SOME OBSERVATIONS ON GOVERNANCE AND GOVERNING FOR RESILIENCE

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INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: RESILIENCE JUST DO IT?!
GOVERNING FOR RESILIENCE IN VULNERABLE PLACES
COASTAL RESILIENCE RESEARCH GROUP, RUG
INTRODUCTION

- Who am I
- Scope of this presentation: How to govern for resilience?
  - Governance and governing – work of Jan Kooiman (em Prof. Erasmus University)
  - Resilience – what is it (Simin Davoudi and others) and how is it related to the notion of governing
- Examples
- Kick off for discussions
GOVERNANCE AND GOVERNING

- Rakodi 2003, Stoker, 1998
  - To govern: steer, guide, control, regulate, influence or determine. What the state does to administer its affairs.
  - Governance: interactive relationship between and within government and non-government actors.
- Kooiman (2003, p4)
  - Governing: the totality of interactions, in which public as well as private actors participate, aimed at solving societal problems or creating societal opportunities; attending to the institutions as contexts for these governing actions; and establishing a normative foundation for all those activities.
  - Governance: the totality if theoretical conceptions on governing.
INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR GOVERNABILITY OF A SOCIETAL SYSTEM

Core features:
- diversity
- complexity
- dynamics

Societal system

PRINCIPLES/VALUES
INSTITUTIONS
PROBLEM SOLVING

HUMAN SYSTEM
NATURAL SYSTEM

System to-be-governed

Governing interactions

Governing System

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INTERACTIVE GOVERNANCE MODEL
KOOIMAN ET AL, 2008, P6

Elements of Governance
- Image
- Instrument
- Action

Diversity
Complexity
Dynamics

Intention
Interactions
Structure

Governance Orders
- First
- Second
- Meta

Modes of Governance
- Self
- Hierarchy
- Co-
RESILIENCE: A POWERFUL BUT ELUSIVE CONCEPT
DAVOUDI, 2012; HOLLING.

Engineering: ability of a system to return to an equilibrium or steady state after a disturbance. Return time, efficiency, predictability key issues.

Ecological: the magnitude of the disturbance that can be absorbed before the system changes its structure - ability to persist and critical thresholds – notion of regime shifts. Multiple equilibria are possible.

From bouncing back to bouncing forward

Evolutionary resilience: ability of complex socio-ecological systems to change, adapt, and crucially, transform in response to stresses and strains (Carpenter et al)
FOUR CRITICAL ISSUES
DAVOUDI, 2012

1. Human inventiveness is not well incorporated – innovation, ingenuity etc can lead to transformations. Ideological high-jacking of the term to value self-reliance of communities as a justification for pulling back the role of the state.

2. Resilience to what ends? What is the ultimate goal and can we measure the current and future status reliably?

3. System’s boundary. Which elements are considered to make up the system (inevitably the system model must be simplified)? Possibility for exclusionary practices. Spatial exclusion could also play a role.

4. Power and politics: what is a desirable outcome and for whom?
CAPACITIES FOR STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE
OECD, 2014.

Figure 3: The relationship between absorptive, adaptive and transformative capacities for strengthening resilience

Intensity of change / transaction costs

stability flexibility change

Absorptive coping capacity   Adaptive Capacity   Transformative Capacity
(persistence) (incremental adjustment) (transformational responses)

Resilience

Source: Béné et al (2012)
INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR GOVERNABILITY OF A RESILIENT SOCIETAL SYSTEM

Societal system

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RESILIENCE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

Figure 1: Conceptual framework for the resilience systems analysis

Programme outcomes

CONTEXT

Risk Landscape
- Covariate shocks
- Idiosyncratic shocks
- Seasonal shocks
- Frequent small impact events
- Long term stresses

Targeted system
- National
  - Provincial
  - Community
  - Household
  - Individual

PROGRAMMING

Core programme actions

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<th>Absorptive capacity</th>
<th>Adaptive capacity</th>
<th>Transformative capacity</th>
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PRINCIPLES of RESILIENCE

Preparedness
- Learning / innovation
- Thresholds

Responsiveness
- Diversity and Redundancy
- Self-organisation

Connectivity
- Inclusion
- Social Cohesion

Inclusion

Key factors influencing the context and programming

Source: OECD

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GOVERNING FOR RESILIENCE
ARE THE GRAND URBAN DESIGNS RESILIENT AND, IF SO, FOR WHOM?
AHMEDABAD, GUJARAT, INDIA
URBAN REVITALIZATION AND THE SABARMATI RIVER FRONT
“Modernizing” the River
RIVER SIDE SLUM CLEARANCE
INTERIM RESETTLEMENT SITE
INTERIM CAN MEAN UP TO 8 YEARS
Major impacts on livelihoods and impoverishment:

- Increased travel distances & costs for work, schools, health services
- Loss of jobs
- Sense of despair and uncertainty
- Marginalization
- Social disarticulation
KAMPALA PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Figure 106: New CBD Urban Design Scheme

Figure 107: New CBD Urban Design Scheme perspective

HOW DOES IT RELATE TO GROUND REALITIES AND PERSPECTIVES
KAMPALA PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

HOW DOES IT RELATE TO GROUND REALITIES AND PERSPECTIVES
SO CAN WE JUST DO RESILIENCE?

- Doubtful: underlying the quest for resilience are many wicked questions and policy intricacies.
- Just as good governance does not just happen so resilience cannot be simply done.
- In governing for resilience more than cursory attention is needed for social equity - fruits of economic development are not equitably distributed nor are the risks and shocks.
- Difficult debates on sharing the pains and the gains are therefore required.
- As recent events related to earthquakes in Groningen show the governability of resilience is not a trivial concern.
REFERENCES


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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION