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TNRC Learning Series

Targeting corruption in environmental crime & natural resource governance: Can Thinking & Working Politically help to unlock political will?



Professor Heather Marquette, University of Birmingham (*Presenter*)

Jeffrey Stark, DAI (*Discussant*)









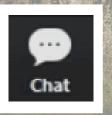




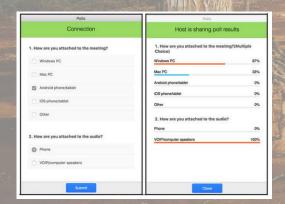
1. Pose questions at any time by clicking on the "Q&A" icon



"Like" questions to "upvote" them for the moderator and/or answer from your experience



2. Exchange thoughts with other participants via chat *Introduce yourself and share your own insights and ideas in the chat window*



3. Respond to polls as they are launched

Make your selections and remember to click "submit"!

POLL

Where are you based?

- a. Africa
- b. Asia
- c. Latin America and the Caribbean
- d. North America
- e. Europe
- f. Other











Targeting corruption in environmental crime & natural resource governance: Can Thinking & Working Politically help to unlock political will?



LEARNING QUESTIONS

- 1. What is 'political will' and why does it matter?
- 2. How can TWP help to unlock political will?
- 3. How can I integrate TWP into my day-to-day work?

COMMUNITIES



Heather Marquette

Professor of Development Politics University of Birmingham











POLL

How important do you think it is to integrate political thinking into your work?

- a. Not important
- **b. Somewhat important**
- c. Very important





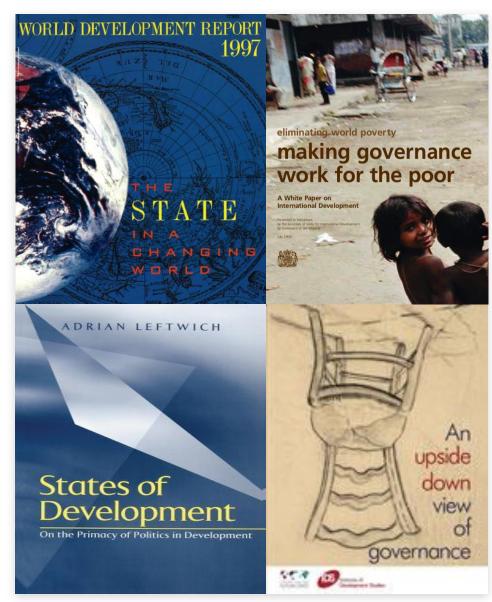






Why are we talking about 'thinking and working politically'?

- From late 1990s on, growing recognition in the sector of what Adrian Leftwich called the 'primacy of politics'
- A common message emerged from huge range of research and policy outputs:
 - "that politics and institutions are the crucial determinants of developmental outcomes ... they all draw our attention to the critical importance of agency: that is, to the players of the game and the choices and strategies they adopt, within or beyond the prevailing rules, as the key factors in promoting (or resisting) progressive change" (Laws and Leftwich 2012: 20&22)
- From this came the call to begin to 'think and work politically'



Why should we think and work politically?

Change is inherently political

Change involves renegotiation of power and resources. It creates winners and losers, so there will always be people or groups who want to keep the status quo, and those who will welcome change because they stand to gain from it.

Change is complex and often unpredictable

It is very hard to know with certainty how a given project or reform process will unfold at the outset because it will involve changes in behaviour, incentives and interactions.

TWP is a way to adjust the way we work to these fundamental propositions about the nature of development

What does it mean to think & work politically?

Three core principles

- 1. Strong political analysis, insight, and understanding
- 2. A detailed appreciation of, and response to, the local context
- Flexibility and adaptability in programme design and implementation

In plain English

- Don't just say 'there's a lack of political will'...unpack this!
- 2. 'Best fit,' rather than 'best practice'. Work with the grain, be ready to act, don't mess things up!
- 3. Don't get stuck on one course of action. Test, adapt, change... you may like your model in theory but kill it if it doesn't work in practice!

What is 'political will' and why does it matter?

Corruption — the elephant in the room, in the fight against environmental crime.

By Delfin Ganapin, WWF Governance Practice Lead



WWF Feb 7, 2019 · 4 min read



© Deng Jia / WWF

Just add political will — and proper investment

But more than anything else perhaps, the biggest challenge we face is the absence of political will.

