

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

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EMPOWERMENT

Give people the possibility to participate in decision-making

Why is it so important
for sustainable development?





EMPOWERMENT

Give people the tools to participate in decision-making processes

Respect different ways of thinking and being in the world

Involving in civic life

Inclusion of marginalised groups: women, the poor, disabled, children...

Cooperation. All parts play a role

Creativity and constructive dialogue

Improvement of resilience

Recognition of own capacities and responsibility

Improvement of the vision to change



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Process that provides private individuals an opportunity to influence public decisions

BENEFITS

- Information and ideas from citizens
- Public support for decisions
- Avoidance of social conflicts
- Confidence in governance structures
- Cooperation and relationships
- Identification with changes
- Citizenship





CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Process that provides private individuals an opportunity to influence public decisions

PROBLEMS

- Cost
- Not structured properly
- Traditional way of politics
- Fear to lose representativeness and capacity of decision from traditional structures
- Authoritarianism
- Decision manipulation or boycott from lobbies
- Lack of motivation and disengagement





DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURES

TECHNOCRATIC DECISION MAKING

Application of technical knowledge, expertise, techniques and methods to problem solving

A group of experts are considered to be best suited to make complex technical decisions

- Most effective when considering technical decisions
- Fail to solve social problems

DEMOCRATIC DECISION MAKING

Assumption that all who are affected by a given decision have the right to participate in the making of that decision

