

2004 OPEN WORKSHOP

“Main trends and prospects characterizing private sector participation in water and sanitation: a discussion of project findings”

Presentation:

PRINWASS OBJECTIVES, APPROACH AND STRUCTURE

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The practical problem

- **1.1 billion people worldwide have no access to safe drinking water**
- **2.4 billion people lack basic sanitation**
- **5 million people die each year from preventable water-related infections, while millions are affected by long-term illnesses caused by the intake of health-threatening substances naturally present in water such as sulphates, arsenic, or manganese**
- **Preventable diarrhoeal diseases alone kill about 2 million people every year, most of whom are children under 5 years of age living in peri-urban and rural areas of LDCs under conditions of extreme poverty**
- **An estimated 6,000 children die each day from preventable water-related diseases**



The research problem

- “The reasons for the lack of access to water and sanitation services affecting a large share of the world population are not only technical, but also socio-economic, organisational, institutional, political and cultural. In the developing world, **the problem is more often caused by policy and institutional failure, rather than by technical failure**”
- Mainstream water and sanitation (WSS) policies implemented in the sector since the 1980s have promoted the expansion of private sector participation (PSP), especially that of multinational water monopolies, as the key strategy to change this situation



The claims of mainstream WSS policies ...

- These policies claimed, among other, that expanding PSP in WSS is the best strategy

- to improve the **efficiency** of infrastructure services,
- **extend their delivery to the poor**,
- and relieve pressure on public budgets by providing **fresh private investment** (World Bank, 1998: 1; Savedoff et. al., 1999)

while at the same time

- **improving social equity** (Inter American Development Bank, 1998: 120).



The research questions

- What was the **theoretical ground** informing the design and implementation of these policies?
- What was the **historical or empirical evidence** used to support them?
- What can be learnt from the **recent experiences of success and failure** in the regions under study regarding the challenges and opportunities facing the involvement of the private sector in WSS?
- What are the **critical success conditions and crucial barriers** for private participation in WSS in developing countries?
- How these factors may affect the **future implementation and development** of WSS systems with private sector involvement that are **not only efficient but also socio-economic and environmentally sustainable and democratically accountable**?



The objectives

- “To assess the **theoretical foundations of the current policy prescription** for improving WSS in developing countries, focusing on the **policy-institutional, economic-financial and socio-political/cultural** aspects
- To analyse the **continuities and emerging trends** in structural approaches to improving sustainable WSS; drawing on a cross-comparative report for the countries studied
- To identify the **barriers to and conditions** for improving WSS in urban and peri-urban areas of developing countries (with particular reference to legal, administrative, policy, economic-financial, political, socio-cultural, etc. issues)
- To analyse, and assess the significance of, the **interactions between the requirements of global financial and other institutions** and the **structural contexts** and the barriers to and conditions for improvement in WSS
- To establish and assess **recent and current experiences of private sector involvement** in the WSS sector of the case-study countries and provide analytical reports for each country
- To develop an **indicative framework of strategy and processes**, expressed by relevant guidelines, for sustainable WSS in developing countries, taking into account the roles of the state (national, regional, and local government levels), civil society (users associations, citizen movements, etc.), and market forces (privatised water utilities, public-private partnerships, and other forms of private sector involvement in WSS)”



The objectives ...

- These objectives and questions were revised and confirmed at the Second Research Workshop (Mexico, March 2003)
- It was agreed then that the original research objectives and questions remain valid despite the most recent developments that have taken place since the PRINWASS research proposal was conceived (1999-2000), such as
 - the new UN commitments for 2015/2025 adopted in 2000 and confirmed in 2002 (Millennium Development Goals), and
 - the changing role and strategies of the private water multinationals since 2002



