T01P04 / Multi-scalar and Nested Policy Processes: Linking Global, National and Local

Topic : T01 / POLICY PROCESS THEORIES

Chair : Leslie Pal (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

Second Chair : Evren Tok (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

Third Chair : Francesca Gelli (Università Iuav di Venezia)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

With only a few exceptions, policy studies still tend to be marked by either "methodological nationalism" or "methodological globalism." The former is the dominant lens on the policy process, one which focuses on the national frame, national institutions, national problems, and national actors. The second is newer, focusing on supra-national policy actors such as international governmental organizations and their role in developing and implementing global public policies, or at least global policy standards and regulations. Examples of work with the second focus include the study of transnational administration, international financial and regulatory bodies, transnational advocacy organizations, as well as policy fields that are intrinsically global in that they are anchored in global public goods such as the environment or health. Work on policy transfer exemplifies this approach as well, researching the ways in which what appear to be domestic or national policies actually "travel" from other jurisdictions (borrowing) or are modelled upon, or imposed by, international organizations. Another burgeoning sub-field is Europeanization studies, where regional frameworks shape and drive national policy making.

Research tends to be either in one more or another, though the policy transfer literature does make efforts at connecting global and national/local. Scientifically, this schizophrenia in our understanding of policy processes is no longer tenable. Increasingly, national (and local) policy processes are multi-scalar and nested. They are simultaneously, or with only slight lags, interpellated and entwined. This is due to multiple factors. The sheer interdependence of financial markets and international trade (even with recent pressures to de-globalize) subjects national policy processes to extra-national determinants. This conventional economic interdependence has been magnified by climate change – a public "bad" that it is argued can only be averted through international coordination (Paris Agreement) on emissions targets, which in turn depend on regulation of not only energy but almost everything else. The inexorable mission creep of international organizations such as the UN and its labyrinthine organizations is another contributor.

Our understanding of the multi-scalar and nested nature of much of contemporary policy making is still primitive. And this poses the research question that animates the panel: "How can we conceptualize policy processes that are simultaneously global and national, national and local, and give due weight to the causal matrix of variables such as institutions, ideas, and interests in a multi-scalar way that acknowledges the nested nature of policy regimes?"

The panel is being proposed by a research team based in Qatar (Hamad Bin Khalifa University), which has been working on SDG education as an example of this multi-scalar and nested phenomenon. The 17 SDGs have, since 2015, become a global agenda (Agenda 2030) with a supporting architecture of policy institutions, actors, reporting apparatus and research. While the SDGs are a global agenda, they simultaneously have national, local and even community impact.

Among the hypotheses to explore are:

1. Discourse and framing of policy problems at the national level are heavily influenced by extra-national framings, often originating in international organizations.
2. Policy actors and interests in the national policy space will always include ones that have strong links and connections to international networks – this includes NGOs, transnational corporations, think tanks.
3. In cases where global agendas are embraced by national and local actors, a process of "localization" or translation must always take place, resulting in policy regimes that are nested versions of those global agendas.

CALL FOR PAPERS

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"methodological globalism." The former is the dominant lens on the policy process, one which focuses on the national frame, national institutions, national problems, and national actors. The second is newer, focusing on supra-national policy actors such as international governmental organizations and their role in developing and implementing global public policies, or at least global policy standards and regulations. Research tends to be either in one more or another, though the policy transfer literature does make efforts at connecting global and national/local.

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The panel invites papers that extend our understanding of multi-scalar and nested policy processes, bringing together global, national, and local levels. Our focus is on the policy process dynamics of these multi-scalar policy fields. Examples could include: SDGs, public health, climate change, migration, financial regulation. The policy field is less important than the dynamics. We are particularly interested in papers that explore:

1. The role of global policy framing of national policy discourses, through policy research and/or advocacy.

2. Ways in which policy actors at all levels interconnect and operate in a "field" of networked activities and thereby create "spaces" which are neither global nor national, but both.

