P04 / Global South approaches to resilience policy

Topic : COMPARATIVE PUBLIC POLICY

Chair : Albert Park (University of Oxford)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

The objective of this panel is to explore comparative policy approaches across the Global South towards building resilience, writ large. Resilience policies have grown in popularity across international and sectoral bounds (e.g., climate, economic, supply chain, cyber resilience, and so on). However, much is yet to be understood about the emergence and nature of resilience policies from the Global South. Echoing theoretical debates between policy transfer versus policy diffusion, this panel seeks to bring together a diversity of empirical cases to enable more nuanced, comparative analyses of the kinds of resilience policies emerging in the Global South. To what extent are they unique or original relative to Global North policy counterparts? What kind of domestic and international drivers can be identified (e.g., policy funders, academic discourses, domestic politics, etc)? What do resilience policy discourses and policy-making dynamics look like when shifting across spatial levels (e.g., local, national, regional, global)?

In bringing together these diverse perspectives, this panel seeks to make three contributions to the current literature. First is in convening a more concerted view of resilience policy approaches from the Global South, in contrast to prior emphasis on Northern actors (e.g., the European Union, the United States). Second is in unpacking the black box of resilience policy-making to examine the extent to which Southern actors exhibit political agency over policy-making processes. Third is in feeding specific insights from the recent rise of resilience policy into general debates surrounding policy transfer versus policy mobility in international policy.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers are welcomed on resilience policy discourses and/or resilience policy-making processes in the Global South. The geographical and sectoral scope remains otherwise intentionally open-ended. Three further specifications to guide potential contributions include the following:

(1) Papers with empirical insights centred on resilience policies as emerging from Global South actors, organisations, and/or processes.

(2) Papers are welcome to include analyses incorporating the Global North, so long as they do not remain exclusive or centred on Northern dynamics.

(3) Papers with theoretical implications that respond (either directly or implicitly) to debates surrounding policy transfer versus policy mobility.

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Session 1

Wednesday, July 2nd 13:45 to 15:45 (A3)

Mapping the growth of ASEAN resilience policy

Albert Park (University of Oxford)

This paper maps the growth of ASEAN resilience policies from roughly 2004 to 2023. Prior studies have emphasised Western-led resilience policy agendas, with particular focus on the European Union (EU) in the case of regional organisations. In contrast, this paper examines the resilience policies emerging from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as a Southern regional organisation. Based on document analysis of ASEAN Annual Reports and ASEAN Chairperson's Statements, it traces the uses of resilience across ASEAN's three pillars: the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). It finds significant evidence of both expansion and substantive heterogeneity in policy agendas over organisational space and time. In particular, it highlights examples of resilience within the contexts of policy mobility, as the operational contexts, actors, and meanings associated with resilience unfold across ASEAN organisational space and time.

The impact of National Cultural Infectious Disease Management: A Focus on the COVID-19 Pandemic

Gabeen Lee (Sungkyunkwan University, South Korea)

JungHwan Ryu (Sungkyunkwan University(South Korea))

JIAN LEE (SUNGKYUNKWAN UNIVERSITY)

Sung Min Park (Sunkyunkwan University)

This study examines the influence of national cultural characteristics on the management of infectious disease disasters. Focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic, this study examines cultural factors across countries including South Korea, Indonesia, and the Philippines. This research also investigates the impact of cultural dimensions conceptualized by Hofstede’s cultural dimensions such as power distance, individualism, uncertainty avoidance, and long-term orientation on public health responses. The analysis utilizes the COVID-19 Stringency Index and pandemic indicators including death rates, testing, vaccination coverage to assess the effects of these cultural variables. The findings indicate that higher levels of individualism and uncertainty avoidance are associated with increased death rates. Additionally, power distance significantly affects COVID-19 testing leading to lower testing rates. Furthermore, the effectiveness of stringent government policies is found to be contingent upon cultural context. While stricter policies were solely associated with negative COVID-19 outcomes, the interaction between policy stringency and cultural dimensions produced more nuanced effects. This study provides theoretical and practical implications of designing culturally tailored strategies to improve the effectiveness of infectious disease disaster management.

