



The Outlook for Innovation: Opportunities and Challenges on the Road Ahead

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Outline



Why does innovation fail?



Are there some potential areas
of innovation on the horizon?



What are some strategies to
promote success?

Top seven reasons educational innovations fail...



1. Lofty goals but poorly specified plan



2.
Insufficient
stakeholder
involvement
and support



3.
Incompatible
with current
conditions



4. Lack of resources/ capacity



5. Constant change



6.
Inattention
to scaling



7. Insufficient monitoring and improvement

I STARTED THE DAY WITH
LOTS OF PROBLEMS.
BUT NOW, AFTER HOURS
AND HOURS OF WORK,
I HAVE LOTS OF PROBLEMS
IN A *SPREADSHEET*.



What's the outlook for
innovation in the
future?



What are the ‘wicked problems’ we need to solve?

- How can assessments better inform instructional interventions? (True ‘diagnostic’ assessment)
- How can we build and sustain capacity at scale to improve classroom assessment practices?
- How can we keep large scale summative assessment and high-stakes accountability from sucking all the oxygen out of the air?
- How can we improve monitoring and support, particularly to improve outcomes for traditionally underserved students?



WICKED PROBLEM.

noun | wi-kəd | prā-bləm

a problem that is difficult or impossible to solve because of incomplete, contradictory, and changing requirements that are often difficult to recognize.

Potential Assessment Innovations?

- **Utility:** Focus on providing more instructionally useful and timely information to inform instruction
 - Assessments supported by a learning progression with close links between curriculum and instruction
 - Systems to support personalized learning paths
- **Capacity:** Focus on investing in classroom assessment literacy skills
 - Innovations in training models (hint: it's not train the trainer)
 - Growth in customizable open access resources
- **Efficiency:** Focus on “right sizing” state summative testing
 - Grade-band testing
 - Matrix-sampling

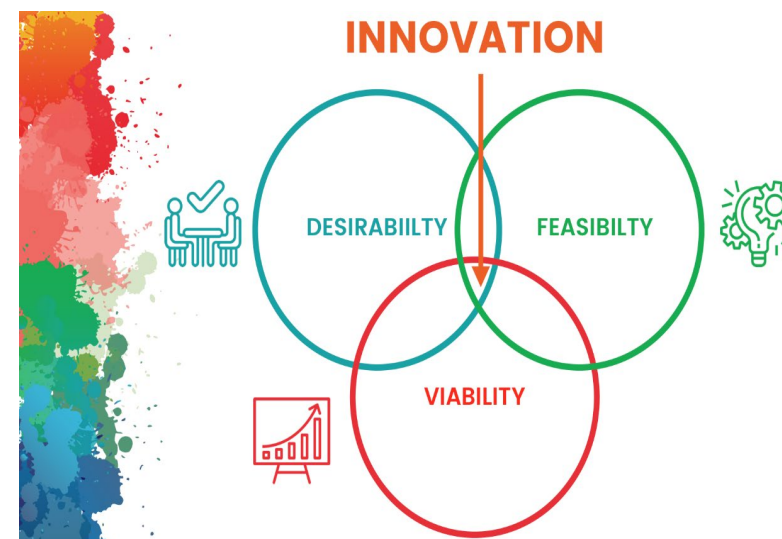
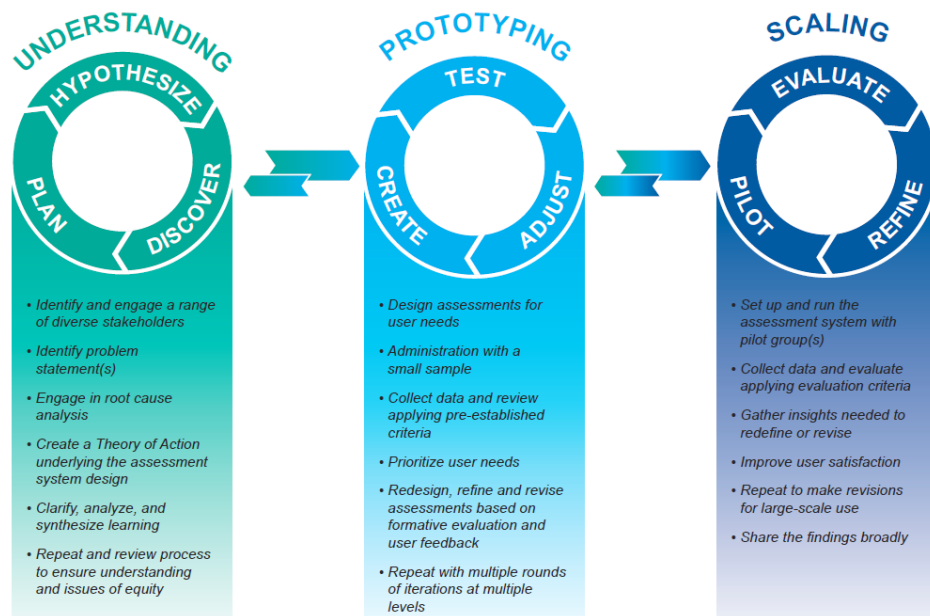
Potential Accountability Innovations?

- **Coherence:** Focus on providing systems of accountability that are horizontally and vertically coherent
 - District and school systems, each customized to address the distinct mission and role
 - Stop treating districts like super schools
 - Recognize differences among schools (e.g. alternative)
 - Rethink the role of the SEA
- **Reciprocity :** Focus on specifying the conditions and supports required for success
 - Address inputs and outcomes
 - Build supports and interventions into the theory of action
- **Utility:** Focus on providing clear, actionable information and support to a range of stakeholders
 - Broaden information
 - Continued improvements in accessible and dynamic reporting systems
 - Investments in training and support

Strategies to Promote Success

Let's return to some of the concepts Damian Betebenner and Jeri Thompson introduced in Session 1

DESIGN INNOVATION PROCESS



Final Thoughts

- *Think of innovation as a verb, not a noun.*
- *It's unlikely the process is linear, it's an unpredictable, twisty journey.*
- *First Do No Harm: Interactions and unintended consequences are always a threat*
- *Assessment (alone) is not an intervention. Connections to curriculum and instruction are critical.*

Facilitator: Leslie Keng



Closure – Session 6

Takeaways :

- What are the design challenges under IADA?
- What are the opportunities for innovation in the near future for both assessment and accountability?



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