

FOSTERING RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS AT THE GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE LEVELS

UBC Knowledge Exchange Unit
Vice-President, Research and Innovation Office



Point Grey Campus
x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam) Traditional Territory

A NOTE OF THANKS

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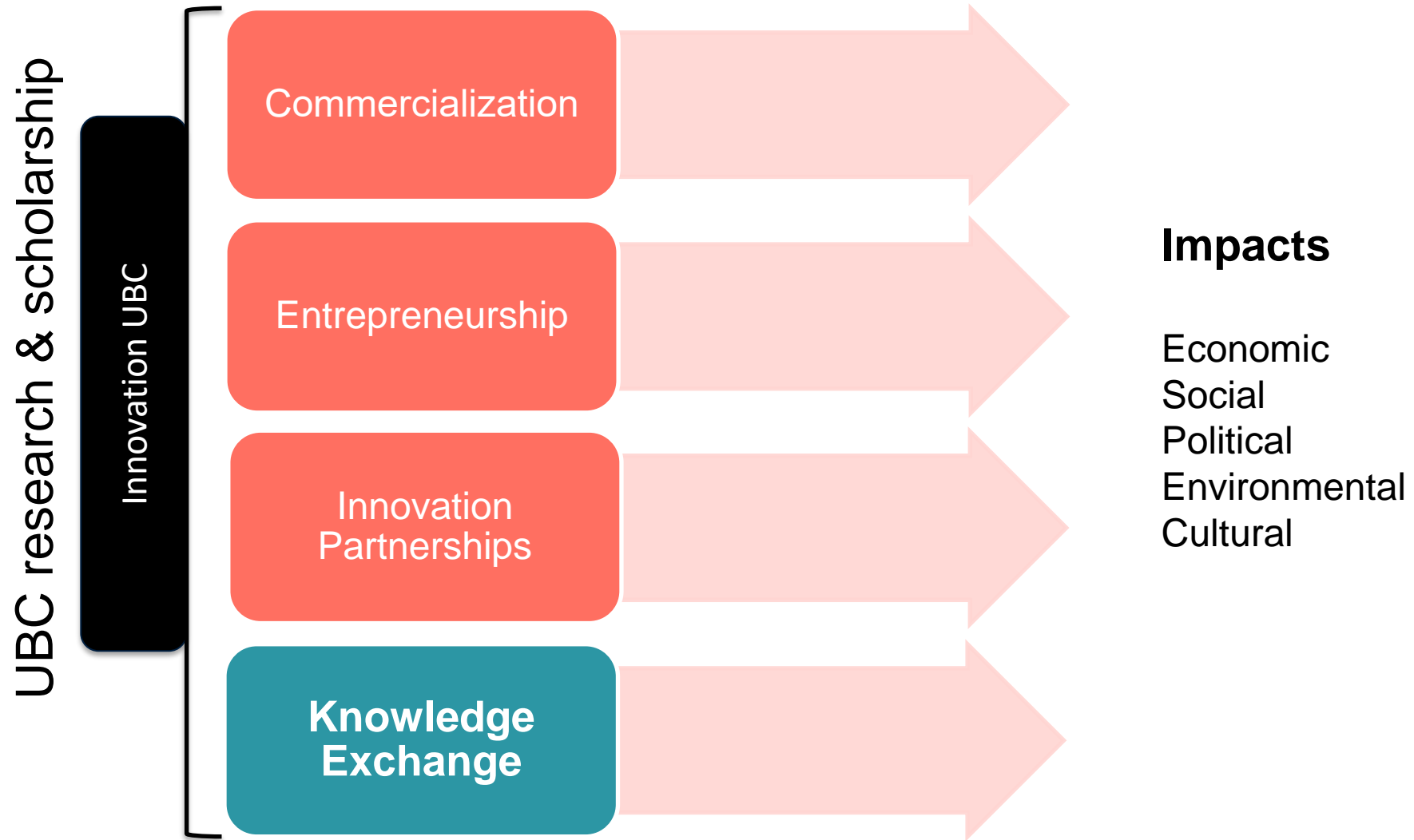


AGENDA

Knowledge Exchange Overview	9:00-9:30am
Insights from an Assistant Prof	9:30-10:15am
<i>Break</i>	<i>10:15-10:30am</i>
Act 1 – Coming to the Table	10:30-11:30am
<i>Break</i>	<i>11:30-11:45am</i>
Act 2 – Aligning with Partners	11:45am-12:45pm
<i>Break</i>	<i>12:45-1pm</i>
Lunch with Guests	1-2pm
<i>Break</i>	<i>2-2:15pm</i>
Panel	2:15-3:30pm



WHO WE ARE – KX WITHIN INNOVATION UBC



WHO WE ARE – KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE UNIT

Vision

UBC's hub for mobilizing research into policy, practice, public dialogue, and culture for the benefit of communities in BC, Canada and around the world.

