LOCAL ENGAGEMENT
UNDER THE AGENDA
2030

OVERVIEW OF THE PHD PROJECT
DIANTY NINGRUM

27 FEBRUARY 2020
While the goals of Agenda 2030 are global in their scope, their success will depend on how local communities will engage with them.

This engagement is likely to differ depending on local contexts such as policy agenda’s, governance arrangements, skills sets or the availability of financial resources. Local communities are concerned about the future as change is occurring more rapidly than at any time in human history.

Agenda 2030: emphasis on bottom-up initiative, ‘Leave No One Behind’.
ABOUT THE PHD

HIGH LEVEL QUESTIONS

- What are the scope and challenges for local action in governing the SDGs?
- How can we develop knowledge and approaches to enable local engagement?
- How can we achieve a deep understanding, appreciation and adaptation of bottom-up actions and strategies?

Focusing on: social science component of the project, including but not limited to: governance, local engagement, bottom up participation
OVERVIEW OF THE PHD PROJECT

CURRENT WORK

Understanding past experience of local sustainability
Identify lessons learned from past local sustainability framework (Local Agenda 21).
Methodology: systematic literature review

GOAL 1: Developing the state-of-the-art knowledge in local sustainability.

POSSIBLE NEXT STEP

Looking into local sustainability experience in Australian context
Learning from the process of localising SDGs in Australian communities
 Possibly running empirical case studies

GOAL 4: Developing and communicating a general framework for designing sustainability

POSSIBLE NEXT STEP

Using the lesson learned to understand how can SDGs be localised in Forrest/Goulburn Murray
Engagement with Forrest/Goulburn Murray community

Alignment with Local SDGs project goal
CURRENT PROGRESS

SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW OF LOCAL AGENDA 21

Looking into the enablers and constraints of past Local Agenda 21 experience all over the world.

Systematic literature review using Covidence, currently in the middle of screening 195 papers.
KEY FINDINGS (PRELIMINARY)

ABOUT PAST LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

• Local Agenda 21 (LA21): “a participatory, multi-sectoral process to achieve the goals of Agenda 21 at the local level through the preparation and implementation of a long-term, strategic action plan that addresses priority local sustainable development action” (ICLEI)

• LA21 attempted to keep local sustainability effort as open as possible. It gave no specific guideline and meant to be entrepreneurial.

• LA21 was about process as much as a product.
KEY FINDINGS (PRELIMINARY)

IN LOCAL AGENDA 21, WHAT HAS WORKED AND WHAT HAS NOT?

• LA21 adoption by local governments was supported, among others, by strong endorsement from national government, the area’s proximity with natural resource base and the availability of joint financial resources. Additionally, it is constrained by the existence of overlapping environmental initiative enforced by national government and the lack of readiness and sustainability governance capacity from local actors.

• Public participation in LA2 is enabled, among others, by evident mutual trust between citizens and municipal administration and the existence of an open and inclusive forum to brainstorm local sustainability challenges. The constraints to public participation is a low level of interest from local politicians, the size of the community, and a bureaucratic culture of local administrative practice.
FORREST VISIT - OCTOBER

- Listening post
- Kitchen table discussions
FORREST VISIT - NOVEMBER

- Open house
- Kitchen table discussion
THANK YOU

FURTHER INFORMATION
E: MSDI-enquiries@monash.edu
T: +61 3 9905 0124
Twitter: @MonashMSDI