

Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Memorial Lecture

Governing the Commons, 30 Years Later — An Inventory of Good Advice for Commoners

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Governance – Universiteit Utrecht

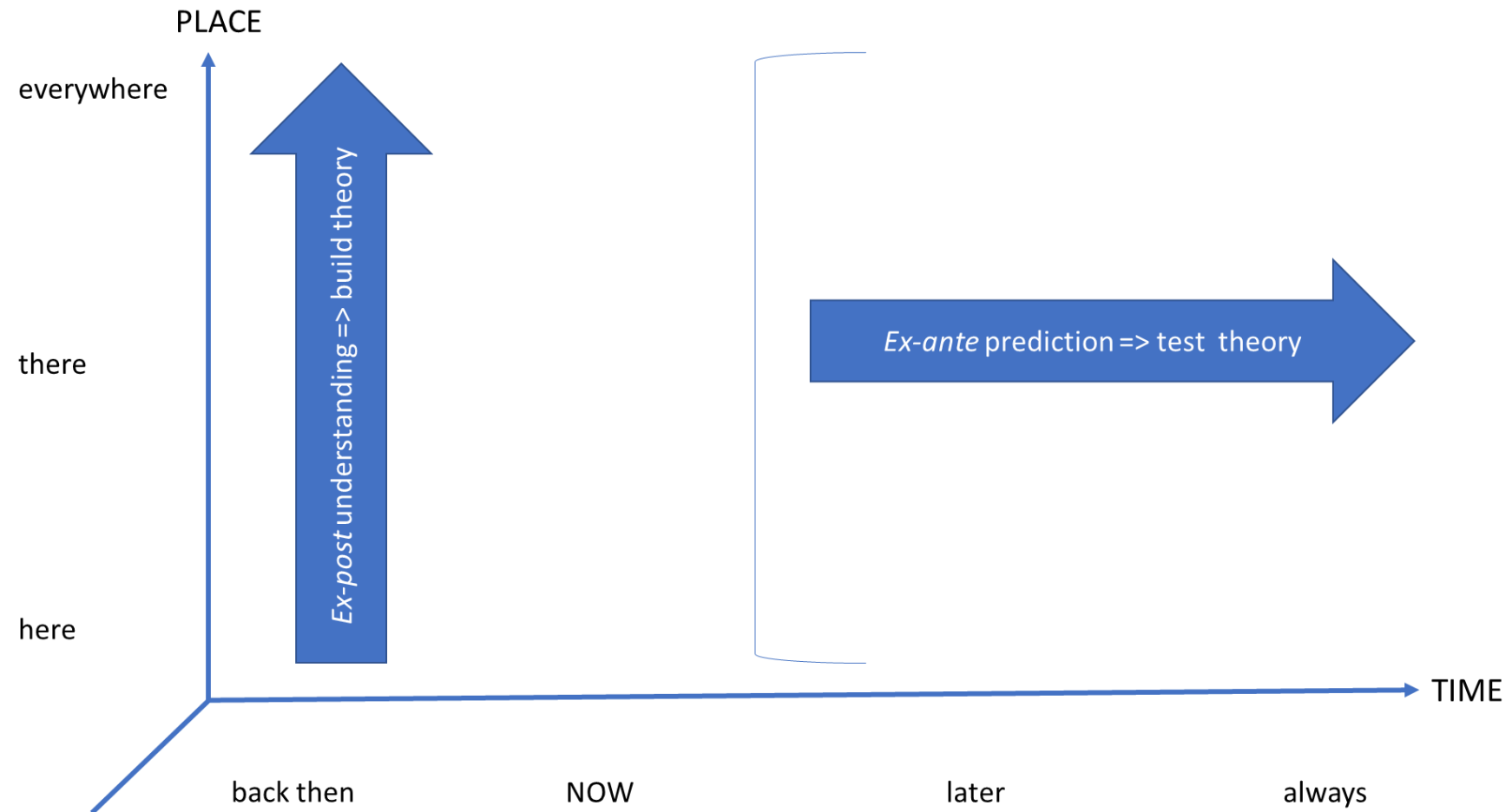
Thursday, October 1, 2020: 12:00 – 1:00 pm EST

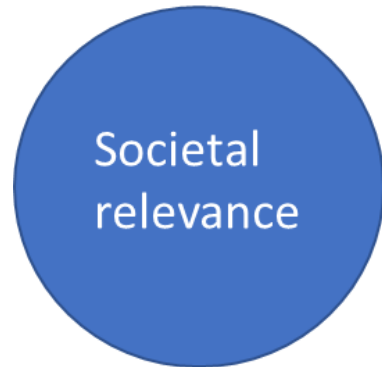
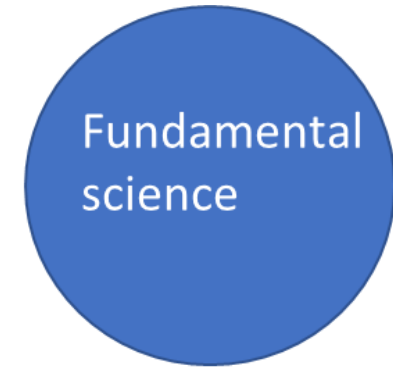
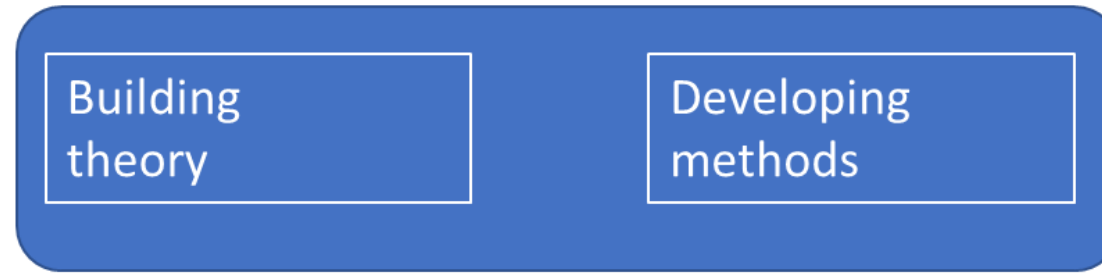
Webinar via Zoom: [Click here for link to registration page](#)



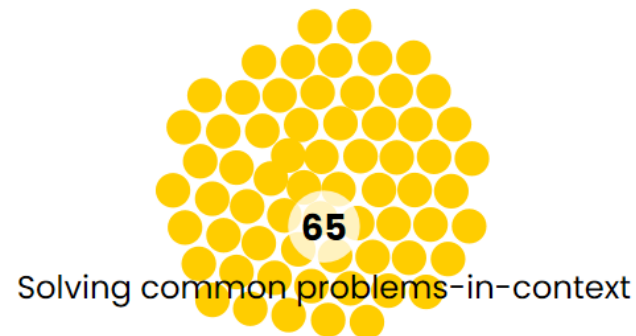
The puzzle addressed in *Governing the Commons* doesn't appear all that complex: How can groups of people best govern a shared resource, sustainably? Since 1990, an enormous amount of energy has been poured into answering this question. How has this spinoff research helped commoners to make better decisions? How can we proceed to further improve our service to the people for whom we are doing this?

