

# **The policy cycle**

# Policy Cycle

## 1. Agenda Setting

- a) Problem identification
- b) Agenda Setting
- c) Policy Research

## 2. Policy Formation

- a) Policy Options and strategies
- b) Policy Negotiation
- c) Policy Formulation
- d) Policy Organization

## 3. Policy Implementation

- a) Policy implementation
- b) Policy Enforcement

## 4. Policy Review

- a) Policy Accountability
- b) Policy Evaluation

# Agenda Setting

- Identify the issue/ problem
- Identify the spaces of policy dialogue and the utility and complexity of each space: Know who operates there (Actors/Institutions)
- Make the problem known to the policy makers through launching reports and inviting the policy makers to you
- Arm yourself with powerful Policy Analyses: Enter the Agenda setting through key policy briefs/Policy analysis reports
- Do we have the networks and coalitions needed to make us powerful negotiator-remember the Group and Subgovernment theories of policy making/ Analysis

# Policy Formation

- Policy formation requires key skills in advocacy and communication;
- This stage requires persuasion and negotiation
- Plan how to get your reformers into this space
- Plan how to get your change makers
- Ensure significant Policy ORGANIZATION by getting a clear idea of what are the programmes, who controls the money, where we will get the technical staff, how we shall get the community to own the programmes

# Policy Implementation

- Using policy organization compact/ plan- ensure you build the capacity building of the implementing staff.
- Ensure clear indicators are agreed on before implementation begins- the MDGs failed partly due to poor or lack of indicators
- Intentions can not be implemented... Programs can be implemented

# Policy Review Stage

- Ask the Questions of success based on the indicators
- Monitor using DOVE-Description, Ownership, value, Existence of the implementation
- Carry out the actual evaluation involving the communities to ensure the reports are taken seriously.

# Tips

- Ensure you dialogue with credibility
- Build relationships with allies and Middle ground Actors in government
- Know which credit to take and which government will take
- Ensure budgets that will sustain dialogue