

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Claudia Avellaneda

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IU Bloomington*

“Local Government Effectiveness: Assessing
the Role of Administrative Capacity”

Monday, February 6, 2017

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



Organizational capacity is expected to contribute to a well-functioning government. However, the public management literature offers few objective measures of organizational capacity and scarce empirical analysis of the organizational capacity-government performance relationship. To address these gaps, this study objectively measures organizational capacity across three dimensions—capability, expertise, and human resources—and tests the effect of organizational capacity on government effectiveness in securing infrastructure grants. The study relies on a data set of approximately 54,000 infrastructural grant proposals submitted by 340 (out of 345) Chilean municipalities during a nine-year period (2005–13), covering three mayoral administrations. Controlling for past performance and other grant and municipal features, results suggest that municipal effectiveness is positively influenced by both administrative capacity and political factors. Findings are robust across alternative model specifications.



Claudia Avellaneda is an associate professor and Governance & Management faculty chair in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IU. Her research interests include comparative politics, comparative public policy, governance, and public management with a regional focus on Latin America. Specifically, she investigates the role of mayors' qualifications in determining municipal performance. Her research has covered the municipalities of Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Honduras. Currently, she is expanding this line of research to cover the Peruvian, Mexican, and Guatemalan municipalities ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).