

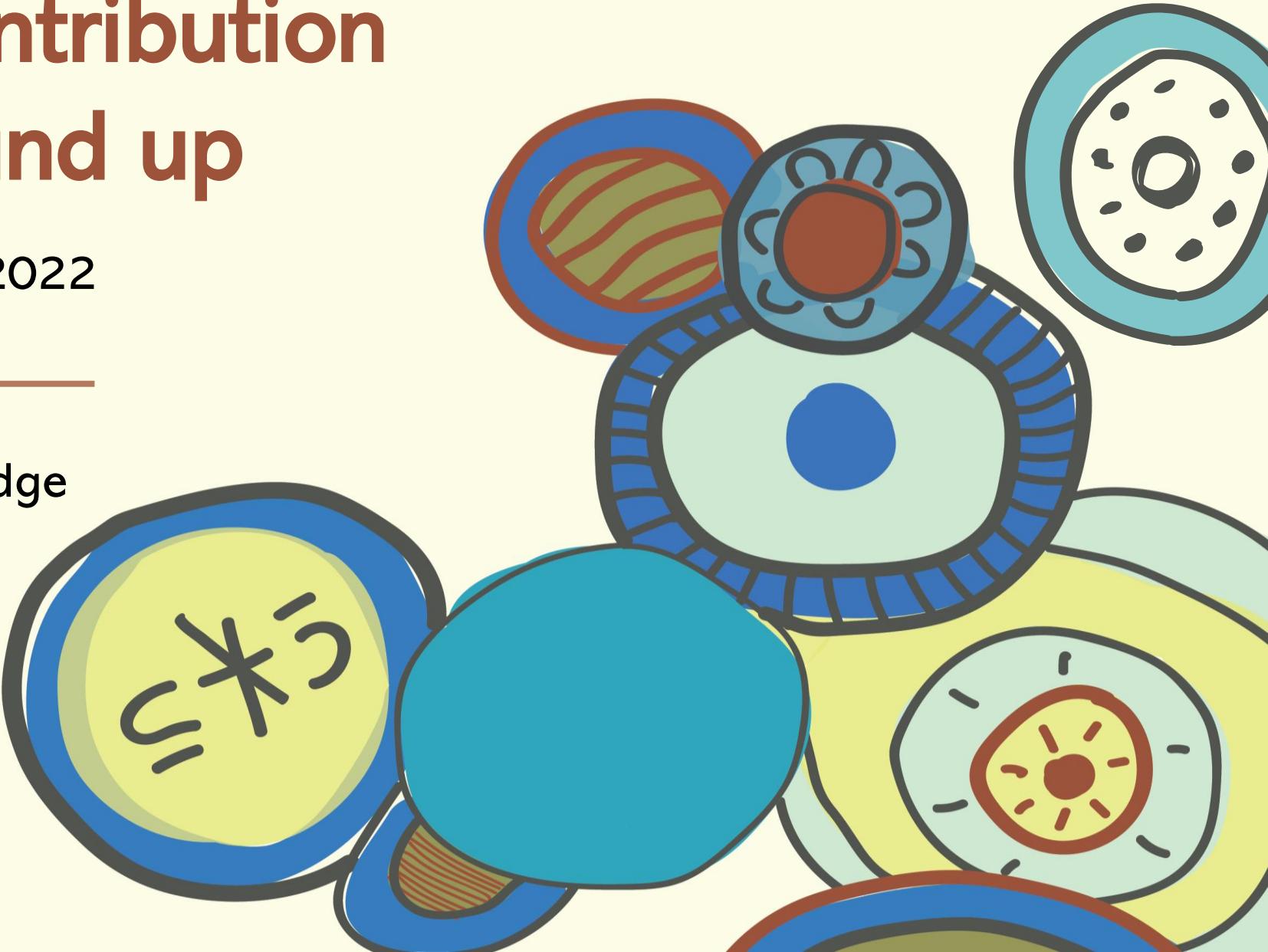
Evaluating contribution from the ground up

