

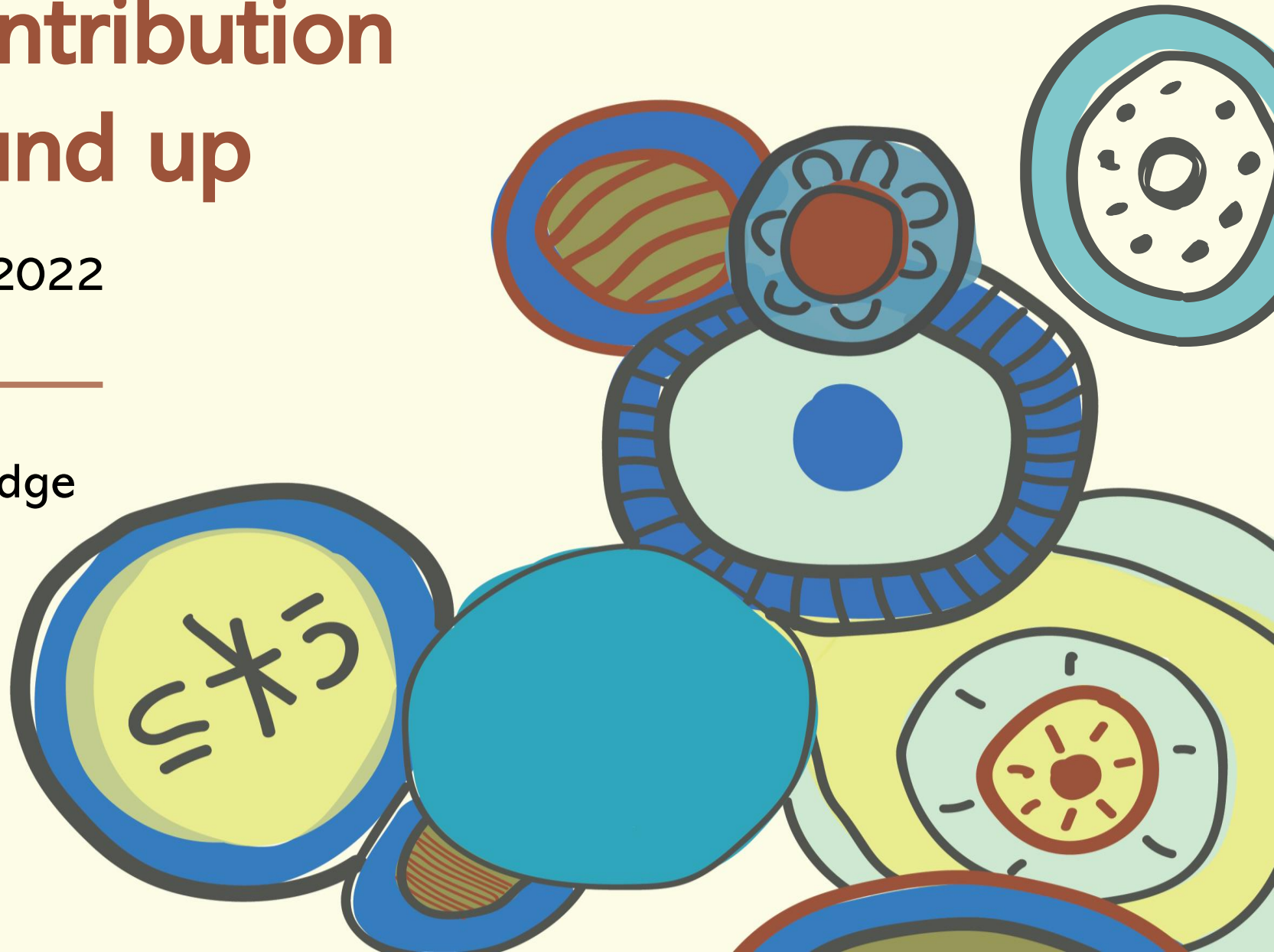
Evaluating contribution from the ground up

