

Metachoice and metadata : innovating with environmental policy analysis in Europe

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Propositions accompanying the thesis
Metadata and Metachoice
Innovating with Environmental Policy Analysis in Europe
By *Sachin Kumar Badkas*

1. There is a context for comparing apples and oranges. When it comes to design, nothing puts the functions and limitations of the form of an apple in perspective as an orange. The merits of a particular comparison vary with the objective of comparison.
2. Quantity and quality are commonly seen as a trade-off. Yet all that is required for quantity to indicate quality is to reference it. (E.g. The colours red and blue might be said to be qualitatively different, but the wavelength of light is just a referenced quantity.)
3. Policy instruments are at least as much like products as they are like projects. *Chapter 4*
4. As all economic analysis, cost-effectiveness analysis relies on a frame of reference and can learn much from Life Cycle Analysis, a method that emphasizes effort invested in arguments for refining reference frames. *Chapter 4*
5. Analysis so modified can affect decision outcomes and design choices in non-obvious ways. *Chapter 5*
6. The European Union would further its environmental goals, as perhaps those in other areas, with concerted attention to graduate education in public policy and by explicitly instituting and supporting the professional practice of policy analysis in government. *Chapter 6*
7. Problems regarding data will soon go from there being too little of it to there being far too much. The environment will be among the biggest gainers among policy sectors. Analysts everywhere would do well to welcome the imminent revolution and brace themselves. *Chapter 7*

8. One learns at least as much from exposure to and engagement with other research as from conducting one's own.

9. Contemporary advances in environmental policy lured a graduate student to Europe, when his peers aspired exclusively to an American education. In that field, the Continent has demonstrated how a group of nations may yield to collective governance and push the bounds of the politically palatable beyond where nations and economies separately would. May it likewise inspire the world in other fields. For now more than ever, the world needs that lesson.