



Path dependence in historical–institutional, political–administrative, and sectoral development in Colombia (1960–2020)

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Abstract

This article studies and analyzes the Colombian institutional development in the middle of a specific periodization. Therefore, this analysis is harmonized under the theoretical context of historical institutionalism, an essential tool in social sciences. Amid this temporality, two circumstances are presented between the years 1958–1989 and 1990–2020 showing evidence of the institutional change in the country. During this period, the theoretical model is implemented in this study, proving the assumption of path dependence in Colombia.

Keywords: historical institutionalism, sectoral public policies, public administration, path dependence, Colombia .

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I. Introduction

In this study, the results of a doctoral research regarding the Colombian institutional development were collected. In that context, considering the chronology, this document seeks to present a cross-disciplinary analysis focusing on Colombian institutions in a theoretical and applied manner. Along these lines, the neo-institutionalism paradigm is presented in social sciences to explain its main approaches, especially historical institutionalism.

Historical institutionalism, its study model, analysis, approach, and application are explained in a pedagogical manner in this study, presenting the assumption of path dependence as the central element of

the model. In the second part of the document, the results of applied research on the subject are presented and the conclusions are presented in the last part.

Finally, the primary goal of this article is to explain the possibilities existing to analyze the context of historical institutionalism as this approach is an essential tool in social sciences. The following section is the methodological discussion using a pedagogical, practical, and applied manner.

II. Neo-institutionalism paradigm and its approach to historical institutionalism

In a holistic and systemic analysis in 2010, North (1994) defined that institutions are correlated with markets, the judicial and administrative system, social structure, and the historical context because political changes influence these factors by either accelerating or bringing the economic system to a still. The author confirms that institutions provide the basic structure in which individuals have created order, and reduced the uncertainty of change throughout the history. Generally, institutions allow agents to eliminate uncertainty on the basis of their experience, acting as a solid foundation to build and maintain structural stability processes (North, 1994).

Thus, the studies and research regarding the change, continuity, and evolution in the development of countries and institutions have been addressed from different theoretical contexts, with the following scope of analysis: markets, organizations, subjects, communities, and history. From the cognitive framework of neo-institutionalism, different perspectives have been analyzed in social sciences, guided by different subject matters such as the rational choice approach, public choice, organizational institutionalism, sociological school, and the historical institutionalism approach.

According to Raymundo García (2013: 6) “neo-institutionalism is a theoretical instrument that helps explain the creation, development, functioning, and change or extinction of institutions.” The followers of neo-institutionalism consider these cognitive and referential approaches as the impact factor in the subjects and their behavior or as the focus of study. For instance, the rational choice approach states that the decision-making or choice of individuals is the main economic variable in institutional development, whereas sociological institutionalism considers a set of macro social variables and/or categories which sometimes include variables of rational choice or historical approach variables (Murillo, González y García, 2010: 89).

Likewise, the latter approach focuses on an institution’s role and its economic dynamic, as well as on behavior, circumstances, and evolution, considering the background and the ex-post results in a long-term analytical framework where the main variable is history (Citation 11, cited by Basabe, 2007: 180).

From the perspective of rational choice and historical institutionalism, the impact that institutions have on behavior and agents’ choice is more a complementing impact than a differentiator (Sánchez de Dios, 2004: 98). Although rationalist followers state that institutions are important factors for the strategic context of stakeholders, history followers state that institutions play a relevant role in questioning stakeholders’ ability to design and carry out optimal conditions, because they have a path dependency or the background influences their behavior. Despite the difference in concepts, at the end, there is harmonization between them since institutions are considered to be context factors that have been historically framed as background allowing agents to choose based on predefined ideas, thus reducing transaction costs and the levels of uncertainty.

The foregoing is the part of mechanism effects based on the theory of increasing returns that Pierson (2000: 254; cited by Ibíd: 100–101) applies to institutional development. The large set-up costs mechanism motivates stakeholders to identify themselves and adapt to the options already established; the learning effect, in which the knowledge is gained, motivates the continuous use of the system; the coordination effect, where agents adapt to new situations according to the benefits obtained; and the adaptive expectations effect, in which the expected benefits of following certain guidelines leads to reinforce them.

