



THE METAKETA INITIATIVE

EVIDENCE IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICS

The Metaketa Initiative is a collaborative research model aimed at improving the accumulation of knowledge on topics where academic researchers and policy practitioners share substantive interests. The Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) network funds and coordinates studies across countries, clustered by theme, to improve and incentivize innovative research alongside integrated analysis and publication.

There have been five Metaketa rounds—a round is a group of research projects studying the same topic—thus far, comprised of 5-7 projects each, for a total of 30 studies. Funding for these projects has been provided to EGAP by the UK's Department for International Development and other sources, and ranges from \$150,000 to \$350,000. The 5-7 projects in each round collaborate closely, in conjunction with the round's steering committee, with the goal of maximizing the consistency of designs, interventions, and outcome measures across studies.

METAKETA ROUNDS

Metaketa I: Information and Accountability seeks to assess the role of **information in promoting political accountability** in developing countries. All projects in this round use common interventions to measure:

1. Voter turnout
2. Vote choice

Metaketa II: Taxation seeks to assess the effects of **facilitating citizens' formalization of their relationship with the state** on access to publicly financed goods, and tax compliance. All projects in this round use common interventions to provide:

1. Information about the process of tax formalization
2. A financial or in-kind subsidy such as access to registration assistance

Metaketa III: Natural Resource Governance studies the role of **community monitoring of natural resources, specifically forests and water**. These projects use common informational interventions to provide:

1. An inspection of local resource management authorities
2. Information to administrators and users in order to curb the overuse of the forest or water common pool resource

Metaketa IV: Community Policing focuses on the effects of **community policing programs to build citizen trust in and improve the effectiveness of police services**. All of the projects use common interventions to implement a

community-policing program consisting of two components:

1. A community engagement program to solicit information on community problems from citizens and transmit information about police programs
2. A problem-oriented policing program, in which police address problems identified through community engagement programs directly with small, dedicated budgets and/or indirectly with the assistance of other public and private agencies

Metaketa V: Women's Action Committees seeks to assess how the **act of participation affects women in these settings and how the quality of participation can also be improved**. These projects use common interventions to provide:

1. A placebo treatment
2. A treatment arm increasing collective efficacy of women-only action committees that includes high quality training participation skills to advocate for issues of concern to group members



METAKETA INITIATIVE PROJECTS

EVIDENCE IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICS

METAKETA I: INFORMATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Project Title

- Can Common Knowledge Improve Common Goods?
- Accountability and Incumbent Performance in the Brazilian Northeast
- Citizens at the Council
- Using Local Networks to Increase Accountability
- Common Knowledge, Relative Performance, and Political Accountability
- Meet the Candidates: Information and Accountability in Primary and General Elections
- Repairing Information Underload

Country

Benin
Brazil
Burkina Faso
India
Mexico
Uganda
Uganda

METAKETA II: TAXATION AND FORMALIZATION

Project Title

- Increasing Microentrepreneurs Formalization and Access to Social Security in Brazil
- Enabling Fiscal Capacity and Investment through Property Formalization: Experimental Evidence from Colombia
- The Origins of Tax Compliance and Accountable Governances: A Randomized Field Experiment in the DRC
- The Effect of Citizen Empowerment on Fee-Based Public Service Provision and Urban Governance in India
- Collective Action and Solid Waste Collection in Malawi
- Formalization, Tax Appeals, & Voluntary Compliance in Lagos, Nigeria

Country

Brazil
Colombia

DR Congo
India
Malawi
Nigeria

METAKETA III: NATURAL RESOURCE GOVERNANCE

Project Title

- Participatory Measurement, Monitoring, and Management of Groundwater in Northeast Brazil
- Citizen Monitoring of Urban Waterways in Jiangsu, China
- Evidence about Common Approaches to Facilitating Climate Change Adaptation by Local Institutions in Water-Scarce Regions of Central America
- What Is It Really Worth? Enabling Community Resource Management through Improved Valuation and Negotiation Skills
- Community Monitoring and Technology Transfer to Prevent Deforestation: A Field Experiment in the Peruvian Amazon
- Community Monitoring of Deforestation, Payment for Environmental Services and Gender Dynamics in Uganda

Country

Brazil
China
Costa Rica

Liberia

Peru

Uganda

METAKETA IV: COMMUNITY POLICING

Project Title

- Can Trust Be Built Through Citizen Monitoring of Police Activity?
- Community Policing and Public Trust: A Multi-Country Initiative
- Building Trust and Improving Police Effectiveness: A Field Experiment in Urban Liberia
- Community Policing and Public Trust: Pakistan
- Evaluating Community Policing in the Philippines - Communication, Trust, and Service Provision
- Community Policing and Public Trust: A Multi-Country Initiative

Country

Brazil
Colombia
Liberia
Pakistan
Philippines
Uganda

METAKETA V: WOMEN'S ACTION COMMITTEES

Project Title

- Social Norms and Women's Political Participation
- Pathways to Women's Substantive Representation in Malawi
- Overcoming Road Blocks to Women's Participation through Advocacy Training: A Field Experiment on Local Governance in Myanmar
- Pathways to Women's Substantive Representation in Pakistan
- Enhancing Female Participation in Communal Voluntary Contribution Project Choice through Women's Action Committees in Vietnam

Country

Kyrgyzstan
Malawi
Myanmar

Pakistan
Vietnam