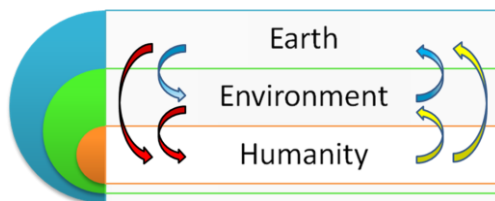


RESCUE Alignment Workshop

16 June 2010; EC-JRC IES, Ispra (IT)

Interface between science and policy, communication and outreach



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Last update: 16th June 2010

WG Key Achievements

- ✓ Opening science for a knowledge democracy
- ✓ Draft report and recommendations completed
- ✓ Sub-groups worked on themes identified last September, consultation with some science policy-makers, virtual meeting in April



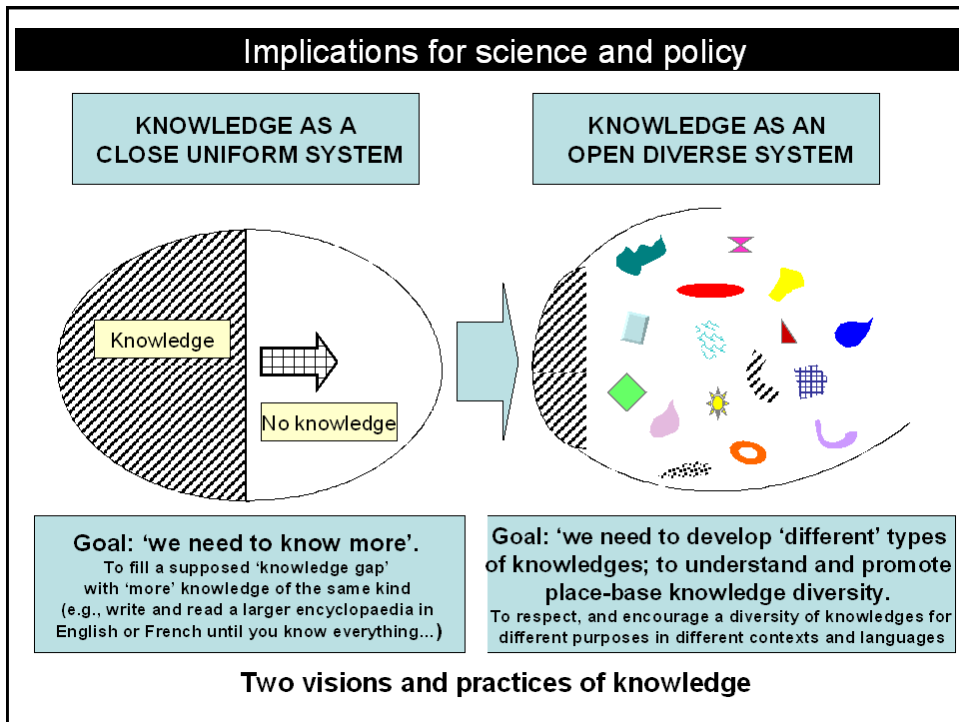


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3. The current state of knowledge systems
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Recommendations

- 1. Far-reaching Institutional Change**
- 2. Reliable Funding for RD4SD**
- 3. Commitment to Engagement and Communication**
- 4. Building capacity (to learn)**

Far-Reaching Institutional Change

Example:

There is an immediate need to design and establish long-term funding programmes (10 years and more) that are not subject to change at every national election.

This will require cross-sectoral cooperation among two or more ministries (e.g. Ministry for Research + Ministry for Energy, Rural Development & Transportation + Ministry for Development Cooperation) to support the long-term and implementation-oriented character of those programmes.

Reliable Funding

Example:

Changes in the funding and allocation system have to be made in response to the needs of stakeholders and the complex character of sustainability and global change research.

A proper evaluation system for integrative research on societal themes is needed together with further development and testing of concepts, methods and tools for implementation-oriented research for sustainability.

Science funders need to devise and implement procedures for bringing more societal actors into the process of funding decisions.

Commitment to Engagement and Communication

Example:

As a first step, a set of 10-20 long-term demonstration projects covering different world regions and scales, sustainability needs/problem domains and policy contexts should be set up across the world to demonstrate viable / 'working' mechanisms of engagement and cooperation in knowledge production, learning and evaluation while tackling concrete sustainability concerns. These demonstration projects should be carefully monitored and regularly compared and their processes and results should be disseminated widely.

Demonstration projects would support:

Moving towards an openly accessible knowledge system

Developing criteria, open evaluation systems and responsibility procedures

Capacity building

Strengthening of international collaboration on defining key research issues.

Building Capacity (to learn)

Example:

It is of central importance to provide large-scale and long-term career incentives for (young) scientists working in these fields. There are encouraging developments that could be strengthened – but much more is needed, including providing real credit for “getting your hands dirty”.

The WG Members

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