When attention is given to institutions as the starting point of behaviors, the plan is to have an effect on reducing transaction costs in the social decisions and problem-solving contexts, by presenting implied cause-effect relationships between institutions and agents, which can condition actions, strategies, and results (North, 1990; Diermeier and Krehbiel, 2003, cited by Marengo, 2006: 54–55).

Later, historical institutionalism shows participants’ evolution in the middle of conflicts established throughout time, besides also showing the relationship between agents and institutions, thus defining the

boundaries where stakeholders adopt their strategies and courses of action (Sánchez de Dios, 2004: 97). Conflicts that explain the path dependencies are understood as temporary scenarios, historical turning points, and circumstances, even questioning the rationality of choice, which is limited to predetermined solutions that are given by the sequence of institutional evolution.

From the perspective of social policies and public management, historical institutionalism provides an approach or academic tool to study public policies in a cross-disciplinary manner, allowing for a dialog of knowledge that integrates history, administration, economics, law, political science, sociology, and even cliometrics in the institutional analysis and scope of study (Farfán, 2007: 87). The main approach is institutional evolution (Saavedra, 2016: 91) with institutions referring to structures built throughout time, that reproduce and change, modifying and introducing the rules of the game; therefore, they have an interpretative methodology given in the long-term (Krasner et al, 1984; Pierson, 2000, 2004; Thelen, 1999, 2006; Thelen and Streck, 2005; cited by Saavedra, 2016: 84–85).

Consequently, as this is not a short-term approach, its study, analysis, approach, and research application are focused on long-term institutional patterns, where history is the main variable and the explanatory variable for development, and it includes current arguments of methodological order that can be identified as break-even points, sequences, critical circumstances, along with their evolution and trend (Vergara, 2019a).

Therefore, historical institutionalism defines institutions as the legacy of historical processes where there is synchronization and temporality (Trigo, 2016: 230), where there is also stability and fluency in processes of institutional development such as opening, contingency, and closure (Saavedra, 2016: 83). Based on Hall and Taylor (1996: 938; cited by Trigo 229), this approach is characterized by the following: First, the conceptualization of the relationship among institutions. Second, the way it highlights power asymmetries in the development of institutions. Third, its vision of institutional development where the concept of path dependence appears. Fourth, its concern with an analysis that involves the contribution of other academic disciplines that help explain a result.

Finally, considering the historical component to understand political, judicial, social, administrative, and other dynamics provides an explanation based on the temporary dimension of processes (Pierson, 2004: 2; cited by Olano, 2014: 7). Therefore, this approach must be used to define the periods of analysis in which there are crises, changes, or continuity in the scope of study. The periods, critical points, or breaking points play an important role within this context of historical analysis, this is where the concept of path dependence appears as the context defined by the initial decisions, and facilitates understanding the current form of institutions under a long-term scenario (Liebowitz & Margolis, 1995).

Theoretical assumption of path dependence

Basically, the theoretical argument of historical institutionalism plays a relevant role in the research analysis as it focuses on the ability to analyze scenarios from a long-term perspective (or long historical duration) being the primary scope of analysis. Therefore, the concept of path dependence arises describing an institutional routine produced through time, which means that its fundamental features are always preserved.

Therefore, path dependence describes something like the existence of cumulative movements repeating in the history of societies. This also implies, from another perspective, that the institutional and political heritage is strong and continuously reproduced in history (David, 2001; Valdivieso, 2008; Boussaguet, 2016; Piña López, Medina Zárraga, & Curiel Gutiérrez, 2017).

Another way to say this is that the interest and contribution that historical institutionalism has provided by studying institutions in the long-term leading to observing processes and factors that have affected institutions; therefore, it is important to observe if different sequences cause the involved stakeholders to continue with their predetermined routes (Pierson, 2000: 264; cited by Farfán, 2007: 92). The continuity in the paths that have already been marked shows the path trajectories or path dependence. Meanwhile, a change in the sequences and stability means that critical circumstances exist or they can begin.

