Using Critical Stories of Change to explore impact on social change

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Critical Stories of Change

- How do CSoC fit with AA's existing ALPS framework?
- What are CSoC?
- Why do we do them?
- What are their strengths?
- What are the challenges?

Pre ALPS: information overload

Pre ALPS: upward accountability

Pre ALPS: lack of participation

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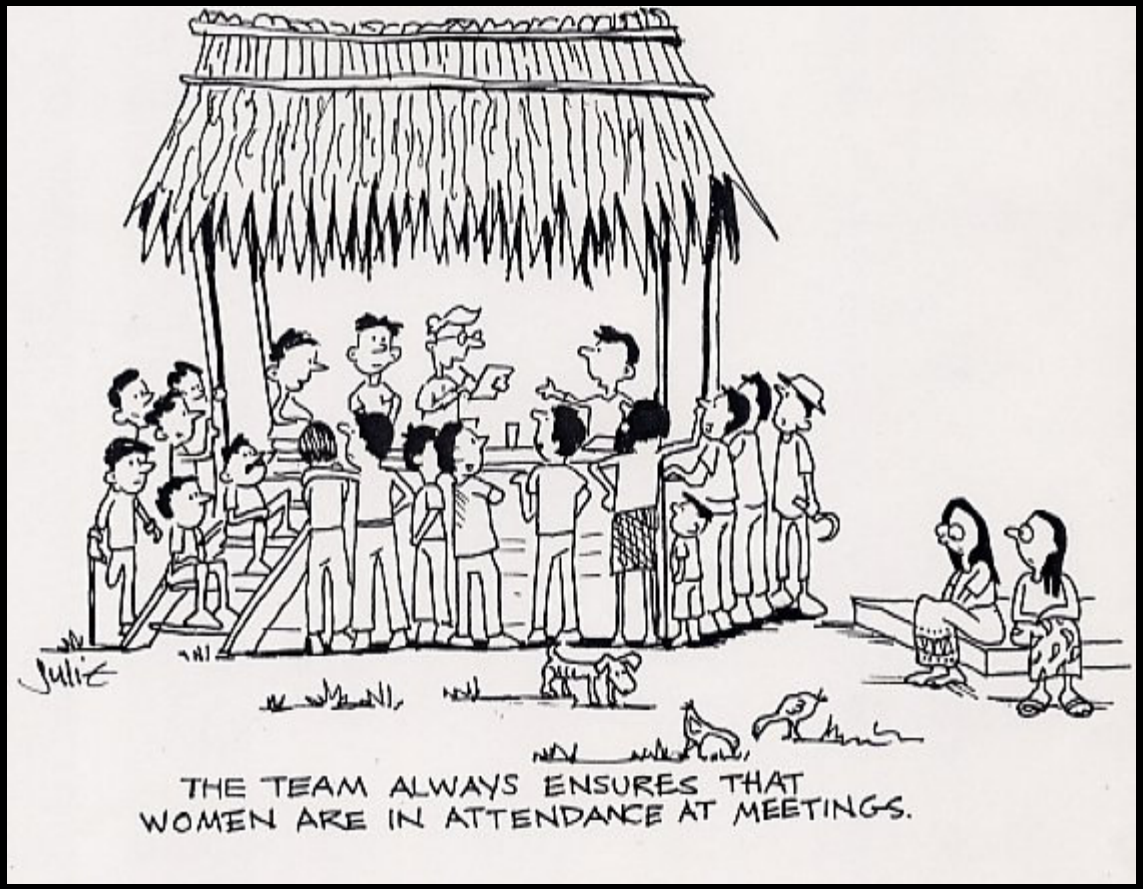
Pre ALPS: lack of women's rights



