Board Readiness

For Council Meeting

17 Oct 2024

Team Members

- Jennifer Chung

- Justine Chew

- Prudence Malinki
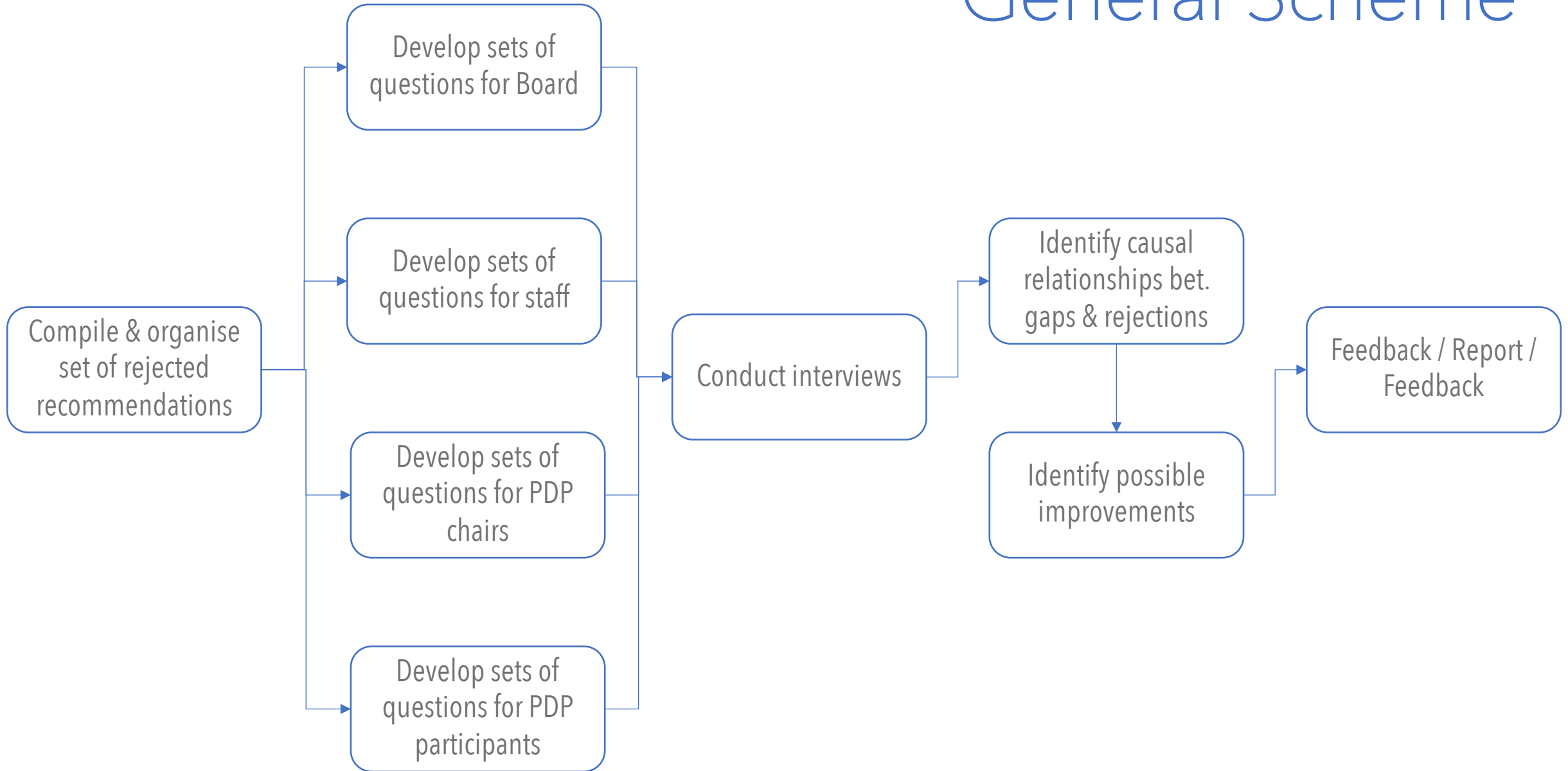
- Susan Payne

- Kurt Pritz

- Thomas Rickert

Mission / Scope

Perform a study that will inform the improvement or creation of policy development practices that will improve the Board readiness of GNSO policy recommendations.

where

Board readiness is measured by the likelihood that GNSO policy recommendations will be readily adopted by the ICANN Board.

