EPA1121 Policy Analysis of Multi-actor systems

24-06-2009. 09.00-12.00, CiTG 4.98/4.99
No electronic devices are allowed!

Assignment 1 Policy analytic styles (15 points: 5, 2, 2, 6)
Hoogerwerf (1998) drew inspiration from the phases model by Hogwood and Gunn (1984) for his manual with nine sequential steps for designing policies. Geurts and Vennix (1989) argued that policy design can be seen as a process of problem solving; a kind of cycle with recurring activities. Clearly there are some basic similarities in all models above; there are a number of distinguishable common activities either depicted as sequential or iterative, but always supposed to lead to better informed decisions.

    (a) Describe the linear model of policy making by naming and describing the sequence of steps/activities.
    (b) Give two arguments why the linear model best fits with Mayer's (2004) rational style.
    (c) Give two arguments why the linear model does not fit well to Mayer's (2004) process style
    (d) (d1)Take an example of a complex (TPM) issue in your home country and in your area of expertise and (d2) describe how you as an analyst would approach this issue; (d3) to which of Mayer's (2004) analytical styles would you classify your approach and why? (d4)And what typical analytical activities or methods fitting to this preferred style would you undertake? Max 150 words!

Assignment 2 Dilemmas (15 points: 4, 4, 4, 3)
An important aspect of policy decisions in multi-actor systems is that they create dilemmas.

    (a) Describe the concept of "dilemma" in 2-3 lines. Then provide a small example that illustrates the concept in no more than 70 words.
    (b) Describe <u>how</u> the results of your partial analyses (objectives tree, system diagram, actor table, scenario excercise etc.) are interlinked.
    (c) Explain which elements of your partial analyses (e.g. a particular column in the actor table) provide the information you need to obtain insight in the dilemma(s) that your client has to deal with?
    (d) Explain why it is useful to identify and understand dilemmas. Do this by showing that dilemmas play an important role in the advice that you will give to your client.

Assignment 3 Uncertainty (25 points: 10, 10, 5)

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17 juni 2009

Russian harbors move up

The Russian harbors Novorossiysk, Primorsk and St. Petersburg are the most noticeable arrivals in the league of biggest European harbors by Rotterdam Port Statistics.
Novorossiysk is the sixth European port with a transhipment of over 81 milion tonnes, Primorsk ranks eight with 75. Both are specialized in crude oil and oil products targeted for Rotterdam. St. Petersburg, raking 11th with 60 million tonnes is gaining ground as container terminal for feeder traffic from and to Rotterdam.

Source Nieuwsblad Transport

The Port of Rotterdam considers strategic investments in the three Russian harbors mentioned in the above article. Suppose you are hired as a consultant to advise the CEO of Port of Rotterdam on this issue.
   (a) Mention three methods that you would have available to assess the future development of these harbor's growth. Which of the three would you prefer in this case and why?
   (b) Rotterdam Port Authority wants to assess the risks of eventual financial investments in Russian harbors. They want you to design 'Shell' or contextual scenarios. Please design a scenariologic for some contextual scenarios on the development of the Russian harbors. Show how you determined the axes for your scenariologic.
   (c) Considering the above scenariologic and the to be expected scenarios what would your advise to the CEO be?

Assignment 4 Multi-actor systems (25: 6, 3, 3, 8, 5)
Distinguishing actors that are possibly involved in the problem and its solution is an iterative process. But one has to start somewhere? There are various methods that complement each other and that help analysts to make a first selection of actors that are possibly involved.
   (a) Mention three methods for actor identification, and tell how they work.
   (b) Specify the difference between a problem perception and the objectives of an actor.
   (c) Specify the difference between (inter-)dependency and the dedication of actors.
   (d) Bryson (2004) uses a power/interest grid for structuring actor/stakeholder networks. Give an example of such a grid filled in by an example of a conflictuous issue in your home country
   (e) Point out the drawbacks or limitations (at least three) of such (Bryson-like) stakeholder mapping techniques.

Assignment 5 Modeling (10: 4, 6)
Consider the following situation:
The city of Mumbai (India)) considers the construction of an underground Metro system for public transport. This multi billion rupee project should relief its congestion problem and lead to huge improvements of the air quality. As could be expected the debates are rising high, both in the State and City councils and on the streets of Mumbai. Do the advantages outnumber the disadvantages; are the expenditures justified? What are the gains? Where should the rail lines and stations be located. How much hindrance of the construction works can be expected? Can the city be reached during construction? You are asked by the local authorities to assist and support the decision making process using some mathematical modeling techniques.
   (a) Mention two strong points and two disadvantages of mathematical models as a support tool for policy making.
   (b) Select two different research questions (inherently) present in this example that seem fit for mathematical modeling. Which modeling technique seems best fit for each of these questions and why do you prefer this specific mathematical modeling technique.

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