

WINNET Round Table and project meeting
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Comments on TechnoScientific Gender Research and Innovation

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My concern and statement

Gender and Innovation is an issue of **added values** to innovation processes wherever it takes place.

It is an issue of **quality, relevance and sustainability** (socially, economically, culturally).

Both the **condition** and **impact** of that is **equality** concerning women and men.

Inclusive innovation

My presentation

Comments on why and how

My rationale

Situated at a profiled university of technology

/ applied ICT /

and at a campus in distributed knowledge systems

POSITIONS

Gender Equality and **Gender Research** is **NOT** the same **BUT** **equally important**.

Gender Equality

means equal representation, rights and conditions for women and men.

Gender research

means development of scientific qualifications within – in my case
– technology and engineering.

Gender research Feminist research Feminist technoscience

Division of Technoscience Studies at BTH

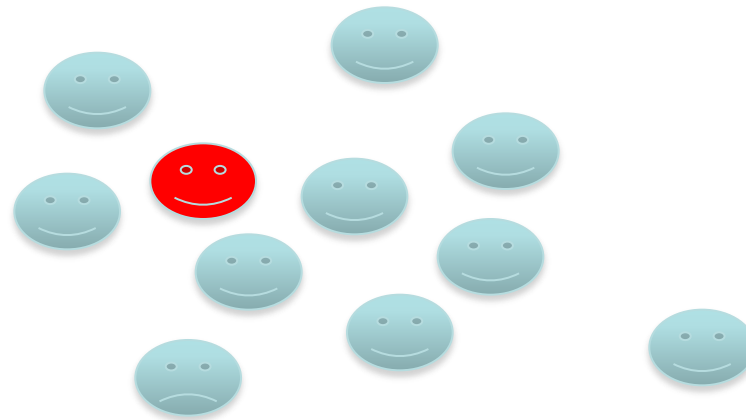
Applies perspectives from technoscientific gender research to the development of multi-faceted understanding and practices of

- information and communication technology as techniques producing reality
- innovation and innovation systems.

Reality Production
Context of Implication

TechnoScientific Gender Research

from
the practice of counting heads (how many women)



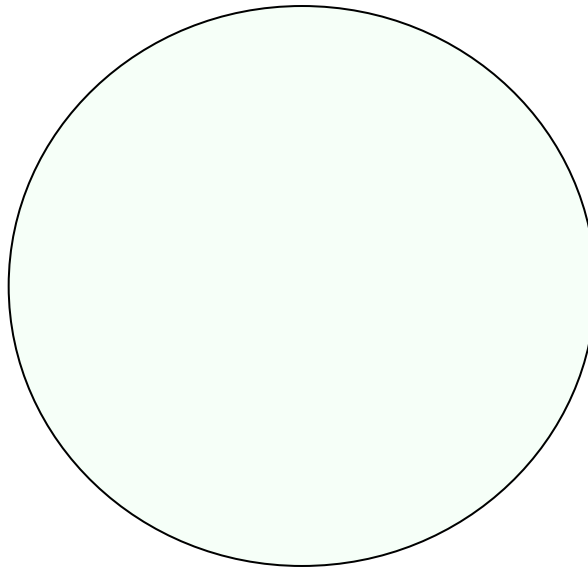
to
foster and advance understandings and practices
of knowledge production and innovation



Gender Research and Innovation

Situated Knowledges

Co-evolution



**Socially Robust Technology
and Knowledge**

Technologies of Humility



Comments on
Situated Knowledges and Technologies of Humility

TechnoScientific Gender Research

Perspectives from ***within*** is a central condition

Technology is not neutral. We're inside what we make, and it's inside us.

We're living in a world of connections – and it matters which ones get made and unmade.

