

International Development Project

Professional Prison

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Normal Professionalism

- Accepted and dominant in professions or disciplines
 - Ideas
 - Values
 - Methods
 - Behavior
- Means to
 - Status
 - Power
 - Wealth
- Measurement in controlled condition
- Complex realities to be simplified in single scale

Three Characteristics of Professionals

- Extended education and training when young
 - Delaying responsibility and exposure to real world
- Livelihoods gained in organizations with fellow professionals with shared value
- Ambition to do well, through rising status within discipline, profession and organization
 - Through their lives

Normal Professional Status

- Contrasted status in
 - Academic and practicing professions
 - Theory and practice
 - Understanding and action
- Characters contrasted
 - Education, training and induction
 - Competence
 - Gender
 - Influence and wealth
 - location

Measurement

- Sources of status and respectability are
 - Quantification
 - Mathematical techniques
 - Precision

Reductionism

- Complex and varied to simple and standing
 - Specialization
 - Narrowing attention
 - Natural science methodology transferred to human sciences => costly and misleading
- Examples
 - ZOPP (goal-oriented project planning) in donor agencies
 - Social cost-benefit analysis
 - Poverty-line thinking
 - Production thinking
 - Employment thinking

Professional Prison

- Status, promotion and power come
 - less from direct contact with confusing complexity
 - People, families, communities, livelihoods, farming systems
 - more from isolation
 - Safe, sophisticated analysis of statistics

Personal Reality

- Experienced and put together by individual person
 - Personal physical reality
 - Commonality
 - Personal social reality
 - Divergence
 - Dynamism

Top-Down Approach

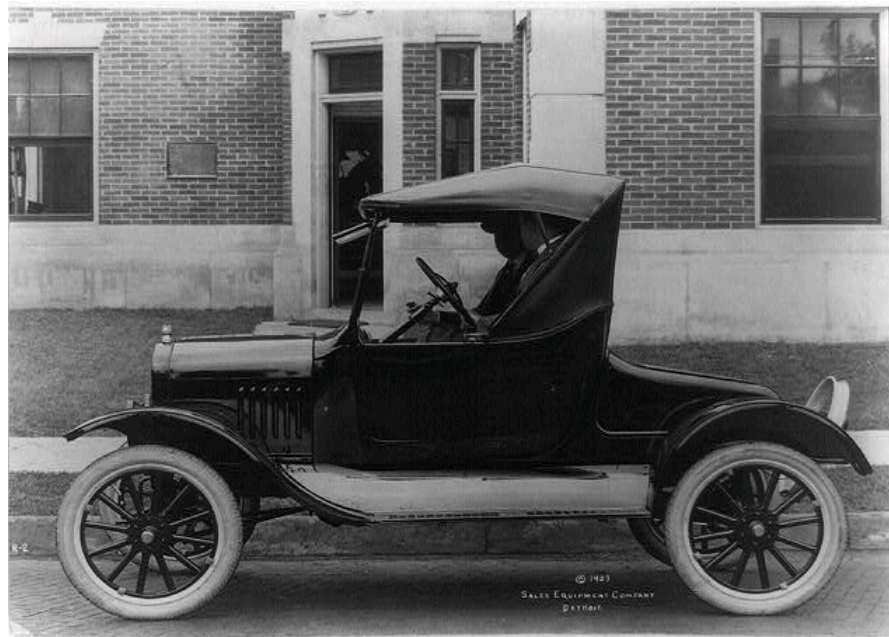
- Professionalism
- Teaching
- Successful carriers
- Bureaucracy

Normal Development Bureaucracy

- Centralization
- Conservative
- Standardized
 - Minimum administration
 - Democratic uniformity (superficial)
 - Simplified supervision, monitoring, evaluation
 - Fast money spending

Model-T Transfer-of-Technology Model

- Success story of mass production
 - Uniform technology: standard package



Example: Strategies for Crop Breeding, Selection and Spread

CDR – complex,
diverse and risk-
prone

E – environment

G – genotype

Type of agriculture	industrial and green revolution	CDR
Analysis and criteria of	scientist ↓	farmers with scientists ↓
Genotype		
Environment	uniform simple controlled	diverse complex risk-prone
Strategy	E made to fit G	G chosen to fit E
Menu	fixed, table d'hôte	à la carte
Industrial parallel	Model-T (Any colour as long as black)	Toyota (Choice of many colours)

Whose Reality Counts?

- Local people
- “Putting the first last”
 - Professionals’, top peoples’, decision makers’ reality should be put last, to understand the lower people.
 - To say “last” may be too much.
 - Reality of professionals are always biases; local people can sustain better
- Professionalism in participatory approach?
 - In case of Nepal, the situation has been changed due to education.