Challenges of Sustainable Wastewater Management in Pakistan
The Case of Faisalabad (Jabeen, S. & Birner, R.)

What is sustainable wastewater management?
“Sustainable sanitation and wastewater management systems are that minimize depletion of the resource base, protect and promote human health, minimize environmental degradation, are technically and institutionally appropriate, socially acceptable and economically viable in the long term” (Andersson et al. 2016).

Introduction and study Area
- 3rd largest populated city of Pakistan (more than seven million inhabitants)
- ‘Manchester of Pakistan’ (large textile industrial sector)
- Approximately 52% of population depend on agriculture
- Water stress (semi-arid region, saline groundwater)
- Only 20% of effluents are treated
- Farmers legally won their rights to irrigate their fields with wastewater (Weckenbrock et al., 2011)

Challenges (Results from Fig. 2)
- Incapability of implementing agencies (lacking human, technical and financial resources)
- Legal Implementation gaps (Lengthy litigation process)
- Institutional environment (Nepotism, colleague’s interferences, and social and political bonding)
- Weak administrative linkages
- Chaos among institutions about delegation of authority (Decentralization)

Implication
- Without considering institutional challenges, the target of sustainable wastewater management cannot be achieved.
- The problem would just be reshaped not solved

Methodology
1) Empirical Data
Focus group discussions, In-depth interviews, Net-maps, and Departmental reports
2) Data analysis
Content analysis, IAD framework, Historical institutionalism

Reference:

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