

A toolkit for collaborative working

across disciplines and sectors in environmental research, policy and practice

Who is the toolkit for?

Anyone wishing to explore, explain, and champion the value of collaborative working across disciplines, sectors, seniorities, and specialisms.

Why use the toolkit?

Environmental, social and economic systems are closely interlinked, making collaborative working vital to tackling the complex environmental challenges that we face. This co-produced toolkit provides a practical, structured approach to undertaking collaborative projects.

What is collaborative working?

A way of working that integrates information from different disciplines, sectors, fields and stakeholders to address problems and find solutions that go beyond the scope of a single perspective.

The toolkit

- **BRIDGES** framework: six prompts to support reflection and an iterative approach from conception to project delivery
- Signposting to key methods/tools
- A flexible and adaptive approach to suit resources, team roles and project needs

Key principles for collaborative working

- Listen and learn
- Be open and reflexive about your own assumptions
- Develop a shared language
- Allocate time to plan and revisit assumptions, methods and goals

Build

What knowledge and insights are needed to build an understanding of the issue? What impact are you aiming to achieve?

Reflect

What are the drivers and barriers for collaboration within the team?

Integrate

How are different perspectives included, reflected and integrated in the development of the aims, objectives, activities and outputs of the work?

Develop Grow

How does the project provide the support, time, space, and resources needed for meaningful collaboration?

Evaluate

How are the learnings, experiences, benefits and challenges of collaborative working evaluated and reported upon?

Share

How are collaborative outputs planned, produced and reviewed?