

• Indigenous Evaluation

• A journey beyond participatory and collaborative approaches in evaluation.

Nan Wehipeihana

AES 2008 Conference, Perth, Australia

The landscape



- Culturally Responsive (Stafford Hood)
- Democratic (Ernest House)
- Empowerment (David Fetterman)
- Responsive evaluation (Robert Stake)

The landscape



- Advocacy evaluation models which service traditionally disenfranchised (Mertens and Hopson 2006).
- Values engaged evaluation (Greene, DeStefano, Burgin, & Hall, 2005)
- Participatory
 - Transformative participatory evaluation (Cousins and Whitmore 1998).



Umbrella terms..

- Collaborative, participatory, empowerment all used interchangeably
- Collaborative evaluation
 - ...Any evaluation in which there is a significant degree of collaboration or cooperation between evaluators and stakeholders in planning and/or conducting the evaluation. (Cousins, et al, 1996)



Umbrella terms

- Partnership approach to evaluation which stakeholders actively engaged in developing the evaluation and all phase of implementation
- ...is about sharing knowledge and building the evaluation of stakeholders - community, implementers, funders and others
- Stakeholders determine the evaluation focus, design and measures within an appropriate social, cultural and economic context (Zuoski,2002)

They focus on...

- Doing
- Utilisation
- Empowerment
- Social justice
- Cultural 'validity'
- Giving voice...

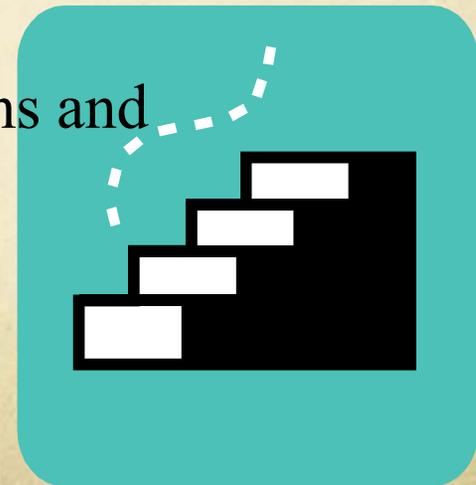
The benefits are...

- Builds knowledge and skills among stakeholders
- Builds relationships between stakeholders
- Utilises local knowledge – in implementation
- Utilises local knowledge – analysis and interpretation
‘sense making’
- Inclusion, giving voice....

Provide a process, some steps and guidelines for practice

Typically include process for engagement:

- Identifying relevant questions
- Planning the evaluation design
- Selecting appropriate methods/measures
- Gathering and analysing data
- Reaching consensus about findings, conclusions and recommendations
- Disseminating results



Articulate principles, values..

- Inclusion
- Social justice
- Participation
- Self determination
- Capacity building
- And coupled with guidelines for, with, and in indigenous communities/peoples



All good, meritorious and note worthy

It's all good isn't it?



Well it seems to me there

- About providing space for non-Māori, non-indigenous to do evaluation – some more than others
- About providing the tips, passwords and passport for non-Māori and non-indigenous to do or facilitate evaluation in Māori and indigenous communities
- About processes that provide the trappings of ‘permission’ for non-Māori and non-indigenous evaluators

So I have some misgivings...

- About whose needs are being served
- About who really benefits
- Despite all of the thoughtful and well-intentioned processes

So I wonder about

- Cultural competency
- Rights verses privilege
- Self-determination
- Survival



On the journey...



Recognising the invitation, the privilege and responsibility

It's about...

- How we negotiate the role for non-Maori and non-indigenous evaluators?
- How we keep Maori and indigenous peoples/communities safe?
- How we keep non-Maori and non-indigenous evaluators safe?
- Identification of the shared and differing responsibilities for evaluation practice