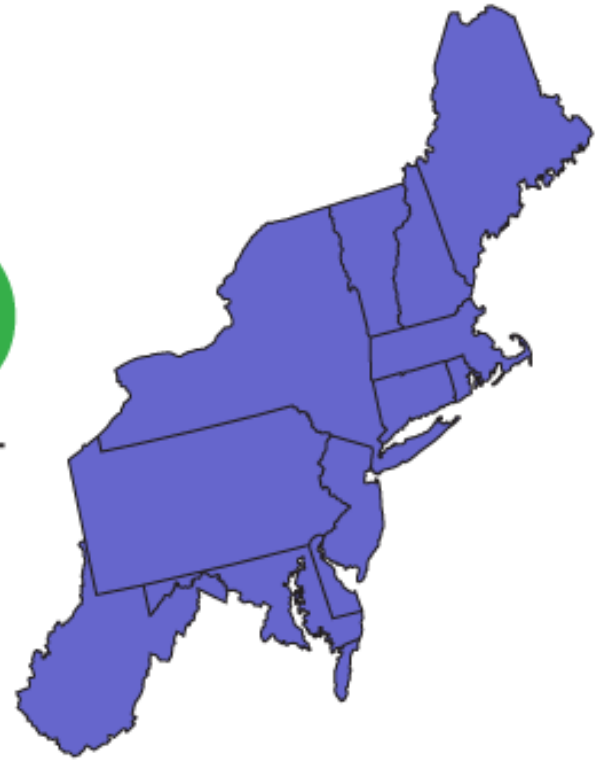


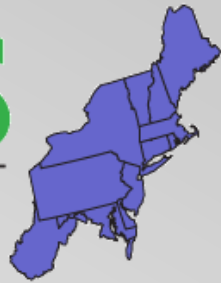
NECAFS

The Northeast Center to
Advance Food Safety



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Who:

- University researchers, educators and extension specialists
- State regulatory and enforcement agency partners
- Local food and farming organizations, NFP's
- Consultants & Industry associations
- Small and medium sized producers, small processors, buyers
- Other regional centers and initiatives, lead regional coordination center, USDA/FDA

Goal:

Enhance produce safety and preventive controls training, education, and outreach among small and medium sized farms and small processors in the Northeast.

Objectives:

1. Establish Foundational Network Structure

2. Build Capacity, Competency, and Collaboration

3. Develop and Deliver Educational Programs

4. Evaluate and Assess Progress and Impact

5. Sustain Good Work

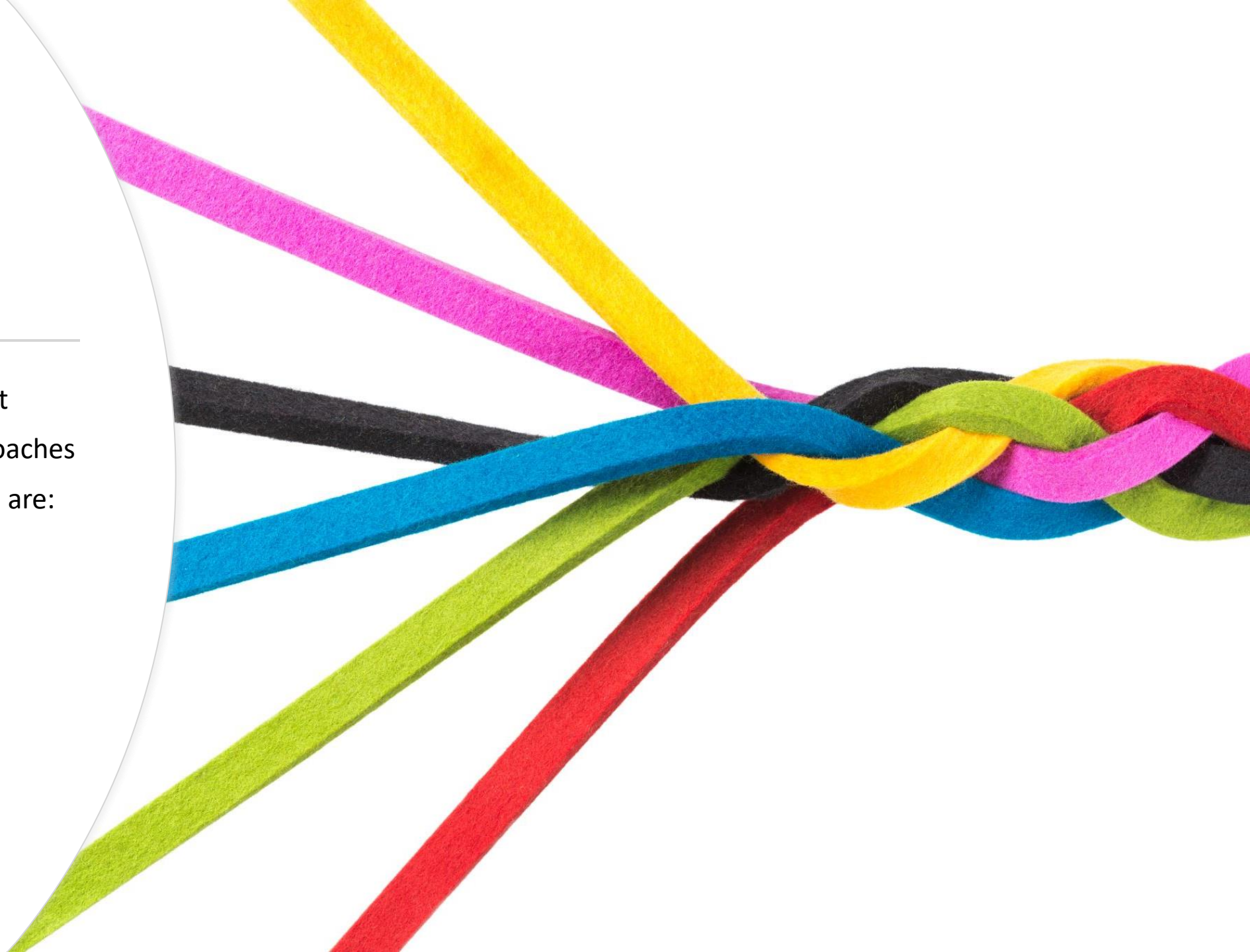


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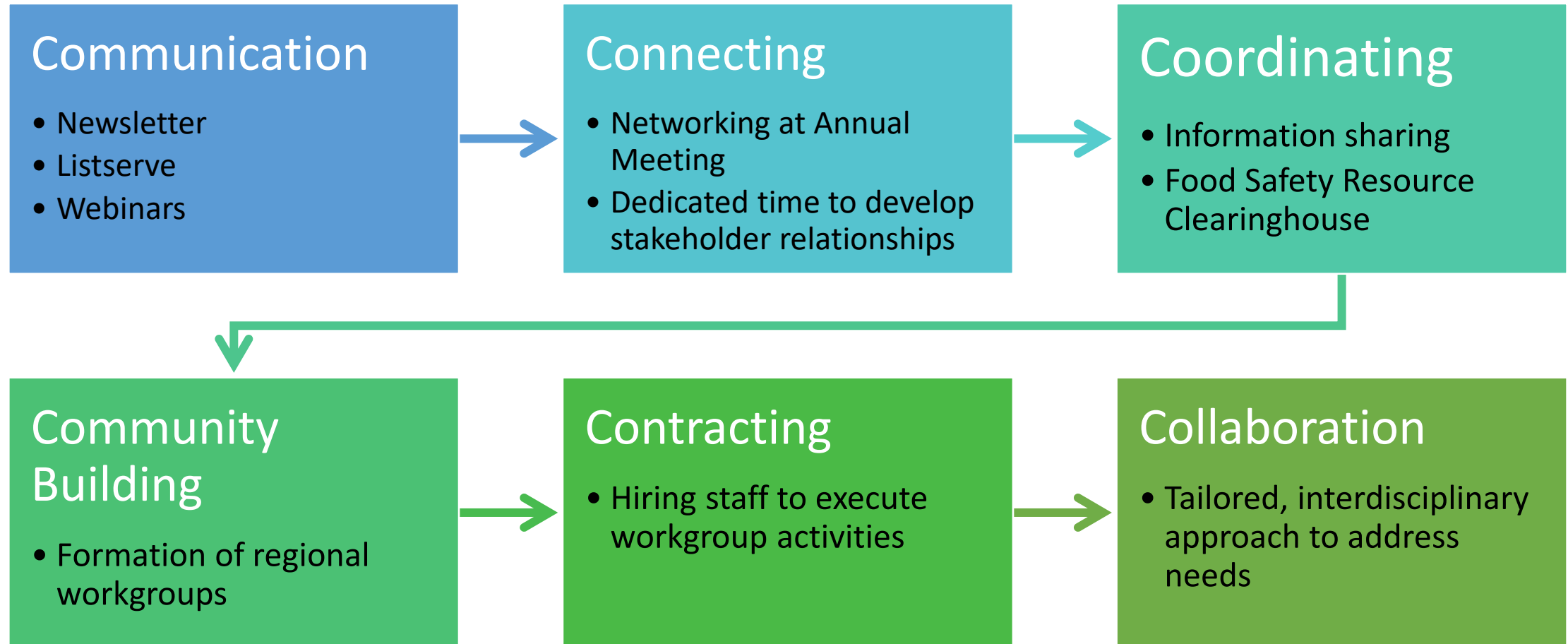
Benefits of a Collaboration

- Prevents duplication of effort
- Eliminates fragmented approaches
- Collective response to issues are:
 - Informed
 - Integrated
 - Interdisciplinary



