Starting from Values: Evaluating Intangible Legacies

Project report
edited by Elona Hoover and Marie Harder, February 2016

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‘Connected Communities’ theme- AH/L013142/1
Web: http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/projects/starting-from-values-evaluating-intangible-legacies/
Welcome to the project report for the ‘Starting from Values: Evaluating Intangible Legacies’ project

This report is non-linear: we invite you to use the left-hand menu to navigate through it.

Several sections link to external content, so please ensure you are connected to the internet if you would like to access all the content.

“HOW TO”

• The left-hand side presents the 8 sections of the project report
• All pages have the same left-hand menu
• Click on the section you would like to view: you will be taken to the first slide of this section. To view the full section, scroll through
• To start again, click the ‘home’ button
• To finish click the ‘end’ button
Overview of the project

Our project aims
To co-develop and co-explore how a values-focused approach could help conceptualise and evaluate less ‘tangible’ legacies of collaborative research projects funded through the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Connected Communities programme.

In doing so, the project we aimed to help legitimise ways of knowing that are often marginalised by conventional evaluations, and in doing so, reflect the broader legacies of project partners and participants.

Our approach
‘Starting from values’ re-sets the balance and provides a mechanism for understanding and valuing different perspectives. It also gives space and a language to articulate less ‘tangible’ aspects of project legacies.

What have we found?
A values-based approach to understanding the legacies of community-engaged research can:
• Unearth ‘new’ legacies and a deeper understanding of ‘known’ legacies
• Enhance existing legacies
• Create confidence to articulate broader and deeper aspects of legacies
• Enhance collaborative working within partnerships

Broader benefits of ‘starting from values’
The project led to additional benefits for community partners: energising key members of staff and articulating the values of their own organisations. This has also led to being better equipped to negotiate their role in future partnership work. The project has also inspired partners to develop new projects with values approaches at the heart of design and delivery, and led to new research ideas and practices.
What we did

Broad outline of activities

- We started by exploring the existing ‘WeValue’ tool, used for values-based evaluation in Civil-Society Organisations;
- Members of the project team who were also involved in the case-studies led in-depth work with Scaling Up Co-Design and the Authority Research Network. In the process, we co-designed approaches that would suit the context of collaborative research projects.

The Authority Research Network elicited the values of the network, and legacies of relevant joint projects led by members.

Partners from the Scaling Up Co-Design project articulated values of the project team and values of four community partners. We then investigated legacies of the project from these different values perspectives.

- Members of the project team then worked with a further six Connected Communities projects.

What is ‘starting from values’?

As our starting point for this project, we used a values-based approach to project evaluation, which had been developed through a previous EU-funded project.

The broad stages are:

1. **Eliciting values (finding out what’s important to people)**
2. **Prompting new thoughts on their values in action using a menu of statements, and clarifying them through discussion**
3. **Using the values lens, identifying and mapping impacts of projects (including values dimensions)**
4. **Reflecting on the range of impacts as a whole to articulate broader legacies from the project**

**Definition** - we understand values as ‘principles or standards of behaviour; one’s judgement about what is important in life’

*Oxford English Dictionary*
What we did

Overview of project structure

The project was structured around two phases:

1. In-depth work on the legacies of two case studies: Scaling Up Co-Design and the Authority Research Network, and
2. Using learning and exploring approaches developed in the first phase to work with a further 6 Connected Communities projects.

In practice, these two phases were not consecutive, as we took advantage of existing work and opportunities in the short life-cycle of the project. For instance, the team developed activities for the 2014 Connected Communities Festival, very early on in the project.

The project was structured around a series of five iterative reflections, to bring together learning from different strands of the project and develop joint thinking on values approaches to legacies. The last iteration was a public event to share findings of the project team to date and get additional insights from participants from other contexts.

An important part of the project was for partners to develop expertise in ‘starting from values’ in their own projects, but also through working with other projects and organisations. This ‘meta-design’ aspect of the project helped to build capacity in values-based approaches and evaluation.
What we did – in more detail

Exploring legacies from different perspectives

For the in-depth case study of the Scaling Up Co-Design project, we looked at three different values perspectives in order to evaluate the legacies of the project. These were:

1. The shared values of the project team (central circle in the diagram)
2. The values of individual project partners (light blue ellipses)
3. The perspective of project beneficiaries (in this case, community journalists involved in Silent Cities, and a student linked to Fossbox/Flossie)

Second phase: building capacity and developing our approach

The project team worked with seven further Connected Communities projects. Connections were made prior and during the project.

These projects were in different stages. In some cases we worked to articulate values and prospective legacies, and in other cases did retrospective work to identify legacies that might be important to build on.
Findings - Legacies

Rich information about specific values-based legacies of eight Connected Communities Projects

These legacies have been represented through audio-visual production, illustrations and diagrams.

