P13 / Food Security and Global South

Topic : ENVIRONMENT, SDGs, ENERGY

Chair : Kiran Kumar Gowd (Center for Politics and Policy Studies (CPPS))

Second Chair : Veerababu D (University of Hyderabad)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Food security in the Global South remains a critical concern, as these regions are home to the majority of the world's undernourished population. The Global South, encompassing Africa, Latin America, and parts of Asia, faces a myriad of challenges, including climate change, inadequate agricultural policies, economic inequality, and geopolitical disruptions. Climate change and environmental degradation directly impact agricultural productivity, exacerbating food insecurity by affecting crop yields and livestock health (Sultan & Gaetani, 2016). In addition, socio-economic inequalities, such as income disparity and gender inequity, limit access to nutritious food, deepening hunger and malnutrition in vulnerable communities (Von Braun & Gatzweiler, 2014). The role of Global South is crucial in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger, contributing to the global fight against poverty and hunger.

This call seeks to explore critical issues affecting food security across the Global South, focusing on the complex interactions of resource distribution, agricultural policies, climate change, and socio-economic inequalities.

1. General Objectives:

The conference aims to bring together researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to discuss the challenges and opportunities surrounding food security in the Global South. The objective is to generate actionable insights into strengthening food systems in the region to achieve sustainable development and alleviate hunger.

Specific Objectives:

- Emphasize the analysis of policy frameworks and their effectiveness in addressing food security in Global South.

- Discuss how regional policies, governance structures, and institutional mechanisms contribute to or hinder food accessibility.

- To assess the current state of food security policies in various regions of the Global South.

- To analyze the role of governance, policies, and international trade in enhancing food security in Global South.

- To identify socio-economic barriers that exacerbate food insecurity in vulnerable populations.

- To propose sustainable strategies for improving agricultural productivity and food distribution systems.

2. Key Research Questions:

The submissions should focus on one or more of the following research questions:

- What are the most effective policy frameworks currently in place in the Global South for ensuring food security, and what lessons can be learned from their successes and limitations?

- How do different policy approaches between countries in the Global South compare in terms of outcomes for food security?

- What are the challenges and barriers to implementing effective food security policies in regions with diverse socio-political landscapes?

- What are the main factors contributing to food insecurity in the Global South, and how do these factors differ across regions?

- How do climate change and environmental degradation affect food production, availability, and accessibility in the Global South?

- How do socio-economic inequalities, such as income disparity and gender inequity, influence food security?

3. Scientific Relevance:

This call is motivated by the urgent need to address the global challenge of food insecurity. A specific focus

on the Global South is vital because these regions host the majority of the world's undernourished population. Understanding the dynamics of food security in these countries is essential to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger. Additionally, this theme offers the opportunity to delve into the broader issues of climate change, governance, and socio-economic inequalities and their impact on food systems.

The panel aims to contribute to the scientific literature by offering an interdisciplinary platform that integrates insights from economics, environmental science, political science, and social studies. The findings could help inform the policy agendas of international organizations and governments seeking to enhance food security and promote sustainable development in the Global South.

CALL FOR PAPERS

To ensure a cohesive and impactful panel on "Food Security and the Global South," we invite scholars, researchers, and practitioners to submit high-quality, original proposals. The panel is particularly interested in papers that provide comparative insights and multidisciplinary perspectives that can inform global and regional policy frameworks, aiding in the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger).

Submission Criteria

1. Focus on Comparative Studies: While theoretical and empirical research is welcome, preference will be given to comparative studies involving more than one country in the Global South. Papers that analyze cross-country differences or similarities in food security policies, challenges, or innovations are highly encouraged.

We also encourage submitting of papers related country specific policy analysis.

1. Theoretical and Methodological Clarity:
2. Multidisciplinary Contributions: Papers that draw from multiple disciplines, such as economics, environmental science, sociology, and political science, will be highly valued. Submissions should demonstrate how the research contributes to a broader understanding that can inform practical, policy-oriented outcomes.
3. Relevance to Policy and Practice: Proposals should articulate how their findings can influence regional and global policy initiatives aimed at achieving SDG 2. Papers that address real-world implications, suggest policy interventions, or assess current policy impact are particularly welcome.
4. Original Research: Abstracts should reflect original work not published elsewhere. Both traditional academic research and policy-oriented studies are suitable.

- Theoretical Framework: Abstracts should clearly define the theor
  This could involve frameworks from economics, political science,
  interdisciplinary methodologies that intersect with public policy ar
- Methodology: Specify the methods employed, whether qualitative
  Outline how these methods are used to gather and analyze data
  effectiveness.

