



Title: The Role of Accountability and Efficiency: Information with Impact

Acronym: TRACE

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Host organisation: Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Main purpose of the project:

Lack of traceability, accountability and information about public policies objectives and efficiency is likely to jeopardize trust in state capacity. The goal of this project is to provide a comprehensive framework on the impact of information about public policies efficiency on citizens' support to governmental intervention.

Design/methodology/approach:

Using a survey, we will evaluate citizens' beliefs about the impact of public policies (Paper 1). We will design a lab-in-the-field experiment to estimate the causal impact of information on adherence to public policies (Paper 2). We will use crowdfunding to related trust in state capacity and donations (Paper 3).

Potential results:

The project will shed light on the relationship between information and trust in state capacity. Providing traceable and reliable information about the implementation and impact of public policy should increase citizens' support and trust in government and institutions, especially among the low trust individuals.

Social relevance of the research:

The expected results will show the importance of setting up evaluation systems for public policies, taking into account the role of information and perceived transparency, not only to ensure their effectiveness, but also to ensure that citizens adhere to them.

Originality/value of the project:

Previous research on public policies focuses on how traceability increases public policies efficiency by improving the process through which these interventions are operated. We take a step further to provide evidence that government's accountability and transparency may have longer-term impact by playing on citizens' trust in State capacity.