



# Innovation Management: Turning Ideas into Solutions



In the past, government and innovation were synonymous. Government broke the sound barrier, put a man on the moon, and created the Internet. Armed with disruptive technologies, like the Internet, commercial innovation has taken new forms and risen to new levels, outpacing government innovation on many levels. But government innovation is not dead. Agencies are actively challenging longstanding ways of working and generating ideas to fundamentally change how public services are delivered.

At ICF, we believe that ideas are at the center of innovation, but ideas aren't enough. Effective innovation requires a process to continuously inspire new ideas while efficiently moving these ideas from concept to implementation in order to create value. To accelerate and sustain innovation, agencies need to implement robust innovation management processes and structures that address ongoing engagement strategies, criteria for innovation vetting and funding, active governance, project support, and knowledge management.

Our results-oriented methodology, IDEAS+, is based on engaging people, developing connections, and facilitating exploration. We work closely with clients to design and implement the right processes and structures to drive ideas to value at scale and enhance your culture of innovation. Throughout this process, we provide consistent interaction, evolve ideas into opportunities, and speed the delivery of value to the customer.



With IDEAS+, you gain access to a comprehensive methodology for fostering a robust culture of innovation and driving new value to your mission.

While innovation holds great promise for generating value, it is also difficult to execute well, with speed, at scale, and sustainably over time. At ICF, we believe it is critical to establish and regularly revisit your strategic approach to innovation to ensure alignment with your mission. To maintain this strategic alignment between innovation initiatives and your mission, as part of IDEAS+ we work with your leadership to develop and communicate your innovation program's:

- **Vision:** *Where do you want to go?*

Your innovation program vision ensures top-level alignment with the broader mission and provides guidance for the overall effort as it evolves.

- **Values:** *What things are most important to you?*

Your innovation program values define what aspects of innovation matter most to the mission for prioritizing activities, investments, and decision criteria.

- **Methods:** *What are you going to do to get there?*

Your innovation program methods are the processes and structures that will be used to generate ideas and take them to implementation at scale while accounting for feasibility within the organization.

- **Obstacles:** *What could prevent you from being successful?*

Your innovation program obstacles are the most likely barriers that could prevent initiatives from generating new value to the mission and require active mitigation planning.

- **Measures:** *How will you know if you are successful?*

Your innovation program measures are the quantitative and qualitative assessments of value created and improvement opportunities that are essential to operating a sustainable program.

Are you ready to turn ideas into solutions that drive value and enhance your culture of innovation?

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to learn more about how ICF's  
IDEAS+ innovation management  
framework can help.

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