



# Skolkovo Wealth Transformation Centre

Wealth Knowledge Day 2016

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1. Challenges you might face

# 1.1 Challenges you might face

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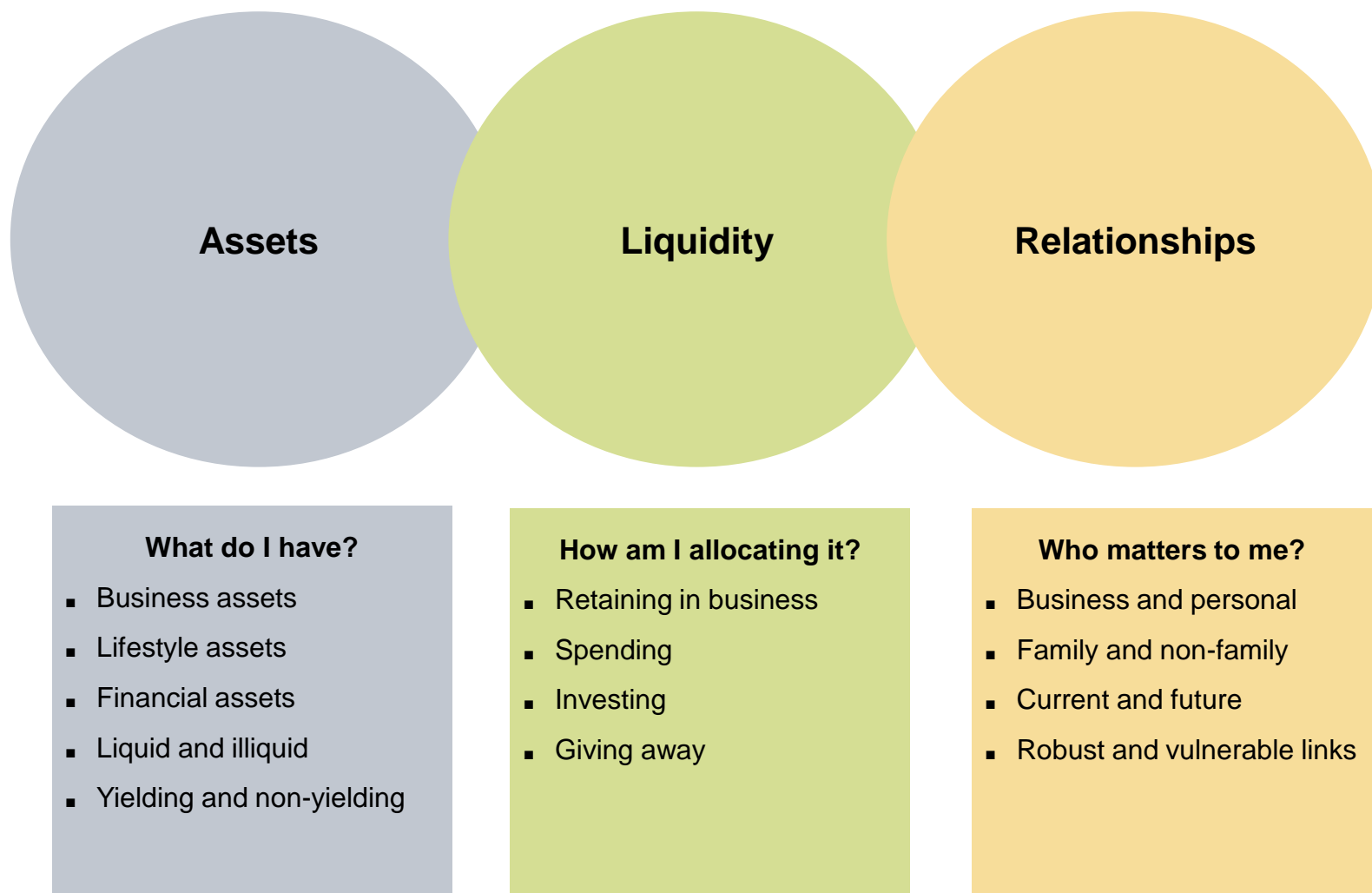
## A long list of things can make wealth feel like a burden

