

# Inclusive Innovation: Some Questions about *Terms of Inclusion*

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# The rise of ‘inclusive innovation’

- Increasing realization that innovation ≠ positive outcomes (and processes)
- Reaching *out* and working *with*, rather than just on, the ‘poor’
- Building on past movements to make technology empowering

# Inclusion vs. Incorporation

- Incorporation as Integration of the ‘poor’
  - Externalization of political and economic power
- Inclusion as
  1. Empowerment: Delegation of responsibilities to the ‘powerless’
  2. Emancipation: Unshackled freedom or Good dependence?

# Inclusive Innovation

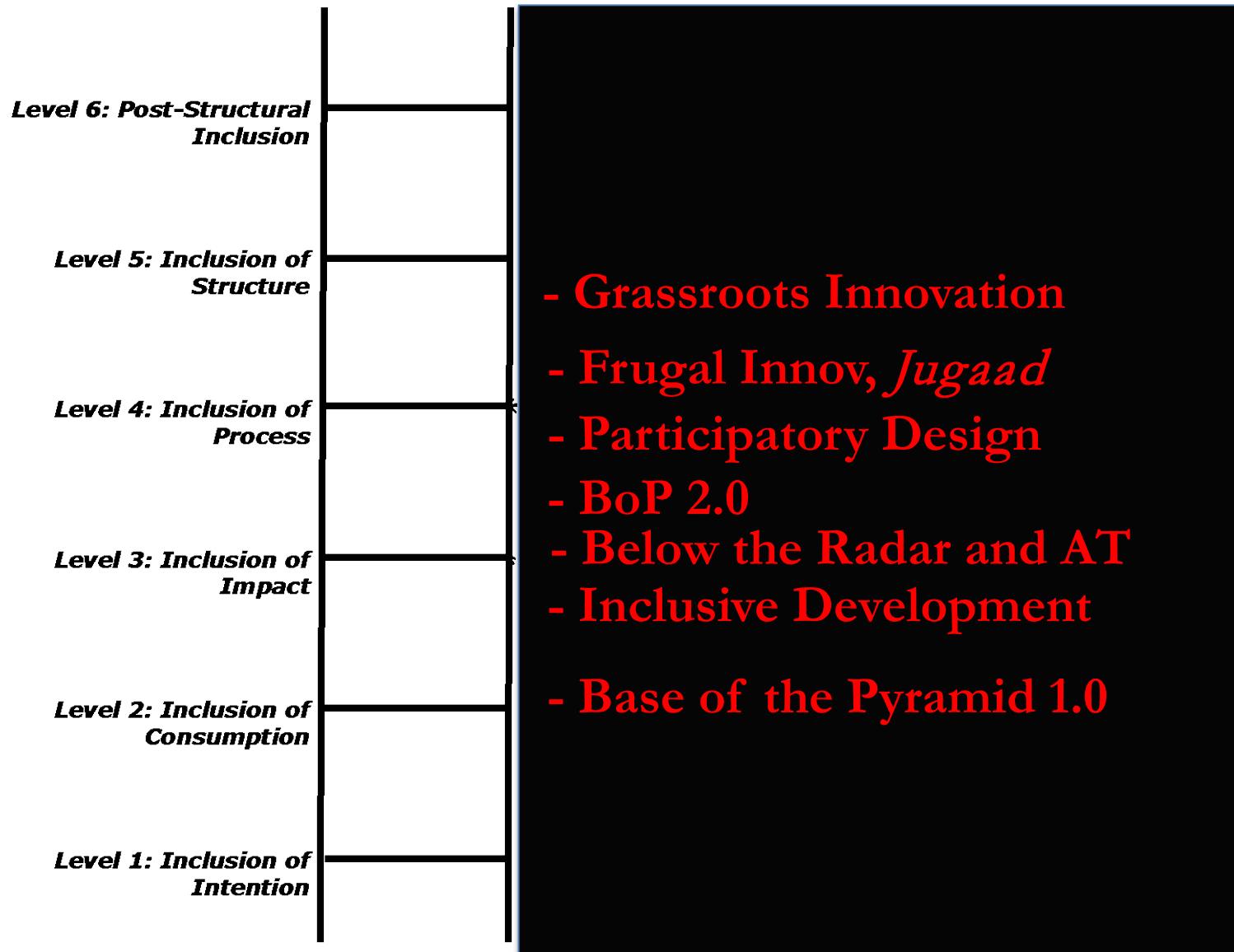
## 1. Inclusive in output

- Meeting ‘basic needs’ (Papaioannou 2014)
- New products and processes

## 2. Inclusive in process

- Harnessing local knowledge and skills: participation
- New value chains

# The ladder of inclusion?





# Inclusive at the Grassroots?

## 1. Learning from the grassroots?

- Rich empirical cases
- Critical of structures that curtail the transformative potential of grassroots innovations
- Reflecting on “what gets included, and what remains excluded” (Fressoli et al. 2014: 2)
- Wary of scaling up of ‘inclusive models’ by large agencies

# Grassroots and Inclusion

- Form, depth and scope of inclusion (Smith and Ely 2012; Smith 2014)
- Addressing fringe agendas, excluded from mainstream innovation systems
- Working with local knowledge and community values
- From inclusion to democratization of innovation?

# Enframing

- Framing boundaries of inclusion and exclusion
  - Innovation intervention as ‘boxed-up’ space and time  
(Long and van der Ploeg 1989)
- Overflows (Callon 1998)
  - ‘Externalities’
  - ‘Inclusive Exclusions’ (Mitchell 2007)

# Terms of Inclusion

- Asking how is someone or something *included* in a frame
- Terms of inclusion governed by
  - Historical institutions (Arora et al. 2014)
  - Intra-community and epistemological hierarchies (Arora and Romijn 2012)
  - Disqualification of practices and cultural appropriation
  - Representations of the poor as repositories of deficiencies

# Changing the terms of inclusion

- Moving from provision of prostheses to ‘*culturing habilitation*’
  - Reconfiguring the set of relations that afford a (poor) person’s agency: autonomy as ‘good dependence’
  - Historical responsibility: re-engaging with the poor as knowledgeable actors, on an equal basis
  - Recovering lost (sustainable) practices, in-situ

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