Challenges for environmental governance: policy issue interdependencies might not lead to collaboration

SND-ID: 2021-312-1. **Version**: 1. **DOI**: https://doi.org/10.5878/jk9y-rb40

Download data

actor_attributes.txt *(354 bytes)*

actor_issue_ties.txt *(1.13 KB)*

counteracting_policy_issue_network.csv *(528 bytes)*

reinforcing_policy_issue_network.csv *(528 bytes)*

social_network.txt *(2.43 KB)*

Associated documentation

Appendices.docx *(39.34 KB)*

README_data.pdf *(17.32 KB)*

Download all files

2021-312-1-1.zip *(~61.6 KB)*

Citation

Hedlund, J. (2022) Challenges for environmental governance: policy issue interdependencies might not lead to collaboration (Version 1) [Data set]. Stockholm University. Available at: https://doi.org/10.5878/jk9y-rb40

Creator/Principal investigator(s)

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Description

Policy actors address complex environmental problems by engaging in multiple and often interdependent policy issues. Policy issue interdependencies imply that efforts by actors to address separate policy issues can either reinforce ('win-win') or counteract ('trade-off') each other. Thus, if interdependent issues are managed in isolation instead of being coordinated, the most effective and well-balanced solution to the underlying problem might never be realised. This study asks if reinforcing and counteracting interdependencies have different impacts on perception and collaboration. Our empirical study of collaborative water governance in the Norrström basin, Sweden, shows that policy actors often avoid collaborating when the policy issues exhibit reinforcing interdependencies. Our evidence indicates a perceived infeasibility of acting on reinforcing interdependencies. We also find that actors do not consider counteracting interdependencies ('trade-offs') at all when they engage in collaboration. Further, even though actors were aware of counteracting and reinforcing interdependencies, our analyses suggest they might be less aware of the former. These findings illustrate that actors either avoid each other due to policy issue interdependencies or, at best, ignore existing interdependencies when engaging in collaboration. Our study highlights the importance of problem perception in accomplishing integrated solutions to

complex environmental problems, and of how understandings of different types of interdependencies shape collaboration in environmental governance.

This dataset consists of social network analysis data and policy issue network data. Network data consists of nodes (rows and columns) and links (matrix cells). In the social network data, rows and columns represent actors and matrix cells their collaboration. 1 indicates collaboration, 0 indicates no collaboration. In the policy issue network data, rows and columns represent policy issues, and matrix cells their reinforcing or counteracting interdependencies. Two different policy issue networks (one reinforcing and one counteracting) are represented. The actor-issue file reports the engagement of an actor in a given issue, i.e. that the actor works with that specific issue. The data also includes an actor attribute file, where each row represents the same actor as in the social network data and each column a specific attribute that might characterise the actor (1-yes,0-no). The data files are compatible with the free software MpNet (http://www.melnet.org.au/pnet), and for running Exponential Random Graph Models.

For more information see: Hedlund, J., Nohrstedt, D., Morrison, T. et al. Challenges for environmental governance: policy issue interdependencies might not lead to collaboration. Sustain Sci (2022). DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-022-01145-8

Data contains personal data

No

Language

English

Unit of analysis

Individual

Population

Policy actors

Time Method

Cross-section

Sampling procedure

Probability: Simple random

Time period(s) investigated

2017 – 2020

Data format / data structure

Numeric

Data collection 1

- Mode of collection: Self-administered questionnaire: web based
- Description of the mode of collection: Online survey
- Source of the data: Population group

Geographic spread

Geographic location: Sweden, Stockholm County, Västmanland County

Geographic description: Norrström drainage basin

Responsible department/unit

Department of Zoology

Research area

Energy and natural resources (CESSDA Topic Classification)

Environment and conservation (CESSDA Topic Classification)

Natural landscapes (CESSDA Topic Classification)

Government, political systems and organisations (CESSDA Topic Classification)

Environmental sciences (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Public administration studies (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Social sciences interdisciplinary (Standard för svensk indelning av forskningsämnen 2011)

Keywords

Administrative units, Environmental governance, Collaborative governance, Network analysis, Water governance

Publications

Hedlund, J., Nohrstedt, D., Morrison, T. et al. Challenges for environmental governance: policy issue interdependencies might not lead to collaboration. Sustain Sci (2022).
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-022-01145-8

Accessibility level

Access to data through SND
Data are freely accessible

Use of data

Things to consider when using data shared through SND

License

Versions

Version 1. 2022-06-20

Download metadata

DataCite

DDI 2.5

DDI 3.3

DCAT-AP-SE 2.0

JSON-LD

PDF

Citation (CSL)

File overview (CSV)

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