Structure makes the difference?  
Polycentricity and the Implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in Germany

EU Water Framework Directive (WFD)
- Goal
  - Good ecological status (or potential) for all European waters until 2015 (exemptions until 2027)
- Exemptions are the Rule!
- Implementation approach: see Process Quality
- Aim is to reduce spatial and institutional milti for an integrated protection of water systems
- To be followed but mainly without detailed rules
- Wide room for interpretation on the local level but fewer criteria to evaluate compliance

WFD in Germany
- Creation of River Basin Communities (10) which crosse 1 to 10 of all 16 German Federal States
- No transfer of planning competencies on River Basin Communities
- Authorities are still responsible within administrative borders not within basin borders
- Cross-border coordination shall be ensured only by administrative agreements
- Every German federal State can have its own implementation strategy with huge difference especially concerning the Process Quality
- Coordination across state borders is very difficult if happens at all

Polycentricity
- "Polycentric" connotes many centers of decision-making which are formally independent of each other. Whether they actually function independently, or instead constitute an interdependent system of relations, is an empirical question in particular cases.
- Concept in literature still very vague
- Distinction of polycentric arrangements from other arrangements (e.g. monocentric, fragmentation, federalism)
- Here: Polycentricity is a matter of degree (not just binary), the level of analysis and the analyzed good
- The analysis of a governance systems performance needs a clear identification of polycentric arrangements in contrast to other types
- Development of the Definition of Polycentricity is necessary (especially concerning system borders, level of analysis, the good in focus)
- Strong operationalization is indispensable

Organisational Structure?
- Distribution of ...
  - Competencies
  - Power
  - Resources
  - between actors and levels

Institutions?
- Institutional water governance regime additionally to WFD
  - FAU Multi
  - Interplay
  - Institutionalized Coordination
  - Scope for actors

Expectations on Autumn School
- To get to know new Methods
- To learn more about QCA
- Especially fuzzy-set QCA
- Advantages and disadvantages of using QCA
- Transforming a Research Question into a QCA model
- To learn more about the MTF
- Especially practical Experience with MTF in Access
- To get new insights in Research Design
- What is the special perspective of Public Policy?
- To have intensive discussions
- To get to know other water-related research topics

WFD in Hamburg

WFD in Berlin

Actors Factors Specifics
- Type (e.g. governmental)
- Values
- Goals
- Educational Background/ Mental models
- Experienced Knowledge

Process Quality
- Basin management approach
- Coordination across sectors
- Coordination across borders
- Coordination vertically and horizontally
- Public Participation in Planning Processes

* WFD: Water Framework Directive
* QCA: Qualitative Comparative Analysis

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