

Proposed Framework for Analysis of Intellectual Property Structures in the Agricultural Biotechnology Cluster

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The research project....

Examine / analyze flows of knowledge in the regional innovation system



 Explore how intellectual property is created, managed and commercially exploited



 Determine how these flows contribute to the development of a local agriculture biotechnology innovation cluster



Saskatoon's innovation cluster...

- one of the few identifiable ag biotech clusters in the world
- narrow product focus Canola
- near the University of Saskatchewan
- anchored by NRC's Plant Biotechnology Institute
- has a reputation for introducing 'world firsts'

» this is an indication of the cluster's...

 networking capacity and comparative advantage in the global market



Canola industry...

- 5 generations of innovative development
 - covering mid 40's to present day
- from 'linear form / supply driven to chain link' to 'technology push' iteration
- today....
 - » characterized by strong links with customers
 - » strategic alliances with suppliers / competitors / other actors
 - » increased focus on quality and non-market issues



Converging IP Structures...

- What was/is....
 - » strategic alliances, collaborations, licensing
- Today...
 - » Increased emphasis on *non-market* issues
 - » GELS genomics, ethics, environment, law & society
 - Genome Prairie Abiotic Stress Project
 - Director: Dr. Graham Scoles U of S
 - Project: to investigate cold tolerance of wheat and canola
 - » 21 priniciple investigators
 - » 5 universities
 - » 3 federal labs
 - » 3 international collaborators



Converging IP Structures...

- Where we are going...
 - Canadian Light Source Synchrotron
 - IT, geography, medical imaging & biotechnology
 - international component
 - new transient social capital
 - » 2000+ expected annually







Need framework to examine IP structure(s)...

- Emphasis on activities and objectives of...
 - » ...different actors....
 - ...leveraging different types of knowledge...
 - know-why, know-what, know-who, know-how
 - » ...with different methods of knowledge valuation
- Thus, the framework...
 - » ...requires an interdisciplinary approach



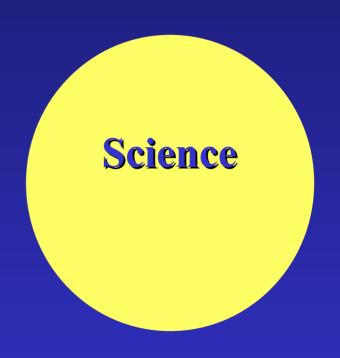
Cluster activities...

- Science
 - » pure research
 - » academics, university / post-secondary institutions / public research institutes
- Technology
 - » applied research
 - » MNEs, SMEs / related and supporting firms
- Collective Initiatives
 - » pool knowledge to maximize benefits for m'ship
 - » commodity groups



Activities & objectives...

- » know-why knowledge
- " not-for-profit based
 objective(s)
 - increase public welfare / public knowledge
- » cost-benefit-based approach to knowledge valuation
- » IP mechanisms publication and copyright





Activities & objectives...



- » know-what knowledge / technological application of academic pure science
- » profit-based objective(s)
- » accountancy-based approach to knowledge valuation
- » IP mechanisms patents / trade secrets / varietal testing and registration system



Actor activities & objectives...

- » know-who / know-how knowledge
- » objective: maximize collective action
- » less clear but assume strategy-based approach to knowledge valuation
- » IP mechanisms less formal / shared language and common culture





Conceptualizing the framework...

- Need a foundational model to work from...
 - » Picciotto model:
 - Putting Institutional Economics to Work: From Participation to Governance (1996)
 - systematic framework for institutional design
 - illustrates the interaction of the state, market and voluntary sector
 - addresses development at the project, country and global level
 - examines the intersection between institutional economics and development practice