General Scheme

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Compile & organise          Develop sets of
set of rejected        ───▶  questions for Board
recommendations
                            Develop sets of
                       ───▶  questions for staff
                                                    ───▶  Conduct interviews
                            Develop sets of
                       ───▶  questions for PDP
                             chairs
                            Develop sets of
                       ───▶  questions for PDP
                             participants
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Identify causal relationships bet. gaps & rejections

Identify possible improvements

Feedback / Report / Feedback

Sample: Rejected Recommendations

EPDP Registration Data Phase 1

1. Purposes for processing gTLD Registration Data:
   ...Contributing to the maintenance of the security, stability, and resiliency of the Domain Name System in accordance with ICANN's mission through enabling responses to lawful data disclosure requests.

2. The Organization field will be published if that publication is acknowledged or confirmed by the registrant via a process that can be determined by each registrar. If the registered name holder does not confirm the publication, the Organization field can be redacted *or the field contents deleted* at the option of the registrar.

EPDP Registration Data Phase 2
GNSO Council voted to approve all recommendations in the Final Report; the Board did not reject, but did not approve, opting to initiate the first Operational Design Phase (ODP) (25 March 2021)

Priority 2 recommendations were adopted

Subsequent Procedures
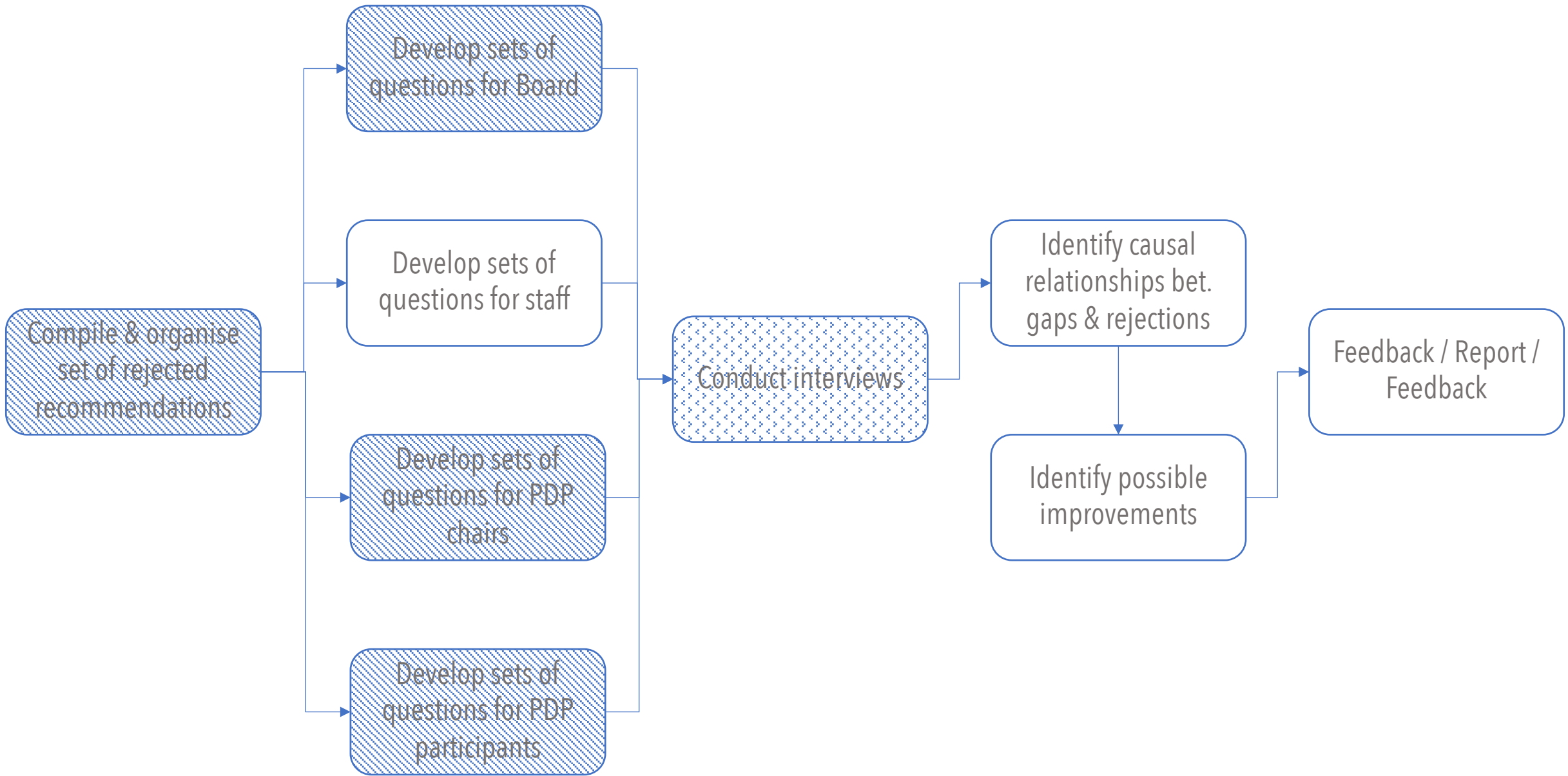Some themes were present across the rejected recommendations:
- the Board provided advice during the initial report public comment period, which was not followed
- The Board rejected situations where costs could not be estimated or controlled
- The Board resisted taking on additional legal risk without the impositions of some guardrails
- The Board is staying out of the content business
- The Board listens to staff concerning implementation complexity

