The Benefits of Community-Based Research: The CED CHOICE MATRIX – A Path Finding Tool

EDAM - Engaging in Opportunity
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Gimli

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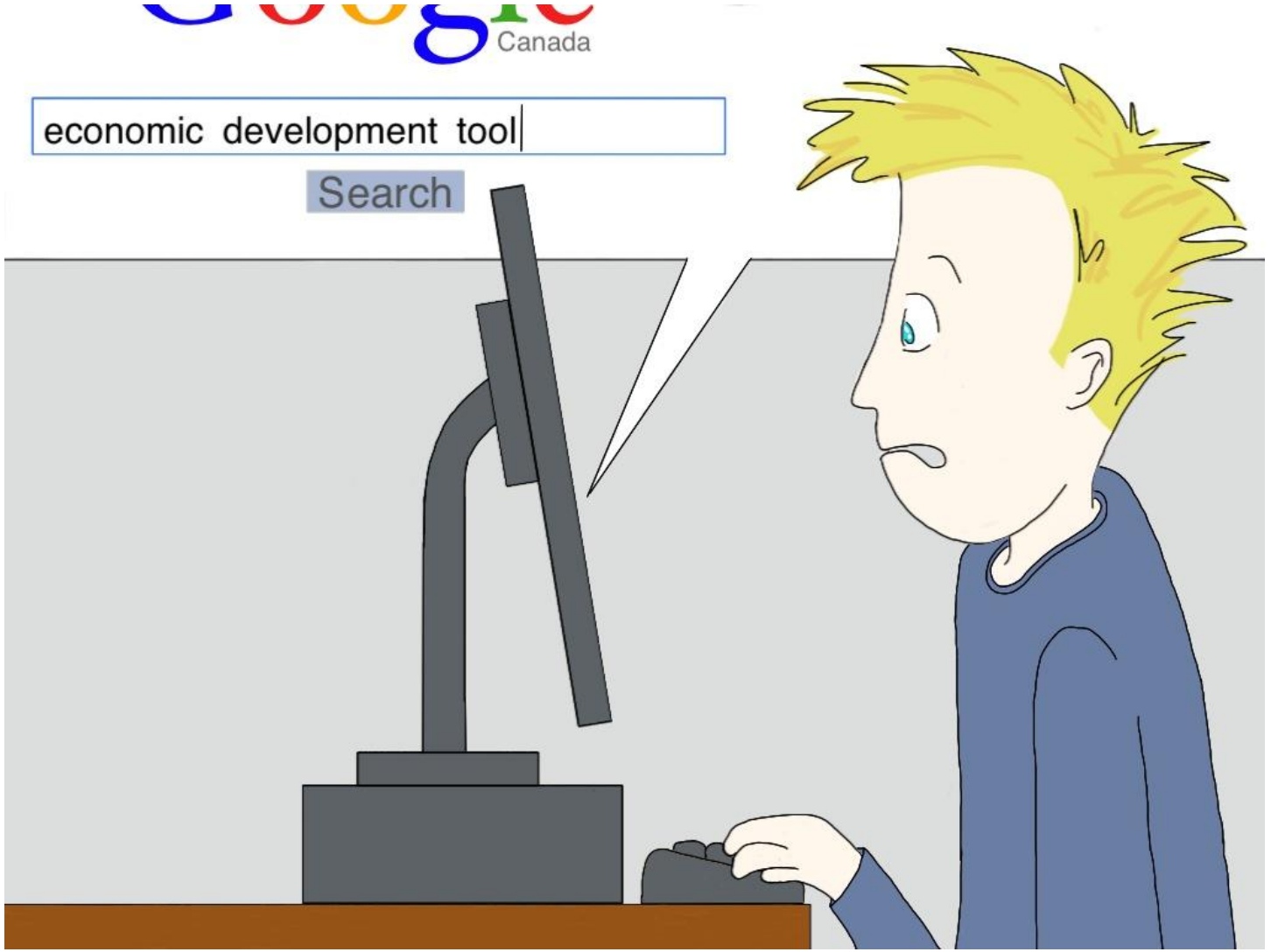
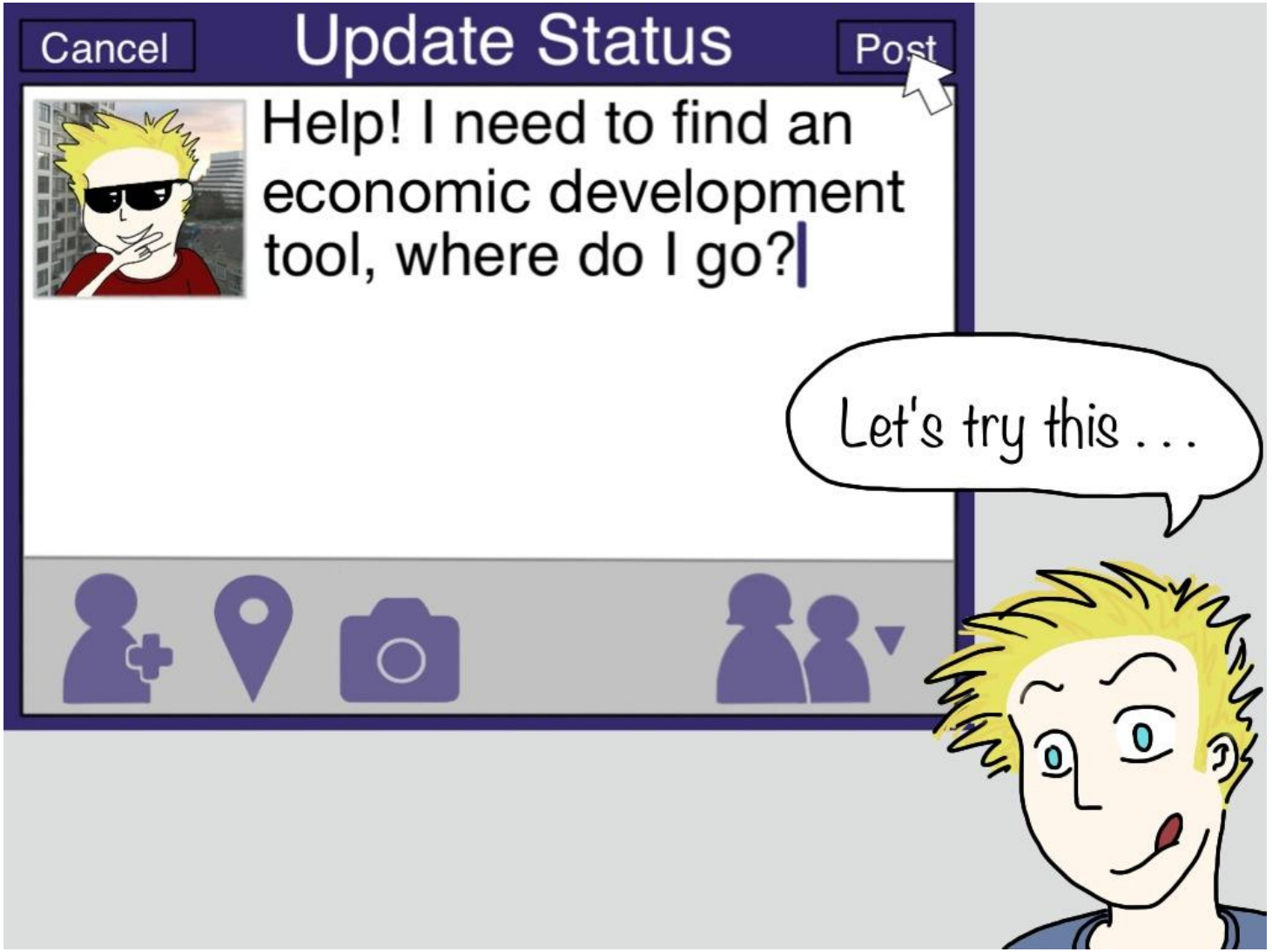
Presentation Overview

- CED Pathfinder for Communities - overview
- Practical Problems in finding the right CED Tools
- Results of the Community Research Sessions
- CED CHOICE Matrix – highlights
- Reflections, Questions, Suggestions


Canada
economic development tool
Search

239 MILLION hits ! ! !
I'll never find the tool I want . . .


Cancel
Update Status
Post
Help! I need to find an economic development tool, where do I go?
Let's try this . . .

Help! I need to find an economic development tool, where do I go?

Like · Comment · 3

ha ha, sucks to be you!

Like · Comment · 5 · 2

Been there. Took me forever to find what I need.

Like · Comment · 1

Guys, use this site, it's great: cm.beyondthecube.ca

Like · Comment · 239

THE CHOICE MATRIX
PEOPLE
GREEN
GROW
SEARCH
PHASES
People
Green
Grow
Search
Phases
Awesome! This collection looks great!
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CED Pathfinder Project

- Project – Oct 2010 – Oct 2012
- Stakeholders:
  - CCEDNet
  - CFM; CFWR
  - CDEM
  - **EDAM**
  - MAFRI
  - RCS
  - Health in Common
  - RDI
- Community Research Groups
  - CDEM (Somerset, Notre Dame)
  - CF - Winnipeg River (Pinawa, Beausejour, Syemourville)

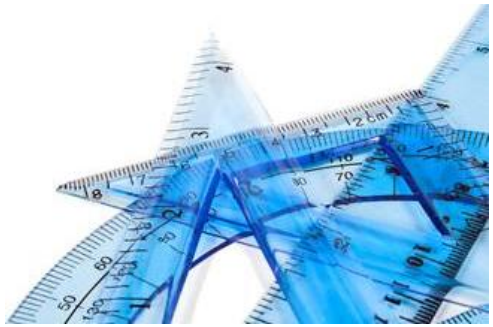
CED Pathfinder Project

Project Objectives:

- Taxonomy of CED Tools
- Index of Community Readiness for CED
- CED Pathways Choice Matrix
- Community-based research sessions
- Discussion Paper on CED Tool Design

Project Phases

- Research Phases – 2010
- Community Testing and Revision Phase – 2011
- Dissemination Phase – 2012

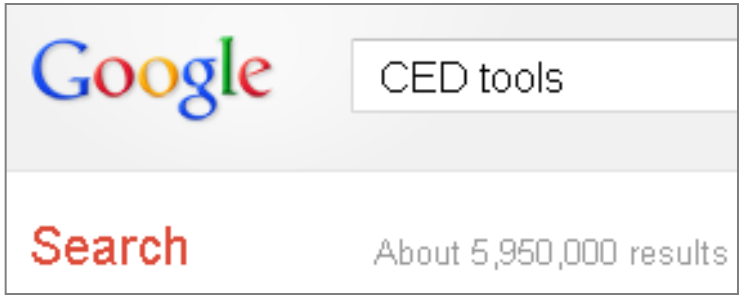


Practical Problems

- Too many projects to do with too few resources (human & financial)
- Job responsibilities more complex
  - More decision makers
  - More stakeholders & citizens
  - More interested and values
- Response time short, higher risk of a mistake
- *NEED: to work 'smarter' & benefit from experiences of others*

Practical Problems

- Too many CED websites with no reliable way of finding a useful tool
- Too many Tools
- Too many Resources, Case Studies, Reports



Practical Problem

Sample "Toolboxes"

- CCEDNet
  - 2950 items - tools, books, videos, reports **180 tools**
  - 39 categories: E/F, format, yr, title, keyword
- Cdn Centre for Community Renewal (CCRC)
  - 1130 items - tools, books, videos, reports **50 tools**
  - 5 categories: territorial initiatives, Economic sectors, Enterprise, Finance, Marco trends
- Grow Our Region
  - 400 item - tools, best practices, case studies, reports **150 tools**
  - 8 categories: Analysis, Capacity, Enterprise, Leading, Learning, Planning, Sectors, Strategies
- Foundation Centre (US)
  - 167 items - tools, books, videos, reports **167 tools**
  - 3 categories: Sponsor, Approach, Sector
- Community Toolbox (U of Kansas)
  - 409 items - tools, books, videos, reports **319 tools**
  - 3 categories: solve problem, promising approaches, do the work
- Sustainability and Environment (Australia)
  - 68 items - tools, books, videos, reports **68 tools**
  - 5 categories; project context, community context, project parameters, teams, alpha list

Practical Problem

- What's a "Tool" and what's not:
  - CED Tool is: Any guide, worksheet, checklist, manual, "how-to" or process in text, audio or video formats that is focused on guiding the user through a CED activity
  - a CED Resource is: Any set "facts", data, information, knowledge, experience, that can be transformed or put to use by tools.

Practical Problem

- What happens when you can’t find the special tool for your project?
  - Open your own CED Toolbox to select from the tools you know
  - Make a familiar tool work in a new situation
  - Phone a EDO for help

Practical Problem

No perfect way for organizing tools:

- Expert centred (perfection, power)
- User informed (Microsoft office drop down menus)

- Friendly disorder, mashing (Amazon)

- New digital disorder (D. Weinberger, 2007)
  - Flickr 400M photo, 1M/day, no professional catalogers, users make-up labels
  - US library of Congress 8000 new categories/yr, 7000 books/day

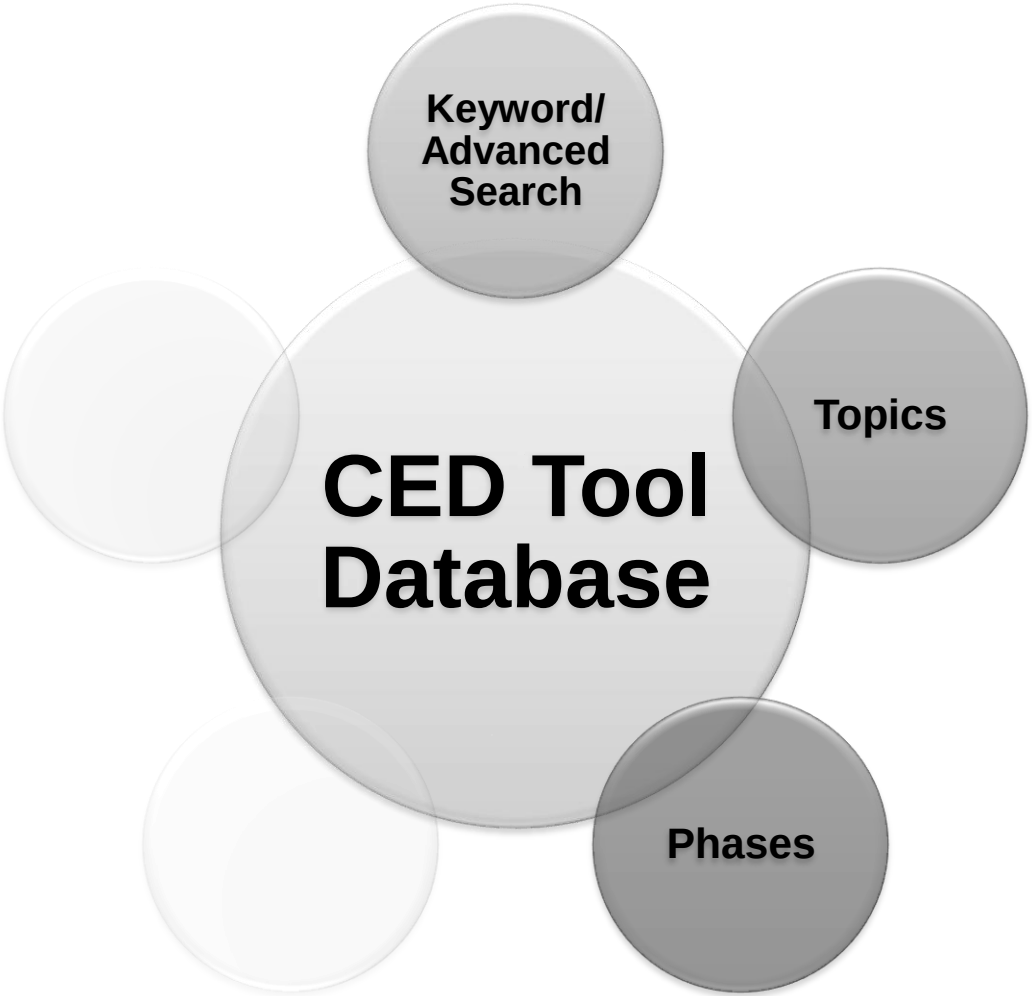
Community Research Results

- CHOICE MATRIX beta-site
  - Tool Information Card
  - Tool Review
  - Multiple tool search pathways
- Database of 240+ CED tools
  - in English & French

Solution

- Practitioners wanted more than a report. They wanted a solution:
  - Web site
  - Inventory of tools they use
  - Categories meaningful to them
  - Clear, simple descriptions
  - Review / Comment Section for posting opinions about tools

Website Highlights



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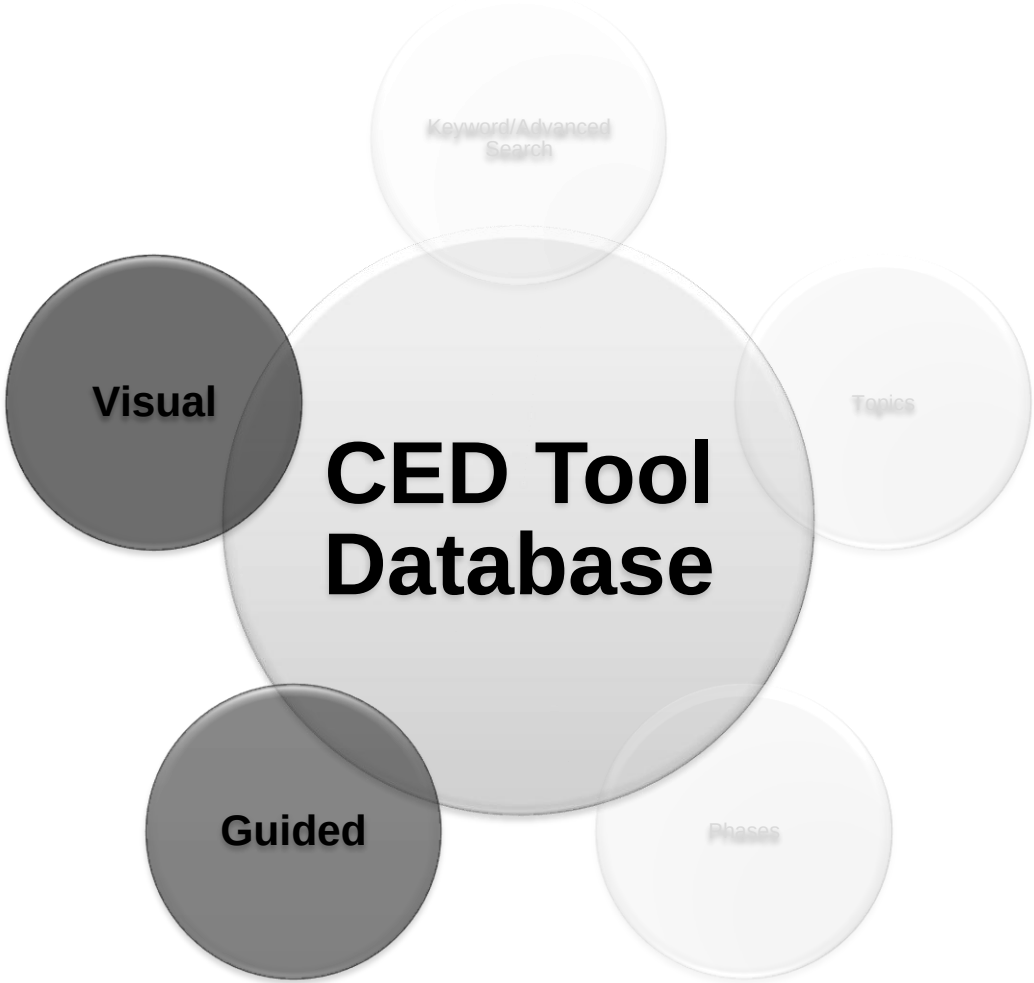

