

Exploring the Policy Dynamics of Global Antimicrobial Resistance Initiatives

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Research puzzles and questions

What are the political dynamics preventing antimicrobial resistance from gaining greater traction on the global policy agenda?

Comparative research design: Antimicrobial resistance and climate change

Similarities: future threats, produce transboundary disasters, cause thousand hundreds of deaths every year, super wicked problems, strong natural science foundation

Divergence: the *timing* and *content* of global initiatives

RQ 1: How can we explain the timing of global initiatives for overcoming antimicrobial resistance?

RQ 2: How can we explain the limited reach of the antimicrobial resistance global initiatives and agreements?

Theory

Multiple Streams Analysis where the timing and content of policies are understood as the result of couplings between three streams:

- 1.The problem recognition stream
- 2.The policy proposal stream
- 3.The political stream

Two types of actors couple the streams:

- *Problem brokers* (turn specific conditions into policy problems: timing)
- *Policy entrepreneurs* (formulate and execute policies: content)

Research plan

PhD project:

Comparison of the global policy responses to CC (archival work in the UNEP) and AMR (data from work packages)

Work package I:

Analysis of the problem broker process to explain *timing* based on two hypotheses:

- a) *Similarly to CC in the 1990s, a window of opportunity for AMR problem framing is currently opening.*
- b) *Problem brokers currently utilize this window of opportunity to align the streams.*

Methods: Quantitative analysis of problem framing (document analysis) and qualitative analysis of the problem broker process (interviews and observations starting with the AMR Secretariat of the WHO).

Work package II:

Analysis of policy entrepreneurship to explain *content* based on two hypotheses:

- a) *Contrary to CC initiatives in the 1990s, a window of opportunity for implementing AMR policies has yet to materialize.*
- b) *Policy entrepreneurs for AMR have yet to align the policy and politics streams.*

Methods: Quantitative analysis of policy entrepreneurship alignment based on measures that reflect both scope (number of agreements/treaties) and depth (the financial strength and legal status of these) and qualitative analysis of policy entrepreneurship processes (interviews and observations starting with the AMR Secretariat of the WHO).

Research contributions

- Filling a rare gap in the academic literature
- Developing the MSA framework
- Glean lessons learnt from the global governance of CC to AMR
- Awareness and policy impact