told me is absolutely correct but completely useless


You must be policy makers


Yes, how did you know?

Because you don't know where you are, you don't know where you're going, and now you're blaming me

Context

- Researchers and knowledge users (patients, providers, managers, policy makers etc) are different communities with:
  - different priorities, needs, culture, language, timelines
  - may not understand each other
- These differences negatively affect the production of research that is implemented (ie the problem is knowledge production rather than transfer)

Integrated knowledge translation: more context

Society and citizens, managers and policy makers in the health system, health care providers are increasing calling for a shift from a researcher-driven to a health provider/patient-centered research agenda

"An efficient system of research should address health problems of importance to populations and the interventions and outcomes considered important by patients and clinicians."

(Chalmers and Glaziou, 2009)

Integrated Knowledge Translation

- a way of conducting research to make the results more useful and used
- a paradigm shift that focuses on engagement with the field and end-users of research (aligned with participative science and collaborative research).

Integrated KT

- Collaborative, participatory, action oriented, community based participatory research, engaged scholarship, mode 2 knowledge production, co-production/co-creation of knowledge (more in common than different)
- Solutions-focused research
- “Nothing about me without me.”
- Knowledge users can be:
  - Policy and decision-makers from the community to the federal level, industry, clinicians, health system managers, whole communities, the public and patients

What makes for IKT research?

Knowledge users and researchers working together to:

- ✓ shape the research questions
- ✓ decide on the methodology
- ✓ help with data collection, tools development, selection of outcome measures
- ✓ interpret the study findings and craft messaging around them
- ✓ move the research results into practice
- ✓ widespread dissemination and application

Does not necessarily mean involvement in every phase of research

The theory of change for IKT research

Involving knowledge users as equal partners alongside researchers will lead to research that is more relevant, useful, and used:

- end-user engaged in developing the research question =
  ↑ relevant solutions-based research
- end user engaged in the research process =
  ↑ confidence in the results and the researchers
- end-user engagement means readiness for the results and willingness to move those results into practice/policy =
  ↑ impact (more timely improved health care and outcomes)

Beginning to get data on benefits of IKT

- Evidence from CIHR's KT evaluation suggests that IKT research produces:
  - Researcher partnerships with KUs (that often last well beyond funding)
  - Positive outcomes re traditional measures (HQP, Publications, EofG-KT)
  - Health and health system impact
- Challenges include time, effort, disincentives to engage in IKTR (e.g. university KPI focused more in journal impact factor than impact in the real world)

The Integrated Knowledge Translation Research Network in a nutshell:

"Doing research with the people who use it"

Why a network dedicated to IKT?

It is widely accepted that IKT works, but there is limited scientific evidence for its effectiveness or how best to do it.

The IKT research network aims to advance the science and practice of integrated knowledge translation.

About the Network

- A 7-year CIHR Foundation grant
- Led by Ian Graham, Director and Anita Kothari, Deputy Director
- Members include knowledge users (31), integrated KT experts (40), KT and implementation science experts (11), and trainees (14).

Goals and Objectives

Over seven years the IKTR Network will:

- Improve conceptual clarity about IKT
- Assess IKT impacts
- Develop IKT theories and measurement tools
- Create IKT capacity-building resources
- Train researchers and knowledge users about IKT

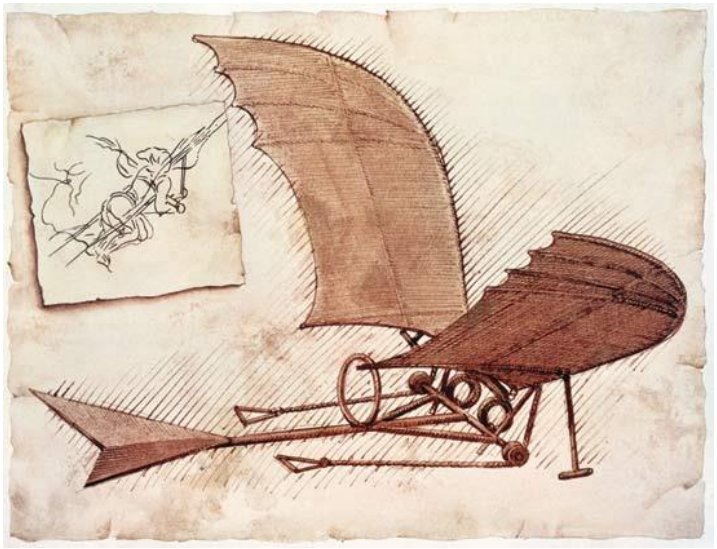
Priority Outputs

- Knowledge syntheses
- Case studies
- Experiential IKT knowledge
- Funder-focused studies
- Organization-focused studies
- Researcher- and university-focused studies
- Measurement studies
- IKT tools and capacity building

I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply.

Being willing is not enough; we must do.

Leonardo da Vinci



An example of an Integrated KT project

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-xfmpL8q8w&sns=em