Public Management and Global Problems: Understanding the International Dimensions of Public Entities in the BRICS

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Motivation

• Increasingly interconnectedness of countries, nations and societies,
• Recognition of the international connections among countries’ interests and goals (e.g., SDGs, Paris, HRs),
• *But public administration, policy and management theories and practices are still pretty much constrained to think about organizations and processes that are not connected or concerned about what goes on in other parts of the world*
• The growing role of the BRICS in international governance
• *Innovations to deal with global issues in public policy and public administration*
Questions

• With the increasing impacts of global problems, will the domestic public administrations become more entrenched in the domestic self-interest (to search the first class Titanic solution, me first as the safety boat cannot carry everyone!)?

• Or there will be more openness and different values to reform public institutions and innovate in public policies to think about the global collective interest together?

• What would be the situation in the BRICS? (case of climate change)
Background

• Many of the drivers of public decision-making are now global and require melding with domestic interests,
• State based responses to those issues require broad consensus among countries, which is difficult
• Questioning the “sacred” right of nations’ sovereignty?
• Bridging the different degrees of “decoupling” between the networks in the international-national levels
• Rational “scientific” administration x policy context and values.
TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD:

THE 2030 AGENDA FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The 8 Millennium Development Goals

1. ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER
2. ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION
3. PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN
4. REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY
5. IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH
6. COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES
7. ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
8. GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT
Sustainable Development Goals

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
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Figure B11  Carbon intensity of the economy, Asia-Pacific region and the rest of the world, 1990–2011

Top emitters: fossil fuels and industry (absolute)

The top four emitters in 2015 covered 59% of global emissions:
- China (29%)
- United States (15%)
- EU28 (10%)
- India (6%)

Bunker fuels are used for international transport is 3.1% of global emissions.

Statistical differences between the global estimates and sum of national totals are 1.2% of global emissions.

Source: CDIAC; Le Quéré et al 2016; Global Carbon Budget 2016
Per Capita Emissions

Source: CDIAC, 2014
Emerging Economies

- 40% of GDP in 2010, twice than in 1990
Economy and Research in LDCs

• 32% of the largest 500 firms in Forbes list 2018 (4% in 1995) (Forbes, 2018)
Knowledge and Research in LDCs

• China and India will likely to become world powers in research being responsible for around 20% of the R&D in 2025 (European Commission, 2011)

• BRICS are on the top in several areas of knowledge in terms of publication and R&D
Transformations for Sustainable Development

• The UN Post-2015 Development Agenda: achieving plain human development for all while keeping the life supporting systems for the next generations (population, wealth, impacts etc.). Paris Agreement.

• The transformations towards a more sustainable development (TSD) will occur only if policymaking frameworks are able to recognize the ecological limits at the different scales, from local to planetary.

• Need radical innovations in public administration and the way they define and carry out development processes.

• But, we are far from having comprehensive governance and policy mechanisms to transform development processes,

• Some past and present promising initiatives we could learn from and try to strengthen their processes and outcomes
Steps towards transformation for sustainable development: Understanding innovations
Step 1 - Decoupling

• Total **decoupling between economy and ecological footprint may not be possible in the pace needed through traditional economic-administrative approaches based on efficiency,**

• The core of the *ecological modernization approaches* are a necessary but insufficient condition for a broader transformation towards sustainability,

• Renewable energy programs China, India and Brazil, emission decrease in Russia
Figure B11  Carbon intensity of the economy, Asia-Pacific region and the rest of the world, 1990–2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Annual average change in carbon intensity 2000-2011</th>
<th>Required annual decarbonisation rate 2012-2050</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>-0.80%</td>
<td>-5.10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>-2.40%</td>
<td>-4.40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>-2.80%</td>
<td>-5.20%</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>-5.20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Indonesia</strong></td>
<td><strong>-1.00%</strong></td>
<td><strong>-4.90%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>-2.30%</td>
<td>-5.20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>-2.10%</td>
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<td>Italy</td>
<td>-1.20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<td>-4.60%</td>
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<td><strong>South Africa</strong></td>
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<td><strong>-5.60%</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Russia</strong></td>
<td><strong>-3.90%</strong></td>
<td><strong>-6.00%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brazil</strong></td>
<td><strong>-0.70%</strong></td>
<td><strong>-4.10%</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>-1.60%</td>
<td>-5.00%</td>
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<td><strong>South Korea</strong></td>
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<td><strong>-6.50%</strong></td>
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<td>Canada</td>
<td>-1.40%</td>
<td>-5.30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>-7.00%</td>
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<td><strong>India</strong></td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
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*Data source: PwC, 2012*
Xinjiang, China

Co-benefits analysis on climate change and environmental effects of wind-power: A case study from Xinjiang, China
Zhixiao Ma, Bing Xue, Yong Geng, Wanxia Ren, Tsuyoshi Fujita, Zilong Zhang, Jose A. Puppim de Oliveira, David A. Jacques, Fengming Xi

• Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous, the use of wind energy has brought tremendous co-benefits including the mitigation of $\text{CO}_2$ and air pollutants ($\text{SO}_2$, $\text{NOx}$ and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$) emissions and water savings, during the 11th five-year period (2006-2010) leading to US$ 1.38 billion or almost 0.5 per cent of GDP in energy savings,

• Even though China has reduced carbon emissions from fuel combustion per unit of GDP by 55 per cent between 1990 and 2011, China’s emissions per capita has tripled in the same period, now larger than the EU27 average, though China is still much poorer.
Decoupling

- Can ‘Decoupling’ be absolute? Is this feasible?
- If developing countries seek a level of per capita GDP comparable with the EU average, a much greater reduction would be required – of nearly 130 times over the next 35 years. (Hoffman)
Step 2 – Recognizing ecological limits

• A sense of urgency and policy change are needed to unravel the political and economic interests required to build a broad consensus over an effective governance structure that includes planetary limits in economic decisions.

• **Context: Need to shift the discussions from what policies are needed to the political and institutional conditions that make the adoption of certain policies more likely,**

• China carbon markets (cap-and-trade), failure in South Africa
Step 3...

- **Changing Environment-Economy-Society Relations through values**
- This change in the economic system should include a transition that does not ruin the economic and social achievements of the last decades.
- The new system needs a governance regime that make sure that we do not end up worse off, by losing some of the freedoms and material well-being gained in the last decades in many parts of the world.
- Nevertheless, the argument that the current economic-political system is the best so far is not an excuse to try to find a new system.
- Solidarity economy in Brazil (circular economy, China)
Discussions: Economics’ Influence in Shaping the Means and Ends of Managing Organizations

• Question “rationality” in public administrations
• Ends: the economic growth, profit/utility maximizing (economic/political) goal of a typical organization
• The solutions to the ends (MDGs, SDGs...)
• The Means: Neoclassical economics has permeated the way individuals and organizations are understood, and consequently how they manage and should be managed (e.g., NPM).
New models of development and public administration?

• If we want to influence knowledge and practice of development and management, we have to create alternative theories, which must be consistent, but with ethical values different from those propagated by the neoclassical economics and other Western models. Do they exist?

• Bhutan, the concept of Gross National Happiness (GNH) linked by an interesting public administration system. A strong interaction between administrative and religious affairs helping to preserve Bhutan’s unique culture

• Link administration and broad values (e.g., Western idea of separation between religion x State)

• And the BRICS?
Thank you
Obrigado!