Bristol Approach
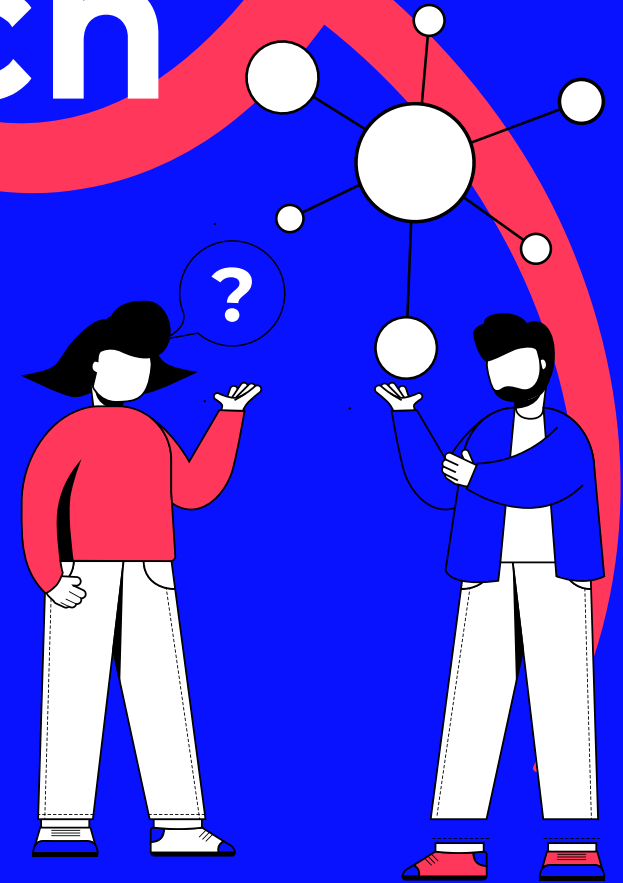
How to apply the Bristol Approach as a people and issue-led approach to problem solving?

PARCOS

Participatory Communication of Science

About the Bristol Approach

What?

The **Bristol Approach** is a six-step framework that aims to provide the tools and workflows to tackle identified issues people care about and create lasting change, whilst avoiding the pitfalls of many 'top-down' initiatives. It can be used to foster and support a people and issue-led process for citizen science.

For whom?

The Bristol Approach is intended for groups of people from councils and businesses to education and community organisations to co-design solutions for everyday issues.

The process is people and issue-led, viewing neighbourhoods as places of abundance, where many resources, skills and experiences already exist.

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The **6** Step Framework

1 Identifying the key issues that people care about and who to work with.

2 Framing your project, by looking at the issue in more detail, identifying potential solutions, and defining a shared goal.

3 Designing tools and resources, to better understand and address the issue.

4 Testing what you've designed in a "real world" environment.

5 Sharing what was created and learned; celebrating what you've achieved.

6 Reflecting on if and how you reached your goals, and what you might focus on next time.
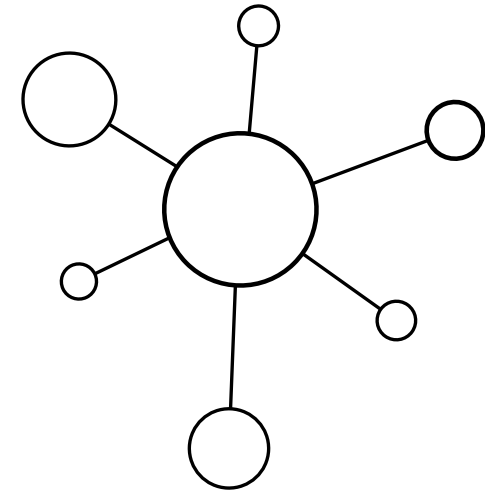
Why?

The focus is to work alongside communities to question and dig deeper into the issues, ensuring that peoples' experiences and voices are listened to and that their needs are addressed.

The framework is built to:

- Encourage collaboration to use what is already available
- Connect with the right people, to create things together that respond to what is missing
- Eensure that new technologies, tools and systems work for the common good

Six-step Framework

Steps

1 **Identifying**
the key issues that people care about and who to work with.

2 **Framing**
your project, by looking at the issue in more detail, identifying potential solutions, and defining a shared goal.

3 **Designing**
tools and resources, to better understand and address the issue.

4 **Testing**
what you've designed in a "real world" environment.

5 **Sharing**
what was created and learned; celebrating what you've achieved.

6 **Reflecting**
on if and how you reached your goals, and what you might focus on next time.

To aide and support you throughout the 6 steps, the Bristol Approach provides a powerful collection of resources that help focus and improve your project at each stage.

Find out more

Contact

ParCos website The process is people

Website

Bristol Approach website

Website

Here you will find tools and resources to support you when using the approach as well as examples of case studies that have used this methodology.

Other ParCos tools

Discover the other tools for participatory science communication developed within the ParCos project **here**.

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