- **Planning for current and future generations** – often protecting individuals *from* wealth; determining who gets what, how and when; educating children and young adults on the responsibilities that come with wealth
- **Orderly succession** – preventing disputes over multinational estates; avoiding problems with conflicting laws
- **Living internationally** – tackling the practical burden that comes when living and moving between jurisdictions
- **Global compliance** – staying on the right side of constantly-evolving legislation worldwide; tax filing and planning
- **Legitimate protection of assets** – preparing for what can go wrong; minimising dangers of wealth destruction
- **Safeguarding privacy** – where possible, avoiding unwanted publicity and public disclosures in courts
- **Governance of family businesses** – handling and planning transitions between generations; applying best practice
- **Securing business relationships** – the need for written agreements and neutral custodians
- **Wealth preservation** – strategic allocation of liquid assets; setting, implementing and monitoring investment strategy
- **Management and oversight** – taking care of administration; managing cash flows and liquidity needs; handling yielding and non-yielding assets
- **Effective charitable giving** – establishing objectives, setting a strategy and help with administration

## 2. Addressing the challenges

## 2.1 First, see the whole, not just a few strands

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## 2.2 Then begin to plan, under three headings

### Transition

#### *Preparing for a successful succession*

- Determining who gets what, how and when
- Protecting individuals and families from the adverse impact of their wealth
- Documenting and communicating rights and obligations towards each asset type

#### Areas to address include

- **Clear objectives** – defining the kind of legacy you want to leave; letter of wishes
- **(Re)structuring of wealth:**
  - For tax efficiency
  - To minimise risk of disputes
  - To avoid problems with conflicting laws
- **Next generation**
  - Planning for income needs
  - Education and mentoring programmes
  - Business buy-out and buy-in procedure

### Governance

#### *Securing more control and stability*

- Reviewing and improving governance of business, family and assets
- Evaluating checks and balances, potential conflicts, sources of risk and mechanisms for handling disputes

#### Areas to address include

- **Family governance** – formal councils and constitutions; defining who is and is not considered as family; preparation and training for future leaders
- **Business governance** – shareholders agreements; new corporate governance and ethical standards; consolidating holding companies
- **Investment governance** – overall allocation of wealth; setting, implementing and monitoring investment strategy; defining approach to philanthropy

### Protection

#### *Guarding against what often goes wrong*

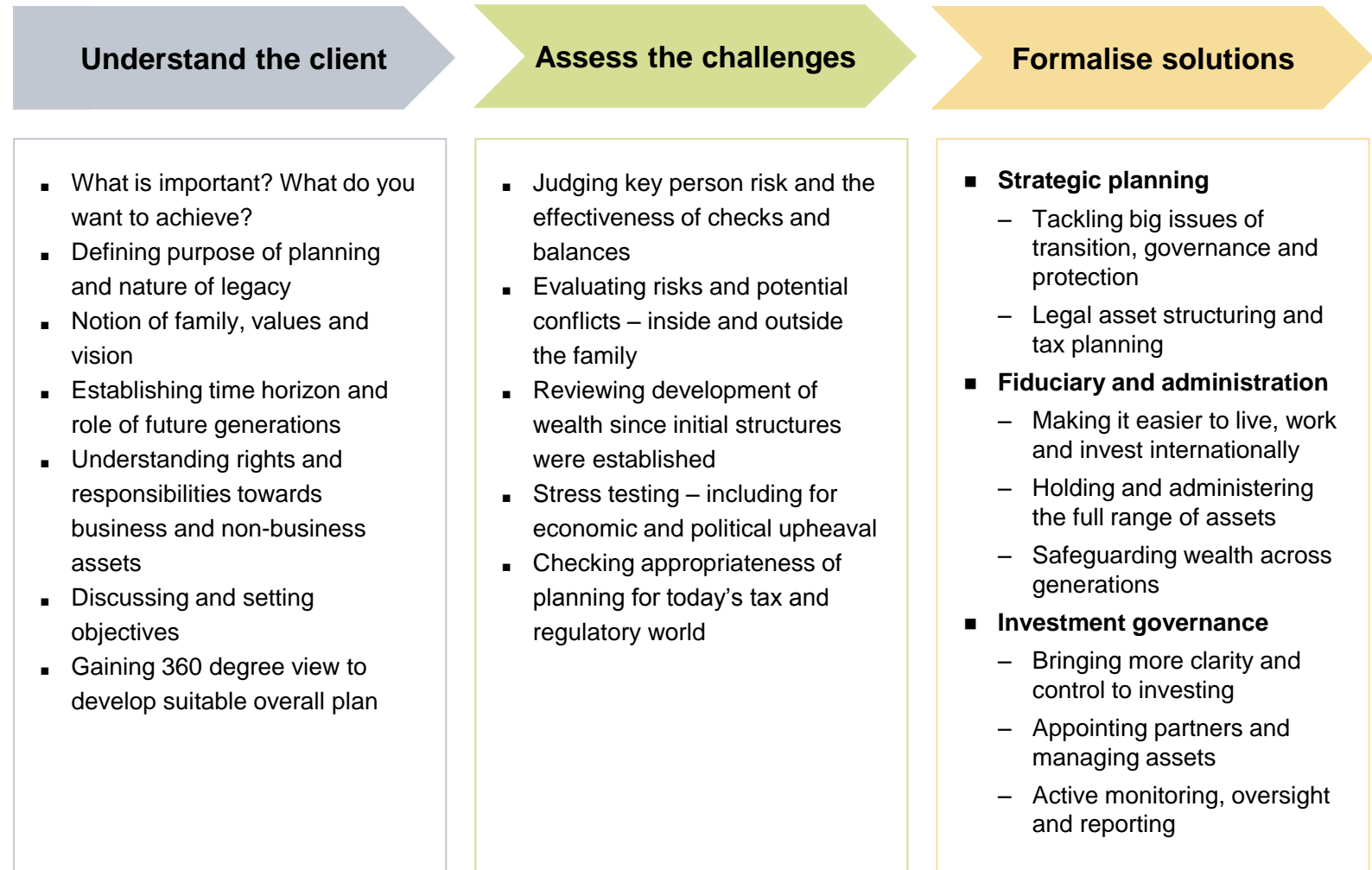
- Stress-testing existing arrangements to assess vulnerability
- Safeguarding assets and legitimate privacy

