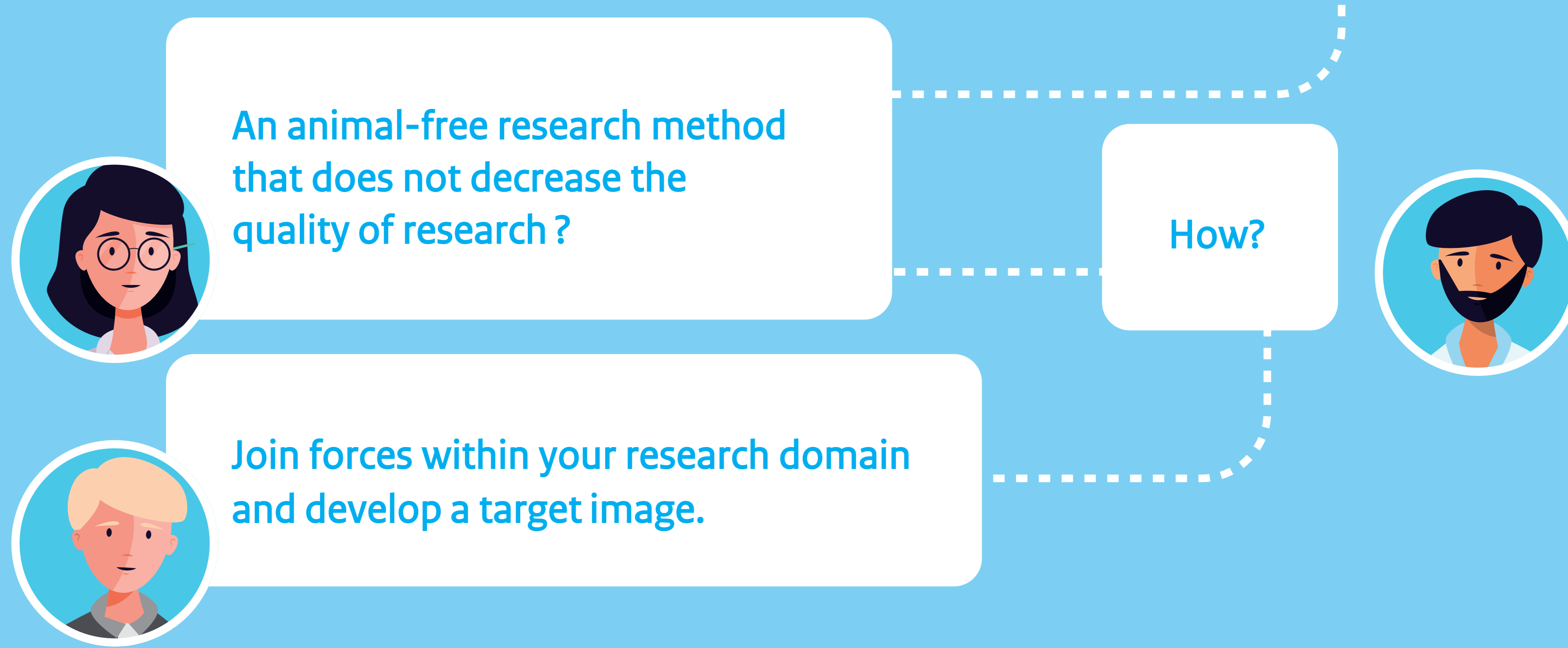




Outlook on animal-free research by outlining a target image



Apart from uniting parties, a target image:



Step-by-step plan



Define the challenges

Which urgent biomedical issues could benefit from an out-of-the-box approach? Which animal-free innovations can be used or should you develop? What challenges do you face?



