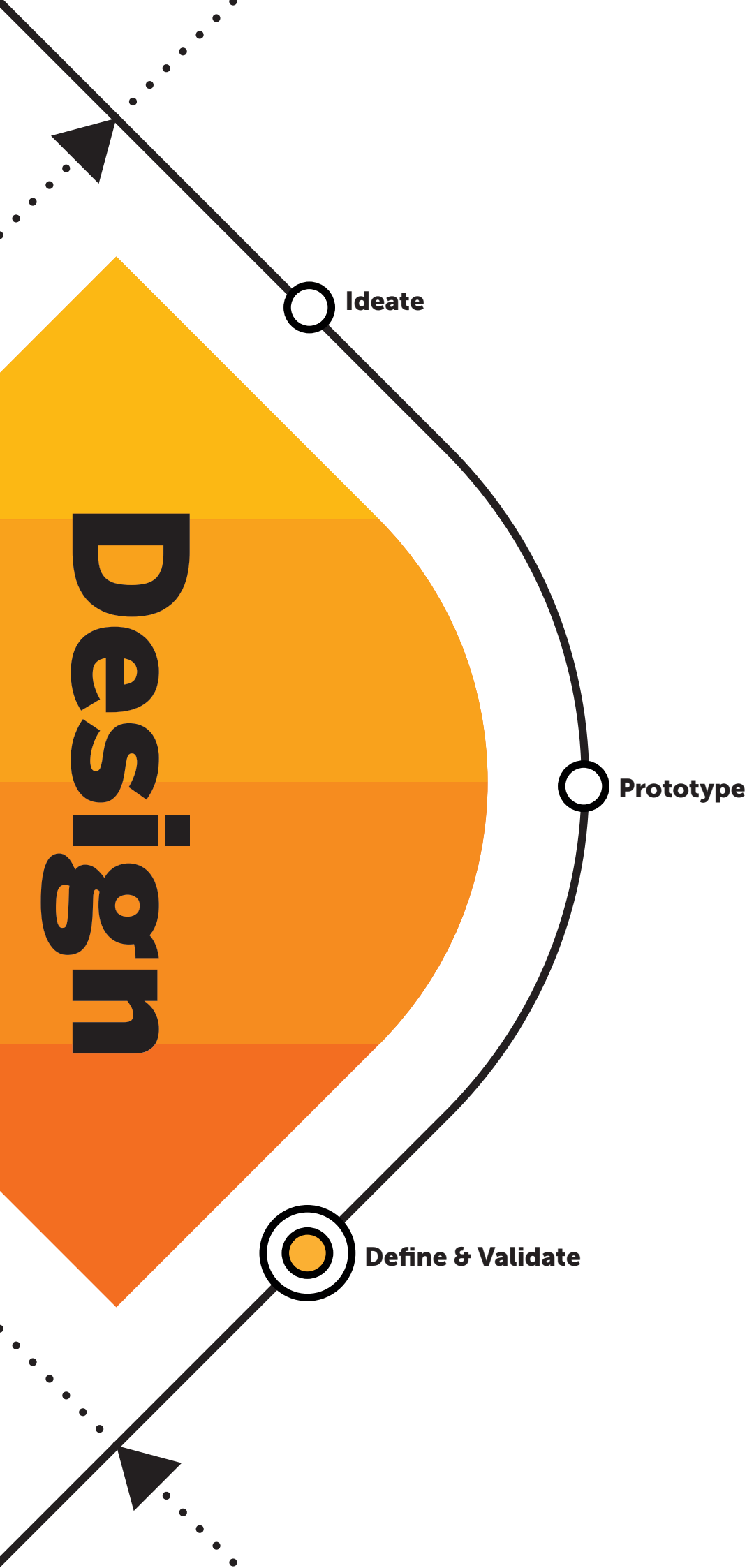




DESIGN PHASE / Solo Activity

# Architectural Decisions List

Document your architectural decisions and reasoning.

