



Collaborative climate science research approaches – a summary

The opportunity

CSIRO is a world leader in climate research, partnering with industry, community and other researchers to produce innovative climate system science information.

There is a huge opportunity for this research to have a significant impact to inspire climate solutions and actions and build resilience to climate change.

“Co-production can lead to more ownership. A better [set of] options for the future, and something that actually will be owned and taken forward by the people who are going to use it.”

– interviewee

The challenge

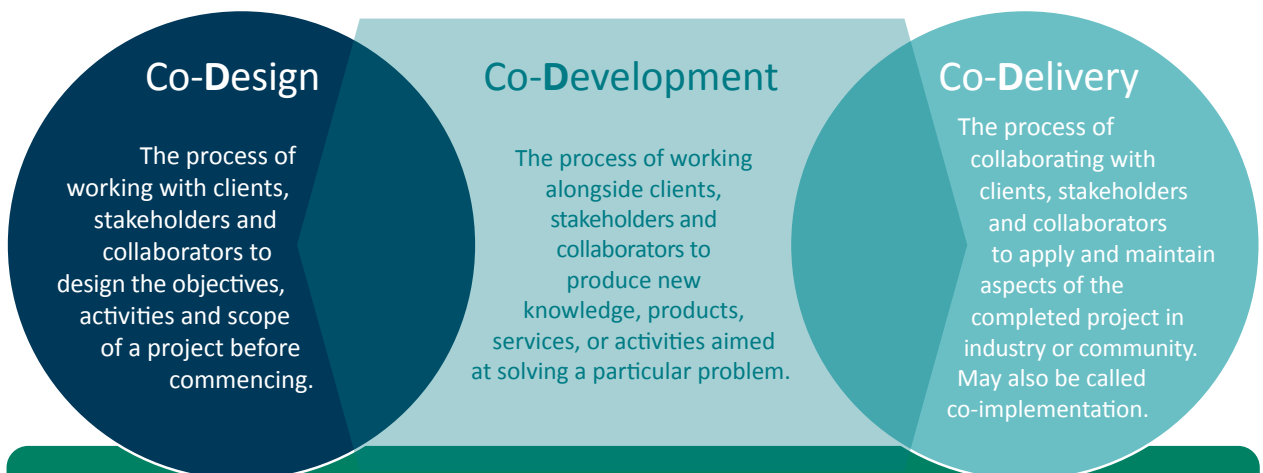
Close engagement with clients, industry, community, and other key partners and stakeholder groups is key for our research to make a difference.

Collaboration is easy to talk about but identifying where to start and how to engage with others is difficult. One way to address this challenge in research projects is to classify ‘collaboration’ into different modes: co-design, co-development and co-delivery. Project teams can then better understand what activities are needed to generate meaningful impacts.

Purpose

This document is a concise reference for collaborative research approaches. It aims to raise awareness of different modes of collaboration that can be integrated in research projects (co-design, co-development, co-delivery, or Co-3D for short) for the CSIRO and others. It provides clarity on what these approaches are and when/how to use them.

Co-3D



Co-production is an umbrella term for the process of producing new knowledge, outputs, actions and/or processes (even social change) from bringing together diverse people and knowledges. Co-production typically includes components of co-design, co-development and/or co-delivery.

COLLABORATION

Working closely with others to create or achieve a shared objective, project, activity or output.

The term ‘collaboration’ is frequently abbreviated as ‘co-’ as in the terms above: **co(laborative) design | development | delivery**

Key points

1. Collaboration is key to impact! But awareness is low

Many research teams may be aiming to work in a co-design-development-delivery method, but they may not have the experience or time. Examples will help guide them in their research approach. There is a lot of confusion about the different terms and how each is best used. This guide can help.

2. No single 'right' way to collaborate

The goal that the project aims to achieve should drive the decision on which modes of collaboration should or need to be integrated into a research project. There is no 'right' way, except what works for stakeholders and the project scope. Being explicit, intentional and inclusive about these decisions is important.

3. Clear expectations

Establish collaboration expectations early and check that they match intended project goals, timeframes and resourcing. Keep checking in as things change over the project duration.

4. Building capacity to integrate collaborative approaches in research is key

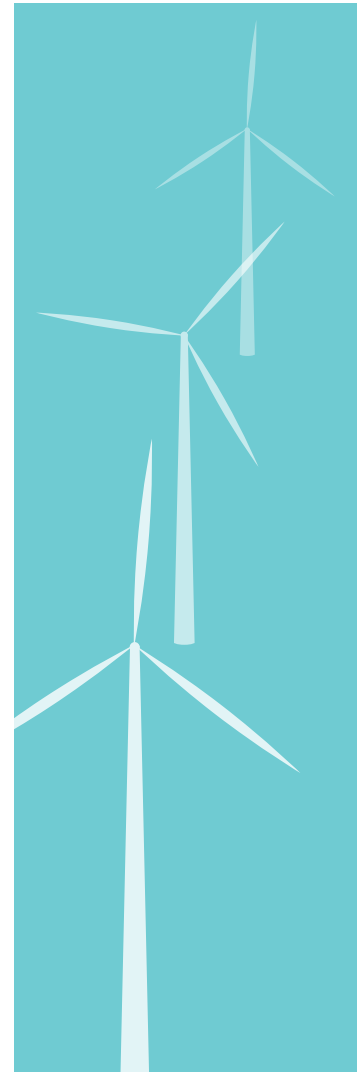
Build capacity among climate scientists, and build project teams with diverse and complimentary skill sets.

5. Value and reward critical skills

Interpersonal skills will be required to work in a Co-3D manner as there is significant listening, knowledge sharing, and facilitated thinking that will occur across the teams. Negotiation of client needs and realistic outputs will also have to be frequently discussed. Reflexivity, patience and humility are all valuable skills for Co-3D.

6. Take a longer term view

Collaboration takes time and requires relationship building, mutual learning and listening. Time requirements should be factored into projects and expectations about how outcomes will be maintained after projects end need to be explicitly addressed.



Click the link to find out more
<https://go.csiro.au/FwLink/co3D>

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