

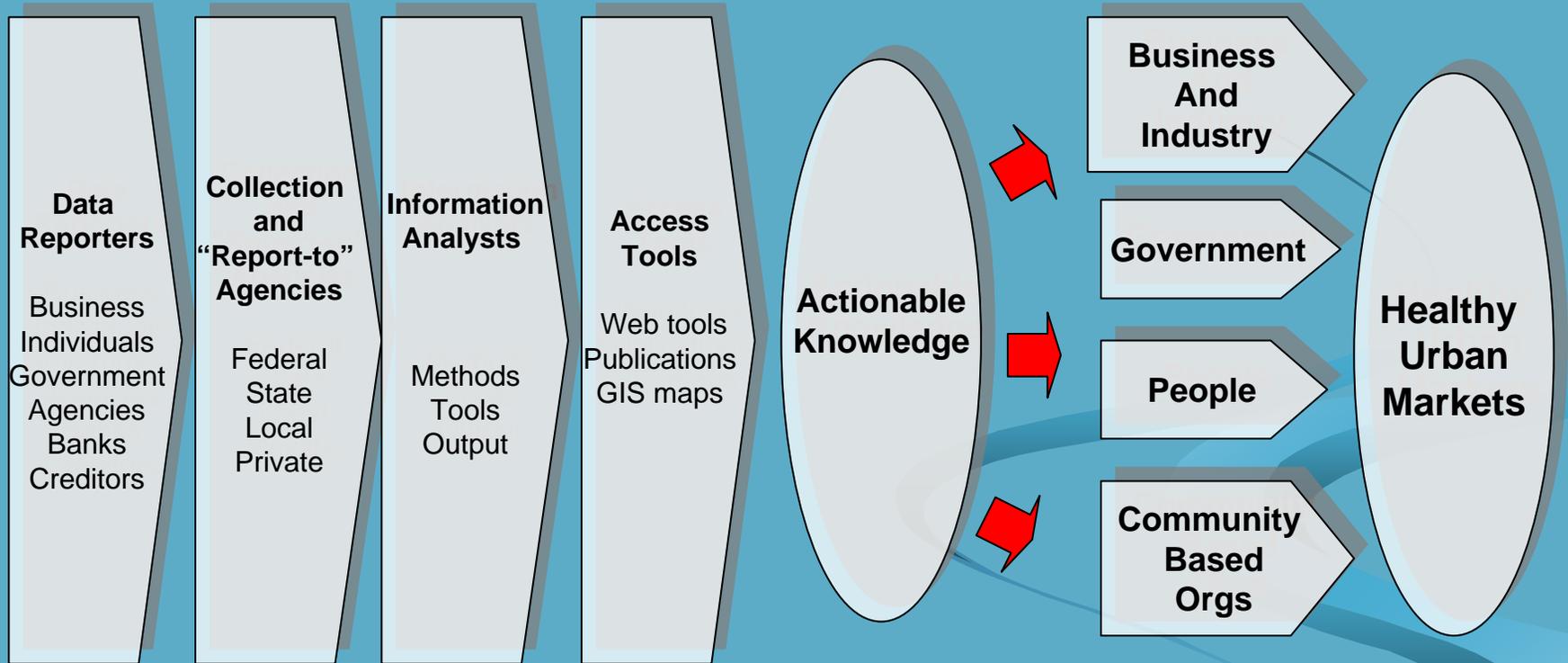
**Welcome to the**  
**Urban Markets Initiative**  
**Metropolitan Policy Program**  
**2007 Forum**

**Norris Dickard, UMI Director**

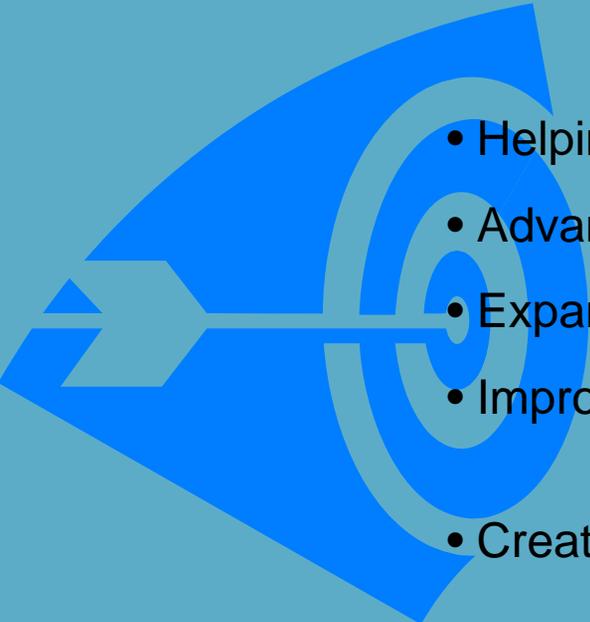
# The Urban Markets Initiative (UMI):

- **Founded:** in 2003 as a ten year project, with initial funding provided by Living Cities (a consortium of major national foundations and financial institutions).
- **Belief:** Our metropolitan areas drive American prosperity, and their urban cores matter. Urban areas have distinct competitive advantages and represent new untapped markets.
- **Objective:** To improve the quality of the information available on urban communities and use it to unleash the full power of those markets and connect them to the economic mainstream.

# Our Space: The Information Cycle



# UMI: Impact in the First Three Years

- 
- Helping Build an Urban Information Field
  - Advancing the Field of Practice
  - Expanding Federal Urban Data Services
  - Improving the Infrastructure for Sharing and Delivering public and private data
  - Creating and disseminating new Information Tools, Methods, and Resources