

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Evaluation of SSHRC's Partnership Funding Opportunities

ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

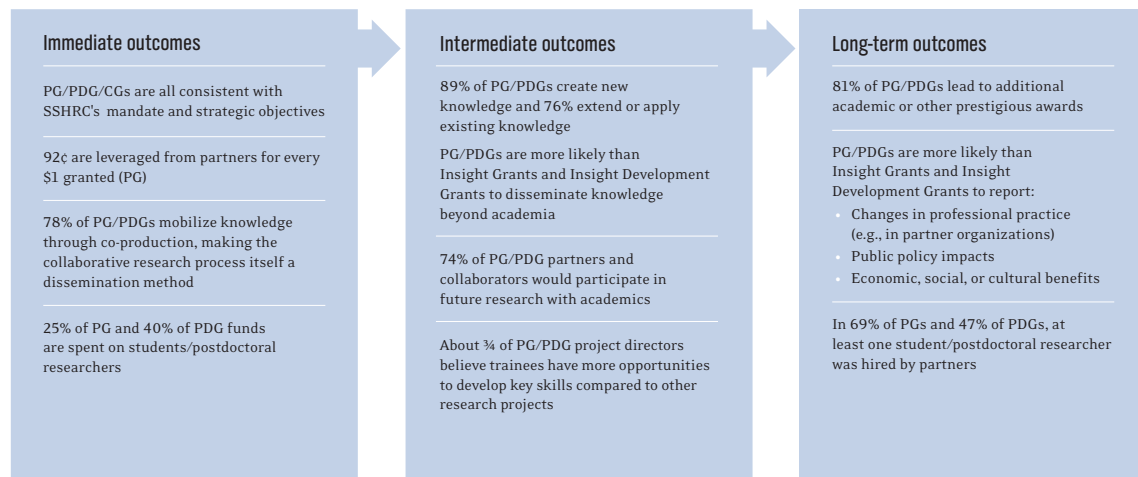
- **Partnership Grants (PG)** provide \$500K-\$2.5M over 4-7 years to advance research, research training, and/or knowledge mobilization.
- **Partnership Development Grants (PDG)** provide \$75K-\$200K over 1-3 years to foster new research and/or related activities; and/or design and test new partnership approaches.
- **Connection Grants (CG)** provide \$50K over 1 year to support events and other outreach activities.

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

PG, PDG and CG were evaluated in 2017-18 focusing on fiscal years 2010-11 to 2016-17. Data collection focused on PG and PDG, with findings related to CG relying only on secondary data already available.

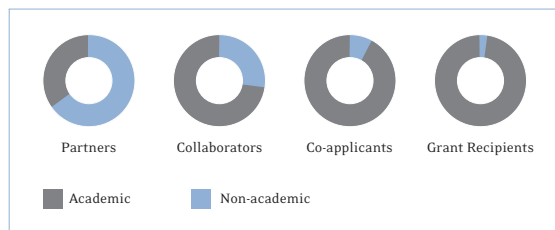
Data collection included: review of documents and key literature; review of financial data, grant files, and administrative data; interviews with key informants; survey of PG/PDG applicants, partners and collaborators; and case studies.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

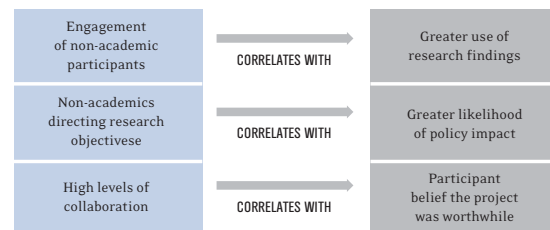


OTHER KEY FINDINGS

Non-academics most commonly participate in PG/PDGs as partners



Genuine collaboration with non-academics is linked to positive outcomes



Key challenges:

- The application process is demanding for non-academics
- Success rates are lower for non-academics and small universities than for medium and large universities
- The administrative categories of 'co-applicant' and 'collaborator' may be demotivating for non-academics as they can give the perception that the contributions of non-academic participants are less valuable
- Variation in participant involvement poses challenges for performance measurement
- Managing a large partnership demands competencies that are often not part of traditional academic training

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to fund partnership-type funding opportunities that range in grant value and length
2. Encourage applicants to fully engage non-academics in leading projects and setting research objectives
3. Continue to ease the burden of the application process for non-academic participants
4. Develop a means to identify each participant's involvement in grant activities and intended benefits
5. Establish resources or mechanisms to support project directors leading a large partnership