

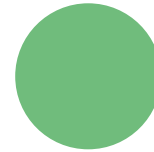
STRATEGIC LEARNING PLAYBOOK

A researcher's guide to our
collective learning journey

OUR TEAM



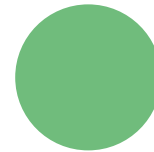
Strategic Learning Lead
Candice Groenewald
HSRC



Strategic Learning
Liaison
Zodwa Mbuyazi
NRF



Strategic Learning
Researcher
Hayley Abrahams
HSRC

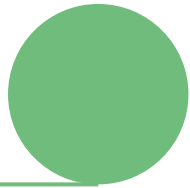


Research Impact
Specialist
Irene Ochala
PAG



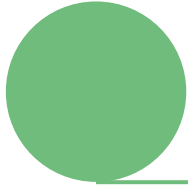


OUR ROLE



To gather **learnings** and **evidence** on

- a) the value of the Relational Wellbeing approach to research, understand and improve the lives of young people in the Global South.
- b) how to improve the Relational Wellbeing Framework in an applied way
- c) the impact of the u'GOOD Research Programme through our ToC



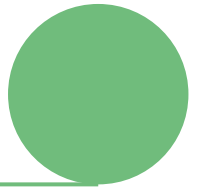
OUR APPROACH

Developmental Evaluation as a methodological framework as it aligns with our **relational working** perspective and interests in **continuous strategic learning, partnership** and **collective** exploration about the value of Relational Wellbeing (RWB) Framework.

GATHERING LEARNINGS



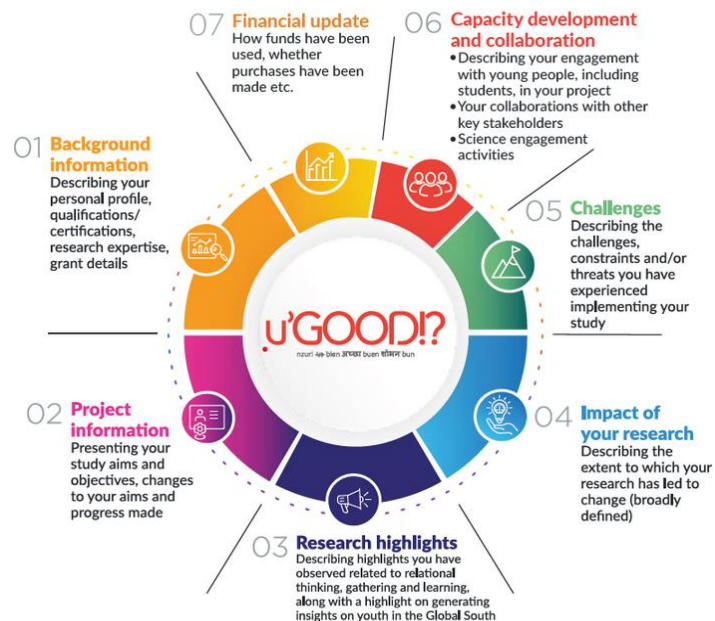
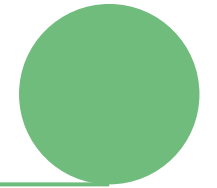
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS



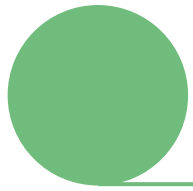
- Will be submitted via the **NRF portal**
- These reports will gather **evidence** and **learnings** about the value of the RWB framework and the implications of your projects for understanding and improving the lives of youth in the Global South.
- **Training** and a **guidance document** will be provided to help you navigate the APRs



ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS



- **Background** and **project information** (aims and objectives, amendments, progress)
- **Research highlights** related to relational thinking, gathering and learning, along with a highlight on generating insights on youth in the Global South
- **Impact of your research**- how has your research led to change (broadly defined)
- **Challenges**, constraints and/or threats you have experienced implementing your study
- **Capacity development** and **collaboration** with young people, including students
- Your collaborations with other **key stakeholders**, including science engagement
- **Financial update**



360-DEGREE FEEDBACK

What it is: A short, annual online survey

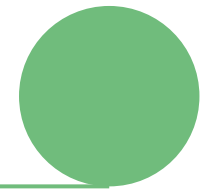
Why it matters: It is a form of “peer appraisal” that gives us actionable insights to improve how we support you and manage the programme

Your role: Share your honest and constructive perspective. Your feedback on our activities (webinars, CoP sessions etc.) and interactions helps us foster a culture of continuous learning and improvement at the programme level

Example question: “Thinking of how the u’GOOD programme is operationalised, what should u’GOOD start doing to improve relational working?”



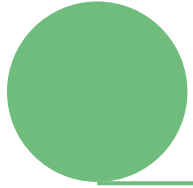
CONFERENCE ENGAGEMENT



What it is: Annual gatherings where you will present your work and participate in facilitated group dialogues

Why it matters: Our annual conferences, are key moments for collective learning, networking and sense-making. They move beyond standard presentations to create spaces for deep, collaborative dialogue.

