

The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society 14-16 October 2020, Ottawa

## 12.30 – 13.45pm

# Impact Lifecycle Management

Kathryn Graham (Chair) – Alberta Innovates David Budtz Pedersen – Humanomics Research Centre Thomas König – Institute for Advanced Studies





# Impact Lifecycle Management: Connecting Impact Planning, Implementation Assessment and Improvement

AESIS Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities Ottawa, October 16, 2020

Kathryn Graham (Alberta Innovates, Canada) David Budtz Pedersen (University of Aalborg, Denmark) Thomas Konig (Institute for Advanced Studies, Austria)



## **Overview of Session**

### Format

- Chair and Discussant
- Three presentations 3 case illustrations
- Participant Engagement Polls Time for Q&A



Dr. Kathryn Graham Dr. David Budtz (Chair) Pedersen



Dr. Thomas König (Discussant)

## Objectives

- Rethink impact engage each other on the research of impact to allow for "experimentation and learning" and creative ways for stimulating impact
  - Community consensus on guiding principles
- Consider integrating impact using a lifecycle approach – connecting the dots
- Optimize impact Holy grail



## **Impact Defined**

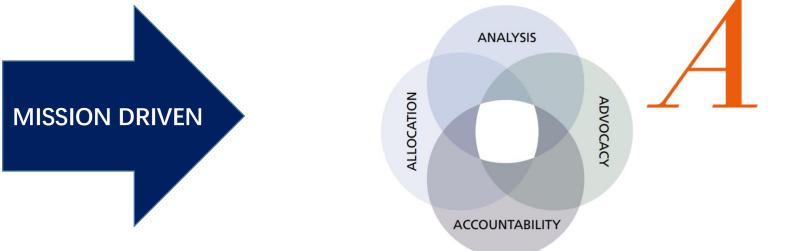
#### **Most Widely Used Definition**

"... Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term **effects** produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended" (OECD, 2002)

#### **Generally Beyond Academic**

"... an **effect** on, **change** or **benefit** to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia" (Research Excellence Framework, UK)

## **Motivations for Impact**



ANALYSIS What works in research funding?

ADVOCACY 'Makes the case' for research funding

ACCOUNTABILITY To taxpayer, donors, etc.

ALLOCATION What to fund (institution, field, people etc.)

Source: Morgan Jones, M., Grant, J. Making the Grade: Methodologies for assessing and evidencing research impact in Dean et al (Eds) (2013) 7 Essays on Impact. DESCRIBE Project Report for Jisc. University of Exeter.

## Illustrative Case Example

Integrating Impact Across The Climate Change Innovation & Technology Framework (CCITF) Lifecycle

Dr. Kathryn Graham (Executive Director of Performance Management and Evaluation)





#### THE WHY

### **Alberta Innovates Mission:**

Outcomes Oriented User Driven and Responsive Collaborative Strategic Transparent and Accountable



The Ripple Effect – Together we can Optimize Impact\*



\*Diversified Economy, Enhanced Environmental Performance, Healthier Population)

# Who We Are and What We Do

The Alberta Innovates PME Unit – with its partners

and networks develop and implement impact

strategies for Research and Innovation. We believe

that integrating a performance and impact

management system across the organization's life

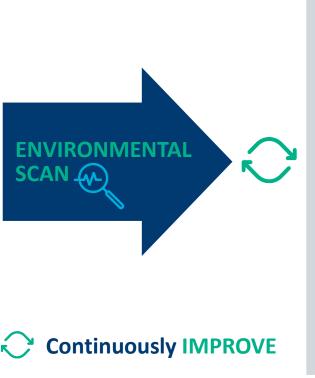
cycle will help achieve intended impacts and

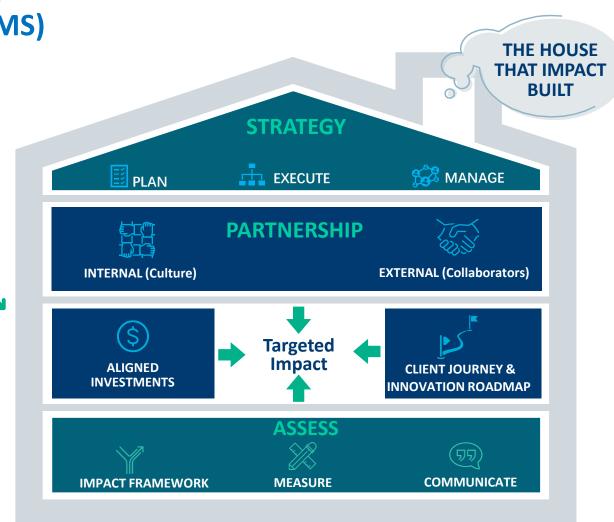
ultimately optimize impact.

