

Laying the groundwork



REGIONAL
INNOVATOR'S
NETWORK

A story in mixed metaphors

What you're doing...



**What it
feels like:**



- **A stage of work**
- **A constant task**

Three hats



The alchemist



The detective



The film producer



The alchemist



Looking for the energy and the magic

Connecting – finding the chemistry



- Knitting, weaving, connecting
- What creates the spark
- What ingredients, in what proportion?

Reading the energy

Not kidding.

- What do people have energy for?
- Who shows up?
- Is the timing right?



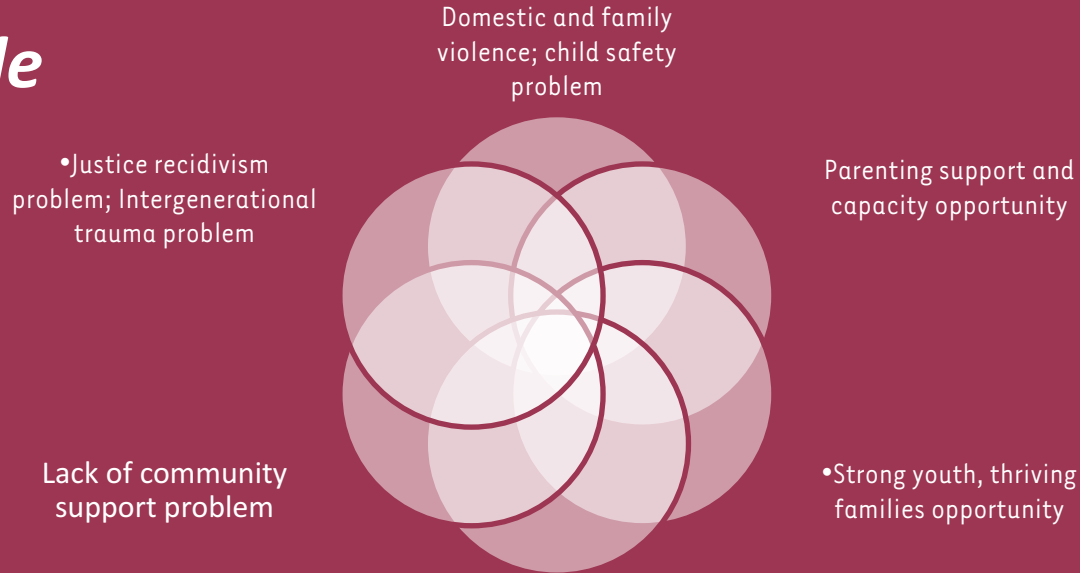
Frame finding



- What frames or lenses can we use?
- What container or crucible is needed to create a safe and productive space for a group to work?

Working with different frames

Example



Is it a challenge?

Or an opportunity?

Boundary setting



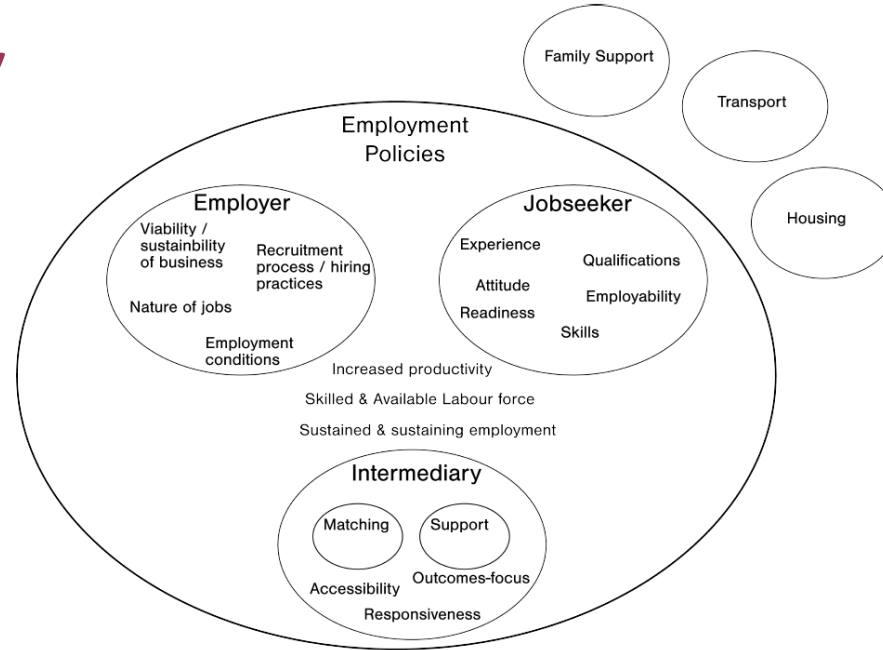
- What are constructive and useful boundaries to draw around the exploration that you are undertaking?