Leaders gathering at the African Union summit this year can change this — by redoubling commitments to good governance, collaboration and sustainability, and by investing meaningfully in institutional capacity, civil society and practical action.

Without both political leadership *and* investment in tackling environmental crime and corruption, our efforts to ensure Africa's natural resources flourish and benefit its citizens and economies for the long-term will come to nought.

Unpacking the 'double black boxes' of political will and corruption

The black box of political will **OUTPUT** Succesful policy reform Effective implementation WILL PRESENT Establishment or maintenance of **INPUT** developmental **POLITICAL** institutions Reform efforts WILL Program design and delivery **Implementation OUTPUT** efforts Failed reform Failed implementation **WILL ABSENT** What is political Failure of Is it individual will and how does developmental or collective? it work? institutions Where does it Is it always come from? accepted? Sustainable? Can it be built or supported?

12TH JANUARY 2015

Corruption: unpacking the black box of political will

HEATHER MARQUETTE, CARYN PEIFFER



Image: An anti-corruption billboard in Zambia (Photo: Lars Ploughmann)

How can Thinking & Working Politically help to unlock political will?

INDIVIDUAL

Developmental leadership relies on **motivated individuals** with the values, interests and opportunity to influence change.

COLLECTIVE



Motivated people overcome barriers to cooperation and form **coalitions** with power, legitimacy and influence.

SOCIETAL



Coalitions' power and effectiveness partly hinges on their ability to contest and de-legitimise one set of ideas and legitimise an alternative set.

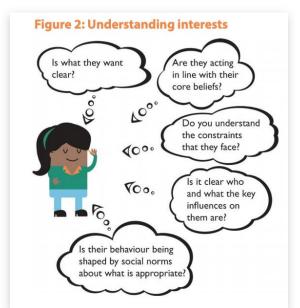


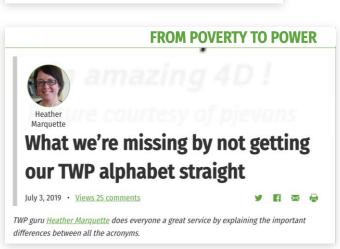
DISCUSSION NOTE:
THINKING AND WORKING
POLITICALLY AND STRENGTHENING
POLITICAL ECONOMY ANALYSIS IN
USAID BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMMING

May 2019

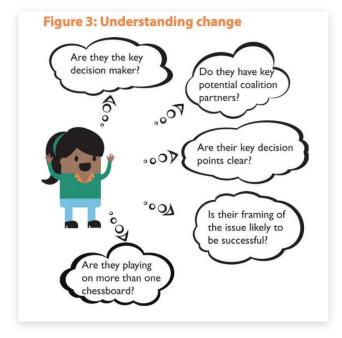
How can I integrate TWP into my day-to-day work?

- Political economy analysis (PEA)
- Problem-driven iterative adaptation (PDIA)
- Adaptive management (AM)



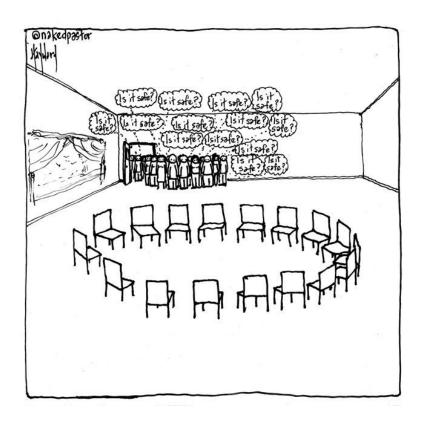






TWP health warnings!





Further Resources

Join the TWP Community of Practice: https://twpcommunity.org/ where you'll find many more resources

READING LIST

- The case for Thinking & Working Politically: The implications of 'doing development differently https://twpcommunity.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/the-case-for-thinking-and-working-politically.pdf
- What does the evidence tell us about 'thinking and working politically' in development assistance?
 https://www.cogitatiopress.com/politicsandgovernance/article/view/1904/1904
- Inside the black box of political will: 10 years of findings from the Developmental Leadership Program

https://www.dlprog.org/publications/research-papers/inside-the-black-box-of-political-will-10-years-of-findings-from-the-developmental-leadership-program

