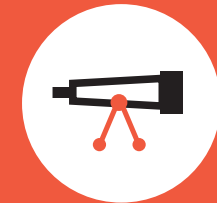# I want to look ahead to understand what I need to do to bring my idea to life

▽

INNOVATION FLOWCHART

INSPIRED BY
Nesta (2013) Innovation Flowchart.

LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT

MORE COMPLEX TOOL that should ideally be done over a few days. Given the strategic nature of the inputs/outputs, this needs consultations with seniors, peers and ideally needs to be revised after a first pass.

What is it & why should I do it?

The **Innovation Flowchart** gives a detailed overview of the various stages in an innovation process, listing the activities, requirements and goals of each stage. These include an overview of the different people, skills, activities and finances that a project or an organisation might need in order to succeed. The structured overview this tool provides, helps to review where you are in the process, and to organise the next steps in your work.

This tool helps you to spot opportunities for growth by helping understand which resources to focus on. You can see this by checking where you are in the process and whether you have thought of all the aspects that need consideration.

? HOW TO USE IT

The worksheet gives an overview of the various stages in an innovation process, and it lists stage by stage the activities, requirements and goals of each stage. Use this overview to check where you are in the process, and whether you have thought of all the aspects that need consideration. This check may help you to identify what aspects need special attention. The overview comes with a handy reference to the tools and activities that can support you in each stage.

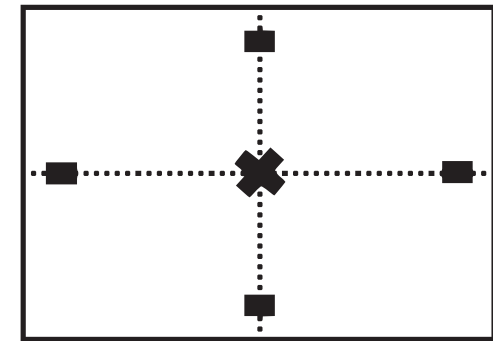| STAGE	SPECIALIST SKILLS REQUIRED	EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES & TOOLS	RISK LEVEL AND HANDLING	FINANCE REQUIRED	KINDS OF EVIDENCE GENERATED	GOAL
1 Exploring opportunities & challenges						
2 Generating ideas						
3 Developing & testing						
4 Making the case						
5 Delivering and implementing						
6 Growing, scaling and spreading						
7 Changing systems						

DOWNLOAD AND ASSEMBLE THE WORKSHEET IN DIFFERENT SIZES
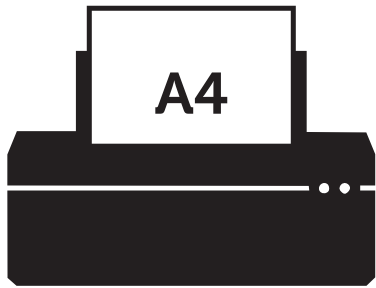
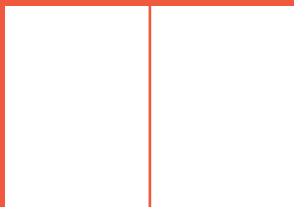**❶** Download the PDF file and print it in a normal A4 printer.
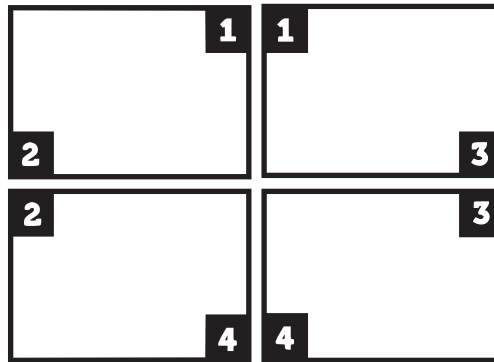
❷ Align the worksheet prints according to the numbered boxes along the edge of the sheets.
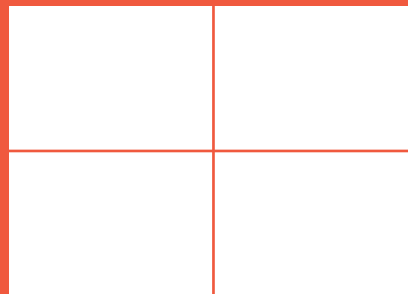
❸ Join the aligned prints with cellotape or tacks and get started!
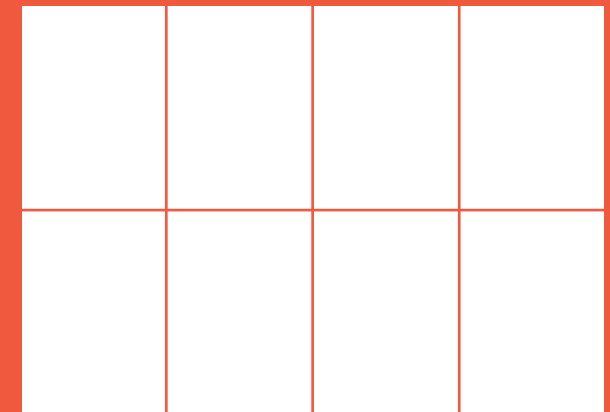
SIZE AND ORIENTATION GUIDE

