The idea whose time has come?

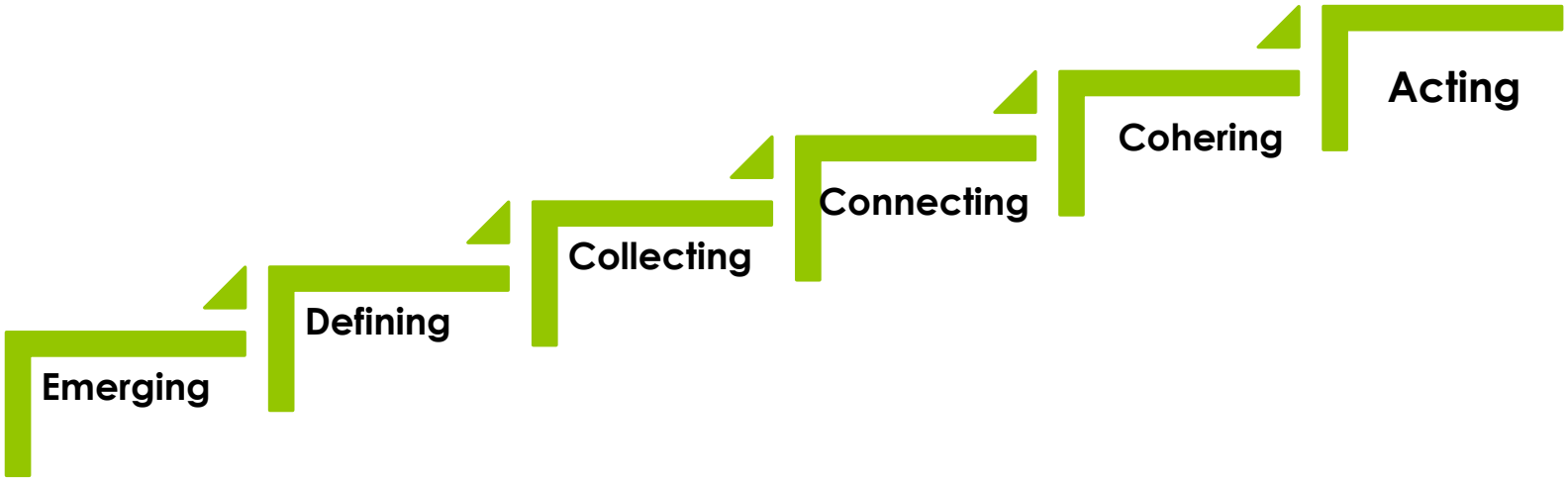
Where to next? Youth Mentoring and public policy

This presentation covers:

1. The way an idea gets momentum
2. The metaphors we use shape the way that we think
3. The stories we tell shape the action
4. Fitting into the current political agenda
5. Creating a new agenda: social investment and collective impact

"Youth mentoring aims to provide a purposeful, structured and trusting relationship that brings young people together with caring individuals who offer guidance, support and encouragement".

1: Gaining momentum



2: Metaphors shape our thinking

Central idea: Growing up (12 years to 24 years)

Poutama

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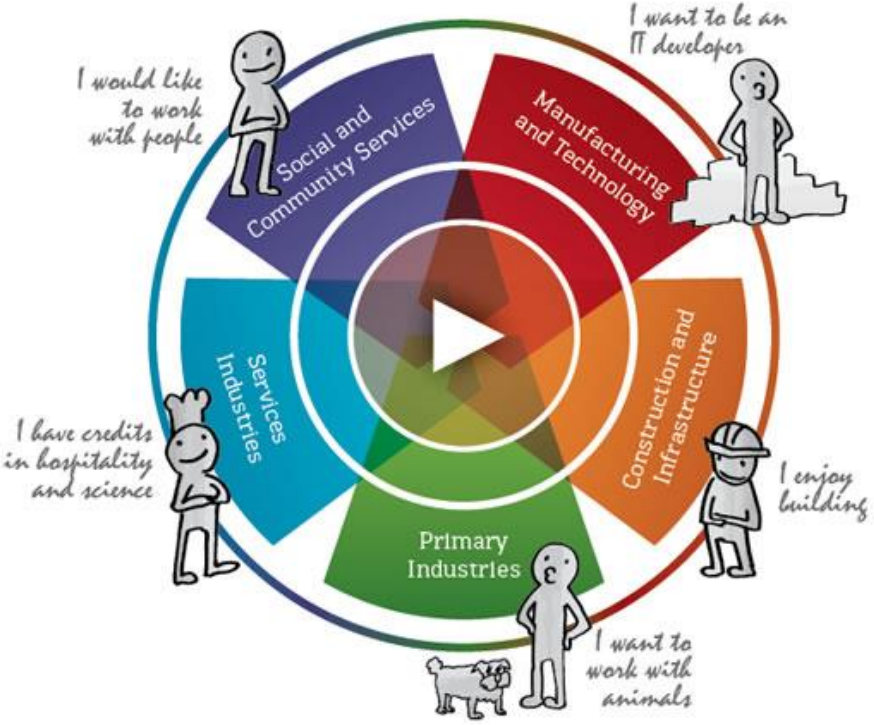
- Traversing, crossing, navigating, negotiating, travelling, journeying, bridging, channeling
- Pathways, passages, channels, bridges, voyages, pipelines, ladders, horizons
- To, from, across, over, through

A public policy breakthrough?



Defining the policy problem

"Youth mentoring aims to provide a purposeful, structured and trusting ***relationship*** *that brings young people together with caring individuals* ***who offer guidance, support and encouragement****".*

Are young people the problem?

3: Causal stories shape action

Schools?
Families?
Poverty?
Ethnicity?
Gender?
Community?

4: Fitting stories to the Policy Agenda…

- Children's Action Plan
- Better Public Service goals

Social investment approach

- New tools
- http://www.bigsocietycapital.com/

Collective impact

- *A focus on place*
- *Common Agenda*
- *Shared Measurement*
- *Mutually Reinforcing Activities*
- *Continuous Communication*
- *Backbone Organization*

"On résiste à l'invasion des armées; on ne résiste pas à l'invasion des idées." –

Victor Hugo, 'Histoire d'un crime,' 1852

- If you don’t know where you’re going, any road will get you there. – Lewis Carroll