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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DIGITAL GOVERNMENT II
WEEK 7: GLOBAL E-GOVERNMENT: RANKINGS, METRICS AND DEVELOPMENT

Apr 14, 2009

tonight's plan and announcements

- Admin, other stuff:
  final paper feedback
  next week's reading(s)
- Final paper peer review and feedback (30 mins)
- My lecture
  - making global comparisons: metrics and methodologies
  - beyond simple export or diffusion models of e-gov
  - development and developmental states, then and now (cf. Brinkerhoff)
- small-group discussions (Schuppan, Singh & Sahu, Maumbe et. al.)
- group discussion: distinctive limits and potentials for e-gov in developing country settings

Final paper proposals:
peer review and feedback

- **Country studies** – Maria Stamboulidis, Greg Russo, Michael Perry
- **Institutional change: diplomacy and immigration** – Sharon Knieper, Bei Li, Lidiya Prorochuk
- **Institutional change: projects and information flow** – Elizabeth Bedford, Josh Gerrish, Bryan Birchmeier
- **Website evaluation: municipal (1)** – Emily Hamstra, Amy Stilgenbauer, Chris Zbrozek
- **Website evaluation (2): state and federal** – Todd Baker, Meredith Raymond, Hannah Wald
- **Participation & citizen engagement** – Jessica Jones, Emily Puckett, Nealie McBean
- **E-gov & web 2.0** – Travis August, Ben Worrel, Chris Kypreos
- **Post-colonialism & development** – Karen Kennedy, Chris Blakely, Andy Vargo

Some USEFUL QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER…

- What is the argument, question, or research claim being explored or tested?
- What empirical site(s) / case(s) is the paper exploring?
- What methods is the paper deploying?
- What sources, theories, frameworks, or literature is the paper drawing on?
- How 'doable' is the proposed project, given constraints of time and page limits? Does the proposal need to be re-scoped?
- What is the wider significance of this case / question, etc.? (Why should we care about this?)
- ** *Suggestions re: additional sources, focusing, clarification, structure, etc.* **

Making global comparisons:

UNPAN 2008: metrics and methodologies

- from NPM to 'whole-of-government' approaches (in the 2008 UNPAN report, 'connected governance')
- UN E-Government Survey 2008:

- **Web Measure Index:**
  (based on 5-stage model, questionnaire and ranking of national portals and key ministerial sites (cf. West))
- **Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:**
  composite of 5 indices: internet users, PCs, landlines, cell phones, and broad band per 100 persons)
- **Human Capital Index:**
  adult literacy (2/3) and gross enrollment ratio (1/3)
- **eParticipation Index:**
  (based on questionnaire and content analysis, assessing 'E-Information,' 'E-Consultation,' and E-Decision-making' dimensions)

Alternative e-gov development:

Beyond export or diffusion models

- *Are the concerns, priorities, and relevant measures of e-government in 'developed' countries relevant to 'developing' countries undergoing or contemplating related reforms in IT and government?*
- Pathologies of e-gov implementation in developing country contexts: Dada/Heeks 'gap' analysis:
  - hard-soft gaps (driven by technical possibility)
  - private-public gaps (driven by private sector models)
  - country context gaps (driven by developed country models)

Development and developmental states:
(the rise, fall, and rise (?) of the state in development thinking)

- State-led development (1940s-1970s)

  modernization theory ('big push,' take-offs, aggressive restructuring of economies & populations), project-based lending, infant industries, import-substitution industrialization (ISI), etc.

- Structural adjustment / NPM (1980s-late1990s?)

  "getting the prices right," letting markets work, downsizing and public sector reform, the 'predatory state'; the 'Washington consensus,' policy-based lending, export-oriented industrialization (EOI), etc.

Coda: 'the miracle debate…'

- The 'rehabilitated' (or 'strategic') state (late 1990s-present)

  good governance, rights-based development ('development as freedom), institutional conditions for growth, basic services and safety nets, etc.

Small-group discussion:

(Schuppan, Singh & Sahu, Maumbe et. al.)

- 5-7 mins per reading

- outline the empirical case and key findings or arguments from each article;
- connect the arguments or findings in the articles to:
  a) arguments in the general weekly reading set around the nature, limits, and potential of e-government applications in developing countries; and
  b) specific implications for e-government design or policy in developing country settings.

- concluding exercise (10 mins):

  3 of the most significant **barriers** or **limits** to effective e-gov implementation in developing country settings are…

  3 of the most promising or significant **opportunities** for e-gov development in developing country settings are…

Discussion: Distinctive limits and potentials of e-gov in developing country settings

- 3 of the most significant **barriers** or **limits** to effective e-gov implementation in developing country settings are:

- 3 of the most promising or significant **opportunities** for e-gov implementation in developing country settings are: