IUSSP FAMILY PLANNING, FERTILITY AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP

Policy
The policy, communications, dissemination elements of the Fellowships

- Broad communications and disseminations strategies are acceptable for final proposals.
- Detailed strategies will be incorporated into Fellowships with IUSSP-sponsored coaching.
- Engage policy makers as soon as your fellowship is announced.
WORKING DEFINITIONS FOR THE IUSSP FELLOWSHIP

• Policy
  • Policy Context
  • Policy Relevance
  • Policy Engagement
• Evidence Based Policy Making
• Turning Research Into Policy
Policy

• Documented decisions, plans, strategy to achieve specific goals within a defined population (might not be implemented)
  • Concrete policies: implemented
  • Non-concrete policies: commitments or statements of intent
Policy Context

• The situation in the geographical focus of the research (several countries, one country, several cities within a country, one city, several slums, one slum) in terms of inter-sections between policies related to FP, fertility, population growth and urban development
Policy Relevance

- How research intersects with, and is thus relevant to, any policy - can be an existing policy, or proposed, or under discussion
Evidence-based Government Policy Making

Government[s] . . . mak[ing] well-informed decisions about policies, programmes and projects by putting the best available evidence from research at the heart of policy development and implementation

-Davies 2004
Policy Engagement

- Your involvement, interaction with individuals involved with relevant policies or who are in a position to do so in the future
Turning Research into Policy

- Effectively communicating and disseminating your research results to policy makers, policy advocates and program implementers
GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORKS

- Sustainable Development Goals
  - Family Planning 2020
  - Global Financing Facility
- UN Climate Change Conference
  - International Panel on Climate Change
    - Habitat III
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Goals/Indicators:
do not include health systems

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Goals/Indicators:
do not include SRMNCAH/N
There is widespread agreement among governments and international organizations that family planning programs are a valuable investment. … But these programs are often given low priority because they are considered a health investment rather than an investment with wide-ranging socio-economic and environmental benefits.

-Bongaarts and O’Neill, Science, 17 Aug 2018
Family Planning 2020

- Goal: 120m new users of modern contraceptives by 2020
- 4 initiatives
  - driving country-level support
  - promoting data use and performance management
  - sharpening the focus on global advocacy, rights and youth
  - facilitating dissemination of knowledge and evidence.
Global Financing Facility

The GFF supports government officials to bring partners at the table to agree on a country-led investment case that prioritizes historically underinvested areas such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, maternal and newborn survival, adolescent health, and nutrition in early years.

Alongside funding from the GFF Trust Fund, the GFF **significantly increases domestic resources** linked to the World Bank’s IDA and IBRD financing, aligned external financing, and private sector resources.
UN Climate Change Conference
IPCC assessments provide a scientific basis for governments at all levels to develop climate-related policies, and they underlie negotiations at the UN Climate Conference (the Habitat series).

The assessments are policy-relevant but not policy-prescriptive.
...much of the climate community, notably the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), ... is largely silent about the potential for population policy to reduce risks from global warming. Though the latest IPCC report includes an assessment of technical aspects of ways in which population and climate change influence each other, the assessment does not extend to population policy as part of a wide range of potential adaptation and mitigation responses

-Bongaarts and O’Neill, Science, Aug 2018
Habitat III

RETHINKING THE URBAN AGENDA IS:

• Embracing urbanization at all levels of human settlements, more appropriate policies can take advantage of urbanization across physical space, bridging urban, peri-urban and rural areas, and assist governments in addressing challenges through national and local development policy frameworks.
• Integrating equity to the development agenda. Equity becomes an issue of social justice, ensures access to the public sphere, extends opportunities and increases the commons.
• Fostering national urban planning and planned city extensions.
• Deciding how relevant sustainable development goals will be supported through sustainable urbanization.
HOW POLICY IS MADE AND WHO MAKES IT

- Policy making processes
- What is need to make good policies
- Who contributes to policy making
- The actors and levels of policy making
  - Urban policy specifics
- Policy advocacy: how it works
If it were only this simple….

Identify the problem
Conduct the research
Create or amend evidence-based policies
Create & implement evidence-based programs
Evaluate & improve programs, policies, and research

…creating an intervention or initiative that improves and/or saves lives…
What Is Needed To Make Good Policies?

- Strong (early) links between researchers and policy makers
- Problem identification
- Credible evidence
- Conducive environment to make and implement policies
- Strategic communications
- Resources: financial, technical and human
- Political will (and stability)
Who Creates Policy? (1)

- Governments…
  - from capital cities to village centers
  - from the prime minister to the district health manager
- Political parties
- Multi-laterals….from WHO to the World Bank to the African Union
Who Creates Policy? 

- Private foundations
- The for-profit business sector
Who Creates Policy? (3)

- “Civil Society”
  - INGOS, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs,
    - issue-based advocacy
    - service delivery
Who Creates Policy? (4)

- new and traditional media
- opinion influencers
  - politicians, celebrities, moral authorities
Global

National

District/State

Community

UN Agencies, WHO, World Bank, BMGF, Multinational corporations, INGOs, Global religions

Governments, National corporations, NGOs, National religions

Governments, formal & informal businesses, NGOs, CBOs, FBOs

Governments, NGO/CBO/FBOs, informal policy makers (tribal protocols, religious teachings, family traditions)
Govt. of India:
Example of National Policy Gateways
Urban Specifics:

• Urban Slums (formal and informal) = Collections of Communities

• Power relations:
  ➢ Centralized policy making and implementation
  ➢ Centralized policy-making and decentralized implementation

• Unregistered/ unacknowledged urban populations ('illegal’ or ‘informal’ slums)

• Urban Gatekeepers: civil society, local government (formal and informal),

• Density and complexity of CBOs, FBOs, NGOs
Dissemination, Communications, Advocacy: What’s the difference?

• Dissemination: publishing research findings, sharing with the scientific community

• Communications: adapting research language for lay audiences
  • Social and traditional media, brochures, ‘elevator pitch’

• Advocacy: evidence for policy making, *knowledge translation* for various policy contexts, collaboration with advocates
How Policy Advocacy Works

**Inputs**
- Investment ($)
- Staff Time
- Infrastructure

**Advocacy tactics**
- **Evidence**
- Public Mobilization
- Decision maker Engagement
- Advocacy Capacity Building
- Shaping financial mechanisms
- End-user behavior change

**Influencers & Key decision-makers**
- Celebrities
- Coalitions
- Experts / Academics
- Senior Staff
- Industry leaders
- Media
- Peer policymakers
- Philanthropic orgs
- Professional bodies
- The public
- Quasi-political institutions
- Technical programmers
- Think tanks
- Traditional/religious leaders

**Intermediate Outcomes**
- Increased use of evidence + policy analysis by decision makers
- Increased advocacy capacity among key stakeholders
- Strengthened coalitions and champions in support of priority issues
- Inclusion of priority issues the aid/development policy agendas
- Adoption of policies & resource allocation
- Increased accountability and transparency among governments

**Program outputs → Impact**
- FUNDING (execution)
- POLICY (implementation)
Q&A SESSION

CONCLUSION