3. The process of implementation (localization, translation) of global policy frameworks either through tailored regulatory regimes or locally adapted public services.

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Session 1Session 1

Thursday, June 29th 08:00 to 10:00 (KHE118A)

Discussants

Osmany Porto de Oliveira (Universidade Federal de São Paulo)

Higher Education Institutions and SDGs: The Global/National Nexus

Leslie Pal (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

S.Duygu Sever-Mehmetoglu (Carnegie Mellon University Qatar)

Muhammed Kebbeh (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

Education has self-evidently been at the core of the SDGs, both for content and implementation. SDG 4 seeks Quality Education, and the success of the SDGs hinges on embedding sustainability consciousness and practice. Research has mostly focused on primary and secondary education as the targets for implementing SDG education. However, a remarkable effort has also been put into Higher Education Institutions (HEI). We argue that HEI and the SDGs is a strong illustration of the ways in which policy actors interconnect at multiple levels and create a space that is neither global nor national, but both. The paper consists of an examination of four initiatives and actors: (1) the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI), launched in 2012 as part of Rio+20, and which now has over 350 HEI as members, (2) UNESCO, which has invested in efforts to highlight the contributions of HEI to SDGs, (3) the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which also provides guides and supports to HEI, and (4) Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which ranks over 1,400 universities against the SDGs. While variegated, these initiatives illustrate powerfully the nexus of global institutions and national (HEI) actors, operating in a single but multidimensional "space" that both global and national (and local). From a global policy making perspective, we show that there is a "space" or "field" that operates across the planet, populated by global institutions and HEI, with its own discourses and conventions, all turbocharging the broader educational project around SDGs. The theoretical contributions of the paper hinge on a more finely grained appreciation of the practices and tools of global policy production.

Localization as a Policy Transfer: The Case of Sustainable Development Goals

S.Duygu Sever-Mehmetoglu (Carnegie Mellon University Qatar)

Evren Tok (Hamad Bin Khalifa University)

This paper scrutinizes the role of SDG localization in the context of a multi-scale, interconnected world. Greater interconnectedness create new policy requirements to address the century's challenges for the human survival and security at the intersection of historically rooted inequalities (social, economic and environmental) around human development. UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are suggested to offer a roadmap to collectively address these different yet interrelated challenges. The idea of "global" goals which set forth a "collective" action plan for multiple actors emerge as an example of potential international cooperation.

While an interconnected world offers opportunities for policy learning and the transfer of best practices, it also inherits challenges. Unless the goals and strategies are localized, the endorsement of global principles

and a cosmopolitan approach risks losing sight of national variations and contextual parameters. Omitting the dynamics of local communities, indigenous knowledge and culture risk bringing policy failures and missing the target for the Agenda 2030. Although the SDGs create a shared language and a standard set of indicators for development, in reality, the current level of progress reveals that there is no one size which fits all. Countries need to find and design their own versions of sustainable development path, meaning that the SDGs agreed by the national governments at the global arena, need implementation at the local level in line with local realities, challenges and capacities.

There are multiple approaches to the concept of localization. Localization is considered as: as a role that regional and local governments play in the implementation of SDGs, as a way to emphasize the importance of sub-national contexts for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda or as setting goals and targets to determine the means of implementation, monitoring and measurement of progress. Nevertheless, in the literature, limited attention is paid to the localization instruments, processes, actors and strategies.

This study engages in an in-depth analysis of localization. It follows a systematic literature review and a grounded theory approach by using MAXQDA, in order to investigate and identify the mechanisms, themes, and cases addressed by the growing literature on the localization of SDGs.

The preliminary results detect that, currently, there is a limited emphasis on the local culture, indigenous knowledge, local heritage, local values and the role of local education in paving the way for targeting social, cognitive and behavioral change in favor of sustainable development. The study suggests that aligning the SDGs with local circumstances and priorities is more than a technical procedure and progress can be achieved through a shared vision enriched with local components.