Working with funnel of scope



Drawing the boundaries

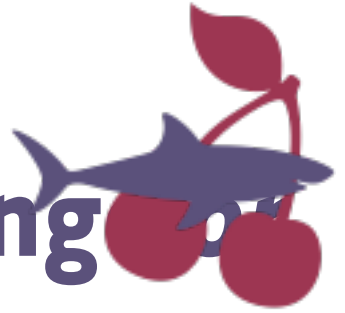
Opportunity Area map





The detective

Looking for leads



Selecting a worthy challenge

opportunity

- What is the challenge?
- What is the opportunity?

What's known? – looking for clues



- Who holds the different pieces of the puzzle?
- Do you already have data and/or a solid piece of discovery?

Luck



- Do the stars align?
- What emerges?

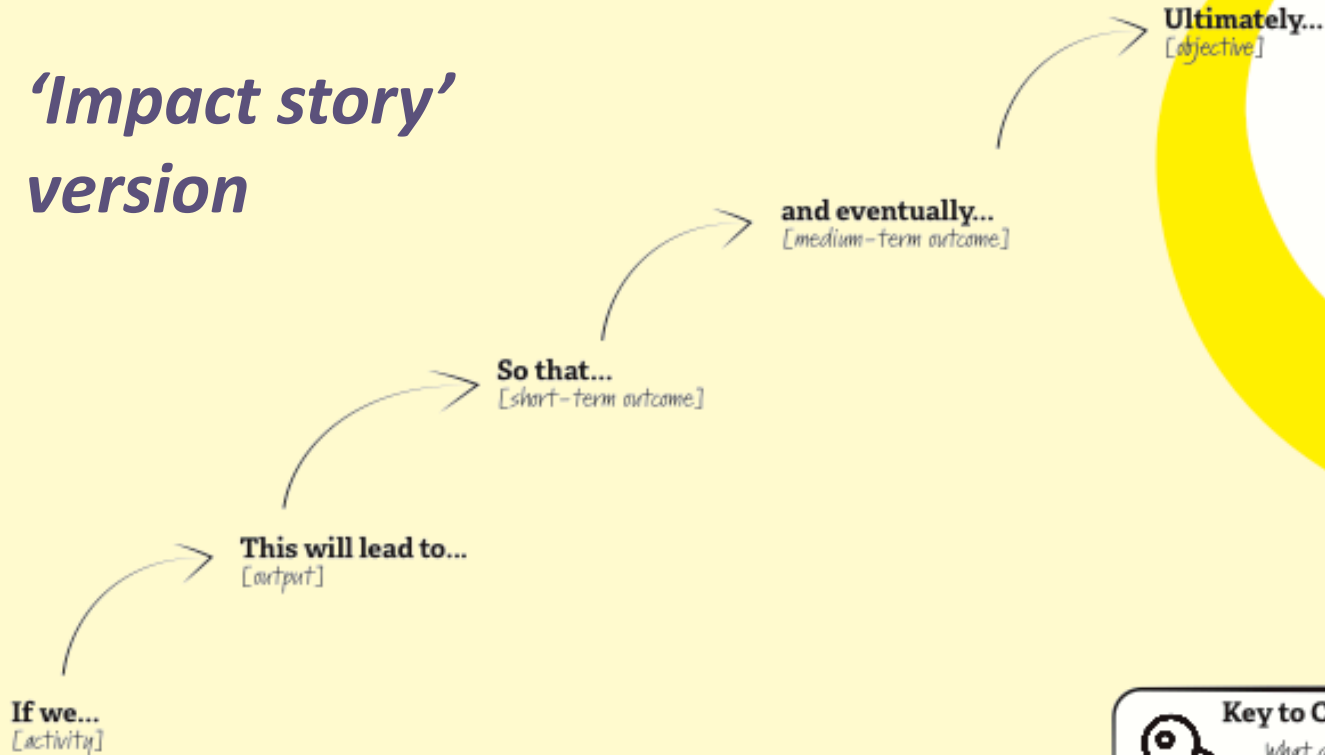
A theory



- A clear and valid hypothesis as to the space for discovery and action
- Working with Theory of Change

Working with Theory of Change

'Impact story' version



Key to Change

What do you believe will be the key activity that will create change?