#### Areas to address include

- **Asset protection** – Robust Plan B to cover worst-case scenarios and improve diversification
- **Privacy** – where possible, avoiding unwanted publicity and public disclosures in courts
- **Compliance** – applying best practice for a world of transparency across borders
- **Wealth allocations** – minimising dangers of wealth destruction

## 2.3 How we approach this at Rothschild

### A straightforward process



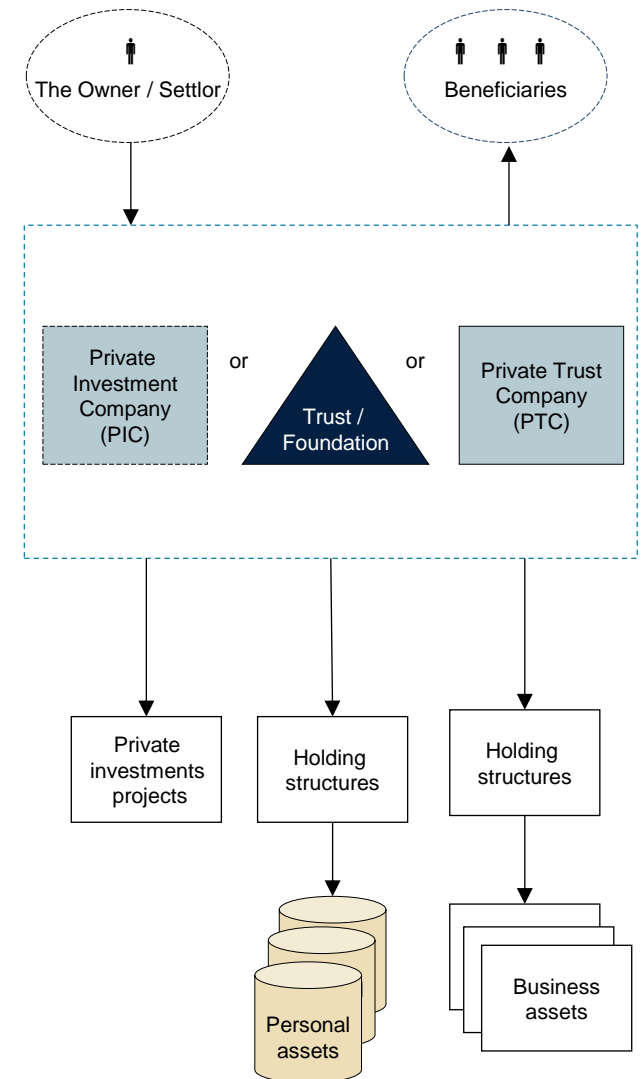


### 3. Fiduciary Structures as Family Planning Instruments

# 3.1 Fiduciary structures

## The benefits of fiduciary structures

- Fiduciary structures distinguish between **legal and economic interests** (the latter standing for the right to derive benefits from the assets)
- **Excellent support for Family Governance Structure:**
  - **Transition:**
    - Supporting the legacy the wealth owner wishes to create and preserving family wealth for the next generations (building a family dynasty);
    - Contingency and succession planning: assets do not fall into the settlor's estate (not "frozen" during a probate period); flexible distributions among beneficiaries, who are not necessarily relatives of the settlor (subject to AML restrictions);
    - Avoidance of dispute risks between heirs through clear succession (subject to forced heirship rules).
  - **Governance:**
    - Setting ownership and control rights over wealth and income;
    - Complementing formal mechanisms for the family governance framework – such as family councils and constitutions (can be very valuable in bringing order, strengthening relationships and introducing healthy checks and balances);
    - Minimizing and managing conflicts between family members;
    - Enabling sensible overall long-term investment strategy including generating and allocating income.
  - **Protection:**
    - Protecting individuals and families *from* the negative consequences of being wealthy (fraudulent 3<sup>rd</sup> parties and advisors, "wrong" investments, spendthrift lifestyle, spouses – gold diggers, destroying ambitions of young family members);
    - Legitimate privacy protection: preserving the privacy of the settlor, his/her family and their wealth from public disclosures.
- **Assets consolidation and access to the expertise and exclusive services of a professional corporate trustee:**
  - Asset control and management: overall supervision of asset structure, identifying areas for improvements, strategic planning, etc.;
  - Continuity and consistency: the continuous and consistent administration for the entire lifetime of the trust;
  - Access to unique trustee's resources, favourable investment and custodial arrangements;
  - Impartiality: transmission of important discretionary trust decisions without putting personal family relationships at risk (i.e. where siblings are treated differently).



## 3.2 Contacts

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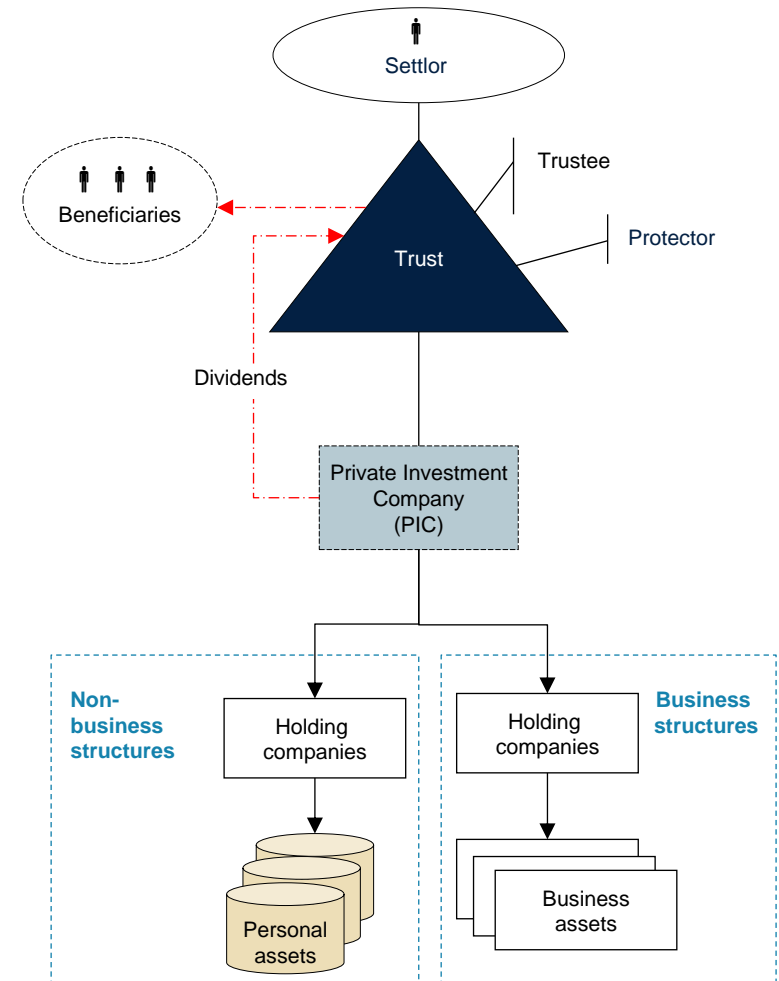
## Appendix A. Typical fiduciary structures