The politics of supply chain regulations: Global, national and local dynamics

Andrea Lenschow (Universität Osnabrück)

After the adoption of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in 2011, supply chain regulations that focus on human rights and increasingly also on environmental issues have emerged or are currently under debate. These regulations are national policies in the Global North, but they aim at countries in the Global South to improve their human rights and environmental protection records. Building on a due diligence approach they hold companies under their jurisdiction accountable for the respect of the UNGPs along their supply chain. In light of a highly globalized but also highly asymmetric economy, with much of resource extraction and early stage production processes located in the Global South and product refinement, retailing and consumption concentrated in the Global North, we aim to study these supply chain regulations from two perspectives. On the one hand, we are interested in the political dynamics that shaped policy outcomes in the Global South. Comparing France and Germany, we find a common mandatory due diligence approach, but also interesting variation in policy design along the dimensions of scope, procedures and enforcement. Given the early implementation phase of these novel regulations, we then turn our eyes to the Global South in a somewhat more speculative manner. Yet, based on field research in Brazil looking at the soy supply chain, we identify important local conditions that will be decisive for the effective implementation. Equally important, we discuss how Northern policies are not 'innocent' in adopting and spreading the UNGPs across the world, but may also create rather unintended effects on the ground in the Global South.

Localizing the SDGs through cross-boundary Learning: Case Study of Local Governments in Japan

Cosmo TAKAGI (Keio University)

Many Japanese local governments are now developing plans to mainstream the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While these is an emerging literature on various initiatives done by local governments from different countries, the number of case studies that analyze the policy process of Japanese local governments to mainstream the SDGs is still limited. This paper deals with SDGs mainstreaming policy process by analyzing cases studies of Japanese local governments.

SDGs localization is crucial for the successful implementation of the SDGs. This means that any local owndership by local governments cannot be done without embedding the global goals into local contexts (Murakami 2019). In Japan, the government developed a scheme called SDGs Future Cities in 2018, that annually award cities that propose ambitious plans and conduct good practices to achieve the SDGs. 30 cities selected as SDGs Future Cities for the first year in 2018. This is a major factor in the spread of the SDGs among local governments in Japan. However, there are a small number of local governments that

mainstreamed the SDGs in their local policies before the establishment of this awarding system. It is important to understand why and how such local governments were able to quickly formulate policies to mainstream the SDGs.

The paper covers the period from the adoption of the SDGs in September 2015 to the announcement of the cities selected by the SDG Future Cities awarding scheme in June 2018 and focuses on the actions of the departments responsible for drafting policy proposals of local governments such as Shimokawa Town and Sapporo City. Based on semi-structured interviews with local officials involved in this process, the paper highlights various factors for the early mainstreaming of the SDGs such as the policy-making process that link the global dimension with the national/local dimension. The paper shows that it is not confined to the domain of local government, but rather the rich interactions with diverse actors such as international organizations, central government, and NGOs. As a result, this paper conceptualizes a policy regime in which the global and the local are nested by using the concept of " cross-boundary Learning " from the literature of business administration to explain those aspects that cannot be explained by the existing concept of "government learning". It eventually provides a theoretical model that can serve as a compass for local governments in formulating policies not only for the SDGs, but also for other policy issues that require localization and for which local governments have no accumulated knowledge.

References:

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(Virtual) POLICY REVIEW IN THE MIDST OF THE PANDEMIC: MALAYSIA'S EFFORTS TO LOCALIZE FRASCATI MANUAL 2015 FOR NATIONAL R&D RIGOR AND RELEVANCE.

