CCIC CASID RESEARCH PROGRAM

NEXT GENERATION

COLLABORATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

a CCIC - CASID program

April 10th

COMPONENTS OF THE PRESENTATION

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FIXING A PROBLEM

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MEMBER'S ENGAGEMENT

I

FIXING A PROBLEM

- A ‘BROKEN’ ECOSYSTEM OF KNOWLEDGE & LEARNING
- PROGRAM ASSUMPTIONS
- BUILDING A MORE INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM IN CANADA

WE THINK WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ECOSYSTEM. WHY?

FIVE MAIN ASSUMPTIONS WHY WE SHOULD STRENGTHEN THE CANADIAN ECOSYSTEM

1. **MORE COLLABORATIVE:** A LARGER NUMBER OF CSO PRACTITIONERS AND ACADEMICS WILL DEVELOP SKILLS FOR ENHANCED CROSS-SECTORAL COLLABORATION, AND WILL CONTINUE TO USE AND HONE THESE ENHANCED SKILLS BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM;
2. **MORE RELEVANT:** COLLABORATIONS, WHICH GENERATE MORE TIMELY, RELEVANT AND EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH, AS WELL AS BETTER TEACHING, AND STUDENT AND PRACTITIONER –LEARNING, WILL INFORM AND SHAPE BETTER POLICY, PROGRAMMING AND PRACTICE;
3. **BETTER OUTCOMES:** A PROGRAM THAT MARRIES PRACTICE WITH RESEARCH AND THAT GENERATES INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICY, WILL HAVE GREATER IMPACT ON THE GROUND, AND WILL ADVANCE PROGRESS ON MEETING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS;

FIVE MAIN ASSUMPTIONS WHY WE SHOULD STRENGTHEN THE CANADIAN ECOSYSTEM

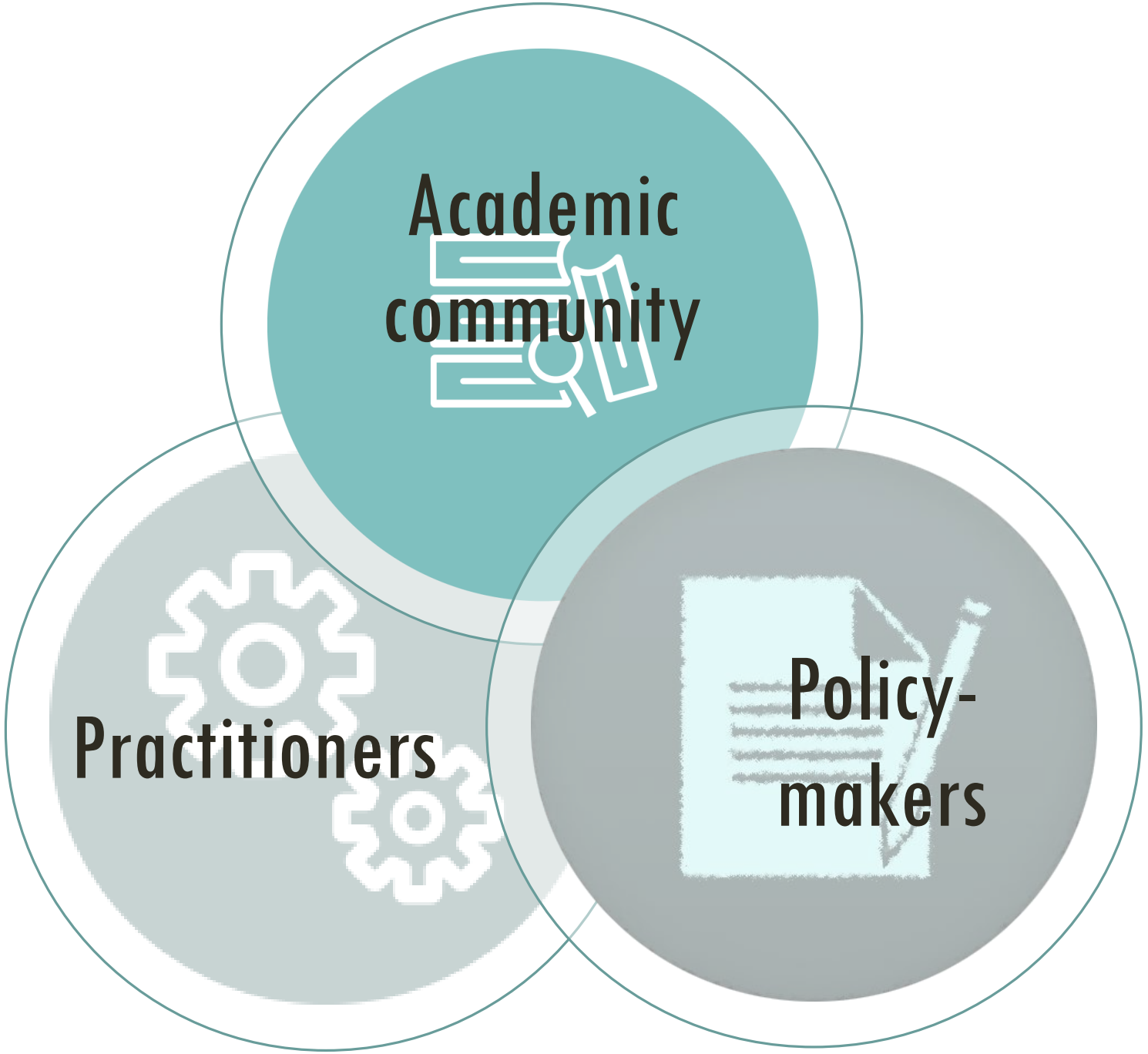
4. **DEEPER KNOWLEDGE:** THE CROSS-FERTILIZATION OF RESEARCH, CRITICAL ANALYSIS, EVIDENCE AND PRACTICTIONER EXPERIENCE WILL GENERATE GREATER, BETTER INFORMED, DEEPER AND DIFFERENT KNOWLEDGE FOR and BY BOTH PARTIES;