Make a list of animal-free innovations and their developers

Find interesting animal-free innovations that may replace animal studies now or at a later stage. Look for interesting animal-free innovations that are currently being developed. Use a multisectoral approach to investigate this on a national and international level. Use the network of Transition Program for Innovation without the use of animals: www.transitieproefdiervrijennovatie.nl/english

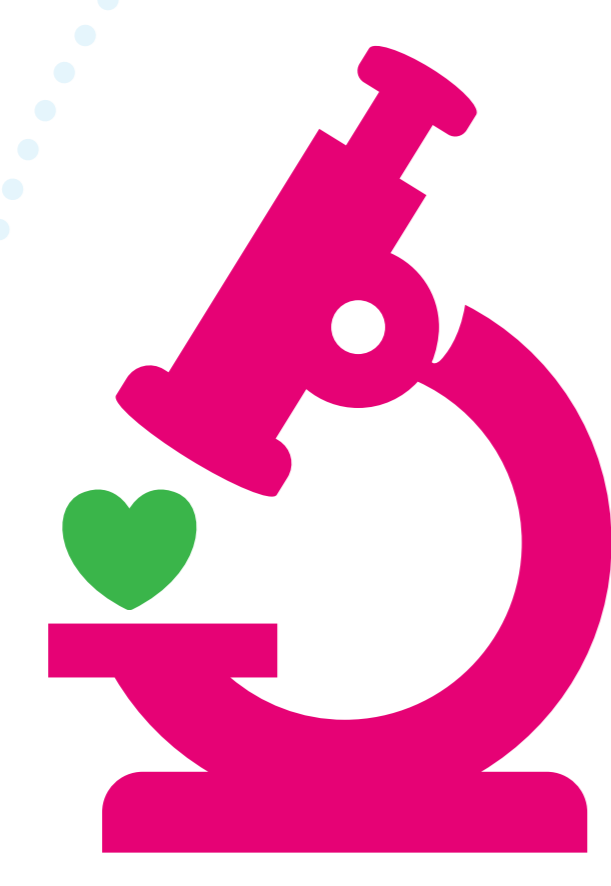
Make a timeline

Provide a realistic and measurable description of your ambitious goals. Describe the results to be achieved in terms of animal-free innovation, reduction of animal use and the 3 Rs: Replacement, Reduction and Refinement. Your targets should be measurable and formulated in a smart way. For example, set goals for five to ten years. The transition target should generate enthusiasm among researchers.



Make an overview of the force field

Map out the key stakeholders and their influence on the research domain. What are the opportunities for this domain? What bottlenecks can you expect? Who are the frontrunners? Who can facilitate more opportunities?



Analyse the viability of animal-free innovation

Which research questions can we expect to answer with animal-free innovations? Which questions cannot yet be answered with animal-free innovations? What is the current status of the 3R methods within this field? Are 3R methods applied?



Develop an innovation strategy

How can you accelerate the development and implementation of new approaches in order to meet the transition target? What will be the roles of the various stakeholders in the research domain? What do you need to get these stakeholders involved? How do you keep these stakeholders committed? What else is required to speed up animal-free innovation? How do you incorporate the ambition to work animal-free in your education programmes? Which investments do you need?



Prepare to communicate the target image clearly and prepare for project launch!

Follow this checklist:

- ✓ Set **clear transition goals** based on the challenges of the domain
- ✓ Gain **insight into the chances** that animal-free research may succeed for each research question
- ✓ Make an **overview of the current situation** of animal-free innovation inside and outside the domain
- ✓ Make an **overview of possibilities** of animal-free innovations in education programmes
- ✓ Set a **time frame** with manageable deadlines
- ✓ Remember: **desired situations** indicate a preferred outcome. **Innovation networks** of the "Transition Program for Innovation" show you the way to a desired outcome: animal-free research



Advice and support



Drawing up a target situation is recommended by both the Netherlands National Committee for the protection of animals used for scientific purposes (NCad) and the Transition Programme for Innovation without the use of animals (TPI) network organisation. You are not on your own. NCad and TPI are happy to advise you on how to proceed.