AES Conference Adelaide 2022

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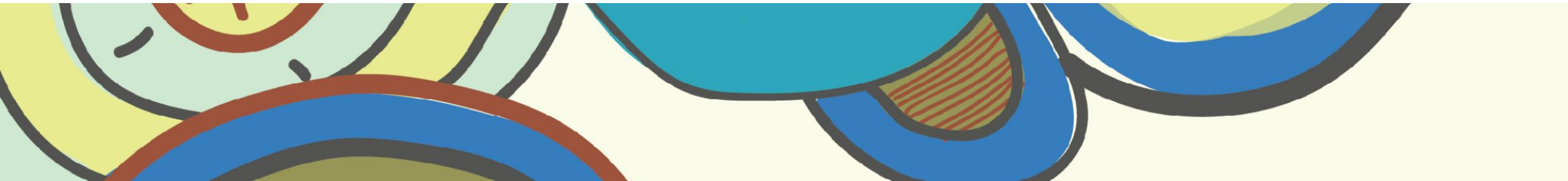
What we're going to talk about

Two analytic approaches:

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

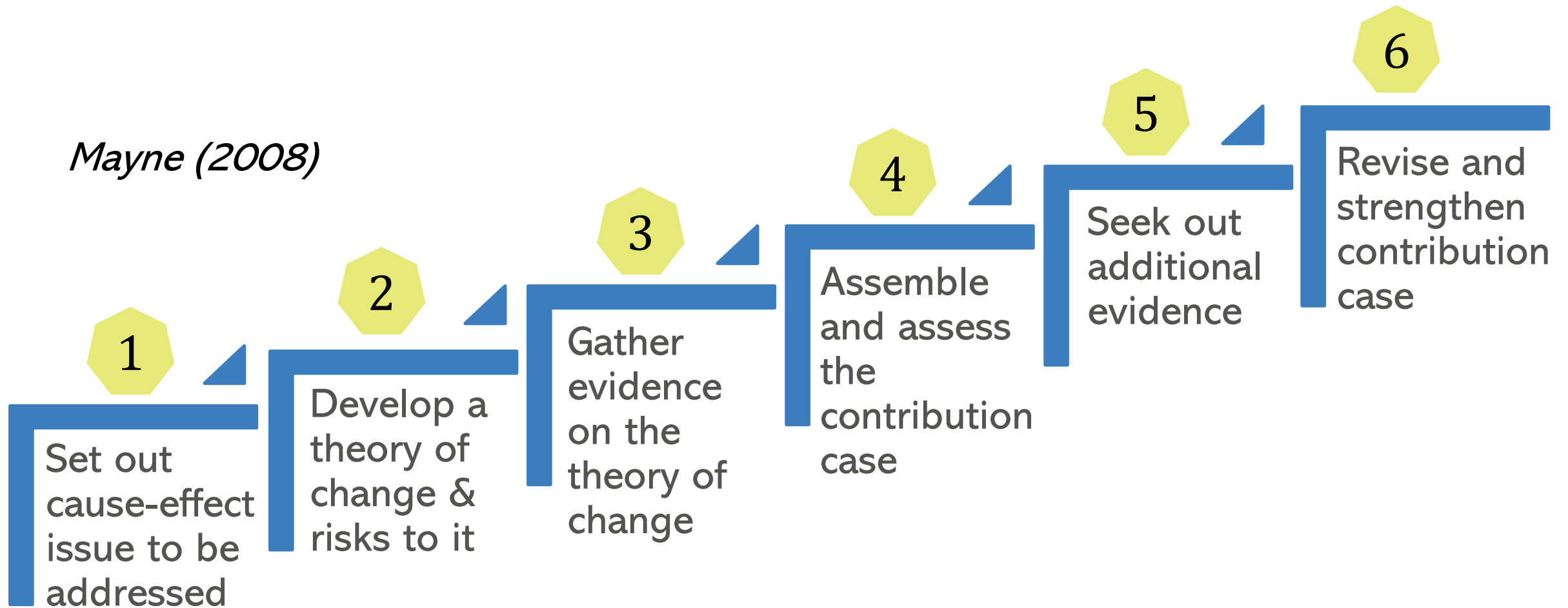
Rationale for using a 'ground up' approach to contribution analysis

