Policy Advocacy Training MS-TCDC, POLICY ANALYSIS PROCESS

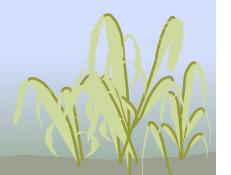
The Policy Analysis Process

Goals of Policy Analysis

- Reducing uncertainty and providing information for decision makers in the public arena
- As systematic evaluation of the technical and economic feasibility and political viability of alternative policies, strategies for implementation, and consequences for policy adoption.

Policy Analysis Process

- approach to problems that is logical, structured, valid, and replicable
- generation of feasible courses of action
- a search for information and evidence of benefits and other consequences of courses of action
- in order to help policy makers choose the most advantageous policy action.



Policy Analysis. . . .

- will involve a
 - Research Plan
 - Background research:

 legislative history
 political environment
 previous policy efforts
 relevant information
 - Research design:

 specification of research objectives
 outline of informational needs
 specifications of methods to be used
 - Research implementation:
 data collection
 data tabulation
 results presentation
 - Conclusions and recommendations

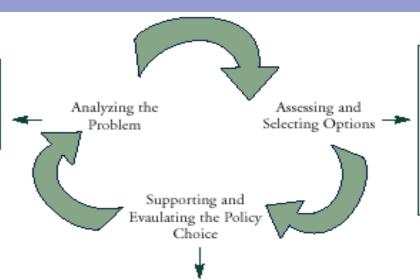
Policy Analysis Framework

Problem Analysis

 What appears to be wrong and why?

Goal Analysis

What needs to be achieved?



Communicate Evidence

- · Who needs to be informed?
- How can information best be presented?

Convey Intent

 What are program managers expected to do?

Monitor and Evaluate

- Does the policy still make sense?
- Has the option/mix of options worked?

Criteria Governing Choice

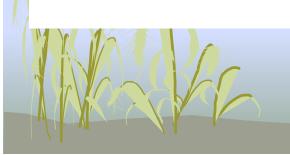
What values are at issue?

Options Identification and Assessment

- · What might be done?
- What are the anticipated outcomes of possible options?

Options Selected

 What is the preferred option/mix of options?





Policy Analysis Framework

Under this framework, policy analysis involves answering questions related to problem and goal analysis.

Problem Analysis Questions
What appears to be wrong and why?

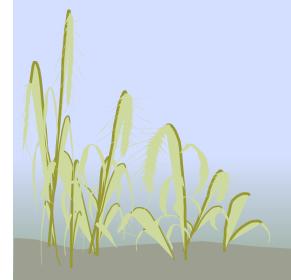
- •What is the problem?
 - •How do you know the problem exists?
- •Whose problem is it?
 - •Who are the stakeholders?
- •How serious is it?
 - •What are the quantitative dimensions?
- •Is the problem likely to improve or worsen?
- •What are the underlying causes?
- What priority should be assigned to this problem in comparison to others?

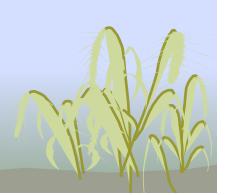
Goal Analysis Questions What needs to be achieved?

- •What specific goals are desired to address the problem?
 - Quantify, if possible.
- •What is the relative importance of achieving various goals?
- •Whose interests will be served by meeting or not meeting these goals?
- •How realistic are the goals?
- •Are there any givens or constraints in making the desired change?

Cost-benefit analysis

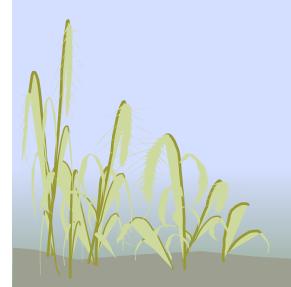
- Identification of the benefits
- Identification of the costs
- Comparison of the costs and benefits
- Conclusion of the analysis

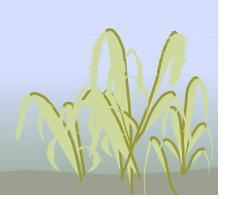




Policy Externalities and Implementation Problems

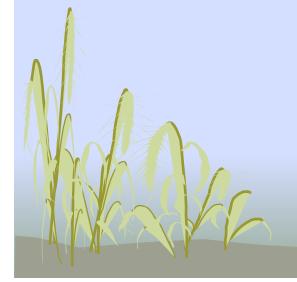
- Unintended side effects
- Unintended offsetting behaviour
- Implementation problems

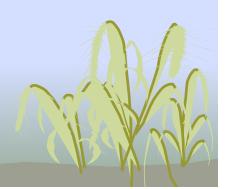




Conclusions

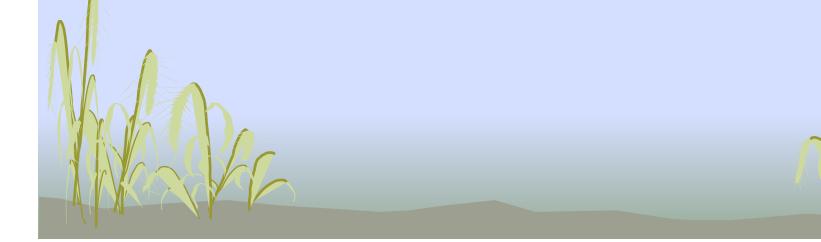
- Regarding proposed policy or program
- Regarding alternative policies and programs





Packaging the information

- Policy briefs
- Policy papers
- Policy reports
- Presentations
- Briefings
- Etc.



Problems in Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation

- uncertainty over policy goals
- difficulty in determining causality
- diffuse policy impacts
- difficulty in data acquisition
- official resistance
- limited time perspective
- evaluation lacks impact

