



Brown Bag Series #4

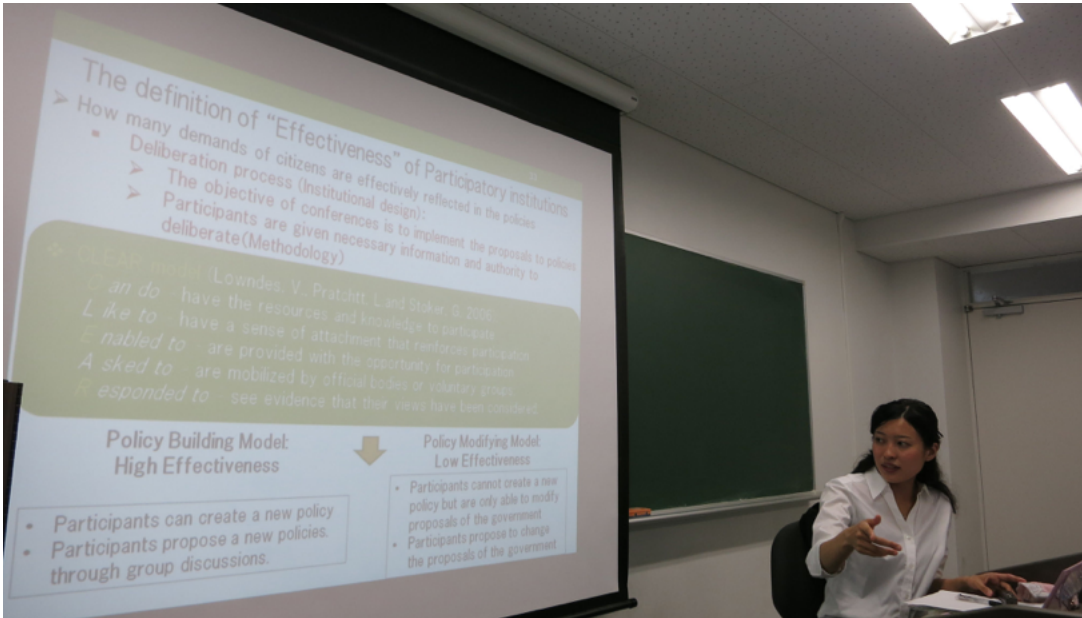
Date: June 26, 2015
Time: 12 : 20-14 : 30
Venue: Building 8 (Room 206), Komaba Campus, UTokyo
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Determinants of Successful Participatory Institutions in Brazil

What enables civil society to sustain effective participatory institutions? Civil society is assumed to play an important role in enhancing social accountability in new democracies still lacking electoral accountability. Civil society in new democracies, however, has two divergent characteristics: actors independent from the government and actors controlled by the government.

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To define the political outcomes brought by these different aspects of civil society, I observed participatory institutions. I categorized strategies used by civil society as inside and outside strategies and examined the effectiveness of participatory institutions as a political outcome.



Using original observational data collected in Brazil, I compared two National Public Policy Conferences (the national level participatory institutions), and attempted to identify the factors responsible for sustaining effective participatory institutions. For this purpose, I draw on social movement theories as an analytical framework, assuming that participatory institutions are an outcome of a struggle over political power. In so doing, I demonstrated that social pressure produced by civil society served to sustain effective participatory institutions.



Participants' impressions

- The session was thought-provoking, and I appreciated how the presenter gave us a fruitful talk based on her research. Different backgrounds of the participants in the audience gave meaningful dynamics of the discussion.
- Muy buena la presentación. Sería interesante ligarla a la problemática del clientelismo para ver qué tipo de participación ciudadana es la más recomendable para América Latina.