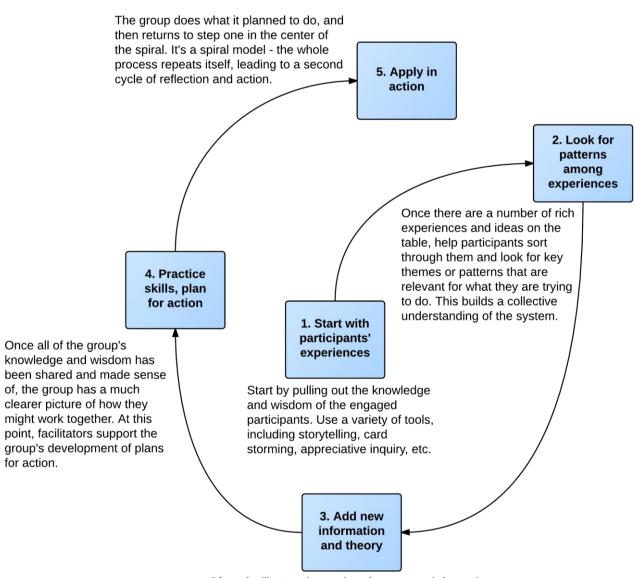


## Spiral Model of Popular Education

Popular education is an approach to adult education that is based on helping groups of people learn from their experiences. When working with collaborations or networks, it is important always to assume that the people in the group know best what their community needs and how to provide it. The facilitators have knowledge, expertise, experiences, and ideas to offer, but should always start with the experiential wisdom of the participants. Collectively, they have the wisdom to bring about significant change. They might not have tapped into that wisdom yet, but it's there. The facilitator's job is to help them surface their collective wisdom, and use it to take their work to the next level. Below are the steps that ground this work.



Often, facilitators themselves have some information (e.g., knowledge about an approach or funder) that might help the group move forward. Alternatively, groups may want to identify new research needs that get incorporated later. Introduce this new information or the need for it once the group puts their information out on the table and has made sense of it.