Both circumstances and trajectories that are already defined are part of the model of analysis, and the perspective of crisis, continuity, and focus change of historical institutionalism. Trigo (2016: 231–235) expresses that they respond to the stability, reproduction, and modification of institutions.

These do not necessarily have to replace the previous part; however, they can show the existing variations in patterns in the political and social contexts but not their immediate and complete change.

Path dependence is a term that indicates the relationship between current and past decisions, generally, it is the conditioning created from the past toward the future (Marín-García, Perello y García, s.f.: 37–38). From the perspective of historical institutionalism, this theory represents how likely it is to move through stages and results similar to those found on the process background, depending on the impact they have generated on the agents and the context.

According to Marín-García et al. (s.f.; 38), the conditions of this theory are the high costs of change after decision-making and the importance and consequences presented by initial decisions. Thus, no big changes will be made in institutional trajectories as the impact represented by history, factors, and context has marked a series of courses of action determining behaviors, reducing the levels of uncertainty in the ex-post choice processes and showing cause-effect relationships determined among the choice options and the possible results.

Reducing uncertainty only responds to the mutual reinforcement in the adjustment and competitive selection of trajectories that are based on the existing results (Pierson, 2000: 812; cited by Sánchez de Dios, 2004: 96). The reinforcement is caused by the impact that certain agents have because, in the development of the socio-political and historical game, the fight for power in the different scenarios has shaped the path, ideas, and conceptualizations acting as guidelines in the decision-making process of stakeholders.

However, the repetitive historical cycles that exist in the institutional environment show the path dependency. Moreover, it can mean that the institutional structure reacted to certain factors at the beginning, showing the genesis of institutions or their branching points. As Pierson states (2004; cited by Marengo, 2006: 56), the path dependence processes not only involve long-duration temporalities but also include short-term periods where institutions are created or may vary, modifying their continuity or evolving while maintaining their path. Institutions can, thus, respond to functional factors, distinct events, or consequences not strategically planned or generated by the immediacy of the moment; the impact of those consequences may define the historical cycle in the future.

From the perspective of historical institutionalism, the analysis makes it possible to foresee crucial moments in the development, creation, adaptation, and context evolution of institutions as they follow a certain path or may vary due to circumstances.

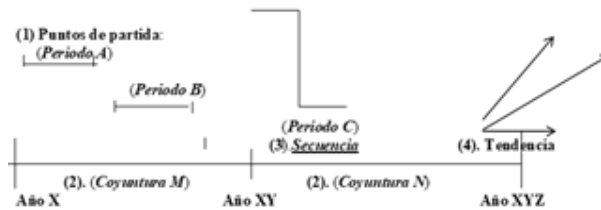
The path dependence theory, by itself, provides rigor to the institutional analysis throughout four key aspects (Pierson, 2000b: 263; cited by Sánchez de Dios, 2004: 99–100): first, a multiple equilibrium principle, where a set of initial conditions may result in multiple possible solutions; second, a contingency principle, where the irrelevant aspects and events become important in the historical-institutional development in the long term; third, a temporality and sequence principle, in which the initial stages of development are determinant for history; and fourth, an inertia principle, where drawbacks lead to seeking and creating equilibria.

Historical institutionalism applied to the Colombian context (1958–2020).

In summary, the theoretical framework of historical institutionalism studies the context, behavior, sequence, and transformation of institutions. Besides, it also focuses on an overview or long-term historical analysis. Further, it studies the relationship between agents and institutions through conflicts established over time such as change scenarios that help explain path dependencies. Finally, these institutions reproduce themselves by changing the rules of the game over time. Therefore, the dependent and explanatory variable of institutional development is history (David, 1994; Alexander, 2001; Sánchez de Dios, 2004; Saavedra, 2016).

This analytical and theoretical model of historical institutionalism involves four stages—comprehension (sub-periods of starting points, critical points, or generating new break-even points), analysis (circumstances: temporary or structural), approach (general sequence of the historical process), and research application (trend and/or forecast of the scope of study) (Saavedra, 2016; Vergara, 2019b). The model is represented in Figure 1:

Figure 1. Diagram of historical neo-institutionalism and its stages of analysis



Source: Vergara, 2019.