This event is also part of [World Commons Week](#) as the [North American Keynote Webinar](#)



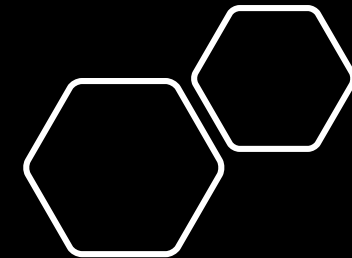
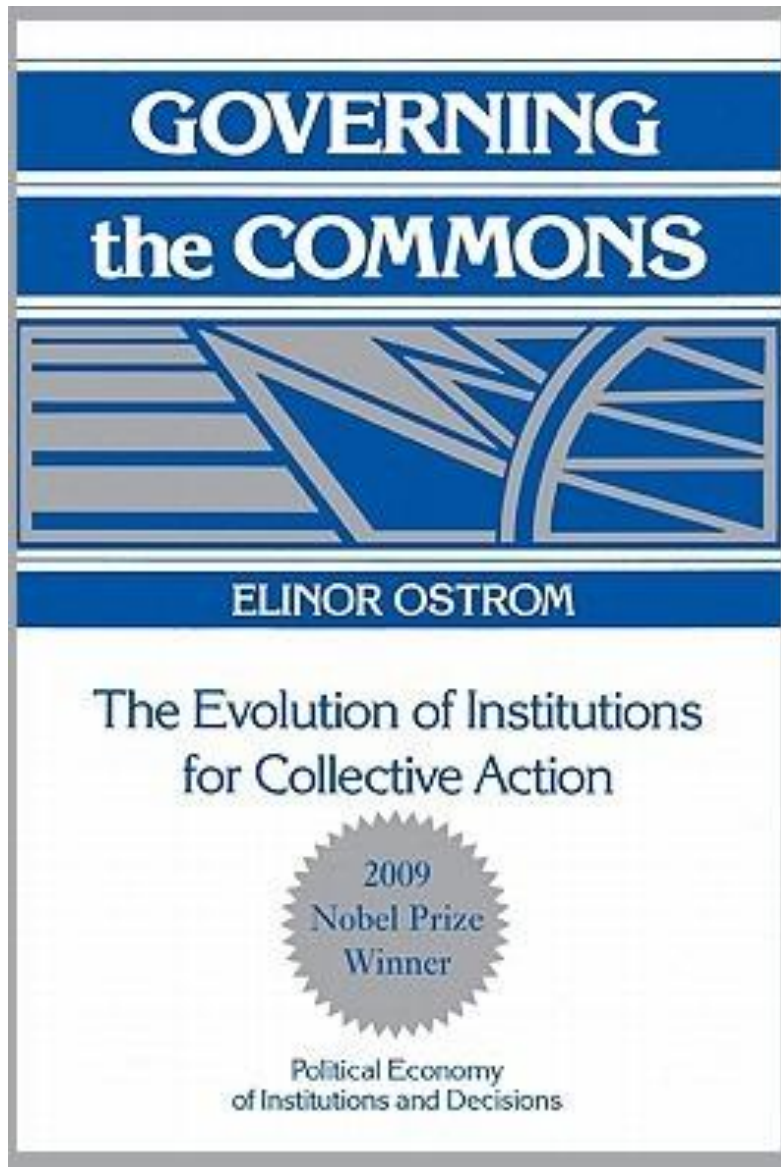


What is the main current focus of your own work?



The horror of the H-Index

- Perverse incentives?
- Strategies to publish more?
 - “*Slicing thin baloney*” – convert what should have been 1 article into 10 articles, instead.
 - Favor short paper production cycles (e.g. with a short data collection period)
 - Favor incremental theory development over solving practical problems
 - Get grad students to buy into the publication myth, and have them accepting you as a co-author
- Strategies to get cited?
 - Co-author with highly-productive and highly-cited peers
 - Favor review articles over work based on primary data and original ideas
 - I-cite-you-you-cite-me; cite-your-friends *fests* (here’s where gender & diversity issues in academia arise!)
 - Gravitate to the topics that have proven to result in a guaranteed high number of citations

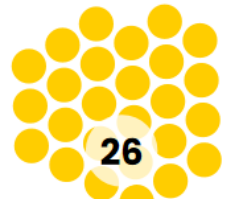


RETABLIR LE LIEN ENTRE L'HOMME ET LA TERRE

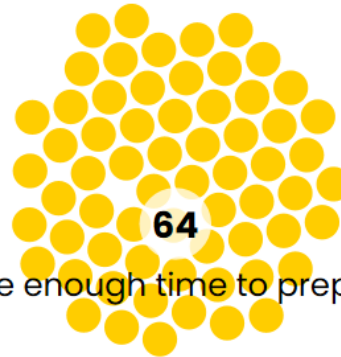
Hommes et Terre développe et exécute des projets de restauration des écosystèmes et d'agroforesterie en collaboration avec les communautés locales. Nous rectifions un lien dynamique entre l'homme et la terre afin de restaurer l'économie et d'autonomiser les communautés.



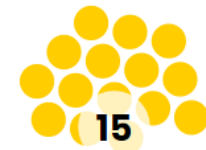
Do you feel you'd be able to give a training like this?



No way! Never!

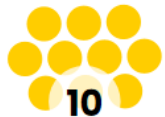


If you give me enough time to prepare...perhaps

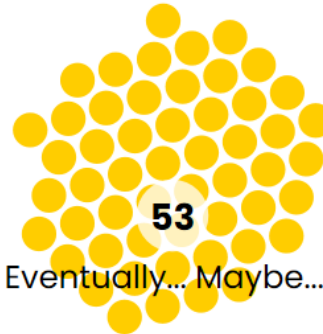


Yes! I can do it! Right now, if you want to!

My work is accessible to commoners. In it, they will find plug-and-play types of practical suggestions that will help them governing their commons



Absolutely not!

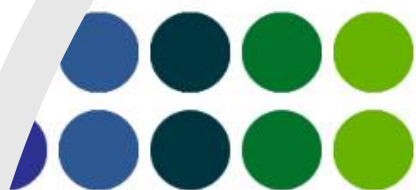


Eventually... Maybe...?



Yes! Yes! Yes!





International Journal of the Commons

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The commons during the World Commons Week 2020
(September 9, 2020)

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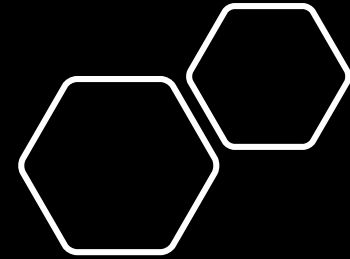
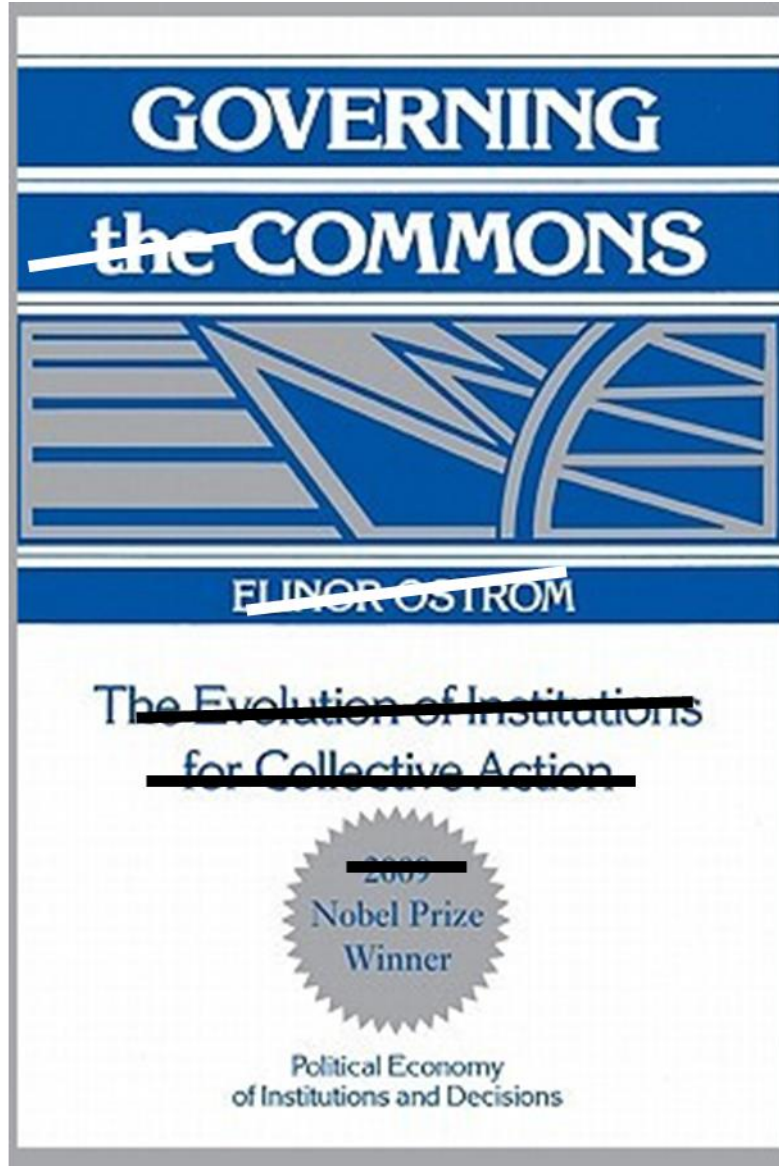
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Sample