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

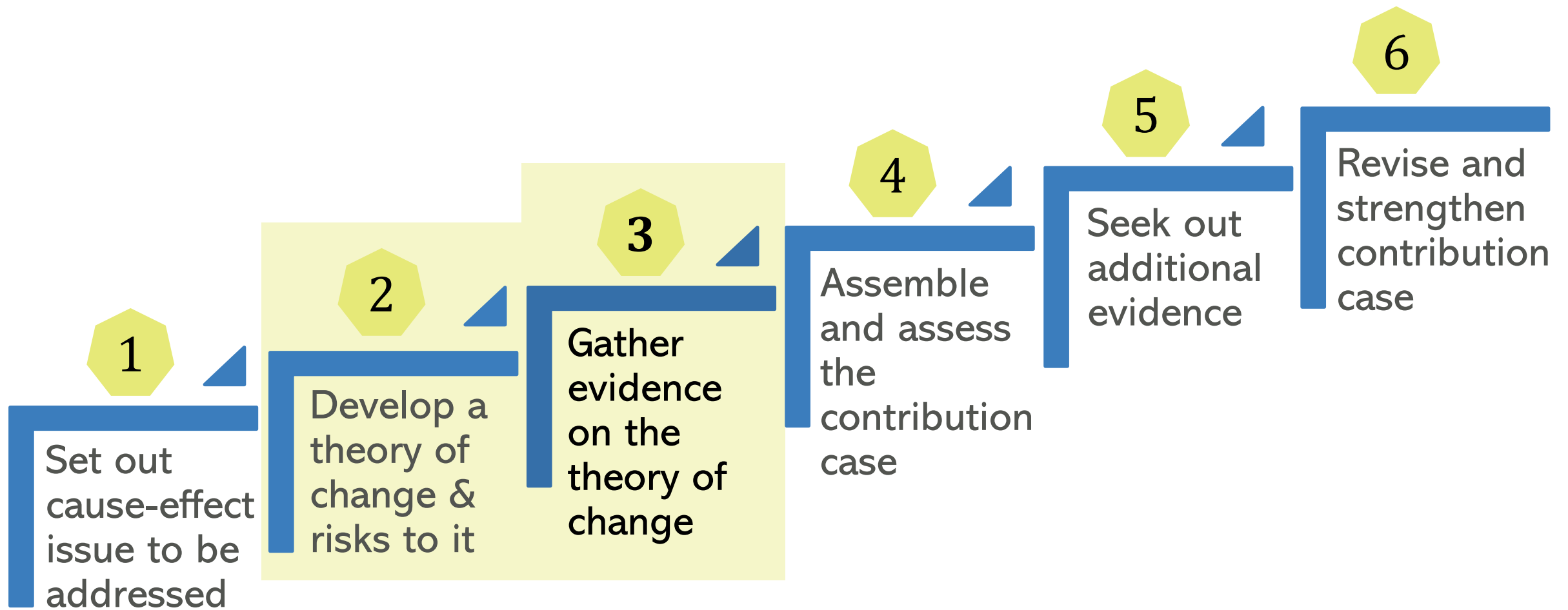


Contribution analysis

Mayne (2008)