Abstract Submission Requirements

1. Word Limit: Abstracts must be between 300–400 words.
2. Content Structure:

- Research Focus: Clearly state the topic, objectives, and significance of the study.
- Methodology: Briefly describe the research methods and approach.
- Preliminary Findings: Summarize any preliminary results or expected contributions, if
- Relevance: Highlight how the research can contribute to global and regional policy so
  security.

Selection Criteria

Abstracts will be judged based on:

- Clarity and coherence of the theoretical framework.
- Appropriateness and transparency of the methodology.
- Contribution to the theme of the panel, especially regarding SDG 2.
- Potential impact on policy and practical applications.

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Session 1

Thursday, July 3rd 16:00 to 18:00 (D5)

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP APPROACH IN IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY IN EAST AFRICA.

Sheila Ashiono (University of Nairobi)

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP APPROACH IN IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY IN EAST AFRICA.

The first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) aimed at reducing poverty and hunger by half between 1990 and 2015. However, about 800 million are reported to be poor in extreme poverty and hunger, (Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 2015). According to the State of the Food Insecurity Report 2015, about 90% of the hungry are from developing countries like sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. The global south evolved country-specific food security models focusing on zero hunger. Based on the similar framework, African countries through Agenda 2063 set to modernize agriculture and agri-businesses to eliminate hunger and food insecurity. Through the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), African governments agreed to allocate at least 10% of the national budgets to agriculture and rural development. The investment targeted to reduce hunger, malnutrition, poverty, increase food supply and achieve sustainable agricultural production. The implementation approach for the CAADP, was anchored on partnerships between the public and private sectors to increase investment in agricultural sector. A notable strategy for implementation of CAADP is the government subsidy programme to farmers in the form of farm inputs and improved governance through Public Private Partnerships (PPP) strategy. Different countries put in place different forms of PPPs to facilitate efforts to address food insecurity. The forms of PPPs ranged from Public Enterprises (PE) with highest level of involvement by the government, Joint ventures, Lease contracts, Concessions, to Private ventures. The implementation of PPP approach in the food security sector took different forms depending on the project type, contract provisions and the nature of inter-organizational partnership arrangements. Consequently, governments in Africa continued to adopt multiple policy instruments that are necessary for policy implementation at various levels of partnership. For instance, Egypt adopted the Design-Build-Operate (DBO) form of PPP for the West Delta Irrigation Project under a contract of thirty years to enhance rice production. Ghana applied a modified form of PPP known as the voucher-based-system in which the government paid the vouchers used by the private sector to supply fertilizer to small-scale farmers in order to improve food production, and ultimately ensure food security. Despite its agricultural potential and significant exports, Uganda’s food insecurity levels remain classified as ‘serious’ by the 2023 Global Hunger Index, posing further challenges to the country’s ability to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2 on Zero Hunger. Kenya, the largest economy in East Africa has 45% of the population under the poverty line. Despite challenges, Tanzania has made progress, with the national food self-sufficiency ratio improving from 112% in 2015 to 118% in 2022 according to the Ministry of Agriculture. How PPPs were realized among governments, non-governmental organizations, and international bodies influenced the food security outcomes in different countries in the Global South. Using a comparative method, the paper investigates how Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania have applied Public Private Partnership approach to improve food security.

Sustainable beekeeping management in the Mekong Subregion: Problem identification and policy recommendations

Supitcha Punya (Faculty of Political Science and Public Administration, Chiang Mai University)

This presentation aims to identify problems presented in creating Mekong subregional sustainable apiculture management and to recommend practical policies for government and non-government policymakers.

Qualitative data was collected through participant observation during field visits and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with regional apiculture management. The research results show that there are: 1) a capacity gap between the six countries of the region; 2) no common policies and regulations that would facilitate local beekeepers' access to wider regional bee products; 3) no support for inter-regional transport of honeybees and honey for academic purposes; 4) inadequate native bee species preservation and pesticides use; 5) local beekeepers' limited access to regional honeybee diseases and pesticides use database; and, 6) a lack of regional standards for general honeybee product support. Of the many sustainable beekeeping management support policy recommendations that this presentation offers, the most important is that regional countries narrow the capacity gap through human development. An overarching coordinated policy network incorporating governments, private sectors, scholars, local beekeepers, exporters, and international organizations could offer a practical means to narrow the gap effectively

(Virtual) Mapping Advocacy Networks: The Role of Philanthropy and Businesses in Brazilian Food Security

Pietro Rodrigues (Fundacao José Luiz Setubal)

Laura Camargo (José Luiz Egydio Setúbal Foundation, Brazil)

After leaving the United Nations Hunger Map in 2014, Brazil saw a resurgence in rates of Food and Nutrition Insecurity (FNI), peaking in 2020. This situation stemmed from a combination of economic and political crises, both domestic and international. Hunger, a chronic issue in Brazil, had been alleviated between the early 2000s and 2014 through the mobilization of public and private actors around social policies and initiatives. The worsening of FNI highlights the urgent need for collaboration among the state, private sector, and civil society. Governments are responsible for implementing policies that encourage business development and ensure food access for the population. The private sector is tasked with executing activities that bring food from farms to households. Meanwhile, civil society plays a vital role in addressing market and government failures through grassroots actions.