SITI HASLIAH SALLEH (Universiti Teknologi Malaysia)

Outstanding scientific, technological, and innovative assets are produced through research and development (R&D), which is crucial for socioeconomic development. As new technology and issues arise in national development, R&D sectors must be dynamic and current to have a meaningful impact. In Malaysia, the Malaysian R&D Classification System (MRDCS) 6th edition is currently used as the science policy tool to assist stakeholders in establishing research priorities, coordinating research with socioeconomic goals, allocating funding, and serving as benchmarks for international comparisons. The classification has to be reviewed in order to be current.

In October 2020, the eight-month revision process began. It followed the policy learning approach of benchmarking before localizing the R&D classification. It used interviews and focus group discussions to gather data. However, the COVID-19 epidemic altered the pattern. Movement control orders were issued by the Malaysian government to stop the virus's spread. The review process struggled with evidence, people, location, and time. No matter how difficult the review is, the project must be completed. R&D and national development will be supported by this.

Since all documents were accessible online, the benchmarking process was relatively easy. These consist of both international and national documents. However, it was questionable at that time, how the localization process can be done when all stakeholders have to stay at home? How can the validity of the suggested classification be verified?

A slight modification of technique was made, but solely in terms of how data was gathered. That was the best option we had because it did not sacrifice quality or omit the localization and validation process, which were crucial for the success of any future implementation. The remedy lay in technology. Focus group discussions and interviews were all conducted online. We had numerous technological challenges at the time because internet meetings were uncommon for many individuals in Malaysia. But we were astonished by the 300 participants—researchers from universities, research institutes, governmental organizations, statutory bodies, and non-governmental organizations—who willingly offered their opinions during a series of focus group discussions. Online triangulation was successfully carried out to guarantee the accuracy of the classification.

The MRDCS 7th edition finally retained its prior two-dimensional classification of research, namely the Field of Research (FOR) and Socio-economic Objectives (SEO). The FOR dimension divides research into 11 Divisions, 99 Categories, 470 Groups, and 4248 Areas, while the SEO divides it into 5 Divisions, 16 Categories, and 120 Groups. It showed an increasing number of classifications, as compared to the 6th edition. The OECD's Frascati Manual 2015 provided the groundwork for this review. We benchmark the international R&D classification documents, especially the Australian New Zealand Research Development Classification 2020. The national documents namely the Shared Prosperity Vision 2030, National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2030, and 10-10 MySTIE were also referenced, so that the R&D projects

are in line with the national goals. This new classification is designed to benefit all stakeholders and serve as the principal source of information for managing R&D initiatives that assist national socioeconomic growth.

Adaptation tracking as a multi-scalar policy process: foregrounding national contexts in implementing international reporting obligations

Njuguna, Lucy

Wageningen University & Research, Public Administration and Policy Group, Netherlands; International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya

Introduction

The rise of climate change adaptation in global climate policy highlights the multi-scalar nature of adaptation and creates an imperative for linking international, regional, national, subnational, and local scales in responding to the increasingly devastating impacts of a changing climate (Lesnikowski et al., 2017; Persson, 2019). The Paris Agreement establishes a Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) against which countries are encouraged to track and report on progress, and policy and academic debates are ongoing on how to feasibly implement this. Although critical adaptation literature recognizes the complex relationship between the context-dependency of how adaptation is conceptualized and the flow of discourses across scales (e.g., Weisser et al., (2013)), this relationship has not been adequately explored in the adaptation tracking domain. Most emerging works either endeavor to establish standard metrics for assessing adaptation progress at the global and national levels with an emphasis on what is contained in national adaptation policies (e.g., Berrang-Ford et al., 2019; Moehner et al., 2021) or assessing adaptation at the local level (e.g., FAO, 2015). As a result, proposed adaptation tracking frameworks have major limitations, including, the focus on one scale which is not reflective of the nested scales within which adaptation takes place or the diverse perspectives on climatic risks and adaptation outcomes. Current discussions also disregard potential misalignment between globally defined adaptation tracking frameworks and country-specific systems of producing and using data.

