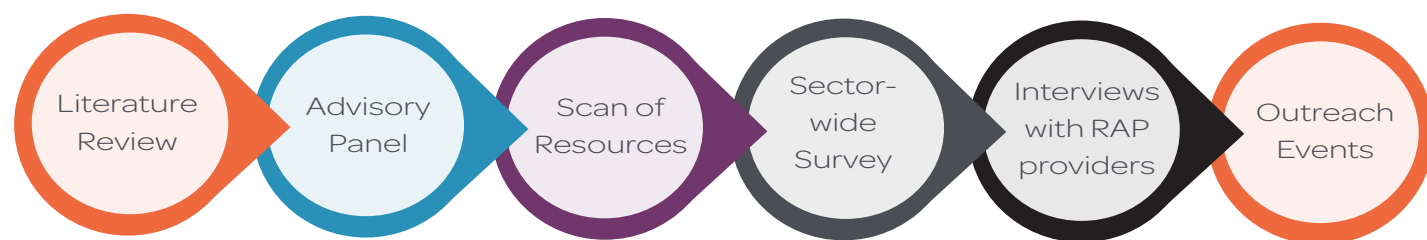


# Community Development Practice: Anti-Racism and Anti-Islamophobia in Alberta's Settlement Sector

## Background

In June 2016, AAISA initiated the Community Development Practice: Anti-Racism and Anti-Islamophobia in Alberta's Settlement Sector project, with the objective of building welcoming and inclusive communities through in-depth research and collaborative learning. The project aims to enhance the capacity of settlement practitioners, professionals, and community members who work with immigrants and refugees to advocate for anti-racism and anti-Islamophobia in their practice.

## Research

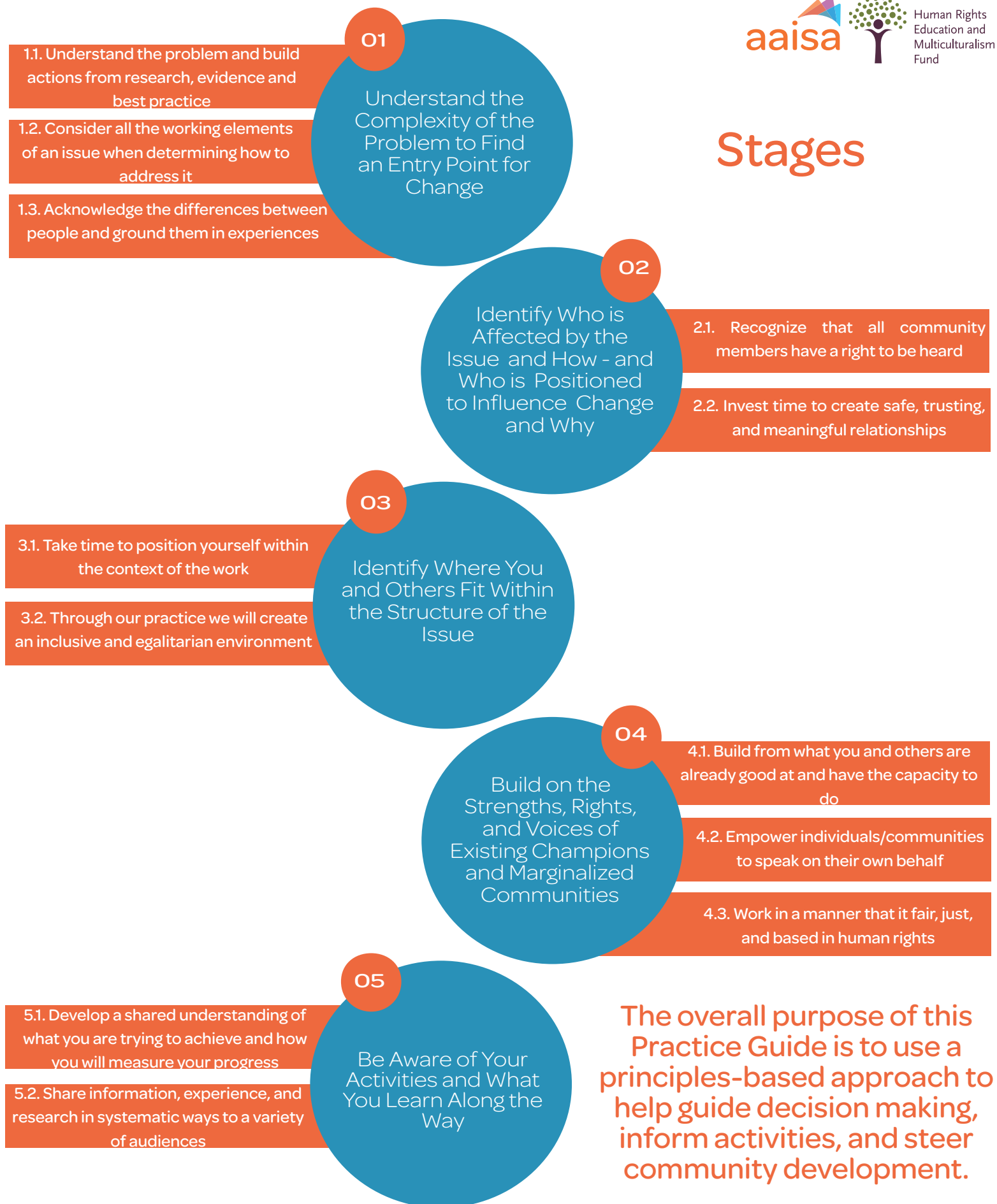


## Outcomes

The research informed the development of the **Building Champions of Anti-Racism and Anti-Islamophobia: A Practice Guide for Alberta's Settlement Community**. It is a practical manual of principles, tools, resources and case examples that can help professionals, organizations, government or communities address racism and Islamophobia at an individual, community, or systems level.

The research findings and online learning components function alongside the Practice Guide on [www.aaisa.ca](http://www.aaisa.ca). The purpose of these resources are to provide further information and support to individuals, organizations, or groups who are engaged in or would like to be involved in anti-racism and anti-Islamophobia work.

## Stages



**Case Example**

**How Anti-Racism Work and Anti-Islamophobia Work can be Carried Out at Different Levels**

**Challenge:**

“In the media things can be blown out of proportion. An isolated incident can be portrayed as something big and generalized. The wording can also be sometimes biased, and connects a terrible incident or terror attack to religion. This would make people hate the followers of this religion, even though it is only a handful of people that are tainting the rest. If people don’t know or have any context to that culture or religion, this will create an unfounded fear. People who come to Canada are escaping war and violence. They want to come peacefully.” - *Interview Respondent*

**Response:**

**Individual Level Response:** Engage with others in conversations about misrepresentations within the media and provide case examples to combat these portrayals.

**Community Level Response:** Organize a forum or event centered on the strengths of immigrants and refugees in order to breakdown misconceptions that might exist within the general public – ask individuals with lived experience to speak.

**Systems Level Response:** Contact or petition media outlets to be mindful of how they present information.

