

Community University Research Partnerships

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Rationale

- Times we're In: Challenges before humanity
- HEIs knowledge functions in research & teaching de-linked
- Multiple & competing sites and modes of knowledge production
- Co-construction of knowledge provides leverage



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First Global Study

Methods and Outputs:

- Global web based survey - 336 responses from 53 countries in 4 language
- Respondents from HEI, CSO, funding agencies, and policy makers.
- 12 Country case studies
- Products: an e-book and a set of practical guidelines
- Open Access policies



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Key Findings

- Global South data difficult to obtain
- Institutional investment in structures to support CURPs
- Large variation in the language, conceptualization and practice of these engagements
- ‘Knowledge cultures’ of CSOs and HEIs vary tremendously
- Contradiction between professed commitment to co-construction and practice of doing CBR



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Key Findings (Contd.)

- Situating HE in National development policy framework
- Providing explicit orientation to partnerships in HE policy
- Research financing incentives in partnerships
- Monitoring by national/provincial governments



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Institutional Mechanisms

- Explicit structure for interface
- Leadership at the top
- Incentives for faculty in assessments, promotions
- Institution-wide, not ghettoised
- Co-governance with community



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Challenges Ahead

- Synchronising student and faculty aspirations
- Building capacity for partnership creation & nurturance
- Resourcing & capacity in civil society
- Support for middle level leadership
- Platforms & networks for learning & advocacy



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