I2S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
GUIDING QUESTIONS*
PROBLEM DISCOVERY TRACK AND SOLUTIONS DISCOVERY TRACK

CHALLENGE MAPPING
What's happening, what's the impact of the challenge, and what's holding the challenge in place?

- **How Do You Describe the Challenge**
  - Who are impacted by the challenge and who are stakeholders (beyond those directly impacted who are all the groups that are in one way or another connected)?
  - How do those most impacted describe the challenge?
  - How do they describe the effects?
  - How is this challenge related to other challenges?
  - What is your proximity to the challenge (experienced it personally/know someone who does/worked in the affected community, etc.)?
- **What is The Impact of the Challenge?**
  - What is causing the challenge to persist?
  - Who stands to benefit from the challenge continuing to persist?
- **What is the History and Future of the Challenge?**
  - How has the challenge changed over time?
  - What is the projected scope of the challenge in the future?

SOLUTIONS MAPPING
What models are already being tried, what's working, what's not, and what resources are available?

- **What is Happening Locally**
  - What resources are available in the communities affected by the challenge that could be drawn upon?
  - What efforts are already being tried which could directly impact the challenge?
  - What are the different models?
  - How are they joined up, or not?
- **What is Happening Globally**
  - What has been tried on similar or tangential challenges globally?
  - What lessons can be learned from those efforts?
  - How can those lessons be shared?
- **What's Working, and What's Not**
  - What can be learned from the successes and failures of these efforts?
  - What do those involved attribute to the cause of their results?
- **Where is the Focus and the Future?**
  - What parts of the challenge are focused on and what are ignored (specific populations, areas, etc)?
  - What is on the horizon that might impact collective solutions?
  - What future scenarios might play out?

IMPACT GAPS

What is missing that could close the gap between the challenge and the current solutions, where are opportunities for greater collective impact, and what are the key lessons learned?

- **Where Are the Gaps Between the Challenge and Solutions**
  - Who or what is not being served and what is missing to bridge that gap?
  - What actions can be taken to fill the gaps?
- **Where Are the Gaps Within the Solutions**
  - What is missing (specific regulations, knowledge sharing, new efforts, partnership etc) that would further link up the solutions and achieve greater collective impact?
- **Where Are the Unaddressed Obstacles**
  - What is being overlooked?
  - What are the unintended negative consequences of the existing efforts?
  - What specific key opportunities could unlock future impact?
- **What Are the Key Lessons Learned**
  - From your research and interviews with stakeholders, what key lessons could you share with anyone who wants to impact change in this sector?
  - Where are the biggest opportunities for impact?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
ADDITIONAL GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR SOLUTIONS TRACK ONLY

PRESENT YOUR SOLUTION

Describe the solution you are proposing. Clearly show how the research you have done about the challenge, already existing solutions, and the gaps between the two, are informing your proposed solution.

- Describe the nature of your solution:
  - Is it an entirely new product or service innovation? If so how is it different than already existing solutions on the market?
  - Is identifying and leveraging new ways existing solutions could be connected to address the impact gaps you have identified above?
  - Is it identifying ways to work with, and bring resources to, community innovators to support their efforts and increase their impact?
  - Is it identifying the need for, and ways to bring about, policy change?
- Identify resources (human, financial, legislative, etc.) needed for your Solution to be successful.
- Walk through the possible unintended consequences of your Solution. What are things that could backfire if you are successful, and how would it affect the community if you fail?
- What are your Next Steps after participating in I2S?
- How will participating in I2S help you better understand the social/environmental issue you are working on?

Recommended Resources: the I2S website has a list of resources to help you map the problem space (and ponder possible solutions). Here are some of the crucial sources we urge you to explore before applying:

*The Guiding Questions are in large based on the Impact Gaps Canvas. Source: http://systems-ledleadership.com/impact-gaps-canvas/