1.4 How the commission builds on and complements past work

Why now? COVID-19 has created a once-in-a-generation focus on evidence among government policymakers, business and non-governmental organization leaders, many types of professionals, and citizens. Their decisions have shaped the pandemic response and will shape responses to future societal challenges. The pandemic has fast-tracked collaboration among decision-makers and evidence producers, but decision-making that draws from a range of forms of evidence is not yet routine. Our independent panel of commissioners has produced this report with recommendations for ways to better meet the evidence needs of decision-makers in routine times and in future global crises. In doing so, they have built on and complemented past work, such as the examples below.

- **Challenges**
  - Prepare for different types of societal challenges
  - Focusing on single categories of challenges like pandemics (as did the Independent Panel on Pandemic Preparedness and Response)\(^{(10)}\)

- **Decisions**
  - Recognize distinct needs of different types of decision-makers
  - Targeting single types of decision-makers like government policymakers (as did the Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking)\(^{(11)}\)

- **Evidence**
  - Consider complementarities of different forms of evidence
  - Prioritizing single evidence sources like data analytics (as did the G7 Science Academies)\(^{(12)}\)