Workshop  
  
“Impact evaluation using secondary data”

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| Lecturers: | Dr. Tobias Rüttenauer |  |
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Date: 15.11.2023  
Time: 11:00 – 13:00  
Location: online

Course Description

This workshop will discuss techniques for impact evaluation using secondary data. After a description of the randomised controlled trials, the workshop will give an overview of regression discontinuity designs, instrumental variables, and difference-in-difference methods. Particular attention will be paid to the recent developments in difference-in-difference methods that account for heterogeneous effects of policies that roll-out at different times.

Course Outline

**Measuring Impact**

* Definition and objectives of impact evaluation
* Why impact evaluation is crucial in policy assessment

**Defining the program theory**

* Causal chain of impact
* Directed Acyclical Graphs (DAGs)

**Causal Treatment Effect**

* Counterfactual Framework
* The problem of confounding
* Randomised Control Trials

**Impact evaluation using secondary data**

* Regression Discontinuity Designs (RDD)
* Instrumental Variables (IV)
* Difference-in-Difference (DiD) Methods
* Accounting for Heterogeneous Effects

Recommended literature

Angrist, J. D., & Pischke, J.-S. (2015). Mastering ’Metrics: The Path from Cause to Effect. Princeton Univ. Press.

Huntington-Klein, N. (2021). The Effect: An Introduction to Research Design and Causality. Chapman & Hall/CRC. [Free online version available](https://theeffectbook.net/)