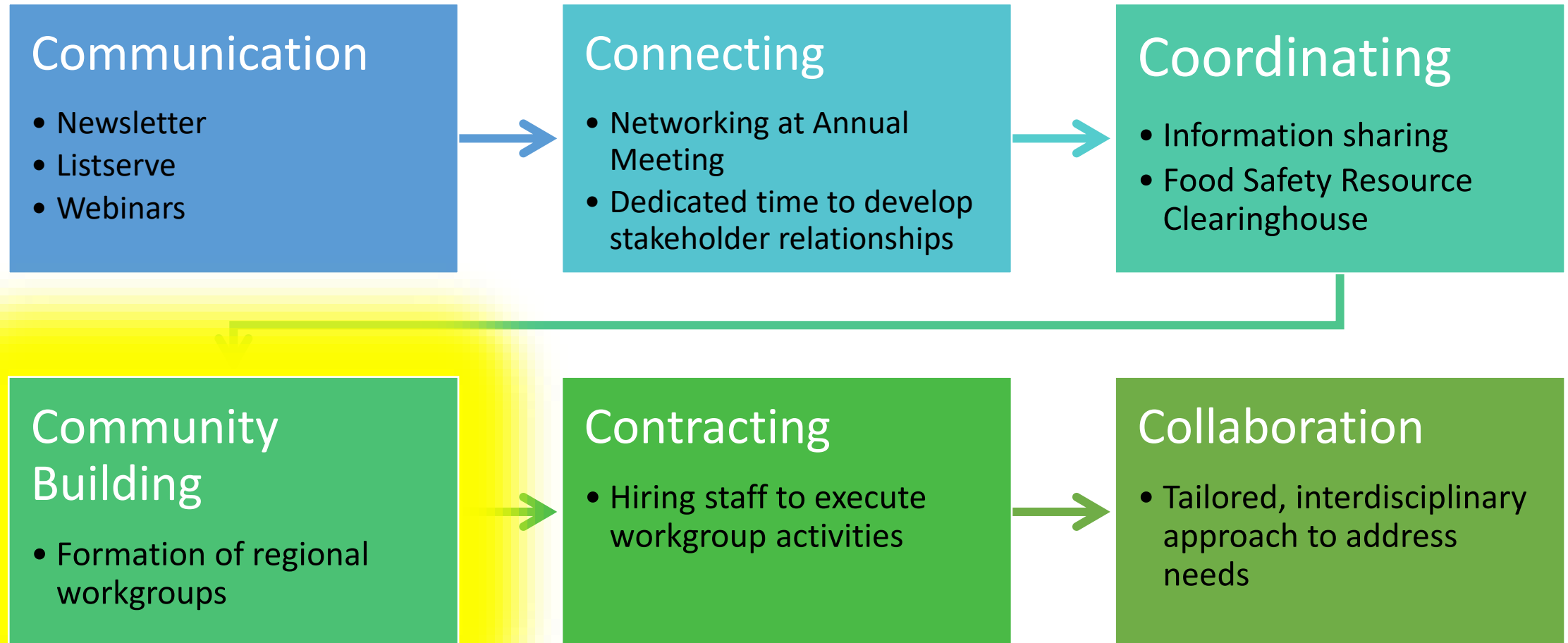
Collaboration is a Continuum

NECAFS development from 2016 - 2020



Collaboration is a Continuum

NECAFS development from 2016 - 2020



Overview of Produce Safety Workgroup

Community Building

- Formation of regional workgroups

- Feedback after 2020 Annual Meeting was clear
 - Discussion must be informed by all network members
 - Need for more dedicated discussion of research and educational needs
 - Need for year-round research and education prioritization and coordination with dedicated time to contextualize and understand nuances of identified needs



Root Cause Analysis

-
- Identified problems
 - Collecting perspectives
 - Discuss issues
 - Determine root cause/barriers
 - Brainstorm solutions
 - Decide on activities to put solutions into action

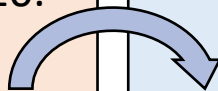


- Regulator Top Issues – What common misunderstanding and noncompliance issues are seen?

Northeast State Regulators compiled list of **top issues observed** during inspections in 2020.

- Break Out Session 1 – What is happening and why?

Expand/add your own **examples** to list. Identify specific **needs** do these observations represent.



- Break Out 3 – How do we sustain integrated communication on research and educational needs?

Strategies for **establishing a framework** for continuous communication.



Identify **barriers preventing adoption** of improved practice and the **action needed to overcome** that barrier.

- Break Out 2 – What should we do about these needs?

Planning Activities for NECAFS

Regularly identify key produce safety priorities

- Survey partners annually to identify priority areas

Focused break out group based on priority

- Host annual break out groups to expand and articulate barriers
- Publish summary report

Integrated and interdisciplinary discussion

- Host research summit to discuss integrated approach
- Publish summary report from research summit

Sharing Information Across NECAFS Network

- Complete lit reviews of existing published research
- Host webinars to share information on research across the network

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