Overview of policymaking and policy analysis approach, ASSET project

Workshop on policy for agroecology transition in South-East Asia
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Policies supporting agroecology in ASEAN countries

1. Analyzing policy supporting agroecology: the policy cycle perspective
   Framework for analyzing the public policy cycle: what elements should be considered when analyzing policies to support agroecology?

2. Analyzing policies supporting agroecology and safe food systems: ASSET’s methodology
   A two-pronged approach:
   • Bottom-up: feed the policymaking process with evidences
   • Top down: support the formulation and improve the implementation process
Analyzing policy supporting agroecology

1. Problem definition
   - How is the issue framed?
   - Does it show evidence of the importance of agroecology as an alternative to conventional systems?
   - What are the “reason why” it is important for policy makers to consider agroecology?

2. Agenda setting
   - What is the process to develop the policy formulation:
     - Which actors (researchers, civil servants, non-state organizations, etc.) are mobilized to enter the political agenda?
     - In which arenas was it discussed and debated?
     - How was it included in the decision-making process of the government?
     - By which process was it disseminated (event, social media..) and debated?

3. Policy formulation & decision
   - What elements / instruments are mobilized in the operational policy and action plan?
   - What alternatives were considered?
   - How were the solutions selected?
   - How does it connect with other policies?

4. Policy implementation
   - Analyze the gap between the decisions made by the policy-makers and the way they are being implemented on the field.
   - Identify the conditions for the successful application of the policies.

5. Policy evaluation
   - Analyze the process of policy evaluation:
     - How does it affect the outcomes and impacts of the public policy: Have the objectives of the policy been achieved? Indicators of success?
     - Beyond that, has the problem identified (unsustainable agriculture) been resolved? Bias or unexpected outcomes?
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Bias or unexpected outcomes?
ASSET’s methodology

**Bottom-up**

1. **Mapping local policy initiatives**
2. **Analysing policy instruments designed to achieve the policy objectives (incentives, regulations...)**
3. **Highlighting observed outcomes and impacts and describing the main operational challenges**
4. **Synthesizing the results to feed the national and ASEAN policy dialogue (lesson learned, knowledge sharing...)**

**Top-down**

1. **Stocktaking national policies supporting agroecology: list and description of policies (objectives, intentions of change...)**
2. **Analysing the institutionalisation (conception of agroecology, dimensions considered, policies and action plans deployed)**
3. **Identifying the main policy gaps (issues) and challenges (i.e. implementation, sector integration...)**
4. **Synthesizing the results to feed the ASEAN policy dialogue (lesson learned, knowledge sharing...)**