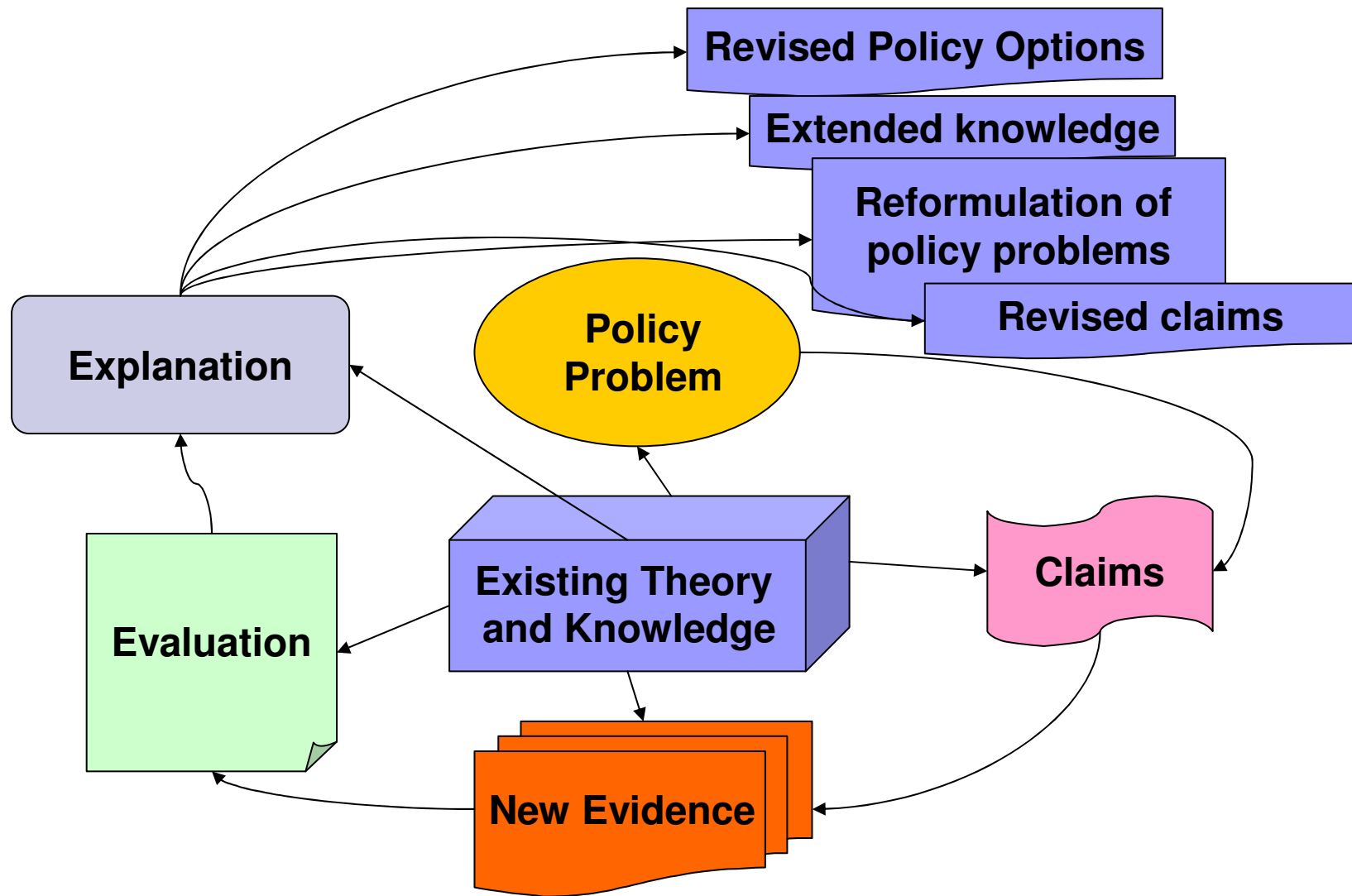
PRINWASS case studies

- **The project explores different forms of private sector participation in WSS in 9 different countries**
 - **Argentina (mainly Buenos Aires and Tucumán; also reference to Rosario and North-eastern provinces)**
 - **Bolivia (Cochabamba)**
 - **Brazil (Limeira, Sao Paulo; Nitéroï, and five municipalities of the Lakes Region, Rio de Janeiro)**
 - **England and Wales (London)**
 - **Finland (Lahti, Lapua, Kangasala)**
 - **Greece (Athens)**
 - **Kenya (Nairobi)**
 - **Mexico (Aguascalientes)**
 - **Tanzania (Dar es Salaam)**

PRINWASS case studies

Cases	HIGH DEGREE OF PRIVATE INVOLVEMENT (DPI)									LOW OR NULL DPI		
	Efficiency			Social Equity			Democratic Accountability			Conditions for PI in WSS		
	+	-	?	+	-	?	+	-	?	+	-	?
Argentina	√					√		√				
Bolivia			√			√		√				
Brasil			√			√			√			
England & Wales	√					√			√			
Finland	√			√			√					
Greece												√
Kenya												√
Mexico		√				√			√			
Tanzania												√

