



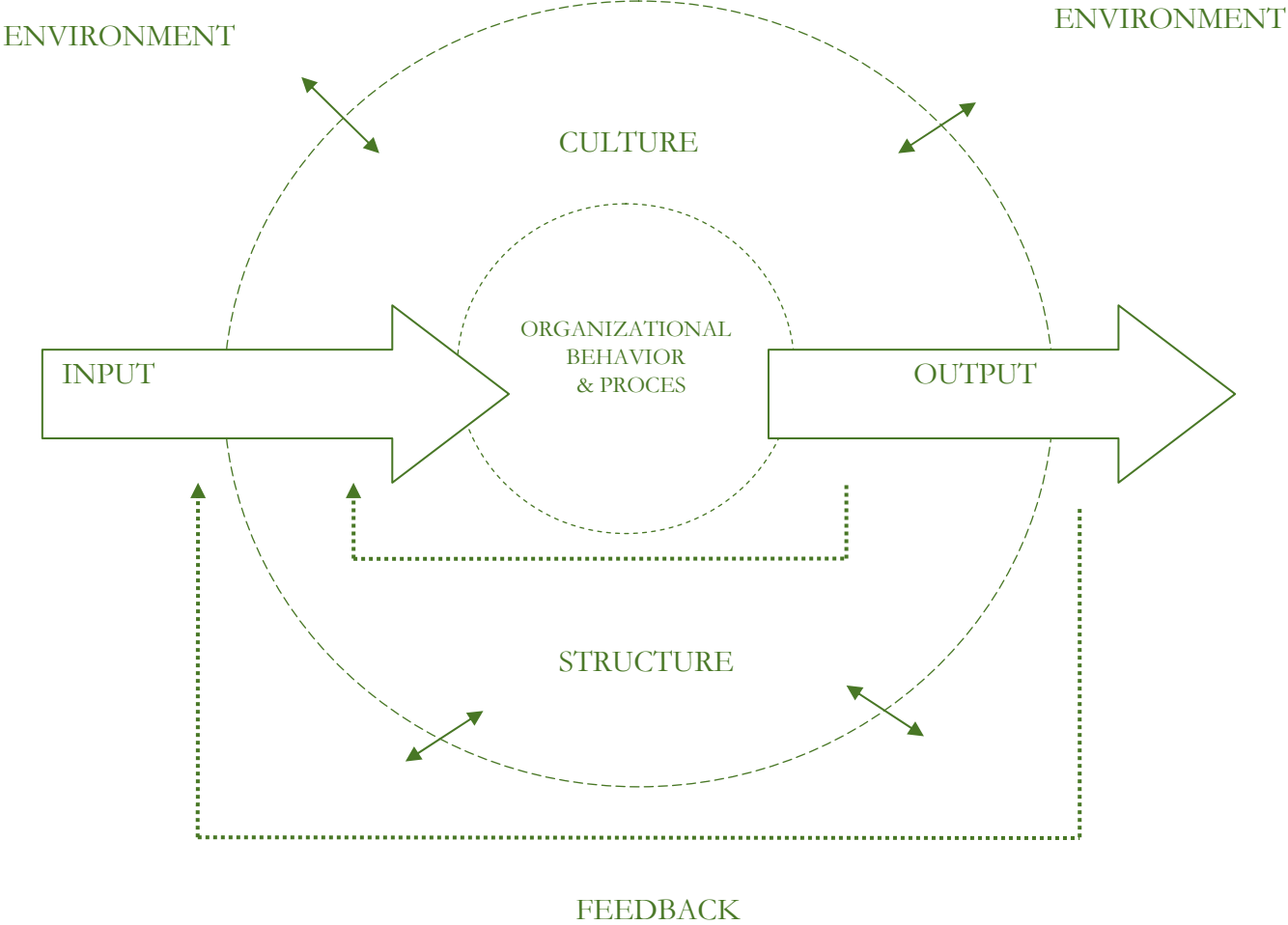
ORGANIZATIONS AS OPEN SYSTEMS

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An open system interacts with its environment, takes its resources from the outside and transforms them, sending the results of this transformation back to the environment. Therefore an open system cannot isolate itself and cannot function independently from its environment. Another aspect to take into consideration when discussing open systems is its adaptability to outer changes and modifications. All social systems, including organizations, imply a succession of specific actions, performed by individuals that are part of the system. The actions follow a pattern, are interdependent and complementary and are meant to attain a certain goal.

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When analyzing an organization our main assumptions are:

- Every organizational system is composed of a series of interdependent elements, subsystems
- The efficiency and success of an organization depend on its capacity to adapt to its outer environment, its ability to transform this environment or to find an environment that is favorable to the organizations efficient functioning.
- Organizations can use an important amount of its own products, services and ideas as input for its own development
- People represent the main and vital resource of the organization .