

Typologies of institutionalised co-production of water and sanitation services in the urban south
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Abstract

This contribution enters the debate on sustainable urban service provision in the Global South as part of a research project on institutionalized co-production of water and sanitation services (WSS). The spread of these new forms of service provision and related territorial and socio-economic implications is suitable for being investigated under a double fold perspective, combining public management considerations with environmental and spatial ones.

A comparative analysis will be performed by analysing a number of selected case studies in 5 cities (Hanoi, Mumbai, Addis Ababa, Kinshasa and Cochabamba), with the aim to cover a wide range of typologies of WSS co-production. Cases will be analysed in the following dimensions:

- i) *The actors*, with the purpose to define how and at which stage of the water cycle institutional actors and communities are involved in the service provision and whether co-production is stimulated by top-down policies or bottom-up initiatives.
- ii) *The flows*, through a mapping of WSS networks and clusters and the multiple technical solutions that communities and single households adopt to access water and sanitation in order to establish their impact on the environment and the water resources.
- iii) *The areas*, by highlighting the link between water infrastructures and urban forms. The purpose is to formulate hypothesis on the urban and environmental dynamics that may facilitate or prevent co-production activities, to identify the areas where they take place and assess their impact on the spatial dimension.

Goal of the comparative research is to assess the impact of those practices on communities, settlements and the environment in order to establish whether they are sustainable in terms of life cycle costing, socio-spatial equity, environmental and urban quality.