Notes: Scaling Up Co-Design includes detailed work with four community partners. The Authority Research Network includes work on four separate but connected projects.

You can also view other ways in which we have captured and reflected on legacies and the process of starting from values in the Project videos and the Illustration.

To produce the illustration, we worked with artists from Endless Possibilities to visually capture our four iterative reflection, in which we started to articulate legacies, and insights from the values approach.
Scaling up co-design was funded by AHRC under the Connected Communities programme. The project focussed on co-design practices within civil society organisations working in different fields (built environment, media, technology), seeking to understand how these practices and their impact on people and society can be scaled up. It formally ended in June 2014.

Values and legacies of the project team
On the right-hand side is a poster the team produced to represent the most important legacies for the project from the perspective of the project team (view the poster on the project webpage).

The most important legacies for the team were:

• **Legacy 1: New ways of thinking and doing.** People do new things, or do things differently in their own organisations as a result of the Scaling Up Co-Design project.

• **Legacy 2: Growing connections.** The project created connections or networks between organisations and individuals that otherwise would not have connected, and these last beyond the end of the project.

• **Legacy 3: Cascading co-design.** The project’s activities and learning on concepts and practice of co-design influenced practices and behaviour beyond the project group or partners.

Values and legacies of four community partners are presented in the following pages: Blackwood Foundation, Fossbox and Flossie, Silent Cities and The Glass-House Community Led Design.
Legacies of the Scaling Up Co-Design project starting from Blackwood Foundation’s values.

INTRODUCTION

This poster presents legacies for the Blackwood Foundation, a collaborative research project called “Scaling Up Co-Design”. These legacies were articulated through a values-based approach, articulating the project partner’s values, then legacies of the project. The shift from the left-hand side to the right-hand side shows the change from articulating outcomes to articulating legacy, the latter contextualized through the lens of Blackwood Foundation’s values.

Prior to the ‘Starting from Values’ project

Before we were able to articulate the values and legacies of the Blackwood Foundation, it was working on The Glass House Community Led Design in the future.

New connections and new ideas:
Blackwood Foundation created a good link with community journalists (Silent Cities). “It gave us new ideas about how to interact with our limited housing associations across Scotland” Colin, Blackwood Foundation.

Members of the bespoken network who made new connections and were invited to participate in events.

New learning: e.g., around wearable technologies - how to have an online bobbin and link a virtual community with a live discussion event, identify issues and reflect on how to do things differently in the future.

Impact on others: members of the group who hadn’t worked with people with disabilities before became more aware of accessibility issues for venetians, etc. This has contributed to making co-design more inclusive.

Resources produced by a bespoken member were used by Glass House.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Investigating legacies through values lens enabled the Blackwood Foundation, through the experience of Colin Redford, to:

- Ensure the impact of the Scaling Up Co-Design project by providing values to reflect on its impact on Blackwood Foundation as an organisation and partner
- Identify new and important values for Blackwood Foundation
- Articulate these through four key legacies which also include illustrative and audio-visual materials.

Articulating legacies by starting from values

Values shown rectangles are Blackwood Foundation’s assumptions. Values close to the “Starting from Values” initiation activity, and those in grey are from reflections after the activity when starting to articulate legacies.

Our Values

- Improve the everyday lives of disabled people of all ages (Blackwood Foundation)
- Keep Our Promises
- Be Open & Honest
- Take Responsibility

Environment

Ethics

Innovations & Learning

Inclusivity & Accessibility

Our Co-Design is a Core Value

Have Respect & Understanding

Legacy: Transforming work of community partners by raising awareness of disability issues

Blackwood’s perspective: project partners who hadn’t worked with people with disabilities before became more aware of accessibility issues, resulting in making co-design more inclusive.

Glass House: Debut series involving Bespoken members and resources produced by Bespoken were used by The Glass House:

- A new exhibition technology on co-design on bespoken

Feasibility: Community mapping project (Blackwood Interactive Service Map)

Now learning for Bespoken members (e.g., around wearable technologies).

Legacy: Integrating principles of co-design into Blackwood Homes and Care practice and wider advocacy work

Co-design as standard: “we are using the principles and values of Scaling Up Co-Design to shape our homes. We listen, we engage, we work with people to make sure homes are inclusive, and a lot of that came from the project,” Colin, Blackwood Foundation.

Following with values of their foundation, pioneering approach. Blackwood produced a video for their 2014 AGM showing how the legacies of their foundation and the values of the organisation relate to concepts of co-design.

Advocacy: Blackwood Foundation is sharing benefits of the co-design approach in strategic health and care care integration through the Scottish Collaborative Innovation Partnership Process, and high level discussions on housing strategy in the Scottish Government.

