Bath SDR: Our Story

2003 Conception of QuIP
An early version of the QuIP was developed by James Copestake of the Centre of Development Studies (CDS) at the University of Bath during research on the impact of microfinance organisations in Peru.

Research 2011
CDS received ESRC-DFID research funding to further develop and test the approach. Assessing Rural Transformations was a 3-year research project which saw the QuIP piloted twice on four different rural livelihood interventions in Malawi and Ethiopia with INGOs Self Help Africa and Farm Africa. Learning from pilots culminated in a set of guidelines and papers published at the end of the project in 2015.

2015 Application
QuIP moved from research to action. In order to have real impact in the evaluation sector, the approach needed to be tested under real life commercial and time pressured conditions. QuIP won an Innovation to Commercialisation of University Research (ICURe) grant, offered by the SetSquared Partnership, to help fund market research and business planning.

Bath SDR founded 2016
Bath SDR, a non-profit consultancy, was set up independently of the University, with the aim of curating and continuing to develop QuIP - funded by undertaking studies for a range of commissioners.

2017 Dissemination
Bath SDR started running 2-day training programmes for anyone planning to undertake a QuIP study themselves. In 2020 this was launched online as a 2-week hybrid course - still going strong.

Development 2019
Bath SDR invested in and supported the launch of Casual Map Ltd, a company dedicated to the development of software designed to code causal links. This software has vastly improved our ability to analyse QuIP data and visualise the results in maps..

NOW Embedding
We have worked in over 20 countries on over 60 projects and have a network of trained QuIP researchers around the world. We continue to promote and improve the QuIP methodology through training and supporting others to conduct their own studies as well as working on innovative projects in-house . All of this feeds into our free resource library and presentations to practitioners around the world.