Mission

Foster a supportive culture of Kx and support UBC researchers in establishing meaningful collaborations and communicating knowledge effectively and ethically with communities, government agencies, and non-profit organizations for greater impact.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify goals and challenges for a range of collaborators, partners, and stakeholders



2. Develop open-ended questions to begin an open dialogue with partners, collaborators, and stakeholders



3. Situate partners, collaborators, and stakeholders within a pathway to positive change





HIGHWAY TO... AUTHENTIC RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS AND POLICY CHANGE

the journey of an early-career scholar

OMAR SWEI, PHD





Dr. Omar Swei

MIT

PhD in Civil and Environmental
Engineering

Fulbright

US Fulbright Scholar in Amman, Jordan

MIT

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

UBC

Assistant Professor
Department of Civil Engineering

Academic Advisor
Project and Construction Management

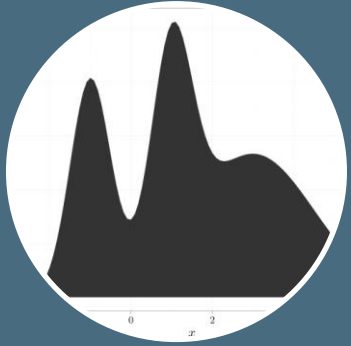
THE FUTURE IS UNKNOWN – YOU CAN IMPROVE PERFORMANCE BY BEING ABLE TO ADAPT



“‘Be careful’! All you can tell me is ‘Be careful’?”



The general goal of our research has been to create tools that....



Considers many
uncertainties



Generates high
performing, adaptable
plans



Significantly reduces
costs and impacts



PHD: ENHANCING MY ADVISOR'S EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS

Significant Support and Engagements with Trade Associations and DOTs



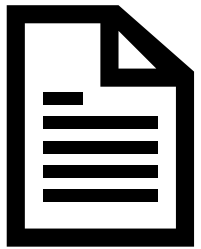
Portland Cement Association



PHD LESSON: CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION VIA MULTIPLE CHANNELS IS IMPORTANT



2-3 webinars per year with each stakeholder



Research Briefs – 1 Pagers



White Papers



PHD LESSON: PURSUE RESEARCH THAT FOLLOWS THE AGENDA OF THE PARTNER ORGANIZATION



GHG emissions across network



Improve infrastructure cost planning



User impacts of maintenance activities



PHD LESSON: ENGAGE WITH INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMUNITIES IN YOUR FIELD



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Technical Activities Division Standing Committees

FULBRIGHT LESSON: PARTNERSHIPS REQUIRE MORE PLANNING THAN YOU'D THINK

- ✓ • June 2015 – Engage with partner organization in Amman
- ✓ • October 2015 – Proposal submitted
- ✓ • April 2016 – Proposal awarded
- ✓ • September 2016 – Arrive in Jordan
- ✗ • October 2016 – Begin data collection



