

# Bibliographical newsletter

30/06/2017

Year 3, Number 1

In the following pages you'll find bibliographical news on recently published papers and on open source works in the field of policy evaluation.

Information has been organized by Author, following a first-in, first-served criterion. Nevertheless, here are some previews of the methods applied in the research works presented:

- ➔ Agglomeration effects
- ➔ Diachronic analysis
- ➔ Multiple regression discontinuity design
- ➔ Randomized survey experiment
- ➔ Variation in interview timing

In this number you'll find works analysing:

- The problems of spatial spillovers in policy evaluation
- The effects of public incentives on firm productivity
- Ecolabels and touristic flows
- Cohesion policies and local development
- Media communication and xenophobic attitudes
- Cost of public administrators and representatives in Parliaments

...and much more

*By Elena Ragazzi and Lisa Sella*



**This newsletter circulates bibliographical information about recently issued research work concerning impact evaluation. It is fed by the contribution of the authors, who remain responsible for the correctness and completeness of information and for the quality of the work. The newsletter is managed on a volunteering basis by the editors. We hope that it will foster a reflection on the evaluation experiences so as to improve methodological tools and to ease their correct application, and that it will encourage a discussion on the latest advancements, by easing their diffusion.**

The next bibliographical newsletter will occur in AUTUMN.

Please send to [mlist@ircres.cnr.it](mailto:mlist@ircres.cnr.it)

- ➔ new open source works (reports, working papers, papers and presentations discussed at conferences). In this case send
  - the full bibliographical reference
  - the link to download it,
  - a short abstract (no more than 250 words)
- ➔ bibliographical references of published works (articles or books). In this case send
  - the full bibliographical reference
  - a short abstract (no more than 250 words)

**WITHIN October 15<sup>th</sup>**

Please follow the format of the following pages, that can be download [here](#)

