

From the streets of Brussels to sites of local materialization: Evaluating (un-)sustainable pathways of bioenergy policy mobility and its translations.

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“I strongly believe in the potential of green growth. I therefore want Europe’s Energy Union to become the world number one in renewable energies” (Jean-Claude Juncker, European Commission President)

Policy design, mobility and materialization as well as the (re-)production of governance rationalities of the involved actors are shaped by a myriad of relations that guide their conduct. Concerning EU policy, Brussels and its EU quarter is regarded as the core space wherein policy ‘designers’ combining actors such as decision makers (politics, administrative), lobbyists (industry, NGOs,..) and a wide variety of networks aim to influence the political and social development of Europe and beyond. However, to understand governance processes and the potential of policy programmes we must move beyond this prominent realm and integrate the various translation loops that affect and remould policy on their way to implementation and vice versa from implementation practices towards design (e.g. feedback, conflict) to understand the hybrid assemblages that (re-)produce spaces of governance and their actors aims. In the light of the EUs green growth and sustainable development strategies the paper tabs into the shifting positionalities of bioenergy development as a prominent part to achieve these EU targets. Thus, it critically follows the shifting rationalities and positionalities regarding the (un-)sustainable potential and materialization processes of bioenergy development from the nodes of policy design in the ‘streets’ of Brussels to the actors involved in the implementation and contestation of various programmes on the national/local level.