

CONTRIBUTIONS OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN RURAL CONTEXTS

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A stylized, layered mountain range graphic in shades of teal and blue, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS - OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN RURAL CONTEXTS


◆ AGENDA

- *PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY AND POLICY: STRATEGIC RECIPROCITIES*
- *LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS: REVISITING SOME KEY CHARACTERISTICS*
- *“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT*
- *REVISITING CAPACITY*
- *CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS*

PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY AND POLICY: STRATEGIC RECIPROCITIES

- ◆ A COMPETENCY COMMONS?
- ◆ *INTERESTS OF THE STATE – “STRATEGIC LINE”,
IMAGE AND RHETORIC, INVESTMENT , RISK
AVERSION AND PUBLIC MANAGEMENT*
- ◆ *BALANCING BREADTH OF PARTICIPATION AND
DEPTH OF INCLUSION*
- ◆ *GETTING FROM “POWER OVER” TO “POWER TO”*
- ◆ *LOCALISM, REGIONALISM AND DEMOCRATIC
PROCESS WITH DESIGNED (INTER)DEPENDENCIES*


PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY AND POLICY: STRATEGIC RECIPROCITIES

- ◆ A COMPETENCY COMMONS?
 - ◆ *GETTING FROM "POWER WITH" TO "POWER TO"*
 - ◆ *THE COMMON REGIONAL PREFERENCE – EXPEDITING THE HORIZONTAL AXIS*
 - ◆ *POLICY CONGRUITY AND ASSURANCE VIA INTER-LEVEL COLLABORATION – "FIT" AND ROBUSTNESS, CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, UNCERTAINTY REDUCTION*
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LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS: RE-VISITING SOME KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- ◆ *ENORMOUS DIVERSITY*
- ◆ *DIFFERENCES ASSOCIATED WITH CONTEXTUAL HISTORIES, PROJECT OR PROGRAMME FOCUS, ENDOGENOUS AND EXOGENOUS INITIATIVES AND BALANCE, AND MANY OTHER FACTORS*
- ◆ *IMPRECISE NOTIONS OF COOPERATION, COLLABORATION, ASSOCIATION, DEGREES OF INSTRUMENTALITY, LONGEVITY*

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS: RE-VISITING SOME KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- ◆ *INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO EMERGENT CONCEPTS OF GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL CAPITAL(S)*
 - ◆ *RELEVANCE AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE SPATIAL DIMENSION EMERGENT*
 - ◆ *ROLES IN FACILITATING, EXPEDITING AND IMPLEMENTING IS A VARIABLE AND CRITICAL FACTOR*
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LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS: RE-VISITING SOME KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- ◆ *TENSIONS BETWEEN LONG TERM INVESTMENTS AND SHORTER TERM "PRODUCT"*
- ◆ *TENSIONS BETWEEN PROCESS AND PRODUCT*
- ◆ *NOTIONS OF CAPACITY BUILDING LINKED TO INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND EXPECTATIONS IN EFFICIENCY, EQUITY, ECONOMY AND EFFECTIVENESS*

“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ *CONSTRUCTION OF “RURALS” MAKES FOR A COMPLEX, DYNAMIC, NEGOTIATED MILIEU WITHIN WHICH PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY AND POLICY ROLES ARE MEDIATED*
- ◆ *“RURAL”, HOWEVER DEFINED, IS NOT AN INERT, PASSIVE PLATFORM UPON WHICH THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS TAKES PLACE - IT IS ACTIVE*

“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ *RESURGENCE OF INTEREST IN PLACE-BASED DEVELOPMENT AND SPATIAL DIMENSIONS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT REINFORCES RELEVANCE OF “RURAL” AS OPERATIONAL*
 - ◆ *THIS RE-FOCUSES ATTENTION ON THE STRATEGIC, DIFFERENTIATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RURAL MILIEU*
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- A stylized silhouette of a mountain range in shades of teal, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ **SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS RELEVANT TO THE QUESTION OF POLICY & PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY**

- *LEVELS*

- *OPENNESS*

- *DENSITY*

- *SCALE*



“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ **SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS RELEVANT TO THE QUESTION OF POLICY & PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY**


- *ACCESSIBILITY*

- *CULTURAL DEPTH*

- *RELATIVE STABILITY*

- *COMPLEXITY*


“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ *THESE AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS CONVERGE TO DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY INFLUENCE*
 - *THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA*
 - *THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS*
 - *THE ROLES AND POTENTIALS OF DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND*
 - *OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES*
- 

“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ *DEVELOPING THE CAPACITY OF RURAL PARTNERSHIPS TO PROACTIVELY INFLUENCE THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY MUST, THEREFORE, ATTEND TO RURAL AS AN “ACTIVE INGREDIENT” IN THE PROCESS, AND NOT AS PASSIVE CONTEXTUAL BACKDROP*


“RURAL” AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT

- ◆ THE CONCEPTUALIZED “ACTIVE” RURAL WILL CONDITION
 - ◆ *THE PARTNERSHIP CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AGENDA*
 - ◆ *THE PROCESS OF CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT*
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REVISITING CAPACITY

- ◆ *BY NOW A SOMEWHAT DEBASED CURRENCY*
- ◆ *RE-FOCUS ON THE ABILITY TO*
 - *VISUALIZE CHOICES IN CONDITIONS OF ASYMETRICAL POWER RELATIONS*
 - *STRATEGICALLY MAKE CHOICES (E.G. RISK ASSESSMENT, LEVERAGE)*
 - *TACTICALLY MANAGE THE CHOICE (E.G. ABSORPTION, ADAPTATION, VERSATILITY)*

CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ *ESSENTIALLY A NEW ROLE – BEYOND THE REACTIVE PROGRAMME RELATIONSHIP*
 - ◆ *PROACTIVE ROLE MEANS BOTH HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL INVESTMENTS*
 - ◆ *CONTEXT/ROLE SPECIFIC PARTNERSHIPS UNLIKELY PRIMARY AGENTS IN POLICY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT*
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CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ *RECONCEPTUALIZE POLICY PARTNERSHIP ROLE FROM MECHANISMS TO CHANGE INTER-LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS TO CHANGE REGIONAL-TO-CENTRE RELATIONSHIPS – FROM PARTICIPATION TO PENETRATION?*
- ◆ *MOVE FROM PARTNERSHIP AS ORGANIZATION TO FLEXIBLE, NETWORK-BASED, VIRTUAL PARTNERSHIP - FROM ORGANIZATIONAL “CREEP” TOWARD TACTICALLY INSTRUMENTAL DESIGN*

CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ *INCREASED PREMIUM ON DEMONSTRATED
VALUE-ADDED AND NET BENEFITS –
HORIZONTALLY AND LOCALLY*
- ◆ *EARNING THE “POLICY STRIPES” -
PROCESS KNOW-HOW, POLITICAL
MATURITY, RESOURCES SENSITIVITY,
COMPETITIVE AWARENESS AND
PERSONALITIES*

CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ *NOTE THE OVERARCHING STRATEGIC CHOICE FRAMEWORK FOR PARTNERS IN POLICY*
 - *FOR SYSTEMS MAINTENANCE*
 - *FOR SYSTEMS GUIDANCE*
 - *FOR SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION*

CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ *SUGGESTS SOME IMPLICATIONS FOR
PARTNERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP
NETWORK CAPACITY*
 - *POLICY DEVELOPMENT AGENDA*
 - *NETWORK COMPOSITION*
 - *OUTCOME PRINCIPLE*
 - *PROCESS PRINCIPLES*

CAPACITY AND POLICY DESIGN – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ Thank you
- ◆ Go raibh maith agaibh

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