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Cerqua, A. & Pellegrini, G. (2017). “Industrial policy evaluation in the presence of spillovers”, <i>Small Business Economics</i> , published online: 12 Apr 2017. doi:10.1007/s11187-017-9855-9	
<b>Abstract:</b> The shortage of studies on spatial spillovers of capital subsidy policies is rather surprising, considering that such policies are usually designed to generate spatial externalities. We propose a new framework that allows positive agglomeration effects to be contrasted with the negative cross-sectional substitution and the crowding-out effect. The global evaluation of the ATT and the spillover parameters shifts the spotlight from the policy effect on subsidised firms to the global effect of capital subsidy policies on the targeted territory. The empirical evaluation of a policy in Italy mainly directed towards small- and medium-sized firms shows that the impact on investments, turnover and employment is positive and large, but is negative on TFP. However, the employment growth is partially determined to the detriment of the untreated firms.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11187-017-9855-9">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11187-017-9855-9</a>	
<b>Type:</b> journal article	<b>Contact:</b> a.cerqua@westminster.ac.uk
<b>Language:</b> English	<b>Open source:</b> yes
<b>Keywords:</b> Spillovers; Policy evaluation; Small- and medium-sized firms; Public subsidies	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Bernini, C. & Cerqua, A. & Pellegrini, G. (2017). “Public subsidies, TFP and efficiency: a tale of complex relationships”. <i>Research Policy</i> 46(4), 751–767. doi:10.1016/j.respol.2017.02.001	
<b>Abstract:</b> This paper evaluates the impact of subsidies on the different components of TFP for granted firms’ long-term growth. The impact of capital subsidies is captured by a quasi-experimental method (Multiple RDD), exploiting the conditions for a local random experiment created by an Italian industrial policy. Results show that capital subsidies negatively affect TFP growth in the short term, and signals of positive effects appear only after 3–4 years. This positive medium-long term impact comes especially through technological change and not through scale impact change, as may have been expected.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048733317300240">http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048733317300240</a>	
<b>Type:</b> journal article	<b>Contact:</b> a.cerqua@westminster.ac.uk
<b>Language:</b> English	<b>Open source:</b> no
<b>Keywords:</b> Policy evaluation; Public subsidies; TFP decomposition; Stochastic frontier model; Regression discontinuity design	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Cerqua, A. (2017). “The signalling effect of eco-labels in modern coastal tourism”. <i>Journal of Sustainable Tourism</i> 8, 1159-1180. doi: 10.1080/09669582.2016.1257014	
<b>Abstract:</b> As the demand for environmentally sustainable tourism grows, eco-labels are becoming increasingly popular as a signal of environmental quality. However, the existence of a causal link between awarding a seaside eco-label and the increase in tourism flows is still under discussion in the literature. In this article, we gauge the signalling impact of a specific eco-label, the Blue Flag award, using detailed data on tourism flows to seaside Italian destinations during the period 2008–2012. We adopt a recent econometric modelling strategy – the synthetic control method – in shaping estimation results and testing the sensitivity and robustness of our results. We find that being awarded the Blue Flag increases the flow of domestic tourists for up to three seasons after assignment. However, we find no effect for the flow of international tourists. Investigating the mechanisms driving the results, we find that the award of a Blue Flag only positively affects the flow of domestic tourists when it is used as a driver of organisation, coordination and integrated management of the tourism supply.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09669582.2016.1257014">http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09669582.2016.1257014</a>	
<b>Type:</b> journal article	<b>Contact:</b> a.cerqua@westminster.ac.uk
<b>Language:</b> English	<b>Open source:</b> no
<b>Keywords:</b> Blue Flag, seaside eco-label, tourism flows, destination competitiveness, synthetic control method	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Coppola G, Destefanis S., Marinuzzi G., Tortorella W. (2017), L’impatto delle politiche di coesione sullo sviluppo delle regioni italiane. <i>EyesReg</i> , Vol.7, N.3.	
<b>Abstract:</b> we analyse the European Structural Funds’ effects on the economies of the 20 Italian administrative regions for the 1994-2013 period. We compare results for the European Structural Funds with those for nationally funded cohesion policies and assess the role of a quality of government indicator. Our evidence implies that the European Structural Funds had a significant impact on regional GDP per capita. Quality of government is found to have little impact for the European Structural Funds, while affecting the effectiveness of some nationally funded cohesion policies (JEL: O11, O43).	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.eyesreg.it/2017/limpatto-delle-politiche-di-coesione-sullo-sviluppo-delle-regioni-italiane/">http://www.eyesreg.it/2017/limpatto-delle-politiche-di-coesione-sullo-sviluppo-delle-regioni-italiane/</a>	
<b>Type:</b> journal article.	<b>Contact:</b> destefanis@unisa.it
<b>Language:</b> Italian	<b>Open source:</b> yes
<b>Keywords:</b> European Structural Funds, Quality of government, Local development	
<b>Notes:</b> --	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> De Poli, S., Jakobsson, N., & Schüller, S. (2016). The drowning-refugee effect: media salience and xenophobic attitudes. <i>Applied Economics Letters</i> , published online.	
<b>Abstract:</b> We study whether salient media coverage of refugees drowning in the Mediterranean affects individual xenophobic attitudes. We combine a randomized survey experiment – a variant of the classic ‘trolley dilemma’ – that implicitly elicits individual attitudes towards foreigners, with variation in interview timing, and find that such issue salience significantly decreases xenophobic attitudes by 2.2 percentage points. Our results thus support the idea that exposure to news describing immigrants as victims (instead of a threat) can significantly affect public opinion and mitigate bias against immigrants.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13504851.2016.1262513">http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13504851.2016.1262513</a>	
<b>Type:</b> journal article	<b>Contact:</b> depoli@irvapp.it
<b>Language:</b> English	<b>Open source:</b> No
<b>Keywords:</b> Media salience, trolley problem, xenophobia, refugees, attitudes towards immigration	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Benati I., Lamonica V., Ragazzi E., Sella L. (2016), “I benefici delle valutazioni "ripetute". Evidenze da un'esperienza piemontese”, <i>RIV. Rassegna italiana di valutazione n. 64</i>	
<b>Abstract:</b> The aim of this paper is to propose a reflection on specific learnings, arising from a cyclic evaluation of the same intervention. The proposed topic is the study of Placement of Vocational Training in Piedmont Region (IT), held from 2011 to 2014. Through a diachronic reading of the four annual reports of the Placement, are presented three dimensions of analysis: financial dynamics, employment outcomes and net impacts. This contribute aims to discuss learnings in terms of method and policy, starting by the main results emerging from the analysis of the three dimensions listed above.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.francoangeli.it/riviste/scheda_rivista.aspx?doi=10.3280/RIV2016-064002&amp;lingua=en">https://www.francoangeli.it/riviste/scheda_rivista.aspx?doi=10.3280/RIV2016-064002&amp;lingua=en</a>	
<b>Type:</b> Journal article	<b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it">elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it</a> <a href="mailto:lisa.sella@ircres.cnr.it">lisa.sella@ircres.cnr.it</a>
<b>Language:</b> Italian	<b>Open source:</b> No
<b>Keywords:</b> Impact evaluation, labour policies, diachronic analysis.	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> <b>Ragazzi E. (ed.), Benati I., Sella L., Lamonica V. (2017), <i>Formarsi in Granda. La formazione professionale in provincia di Cuneo</i>, Quaderni della Fondazione Cassa Risparmio di Cuneo n° 30.</b>	
<b>Abstract:</b> The report deals with a study on the vocational training system funded by the European Social Fund in the province of Cuneo, through an analysis of its dimensions and characteristics, policy, educational, social and work outcomes.	
<b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fondazioneircrc.it/index.php/analisi-e-ricerche/quaderni/198-quaderno-30/file">http://www.fondazioneircrc.it/index.php/analisi-e-ricerche/quaderni/198-quaderno-30/file</a>	
<b>Type:</b> Report	<b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:valentina.lamonica@ircres.cnr.it">valentina.lamonica@ircres.cnr.it</a> <a href="mailto:elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it">elena.ragazzi@ircres.cnr.it</a> <a href="mailto:lisa.sella@ircres.cnr.it">lisa.sella@ircres.cnr.it</a>
<b>Language:</b> English	<b>Open source:</b> Yes
<b>Keywords:</b> Vocational training, placement effects, satisfaction	
<b>Notes:</b>	

