Breaking the Iron Triangle of Policy Making: Empowering Marginalized Groups in Realizing Rights

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Challenges/ Limitations- Why the Existing Mechanisms Do Not Work

- Supply Side
  - Structural Problems
    - Reactive rather than proactive- no effort to facilitate or amplify marginalized voices
    - Legal barriers for CSOs
  - Issues Related with Voice
    - Gatekeeping bars selection of representative voices
    - Information has not been disseminated properly & digital divide
  - Reflection and Accountability

Demand Side

- Concerns about representation
  - Concerns are there whether the CSOs really reflect or represent the LNOBs
  - Local level LNOB groups/ organizations do not get access to policy process
- Problems in coalition building
- Technical Capacity
- Collective Action Problem
- The outcome is the growth of an 'Iron Triangle' where bureaucracy plays the role of gatekeeper to prevent access for the LNOB groups
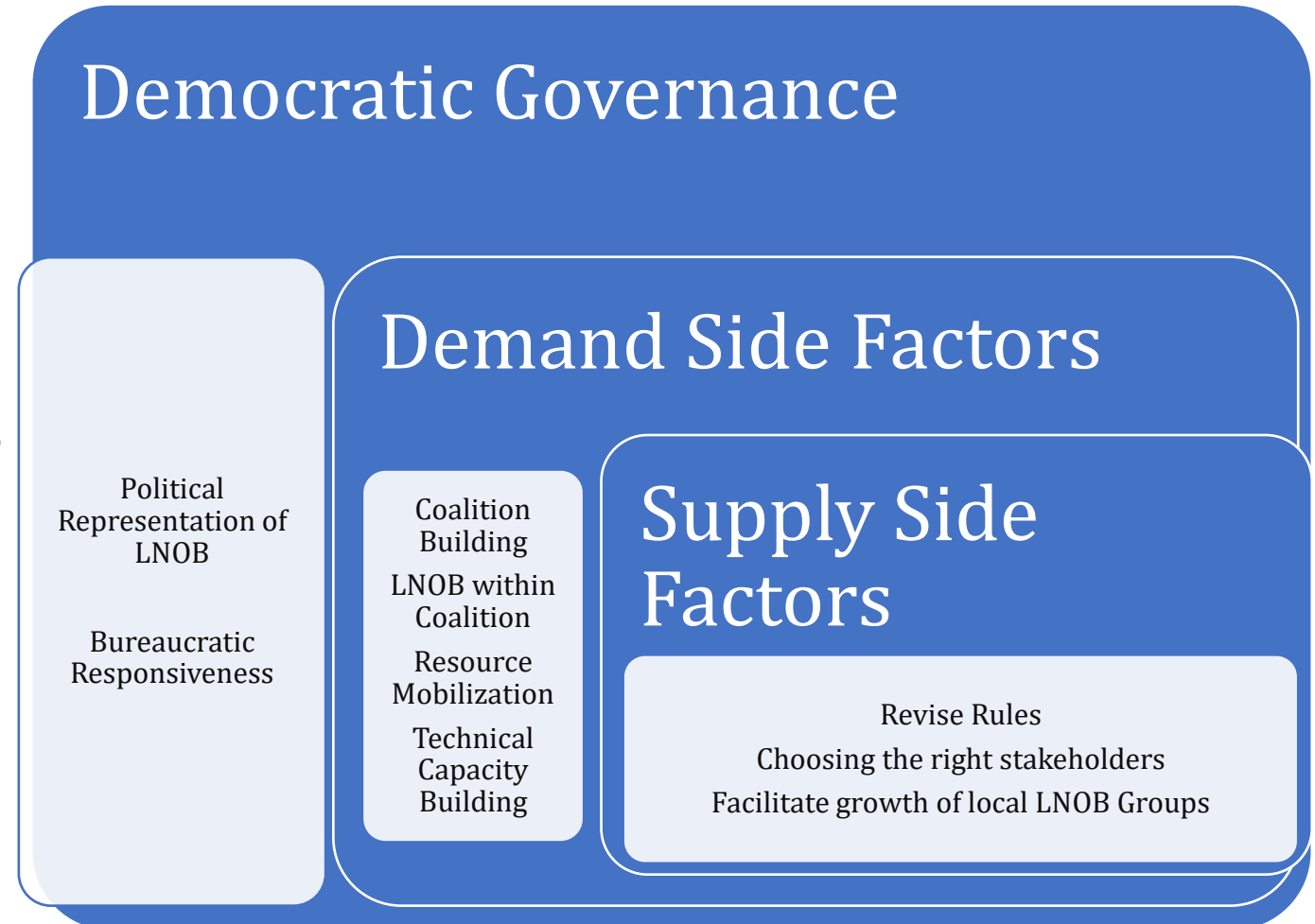
Proposed Model

Embracing the Democratic Principles-

- Ensure representation
- Bureaucratic responsiveness

Supply Side Approaches

- Structural Modifications
- Choosing the right stakehodlers to ensure voice

Demand Side Approaches

- Focus on coalition building with inclusion of LNOB groups
- Resource mobilization
- Strategy to counter backlash
- Enhance technical capacity

Democratic Governance

Political Representation of LNOB

Bureaucratic Responsiveness

Demand Side Factors

Coalition Building

LNOB within Coalition

Resource Mobilization

Technical Capacity Building

Supply Side Factors

Revise Rules

Choosing the right stakeholders

Facilitate growth of local LNOB Groups

Challenges to Execute

Democratic Governance
- Ensuring political buy-in for ensuring representation
- Dealing with administrative resistance- how can we identify and develop the 'right' incentive framework?

Demand Side
- As coalition building is the key, how can we bring together the rights-based organizations to create pressure?
- How can we make sure that the LNOB groups will be part of the coalition?
- How to create an enabling environment to support the CSOs and LNOB Groups?

Supply Side
- How can we ensure that the 'right stakeholders' will be chosen?
- How to ensure that LNOB voices are recorded?
- How to ensure accountability?

Thank You

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