Models used in an Action Research Project

The level of Public Participation in Public Private Partnerships

Dr Paul Manuell
Qualitative Participative Inquiry
Action Research
Process Consultation
Grounded Theory
Process Enneagram
Action Research – participative inquiry
“with people for people, NOT on people to people”
(Reason; Cherry)

Process Consultation (Schein) “activities on the part of the consultant that help the client to perceive, understand, and act upon the process events that occur in the client’s environment in order to improve the situation as defined by the client”

covering the with and for the participants and now adding the extra step of by the people.
Grounded Theory (Glaser; Corbin and Strauss; Locke and Golden-Biddle)

... designed to develop a well integrated set of concepts that provide a thorough theoretical explanation of social phenomena under study.... should explain as well as describe. It may also give some degree of predictability, but only with regard to specific conditions.

(Strauss and Corbin 1990: 5)

Process Enneagram (Knowles Dalmau)
Cycles exist within cycles

CHANGE

ACTION

PARTICIPATION

Who?

How?

What?

LEARNING

RESEARCH

DIVERSE SAMPLES

WORKING WITH DISAGREEMENT

A VIGOROUS SEARCH FOR DISCONFORMING EVIDENCE

Relationship

Purpose

Process

Action

Critical reflection

Review

Plan
Ignore the extremes

Theory

Information

Agree?

Disagree?

Exceptions

Explanations

Questions to find the exceptions to the agreement
Data gathered from wide variety of sources

Is it relevant?

Proves/supports/correlates

Disproves/refutes

What particular point does it relate to?

Why is that important?

How important?

What supports it?

What negates it?

How widely?

Does it need other support?

Is the emerging hypothesis supported enough to claim as theory?
The concepts within the categories are collected and sorted into similar ideas. These are then linked together to support the emergence of the theory.

The more strands there are the stronger the ‘rope’ or in this case the stronger the circumstantial case to support the theory.
The Process Enneagram

1. Intentions
2. Standards & Principles
3. Issues
4. Structures/Context
5. The Work
6. Learning

Identity Recognition
Information
Relationship

Implement Create

Dick Knowles (2002), The Leadership Dance, The Centre for Self-Organising Leadership, NY
"That's all folks!"