It can be direct participation or through representatives

How Governments Determine Citizen Participation

High Participation

Government Power

Citizen Participation

Low or No Participation

Autocratic

Government Power

Select Citizens' Participation

Low or No Participation

Oligarchic

General Citizens' Participation

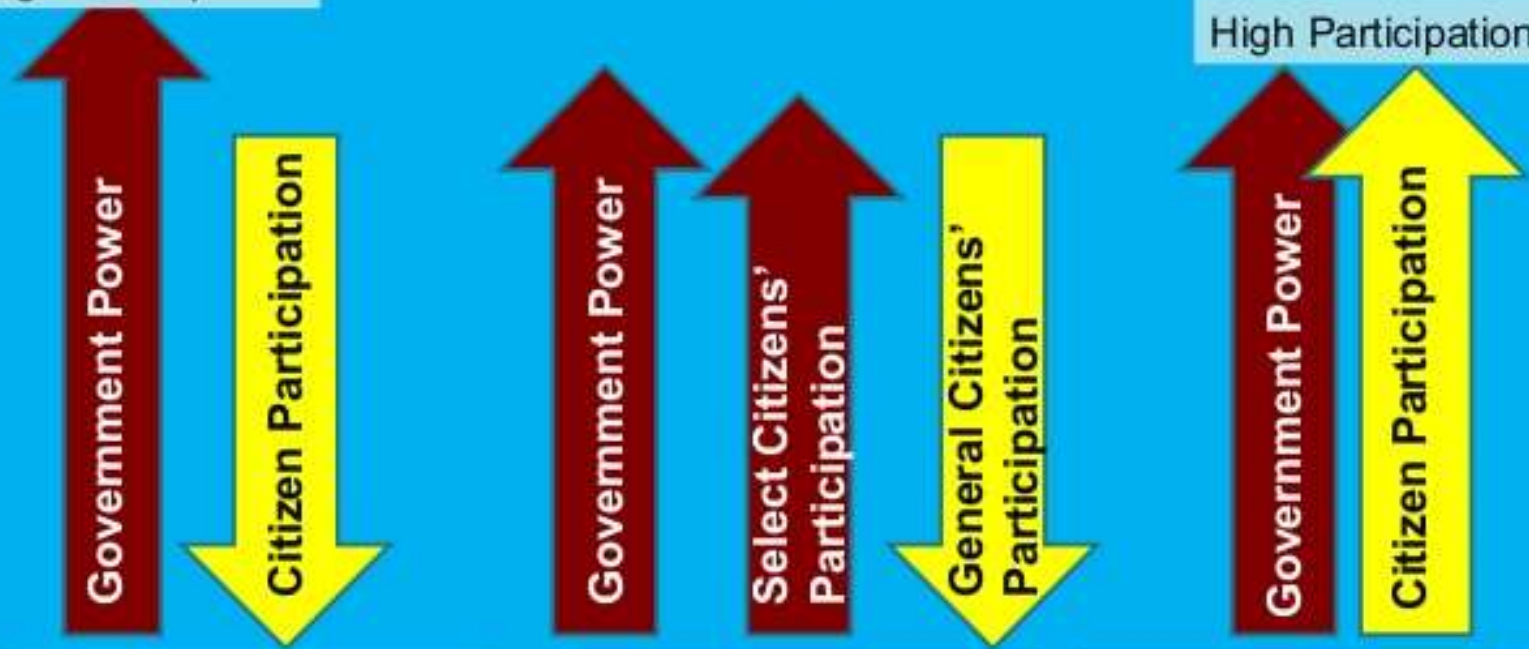
Low or No Participation

Democracy

High Participation

Government Power

Citizen Participation





POLICY DECISIONS

Three Types of Policy Decisions

1. Technical decisions based solely on the application of scientific issues

2. Value decisions concerned with the resolution of important normative or societal issues.

Value issues involve normative determinations of "what should be"
Although scientific information can provide guidance with respect to value decisions, it is rarely the sole determinant

1. Mixed decisions have both technical and value components
Rely on scientific techniques and extrapolations to determine the potential of "what is".



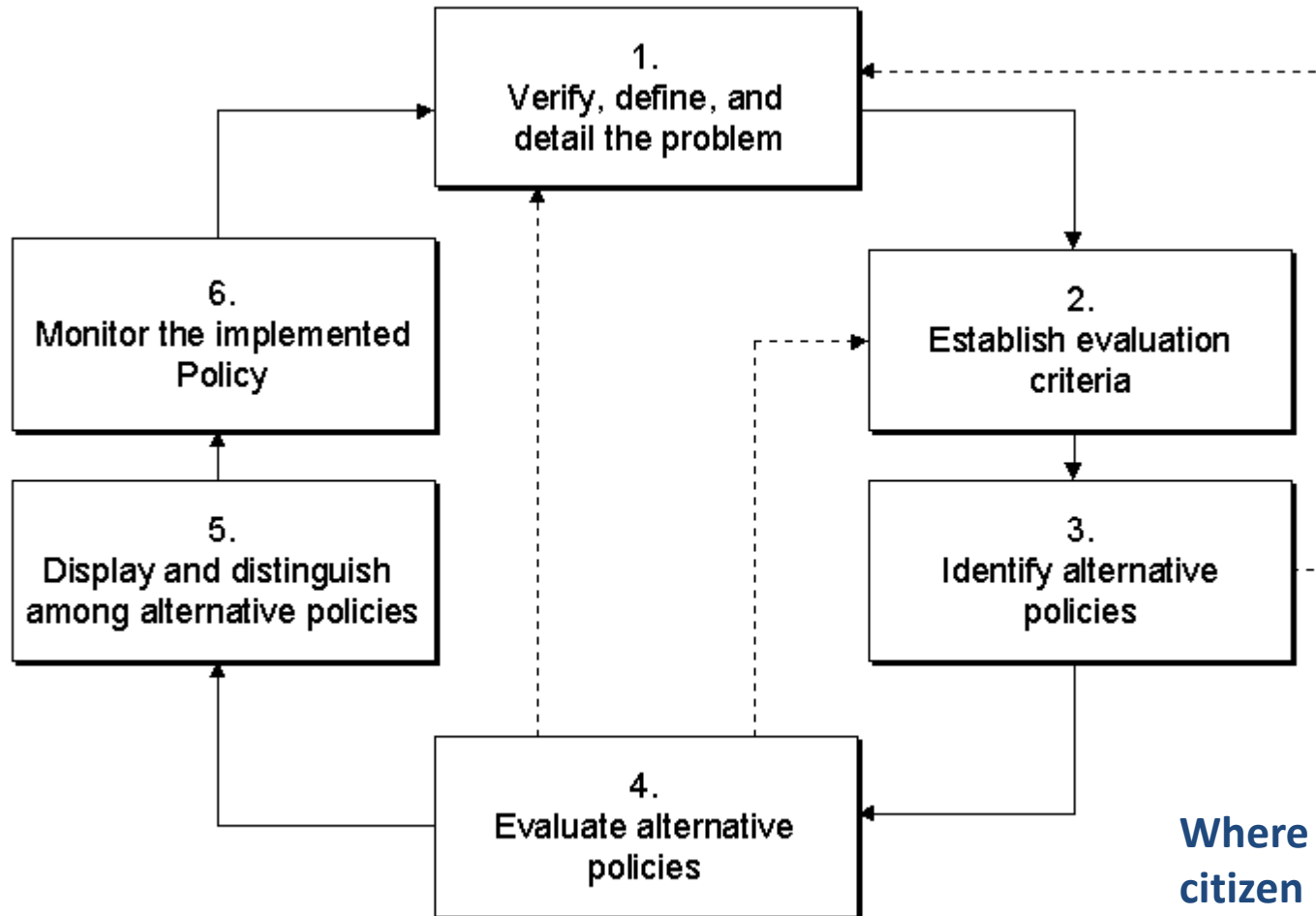
POLICY DECISIONS

Characteristics of Policy Problems

- not well defined
- solutions cannot generally be proven to be correct before application
- No problem solution is ever guaranteed to achieve the intended result
- Problem solutions are seldom the best and the cheapest
- The adequacy of the solution is often difficult to measure against the "public good"
- The fairness of solutions is impossible to measure objectively



