

#### **Appendix 4.** Workshop questions.

(translated from Dutch)

##### *I. Meaning of experimentation*

*The concept of an experiment can be interpreted in many different ways. How do you understand the concept of policy experiment?*

*What makes something an experiment and what is not an experiment?*

*In your experience, what are the reasons why government or other organizations proceed to do an experiment? Why choose to experiment?*

*Why are experiments so difficult to achieve? Why so few of them?*

##### *II. Considerations when setting an experiment's institutional rules:*

*When considering the knowledge produced in an experiment, what do you see as the role of lay knowledge (the things that local residents, citizens, etc. contribute)? Is it as valuable as scientific evidence?*

*It is generally expected that having a range of actors in an experiment means different perspectives of the problem will be present. In your experience, is there value in acknowledging and discussing these different views?*

*In your view, how realistic is it that participants have access to all information and have frequent discussions on the results?*

*In your view, if participants "buy-in" to the project (e.g. through funding contributions) does this improve cooperation among parties?*

*An experiment process may give all participants equal authority over decisions in how to design and manage the experiment. In your experience, does this sort of power-sharing lead to improved cooperation?*

*How many of you involved a facilitator in your experiment? Why would you or why would you not use one?*

*III. How experiments are used to influence a policy network*

*The aim of experiments is to develop insights for decision makers in your organization.*

*Must the results then be considered reliable, in the eyes of policy makers?*

*Experiments connect scientists and policy makers in order to solve policy problems. Can anyone share tensions they observed among these groups and the strategies you used to improve the relationship?*

*In an ideal situation, the results of an experiment slide in seamlessly with the issues that the board or politicians struggle with. What are your experiences with the connection between the experiment and the political situation?*

*How important is it that political representatives know of and support your experiment?*

*What examples can you share where politicians have been involved to promote your project?*

*Experiments are always conducted in a societal context. How important is it that the local community knows of the project and supports it? How can this be encouraged?*