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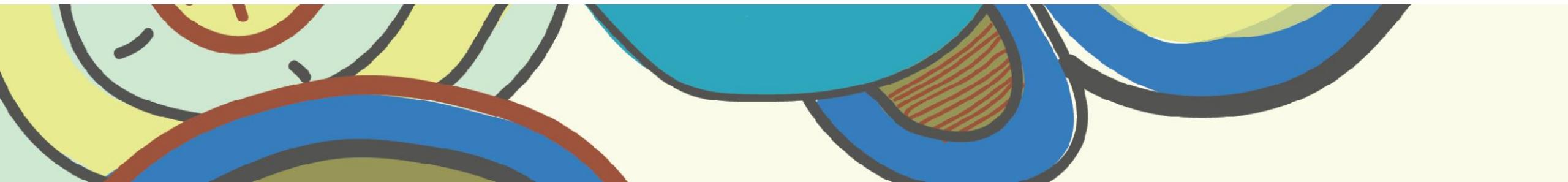
What we're going to talk about

Two analytic approaches:

- Traditional approach to contribution analysis
- A 'ground up' approach to contribution analysis

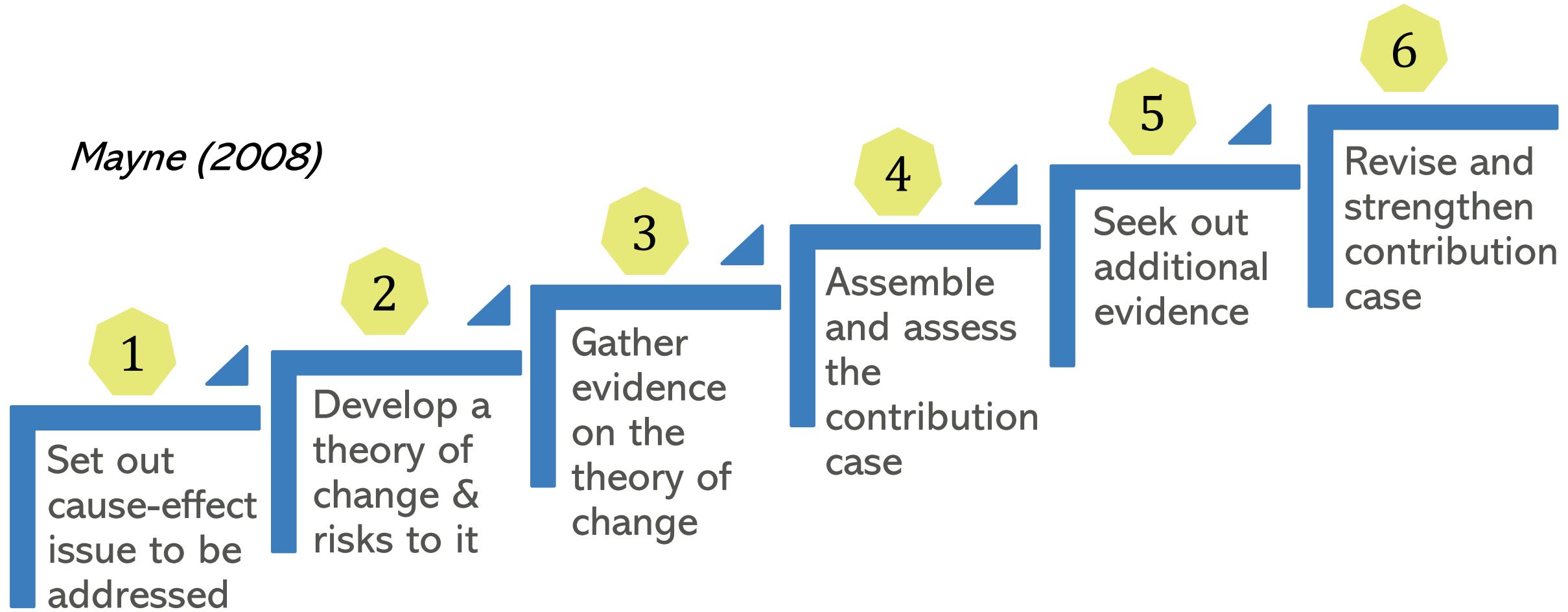
Rationale for using a 'ground up' approach to contribution analysis

