

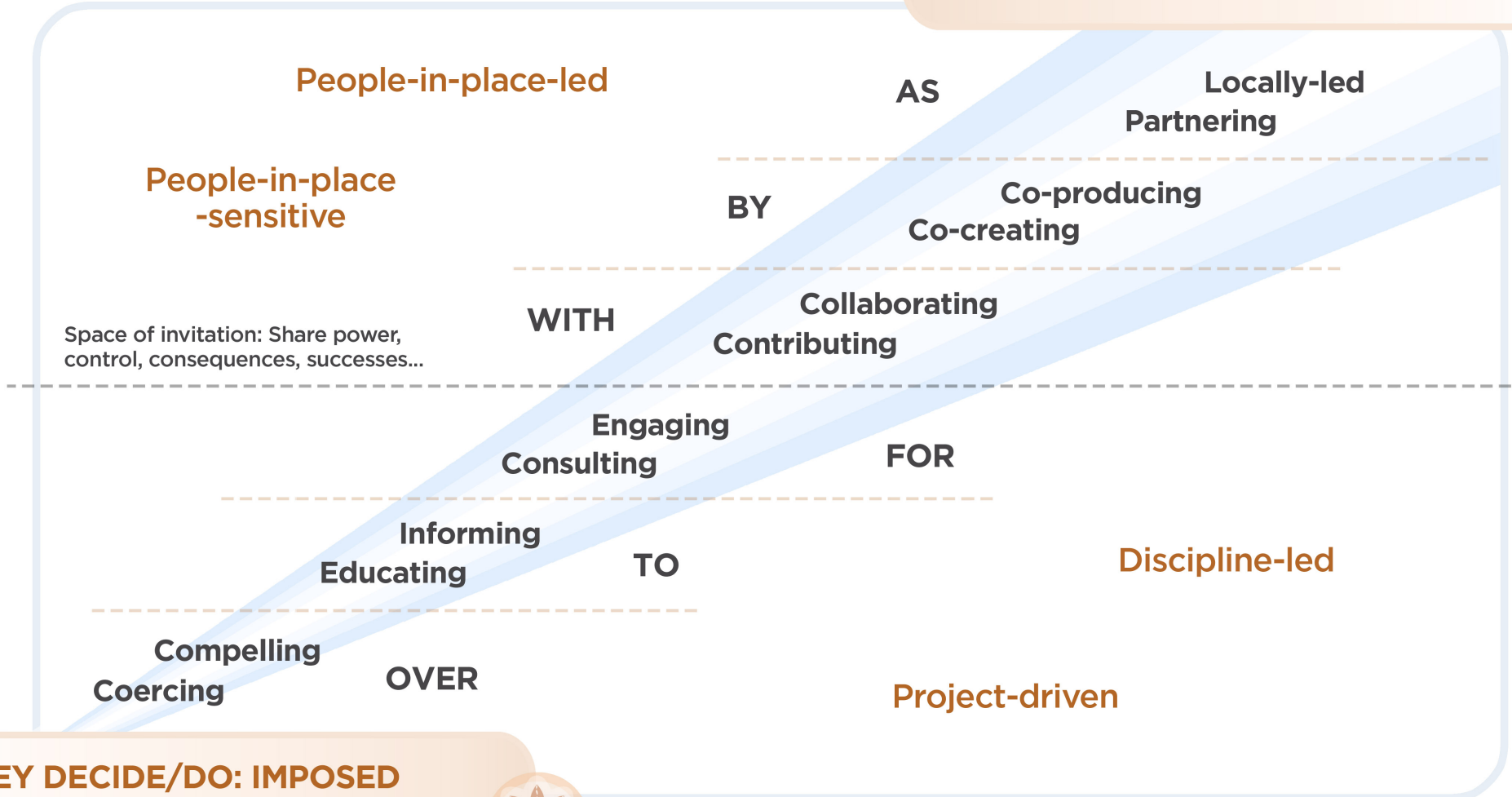


PARTICIPATION CONTINUUM



WE DECIDE/DO: LOCALLY-LED

Broad inclusion, highly diverse skill/experience base, adaptive solutions, often strengths focused, power is mostly within the community/place



Space of invitation: Share power, control, consequences, successes...

THEY DECIDE/DO: IMPOSED

Limited inclusion, highly specialised/regulated, technical solutions, often needs focused, power is mostly outside of the community/place



(Bijoux, 2018 after Arnstein, 1969; Kent, 2013; Wehipeihana, 2013 and New Economics Foundation, 2014)



PARTICIPATION CONTINUUM

WHAKAPAPA AND OUR USE

We are always learning and refining how we work based on 'practice-based evidence' as well as knowledge shared by others.

This tool has developed from Arnstein's 'Ladder of Participation' via the lens of indigenous evaluation practices, experiences in placemaking and new kinds of economies that work for everyone.

We use it in all our work, and it can be particularly useful in helping systems to adjust and change. While we aim to spend most of our time at the wider end of the arrow, sometimes we also work at the narrower end, compelling people to make changes they may not wish to, such as when new strategic approaches are resisted. Or such as when car parks are removed.

HOW TO USE IT

This is a tool to help us understand what kinds of approaches are useful in a given situation.

When we are time limited and project driven, or have highly specialised requirements, educating, informing, consulting and/or engaging are useful. When we are working with people in place, or supporting people in place to lead an initiative, collaborating, cocreating and/or partnering are most effective. Often, in our work, we need a bit of them all.

A critical aspect is that, once we invite contribution, we need to be prepared to accept at least some of it in order to ensure the work is relevant and effective. This means we must be prepared to change ourselves.