Modelling and Evaluation of Political Processes

Christian Henning, University of Kiel

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How studying political decision-making processes?

\[
\gamma^* = \text{Max } S(z) \text{ s.t. } F(\gamma)
\]
How studying political decision-making processes?

In a democracy policy choice is collective choice

- Policy [γ*]
- Policy Outcome [Z]
- Outcome Evaluation W

\[ γ^* = φ(γ_g), \quad γ_g = \text{Max } S^g(z) \text{ s.t. } F^g(γ) \]

Policy Choice = Political Power + Political Incentives + Political Knowledge

U^g(γ) = \text{Max } S^g(z) \text{ s.t. } z = F^g(γ)
How studying political decision-making processes?

- Political Knowledge
- Political Incentives
- Political Power

- Policy beliefs
- Voter behavior
- Constitutional rules
- Lobbying
How studying political decision-making processes?

Political Participation
- Voting
- Lobbying
- Communication

Political support Function
Policy beliefs

Legislative Bargaining
Endogenous Policy preferences
Policy Output
Constitutional Rules

Welfare:
- income
- poverty
- environment

Policy Outcome
Economic response
Political Diagnosis

- Identify Key Organizations
  - Governmental Institutions
  - Stakeholder Organization
  - Identify Policy Positions
  - Political power
- Model final policy choice
- Identify Political Performance Gaps
Presentation of Michael Johnson

- Identify Key Organizations
  - Governmental Institutions
  - Stakeholder Organization
  - Identify Policy Positions
  - Political power
Optimal Policy

- Ghana
- Senegal
- Uganda

PAE, PNE, total

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Evaluating political processes
Optimal Policy

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Political Power
Total Policy Performance GAPS

- original
- knowledge
- incentive

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Evaluating political processes
No incentive gaps, thus constitutional reforms don’t work
No incentive gaps, thus constitutional reforms don’t work
How to reduce Knowledge Gaps?

- **Policy diagnosis:**
  - Large knowledge gaps.

- **Policy therapy:**
  Focusing on reducing Knowledge gaps:
  - Increase **evidence-based political processes** via high research or donor participation?
  - increase **participatory policy processes** exploiting *wisdom of the crowd effects* via stakeholder participation
  - Designing efficient **communication policy learning processes**
  - Designing efficient **observational policy learning processes**
Reducing knowledge gaps via higher involvement of non-governmental organizations
Evidence-based and participatory policy processes a way to success?
Whither participation?

Effective communication learning:
- Effective communication between science and political practitioners via *Interactive workshop*
- Political Knowledge needs to be created

Effective observational learning:
- Effective monitoring and evaluation systems
- PSM or generalized Matching works even when observations are noisy!
Limits of policy learning? Incentive and knowledge gaps revisited

The role of voter in the policy process

- Elected politicians have limited incentives to learn
- Interest groups focus on welfare of their clientele: incentives to learn
Bias in Voting behavior and Government performance

Ideological voting $Z_I$
- Group specific in general
- BIAS! capture
- BIAS! low accountability
- BIAS! inefficient policies

Retrospective voting $Z_R$
- With time gaps
- Without time gaps
- BIAS! efficient policies

Policy voting $Z_P$
- Unbiased policy beliefs
- Biased policy beliefs
- BIAS! inefficient policies
Political decision-making

Political diagnosis: Performance GAPS in Ghana

Political Therapy

Non-policy Voting

Voting components over countries

- Ghana
- Uganda
- Senegal

Policy
Non-policy
Retro

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Evaluating political processes
Capture Ghana

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Evaluating political processes
Capture Senegal

- Poor (335)
- Rich (332)
- Rural (379)
- Urban (288)
- Women (353)
- Men (314)
- Less educated (427)
- Well educated (240)
- ≠ Dakar (487)
- Dakar (180)
- ≠ Wolof (412)
- Wolof (255)
- Class 1 (497)
- Class 2 (170)

Capture Index

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Capture Uganda

Rural (289)
Women (155)
Young (238)
less educated (175)
Other (54)
Poor (178)
Other (311)
Other (241)
Other (258)
Other (291)
Class 2 (159)

Capture Index

Rural (289) Urban (36)
Women (155) Men (170)
Young (238) Old (87)
less educated (175) well educated (150)
Other (54) Christian (271)
Poor (178) Rich (147)
Other (311) Kampala (14)
Other (241) North (83)
Other (258) Muganda (67)
Other (291) Munyankole (34)
Class 2 (159) Class 1 (166)

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Policy Voting Ghana

- Cash/food crops
- Tax/protection
- Agrar/industry
- tp/market access
- Public goods

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Political weight of Ghanaian Voters vis-a-vis interest groups

- Public goods
- Agrar/industry
- tp/market access
- Cash/food crops
- Tax/protection

Evaluating political processes

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Political weight of Ugandan Voters vis-a-vis interest groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interest Group</th>
<th>Voter Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFPs/MA</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash for Foodcrop</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax for Protection</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Political weight of Senegalese Voters vis-a-vis interest groups

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Relative political weight of stakeholders in Ghana

- Donor
- iNGO
- Research
- AG_ind
- Farmer
- Industry

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Relative political weight of stakeholders in Uganda
Relative political weight of stakeholders in Uganda
Limits of policy learning: Political feasibility

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Limits of policy learning? Lobbying is crucial!

![Bar chart showing performance gaps in different domains with and without lobbying (IG).](chart.png)
Thank You for your attention!

More about the PEBAP Projekt: https://pebap.agrarpol.uni-kiel.de/