Legacy: Enhancing Bespoken network activities and interaction through integrating multi-media approaches

Bespoken on the community interactions moved from purely virtual to a weekly physical. Starting using video as a way of telling the stories of Bespoken members and those using Blackwood services (from Silent Cities)

Established online sharing facility for hackers: Blackwood Foundation learnt how to use video conferencing and a Hackathon sharing platform as a new facility on bespoken.

For hackers, we now know what inputs and what doesn’t, and how we would do it differently in future” Colin Blackwood Foundation.

Legacy: Raising awareness of disability issues among design students and integrating into university teaching

Open University: Help raise awareness of Student Design Competitions

Make links to REMAP and associated organisations

Includes being part of design course at Heriot-Watt University.
Legacies of the Scaling Up Co-Design project for Fossbox - starting from values.

INTRODUCTION
This poster presents legacies for Fossbox OGC from a collaborative research project called 'Scaling Up Co-Design'. These legacies were articulated through a values-based approach articulating the project partner’s values, then legacies from the project. The shift from the left-hand side to the right-hand side shows the change to articulating contextually defined legacies, through the lens of Fossbox’s values.

Prior to the ‘Starting from Values’ project
Below are some ideas about legacies or insights from Fossbox’s involvement in Scaling Up Co-Design before the Starting from Values: Evaluating Intangible Legacies’ project began.

Prior to the project, the director of Fossbox identified that the intangible legacies of the project were:
- Social capital
- Networks
- Making contact with people

In addition, the following aspects were identified:
Staff learn new methodologies, keep up with current events, and are in a very enriching environment
Being able to speak about topics and issues that otherwise would not be pertinent
Collaborative projects add value to Fossbox’s work
Collaborations can access new and different skills

These themes are found again in the articulation of legacies, but with much more depth and importance for Fossbox. Clearly, ideas about the intangible values rather than just the experience of these members involved in the project.

CONCLUDING REMARKS
The process of starting from values to examine legacies brought a method and approach that transformed their understanding and approach to evaluation, and the value of identifying legacies from collaborative projects.

"It was a revelation to be able to do an evaluation in a way that reached the aims and methodologies of our actual projects. It put in the air opening up the project and brought out different ways that we were thinking it forward." Paula, Fossbox

"The values approach is opening up new projects. In addition to identifying legacies, it’s also been a process of looking at the legacy, getting forward, into new things." Paula, Fossbox

LEGACY: Social capital, including growing networks and reputation

Articulating legacies by starting from values
Fossbox sought to integrate the values articulation into their organisational strategic development. Through this, the identified eight core values, pursued in the centre. By starting from values Fossbox moved to more clearly identifying the legacies of Scaling Up Co-Design—and other projects—that were valuable to participating members as well as Fossbox as an organisation.

Fossbox director invited to speak at OpenTech conferences 2015 and 2016
"I was offered a Honorary Fellowship at King’s Institute of Designers in Practice in 2016 and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship for 2016" Paula, Fossbox

Integrating reputation and possibility, enabling association with more powerful actors and institutions
Fossbox gained in reputation and possibility through Scaling up activities, in UK and India leading to participation in international events with Open Society Foundations for example

Invited to transfer for consulting work relating to Urban Cultural Exchange Hub
"I was able to use the Global South knowledge for the cultural exchange hub" Paula, Fossbox

New partnerships
Every individual participant is treated fairly and their needs taken into account

Use of open design and technologies are prioritised
Fossbox knowledge is open access
Women are empowered to use technology confidently
Technology design favours the needs and purposes of communities

FOSS3R is an add-on accessible navigation project with Blackwood Foundation: an idea is to smartphone-on-board sensors to collect data on terrains and obstacles for wheelchair users and adapt itself automatically to map navigation for accessibility routing.

The collaboration with Blackwood began in Scaling Up led to a second mapping project with a stronger case in evidenced community needs:
- Care workers spending a much shorter time with clients, due to travel time being included in the hour now allocated per client;
- Lack of community awareness of local resources for older people and people with disabilities. Fossbox’s lack of a better solution for creating space to allow the collaboration to spread across scenes and allow Blackwood to match care workers geographically reducing their travel time and enhance care.

As a result of the work of the Open Street Map Smart Infrastructure Accessible Navigation project developed with Blackwood Foundation in the Scaling Up project, we have looked at, discussed and fleshed out issues around data privacy relating to ‘big data’. Democratic deficit in ‘big data’ is now a key area for new work, and new research ran two pilot workshops. ‘Fossbox and Fossies’

LEGACY: Space for reflection: internally and externally with new partners and new ideas
Scaling up helped Fossbox think about their strategic direction and how to differentiate themselves. The research brings added value that is very difficult to paint on the balance sheet, ‘it provided space for making connections and having new ideas, new propositions.’