Below is an example of a research result that addresses the historical context of institutional development in Colombia (Vergara, 2019a). In this study, the historical institutionalism framework is applied. The period under research corresponds to two circumstances and structural scenarios from the last

Figure 2. Economic circumstance and structural scenarios in Colombia (1958–2020)

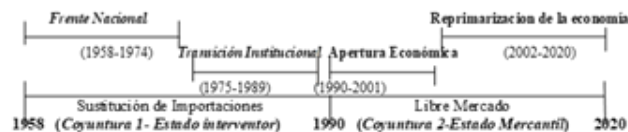


Source: Vergara, 2019

Colombia has mixed two economic structures that were clearly established and defined. Figure 2 studies and analyzes a long-term scenario in the recent history of Colombia, with two institutional models in the country’s development. The first circumstance goes from 1958 to 1989, when the institutional model was defined within the framework of a closed and protectionist economy under an import substitution regulatory context aimed at strengthening the productive sectors for Colombian development. The goal of this institutional policy was to protect and improve national production by generating consumer goods and producing intermediate goods. However, the exception applied only to capital and some intermediate goods or technological supplies required for national production (Villar & Esguerra, 2005). Further, the second circumstance started in 1990 under the influence of the global open economy. To that effect, the neo-liberalism model was transferred to the country with the design of institutional and regulatory market policies defined by international organizations such as UN, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, OAS, Inter-American Development Bank, etc. (Rendón, 1998; Vergara & Rodríguez, 2015; Baena & Fernández, 2016).

Therefore, by recreating and harmonizing the historical institutionalism theory with the Colombian reality, four sub-periods, corresponding to critical points of institutional change, were found in this study. These sub-periods (Figure 3) are integrated into the starting points that were chronologically defined within the two historical circumstances described earlier: sub-period one (1958–1974), the “National Front” period; sub-period two (1975–1989), the “institutional transition”; sub-period three (1990–2001), the “open economy” scenario; sub-period four (2002–2020), “refocusing the economy” (Vergara, 2019a).

Figure 3. Economic and institutional evolution in Colombia (1958–2020)



Source: Vergara, 2019a

III. RESULTS

By analyzing 61 years, two circumstances like the ones described in Figure 3 were observed; each circumstance included institutional development events defined in each period. In this study, the first institutional circumstance in Colombia between 1958 and 1989 (known as developmentalism under intervening state politics) was a model that aimed to boost the productive sectors of the country. For instance, the protectionist model and the import substitution regulatory tool, generated a national industry of consumer goods, and in some cases, the production of intermediate goods. Imports for the industrial sector were only technological supplies for intermediate and capital goods. Also, the intervening state defined policies for the agricultural sector based on subsidies for supplies, fertilizers, seeds, agrochemicals, tools, machinery, and credits.

In addition, from the perspective of political context, Colombia developed a return to democracy, under the institutional framework of the National Front between 1958 and 1974, when every four years the administration changed alternately between the liberal and conservative parties (Fajardo, 2016). Under this periodization, the judicial-political and administrative decentralization was also boosted with regulations aimed at regions under the institutional architecture of the constitutional reform of 1968 (Balcázar et al., 1998; López, 1988; Perdomo, 2004; Paredes & Díaz, 2007).

In the middle of this first circumstance, between 1975 and 1989, a second critical point or changing point was presented as well, showing an institutional transition to gradually alleviate the protectionism of the state and the substitution of imports, all of these boosted by the free trade paradigm. Furthermore, during this period, the international crisis effects of oil prices (1975) and the Latin American debt crisis of the eighties became clear, institutionally referred to as the lost decade or the debt crisis. On the contrary, from the judicial-political perspective, this institutional transition was generated ex-post due to the influence of the constitutional reform of 1968, which means that there was a gradual alleviation of centralism in decision-making in Bogotá. As a result, political and judicial-administrative decentralization takes place moving toward the autonomy of regions with the implementation of popular elections sequentially: Senators, Representatives, Mayors, and Councilors (Díaz-Alejandro, 1985; Sánchez, 2000; Maldonado et al., 2001; Gaviria, 2003).

