



Knowledge for Change (K4C)



Rationale

Need for 'new knowledge' generated through novel/innovative means

- UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development -- issues related to Indigenous development, water governance, poverty and inequality, climate action, gender equality and violence against women
- 'Traditional' research approaches have failed to address societal challenges
- Production of 'new knowledge' builds the basic framework for Knowledge for Change (K4C)



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Purpose

- International partnered training initiative focused on:
 - co-creation of knowledge
 - collective action by community groups and academics working together
 - expand individual and institutional research training capacities
 - build and mobilise new knowledge (processes of participatory research and community-university engagement, pedagogies of training community-based research) in diverse cultural contexts
- K4C Consortium reinforces UNESCO Chair's global leadership in the field of participatory approaches to research and community-university engagement



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Principles

Framework of 5 pedagogical principles:

- an orientation towards research ethics and values
- development of a deep understanding of power and partnerships
- incorporation of multiple modes of enquiry
- participation in learning community-based research and ensuring a balance between classroom (theory) and field (practice)
- Developing critical and reflexive researchers



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Strategy

- Global trans-disciplinary research training partnership between Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)
- Decentralised training structure:
 - 8 training hubs
 - 'cascading model'
- Based on global standard teaching and learning curriculum and pedagogy
- Variety of training methods:
 - classroom-based
 - professional development workshops
 - open online courses
 - field research projects
 - individual mentorship



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Outcomes

- Develop research capacities of trainees in a way that they gain relevant knowledge, skills and experience in and beyond academia
- Knowledge generation on participatory research, community-university engagement, and the pedagogies of training community-based research to promote social transformation and community change
- Influence policy and practices in the implementation of SDGs

1450+ community-based researchers (including 100 mentors) in the next 5 years



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