

Setting agendas and developing and implementing policies

Summary sheet

		Factors	Predictions	Interventions
Setting agendas	Problems stream	<p>Attention to problems may be driven by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing events Change in an indicator Feedback (about a problem) from the operation of current programs <p>A condition gets defined as a problem for which government action is an appropriate remedy by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparing current conditions with values concerning more ideal states of affairs Comparing performance with that of other countries Putting the subject in one category or another (framing) 	<p>Government agenda includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governmental agenda (i.e., list of subjects getting attention) Decision agenda (i.e., list of subjects within a governmental agenda that are up for active decision) 	<p>Pick an achievable goal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If an issue isn't on the agenda, aim to get it onto the governmental agenda If an issue is on the governmental agenda, aim to push it onto the decision agenda
	Policies stream	<p>Generation of policy proposals can come about from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diffusion of ideas in a policy area ('natural selection') Feedback (about a policy) from the operation of existing policies Communication/persuasion <p>Policies that survive to the state of serious consideration are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technically feasible Fit with dominant values and current national mood Acceptable given anticipation of future constraints (e.g., budget workability, political support/opposition) 	<p>Governmental agenda (or the opening of a policy window) is influenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Problems or politics Visible participants 	<p>If your goal is to get an issue onto the governmental agenda (or, said another way, to open a policy window)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervene in the problems stream by capitalizing upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing event Change in an indicator Feedback about a problem
	Politics stream	<p>Political events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swings in national mood Changes in the balance of organized forces Events within government <p>Political agenda items that meet the following criteria are more likely to rise to agenda prominence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congruent with national mood Enjoy interest group support or lack organized opposition Fit orientations of current governing party or prevailing legislative coalitions 	<p>Decision agenda is influenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupling of all three 'streams' (problems, policies and politics) into a single package, usually by a policy entrepreneur 	<p>Or intervene in the politics streams by taking advantage of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swings in national mood Changes in the balance of organized forces Events within government
	Participants	<p>Visible participants (engaged with problems and politics)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime minister, premiers or presidents Ministers or high-level appointees Opposition leaders Interest group leaders Journalists <p>Hidden participants (engaged with policies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic specialists Civil servants Political staff of elected officials Analysts <p>Policy entrepreneurs</p>		<p>If your goal is to get an issue onto the decision agenda (or, said another way, to couple all three 'streams' - problems, policies, and politics - into a single package)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intervene in the problems and politics stream (see above) Intervene in the policies stream by capitalizing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diffusion of ideas Feedback about a policy Communication/persuasion Find a policy entrepreneur who can couple the three streams together

		Factors	Predictions	Interventions
Developing policies	Institutions	<p>Government structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involves one or both levels within a federation (unitary states, federal states with layer cake or marble cake federalism) • Number of veto points <p>Policy legacies that affect government elites, interest groups and mass publics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created resource and incentive effects, including administrative capacities for government elites, spoils, organizing niches, financing and access to authority for interests, and lock-in effects for mass publics • Created interpretive effects, including policy learning for government elites and interest groups and visibility and traceability for mass publics <p>Policy networks can be state-directed, closed or pluralist (with the latter including clientele pluralist networks and pressure pluralist networks)</p>	<p>Policy can be described in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance, financial and delivery arrangements, or the programs, services and technologies, that would be changed • Legal, economic, voluntary instruments, and information and education instruments that would be used • Where the policy would need to be developed <p>Policy is more likely to be developed at a particular time if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions ('rules of the game') allow it to pass easily <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Governing party supports it, it involves the one level within a federation where the party governs (or it involves a unitary state), and it faces no veto points ○ Policy legacies have led to supportive resource and incentive effects (e.g., administrative capacities) and interpretive effects (e.g., learning to avoid highly visible and traceable changes) ○ A group involved in a clientele pluralist network supports it • Interests with influence/power support it (because of concentrated benefits) or don't actively oppose it (because of diffuse costs) • Ideas are aligned with it (because knowledge/beliefs about 'what is' and values/mass opinion about 'what ought to be' are aligned) • External factors are a trigger to action 	<p>Pick an achievable goal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an issue is on the decision agenda, aim to influencing the specifics of the policy (i.e., the type of policy and/or the type of policy instrument) and where the policy will be developed to address the issue <p>If your goal is to influence the specifics of the policy or where it will be developed, intervene by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing up the 3I+E factors that are in your favour • Downplaying the importance of the factors that aren't • Shifting where the policy is developed to where you face the greatest chance of success
	Interests	<p>Societal interest groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen groups, patient groups, professional groups, non-governmental organizations, and industry groups <p>Other interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected officials, civil servants, researchers, and policy entrepreneurs <p>All interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can have direct or indirect sources of power • Face benefits or costs, which may be concentrated or diffuse 		
	Ideas	<p>Knowledge/beliefs about 'what is' can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research evidence • Other types of information • Tacit knowledge <p>Values/mass opinion about 'what ought to be' can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elite opinion • Informed mass opinion following deliberation • Mass opinion 		
	External factors	<p>External factors can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political change (e.g., election of a new governing party, or election of a new leader of a political party, with a clear mandate) • Economic change (e.g., recession) • Technological change • Court decision • Release of major reports • A new disease • Media coverage • International organizations (e.g., WHO and the UN) • International donors (e.g., the World Bank and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) 		

		Factors	Predictions	Interventions
Implementing policies	Institutions	<p>Government structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail <p>Policy legacies that affect government elites, interest groups and mass publics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail <p>Policy networks can be state-directed, closed or pluralist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail 	<p>Approach to policy implementation can be described in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance, financial and delivery arrangements that would be changed, or implementation strategies that would be used • Legal, economic, voluntary instruments, and information and education instruments that would be used • Where the responsibility for policy implementation can be delegated to 	<p>Pick an achievable goal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a policy has been selected, aim to influence policy implementation (i.e., the approach used to support or enforce policy implementation and/or the type of policy instrument) and where the responsibility for policy implementation is delegated to <p>If your goal is to influence policy implementation or where the responsibility for policy implementation will be delegated to, intervene by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing up the 3I+E factors that are in your favour • Downplaying the importance of the factors that aren't • Shifting responsibility for policy implementation to where you face the greatest change of success
	Interests	<p>Interests include many types of groups, can have direct or indirect sources of power, and face benefits or costs, which may be concentrated or diffuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail 		
	Ideas	<p>Knowledge/beliefs about 'what is'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail <p>Values/mass opinion about 'what ought to be'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail 		
	External factors	<p>External factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above for more detail 	<p>Approach to policy implementation is more likely to be selected at a particular time if 3I+E are aligned (as above)</p>	

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