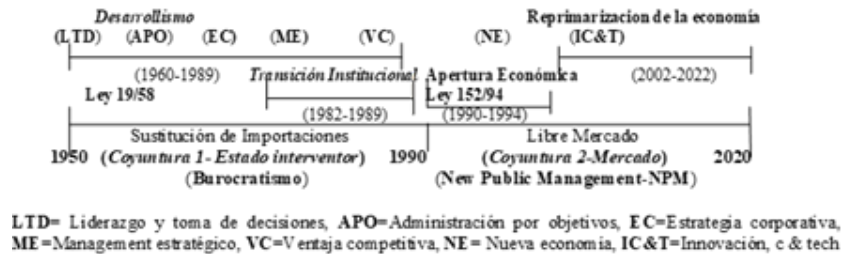
The second circumstance begins from 1990 onward. From 1990, a new free trade scenario was implemented with a structural adjustment guideline in the political, economic, and sectoral contexts. The adoption and institutionalization of the open economy model was carried out during president Cesar Gaviria Trujillo's administration. This policy was implemented immediately, abruptly, and drastically, without considering the social and economic costs that it will represent for the country. Essentially, this institutional model resulted from the influence of multilateral organizations like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, etc.

In essence, the market overlaps the state's actions. For example, the investment in productive sectors will not be financed entirely by the state, which means that this new structure addresses market dynamics, foreign capital, and financing of private stakeholders. Simultaneously, from the administrative and judicial perspective, part of that structural adjustment originated from the institutional change that came with the Political Constitution of 1991, serving as a regulatory backup for the new model of the state as an entrepreneurial market (Hidron, 2001; Castaño, 2002; Nájara, 2006; Cáceres, 2013; Herrera, 2013).

Under the same paradigm influence, currently in the new millennium, in terms of investing in commodities, the state's administration enters the international market's rhetoric under concepts like competitiveness, profitability, and economic growth. This period is referred to as "The refocusing of the Colombian economy"; this model concentrates on exploring and exploiting mining, energy, and fossil fuel resources. These elements address the profitable rhetoric and intents of global trade (González, 2011; Nova, 2014; Sarmiento & Pérez, 2016).

On the contrary, to complement this study, Figure 4 shows the evolution of planning and strategy. In this regard, Law 19 of 1958 ruled and redefined the functions of public administration and administrative law, as well as economic development planning and the creation of the National Planning Department (DNP for its acronym in Spanish).

Figure 4. Economic, organizational, and institutional evolution in Colombia (1958–2020)



Source: Created by the authors, 2019.

In this historical–institutional context, the presidential government programs and/or national development plans for Colombia have been sanctioned after a deep deliberation, debate, and discussion from stakeholders having political power (sectoral guilds, regional senators, and representatives in the Congress of the Republic). Therefore, just like public policy is required for management and public corporations, strategic planning is required for public administration. Thus, national development plans show a relationship between polity and politics, resulting in policy. As a conclusion, in Colombia, the national development plans are considered public policy. This means that the presidential administration governs using public policies.

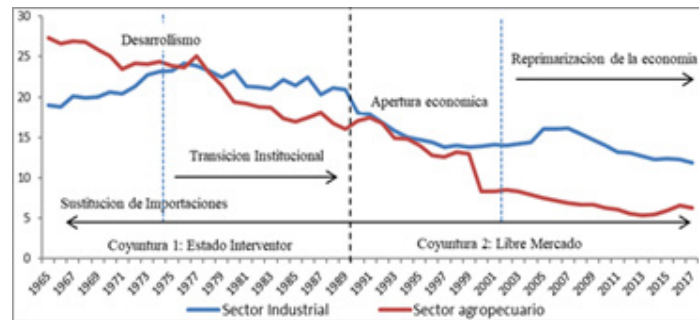
Through Figure 4, it can be understood that planning applied in the Colombian public administration, especially in the national development plans, addresses qualitative indicators related to policy guidelines, goals, and targets. Under this methodology, after 1958, national development plans in Colombia were based on the organizational scenario of Peter Drucker, which is management by objectives (MBO). This also explains a path dependency in Colombia in subjects like administration and public law. Likewise, this dynamic has remained as such because the strategic planning method in development plans has only been sanctioned and regulated in the country under Law 152 of 1994. For nearly 40 years, the Colombian public administration has implemented a MBO methodology, with decision-making aspects of limited rationality.