Donna Haraway 1997

Comments on
Co-evolution, Socially Robust Technology and Knowledge

TechnoScientific Gender Research
links to the **Triple Helix** concept

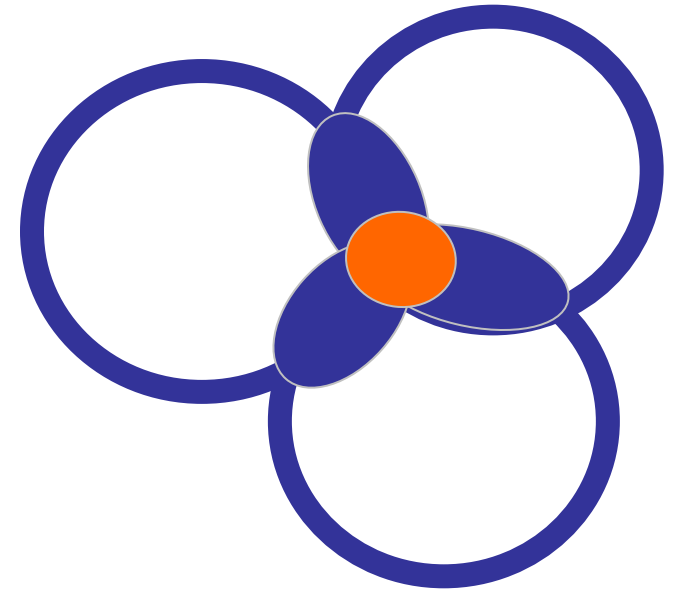
including

Academia

Industry / Private sector

Government

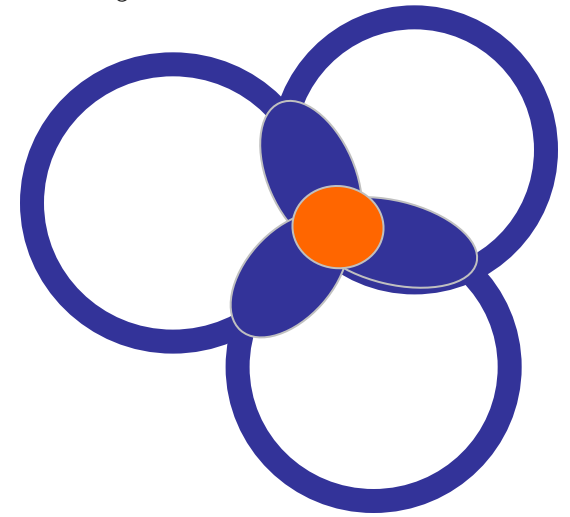
fostering Co-evolving process



TechnoScientific Gender Research
is a resource

to strengthen Triple Helix processes by

- **emphasising** the existence of power relations and their impacts, including complex understanding of gender structures
- **process-oriented development** through a broader understanding of transformation practices
- **enforcement and integration** of situated knowledges and technology development



Necessary conditions for Co-evolving Processes
can be summarized in some characteristics

context of application

trans-disciplinarity

much greater diversity of sites of knowledge production / research

highly reflexive / responsibility

novel forms of quality control

socially robust knowledge

context of implication

emphasize

the twin notions of 'science speaking to society' and 'society speaking back to science'



Research Division of Technoscience Studies at

a BTH university campus within the frame of
the Triple Helix organization NetPort





Case Uganda

Initial questions

Why so few students at Faculty of Technology (FoT), MAK, and why so few coming from secondary schools outside Kampala, the capital of Uganda? More than 80% of Uganda inhabitants live in rural areas.

How to change the situation of few female students at FoT?

Can ICT be an innovative and transformative “tool”?



Ediofe Girls' Senior Secondary School



E-learning project for semirural secondary schools

Co-evolution
Arua Government
University
Local business



quality, relevance and sustainability



Dr Peter Okidi-Lating

timeframe 2005 - 2009

What started

as an e-learning project in order to increase the number of female students at Faculty of Technology, Makerere University,

Ended up in

an ICT Research Centre in Arua facilitating 10 schools, district and local businesses and organizations, district and local governmental authorities, 2 hospitals, local authorities across the borders of Sudan and Congo.

Government of Uganda have established a new university 2013 – Muni University – with the ICT / GIS Research Centre in Arua as its starting hub and starting the university with a Faculty of Technoscience.

TechnoScientific Gender Research

Summarizing Concepts

Reality Production

co-evolution

Situated Knowledges

provide alternatives to "... developing at home that voice of entitlement, the voice of control, that accompanies the conquest of empires far from home" (Donna Haraway)

Learning processes / Technologies of Humility

Open minds in 3H processes

Asses the unknown, uncontrollable

point to

Socially Robust Technology R&D&I



Gender Research and Innovation

A broader and deeper understanding of innovation and innovation systems focusing not only at the market economy context but at relevant societal contexts

illustrated by

Innovation is the collective bet on a common fragile future and no side, neither science nor society, knows the secret of how to cope with its inherent uncertainties. It has to be done in some sort of alliance and a sense of direction which is shared.

Helga Nowotny 2005

Trust
Relevance in Society