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Climate Resilience and Inclusive Leadership: An Evolving Policy Discourse in Indian Climate Diplomacy Framework

Anshuman Ankit (Magadh University)

Avinash Sonu (Magadh University)

The North-South divide in resilience knowledge production is not only quantitative but also evident in the core of models and tools. This is primarily because the policy transfer literature emphasizes the importance of knowledge and the role of intentional processes (agency). In contrast, structural, interest-based, and unintentional processes are frequently a part of diffusion. Post-2014 foreign policy framework of India has seen vivid application and inculcation of ancient Indian philosophy of '***Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam***' in climate diplomacy strategies. This phase emphatically determines the consistency of political agency over policy-making processes in a structured overview of the state of the art in policy diffusion. As climate change intensifies and natural disasters become more frequent, especially the global south is susceptible to its severe consequences & effects.

Further, India's take on global climate resilience policies based on an all-embrassing outlook that embodies collective progress as one universal family, transcending borders, cultures, and ideologies, has ushered principles and values in supporting multilateral action on climate catastrophe. Though globally more than 3500 climate policies are in action, rarely do they embrace earth as a global family outlook in its application. For the past decade, India's climate diplomacy has been based on five major determinants: ***Geography, Population, Outlook, Application*** and ***Impacts*** with a ***Clear, Consistent and Coordinated*** strategy. The triple gem of India's effective climate diplomacy discourse since 2014 includes the International Solar Alliance (ISA), launched in 2015; the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), launched at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit; and the Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA), one of the priorities under India's G20 Presidency, announced during the G20 New Delhi summit, September 2023. This indigenous policy approach signifies specific insights from the recent rise of resilience policy into general debates surrounding policy transfer versus policy mobility in international policy.

In the above context, the present study investigates an evolving approach from an Indian diplomacy perspective in addressing global climate concerns leading the way for the global south. The study makes cross-sectional analysis to understand climate sustainability and resilience configuration in India's resilience policy framework. It draws on the notion of a multi-level approach by using the resilience policy matrix. By using secondary data sources, the study looks into the compatibility outlook of ISA-CDRI-GBA in epitomizing India''s role as a catalytic platform to act as a robust repository of knowledge to meet inclusive climate action imperatives in pursuit of strategic objectives in Indian climate diplomacy.

(Virtual) Spatial and Temporal Dynamics and Policy Transfer: Case of Small-Scale Entrepreneurial Clusters situated at peri-urban areas in India

Sovan Saha (National Institute of Technology, Rourkela)

Basudatta Sarkar (National Institute of Technology Rourkela)

The importance of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in creating livelihood opportunities and fostering socio-economic development is significant, especially in developing economies. Micro and Small enterprises contribute substantially in stirring socio-economic growth in India.

However, enterprises do not run in isolation. Their growth enormously depends on ties with other firms and individuals which include interaction, knowledge sharing, access to resources and other factors, together forming an entrepreneurial cluster, where all those entities work collectively towards an economic goal. Thus, entrepreneurial clusters have gained increasing significance as potential drivers of growth in recent years.

Existing Cluster Development policies include soft interventions such as technical assistance, capacity building, market development etc. and hard interventions such as common facility center, R&D center etc. Policies also include credit support, infrastructure development, need based support etc. But the entrepreneurial process solely doesn't depend on these interventions.

Entrepreneurial networks play a central role in nurturing innovation, accessing resources and mitigating uncertainty. The socio-cultural and socio-economic background of the entrepreneurs, various characters of the cluster and the embeddedness of the firms into that influence the evolution of enterprises. Intensity of

diversification of enterprises and reciprocity influence indirectly yet significantly the growth trends of a cluster.

However, it has been observed that cluster development policies have disproportionately focused on direct determinants of growth. Hence, the present research has identified following research questions – (i) How do locational circumstances regulate the spatial and temporal determinants? (ii) How do spatial and temporal context contribute in establishing healthy and strong enterprises?

The study compares locational dynamics of two clusters, in two different peri-urban contexts in eastern India. The study has utilized data, collected through two key techniques systematic field survey and focus group survey.

Key findings indicate that various attributes like age of cluster, density and diversification of enterprises, land use, land value, local governance, natural setting, socio-cultural and socio-economic trends etc. influence the growth of clusters. In addition to that present exercise has attempted to identify (i) location specific forces, and (ii) spatial and temporal dynamics of gains and losses. Findings further indicate formulation of strategic vision and action plan based on the cluster specific diagnostic study instead of adopting an overarching cluster development policy, to aid effective socio-economic development.