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biodiversity and ecosystem services
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Insights from the NoK evaluation on governance issues

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Interview questions included concerns

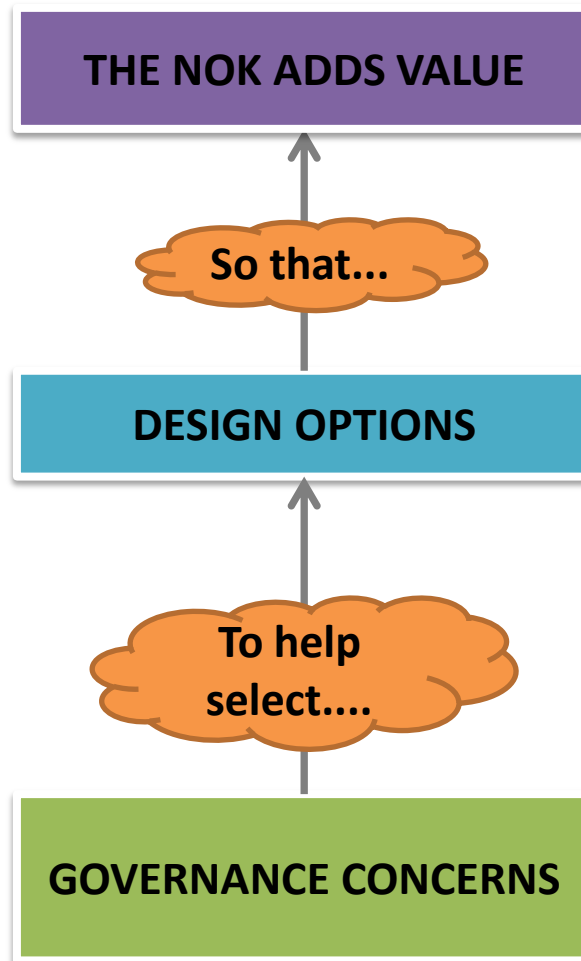
- Governance was not specifically included in the evaluation criteria.
- Interviewees were asked about their concerns and many were highlighted.
- Some of these concerns related to broad **governance** issues.
- **Not all governance issues will have been highlighted in the evaluation.**



“That’s the difference between the pros and the cons – the pros don’t get caught.”

Interview questions included added value

- Interviewees were asked how they thought the NoK could potentially add value.
- Exploring **added value** led some interviewees to highlight broad concerns relating to governance of the NoK.
- **Not all interviewees highlighted governance concerns.**
- **Governance** and the ability of the NoK to **add value** are closely linked.
- **Discussions about governance should link to added value and to add value the NoK should address these concerns.**



Potential added value – What did interviewees highlight?

Some of the comments included.....

“[The] opportunity to address a very defined research question, which normally you would invest much more money [...] and would have a much longer process” (P3.4)

“The NoK could potentially act as a ‘single entry point’ for policy questions to be addressed to the scientific community and being dealt with in the most efficient way and with high level of quality/confidence. [The NoK] could raise awareness of policy on emerging issues as well as of scientific community on policy issues” (P1.4)

“Different types of knowledge should be brought together to have the right answer” (P1.7)

“An open access platform where different stakeholders could contribute to solve different problems, provide their expertise and willingness, quite opposite of the usual ‘ivory tower’ of scientists” (P1.6)