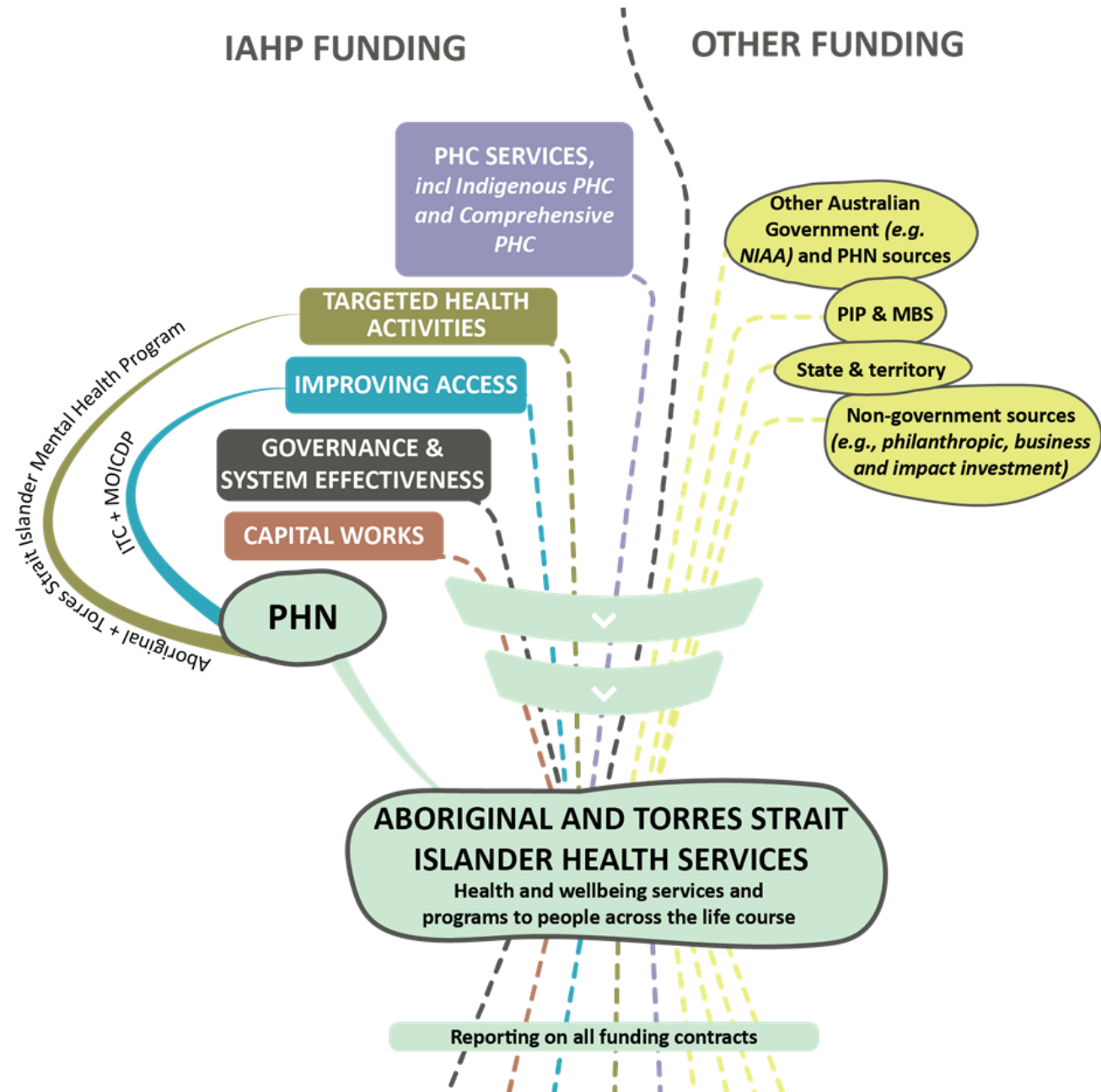
Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP)

