

Evaluating transitions

- a review of policy evaluations
for energy efficiency in buildings

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Sofie Sandin
&
Lena Neij

International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics
Lund University



Introduction

- Need for a transition to a more sustainable and energy efficient society:
 - Policy instruments
 - Research
- Need for evaluation of policy and research efforts, for future design and implementation

Objective

- To advance knowledge about current evaluation practice for policy instruments targeting energy efficiency in the built environment.
- **To shed light on the extent to which evaluations are able to support a transition.**

Policy evaluation - a framework

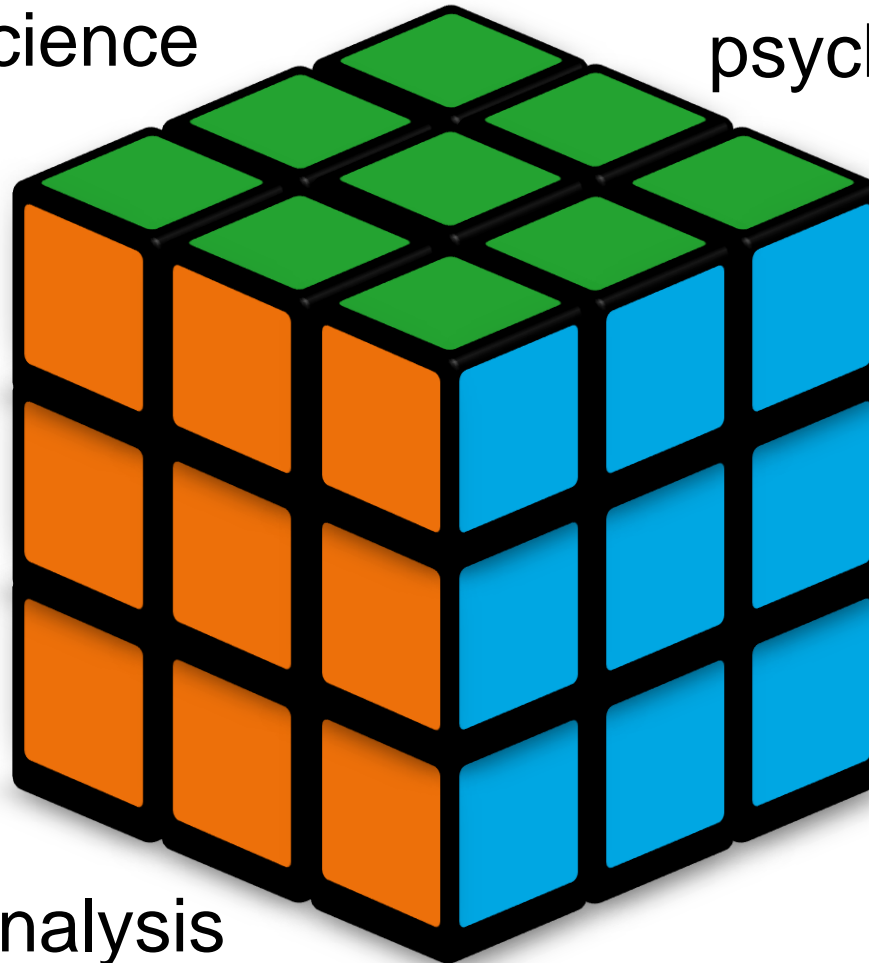
Sociology
of Science

Environmental
psychology

Evaluation
theory

Transition
theory

Policy Analysis



Evaluation theory

Three main categories:

- A. Methods
- B. Value criteria
- C. Use



Alkin & Christie (2013)

Transition theory



Key aspects:

