

T16P01 / Audit, Control and Environmental Evaluation of Public Policies

Topic : T16 / Sustainable Development and Policy

Chair : YOMBO SEMBE Eugène Arnaud (African Institute for Development Policy)

Second Chair : Iftikhar Lodhi (Nazarbayev University)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

Sustainable development is one of the structuring matrix of political action in contemporary societies. It is a repository whose adoption at national and international levels is the result of ecological issues of the moment, which are articulated in a process of emergence of an "idea of ??the environment" that guides international representations to the conservation of natural resources of the planet to be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations. It justifies the idea of ??an eco-development which, since 1972, bears the fruits of modeling a relationship between man and his environment. The constraint of development and industrialization is now structured by the imperative of the protection and conservation of the environment, that places all states in the world in an equilibrium postulate. Therefore, the achievement of environmental and social impact assessments before, during and after became an essential and consubstantial condition for the implementation of public policies.

The aim of this panel is to focus on this new paradigm that represents the environmental evaluation and environmental audit in the implementation of public policies. Without spatio-temporal boundaries and regardless of the subject of analysis (marine and coastal areas, forest policies, public works, sports facilities, private foreign direct investments), proposals of articles or communications shall record the environmental triptych of "Control, Audit and Evaluation" in the agenda setting, decision-making processes, and implementation of national and international public policies and development projects, through the actors that conduct and intervene, their harmonious or conflictual relationships.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The concepts of environmental impact and environmental performance are recent categories and well-known ideas in both academic and professional milieu. They also became fundamental and core components of the sustainable development, since international arenas (UNDP and all other UN environmental agencies) are imposing them to states and multinational firms as a necessary conditions towards development. Currently, states, firms or companies are more and more aware about the necessity of addressing climate change or environmental obligations to assess their performance, but the tools used (audits and environmental indicators) still pose a number of challenges to be integrated and implemented. So, in which context do these instruments or tools in charge of measuring the environmental performance of public policies appear ? How do they operate ? This panel focuses on issues of environmental impact of public policies and tries to critically analyse the way both environmental Audit and environmental evaluation as well as environmental control are organized and monitored. It will try to answer this question from an analytical framework based on public policy approaches. We call for papers taking seriously into account the concepts and realities or practices of environmental performance , environmental impact and environmental audit in their studies of national and international public policies and development projects. An emphasis will be put on these concepts in a theoretical viewpoint and also in an empirical perspective to address the problems and difficulties they face in their implementation processes.

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Session 1

Thursday, June 29th 13:30 to 15:30 (Block B 4 - 5)

Evaluation of Environmental and Social Development Programs in the Conservation Soil of Mexico City

Lucia Almeida (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico)

The Conservation Soil of Mexico City (SC-CDMX) covers 57% of the territory and is the designated area for conservation due to the great amount of ecosystem services (ES) it provides. Urban, rural, forested and cultivated areas conform it.

The government of Mexico City has applied integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs) in the area. Examples are: the Funding Program in Support of the

Conservation and Restoration of the Ecosystems through Social Participation (PROFACE) and the Retribution for the Conservation of Environmental Services in the Ecological-Communal Reserves and Communal Areas of Ecological Conservation (PRCSA). These programs merge owners and users of the land in the development of the conservation activities, providing them with economic support in exchange. Our research question is: Are PROFACE and PRCSA being successful public policies in providing an improvement in environmental performance and social development?

An external quantitative and qualitative evaluation of both programs was done in order to identify the performance and limitations in environmental and social terms. We developed an analysis of land use change, a historical analysis of the programs and we performed

interviews and workshops with the beneficiaries and the technicians in charge of the program. Land use change was first evaluated in all of the Conservation Soil Mexico City using a multi-temporal cartographic comparison of 2008, 2010 and 2015 in the software IDRISI. For the specific analysis of PROFACE and PRCSA, parcels were chosen and the percentage of land use change was determined using GIS.

Referring to the conservation state, in case of PROFACE, the environmental performance has not improved given that the forest cover has not increased as expected. In PRCSA the forest cover has increased but a lower than expected rate. In relation to the involvement of the beneficiaries, we were able to observe that even though the resources are very limited, both programs represent the main source of income of the beneficiaries.

Mexico legally enforces the evaluation of social development programs but that is not the case for the ones related to environmental issues. Departing from a socioenvironmental perspective we were able to implement an evaluation that included both factors. This is the first time the programs of PROFACE and PRCSA are evaluated and will serve as the baseline for future evaluations and suggestions for improvement. Our work also addresses the complex interactions native to peri-urban areas in one of the largest cities in the world.