"was a feeling of being isolated in my company, so attending the Fossbox workshop was more confidence in my knowledge." Paula, Fossbox
Silent Cities also put together an online mind map with evidence and detail of legacies.
INTRODUCTION
This poster presents legacies for The Glass-House Community-led Design from their partnership work in a community-university collaborative research project called ‘Scaling Up Co-Design’. These legacies were articulated through a values-based approach – articulating the organisation’s values, then identifying legacies of the project from this perspective.

The work was carried out as part of the ‘Starting from Values: Evaluating Intangible Legacies’ project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council through the Connected Communities theme. The Glass-House was a community partner on this project.

ARTICULATING LEGACIES
The model below outlines some of the outputs of the Scaling Up project identified by The Glass-House. Through further reflection and the adoption of a values lens (through which to view their outcomes, the Glass-House articulated a series of project legacies against a shared set of values. This led to a deeper understanding of the legacies of the project and helped the organisation to see the difference between outputs and legacies.

- The Glass-House is a collaborator in the Empowering Design Practices project which builds on partnerships developed in Scaling Up project (complicity funded).
- Being part of the project revealed that our work and Design Practices colleagues have similar values and goals.
- We now understand the need to downskill to enable young people to develop.
- New creative media skills to our workshops.
- The Glass-House staff developed a resource booklet developed in Scaling Up project.

LEGACY: We recognise the values of investing in working in open and honest ways
We have developed lasting relationships that continue to grow. These relationships were developed because we invested in investigating how we were together and learning from each other.

Scaling Up partners, Silent Cities and the Blackwood Foundation became key partners for The Glass-House in their project.

Developing the open, collaborative model, relativity that builds on existing work.

LEGACY: Collaboration brought about shifts in our approaches and practices
We have developed lasting relationships that continue to grow. These relationships were developed because we invested in investigating how we were together and learning from each other.

Scaling Up gave us the space and opportunities to learn to work together.

We have integrated ‘cross-politization’ as a framework for understanding change (e.g. from The Glass-House).

We have built new evidence gathering tools into our processes and new projects (e.g. reflection and spaces for reflection and spaces for reflection and spaces for reflection).

We have shared key learning that we have made in our work on young people, using some of the tools and approaches developed in Scaling Up to develop collaborative work with other practitioners and clients.

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LEGACY: What we did
- Project booklet
- Findings
- New concepts
- Collaboration with young people, community organisations, and institutions
- Project videos
- Illustration
- Overview
- What we did
- Findings
- Legacies
- New concepts
- Our project’s legacy...so far
- Collaborators
- Project booklet
- Project videos
- Illustration
- Other outputs

Overview

Find out more about work done by The Glass-House Community-led Design, and download the pdf of this poster on their legacy project website.
Looking at Scaling-Up Co-Design from across all perspectives

The Starting from Values project gave the team the space and processes to think more deeply about values and the importance of the resulting legacies for individuals and participating organisations.

Legacies from the project were different from different partner perspectives.

It also gave the opportunity for the team (academics and project partners) to better understand the meaning and implications of these legacies and further connect to one another.

The Starting from Values approach helped the team to explore a series of interpretations for ‘openness’ as a common term. It gave the opportunity to articulate various nuances and views about openness, for example regarding the boundaries of the network of people and ideas that form the project; the movement and dissemination of ideas; but also the flexibility (or incompleteness) of the ideas and infrastructures that this project created.

It was also challenging to start the process of identifying legacies as the project was ending, as it complemented but also suspended other reflections that would have happened.
The Authority Research Network (ARN) is an expanding research collective which engages with questions of authority, positive power, political subjectivity and experience through developing strong social theory and links with practice. It was initiated by a group of doctoral students and members collaborate through conceptual retreats and joint projects.

In order to carry out activities for the legacy project, six members of the ARN spent five days on a five-day research retreat in August 2014. Rather than working on a single shared project, this retreat offered an opportunity to work on smaller collaborative projects. With the luxury of five days, the exercise could be divided into several sessions:

1. Initial briefing – introduction to project (Monday lunchtime)
2. A walk and talk values elicitation exercise (Monday afternoon)
3. A diagramming values elicitation exercise (Tuesday afternoon)
4. Using the ‘WeValue’ proto-indicator list (Wednesday afternoon).
5. Identifying legacies and evidence (Thursday afternoon).

Breaking down the exercise into a number of smaller sessions took more time, but the group could stop and continue later if concentration was waning or further discussions were needed.

After this process, the project team mapped out the ARN’s values and key legacies from their collaborative work to date. The next slide shows the legacy map (download pdf on project website).
CONCLUDING REMARKS ON USING A VALUES APPROACH TO EXAMINING OUR LEGACIES

Starting from values allowed members of the ARN to articulate impacts from different projects in terms of the network, rather than individual projects. This poster presents a snapshot view, but shows how the values approach allowed ARN members to think about these in terms of legacy of their involvement in the Connected Communities Funding programme. The legacy approach allowed the ARN to identify new and deeper dimensions of existing known impacts, but also, and crucially, to validate impacts that they had not previously thought authoritative enough to claim, or even had time to articulate.
Legacies (second phase)  
Ethno-Ornithology World Archive

Work done: values and intended legacies

The Ethno-Ornithology World Archive (EWA) is a collaborative project involving the University of Oxford, BirdLife International and many other partners worldwide.