5. **MORE EFFECTIVE:** PRACTITIONERS AND ACADEMICS WILL BENEFIT MUTUALLY FROM EACH OTHER'S WORK AND INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT EFFORT.

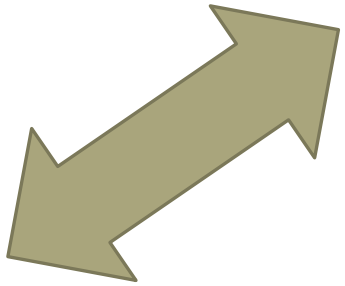
SO WHAT WOULD THIS LOOK LIKE?

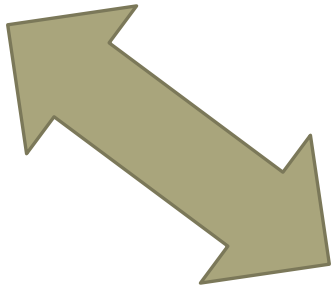
WE THINK STRENGTHENING THIS ECOSYSTEM REQUIRES COLLABORATION AROUND RESEARCH, POLICY AND PRACTICE.

THAT WILL FOSTER SYNERGIES IN THIS ECOSYSTEM



AND LEAD TO…





- research informed by practitioner experience;
- practitioner experience informed by research;
- more timely (and policy) relevant research to potentially inform policy shape and direction;
- greater potential influence over research agendas, CSO practice and policy, and government policy and programmatic outcomes.

II

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- A COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM
- GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
- THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS – BUILDING STRONGER COLLABORATION
- META-STUDY QUESTIONS VS STAND-ALONE RESEARCH PROJECTS

A COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM

- PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION (CCIC) AND THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CASID)

