

What kinds of interdisciplinarity do we need and why?

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**What is
interdisciplinarity/transdisciplinarity?**

Logics of interdisciplinary practice

- **Accountability** - additive knowledge to produce integrated solutions to public-policy defined (and funded) problems
- **Innovation** - harnessing knowledge to inform product development by engaging consumers
- **Ontology** - experimental forms of knowledge production to address novel problems, research collaborations and interventions

(Barry A., & G. Borne 2013 *Interdisciplinarity: reconfigurations of the social and natural sciences*. Routledge, London)

In what ways have you worked with it?

Problematising the problem of flood risk



- Why do they keep saying it's a one in a hundred year event when we've been flooded twice in five years?'
- We're the ones with the experience of flooding, why aren't the 'experts' interested in what we know?'

Competency Groups

- CGs involve (i) social and natural scientists and (ii) scientists and affected publics working together to interrogate and redistribute expertise
- a commitment from all participants to respect the different kinds of knowledge and modes of reasoning each brings to the collaboration
- a collective ethics protocol permitting all participants access to the materials produced by the Group

Where do we go from here?

RELU application pro-forma

M. (ii) Approach to Interdisciplinarity Please describe your approach to interdisciplinarity, drawing on the natural and social sciences (max 750 words). This should include (i) your justification for and approach to interdisciplinarity, (ii) the reasons for your choice of disciplines, and (iii) how you will ensure effective integration of the social and natural sciences.

interdisciplinary inventiveness



Direct attention to the techno-scientific practices of environmental ‘problem-solving’ as ecologically constitutive themselves and, hence, matters of crucial analytical and political concern