It focuses on creating and using a web interface to collect information about the cultural importance, uses and symbolism of birds from local communities, and to use it for bird conservation.

We worked with members of the EWA team while the project was still in its initial phase. A participatory workshop based on values elicitation and indicator development was used to help the team to reflect on their core values through a participatory workshop. Many different ideas were generated, but several clusters of values emerged, as shown in the top picture. A summary of these core values is shown in the bottom picture.

In the second workshop, we helped the team to reflect on different ways in which they hoped that their values would be translated into project legacies.

The team identified three overarching legacies they wanted to achieve: preservation of knowledge in an accessible format, creation of innovative research methods and practice, and establishment of people-centred conservation practice.

The workshops helped the EWA team to clarify their thinking and the overall project vision, to shape new publications, and to take this expanded understanding of values forward into the next phase of the project.
Ethno-Ornithology World Archive
Mapping Values, Intended Legacies and Indicators

VALUES

- Ethical approach to data protection (long-term)
- Human connection with nature: responsibility to care
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and networking
- Global accessibility of archive
- More effective conservation

INTENDED LEGACIES

- Knowledge is preserved and accessible
- Innovative research methods & practice
- People-centred conservation practice

WE WANT TO EVALUATE WHETHER...

- EWA is accessible to the knowledge owners
- Research is realistic and leads to real-world outcomes
- There is equal participation of local people in conservation & research; no distinctions are made between ‘researcher’ and ‘researched’
- Knowledge is living within communities and families
- Different approaches to research (interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary, collaborative) are valued by funders and universities
- There is high bird diversity in thriving ecosystems
- Natural history knowledge is valued and transmitted
- We set a standard that other researchers follow: EWA’s methods are replicated
- EWA is used as a data source by conservation organisations
- Funders understand the link between ethics & effectiveness
- Affirming local knowledges and empowering local people
Legacies (second phase)
‘Rhondda People’ Hyperlocal Journalism Project

Work done: values and project legacies

Rhondda People is a hyperlocal journalism project based in the Rhondda Valley, Mid Wales, which is supported with advice, training and networking by the Centre for Community Journalism (C4CJ) at Cardiff University. C4CJ was a partner in the five-year AHRC Connected Communities project “Media, Community and the Creative Citizen”.

Contact was made through the 2014 Connected Communities Festival in Cardiff and the ‘Creative Citizen’ project final conference. We worked with the group to clarify what was important to them and identify previously undocumented legacies that the Rhondda People project had already generated.

These included, among many others:

- Return of local camaraderie and better sense of cohesion
- Enabling new forms of collective action to create and sustain community through shared events and new institutions
- Empathy in reporting: journalists are friends, sisters, teachers, parents of the community
- Bringing the different communities together and integrating the members of the Paranormal Minds club into the wider community (they had previously been relatively isolated)
- A key staff member has gained confidence to apply for a MA in journalism and develop practical experience in local journalism
- Emotional support among the members of the group
- Making news ‘pure’ again – no vested / commercial interests
Empowering Design Practices aims to explore how community-led design can help empower those who look after historic places of worship to create more open, vibrant and sustainable places that respect and enhance their heritage.

In the first team meeting, everyone taking part completed a ‘profile’ sheet, which captured individual research interests, as well as individual principles for collaboration (how we work together as partners), action (what values guide project activities) and success (what makes a good research project).

The team discussed the responses and categorised different items as either shared, individual, or conflicting / contested. The aim was to highlight values that might not be shared by everyone, but can still be accommodated in the project to achieve individual needs and wishes.

The process identified seven core values…

Better places
Contributing to the creation of more inclusive and sustainable places of worship

Empowering People
People that look after places of worship are empowered to lead projects

Innovation
The project developed innovative research and practice approaches

Improved policy-making
Evidence and knowledge generated by the project influences policy-making

Legacies (second phase)
Empowering Design Practices

Work done: values, intended legacies, and integration of approach in life-cycle of the project

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The process identified seven core values…

Adapted from ‘Empowering Design Practices’ blog post by Katerina Alexiou: http://empoweringdesignpractices.weebly.com/blog
## Legacies (second phase)

### Empowering Design Practices ctd.

#### Embedding a Values-Based Approach to Identifying and Tracking Legacies

Team members reflected on where they want to be at the end of the project in 2019, how they are going to move in that direction, and what they want to capture in this journey as evidence of success.

On the horizontal axis they placed the values statements and on the vertical axis they positioned legacies, statements expressing where they wanted to be in 2019.

