Appendix A: Generation Mechanisms table

Rows are marked to signify effective, non-effective, partially-effective or undetermined (based on available literature).

Table 7 Mechanisms for Evidence Generation

Mechanism	Generation type/Description	Challenges	Benefits	Target audience
Calls for evidence (partially effective)	Pull: public call for evidence, often by a government entity, on a particular salient topic/issue (footnote 1)	Clarity; relevance to terms of reference	Formal, direct engagement with policymakers	Policymakers; decision-maker practitioner
Deliberation platforms (effective)	Co-creation: "a mechanism through which stakeholders with diverse perspectives can both discuss problems and explore potential solutions" for a political issue (footnote 2)	Scale and context; Participant diversity and representation; Bias (participants and facilitator); Clarity and transparency; Engagement	Fosters mutual understanding; Crosses sectors and disciplines; Encourages social learning; Collaborative engagement	Policymakers; researchers, prac
Funded Commissions (effective)	Pull: research funded directly by government bodies or other funders, focused on a specific topic or need	Navigating politics, Time capacity, Coverage, Credibility, Scale and context	Funded; Direct engagement with policymakers/ practitioners	Government bodi Industry, Third se NGOs

Mechanism	Generation type/Description	Challenges	Benefits	Target audience
Professional Partnerships (effective)	Co-creation: "policy/ practice-research collaborations, usually with a limited lifespan" (footnote 3) (footnote 4) (i.e. expert elicitation, committees, networks, Areas of Research Interest, etc.)	Scale and context, Navigating politics, Long-term impact	Often funded; Direct engagement with policymakers/ practitioners; Fosters mutual understanding	Researchers and policymakers/pra...
Training and fellowships (undetermined)	Co-creation: formal skills development scheme, often funded (i.e. skills training), secondments, internships, fellowships.	Engagement, Unpredictable knowledge base, Clarity, Comprehension	Direct engagement, Capacity-building, Potentially funded	Researchers and policymakers/pra...

Source: Authors informed by Warira et al. (2017), Ferrari, M. (2017) and Gerard, Koch & Kowarsch (2018)

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