Pragmatic Knowledge Generation

- Precursor to Project-based learning & Action research

P K Joshi

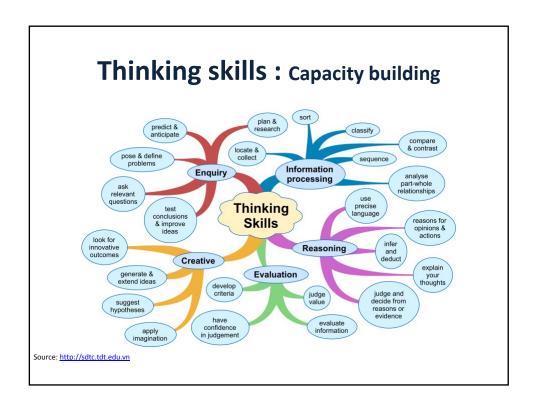
Professor & Head
Department of Natural Resources
TERI University, New Delhi
Email: pkjoshi@teri.res.in

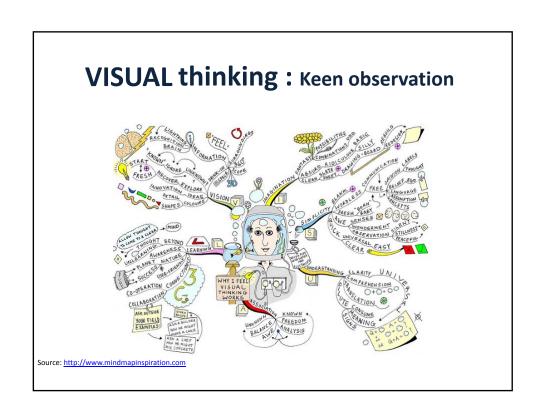
Setting the Directions for Adaptive Development: An urgent need in achieving a sustainable Asia-Pacific

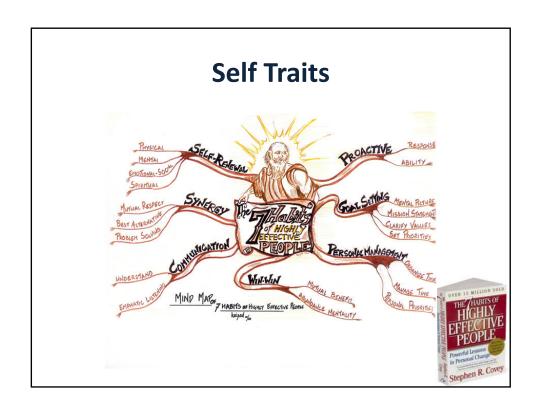
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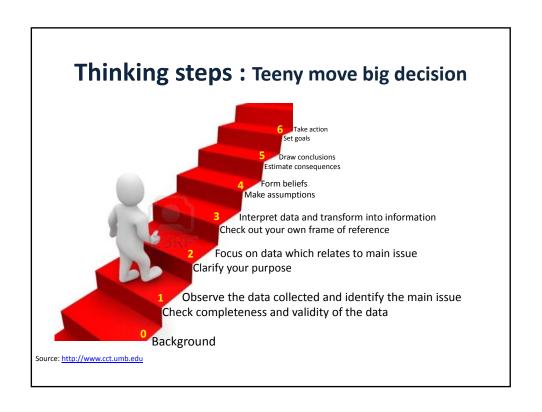
Is knowledge composed of a correct representation of what works in practice?











Pragmatism

Pragmatism ask its usual question (s)

- What concrete difference will its being true make in anyone's actual life?
- How will the truth be realized?
- What experiences will be different from those which would obtain if the believe were false?
- What is the truth's cash-value in experiential terms?

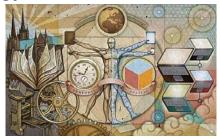
"Grant an idea or believe to be true"

Source: http://cfpm.org (Dewy, 1907)

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Acting and knowing

- if pragmatism can advance collaborative research and methodology?



Adapted: Friedrichs and Kratochwi (2009)

Pragmatic approach

- Recognition of knowledge generation as a social and discursive activity
- Orientation of research towards the generation of useful knowledge



Knowledge revolution

A fundamental change from adding value by producing things (which is ultimately limited), **to** adding value by creating and using knowledge (which can grow indefinitely).

Ability to create, access and use knowledge is fundamental determinant of global competitiveness

Knowledge revolution

Elements of "Knowledge Revolution"

- ✓ Increased codification of knowledge and development of new technologies
- ✓ Closer links with science base/increased rate of innovation/shorter product life cycles
- ✓ Increased importance of education & up-skilling and life-long learning
- ✓ Investment in intangibles (R&D, education) greater than in fixed capital

Adapted: World Bank Institute

Knowledge revolution

....elements of "Knowledge Revolution"

- Greater value addition such as branding, marketing, distribution, information management
- ✓ Important to competitiveness (innovation and productivity)
- ✓ Increased globalization and competition

Adapted: World Bank Institute

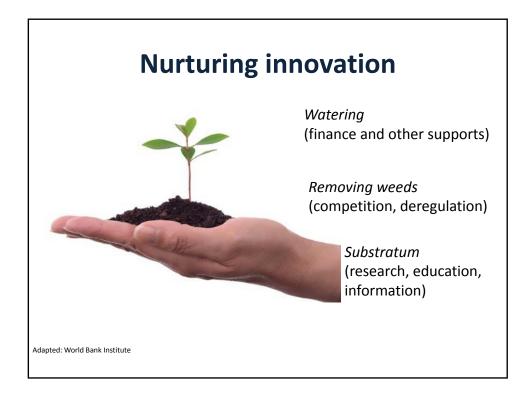
Necessities

- process not a linear process from research to market
- source key role of clients' needs, suppliers' ideas, etc.
- technology its use which matters; a technical culture
- *innovator* not an individual, but a group of people with complementary functions
- Government's role is crucial

Innovation agenda

- Good institutional and incentive regime
- Capable public sector (sense of mission, public-private entrepreneurship)
- Good but small innovation programs
- Emerging sense of urgency





Steps a-head

- developing pragmatic innovation agenda
- from good programs to coherent innovation and enterprise upgrading system;
- instituting 'new industrial policy' as a process of discovery
- shared vision as innovation-based economy





Take home message

I keep six honest serving-men:

Their names are WHAT and WHERE and WHEN and HOW and WHY and WHO

- Rudyard Kipling