Amman, Jordan



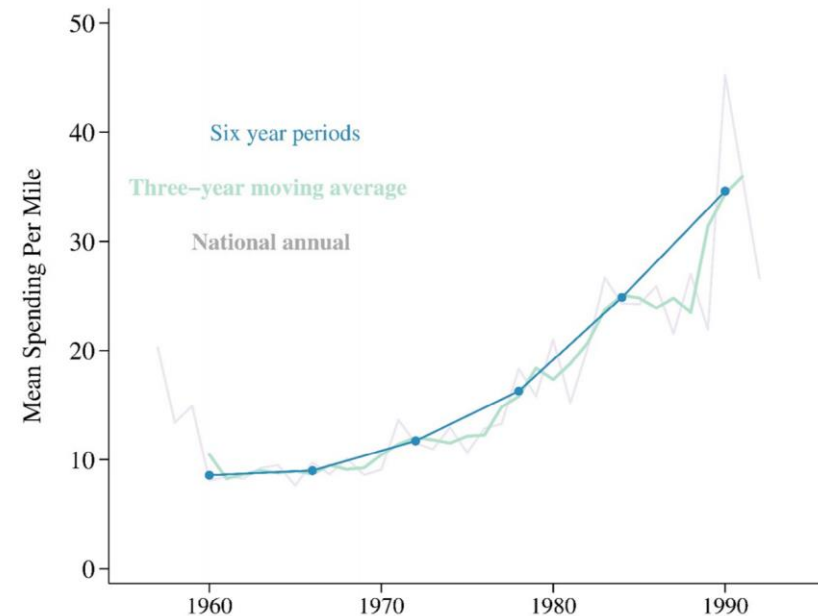
FACULTY LESSONS: IF YOU DO WELL, GOOD PARTNERSHIPS WILL COME ABOUT NATURALLY

- Fascination with productivity and its effects
- Low productivity growth impacts wage growth, costs, and firm competitiveness

BROOKINGS

Long-Run Construction Cost Trends: Baumol's Cost Disease and a Disaggregate Look at Building Material Price Dynamics

Figure 1. Interstate Construction Spending per Mile Increases Over Time



FACULTY LESSONS: PARTNERSHIPS CAN BE DEVELOPED BY REACHING OUT AND LISTENING

Including both non-academic and academic partners (e.g., Metro Vancouver project)