They developed a workshop where they reflected on the relation between Values and Legacies and then identified actions or mechanisms that would help the team to achieve those legacies and/or evidence a certain legacy.

Thinking about the relationships between values and legacies was seen as a prompt, to help the team to think differently and capture legacies that are often ignored.

In addition to strategic planning documents, the team created a ‘treasure box’ as a material artefact that would help them to record the legacies of the project as they become reality.

![Diagram of values vs legacies](image_url)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPowered project</th>
<th>OPEN</th>
<th>KRITikal</th>
<th>RESponsible</th>
<th>EXCITing</th>
<th>DILIGent</th>
<th>IMPACTful</th>
<th>ACC радible</th>
<th>REINVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Designed products, experiences, open opportunities</td>
<td>Feeling-creating environments, community-building, shared leadership, strategy-planning, etc.</td>
<td>Representational moment, and promote collaborative thinking</td>
<td>Those who care to develop a sense of responsibility are also encouraged to keep work that they want to do, and their own, in their own hands and their minds.</td>
<td>All integrated strategies and work method</td>
<td>Capture the practical stories throughout the project</td>
<td>Thinking from the start of the whole process, and work can continue. All integrated strategies</td>
<td>Places of exchange over ideas, process of reflection</td>
<td>Capture different meanings of the project (e.g., skills, additional funding)</td>
</tr>
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Adapted from ‘Empowering Design Practices’ blog post by Katerina Alexiou: [http://empoweringdesignpractices.weebly.com/blog](http://empoweringdesignpractices.weebly.com/blog)
Findings – New concepts

Additional findings and new conceptual developments

This section presents key insights and new concepts developed by the project team.

In short, we have found that legacy is a productive concept for moving away from the concept of impact – as a punctual effect – towards longer-term, complex and explicitly subjective ways of evaluating community-university collaborative research (particularly in the Arts and Humanities).

Making values explicit can help to authorise multi and inter-subjective ways of knowing, especially where objective measures are neither relevant nor possible.

We can say that science and social science may have objectively measurable impacts, but capturing measures of legacy may require arts and humanities approaches by virtue of legacy’s embedded multi-subjectivity and values-judgement.

Additional sections in the report present stand-alone pieces of work on legacies, including the Project videos and the Visual capture. You can also download individual files on the project website.
Findings – New concepts

1. **Towards a values-based conceptualisation of legacy**

A key finding from the project has been an explicit conceptualisation of legacy in terms of values.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines a legacy as “something left of handed down by a predecessor”. This definition clearly implies a values judgement, in deciding what is ‘left’ or ‘handed down’.

The outcomes of a project are normally defined by the values that motivated its design. However, as we just described, the notion of legacy is based on subjective values of the people identifying it.

*Legacies of a project* are typically viewed using the same values-lens as the project and its outcomes, but in fact can be identified and viewed through a variety of different lenses. In our project, by starting from values, we show it is possible to identify a broader spectrum of legacies by explicitly identifying which lens is being used.

**Starting from values makes values explicit.** It allows project teams and partners to identify different legacies depending on the values starting point, and to provide a systematic way of investigating this.

In practice: the values approach yielded a lot of information. Some of these were already articulated as legacies, but other were still outcomes, or impacts of the project.

We found that articulating legacies demands us to take a step back and think across outcomes and impacts, by making explicit values judgements about what is important beyond the life of the project, or what the team, or partners want it to ‘hand down’.

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“Legacy: Something left or handed down by a predecessor”

*Oxford English Dictionary*
Findings – New concepts

Towards a values-based conceptualisation of legacy (ctd.)

We explain with diagrams:

Projects, and their outcomes, are defined by some of the values of funders and project teams. These are often implicit...

...other perspectives may not even be considered when project outcomes are defined. These could be from within the partnership, or from project participants. Thus, some outcomes may be missed.

By explicitly starting from different values, we can:

- Broaden our ‘lens’ to identify new or missing outcomes
- Identify deeper and less ‘tangible’ aspects of legacies
- Take ‘a step back from outcomes’ to articulate legacies that are specific to the stakeholders’ values lens, and can also evolve through time.
Findings – New concepts

2. A broader spectrum of legacies – missing legacies

Starting from values opens a broader spectrum of legacies. In some cases, this meant identifying new legacies that weren’t previously identified. This was particularly the case for community partners, as impacts and outcomes are often not articulated in relation to their specific perspectives, and many community partners do not have the time to reflect on such outcomes or indeed legacies.

Example of ‘missing legacies’:

The project allowed our partner from the Blackwood Foundation to identify a key legacy for its organisation from the Scaling Up Co-Design project, but that they had not had the opportunity to articulate. The Scaling Up Co-Design project helped the organisation regain their connection with the spirit of their founder, Margaret Blackwood, and realise that co-design was and should be at the centre of their practice (see illustration below by Endless Possibilities).
Findings – New concepts

3. Broader spectrum of legacies – deeper understanding

Starting from values enriched and deepened our understanding of legacies, for instance less ‘tangible’ dimensions of existing legacies.

