

Bringing It Home: Designing Re-Entry for STEM Education Abroad Programs

HANDOUT 8 — Innovation and Entrepreneurial Pathway Canvas: Part II

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PURPOSE

In Session 7, you identified an entrepreneurial opportunity and explored multiple pathways for creating value. This session moves from possibility to action. You will select a promising pathway, identify the next feasible steps, examine the workforce competencies students could develop through the process, and practice communicating that learning through a Career Narrative and Opportunity-to-Impact Pitch.

PART I. BRING FORWARD YOUR OPPORTUNITY CONCEPT

Return to your Entrepreneurial Opportunity Concept from Session 7.

- Our opportunity:
- Who could benefit?
- What value could be created?
- Potential Pathways Identified in Session 7
 - Pathway 1: _____
 - Pathway 2: _____

PART II. SELECT A PATHWAY FOR ACTION

For this activity, select one pathway to develop further.

- ☐ Startup
- ☐ Social Enterprise
- ☐ Research



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- ☐ Community Innovation
- ☐ Public Service
- ☐ Intrapreneurship
- ☐ Industry Collaboration
- ☐ Educational Innovation
- ☐ Other _____

Selected pathway: _____

Why does this pathway appear appropriate for the opportunity?

Community-Centered Check

How does this pathway build on community knowledge, assets, priorities, or partnerships?

PART III. FROM PATHWAY TO ACTION

Identify what moving the opportunity forward could realistically involve.

Action Question	Our Response
What is one feasible first step?	
Who should be involved?	
What existing resources/assets could be used?	
What additional information is needed?	
What assumption might need to be evaluated?	
What would indicate that value is being created?	

Our First Action

The first feasible step would be to:

PART IV. WORKFORCE COMPETENCY MAP

Consider the competencies students could develop or demonstrate by moving from opportunity recognition to action.

Select the three most important competencies.

- ☐ Problem solving
- ☐ Communication
- ☐ Teamwork/collaboration
- ☐ Adaptability

- ☐ Leadership/initiative
- ☐ Creativity/innovation
- ☐ Intercultural competence
- ☐ Disciplinary/technical knowledge
- ☐ Resourcefulness
- ☐ Stakeholder engagement
- ☐ Decision making under uncertainty
- ☐ Ethical decision making
- ☐ Opportunity recognition
- ☐ Entrepreneurial thinking
- ☐ Other _____

Complete the map for your three selected competencies.

Workforce Competency	What Students Would Do	Evidence They Could Use
1.		
2.		
3.		

Workforce Connection

Which of these competencies would be particularly valuable to an employer or professional organization, and why?

PART V. CAREER NARRATIVE EXERCISE

From Experience to an Employer-Ready Story

Students often develop important competencies through global experiences but may struggle to explain them to employers.

Use the following structure to translate the experience into a concise professional narrative:

Experience - Action - Competency - Evidence - Professional Value

1. Experience

What challenge, opportunity, or situation did I encounter?

2. Action

What did I do or contribute?

3. Competency

What competency did I demonstrate or strengthen?

4. Evidence

What specific evidence shows that I demonstrated this competency?

5. Professional Value

Why would this matter in a future STEM workplace?

My Career Narrative

Complete the statement:

During my global experience, I encountered _____.

I responded by _____.

Through this experience, I strengthened my ability to _____.

I demonstrated this when _____.

This is relevant to my future professional work because _____.

This can later be adapted for a résumé, portfolio, interview, cover letter, or professional networking conversation.

PART VI. OPPORTUNITY-TO-IMPACT PITCH

Breakout-Room Activity

Bring together the opportunity, pathway, action, value, and workforce learning in a three-minute pitch.

1. Challenge / Opportunity

What challenge or opportunity did you identify?

2. Community Foundation

What community knowledge, asset, or contextual insight informs the opportunity?

3. Selected Pathway

What pathway are you proposing to explore?

4. Action

What is one feasible first step?

5. Value

Who could benefit, and what value could be created?

6. Workforce Learning

What competencies could students develop or demonstrate through this process?

7. Potential Impact

What could become possible if this opportunity moves forward?

PART VII. THREE-MINUTE OPPORTUNITY-TO-IMPACT PITCH

Use the following structure:

We identified an opportunity to _____
based on the challenge/context of _____
and building on _____.

(community knowledge/assets)

We propose exploring a _____
(pathway)

beginning with _____.

This could create value for _____
by _____.

Students participating in this process could develop or demonstrate
_____.

The potential impact is _____.

Peer Feedback

After hearing the pitch, peers provide one strength and one question.

One strength:

One question to consider:

SESSION 8 DELIVERABLES

1. Completed Innovation and Entrepreneurial Pathway Canvas
2. Workforce Competency Map
3. Three-Minute Opportunity-to-Impact Pitch