# A.1 Fiduciary structures

## Trust

### Legal nature and parties

- The trust is not a legal entity, but a legal arrangement formalized by the trust instrument between the following parties:
  - **Trustee:** an independent professional licensed provider bound by the trust instrument/Letter of Wishes and fiduciary duties
  - **Settlor:** individual creating the trust, either mentioned in the trust instrument or not (declaration of trust)
  - **Beneficiaries:** receive distributions and other benefits from the trust structure
  - **Protector:** usually appointed by a settlor to supervise the activities of the trustee with veto powers and sometimes even positive powers obliging the trustee
- **Types of the trusts** (most common types):
  - Non-discretionary: the trustee is bound by the trust instrument, which specifies the beneficiaries, the amounts and procedure to make distributions (ex: life interest trust where the trustee is obliged to pay the income of the trust to a life tenant or several of them)
  - Discretionary: the trustee has discretion to determine which beneficiary receives distributions and/or the amount of such distributions
  - Revocable: the trust can be revoked in full or in part so that the transfer to the trustee of the revoked assets is cancelled
  - Irrevocable: the assets have irrevocably been transferred to the trustee (the trustee can still distribute them to beneficiaries)
- **Irrevocable fully discretionary trusts** – the highest degree of assets protection
- **Typical jurisdictions for setting-up:** mostly common law jurisdictions (Great Britain, Guernsey, Jersey, BVI, Cyprus, Cayman Islands, Bermuda, etc.)

