

Comments from Prof. Darnall

PAPER #1: Dendup paper

This is a nice paper. The research questions are interesting, and you are working with good data to begin answering your questions. I have several comments/suggestions to consider as it moves forward to completion:

- I wonder about regional factors that affect this model. How might responses differ for rural municipalities compared to urban ones? For instance, rural municipalities are more likely to promote composting than urban municipalities. This may explain some of the variation in your existing model.
 - I like the idea that you are separating policies by their public/private benefits. The following paper may be of use to you as you develop this further: [Market segmentation of consumers based on their actual sustainability and health-related purchases](#).
 - Since your goal is to draw more formal distinctions among policies based on their public/private benefits, I recommend developing a table that distinguishes the two policies based on key characteristics then populating this table with the policies that are included in your paper. The text should justify why each policy meets the key characteristics of the definition (public/private benefits). Then use this table to develop formal hypotheses around the different types of policies and outcomes.
 - Given the nature of this topic, I believe that *Journal of Cleaner Production* may be a good outlet for this paper.

PAPER #2: Naonari paper

This paper feels at an earlier stage of development. This is good, because there are several places where a little additional effort can make this paper much stronger. I have several comments/suggestions to consider as it moves forward to completion:

- You are asking interesting questions about what factors lead to the adoption of formal (independent) and informal sustainable purchasing policies. It would be interesting to see a correlation matrix that assesses these relationships, prior to undertaking a more in-depth empirical analysis.
- Other interesting variables to consider include the centralization of purchasing within the local government as many governments take a decentralized approach, whereas others are more centralized and these effects purchasing efficiency and ability to adopt SPP. The following paper may assist you in thinking about this further: [Sustainability policy objectives, centralized decision making, and efficiency in public procurement processes in U.S. local governments](#)
- I'm thinking that other organizational variables will be salient as well. Consider things such as the size of the local government, whether or not other complementary policies exist, the political orientation of the municipality or prefecture, the innovation culture of local government, degree of leadership support, etc. Some of these variables are in the SPP data that we collected several years ago. They may be useful to pull into this analysis, even if the sample size decreases a bit.
- Another paper that could prove quite useful looks at different types of sustainability policies that local governments implement, believing that different external and internal support leads to different types of sustainability strategies: [All are not created equal: assessing local governments' strategic approaches towards sustainability](#)
- When completed, this paper would be very well suited for a public administration journal, but also for a sustainability/environmental management journal.