	Sample		All	
	N	%	N	%
2011	10	13%	25	8%
2012	5	7%	15	5%
2013	7	9%	24	8%
2014	7	9%	27	9%
2015	8	11%	38	13%
2016	11	15%	46	15%
2017	8	11%	36	12%
2018	8	11%	35	12%
2019	8	11%	37	12%
2020	3	4%	15	5%
Totals	75	100%	298	100%

healthcare
pastures
farm
land
commons
range
forest
food
resources
trade
fishery
urban
cooperation
genetic
irrigation
mineral
aquaculture
coproduction
marine
systems
ecosystem
water
software
system

What type of commons do you mostly work on?



forests



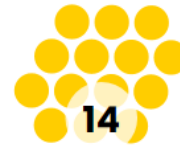
water



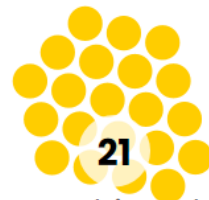
irrigation



fisheries



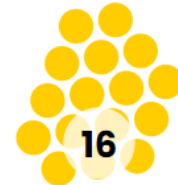
urban commons



something else



pasture & range land



knowledge commons



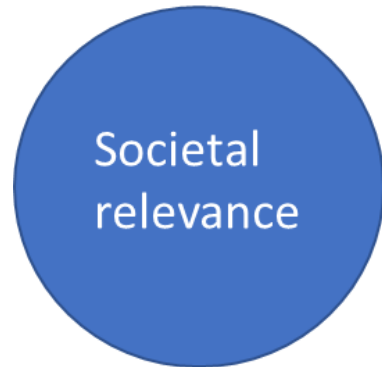
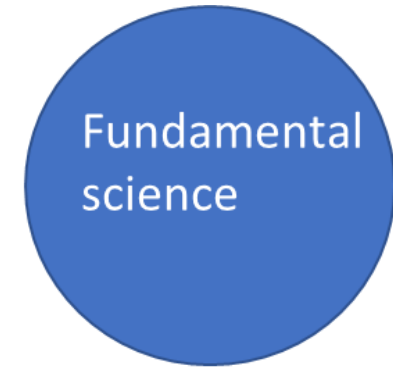
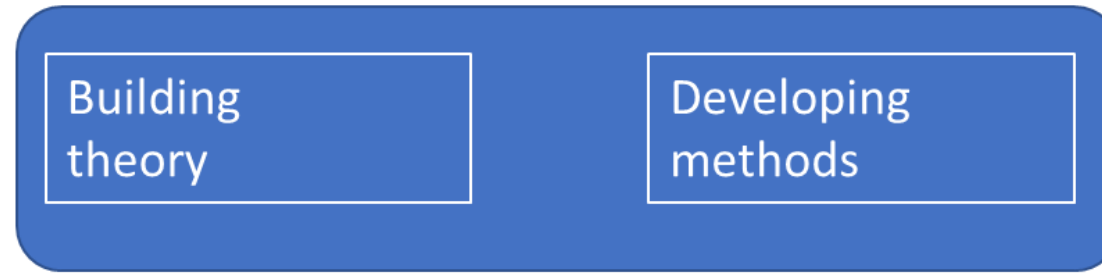
not applicable

A word cloud of country names arranged in a circular shape. The names are written in various colors (black, brown, red, orange, teal) and sizes, creating a dense, circular pattern. The most prominent words are 'bangladesh' and 'india'. Other visible countries include 'usa', 'china', 'japan', 'mexico', 'spain', 'australia', 'germany', 'brazil', 'madagascar', 'azerbaijan', 'colombia', 'ecuador', 'ghana', 'nepal', 'timor', 'bolivia', 'chile', 'south island', 'netherlands', 'cameroon', 'argentina', 'bhutan', 'jamaica', 'pakistan', 'africa', 'turkey', 'uzbekistan', 'east', 'vietnam', 'malaysia', 'south', 'china', 'canada', 'usa', 'japan', 'bangladesh', 'india', 'mexico', 'spain', 'australia', 'germany', 'brazil', 'madagascar', 'azerbaijan', 'colombia', 'ecuador', 'ghana', 'nepal', 'timor', 'bolivia', 'chile', 'south island', 'netherlands', 'cameroon', 'argentina', 'bhutan', 'jamaica', 'pakistan', 'africa', 'turkey', 'uzbekistan', 'east', 'vietnam', 'malaysia', 'south'.

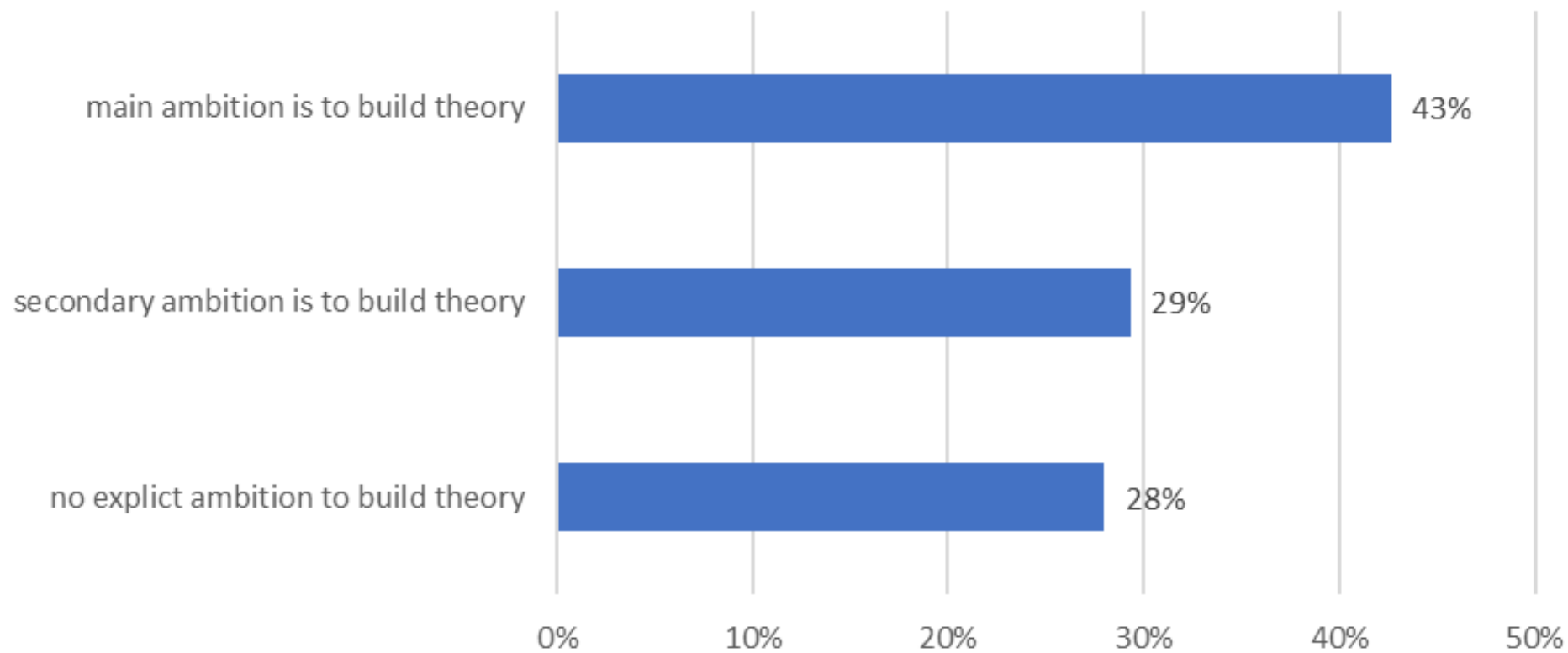
bangladesh
india
usa
china
japan
mexico
spain
australia
germany
brazil
madagascar
azerbaijan
colombia
ecuador
ghana
nepal
timor
bolivia
chile
south island
netherlands
cameroon
argentina
bhutan
jamaica
pakistan
africa
turkey
uzbekistan
east
vietnam
malaysia
south