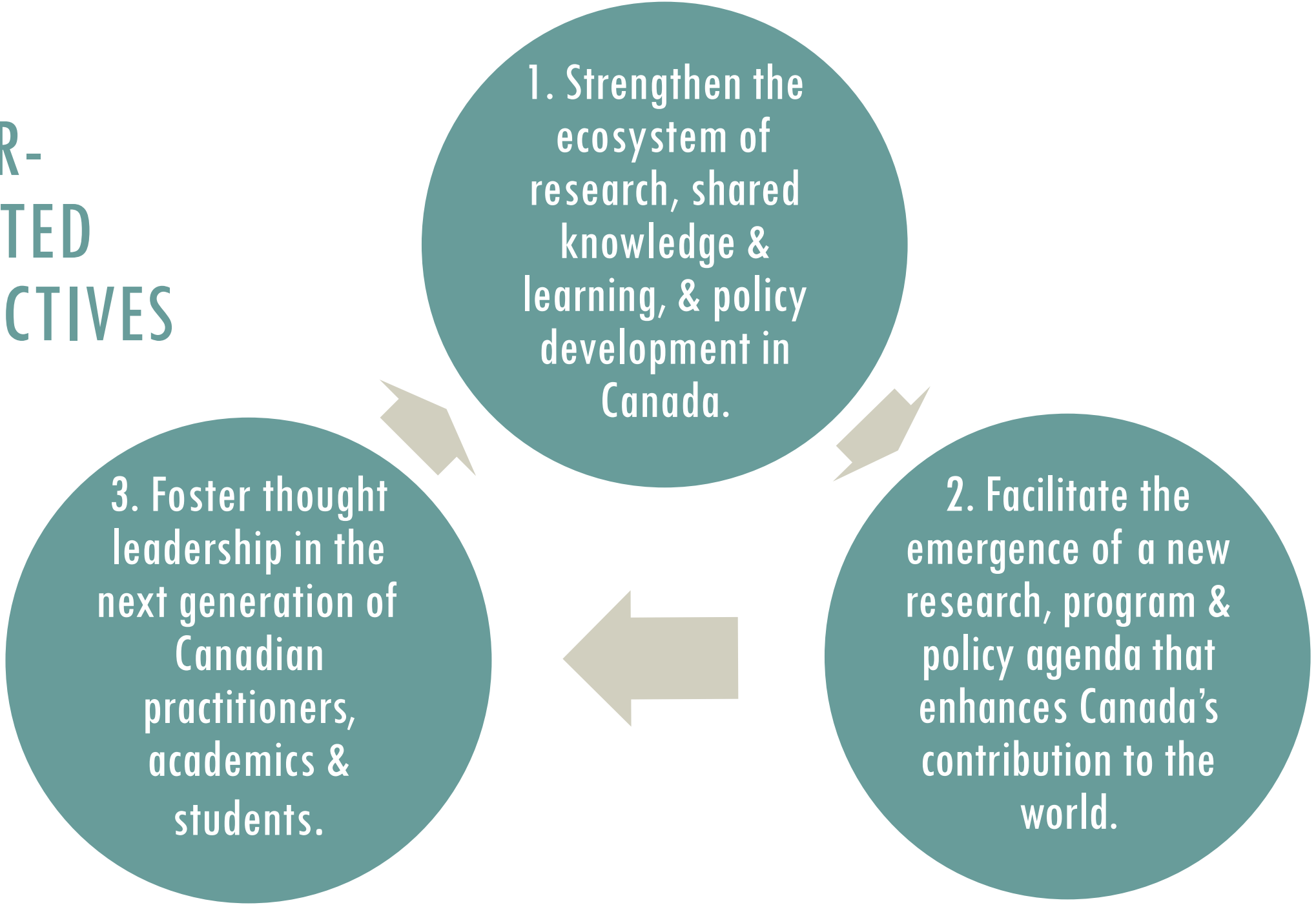
- THREE-YEAR PROGRAM (2017-2019) FUNDED BY IDRC, $1 MILLION

- TEST AND REFINE MODELS OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACADEMIC COMMUNITY AND PRACTITIONERS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ECOSYSTEM

OVERARCHING GOAL

"The program will position Canada as a leader in innovative multi-stakeholder approaches to global development research, practice and policy development, **creating the conditions for enhanced and sustained collaboration** between Canadian civil society and academia."

3 INTER-RELATED OBJECTIVES



HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL AND OBJECTIVES?

1. Support partnerships between academia and practitioners through different **models of collaboration** that generate timely and relevant knowledge;
2. Use an integrated **government engagement & communications strategy** to leverage the results of this program with decision-makers;
3. **Develop, test and refine different models** of collaboration, documenting lessons and emerging best practices in collaboration.

WHAT IS A MODEL OF COLLABORATION?

Different types of partnerships between academics and CSO practitioners, using a range of different *models through which to collaborate,* stimulate new thinking and generate timely and policy-relevant joint research.
e.g. working groups, communities of practice, secondments and short-term placements, annual conferences, a speaker series, ad hoc events

FOR EXAMPLE…

KNOWN (PLANNED)

- CCIC-CASID partnership
- Placements & secondments at Universities / in CSOs
- Two regional events per year
- Annual conference
- PhD School
- Leadership Forum
- Guest Lecture Series (2018, 2019)
- Emerging Leaders Network

Ongoing user review and assessment of the models

Ongoing user review and assessment of the models

UNKNOWN (RESPONSIVE)

- Practitioner/ academic research working group?
- Field research with a CSO?
- Community of practice??
- ???