Starting from values also requires reflection and time. In doing so, it also required authenticity and honesty. This opened up space to share what is deeply personal (at an individual but also at a collective level), and ‘making the deeply personal say-able’.

In doing so, the approach also lends authority to such deeply personal aspects of projects, and can uncover conditions for achieving recognised or more authoritative types of impacts.

Starting from values as approach in whole project also requires careful facilitation and potentially mediation, as it may also open up spaces of tension or conflict.

Example of ‘missing layers’ of legacies:

Members of the ARN had not previously thought about the legitimacy of thinking about deeply personal legacies of their collaborative research projects. But in fact, these are crucial to many recognised academic impacts.

“Actually, these forms of friendship or joy or creativity, are an important part of research. They are essential things to be doing if we want the research we are doing to have the effect we are wanting it to having in society.”

Julian Brigstocke, Cardiff University, Authority Research Network member.

…and identifying deeply personal aspects of projects (as legacies)
4. The importance of arts and humanities approaches

Making use of arts and humanities approaches was essential to develop a values-based approach to evaluating the legacies of collaborative research projects. These are particularly important for the following:

- Eliciting values – in order for people to articulate the detailed meaning of value words, for instance by referring to emotions, narratives, or visually representing these;
- Articulating both subjective and intersubjective values and legacies: this requires different ways of accessing feelings, perceptions and thoughts;
- Providing a critical lens for examining potential problems of seeking consensus in values – as this can hide power dynamics, or obviate important differences. The project team explicitly sought to identify where consensus was or was not present;
- Representing legacies – bullet points or reports alone could not capture the concept of legacies, and specifically show how these were linked to values. We experimented with different ways in which we could represent legacies, from tables and spreadsheets, to word clouds, illustrations, mind maps, comic strips, video production and illustration (see right, and other sections for examples).

We conclude that, with care, it seems that with arts and humanities approaches, and by starting with values, we can elicit, collect – even take measures of – more representative legacy (albeit never objectively). We argue that the inter-subjective process, though, can replace objectivity in giving authority.
Findings – New concepts

5. Legacies and the nature of community-university collaborative research

We looked across the legacies from different projects and partners and identified what these legacies could tell us about the nature of community-university collaborations.

Two key themes emerged:

(i) new knowledge, ideas and inspiration linked to the nature of the cross-boundary, interdisciplinary work and

(ii) friendship, networks and connections that are qualitatively deep and lasting.

The significance of these aspects should not be underestimated: finding shared ground in collaborative and cross-context research is challenging, and when this happens successfully it is likely because substantial effort and work has been put into building deep and trusting relationships. It is thus important to find appropriate ways of expressing and presenting such legacies.

In more detail - what this means for community partners:

- Collaborations embedded new degree of critical thinking within community partners
- Increased confidence as professionals – e.g. new concepts of language about their work, such as co-design.
- Capacity and inspiration to pass on this to others in the community, beyond project networks
- Confidence and ability to strategically reposition themselves

...and academic partners:

- Brought ‘society’ to their desks
- Brought new perspectives to their research
- New overall directions to future work
- Influenced other academics, or even institutions similarly, e.g. to value community-university collaborations in teaching and research
Legacies…from this project

The project partners have already documented a number of impacts from the legacy project itself. We have analysed these thematically based on conversations with partners.

Some of these are also captured in the [Project videos](#) and in the [Project booklet](#).

The eight legacy themes identified so far are:

- New understanding of 'legacy', and our own legacies
- New understanding of 'values', and our own values
- New understanding of values-based approaches
- Different ways of responding to external pressures (time, money)
- Seeing our work different
- Doing our work differently
- Presenting our work differently
- New ideas, projects and activities

The illustrations below and on the right are extracted from The Glass-House Community Led Design illustration and shows how they have embedded the values approach in their organisation and use it to:

...evaluate and learn more deeply,
...to guide decision-making, and
...to assess legacies of other projects.
Project team

Project partners - Prof Marie Harder (PI), Dr Julian Brigstocke, Dr Katerina Alexiou, Dr Theodore Zamenopoulos, Justine Gaubert, Colin Foskett, Sophia de Sousa, Paula Graham, Elona Hoover and Gemma Burford

Advisors - Prof Ann Light, Prof Andy Dearden, Mr Andy Cheng, Prof Andrew Church and Dr Busayawan Lam

Browse and download the booklet on the project ‘learning and outcomes’ page.

