

The social life of health policies

An empirically-grounded reflection on the implementation of
integrated care in the field of mental health

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San-Sebastian

A social approach to...

Policy change in the field of mental health

--- ongoing and progressive

➤ conception – organisation – roles and relationships

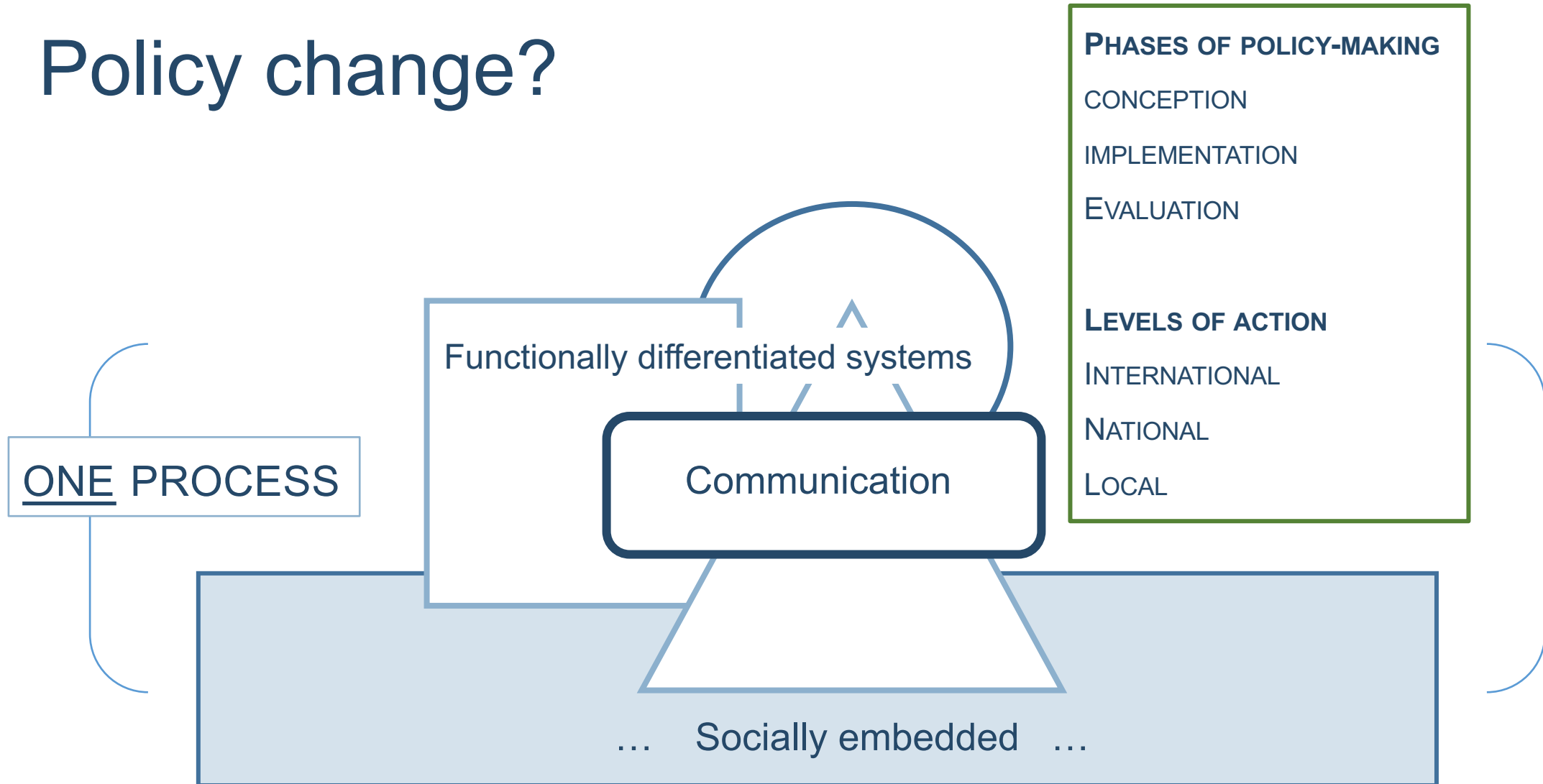
A Belgian reform of mental health 2010 - ...

