



THEMATIC DISCUSSION III: **PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE**

Volkert Beekman, 14 April 2016

Goal of the session

To discuss measures that address issues related to public acceptance of regional biocluster development

1. The role of wider engagement in identifying public acceptance factors
 - Problems associated with biorefinery plants in people's backyards
2. **Engagement of citizens, CSOs and NGOs in regional biocluster development**
3. Mainstreaming the bioeconomy at regional level
 - Employment, income levels/distribution

Guiding questions

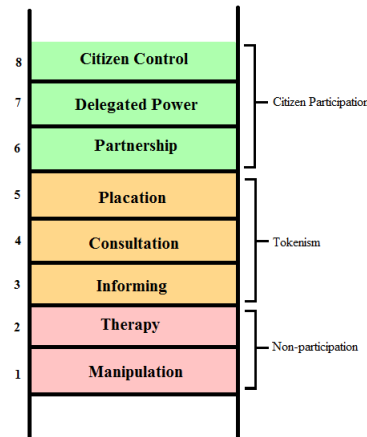
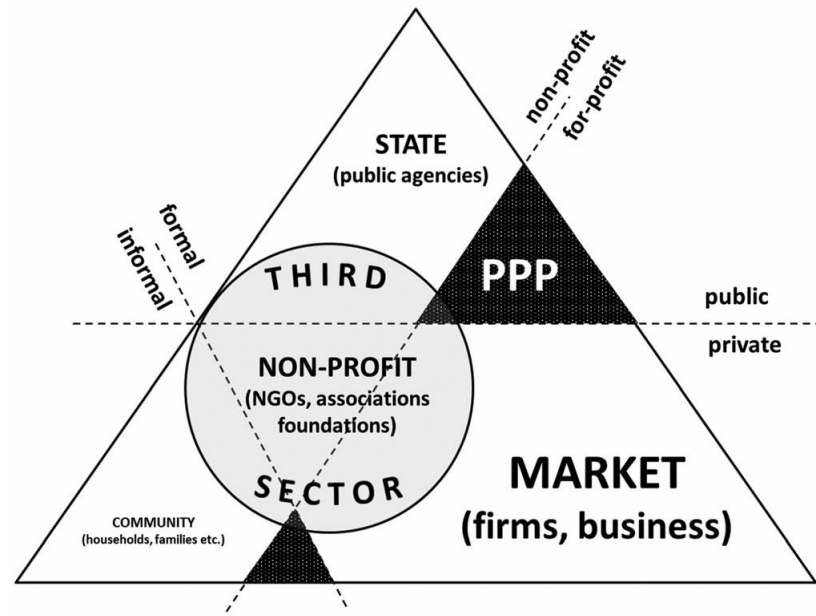
1. What is the relevance of public acceptance for the development of regional bioeconomy strategies?
 - How can public acceptance factors be identified?
 - What are potential measures to increase public acceptance?
2. **How to interact with different stakeholders and citizens in regional biocluster development in order to increase public acceptance?**
 - **Who should be involved?**
3. How can the bioeconomy be mainstreamed at regional level to strengthen rural development?

What is the relevance of public acceptance for the development of regional bioeconomy clusters?

1. What are motivations to raise public acceptance?
 - What is to be expected in terms of impact from raising public acceptance?
2. How can public acceptance factors be identified?
 - How dominant is the food versus fuel discussion for public acceptance and how important are environmental impacts?
 - Does public acceptance vary for different feedstocks and for biofuels, biochemicals and biomaterials?
 - How about NIMBY factors in relation to plants and clusters?
3. **What are potential measures to increase public acceptance of the regional bioeconomy clusters?**
 - **What can be learned from experiences in other sectors?**
 - **What are readily available tools?**

How to interact with civil society in regional bioclusters to increase public acceptance?

1. Why should stakeholders and citizens be engaged?
 - Increasing mutual understanding
 - Exploring value conflicts
2. Who should be engaged?
 - At which development phase?
3. **How should stakeholders and citizens be engaged?**
 - **One-way information provision or more than that?**



How can the bioeconomy be mainstreamed at regional level to strengthen rural development?

1. **What is the relevance of direct benefits to consumers?**
2. What are measures to improve competitiveness with fossil equivalents?
3. How can standard-setting be of help here?

Thank you for your attention!



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