META RESEARCH QUESTIONS

DOCUMENTING & ASSESSING THESE MODELS FOR BETTER COLLABORATION

1. What have been the experiences, outcomes, and lessons learned of past and present collaborations between civil society practitioners and academics?
2. What are the specific known problems and challenges in collaboration that need addressing through new and enhanced models of collaboration?
3. As new and enhanced models of collaboration are tested and studied, what constraints and opportunities are identified to refine and scale up these pilots?

A RESEARCH PROGRAM – AT TWO DIFFERENT LEVELS

META LEVEL

- Meta-research agenda to develop, test, learn from and refine a variety of models of collaboration among Canadian academia and CSO practitioners, with the goal of identifying where, when and how successful outcomes or obstacles occur.

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

- Individual instances of collaboration will themselves produce standalone research findings on issues relevant to the program. These models will be a combination of collaborative research, knowledge-sharing and skills-building activities.

- The documented experiences from these models feed the meta-study.

A RESEARCH PROGRAM AT TWO LEVELS

Ongoing Assessment of CCIS-CASID Partnership

META-STUDY

Test and assess a variety of models of collaboration among Canadian academics and practitioners

Meta level

Target current collaborations that can be documented through the program

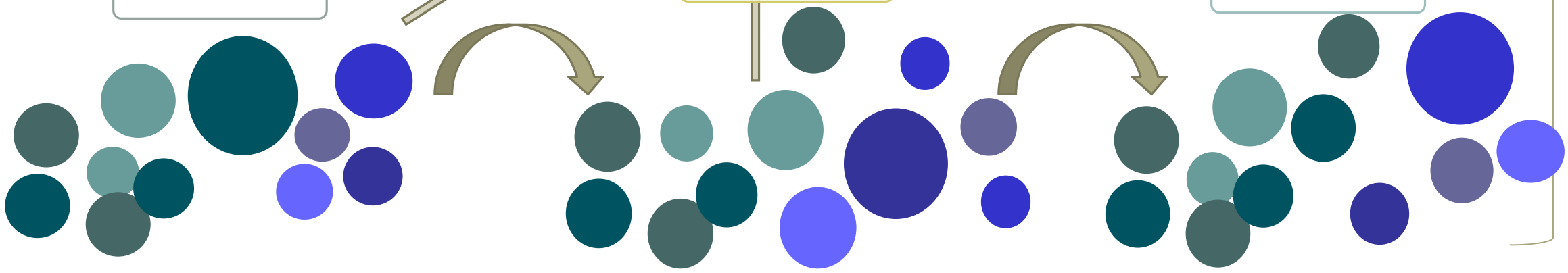
Research data for meta-study

Foster new collaborations to be documented through the program

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3



Individual level

VARIOUS MODELS OF COLLABORATION

WHAT are we testing and WHEN?