94

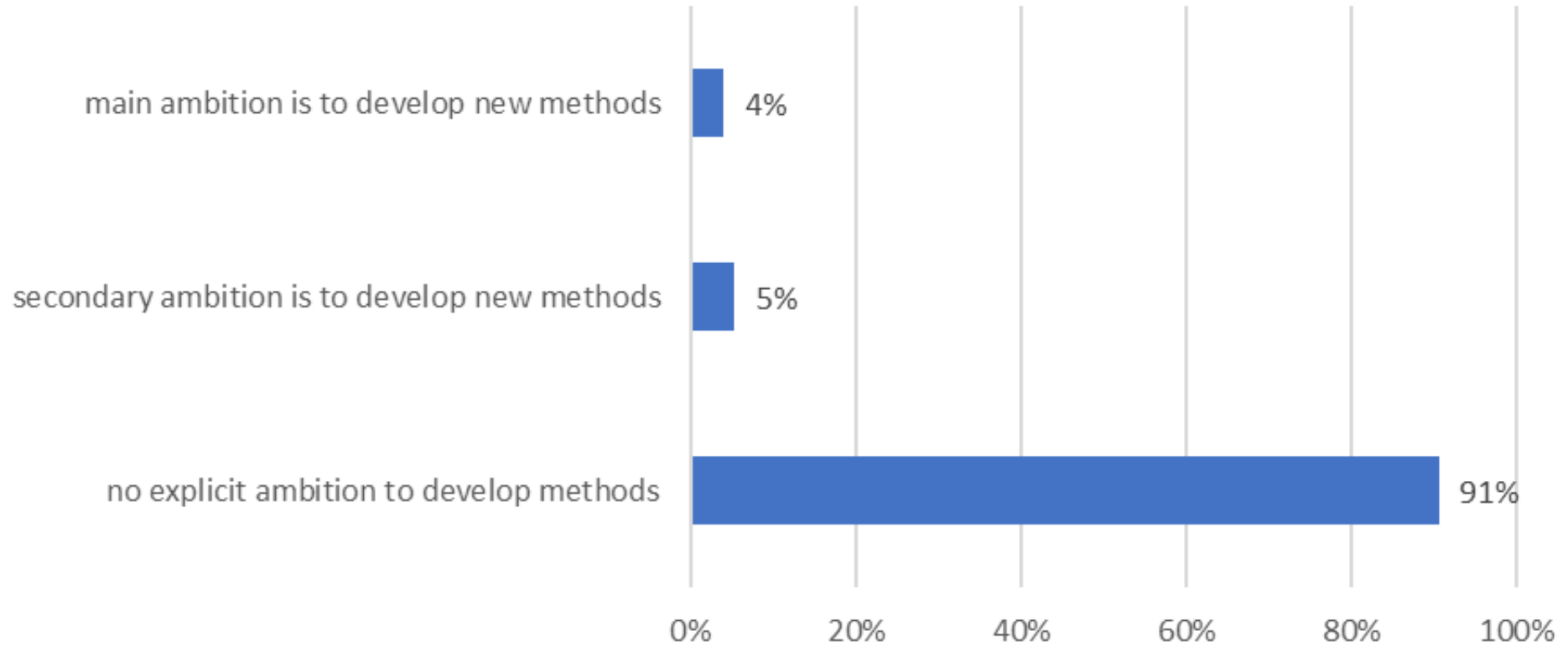




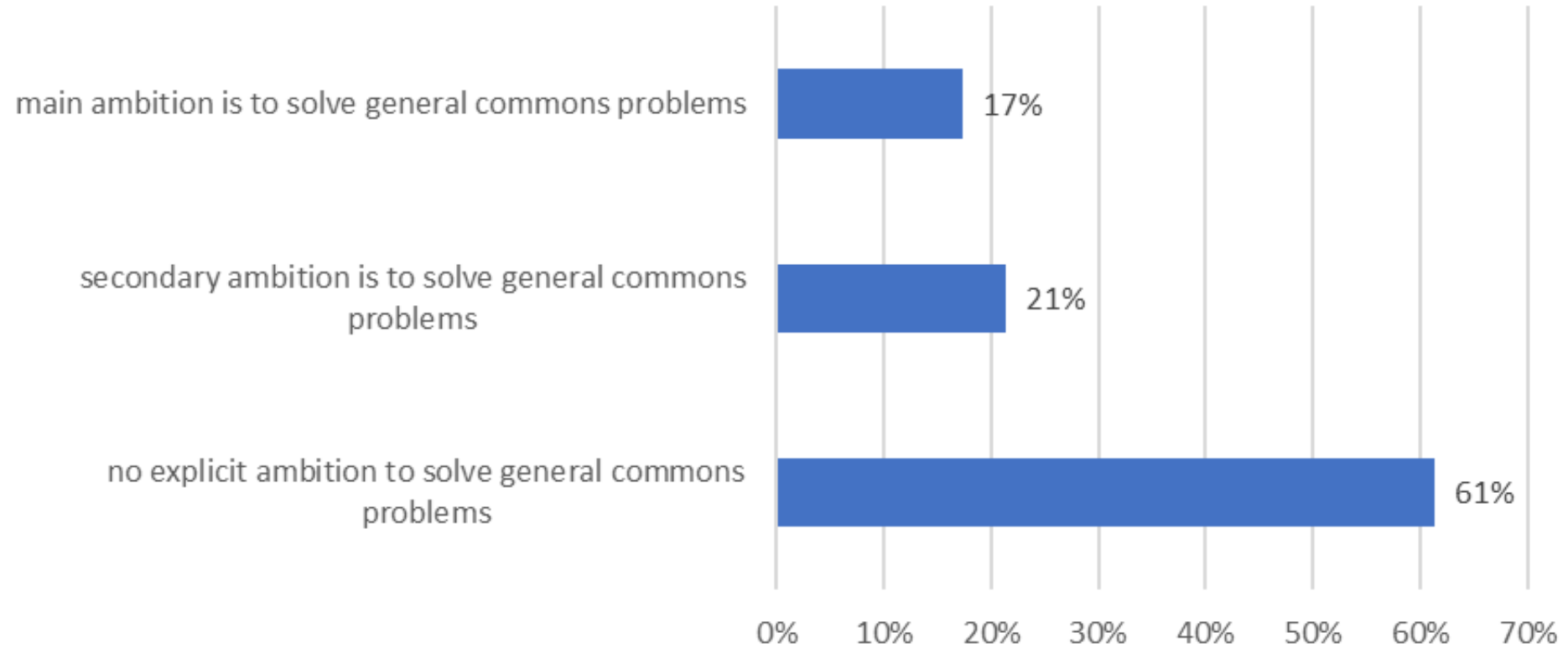
Theory development



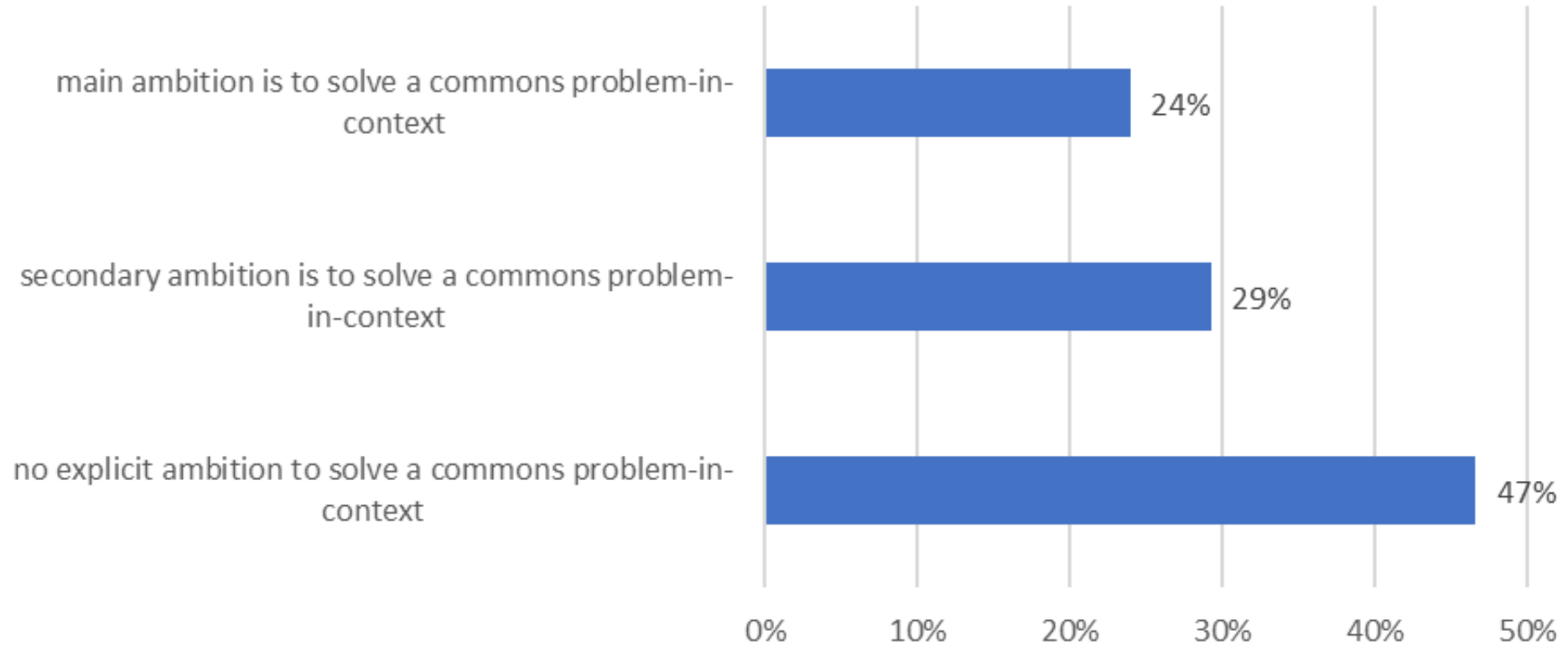
Methods development



