

The Earth Academy



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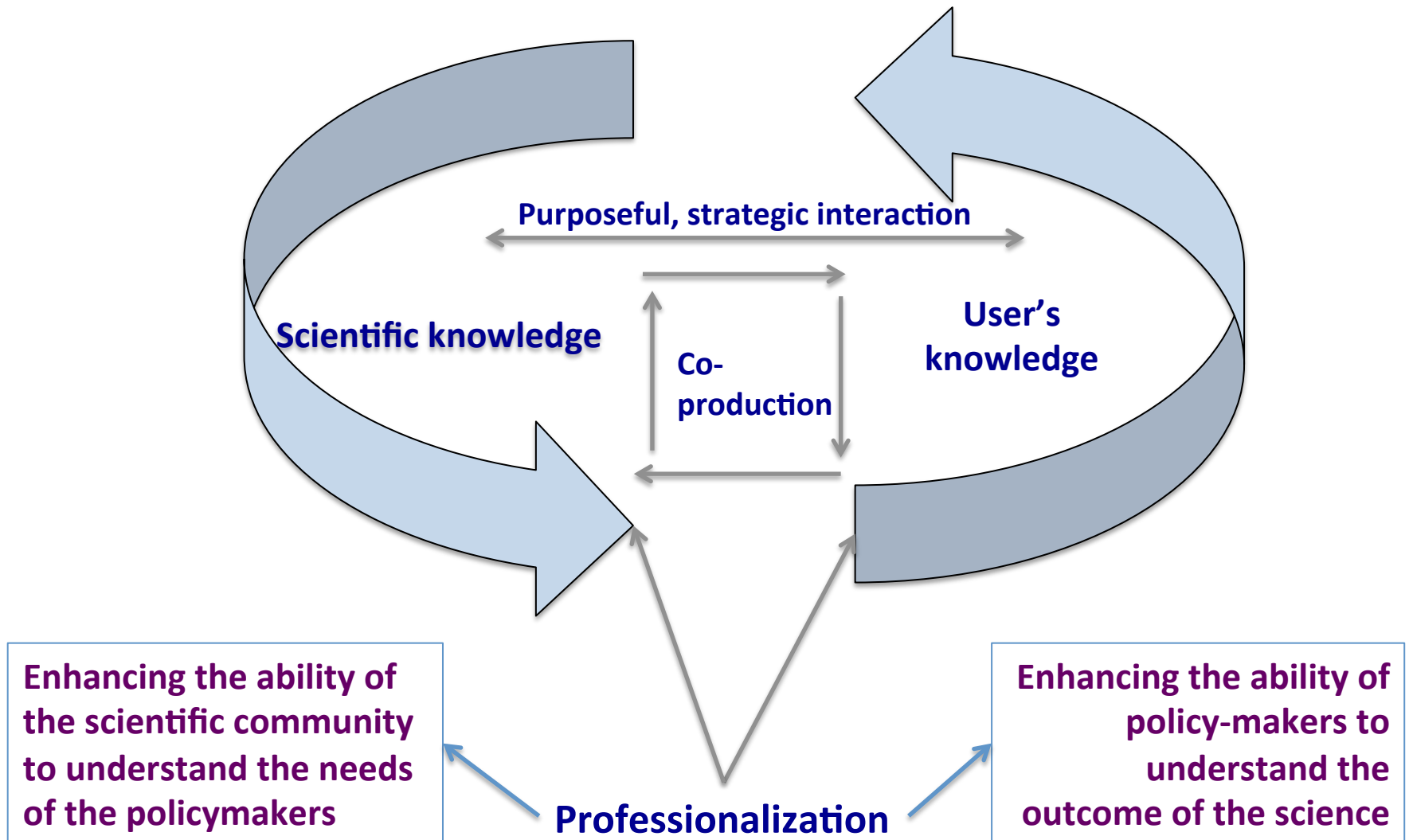
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The Earth Academy: Capacity Development through co-Production of Knowledge



The Earth Academy

- MISSION: To develop research and educational **networks**/partnerships that **integrate knowledge** on issues related to Earth System dynamics and specifically to human-driven **environmental changes** and their impacts on the socio-ecological systems, and to the **societal transformations** required to respond to these changes.
 - The long-term objective is to **train** future decision-makers and make **future leaders** aware of the problems facing the planet.
 - The Earth Academy will be constituted as an **international network** of research institutions promoting **education and capacity development** on major planetary challenges facing humanity.

A New Approach to Capacity Building

- An enhanced background context
- Pre- and post-activities along with face-to-face engagement
- Capacity building embedded in a long-term commitment
- Development of a two-way dialogue

The 4 Foci of the Academy

1. Organization of specific educational activities such as summer schools
 - Classic concept; novel approach
2. Organization of trans-disciplinary think tanks.
 - Dahlem style meeting with output
3. Development of e-learning modules
 - MOOC
4. Organization of a network of fellows
 - Transdisciplinary collaboration • 2 years • Alumni network

The Structure of the Earth Academy

- Board of Directors
- A small secretariat to coordinate activities worldwide (non-profit associations)
- Institutional members (research and service institutions)
- Regional nodes (South America, Africa, Asia, Europe, etc.) where activities are taking place

Link to CSP

- Climate services provide authoritative, science-based responses to immediate questions posed by stakeholders.
- The Earth Academy hopes to establish strong links with the Climate Service partnership and jointly develop sustained educational activities.
- Any concrete suggestion is welcome to reinforce this link.

Financial Support

- Initial support could be provided by the member institutions and perhaps a private foundation.
- Activities would have to be supported by soft-money on the basis of individual projects.
- The hope is to work on behalf of international organizations, international research programs and development programs etc. and in cooperation with educational/cultural institutions in the world.

Thank You



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Mission

- To develop research and educational **networks/partnerships** that **integrate knowledge** on issues related to Earth System dynamics and specifically to human-driven **environmental changes** and their impacts on the socio-ecological systems, and to the **societal transformations** required to respond to these changes.

Limited success of past capacity building activities

- Based on short-term and ad-hoc events with a lack of follow-up
- Organized along a top-down model without engaging sufficiently knowledge holders
- Did not sufficiently involve research institutions, so that relations between “students” and “instructors” have been limited.

1. Summer Schools and local educational activities

- Will organized in some of the Academy's nodes or at the request of a university.
- Classic summer school format, but with a lot of exchanges.
- Serves as an entry point for more sustained follow-up activities

2. Trans-disciplinary Think-Tanks

- Meeting of about 5 days to tackle a focused question in the presence of scholars and stakeholders.
- A specific format and a well defined product will characterized these meetings (similar to the Dahlem conferences in Germany)

3. E-learning Modules

- Some web-accessible modules on specific subjects covering different aspects of earth system science (including issues related to mitigation and adaptation) will be developed in different languages

4. Academy Fellows

- Approximately 10 junior professionals from different parts of the world will be invited to become Academy's fellow for a period of 2 years.
- During this period, they will work together with 2 or 3 other Fellows on a interdisciplinary project that should lead to a identifiable product.
- Fellows would visit some of the member institutions, participate in some think-tank activities and some other Academy's meetings

Web-based Learning and Collaboration Environment for the Fellows