Methods

We draw on a research project supporting the development of tools for tracking adaptation in livestock systems in eastern Africa to illustrate how conceptualizing adaptation tracking as a multi-scalar policy process is useful in designing more appropriate frameworks. Through the project, we engage with livestock keepers, governments, and researchers to identify indicators that can be integrated to meaningfully assess adaptation at the farm, subnational, national, and global levels. We then facilitate the co-design of an adaptation tracking tool that aligns with the existing institutional structures of producing and using data on livestock systems in each country.

Key findings and conclusions

We find that countries vary in how they produce data relevant for adaptation tracking, including differences in linkages across various administrative units, the influence of the political sphere of government, and the extent of involvement of local stakeholders. These findings imply that to sustain international tracking and reporting on adaptation, it is crucial to customize adaptation tracking frameworks to align with the existing government structures and processes. We also find that although governments and livestock keepers perceive climate risks and adaptation in similar ways, there are differences in their perceptions, underscoring the relevance of considering the experiences of actors at different scales. This necessitates universal adaptation tracking metrics as well as complementary ones that capture the experiences and priorities of different actors. Although specific to the adaptation tracking domain, this paper contributes to the panel by showcasing a practical case that engages with a multi-scalar policy process that helps us identify important national dynamics that should be considered when operationalizing international reporting mandates.

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Session 2Session 2

Thursday, June 29th 10:20 to 12:20 (KHE118A)

Discussants

S.Duygu Sever-Mehmetoglu (Carnegie Mellon University Qatar)

(Virtual) Investigating the 'Private' in the Educational Technology Field: Imaginaries and Precarity in Educational Provisioning in India

Anurag Shukla (Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad)

Abstract

Globally, the rise of the Educational Technology (EdTech) field has been accompanied by the growth of the market in education. Working alongside the dispersed policy networks and the discourse of 'disruption', the interests driving EdTech have proposed an alternative form of educational provisioning where educational services are produced, exchanged, and consumed on a for-profit basis. Such a form, underpinned by a global education industry, a favourable international policy environment, and transnational sources of influence, has paved the way for the longer-term transformation of education systems, institutions, and practices, including the repositioning of teachers in an ever-changing educational labor market.

Education technically is a non-profit endeavour in India, by virtue of any educational institution, contra a training institution, having to register itself as a society, trust or non-profit company. The reimagining and reconfiguring of education implied by the alternative model of educational provisioning has significant implications for the idea of education as a non-profit activity and the maintenance of the boundaries between education as a service and education as provisioning underpinned by a for-profit approach. However, these implications are yet to be understood clearly or subject to careful public scrutiny. It is in this context that this study examines the phenomenon of a new form of educational provisioning driven by EdTech and for-profit objectives in India, by mapping out the corporate interests in education and investigating the dynamics that are shaping it at the discourse level, organizational level, and level of individual teachers.

The possible counter-narratives, where teachers and other important stakeholders express their concerns about the dominant EdTech narratives, are explored by using the methods of interviews and participant observation. The study deploys virtual/digital ethnography methods to trace the discursive constructions between the organizational field and the practice field. Finally, the concepts of 'precarity', 'deprofessionalization', and 'gig academia' are used to locate teachers and teaching within the fast-growing EdTech field in India.

Twenty-two EdTech startup founders, executives, and teachers are interviewed to understand how the EdTech field and its logic are applied in everyday lives. In addition, 89 policy documents and reports were analyzed to make sense of how the discourse on EdTech gets legitimized and authorized through its circulation in policy circles. The study also analyzed 99 images to understand the phenomenon of 'futuring', which EdTech companies deploy to drive investments in education.

The findings suggest that corporatization is becoming a dominant logic, with several for-profit players entering the EdTech field. Even public provisioning of education is getting transformed, with the corporate style increasingly becoming the norm. Many functions of educational policymaking and implementation have

been outsourced to players that have for-profit interests, with philanthropies and consultancy firms playing an important role in educational policymaking. This reorienting of education through EdTech investments has consequences for teachers' subjectivities and their increasingly 'insecure' position in the EdTech field.