- An example from our practice
- Benefits & challenges
- Take home message

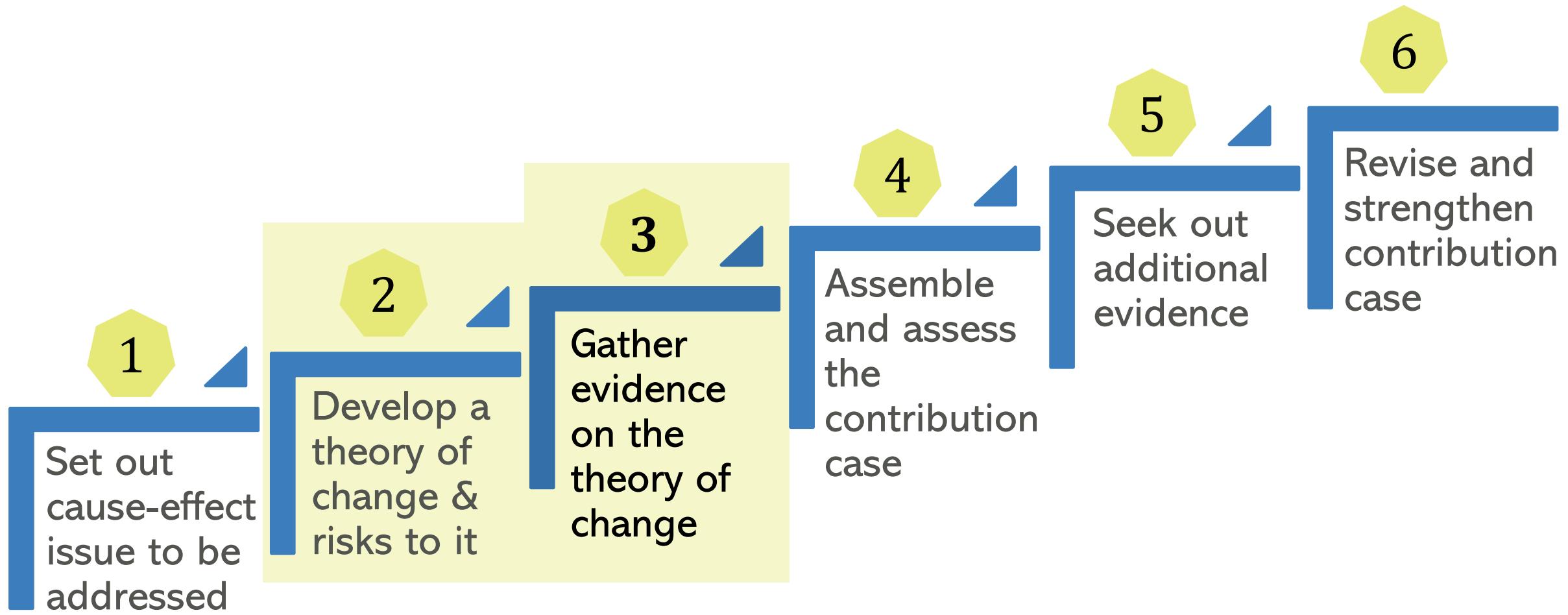


