



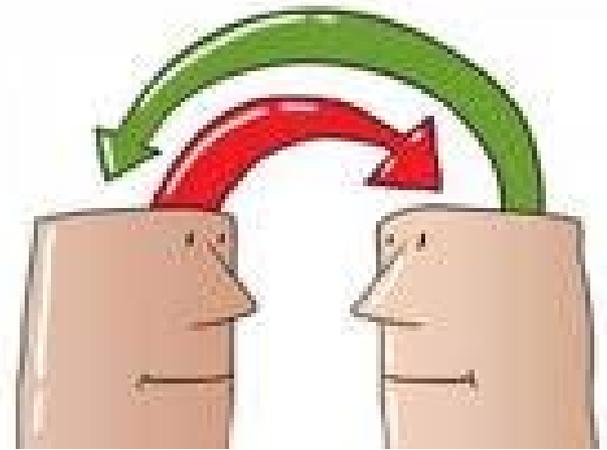
Participatory and deliberative techniques for an Ecosystems approach

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General claims

- Grounds for public participation: ethical, practical and substantive
- Participation - a form of engagement based on the purposeful exchange of information and experience
- Stronger and weaker forms of participation:
Consultative - deliberative



Consultative

- Informed decision making



Deliberative

- Co-production



Two questions I have asked myself



1. Does participation change how we think/go about an ecosystems approach?

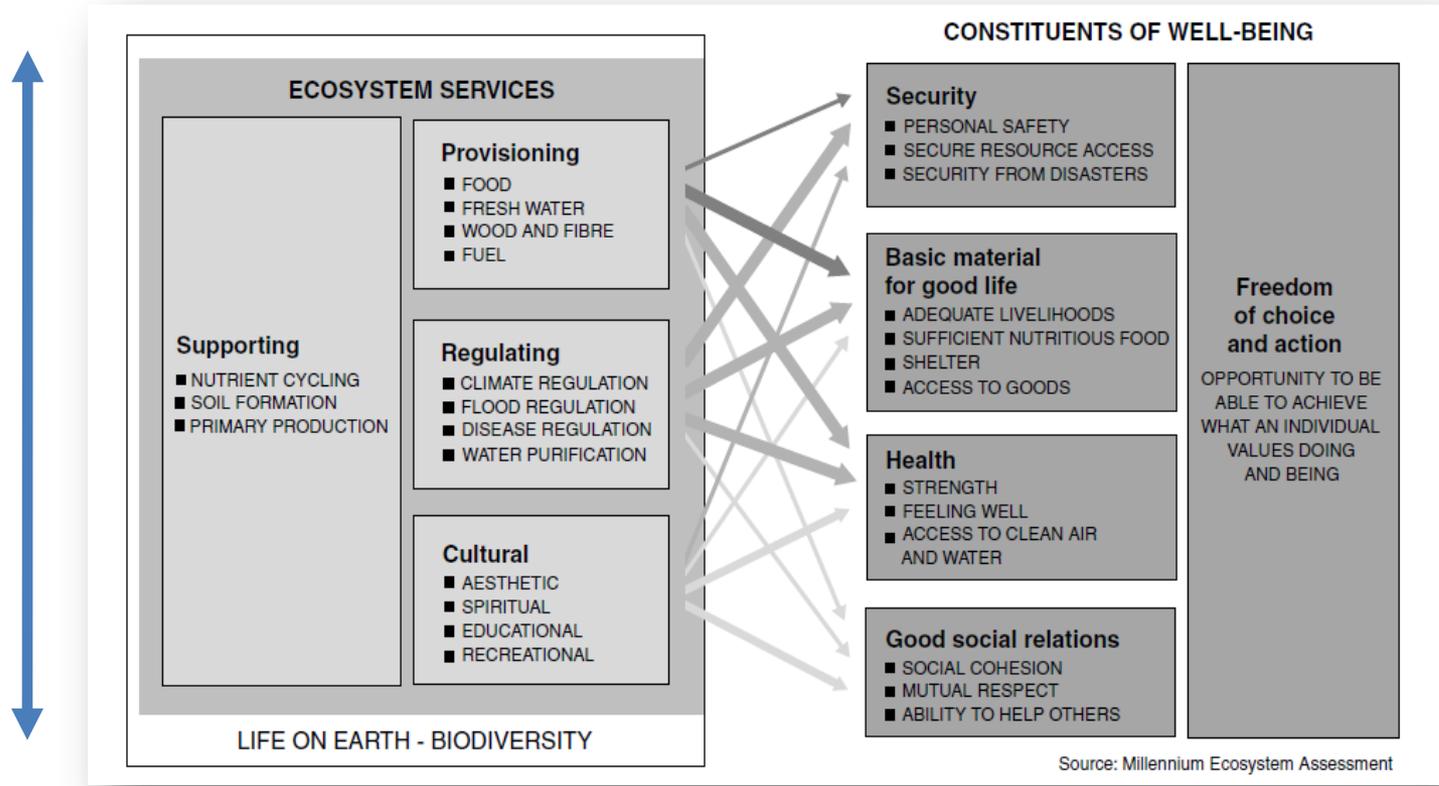
My answer would have to be 'no'.

