

The Resurgence of National Development Planning: Responding to Changing Circumstances



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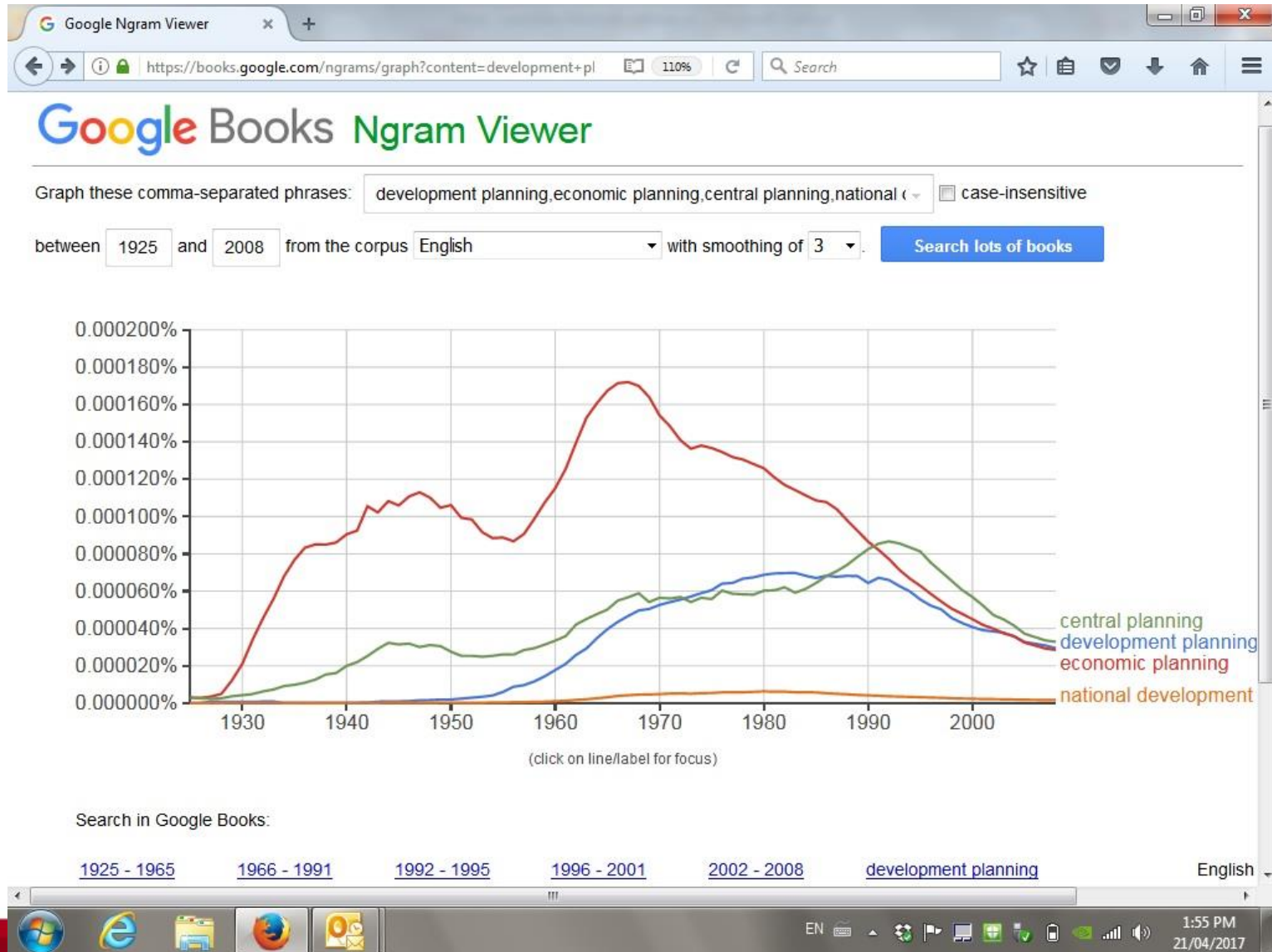


