

# Importance of International Collaborations in Science and Research

Nadejda Komendantova Cooperation and Transformative Governance (CAT) Group



#### IIASA is...

An international research institute that conducts **multidisciplinary/ transdisciplinary research** to help policymakers find long-term solutions to **global and universal challenges** facing countries

434 researchers from 52 countries (29% natural scientists, 41% social scientists, 30% mathematicians and computer scientists)

BOLDSTONE BOL



#### Since 1972, IIASA has attracted some of the

#### world's best r<u>esearc</u>hers



ABOUT IIASA



# **History – A child of science diplomacy**



1967: US President Lyndon Johnson and the USSR Premier Alexey Kosygin met in Glassboro. One discussion item: to establish an international scientific institute to use scientific cooperation to build bridges across the Cold War divide.



1972: In London at the Royal Society, representatives of 12 countries including the Soviet Union and the United States sign the charter establishing IIASA.



1972 to date: Austria hosts IIASA, providing a rent-free former palace as its headquarters and bestowing the privileges of an international organization to the Institute.

#### MEMBERSHIP

## **Research focus**

**CAT Group:** Interdisciplinary approach on governance and decision-making processes under uncertainty, complexity, ambiguity and volatility while incorporating systems thinking into strategic policy planning, addressing social dilemmas and wicked policy issues

- 1/ Cooperation models
- 2/ Decisions support systems
- 3/ Participatory modelling







### **Methods in CAT group**

Cooperation models	<ul> <li>Game-theoretical models for public good and common pool management with real-world complexities</li> <li>Including bounded rationality, social heterogeneity, cultural dispositions, and institutional incentives</li> </ul>
Decision support systems	<ul> <li>Problem structuring methods</li> <li>Including prioritization of criteria, connection of drivers and criteria elicitation, selection of background influences, formulation of strategic goals, selection of most important drivers</li> </ul>
Participatory modelling	<ul> <li>Multi-criteria optimization and prioritization</li> <li>Systems mapping and morphological analysis</li> <li>Participatory scenario planning</li> </ul>



# Cooperation and Transformative Governance Group Role in Science Diplomacy

- Providing insights into understanding of social dynamics while finding efficient and sustainable governance solutions, based on game theoretical models,
- Supporting decision-making processes on societal transformations and transitions, based on multi-criteria analysis,
- Bringing confronting parties into a dialogue on contested and wicked policy issues, based on participatory modelling.



# Challenges of policy planning

Many policy planning processes are characterized by:





"Deep uncertainty"

Data scarcity, incompleteness, ambiguity



Requirements of policy feasibility for and ownership by stakeholders Urgency in providing solutions



## Methods of Systems Analysis Toolkit (SAT) developed by IIASA can help



Structure the problem and assist in sense-making



Find compromise among stakeholders



Provide social learning and exchange of best practices

#### Compromise based policy solutions: SAT methodology







- Multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA)
  - Elicitating and prioritizing **multiple stakeholder preferences** over competing goals
- Systems mapping
  - Creating a representation of the considered system, articulating its boundaries, components and links between them
- Morphological analysis
  - Revealing uncertain factors and their possible manifestations
- Scenario planning
  - Sketching **plausible futures** of the system's development
- Robust decision making
  - Creating a **portfolio of actions** to achieve the preferred goals under **all** scenarios

### Examples of application of SAT by **Cooperation and Transformative Governance** Group at IIASA





SYSTEMS ANALYSIS APPROACH TO STRATEGIC PLANNING OF WATER RESOURCES AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE UNDER HIGH UNCERTAINTIES AND CONFLICTING INTERESTS



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

International Institute for **Applied Systems Analysis** I A S A www.iiasa.ac.at

#### **CONNECTING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND** VALUE ADDED CREATION

Industrial Development of Kyrgyzstan











# Systems mapping factors in Kyrgyzstan



# **Multi-Criteria Decision Making Tool**



- Methodological approach that allows the structuring of the problem and identification of attributes relevant for decision making
- Set priorities following a group discussion consensus reaching
- Choices that one can make: which scenarios has the highest risk
- 2. Characteristics of scenarios: quantified by loss scores
- 3. Relative importance of different loss parameters: preferences and relative importance of different loss parameters (weights)



# Multi-criteria decision optimization

- Divides complex decisions into criterions, sub-criterions and allows to develop alternatives
- Increases transparency of decision-making processes
- Increases legitimacy of decision-making outcomes
- Addresses perceptions of procedural justice









Middle East North African Sustainable Electricity Trajectories (MENA Select)

Investigates the socio-economic impacts, risks and opportunities, and potential for conflict, of different electricity scenarios and power production technologies in several countries within the MENA region.

- Renewable energies, fossil fuels (oil, coal, gas) and nuclear
- Several stakeholders workshops
- Each technology will be evaluated against a set of criteria



#### Participatory process in Jordan

- Civil society and NGOs: Jordan Press Foundation, Energy Services Center, Renewable Energy Establishments Society, Jordan Environment Society, Renewable Energy Establishment Society, Jordan Energy Charter
- Finance and investment: Arab Bank, a number of private companies like Qatrana Cement
- Academia: five major Jordanian universities as well as several private research centers
- Future decision-makers
- Country representatives: mayors of communities where infrastructure is planned
- Political decision-makers: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Chamber of Industry, Ministry of Public Works, National Electric Power Company







JORDAN - Qualitative criteria importance											
Use of domestic energy sources	Global warming potential	Domestic value chain integration	Technology and knowledge transfer	Electricity system costs	On-site job creation	Pressure on land resources	Pressure on local water security	Non- emission hazardous waste	Local air pollution and health	Safety	
Moderate-low importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Moderate importance	High importance	Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	High importance	
Moderate-low importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	High importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	
Least importance	High importance	Least importance	Least importance	High importance	Least importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	High importance	
Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Moderate importance	High importance	Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate importance	Moderate-low importance	
Least importance	High importance	Least	Least	High importance	Least importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Least	Moderate-low	High importance	
Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Moderate importance	Least importance	Moderate-low importance	Least importance	Least importance	Least importance	High importance	
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JORDAN - Group divergence and convergence on "Safety"



#### Trade-off on technologies



Confident (0-80 % contraction of interval)

- Mildly confident (80-90 % contraction of interval)
- Not confident (90+ % contraction of interval)

**Conclusion:** "Alt. 1 Utility-scale Photovoltaic (PV)" is the best alternative, with "Alt. 2 Concentrated Solar Power" as runner up. The Alt. 1 > Alt. 2 statement is confident, since the information provided in this decision basis supports a strict ranking with a degree of 22 %, whereas the reverse statement is not supported.

#### **Drivers of acceptance**



#### **Communication, engagement, and attitudes cycle**



Source: Komendantova, Energy Research and Social Science, 2020





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