

## Applying the strategic triangle, evaluation plan, and data road map

**Information about exercise:** The goal of this exercise is to use data to prioritize three projects in order of best public value to least public value. You will review information about each project and will consider what key stakeholder groups value and how the project aligns with those values. Your group will use this information to analyze how the project creates public value. Based on your consideration of each of the points of the strategic triangle, prioritize the projects. Which one delivers the best public value and therefore deserves to be number one on the list of funding priorities?

**Step 1:** Review READSquared, OverDrive magazines, and School OverDrive projects listed in the funding memo.

- Re-read the summary in the memo
- Review the logic model for each project
- Review any additional data, if needed
- Talk to Cara (for both OverDrive projects) and Amelea (for READSquared) if you have questions about the projects

**Step 2:** Review what's important to each of the three stakeholder groups. This information was discussed during a review of the strategic triangle.

**Step 3:** Answer the following questions for each project:

### 1. Legitimate and politically sustainable

- How does the project meet the needs of Montanans? Does this project meet the needs/wants of the stakeholder groups? How does it meet the needs? If it doesn't, what is it missing?
- If you cannot answer these questions, what information do you need to be able to answer them?

### 2. Substantive value

- Review data for how the project meets desired outcomes. Does the project deliver substantive value? Why or why not? How does it deliver substantive value?
- If you cannot answer these questions, what information do you need to be able to answer them?

### 3. Operational and administrative feasibility

- Do we have the resources to continue this work? Do we have the money? Do we have the staff time? Do we have the expertise? Are there other organizations for whom this project is a better fit? Is the project administratively feasible? Why or why not?
- If you cannot answer these questions, what information do you need to be able to answer them?

**Step 4:** Based on your work with the strategic triangle and data, prioritize the projects for funding. Be prepared to explain your reasoning. If you can't prioritize, what data do you need to be able to prioritize the list?