



Research Workshop Series

Session 1: Data, Research, and Evidence

Dominique Bradley

10/17/18



Workshop Series

2018

October 17 Data, Research, and Evidence

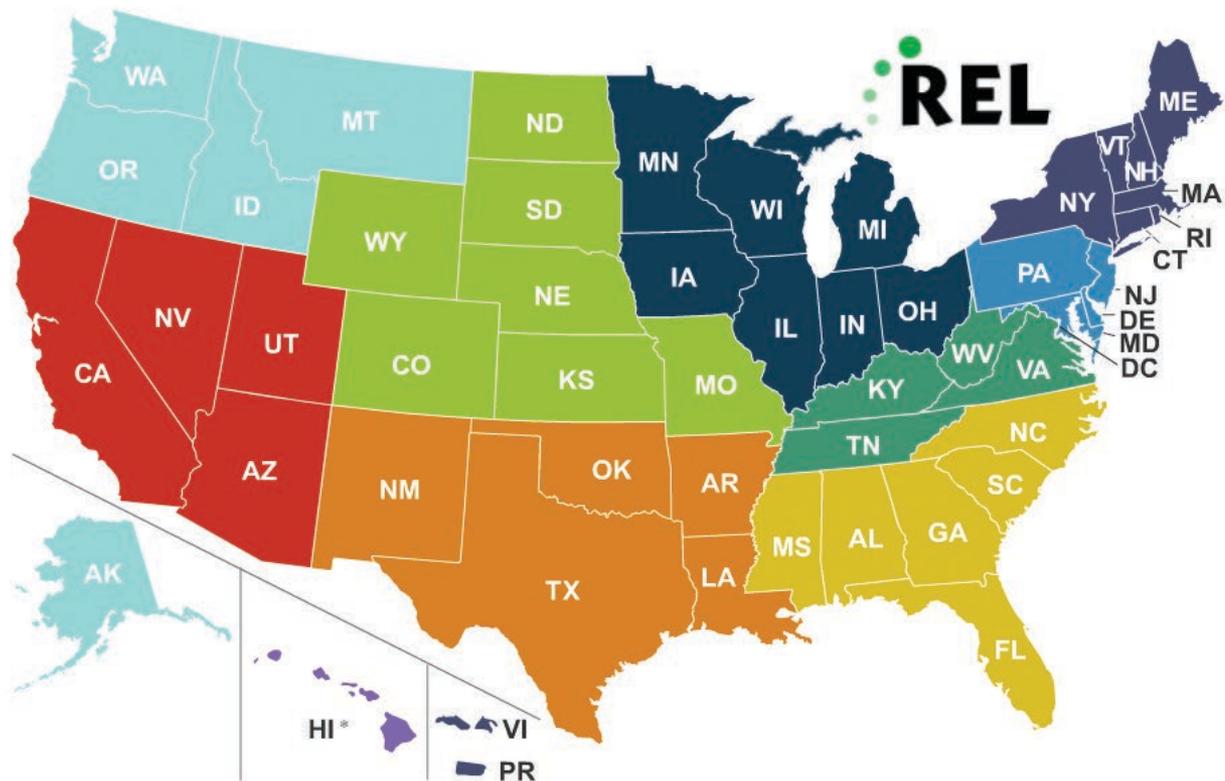
2019

April (TBD) Reporting and Using Quantitative Data

Agenda

1. What is REL Midwest?
2. Overview of training series
3. Data collection methods
4. Types of research and levels of evidence
5. Continuous improvement model
6. Session close and evaluation

Regional Educational Laboratories



- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| Appalachia | NW |
| Central | Pacific* |
| Mid-Atlantic | SE |
| Midwest | SW |
| NE & Islands | West |

* The Pacific Region contains Hawaii, pictured on the map, and American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, & Yap), Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, & the Republic of Palau, not pictured on the map.

REL Midwest States





Today's Goals

1. Discuss appropriate uses of different kinds of **data collection methods**
2. Overview of different types of research and **levels of evidence**
3. Discuss how the WI Technical College System uses data and evidence in the context of a **continuous improvement cycle**

Data Collection Methods

Data Collection Options

Interviews?
Focus groups?

Surveys?

Observations?

Access
existing data?





Surveys are appropriate data collection tools for many purposes ...

A survey can produce **quantitative descriptions** of the characteristics and viewpoints of a population.