2. Does an ecosystems approach change the terms of participation in some way?

My answer would be 'yes', in some ways it does.

Specific claims

- An ecosystems approach is about making choices about the management of ecosystem services
- The underpinning framework of ecosystem services is interesting in the way it *explicitly* requires us to:
 - Consider the *full range* of the benefits we procure from nature in decision making
 - Understand better the relationship between non human nature and human well-being



In environmental decision making terms this ‘horizontal’ and ‘vertical’ broadening reinforces the need to go beyond “ready made” communities

Specific claims

- A corresponding dimension of this is a more overt recognition of complexity and uncertainty within decision making.
- The principle holds that decision making becomes *doubly, treble-ly, quadruple-ly* complex as we try to examine:
 - how consider services interact with each other;
 - how bundles of interacting services impact on particular beneficiaries.

As we do an ecosystems approach.....

....analytical complexities/
uncertainties of decision making
tend to be accentuated/magnified

At the same time moral and ethical
controversies of decision making
become more vexed

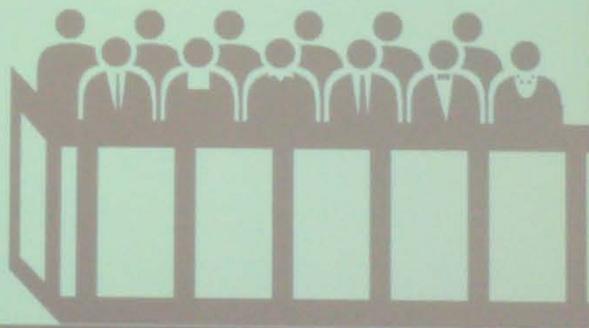


We take it as read that.....

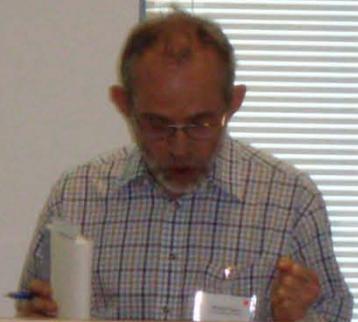
- Analytical procedures rooted in science and economic modelling of decision problems take us a long way to characterising options and scenarios
- Participatory and deliberative techniques harness peoples' capacity to make well reasoned judgments about problems that technical analysis cannot be expected to provide.

temporary livestock farming: are our watercourses at risk?

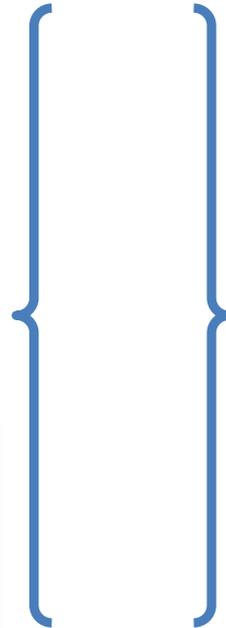
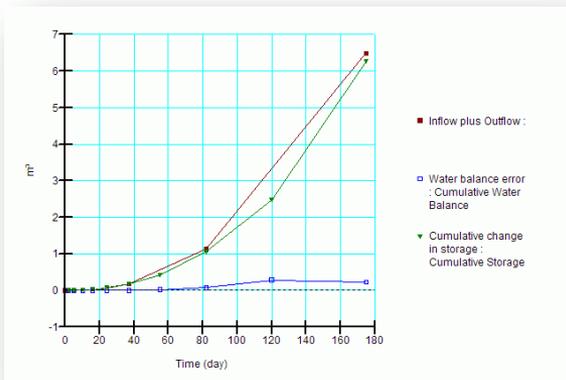
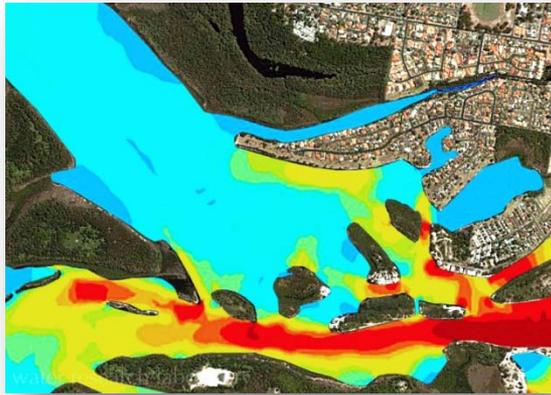
Citizens' Jury



