

PACITA practitioner training 3

Involving actors in technology assessment

Anders Jacobi, DBT



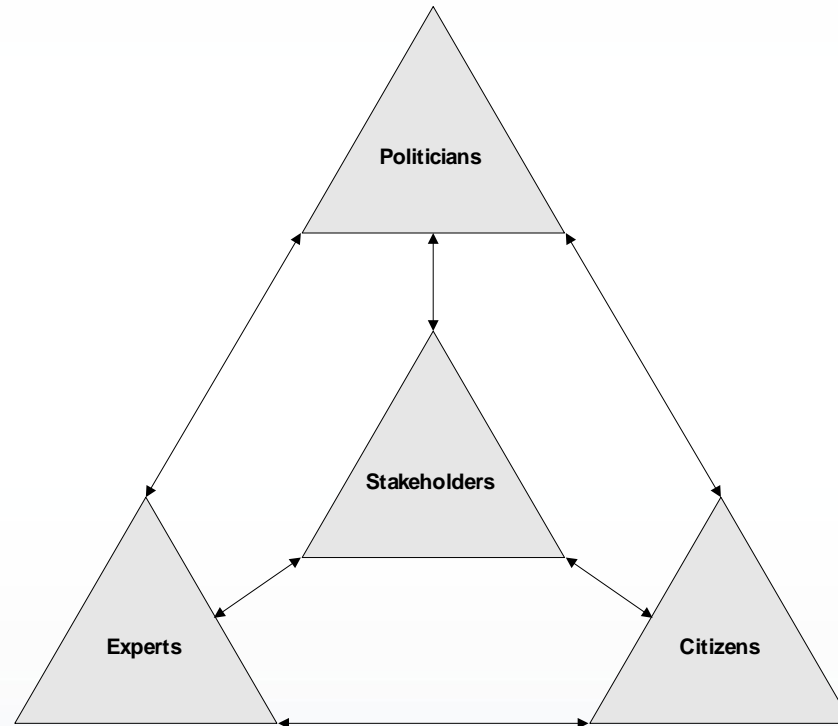
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What is TA?

- Knowledge-based policy-making includes different sources of knowledge and methods of knowledge processing, before the decision is taken
- Technology Assessment does that on issues involving science and technology
- Parliamentary TA has special processes/ responsibilities towards parliament
- TA is knowledge brokering around societal issues with S&T components



4 groups of actors



Different types of actors

- Policy-makers
 - Members of Parliament
 - Government / Public Administration
- Experts
 - Scientific experts
 - Praxis oriented experts
- Lay people
 - Citizens
 - Users / patients / ...
- Stakeholders
 - SCOs
 - Industry organisations and labour organisations

How to involve actors

- Citizen Consultation
 - Consensus Conference
 - Citizen Summit / WWViews
 - Citizen hearing
 - Interview Meeting
 - Voting conference
- Stakeholder involvement
 - Future Search
 - Scenario Workshop
 - Ad hoc workshop design
 - Perspective Workshop
- Expert Analysis
 - Work Groups
 - Structured Brainstorms
 - Modelling/scenarios
 - Conferences & Workshops
- Advisory function
 - Parliamentary Hearings
 - Future Panel
 - Early Warning; Briefings
- Public Debate
 - Debate meetings
 - Debate Products/ [www](#)



Why involve actors

- Expertise and knowledge
- Normative clarification
- Practical and real life experience
- Innovation and new ideas
- Balanced, fair and thorough results
- Grounding and ownership to solutions
- Creating mobilisation and support

Developing robust strategies, policies and solutions!



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Challenges in involving

- Finding the right people
- Balancing (unbiased)
- Attempts to lobby
- Lack of interest in participating
- Cooperation problems
- Not supporting the results in the end
- ...



Need for engagement

New (grand) challenges, societal complexity increase
Politics deal with complexity

- Solutions demand change/action on all levels
- And co-creation

Wicked problems

- Uncertainty demands professional as well as normative judgments (citizens, stakeholders)

Create ownership and distributed action

→ The worse our problems, the more these reasons count



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Impacts of TA

	Raising knowledge	Forming attitudes	Initialising action
Tech/Sci aspects	<p>SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Technical options assessed and made visible * Comprehensive overview on consequences given 	<p>AGENDA SETTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Setting the agenda in the political debate * Stimulating public debate * Introducing visions or scenarios 	<p>REFRAMING OF DEBATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * New action plan or initiative to further scrutinise the problem decided * New orientation in policies established
Societal aspects	<p>SOCIAL MAPPING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Structure of conflicts made transparent 	<p>MEDIATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Self-reflecting among actors * Blockade running * Bridge building 	<p>NEW DECISION MAKING PROCESSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * New ways of governance introduced * Initiative to intensify public debate taken
Policy aspects	<p>POLICY ANALYSIS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Policy objectives explored * Existing policies assessed 	<p>RE-STRUCTURING THE POLICY DEBATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Comprehensiveness in policies increased * Policies evaluated through debate * Democratic legitimisation perceived 	<p>DECISION TAKEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Policy alternatives filtered * Innovations implemented * New legislation is passed