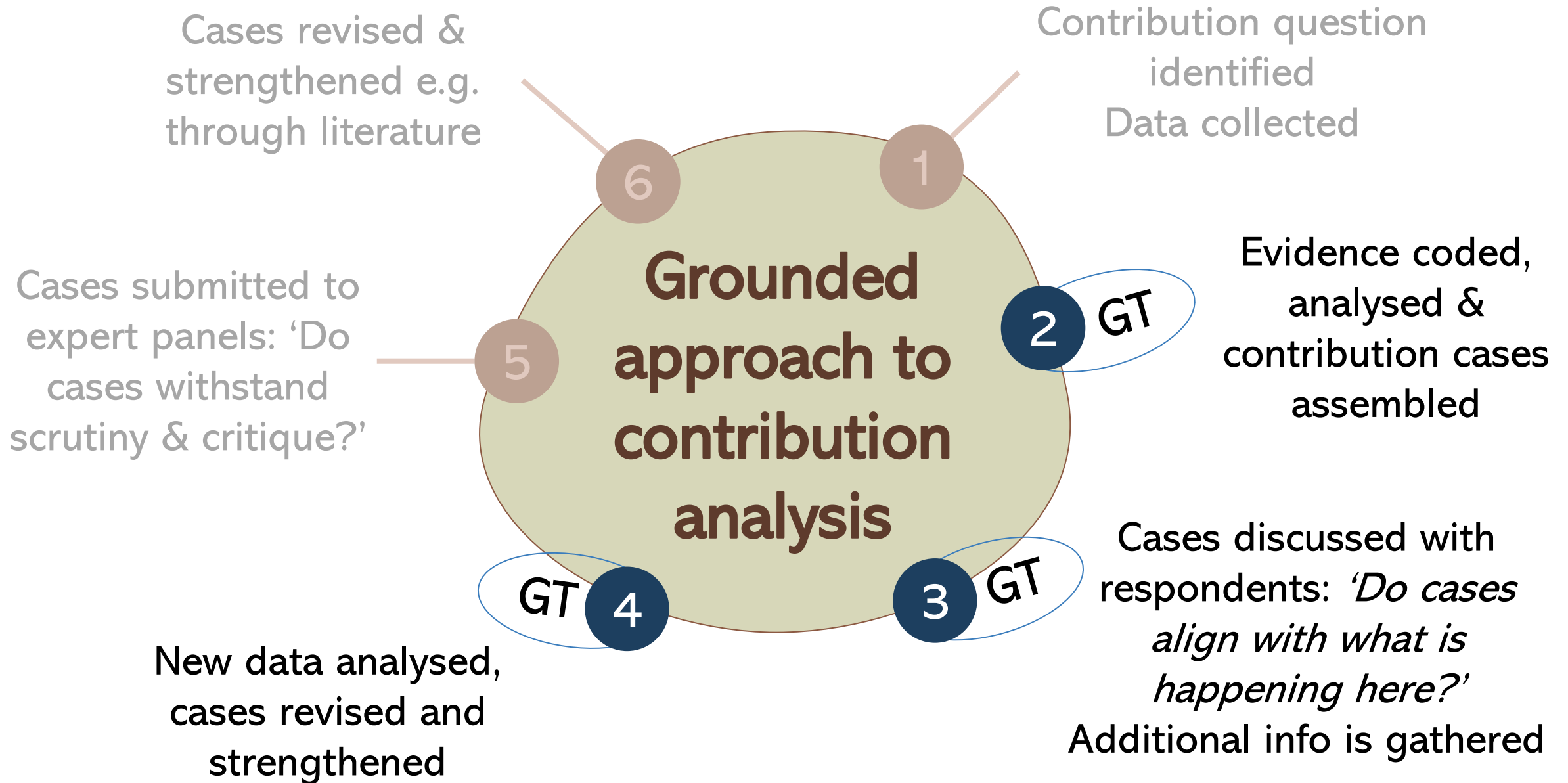


Indigenous Australians' Health Programme (IAHP)

