Institutional arrangements for the development of sustainable communities: An analysis of the implementation of the Bailique Community Protocol (preliminary version)

Abstract: This article analyses the effects of an institutional arrangement based on the Institutional Analyses for Development (IAD) framework (Ostrom, 1990; 1994). A comparative case study was carried out on the implementation of the Bailique Community Protocol - a collectively constructed document that defines rules that reflect the character of traditional communities, internal and external procedures and sustainable use of the territory - in three riverside communities located in the Bailique archipelago, in the Amazon Delta, Brazil. The literature points to the recognition of new actors in the process of producing public policies, such as the creation of institutional arrangements, in this case the archipelago stands out for its practice of self-managing social technologies. In 2023, the document under analysis completed ten years of existence, which presents an opportunity for an investigation into its operationalisation. Another relevant point is that there is very little academic production on the archipelago as an empirical object, while this region has been gaining political prominence due to the possibility of oil exploration. In this context, this article aims to answer how the Bailique Community Protocol has been implemented in three different communities from the perspective of local actors, based on a targeted content analysis of 32 semi-structured interviews conducted in the territory, based on the attributes listed by the IAD Framework (Ostrom,1989), and comparing them with the content of the Protocol. The aim is to contribute theoretically to the discussion on institutional arrangements in the field of public policy. Empirically, it aims to academically systematise the operationalisation of the Protocol and may contribute to prioritising this territory in the public and political debate.

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