Website Highlights

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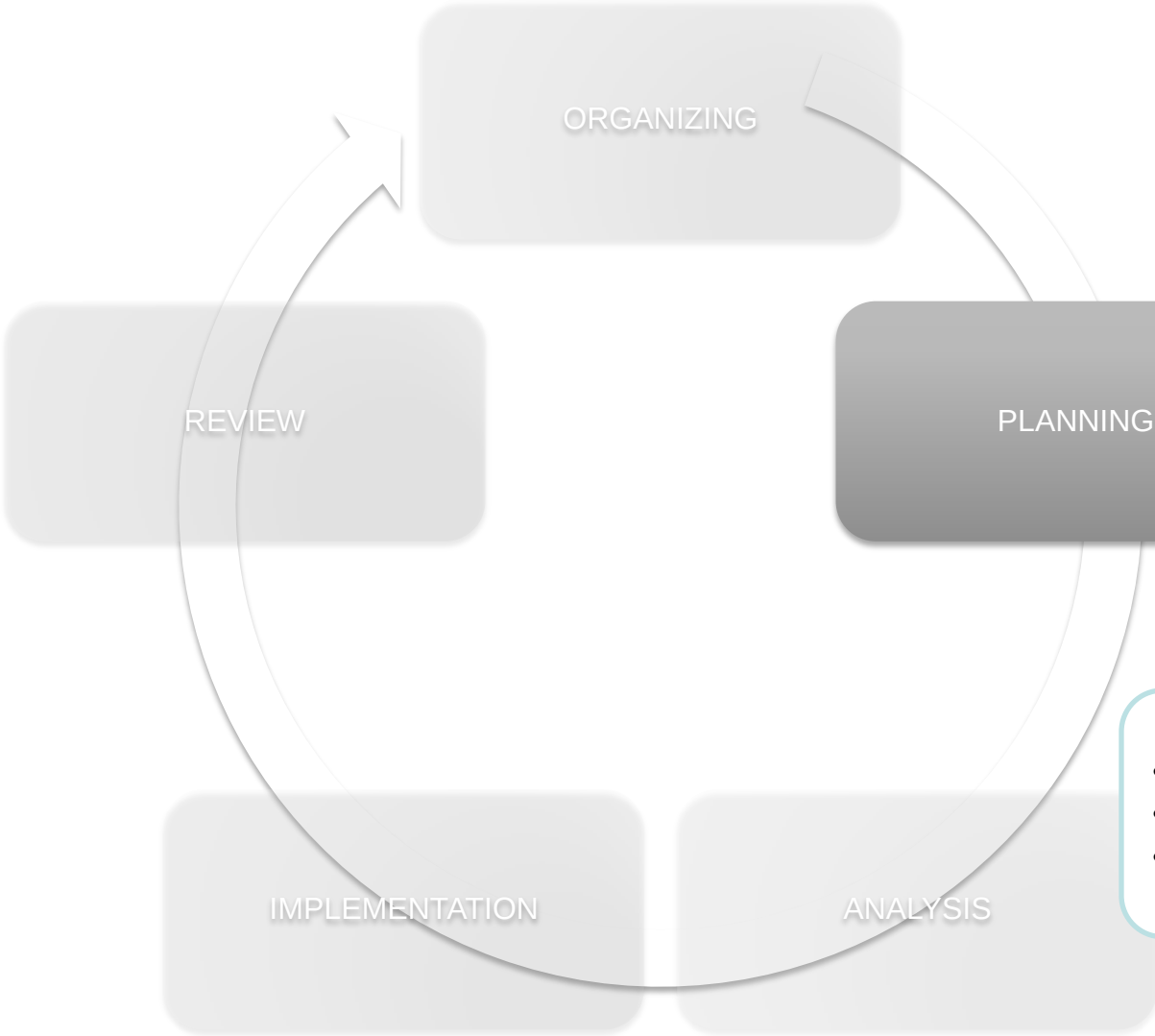
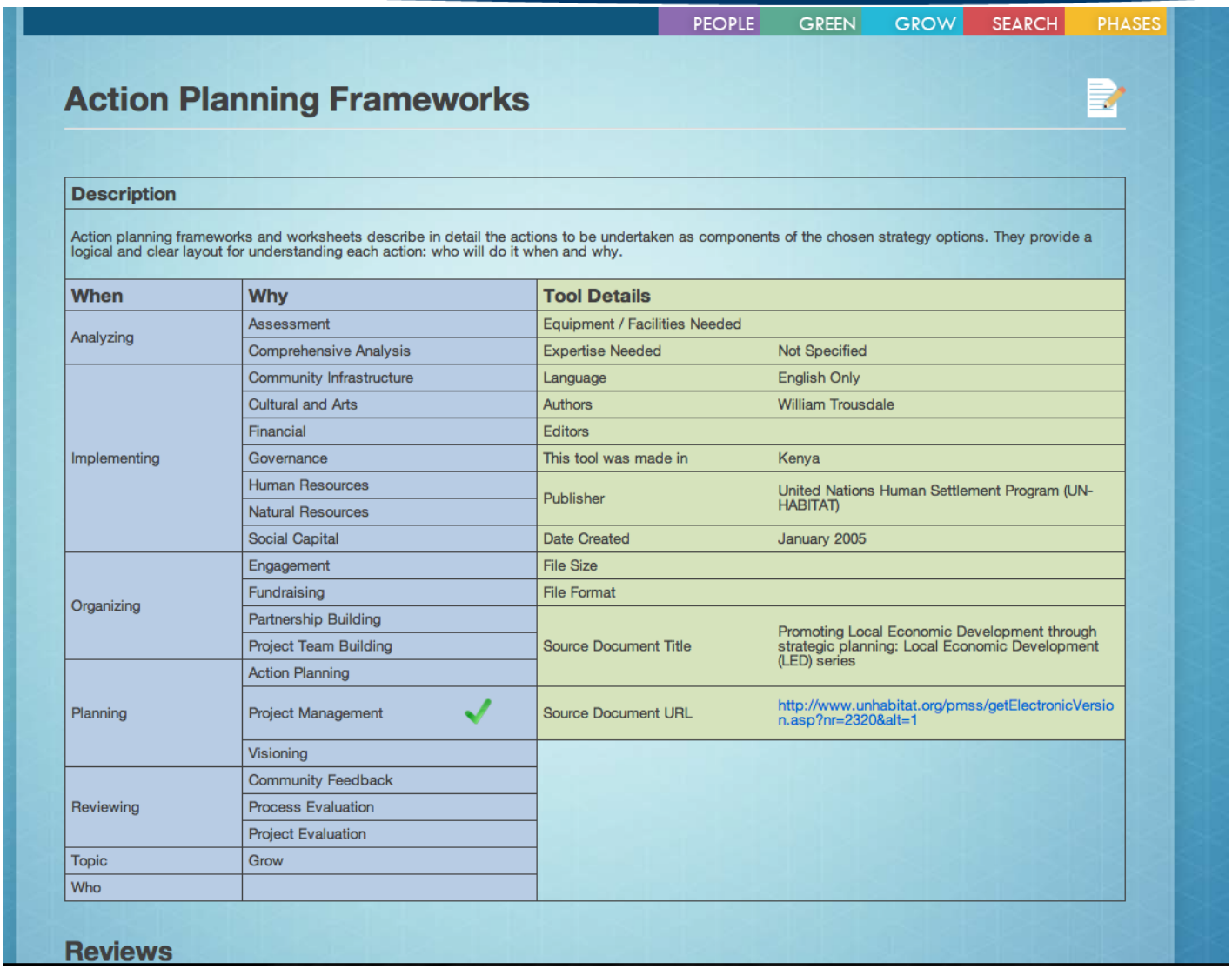


