

Evidence-Informed Health Policy

**Investigating how Contestation
of 'Evidence' is Framed**

GETTING RESEARCH INTO HEALTH POLICY AND PRACTICE

GRIPHEALTH

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Study Overview

- Understand evidence-to-policy processes across different institutional and country contexts
- Low, middle, high income countries
- Focus on institutions and policy analysis
- Practical implications

Aims and Objectives

- To understand the role of the stewards of health policy in the use of evidence
- To identify and trace a health issue across the case studies
- To understand the way in which a health issue/evidence has been politicised
- To understand the policy process and the role of institutions in shaping this

Research Phases

- **PHASE 1**
 - Background description
 - Conceptual framework
 - Identification of local health issues and ‘tracer’ issue
- **PHASE 2**
 - Fieldwork
- **PHASE 3**
 - Case study analysis
 - Institutional analysis
 - Comparative analysis

Evidence

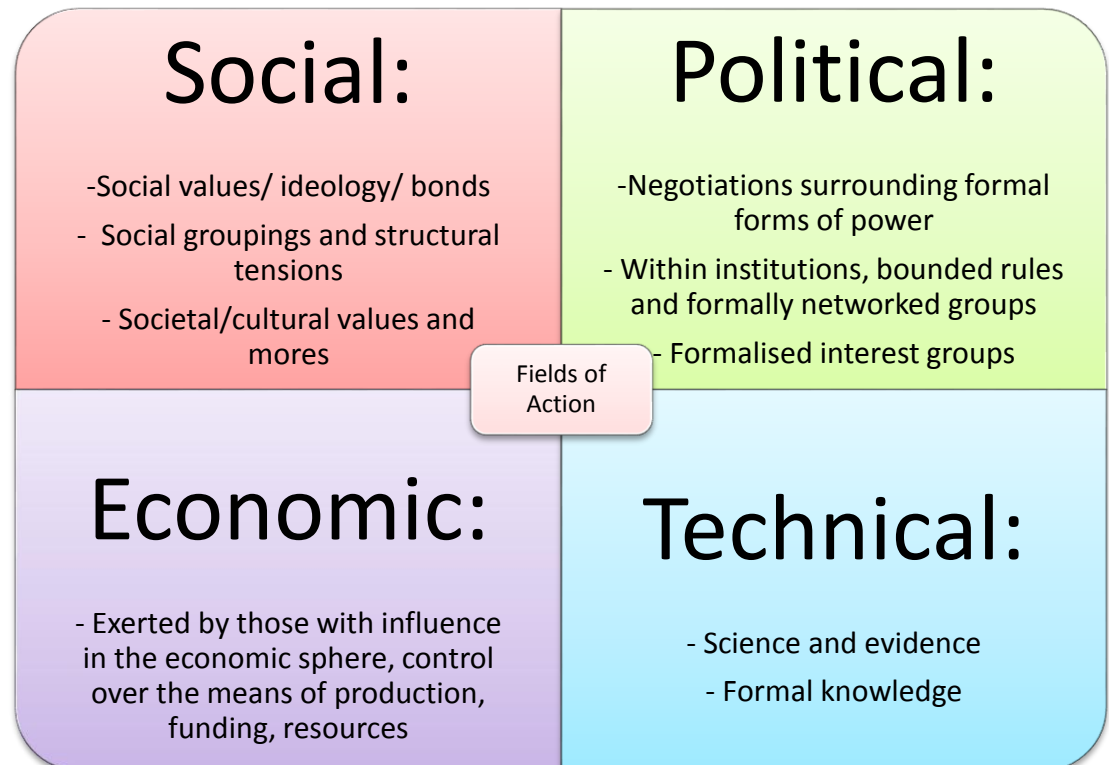
- Tension between theoretical and practical arms of the project
- What counts as evidence within these contexts
- (versus) Emphasis on research evidence and inclusion within the formal policy process
- Pragmatic theories of evidence
 - Research/‘science’ occurs at the intersection between theory and practice (Dewey, 1938), doing and making are linked
 - Similarly, EBHP occurs at the intersection between theory (research/evidence) and practice (policy process)

