

## **PROPOSITIONS**

attached to the thesis

### **PROCESSES OF INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE: THE CASE OF SMALL TOWN WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN GHANA**

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1. The local social and institutional context provides necessary but not sufficient conditions to enable actors to engage in institutional change. The urgent need for water triggers actors' responses and practices to support or resist water institutional arrangements. *This thesis*
2. Traditional chiefs will resist institutional change when the supposed change is a threat to their leadership role but they will support it when it enhances their image and reinforces their powers as leaders of their community *This thesis*
3. Economic consideration is not the only motivation for institutional entrepreneurs to engage in institutional change. The values and worldviews regarding collective goods and difficulties in assessing water in the past directs change agents' practices. *This thesis.*
4. The availability of alternative water sources affects the punctuality of water vendors, while absence of alternative sources enables vendors to cheat customers, which together have consequences on users' access to safe and reliable water supply. *This thesis.*
5. Factoring actors agency into the analysis of institutions enable an understanding of the processes of institutional change. *This thesis*
6. How actors define their interests and problems and their access to resources trigger their agential capacity.
7. Deliberate creation of institutional arrangements for rural water management is unlikely to achieve intended objectives if local specificities are ignored.
8. Institutional change will occur when there are institutional entrepreneurs available and they have access to resources to enable or resist institutional change.
9. The failure of policymakers to acknowledge and make explicit the vendors' roles and responsibilities in the water delivery system has derailed gains made towards ensuring universal access to safe and accessible drinking water supply in rural and small towns Ghana.
10. Fieldwork is much more than methods, data gathering and planning. It is about human interaction, an opportunity to reflect on the past, the future and the unknown.
11. Theories and scientific evidence do not explain the root causes of policy failure; they are just a tip of the iceberg. The causes of policy failure are below the iceberg and need magnifying glass to see and understand the dynamics occurring on the ground.