

# **Public Engagement and the Commons**

## **公众参与和 the commons**

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**To engage in public engagement is to ask what we share in common. One thing we share in common are the commons.**

参与到公众参与中就是在寻找我们有什么共同点。而我们的共同点是“共同”（**the commons**）

**The language of the commons is often used in science/engagement discussions – but often implicitly so, not explicitly.**

**Commons** 这个词经常被隐喻地用在科学 / 公众参与的讨论中

# Chinese terms for ‘the commons’

## 中文对应这个词的几种翻译

共用: public use

共有: public ownership

公共: public commons

天下: all under heaven



## The commons

**Not only a resource!** 不仅是指（公共）资源

**The commons: resources + community + values and norms  
used to manage the resource**

这个词其实指代的是“资源+社群+以及管理这个资源的价值与规范”

**There is no commons without commoners and  
communing. The commons are both a noun and a verb.**

有Commons就要有“共同体”和“共体化”。Commons这个词其实既是一个名字也是一个动词

# Some examples of the commons (几个commons的例子)

**Knowledge: research findings, the Internet, software, websites** 知识：科研成果、因特网、软件、网站

**Civic: urban spaces, systems of blood, organ donation**  
城市空间、血液和器官捐赠

**Land/oceans: fisheries, forests, grasslands, water**  
土地 / 海洋：渔业、森林、草地、水

**Cultural: music, literature, art**  
文化：音乐、文学、艺术

**Areas/things that are collectively owned and managed by a community of users**  
由一个社区集体拥有和管理的地域或事情

**Engagement requires seeing the commons as a verb – that is, not only viewing the issue at the level of a resource but also seeing that the community is seeking to manage the resource in line with certain protocols and traditions.**

理解“圈地”这个词即要明白the commons是个动词，即不要仅把它视为一种资源，而忽略了它也指代社群试图依照某种规则和传统管理的行为

# Enclosure 圈地

**Commercialization of shared resources  
usually for private market gain**

即把共享资源商品化，转为私人利益



但我们比如请求你们尊重对知识的探索...作为科学家，我们太知道我们的知识盲点在哪里了。这就是为什么我们需要进行试验...这是为公众利益的国家研究，科研结果会免费为公众提供

...have devoted our lives are destroyed forever.

We appeal to you as environmentalists. We agree that agriculture should seek to work “with nature rather than against it” (to quote from our website), and that motivation underlies our work. We have developed a variety of wheat which does not need to be sprayed with insecticides. Instead, we have identified a way of getting the plant to repel aphids, using a natural process that has evolved in mint and many other plants – and simply adding this into the wheat genome to enable it to do the same thing.

So our GM wheat could, for future generations, substantially reduce the use of agricultural chemicals. Are you really against this? Or are you simply against it because it is “GMO” and you therefore think it is unnatural in some way? Remember – all plants in all types of agriculture are genetically modified to