Contribution analysis

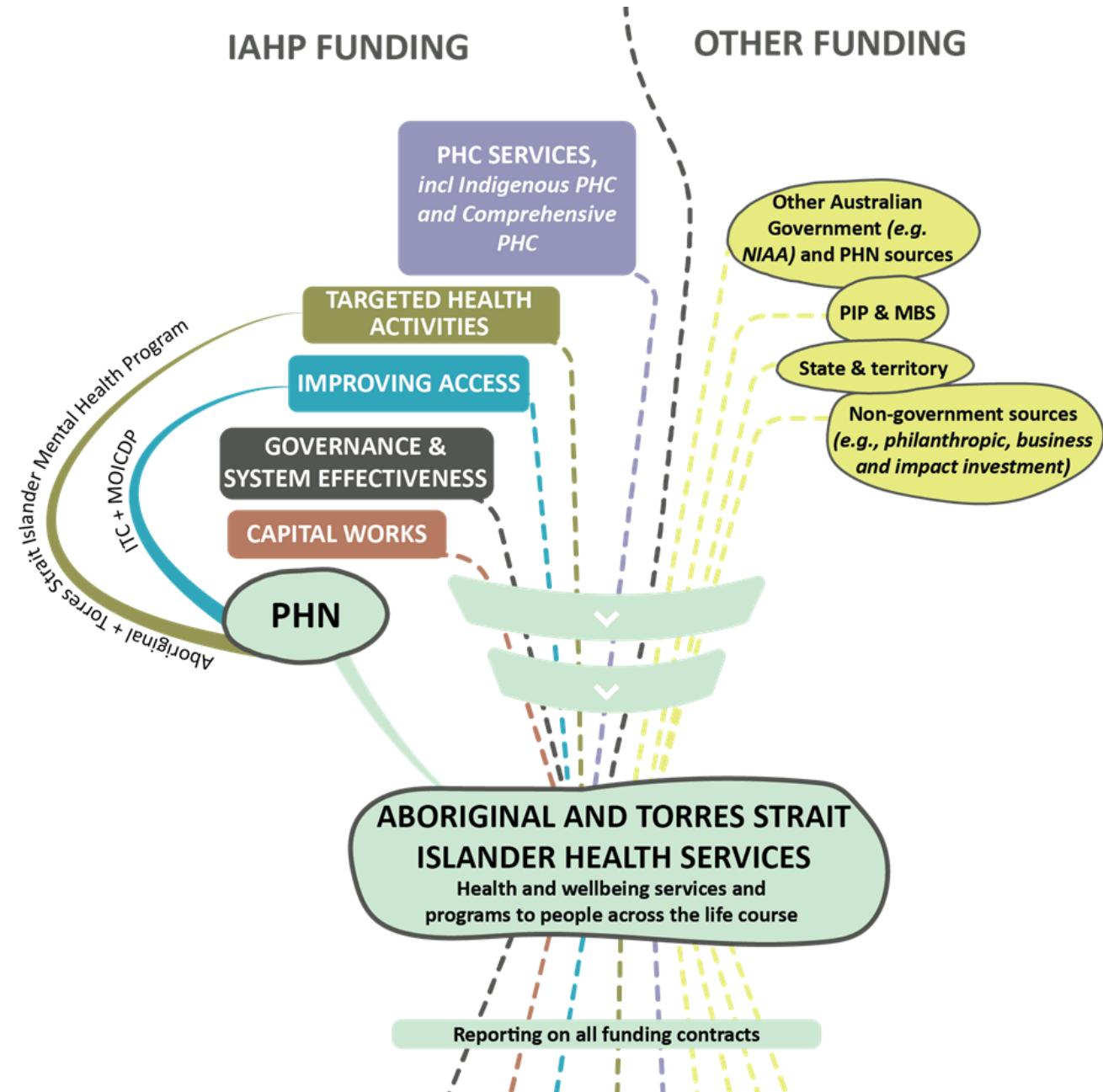
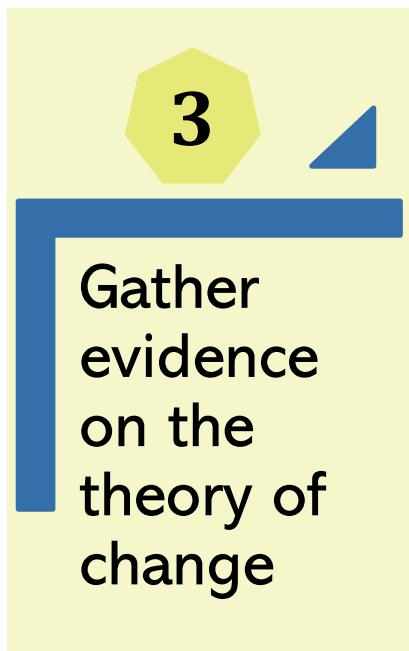
Mayne (2008)