July 2007



Analytical and participatory dimensions may need to be meshed together



The analytic-deliberative

- It is this need to *combine* both analytical techniques with participatory processes that seems to me a distinctive tendency of an ecosystems approach from the perspective of participation.
- There are range of techniques that add value to existing platforms for public dialogue
- Participatory modelling, multi-criteria analysis and deliberative monetary valuation would be three examples.

To be clear...

- I'm deliberately emphasising an emerging need of an ecosystems approach.
- The point is not to add an *unnecessary* layer of complexity to public dialogue in choices about the environment but to strengthen the basis for making judgments.
- There are also different levels at which one might engage with this analytic-deliberative dimension of decision making....

The future of public dialogue is
will be mixed economy of
techniques, sometimes used in
concert, sometimes not

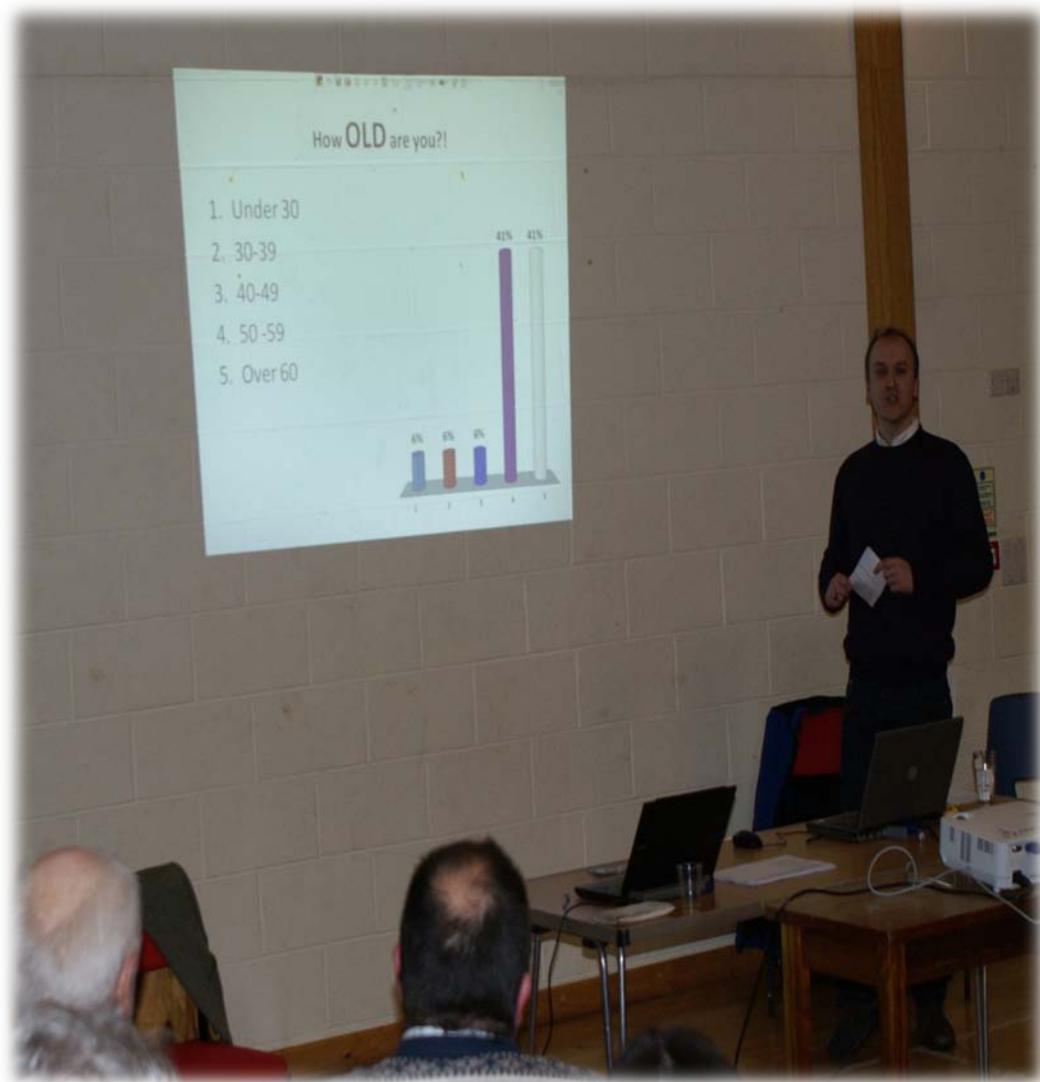


Strong need for innovation....

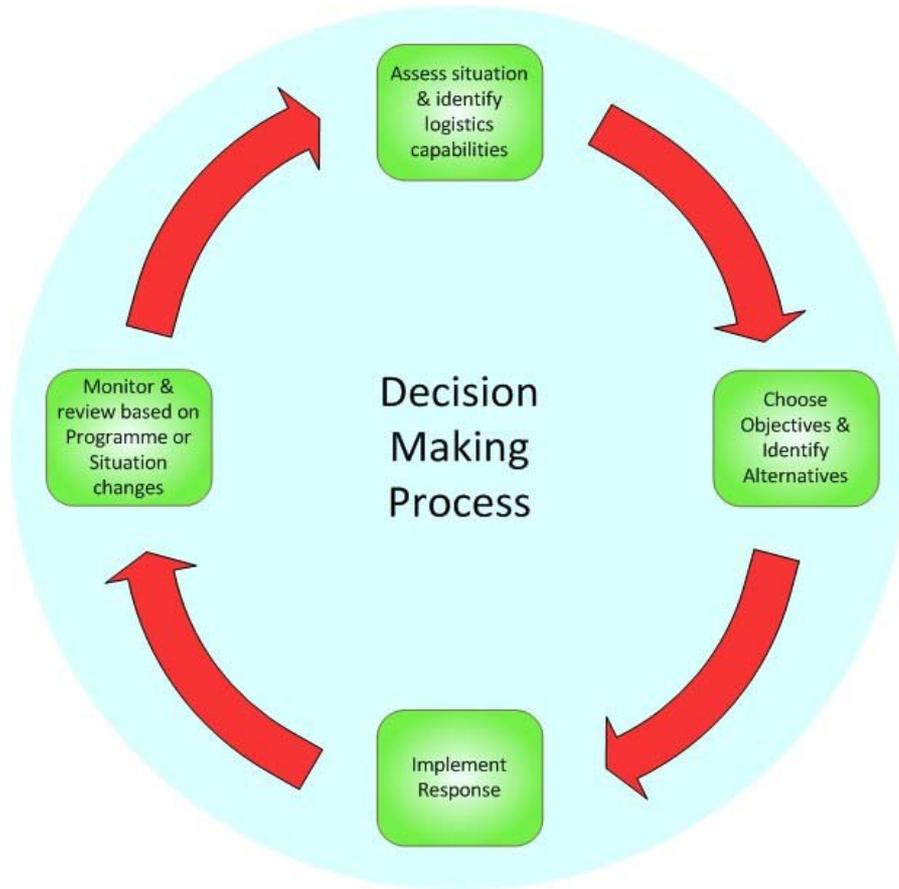


Simple modification of techniques can have startling results.....





The full cycle of decision making



Systemic problems?

- **Language:** not a problem *at all* I'd say. The terminology of ecosystem services is generative of ideas, not a complexity blinder.
- **Resources:** we can't expect to do these techniques without time, money expertise, but this not to say we cant adapt.
- **Outcomes:** we are still a long way from tracking participation to outcomes
- **Sustaining:** strong evidence to suggest these processes are not 'self organising'.

