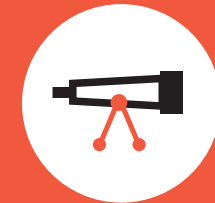


I want to
look ahead
to understand what
I need to do to bring
my idea to life



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	→	→	→	→	→	→

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STAGE	SPECIALIST SKILLS REQUIRED	EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES & TOOLS	RISK LEVEL AND HANDLING	FINANCE REQUIRED	KINDS OF EVIDENCE GENERATED	GOAL
1 Exploring opportunities & challenges	Research for exploratory work	SWOT Analysis Problem Definition Causes Diagram	Low risk of failure but clear decisions should be taken about how to act on insights	Grants	Insights derived from formal research and informal knowledge gathering	A well understood and clearly defined problem or opportunity
2 Generating ideas	Ideation and facilitation of creative thinking	Thinking Hats Fast Idea Generator Creative Workshop	High failure rate should be an explicit expectation, visible senior leadership essential	Usually grants, occasionally convertible	A clear account of change or likely causation, supported-but not overly constrained by evidence	An idea or set of ideas to develop and test
3 Developing & testing	Mix of design and implementation skills	Experience Map Prototype Testing Plan Improvement Triggers	High failure rate should be an explicit expectation, visible senior leadership essential	Grants, convertible grants/loans	A stronger case with cost and benefit projections developed through practical trials and experiments, involving potential users	Demonstration that the idea works, or evidence to support a reworking of the idea
4 Making the case	Business development and evaluation	Blueprint Promises & Potential Map Business Model Canvas	Prepare to adapt approach, based on evaluation results and user feedback	Grant funding or funding out of investment	A stronger case with cost and benefit projections developed through practical trials and experiments, involving potential users	Clarity about what warrants implementation and funding
5 Delivering and implementing	Strong leadership, management, implementation skills	Critical Tasks List Learning Loop Target Group	Prepare for some adaptation to implementation	Programme funds, equity, loans, grants	A robust and detailed case developed through formal evaluation and evidence gathering - use of a control group to isolate impact	An implemented and sustainable innovation
6 Growing, scaling and spreading	Strong leadership, management, implementation skills	Scaling Plan Business Plan Marketing Mix	Fidelity assessments may be important, strong capacity needed to ensure transfer of practice	Equity loans, payment by results, social impact bonds	Evidence derived from evaluations in multiple sites, and independently run randomised control trials	Innovation or impact at scale
7 Changing systems	Strong leadership and management, Identification and training of new leaders and teams	Building Partnerships Map Evidence Planning	Map potential unintended effects	Multiple financial systems requiring potential re-wiring possible outcome-based funding	New definitions of and measures for efficiency and impact created	A transformation in the way we do things