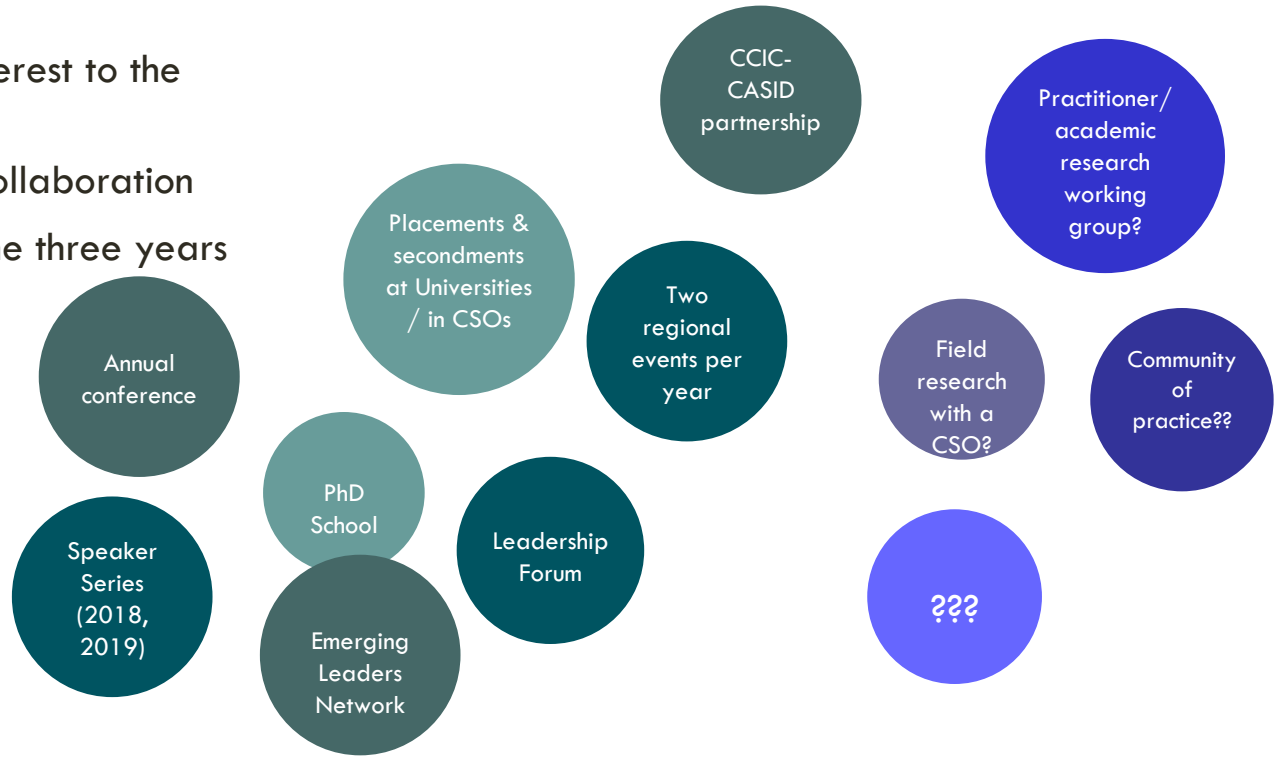
- Mix of known models + unknown models
- The collaborations must add value
- Unknown models can explore areas of research of mutual interest to the academic and practitioner
- Models will evolve, informed by experience, to improve the collaboration
- Some will only survive the first year; others will evolve over the three years

WHO will implement these models?

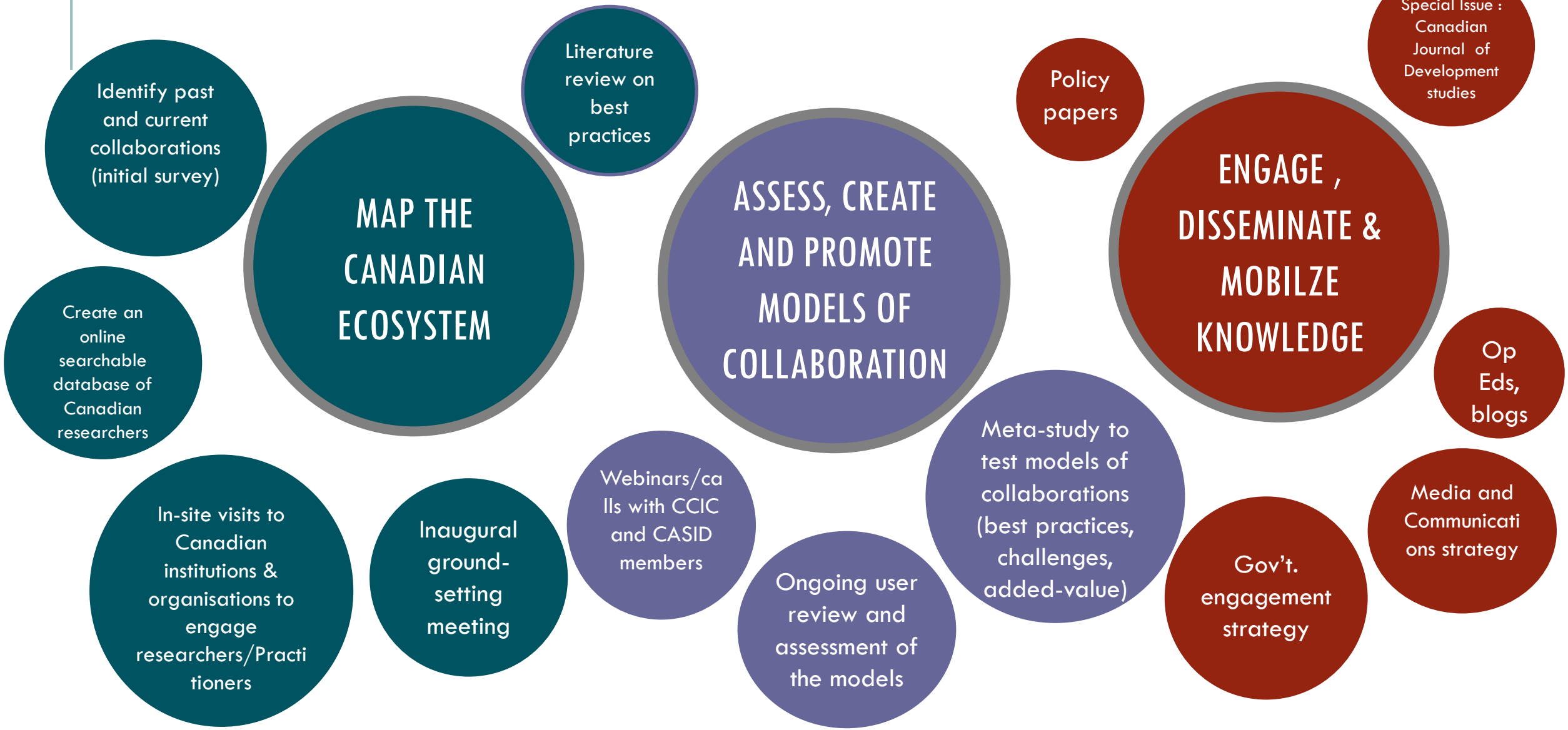
- Implemented by CCIC staff, CASID or CCIC members with Academics (students, professors, research team, etc.)

