



GALI

Global Accelerator Learning Initiative

Defining Success for your Accelerator Programs



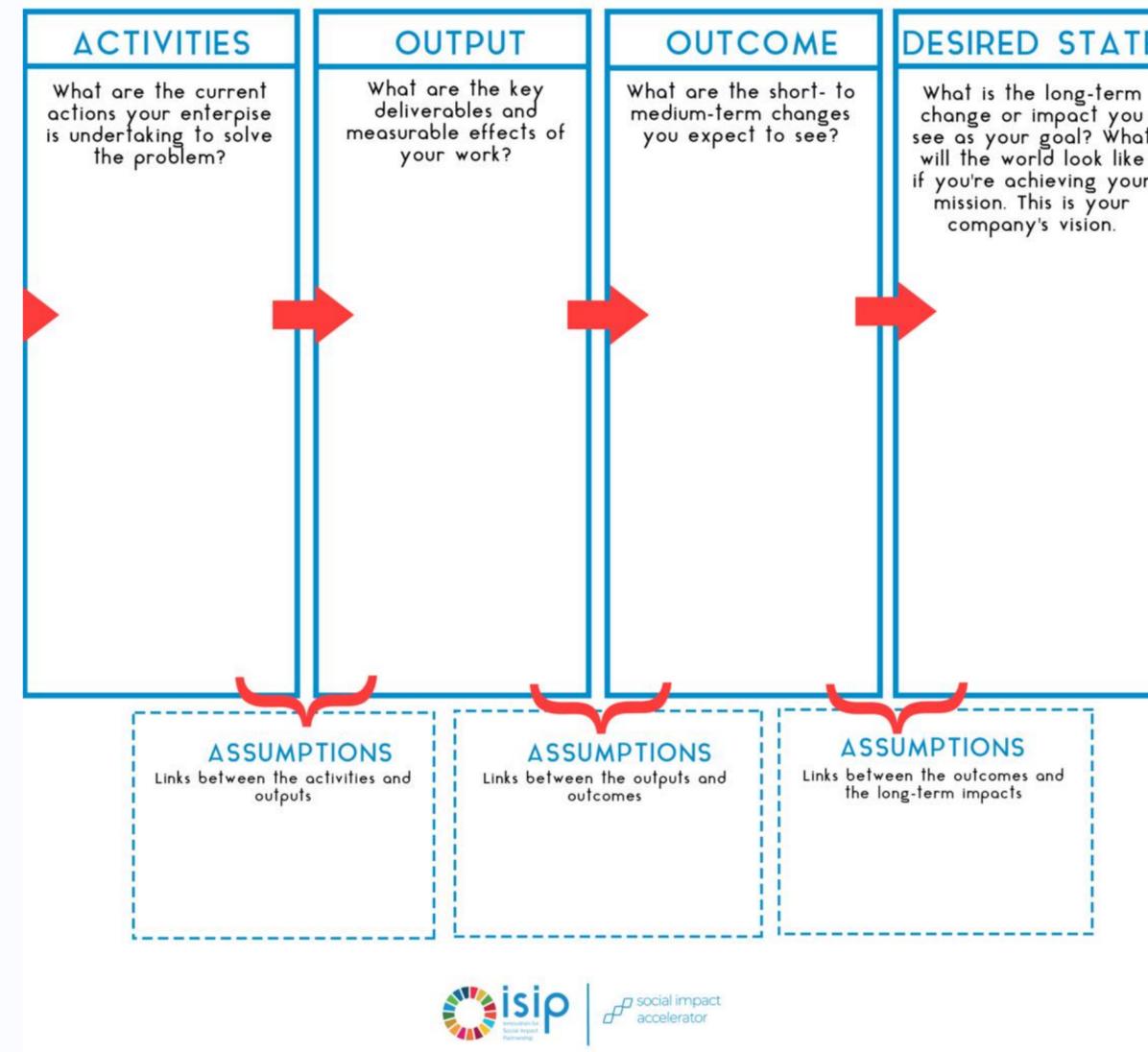
What is a Theory of Change?

A Theory of Change is simply an articulation of how your activities will lead to tangible change in the world. Theories of Change are often represented visually through a “results chain” that shows the logical progression from activities to immediate results, and then from these immediate results to long-term impact.

A traditional Theory of Change often starts with *activities* and then show *outputs*, *outcomes*, and ultimately the *impact* (i.e. the desired state) that you hope to achieve.