<p><b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Coccia M., Benati I. (2017), “What is the relation between public manager compensation and government effectiveness? An explorative analysis with public management implications” in <i>Quaderni Ircres-CNR</i> 01/2017</p>	
<p><b>Abstract:</b> Public managers play a central role in public administration to support the overall efficiency with appropriate public policies. In several countries, the public considers the central government senior managers overpaid. These executive compensations tend to be considered disproportionate and in-equitable in relation to the activity and results of public managers. A growing literature has analysed the possible determinants and consequences of higher levels of compensation in public and private organizations. However, a main question unknown is how the levels of compensation of public managers are related to the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies. The findings of this study, based on OECD and World Bank data, show that the government effectiveness and regulatory quality of nations seem to be negatively associated to high levels of compensation for central government senior manager, standardized with GDP per capita of countries. This study also shows that some possible factors of the findings can be due to low level of freedom of expression, rule of law and corruption control of some countries. These results provide fruitful insights to support best practices in public administration based on salaries incentive-oriented that may stimulate public managers’ work and enhance the national government effectiveness of countries</p>	
<p><b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.ircres.cnr.it/index.php/it/produzione-scientifica/pubblicazioni?id=122">http://www.ircres.cnr.it/index.php/it/produzione-scientifica/pubblicazioni?id=122</a></p>	
<p><b>Type:</b> paper</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:igor.benati@ircres.cnr.it">igor.benati@ircres.cnr.it</a> <a href="mailto:mario.coccia@cnr.it">mario.coccia@cnr.it</a></p>
<p><b>Language:</b> Italian</p>	<p><b>Open source:</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Keywords:</b> Compensation, Reward, Public managers, Salary, Incentive, Government effectiveness, Regulatory quality, New Public Management, Personnel Policy, Public Policy, Public Administration, Rewards.</p>	
<p><b>Notes:</b></p>	

<p><b>Full bibliographical reference:</b> Benati I., Coccia M. (2017), “The relation between public manager compensation and members of parliament’s salary across OECD countries: explorative analysis and possible determinants with public policy implications” in <i>Quaderni Ircres-CNR</i> N. 02/2017</p>	
<p><b>Abstract:</b> The compensation for central government senior managers has been the focus of considerable attention from the public, media and academia in recent years. In several countries, the average compensation of public managers, especially top level ones, has risen in a way that public considers disproportionate and inequitable. In this context, there is a hot debate that the government senior managers are overpaid. A growing literature has analysed the possible determinants of compensation in public and private organizations. However, some political and institutional factors affecting public managers’ compensation are hardly known. Here, we show that the average compensation for central government senior managers seems to be positively associated to average salary of members of parliament (MPs), standardized with GDP per capita of countries. In addition, results show that higher levels of compensation for central government senior managers are mainly in countries based on Mixed Executive. We also show that higher public manager compensations are associated to countries with lower freedom of expression, freedom of association, free media, lower quality of contract enforcement, property rights and corruption control. These results can provide fruitful insights to support reforms and best practices that improve the efficiency of public administration, mainly in latecomer countries.</p>	
<p><b>Link:</b> <a href="http://www.irces.cnr.it/index.php/it/produzione-scientifica/pubblicazioni?id=123">http://www.irces.cnr.it/index.php/it/produzione-scientifica/pubblicazioni?id=123</a></p>	
<p><b>Type:</b> paper</p>	<p><b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:igor.benati@irces.cnr.it">igor.benati@irces.cnr.it</a> <a href="mailto:mario.coccia@cnr.it">mario.coccia@cnr.it</a></p>
<p><b>Language:</b> English</p>	<p><b>Open source:</b> Yes</p>
<p><b>Keywords:</b> Compensation, Rewards, Wage for politicians, Pay for politicians, Bureaucracy, Public Managers; Executive, Public Administration, Public Policy.</p>	
<p><b>Notes:</b></p>	