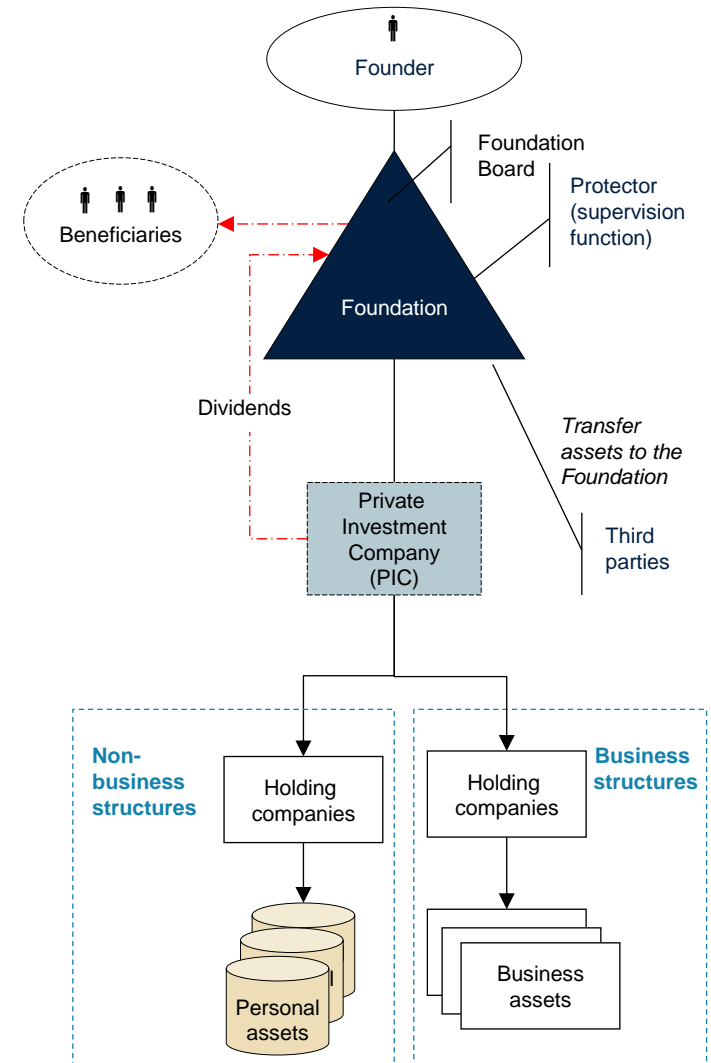


## A.2 Fiduciary structures

### Foundation

#### Legal nature and parties

- A legal entity registered in the relevant commercial registry to which title to the property is transferred; the equivalent of trusts in civil law jurisdictions with the following parties:
  - **Foundation Board (“FB”)**: acting as its executive body of the legal entity bound by the foundation’s statutes and by-laws
  - **Founder**: the instructions applicable to the FB are normally set out in by-laws, defining the procedure for distributions, circle of beneficiaries, etc.
  - **Beneficiaries**
  - **Protector**: supervisory powers over the FB
- **Distinction from the trust:**
  - Legal entity vs. legal arrangement;
  - Relocation is complex and sometimes even impossible
  - Clearer structure for continental (civil law) jurisdictions;
  - Assets are owned by the foundation, not the trustee;
  - Beneficiaries have no formal possibility to control the assets;