The film producer

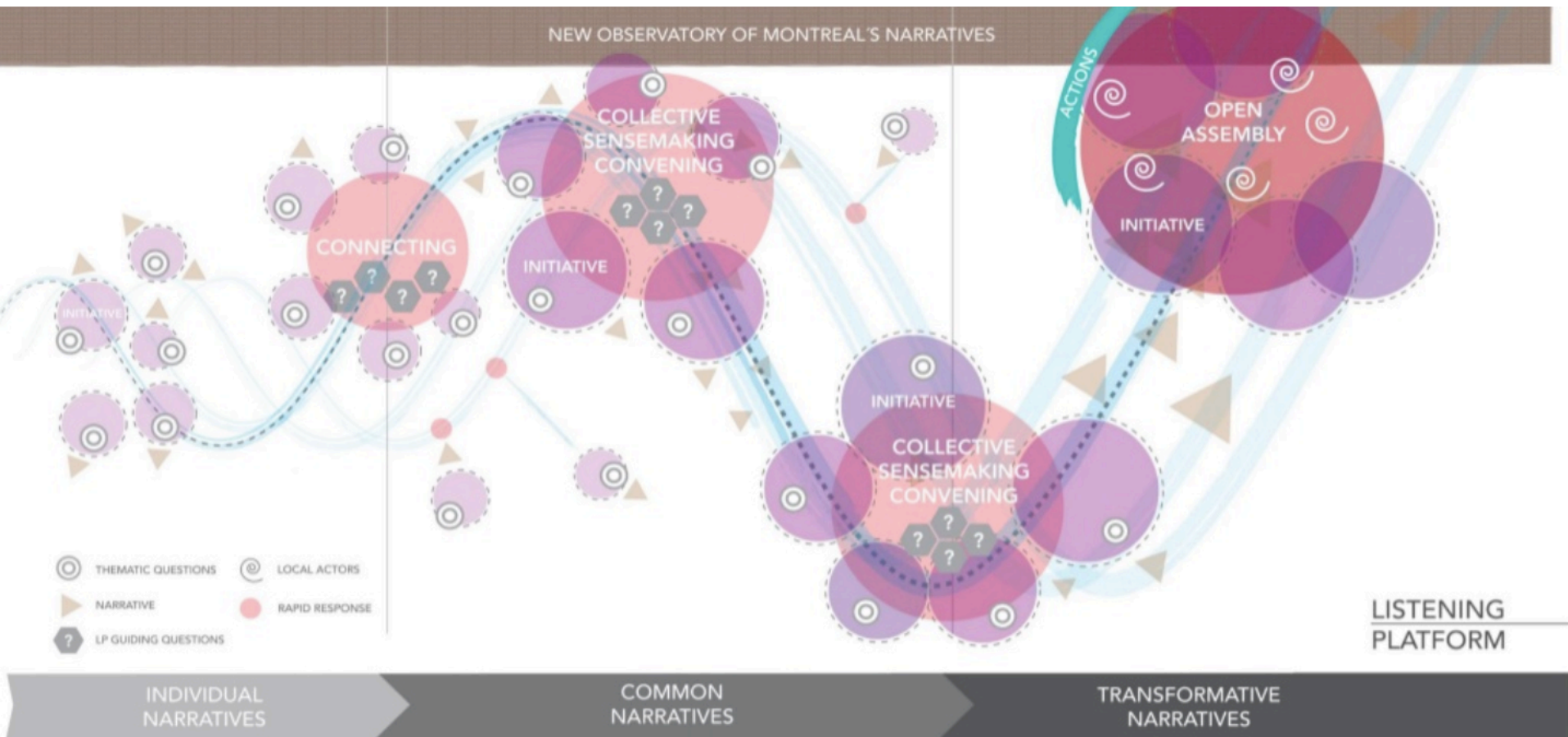
Looking for a good story

A future we want – retelling the story

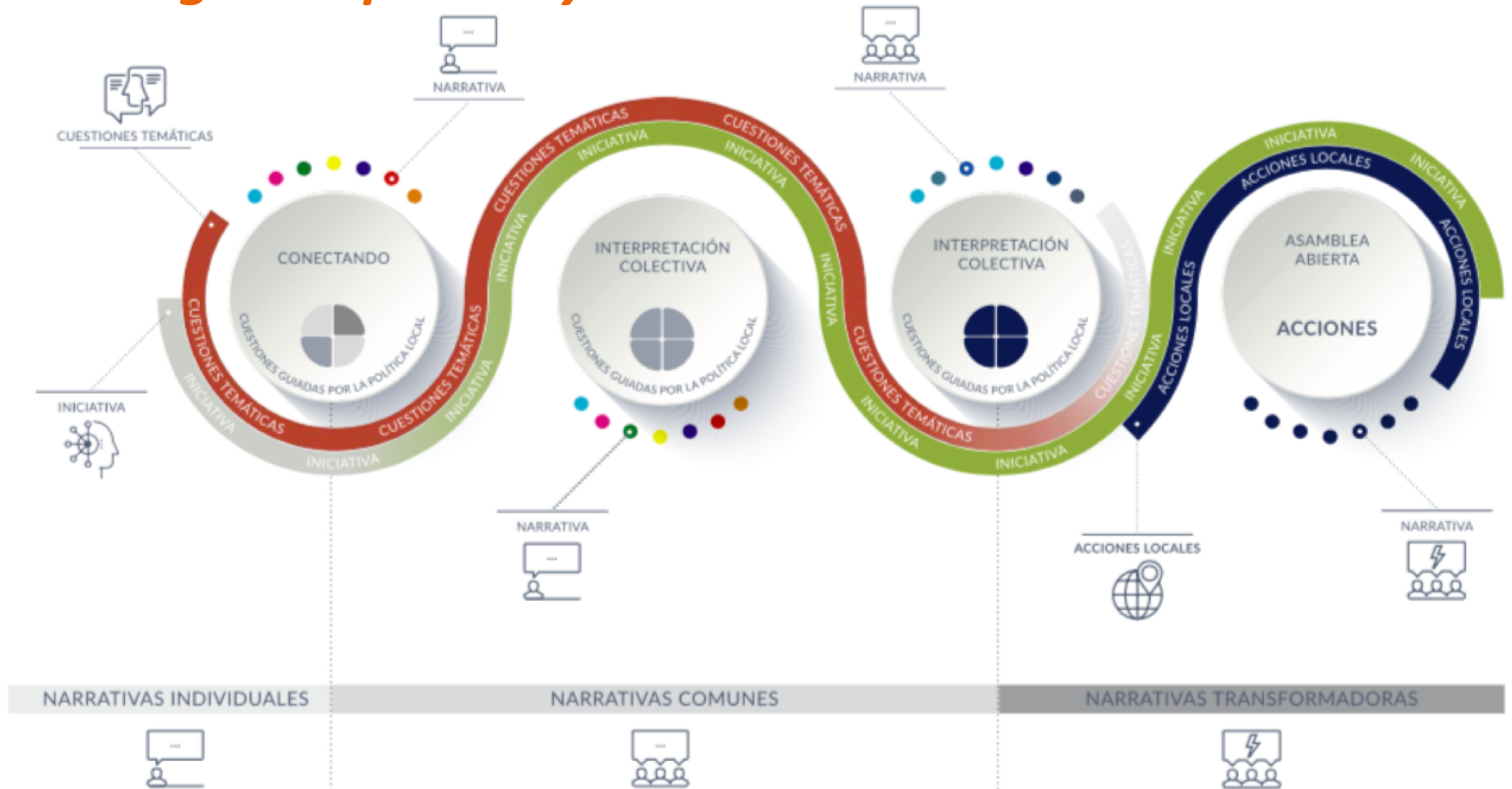


- What is a story – a future – that people want to be a part of?
- Working with narratives and storytelling

Working with storytelling and narratives



Knitting multiple storylines



Stakeholders: A community around outcomes



- Who will you need to make it all happen? Who is your cast & crew? Levels, layers of people across the system
