

Workpackage 3: Articulating New Accountability Systems

Two research teams involved in WP3

- Oxford team: Daniel Neyland, Steve Woolgar, Peter Healey
- Focus on accountability and mundane (electronic waste, textiles, disease)
- Coimbra team: João Arriscado Nunes, Marisa Matias, Ana Raquel Matos and Daniel Neves
- Focus on experiments in participatory accountability
- Amsterdam 'Provocateur': Rob Hagendijk

Workpackage 3

Articulating new accountability systems

- Why accountability?
 - Can be central to questions of inequality
 - Measures, relations, inclusion/exclusion (etc)
- Accountability in what sense?
 - Broad interpretation
 - Beyond just political or numerical accountability

Workpackage 3

Accountability in what sense?

- Face to face
 - Meetings, inspections, conversations
- Directive
 - Measures, metrics, milestones, indicators
- Demonstrative
 - Transparency, audit, public good
- Participatory
 - Process, inclusion, outcomes

Workpackage 3

- Can ask question of inclusion, measures, etc
- Can ask questions of consequences
- Also need to question how different modes of accountability fix what problem/solution is
- And need to ask what alternatives exist for understanding problem/solution
- And accountability challenges involved

Malaria

- Research: interviews with 34 organisations
- WHO 'neglected diseases'
- Scale, humanity and immediacy
- Diseases prevalent in developing countries
 - Multiple possible policies
 - Multiple possible interventions
- Policies and interventions involve accountability questions

Malaria: policies

Malaria understood as a policy problem:

- Tax breaks
- Discount schemes
- Patents
- Markets
- Public-Private Partnerships

How to hold policy to account?

Malaria

Public private partnerships location
where...

- Malaria as a policy problem
- Malaria as an object of
intervention

... are drawn together

Raises questions of accountability

Malaria: interventions



Different partnerships -

1. Roll Back Malaria (RBM):

control strategies - focus on villages

2. Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV):

drug treatment - focus on infrastructure

3. Malaria Vaccine Initiative (MVI):

aim to produce a vaccine

problem = focus for science



Questions of accountability and problems/solutions

Malaria: interventions

PPPs involve some face to face and participatory(-ish)
Mostly directive and demonstrative accountability
Directive accountability based on measures of
scientific advance, value, reporting, etc.
Accountability measures shape scientific activity
But action is on-going and uncertain
Problem/solution varies - control/villagers,
drugs/infrastructure, vaccines/science

The control of Dengue in Rio de Janeiro and Recife

- 1990: The turn to responses based on multi-level, decentralized, community-based approaches to the monitoring and control of disease vectors
- Articulation of different disciplines and forms of knowledge (public health specialists, entomologists, local ecologies, etc.)
- Monitoring and evaluation of success and failures: how relevant is community participation?
- Promotion of integrated and participatory processes of health surveillance: what difference can it make?

The import of used tyres as a threat to health



Tyres as breeding grounds for mosquitoes

The different 'framings' of the problem:
'international trade' versus 'public health' and
the 'double standards'

Inequality within countries, and between
countries and regions

Accountability through conflict?

Accountability challenges

Can ask questions of accountability:

Accountability shift

Accountability drift

Accountability narrowing

Accountability and uncertainty

Accountability and risk

Need to also ask questions of problems/
solutions:

E.g. is a market or a partnership

useful way to understand problem/solution



Participatory accountability



Expanding accountability systems beyond convention

Rethink knowledges, technologies and inequalities

What counts as knowledge?

Who is entitled to come forward with claims and participate in the discussion, elaboration, enactment and monitoring of proposals in the domain of public policies?

Opportunity to question dominant approaches to development