

Nos Séminaires



RESUME

21/04 - **The building of social capital in rural communities through a development project. A lab-in-the-field analysis in the Limpopo province of South Africa**

D Jourdain, S Farolfi

This study aims at analysing through a lab in the field experiment the effect of a development project on social capital in a rural area of the Limpopo province of South Africa. Rural communities in South Africa inherit from the Apartheid period heavy delays and difficulties terms of development. The way Bantustans or Homelands were established and particularly the way native households were forcedly resettled in those territories was not favourable to the construction of social capital within the rural communities.

Social capital is essential for the development in these areas. Policies and projects towards the improvement of such social capital are instrumental to improve local livelihood and food security.

We propose an original procedure to test through an incentivized lab-in-the-field experiment if and how a development project influences the social capital of rural communities that take part in the project. We apply our analysis on groups of subjects that have been involved in the project at different moments, so that we can control the variables describing social capital in function of the period of contact of subjects with the treatment.