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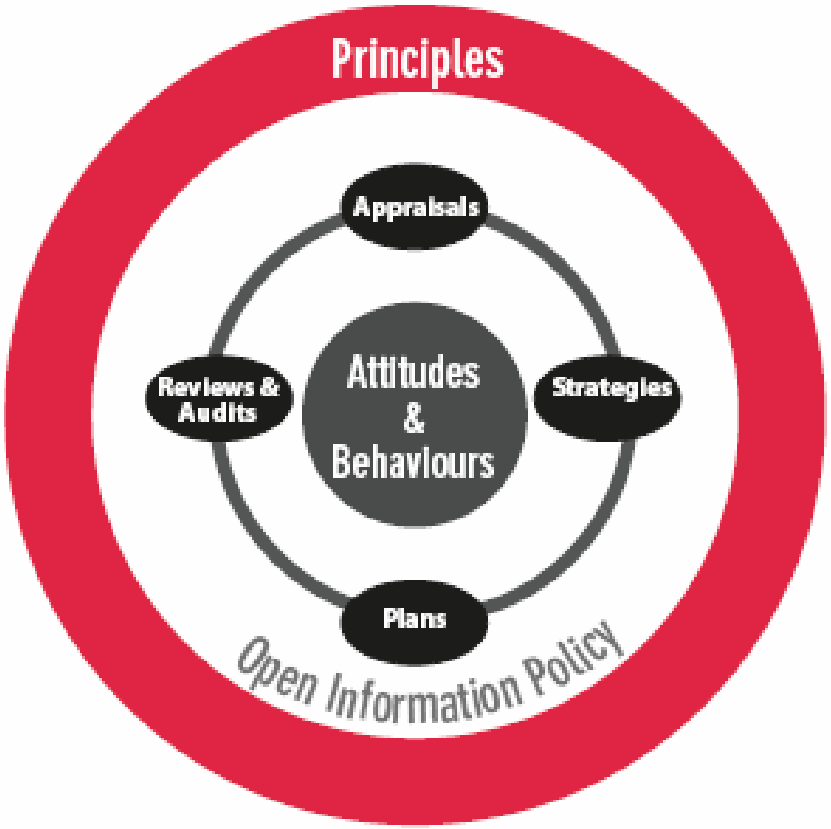
The Context: ALPS



- Accountability, Learning and Planning System (ALPS)

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What are they?

CSoC are a series of stories describing the role ActionAid plays in changing the lives of people living in poverty.

They are:

- Facilitated
- Process-driven, process-initiating
- Democratic
- Messy, non linear, tricky, dynamic, challenging,
- Open, honest, frank, critical

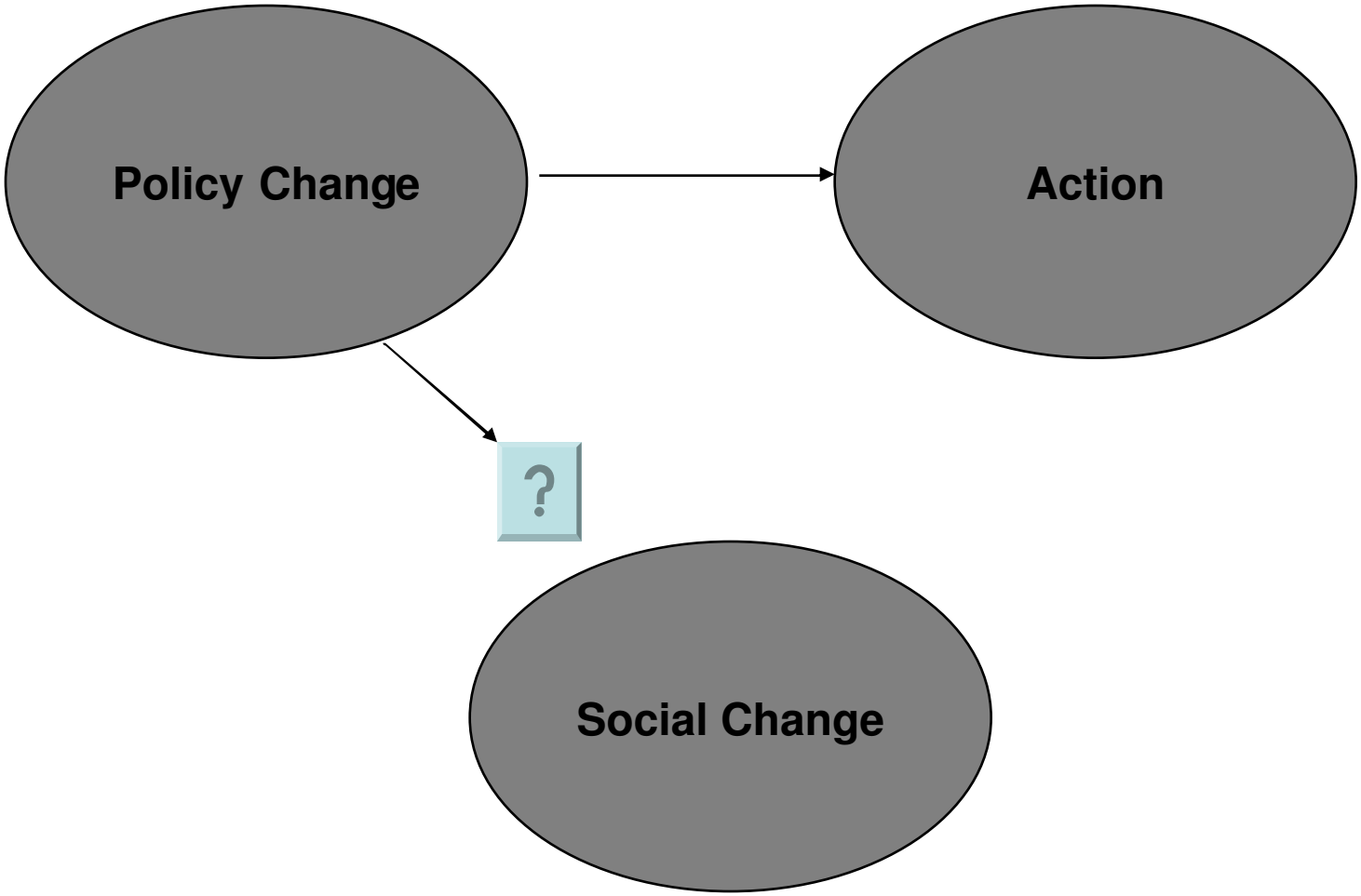
Why do we do them?