COMING TO THE TABLE



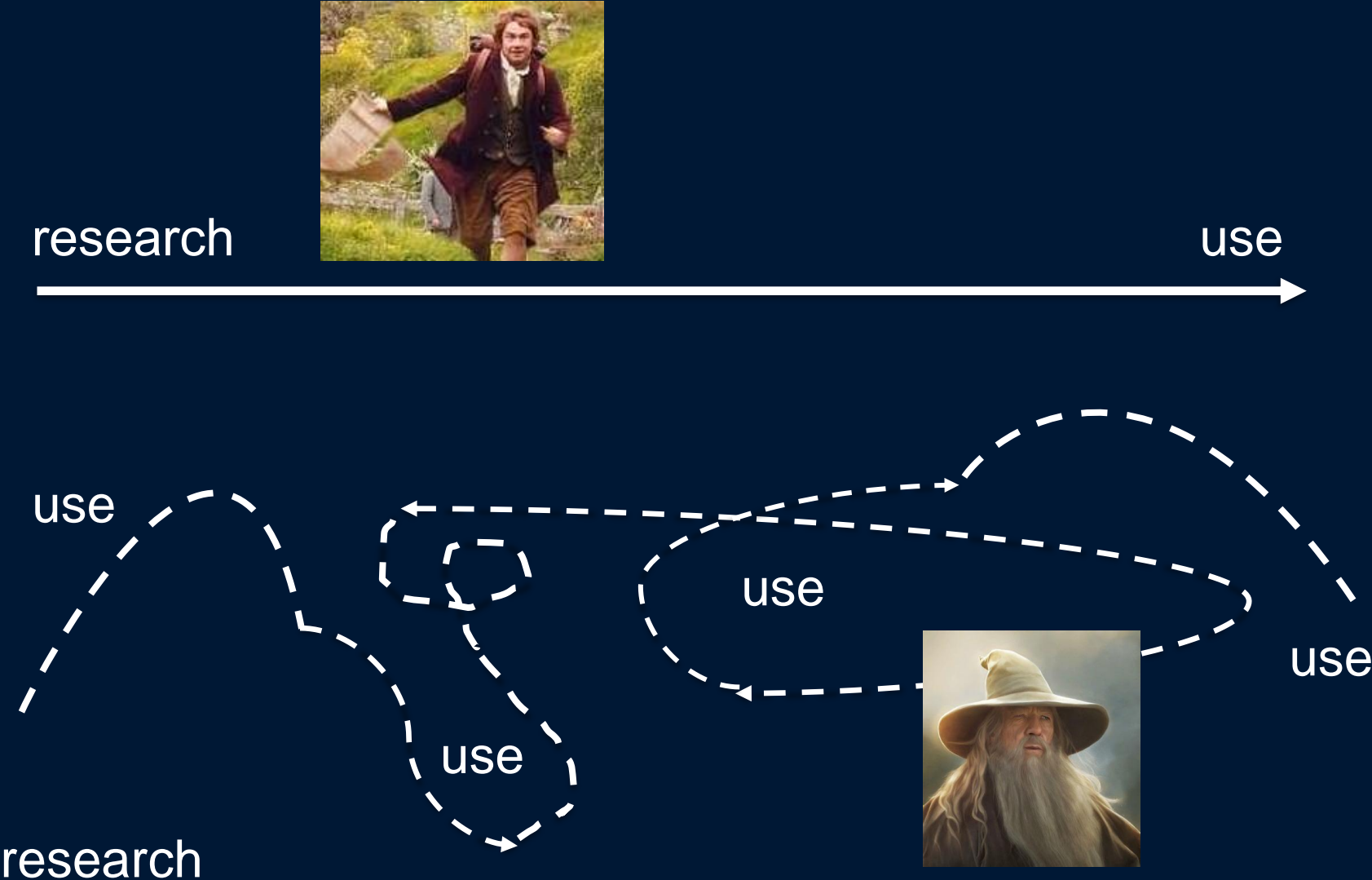
COMING TO THE TABLE

learning objectives:

- identify goals and challenges for a range of collaborators, partners, and stakeholders
- develop generative questions



FROM FRODO TO GANDALF





Commitment Issues

Why I say no to a research project?

1. Expecting something for nothing
2. One-sided engagement
3. Tokenism
4. False assumptions

How to get me to yes?

1. Arrive early and get to know me and my organization
2. Listen carefully
3. Speak the same language
4. Be relevant
5. Bring value
6. Be respectful

McBride C. Commitment Issues: Part 1. KT Encounters. <https://www.msfhr.org/news/blog-posts/commitment-issues-part-1>. Published 2017.



BC's health research funding agency



EMPATHY

The ability to understand and share the ~~feelings~~ **perspective** of another.



HOW TO PRACTICE EMPATHY

- Leverage your intellectual curiosity
- Ask generative questions
- Seek to understand alternative methods, frameworks, and objectives



COMING TO THE TABLE (ACTIVITY 1)

Scenario: A researcher has invited a group of potential partners, collaborators, and stakeholders to discuss an idea for a new school lunch program at Innovation Elementary School. While the group agrees that healthier lunches are a good idea in principle, each group member has competing priorities and constraints.

What questions will lay the groundwork for collaboration?



ALIGNING PROTOCOLS, EXPECTATIONS & PROCESSES

Learning objective:

- situate partners, collaborators, and stakeholders within a pathway to positive change



THE WHAT AND WHY OF INTEGRATED KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION (IKT)

