Laboratory for Public Mananagement & Policy

Experimental Laboratory
The Laboratory for Public Management and Policy (LaMP) operates at the interface of public management and public policy. LaMP provides Hong Kong with a unique laboratory that uses a range of research methods to provide rigorous, robust and systematic empirical evidence on public policy, effective public management practices and performance.
What we do with experiment in Policy Study (1)

* LaMP plans to develop experimental methods to build an evidence for
  * Making more efficient public service plans
  * Improving public sector performance
  * Enhancing better delivery of public services

* The core idea lying behind the use of experimental studies of LaMP is behavioural insights. Behavioural insights have been used by governments around the world to shape and influence government-citizen relationships.
What we do with experiment in Policy Study (2)

* Behavioural insight focuses on not just easy intervention toward output of policy process, but also inputs to the policy process which are integrated with or inform other traditional policy tools like regulations, incentives, and information requirements (Lourenço et al., 2016).
Examples of Experimental approach in public policy

* Behavioural evidences can help to make a big different effect on a society.

* Example: default option in a policy design.
  * People might believe that defaults are suggestions by policy makers. Or defaults might represent the present status (Samuelson and Jackhauser, 1988).
  * Making a decision needs efforts, so following default would be easier decision (Baron and Ritov, 1994).
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LaMP Experiment Studies
Performance Information Use

* Performance information is key to the communication between the government and public service users. The experiment is designed to explore the perception of public service users about performance information by information types and sources.

* Using vignettes about performance information of education policy and recycling policy, the experiments test public service users’ and managers’ perception.
Stair Use

* To encourage using stairs instead of lifts, the experiment tests the sources and components of the message.
* This is a field experiment to count actual usage of the lifts or stairs in buildings after posting the message which suggests that using stairs is helpful than using lifts for readers with multiple reasons.
* The experiment expects different results based on sources and designs of the message.
Replication Series

* Red Tape Perception with outcome favourability

* Work motivation in Public/Private

* Signaling cooperative game