- Describe current practices or behaviors
- Understand attitudes
- Evaluate the outcomes of a program or an initiative
- Explore perceptions

Focus Groups



Help formulate and pretest survey items

Explore quantitative survey findings

Use as a stand-alone data collection method

When to Use Focus Groups Instead of Surveys



Interviews are suitable for investigating complex or sensitive topics.



Observations



Rubrics

	No implementation	Partial implementation	Full implementation
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Analyzing Existing Data





Research methods
can complement
each other in order
to develop more
comprehensive
findings

Thinking practically...considerations for research

- How does the method(s) fit your research question(s)?
- What staff time and organizational resources are needed?
- What is your timeline between data collection and analysis?
- What are the most useful final products?

Activity 1

Work in your group to select a data collection method (or combination of methods) that would be appropriate for each data-need scenario.

Accessing Existing Research

Resources to access existing research

- [What Works Clearinghouse](#)
- [Google Scholar](#)
- [ERIC \(Education Resources Information Center\)](#)
- [Web of Science](#)
- [JSTOR](#)
- [PubMed](#)
- [Database of promoting health effectiveness reviews](#)
- [Himmelfarb Health Sciences Database tool](#)
- [Ask A REL](#)

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)

What types of:

Interventions are reviewed?

- Programs, policies, practices
- Academic, behavioral, student subgroups, teacher excellence, dropout prevention, postsecondary success

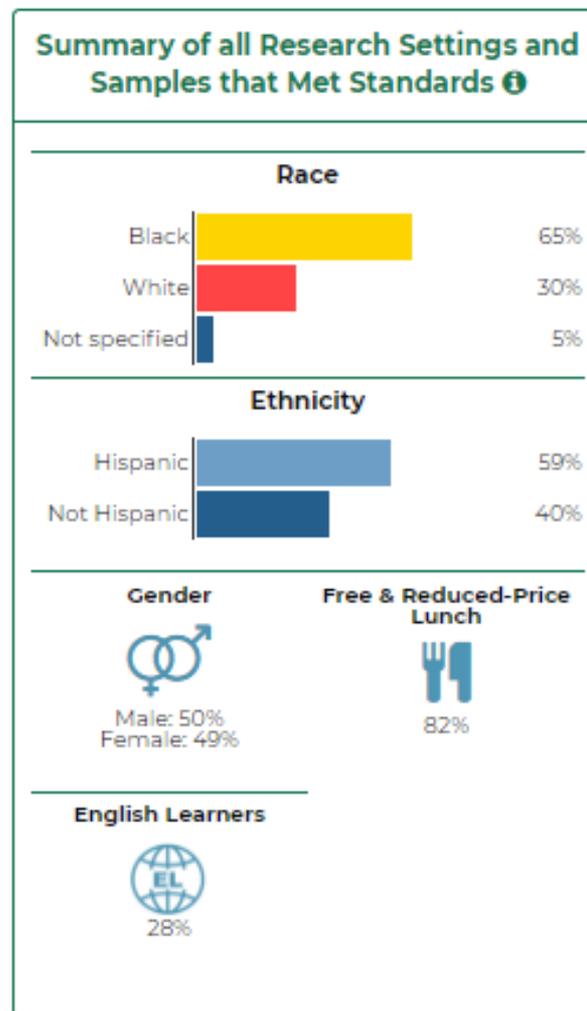
Studies are reviewed by this clearinghouse?

- Experimental and quasi-experimental designs
- Qualitative research is NOT reviewed

WWC: Contextual information provided

Evidence snapshots:

