EUROPARC 'Parks in the Spotlight'
How can tech help us to understand nature?

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NatureScot
Scotland's Nature Agency
Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba

NatureScot is all about 'connecting people and nature'

- nature reserves
- sustainable neighbourhoods
- schools & greenspaces
- outdoor learning

Reviewed our nature reserves & outdoor learning

- school visits, work experience, student projects, rural skills courses, classrooms, learning pavilion, forest schools, beach schools

… we thought we were doing quite well.

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"That's all very good, but – could we do something bigger?"
[The Chairman]

May 2017

Our immediate thoughts …

- Focus on our nature reserves and school visits

- Staff resource

- What 'thing' do we want - digital trail guide, talking clipboard…?

- We don't have any money!

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Realisations ... over the next months

1. Money – was on offer !

2. None of us were tech experts

3. Our audience is too small

4. How to make it last

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But first - research the market

1. Scottish Government's CanDo Innovation Challenge Fund

How to harness the power and popularity of technology to better connect (young) people and nature, and support outdoor learning

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2, 3 & 4. CivTech® accelerator programme

"**CivTech**'s mission to drive daring & innovation in the public sector by collaboratively solving challenges that make peoples lives better"
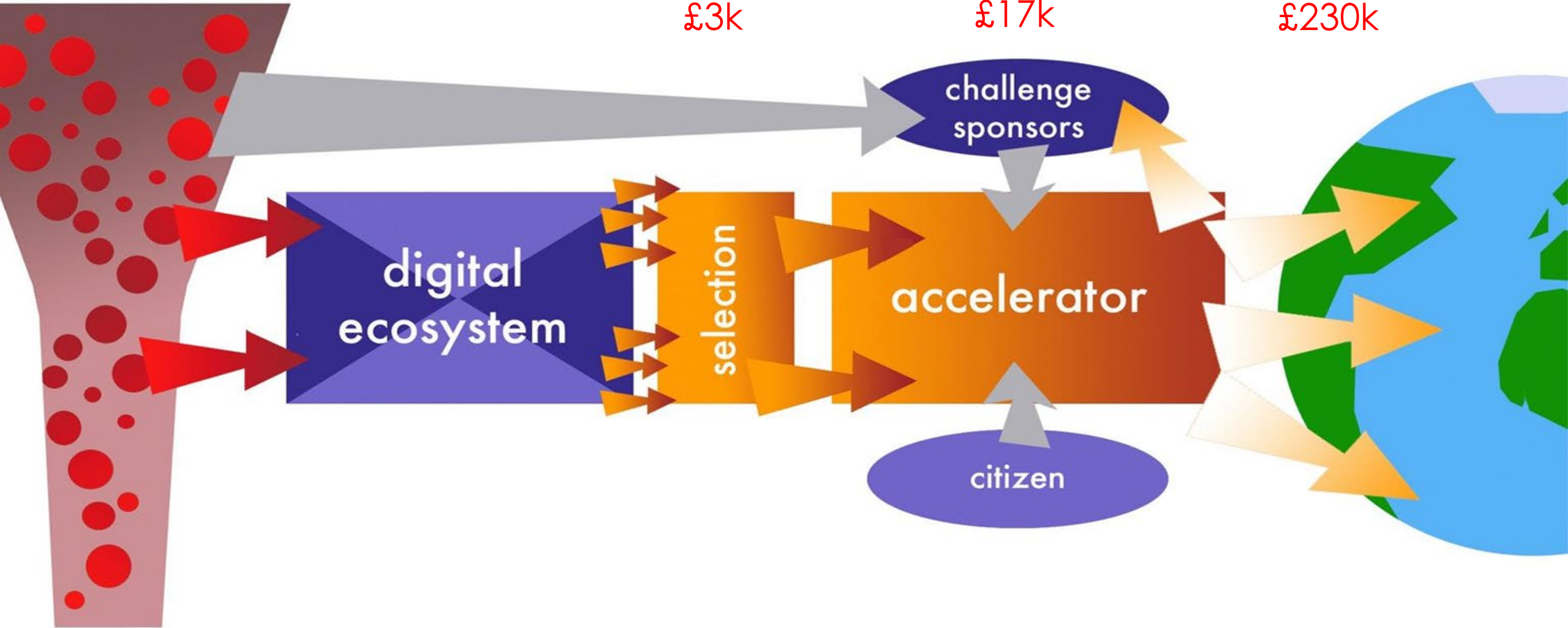
'How can you procure what you don't know exists?'

6-10 challenges

3 companies per challenge £3k

1 company per challenge £17k

Contracts up to £230k

challenge sponsors

digital ecosystem

selection

accelerator

citizen

Digital Scotland

CivTech®

@CivTechScotland

We wanted a solution to -

- encourage users to engage directly with nature

- to give content for everywhere & more for special places

- give more than available on the internet

- be replicable for many locations at a low cost

- be self funding

'measures of success'

Beinn Eighe National Nature Reserve

OXIDO

Zepto

MVP   February 2019
Phase 2   March 2019
1st release February 2020

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Looking ahead …

- support outdoor learning everywhere
- special content for our nature reserves
- developing use for long distance trails

- beaver reintroduction programme
- highly adaptable platform – tourism, history

And

- develop another language/ country version

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www.civtechalliance.org