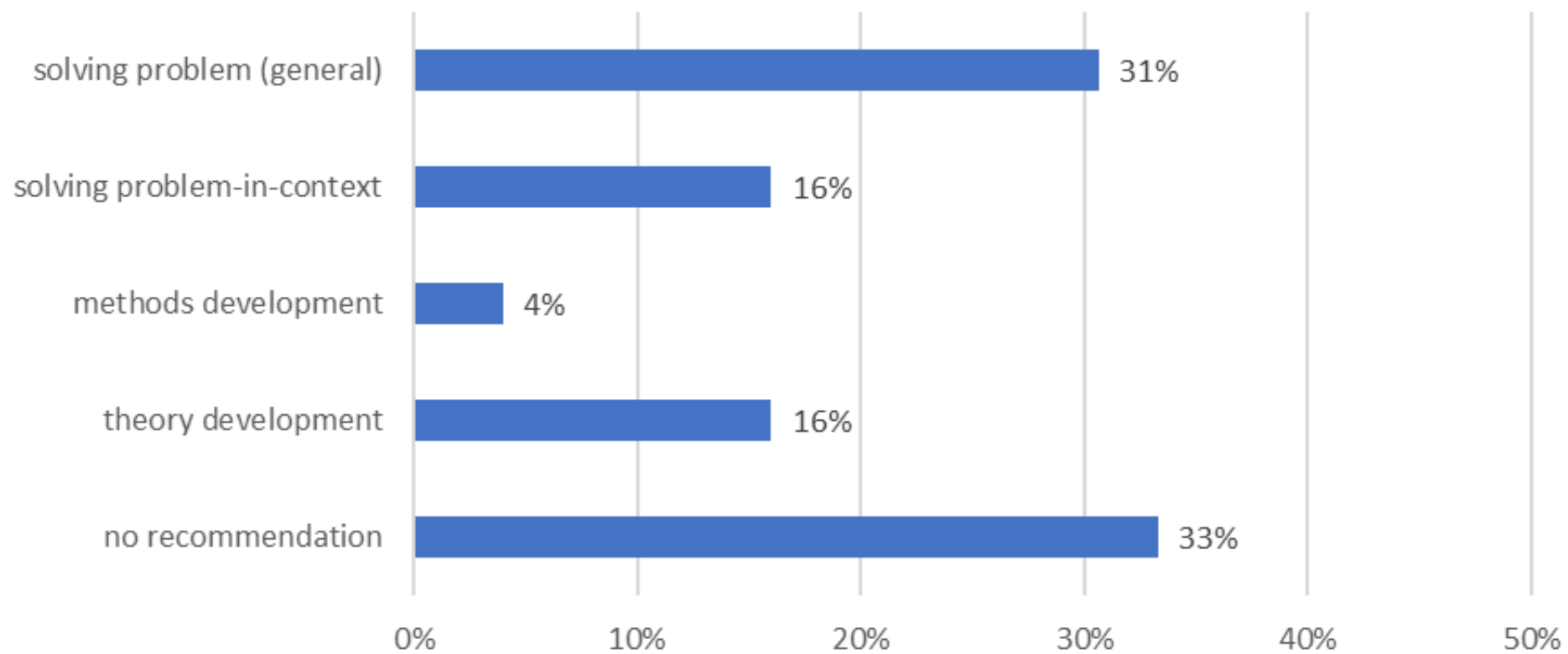
Solving practical problems (general)



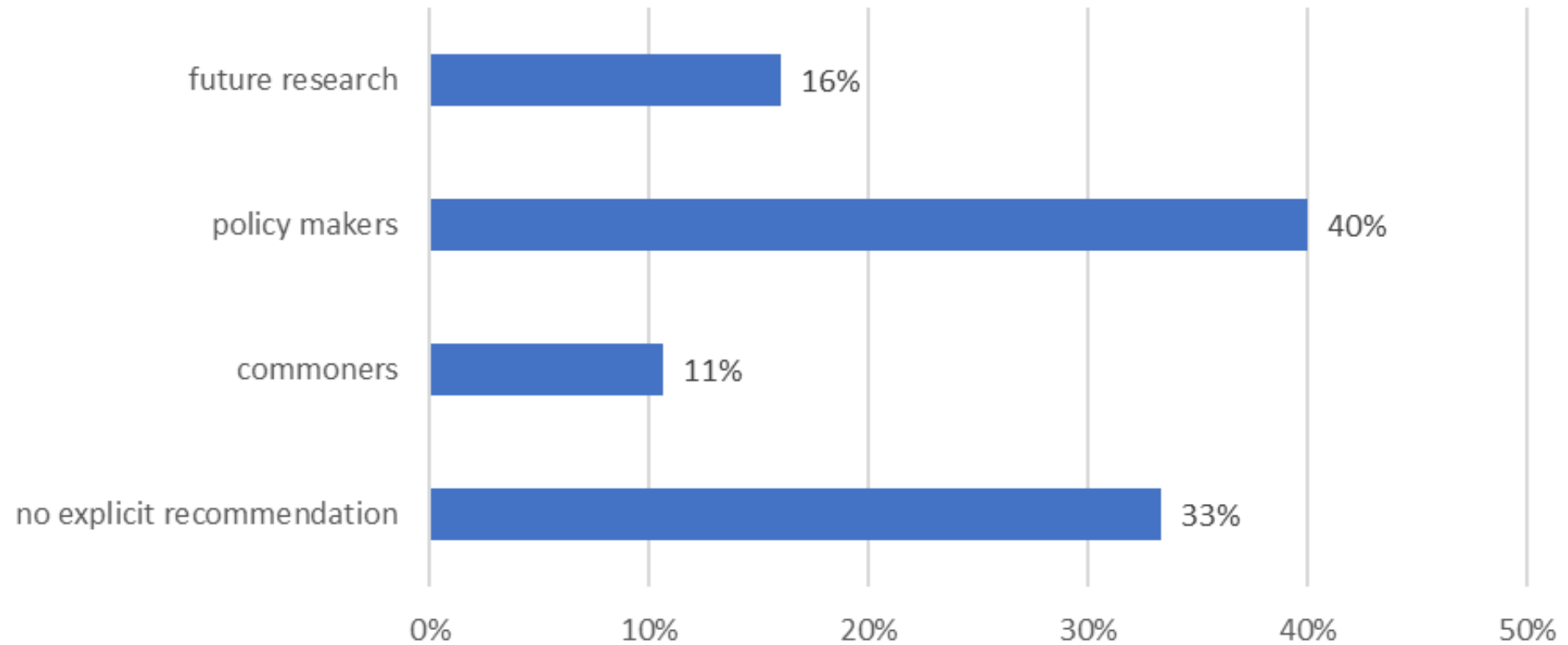
Solving practical problems (in context)