Key Words: public policy evaluation, integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs), environmental performance, sustainable development, land use change.

Monitoring energy transformations at the regional level - Enhancing the information basis for regional strategies

Ralf Schuele (Wuppertal Institute)

In Germany, municipalities are faced with the demanding task to contribute to the German “Energiewende” by increasing the share of renewable energies and energy efficiency by 2050. Despite a comparatively high level of CO₂-emissions from the region’s energy-intensive industry, even cities in the Ruhr area have voluntarily committed to ambitious reduction targets in line with the national levels. Furthermore, many of these cities have

set up climate action plans to deal with the local dimensions of energy transformations.

In order to monitor the state and the progress of energy transformations at regional level, however, neither top-down CO₂-monitoring approaches (e.g. CO₂-inventories) nor elaborated bottom-up evaluation methodologies of policy programmes in the energy sector are sufficient. In addition to these approaches, more comprehensive monitoring schemes are demanded that do not only assess single emission or energy indicators but adequately reflect path dependencies and specific socio-economic dynamics of cities and regions under investigation.

Thus, the paper will start with a review of existing monitoring schemes, thereby identifying the main components of such a comprehensive transformation monitoring system: Twelve qualitative and quantitative indicators aim at qualifying the state of on-going, regional energy transitions. In a second step, we will apply our comprehensive monitoring system to the specific dynamics and structures of the Ruhr area:

- The Ruhr area is Germany's biggest industrial agglomeration, inhabiting 5 Million people and characterised by polycentricity.
- For decades now, the entire region is experiencing a continuous and enormous economic structural change caused and accompanied by an economic downturn, which shrank the industrial core of the Ruhr area. Thus, a close link between sectoral energy policies and structural policies aiming at the regional industry and business sector is particularly important.
- The Ruhr area is still characterised by coal-based power plants, which are surrounded by energy-intensive industrial plants (e.g.) benefiting from an integrated economy (Verbundwirtschaft). The resulting path-dependencies complicate a gradual transformation of the region's energy infrastructures.
- Municipalities in the Ruhr area grapple with a high level of public debt and, as a result, tight budgets and limited capacities to manage the 'Energiewende'

Based on our monitoring of the 'energy transformation of the Ruhr area, we will conclude with recommendations regarding the improvement of the regional energy strategy on the one hand and a critical review and enhancement of our monitoring scheme on the other hand.

A more comprehensive approach of an energy transformation monitoring would enhance the information basis of regional stakeholders and international investors, and would support the design of forward-looking energy policies and strategies.

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Political Economic Determinants of Petroleum Subsidies

Iftikhar Lodhi (Nazarbayev University)

Why do countries subsidise fossil fuel? What determines the level of petroleum subsidies? This article identifies structural, political, and economic determinants of fuel subsidies using a panel dataset (N=60, T=20). The findings suggest that regime type (democracy or autocracy) has no explanatory power controlling for resource endowments and development level. Similarly, party ideology (left or right) has no explanatory power when it comes to petroleum subsidies. I argue that the theory of veto players has more explanatory power for policy change than simplistic notions of regime type and party ideology. Furthermore, administrative capacity and quality of bureaucracy of the state plays a significant role in explaining the presence of petroleum subsidies controlling for other factors. The results also show that international institutions and globalisation play an important role in reducing or phasing out subsidies and encouraging countries to tax petroleum appropriately.

Evolution of the ASEAN Way: Approach to Regional Environmental Governance and its Effectiveness

Maggie Ka Ka Lee (University of Wisconsin)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) possesses a burgeoning identity as more developed member states such as Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia take on leadership roles in defining local and regional regulations. While the conglomeration of nations in the region are organized in a similar fashion to that of the European Union, the environmental policies of the two regions are drastically different in applicability and enforcement. Recently, ASEAN sprung into prominence as foreign and local investment help develop these nations, enabling the region to successfully claim a seat in the congregation of significant economic powers in the Asia Pacific region. This effect is even more amplified as the economy of some of the more developed nations in

Asia, such as Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong and China, are seeing slower growth. How is the ASEAN contributing to environmental preservation as an ecologically significant region? Where does the ASEAN currently stand in terms of regulatory stringency and legal system framework? How is the ASEAN enforcing policies created for environmental protection?

Keywords: ASEAN, environmental governance, regulatory, enforcement, effectiveness, regional governance