Public Policies and Governance in southern Africa

How can we support the drafting and implementation of new public policies in southern Africa, while taking account of the restructuring of local and international governance bodies and instruments?

When it comes to rural development and natural resource management, a clearer understanding of the changes in public action, the connections between the different levels on which decisions are made, the multiplicity of organizations and players (public and private), and the historical and cultural links between institutional frameworks, modes of governance and the instruments associated with them should enable a more effective response to the concerns voiced by our local and global partners. The aim is also to engage discussion and contribute to the debate on governance issues.

Partners

Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Department of Agricultural Economics; Post-Graduate School of Agriculture and Rural Development; Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy in Africa; Political Science Department Center for the Study of Governance Innovations (GOVİNN).

CIRAD > Joint Research Units:

ART-DEV, G-EAU, MOISA, INNOVATION.

Beneficiaries

Political decision-makers, local authorities and non-governmental players have a clearer understanding of the processes through which more equitable, integrated and sustainable public policies are drafted and implemented. They have access to analysis tools and methods for designing and organizing participatory management of natural resources.

Students, future management staff and researchers can build their skills in the whole range of disciplines and fields of use in drafting public policy as regards the management and sustainable use of resources.

Scientific partners can build their research capacity and boost their international reputation.

Associates

In southern Africa > Government and national and provincial ministries (South African Presidency; Department of Water Affairs; Provincial Department of Agriculture of the Western Cape; Provincial Department of Agriculture, Limpopo), regional platforms (FANRPAN - Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources Poverty Analysis Network); national and international research centres (IWMI - International Water Management Institute; IWEGA, - International Center for Water Economics and Governance in Africa); local NGOs (AWARD - Association for Water and Rural Development).

Global and in France > Associations of members (International Land Coalition; International Consortium for Comparative Water and Development Studies); international organizations (NEPAD); numerous research centres.
Expertise and technical skills

- Public policy support (law, economics, land tenure, environmental and sectorial policies, etc.), analyses of new economic instruments, and of participatory local management schemes.

- Support of local, national and global decision-makers and players, including through multi-player and multi-level structures, and by strengthening stakeholders’ associations (producers’ organizations, etc), with a view to drafting fairer, better integrated, sustainable public policies.

- Project identification, feasibility studies, management and assessments (ex-ante, mid-term and ex-post).

Some current projects

Large-scale land transaction monitoring •
Land Matrix, 2012-…, multiple funding sources, € 1M

Land Matrix is an independent global initiative aimed at monitoring large-scale land transactions. The partner organizations are particularly interested in the decision-making processes within those transactions. Land Matrix provides tools that foster greater civic involvement in those processes, notably by making information available that is easily understood by all. By promoting transparency and striving to make decision-makers accountable for their decisions, the aim is to improve decision-making processes relating to land resources and their use.

www.landmatrix.org
Partners: CDE, CIRAD, GIGA, GIZ, ILC.

Tools for integrated natural resources management in Africa •
AfroMaison, 2011-2014, European Commission, € 4M

The aim of AfroMaison is to help make the integrated natural resource management concept operational by building a toolbox and a multi-disciplinary analysis framework in order to put it into practice. The idea is to go beyond a mere juxtaposition of the available management tools: those relating to functioning and landscape planning (erosion control, desertification, deforestation and water resource degradation), to socio-economic development conditions, to local knowledge and practices, to the strengthening of institutions, etc. Several participatory natural resource management options are suggested, all based on a prior study of the challenges and opportunities and anchored in the local traditions and culture.

www.afromaison.net