- Who is the community around outcomes?

Who are our stakeholders?

1. Identify who to involve

→ **Voice of intent** – e.g. decision-makers and sponsors

→ **Voice of lived experience** – e.g. the service 'user', young person, community member or beneficiary

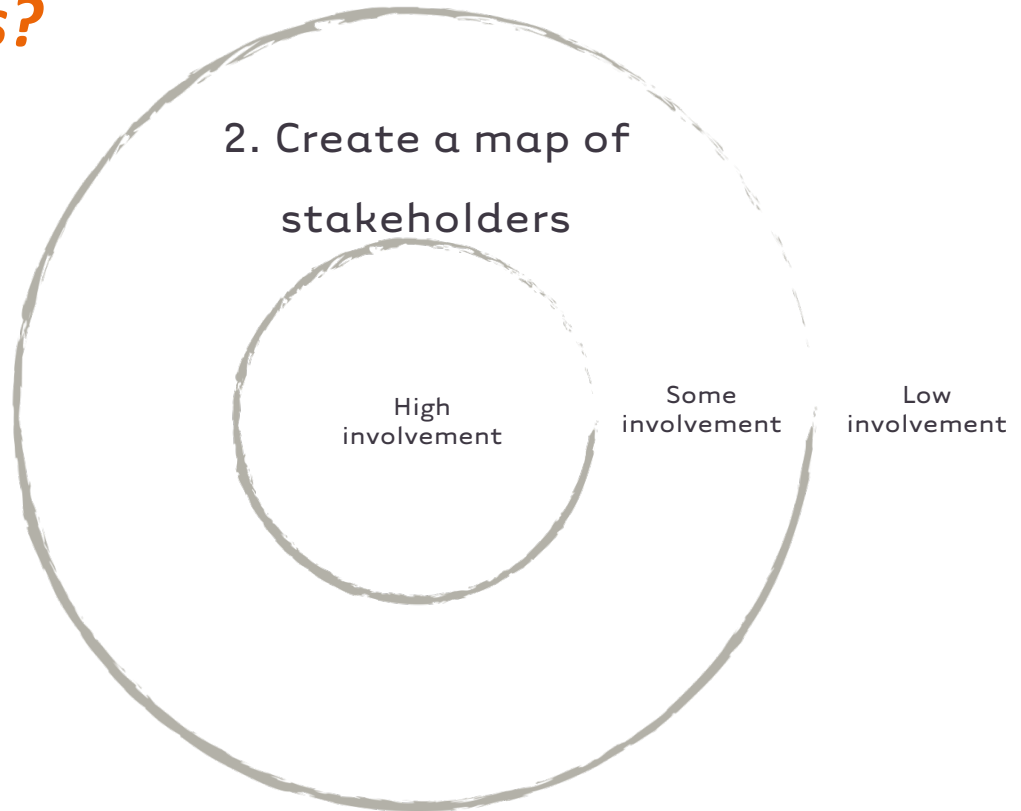
→ **Voice of those 'making it happen'** – e.g. those who have experience working toward the outcomes you're seeking, who can help you think through your ideas and who can challenge you as well – service professionals, event organisers, key informants, external provocateurs

→ **Voice of design** – e.g. the 'messenger', the person or team trying to create something new or solve the issue

→ **Do you need different voices for each phase?** What roles will you need, and who might take on each of those roles? Do you need people who create the conditions, knit together different initiatives, or roll their sleeves up and participate in co-design?

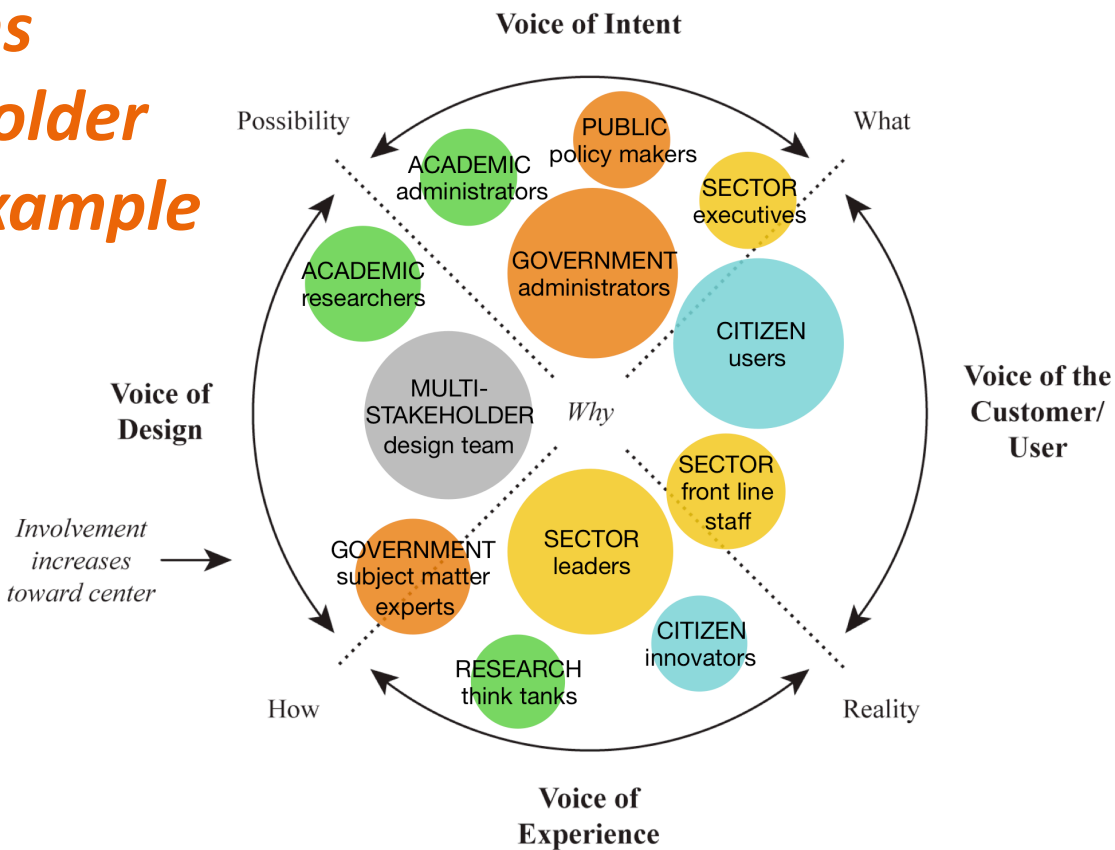
→ **Do you need voices beyond your community?** E.g. service 'head office' or state government

2. Create a map of stakeholders



What voices do we need?

Systems stakeholder map example



Link to: Under
Source: Michelle Miller

Getting it across the line

Securing funding



For this phase...

- From existing budgets, funds, roles
- Funding that is offered to cover a initiative that people want to address



**When are you ready
for the next stage?**

You're never ready

Move. Keep moving...
When you're ready enough

Setting intent



- Working with principles, intentions, outcomes
- Touchstones – guides (rather than a script) to come back

Working with principles

Principles help us...