  - The FB has no fiduciary duty to act in the best interest of the beneficiaries but has instead a duty to the foundation itself
- **Typical jurisdictions for setting-up:** civil law but also modern offshore common law jurisdictions (Liechtenstein, Panama, Austria, Jersey, Guernsey, Bahamas, etc.)

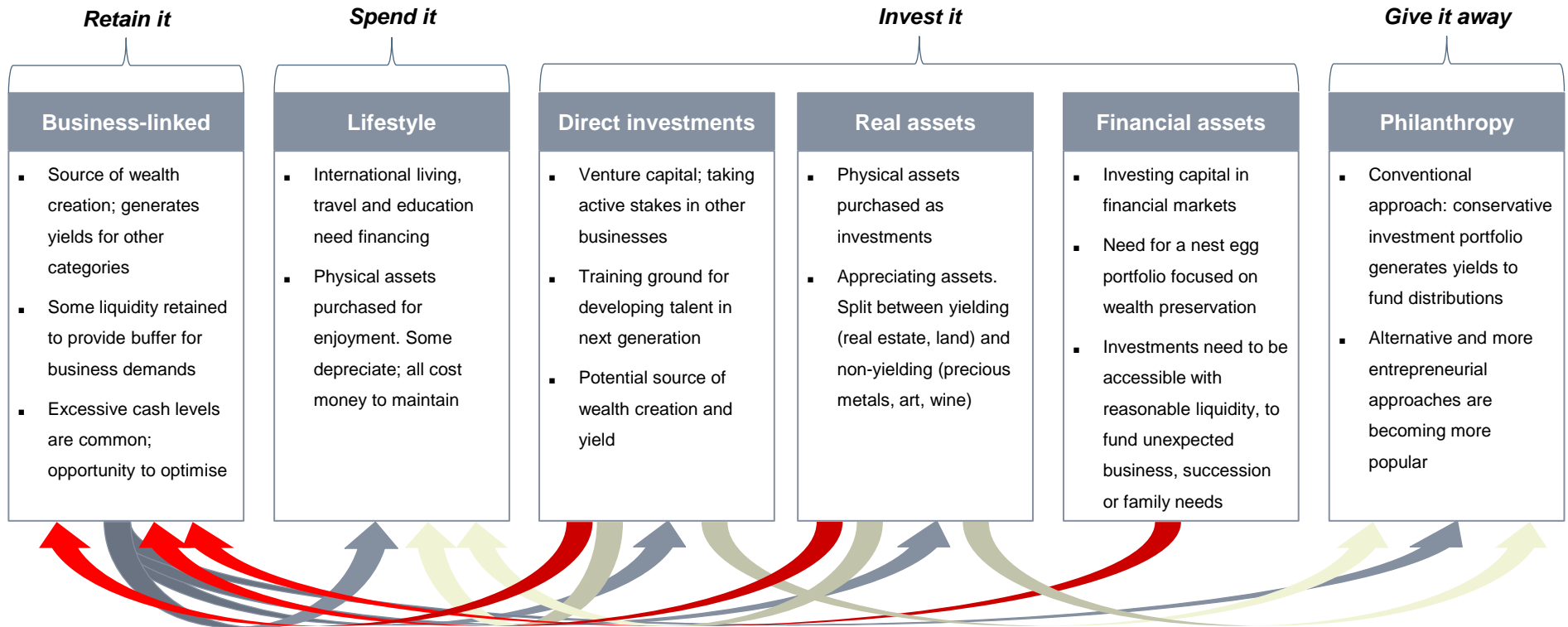


## Appendix B. Wealth allocation model



# B.1 Understand how your overall wealth interacts

## An integrated perspective on the allocation of wealth



### Notes

- Arrows represent example distributions, highlighting interdependence. **Grey** = primary flows. **Green** = subsequent flows. **Red** = emergency flows
- Without an operating business, wealth owners need dependable sources of income. Invested assets become the source of yield, funding other categories
- After a business sale, entrepreneurs typically seek new challenges and outlets for their skills. Direct investments should be seen through this lens