

Uses and Abuses of Governance Indicators

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Abstract

The last 15 years have seen a veritable explosion of interest in the quality of “governance” in the developing world. This interest is sparked by the desire – of international investors, bi- and multilateral donors, development analysts and academics – to assess and/or monitor conditions of political stability, the extent of corruption in a country’s economy, the quality of its public and private regulatory systems, the prevalence of “rule of law” and “voice and accountability” in its governing structures, and the effectiveness of government in developing countries.

In view of this, Christiane Arndt will talk about the rise of Governance Indicators, the resulting problems and misuses (the Transparency Paradox) and the way forward, believing that transparency is the universal criteria for the “Governance of Governance Indicators”, no matter what purpose they have been constructed for.

Short biography

Christiane holds a Master in International Business Studies from the *University of Maastricht* and a Master in Political Science from the *Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris* (Sciences Po). She is currently writing her doctoral thesis in economics at the University of Maastricht under the supervision of Chris de Neubourg working on indicators for developing countries. At the same time she is working with the OECD Development Centre, which she first joined in 2003 on a traineeship and returned in October 2004 after her graduation to work as a consultant in the team of Charles Oman.