3

Gather evidence on the theory of change





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

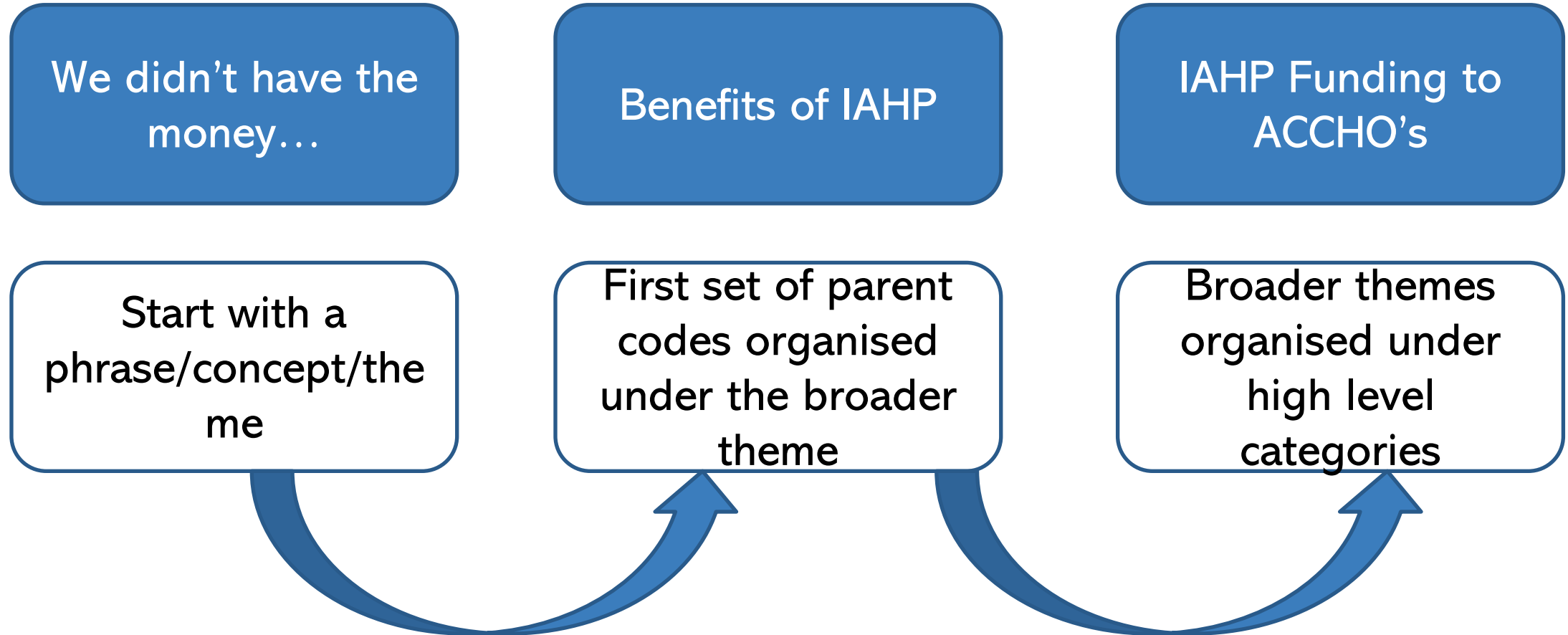
Open coding and
memo writing

Mapping findings
and describing
code clusters
and concepts

Connecting across
data sets to
assemble cases

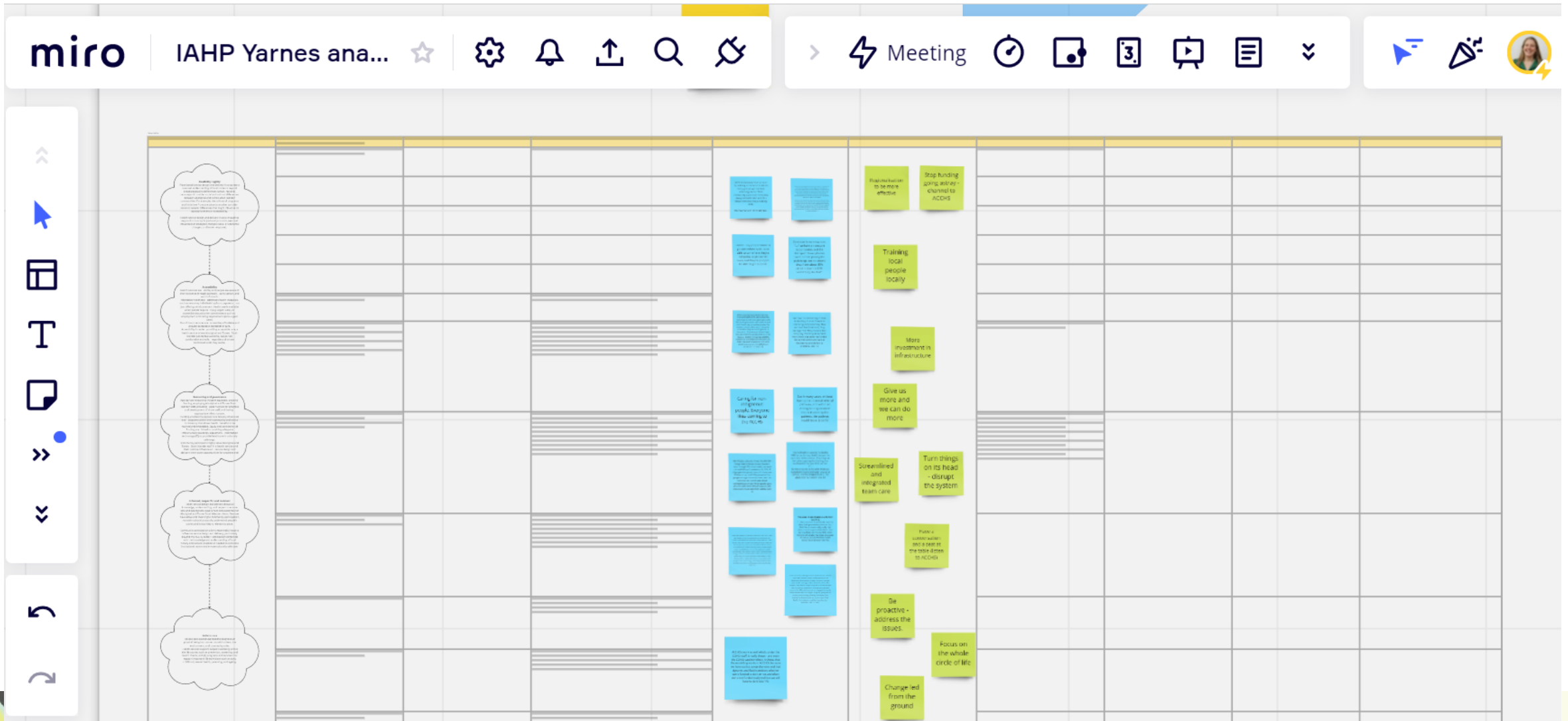
Underpin by constant comparing and contrasting across different sets of data