A1

A2

A3

I want to look ahead

to understand what I need to do to

STAGE

SPECIALIST SKILLS REQUIRED

1

Exploring opportunities & challenges

Research for exploratory work

2

Generating ideas

Ideation and facilitatio creative thinking

3

EXAMPLE
ACTIVITIES
& TOOLS

SWOT Analysis
Problem Definition
Causes Diagram

Thinking Hats
Fast Idea Generator
Creative Workshop

n of

RISK LEVEL
AND
HANDLING

Low risk of failure
decisions should
how to act on ins

High failure rate
explicit expectat
visible senior lea
essential

High failure rate

should be an

Usually grants, occasionally convertible

...should be an
...ion,
...dership

...e but clear
be taken about
...ights

...sights

Grants

FINANCE REQUIRED

A stronger
benefit pro...

A clear acc...
likely caus...
but not ove...
evidence

Insights de...
research a...
gathering

**KINDS O...
EVIDEN...
GENERA...**

IN

INNOVATION FLOWCHART

DIY 01

GOAL

An idea or set of ideas to develop
and test

A well understood and clearly
defined problem or opportunity

...rived from formal
...nd informal knowledge

...ount of change or
...ation, supported-
...rly constrained by
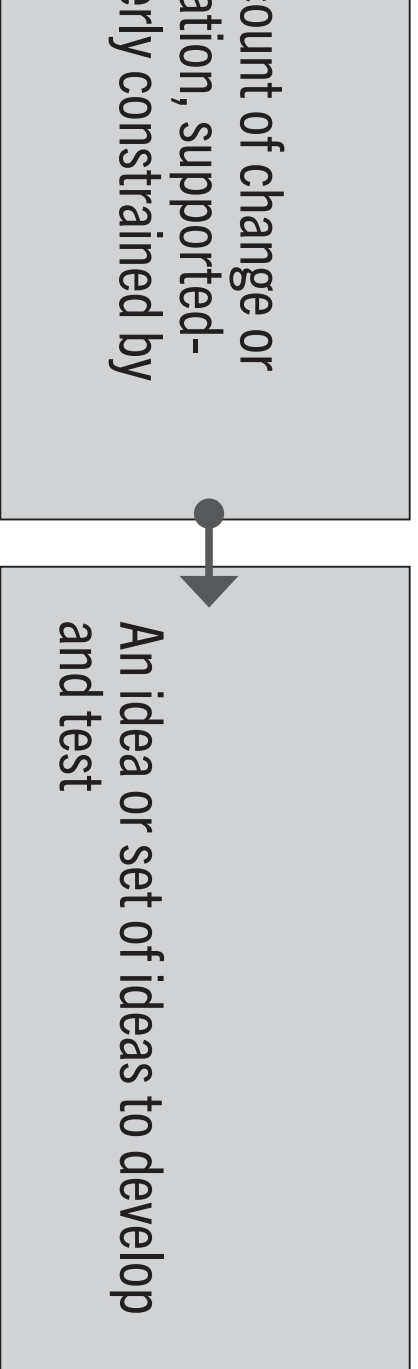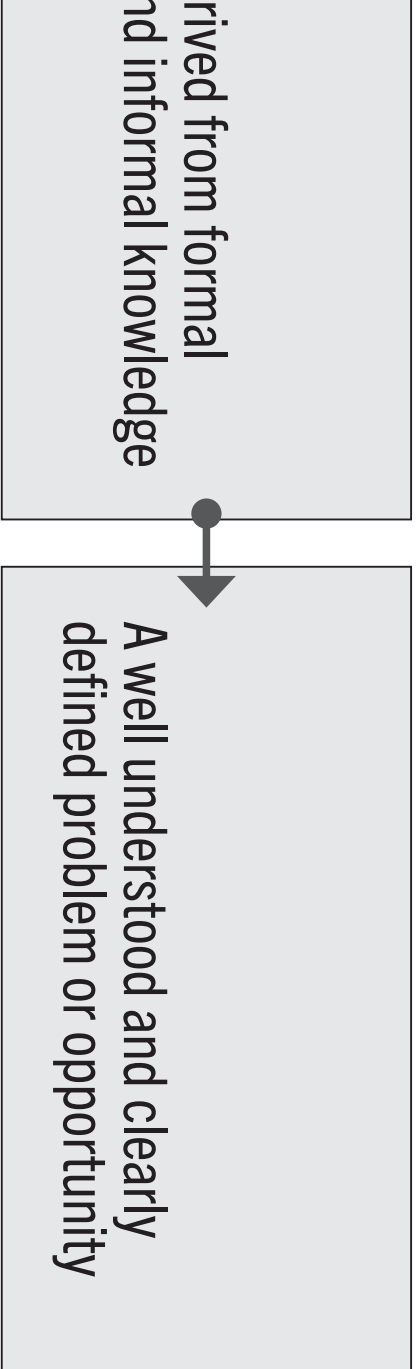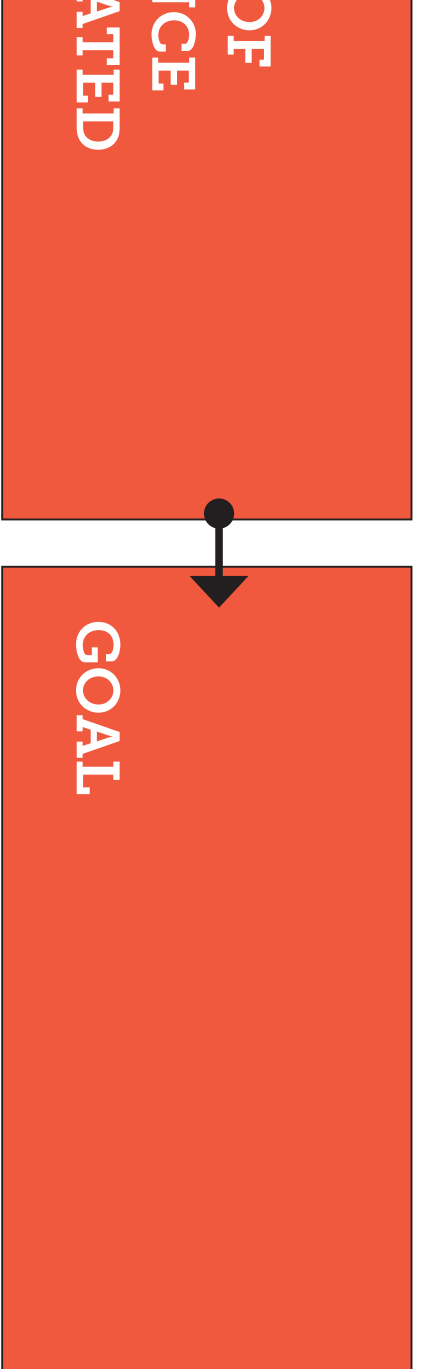
...case with cost and
...jections developed