#### **THE HOW:**

An Integrated Outcomes Focused Lifecycle Approach Performance Impact Management System (PIMS)

PIMS helps align *impact to our* organizational mission and strategies. We *implement across* the lifecycle which allows for top down direction and bottom up engagement and experimentation

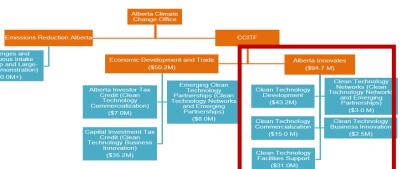




Source: Alberta Innovates Impact Framework 2.0

The Challenge: Implementing a clean technology strategy to reduce GHG emissions - We integrated impact across the portfolio lifecycle

4 Organizations / Ministries



#### 5 new programs across 3 Alberta Innovates Business Units with many partners



Clean Technology Development (CTD) Program

Clean Technology Networks (CTN) Program



Clean Technology Business Innovation (CTBI) Program



Clean Technology Facilities (CTF) Support Program



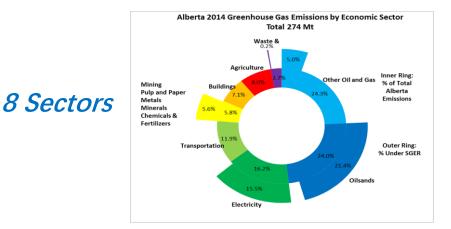
Clean Technology Commercialization (CTC) Program

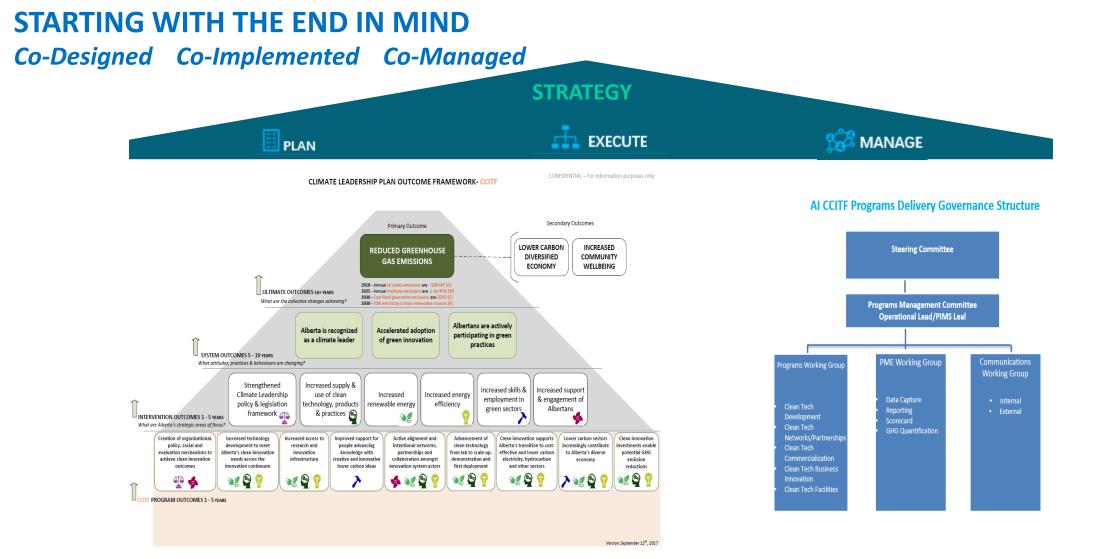


While piloting and refining a new grant process

#### 4 Impact focus areas









- Impact Plan INTEGRATED into CCITF Strategic Plan
- Targeted Outcomes
- Pathways to Impact

Implementation Structures and Processes:

- Governance structure
- Project management approach
- Operational/PIMS Dyad model
- Cross organizational/functional working groups

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#### **COLLECTIVE EFFORT FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT – ITERATIVE APPROACH**





#### Communication & Impact Culture Plan

### *Engagement & Orientation Sessions*



What did you like best about the session?

- "The forum was a great opportunity to network with others in the CCITF ecosystem and get updates from different programs".
- "Explaining and mapping out the complexity of the CCITF program. The positive energy and celebratory focus ... astonishing what we have all accomplished in short time".
- "Lessons learned session, collaboration is the key to success".



