HOW WE WORK

IDIA seeks to harness opportunities for collective action, where it is anticipated that collaboration among IDIA members and other partners will lead to additional and complementary impact over and above the important work already being undertaken by individual member agencies. IDIA members work together through three key channels to drive impact:

>>> INFLUENCING
Increasing understanding and visibility of innovation among a wide variety of stakeholders as a path to support sustainable development, including developing country governments, private sector actors and civil society.

>>> COLLABORATING
Sharing data, instruments and experience to develop common platforms for supporting innovation from idea to scale.

>>> ENABLING
Helping to build sustainable innovation ecosystems at the local level by engaging and supporting country governments and institutions that are mobilising domestic resources for development innovation.
In Spring 2020, IDIA members convened to design their biennial strategy for the period July 2020 – June 2020. At the same time, the Covid-19 pandemic began fundamentally shifting global priorities and movements around the world were highlighting deep-rooted biases and power disparities that have for too long underpinned the social, economic and political systems that influence our lives, including the international development sector. The strategy recognises that members are faced with a vastly different landscape in which to plan impactful interventions, with an accompanying resurgence of interest in innovation as a key vehicle for tackling the complex effects of the pandemic and challenging established systems and paradigms.

The strategy is based on three interconnected goals, illustrated in the diagram. Each goal is underpinned by two key outcomes, which are described (right) alongside selected illustrative examples of activities and outputs for year one of the strategy.

**Influencing more inclusive, equitable and sustainable post-COVID futures**
1) Development actors and their partners recognize the different ways innovation has and can be used to predict and respond to complex challenges (including COVID-19) > Research and produce light-touch case studies illustrating the different ways innovation is being used to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.

2) Established systems and paradigms that may be hindering achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda are scrutinised and reimagined to promote more inclusive, equitable and sustainable models > Create a Primer for development actors exploring what systems innovation means and providing guidance on supporting transformative change at country-level.

**Evolving the practice of development innovation**
1) IDIA members innovate internally to better anticipate, adapt and respond to country-level innovation needs and priorities > Engage agencies to curate a menu of tried and tested operational innovation policy and process improvements, and an inventory of innovative gender data-related tools.

2) IDIA members catalyse new partnerships to accelerate progress around scaling and shared innovation objectives > Research partnership opportunities in support of GIGA, a global initiative to connect every school to the Internet and every young person to information, opportunity and choice.

**Accelerating scaling and strengthening local ecosystems**
1) New approaches to supporting government uptake and scaling of innovation are designed and tested in LMIcs > Design and test agency facilitation strategies for government uptake of MNCH innovations in E. Africa.

2) New models strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of local innovation ecosystems are designed and tested with local actors > Synthesize global learning around the design and effectiveness of different initiatives aiming to strengthen local innovation ecosystems in diverse contexts and develop a framework for measuring innovation ecosystem maturity.