THE POLICY ANALYSIS PROCESS



Where can we introduce citizen participation in this process?



POLICY DECISIONS

Basic vs. Researched Analysis

Researched Policy Analysis

Extensive inventory phase

Search for alternatives which are narrowed before public presentation

Preparation of a plan

Client: the public interest

Long-term process

Basic Policy Analysis

Limited inventory, focused on specific issues

Constrained search for alternatives

Preparation of memoranda, issue papers, policy papers of draft legislation

Specific client

Short-term process

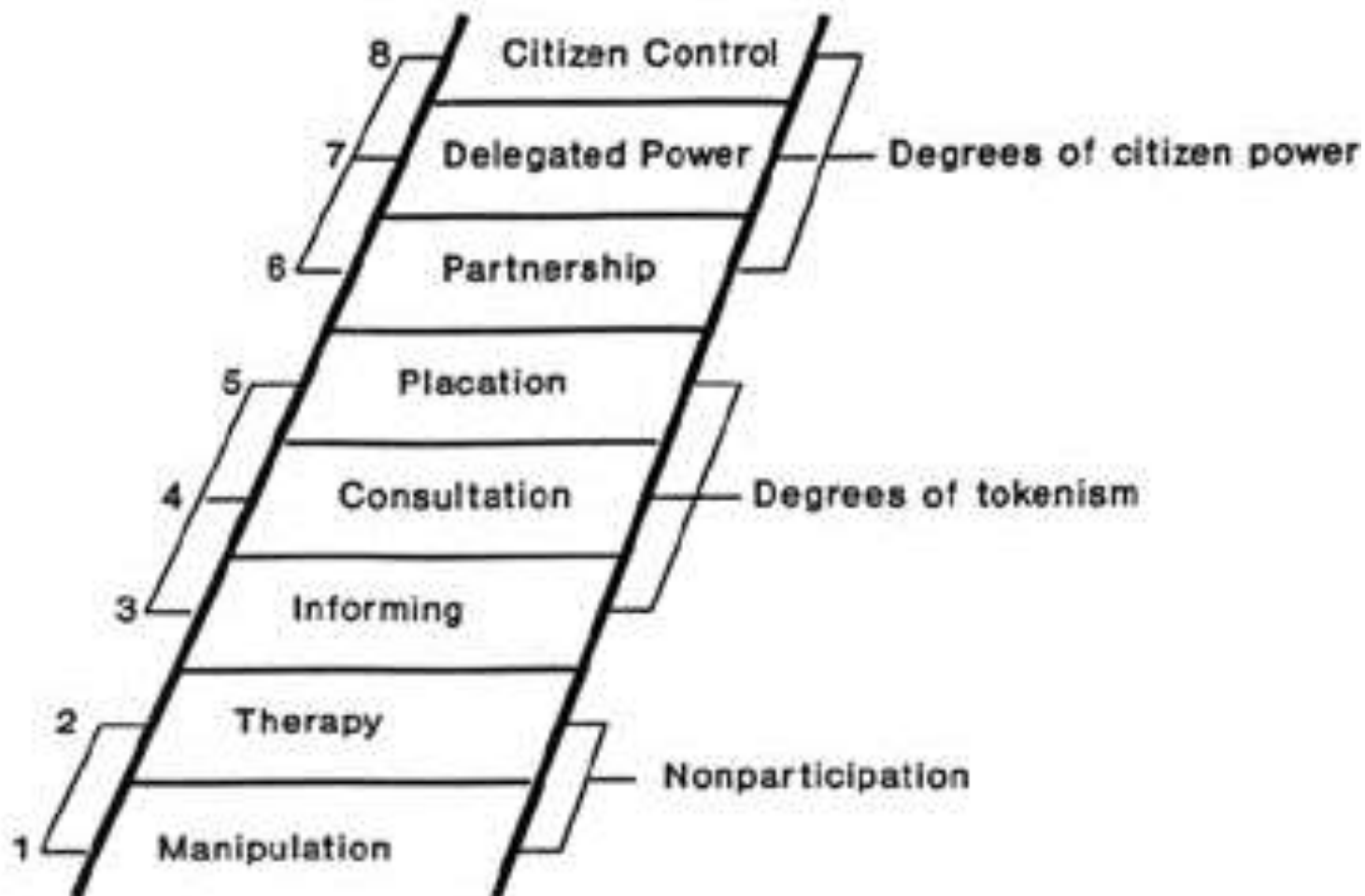


POLICY ANALYSIS PRINCIPLES

- Learn to focus quickly on the central decision criterion of the problem
- Think about the types of policy actions that can be taken
- Avoid the tool-box approach to analyzing policy
- Learn to deal with uncertainty
- Say it with numbers
- Make the analysis simple and transparent
- Check the facts
- Give the client analysis, not decisions
- Push the boundaries of analysis beyond the "policy envelope"
- Be aware that there is no such thing as an absolutely correct, rational, and complete analysis



The Ladder of Citizen Participation





TECHNIQUES OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- Publicity
- Public education
- Public input
- Public interaction
- Public partnership

PUBLICITY	PUBLIC EDUCATION	PUBLIC INPUT	PUBLIC INTERACTION	PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP
Building public support	Disseminating information	Collecting information	Two-way communication	Securing advice and consent

<----- PASSIVE

ACTIVE----->



EFFECTIVE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME

- Meet legal requirements;
- Clearly articulate goals and objectives;
- Command political support;
- Be an integral part of the decision making structure;
- Receive adequate funding, staff, and time;
- Identify concerned or affected publics; and
- Delineate clear roles and responsibilities for participants.



SOME EXPERIENCES

San Francisco Bay Area. Participatory budgeting

<https://blog.bayareametro.gov/tags-public/citizen-participation>

Latvia. Process of Government decision making

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjXJ8cCWxc4>

Stockholm. Citizen participation in urban planning

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaM_6g9koeE

Public participation in Environmental Governance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yERiKSmrfW0>



EQUALITY

‘Creating a fairer society, where everyone can participate and has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.’

Department of Health and Social Care, 2004

What groups in society can have inequality of opportunities or are discriminated?





Activity

Imagine the following people how they could be and write a short description:

- A Model