The scenario described previously has also been maintained because the presidential administration in Colombia lasts for a short period of 4 years as compared to other political scenarios in the world that include reelection. Moreover, national development plans are only executed after the review and deliberation in the Congress of the Republic, normally the execution time for government programs is more or less 3 years of the presidential administration. Along these lines, at least the national development plans between 1960 and 1994 have not had strategic planning because state policies in Colombia are non-existent. The current institutional and economic crisis can be explained by the lack of political vision from the state, along with the selfish interests of power groups.

Another reason why strategic planning has not been applied in national development plans aimed at state policies is because none of the presidential administrations in Colombia have been able to get their successors to commit during their future terms. The administrative law analysis, getting future successors to commit during their terms and/or with future budgets implies opening an investigation from the comptroller, prosecutor, and fiscal perspectives. For this reason, public officials in Colombia have been investigated, dismissed, and sanctioned. Likewise, national development plans in Colombia do not have long-term commitments. It is important to remember that the way planning is performed in national development plans, is by using methodologies under the MBO model, as was previously mentioned. This model also considers budget and project financing depending on the methodologies of multilateral organizations and international banks; this model is hegemonically known as bottom-up.

Strategic planning with a future vision has slowly appeared after 1998 in national development plans in Colombia, referring to subjects like competitiveness, comparative advantages, science, technology, and innovation. In this regard, development plans from the last 20 years have been aimed at a state vision in terms of planning, exploration, exploitation of mining, energy, and fossil fuel resources. These resources include oil, coal, and gas, competitive and tradable goods also known as commodities, which are valued at their high prices in the international markets.

Graph 1. Implementation of path dependence in the agricultural and industrial sectors in Colombia (1958–2018)



Source: Prepared by the authors based on statistical data from the World Bank, 2019.

Through previous example, it is clear that the historical institutionalism framework will be implemented in two productive sectors, the agricultural and industrial sectors, in Colombia (Graph 1). Graph 1 shows two circumstances: Circumstance one (1960–1989) in the context of the intervening state by substituting imports and promoting exports. Circumstance two, since 1990, the free trade model was institutionalized and in the first four-year period of the 90s, political, economic, and sectoral reforms were established. As noted, since 1974, the agricultural and industrial sectors begin being less dynamic in the Colombian economy. Moreover, between 1974 and 1989, presidential governments created the economic and political rules of the game for institutional transition. Among these are imported global licenses, imported capital goods, territorial decentralization, and popular elections of mayors and governors.

Essentially, the period of 1974–1989 shows a decrease in two of the most productive sectors of the country. In the industrial sector, factors such as the dependence on technological imports, scarce training of human capital, and the lack of political actions to promote the technical change needed in Colombia at that moment, led to technological lagging. That is, between 1974 and 1989 the public administration of development planning did not have the expected results, since it was expected that the industrial sector, as the leading sector, would push the development of agricultural sector. Furthermore, the circumstance shows that the industrial sector starts to decrease, and this decrease does not leverage the development of agricultural sector. Therefore, the agricultural sector is affected in terms of development planning.

On another side, since 1990, the economic model has shifted toward a free trade context. From the economic literature, it was proposed that the new model of open economy will diversify the Colombian economy generating growth in its productive sectors. However, the reality reflected completely the opposite (Fierro, 2015). Although, in 1990, there was an institutional change, in political, economic, and sectoral factors, an improvement in production sectors was expected. However, the historical trajectory of the agricultural and industrial sectors did not change; moreover, with the implementation of the new open economy model, the decline in both sectors was rapidly emphasized. In conclusion, two scenarios are revealed between periods 1958–1989 and 1990–2019, where, in a long-term analysis, there is a sectoral decline starting in 1974. Therefore, since 1990, the new economic market model or paradigm has not transformed nor changed the previous trend 1958–1989. This shows that the decline of the sectoral trend is continuous, and it defines in the overview analysis, a decreasing path trajectory that naturally addresses the assumption of neo-historical institutionalism of path dependency or path dependence.