However, collaboration across these sectors is not straightforward. Their contributions and conditions are driven by distinct logics and interests, which are not always transparent. This research sought to understand the diverse private interests surrounding the theme of Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) in Brazil by evaluating the discourse and action strategies of philanthropic and business networks engaged in the issue. A total of 1,012 FNS-related initiatives funded by foundations, institutes, and companies between 2020 and 2023 were mapped. This mapping revealed the relationship networks between funders and implementers of these initiatives, enabling the identification of the interest groups involved.

The literature has explored concepts aimed at understanding the role of non-state actors, such as businesses and philanthropic organizations, in the formulation and implementation of public policies. As a result, ideas like cross-sector collaboration (Bryson & Crosby, 2015), public-private-philanthropic partnerships (Toepler, 2018; Vestergaard, 2021), collaborative governance (Ansell & Gash, 2008; Emerson et al., 2012), and policy network governance (Klijn & Koppenjan, 2015; Koliba et al., 2017) frequently emerge in public policy discussions. Similarly, longstanding traditions in political process analysis have emphasized the role of interest networks and advocacy coalitions in shaping and implementing policies across various social fields (Jenkins-Smith & Nohrstedt, 2018; Sabatier & Weible, 2019; Capelari & Araujo, 2015).

This study bridges these two literatures to investigate how advocacy networks of businesses and philanthropic organizations are structured around food and nutrition security in Brazil. It also examines how these networks shape discourse and interests that influence public policies within the FNS field. By integrating data from mapped initiatives and analyzing public discourses, official documents, and media statements, the study highlights patterns of collaboration and the interests represented by different clusters. This framework is critical for evaluating how these networks align with the Brazilian government's food and nutrition security strategies.

"Public Policy Strategies for Enhancing Food Security in India: Lessons for the Global South"

BODEGA MAHESH GOUD (Osmania University, Hyderabad)

Abstract:

Food security remains a critical challenge in India, affecting millions and hindering socio-economic development. Despite significant advancements in agricultural technology and policy reforms, persistent

issues such as poverty, malnutrition, and climate change continue to jeopardize food availability and accessibility. This paper examines the current public policy strategies implemented in India aimed at enhancing food security and the lessons that can be drawn for the Global South. Through a comprehensive analysis of government initiatives, such as the National Food Security Act, investment in agricultural infrastructure, and social safety net programs, this study identifies successes, challenges, and potential areas for improvement. Furthermore, it incorporates relevant data on food security indicators in India and compares them with other nations in the Global South to underscore best practices and inform policy decisions. The findings reveal that an integrated approach combining technological innovation, inclusive policy frameworks, and community participation is essential for achieving sustainable food security. These insights are particularly relevant for other developing nations facing similar challenges, offering a blueprint for effective public policy strategies in the context of food security.

Keywords: Food security, Public policy, India, Global South, Agricultural strategies, National Food Security Act, Socio-economic development

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Session 2Session 2

Friday, July 4th 08:00 to 10:00 (D5)

(Virtual) Food Security in North Africa in the light of Global Crises

SAID ALAHYANE (Cadi Ayyad University)

North Africa suffers from real structural food hyperdependence since over 40% of its food needs are covered by international markets. As a result, it is the world's leading importer of basic foodstuffs. This food dependency of North African countries can be explained by a number of constraints (droughts, lack of arable land, demographic growth…). However, the underlying causes of this situation are to be found in the public policies put in place after political independence. Policies made in these countries have always disregarded food security and sovereignty. By favoring export crops over food crops, North African countries have contributed to their own food dependency. Moreover, regional rivalries accentuate North Africa's food vulnerability, as no form of agricultural and food cooperation can emerge in such a geopolitical context.

The aim of this paper is to demonstrate that North Africa's food dependency is historically constructed because it is the result of political choices designed and implemented by public authorities in these countries. Today, this food dependency is chronic and makes North Africa vulnerable to external shocks (the pandemic crisis, the war in Ukraine…). In addition, this paper seeks to highlight the alternatives that need to be operationalized to overcome food dependency and improve the food performance of North African countries.