Picciotto Model

A. Government

B. Public Corporations

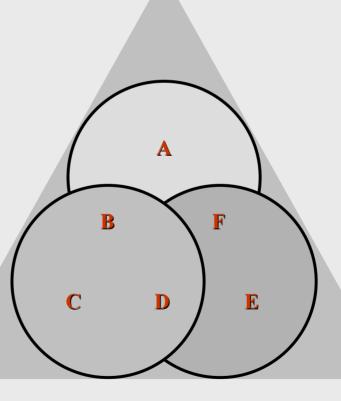
C. Private Corporations

D. NGOs

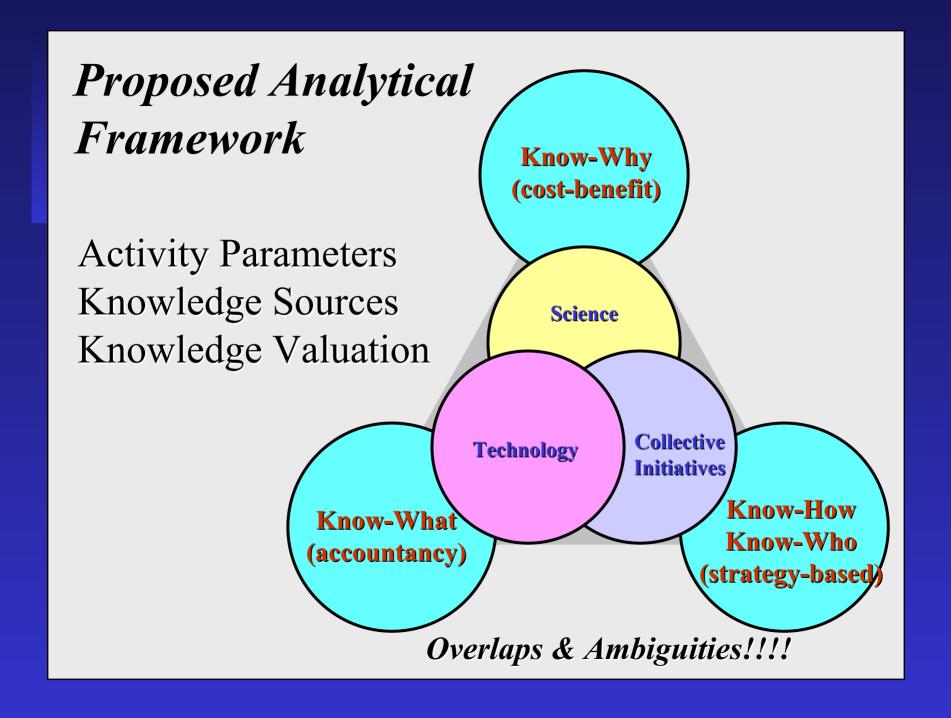
E. Cooperatives

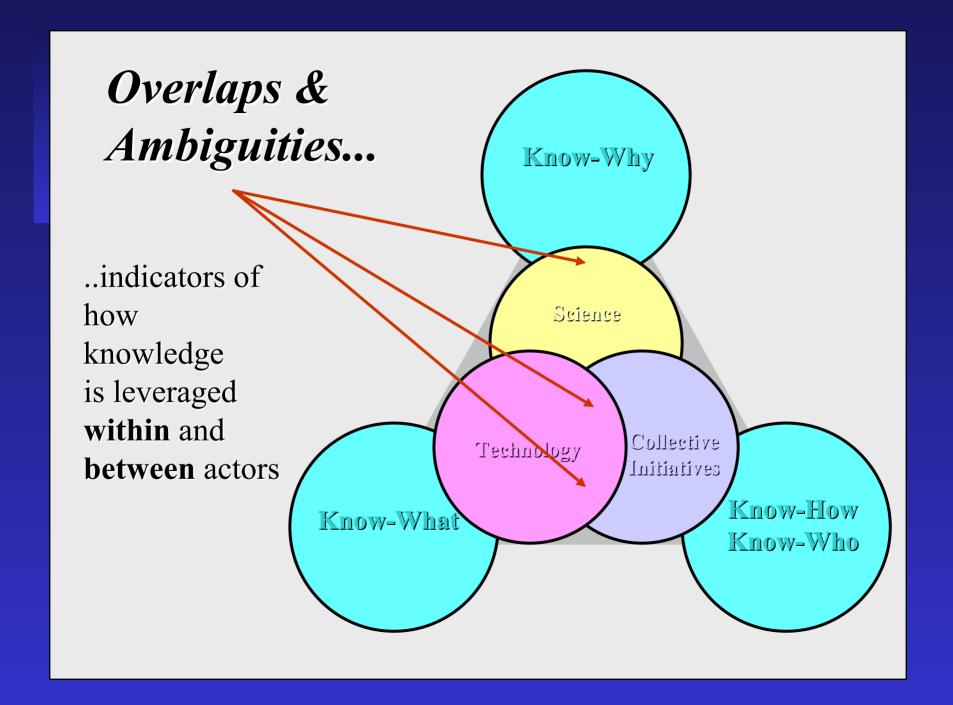
F. Hybrid Organizations

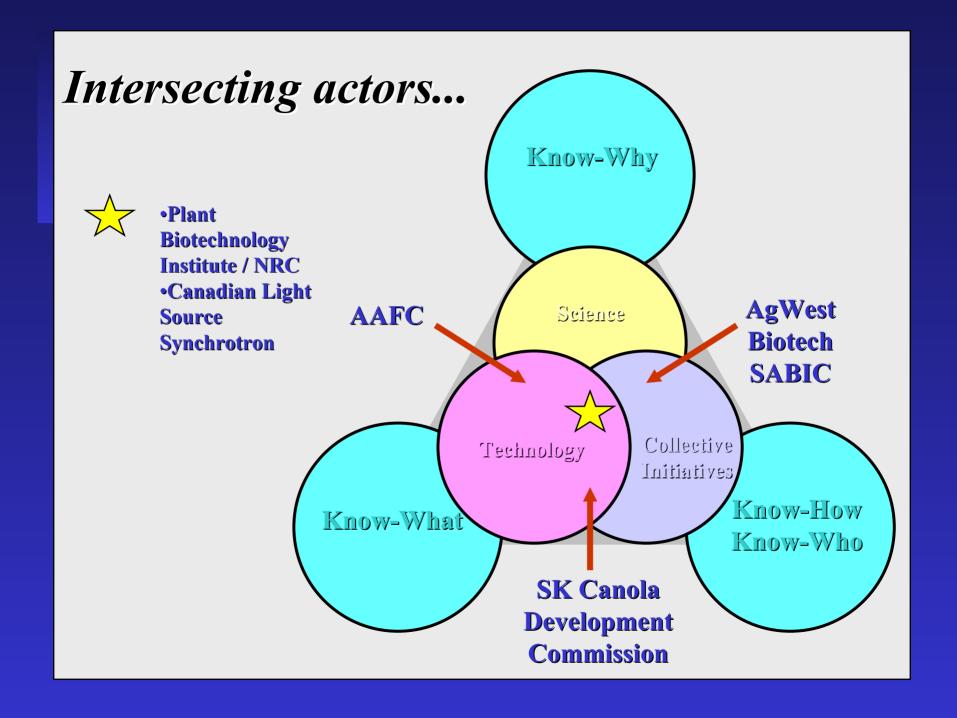
State Sector



Market Sector Voluntary Sector









Framework's analytical capacity...

- Model, as it is....
 - appears to be in "equilibrium" with activities deemed equidistant
- However, in application must focus on whether...
 - » actors are fulfilling roles / activities
 - » actors are flexible
 - » all types of knowledge are being effectively leveraged and disseminated
 - there is a balance of activities / objectives across actors for maximum cluster flexibility and success...



The adapted framework...

- ...validates the innovation cluster as a collective
 network of actors AND activities...
 - » ...illustrates the interaction of the various actors
 - according to their respective roles/activities
 - in how they value and leverage the knowledge network
- ...provides a model to evaluate intellectual property structures in the innovation cluster



Thank-you / Merci!

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