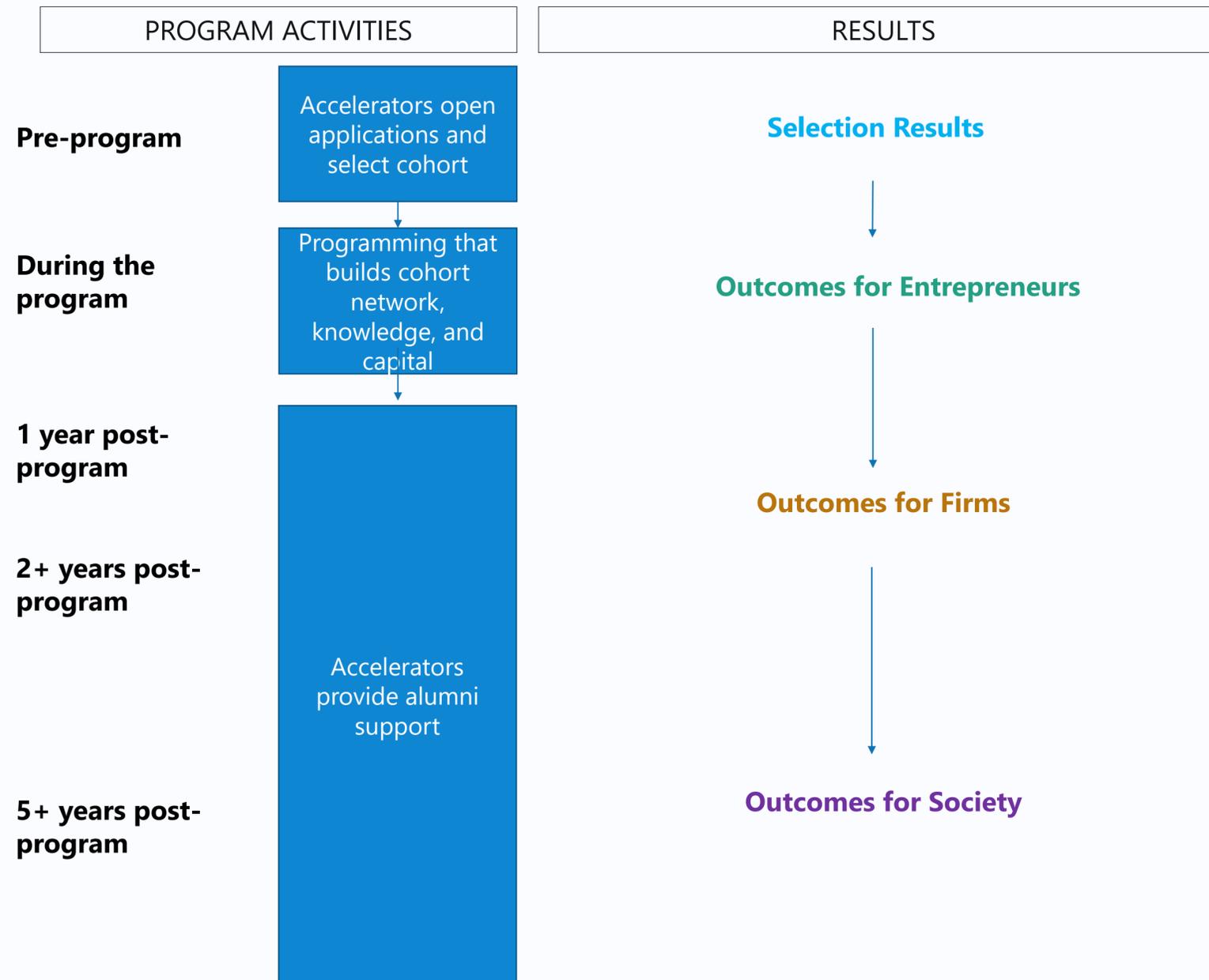
Theory of Change Structure

From the Innovation for Social Impact Partnership (<https://www.isip-ph.com/blog/toc-basics>)