Open coding & memo writing



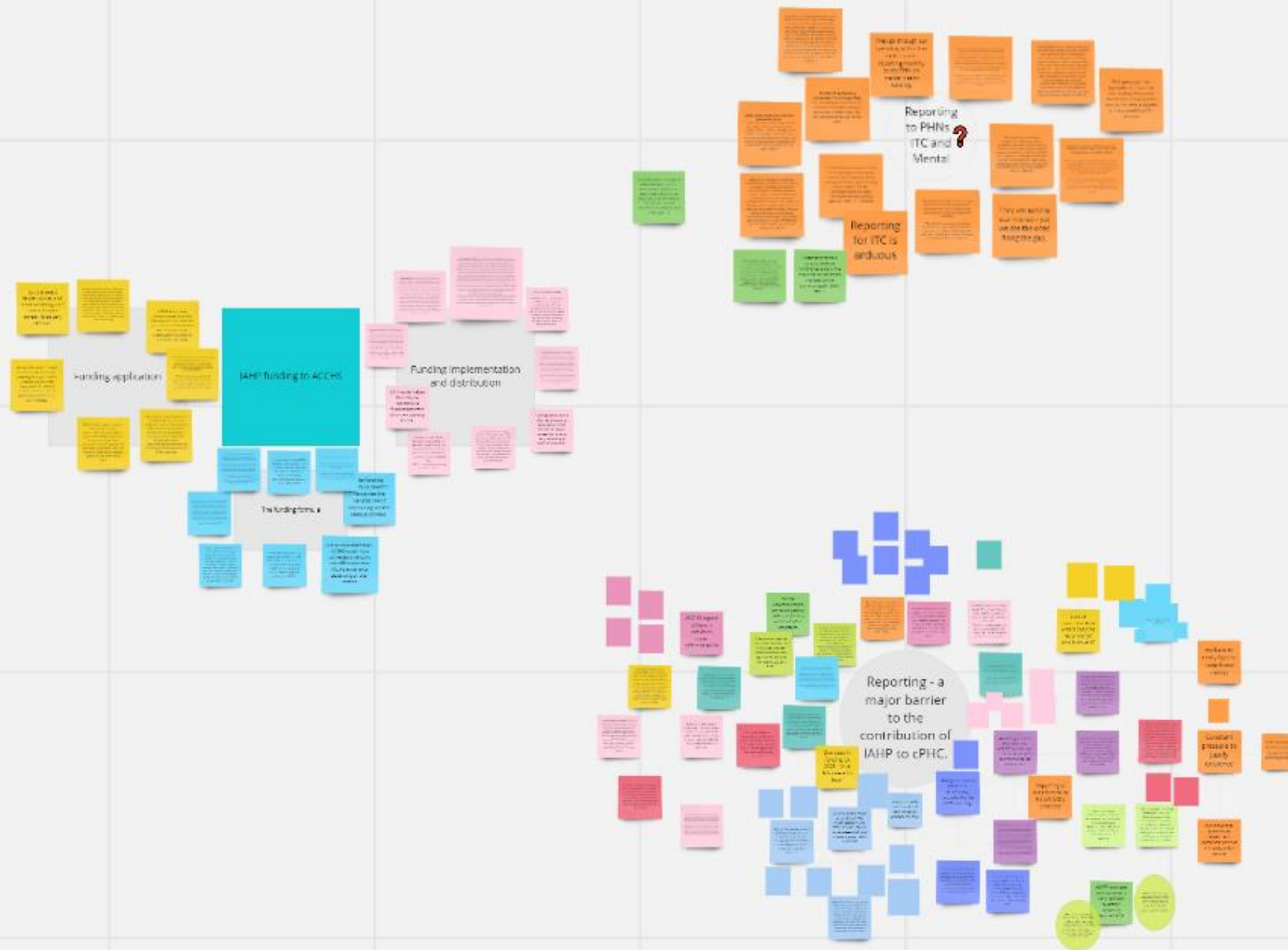
Grounded approach to contribution analysis

Mapping findings and identifying concepts



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

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Thank you

We're keen to hear from you!

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