

Knowledge Mobilisation

Source: MQIPress has published a new book entitled *Knowledge Mobilization in the Social Sciences and Humanities: Moving From Research to Action*.

Knowledge mobilization is the process of creating value or a value stream through the creation, assimilation, leveraging, sharing and application of focused knowledge to a bounded community, i.e., the effective creation, movement and tailoring of knowledge from its source (researcher or expert) to its application (practitioner, community leader, community) such that consequent actions are effective and beneficial and permit action learning.

Knowledge mobilization (KMb) has both subtle and structural difference from knowledge management (KM). The KM focus is largely tied to organizational mission needs. KMb, as envisioned by the authors, is focused on new knowledge that has emerged (and is in the process of emerging) through research, with implementation driven by the content of that research and the identified stakeholder groups that are perceived as "needing" the application of that knowledge. In other words, the end goal in the social sciences and humanities is focused on altruistic support to bounded citizen groups or local communities.

This introduces a difference in perspective, with KM being a broad field (not a discipline) that is intended to improve organizations through the effective creation, sharing, leveraging and application of knowledge, and KMb (bounded activity) being a process (or group of inter-related processes) for moving specific knowledge to action to value. KMb, with its focus on specific knowledge, considers the nature of the knowledge involved and the learning and development of process participants, as well as the value (or value stream) created.

Since knowledge itself is situation-dependent and context sensitive, in a complex, uncertain and changing environment effective knowledge emerges from the ongoing process of collaborative entanglement, purposely and consistently developing and supporting approaches and processes that connect the sources of knowledge and the beneficiaries of that knowledge to create collaborative advantage toward a common direction such as a community need. Action learning, action research, appreciative inquiry, community service-learning, participatory inquiry and social marketing are representative approaches that contribute to [collaborative entanglement](#).

Key Definitions:

Knowledge mobilization is the process of creating value or a value stream through the creation, assimilation, leveraging, sharing and application of focused knowledge to a bounded community.

Value streams connote the challenge of developing solutions to community issues that are sustainable and effective.