

22 - 24 May 2026

Munich , Germany

## **An Inclusive Governance Index for Multi-Level Governance in Addressing the Climate Crisis**

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### **Abstract**

This paper aims to measure the quality of inclusive governance. We hypothesize that it depends on the simultaneous presence of institutional diversity, along with continuous contributions across policy formulation, implementation, and, especially, deliberative processes and applied solutions. This study is based on bibliographic research and proposes an indicator that integrates elements of deliberative democracy, stakeholder theory, and multi-level governance. The indicator is applied to three units of analysis representing public governance mechanisms in both the Global North and the Global South. The results are organized according to three dimensions of the proposed indicator: Diversity Index (D), Quality of Decision-Making Processes Index (S), and Network Governance Index (R). The analysis highlights the relationship between participatory diversity and the distribution of power among stakeholders, as well as the connection between deliberative processes and the quality of implemented solutions. Network governance is examined as a tool for assessing the quality of multi-level governance. The findings suggest that inclusive governance strengthens democratic outcomes and is particularly relevant for addressing complex challenges. However, it depends on diverse participation grounded in the equitable distribution of power, legitimacy, and urgency within deliberative processes. These processes must connect traditional groups and local communities, ensuring that their knowledge is recognized and integrated by the public sector, private sector, and organized civil society within a multi-level governance framework.

**Keywords:** Inclusive Governance; Multi-Level Governance; Deliberative Democracy; Stakeholder Engagement.