



The importance of understanding social spaces for ICM research

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ICM challenges for science

- Many stakeholders with different social perspectives
- Key processes natural, social and economic – are often poorly visible
- Science can contribute to decision aids to help people see more clearly
- But requires learning and communication to help people make sense of different views

Evolving science approaches

- Disciplinary
- Multi-disciplinary

- Inter-disciplinary
- Trans-disciplinary



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Active involvement & integration of different knowledge systems



Using social spaces

- Communication becomes a more strategic tool to support research initiatives
- Social research makes the invisible (process) visible
- Use evaluation techniques to
 - map different social spaces
 - devise ways to work in them more effectively.

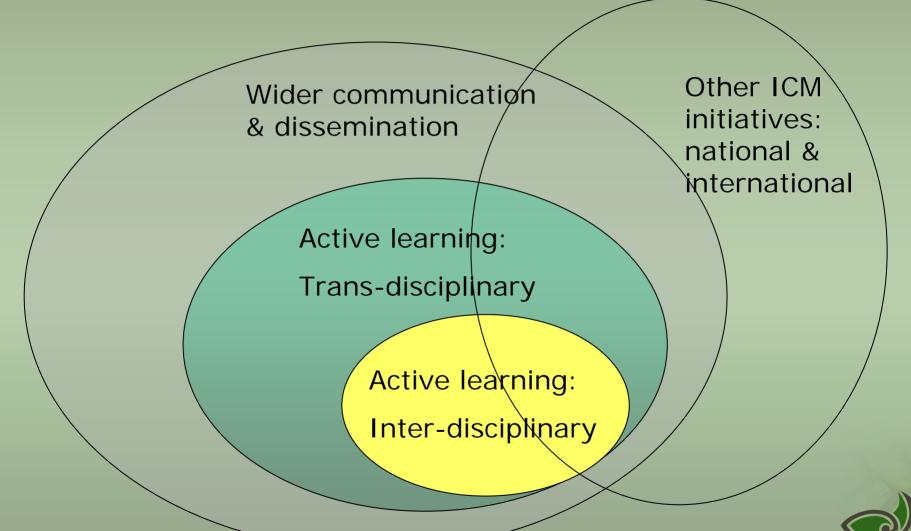


Learning & communication spaces in the ICM-Motueka





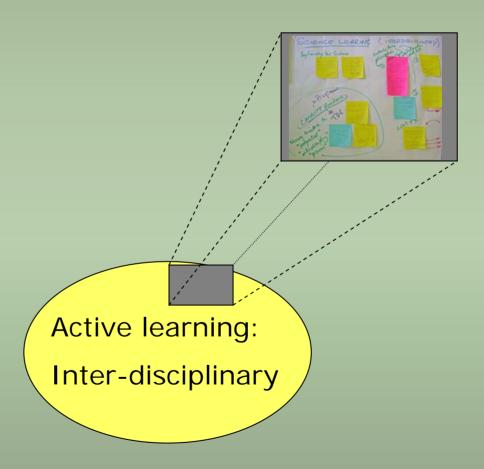
Learning & communication spaces in the ICM-Motueka



Manaaki Whenua

Landcare Research

Inter-disciplinary





Inter-disciplinary



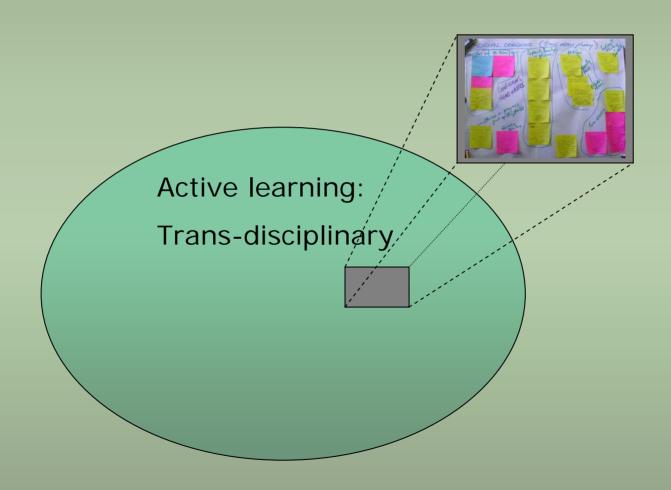


Inter-disciplinary

- Understanding the process side of ICM research
- Individual researchers gain new perspectives of problems through exchanges with other disciplines
- Iwi science given legitimacy and support



Trans-disciplinary





Trans-disciplinary





Trans-disciplinary

- Multi-stakeholder learning groups
 - Community reference group
 - Sediment learning group
- "Travelling River" art/science/community collaboration
- E-mail conferencing spaces



Wider communication

- ICM Website
- CD Rom
- Reports
- Papers
- etc



National & International linkages

- Other research programmes
- Envirolink projects
- HELP (Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy) - UNICEF & WMO
- Challenge Programme for Water and Food - CGIAR
- etc



Conclusion

- Multi-stakeholder interaction is key to ICM research
- Social spaces provides a useful organising concept to manage and improve learning across science and community
- International challenges for social sciences to support this social process visualization and practice