The study seeks to contribute to theory-building by providing a critical perspective on the political economy of the EdTech field in India and how the work of teachers is currently organized.

Multiscalar Education Policy in Alberta: Balancing Parental Rights and LGBTQ+ Inclusion

Leanne Letourneau (Concordia University)

In Canada, the idea of school choice is a multiscalar policy issue. On the one hand, Article 26 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) stipulates that parents have a right to choose how their child is educated. On the other hand, Canada's 1867 Constitution Act gave the provinces jurisdiction over education as a way to respect and maintain the religious and linguistic diversity of each province. Consequently, parents' right to decide if their child receives a faith-based education is a constitutional guarantee. However, how this right manifests in each province differs. For example, in 2009, when sexual orientation was included in Alberta's human rights legislation, section 11.1 was also added. Section 11.1 was a parental opt-out clause that allowed parents to remove their child from explicit discussions on sexuality, sexual orientation or religion. The intent of section 11.1 was to reaffirm faith-based parents' right to educate their child according to religious beliefs. This amendment was proposed by the Alberta Progressive Conservative (PC) party, who justified this decision by referencing the UNDRH. In other words, the Alberta PC party justified a partially discriminatory clause in its human rights legislation by framing it as a parental right and referencing the UNDHR. This debate concerning school choice and LGBTQ+ inclusion has continued to shape education legislation in Alberta.

In this paper, I use the evolution of this debate to illustrate how provincial educational policymaking is a multiscalar feedback process. I integrate historical institutionalism and human geography to show this process. From historical institutionalism, I draw from theories of policy feedback and ideational change to understand how the idea of school choice has gradually changed through provincial educational policymaking. Regarding human geography, I draw from Doreen Massey's idea of place as relational to conceptualize provincial educational policy as a locality in which various social relations and ideas from different scales converge and interact in the provincial policymaking. In other words, to show how the idea of school choice is a multiscalar policy issue. Integrating these theories will allow for a more dynamic understanding of multiscalar policymaking processes.

(Virtual) National policies with global impact, towards a multi-level / meta-governance approach to public-policy making: a case study on environmental governance.

Sokhna Ndiaye (Université Rose Dieng France-Sénégal)

Michaela Ditrych Lenc (Charles University Prague)

National policies with global impact, towards a multi-level / meta-governance approach to public-policy making: a case study on environmental governance.

Sokhna A. Rosalie Ndiaye, PhD[1]; Michaela Ditrych Lenc, PhD Candidate[2]

Abstract

The question of supra-national intervention in environmental governance is anything but recent. Indeed the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, the first of a kind that took place in Stockholm, brought to the world's attention the issue of environmental degradation and prompted nations to take internal measures towards environmental management. Recently, the questions of global warming and climate change have been perceived as pressing issues, which led to the need for global environmental governance beyond national planning. Because global warming and climate change are borderless challenges, it is safe to assume, on the one hand, that national environmental governance-related policy problems are nowadays inevitably framed within a global dimension. On the other hand, whether a global agenda is nationally or locally adopted, it will still go through a phase of translation and assimilation to respond to specifics.

Purpose

This article provides a focused overview of the current literature on environmental meta-governance. In the first part, we offer a conceptual definition of meta-governance and environmental governance. In the second part, we highlight the different characteristics of environmental meta-governance in the literature. In the last part, we analyze the implementation process (localization, translation) of global policy frameworks.

Methodology/findings

The study systematically reviews 29 articles on environmental governance out of 131 articles on the question of meta-governance in general. The article follows a: who, what, how, why, country and type of meta-governance to draw a picture of the different approaches of meta-governance and how it is considered the global dimension of the question. The conclusion is that the environmental question, from a general standpoint, is approached through a multi-level and networked form of governance.