- Were you, as a PDP working group member, surprised (or unsurprised) by the Board's rejection of certain, specific policy recommendations? Why, e.g., was there information regarding expected Board reaction or a sense that the recommendation was not implementable?

- Did the PDP working group consider Board reaction to potential recommendations during its deliberations? (This could be an expected reaction or explicit reaction (such as in public commentary or Board liaison feedback.) In what ways was this consideration done; was there a specific discussion set aside for this?

- In the opinion of PDP working group members, did the PDP working group believe they had sufficient expertise, resources, and information to develop a "Board-ready" set of recommendations, i.e., ones that would avoid rejection?

- What were your expectations of the Board liaison, especially in providing a "sense of the Board"? In what ways were they fulfilled / not fulfilled?

- Was there any sense of Board inclination regarding acceptance / rejection? If yes, would it have been possible to gain consensus agreeing with that inclination? Are there times when that is appropriate? Should anything about the PDP process that should be changed to facilitate reaching consensus?

- To what extent was recommendation "implementability" a concern or requirement? How was it measured during the recommendation formulation?

- To what extent was recommendation implementation and operation cost a concern or requirement? How was it measured during the recommendation formulation?

- Did external requirements affect the quality or "readiness" of the outcomes (these might be the team composition, e.g., the "representative model" or time constraints)?

- Was the final outcome of the rejection (i.e., the EPDP Phase 2 recommendations) an appropriate and necessary solution to the conflict?

Status

- Board rejections compiled for Registration Data PDPs and SubPro. Others being compiled.

- Registration Data PDPs: Invitations letters sent to Chairs and members. Four accepted so far. Letter sent to Board asking for their participation.

- Test interviews conducted with Kurt, Thomas. Team reviewing notes.

- Currently selecting interviewees for SubPro PDP.

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                    │  Develop sets of    │
                ┌──▶│  questions for Board│──┐
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                │                            │
                │   ┌─────────────────────┐  │
                │   │  Develop sets of    │  │
                ├──▶│  questions for staff│──┤
┌──────────────┐│   └─────────────────────┘  │   ┌──────────────┐
│ Compile &    ││                            │   │ Conduct      │
│ organise     ││   ┌─────────────────────┐  ├──▶│ interviews   │
│ set of       │┼──▶│  Develop sets of    │  │   └──────────────┘
│ rejected     ││   │  questions for PDP  │──┤
│ recommend-   ││   │  chairs             │  │
│ ations       ││   └─────────────────────┘  │
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                │   │  Develop sets of    │  │
                └──▶│  questions for PDP  │──┘
                    │  participants       │
                    └─────────────────────┘
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Develop sets of questions for Board

Develop sets of questions for staff

Compile & organise set of rejected recommendations

Develop sets of questions for PDP chairs

Develop sets of questions for PDP participants

Conduct interviews

Identify causal relationships bet. gaps & rejections

Identify possible improvements

Feedback / Report / Feedback

Aspirational Schedule

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr

Prep (Create Questions, select interviewees, test interviews, adjustments)

Interviews (16-20)

Analysis, synthesis & hypothesis

Obtain feedback

Synthesis, recommendations

Leadership [Transition]
for Council Discussion & Decision

- Current Chair (Kurt) steps down from Council in November

- Options for this team:
  - The current Chair might continue
  - A Council can select a new Chair
  - The current Chair can continue until a replacement is selected
  - The work could be added to that of the CCOICI
  - [We might have data from interviews that indicate the study should be discontinued, the team might reach this conclusion]

Thank You