Critical Stories of Change:

- Allow review and reflection
- Democratise knowledge
- Ensure transformation of learning
- Ensure ownership over planning
- Facilitate understanding of how change happens

What is social change?

How does social change take place?



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What are their strengths?

Critical Stories of Change are:

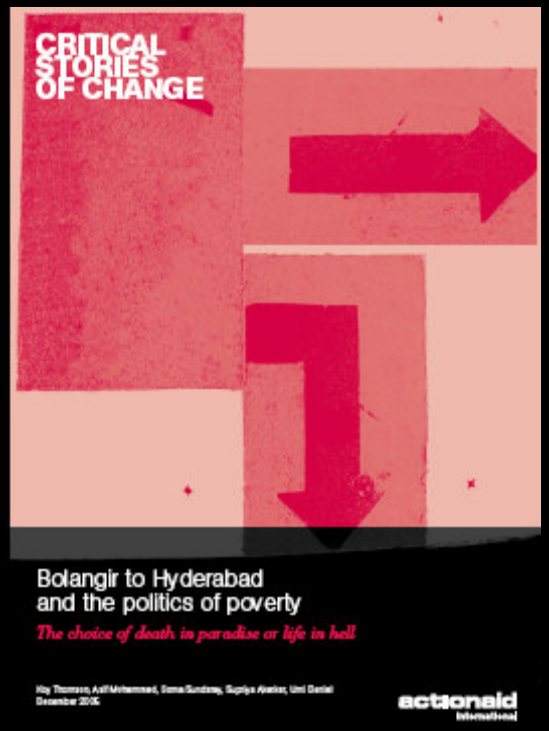
- Process driven
- High Quality
- Context specific
- Democratic
- Critical reflections

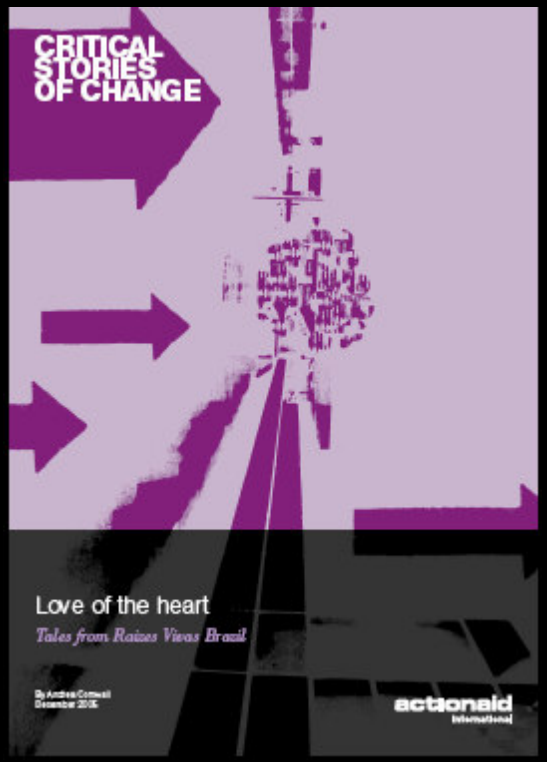
4. What are the challenges?

There are challenges around:

- Concept (rigour, length, understanding change)
- Time & Space
- Capacity
- Sensitivity

Existing CSoC





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Benets of Northern Uganda

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Key Question

How can these stories be used effectively to measure the impacts of social/livelihoods work?