

# Plan the pathway

## In short

Working method to collectively determine which follow-up steps are taken and what methods could help in taking these follow-up steps.

## Output

A collective decision on follow-up steps and accompanying methods.

## Approach

This working method takes place in seven steps:

1. Print the Research Pathway Model sheets and lay these out on the table. Each card represents one step. Go over the steps and what they entail, in short.
2. Collectively determine which steps fit this project and which do not. The cards with the steps that fit the project can be kept. You put the rest aside. Perhaps these steps do not fit this specific project but do fit a follow-up project; or perhaps some steps have been taken in a previous (research) project. It may also be the case that some steps are not relevant to answer the practice issue or question at all. If not all partners agree: discuss the contents.
3. For each step, discuss what the result of the relevant step should be and write this down for each step.
4. Determine the order of the steps. Steps may recur several times during a research project. Use extra sheets when necessary to have the steps recur.
5. After you have laid down the steps, you discuss who wants to be involved in which step. You can use Legos or the printable characters for this purpose.
6. Then, discuss what the appropriate methods for each step would be. It may prove helpful to discuss the following questions:
  - a. Are there methods you're familiar with or that typically fit a specific (research) discipline?
  - b. What is the objective of the methods (increasing reliability, gathering as much data as possible, reaching a consensus, build rapport with the target group, shaping the project as a group, etc.)?
  - c. Are the methods more methodically rigorous, practically relevant, or both?
  - d. Are these methods future-oriented or focused on the here and now? Can participants benefit from participation, or is it mainly about the future results?
7. Put the method cards with the results on the steps chosen and collectively check whether the method chosen leads to the desired results for each step.

## Tips for the manager

- You can print the materials several times so you can lay down recurring steps and iterations.
- Depending on the group size, you can choose to first get to work in small groups (3-4 individuals) and then create room for short presentations per group and a subsequent group discussion.

## Bases

During the project, both the research process and the stakeholders, actors or partners as well as the methods chosen may change, e.g. because the results of a specific research step require reviewing the original plan.



The working method can also be done during the research process, or repeated to reconsider plans and discuss expectations together with the stakeholders when necessary to lead to the desired project outcome, as a whole and for each actor individually.

### Materials

- Research Pathway Model – printout
- Legos or printable characters.
- For the method cards, you can use the Bouwstenen (Losse & Van Turnhout, 2021: [www.bouwstenen.boom.nl](http://www.bouwstenen.boom.nl)) or the cards in the Create Health Ways of Working eBook.



THEORETICAL  
CONTEXT

CREATING





THEORETICAL  
CONTEXT

EXPLORING



THEORETICAL  
CONTEXT

DELIVERING



CONCEPTUAL  
CONTEXT

CREATING

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CONCEPTUAL  
CONTEXT

EXPLORING

A large white rectangular area for notes, surrounded by a purple border with a fine dot pattern. The text "CONCEPTUAL CONTEXT" is at the top center, "EXPLORING" is on the left side, and a small 3x3 grid icon is at the bottom right.

CONCEPTUAL  
CONTEXT

DELIVERING

A large white rectangular area for notes, surrounded by a purple border with a diagonal line pattern. The text "CONCEPTUAL CONTEXT" is at the top center, "DELIVERING" is on the left side, and a small 3x3 grid icon is at the bottom right.



CREATING

PRACTICE  
CONTEXT





EXPLORING

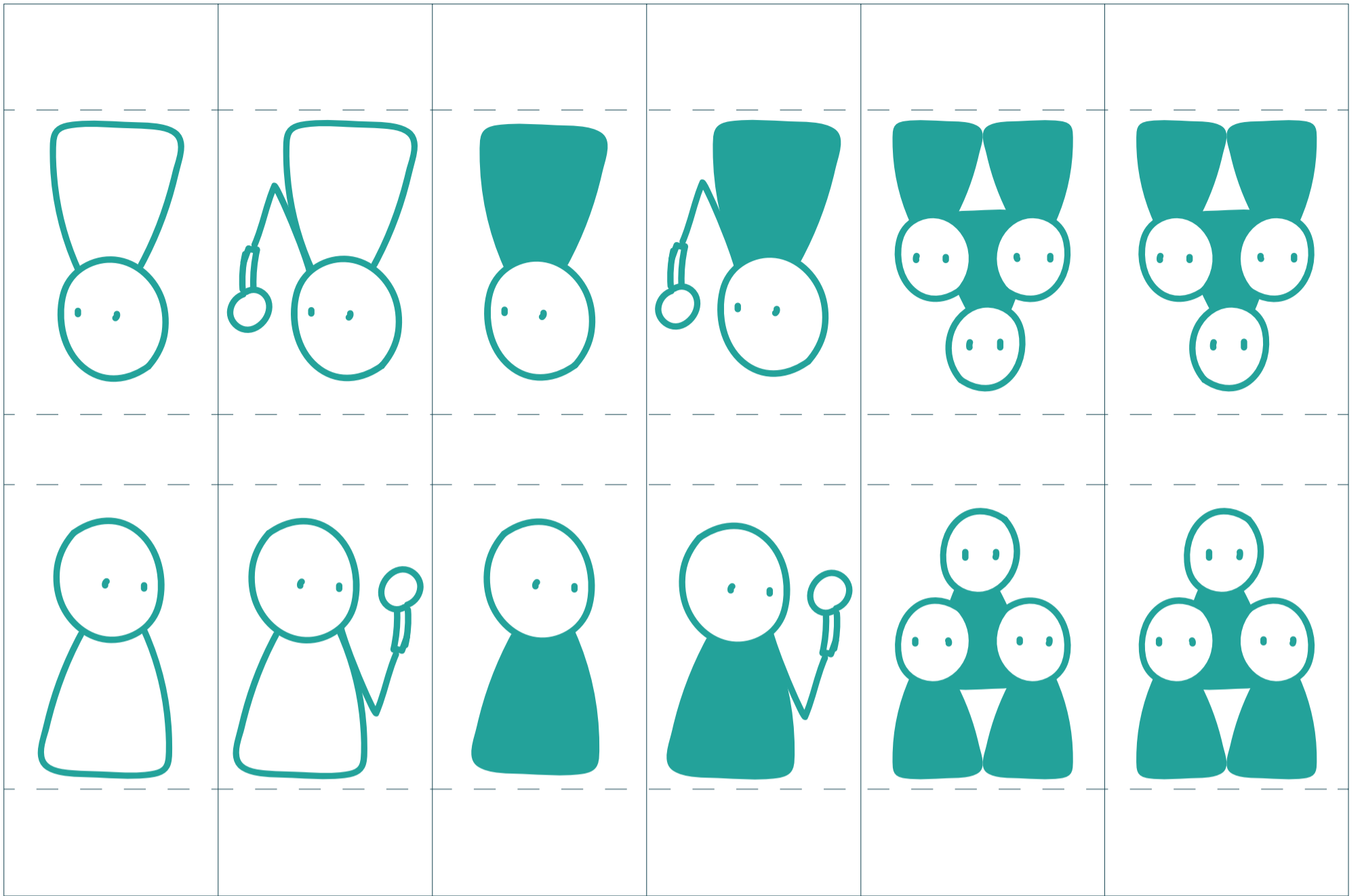
PRACTICE  
CONTEXT



DELIVERING

PRACTICE  
CONTEXT





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cut here