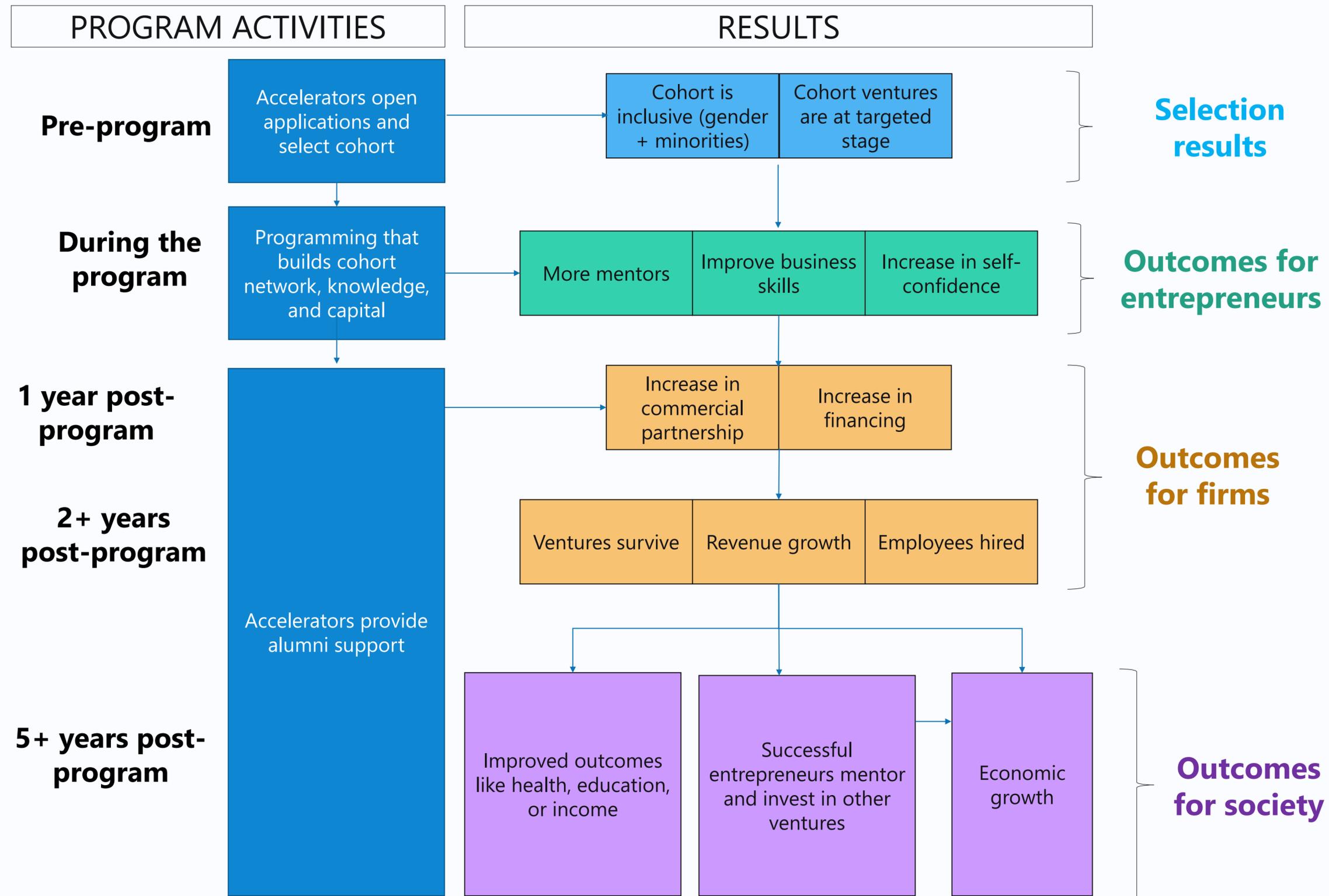


How can I create a Theory of Change for my accelerator?

You can map out the activities, outputs, outcomes, and impact of your program onto a traditional Theory of Change structure. However, GALI has found that it can also be useful to think about the Theory of Change for accelerators as a chain of results alongside the stages of the program and for the different categories of beneficiaries. This allows for a clear articulation of how and when different groups benefit from the accelerator's work.



Theory of Change for Acceleration - Example



What do I do with my Theory of Change?

Once you have a Theory of Change that clearly articulates the results you hope to achieve, you can more easily select and track meaningful metrics of success.

You can check out the “Developing a Data Plan” section of the GALI Performance site for how to think about your outcomes in the context of your specific data needs, and move from outcomes to selecting indicators.

For more resources on Theories of Change, see:

<https://www.isip-ph.com/blog/toc-basics>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dpb4AGT684U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHLs503L5Lw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtMRMKFmDm4>