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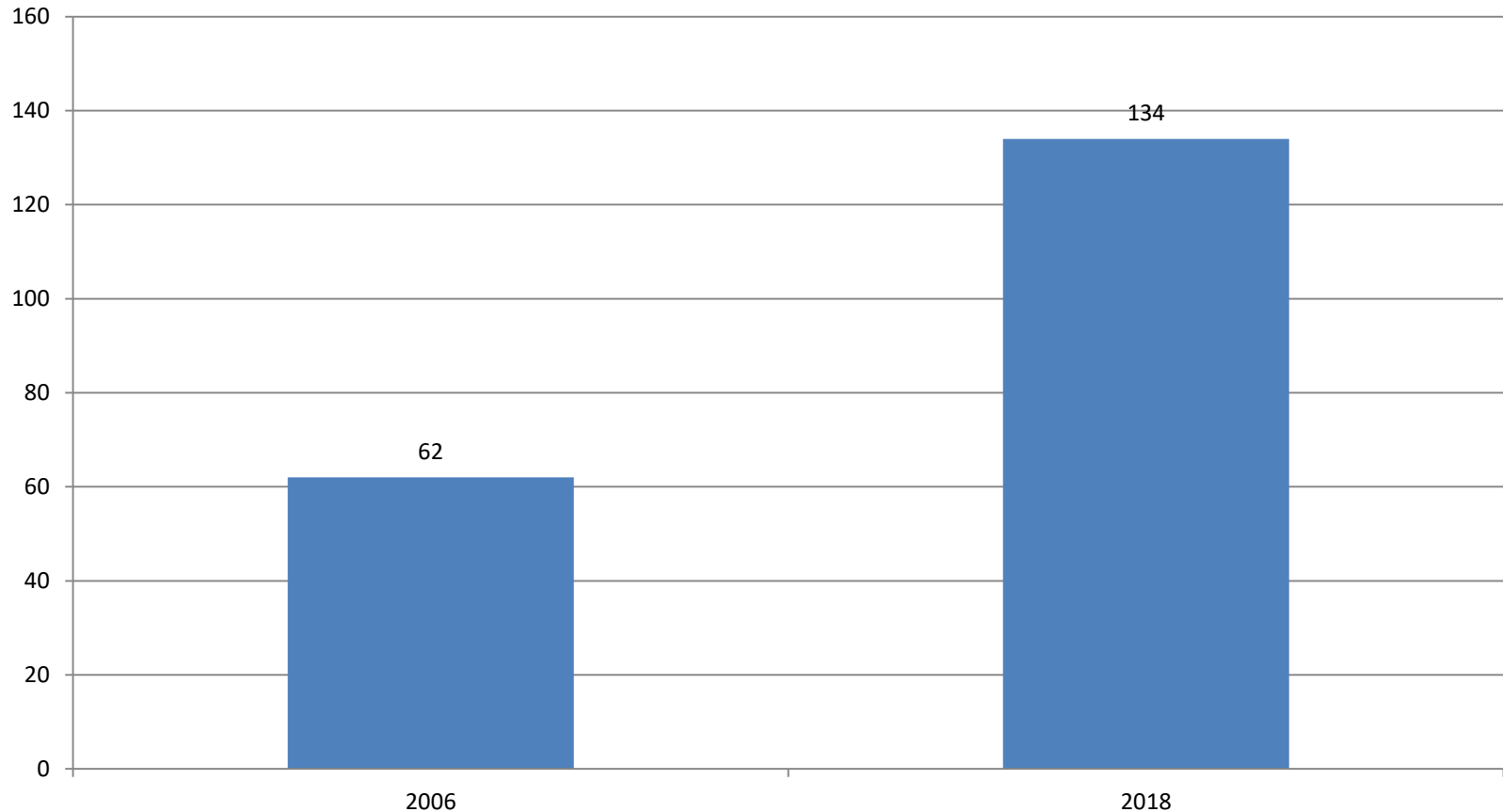
Questions

- What drives the resurgence in national development planning?
- How is the new national planning different?
- What lessons can be learned so far?
- What are the implications of COVID-19 for national planning?
- How can plans help make countries more resilient to future shocks?

When Did We Lose Interest in Planning?



But, national planning is back in style! The number of countries with an NDP has doubled since 2006.



What Is Driving the Increase in Number of National Development Plans?

- Not the usual suspects: UN, World Bank, IMF, or OECD.
- Other than ECLAC and UNECA, they were barely aware of the resurgence of national development planning until 2018.
- Apart from PRSPs, we found only seven documents on NDPs on UN, World Bank, IMF, or OECD websites in mid-2016 and mid-2017. ([Chimhowu et al. 2018](#))
- There are five drivers, and they interact with local political forces in each country.

What drives the resurgence of national development planning?

- There are five drivers
 - H1 – PRSPs led back to nat. dev. planning
 - H2 - NDPs are a response to monitor MDGs/SDGs and plan for implementation
 - H3 - NDPs are tools of activist states trying to manage downside risks of liberal globalisation
 - H4 NDPs are tools of transformation, esp. in some HICs and in parts of the former Soviet Union
 - H5 - NDPs are a means to promote non- (even anti-) SDG agendas
 - Ref. L.T. Munro, “The resurgence...” Intl Dev Plg Review, 42(2), 2020

How are things different this time?

New Types of Plans and Planning

<p>Type A (26%) Largely top-down process Rational blue print Strong evidence base Limited social embeddedness</p>	<p>Type B (42%) Largely bottom-up process Communicative Rationality Strong evidence base Socially embedded</p>
<p>Type C (12%) Largely top-down process Disjointed blue print Weak evidence base Limited social embeddedness</p>	<p>Type D (20%) Largely bottom-up process Communicative Rationality Weak evidence base Socially embedded</p>

Lessons Learned So Far from the New Generation of NDPs

- Most governments have a felt need to produce a plan.
- Still too early to draw a lot of hard and fast conclusions, but:
- Many govts are putting considerable resources into the planning process.
- Many, though not all, are making great efforts to implement their plans.
- The large number of plans based on collaborative rationality, rather than ends-means rationality, is a new feature in national development planning.
- Most plans do not take gender or inequality seriously, despite SDG5 and SDG10. (Ref. L. Munro and L. Granger, “Gender and the new national planning”, Presentation to the World Bank, 18 May 2020.)

The COVID-19 Crisis and resilience

- How will the Type A and C plans (based on top-down, ends-means rationality) fare compared to the Type B and D plans (based on consensus building, collaborative rationality, continuous improvement) ?
- Many plans seek to build “resilience”, usually in the environmental sense.
 - Especially in small island states
- Remember H3 and H4 from slide 6.
 - Many plans are explicit attempts to manage the downside risks of liberal globalization (e.g. narrow base of suppliers for a given product, fragile international supply chains), i.e. H3.
 - Others attempt fundamental transformation of the nation, H4

Thank you! Merci!

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