# People-centred Regulatory Policy

Lessons from failure and meaningful stakeholder involvement



Hilary Sutcliffe November 2023

### The Journey! 1995-2023



## Lessons from failure....

Cigarettes, alcohol, gambling, social media, computer games, ultra-processed foods, vaping

#### "The Addiction Economy"

*"Mum, how are cigarette companies" allowed to still exist?"* 



#### The roots of non-people-centred policy and regulation

Ideology 1:Neoliberal capitalismIdeology 2:Innovation as ideologyIdeology 3:Regulation stifles innovation

#### Letter 🗸 Added

#### Letter: Society's relations with innovation need a rethink

From Hilary Sutcliffe and Joe Woof, SocietyInside, London SE21, UK

#### 9 HOURS AGO

Anjana Ahipai is right (Opinion, March 29). Profit has consistently been put before the height and wellbeing of people in terms of policy and regulation. In addition to the junk food, cigarettes and alcohol mentioned in the article, social media, gambling, opioids and the new disposable vapes targeted at children, all have a business model deliberately designed to addit their customers.

The problem is rooted in three entrenched ideologies, which need confronting.

The first ideology is notliberal capitalism, which priorities a right to make money over human rights, environmental sustainability and the good of society as a whole. Damage to individuals and society is actively incentivised by a system that allows companies to take the money and leave the externalities for individuals and governments to deal with.

The second is innovation as an ideology. Innovation is now not a simple description – "the introduction of new things, ideas, or ways of doing something" (Oxford English Dictionary). It is focused on science and technology-driven products, which it enshrines as intrinsically "a good thing". Innovation as ideology believes that nothing should get in its way and anyone suggesting otherwise is and t-binsices and anti-progress.

The third ideology is the belief that regulation stifles innovation. Bad regulation stifles innovation. Good regulation, as the article proposes, shepherds those things, ideas and ways of doing something to inspire and motivate economic, social and environmental benefit and prevent or mitigate their harms.

It is useful to remember that these ideologies are not laws of nature, they are themselves just a collection of ideas that seemed like a sensible idea at the time. The good news is that there are plenty of new ideas for how, let's call it, a "pro-society" approach to innovation, investment and regulation can be achieved. Now seems like a good time to start taking those ideas very seriously.

Hilary Sutcliffe and Joe Woof SocietyInside, London SE21, UK

#### Pro-society innovation & regulation? Sciety





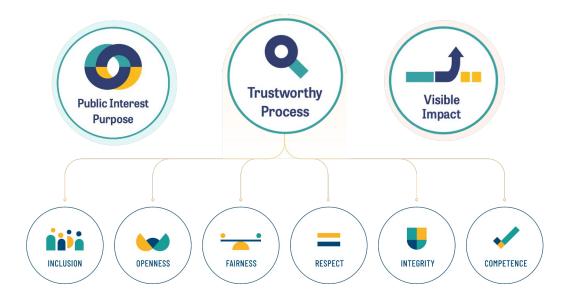
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What happens now?	Policy options	Research	Next stage funding	Applied focus	Funding & incentives	Regulation focus	Regulation design	Success model
	Focus on political gains	How do we?	Attention on technological possibility	Attention on applying science & tech	Financial and business drivers primary	Promoting innovation	Top down, uninclusive	Economic growth
Stakeholder involvement & reflection								
Pro-society innovation & regulation?	Focus on public goods	How do we? What if? Should we?	Attention on societal problems to be solved & potential harms	Attention on systems solutions (inc, but not only sci & tech)	Societal drivers primary (inc, but not only £\$€)	Shepherding innovation for social benefit & mitigating harm	Collaborative, open and inclusive	Public good - econ, social & eco equity?
Stakeholder involvement & reflection	Exploring societal needs & policy options	Embedded in research and development process	To understand problems & create optimal solutions	To understand systemic issues & responses	To design & deliver Pro- society incentives	As part of regulatory impact assessment	Intrinsic to regulation design, delivery, evaluation	As part of design & evaluation of success model

### Meaningful stakeholder involvement



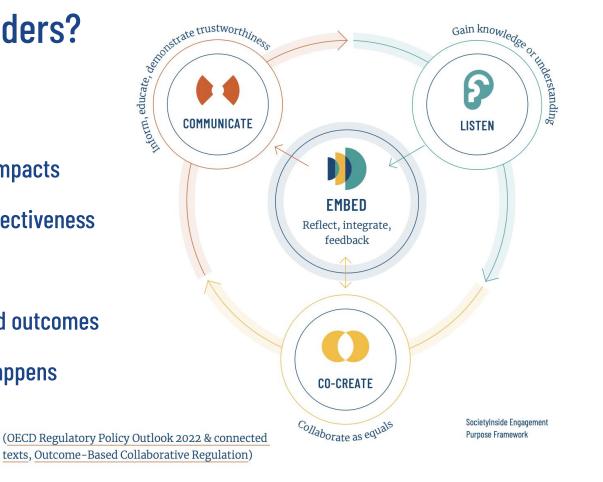


### **3 Elements of People-Centred Regulation?**



## Why involve stakeholders?

- Improve evidence base
- Understand implications & impacts
- Increase compliance and effectiveness
- Improve legitimacy
- Increase trust in process and outcomes
- Understand What Actually Happens



# When and why to involve stakeholders

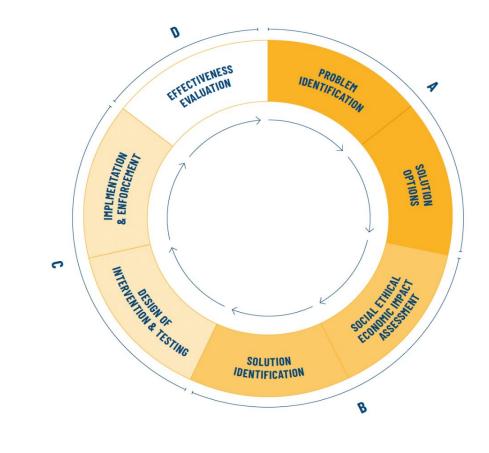
Effective regulation involves stakeholders, including business, civil society, citizens and experts in four main phases:

A When exploring policy options including regulation

B As part of Regulatory Impact Assessment

- **c** As part of regulatory delivery and enforcement
- D As part of Regulatory Effectiveness Evaluation

(OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook 2022 & connected texts, Outcome-Based Collaborative Regulation)



#### Earning trust in a people-centred approach?

- "Detach governance from hype & ideology focus on public interest"
- "Get comfortable with navigating ethics and values"
- "Be more engaged, more visible show your impact"

#### New competencies needed:

- 1. Building trusted environments for outcome-based collaborative governance
- 2. 'Nothing about us without us' systematize involvement of citizens
- 3. Evidence of trustworthiness a new approach to communication

#### TIGTECH

3 NEW COMPETENCIES FOR A MORE COLLABORATIVE COMMUNICATIVE TECH GOVERNANCE

BUILDING TRUSTED ENVIRONMENTS FOR COLLABORATIVE GOVERNANCE

NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US – INVOLVING CITIZENS IN TECH GOVERNANCE



EVIDENCE OF TRUSTWORTHINESS - A NEW APPROACH TO COMMUNICATIONS

## "Innovation is society in the making"

Pierre Benoit Joly, Paris 2011 President, Centre Occitanie-Toulouse at INRAE

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