HOW will we document the learnings?

- M&E framework: interviews, surveys, etc.
- Each will produce their own outputs (individual)
- We will document the process along the way (Meta) and respond to the Meta-research questions



BEYOND THE MODELS OF COLLABORATION…



III

MAIN ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES

- PROGRAM-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES
- TIMELINES
- M&E FRAMEWORK
- GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

TIMELINE

Create and support models of collaborations (Meta-study)

Design M&E Framework to collect learnings

Mid-Term Evaluation

Final Evaluation

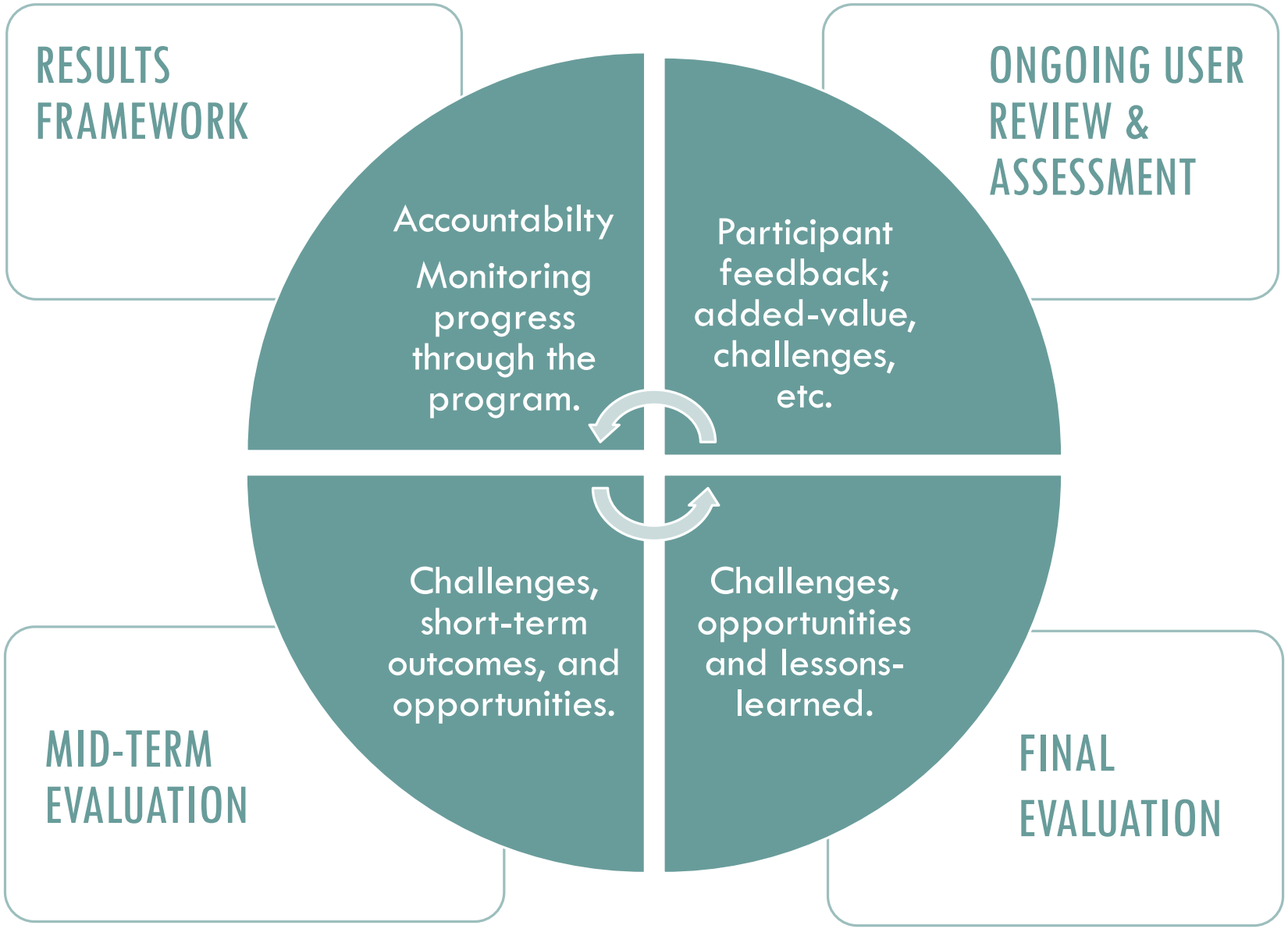
Assessment of best practices past or current collaborations (Lit. Review, Survey)