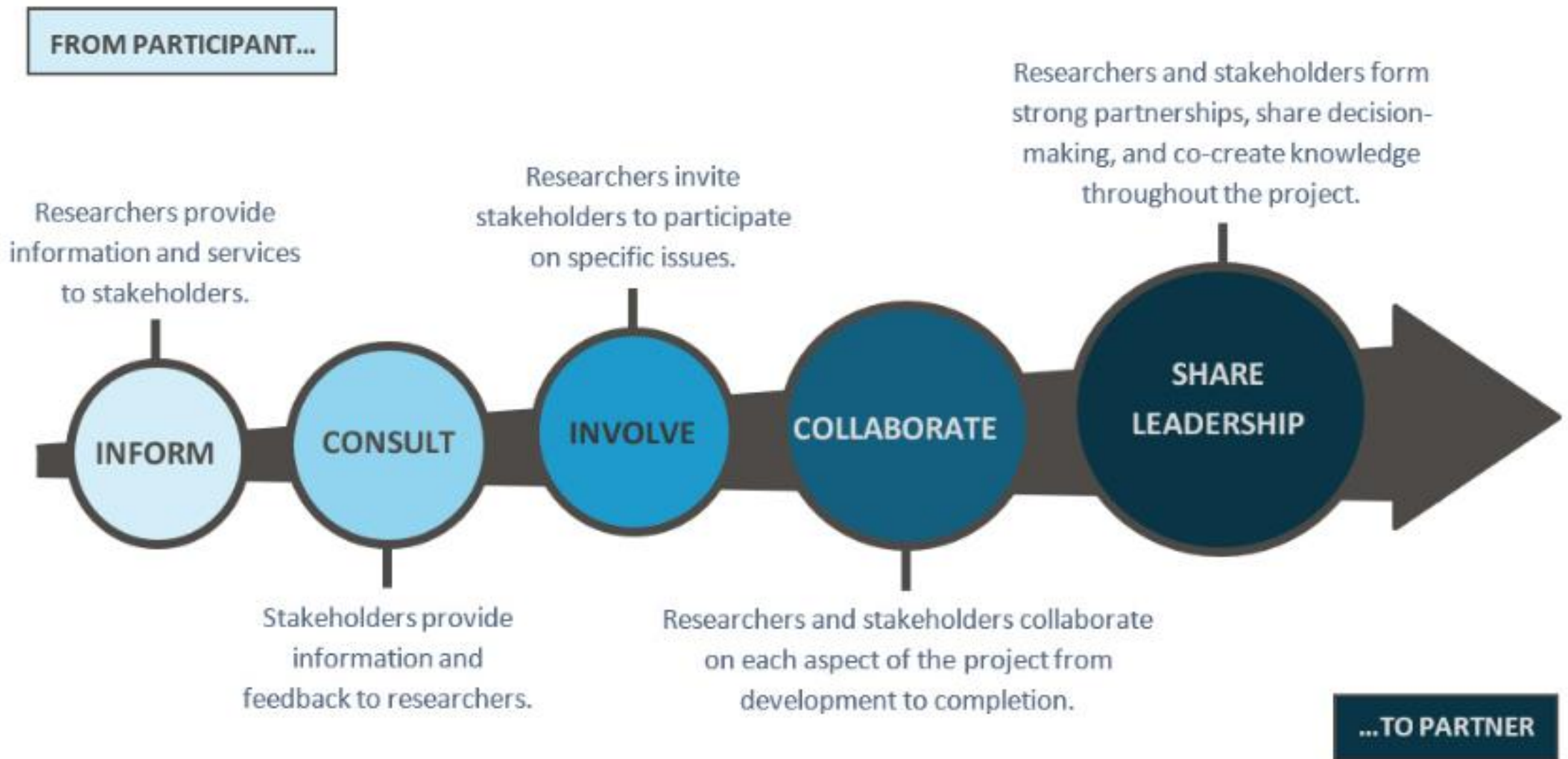
- Integrated knowledge translation (IKT) involves engaging and integrating those who will need to act on the findings, the knowledge users, into the research process.
- iKT requires researchers and research users to develop partnerships and engage in a collaborative process with the overarching goal of integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT) being the co-production of knowledge, its exchange and its translation into action.
- By integrating knowledge users at every stage, KT becomes woven into the process and researchers minimise the possibilities of unanticipated barriers that may occur when attempting to act upon results with stakeholders.



THE WHAT AND WHY OF INTEGRATED KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION (IKT)

By integrating knowledge users at **every stage**, KT becomes woven into the process and **researchers minimize the possibilities of unanticipated barriers** that may occur when attempting to act upon results with stakeholders.





Adapted from: Balaz, C.L. & Morello- Frosch, R. (2013). *The three R's: How community based participatory research strengthens the rigor, relevance and reach of science*. *Environmental Justice*, 6(1) National Institutes of Health (2011). *Principles of community engagement*. 2nd edition. Retrieved from: <https://www.hvresearch.org/precision-home-visiting/publications-and-presentations/participatory-approaches/>