As for its outlook, is important to add that the trend of the agricultural and industrial sectors, if not modified in the short term, will negatively affect the gross domestic product of the country in the next 10 years, decreasing the dynamics of the Colombian economy. In summary, development planning management has errors because policies that are formulated for the presidential government are for short periods, and they do not consider long-term development projects for the country. This highlights the fact that development plans fail because they do not establish methodological criteria of strategic planning and foresight.

Finally, while integrating and contrasting the plan with reality, evidence was found that once it was verified with the theoretical framework of neo-historical institutionalism, the assumption of path dependence is met for the sectors in the middle of the chronology. In this sense, this article addresses the proposed research method.

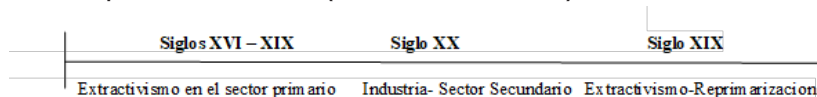
IV. CONCLUSIONS

The new institutionalism paradigm is an important tool from the perspective of cross-disciplinary analysis as it enables the investigation, work, and addresses complex study cases requiring a comprehensive analysis from other disciplines. It is important to remember that this theoretical framework describes some sub-approaches that integrate the research and academic analysis such as rational, organizational, public choice, sociological, and historical institutionalism.

This study addresses the dynamic and approach of historical institutionalism, and this cognitive framework was used to develop doctoral research (Vergara, 2019b). The primary argument of this article was to try the implementation, presence, and existence of the path dependence assumption, in planning and the agricultural and industrial sectors in Colombia. For that reason, until the publishing date of this article, there is no undergraduate or postgraduate dissertation project in the country or any other publication that has studied or conducted research about this subject in the social science context. This doctoral dissertation in administration was evaluated by international expert peers in public policies and public administration, and the grade they gave in the doctoral dissertation defense at the University del Valle was commendable.

To conclude, another example is analyzed with a broader range (of centuries) of economic and institutional development in Colombia.

Figure 5. Sectoral development in Colombia (16th to 21st centuries).



Source: Prepared by the authors

By analyzing Figure 5 intuitively and visually, the presence of path dependence can also be observed. There is a three-time range: First, between the 16th and 21st centuries, most of the economic returns were concentrated in exploiting metals especially gold and silver to export them to international markets. During this period, the economic activity was developed in the primary sector since the industry appeared later at the end of the 21st century. Second, in the 20th century, the country’s development engine relied on the industry (this sector was the most important hegemonic focus until its impoverishment after 1974). Third, the new millennium shows that the new intents for economic development in Colombia revolve around commodities, which means exploiting natural mining, energy, and fossil fuel resources such as oil, gas, and coal, also known as commodities. Overall, Colombian development is presented in three periods of time: period one, from the 16th to the 21st centuries, under the extractivism of gold and silver; period two, in the 20th century, the industry was the most relevant sector for development; and period three, there is a return to productive activities from the primary sector under the extractivism of non-renewable natural resources. With this fact, the path dependence on the historical past of the productive sectors in Colombia is proven again (Vergara, 2019a).

Finally, in essence, path dependence must show a track trajectory within a long-term historical context. To analyze path dependence, the model of historical institutionalism must be clear, just as it was explained in this study. It is important to remember that there are very good translations in Spanish of the historical institutionalism model, which explains in some way why there are many studies and pieces of research that implement this theoretical framework. This article seeks to socialize this tool of analysis to the academic community and the general public in a pedagogical manner so that other studies similar to this can be performed in the future, in the set of disciplines that are part of the social sciences, both in undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

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