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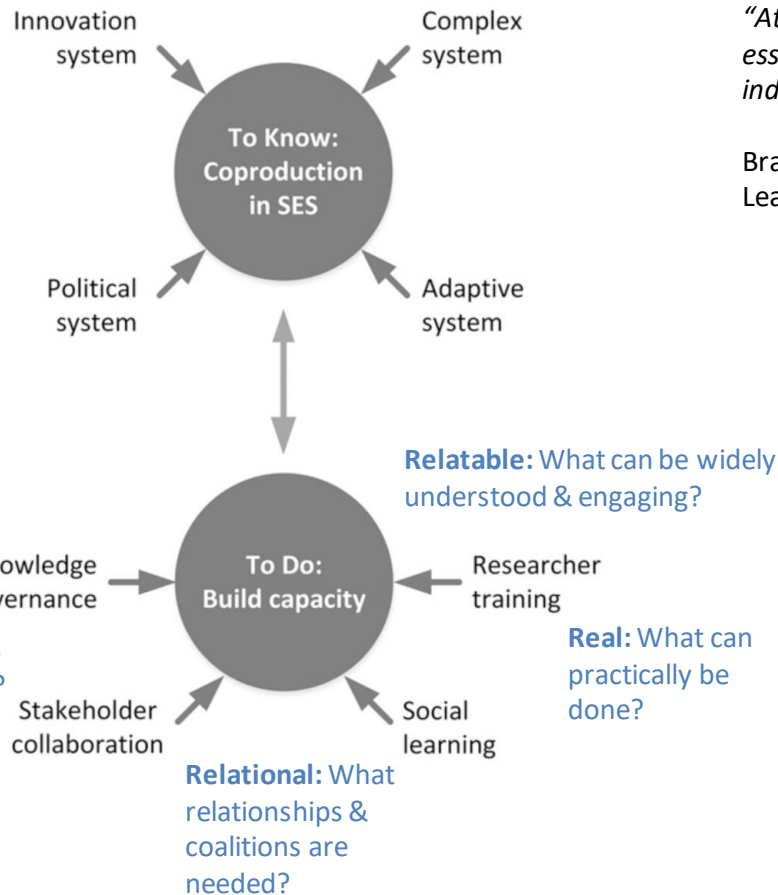
CASTING A BROADER NET FOR COLLABORATION COMPETENCIES: INCLUSIVE SDG CROSS SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS IN A Q METHODOLOGICAL STUDY



Theoretical Basis for Bottom-Up Implementation

Partnering Competencies Cross-Scale: Learning and the coproduction of usable knowledge in Socio-Ecological Systems

Williams et al (2021) Cross-Scale Systemic Resilience: Implications for Organization Studies



Learning

“At the same time, creating a culture of collective learning & community is essential for the emergence of shared schema which are necessary to coalesce individual efforts in complex, multi-level change processes.”

Bradbury-Huang, Lichtenstein, Carroll & Senge (2010) ‘Relational Space and Learning Experiments: The Heart of Sustainability Collaborations’

Basis for Action Research: Engagement for SDGs from Sustainability Science

Clark et al 2016 ‘Crafting usable knowledge for sustainable development’

Local Context for Competencies

Perry et al 2021 ‘Localizing the SDGs in England: Challenges and value propositions for local government’

“Co-dependence between national & local actors has produced an ambivalence about...[SDG] localization... characterized by low levels of local awareness, and devolution of responsibility without resource.”

How can CSPs cast a broader net for the skills and capabilities needed towards transformation?

Methodology

Q Methodological Study Preliminary Results (describing a discourse of varied viewpoints)

Theme and Representative Statements

- (n=16)
- 48 statements sorted
- -6/+6 approximate normal distribution
- Exploratory Factor Analysis using Pearson's correlation coefficient
- 2 Centroid Factors extracted for rotation
- Flagging was set to $p < 0.05$
- Majority of common variance was required

Viewpoint 1

Sector-Based Knowledge

- Understand the drivers within other fields or sectors

Partnership Governance

- Review partnerships and evaluate their effectiveness

External Communications

- Respond effectively to questions from partners, public, and media

Viewpoint 2

Systems Thinking

- Work for the collective good before responding to individual interests

Innovation

- Facilitate an experimental collaborative approach

Open Engagement

- Engage with others

Power Dynamics

- Navigate power differences within the group

"The main capability [I would add] would be empowerment of people beyond the 'usual suspects' to meaningfully engage. This needs the creation of open access spaces, resources to support people (admin, printing, digital), and a chance to learn and develop skills for collaboration."

Participant Comments

"In my experience of getting together with others to do good I have been largely disappointed by the lack of diversity of participation and the fear around inviting criticism. Committees, groups, boards I have sat on have often lacked the confidence to look dispassionately at the subjects they feel passionate about."