## The framings of grassroots innovation and implications for models of inclusive innovation

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**ABSTRACT**

In this paper we explore the different framings underpinning grassroots innovation movement activities, and illustrate this in relation to three case study movements. The Social Technologies movement in Brazil and Argentina, and the Honey Bee Network and Peoples’ Science Movement in India, all manifest these (analytical) framings in varying combinations, which suggest much more complex and nuanced perspectives on the purpose and practice of grassroots innovation by the practitioners themselves. This plurality of framings has implications for any attempts to develop ‘models’ for inclusive innovation (amenable to policy intervention) – a point illustrated by examples of institutional encounters with our case movements. Whether models try to insert grassroots into existing innovation institutions, or offer more responsive reforms aligned with grassroots mobilisations, the representations of what grassroots innovation is, who is involved and how, are limited. Some elements get excluded at the same time that others are included. The cases outlined here illustrate that, even when trying to provide models for inclusive innovation, policy may create encounters and boundary spaces for differing framings of inclusion to be debated, experimented, and reflected upon, mirroring differing views of ‘development’.

1. Please note that all authors have contributed to all sections of the paper. Nonetheless, we want to acknowledge that the text draws significantly from three draft papers on the case study movements: two written by Dinesh Abrol (on Honey Bee and People’s Science) and one written by Mariano Fressoli (on Social Technologies). Also, we acknowledge specific authors for their significant contributions to specific sections; these are footnoted accordingly throughout the text. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)