



University of Natural Resources
and Life Sciences, Vienna
Centre for Development Research

Workspace

Transforming our World

Towards a New Agenda for Participatory
Methods in Development Research and Practice



University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences,
Vienna, Peter Jordan Straße 82, 1190 Vienna

Tuesday, 1 December 2015, 13:00 to 17:00

By invitation only

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Background

Facilitators, change agents, extension workers, and researchers have used participatory methods for empowering farmers and resource users over the course of several decades. But a lot of the original emancipatory nature these methods once had eroded. Further, participatory methods rarely offer a wider network of actors, such as members of innovation platforms, opportunities for deep changes of behaviours, values and mindsets. Such changes, however, are essential for transforming our world. Against this background, and given the '2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', scientists from Bhutan, Mozambique and Austria are putting together a research project aimed at further developing participatory methods for mentoring transformative changes towards the wellbeing of communities, agriculture, and the environment. In this frame, we bring together people for setting a new agenda.

Purpose

- Share experiences with the design and use of participatory methods in agriculture and related fields.
- Identify methods and facilitation procedures that enable transformative changes of people, farms and landscapes.
- Define research frontiers for improving the effectiveness of participatory methods for empowerment and transformative change.

Format

Short presentations, open space for learning and exchange of experiences, moderated and documented discussions.

Contributions

The ChangeLab Initiative, Michael Hauser, Agro-ecologist and Assistant Professor at BOKU University

Steps Towards Happiness, Tulsi Gurung, Assistant Professor at Royal University of Bhutan

The Anatomy of Change, Alexandre de Faria, formerly UNIDO Senior Management, Lecturer and Coach, GOAL Network Vienna

Linking Loose Ends Through Videos, Hastings Chiwasa, Lecturer at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Principles of Transformative Learning, Lorenz Probst, Senior Scientist and Lecture at BOKU University

Advancing Farmers' Participation, Eunice Cavane, Assistant Professor at UEM, Maputo

Organisational Development, Methods, Trends, Max Manderscheid and Mathias Pöll, Consultants at Heitger Consulting

Collaborative Planning Methods in Natural Resource Management, Harald Vacik, Associate Professor at BOKU University

Resource Persons

Florian Peloschek, BOKU University

Birgit Habermann, BOKU University

Andreas Melcher, BOKU University

Margret Steixner, Coach and Trainer

Mara Lindner, BOKU University

Andreas Peham, Consultant

Rosana Kral, BOKU University

Willibald Loiskandl, BOKU University

Waltraud Rabitsch, ADA Vienna



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