

# Knowledge & Policy Summer School Brussels, 21-23/09/11

Discussing « cross-worlds scenes,  
where knowledge and policy are merging »  
by Bernard Delvaux

Laure Endrizzi,  
Veille & analyses, IFE, ENSL, Lyon, France

1 – My unit & work related to  
Knowledge and Policy

2 – what I found useful and what I  
found less convincing

3 – what can be discussed

# 1 – my unit and work related to knowledge and policy

## « Veille & analyses » unit French Institute of Education

- A monitoring activity (research production)
- A mapping activity (research experts and networks)
- A reviewing activity (literature reviews called “dossiers d'actualité”)

## My activity related to K & P

- Involved in the EIPPEE project (EPPI-centre, Univ of London)
- Involved in an experiment with the French Ministry of Education (formalisation process)
  - what could be a French reviewing system, inspired by the Evidence-based research conducted in English speaking countries
  - Responsible for the making of the methodology and the conducting of the review (teacher leadership)
- Challenge : brokering of scientific knowledge => brokering of knowledge (included experience-based k.)

# 2 – what I found useful and what I found less convincing

## What I found useful

- Definition of cross-worlds scenes as « sites where actors from various worlds and various kinds of knowledge are meeting »
- Typology of devices : formalized vs self-organizing + elites only vs open
- Participation devices, not only fashion devices : an interplay between :
  - An explicit aim : to inform policy
  - An implicit aim : to regulate policy

## What I found less convincing

- **Types of knowledge** : scientific k. (researchers) vs technical k. (professionals) ?
  - What about political k. (policy-makers), as a combination of k.
- Knowledge segmentation : segmented (scientific) vs transversal (experience-based) ?
  - Both k. mis-represent the complexity of the social reality : qualitative vs quantitative research
  - explicit routine (scientific) vs implicit routine (experience)



## What I found less convincing

- Relation to context : generalizable (scientific) vs contextualized
  - Both k. tend / aim to be generalizable and are possibly strongly contextualized (qualitative vs quantitative research + personal view vs group view) => authority
- Knowledge being collected and analyzed (based on material) vs k. being experienced (based on anecdotes) ?
  - But how to make « usable » experience-based k. ? (case studies analysis very similar to synthesis of opinions and narratives)

## What I found less convincing

- Move from (explicit) instruments to (implicit) regulation : a temporal evolution due to growing interdependency and complexity ?
  - But a growing demand for more explicit regulation (eg EIPPEE participants)

# 3 – what can be discussed

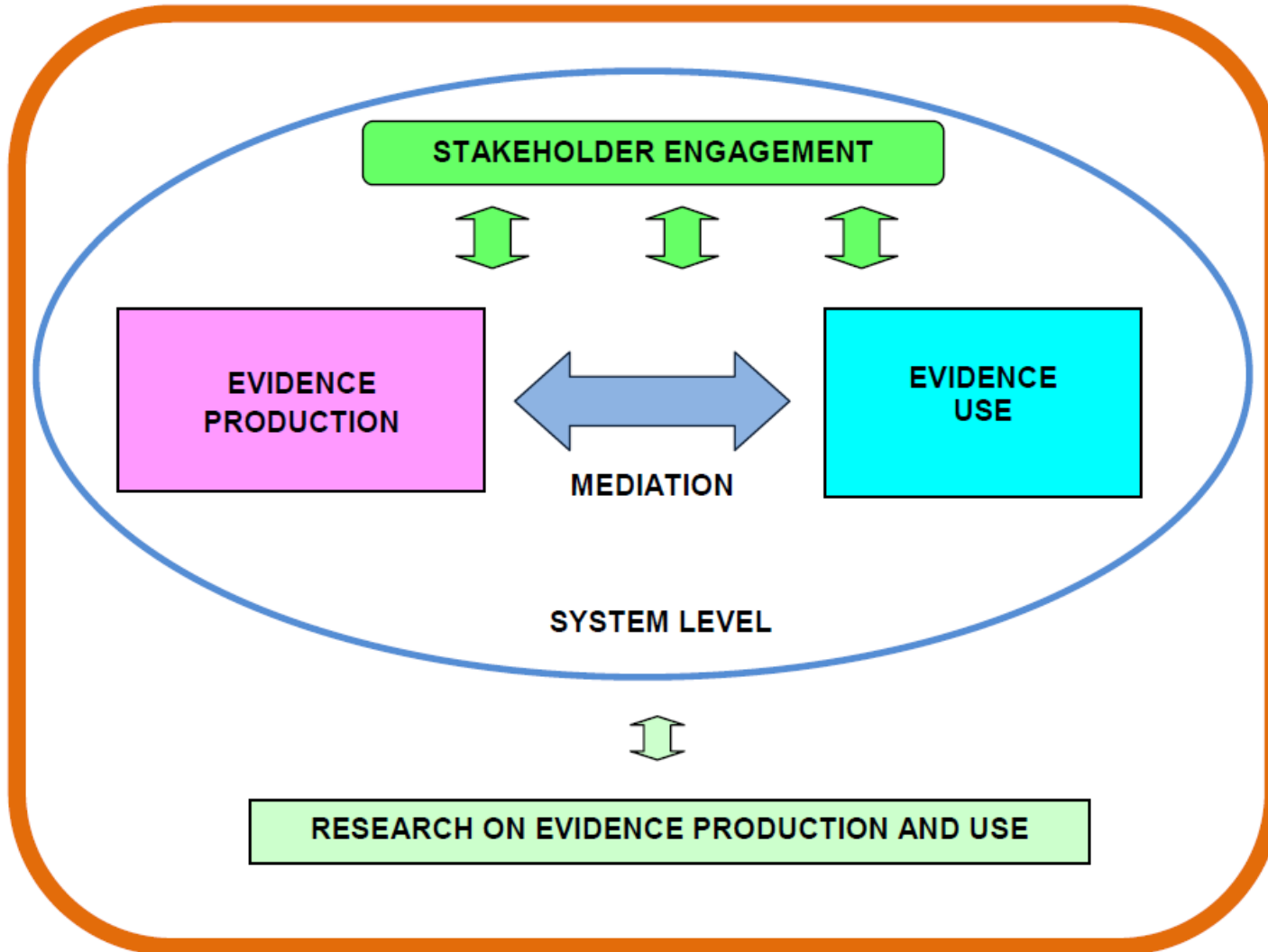
## To be discussed...

- Cross-worlds scenes: no official power of decision but part of a (formalized but open) process
  - experience k. : not just a way to question the scientific k.
  - when and how to operate the merging ?
- Not only a question of format but is there a room for translators / mediators as far as experience-based k. is concerned ?
  - To transform experience k. in scientific k. ?
  - To synthesize anecdotes and narratives ?

## To be discussed...

- Different kinds of relation to k.
  - production / mediation / use (see EIPEE framework)
- How to connect « informed policy » (top down + bottom up process = flows) and « regulation » (more informal / implicit process) ?

# EIPEE framework (2010)



*Thanks for your  
attention*

*Laure Endrizzi*

*Veille & Analyses – Institut Français de l'éducation*

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