Originality/relevance

Meta-governance has attracted much attention from scholars the world over in recent times, as did the question of environmental policy. As such, this study, in a way, scrutinizes literature to understand the link between the two, especially whether meta-governance has effectively addressed policy issues in the environmental realm.

[1] Campus Franco-Sénégalais

[2] Charles University

(Virtual) National urban agendas as policy instruments: an international perspective

Francesca Gelli (Università Iuav di Venezia)

Matteo Basso (University Iuav of Venice, Italy)

Currently, international policy studies on urban agendas have gained great momentum. Indeed, important cross-disciplinary insights are being proposed in case study analysis of agenda-setting processes in comparative policy research. Urban agendas are conceived as communicative acts and analyzed in literature as policy discourses, to the extent they constitute an influential representation of urban reality, framing problems and setting a hierarchy of relevant issues. Our research has more to do with urban agendas as attempts to address the challenges that urbanization poses for governments, as a field of public policy: an urban agenda is a type of policy instrument to frame urban problems, and organize related urban policymaking.

As such, they are not neutral tools of public policy, as far as the system of values on which they are constructed and which they aim to pursue is concerned. We argue, therefore, that urban agendas not only transform their configurations, scopes, and ranges of application over time; they also reveal a (changing) policy narrative, a way of conceiving cities and urban that has significant consequences in terms of how implementation tools are "framed".

This contribution presents and discusses the results of a research project carried out by the authors on the cases of France, Spain, Portugal, the U.K., the U.S., Canada, China, India, Argentina and Brazil. With the aim of understanding the changing global geography of such tools since the second post-war period, the research highlights that whilst some discontinuities and differences exist between these Countries, they each demonstrate a common systematic investment in urban policies.

The empirical evidence collected through the case-studies and hereinafter presented highlight the emergence of a peculiar global geography that allows the identification of an "old" and a "new" geography of national governments committed to adopting such policy instruments. In addition, the research draws attention to the form and nature of such tools (as both explicit and implicit, discursive and programmatic tools) and their translation into dedicated policies, programmes of intervention and funding schemes that help cities elaborate their own local agendas, as well as the the approaches and styles of policy-making related to processes of agenda-setting.

Findings that will also be discussed relate to the way the concept of "urban" has entered and has been declined within national urban agendas, and the role played by transnational actors in drafting the documents through various mechanisms of policy transfer (i.e. the UN 2030 Agenda, or UN-Habitat National Urban Agenda).

Cyclomobility policies for sustainable development in brazil: advances and challenges in the implementation of measures to make cities more active

Catia Oliveira (Fiocruz - Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil)

Marcelly Gomes (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro)

The Brazilian Federal Constitution establishes efficient urban mobility as a right for all and a duty of the State. In order to guarantee public transport prioritization mechanisms and strengthen active mobility, the country created the National Urban Mobility Policy in 2012, highlighting the importance of sustainable development of cities and prioritizing non-motorized modes of transport, constituting one of the structuring elements of the policy. In 2018 there was progress in the debate on the use of bicycles as a mode of transport, leading to the creation of the Bicicleta Brasil Program, where the Federal Government stipulated principles, guidelines and objectives to be followed by municipalities to achieve this policy at the local level. However, after five years of enacting this law, important challenges remain for its effective implementation in the country. The objective of this study was to analyze how the Bicicleta Brasil Program was formulated and the factors that permeated the entry of the policy into the public agenda of urban mobility. This study used a qualitative approach, based on the theoretical framework of Kingdon (1986), whose analytical proposal considers the model of multiple flows to explain the process of formulating the government policy agenda. The data sources used included analysis of recent scientific literature on the subject of urban mobility and health promotion, analysis of official documents of Brazilian legislation regarding urban mobility and interviews with key actors, resorting to data triangulation as a methodological strategy in order to narrow the search boundaries. The results of the documental analysis and interviews showed that the institution of the policy conforms from the convergence of a flow of problems about the use of bicycles in Brazil in a favorable political environment, opening a window of opportunities for the condition of cycle mobility in cities could be recognized as a problem and ascend to the governmental decision agenda. The creation of the policy was an alternative to solve the need to meet the demands of society that yearned for a solid policy to expand bicycle transport in Brazil. Over the years there has been great pressure from organized civil society for the incorporation of bicycles in urban mobility plans and civil society organizations have influenced senators and federal deputies until the law was approved. A fundamental component, without which there would be no changes in the political agenda, was the action of entrepreneurs as an organized civil society and cycle activism organization. Even with important progress in legal frameworks, the results point to the permanence of weaknesses within the scope of cycle mobility policies, such as: dependence on the political will for their implementation, lack of consolidated data on road safety and the occurrence of accidents with cyclists and the lack of intersectoral integration in the public agenda. It is necessary to advance in terms of policy governance, which includes the definition of commitments by governments to ensure a comfortable and safe bicycle structure that allows effectively guaranteeing the right to sustainable and active cities.