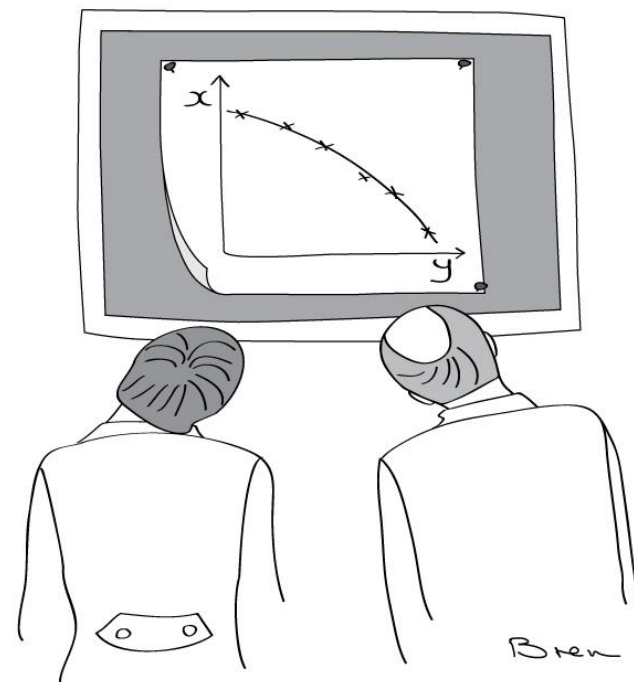


Potential added value of the NoK identified

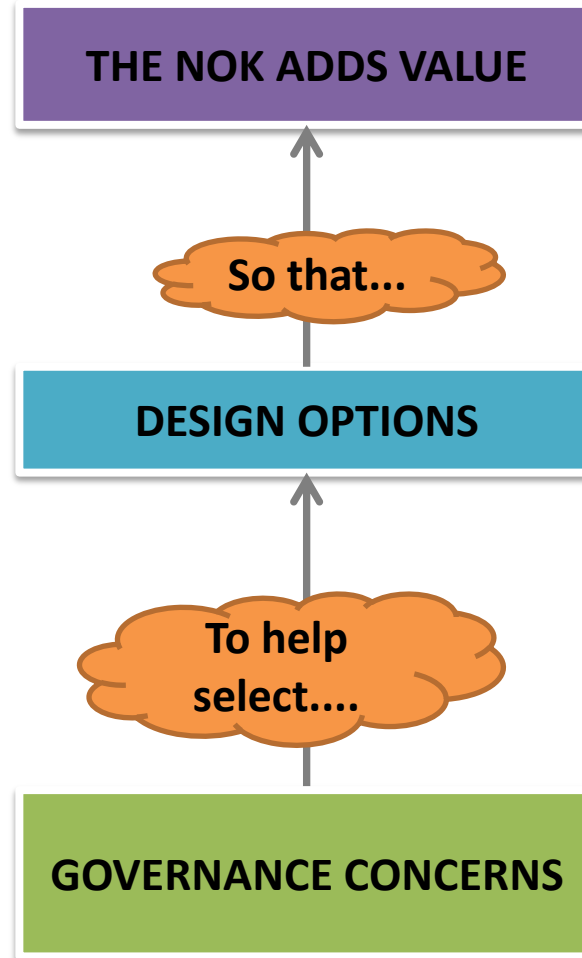
- Providing a **single entry point** to access information **across scales** to answer complex questions.
- Uniting and **strengthening** existing networks.
- Developing **links across scientific disciplines** to foster understanding and bring together disparate groups.
- Involving a wide range of stakeholders by creating **an open, accessible platform**.
- Reducing **reaction time by science** groups to policy issues.
- Encourage **decisions based on science**.
- Assuring **quality of information** which is clearly linked to knowledge.
- Raise awareness of **issues from science**.
- Strengthening policy developed on **medium term** issues (1-3 years) at a European level.

Potential added value of the NoK identified (cont)

- Including other **types of knowledge** (especially local, field and indigenous).
- Improving the way **science and policy interact** and communicate.
- Facilitating a **policy driven** process.
- Increasing **understanding between groups**, particularly between science and policy.
- Highlighting **methodological approaches** to respond to requests.
- Including a wide **range of expertise** across different scientific disciplines and cultures.
- **Shortening the timeframes** for information to reach policy makers.



Governance concerns



Governance - What concerns were raised by interviewees?

Some of the comments included.....

“Situations can change and the structure must be able to react to changes in conditions [...] Everyone who wants or needs access should have access, it is a very top heavy structure at the moment. Who determines the discussions around the NoK [...] brings in questions of fairness” (P1.7).

“Allow innovative new thinking and interpretation” (P1.1)

“The challenge is to make it relevant to current policy processes” (P1.5)

“I think that developing the NoK as a dialogue platform between the existing research organisations, managers and policy makers will help overcome ‘competition’ problems that might occur once they feel the back-up of a larger network and will see their recommendations can easily be adopted and implemented” (P1.6).

“How expensive and therefore accessible would it be, would it only be governments or big organisations or will smaller organisations working with management or policy making be able to use it?” (P1.12).



Governance issues identified

- Avoiding an overly **bureaucratic** process.
- Ensuring an **independent and flexible** NoK.
- Ensuring NoK is **accessible** to all, not just large organisations with funding.
- Overlooking local groups and bottom up processes with **too much of an upward focus** on IPBES.
- Integrating different **types of knowledge** into the NoK.
- Overcoming **terminology** differences across groups.
- Engaging both **users and producers** of knowledge in the development of the NoK from the start.
- Ensuring a **multidirectional flow** of knowledge between different groups.
- Avoiding **duplication and competition** across networks.



A VICTIM OF
ADMINISTRATION

Making the link with design options

During break out groups to discuss design options consider these potential added value and governance concerns and the links between these.

ANY QUESTIONS?



SIPRESS

"How am I supposed to think about consequences before they happen?"

A close-up photograph of several green, spherical flower heads of an umbellifer plant. The heads are composed of numerous small, light-colored flowers. The background is a soft-focus green, showing the stems of the plant. The text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION..." is overlaid diagonally across the center of the image.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...



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and ecosystem services in Europe***

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