	Past and present methods		Future methods		Past, present	Past, present and future methods	
		Descriptive statistics					
Objectivist approaches that ask when, where and how?	Methods for describing past and present problems and solutions	Questionnaires and structured interviews Cost-benefit analysis Randomised control trials	Methods for predicting and objectively evaluating outcomes arising from future problems and solutions	Inferential statistics Machine learning	Methods for assessing past, present and future policy problems and solutions	Systematic reviews Process-based models	
		Experiments					
Mixed methods approaches					Methods that can combine objectivist and subjectivist approaches to evaluate past, present and future policy problems and relevant solutions	Complex systems modelling Scenarios	
				Theory of change			
Subjectivist approaches that also ask why?	Perceptions of past/present problems and solutions	Drivers of Change Ranking Ethnography and oral history Contribution analysis	Different ways of understanding future problems and solutions and their outcomes for different groups	Logic models Delphi Speculative design SWOT analysis	Methods for assessing past, present and future policy problems and solutions	Narrative literature review Semi-structured interviews Focus groups	
				Multi-criteria analysis		Causal loop (or influence) diagrams	