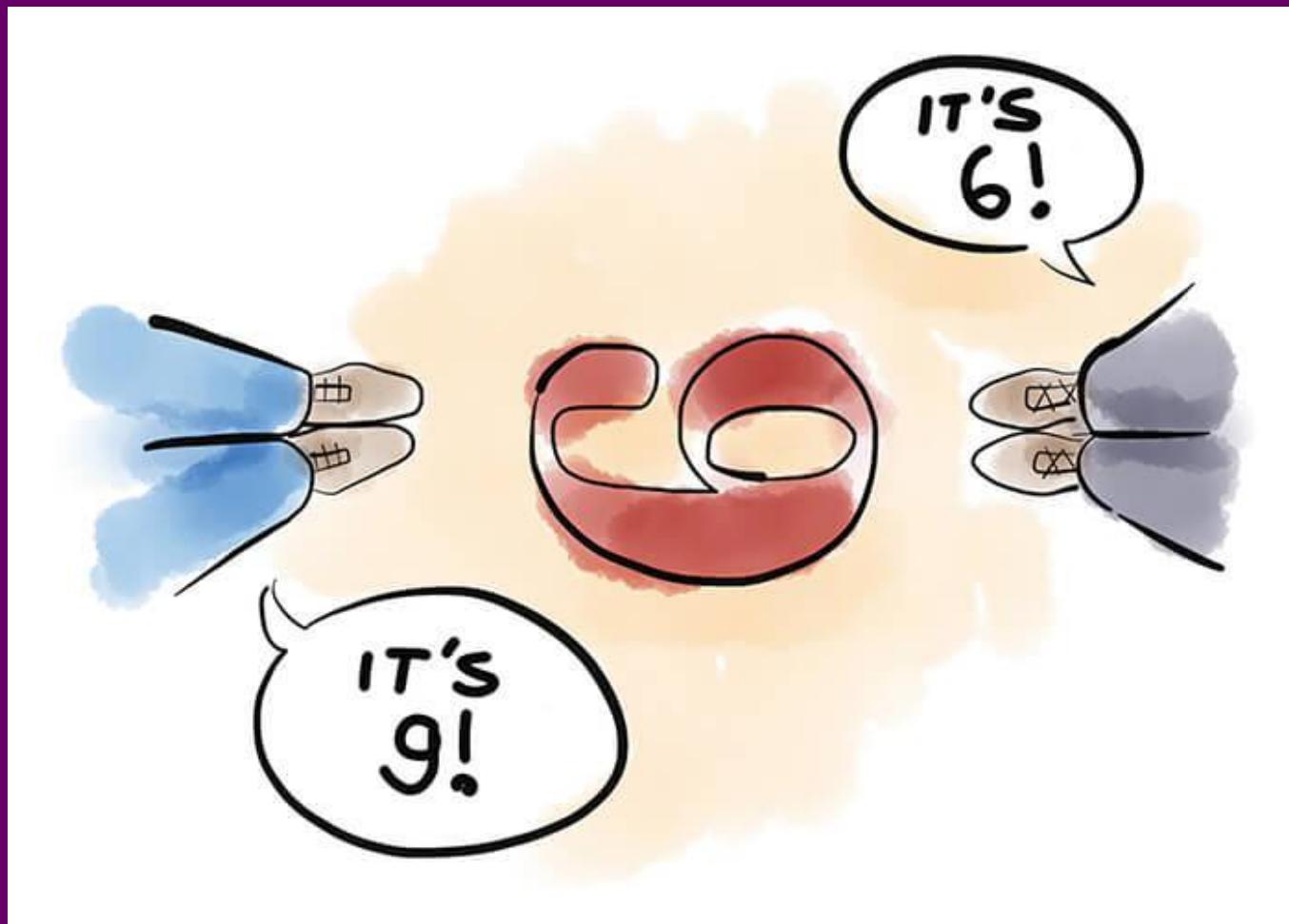
你们把自己的研究包装成单纯的对知识的探索，尽管农业媒体报道里屡屡讨论起商业化应用。你们为什么回避这个不可回避的问题呢？科学不是在真空中进行的。



# 为什么在这个例子中公众站在了科学家这边？

因为争执双方都试图以the commons这个概念说服人，但是只有科学家把这个词既当作名词也当作动词来看。也就是说，科学家成功说服了公众因为他们回应了关于商品化的忧虑，并看到了土地及粮食生产并非仅限于是一种食物来源，而是关乎人们生活方式和价值观念的事情。

而在这个例子里，NGO没有看到科学家及知识的创造也是一个动词。他们对“科研工作者”、“知识”仅停留在一种（可被利用的）资源的静态认识。他们忽略了科研工作者的主观能动性，没有想到他们会在知识共享上有所作为。



MY WORDS CAME OUT FINE!  
THEY WERE PROCESSED INCORRECTLY  
BY YOUR BRAIN!!!