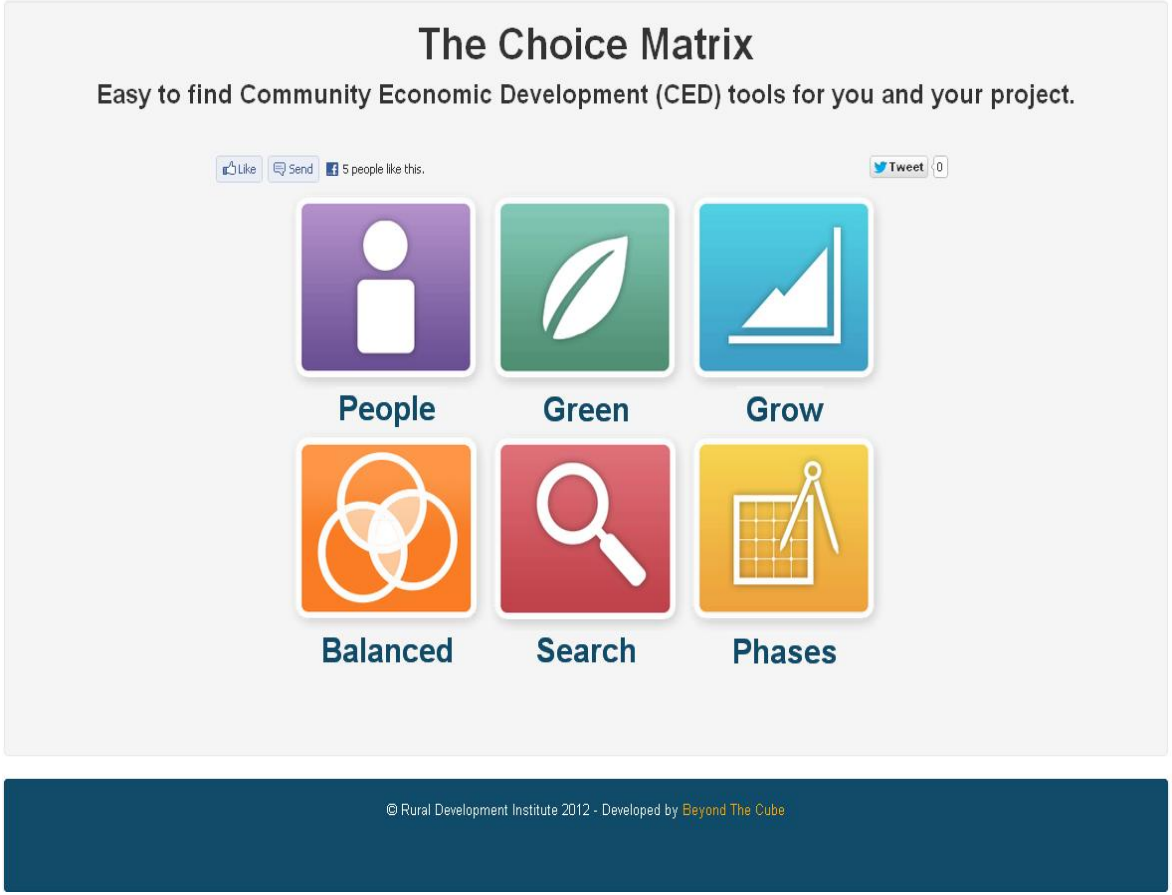
Purposes

- Visioning
- Action Planning
- Project Management

Website Highlights



Next steps

- More CED tools
- Different suites of tools

CED | Crime Prevention | Northern Development | Social Enterprise | Immigration