Institutions

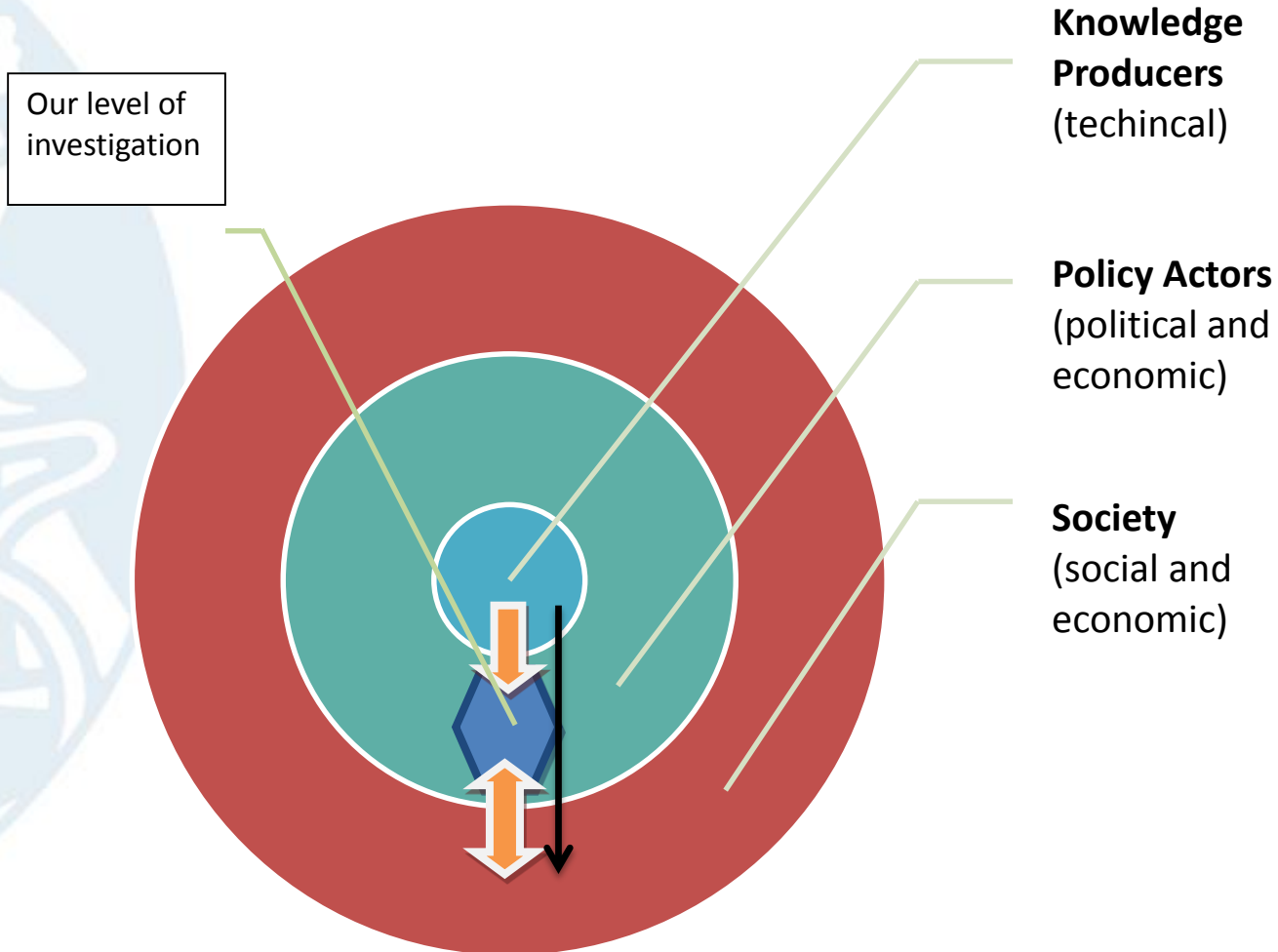
- Integrating institutional analysis and policy studies approaches
- Understand the institutions that exist surrounding evidence
 - Formal processes
 - Informal uses
 - Roles and actors
- Impact of evidence upon institutions
 - Stabilise bureaucratic roles
 - Mechanism through which goals/positions can be legitimated

Contestation

- Looking at the politics of evidence means that we are looking at problematisation and politicisation/contestation
- (Structures to stabilize the use of evidence under contestation?)



Contestation



Considerations

- What will this study of institutional processes tell us about wider factors
- Comparison
- Reconciling practical goals with analytical goals of the project

Further information: <http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/groups/griphealth/>