- Grappling with the 'real politics' of systemic corruption https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gove.12311
- Thinking politically about corruption as problem-solving https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/gove.12444
 - Everyday Political Analysis (EPA)

https://www.dlprog.org/publications/research-papers/everyday-political-analysis

- Thinking and working politically: Learning from practice https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.12439
- Thinking and working politically through applied political economy analysis https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/PEA2018.pdf
- Thinking and working politically and strengthening political economy analysis in USAID biodiversity programming

https://rmportal.net/biodiversityconservation-gateway/projects/current-global-projects/bridge/bridge-resources/discussion-note-thinking-and-working-politically-and-strengthening-political-economy-analysis-in-usaid-biodiversity-programming/view

Thinking and doing anti-corruption programming differently

https://issuu.com/adamsmithinternational/docs/thinking_and_doing_anti-corruption_

Any queries, please contact: <u>h.a.marquette@bham.ac.uk</u>

Reflections from Practice



SMALL PELAGIC FISH STOCKS IN GHANA ARE DEPLETED:

What is happening and what can donors and implementers do?



Fishing Industry



and enforcement

Artisanal fishers

use illegal methods to capture dwindling fish stocks and believe that enforcement is selective and unjust

Chinese-operated

industrial trawlers

regulatory capture

Increasing numbers of artisanal canoes

Women play an important role in buying, processing, and trading engage in illegal fishing;

Paramount chiefs and traditional authorities have weak engagement in fisheries management

District assemblies are not enacting by-laws in support of sound fisheries management

Marine Police have limited resources to enforce laws and encounter resistance

Fisherfolk associations and civil society organizations are growing stronger

Power is

concentrated in

the executive

branch

Fisheries Commission

capacity is weak and organizational culture is ineffective in implementing laws; has poor relationships with local communities and/or no presence



Systems of Governance

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS:

fisherfolk, including women; cap fleets; and seek

greater transparency, effective management,

Adopt strategies to increase the voice of

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to support fisherfolk associations and civil society organizations, government consultations with stakeholders, and legal reforms that prevent arbitrary decision-making and promote collaborative management

Ministry of Finance and Aquaculture Development

lacks sufficient funding; has an ineffective organizational culture; has damaged credibility by not addressing **IUU** fishing by trawlers

Ghanaian elites run shell companies that Chinese trawlers operate under

Political parties influence votes through manipulation of subsidies, jobs, and regulatory enforcement

Ш Institutions

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS: Broaden the range of strategies to produce organizational change and increased accountability at MOFAD and the Fisheries Commission, with expanded engagement to other potential proponents of fisheries reforms elsewhere in the government

Power & Politics

OVERARCHING RECOMMENDATIONS: Leverage influence and convening power to develop partnerships and diplomatic strategies that increase incentives for government and industry stakeholders to agree on needed reforms

Advancing Reforms to Promote Sustainable Management of Ghana's Small Pelagic Fisheries: An Applied Political Economy Analysis

https://rmportal.net/biodiversityconservati on-gateway/projects/current-globalprojects/bridge/bridgeresources/advancing-reforms-to-promotesustainable-management-of-ghana2019ssmall-pelagic-fisheries/view

A few final thoughts...

- TWP is largely about gaining insight into challenges you are already dealing with, e.g., policy reforms, behavior change, community engagement.
- A helpful question that is always worth asking is, "How did it get to be this way?" The history of a problem will tell you a lot about the context, relevant actors, and political dynamics.
- TWP takes time, effort, and resources: Procurements need to have inception periods, planned pause and reflects, resources for PEAs, and space for trial-and-error. For that to work, donors and implementers need mutual trust.
- TWP is a team sport. Ghana PEA had team members from different disciplines and units in both Washington and Accra. TWP helps learning and adaptation but also collaboration, which strengthens possibilities for programmatic uptake of TWP and PEAs.

POLL

How important do you think it is to integrate political thinking into your work *now*?

- a. Not important
- **b. Somewhat important**
- c. Very important











Practitioner Questions & Answers



POLL

TNRC's goal is to expand and deepen understanding of anti-corruption in natural resource management. Did this event provide you with new information?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure

After attending this webinar, would you say that you have:

- ☐ A better understanding of political will?
- ☐ A better understanding of how TWP can help unlock political will?
- □ At least one idea for how to integrate TWP into your day-to-day work?











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