Hospital/community

Integrated care networks – 5 care functions:

1. prevention and promotion
2. acute and chronic mobile teams
3. rehabilitation and social insertion
4. intensive treatment units
5. alternative housing facilities

Policy change?

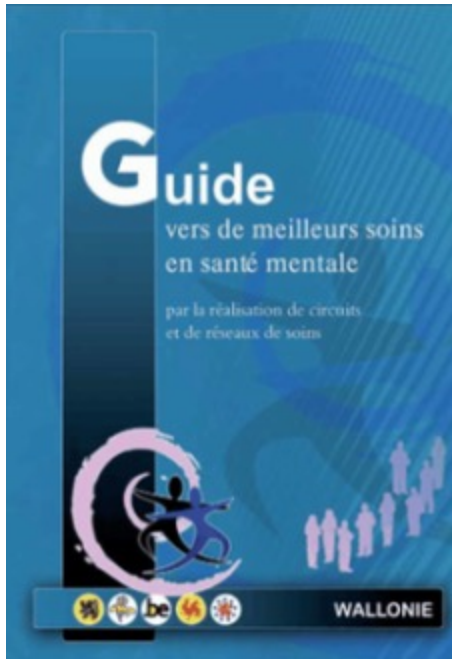


meaning

[variation] - [selection] – [rentention] - [stabilisation]

documents_projects_coordination_meetings_practices

[documents]



- documents exist in relation to other documents – **references**
- frame of reference – fix the meaning
- **material support** – circulation and communication
- Interpretation – inter-systemic

[projects]

- inter-systems and temporary devices aimed at articulating different views of the world
- expression / observation
- organisational strategies and /or professional projects
- formal frame – coordination and synchronisation
- selection, retention and formalisation

[coordination]

- new and widespread function
- informal sources of power – know-how, network of relationships and understanding of meeting communication
- documents and meetings

[meetings]

- pervasive
- **transient interaction systems**
- expression, observation and reflection
- future communication: documents or verbal communication

[practices]

- **transient and interaction system with a practical purpose**
- enact a meaning of policy change – understood from another system's viewpoint
- **future communication** occurring in reference to policy change
- political legitimacy – ***events***

[illustration]

The reform is an **ongoing process**. I want Belgium to pursue the march towards access to mental health care and towards better quality services for all. I also want the **experience** [of innovative practices developed following the mental health care reform] described in this publication to be useful to all those actively marching in this direction in other countries or communities.”

Docteur Shekhar Saxena,

Director, WHO, Mental Health Department

Manual of innovative practices, 2016, www.innopsy107.be

In conclusion

constructivism

a radical contingency

an apparent consistency – how?

steering of health policy implementation ?

Background

- [Research 1] *The System for Addressing Personal Problems – From Medicalisation to Socialisation: Shifts in Belgian Psychiatric and Mental Health Institutions*, Oct. 2011- Oct. 2015, PhD research commissioned by the Fund for Scientific Research –F.R.S.- FNRS, Thunus, S.
- [Research 2] *The organisation of Mental Health Care for the Adult Population in Belgium*, Sept.2017 - Dec.2018, evaluation research commissioned by the Belgian Health Care Knowledge Centre, KCE, WP1 [qualitative part], Thunus, S., Neyens, I. Walker C. et al.
- [Research 3] *Parcours.Bruxelles – A Qualitative Evaluation Research of the Mental Health Care System in the Brussels Region*, Jan. 2018 - Sept.2018, commissioned by the Common Community Commission of the Brussels Region, Walker, H. C., Nicaise, P., Thunus, S.