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POLICY FAILURE, POLICY-IMPLEMENTATION GAP AND POLICY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Berse Shey Blandine

International Relations, Pan African Institute for Development West Africa, Africa
berseshey85@gmail.com

Nga Koulle Brigitte Christelle

Pan African Institute for Development West Africa Cameroon, Africa

Abstract

There is an increasing awareness that policies do not succeed or fail on their own merits. Within complex messy systems, it is unclear how best to ensure effective policy design and implementation. However, rather than just let policies drift into full or even partial failure, governments are now beginning to take an interest in ways in which the policy process – especially the implementation phase – can be strengthened and supported. This article contributes to the debate in three ways: by unpicking the key factors behind policy failure; by exploring different approaches to policy support; and by identifying key messages for policy practitioners.

Keywords:

Policy Design, Policy Implementation, Policy-Implementation Gap, Policy Failure, Policy Support Program.