Please get in touch if you would like a hard copy: F.Firoozmand[at]brighton.ac.uk
Project videos

**Teaser** - Introducing the ‘Starting from Values’ project.

**Overview video** – of the project, learning and where next.

**Four short videos** introducing separate aspects and learning from the project:

1. What is Starting from values?
2. Why start from values?
3. Hour Glass: looking at legacies for future work
4. Explicit legacies

Videos produced by Justine Gaubert, Silent Cities (Community Co-Investigator) and Future Sun Films

View the videos on the [project website ‘videos’ page](#)
Thank you to Endless Possibilities for the visual capture. Download the full-size version on the project website.
This project is one of seven ‘legacy’ projects funded by the Arts ad Human Sciences Research Council. All of these projects have been working on developing a co-authored book entitled *Researching in Public: Contested Origins, Live Debates & Emerging Legacies for Collaborative Research*, edited by Keri Facer and Kate Pahl.

The project team has contributed a chapter about the ‘Starting from Values’ project. The book should be published in 2016.

Poster presented by The Glass-House at the Engage 2014 conference in Bristol, UK.

Presentation about the project presented by Paula Graham from Fossbox at the CU2 Expo conference in Ottawa, Canada, May 2015.
Other outputs …

**Showcase event and installation**

The project's final reflection was organised as a sharing event. Over 50 people attended the plenaries and workshops led by project partners. This was also an opportunity for the project team to gain feedback on initial project outcomes and outputs, such as the 'evolving legacies' maps.

**Art installation ‘A song of tethering: bestowing legacies from values’**: the purpose of the interactive installation was to engage participants in debate and exploration of concepts of legacy and values, and how they relate to each other.

The format was intended to surpass confines of logical rationalism and access an aesthetic and subjecting expression of our understanding of values and legacy.

All visitors were invited to participate in the development of the installation throughout the event. Those that chose to do so will be escorted through a process. The outcome was a three dimensional representation of a relationship between values and legacy.

1. Identify a project
2. Write one legacy on a label
3. Choose blue balloon (tangible legacy) or silver balloon (intangible legacy)
4. Connect one or multiple values statement (on stands around the room) to your legacy with a ribbon
5. Place the balloon in the room so it is closer to the values statements that it is more closely related to
6. Let the balloon lift up!
Recognising the dynamic nature of the way in which we articulate values, we also wanted to explore how reflecting, drawing and talking together may actually change people’s understanding of what’s important to them – as individuals, and/or as groups.

This approach was trialled at a pilot session in London as well as the Cardiff Festival workshops themselves.

Values-based images created by the participants were captured and – with their permission – incorporated into two mixed media canvas panels by Gemma Burford. A third panel was based on reflections on the sessions, both in written form and as images, and aimed to capture important learning about the collective drawing method itself.

Download the full ‘Drawing Out Values’ booklet
The 'Starting from Values: Evaluating Intangible Legacies' project team received additional funding from AHRC to run a series of activities using values-based approaches to articulating legacies at the 2014 Connected Communities Festival in Cardiff. Activities included:

• A major one-day side event entitled 'Rethinking Impact: Understanding `Intangible' Legacies of Your Work'. We ran two parallel sessions, one in English only, and the other bilingual Welsh and English.

• Associated with the 'Rethinking Impact' event, an exploration (using visual arts) of the role, advantages and challenges of using collective drawing as a method of values elicitation – 'Drawing out Values’

• Two breakout sessions during the Festival itself, entitled 'Tastes of Intangibles', and an additional session with the Co-Design Projects.

The key aims of these activities were to share early learning about the ‘intangible’ legacies of past and current Connected Communities projects within and beyond these projects, with a special focus on charities, local authorities and health agencies in the local area of Cardiff and Bristol.

The activities were also an opportunity to build capacity among community and academic collaborators to design and implement approaches to understanding intangible legacies.
Two workshops were conducted for civil society organisations and community groups on 30 June 2014, one in English only, and the other bilingual Welsh and English. Both consisted of the following elements:

• Values elicitation through two complementary non-cognitive methods (collective drawing and narrative approach)

• Development of prototype indicators (‘proto-indicators’) for project evaluation from the values elicitation data

• Selection of additional proto-indicators that might be relevant to the organisations’ work and complement the elicited values (using a reference list obtained through a two-year EU FP7 project and follow-up work by the University of Brighton)

• Clustering the chosen indicators thematically to develop a preliminary framework

• Exploration of assessment methods that could be used to evaluate the indicators

A total of 15 people attended the two workshops, representing a total of five civil society organisations, three Connected Communities projects and three larger networks (Bristol Green Capital Evaluation and Research Action Group, Bristol Resilience and Suicide Prevention Project, and the Creative Communities Group).

In addition, five people attended the pilot workshop in London which had been set up to train the facilitator for the bilingual session. These represented one established and one nascent civil society organisation.
Thank you!

We need a NEW MECHANISM... to speak our own TRUTH TO POWER

new measures = more control