Presenters

CSI Associate

CSI Associate

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Te Pūaha o te Ako

Introduction to the Core skills toolkit: community engagement

Core skills toolkit

A practical, easy-to-use toolkit of resources and insights to help new and small community groups or not-for-profit organisations thrive.

Audience: new and small community groups.

Topics included:

- Community engagement
- Te Tiriti
- Strategic planning
- Evaluation and measuring impact
- Communicating your work
- Working in a culturally responsive way
- Wellbeing / Hauora

Content:

Each section covers why this is important, how to get started and a curated list of resources and templates

Te Pūaha o te Ako

This talk will cover

- Why community engagement is important

- Some tips to consider

- Reflection on your community engagement

- Opportunity for Q&A

Photo: Community walk: photo by Douglas Bagg on Unsplash

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Please write in the chat

Any pātai/question you may have about community engagement?

Te Pūaha o te Ako

What is community engagement?

Community engagement is about building relationships with the people your organisation serves and tapping into their knowledge about community needs and issues.

Photo L to R: Jos Wheeler, 2023. Miranda, 2023

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Why community engagement is so important
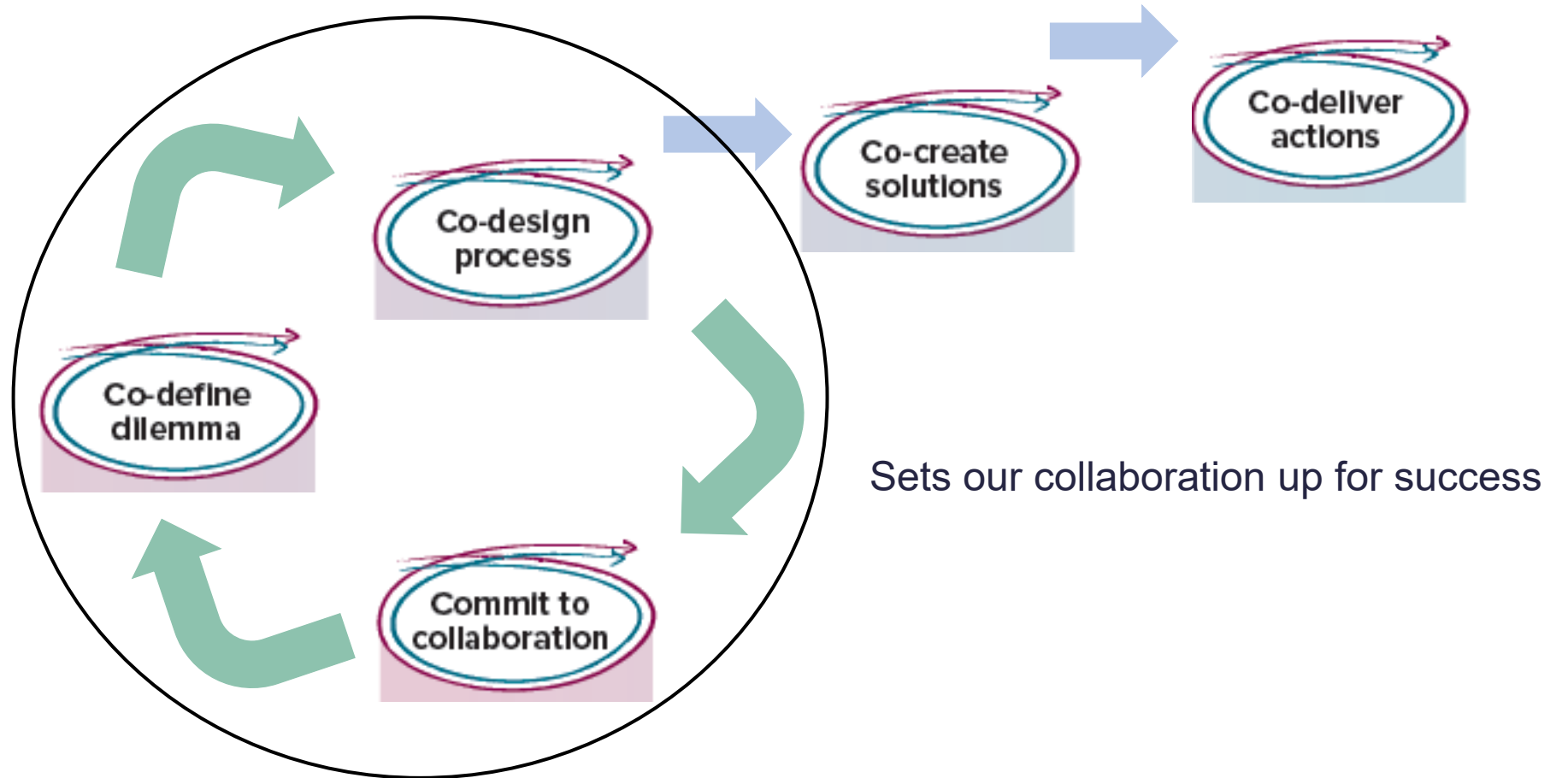
Connection

Support

Impact

Strong community ties lead to better support for your projects, opportunities for collaboration, and ensure your project reflects what's important locally.

Photo by Jos Wheeler, 2023

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Deliberative practice of building a 'container' to collaborate

Sets our collaboration up for success

Twyfords: https://www.twyfords.com.au/the-power-of-co/

Te Pūaha o te Ako

How is your engagement kete?

- Are you clear on your purpose for engaging with the community that your organisation serves?

- Do you have some ideas for the engagement strategies that will work well with your community?

- Once you've gathered information about their needs, do you have the resources to be able to act on that information, and demonstrate that you've listened to your community?

Photo by Brendan O'Connell, 2025

Te Pūaha o te Ako

Resources

Explore some community engagement resources.

Resources to explore

- *Lessons for successful mana whenua engagement.* Contains tips for those who want to engage well with mana whenua, but who might not know where to start. It provides a starting point for ensuring engagement starts well and continues positively.

- *Community engagement tips.* Tips to strengthen and define your engagement approach, whether one-to-one, small groups or larger community gatherings.

- *What should I know about running a public event?* Provides guidance on organising a successful public event, covering key aspects such as planning, legal requirements, health and safety considerations, and promotion.

- *Best Practice Guidelines – resources hub* from Tūao Aotearoa Volunteering New Zealand. This is a website with a range of resources to help you work with volunteers in your organisations. From recruiting, on-boarding and training volunteers, to health and safety, recognising volunteer impact and exiting volunteers, it's all there.

Te Pūaha o te Ako