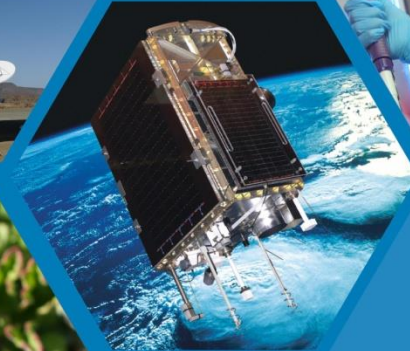


Challenges, pitfalls and practice of evidence informed policy making



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Department:
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

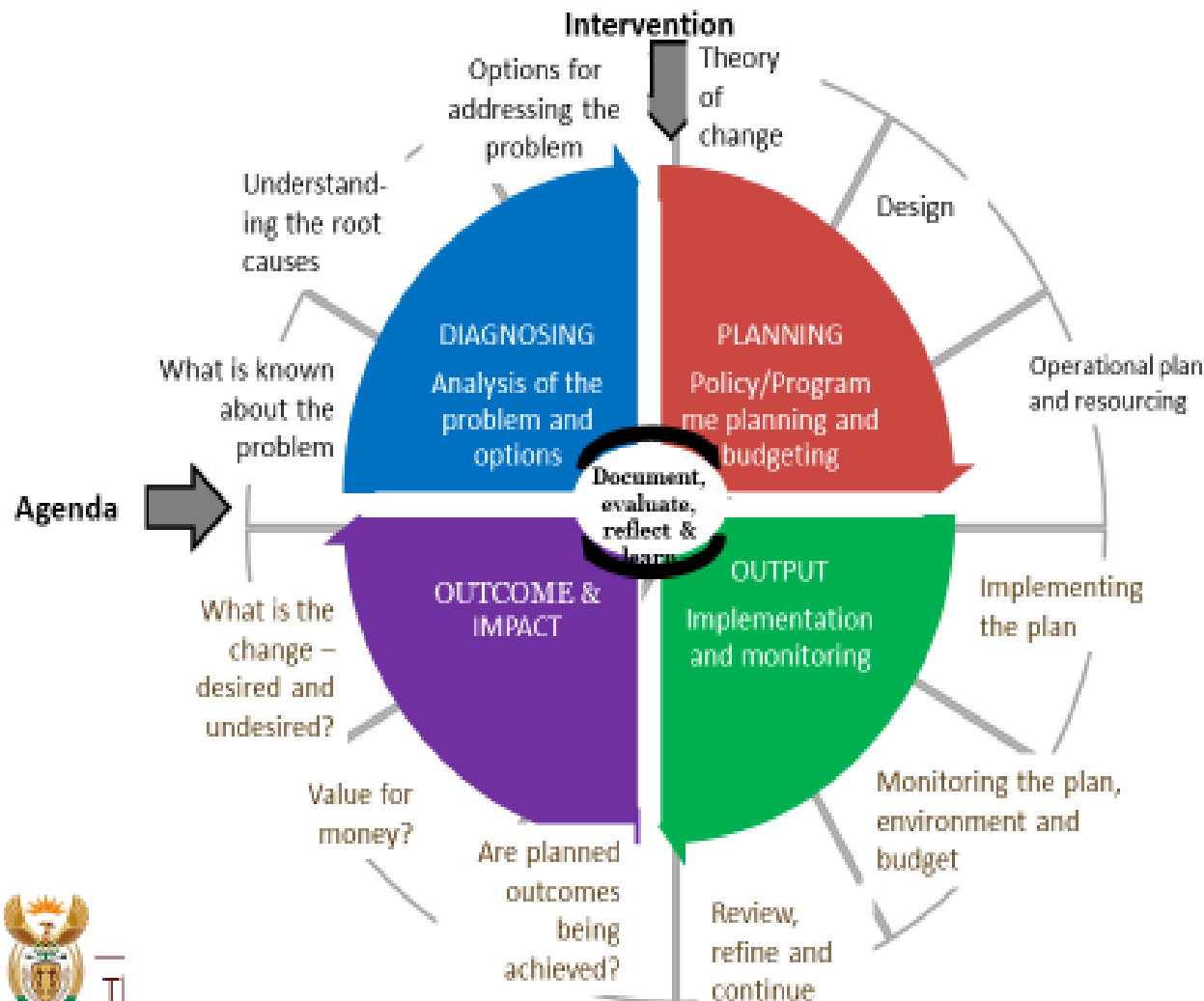


Evidence-Informed Decision-Making

- What is evidence, and how can it improve decision making?
- **Identifying the problem** Clearly define the problem(s)
- **Identifying what works – What do we mean by impact?**
- **How is a policy supposed to work? – theory of change**

Evidence-Informed Decision-Making

Evidence Based Policy Making and Implementation



Types of Evidence

Definitions

CONTINUUM OF TYPES & SOURCES OF EVIDENCE USED						
None	Opinion	Informal	Substantive	Formal Research	Scientific Research	Review & assessment of available evidence
No explicit basis for policy decisions	Of the policy makers; or broadly accepted public opinion; lobby groups; others	Anecdotal, stories, uncritical use of information to hand, partial & limited	Careful truth seeking, developmental evaluation, data mining of survey & admin data	Empirical, appropriate design & methodology	Statistical, comparative, causal	Testing, analysing & synthesising available evidence. Rapid reviews; systematic enquiry; meta-analysis

