

Who is an expert?

Engaging scientific and local knowledge in deliberative sustainability research

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Emerging themes in Geographical Research: Knowledge, Theory and Learning



Outline

- Criticisms of 'top-down' knowledge production
- A new framework: co-generation of knowledge for sustainability
- A transdisciplinary approach to sustainability indicator development
- Added value: reflection and learning
- Key lessons



Criticisms of 'top-down' knowledge

- Biased nature of expert knowledge (Bruckmeier and Tovey 2008)
- Hybrid 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' approaches (Reed *et al.* 2006)
- 'Governance thinking' (Rist *et al.* 2007)
- Local experience and values of different stakeholders (Holden 2008)



Co-producing knowledge for sustainability

- Importance of dialogue

(Raymond *et al.* 2010)

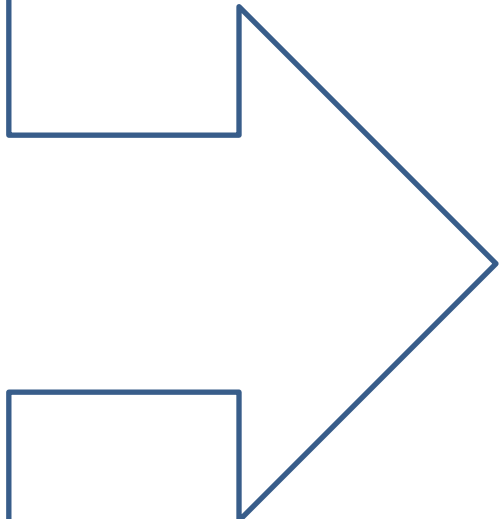
- Involving different actors, disciplines and knowledges

(Tovey 2008)

- Collaboration grounded in experience

- Rethinking assumptions and solving problems

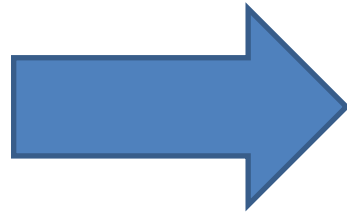
(Keen *et al.* 2005)



Flexible spaces that facilitate deliberation, learning and collaborative generation of ideas and solutions

A transdisciplinary approach

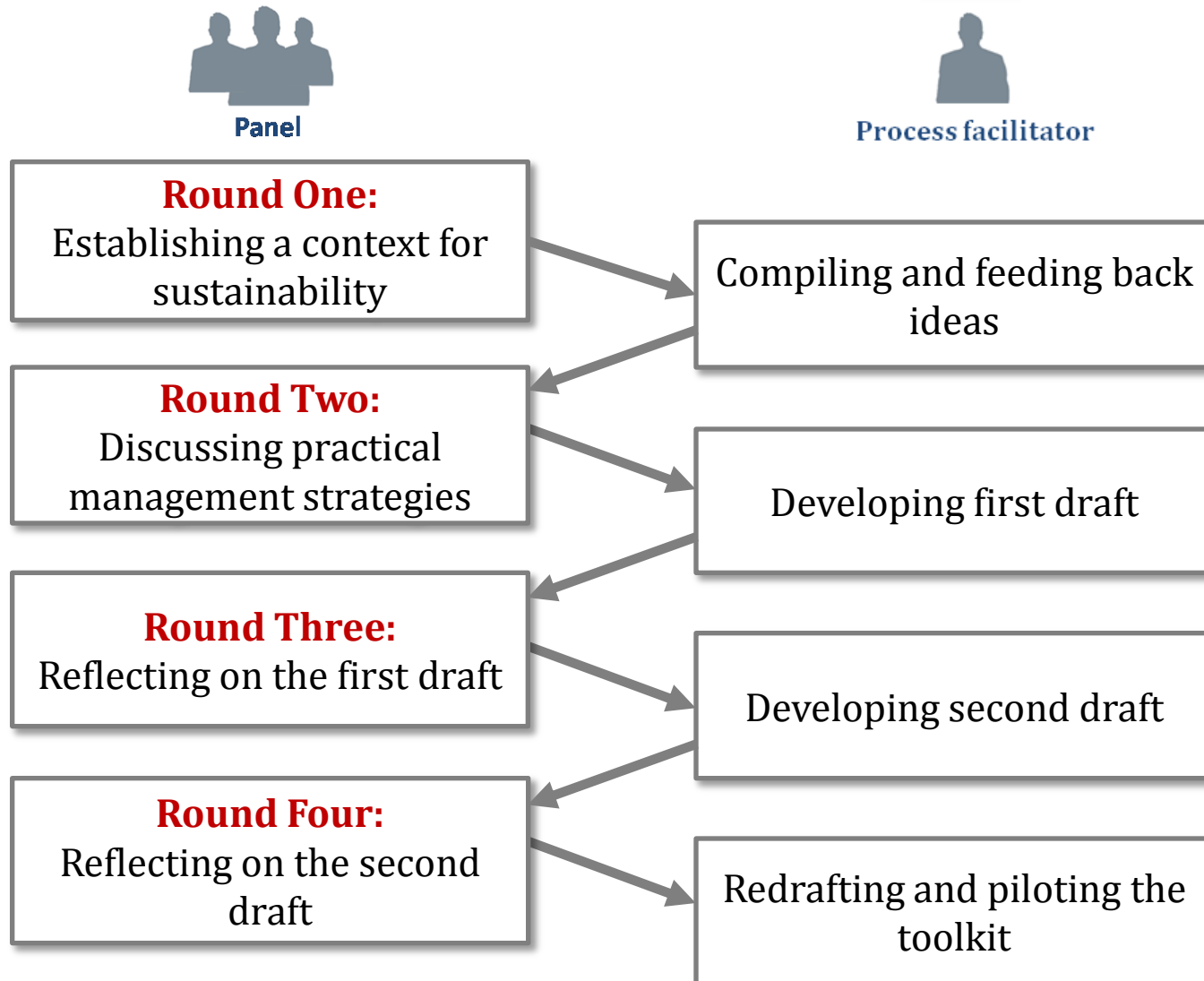
Sustainability indicators for upland estate management



- Practitioners and professionals
- Members of representative bodies
- Policy-makers and other decision-makers
- Academics and consultants
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)



Added value: reflection and learning



Key lessons

- Missing knowledge model
- Transdisciplinary approaches
- Collaboration grounded in experience
- Iteration, deliberation and learning



Thank you

References

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