Green Jobs in Agriculture in Egypt: the Crisis Push and the Governance Pull

Ghada Barsoum (The American University in Cairo)

Egypt's agriculture sector is highly vulnerable to climate change adversaries. A green transformation in agriculture offers the potential of creating green jobs in this sector and addressing food security challenges. This study builds on interviews with experts on prospects for a green transition in agriculture. The analysis shows that practices in the "old land", connoting the Nile valley, differ from the "new land" of desert reclamation areas. Governance challenges pertaining to enabling the business of agriculture, mechanisms for knowledge transfer to farmers, limited use of agri-platforms, land size fragmentation and employment informality in agriculture constitute key obstacles to this much needed transition.

Access (or the right) to water in Senegal: an international norm adapted by national and local stakeholders to the national context

Mame Adama SARR (Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis)

Elhadji Mbaye (Université Gaston Berger Saint-Louis)

Presentation of the project:

The study focuses on the analysis of rural water policy in Senegal from 2014 to 2023. It consists of measuring the impact of the Emergency Community Development Programme (PUDC), on sustainable and equitable access to quality water, in two administrative regions: Louga and Diourbel.

Research question:

The central question is: How do international norms structure Senegal's agenda for access to water, organise the behaviour and play of national and local actors subject to different cognitive and normative frameworks?

Methodology:

We mobilised both qualitative and quantitative methods. The quantitative method used quota sampling, which consisted of drawing a fixed number of units for each of the two study areas. The qualitative approach used forty (40) semi-structured interviews, participant observation with technical services, producer organisations and scientists which lasted six (6) months.

How does the study fit into the panel's research questions?

Rural water policy is inspired by international standards (Eberwein, Schemeil, 2009) such as SDG 6 and the right to water as defined by the United Nations in 2010. SDG 6 aims to: "ensure universal and equitable access to safe drinking water at an affordable cost". In Senegal, the national reference framework for all public policies, the Emerging Senegal Plan (ESP), provides in its axis 2 "a better balance in access to drinking water and sanitation between urban and rural areas". Its institutionalisation is supported by the PUDC, a national program created in 2015.

However, universal and equitable access to water in rural areas is affected by the constraints of national and local stakeholders who have been subject since 2014 to the global neoliberal referential framework which now proposes private management of the water sector. Behind the rhetoric of efficient water management lies the government's interest in following the model proposed by donors in order to obtain funding to solve the hydraulic problems that threaten its legitimacy.

Thus, the implementation of universal access to water is affected by an institutional readjustment by national and local stakeholders who adapte the legislative and regulatory framework in favour of their own interests. This reality of water policy in Senegal shows the capacity of national actors to reinterpret international norms, thus calling into question the assertion that public policies in Africa are international offerings (Eboko, 2005)