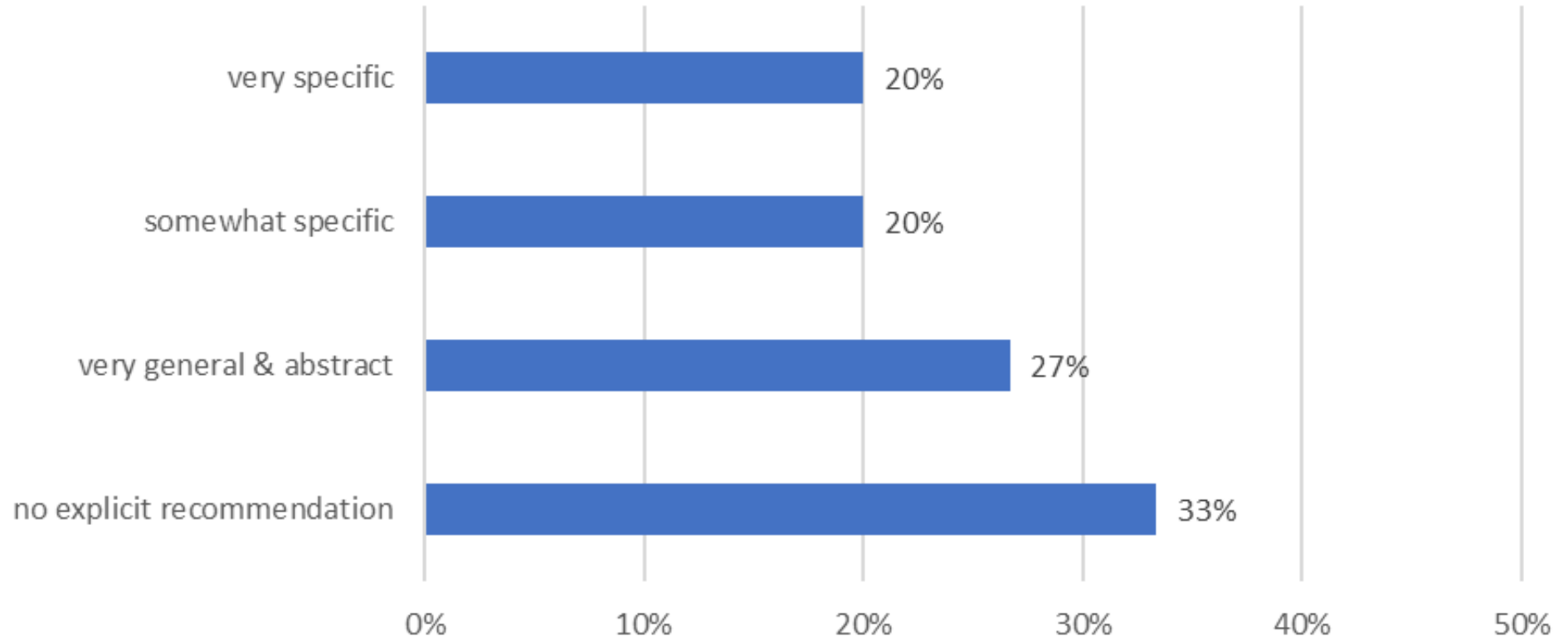
Main recommendation - type



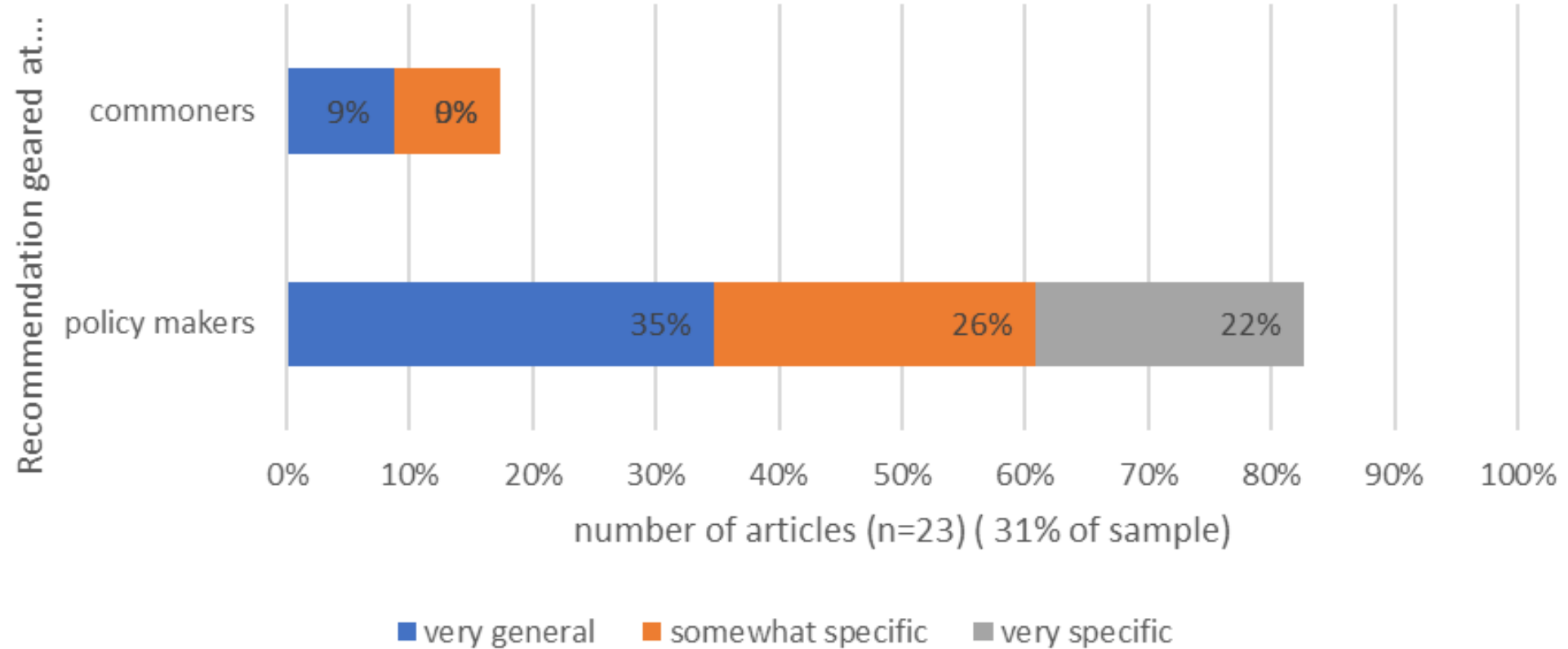
Main recommendation is geared at..