For ease of analysis, the cases of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia will be the main focus. By mobilizing the analytical models of political science, and more specifically the theoretical frameworks of public policy, food security policies in the three countries will be studied and analyzed.

Comparative Food Security Policies in the Global South: Insights from Brazil and Nigeria

NARIGE PRUDHVI KRISHNA (Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University)

Comparative Food Security Policies in the Global South: Insights from Brazil and Nigeria
Food security continues to be a major challenge in the Global South, where a combination of environmental, economic, and policy factors influences the availability, accessibility, and affordability of food. This paper offers a comparative analysis of food security policies in Brazil and Nigeria, focusing on the role of governance structures, institutional mechanisms, and policy interventions in shaping food security outcomes. Brazil's Fome Zero (Zero Hunger) program, launched in the early 2000s, has been a significant driver of hunger reduction through its integrated approach, which combines social protection mechanisms like Bolsa Família, food distribution networks, and agricultural support policies. In contrast, despite various policy measures aimed at improving food security, Nigeria has struggled to achieve similar results, with persistent food insecurity exacerbated by policy inefficiencies, weak institutional frameworks, and ongoing economic challenges.

This study adopts a quantitative approach, utilizing data on food security indicators such as the Global Hunger Index (GHI), food price volatility, agricultural productivity rates, and poverty levels to compare the effectiveness of food security policies in both countries. The analysis reveals that Brazil's success in reducing hunger can be attributed to well-coordinated policies, efficient social safety nets, and comprehensive agricultural reforms. On the other hand, Nigeria's challenges stem from policy fragmentation, corruption, and heavy dependence on food imports, which undermine the effectiveness of government interventions.

The findings emphasize the importance of targeted social protection programs, effective governance, and institutional accountability in improving food security. Based on the results, the paper provides policy recommendations for other Global South nations, highlighting the need for better governance structures,

evidence-based policy design, and enhanced institutional capacity to address food insecurity.

Keywords: Food Security, Policy Analysis, Governance, Brazil, Nigeria, Global South, Quantitative Approach, Agricultural Policy

(Virtual) Agro-Environmental Degradation in Punjab: A Club Convergence Study of Fertilizer Use and Irrigation

Pradeep Guin (Jindal School of Government and Public Policy)

Keshav Sethi (O.P. Jindal Global University)

The Green Revolution, initiated in Punjab during the 1960s, significantly enhanced agricultural productivity in India, ensuring food security and reducing dependence on food imports. However, the intensive agricultural practices associated with the Green Revolution have led to severe environmental challenges, particularly groundwater depletion and soil contamination. These issues arise from the excessive use of chemical fertilizers and over-extraction of water for irrigation. Existing scholarship of literature on Punjab's agro-environmental concerns primarily rely on primary surveys or descriptive statistical analyses from a limited number of districts. There is a lack of studies that examine convergence across Punjab's districts to assess environmental degradation trends and its potential impact on sustainable food security. To address this gap, our study employs Phillips and Sul (2007; 2009) club convergence technique to examine the convergence patterns of fertilizer consumption and irrigated area across 20 districts of Punjab from 2001 to 2021. The club convergence methodology allows us to determine whether districts are moving towards a common long-run steady-state equilibrium level or forming distinct convergence clubs with heterogeneous environmental trajectories.

Our findings reveal the presence of multiple convergence clubs, indicating significant heterogeneity in the extent of soil contamination and groundwater depletion across Punjab. For fertilizer consumption, 13 out of 22 districts are converging to higher clubs, suggesting excessive and unsustainable fertilizer usage in these regions. Similarly, for irrigated area, 10 districts are converging to higher usage levels, highlighting persistent stress on groundwater resources.

The policy implications of our study emphasize the need for differentiated strategies to address Punjab's agro-environmental challenges effectively and ensure sustainable food security measures. For districts in higher convergence clubs, immediate action is required to promote sustainable farming practices, including balanced fertilizer use, organic alternatives, and precision agriculture techniques. Simultaneously, water conservation policies such as drip irrigation, crop diversification, and stricter groundwater regulations should be enforced in high-irrigation convergence districts. Conversely, for districts in lower convergence clubs, policies should focus on maintaining sustainable practices and preventing further degradation. These results underscore the importance of localized policy interventions tailored to the specific convergence groups rather than a uniform, state-wide approach. Our study contributes to the existing literature by demonstrating the applicability of club convergence analysis on environmental indicators to address food security. By identifying district-specific convergence patterns, our study provides evidence for the need to design targeted interventions that align with the district's environmental realities to effectively address food security.