

les dossiers d'**AGROPOLIS** INTERNATIONAL

Expertise of the scientific community



Societies and sustainable development

Contribution of the social sciences

Number 7

PROPOCID: Context-specific policymaking for sustainable rural development

The *Production des Politiques de Développement Rural Durable dans leurs contextes* project (PROPOCID) is based on the apparent paradox between the exogenous origin of the sustainable development reference frame concerning national states and the fact that this reference frame should be endogenously developed according to national dynamics to ensure its relevant practical application. Sustainable development policies are thus dependent on national debates, the power structure and political autonomy with respect to the economy. Hence, research is aimed at assessing public policies for sustainable rural development in the settings in which they are actually applied, and especially analysing the conditions according to which the new discussions on sustainable development are integrated, negotiated, reinterpreted by interest-bearing parties situated at different public policymaking levels (national, regional, local). A comparative approach to the analysis of public policies applied to a sample of different countries is implemented, while using instruments for the cognitive analysis of public policies and historical institutionalism. The research is conducted along three lines, supplemented with a transversal synthetic analysis:

- (i) a historical analysis of forms of state intervention, (ii) an analysis of the conditions under which sustainable

development is accounted for in agricultural and rural policies of the different analysed countries, and (iii) monitoring the *in situ* sustainable development situation. The national and regional settings assessed have different levels of nation-state consolidation and autonomy with respect to the exterior. The sample consists of two emerging countries (Brazil, Mexico), two least advanced countries (Mali, Madagascar) and two French situations (metropolitan and insular ultraperipheral—New Caledonia). Regional and domestic situations directly concerned by the promotion of sustainability issues in the national political agenda were chosen in each case. The research proposal involves six French teams and nine national teams.

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Public policies, regulation systems and resource-based economies

The Laboratoire de sciences économiques de Richter (**LASER**, UM1) includes three teams:

- the *Centre d'Études de Projets* (CEP), specialized in economic and financial project and public policy assessments
- the *Centre de Recherche en Économie et Droit de l'Énergie* (CREDEN), specialized in energy and environmental economics, and public macroeconomics
- the *Laboratoire d'économétrie*, specialised in econometric modelling.

LASER conducts studies on:

- energy, renewable resource (renewable, nonrenewable, fossil, fisheries, etc.) and environmental economics
- industrial economics and network industries (gas, electricity, telecommunications, etc.)
- financial, technological and industrial risk management

- public decision analysis and local (regional projects) and national (social policies) public policy assessment
- the industrialization of knowledge and public research policies and technology transfers.

Global environmental issues and the precautionary principle

The Center for International Research on Environment and Development (**CIRE**, EHESS, AgroParisTech-ENGREF, ENPC, CIRAD, CNRS UMR 8568) was founded in 1971 with the aim of investigating strategies to improve the relationship between environment and development. This involves highlighting dynamic links between economic regulations and the development of technical environments that have a material impact on growth in public policies. CIRE conducts research on energy, waste, transportation, water and food topics and has been focusing more specifically on global environmental issues (ozone, acid rain, climate



▲ Group of men clearing a plantation field with a hoe (*daba*) while being supervised by a local foreman

► Our Common future (Brundtland Report) by World Commission on Environment & Development (1987)
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Other teams focused on this topic

EA 3766 GESTER Gestion des sociétés, des territoires et des risques (UM 3)
20 scientists, 36 PhD candidates
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UMR MOISA
Markets, Organizations, Institutions and Operators' Strategies (Montpellier SupAgro, CIHEAM/IAMM, CIRAD, INRA, IRD)
58 scientists, 29 PhD candidates
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UR 199
Dynamiques socio-environnementales et gouvernance des ressources (IRD)
30 scientists, 15 PhD candidates
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UMR G-EAU
Water Resource Management, Actors and Uses (AgroParisTech/ENGREF, CEMAGREF, CIHEAM/IAMM, CIRAD, IRD, Montpellier SupAgro)
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UPR 36
Forest Resources and Public Policies (CIRAD)
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