

Background

Role of participation

- Enhanced understanding of local climate change impacts and vulnerabilities.
- Community empowerment to own tailored solutions.
- Inclusive decision-making.

Research questions

- How well do climate change adaptation policies in Germany and Spain perform in terms of participation?

- Creativity in developing adaptive measures.
- Local knowledge integration.
- Sustainable behavior promotion.
- Strengthening communities' adaptation skills.
- Fostering solidarity in tackling climate challenges.

- What are the policy gaps in terms of participatory elements in climate change adaptation policies?

Methodology

Empirical data collection

Policy identification and selection

Policy analysis

Content analysis
 Arnstein's ladder of citizen participation
 Policy gap analysis

Validation

Participatory activities



- Identification of 6 Spanish and 10 German current climate policies focusing on climate change adaptation and their analysis.

Findings

Analysis of 6 Spanish policies

Delegated power

Citizen control

Partnership

- National Climate Council
- Impacts and Adaptation Working Group
- Collaboration between different levels of administration and private sector
- Partnerships between municipalities and citizen groups

Placation

- Committee of Expert Persons on Climate Change and Energy Transition
- Consideration of input from various stakeholders

Consultation

- Public consultations
- Deliberative workshops
- National Citizens' Assembly on Climate Change

Informing

- Exhibitions
- Informational breakfasts for journalists
- Online platform
- Provisions for access to information

Therapy

Manipulation

Policy gap clusters

- Accessibility and representation
- Communication and education
- Feedback mechanisms
- Financial and resources
- Engagement duration and integration

Analysis of 10 German policies

Delegated power

- Network of lead farms
- Local communities empowerment

Citizen control

Partnership

- Collaboration between different levels of government, self-governing bodies, and private entities
- Networks like "Leitbetriebe Pflanzenbau"
- Permanent federal-state working groups

Placation

- Farmer-field schools, acknowledging citizens' expertise and experience
- Consideration of input from various stakeholders

Consultation

- Expert analyses, recommendations, consultations
- Broad public dialogue

Informing

- Detailed information provision
- Digital platforms and tools

Therapy

Manipulation

Conclusion

- Medium-to-high level of participation, but gaps remaining.
- Effectiveness? ← Actual implementation and practical application.

Overview of participatory elements

A wide range of **stakeholders** involved in various climate change policies includes government bodies (federal, state, local), scientific institutions, civil society organizations, industry representatives, farmers, landowners, and the general public. They engage in participatory elements, emphasizing collaboration across sectors and tailored strategies for effective adaptation and sustainable development.

A variety of **consultation mechanisms** include public consultations, stakeholder dialogues, and thematic workshops. They aim to ensure policies reflect diverse perspectives for sustainable outcomes, emphasizing the interconnectedness of environmental, social, and economic issues. Stakeholders engage actively, supported by entities like, e.g., in Spain the National Climate Council and the Working Group on Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change.

In promoting participation, **instruments** vary from voluntary to binding and a combination of both. Voluntary approaches incentivize participation through incentives and collaboration. Binding instruments involve legal regulations to enforce specific actions. Some policies combine both for structured yet collaborative efforts.

Capacity building empowers stakeholders through training programs and workshops across sectors. Efforts include funding, education, and networking to empower local communities. Sectors like agriculture, forestry, and fisheries focus on risk management and digitalization. Nature-based solutions involve competence centers and international cooperation. Climate action initiatives include sustainable finance and youth engagement.

Financing mechanisms support participation in climate initiatives. Public finance includes government funding and grants, while private finance mobilizes capital. Multilateral and EU instruments aid adaptation. Mechanisms range from national to regional funding, involving the private sector. Adaptation integration into budgets is key. Initiatives like Next Generation EU fund climate endeavors.

Transparency and information sharing initiatives promote informed stakeholder participation. Governmental strategies encompass comprehensive mechanisms like central hubs, regional workshops, and ongoing dialogue. Policies prioritize inclusivity, addressing vulnerable populations' needs. Digital platforms facilitate communication between stakeholders, government, and scientists. Efforts include informing vulnerable populations and simplifying technical information.

Monitoring and feedback systems are integral to policy implementation. Robust frameworks track progress, with stakeholder engagement ensuring policies meet sector-specific needs. Evaluation of financial mechanisms guarantees adequate resources. Integration with international standards, collaboration, and advocacy for increased financing are priorities. Tools like the MRE (Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation) system assess adaptation efficacy. Emphasis is placed on gender integration, maladaptation prevention, and cost-benefit analysis.