#### Lessons Learned Forums

#### **INVESTING FOR IMPACT**



- Investment philosophy
- Outcome focused due diligence criteria
- Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity principles

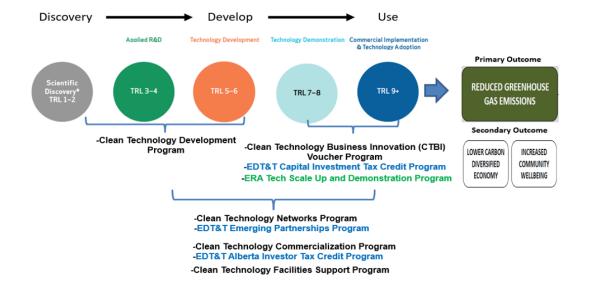
#### **CCITF Investment Criteria Framework**

| Criteria            | Description  | Sub-Criteria   | Examples of Program Level Criteria   |
|---------------------|--|--|--|
| RELEVANCE           | <ul> <li>The project demonstrates alignment<br/>to one or more organizational and<br/>program objectives.</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Strategic alignment to AI and CCITF<br/>objectives</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Targeted sector alignment</li> <li>Targeted applicant/stakeholder alignment</li> <li>Challenge/Customer alignment to CCITF objectives</li> </ul>  |
| EXCELLENCE          | <ul> <li>The quality and strength of the<br/>proposed project concept, design<br/>and methods.</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Scientific Merit</li> <li>Technical Merit</li> <li>Business Merit</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Research Quality/Strength</li> <li>Technology Quality/Strength</li> <li>Company Quality/Strength</li> <li>Leading Edge</li> </ul>   |
| FEASIBILITY         | • The expertise and capability of the project individual/team to carry out and successfully achieve the project within the milestone plan.   | <ul> <li>Scientific Feasibility</li> <li>Technical Feasibility</li> <li>Business Feasibility</li> </ul>                                    | <ul> <li>Project Team/Management/Individual Experience</li> <li>Work Plan, Budget, Time</li> <li>Leveraged Dollars</li> <li>Partners/Collaborators (e.g. NRCAN)</li> <li>Plan Risks and Mitigation Strategy</li> <li>Execution</li> </ul>                                  |
| INNOVATION          | <ul> <li>The ability of the project to advance<br/>the implementation of policies,<br/>practices, processes, products or<br/>services through (non-)<br/>commercialization.</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Risk/Reward</li> <li>Market Potential</li> <li>Scalability</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Market Penetration Potential</li> <li>Commercialization Pathway and Knowledge Transfer</li> <li>Synergy between policy, technology and market</li> <li>Social innovation</li> </ul>   |
| OUTCOMES/<br>IMPACT | <ul> <li>The likelihood of the project<br/>resulting in progressive and<br/>measurable change on the program<br/>outcome(s).</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Potential for Economic/ Health/<br/>Social/ Environmental Impact</li> <li>Return on Investment</li> <li>Sustainability</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>*GHG Emission Reduction Potential</li> <li>*Economic Diversification (CT Job Growth<br/>Potential/ Export Potential)</li> <li>Other Environmental/Health/Social Benefits</li> <li>Public good         <pre>*Primary and Secondary CCITF Outcomes</pre></li> </ul> |

#### **INTEGRATING IMPACT THROUGH ROADMAPS & FUNDING LIFECYCLE**



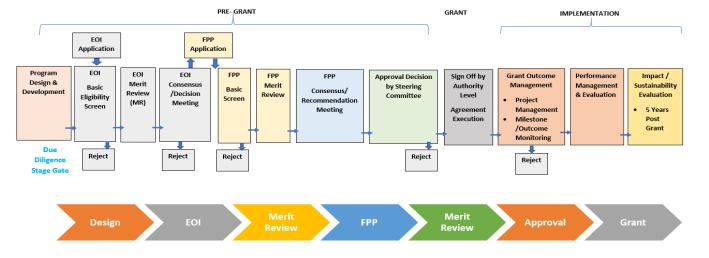
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Mapped all Organizational Programs Across the R&I Client Journey

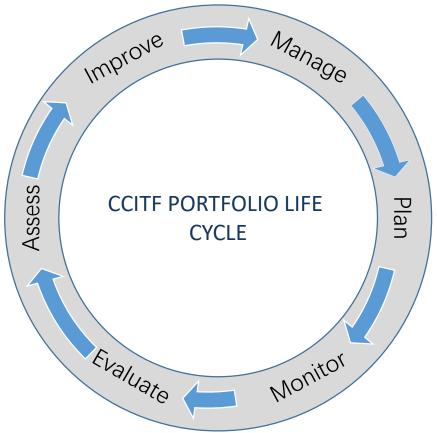
#### **CCITF PROCESS MAP – INTEGRATED GRANT/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