Map Canadian ecosystem

Develop and implement communications and government engagement strategies

Mobilize knowledge and learning, and engagement members through activities

M&E SYSTEM


RESULTS FRAMEWORK
ONGOING USER REVIEW & ASSESSMENT
Accountabilty
Monitoring progress through the program.
Participant feedback; added-value, challenges, etc.
Challenges, short-term outcomes, and opportunities.
Challenges, opportunities and lessons-learned.
MID-TERM EVALUATION
FINAL EVALUATION

M&E FRAMEWORK & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Results framework for the entire program;

- The results framework is a planning, communications and management tool. The results framework includes the strategic objective and all intermediate results, necessary to achieve the objective of a program.
- **Key Deliverables: Individual research and activities; final and mid-term technical narrative reports.**

Learning-based management (Outcome mapping?);

- Learning-based management is a methodology for planning and assessing development programming that is oriented towards change and social transformation.
- **Key Deliverables: Iterative learning, case-studies, communities of practice; ongoing data for final research paper.**

Mid-term evaluation and final evaluation;

- Conduct a mid-term and final evaluation of the different partnership models used during the program to identify the challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned, as well as any observable short-term outcomes, in the implementation of those models.
- **Key Deliverables: Major research paper identifying best practices and lessons-learned in collaboration.**

IV

MEMBER'S ENGAGEMENT

- Different ways to be involved
- Feedback, Input and Questions

DIFFERENT WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

THREE 'LEVELS' OF ENGAGEMENT:

- ✓ **PARTICIPATE IN MAPPING THE CANADIAN ECOSYSTEM AND BEST PRACTICES -** Identify and strengthen the network of individuals and organisations working in the sector;
- ✓ **PARTICIPATE IN CCIC AND CASID'S CURRENT AND NEW ACTIVITIES -** Try and do things differently, capture learning and best practices along the way, gauge if this improves collaboration;
- ✓ **GET INVOLVED IN A MODEL OF COLLABORATION -** Commit to participate in the research program and models of collaboration.

