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Carbon Governance Arrangements and the Nation State





Research Project



The Project 2015-2018

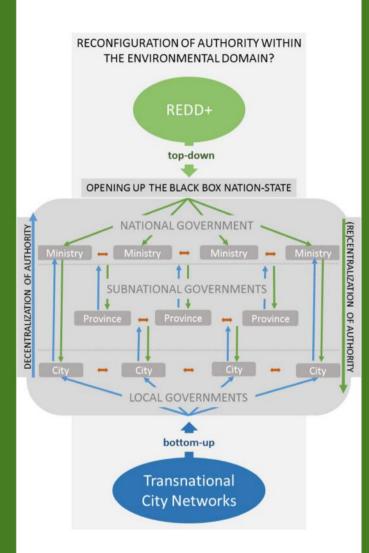
Due to the difficulties among national governments in adopting effective means of implementation to cope with the issue of climate change, a plethora of new carbon governance arrangements has emerged in the past few years.

So far, we have little systematic knowledge about the workings of these 'governance arrangements', let alone their impact on political-administrative systems. Given these shortcomings, in our project we explore how (and how far) two different types of globally operating governance arrangements have caused changes in the distribution of authority within the nation-states.

We will focus on

- (1) C40 as an example of Transnational City Networks (TCNs), that operates bottom up and
- (2) REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), that operates top-down.

We aspire to gain theoretical and practical insights, which will inform scientists and practitioners alike.



Research Questions

- (1) How do the various new climate governance arrangements reconfigure public authority in developing countries?
- (2) What are the consequences of the reconfiguration of public authority in terms of actual policy outcomes?

Case Studies

The project members will conduct field research in

Brazil India South Africa Indonesia

with regard to our hypothesis that:

- (1) The top-down governance arrangement (REDD+) generates a trend towards more centralized decisionmaking.
- (2) The bottom-up governance arrangement (TCNs/ C40) strengthens decentralization efforts in the field of environmental policy-making.