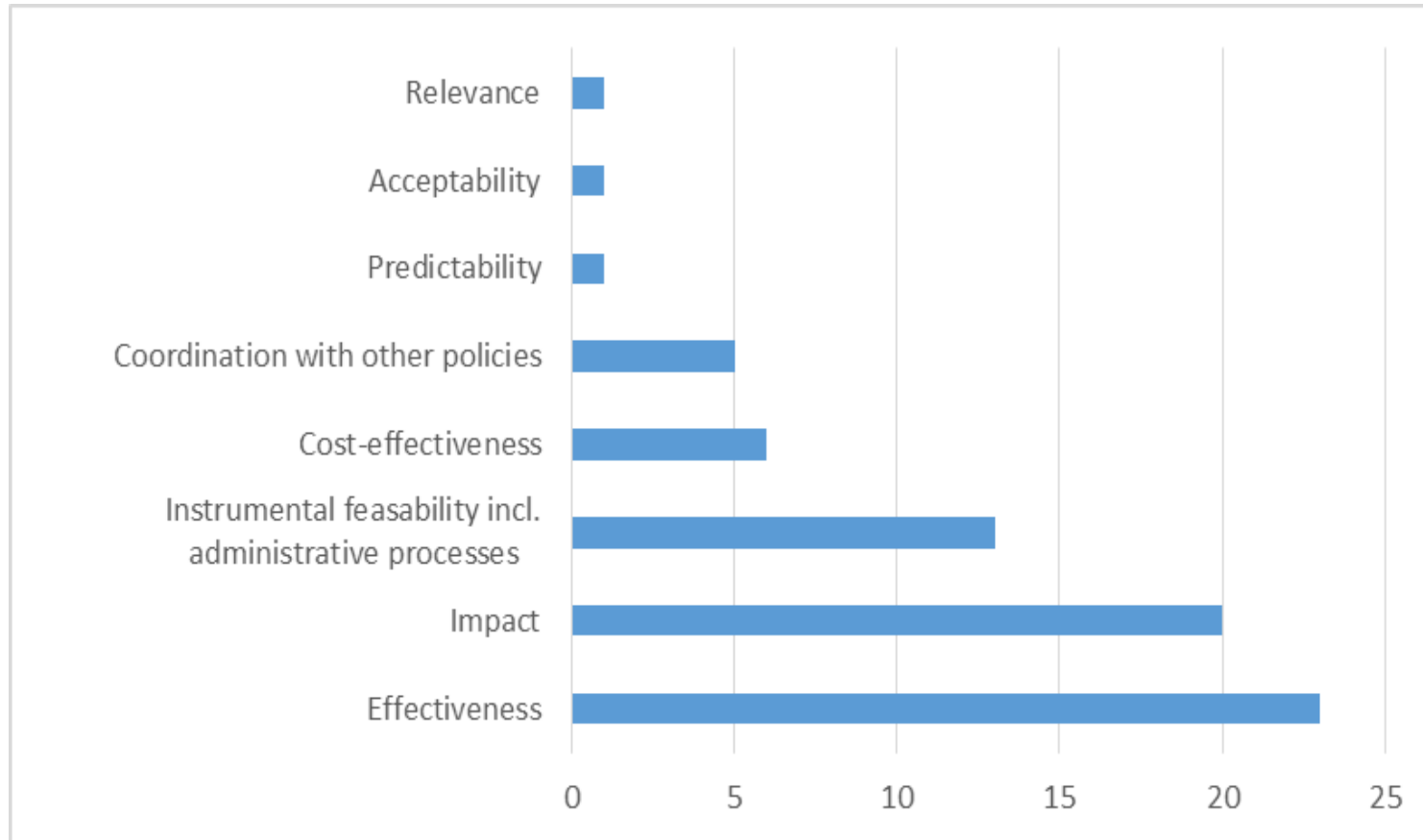
- System perspective
- Multi-actor
- Visioning
- Experimentation
- Learning
- Reflexivity

Critical review sample

- 33 evaluations of policy instruments for EE in buildings in Sweden
- Commissioned by swedish authorities 2005-2015
- Both ex-post and ex-ante
- Single policy evaluations

Results

- Evaluation criteria



Results

- Capturing of transformative efforts

System perspective - Focus on actors (29/33)

Actors (29/33)

- authorities, businesses, beneficiaries, organizations etc.

Institutional aspects (4/33)

- Two ex-ante evaluations of building codes
- One ex-post of technology procurement
- One ex-post of a demonstration project

Technological factors

- One ex-ante evaluation of building codes
- One ex-post of technology procurement

Results

- Capturing of transformative efforts

Multi-actor - two or more actor groups (16/31)

- Authorities, businesses, beneficiaries, organizations etc.
 - Extent of involvement varies: surveys, interviews, etc.
 - Number of respondents 1-700
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- Vision - No clear long-term evaluation strategy apparent
- Combination ex-post/ex-ante (1/30)

Results

- Capturing of transformative efforts

Experiments - Mentioned (4/33)

- Cooperative network programs; technology procurement; demonstration project; financial support for EE measures
- Three positive, one negative
- Depending on policy type

Results

- Capturing of transformative efforts

Learning - Conveying of learning and experiences not stated

- Focus on ex-post evaluation (30/33)
- Suggestions for improvement

Reflexivity - Varying extent (8/33)

- Challenging of established goals, instrument design

Discussion

- Key aspects from transition theory acknowledged to varying extents
- Structure in place for expansion
- Need for a deliberate focus on providing insights on transformative efforts

Thank you!

Contact

Sofie Sandin

International Institute for Industrial Environmental
Economics (IIIEE) at Lund University

sofie.sandin@iiiee.lu.se

Lena Neij

International Institute for Industrial Environmental
Economics (IIIEE) at Lund University

lana.neij@iiiee.lu.se