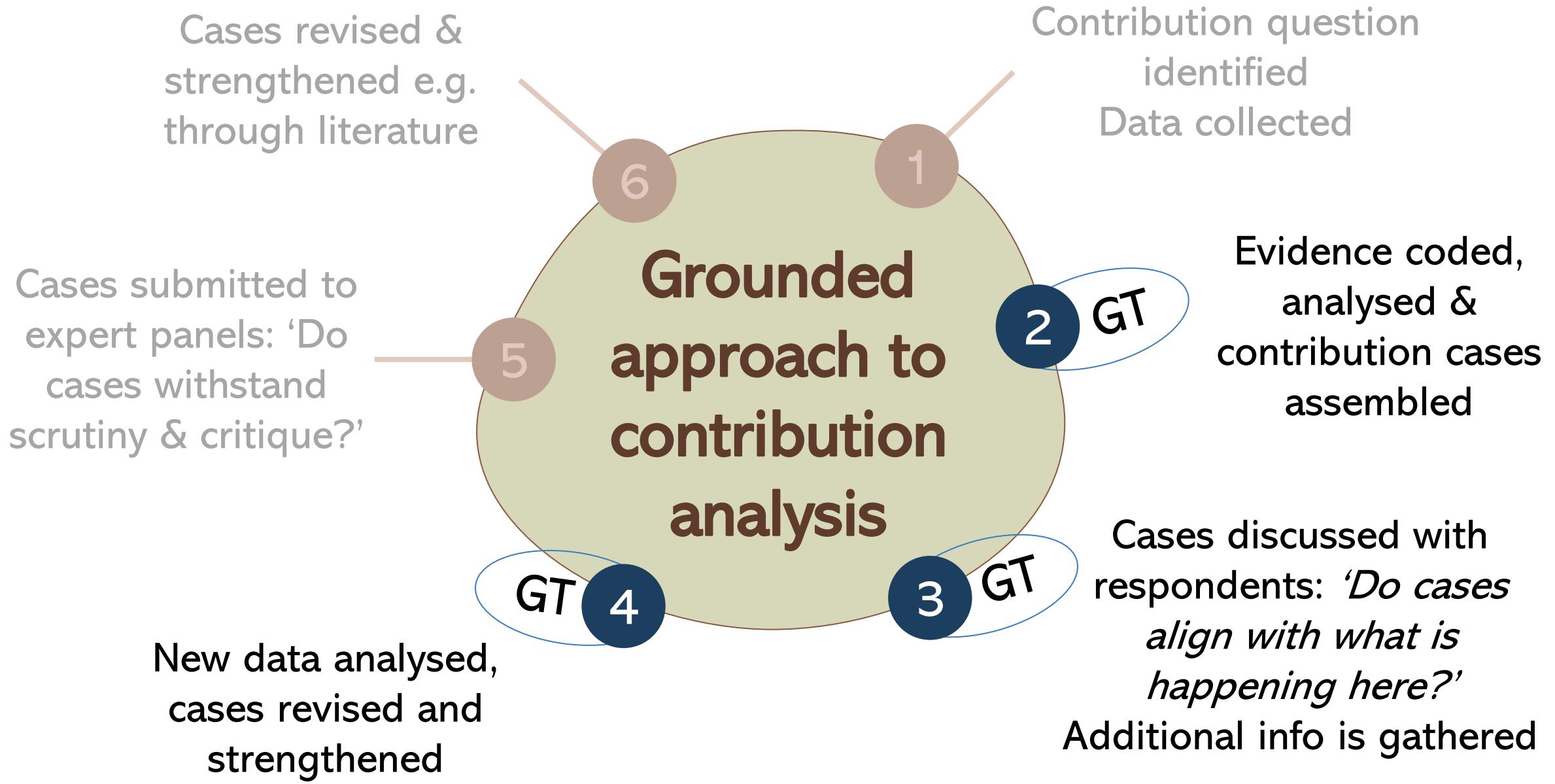


Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP)



Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP)





What is the rationale for using grounded theory?

“Evaluations conducted with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations must be culturally safe; be useful and directly relevant to the production of knowledge for societal progress, human health and flourishing. And they must be designed to produce innovations that have an impact as defined by them.”

(Bainbridge et al., 2015).

What is grounded theory about?

- Grounded theorists are systems thinkers
- Grounded theory:
 - builds on the premise that 'all is data'
 - developed with the intent of developing a theory with great 'explanatory power' which demonstrates fit and relevance to the research stakeholders' realities and aspirations.

The value of grounded theory

Adopting a grounded theory approach:

- legitimises the experiences of Indigenous people as a valid source of knowledge;
- facilitates the development of theory directly interpreted from the words expressed by them;
- considers the influence of contextual social processes and structures;
- recognises the diversity of experience;
- pays attention to the relational aspects of the evaluation.



Coding data

- Re-coding of cycle 1 data (qualitative interviews)
- Incorporating evidence from cycle 2 data
- Time frame (Nov 2021 – June 2022)
- Use of Nvivo and Miro to code, group and map findings
- Fortnightly meetings



Grounded analytical process

Open coding and memo writing

Mapping findings and describing code clusters and concepts

Connecting across data sets to assemble cases

Underpin by constant comparing and contrasting across different sets of data



Open coding & memo writing

We didn't have the
money...