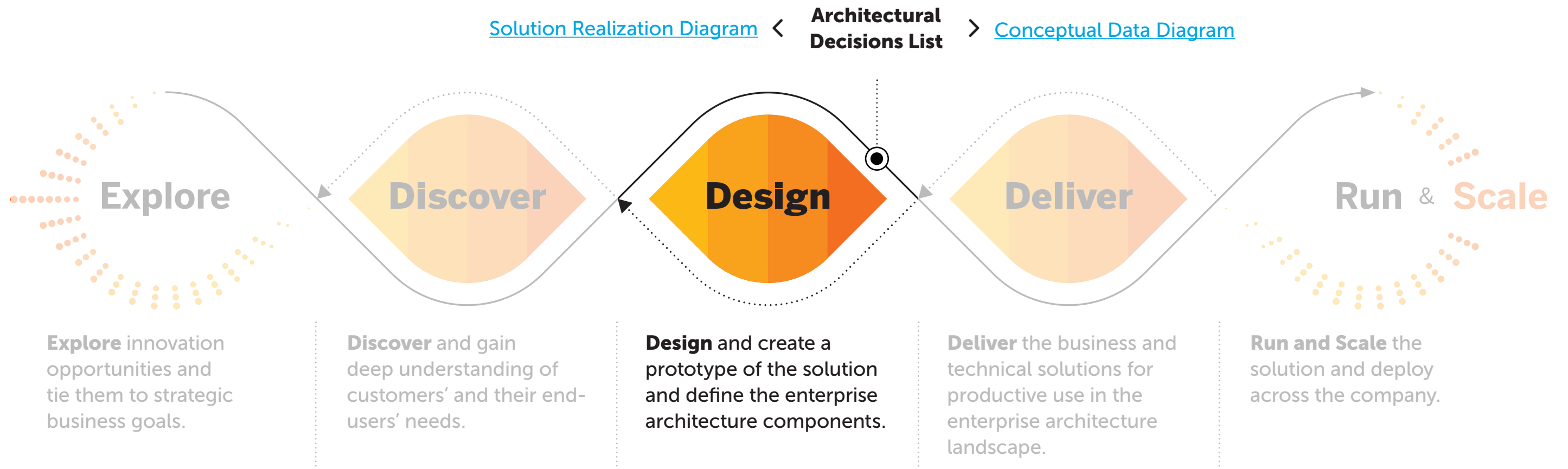


## Why to create an Architectural Decisions List?

The purpose of an Architectural Decisions List is to document your architectural discussions and outline the reasoning for the decisions taken. Detail the architectural decisions you have chosen for realizing the target architecture.

# When to create an Architectural Decisions List?

The Architectural Decisions List is created during the Design phase after the [Solution Realization Diagram](#).



Learn more about SAP's Human-Centered Approach to Innovation: <https://experience.sap.com/designservices/approach>

# How to create a Architectural Decisions List?



Duration  
**Ongoing during the project**



Participation  
**1 person**



Roles  
**Architects**



Use input from

- [Solution Concept Diagram](#)
- [Solution Realization Diagram](#)
- [Software Distribution Diagram](#)
- [Environments & Location Diagram](#)

## Steps

1

Every time you consider two or more alternatives in the architecture, you should remind yourself to write down the reasoning behind your decision for one of the alternatives.

2

Note the reason why you have chosen the alternative. Was it due to corporate strategy? Maybe there is a corresponding architecture principle that you considered during the decision? You can also include a SWOT analysis to explain the reasoning of your decision.

## Expert Tips

Throughout the creation of your architecture, you make different decisions. For example, you decide to use one Solution Building Block from vendor A instead of an alternative from vendor B.

Or, you decide to implement a required Solution Building Block on your own instead of purchasing a building block. All of these decisions are documented for later reference and show the reasoning behind your decision.

Documenting your architectural decisions is a recurring task, and it is likely that you will add decisions at later stages of your architecture development. An example is when you think about the deployment of your architecture in the context of the [Environments & Location Diagram](#).

# Example

## Architectural Decisions List

Ref	Decision	Reasoning
<i>&lt;unique identifier&gt;</i>	<i>&lt;short description of the decision&gt;</i>	<i>&lt;details about the reason for the decision and possible alternatives that were considered&gt;</i>
An_100 September-2020	Provide embedded analytics to support profitability analysis of budget requests.	To offer an integrated user experience and integrated end-to-end experience, SAP Analytics Cloud, embedded edition is used and integrated into the “Budget Request & Review application”.
...	...	...