6-2 Action Research

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Action Research in Development

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ns7S-N4_aJ0

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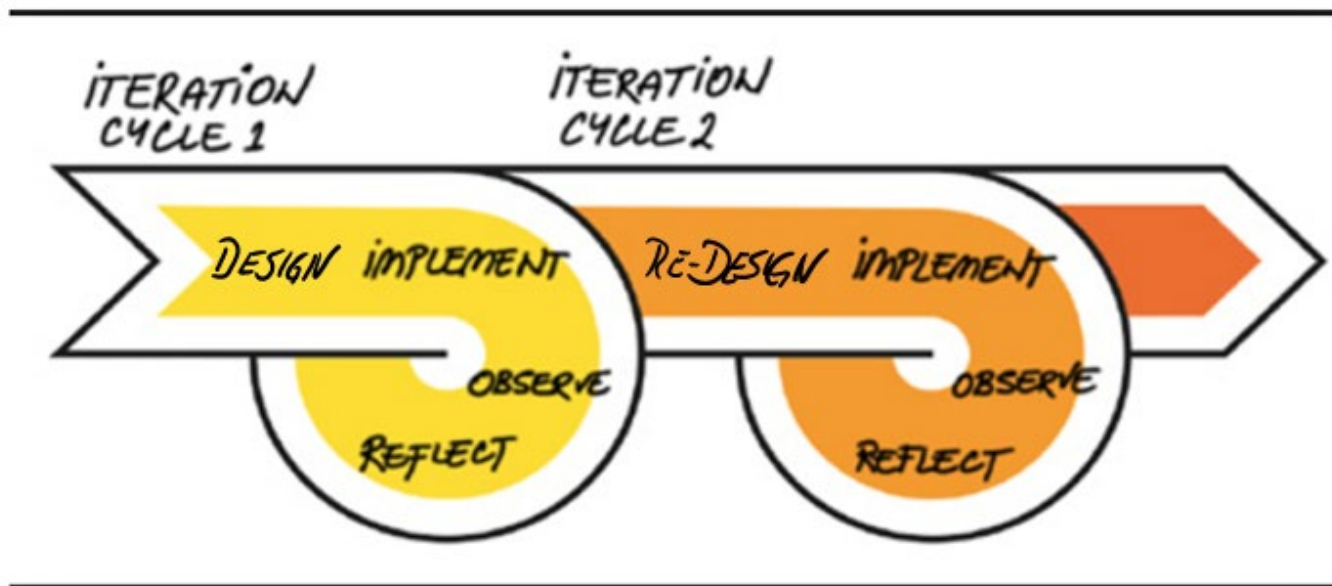
Action Research

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Action Research

Action research aims to contribute to the practical concerns of people in an immediate problematic situation

- Dual commitment:
  - ♦ study a (social) system and
  - ♦ concurrently to collaborate with members of the system in changing it into a desirable direction
- Solve a problem in real-life settings
  - ♦ Research problem arises from the practice
- Not only the (technical) solution is in focus but also its consequences in the social environment, e.g. to help a community address a problem better in the future.

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Action Research is Iterative

- A group of people
  - identify a problem,
  - do something to resolve it,
  - see how successful their efforts were, and,
  - if not satisfied, try again

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Based on (O'Brien 1998). http://www.web.ca/~robrien/papers/xx%20ar%20final.htm

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Problems of Action Research in Business Information Systems

■ Action research is time-consuming and expensive

   ♦ requires to bring solutions into practice, which can mean reorganization, training of people etc.

   ♦ observe the information system over longer periods

   ♦ make several iterations

■ Often not possible in a limited time of a thesis

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