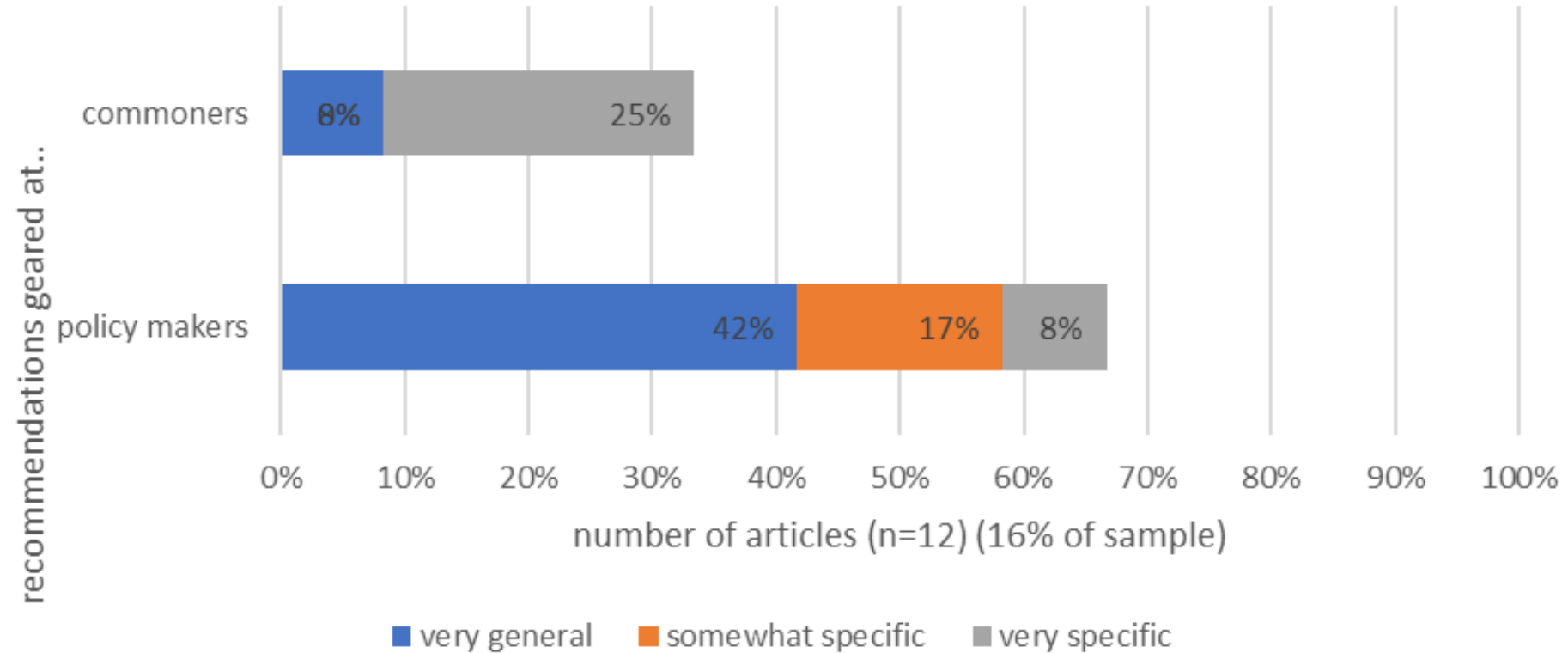
The recommendation is..



solving practical problems-in-context



solving practical problems (general)

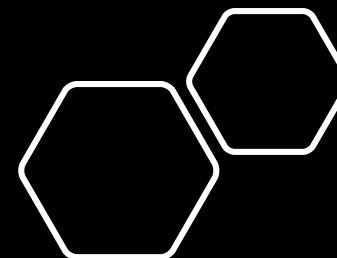
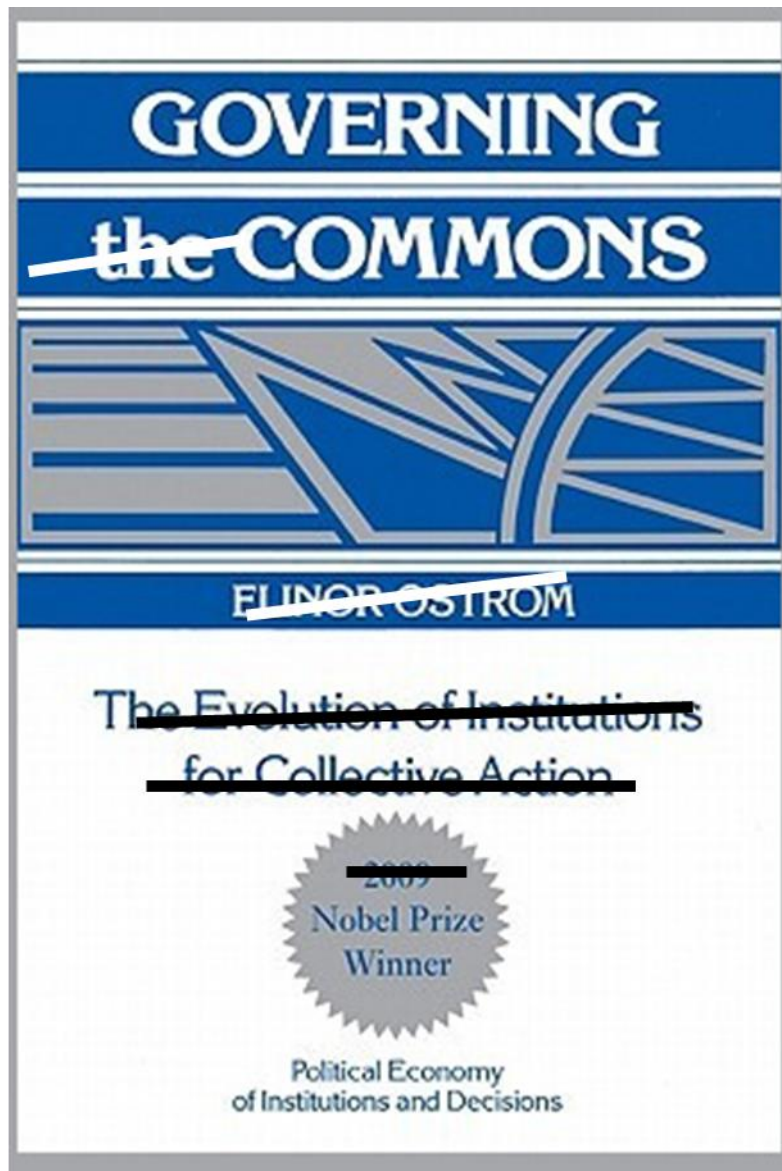


your

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Research articles

Uniting forest and livelihood outcomes? Analyzing
external actor interventions in sustainable
livelihoods in a community forest management
context

Authors: Clare Barnes [✉](#), Rachel Claus, Peter Driessen,
Maria Joao Ferreira Dos Santos, Mary Ann George, Frank Van Laerhoven



Making it last? Analysing the role of NGO interventions in the development of institutions for durable collective action in Indian community forestry

Clare Barnes [✉](#), Frank van Laerhoven [✉](#)



Helping to self-help? External interventions to stimulate local collective action in Joint Forest Management, Maharashtra, India

Authors: Barnes, C.; Van Laerhoven, F.

Source: *International Forestry Review*, Volume 15, Number 1, March 2013, pp. 1–17(17)