...OF
...CE
...ATED

Developing & testing

4 Making the case

5 Delivering and implementing

6 Growing, scaling and spreading

7 Changing systems

Mix of design and implementation skills

Business development and evaluation

Strong leadership, man... implementation skills

Strong leadership, man... implementation skills

Strong leadership and management, Identific... and training of new lea... teams

...ation
...ders and

...agement,

...agement,

Experience Map
Prototype Testing Plan
Improvement Triggers

Building Partnerships Map
Evidence Planning

Scaling Plan
Business Plan
Marketing Mix

Critical Tasks List
Learning Loop
Target Group

Blueprint
Promises & Potential Map
Business Model Canvas

Map potential un...

Fidelity assessm...
important, strong...
needed to ensure...
practice

Prepare for some...
implementation

Prepare to adapt...
based on evaluat...
user feedback

explicit expecta...
visible senior lea...
essential

...ion,
...dership

...approach,
...ion results and

...e adaptation to

ents may be
g capacity
e transfer of

...intended effects

Grants, convertible grants/loans

Grant funding or funding out of
investment

Programme funds, equity, loans,
grants

Equity loans, payment by results,
social impact bonds

Multiple financial systems
requiring potential re-wiring
possible outcome-based funding

through pr...
experiment...
users

A stronger
benefit pro...
through pr...
experiment...
users

A robust an...
developed...
evaluation...
gathering -
to isolate i...

Evidence d...
evaluations
independe...
control tria...

New definit...
for efficien...

...ctical trials and
...ts, involving potential

...case with cost and
...jections developed
...actical trials and
...ts, involving potential

...d detailed case
...through formal
...and evidence
...use of a control group
...mpact

...erived from
...s in multiple sites, and
...ntly run randomised
...ls

...ions of and measures
...cy and impact created

Demonstration that the idea
works, or evidence to support a
reworking of the idea

Clarity about what warrants
implementation and funding

An implemented and sustainable
innovation

Innovation or impact at scale

A transformation in the way we
do things