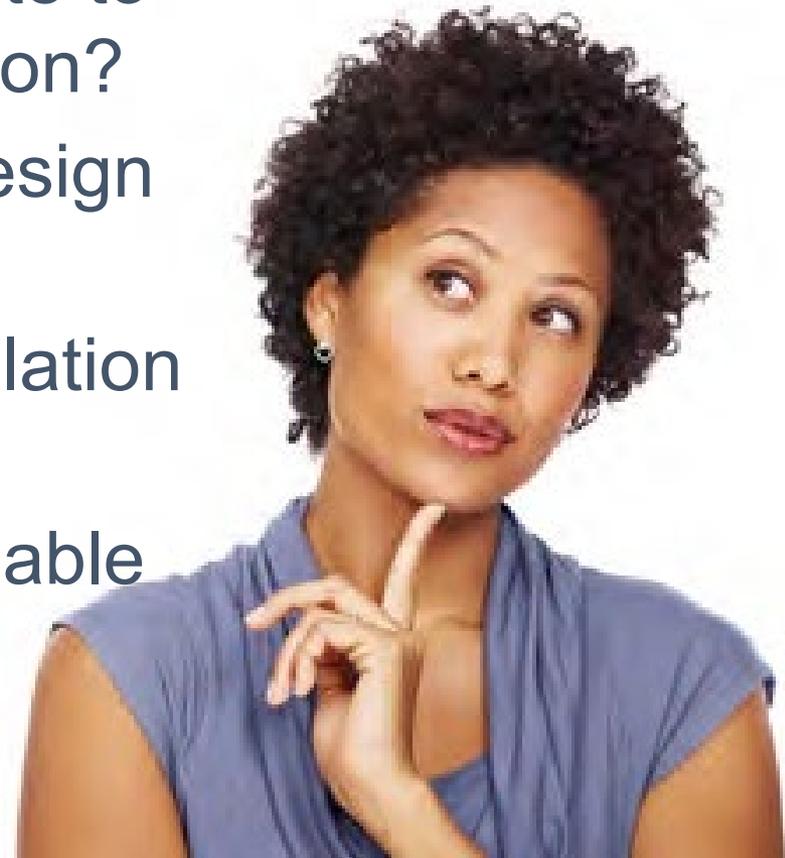
- Summary of all research settings and samples from studies meeting standards can include:
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Gender
 - English learners
 - Free or reduced-price lunch
 - Delivery method
 - Locale



<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>

Questions to consider when assessing research evidence . . .

- What research methods were used? Were they appropriate to answer the research question?
- Was a rigorous research design used?
- What was the sample population in the study?
- Are the conclusions reasonable given the research method used?



