Public policies, climate and social changes

The case of the “convivência” with the semi-arid region in Brasil

ASA E P1MC

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ICID +18
Findings

• Public policies with sometimes contradictory results
• The difficult implementation

The issues

• How is it possible to improve the effectiveness of public policies?
• How to transform the recommendations into effective solutions in a context of climate change?
Our hypothesis

- Sustainable development, to combine:
  - Fight and adaptation to climate change
  - Fight against poverty
  - Development

- Climate and social changes are linked
Elements of context

- The **semi-arid of Brasil** (water, social, political)
- The social dynamics very significant over the past twenty years
- Innovative public policies that prioritize the territorial level to support family farming (ASA)
Articulation of Semi-Arid Region
ASA - 2003

- Development of agriculture with agroecological bases for coexistence with the semiarid
- Includes large number of social actors
Agroecological bases for coexistence with the semi-arid region

Valorização da biodiversidade para a conversão agroecológica dos sistemas de produção
(Luciano Silveira, Aspta/ASA)
Estratégias de Estocagem nos sistemas de produção tradicionais

(Luciano Silveira, Aspta/ASA)
Acesso aos mercados

(Luciano Silveira, Aspta/ASA)
Educação para a convivência com o semi-árido  (Luciano Silveira, Aspta/ASA)
Articulation of Semi-Arid Region ASA

- Social dynamics originally built around access to water
- A public program on P1MC, structured at territorial level
  - Example of trade union in Borborema region
- A bottom-up public action.
Rural community

Enhance social innovations (After 1980..)

Mediators (ONG, Univ.)

To create one community of learning:
- New reading of the reality
- To mobilize the creativity of the families in the research of solutions
- Experimentation
- Construction of knowledge and networks

Farmers experimenters
**Community**

Enhance social innovations (After 1980)

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**Territory and semi-arid region**

Create inter-institutional spaces of mobilization and political debate

- Institutionalization of the horizontal networks of social interaction
- Construction of a territorial project

ASA 2003

Trade union pole 2001

Farmers experimenters

Public policies: P1MC and P1+2: negotiation, experiments and adjustments
Community

- Enhance social innovations

Mediators (ONG, Univ.)

To create one community of learning:
- new reading of the reality
- to mobilize the creativity of the families in the research of solutions to their specific conditions and problems
- Construction of knowledge and networks

Territory and semi-arid region

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State

Reform of sectoral ministries

Specific regulatory framework

Trade union pole

Asa

Ap1mc

Mds

Farmers experimenters

Territories of action

Public policies: P1MC and P1+2: experiments and adjustments
The setbacks and successes of the development policy of social innovations

**Setbacks**

- Fragility and complexity due to compliance with the prevailing norms

**Successes**

- Flexibility of the process of institutional innovation
• **How is it possible to improve the effectiveness of public policies?**

• It is necessary to *articulate* public policies and social dynamics
  
  – **Process, innovation and diversity**
  
  – **Learning and social movement of experimentations**
  
  – **Co-construction** and institutionalization negotiated of social innovation with other referential (agroecology, Peasant University…) to transform these experiences into public policies
  
  – **Process of multi-scale governance** of the agricultural innovations and territory
  
  – The need for change in **standards** within the State
• The role of the State and civil society:

- Recognition of the **legitimacy** of the process of social experimentation and the territorial devices

- The centrality of **social networks** in public policy

- The role of mediators (NGOs, Universities) and based on the construction of spaces of **trust**

- A social and institutional innovation refers to a change in power relations whose terms depend on trajectories of evolution.
Public policies, climate, social and human changes

• If climate change was an opportunity to change our methods of intervention based on respect for the ecology of social systems…

• Creator of social change and mobilize social energies for the coexistence with semi-arid regions
Thank you

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