Impact management tools and process integrated along the funding lifecycle





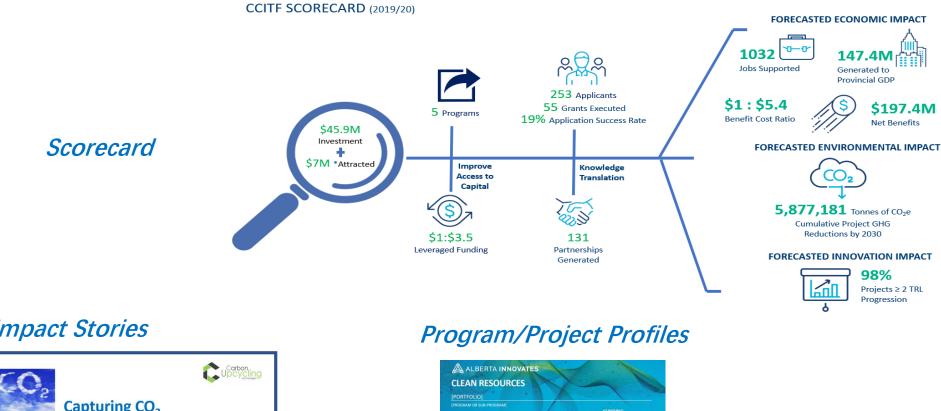
#### CONNECTING THE DOTS: IMPACT PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT ACROSS CCITF



Assessment (Monitoring & Evaluation) involved the systematic collection of information to improve program decision making and enhance organizational learning with the aim that programs meet stakeholder needs and lead to improvements in Environmental, Social and Economic Impact



### HARMONIZED MEASURING, REPORTING AND **COMMUNICATING IMPACT**



Impact Stories



The technology contributes to GHG emission reductions through CO2 capture and sequestration.



## **Key Messages**

- Systems and holistic approach embedding impact across the lifecycle (PIMS)
- Having an intentional plan aligned to mission and strategy for implementation
- Importance of Engagement, Context, and Culture for Action (Mindset, Teamset, Toolset, Impactset)
   Co-Design Co-Implement Co-Manage

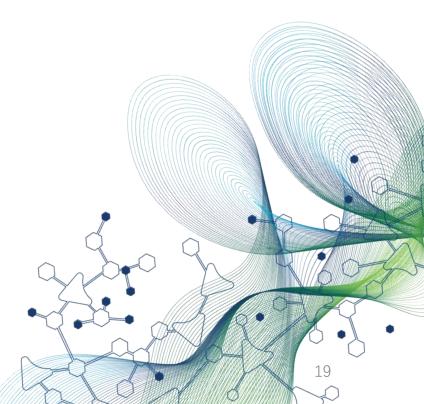
Future Plans – PIMS integrated into next phase of CCITF (TIER). Applying PIMS approach to Different Strategies such as Artificial Intelligence, Entrepreneurship, Digital and Strategic Patient Oriented Strategy.

# QUESTIONS

# Next

#### **Dr. David Budtz Pedersen**

Illustrative Case Example: Impact lifecycle approach as exemplified by the 'Algorithm, Data and Democracy' (ADD) programme established by the Velux Foundations in Denmark





# Impact Lifecycle Management: Connecting impact planning, implementation, assessment and improvement

Discussion

Thomas König Vienna, Austria



# **Typology of impact**

|            | INTENDED      | UNINTENDED  |
|------------|---------------|-------------|
| EXPECTED   | Straight runs | Collateral  |
| UNEXPECTED | Long shots    | Accidentals |

### **TABLE 1** - Types of impact

From: Reale, Emanuela, Maria Nedeva, Duncan A. Thomas, and Emilia Primeri. "Evaluation ALBERTA INMOVICE Impact: A Different Viewpoint." *Fteval Journal for Research Technology Policy Evaluation*, no. 39 (2014): 36–41.



## Developing impact

## Starting point:

- Different discipline (economics, sociology, political science)
- Different ambitions (academic excellence vs. applied research)
- Need to come up with a coherent framework for assessing "impact" at various levels

### Ambition:

ALBERTA INNOVATES HOlistic, strategic, pragmatic concept



## Process and results

- "Task Force" representing all factions within IHS
- 2 years of discussion regotiation, "selling"
- General document laying out the general ambition
- Mechanism for assessing impact (within the annual performance agreement w/ research groups)
- 3 Dimensions: academic, public, policy-relevant
- High compliance within institute
- Coherent representation to outside / stakeholders



# Leading questions

- Why is impact seen as important (in my context)? (attempt to discern the factors)
- What kind of impact do I see as positive (and what would be negative impact)?

(typology of impact – "straight runs" vs. "collateral", "accidentals")

- What is the timeframe to assess impact?
  - (first step to operationalization)



## **Guiding principles for stimulating impact**

- End to end lifecycle approach
- Holistic design, implementation and evaluation
- Planning for intended outcomes and impact upstream
- Integration of teams, disciplines, stakeholders etc.
- Culture change and reward structures