Take a Break

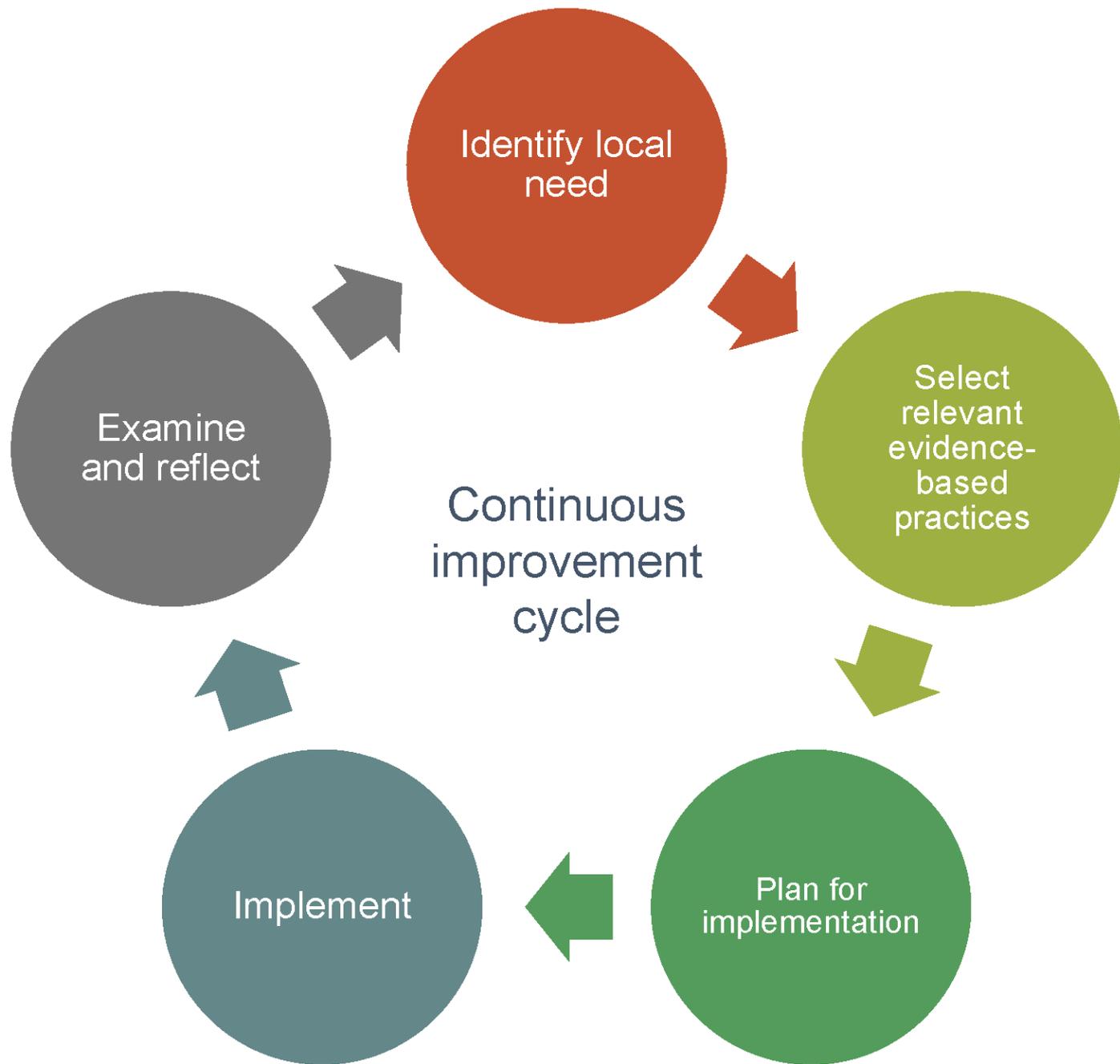


Research and Levels of Evidence

Categories of Research

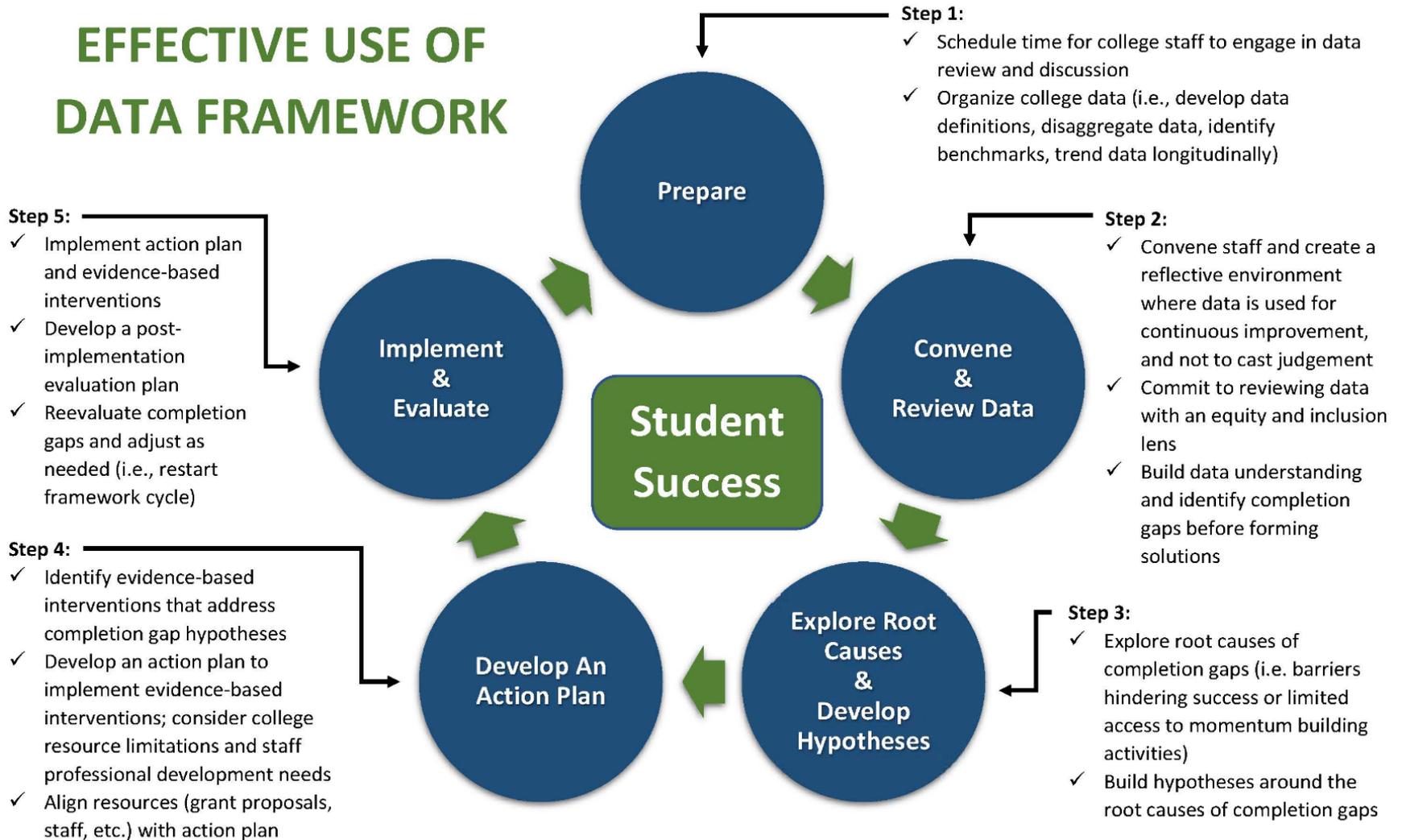


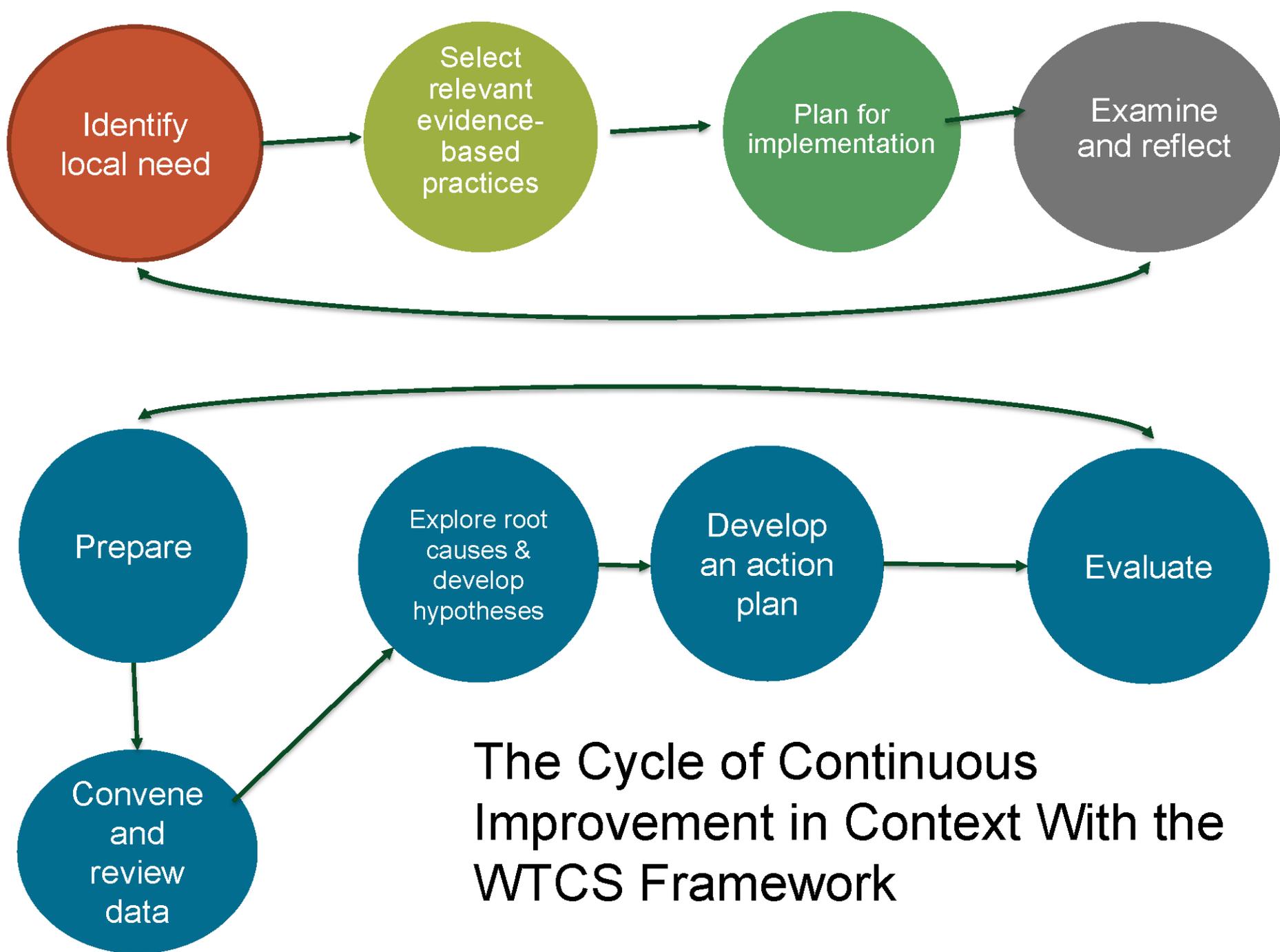
Continuous Improvement Cycle





EFFECTIVE USE OF DATA FRAMEWORK





Activity 2

Work in your group to:

- Identify what category of research takes place in each stage
- Identify what research activities or methods you would employ at each stage

Time for Lunch!





Dominique Bradley

dbradley@air.org