Problem-Centred Research Approach



Project Structure

First Phase

Second Phase

Third Phase

**Analytical
Dimensions**

D1-3

**Case
Studies**

D5-13

**Cross-
comparative
Analyses**

D15-21

**Strategic
Reports**

D22-31

Guidelines

D32

**Final
Report**

D33

POLICY-INSTITUTIONAL

ECONOMIC-FINANCIAL

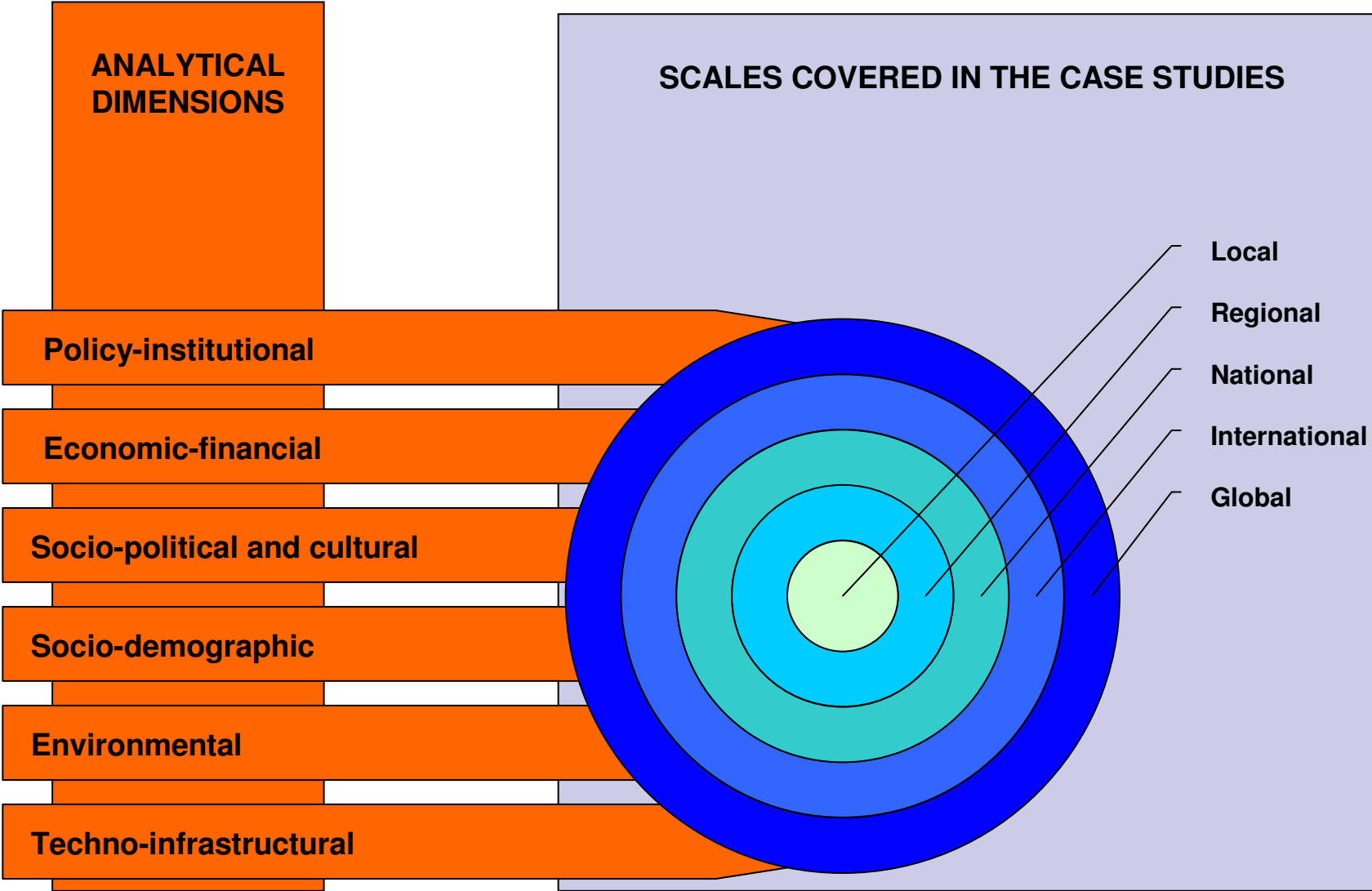
SOCIO-POLITICAL AND CULTURAL

Socio-demographic

Environmental

Techno-infrastructurel

Project Structure (continued ...)



Example of operationalization of research dimensions

Policy-institutional dimension

Sub-dimensions:

1. Legal framework for Integrated Water Resources Management, Water and Sanitation Services, and Reproductive Health

Indicators for sub-dimension 1:

Water law (legal status of water; water rights; recent or proposed changes to water legislation, etc.)

Water-related aspects of health law (e.g. health legislation that impinges on IWRM and WSS)

Public utility laws (e.g. legislation concerning the organization of WSS provision)

Other

2. Regulatory framework for IWRM, WSS, and RH

3. Policy framework for IWRM, WSS, and RH

4. Institutions