PARTICIPATE IN THE MAPPING EXERCISE

MAPPING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

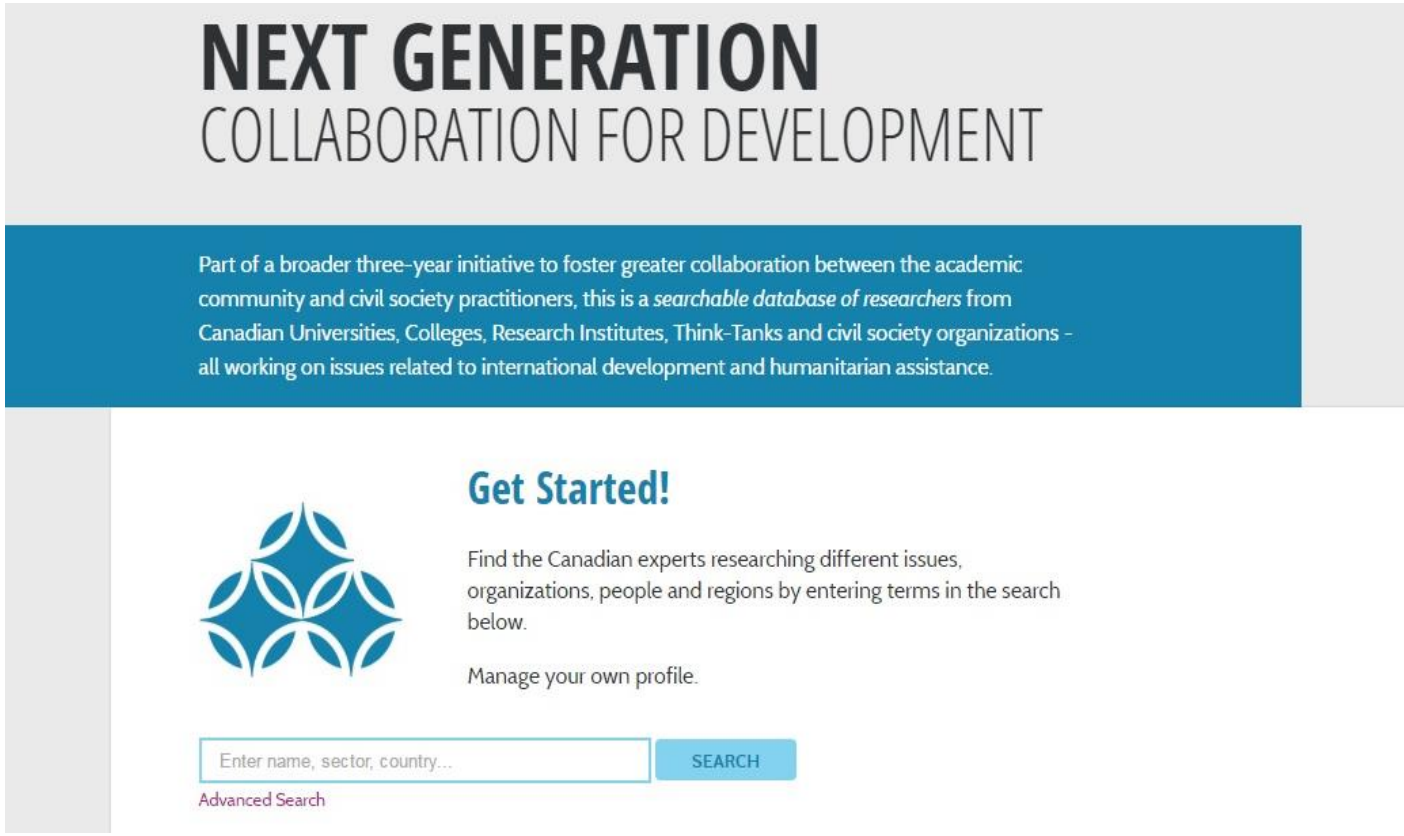
What? Searchable public database (e.g. sectoral, geographic focus, contact info, etc.) + Vizualisation

Who? Researchers in development and humanitarian sector based in Canada

When? January to April: Phase 1

How? Collecting data from websites and member survey to identify individuals doing research in CSOs

Why? Have a better sense of who to collaborate with



NextGen Database

PROVIDE INPUT ON BEST PRACTICES IN COLLABORATION

MAPPING BEST PRACTICES and COLLABORATIONS

What? Identifying past and current collaborations with academics (e.g. type of collaborations, outputs, goals, etc.)

Who? University, college, think tanks, research groups, individual researchers, students, etc.

When? March to June 2017 and over the course of the program

How?

- Literature review (RA- March to July)
- Survey (May-June)
- Case studies of existing collaborations
- Meetings to validate findings

Why? To build models of collaboration based on existing best practices

PARTICIPATE IN CURRENT AND NEW ACTIVITIES

Current activities

Annual conference and CASID's annual conference;

Leaders' Forum;

ELN and CASID PhD School, etc.

New activities

Guest Lecture series;

Joint regional events;

Models of collaboration;

Placements and secondments

GET INVOLVED IN A MODEL OF COLLABORATION

What? Make a pitch to develop your own model of collaboration – where there is real value added in bringing together these two communities to generate a unique research output

Who? CCIC, CASID, and any CSO or researcher

When? Over the course of the program (each year)

How?

- Modest funding;
- Competitive process - Call for Proposals (present the findings and learnings at the Annual Conference);
- M&E Framework (Learning-base management)

FEEDBACK, INPUT & QUESTIONS

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