

Social innovation through social enterprise



THE YOUNG FOUNDATION

China Social Enterprise Study Visit 2007

Simon Tucker ~ Associate Director

Young Foundation: 50 years of social innovation



Michael Young: 'Probably the world's most successful entrepreneur of social enterprises ...'

Prof. D. Bell, Harvard University

Research

- Mapping Britain's Needs
- Understanding social innovation – Social Silicon Valleys, In and Out of Sync
- Global training and advocacy: China, India, USA, Singapore, Australia, UK, WEF, and across Europe

Local Innovation

- Collaborations with local authorities to test innovative interventions or remove barriers to innovation, e.g Local Wellbeing Project

Creation of social enterprises

- Founded or instigated over 60 social ventures...
 - Open University (22 countries), International Alert, Which?, School for Social Entrepreneurs
- Formalised in 2005 as Launchpad partnered with NESTA, Innovation Unit, Edge
- Currently focused on education and health

What is social innovation?

Social innovation = new ideas that work to address social goals

Cultural and intellectual innovation *Policy innovation* Public service transformation *Dissemination of 'next practice'* Fiscal innovation *Philanthropic innovation* **Social enterprise** and other social ventures

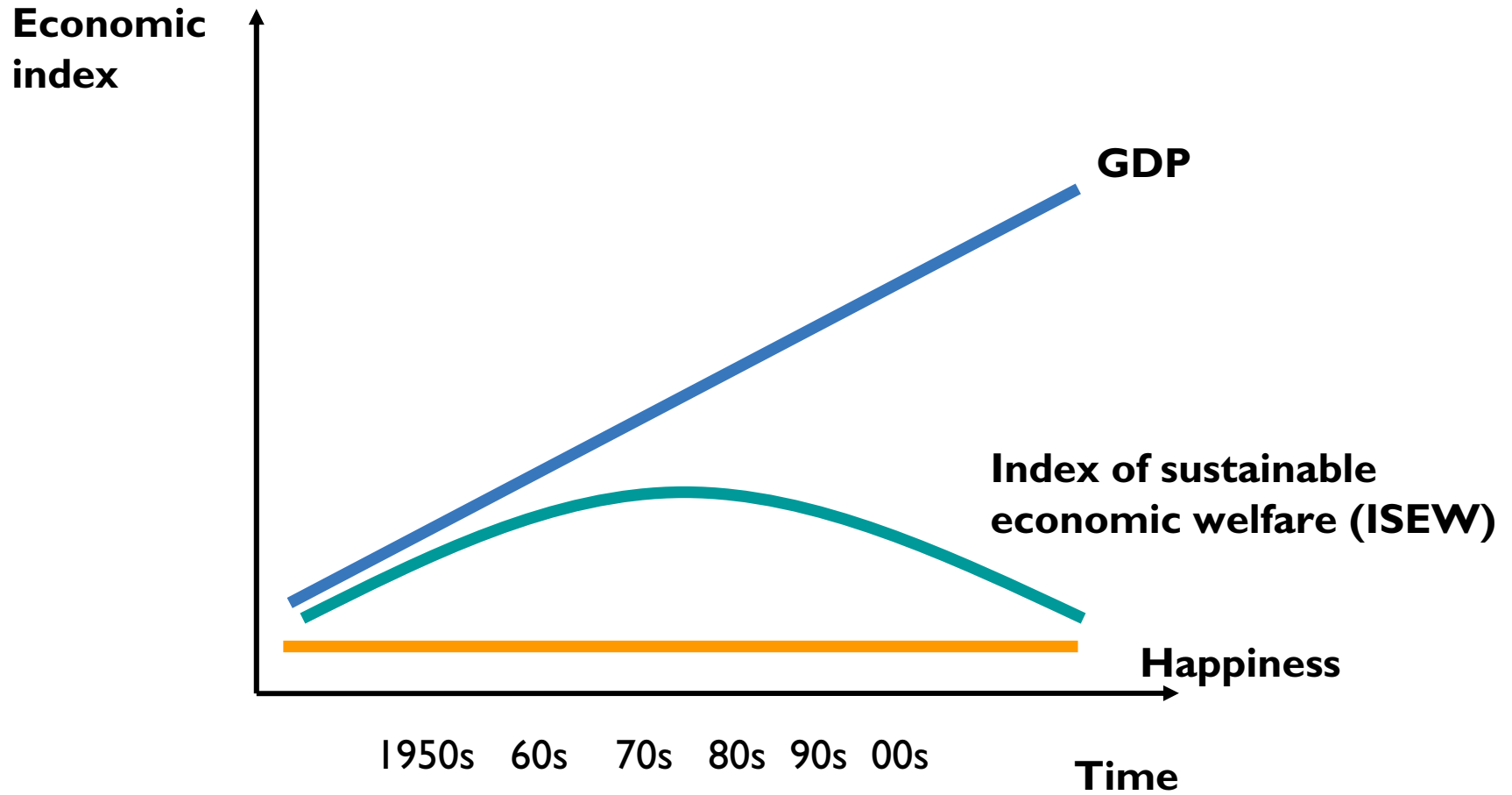


Global need for social innovation



- Climate change
- Alienation of youth
- Poverty and exclusion
- Rapid urbanisation
- Ageing and isolation
- Diversity and conflict
- Chronic disease and disability

