

Aspect

Transforming Society Through
Social Science Innovation

ARC
ACCELERATOR

Social science enterprise and commercialisation: Sharing and developing best practice gained through Aspect

Dr Sam Gallagher

Oxentia Ltd, Programme managers for Aspect on behalf of LSE

EEUK Enterprise Exchange | February 11th 2021

ARC
ACCELERATOR

An Introduction – The nuts and bolts

Aspect

- Aspect: A Social sciences Platform for Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Transformation (www.aspect.ac.uk)
- Collaborative network of organisations looking to leverage commercial and business opportunities from social science research in order to create impact and sustain research
- Supported by Research England's Connecting Capability Fund



**Research
England**

The nuts and bolts of Aspect

- Led by LSE, since its launch in 2018 the network has grown from an original 7 universities – LSE, Cardiff, Glasgow, Manchester, Sussex, Oxford, Sheffield universities and an innovative social mission incubator, Zinc, to a wider group of

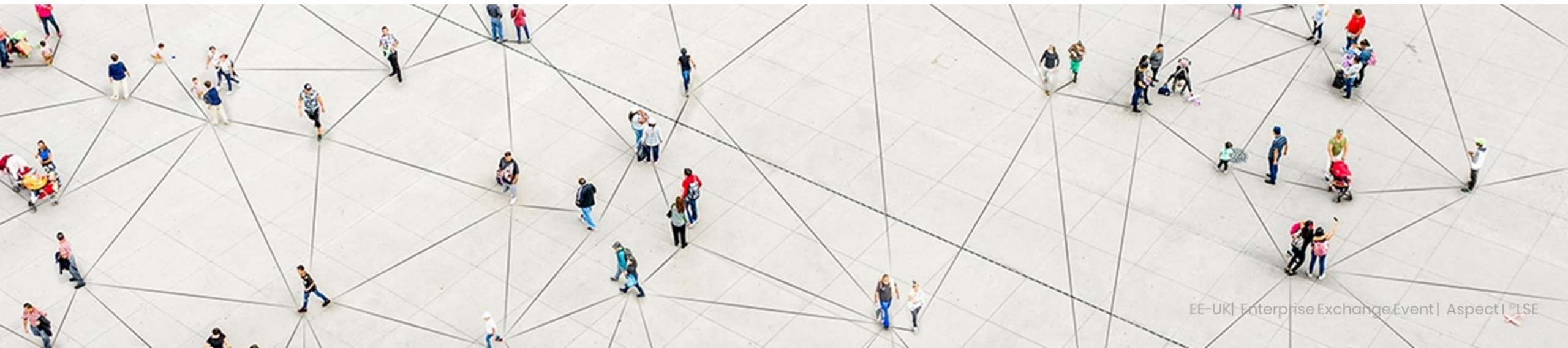
17



Aspect's vision

Aspect

- To transform the contribution that social sciences research and student entrepreneurship makes for the betterment of society, through collaboration with innovators, entrepreneurs and business leaders.



Our mission and objectives

Aspect



- To **mobilise leading social science research** to develop and share new methods and insights that can be used in private businesses and social enterprises.



- To **draw together** pioneering academics, businesses and entrepreneurs to turn ideas into commercial solutions and tackle the most complex societal challenges of our time.