Adapted from: Hayes, W, 2002, The Policy Cycle



Evidence versus Opinion

Evidence:

- Data that meet the standards of internal validity, adequacy of reporting, and external validity reviewed above.
- Key qualities: independence, objective, verifiable

Opinion

- Statements and claims that do not meet the standards of evidence
- Key qualities: positional, subjective, partial (selective), hard to verify

Common garden invaders

CATEGORY 1 PLANTS

Declared weeds which should immediately be controlled include:

- Silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*) Western Cape only
- Hakea (*Hakea drupacea*, *H. gibbosa*, *H. sericea*)
- Red ginger lily (*Hedychium coccineum*)
- White ginger lily (*Hedychium coronarium*)
- Yellow ginger lily (*Hedychium flavescens*)
- Kahli ginger lily (*Hedychium gardnerianum*)
- Lantana species that produce seed
- Cat's claw creeper (*Macfadyena unguis-cati*)
- Oleander (*Nerium oleander*)

CATEGORY 2 PLANTS

Plants that can only be grown if a demarcation permit is acquired (forestation permit excluded from this regulation) include:

- Silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*)
- Australian blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*)
- Port Jackson willow (*Acacia saligna*)
- Horsetail tree (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)
- Guava (*Psidium guajava*)
- Castor-oil plant (*Ricinus communis*)
- Weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*)

CATEGORY 3 PLANTS

Established plants do not require removal, if it doesn't occur closer than 30 metres to the 1-50 year floodline. The species may not be stocked by garden centres and planted and it includes:

- New Zealand Christmas tree (*Metrosideros excelsa*)
- Pepper wattle tree (*Acacia elata*)
- Pearl acacia (*Acacia podalyriifolia*)
- Orchid tree (*Bauhinia variegata*)
- Silky oak (*Grevillea robusta*)
- Morning glory (*Ipomoea indica*, *I. Alba*, *I. purpurea*)
- Syringa, Persian lilac (*Meliá azedarach*)

For a full list of alien invasive plants, contact the Working for Water toll free information line on 0800-005-376 or visit www.dwaf.pwv.gov.za/wfw/ www.agis.agric.za/agisweb/wip

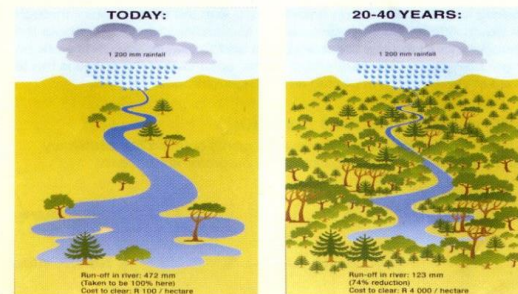
Vision

A country, and region, in which invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and introductions of potentially invasive alien species are prevented, in order to contribute to economic empowerment, social equity and ecological integrity.

The goals of the WW Programme are:

- Ecological- improved ecological integrity of natural ecosystems through the control of invasive alien plants;
- Hydrological- enhanced water security;
- Agricultural- restoration and rehabilitation of degraded land in order to secure the productive potential of land;
- Socio-economic- providing economic benefits and social upliftment through the control of invasive alien plants.

If we do not clear invasive alien plants...



There is increasingly strong evidence that the costs of clearing indicated in these scenarios are accurate averages assuming the successful utilization of biological control agents (where appropriate), enhanced levels of productivity, appropriate legislation and education. There is obviously wide variability in the costs, depending upon factors such as the type of species, terrain, distance from settlements or roads, vulnerability to fire, extent of the follow-up work required, and so on.

Without clearing, this sequence of invasion is inevitable.

For Further Information:

The Working for Water Programme,
Private Bag X4390, Cape Town 8000, South Africa
Tel: (021) 441-2700 Fax: (021) 441-2781
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Working for Water

Working for Water

water & forestry
Department:
Water Affairs and Forestry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Working for Water
Patron in Chief:
Nelson Mandela

3ie Systematic Reviews Database:

<http://www.3ieimpact.org/en/evidence/systematic-reviews/>

3ie Impact Evaluation Database:

<http://www.3ieimpact.org/en/evidence/impact-evaluations/>

Sectors: Agriculture, Crime and justice, Economic development , Education, Employment, Environment and climate change, Gender and empowerment, Governance, Health and health care, Rural development, Slum clearance and urban development , Social cohesion , Social protection, Water, sanitation and hygiene

Cochrane Collaboration:

<http://www.cochrane.org/>

Health and health care, Medicine, Public health, Psychiatry and psychology

DFID Systematic Reviews Database:

<http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/SystematicReviews.aspx>

Agriculture and rural development ,Aid delivery and effectiveness, Economic development , Education, Environment ,Gender , Health and nutrition, Infrastructure and technology , Social protection and social inclusion, Governance and fragile states



Thank You

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