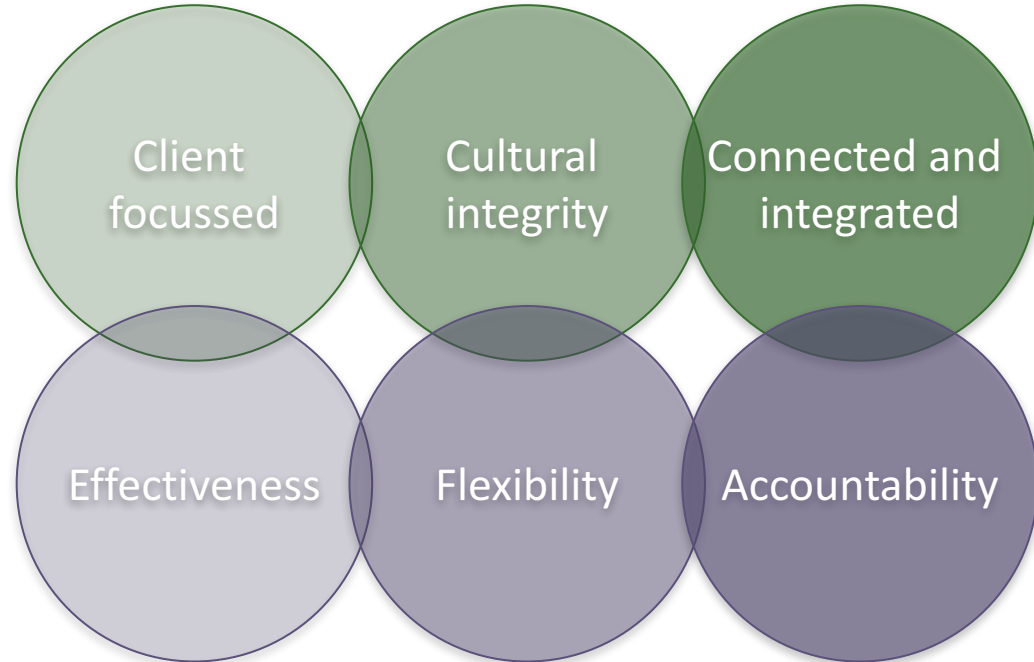
- Align our decisions and actions to our intentions
- Make choices that represent our shared values
- Navigate decisions when compromises need to be made

Principles are effective when they...

- Are simple and action-oriented
- Guide but don't dictate
- Help us gauge success and gaps later on

Example: principles for child safety service system

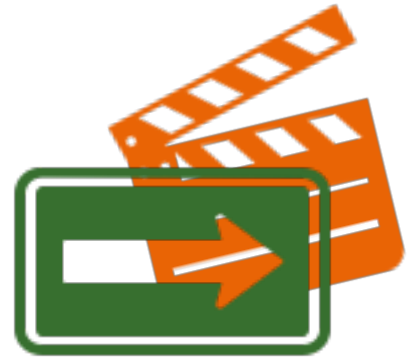
What we want
to be known
for



How we do
it

Project brief: a rough plan

- Context
- Intent and objectives
- Scope
- Theory of change –
actions, outcomes, assumptions
- Resources & capabilities
- Approach



Working with a project brief

Project
Name and quick description: what's this project about?

NAME:
Description in a phrase:

Context: what's the challenge or opportunity? Why is this important?

What's the intention? What future do you envision?

What's the scope?

What is your theory of change? What assumptions do you hold that need to be tested?

Define the conditions
What's in place, what needs to be built?

Define the approach
What can you do with...

Funnel of Scope

DISCOVER
To understand the situation and options better

OUTLINE
To make current things better (to stop, improve, adjust, iterate, evolve or spread)

ADD NEW
To introduce new things within an existing paradigm / system

TRANSFORM
To define and demonstrate a new paradigm

Authorising Environment
Commitment to action

Thank you!