Publisher: Commonwealth Forestry Association

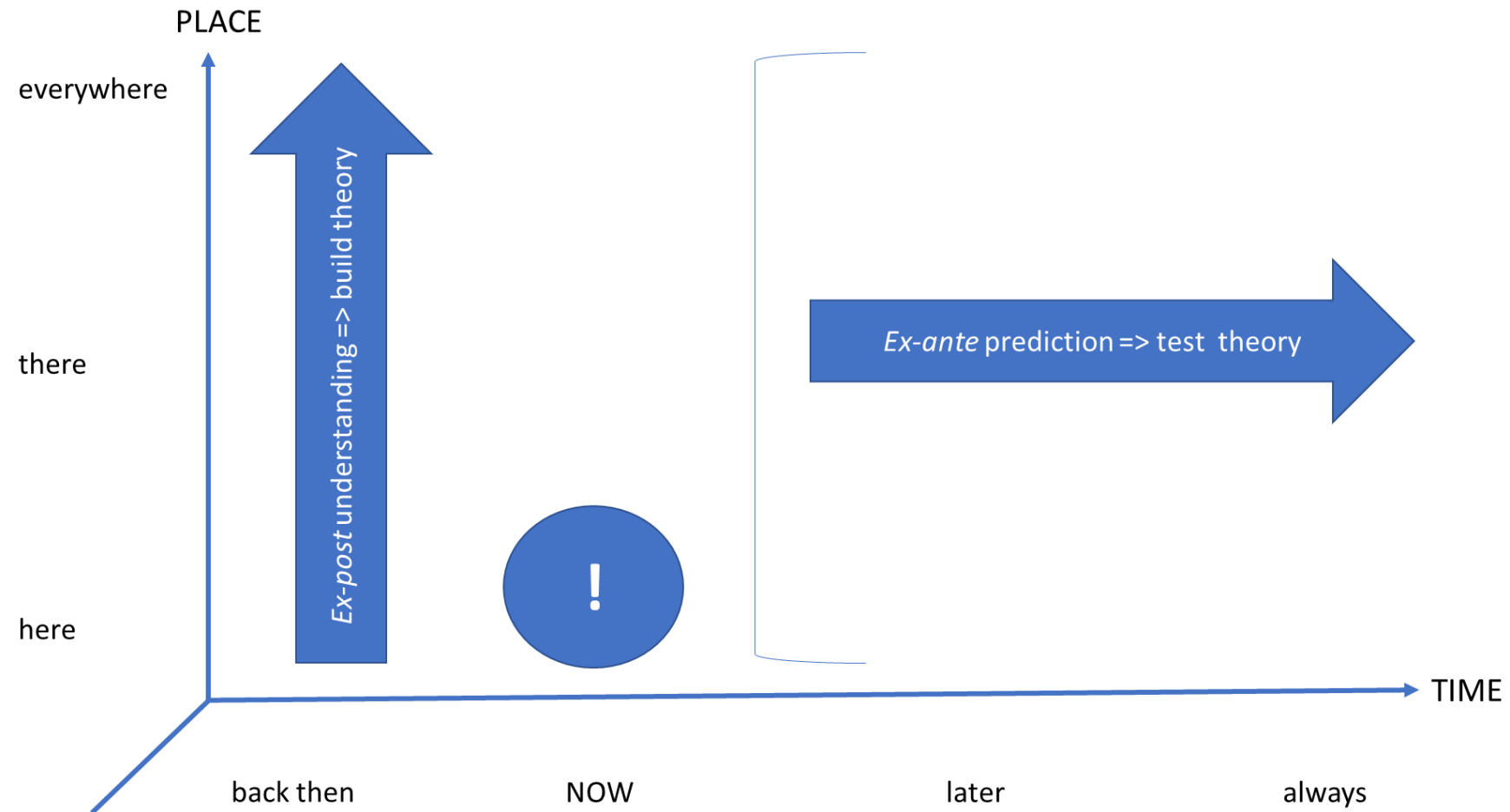
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1505/146554813805927246>

Communities and commons: the role of community development support in sustaining the commons FREE

Frank Van Laerhoven [✉](#), Clare Barnes

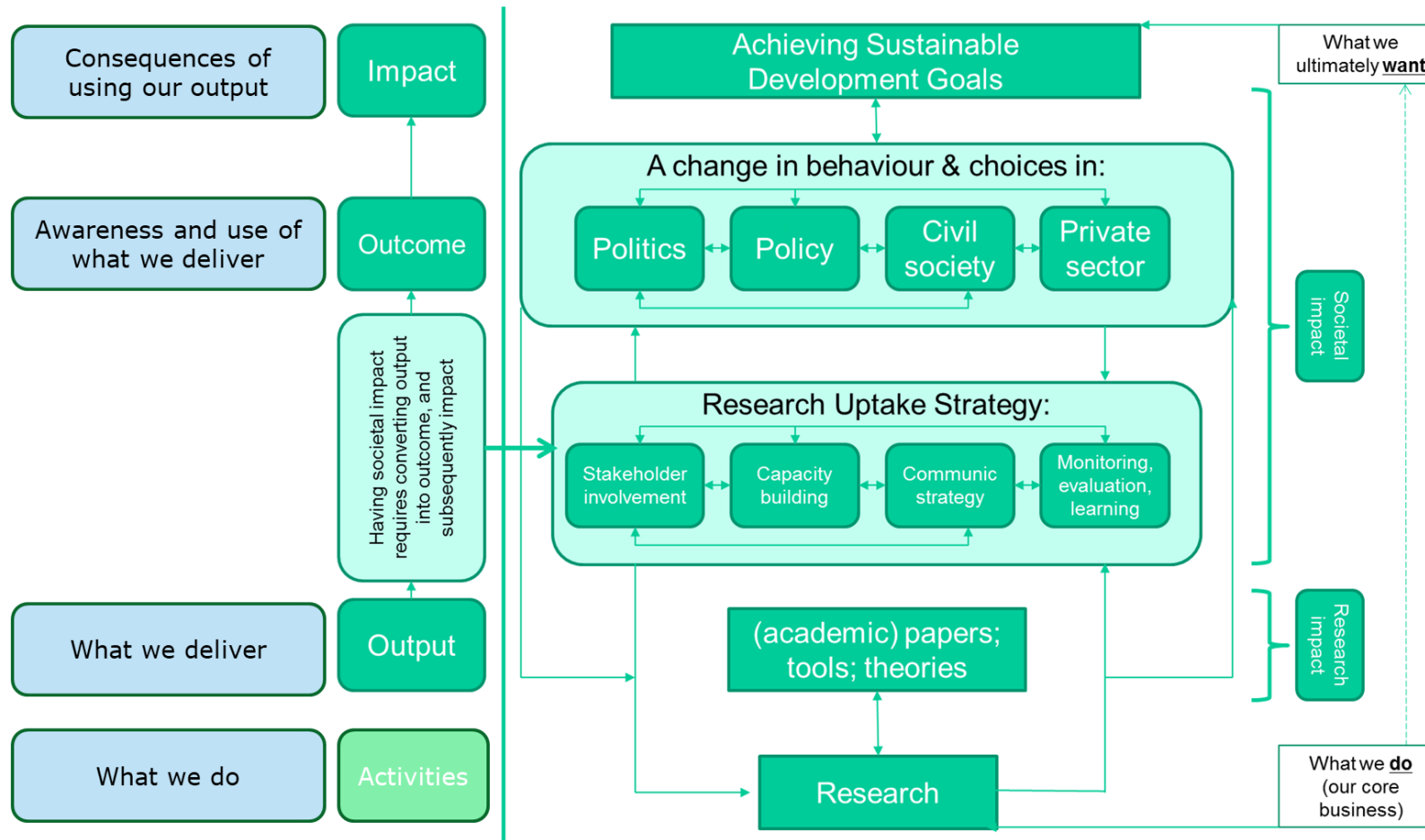
Community Development Journal, Volume 49, Issue suppl_1, January 2014,
Pages i118–i132, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdj/bsu005>

Published: 01 January 2014





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Eelderink, M., J. M. Vervoort, and F. van Laerhoven. 2020. Using participatory action research to operationalize critical systems thinking in social-ecological systems. *Ecology and Society* 25(1):16. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-11369-250116>



Research

Using participatory action research to operationalize critical systems thinking in social-ecological systems

[Madelon Eelderink](#)^{1,2}, [Joost M. Vervoort](#)^{1,3,4} and [Frank van Laerhoven](#)¹

Tailoring participatory action research to deal with the latent problem of an invasive alien vine on Saba, Caribbean Netherlands

[Jetske Vaas](#) ✉, [Peter P. J. Driessen](#), [Mendel Giezen](#), [Frank van Laerhoven](#) & [Martin J. Wassen](#)

Regional Environmental Change **20**, Article number: 30 (2020) | [Cite this article](#)

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Recommendations

- Keep doing what you're doing with regarding the generation and testing of theory and methods!
- Formulate clear and precise recommendations
- Specify who you are addressing
- Address and accommodate commoners and their supporters more often
- Try to solve practical problems minimally as much as you try to build theory
- Try out mindful science approaches such as research uptake strategies and PAR

Go to **www.menti.com** and use the code **77 72 38 4**

What is your best recommendation for commoners?



Thank you

When in the US: VOTE!

(Oh....and I'll put (part of) my money where my mouth is)