- Footballer
- Athlete
- Doctor's receptionist
- Construction Worker
- Engineer
- Beauty Therapist



Activity

Did you have this idea?





Activity

Did you have this idea?





Activity

Did you have this idea?





Activity

Did you have this idea?





Activity

Did you have this idea?





Activity

Did you have this idea?





DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCpWL588010>



DIVERSITY

Recognising individual as well as group differences, treating people as individuals, and placing positive value in diversity in the community.

It will ensure everybody's needs are understood and responded by society.





Diversity is about respecting individual.....

- Race
- Culture
- National Origin
- Region
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Marital Status
- Religion
- Ethnicity
- Disability
- Ability
- Family Structure
- Health
- Values
- Politics

.....and much more

When we think society can only be one way...

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO DONALD TRUMP 2016

from Yanko Tsvetkov's Atlas of Prejudice
www.atlasofprejudice.com



- We put prejudices into action
- Discrimination happens



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS





EQUALITY ACT 2010

Types of discrimination:

- Age
- Being or becoming a transsexual person
- Being married or in a civil partnership
- Being pregnant or on maternity leave
- Disability
- Race including color, nationality, ethnic or national origin
- Religion, belief or lack of religion/belief
- Sex
- Sexual orientation

Protected from discrimination:

- At work
- In Education
- As a consumer
- When using public services
- When buying or renting property
- As a member or guest of a private club or association



WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

Goals:

A prosperous Wales

A resilient Wales

A healthier Wales

A more equal Wales

A Wales of cohesive communities

A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh language

A globally responsible Wales



POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION

Favouring individuals belonging to groups which suffer discrimination.

In the UK it is unlawful under the Equality Act 2010.

In this case, only Positive Action is considered as lawful in some cases:

- enable or encourage people who share a protected characteristic to overcome a disadvantage connected to the characteristic;
- meet the needs of people who share a protected characteristic where those needs are different to those of people who do not have the characteristic; or
- enable or encourage people who share a protected characteristic to participate in an activity in which their participation is disproportionately low.



**WHAT ACTIONS CAN BE DEVELOPED TO
INTRODUCE EQUALITY AS PART OF THE
STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT?**