Developing a Partnership Agreement

Expectations & Roles

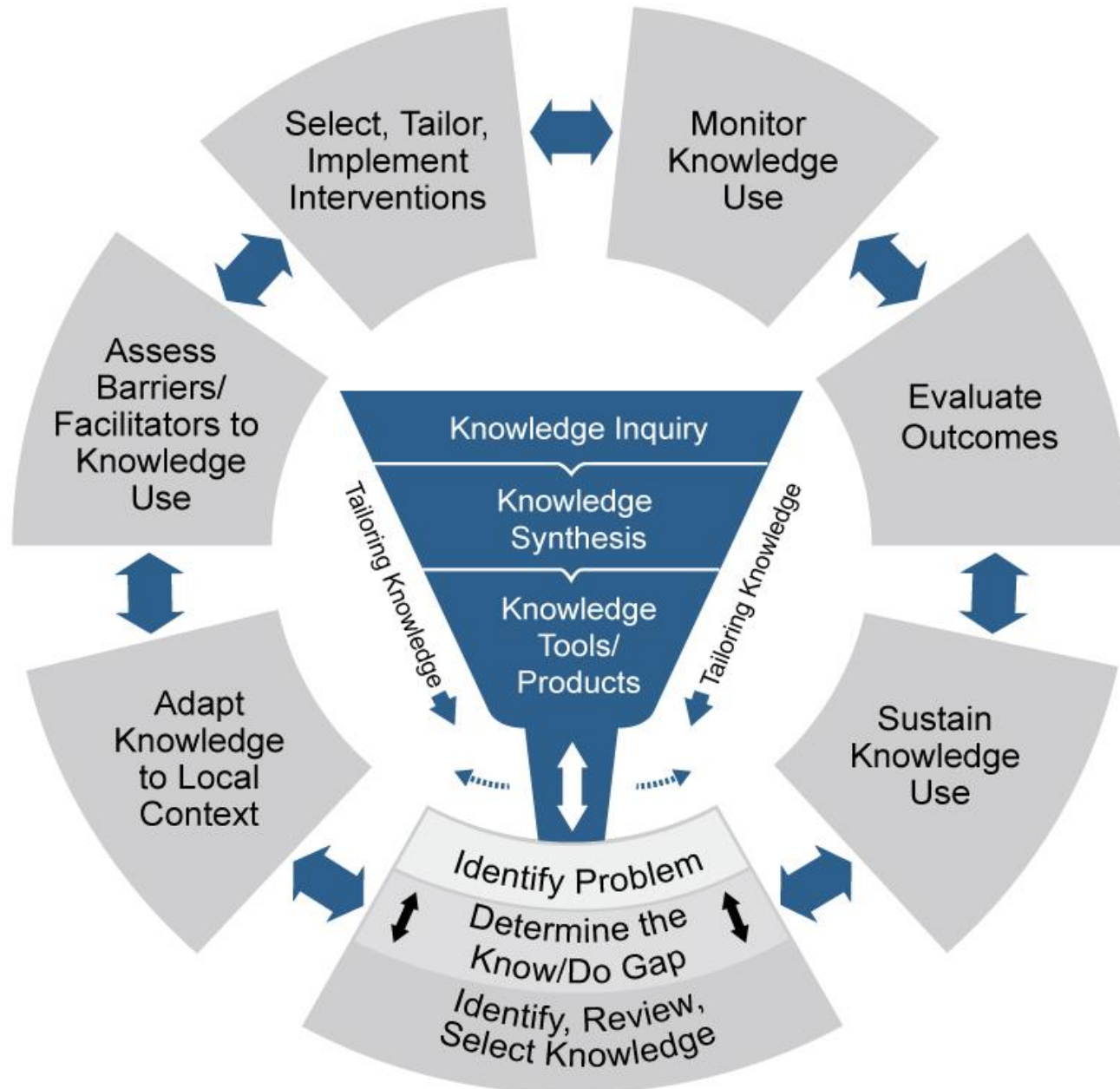
Your partnership agreement may include:



1. The research project's objectives and goals
2. How work will be divided between the various partners
3. The structure of the project's shared governance and methods for joint decision making
4. Roles of each of the partners (rights and responsibilities)
5. Mechanisms for conflict resolution
6. Ongoing evaluation of the partnership process
7. How will authorship of publications be considered?

The Knowledge to Action Model

Source: Graham ID, et al. Lost in knowledge translation: time for a map? J Contin Educ Health Prof. 2006;26(1):13–24



SITUATE PARTNERS, COLLABORATORS, AND STAKEHOLDERS WITHIN A PATHWAY TO POSITIVE CHANGE (ACTIVITY 2)

As a group, discuss where in the knowledge to action cycle each persona's expertise would be especially valuable.



REFLECTIONS



PANEL: INSIGHTS FROM PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Panelists

**[PROVIDE NAMES, TITLES, AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THREE
PANELISTS REPRESENTING PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS]**



QUESTION 1

What does a successful partnership between your organization and a researcher look like?



QUESTION 2

What makes a great (or less than great) first conversation with a researcher about a potential partnership?



QUESTION 3

What are some common factors that affect your organization's timeline and ability to commit to a research partnership?



OPEN Q&A