Your role: Prepare presentations on your project's progress and impact, and come ready to actively participate in group discussions (World cafe, ToC session, CoP engagements) to co-create knowledge



MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE STORIES

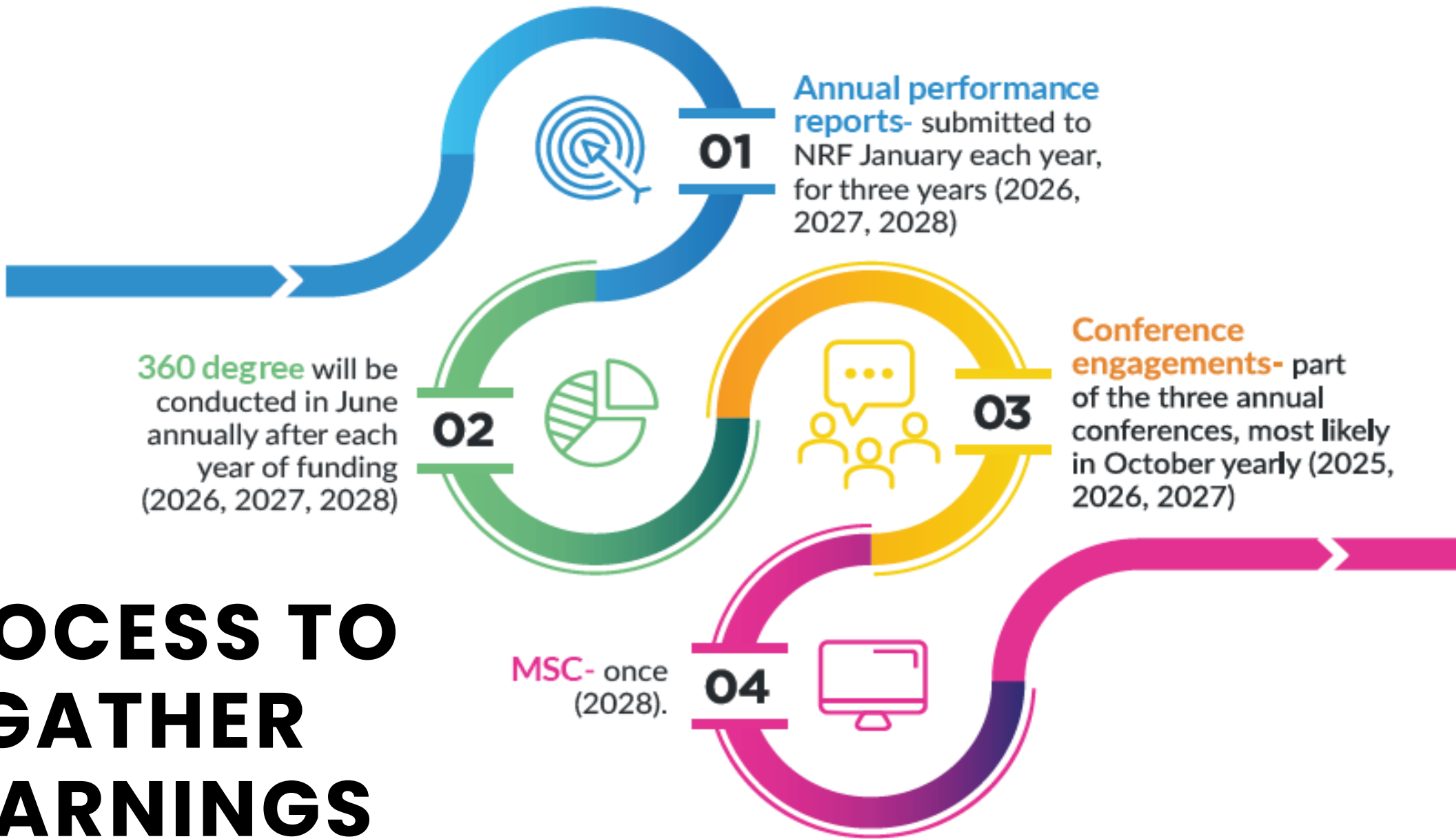
What it is: A participatory, story-based method designed to capture these deep, transformative and often unexpected changes This activity will be facilitated by our four thematic leads in the final year.

Why it matters: It allows us to look beyond pre-defined indicators to understand the intangible and emergent outcomes and impact of your work

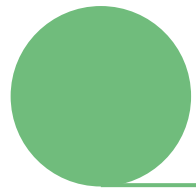
Your role: You will be asked to reflect on your project and share a descriptive narrative on changes you have observed as a result of your work. Stories will be discussed within thematic groups to identify the most powerful examples of change

Core prompt: “What has been the most significant change you have experienced or observed as a result of employing the RWB framework?”





PROCESS TO GATHER LEARNINGS



OUR LEARNING PATHWAY TO IMPACT

Each tool in the SLE toolkit is designed to feed into a larger, collective learning process steered by four core questions:

- **Relational thinking:** What models and theories are being applied?
- **Relational gathering:** What methodologies are being used?
- **Relational working:** What collaborative practices are being employed?
- **Empirical evidence:** What new insights about youth wellbeing are being generated?

The learnings and evidence will help us achieve one overarching impact:

- The realisation of **meaningful improvements** in the circumstances and prospects of young people in urban and peri-urban settings in the Global South.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS