

**Major Groups and Stakeholders
Asia Pacific Meeting 2012
Kathmandu, Nepal
22-23 November, 2012**

1

Session 6: International Environmental Governance:
*How does better participation lead to effective and more
legitimate environmental governance?*

**SIMON HOIBERG OLSEN
POLICY RESEARCHER
GOVERNANCE AND CAPACITY GROUP
INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL
STRATEGIES (IGES)**

From government to governance

2

- The recent Rio+20 Summit in the eyes of several observers introduced a new era of intergovernmental deliberations and governance (Confino 2012);

What kind of framework could be broad enough to encompass all relevant interest groups and also unite them around the common idea and overarching goal ?

Future CSO framework should “...base on a simple and clear overarching framework, which can provide the space for each sector’s contribution to the larger sustainable development vision” (ASEF 2012).

Outline

3

1. Some considerations about environmental governance
2. What is the relation between participation, legitimacy and effectiveness?
3. Updating CSO framework for more effective and legitimate participation in IEG? (Para 88 on stakeholder involvement in IEG)
 1. Oxfam's Donut as model for holistic participation

What constitutes good governance

4

- Elements of good environmental governance: The rule of law, accountability and transparency, **participation**, **effectiveness** and efficiency (Arts et al 2010).
- The future of IEG/IFSD will have more space for other governance actors than only governments.
 - Participation will be key for governance, implementation, ownership etc.
 - How to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of civil society?

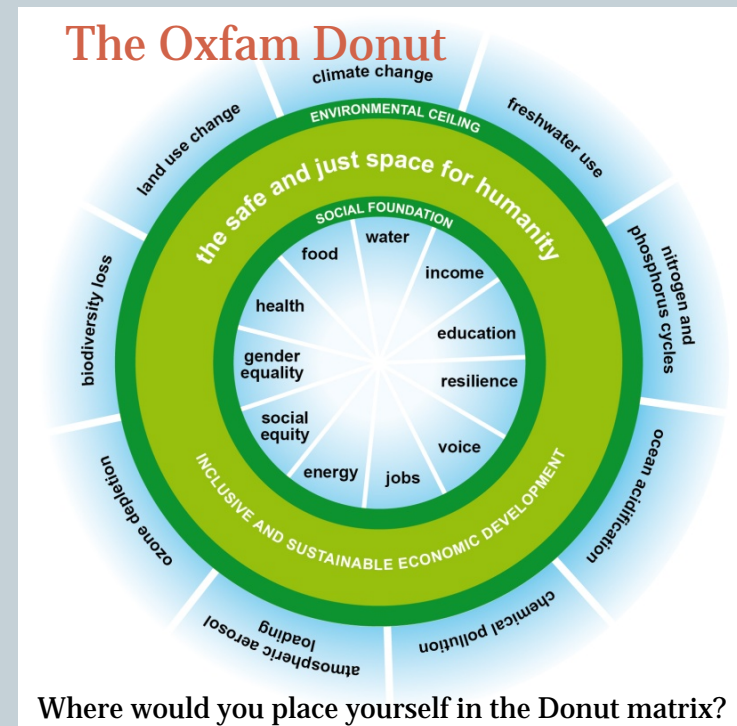
Legitimacy, effectiveness and participation

5

- Effectiveness of delivery of any mechanism determines its legitimacy;
- Literature distinguishes between input and output legitimacy
- Input legitimacy and output legitimacy can be recognised in the dichotomy of ‘governance by the people’ and ‘governance for the people’ (Hogel et al 2012 11).
- Assumption/hypothesis:
 - Effective, coherent and strategic participation increases legitimacy (output legitimacy),
 - Increased output legitimacy will benefit participation
- In other words: If we can make our contributions more effective, then it will enhance our options for participation and lead to better multi-stakeholder dimension in IEG.

What role for CSOs in governance post Rio+20

- Importance of access to information, decision making: Global Principle 10 convention?
 - Access, transparency, accountability
 - Freedom of expression/assembly
- Representativeness and expertise
 - Advisory function for governments, or
 - Co-decision?
 - Implementation, monitoring, reporting
- Need a framework for sustainability in which all groups can anchor their particular perspectives
- The Oxfam Donut as participation matrix:
 - Issue-based orientation (flexible instead of static 9 MGs)
 - If consistently used as reference point it could be easier to understand SD, and where we 'fit in' this matrix





Conclusion

8

- Is there a need to update current framework of participation to respond to new developments in IEG and IFSD?
 - Move from govern*ment* to gover*nance*?
- A donut framework requires that the message is tailored to the context and accountable to the negotiated issue;
- The Donut concept could over time improve systems thinking required to solve SD related challenges
- Could lead to more holistic decision making.
 - Help solve the problem of fragmented/silo decision making?
- But is it possible? Can you exemplify participation using a Donut Framework in your constituency?

Thank you!

olsen@iges.or.jp