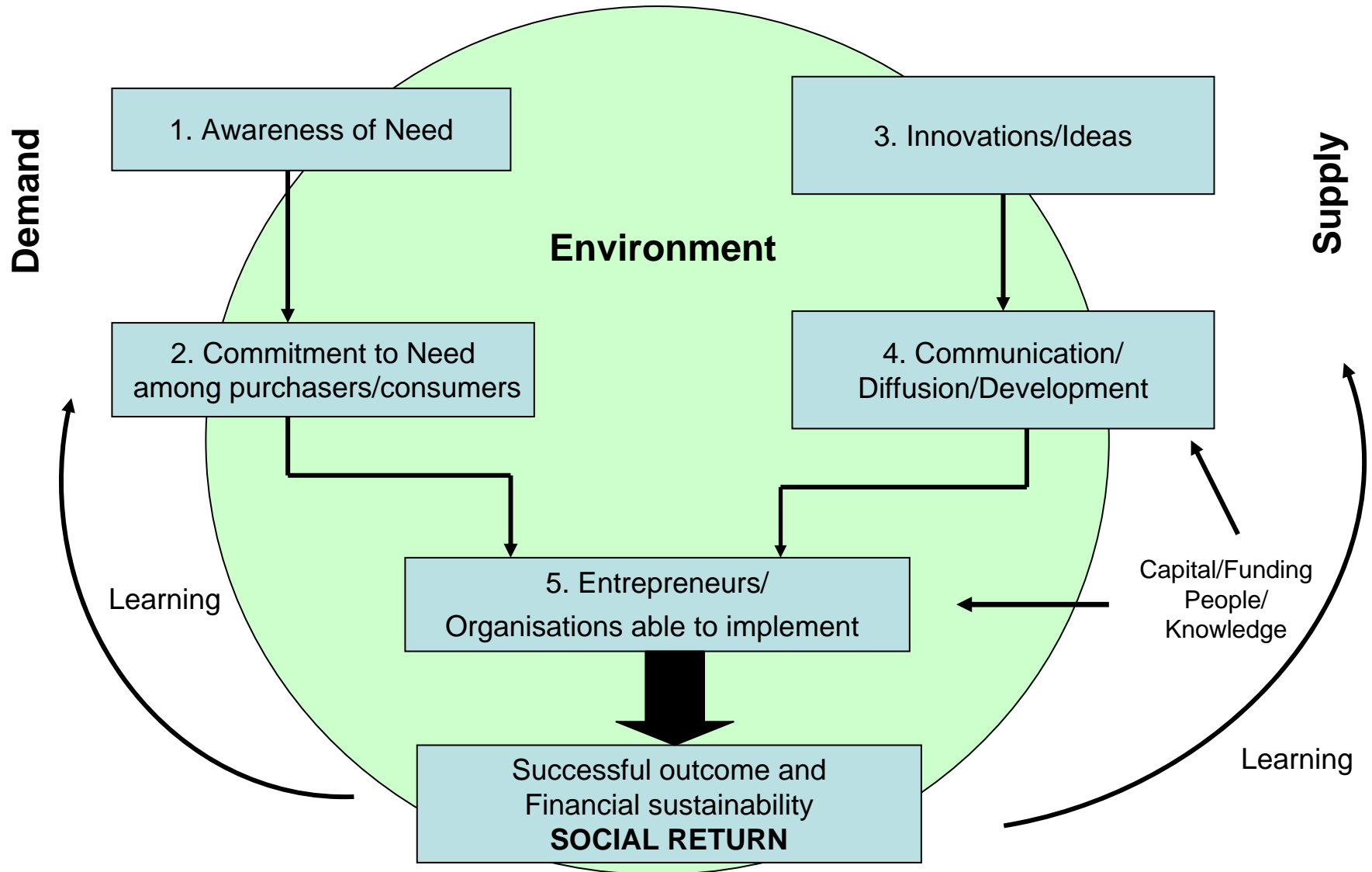
Innovation needed



Social enterprises: vehicles for social innovation

- Generating a range of options for the future
- Responsive to needs of community over producer interests (the hospital carparks phenomenon)
- Community self-help (volunteerism, open source)
- Attracting talented leaders, nurturing specialist cultures
- Protect from tinkering
- Freedom for exploration (vs efficiency)
- Protect from vested interests in early days

Alignments required for successful social innovation



How social enterprises are not always innovative: the challenges

- Social enterprise as a marketing strategy
- Public sector spin-outs: same people, same jobs, less accountability
- Grassroots enterprises: reinventing the wheel without the necessary skills
- Scaling up - Founder syndrome, funding and large scale delivery



- An early stage social venture fund, we seek to **design, develop** and **launch** new ventures in the fields of **health** and **education**.
- Our emphasis is on **social impact** through **innovation, sustainability** and **scalability**;
- An **'inside outside'** organisation

The Social Innovation Exchange

six: a global network of networks, resources and ideas for innovation

search... go



social innovation exchange

FIND

by region...

by field..

by keyword...

Go!

LIBRARY

NEWS + BLOGS
ARTICLES + RESOURCES
THINKERS IN RESIDENCE

EVENTS

The Tallberg Forum
28 June - 01 July
A gathering of highly diverse people bringing together a broad range of perspectives in the Swedish village of... [more]

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FEATURED PROJECT



Launchpad

Launchpad is a social innovation unit which develops new ideas and helps to turn them into practice, focusing on creating new models and enterprises to meet social needs. Launchpad exploits current research and frontline experience with practical work to address the challenges faced by today's society.

Read more >>

technology public policy **economy** design health social innovation **cities** education democracy business futures

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THE YOUNG FOUNDATION

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Social Innovation eXchange (SIX)



- Global network of networks to promote and accelerate social innovation
- Connecting people & organisations involved in social innovation
- Cities, design, technology, sustainable housing, communities ...

What will it achieve?

Of my News INTERNATIONAL



- Connecting people and organisations
- Promoting and sharing existing resources
- Working on theory & ideas
- Developing teaching & learning materials
- Identifying new areas for research and practical action

Government and social enterprise: friend or foe?

- Regulation
- Value the difference: outcomes over process
 - Temptation to micromanage
 - Innovation zones and the 'power to innovate'
- Innovators' dilemma
- Funding
 - Funds for rapid learning
 - Full cost recovery
- Incubators