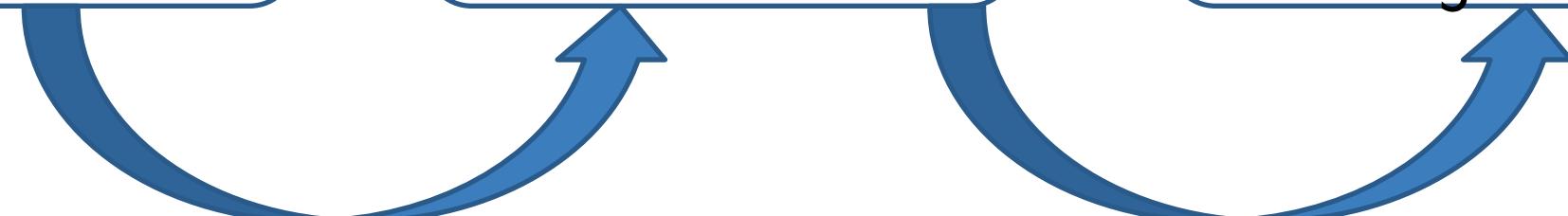
Benefits of IAHP

IAHP Funding to
ACCHO's

Start with a
phrase/concept/the
me

First set of parent
codes organised
under the broader
theme

Broader themes
organised under
high level
categories



Example from practice

Grounded approach to contribution analysis

Mapping findings and identifying concepts

The Miro board displays a large grid of cards organized into columns. The first column on the left contains five large, light-blue cloud-shaped cards, each containing a detailed text block. The remaining columns are filled with numerous smaller, rectangular cards, primarily blue, arranged in vertical stacks. A vertical sidebar on the far left features various navigation icons: a double arrow up, a double arrow down, a double arrow right, a double arrow left, a square with a dot, a double arrow right with a dot, a double arrow left with a dot, a double arrow up with a dot, a double arrow down with a dot, and a double arrow right with a dot.

Example
from
practice

Grounded
approach to
contribution
analysis





Connecting across different sets of data to assemble cases

Structure

- Context
- Contribution
- Implications
- Rival explanation/other factors

Ongoing

- Synthesising cases into shorter cases that can easily be taken back to sites
- Revising them according to new input and evidence

Sense-checking, case review & adaption

Group 1 – all site partners / participants

ACCHO, PHNs, community representatives, peak bodies

Sense checking, gap filling and adding nuances

Group 2 – Aboriginal health sector review

Health sector professionals

Scrutinise the contribution claims & cases

Group 3 – methodological review

Academics with knowledge of methodology

Review the robustness of our evidence, analysis and methodology

At all stages and with all three groups we will be exploring nuances and potential alternative explanations. We will also seek out secondary facts and information identified through the data analysis and relevant literature

Why bring two analytic approaches together?

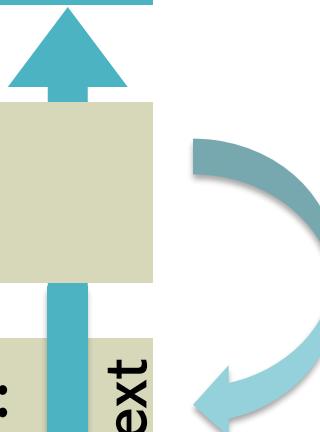
Benefits

- Real-world experiences at the forefront and brought to the centre of the evaluation.
- Discovery of 'new things' and attention to complexity and alternative explanations
- Developing arguments that are context-specific, detailed, and tightly connected to evidence.

Challenges

- Hard to find focus and define scope.
- Hard to not bring in theory and pre-existing assumptions from evaluation.
- Hard to fit with wider evaluation and other analytical streams.

Evaluative claim about contribution



Sense check: Accountability to participants

Any rival explanations? What is missing or puzzling?

Grounded approach to code, analyse, draft contribution cases:

What's the contribution of the evaluand to observed changes?

How does this compare with what is important?

Evidence: What's happening here? What's changed & why?

Value: What's important in this context?

Attention to context

Grounded approach to contribution analysis

References

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Thank you

We're keen to hear from you!

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