Our mission and objectives



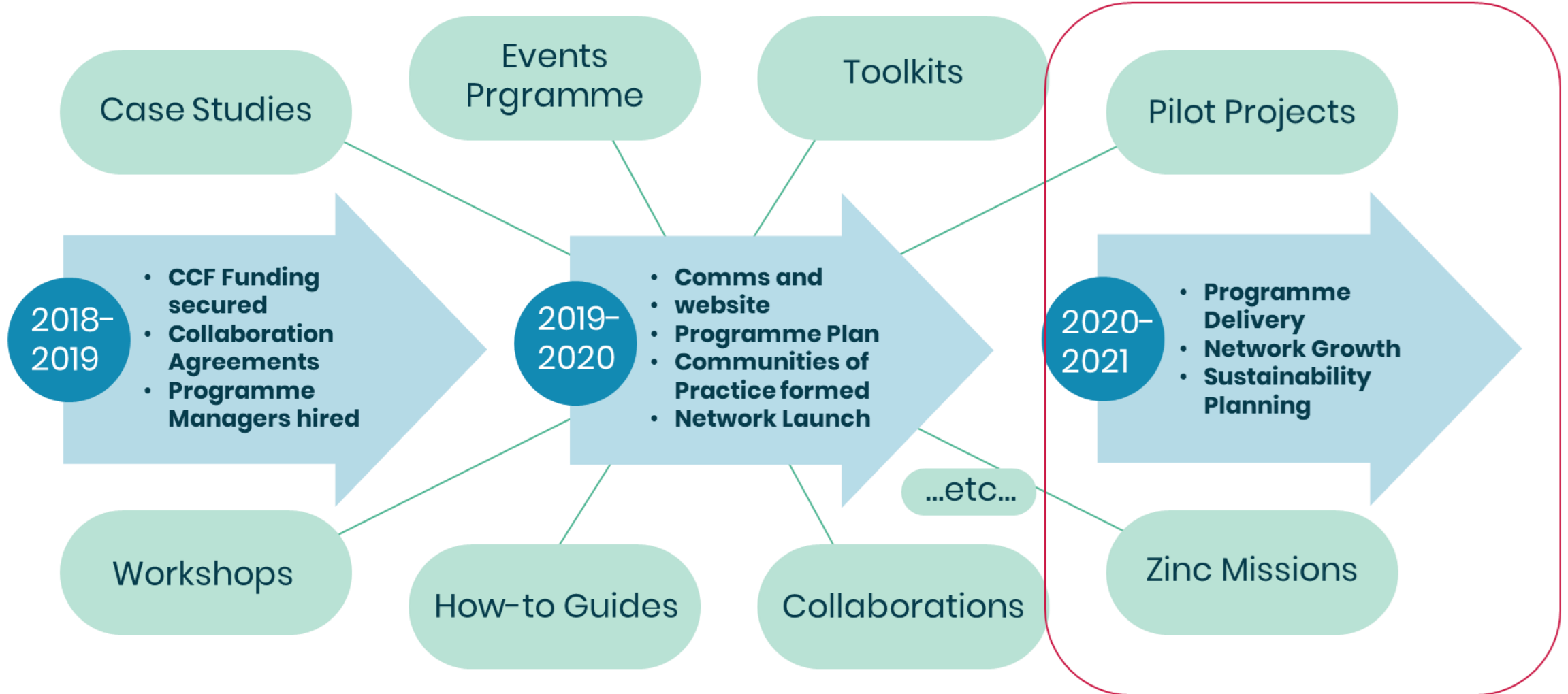
- **Inspiring and encouraging** commercialisation of social science research within universities



- **Supporting the development of best practices** to enhance the impact and financial sustainability of social sciences research through commercialisation

Progress and plans

Aspect

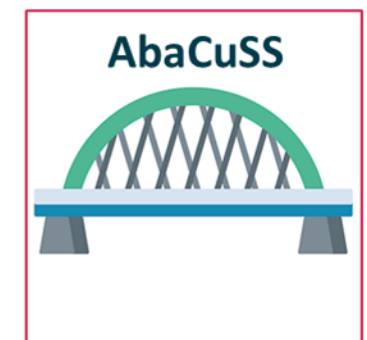


Year 2: 2019–2020 – ‘Pilots’ and ‘practice’ to the fore **Aspect**

- **Communities of Practice** – building the expertise
 - Research Commercialisation, Entrepreneurship, Business Engagement, KE-Communications
- **Expand the network** membership – building the expertise
- **Pilot new ways** to commercialise and transform social science research into social science impact, incl., e.g.:
 - **SUCCESS – Social Science research commercialisation acceleration and impact**
 - Methods for Change – showcasing social science methodologies to non – academic sectors
 - ASAP – Aspect Student Accelerator Programme AbaCuSS – building a bridge through Intrepreneurship
- <https://aspect.ac.uk/about/aspect-funded-projects/>
- Zinc –build an ecosystem linking new ventures and universities, connected through social science researchers



ASAP



Where are we now: 2020-2021

- 17 members
- Good practice toolkit support for the wider community
- SUCCESS transformed to **ARC – Aspect Research Commercialisation accelerator**